Dear Yanfei:

I’m very glad to receive your letter. Almost a year has passed since we last met. I heard you continued your further study in Tsinghua. I miss you very much.

Happy Chinese New Year, too! I googled the Chinese New Year. 2022 is the year of the tiger, so I wish you 虎虎生威! (I copied it from the webpage and I hope there is no mistake.)

I have been watching the Beijing Winter Olympics and discussing the matches in Twitter during the past half month. You know I’m a sports fan! However, I didn’t have the chance to watch the opening ceremony due to time difference. Thank you for your detailed live broadcasting! One of my roommates in Tsinghua also had the chance to be a volunteer and shared his photos in WeChat. I wish I could have stayed in Tsinghua and joined him. I cannot wait to watch the replay of the opening ceremony, especially the snowflake show!

China's COVID-19 prevention also impressed me a lot. During the Tokyo Olympics, Japan's daily new local cases increased from hundreds to more than tens of thousands. I thought Beijing would be more or less affected, but the result was completely different. According to your description, China's prevention measures almost have no influence on people's daily life. However, our news only criticizes those necessary prevention methods for limiting people’s freedom. Most of my friends here regard COVID-19 only as some more serious flu and never wear masks in crowded places. I’m really concerned about them.

I also want to see you again. I had the opportunity to return to Tsinghua for academic exchange, but due to COVID-19, the original plan was cancelled. In October, I will attend an academic conference in Harbin. We can get together then.

Best wishes,

Frank Smith

Stanford University