

Day 14



"Summer's Kiss" my ass.



Outnumbered, my bottom.



Captain's about to lay into him.



那当然是你的论点 新生嘛

Of course that's your contention. You're a first-year grad student.



echo

一直持续到明年你反刍伍德

That's gonna last until next year. You're gonna be in here regurgitating Gordon Wood,



梁丽萍 Liping

今天早上阅读遇到了 a better track record of; a penchant for making trouble; 😊 比较不熟悉的 callous - cruel

12:09



罗

今天复习看到了 future-proof 这个词，联想到 portable skills *transfer*

- Future-proof knowledge and portable skills will make you outstanding among your competitors.

或者换个说法:

Your competitors will pale into insignificance when compared with you, equiped with future-proof knowledge and portable skills.



YoloLee

楼上这个我查了一下，是不是 portable skills?我同时查了下 future-proof knowledge 这个搭配，没怎么搜到这个搭配的用法，不知道是否为常用的搭配



你的客服 Eric

@YoloLee 使用更清晰的截图分享，想过应该会更好，自己截个图也加深了印象。至于“不知道是否为常用搭配”，可以再利用搜索技巧搜搜查查，提升自己筛选和验证的能力。

Future proof knowledge system: Plain text with Obsidian

Aug 26, 2563 BE — **Future proof knowledge** system: Plain text with Obsidian ... Hi friend,. Last week, I shared about how I capture notes inputs from different ...

<https://petervickersphilosophy.com> › 2021/07/08 › iden... ⋮

Identifying Future-Proof Science - Peter Vickers

Jul 8, 2564 BE — But scientists did in fact have some relevant **future-proof knowledge**, even only a handful of weeks after the onset of the pandemic.

<https://ssec.si.edu> › news › carol-odonnell-gives-talk-aa... ⋮

Carol O'Donnell Gives Talk at Aarhus University in Denmark on ...

Carol O'Donnell Gives Talk at Aarhus University in Denmark on "**Future-Proof Knowledge** for a Changing World". AddThis Sharing Buttons.

<https://newtechkids.com> › Home › Geen categorie ⋮

Act Now! Prepare Kids for Tech Innovation

May 10, 2565 BE — ... caregivers, teachers and mentors can take to help kids acquire the **future-proof knowledge**, skills and thinking they'll need to enjoy a ...



"future proof" "portable skills"



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<https://practicalrisktraining.com> › future-proof-our-children

How to future-proof our children? - Practical Risk Training

... their children to be job-ready by acquiring employable **portable skills**. ... the required knowledge and understanding to **future-proof** themselves first.

<https://www.agilus.ca> › blog › futureproof-your-resume...

Futureproof your resume with these 10 transferable skills

They are '**portable skills**' and are owned by you, not your employer. ... Companies are looking to innovate and **future-proof** their businesses by relying on ...

<https://www.gpstrategies.com> › blog › future-proof-you...

Future-Prepare Yourself with Transferable Skills - GP Strategies

Apr 21, 2563 BE — Transferable skills, also known as **portable skills**, are a core set ... you feel empowered and encouraged, and it will **future-proof** yourself.



"competitors" "pale into insignificance"



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<https://www.seek.com.au> › allianz-432907 › reviews

Allianz - All competitors pale into insignificance compare to ...

All **competitors pale into insignificance** compare to this global business with a social heart. salary rated. High. this employer. Recommended.

★★★★★ Rating: 3.5 · 252 votes

<https://www.octopusintelligence.com> › which-industries...

Which industries use Competitive Intelligence and why?

Mar 21, 2563 BE — Ahead of their **competitors** and to a great reception from their ... market or the merger between two companies **pale into insignificance** if:.



any writing suggestions: Future-proof knowledge and portable skills will make you outstanding among your competitors.



d.



Here are some writing suggestions to consider:



1. Clarify the meaning: Consider defining what "future-proof knowledge" and "portable skills" mean, to ensure that readers understand exactly what you are referring to.
2. Use concrete examples: To make your point more tangible and memorable, consider including specific examples of skills or knowledge that are particularly valuable in today's rapidly changing economy.
3. Emphasize the benefits: Rather than simply stating that possessing these qualities will make you stand out, try to articulate exactly how they will benefit you in practical terms. For example, you might mention that future-proof knowledge will allow you to stay ahead of industry trends and anticipate future developments, while portable skills will enable you to adapt to different roles and environments.
4. Avoid jargon: While terms like "future-proof" and "portable" may be familiar to some readers, they can also come across as buzzwords that don't really mean anything. Try to use more straightforward language whenever possible.
5. Vary sentence structure: To keep your writing engaging and easy to read, try to vary the length and structure of your sentences. This can help to create a natural flow and prevent your writing from becoming too repetitive or monotonous.



how would you rewrite this sentence in The Economist style:

Future-proof knowledge and portable skills will make you outstanding among your competitors.



In the competitive landscape of tomorrow, possessing future-proof expertise and transferable competencies shall distinguish you from your peers.

Acquiring/developing portable skills can future-proof your career.
Future-proof knowledge and portable skills will prevail.



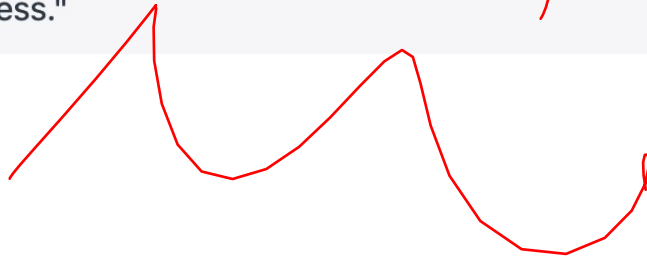
I apologize for the mistake. You are correct that your original sentence, "Future-proof knowledge and portable skills will prevail," is actually phrased in the active voice, not passive. I apologize for any confusion my earlier response may have caused.



