

COLLEGE LIFE

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I am now a sophomore, though it seems just like yesterday i was a freshman. Looking back I can feel the time going by so fast. When I recall the past year, I find so many memories running around my mind. At that moment, I can't express myself properly because thinking back to those memories makes me relive them. These memories are fresh and they all seem to have just happened yesterday.

MY FIRST DAY IN USTS

I still remember the first day I came to this university. At the end of a long summer holiday, I walked into this school early in the morning. I noticed many freshmen were walking around the campus just like myself. The other freshmen were probably making themselves at home, trying to get familiar with this new place that they will call home for the next four years. After registration, I was told to follow a fellow student to my dorm with some of the other students following as well. I was set to live in building number 9, the furthest flat in our school (before this year). I hated the long distance because they were too far from the buildings we have classes in. However now, I feel very lucky after I saw the other students' dorms. Anyway, back to the topic. Looking back I think about what impressed me most during my first day? That is the first club activity in the first day's night. A close friend of mine was admitted by this school one year earlier than me, and he was the president of a morning reading club called Burning. He let me join the club activity that night. I was so happy to join and in fact I had a wonderful night! It was at that moment that I found college life could be so exciting.



PLACES OF INTEREST

Suzhou is an ancient city, but the Shihu campus has a short history. Most of the buildings here are recently built. For those freshmen who come from other provinces far from here, you may find Suzhou is a very attractive place. There are 16 gardens in Suzhou, every June and November, we get a chance to get the garden's card. If you pay 120 yuan for the card, you can visit all the gardens for free 100 times, but only for 1 year. I got the card because I often go into the Shangfang hill near our campus. If you like exploring the local hotspot destinations then I suggest you should get a garden card too.

ABOUT MAKING FRIENDS

Making friends is something everybody wants to do in school. The first thing we do when we come to our new college is to try and make some friends as soon as possible. As for roommates, there are 6 people in one dorm, and each of us comes from different places. We all have different accents of mandarin, have different characters, different backgrounds and so on. At first all of this can make the relationship with our roommates a little more complicated than in our secondary school. However, the key to making friends is always the same. Be friendly and generous to others and they will react in the same way. I have also made some foreign friends during the past year. 6 American exchange students came to our school last year. We took them on a journey to the Humble Administrator's garden, Suzhou Museum and some places of interest in Suzhou. Through communicating with our new foreign friends, we learned a lot about American culture.

The oldest one of the group is named Wes, he told me his parents had stopped providing economic support after he turned 18. So he was forced to take out a student's loan to carry on with his study, and it will take him 10 years to pay back the student's loan. What an inspiring story.

INTERESTING CLUBS

There are more than 100 different kinds of clubs in our school, all of which meet the demands of everyone. Some big clubs like DFD Dance Club, Xincheng Drama Club are famous here. Each club often organizes some activities. If you are a freshman, I will suggest that you join no more than 3 clubs, because these clubs can take up a lot of your free time. So think twice before joining a club. I spent 400 yuan to buy 20 classes in DFD club, but only had 2 lessons during the past year. If we make a power ranking for all of those clubs every year, we will find it changes heavily every year, because the leader of one club may have a strong influence in his club. We may even judge one club by its leader. Which club did I spend the most time in? That would be the Burning English club, which I referred to in the first part. I made so many friends there and it made a deep impression on me.

TIME MANAGEMENT



As a sophomore, reviewing the past year, I find time management is quite important for a college student. One year has already passed, but I find I achieve nothing, so many plans I set for myself, but a few of them managed to be completed. However, making a comparison with some others, I can say I didn't waste my time. You know, so many college students are addicted to online games such as WOW or DOTA, which can ruin their academic careers. In secondary school, we are supervised by our teachers seriously, and the school rule is also very strict. After coming into this college, we find all of those supervisors are gone. If you lack self control, you will find you got

nothing out of school upon graduating. I think all of us need a healthy lifestyle and we should use our time efficiently and effectively. Don't waste your time witnessing the growth of others, use your time to grow yourself.

What you love to do in college?

It is important to set up some goals for yourselves.

How many of those goals did you achieve last year?

Maybe you find you didn't manage those plans as well as you wanted to.

Maybe it was because you had lost the desire to finish it.

I think the most important thing for us to remember in college is something Steve Jobs said:

“ You've got to find what you love. the only way to be truly satisfied is to do what you believe is great work. And the only way to do great work is to love what you do. ”



ABOUT LOVE

Shame on me, I haven't had a date since I was born, let alone a girlfriend. I think a boy like me who has never been in love before is not uncommon. When we were in secondary school, time was so tight for us and all of us were faced with passing the college entrance examination. That exam places a great amount of pressure on our shoulders. But in college, we get more free time, we may never get a second chance as good as the one we get in college to be in love with someone. Some good news for boys (including me) in our school is that the number of girls in our



school is larger than boys. If you are in love with someone, I highly suggest you show your love to him/her. A college life without a love story is not an ideal way to end your college career. One more thing, remember to set up a correct attitude to love. Never behave as a play-boy.

