

# **Brain or Machine**

*Written by Wilson Deng*

Last week, my father didn't come back home on time. A faulty machine caused the factory to burn, hurting my father and almost killing many of the workers. "Machines overheat". When a machine overheats, it may burn, or even explode. Machines need to stop for a few minutes to take a break, or cool down if they have been working too hard. People are the same; our brains have a limit.

I go to school every day from 7:00 am to 5:30 pm, ten and a half hours. I feel like a machine. The teacher pushes me harder and harder, and sometime I forget to take a rest. Then I would have a headache, couldn't keep my eyes open, lazy to move my body, even one finger. The next day when I woke up, I almost couldn't get off from my bed, I couldn't listen to what teacher is telling me, and this caused a vicious circle. Brain is like a rubber band. When you pull it too tight, it will break. Or, maybe it won't break, but you'll feel very tired. So that's why having enough rest is important. I stay in school everyday at least eight hours studying, and I get two or more hours to study the same thing at the cram school without any break. When that happened, my brain is slowly getting tired. When brain gets tired, it can't absorb any things. It means I waste two hours for nothing. Is it really worth to go to a place full of angry teachers to learn something I already learn and make myself much more tired? Is it really good for us? I don't think so.

People are not machines, we're not the same, we're not living for work.

## **Stranger**

"Hrrrr" something was hiding in the dark, I could feel it, I could feel the danger from it, I moved my finger, tried to touch the stick leaning against the cliff, but the thing in dark didn't give me any chance, it jumped out and pushed me on the wet, muddy ground, and kept howling at me, the loud sound made me felt like my brain almost explode, I closed my eyes and tried to push it away from my body, but I couldn't, it was too heavy, I gave up, I lay on the ground without doing anything, then something strange happened, it didn't bite off my head or anything else, only kept licking saliva all around on my face.

"Stop!!" a strange sound came out of the darkness, the huge monster ran back into the dark, left a tiny black fur slowly float onto my nose, "Achoo!" I roll my eyes and mind, "strange." then, a loud laughing sound came out of the dark, a man and a dog appeared in front of me, "Ahhhh? A man riding on a huge black dog? What kind of stranger is he? What kind of strange dog is that?" said I, "I'm so sorry to scared you, boy." said the stranger, "Who are you?" I'm still scared and wanted to leave the stranger far far away, seemed the stranger knew what I'm thinking about, he said, "If you want to leave here, come with me." then, he looked at me with a strange smile, I felt so struggled and can't make up my mind, should I go with him, or not?

"Alright, I'll go with you." I suddenly made my choice, he laughed again and walked into the dark, I quickly chased on him and thought, "Why is he always laughing? Is he crazy?" I walked behind him, feeling so curious, since few minutes pass, we entered another large cave, there were nothing inside of it, instead of a huge stone. He walked to the stone, put his hands on it, "Push!" he yelled. sweat like beans dropped off his head, dust and grass kept falling off the cliff fell onto his head, suddenly, it moved! Sun brightly shone in the cave, slowly, everywhere full of golden sunshine. He looked at me and said softly, "Come, come here" I just couldn't refuse him! Slowly, and slowly walked to him, behind the cave were clouds like golden ocean! "Time to go" he said beside my ear, just a moment I couldn't understand what he's meaning, he pushed me, out of the cliff and fell off straightly! I had nothing in my mine then. When I woke up, familiar grass, familiar sun, all of the thing that just happened before seems so unreal, but look at me, my face, cloth, the strange smell on my face, if you think so, you would like to change your mine.