Wong Lok 3A   20 March, 2007

Good morning everyone. Last week my classmate, Tommy Poon, talked to you about the importance of reading. Today, I'd like to support what he said and tell you about another special book. There is no doubt that reading good literature makes people smart because it helps you to broaden your knowledge of both yourself and other people also, because English is an international language, writers from all over the world write in English. That's why now we can learn other cultures if we read English novels.

The book I am going to tell you about is called Chinese Cinderella and it's written by Adeline Yan Mah who was born in Shanghai but grow up in Hong Kong. This book is her true story.

Her story begins in Shanghai during the Japanese occupation. Her mother dies in childbirth and so all the family, except for her beloved Aunt Baba, hates her. Even her father hates her. She is very smart and so she becomes top of the class to win her father's love. However, nothing works, even when she wins special prizes for academic work at school.

I really admire Adeline because she never gives up and continues throughout her life to try to reach for her father's love. In fact she turns her loneliness into books and becomes an avid reader so that in the long run, she does win because she becomes a famous writer.

The theme of the book is about never giving up, even when everyone is against you. If you read this book, you will learn what true courage is. Who could believe that a child being so young would try so hard to win her father's love? If you read her story, you will be moved and realize just how lucky we are to have our parental love and support. Adeline Yen Mah is really an inspiration to us all.