

Hong Kong VS Shanghai Debating Competition 2016

HKTLC along with 4 other schools from the Southern District jointly took part in an exciting round of debate competitions with six Shanghai schools last July. This is an annual tradition being carried out since over a decade and both students and teachers not only enjoy the exciting overseas trip but also make full use of this opportunity to make this a truly cultural exchange. Months before the Shanghai-Hong Kong debating competition, the six teams worked as mixed teams and did countless research for their debate speeches. In addition, students and teachers contributed hours and hours of time to perfect the debate speeches. And finally, they were ready for the competition.

On the first day, the Hong Kong students, along with their English teachers, took an early flight to Shanghai. Prior to their competitions, they had a chance to get familiar with their surroundings and try the local food. The students were taken to a local temple where they walked around, discovering items and food that are not seen in Hong Kong. It was an exciting and thrilling experience for everyone. After the sightseeing, the Hong Kong teams were taken back to their hotel and given more time to prepare for their speeches and get ready for the next day.

The 3-day debating competition was held at the auditorium of Shanghai Yi Chuan High School. The venue was extremely comfortable seats with plush and fully equipped technology. The Hong Kong teams participated in debates on different topics such as ‘Competition is essential to the learning process.’ and ‘We eat to live.’ Both the Shanghai and Hong Kong teams were very professional and focused throughout and presented their speeches fluently, along with insightful rebuttals which were not only spontaneous but very natural as well.



Express ourselves confidently on stage

In the end, although the winners were the Shanghai Chang Zheng Secondary School, the Hong Kong teams in a spirit of true sportsmanship conceded defeat gracefully. They all felt that they were satisfied with their performance as they did their very best in this competition. Moreover, what they brought home was something more valuable: new friends and very useful skills like analytical and communicating skills.

After the competitions finished, the Hong Kong teams were invited to a celebratory buffet dinner with the Shanghai teams. It was very heartwarming to receive the hospitality of the Shanghai school through the lavish food and great company. In addition, they were invited to their school campus. The Hong Kong students got a chance to chat with local students and learn about their school life in Shanghai. They established a good rapport with the Shanghai students and do still keep in touch with them.



Cultural Performance Appreciation

Next summer, it will be the Shanghai students' turn to come to Hong Kong. Who knows, maybe the Hong Kong debaters will be able to meet the same students once again!

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