



高中學生視覺藝術作品集

Senior Secondary Student Visual Arts Portfolios

學生視覺藝術作品展

Exhibition of Student

Visual Arts Work 2021/22

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Theme of the Portfolio

Rewinding the Exquisite

Artist Statement

I have a very close bonding with my dogs – Momo and Coco. After experiencing Momo's death, I met Coco which resembles Momo in many ways, as if it were Momo's incarnation. I treasure my memories with Momo in its absence. Despite the photo records of Momo, there were still missing details no matter how hard I tried to recall. So, I created the series of work to reconstruct our memories.

Memento shows the three stages of me with Momo's presence – Momo protecting the infant me, watching the crying me on the other side and teenager me approaching Coco. The work was displayed in a tidy way to create a sense of ritual. My relationship and memories with my dogs are valuable that should be carefully preserved.

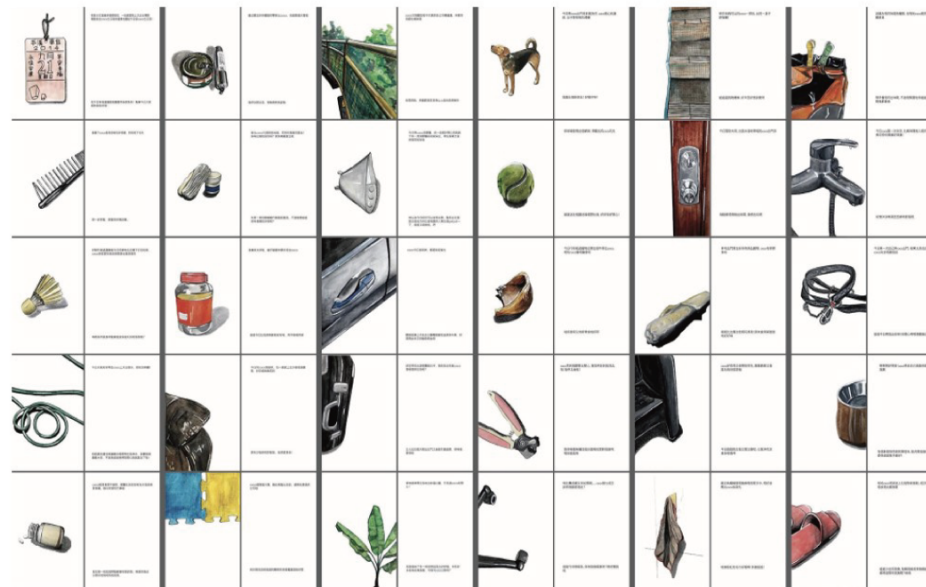
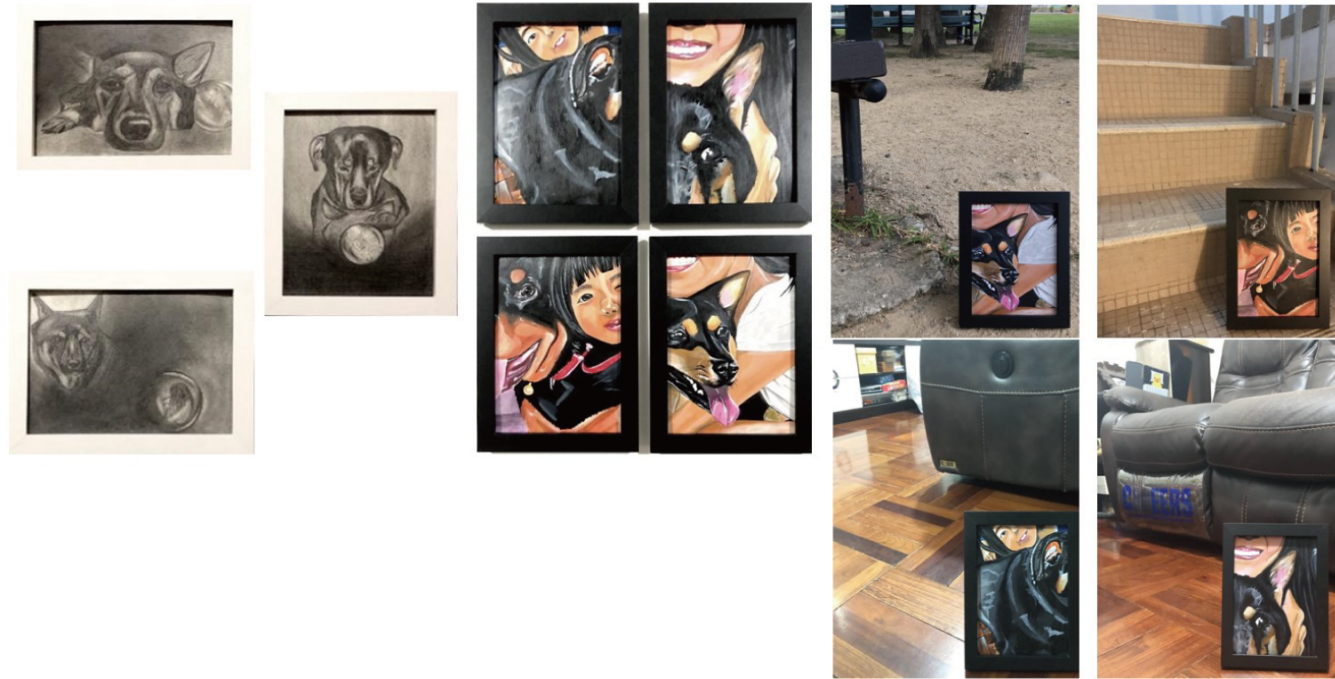
Traces shows the daily incidents by drawing objects of Coco and places we often go. I decided not to directly draw Coco and me, but present my idea in a more subtle and indirect approach to show the meaning and my feeling with representation of objects and simple descriptions. Specific memory would be unfolded when I see the related objects or go to specific places, therefore I placed the postcards like grids to represent the 30 memory boxes.