In terms of style and tone, the sentence is concise and to the point. However, as with any sentence, additional context or explanation can make it more informative and engaging to readers. Depending on the purpose and audience of your writing, you may want to consider expanding on the benefits and importance of possessing future-proof knowledge and portable skills, or providing specific examples of how they can lead to success in a particular field or industry.

Here is an example of a potential rewrite that incorporates these suggestions:

"In a rapidly evolving job market, possessing future-proof knowledge and portable skills is essential for staying competitive. By cultivating these qualities, you can adapt to new challenges, seize opportunities, and thrive in a range of professional settings. Whether you're seeking to advance your career or stay ahead of the curve, future-proof knowledge and portable skills are the key to success."



Future-proof knowledge and portable skills are a winning combination. Once you've bagged them, you are likely to blow your peers out of the water.

Here's an example of a potential rewrite that takes these suggestions into account:

"Acquiring both future-proof knowledge and portable skills is a powerful combination that can give you a significant edge over your peers. With these qualities, you can stay up-to-date with the latest trends and technologies, remain adaptable to changing circumstances, and enhance your value as an employee. By investing in your own professional development, you can position yourself as a standout candidate and outperform your competition."



If you intend to sound colloquial and casual, then the sentence you provided is perfectly fine. It effectively conveys the idea that possessing future-proof knowledge and portable skills can give you an advantage over your peers. The phrase "blow your peers out of the water" is a common idiom that means to surpass or outperform others, and it adds a casual and conversational tone to the sentence. So, if this is the tone you are going for, then the original sentence is well-written.





Any writing suggestions: Your competitors will pale into insignificance when compared with you, equippd with future-proof knowledge and protable skills.



Here are some writing suggestions to consider:



1. Consider using a more objective tone: The phrase "pale into insignificance" could be perceived as overly dramatic or boastful. Instead, try to convey the idea that possessing future-proof knowledge and portable skills will give you a competitive advantage in a more matter-of-fact way.
2. Emphasize the specific benefits: Rather than simply stating that you will outshine your competitors, try to be more specific about the benefits that future-proof knowledge and portable skills will bring you. For example, you might mention that they will help you to stay ahead of industry trends, increase your versatility, or make you more resilient in the face of change.
3. Be clear about what you mean: As with the previous sentence you provided, it's important to ensure that readers understand exactly what you mean by "future-proof knowledge" and "portable skills." Consider defining these terms or giving examples to help readers understand what you're referring to.
4. Vary your sentence structure: To keep your writing engaging and easy to read, try to vary the length and structure of your sentences. This can help to create a natural flow and prevent your writing from becoming too repetitive or monotonous.
5. Avoid hyperbole: While it's important to be confident and assertive in your writing, it's also important to avoid exaggerating your claims. Instead of saying that your competitors will "pale into insignificance," you might say that you will be well-positioned to excel in your field.



Here are a few potential rewrites that incorporate the writing suggestions I provided:



1. Equipped with future-proof knowledge and portable skills, you can gain a significant competitive edge over your rivals.
2. Future-proof knowledge and portable skills are essential ingredients for staying ahead in today's dynamic job market. By acquiring these qualities, you can enhance your versatility and resilience, and outperform your competitors.
3. In a world where change is constant, possessing future-proof knowledge and portable skills can help you to navigate uncertainty and stay relevant. With these qualities in your toolkit, you'll be better equipped than your competitors to succeed and thrive.
4. Rather than simply striving to keep up with the pack, focus on developing the portable skills and forward-thinking knowledge that will set you apart. By doing so, you'll be able to surpass your competitors and establish yourself as a leader in your field.
5. By honing your future-proof knowledge and portable skills, you can position yourself for long-term success and make your competitors pale in comparison. These qualities can help you to anticipate industry trends, pivot when needed, and stand out in a crowded job market.

