

# EVERY LITTLE IMPROVEMENT CONTRIBUTES TO FUTURE SUCCESS



**HO YU HUI ADELINE**  
08A1

NTU BA (CHINESE)  
FIRST CLASS HONOURS  
POSTGRADUATE  
DIPLOMA IN EDUCATION  
(PRIMARY CHINESE)

I remember getting my A-level results as if it was yesterday. It had not been an easy journey from the moment I first enrolled at Millennia Institute as an Arts student reading H2 Chinese, H2 Management of Business, H2 History and H1 Mathematics in 2008. The curriculum covered more depth compared to what I had been used to at the O Levels. Despite receiving plenty of low grades especially for General Paper over the course of the three years, I continued to believe that if I could pass the O levels, clearing the A levels should not be a problem. Moreover, my everyday results didn't seem all that different from what everyone else was scoring, so I assumed I had the same chance of success as everyone else. Imagine my shock and dismay when I first came face to face with the reality of my performance on my A Level results slip in 2010. The grades spelt C-C-D/U.

I was disappointed with myself. Thoughts like "I should have studied harder", "I should have practised more test questions" passed through my mind and I felt lost as to how I should proceed. After much soul searching and encouragement from my teachers, I decided to give myself one more chance for my A Levels. This round, I told myself, would be my last chance and I hoped to have no regrets after walking out from the exam hall a second time. Hence, I repeated the year in MI and everything changed as I had to adapt to new classmates and new teachers but most importantly a new approach towards my studies. I started reading Time magazine and completed lots of past year papers for my GP and H2 subjects. I actively consulted and sought help for questions that I did not understand and here I have to say thank you to all the teachers who have helped me. It was at this time that I realised how lacking in effort I was when I first took my A Levels. It was an uphill task. During the first common test after the A Levels, I improved in all my subjects but still failed GP, albeit by a few marks. I formed study groups with my classmates and we helped each other to solve difficult questions that we faced in different subjects. Time flew and in November, the A Level exams came round again. I was quite nervous and many thoughts came to my mind but I took the exam and did my best.

When the results came out the second time, I managed to score ABC/D and this allowed me to pursue the Bachelor of Arts degree in the Chinese language that I wanted to do in NTU. Today, I have finally graduated from NTU and looking back, I could not help but be grateful for the opportunity that Millennia Institute had given me to have that second shot at success. The experience has taught me a valuable lesson that it is always still possible to pick oneself up no matter how great the fall.