Student Artworks

Artwork 1 Memento

Graphite and Acrylic on Paper

Graphite on paper : 15 x 21 cm each (3 pieces)
Acrylic on paper : 15 x 21 cm each (4 pieces)



Artwork 2
Traces
Illustrated Postcards
14.8 x 10.5 cm each (30 pieces)



↳ momo

guardian

"Heard" → sound / video narrative to reconstruct the absent momo.

↳ he was there since I was a baby as my memories were blurry and incomplete, most of the things were heard from my mother

Fragments of memories to reconstruct the presence of the absent Momo → eg 4 drawings

↳ he was protective, and loved me very much
 - he would bark at anyone who approach me
 - he would sat by my bed when I was sleeping although I always played with his tail and annoyed him, he still let me cuddle with him
 ↳ he would carry me around after my mother put me at his back

when he was still a puppy and I wasn't born

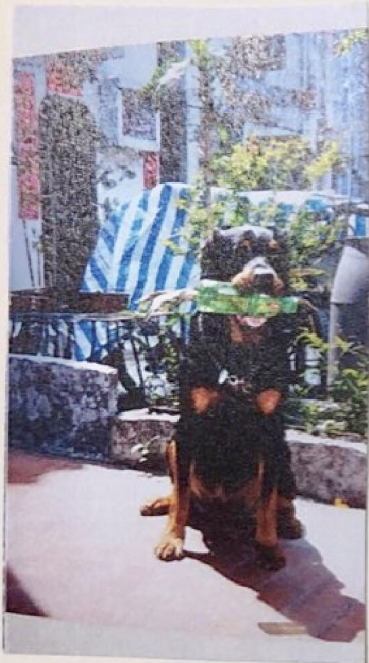


guardian angel

- till now after 14 years, I still felt a light scent of sadness when I thought of him
- I believed he's looking after me somewhere in heaven and we'll meet sometime in the future

reborn and forgather

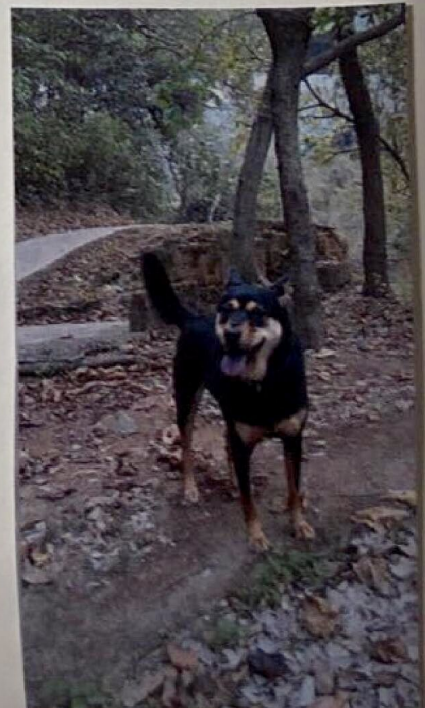
- after Momo's death, I had always been pleading my mother to get another dog
- when I was in primary 4, my mother finally agreed and we went to Saikung to adopt one
- it was like a blink and I saw Coco she was almost the same as Momo and I firmly believe she was the one



coco

fate

- Coco and I were like meant to meet and be together
- she was timid and shy and didn't allow my mother nor my father to hold her
- she only let me hold her
 - the moment I remember the most was she fell asleep in my lap



human-canine bond

— recognised by Boris Levinson (Wikipedia)

