

## CHAPTER 1

### 那一瞬

naa5 jat1 seon3

九月四日

星期三

晴

gau2 jyut6 sei3 jat6 sing1 kei4 saam1 cing4

That moment. Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> September. Clear weather.

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Quizlet Flashcards for the vocabulary at the bottom of Pages 2&3 can be found here:

<https://quizlet.com/ae3o8h?x=1qqt&i=2f4qkn>

### Page 2

Title		
那一瞬	naa5 jat1 seon3	at that moment
Paragraph 1		
語文課	jyu5 man4 fo3	Chinese language & lit. class
位	wai2	Measure word used with people, more respectful than 個 Which classmate? (who?)
哪位同學		
能夠	nang4 gau3	is able to, can
概括	koi3 kut3	summarise
課文	fo3 man4	the text
內容	noi6 jung4	content
一片	jat1 pin3	an expanse of... 一片 is the measure word used with quite large flat things. Here it's the idea of a vast sheet/expanse of silence
沈默	cam4 mak6	silence
已經	ji5 ging1	already
組織	zou2 zik1	to organise
組織好	zou2 zik1 hou2	finished organising (see Note 1)
悄悄	ciu2 ciu2	quietly
抬起頭	toi4 hei2 tau4	raised (my) head

瞟... 一眼	piu5 ... jat1 ngaan5	glance
周圍	zau1 wai4	around
發現	faat3 jin6	discovered, found that
所有	so2 jau5	all
低頭 低着頭	dai1 tau4 dai1 zoek6 tau4	put head down 着: this means it's an ongoing action. They are putting their heads down.
趕忙	gon2 mong4	hastily

### Paragraph 2

想好了沒有	soeng2 hou2 liu5 mut6 jau5	have you finished thinking about it? (see note 1)
希望	hei1 mong6	hope
卻	koek3	however
勇氣	jung5 hei3	courage
舉手	geoi2 sau2	to put (my) hand up
深深	sam1 sam1	deep
藏	cong4	hide
整齊	zing2 cai4	neat
方陣	fong1 zan6	the squares on the textbook

### Paragraph 3

出奇	ceot1 kei4	unusually
安靜	ngon1 zing6	quiet
突然	dat6 jin4	suddenly
溫柔	wan1 jau4	gently
不用緊張	bat1 jung6 gan2 zoeng1	no need to be nervous
還	waan4	and also, as well
開玩笑	hoi1 waan2 siu3	joking
鼓勵	gu2 lai6	encourage
勇敢	jung5 gam2	bravely
抬起頭	toi4 hei2 tau4	raise (our) heads

### Page 3

跟着	gan1 zoek6	along with, following...
一直	jat1 zik6	always
呼喚	fu1 wun6	calling
聽不到	ting3 bat1 dou3	didn't hear

### Paragraph 5

在 在等	zoi6 zoi6 dang2	(see note 2) waiting
又	jau6	another
半分鐘	bun3 fan1 zung1	half minute
過去了	gwo3 heoi3 liu5	passed
仍然	jing4 jin4	still
安靜	ngon1 zing6	quiet

決定	kyut3 ding6	decided to
點將	dim2 zoeng3	pick someone and assign them a task
盼望	paan3 mong6	longed for
垂青	seoi4 cing1	look on (me) favourably
目光相遇	muk6 gwong1 soeng1 jyu6	our eyes met
眼神	ngaan5 san4	the expression in (my) eyes
告訴	gou3 sou3	told
似乎	ci5 fu4	seemed to
看懂	hon3 dung2	understand
先	sin1	first
向。。。微微笑	hoeng3 ... mei4 mei4 siu3	smiled gently at...
鼓勵	gu2 lai6	encouraging
信心	seon3 sam1	confidence
然後	jin4 hau6	and then
點到	dim2 dou3	pointed at my name, called out my name
既..又 既高興又緊張	gei3 .. jau6	used to link 2 adjectives. happy and also nervous
<b>Paragraph 6</b>		
站起來	zaam6 hei2 loi4	stood up
相當	soeng1 dong1	quite, very
響亮	hoeng2 loeng6	loud and clear
答得	daap3 dak1	answered Grammatical: shows an adverb follows. Here: answered fluently
流利	lau4 lei6	fluent
心在跳	sam1 zoi6 tiu3	heart is pounding
劇烈	kek6 lit6	violently
興奮	hing1 fan5	excited
極點	gik6 dim2	to the extreme
<b>Paragraph 7</b>		
成績	sing4 zik1	results
一般	jat1 bun1	average
包含	baau1 ham4	include
讓我	joeng6 ngo5	allowed me to, enabled me to
衝破	cung1 po3	break off
束縛	cuk1 bok3	the fetters, the restrictions
證明	zing3 ming4	prove
能力	nang4 lik6	ability

## Note 1

Putting 好了 after a verb shows a task has been completed, and it implies that it's been done well.

想好了            soeng2 hou2 liu5            finished thinking about it  
組織好內容      zou2 zik1 hou2 noi6 jung4      finished (successfully) organising the content

## Note 2

在 before a verb means the action is taking place right now.

In this piece of text we have:

老師在等      lou5 si1 zoi6 dang2            The teacher was waiting  
心在跳        sam1 zoi6 tiu3                (my) heart was racing

## Translation

That moment

4<sup>th</sup> September. Wednesday. Fine weather

Today in Chinese class, our teacher asked us which classmate could summarize the content of the text. The classroom was an expanse of silence. One minute passed, I had already finished organising the content, I quietly raised my head and glanced around, I found all my classmates had their heads down, I quickly put my head down too.

Our teacher asked us if we'd already finished thinking, I really hoped the teacher would call me, but I didn't have the nerve to put up my hand, I kept my head hidden in the expanse of square boxes (on the page).

The classroom was unusually quiet, suddenly the teacher smiled and gently told us not be so nervous, she even said jokingly that she wouldn't eat us, she encouraged everyone to bravely raise their heads.

Along with everyone else, I raised my head, my heart kept calling the teacher but she didn't hear.

Our teacher was waiting too. Another half minute went by, the classroom was still so quiet, our teacher decided to pick someone, I hoped she would choose me, our gaze met, I used my eyes to tell her: 'teacher, I can do it'. She seemed to understand my words, first, she smiled at me gently, as if to encourage me, to give me a bit of confidence, afterwards she called out my name. At that moment, I was both happy and nervous.

I stood up, I read out the content that I had already prepared, my voice was quite loud and clear, I answered extremely fluently. Talking, talking, I just felt my heart was pounding, jumping violently, my excitement reached an extreme.

This was really me - a student with average results

The moment when my gaze and the teacher's gaze met, her gaze holding her confidence in me, that moment allowed me to overcome my nervousness\* and prove my ability.

\*literally – break off the shackles of my nervousness