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Achievement *focus*

Two of our Year 10 Students Scored an A* on their IGCSE Mandarin Exam in 2015

Congratulations to Supachai Ruangmethanon (Shane) and Verulee Amphaikitpanich (Snow) for their superb achievement on their IGCSE Mandarin as a Foreign Language examination taken in May of 2015. Both students achieved an A* for this subject and they are happy to share their study tips with other students who wish to succeed in their studies.

Preparation for the Exam

Shane and Snow took 2 subjects for their recent IGCSE examinations, while they plan to take the rest of the subjects in November. Shane, who scored 94% for his IGCSE Mandarin exam, mentioned to us that he believed the reason he did well was because he had been working on practice exam papers for a period of one month prior to the examination. "We have been working hard, especially in preparing for the exam," Shane said.

"I think the most challenging part of the IGCSE exam was trying to remember the Chinese characters and trying to understand what the examiner was looking for. I was quite nervous during the exam because I was not really confident at first. My teacher tried to encourage me and that made me feel better," he added.

Snow took 2 IGCSE examinations and scored 92% on her Mandarin. "I did some practice exams and searched for the Chinese syllabus online. It took me about one year of advance work to prepare for the exam," Snow told us about her preparation. Like Shane, she agrees that writing Mandarin is challenging and a lot of practice has helped her to do well.

Contribution from St. Mark's Teacher to their Success

"Our teacher, Ms Joey Li, spoke only Mandarin with us



and encouraged us to do work every day and during lunch time. She was enthusiastic and encouraging, which pushed us to work hard. She is a devoted teacher." Shane said, expressing his appreciation.

"She was patient and we didn't have to fear asking questions. She was more than happy to assist us again and again," Snow added.

Advice to Younger Students

Shane suggested that the juniors 'do something relaxing before the exams such as listening to music or reading a book'. "It helped me feel better," and advised, "Revise, but don't crowd too much into your head, otherwise you won't remember."

"Normally, people are very stressed before a big exam. But I would say don't be so stressed. Just relax and concentrate on your studies. Try to do practice exams and rest a lot. It helps," Snow said.