⇒ relationship between human and dogs

• history

→ at least 15000 - 20000 years ago to the Bonn-Oberkassel dog that was found buried with two humans

* man's best friend *

↳ offering companionship and loyalty to their human counterparts

Reincarnation (dogster.com/lifestyle/dogs-and-reincarnation)

⇒ religious / philosophical concept that the soul / spirit after biological death, begins a new life in a new body, which may be human / animal / spiritual

• signs / feelings

- strong intuitive / gut feeling
- familiarity
- alike / same characteristics

Reflection

Chan Sin Hing draws in a dilapidated family ancestral house where she has two dogs. The dogs later became an integral part of the picture. Many times before sunset, she draws all kind of things on the canvas, accompanied by the sound of barking.

I like how Chan Sin Hing's drawings are in specific colour tone. The shadows, composition of drawing are very unique and eye-catching. When I was walking Coco, I always stood beside and quietly watch her sniffing around, sometimes standing and 'smile' at me. I relate much in Chan Sin Hing's drawings as she draws the essence of dogs. I think her colour skills and composition inspires me to learn them.

Reincarnation in dogs Judy Fridono

- > Rina was her 13 year old golden/lab mix. She had laryngeal paralysis for about a year when her breathing became a crisis the Friday of Memorial day weekend in 2016. She was sedated and ended up in critical care with aspiration pneumonia
- > After a couple days when Rina was gone, Judy had profound 'knowing' deep within her soul that Rina was coming back and they would reunite. She was never so certain about anything in her life
- > Judy decided to adopt another puppy. Rina like essential oils and frankincense was her favourite. So she put some on her wrist and put it in front of each pup's nose as she picked them up. When she took the 7th puppy in her hands, the puppy was flailing her arms like someone who was really excited. At the same time, tears welled up in her eyes, and every cell in her body felt like it was vibrating with an incredibly powerful universal energy. It was like electricity was going through her body... goosebumps everywhere.

Reflection

I felt very much related to Judy's story. Although our story were different, and I don't have much memories about Momo's death because I was too small, I did have the feeling that 'electricity was going through my body' when I first met Coco at the adoption centre in Sai Kung. There was an indescribable feeling that 'there she is' when I held Coco in my arms. I remembered that there were other puppies to choose, and my parents suggested other puppies but I insisted choosing Coco.

This is the photos of the dog of Judy Fridono

[Due to copyright restriction, no reproduction of the image is provided.]

experiment

Zine project - dog

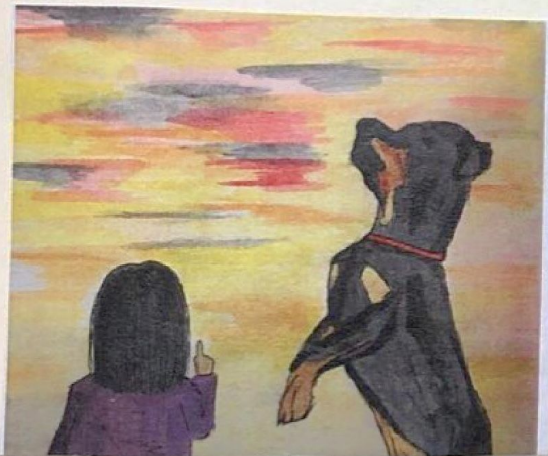


bonding noun

bond·ing | \ 'bän-din @ \

Definition of bonding

- 1 : the formation of a close relationship (as between a person and an animal) especially through frequent or constant association



Artist

- Becki Smith, assemblage artist

- found appealing about using a mixed media palette are the infinite possibilities for expressions and combinations.
- use boxes as archive of personal objects to tell stories

Reflection

I first heard about Becki Smith when Mr. Ricky Young presented several female artists to us in class for SBA. I was attracted by Becki Smith's presentation of her artworks by putting fascinating objects into boxes.

