

AI Acknowledgement

☐ I have not used AI in my assignment

I confirm that I have not used any AI tools in the research and creation of this assignment. I confirm that I have not presented any AI generated materials as my own work. I confirm I have copies of my drafts, notes, and other resources I used, which I may be asked to provide in evidence.

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I acknowledge the use of Doubao(<https://www.doubao.com/chat/>) on 22 April 2026 to support my research. I used the prompt(s):

1. 幫我檢查語法(Help me check my grammar)

I confirm that I have not presented any AI generated text as my own work. I confirm I have copies of my drafts, notes, and other resources I used before, and after the use of AI tools which I may be asked to provide in evidence.

Learn While Young and Cherish Every Moment

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Learn While Young
and Cherish Every Moment





‘A child not learning, is not proper; if not learning in youth, what can one do in old life?’

子不學，非所宜；幼不學，老何為？

The Three-Character Primer
(*Sanzijing* 三字經)

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‘A child not learning, is not proper; If not learning in youth, what can one do in old life?’

子不學，非所宜；幼不學，老何為？

The Three-Character Primer
(*Sanzijing* 三字經)

1

Explain the line from *The Three-Character Primer*

‘It is the father’s neglect if a child is untaught;
it is the teacher’s dereliction if guidance is lax.
When parents and teachers both fulfill their roles.
To achieve nothing in learning is the student’s own
fault.’

養子不教，父之過；訓導不嚴，師之墮。
父教師嚴，兩無外；學問無成，子之罪。



Exegesis of The Three-Character Primer
(*Sanzijing xungu* 三字經訓詁)

1 Explain the line from *The Three-Character Primer*

‘Prime years never come again; the day cannot dawn twice;
seize the moment to push yourself forward, for time and tide
wait for no man.’

盛年不重來，一日難再晨。

The Collected Poems of Tao Yuanming
(*Tao Yuanming ji* 陶淵明集)

及時當勉勵，歲月不待人。

‘One must strive early in youth; how can one stay young
forever?’

青春須早為，豈能長少年。

*The Collected Poems of Meng Jiao: A Critical
Edition with Commentaries*
(*Meng Jiao ji jiaozhu* 孟郊集校注)

1

Explain the line from *The Three-Character Primer*

‘Studying hard in youth builds lifelong success;
never let a moment slip by without striving.’

少年辛苦終身事，莫向光陰惰寸功。

.....

The Complete Poems of the Tang Dynasty
(*Quan tang shi* 全唐詩)

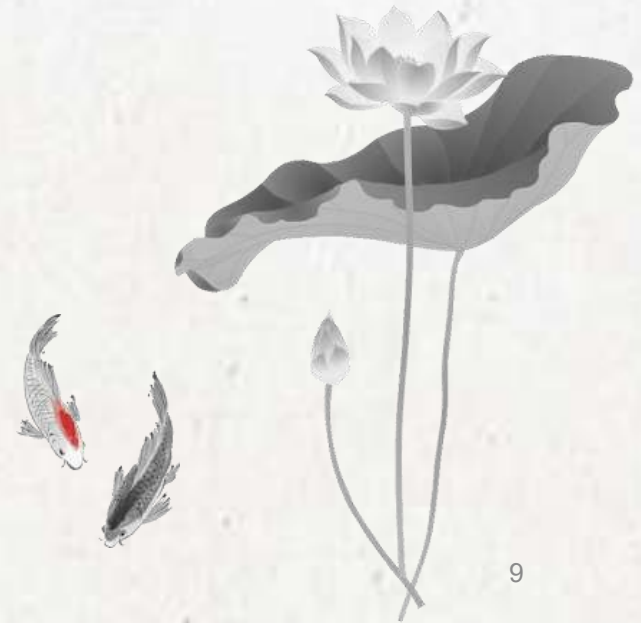


‘To study late demands great effort but brings little success.’

時過然後學，則勤苦而難成。

“On Teaching and Learning” (*Xueji* 學記),
Records on Ritual (*Liji* 禮記)

‘One is able to read, yet unwilling to read;
One is willing to read, yet unable to read.’



Sharp memory



Good eyesight



The stamina



to focus on study

No longer have the

good memory or



clear vision of youth



Backache



‘At seven, I memorised *The Rhapsody on the Lingguang Palace* and still remember it today, even if I only review it once a decade. But after twenty, the classics I learned will be forgotten if I go without reviewing them for just one month.’

吾七歲時，誦《靈光殿賦》，至於今日，十年一理，猶不遺忘；二十之外，所誦經書，一月廢置，便至荒蕪矣。

The Family Instructions of Yan
(*Yanshi jiaxun* 顏氏家訓)



How can we motivate ourselves to value our time and study diligently?

- Be filial to parents and respectful to teachers
- Have a sense of responsibility



Further discussion

How can we motivate ourselves to value our time and study diligently?



2

Further discussion

How can we motivate ourselves to value our time and study diligently?



How can we motivate ourselves to value our time and study



‘As is often the case with the common people, once well fed and well clothed, they will degenerate almost to the level of animals if they are allowed to live idle without education.’

人之有道也，飽食、暖衣、逸居而無教，則近於禽獸。

Mencius (Mengzi 孟子)
(Trans. Zhao et al.)

What comes next?

The most vital thing in life is not striving, but choosing.

Virtue, Speech, Government affairs (today this refers to the ability to handle things) ,
Literature



2

Further discussion

What comes next?



Cai Jing



Qin Kuai



Yan Song



Yan Shifan

What comes next?

‘Fools lack talent and virtue. Though they wish to do evil, they lack the wit and strength to do harm, like a puppy attacking people. It is quite easy to control them.

But the wicked with talent are clever enough to do evil, bold enough to be cruel—like tigers with wings. Their harm is endless.’

愚者雖欲為不善，智不能周，力不能勝，譬之乳狗搏人，人得而制之；小人智足以遂其奸，勇足以決其暴，是虎而翼者也，其為害豈不多哉！

The Comprehensive Mirror to Aid in Governance
(*Zizhitongjian* 資治通鑒)

Cultivating both virtue and
ability

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Thank you for your attention

