

第 39 篇 [定時生活的人] [A person Lives by the Clock]

命題大意：敘述某一規律生活人的故事

寫作大意：以己身規律生活為構架敘述.

ASSIGNMENT: 3/27/2003

Develop a character that lives by the clock. Use a timeline of this person's day as the beginning of a new story. Be inventive. What happens at 2:34 a.m.?

WRITING : 4/2/2003

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It is impractical for a person to live absolutely by the clock. There was an ancient ironic story in China describing such a young man who died in an unexpected flooding, because he stuck in an appointment with a girl friend at a piling post under a bridge. He embraced the bridge pile to die to keep his promise.

The person in my story is a flexible time liver. He lives not only by clock, but also by calendar. His time living habit is briefly characterized in the following facts: Every day he has three things on his mind: (1) planning and doing accordingly, (2) writing few key words on a DAY-TIMER booklet to mark daily activities for record, and (3) cleaning and organizing the house. He likes to do something good for him and/or others and hates to do anything no good and harmful. On the work he considers necessary to do, he always tries to do it as soon as possible.

His living by the clock and calendar is reflected on the following facts: He lives largely by clock on sleeping, rising, eating, washing, cleaning, working, TV watching, internet checking, social meeting and physical exercise, ball room dancing etc. He hires a maid for house cleaning and washing. He sees his family doctor once every two months and has a blood test once a year, He writes letters to his children and grandchildren monthly. Above all, he attends a writer's roundtable weekly, since he is now in retirement, his time is rather stable.

At 2:24 a.m. 3/27/2003 he wakes up from a horrible dream of war scene in Iraq. He feels the need to go to the toilet for a leak so he does. Feeling sober and liking to have things to do, he moves to the bed side desk and picks up a pen to write a working list for the coming day, including going to a pharmacy to replenish medicine for his ailing wife. Oh, yes, Dr Chiu has bidden her to go to hospital for a blood test three day before going to see her family doctor..... A telephone is ringing in the next room (his bed side phone always turned off in the night). Knowing that, if not "a wrong number", must be fax from a friend, he ignores it. Having all the above done, he takes a tiny piece of sleeping pill (1/6 cut of the DIAZEPAM 5 MG) and sips a little water. He then stretches and twists his body and limbs a few moments and goes to bed again. He falls sleep until wakes up at about 7 a.m.