CUHK Convocation Study Improvement Awards 2025/26 香港中文大學校友評議會學業進步獎 2025/26	
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Major **主修**	English

First and foremost, I would like to take this opportunity to express my heartfelt gratitude to CUHK Convocation for their generosity. The scholarship not only serves as a significant recognition of my academic improvement, but it also helps with my financial circumstances tremendously. It is undoubtedly a strong boost for my self confidence and materialistic well-being. I am truly grateful for their goodwill.

Unlike others, whose improvement is usually a change from being good to accomplishing excellence, mine was a rise from a complete failure to being acceptable. In my academic journey, there have been many setbacks, from my inability to cope with the unfamiliar environment in college, to my unstable mental condition. In my first two years in college, I was miserable. I was very reluctant to finish my assignments because I had no idea what I was going after. My perfectionism also stood in the way. I was always very disappointed in myself for not being able to produce quality work, so I kept running from my obligations as a student – getting my assignments done.

In my third year at CUHK, I finally hit the rock bottom. Because of missing assignments often, I only got a term GPA of 0.33 in the first semester, which meant that I would be discontinued. It was a wake-up call to me. I still remember how worried my Academic Advisor was when she talked to me. Thanks to the support from the Department of English, I was able to file an appeal and extend my probation. This time, as if I were in the end game, I forced myself to let go of my desire to figure out what the meaning of finishing the degree is. The one and only goal was clear – I must pass the probation, so that the effort I had put in in my secondary school years would not go in vain.

As I went along the way through my probation, my passion for my major was once again ignited. I initially took courses from the Creative Writing stream, but it was not getting me anywhere. After moving back to the linguistic stream, I was reminded of how I used to be fascinated by English linguistics. The most important lesson I have learnt is never fear the possibilities a change can bring. Embrace changes to freshen your perspectives.

One more valuable lesson I have learnt is that you have to be tolerant towards imperfections at times, so that you don't get paralyzed. I now have a motto – "Done is better than perfect." After being one step away from discontinuation, I tried to minimize the influence my perfectionism had on me. Get it done first, polish later.

Finally, I am thankful for the company and support I have with me along the way. I promise I will continue to strive for improvement, step by step, slow but steady.



Serving as an Organizing Committee in Department of English Orientation Camp 2023.



Unwinding at one of the most popular spots on campus with friends.