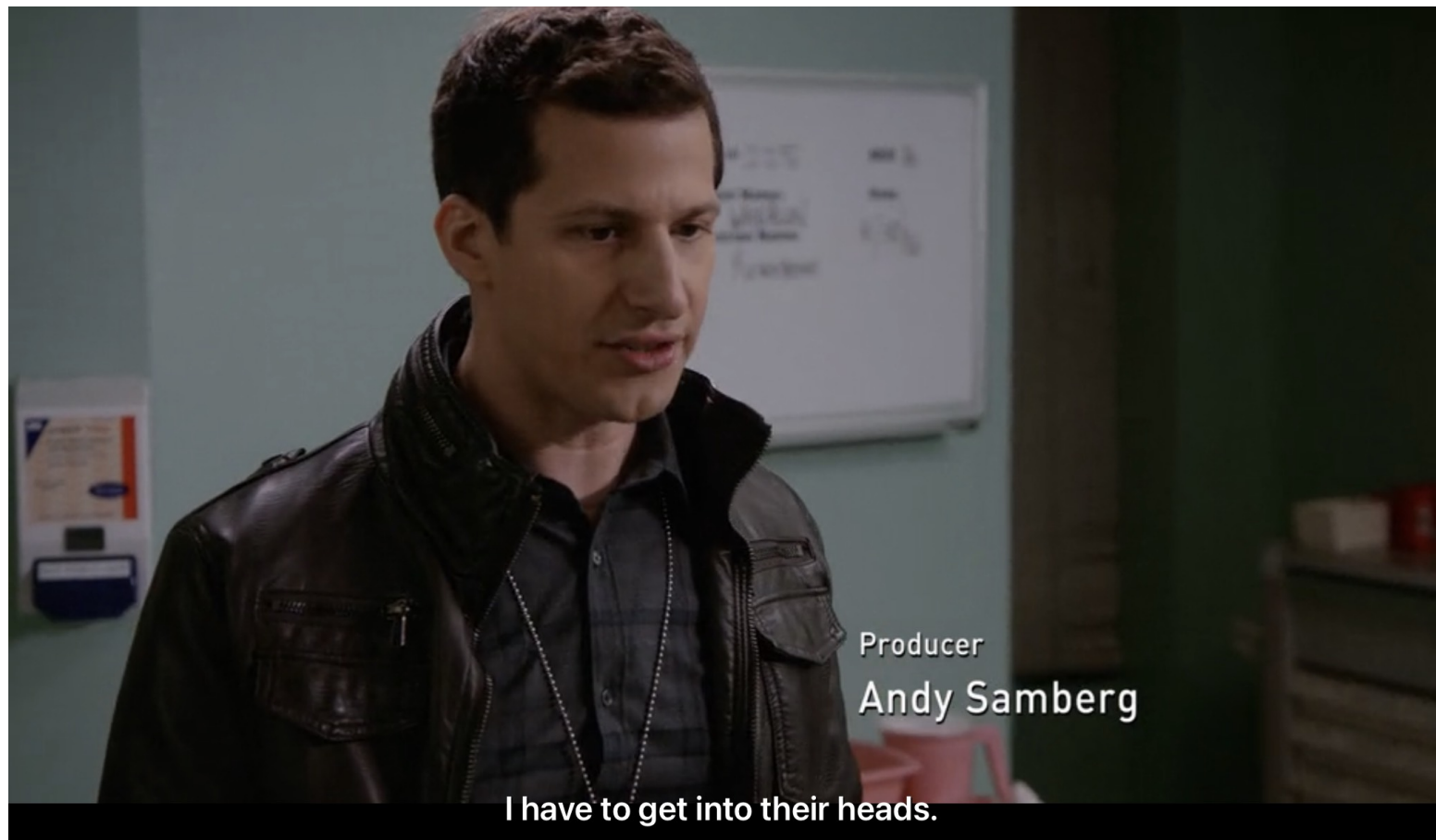


While it's important to avoid hyperbole, as mentioned earlier, if you would like to include the phrase "pale into insignificance," here is an example sentence:



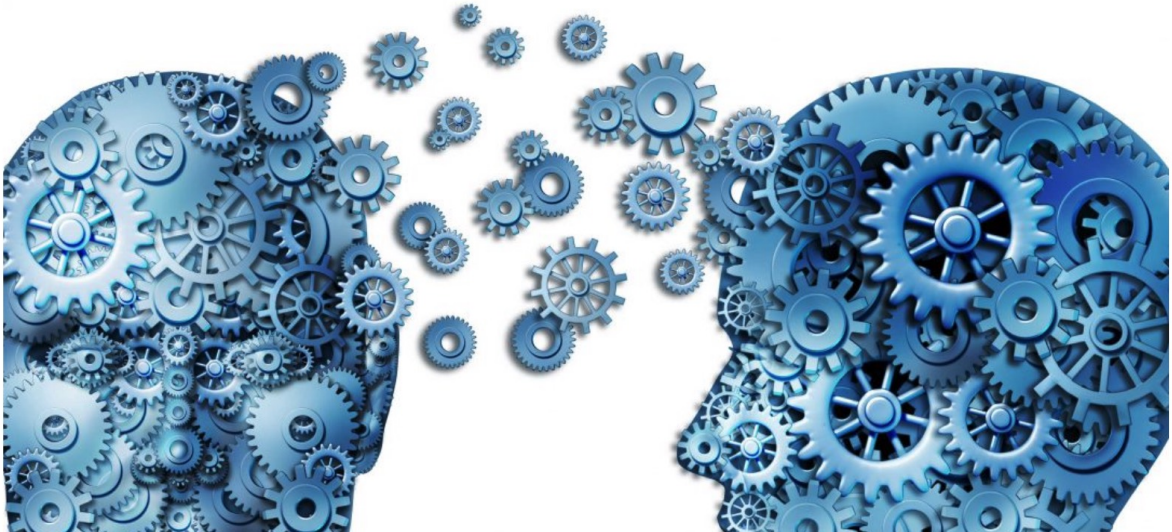
With future-proof knowledge and portable skills under your belt, your competitors will pale into insignificance as you carve out a unique niche and propel yourself forward in your career.

多观察，多背。
多模仿，少创作。
练习要有反馈。



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AI-Generated Writing: A Hot Take from the Village Luddite on ChatGPT



I often jokingly describe myself as Capture's village [luddite](#) and, as my friends continued their holiday fun with ChatGPT (one used it to write a letter from Santa to his kids), my feelings were those of profound fear and loathing. I would say I reacted like an early-19th century British textile worker regarding a mechanized loom or knitting frame for the first time.

"Smash it," I thought. "Destroy it. *Kill it!*"



**BUT BOONE IS KING DOOFUS
OF DOOFUS ISLAND.**

On ChatGPT, My Luddite Awakening, and Why I Hate Computers

Spawn Point

In the three weeks since ChatGPT first started making waves on the internet, I have been repeatedly informed by my friends that the natural language processing AI's greatest strength is in its ability to be an efficient tool. In those three weeks, I have also never felt more like a Luddite.

