I have joined many one-year programs before such as courses held outside. However, I have not been able to establish strong bonds with the other participants since we I spent most of the time with my friends. Boundless is the first one allowing me to make friends from different schools sharing different opinions about our future prospects. Many F.5 students may still be confused about their careers but everyone in Boundless does have their own unique aspiration. They all gear up for their future by enrolling in different related ECAs. Thus, I am inspired by them very much.

Regarding my experience in Boundless, it was very fruitful. A multi-pronged programme was arranged for us to pursue our aspirations. There were mentorship, university & scholarship application guidance, job-shadowing opportunities, overseas volunteering and interview & CV workshops, etc. To be honest, I thought it was time-consuming and I was reluctant to join the events being informed a few days before the activity. However, I found them worthwhile during the events. I have learnt lots of skills including those of writing CV and immersing myself in an English-speaking environment is rare in my daily life. The main organizers of the workshops were foreigners, so I had to speak in English in a bid to acquire more knowledge.

Apart from these, every student was paired up with a mentor from local universities according to our aspirations. Many of us are interested in Medicine but there were limited mentors. Luckily, my mentor is studying Medicine in CUHK. Groups of 4 were formed including 2 mentors and 2 mentees. During the gatherings, we shared our school lives and views on our future prospects. The sharing was so meaningful and enjoyable. Over time, my mentors and mentees have become not only our trustworthy mentors, but also long-lasting companions. It is my pleasure to make these like-minded friends!

In addition to the support provided by YMCA, we were also advised to sign up other volunteering and career-related events. With the enrollment of the overseas trip, I was able to join activities launched by Time Auction. 10 volunteer hours are needed to bid a valuable event which was a meeting with a celebrity. That was a precious chance for me to meet amazing people like Starfish, the Founder and Principal of RTC Gaia School. Although I had no idea about Nature Education before the meeting, I was inspired when discovering that we can also be different under the test-oriented and spoon-fed education system in Hong Kong. Correct values and a positive attitude towards life are indispensable to the growth of children.

With respect to the most unforgettable events in Boundless, they must be the job-shadowing section and the overseas trip. As for the job shadowing, I went to Queen Mary Hospital and followed a doctor for 3 days. I was honored to participate in it as there were just 4 quotas but 10 of us wanted to join this. The doctor, Dr Raymond Yau, is working in the Department of Orthopaedics and Traumatology. This department consists of 8 divisions. Dr Yau is in charge of the tumour division. Our duty was to follow Dr Yau without getting lost since he walked so fast and had a hectic work schedule. In those 3 days, he had to perform operations, ward visits and worked in the specialist out-patient clinic. It being the tumour division, the 6 cases I watched in the operation theatre were bloody. The assistants used a camera to show the real condition of the patient on a screen so that we could observe well even though standing a bit further from the patient. For one of the operations, it lasted for 6 hours. That means we had to stand for 6 hours. We were tired after watching the operation. Nevertheless, Dr Yau did not complain even though he had stood and worn a magnifier for a long time. There were so many things that arouse our respect to doctors. We always say being a doctor is tiring but I had no idea how exhausting it is. Only after having some hands-on experience and witnessing their daily routine once, you will discover that. During the ward visits, some patients would ask 'why isn’t the doctors concerned more about me?'. They never understand that they have different divisions. As a result, the doctors keep being complained although they have worked so hard. Knowing more about the duties of a doctor, I can be more psychologically prepared and equipped myself with the essential qualities for the future prospects.

In late-August, we went to Yangon of Myanmar for an overseas volunteering trip. Before the trip, dozens of work were done since we needed to design activities to serve people. Our target group was students from a deaf school and monastery school and Myanmar local volunteers. A debriefing session was held every night. Surely, our program skills were sharpened. Additionally, I discovered that disability is not a problem if you really want to communicate with others. We just need to talk sincerely with the use of proper body language. Maybe most of us have misconceptions that only people having disability will be envious of us but not mutually. However, they do have their own merits and strengths we envy. For instance, they smiled and felt pleasant thanks to the video played by us. Will you be delighted after watching a video? I am sure that most of you will not. In this fast-paced city, there are too many things to be considered. Or I may call our lives are complicated. Although their lives are simple, they always starving and suffering from illness. During the construction work, we helped the villagers to rebuild their houses. We worked on sewage and rubbish, which means they sleep in this unhygienic environment. Actually, we are one of the culprits. Shall we use how much we need or use how much we have?

A staff member raised a question before, " Why do we still need teens to be volunteers though they have a weaker ability compared with adults?". Now, I can answer this question. That is because youngsters like sharing things with friends. After having such first-hand experience, they can spread these positive and meaningful messages to the surroundings. Sharing from friends is much more convincing than the advertisements. Being the pillar of society, we need to step out of our comfort zone and learn more about people from different social status. We have nothing to lose.

Boundless is an absolutely worthwhile program. I had a great personal growth throughout the scheme!