I hold Mrs. Wang, my primary school小学 Chinese teacher, in highest hold sb in highest最尊敬的人 regard for而不是 her influences on固定搭配+sb me, rather than而不是+n the historical历史的，historic历史重要的 figures人物 in the books, whose feats成就，业绩 might have been overstated overstate=exaggerate夸张 and fabricated捏造.

Let me set the scene介绍背景 first.

My primary school is located at in /at取决于大小 the foot of a hill, which was surrounded by the local farmers’ peasants贫农 fields, and therefore表因果与and连用 it looked the same as一样 the average adj 普通的 village村庄 schools you’d find in China in the late末期 80s. There was only one washroom (no, it cannot be called a washroom) built of mud泥土, where I saw the white maggots蛆虫 for the first time in my life as a 6-year-old girl, not even in my grandma’s house in the countryside. The ceiling天花板 of the classroom was very interesting, because it was patched补丁 by the woven weave编织 bamboo mats席子. I would spend some time +doing sth花时间做什么  observing观察 the wooden planks木板 nailed钉 on the broken door and the earthen泥土做的 floor地板, while然而 the other kids were singing to伴着音乐唱歌 the music our teacher played on the organ风琴. (My mom knows how to play it since原因 she taught in the rural乡村的 school somewhere along the line某一个时刻, when I was a toddler学走路的.)

In the late 70s, my father became the first batch批次 of students who were admitted招生 by the colleges after the recovery恢复 of the college entrance exam高考 which was ceased停止 due to由于 the Cultural Revolution, from an illiterate文盲 rural乡村的 family of 4 children.

The 80s was a great era时代 in our country, in my humble opinion依我愚见 插入语, when the government was resolved to +do 决心做 revolutionize改革 every dimension aspect 方面 of our society and gear up for为什么准备 resurgence复兴. Henceso, a large number of大量 college students with rural农村 background like my father were recruited招聘 by the government as civil servants公务员.

阿晨:

feat功绩

阿晨: 没有什么思想引导，但父母本人就已经作为一个榜样在不断的孩子去努力

As a result, this primary school with the most derelict破旧的 buildings I’d ever seen was fraught with充满=be full with a cohort狐朋狗友 一群人 of kids who shared similar family background with me. In their midst在他们之中, you’d find the most diligent勤奋的 and intelligent聪明的 kids at that time.

Considering that考虑到+已知的原因（提醒） their parents were still climbing攀爬 the social ladder社会阶梯, their relative相对来说 calm冷静 attitude towards对谁 the teachers was quite相当 distinct from与什么不同 of the parents born in the 70s and 80s. The modern-day Chinese parents tend to往往会 preach宣传 the Western way of upbringing西方式的抚养方式, who misunderstood it as laissez-faire放任主义 and therefore would raise the eyebrow惊讶或者生气 or even grumble about抱怨 the teachers if they dare敢于 to clamp down on严格控制 the mischievous小孩淘气的 behaviors of their children. Some permissive放任的 parents are prone to很可能做不好的事情/+n overreaction反应过度, and they take take to doing喜欢做什么 to getting tough get tough on对某人态度强硬 on the teachers either in the wechat groups for teachers and parents to interact互动 or on the Internet, bashing严厉批评 the teachers as villains反面派/恶棍 who deprive剥夺 deprive sb of sth their children of the time to sleep.

It seems似乎是 that the upshot结果 of their parenting家庭教育 ended upend up doing/with sth 以。。告终being a disaster: some of my students would even run into a fight打架 with their parents for the limit on对。。。的限制 his screen time and refuse拒绝 to study overseas海外学习 since he regards regard。。as。。把。。视为。。。 the video games as his career in the future. A girl even asked me if she’d live with me by paying me the rent租金, as正如 her mom suggested建议, because she had difficulties +doing/in doing kicking戒除 the habit of pampering herself尽情享受 in the social media and her parents failed fail to do失败 to regulate管控 her studies学业.