Her boxes artworks include themes that recur and overlap throughout her works are values, choices, spirituality, relationships, politics, the environment, domesticity, sexuality and humor. I think the way that she put personal objects in a box to tell a story is an inspiring way for me to consider presenting my work like hers.

This is an image of "Empty Nest 2" (Box assemblage) by Becki Smith

(beckismith.com/gallery-2/empty-nest-2)

[Due to copyright restriction, no reproduction of the image is provided.]

This is an image of "Empty Nest 1" (Box assemblage) by Becki Smith

(beckismith.com/gallery-2/empty-nest-1)

[Due to copyright restriction, no reproduction of the image is provided.]

idea

12 pieces

1

8 coco

4 Momo

↳ been with me since I was 0.4

↳ 1) when I was born

8 years now

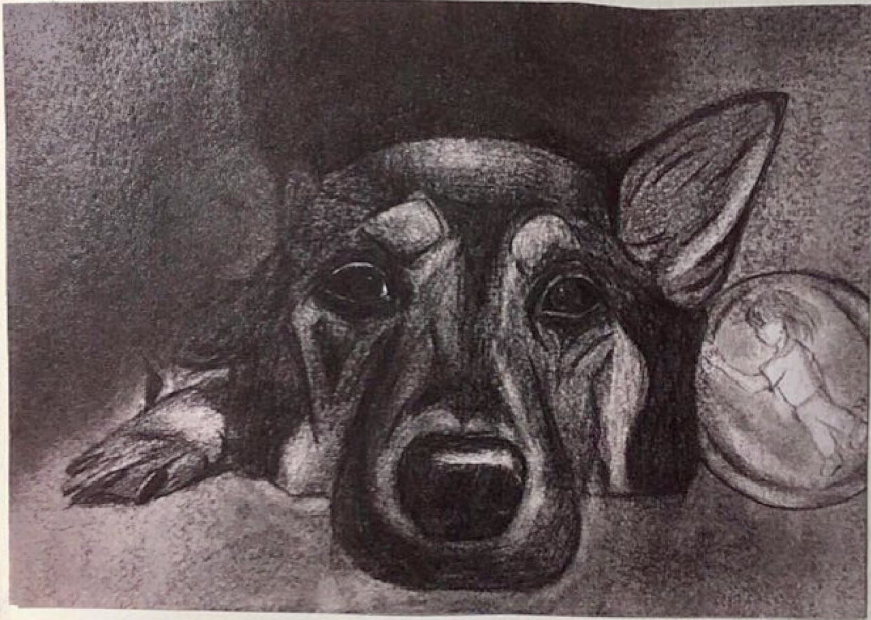
2) riding on his back

3) when he died

4) few years after he died - sudden sadness

} pieces of memories

↳ incomplete



I wish to recreate scenes of 'baby' me with Momo and 'now' me with Coco, therefore I went digging through the old photos of myself. Sadly, I couldn't find many photos with Momo, but I've come up an idea of getting my sister to take some pictures with Coco. As my sister is two years old now, seeing her playing with Coco is like seeing another of version of myself.

*(and my memories with Momo too)

I noticed that my pictures with Coco and my sister's pictures with Coco are almost mainly in a posture of hugging, relying and touching. As dogs can't communicate with us by talking, the connection and interaction between human and dogs rely on touching. Therefore, I decided to focus on the 'touching' parts in the photo to recreate the scenes.

- At first, I tried pencil to see what would it look like. However, I think that pencil creates a kind of blurry feel and the details are not sharp enough.

Then I tried painting acrylic on paper, which the details are much more clearer and the colours are vibrant and lively, not so dull like pencil.

I gathered a bunch of photos of Momo himself and photos of my sister and Coco. With the help of my phone, I cropped the photos and combine suitable photos of Momo into Coco.

Title: Memento

Medium: Acrylic on paper

Dimension: 15x21 cm x 4 pieces

Artist

- Gideon Rubin, contemporary artist

- Works with themes such as childhood, family and memory
- Known for basing his pieces on anonymous photographs in vintage photo albums

→ his paintings borrow the figures, subjects and compositions from objects that have life and layers - things that tell a story, but altered in ways that have become characteristic of his style

Reflection

I found out that Gideon Rubin's work is about the memory of something that is at the point of fading away. By blurring identifying details, erasing the facial features of human beings, I think he left a lot of imaginary spaces for us to complete these unexisting details.