It is not that I refute the fact that ChatGPT *is* a capable tool to support all manners of work, from copywriting to software development. In fact, I do concede (with contempt) that there is utility in having a piece of software that can supplement the creative process or a person's general lifestyle. In fact, I recently (and quite hypocritically) used ChatGPT to kickstart the writing process for an article at work. It was one of those articles you write for SEO optimisation, and I had been struggling with writing something so lifeless and stale, so I got the computer to do it, and then I edited and built on what it did. My manager said the final result read a little robotic, but after a few more edits it was good to go.

While I would readily wear the crown of the hypocrite without shame, I personally do not think my use of ChatGPT in this manner after posting 15+ anti-AI tweets was *actually* hypocritical. Because, when I talk about how ChatGPT makes me nervous, I am not talking about the program in itself.

I'm talking about the global system to which it was introduced.

Aside #2: You Can't 'Democratise' Art, Go Touch Grass

A common mindset among those passionate about AI art is the idea that they're making art more widely available. This is hilarious simply because not only has art always been publicly available, but it also remains one of the most under-funded and under-appreciated public amenities. Despite its ability to heal and provide solace, a large percentage of people who become notable artists have had to dedicate themselves to it without support or funding. They do not receive massive grants from silicon valley VCs. Public funding from governments is hard fought.

It is important to highlight that this technology only exists as a way to create profit. It was not created to be a tool. It was made to optimise and streamline processes that industries that were previously human led. The people who back it understand this. That's why its biggest supporters are not the artists themselves, but people in corporations that understand how it is yet another cog in the global game of numbers.

The actual artists, the people to whom writing, painting, drawing, music, and all other forms of expression have provided respite, look upon the art with disgust because they do not see a tool. They can tell that these programs were not made with them in mind. It wreaks of scientists meddling in another industry that can be reduced to 1s and 0s for no reason other than streamlining and capital and profit and stock prices.

Scientists that are so enamoured by the fact that they could do create such a technology, that they've not stopped to think for a second if they should.



Chinese Educators Should Embrace ChatGPT as Part of Reform, Experts Say 🔑

Since its release in November, the chatbot has become a hit among students worldwide, leading to concerns about academic misconduct that could further curtail its use on campus

Feb 21, 2023 08:38 PM



chatgpt china educators



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Chinese Educators Should Embrace ChatGPT as Part of ...

10 hours ago — **China** should embrace **ChatGPT** as part of **education** reform rather than banning it outright, the country's experts said.

<https://www.nytimes.com> › 2023/01/12 › technology › ch... ⋮

Don't Ban ChatGPT in Schools. Teach With It.

Jan 12, 2566 BE — **Teachers** and school administrators have been scrambling to catch students using the tool to cheat, and they are fretting about the havoc **ChatGPT** ...

<https://www.scmp.com> › Comment › Opinion › Hong Kong ⋮

Universities afraid to embrace ChatGPT have missed the point ...

2 days ago — AI tools like **ChatGPT** will force **educators** to place a higher value on creativity and originality. Chow Chung-yan.

<https://www.chinadaily.com.cn> › ... ⋮

AI to influence future direction of education - Chinadaily.com.cn

The arrival of **ChatGPT** will push **educators** to focus more on teaching subjects that technology is not good at, a senior **education** expert said.

<https://www.voanews.com> › amid-chatgpt-outcry-some-... ⋮

Amid ChatGPT Outcry, Some Teachers Are Inviting AI to Class

3 days ago — The robot was the new artificial intelligence tool **ChatGPT**, which can generate everything from essays and haikus to term papers within seconds.

• Home / China / Innovation

AI to influence future direction of education

By ZOU SHUO | China Daily | Updated: 2023-02-16 09:15

f t in +



"The world no longer rewards you just for what you know. Baidu knows everything," he said. "The world rewards you for what you can do with what you know, and I think ChatGPT pushes us to work harder on this."

If students are only as smart as a smartphone, it means educators are not doing enough, he said. People should focus on developing human skills that actually are important, such as imagination and creativity, he said.

The arrival of artificial intelligence really pushes people to think hard about what education is and the purpose it serves, as well as what knowledge, skills, attitudes and values humans possess that complement artificial intelligence, he added.

"If you do not understand an algorithm, you will soon become the victim of that algorithm," he said. "There's a great risk that we'll just slavishly follow the answers that we get from ChatGPT rather than question it and create new knowledge."

A very important implication for education is to make young people ready to navigate ambiguity, manage complexity, distinguish fact from opinion and understand computational thinking as well as the ideas and nature of algorithms, Schleicher said.

As a device, ChatGPT is going to make learning much more interesting and powerful, but as a purpose and objective, humans need to work very hard to win that race with technology, he added.



SCMP Columnist
Chow Chung-yan

Universities afraid to embrace ChatGPT have missed the point of education

- For too long, Hong Kong's education system has rewarded students for their ability to memorise facts
- AI tools like ChatGPT will force educators to place a higher value on creativity and originality



Chow Chung-yan

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Published: 3:47pm, 20 Feb, 2023 ▾

[Why you can trust SCMP](#)

Last Friday, the University of Hong Kong (HKU) banned its students from using ChatGPT or any other artificial intelligence-based tool for coursework, threatening to treat any use of such tools as plagiarism.

I asked a professor how the university intended to enforce the rule but did not get a straight answer. Instead, the professor told me what he thought should be the best practice in the age of AI, and I think that makes much more sense.

A business school in the US, I'm told, has done the opposite of what HKU announced last Friday. Its students are told that they must use ChatGPT for their coursework. Anyone who refuses to use the AI tool will be doing so knowingly at their own disadvantage.

A lecturer will then grade students using a new set of standards. Students will flunk the course if there is any factual error or logical inconsistency in their papers. Ensuring an error-free and logically proven work is now the bare minimum you need to get a pass.