In stark明显的 contrast对比, my parents’ generation一代人 seldom几乎不会 picked on+sb刁难某人 the teachers for striving努力做+to do to discipline纪律/管教 us.

Mrs. Wang might be deemed as视为 an oddity怪人 today for her grumpy脾气坏 disposition性格, but her authoritarian独裁主义 style was accepted by our parents.

I still can’t blot out抹去,多家记忆 several几个 scenes场景 in this chapter篇章 of my life:

1. She instituted制定 some regulations规则 for the class, one of which was to keep absolute silent while she was talking. Once, she claimed that she heard some muffled低沉的（盖住） voice, while 当no one was chatting聊天.  To punish us, the exasperated激怒 teacher decided to slap扇耳光 us by asking every kid to stand up. Fortunately, she stopped this, saying that her hands hurt. I bet that there were kids who reported these sporadic时不时 moody情绪化 behaviors to their parents, but it turned out结果却是 that no one went to the school to make her apologize让她道歉. After all, our parents had gone through经历 the Cultural Revolution and therefore were not known for the emotional情绪上 vulnerability脆弱. Besides而且, a stand-offish冷漠的 parent like my dad would refuse to attend the meetings held举行 by my school, for he couldn’t tolerate the “nonsense” of my teachers as a man who grew up in the anti反-intellectual智慧的，知识分子 60s, let alone更不要提 reacting to做反应 anything happening in my class. I didn’t even tell him what have occurred发生. My mom didn’t appease安抚 me either也没有 because she said that she didn’t want to mind teachers’ business管闲事.

As a result, given the opportunity to visit our class, you’d hardly几乎不会 find a listless无精打采 kid who dare doze off打盹 in the class. Every kid became ultra超级-meticulous小心翼翼 when completing完成 the Chinese assignment作业 since因为 our “empress皇后” would punish us if we scrawled潦草的写 anything on the paper and if we failed to memorize the pinyin and sequences顺序 of the Chinese characters字. I benefited获益 from her training since many strangers praised赞扬 my mandarin普通话 even if即便 I have been stuck困在 in my province and spoken Sichuan dialect方言 all my life.

2. I’ve learned how to keep focused专注 for a lengthy长时间 period of time, thanks to Mrs. Wang’s OCD强迫症. She would leave the classroom halfway through to her office, after which在此之后 she’d hide herself behind the window to monitor监控 us exactly准确的. Anyone who turned their head to look out of the window or chatted with others would be scolded责骂 by our quick-tempered急性子 teacher. So, I was the only one kid in the street who kept walking without stopping even for a second, when the passers-by=行人 began to crowd聚集 around包围 an insane疯 woman who stripped脱 her clothes in the 90s. It was强调句 Mrs. Wang who taught me simple principle: a little voluntary自愿的 forbearance克制 now could save a lot regulatory‑管控的 pain later.

By cleaving to+n坚持 her outlooks人生观, I even protected myself in the society. Several years ago, I was waiting for the bus in the downtown市中心 at the bus stop, when a stranger on a motorcycle dropped扔 a very heavy parcel包裹 in front of me all of a sudden突然, right in front of me. I turned a blind eye to不理睬 this parcel包裹 without even trying to pick it up and take a look, because I remembered what Mrs. Wang said: Do not look out of the window even if即使 there’s a fire. Keep reading your books.

Another man driving from the opposite direction picked it up immediately by swearing at骂 the first man.

It turned out to be a fraud,诈骗 according to what I read from an announcement made by the police station. I was doomed注定 to pay my tuition fee付学费 for a college called “society” had I picked it up.

Being a standoffish冷漠的 bigot固执的人 in mainland is sometimes not a bad thing.

