



## East Spring Secondary School

### Power of Positive Energy (PPE)

#### Student Goals/Outcomes for Excellence & Success

Name of student: Jazzy Cheong & Valenzuela Alexandra Marie T (3E2)

Department: English Language Talent Development Programme

Date: 21 Feb 2014

#### **PPE Sharing**

Good morning Mrs Jalil, Mrs Mohinder, Mr Chan, teachers and fellow East Springians. I am Jazzy and she is Alexandra. Today we are going to be talking about the importance of English and how the English Talent Development Programme has helped us become even better English Language users.

To put it simply, the English Talent Development is made up of students who have shown great command of the English language, be it in their writing or in their spoken English - Debate. The main purpose of this programme is not only for the students to discover this potential of theirs, but also for them to showcase it and push it to greater heights as well as learning and uncovering ways to improve their English.

So, how can one improve ones' use of the English Language? Well, there's a wide range of options. Reading other people's writing is one, listening to other people reading is another. Another method you could use if you don't mind is to improve the way you text. This means to use complete words and not use short forms when texting. Over time this could make you be more conscious of how you present your words and therefore our language skills start to improve. But if you do not put whatever you've learnt into practice, you won't get that far. It's all about putting in that little extra dab of effort to improve through practicing. No more singlish, no more broken sentences. I'm not saying to immediately stop everything overnight, but make a conscious effort to correct even the most minor mistakes. It's always harder to teach an old dog new tricks. Before you know it, it sort of just registers into your system and you'll be good to go from there.

As for personal experiences, I've participated in several creative-writing competitions whereby we are challenged to write the most creative essay we can. Creative-writing is a platform for all of us to simulate our mind to think more and to branch out and find the best ways to inject a sense of individuality and a certain "quirk" to our essays. As the name suggests, it is one of the best ways for us to improve our creative thinking skills, which are really beneficial when it comes to our composition writing for exams, to help our compositions stand out from everyone else's. This way, our imagination is not just limited to art lessons and what not.

As a debater for the school, we are required to think on our feet and be able to take down the important parts that the opposing team is saying. Being a debater helps us with our public speaking skills and also with our ability to remember the facts, as in this current day and age most people are either too shy to speak in public or cannot say what they want to say because the words just escape their minds when they are on stage.

So you might be wondering, what's so important about English, what's the use of actually being fluent in the language? For one, English helps in your Information and Communication skills. In the present day and age, that is something many teens lack, most likely due to the comfort we have in speaking in short-forms online, and being so used to being behind a screen that when you're faced with actual people, it becomes somewhat an impossible feat. Other than that, being fluent in English also helps in your cross-cultural skills, something we, as Singaporeans, have to be competent at in our diverse society. This applies to other languages as well, but seeing as most people speak English, might as well be fluent in it first.

## **East Spring Secondary School**

### **Power of Positive Energy (PPE)**

#### **Student Goals/Outcomes for Excellence & Success**

With all these contributing factors, you will become a more Confident person - you'd be able to actually speak to people and not express yourself in gibberish, and you will ultimately become an Active Contributor in our modern-day community. To put it simply, all of that boils down to one thing. English, whether you like it or not, is extremely important, but not for the mundane reasons we think of more often than not. Your command and fluency in the language does reflect a large part of you, and will contribute to the kind of person you grow up to be.

All in all, if you believe you can improve your English, you will be able to see improvement in your results. To quote Royston Ang from 3E2, "Great expectations leads to greater performances." As long as you believe you can do it and you work hard towards that goal, you will definitely be able to reach or get closer to your goal. Thank you.