To earn any score higher than that, students must demonstrate individual creativity or insight that separates their work from their classmates. Distinctions will now go to those who have their own voice or make a unique contribution to the subject matter.

The idea may sound drastic at first hearing, but it makes perfect sense.

Under the new grading system, students must check whatever is written by ChatGPT to see if the arguments are fact-based and valid. They need to learn how to properly source the information and cross-check it to ensure accuracy. Instead of finding a lazy solution, students must master the basic facts and weed out any logical gaps in their coursework just to get a pass.

Students who are creative, willing to think out of the box and who dare to explore new ideas will emerge as winners.

→ prevail

Instead of trying to turn back the clock and fight the future, the management and lecturers of this US school choose to embrace it fully. It is foolhardy to ban students from using this technology, which is evolving at a speed with which no school bureaucracy, no matter how well resourced and diligent, can hope to keep up.

ChatGPT is an extremely powerful tool, but it has no real insight – as anyone who has spent some time with it could testify. If it is perceived as a threat to our education system, it is only because our system is broken.

We may have valued rote learning too much and paid too little attention to creativity in the past. The arrival of ChatGPT is a wake-up call, telling us that much of the so-called knowledge that we have treasured may be the emperor's new clothes.

Prized

Only time will tell how successful this US business school is in its little experiment. But at least it is making a creative attempt at solving the new problem. The reaction from my alma mater, in comparison, is rather disappointing.

As I was writing this column, I could not resist the temptation of asking ChatGPT this question: "Should a school ban students from using ChatGPT in their coursework?"

The answer I received was rather nuanced and well argued. Perhaps HKU's management should give it a try as well.

↳ go whirl

Chow Chung-yan is the Post's executive editor



Maestros, music lovers take on Chinese music challenge



Xi'an symphony raises curtain on new season



Rabbit leaps into global awareness



Focusing on wild beauty

Cultural exchanges between China and Germany marked in Shanghai

Rich taste of Moutai pours out of new book

Forum discusses how art can invigorate rural construction



Artist bitten by the bug

Is the era of fossil fuel cars coming to an end?

☐ Yes. ☐ No. ☐ Unsure.

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Artist bitten by the bug

By Wang Qian | China Daily | Updated: 2023-02-22 08:24



Combining mechanical components with specimens of insects or marine animals, Tan Yan'ge creates fantastic sculptures with a steampunk theme.[Photo provided to China Daily]

Turning insects into steampunk-themed characters has given rise to a swarm of admirers, Wang Qian reports.

You could say his passion for art is bugging him. At Tan Yan'ge's studio in Changsha, Hunan province, there is a retro-futuristic world of insects, which seems to come straight out of a sci-fi movie.



Who's Profiting Off China's Bride Prices?

The practice defies easy categorization.

Li Yongping

Feb 22, 2023 | 5-min read | Voices

This is the first article in a series on bride prices.



Li Yongping

Li Yongping
Sociologist

Li Yongping is an assistant professor of sociology at Nankai University's Zhou Enlai School of Government.

↳ Few topics are the subject of more debate — or more clickbait headlines — in China than the sky-high bride prices found in some rural areas. Last month, an article with the headline “Jiangxi Woman Demands 18.88 Million Yuan (\$2.75 million) Bride Price From Her Shanghai Boyfriend” soared atop trending lists on multiple social media platforms, only for the story to be revealed as a **fake**. That revelation didn't stop a town in a rural part of Jiangxi province from **marshalling** 30 young unmarried women to put their names on an open letter decrying high bride prices, resulting in yet another round of media coverage.

Not every story is quite so lighthearted, of course. Earlier this week, **reports** that a Sichuan family had received a 260,000-yuan bride price when they married off their underage daughter sparked a furious backlash on social media.

Fresh
voices
from
today's
China

SIXTH TONE

Regardless of the circumstances, attitudes toward bride prices in both traditional and new media are almost universally negative. They are widely seen as an outdated tradition that must be ended as soon as possible. Local governments, especially in northern China, have also sought to discourage the practice on numerous occasions, casting it as an obstacle to stabilizing the rural marriage market.

And yet, the practice persists. One reason for the apparent durability of bride prices is their diversity: They can vary widely by region and are tightly bound to local community norms and lifestyles.

To understand the scale of the issue, it's important to first define what bride prices are and how they are used. In traditional Chinese culture, the practice had a strong ceremonial connotation: They were a means of regulating marital relationships by subjecting them to ritual conduct. Today, however, ritual has taken a back seat to bride prices' other functions, namely compensation for the parents of daughters and financial support for newlywed couples.

The other factor pushing bride prices up in north China is the region's relatively closed marriage market. Generally speaking, the expectation to marry a local increases competition and drives up the bride price. In general, the marriage market in rural northern China is limited to the surrounding areas. Locals generally want their children to find someone from nearby — usually from the same county — which is an important factor behind the higher bride prices there.

In short, the issue of bride prices is more complicated than it may at first seem. If the practice is to be eliminated, or even just ameliorated, it's important to look beyond the headlines about "sky-high prices" and at the underlying logic.

revamp
✓

Eyebrow grooming for men: the best tools and techniques, from waxing and tweezers to threading, for use at home

- As more men become interested in grooming their eyebrows, some are buying the tools and learning the methods for DIY maintenance
- From establishing your natural eyebrow shape to finding the best tweezers and learning how to thread, here is how to get started on eyebrow grooming at home



Carolina Malis + FOLLOW

Published: 6:15pm, 24 Jan, 2023

Why you can trust SCMP



Men's eyebrows are usually fuller and fuzzier than women's and maintenance is necessary to keep them under control.

Eyebrow hairs grow at different lengths and sometimes in different directions, which can make it harder to keep them in shape, but neat eyebrows are easy to accomplish at home; all you need is the right tools and a basic understanding of what to do and not do.