When I was going through the photo album looking for suitable photos to use, I discovered that photos only can record a specific moment, some details of the memory were left forgotten which I can't clearly recall the complete memory but fragments.

Therefore, after seeing Gideon Rubin's work and knowing his idea, I decided to enlarge the photo and paint a cropped area of the photo. Without much background painted, I hope to let viewers picture the whole scene by themselves.

This is an image of "A girl with a dog" by Gideon Rubin

[Due to copyright restriction, no reproduction of the image is provided.]

This is an image of artwork by Gideon Rubin

(cyprusnewsreport.com/2017/04/pharos-foundation-presents-gideon-rubin-exhibition/)

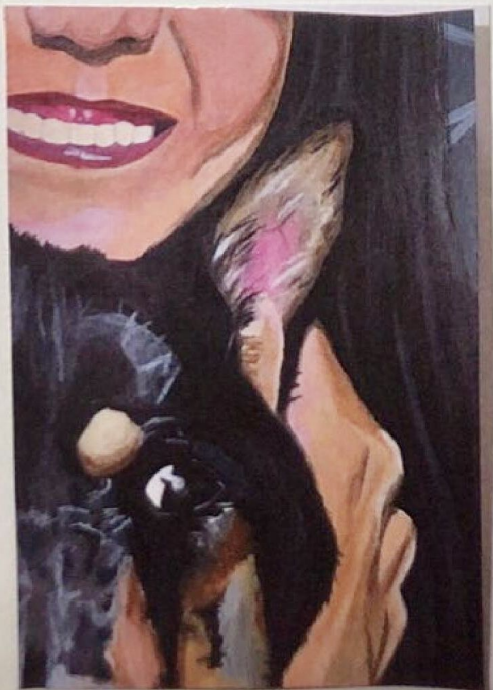
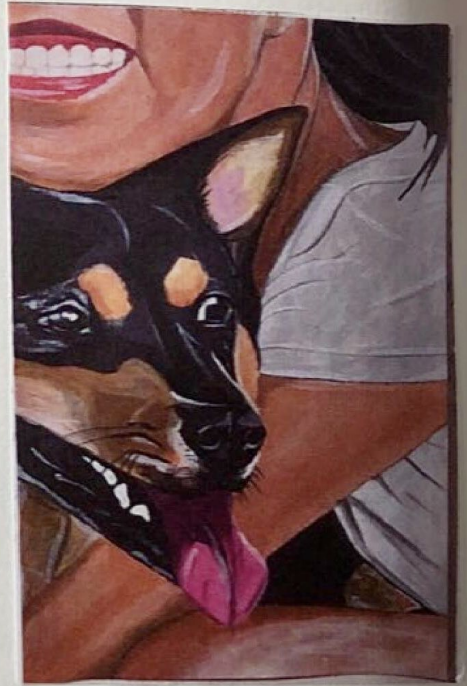
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final pieces

Title: Memento

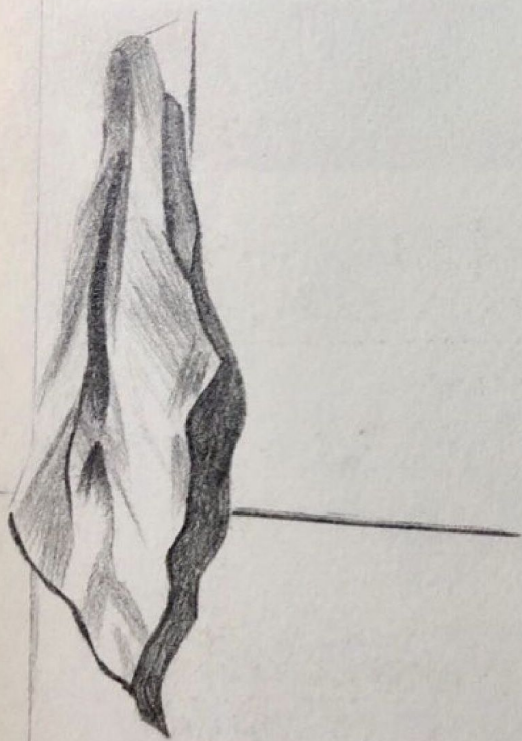
Medium: Acrylic on paper

Dimensions: 15x11 cm 4 pieces



Work 2

- I was inspired by actress 鄧九雲's work 《小姐狗與流氓貓》
- It is a pet graphic card book which lady dog - in the form of pet dog Cookie and Charlie, the range cat exchange letters. Through the first-person narration and observation of the two animals, the interesting dialogue between the animals show how dogs and cats are different in human life and at the same time the viewers can feel the love between animals and human
 - I love how the artist used exchanging letters as an idea. I always think about what would Coco tell me if she can talk, therefore I came up with an idea of putting myself in Coco's shoes to write series of sentences of what Coco is thinking in daily lives.



