

Thomas Wang

Part 1: The Skyscraper Climb

I try not to look down and*

Try not to look down. I kept on reminding myself with an irate attitude. The scaffolding was quivering like an old wooden bungalow about to collapse, but sweat was dripping through my tight palms as I tried to hold on. The fog haughtily attempted to choke me. If this worked, I would finally prove those intrusive high-school bullies and get thousands of likes on social media.

With all the victuals and cameras in my backpack, everything was weighing down my body as if I was carrying a steel anvil. Finally, halfway, I was too exasperated to smile at the camera, but was afraid to show it on Facebook, so I put on my onyx-coloured face covering. I made sure my go-pro was straight and acted like I was enjoying it. My heart was pounding so hard it felt like a grenade about to explode, I always have had acrophobia.

please do include a brief description on jargons as some may not recognise nor understand what this means

It was like magic. My foolhardy self was still intact on the scaffold. On the outside in the video, I was a bold lion conquering one of my fears, but on the inside, I was still just a newborn puppy with no idea what to do. I felt as if I were about to drown in sweat, why did I think of doing this? Like a ragdoll, I helplessly flopped to and fro when in despair, but I realised I had to make it to the top. I had to be brave and just get there and it would all be over in an instant.

Almost there... just a few metres... and yes! I finally made it. Time to unpack, consume the provisions, take some photos and videos, and go home. I laid down the picnic mat and the food, then I reached for the camera. Then I realised the crucial mistake I made; I forgot my camera. This was an abysmal action, that I didn't know how I was supposed to do anything.

But then, I realised I didn't need followers on Facebook for this, I overcame my fear of heights. I realised how wonderful the view here was. I could see the whole city! It was more beautiful than a diamond polished with a silk cloth. The splendid zephyr finally stopped, and the fog cleared, and I gazed upon the ground below and how far I climbed. The only problem was how I was to hike back down.

Mark (50/50)

Part 2:

Tell me about yourself:

My name is Thomas Wang and I was born in Beijing, China in 2012. I moved to Sydney with my family when I was two years old. We currently live in St. Ives and I am in the GAT class in St. Ives North Public School. I enjoy studying at St. Ives North and I have made many friends in the six years I have studied there. I am only ten instead of the normal year five age of eleven so I have been the youngest in my class since kindergarten. I got into the GAT class more recently and struggled to keep up at first, but I'm alright now.

One of my largest interests is aviation. Once when at a ski field in Queenstown, New Zealand I met a man from Seattle who used to work for Boeing and we droned on and on about aviation and all the new aircraft and how things might turn out. I constantly research about aviation and still am learning new things about it every few days. Apart from studying about topics like mathematics, I learn about aviation. Too draggy, you can merge these two ideas into one. Don't overthink!

Some of my hobbies include skiing and travelling. Every year, I go skiing at least twice and I am trying to learn new skills each time I ski. It is my favourite sport and I felt depressed during lockdown because I couldn't ski. My other hobby is travelling. I travel to a new place every year and I like to see all the landmarks and meet locals. I have gone to places all over Australia, New Zealand, and some parts of China.

Mark (50/50)

Those are some facts about me. I study hard, travel a lot, play sports and learn about some of my interests in my spare time. I also regularly do outside sports, like swimming, hiking, kayaking, cycling and more.

Tell me why you are a good fit for your dream private school:

My dream private school is Sydney Grammar School located on College Street in Darlinghurst. If I don't get in via the scholarship test, I will still likely get in via the entrance test. There are several reasons for why I will be a great fit for the school and the other boys studying there.

I am curious about the world and want to learn more about it. I hope that one day, me and my peers would be able to make the world a better place for all. Sydney Grammar is one of the best place to learn knowledge and to build the ability for that. It is also a great place to learn socialise and collaborate with your peers.

I love learning and I am dedicated to it. I constantly study at home and I am interested in many different things. I love reading, I love thinking, and I like talking with different people. I always want to learn new things. Even if I make it in, I will keep on learning new things every day.

I am a smart, cheerful and joyful boy who loves life and the world. My best friend is also in Sydney Grammar and that means I will get to be with him, which will also make me happy. All this is why I would fit into Sydney Grammar.

Mark (48/50)

Splendid writing entries! Your choice of descriptions is not too much nor too less-- it is just right! The flow of ideas is remarkable and it is simple yet complete. In your last piece about your school of choosing, you must also include a few of your achievements to make it a lot more convincing. Simplify what needs to be simplified and do not rush your ideas. Lastly, always review your piece before submitting to avoid any errors. Still, you did a good job!