In the past 10 years there has been a significant rise in the number of men interested in eyebrow threading, trimming and tinting, and a considerable percentage of them have found the tools required and learned the proper techniques to maintain their brows at home.

So how do you start, what tools do you need, and what are the essential rules you should keep in mind before dipping your toe into eyebrow grooming?

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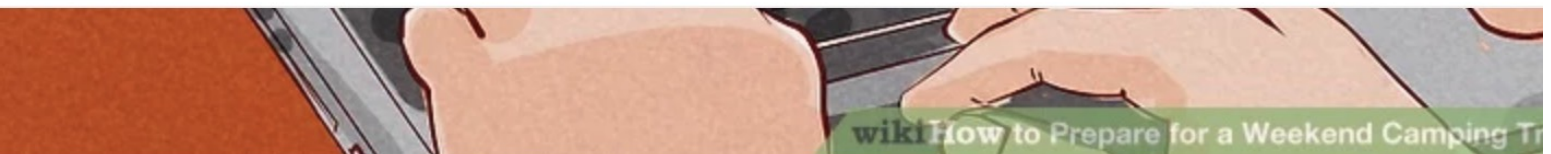
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Let's do this!

Method 1

Choosing the Right Campsite



1 Choose the ideal campsite for your needs. If you want to completely submerge yourself in nature and be entirely secluded, there are camping spots you can select that will give you this experience. However, if you want to camp but also want access to bathrooms, running water, and electrical outlets, you might search for a campground that advertises these amenities.

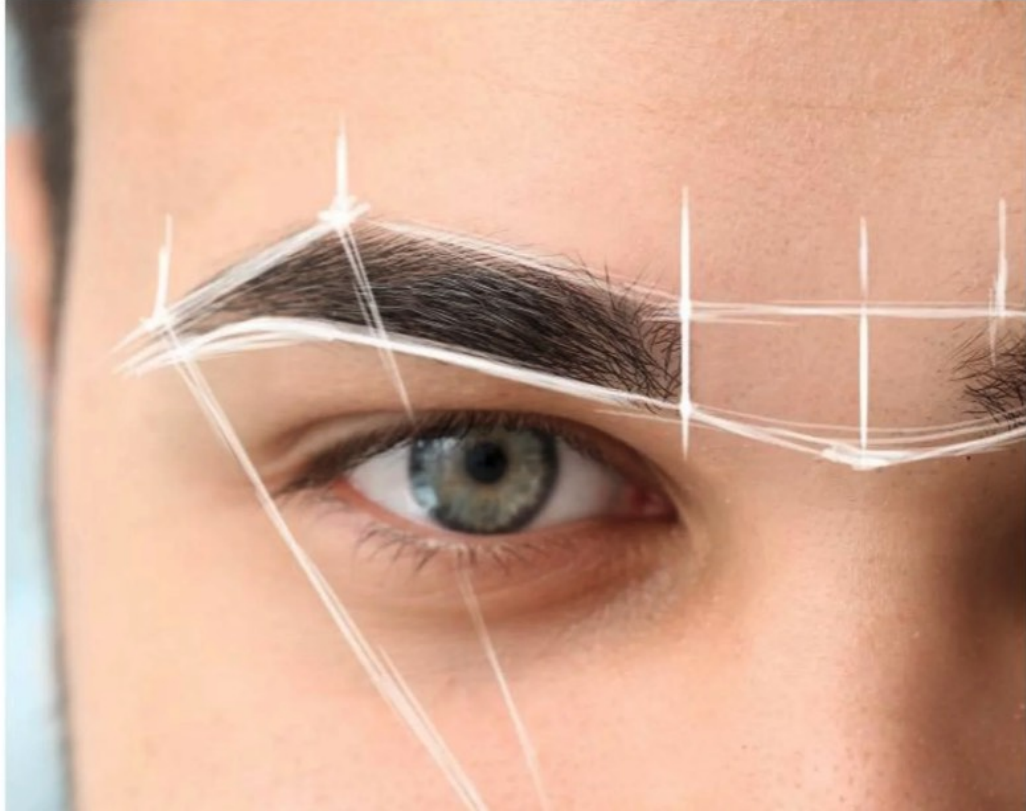
- Go online to find out campsite options in places such as your nearest national park.
- Websites of campgrounds should list all of the amenities they have, if any.

2 Pick a campsite that has fun activities nearby. Think about which activities you want to do on your trip, such as hiking, fishing, kayaking, or swimming. This will help you narrow down your campsite options, choosing a site that has at least 1 or 2 of your desired activities.^[1]

- Make sure you pack the gear for any activities you wish to do, if necessary.
- Check to see if your campsite rents out kayaks, canoes, or fishing gear for campers to use.

First things first: your natural eyebrow shape

As with everything, no eyebrow routine will be the same for every man, and to figure out what you need to keep them neat, first learn how they look in their natural state. Are they extra bushy, or are there bald spots in them? Is there a natural arch? Are they on the curvy or straight side?



Waxing

While there are eyebrow waxing kits available, you may want to try this method only if a professional showed you how to perform it or if you're confident you'll be able to apply hot wax in detailed and angled lines. Otherwise, it may be better to let a professional do it for you.

One of the main benefits of waxing is that it removes hairs from the root, which provides a cleaner, longer-lasting result. Waxing is an excellent choice for removing lots of hair at once, especially between the brows, above the arch, and on the outer edges.

Depending on the speed at which the hairs in your eyebrows grow, you can go two to eight weeks between each waxing.