3. Our drama大惊小怪 queen quit her job when we were slated to打算做什么 have the entrance exam to the junior high初中, a defining关键 moment for us, since原因 the highs schools are regarded as被视作 the key to the college entrance exam. The young and pretty new teacher didn’t attempt尝试 to restrain限制 us and was not into be into doing喜欢做。。 throwing投身于 herself into her career. Instead相反, she directed her attention at引向 looking for寻找 a wealthy middle-aged man to get married again, asking ask sb for a favor 找某人帮忙 my mom for such a favor, because the austere朴实的 and thrifty节约的 life of a primary小学 school teacher bored无聊到死bore sb to death her to death.

When the only person we dreaded害怕 was gone, no one would bulldoze推土机，强迫某人做什么bulldoze sb into doing sth  us into finishing our assignments. I would no longer wait breathlessly闭住呼吸 outside the classroom for a whole morning simply仅仅 because I was tardy for迟到 the class again.

Our new teacher seldom几乎不 showed up出现, so we expended our time scrawling潦草写 the questions that one classmate kept writing on the blackboard. This was literally的确 a waste of time, because some my opportunistic投机主义 classmates would spend time socializing社交 with each other, while I began to fret about担心 my academic performance成绩, since the questions we wrote down daily were left unresolved没有解决 each day

Instead of bucking反抗 her, our managerial管理 level decided to strike out alone自立谋生. (We have a bureaucracy官僚制度 in each class, mainly主要的 made up of由。。组成 kids of civil servants, so they are really proficient in精通 managing procrastinators拖延症患者 like me. LOL)

We gathered on the playground after class after the leaders of our class had a meeting on the retention保留 of Mrs. Wang, who exhorted劝告sb to do sth us to march前进 to Mrs. Wang home together. This was imposing壮观, when over 50 kids marched through穿过 the streets without any adults by their side.

We went to her home and our teenage leaders persuaded劝说 our teacher to have second thought改变想法 on the cusp of在xx即将到来 the entrance exam.

Everything reverted to恢复到 the previous state afterwards之后, regardless of无论不管 the rationales behindxx背后的原因 her return.

Awakening to意识到 the danger that she might leave us for our laziness懒惰, my classmates became the best primary school kids you’d find: we had study pairs成对 at 1 pm and this was initiated开展/ by the “high officials” in our class. So, I arrived at school on time to be criticized批评 by a boy in my class at 1 pm, who would ask me questions that I was supposed本应该 to review复习 the previous之前 day and if I failed to answer them correctly, he would blame me for my slackness懒惰懈怠. (He was later admitted by the best university in our country, Pekin University)

Frankly speaking, I relished being喜欢做 accused by him every day and I never argued with争论 him once because I knew it was my fault not to devote献身于 myself to my studies.

At night, there were also study groups of 4 at my classmates’ home. I’d go there on time and study together with them, which was solely仅仅 based on基于 self-discipline自律, rather than being imposed强加 by the school authority权威.

We believed that it was in our own long-term长期的 interests to take our own initiatives自愿去，主动的 instead of leaning on依赖 our parents or teachers. This simple principle of study has been ignored by many parents in this society, who threw their kids to the school and blame everything on the schools and the teachers.

长期短期目标，周目标，越来越细致的目标

I became so inured习惯 to this kind of quasi-military类似军队 life that I dreamed of returning to my school to be governed by my classmates and my dear teacher once again in my lifetime.

The much-maligned诽谤 Chinese basic education and the strict严格的 self-control自控 my classmates inherited继承 from their CCP党员 parents put an end终止 to the unhealthy loop恶性循环 of my broken family and elevated提升 me to the top of my class, probably of my city at that time, with a score of 192 (full mark was 200), with an additional额外的 5 points added due to my first prize in a painting competition.

And Thanks to Mrs. Wang, who used to过去常常 dissect刨析 my Chinese compositions作文, I deliberately故意做 refined提炼，改进 my writing skills through reading extensively广泛的阅读, which cultivated培养 my habit of ruminating沉思 on my inner self, my family, my school, and the society that I grew up in.

There’s one thing that we tend倾向于 to lose sight of忽视 in our life: it is the ordinary folks普通人 in our life, rather than the “great” people in the books, that make what we are today.

awake awoke awoken唤醒，觉悟