

Mary and Dexter: Good morning Principal, teachers and fellow schoolmates.

Mary: I am Mary from 6D.

Dexter: I am Dexter from 6D.

Mary: Dexter, do you know what the oldest form of transportation in Hong Kong is?

Dexter: Of course I do! It is the tram, isn't it?

Mary: Right. Are you a frequent rider of the tram?

Dexter: No, I am not but I enjoy taking a relaxing ride when I go to Hong Kong Island.

Mary: You must have heard there was a proposal to cancel the tram route from Central to Admiralty to improve traffic in Central. What do you think?

Dexter: Yes, I read about it. I am quite upset. It is said electric trams served no purpose other than taking up large part of major roads and blocking traffic during rush hours in the city's main business district.

Mary: I was shocked to hear the proposal, too. First, trams have been one of the most popular means of transport. They provide an almost door-to-door service due to shorter stops. They are especially welcomed by passengers travelling short distances,

Dexter: I agree. They are popular not only because they offer the cheapest fare of all the transport options but also time is saved by not having to go up and down escalators and stairs.

Mary: Second, trams are a part of our collective memories. Passengers can enjoy travelling on the trams with a breeze blowing through the open windows at a leisurely pace. In fact, this slow speed is one of the reasons why the tram is such a tourist magnet.

Dexter: Although its efficiency and service are waiting to be improved, the trams is one of the symbols of our city and have a strong heritage value. We should be doing all we can to ensure they continue to travel on our roads.

Mary: Removing trams means killing one of Hong Kong's attractions. Once the heritage has been removed, it cannot be restored. The government should help improve the tram routing system, not kill it.

Mary and Dexter: This is the end of our sharing. Thank you.