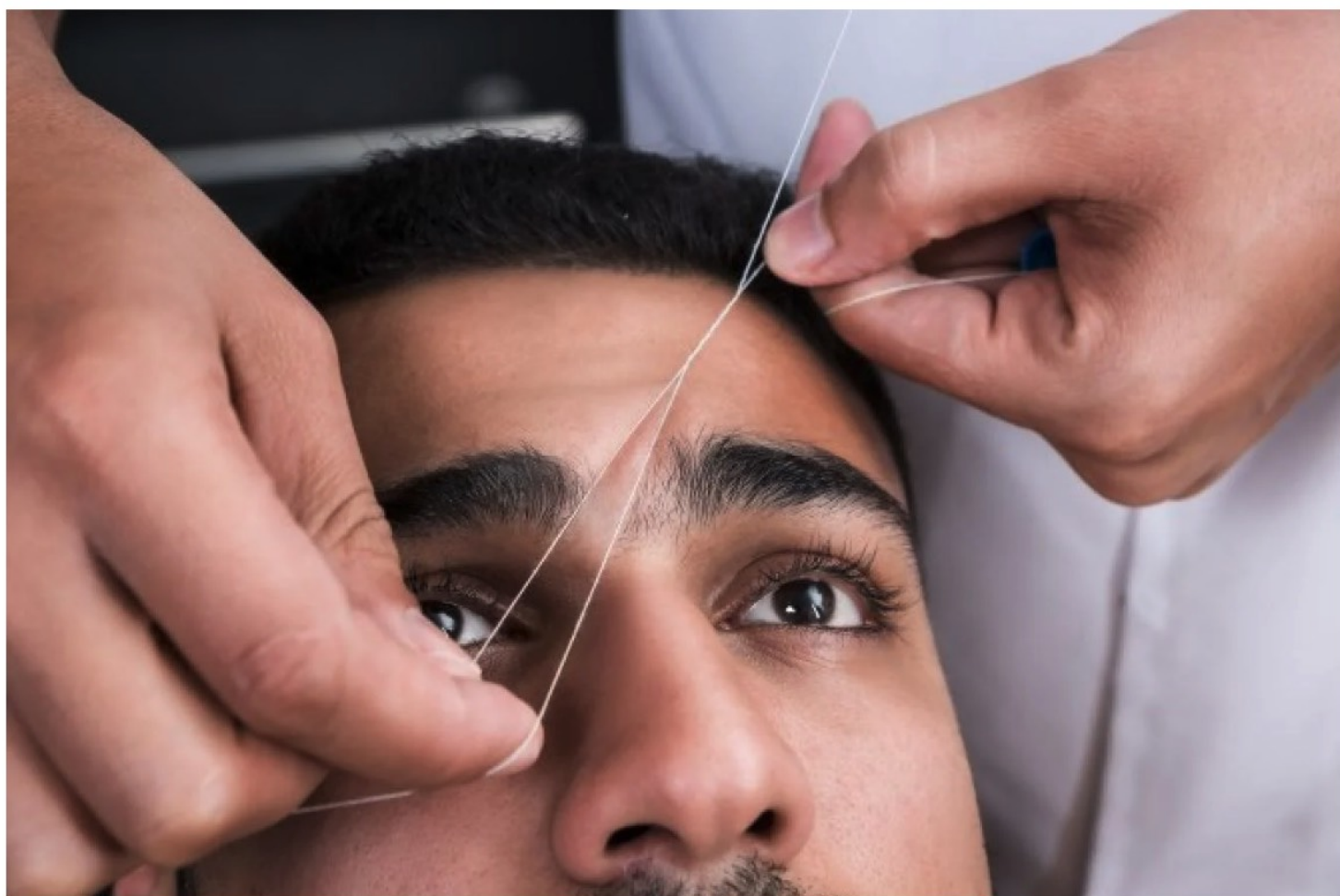
Plucking

By far one of the most accessible and affordable forms of self-maintenance, plucking only requires a pair of tweezers. To ensure each follicle is removed from the root, choose a wide, metallic, angled pair of tweezers to avoid hairs being cut instead of pulled.

A pair of tweezers is crucial in your brow kit, as they will help you maintain the look through time, clean up edges, and quickly remove strays or hermit hairs.

However, it can be time-consuming if you plan on using them to shape your brows or do some heavy-duty work.

To help make the process easier, use a gentle wash or toner to dampen your eyebrows, lightly rub them both from the end towards the centre, and pluck out any hairs that may stick out from the rest.



Eyebrow threading is more a job for professionals, but you can learn the ancient method to do it yourself.

Dos and don'ts of eyebrow grooming

Before you decide to give eyebrow grooming a try, there are some principles you should consider.

The first: keep it simple. At-home grooming should not involve extreme makeovers, as the purpose is to tidy up, not to remodel; rather, think of it as a way to make the best out of your natural brow shape.

For that same reason, you should never pluck out the core body of the eyebrow; instead focus on the edges, bush length, and height.

Moreover, as much as you feel tempted to, don't try to alter your curve's natural shape. The reason your brows are shaped the way they are is directly linked to your bone structure, and modifying them can end up looking unnatural and out of place.

You can place a long, narrow object (such as a comb, a pen or bamboo skewer) right by your nose and pick off all strands that stand out past it towards the nose bridge.

If some hairs seem to be growing too long, comb your brow upwards and use nippers or a pair of small, pointy scissors to chop anything that emerges above the arch of your brow.

To Fight Trolls, A Campaign Wants People to Flaunt Pink Hair

It comes weeks after a 23-year-old woman was pushed to suicide after being attacked online for coloring her hair pink.

→ Weeks after a 23-year-old woman ended her life after being slut-shamed for sporting colored hair, a campaign has emerged online across China asking people to color their hair pink.