Artist (kubrick.com.hk/index.php/zh-hk/a3054042-4e38.html)

- 鄧九雲 Joanne Deng, Illustrator - Soupy Tang

《小姐狗與流氓貓》

- take abandoned cats and dogs as subject, and share the life details from the time of adoption in an anthropomorphic way.
- Joanne Deng pays many attention to animal conservation, one reason is because her dog, the protagonist in the book *Cookie*, the dog was also adopted
- the book is all about little things in life, which reminds everyone to cherish and enjoy small fortunes and encourage adopting animals

Reflection

Joanne Deng's work is my only inspiration for work 2. After finishing work 1, I have been thinking how to avoid directly drawing Coco to present my idea.

After reading 《小姐狗與流氓貓》, I was impressed by the simple drawings, they immediately reminded me of Coco's daily life in my house. Also, the cards are letters from dog to cat and from cat to dog. By interpreting thoughts of the cat and the dog makes the letters more interesting and fun to read.

Therefore, the idea of using postcards as work 2 popped up in my mind. I decided to write 30 incidents including both me and Coco's perspective. As for the drawings, I decided to extract specific element for example objects, sceneries etc to draw. As mentioned, I avoid drawing Coco and me in my drawings, I would like to leave space for readers to imagine the incident themselves.

《小姐狗與流氓貓》 uses lots of wordings to explain an incident, however I want to keep my wordings simple so that viewers don't have to waste a lot of time to understand the whole incident but have general understanding just by one or two sentences.

啊啊啊好得意! coco唔肯自己食飯係都要我餵
-哇個新既啡色碗有陣怪味, 點用黎食飯啊都係姐姐隻手最好!

今日第一次自己帶coco出門, 結果太高估自己佢完全唔聽我話
-姐姐今日帶我出街呀! 好開心啊唔想翻屋企! 狗帶

今日coco第一次沖涼, 媽咪將佢硬拖入廁所, 佢無可奈何嗰樣好得意!
-好憎沖涼啊濕笠笠都唔舒服既 水喉

送錯左唔同味既狗糧黎, 估唔到coco竟然都鍾意食
-嘆早餐唔同左味既, 不過唔緊要啦係姐姐比既我都會食

最近執櫃桶發現幾條冇用過既手巾, 唔好睇比coco抹身先
哇條粉紅色毛巾好靚啊! 多謝姐姐!

coco好乖咁企係凳到吹毛。啲毛鬆鬆軟軟又香, 抱住勁舒服
-今日姐姐抱左我又聞又錫咁, 乜我沖完涼真係咁香咩

今日落勁大雨, 出面水浸咁帶唔到coco出門添
-嗚點解冇人帶我出街既, 我想去玩啊

爹地出門買左好多狗用品翻黎, coco有新野食啦
-姐姐比左舊白色既玩具我! 原來食得架甜甜地好好味

終於放假可以同coco一齊玩, 好耐冇試過出一身汗啦
-姐姐逼我陪佢跑樓梯, 好叻好想訓覺呀

唉比賽成績又未如預期..... coco做乜成日訓係我腳底唔走?
-姐姐今日唔睬我, 係咪我做錯事呀? 唔好嬲我啦

coco見到我翻黎太開心, 啲指甲刮到我流血, 哇啲指甲太長啦!
-救命呀媽咪擺住個大鉗唔知想對我做啲咩, 唔好掂我呀

今日行街經過寵物店買左個牛蹄比coco, 唔知佢鐘唔鐘意呢
-哇好香呀又有新零食啦好耶

係球場發現左個網球, 帶翻去同coco玩先
-好開心姐姐送左個波比我, 可以日日同姐姐挽波啦

今日帶coco出門見到隻柴犬, coco開心到瀨尿, 女仔黎架嘛失禮囉
-我識左個新朋友! 佢好靚仔呀!

爹地揸車帶左我地去彭福公園, 冇見過coco咁開心!
-呢度個地下有一枝枝綠色既野踩落去好舒服, 仲有好多好高既樹, 可唔可以日日黎呀?

photo references and drawings