Named PinkUp, the campaign began trending on Weibo, the microblogging platform, Wednesday and is aimed at combating cyberbullying. In January, Zheng Linghua took her own life as a result of being attacked online for several months after she posted pictures of herself with her hair colored pink.

“Pink is not a crime, violence is,” said the user who started the PinkUp campaign. “Let’s make pink the color that represents the fight against cyberbullying.”

Zheng, who dreamed of becoming a music teacher, became popular on the lifestyle app Xiaohongshu last July after she posted images of her visiting her grandfather in hospital. It was captioned: "My grandpa opened my master's acceptance letter on his sickbed."

However, ^{this} things took an ugly turn online when thousands began attacking Zheng for her hair, which she had dyed pink to celebrate her graduation.

While some questioned whether a teacher with a "bizarre" hair color would be able to carry out her job responsibilities, another comment accused her of being "a graduate student with hair dyed like a bar escort." The latter got more than 2,000 likes overnight.

Some even alleged she was a prostitute, and tagged her post with titles such as "the old man and his young wife."

For months, Zheng battled all the slut-shaming and rumors with her lawyers. And just days after the photo of her with her grandfather went viral online, she dyed her black and even cut it short — just as online users claimed a potential teacher should do.

But the attacks left her severely depressed, which she **documented** on her Xiaohongshu account. In her last online post, Zheng wrote last December: "This egg is alive and is trying its best to keep living."

About a month later, Zheng chose to end her life. In her suicide note, she stated that the numerous anonymous online attackers were the main cause of her depression and eventual death.

Her death triggered shock and outrage online.

"Today it's about hair color. Will it be dresses tomorrow? The day after, will it be ear piercings? And then what? Will Chinese women also have to wrap themselves in black cloth?" **wrote** one user on Weibo. Another asked: "Why has hair color triggered online violence?"

"The internet was initially made to connect and support everyone, not to allow everyone to hurt each other," said the user who started the PinkUp campaign on Weibo.

It's not just women who have borne the brunt of such online attacks. Last week, a livestreamer on Douyin killed himself after being **targeted** online for months. And in 2022, multiple hackers infiltrated online courses to **humiliate** a teacher, who died of a heart attack soon after.

The surge in such cases has prompted demand for better legislation to combat and punish online attacks. In recent years, **scholars** and representatives of the National People's Congress have also **proposed** laws against cyberbullies.

'Pink hair prostitute' taunts drive woman, 23, to suicide following 6 months of online abuse; millions in China mourn death

- 23-year-old Zheng Linghua had everything to live for but online bullies made her life a misery
- Some suggested a photo of her with the beloved grandpa who brought her up after her mother died was an image of a married couple

Fran Lu in Beijing

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Why you can trust SCMP

Millions have contributed to an outpouring of grief on Chinese social media following the death of a young woman who took her own life after she faced a sustained campaign of online bullying.

Zheng Linghua committed suicide on January 23 after a six-month battle against online abuse by people who attacked her for having pink hair after she shared a post celebrating her admission to graduate school alongside her bedridden grandfather. She was 23.

“My friend, Zheng Linghua, left us forever on January 23, 2023,” the woman’s friend, with the handle @Aweiweio, said on Xiaohongshu, announcing her death on February 19, 2023.

The young woman from eastern China was looking forward to starting her studies at the graduate school of East China Normal University, where she was due to major in music education.



Zheng Linghua had everything to live for but was forced to battle depression before her death. Photo: Weibo

Zheng could not wait to share the news with her grandfather, who had been hospitalised for nine months.

Despite the then strict Covid-19 controls, she was determined to tell her grandfather in person because he brought her up after she lost her mother when she was just six months old.

However, after Zheng posted photos of her looking at the acceptance letter with her bedridden grandfather on her Xiaohongshu account, she was shocked to find that she became the target of online bullies because of her dyed pink hair.

She was described as a “nightclub girl” or an “evil spirit” by people crudely linking her hairstyle with prostitution.



Cruel online bullies taunted Zheng about her “prostitute” pink hair. Photo: Weibo

Some stole her photos and used them as publicity material to sell courses and others even used the photos to invent hurtful rumours about an elderly man marrying a young lady.

Zheng initially reacted with tough measures, including issuing a cease-and-desist letter, vowing to sue the online bullies.

She also kept speaking out against cyber violence on her social media accounts.

In addition, Zheng posted positive statements about life to show the bullies that she did not care.

However, amid the positivity, there were down moments.

On August 25, Zheng published a post titled “Why most people who suffer from online bullying chose to end their life”, accusing social media platforms of not doing enough to stop online victimisation.

Despite the fact that some of the bullies issued open apologies, Zheng said she was finding things difficult to deal with.

“We should speak carefully online because once you say something bad, it can only be forgiven but not forgotten,” Zheng said in another post.

Haunted by the nastiness of her abusers, Zheng was diagnosed with depression in July last year before recovering and then suffering a relapse three months later.

After learning of Zheng’s death, online observers flocked to her social media accounts to leave comments, telling her she did nothing wrong and she looked beautiful.

“You looked amazing with pink hair. Those bullies were only misogynists jealous of your good educational background,” said one commenter.

Another expressed sorrow at the fact that it was her, instead of the online bullies, who paid the price: “People are paying an outrageously small price for hurting others online”.

“I wish you will become a pink flower that grows forever in the spring,” mourned a third.

If you have suicidal thoughts, or you know someone who is, help is available. For Hong Kong, dial +852 2896 0000 for The Samaritans or +852 2382 0000 for Suicide Prevention Services. In the US, call the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline at 988 or +1 800 273 8255. For a list of other nations’ helplines, [see this page](#).