**Part 1: Introduction**

In my family, there are three generations: my grandmother’s generation, my parents’ generation, and my generation. I am interested in this topic because there are many differences between my generation and my parents’ generation. From these changes I can know how the society changes during these years.

I already knew that in my parents’ generation, the economy was not as good as now, so their life quality was low. And also I was born under the one-child policy, but my parents didn’t.

**Part 2: What I want to learn**

I hope to learn more about my parents’ generation and what makes the differences between the generations. I didn’t talk with my parents a lot, so I didn’t have the opportunity to know how my parents’ generation looks like.

My main questions are: 1. what are the most important symbols of my parents’ generation and my generation?

2. What events made the differences between my parents’ generation and my generation?

My sub questions are: 1. is there any deep meaning of the symbols?

2. How do my parents think about those events?

**Part 3: The story of my search**

My first source is the interview with my mother. I interviewed her at home on 10th October. I asked her some questions about her generation. Here are 3 important questions that I asked her. The first one is, when my parents were my age, 3 things that they really want to do. The second one is, would my parents actively communicate with their parents when they were my age? The third one is, what did my parents get from their parents when they were my age? She said something important, “In my generation, I would always obey my parents. I just wanted to be a good child, so I did everything that my parents want me to do. At that time, I nearly didn’t have rebellious period.” That’s unusual in my generation. Many young people are rebellion. Sometimes they will argue with their parents and don’t listen to their parents at all. That makes me feel surprise. From this interview, I learnt that the society developed quickly and many people had made contribution to the development of the society. We should be thankful to them and don’t waste anything.

My second source is a book called Tuesdays with Morrie. This is book is about the author’s professor had ALS and he’s dying. Author and his professor met every Tuesday and talked about many different topics about life, until the professor died. Morrie and Mitch were in different generations, so I wondered Morrie’s viewpoint about the generations. Morrie believed that culture let people to be mean when they are threatened. The quote is on page154, “’People are only mean when they’re threatened,’ he said later that day, ‘and that’s what our culture does. That’s what our economy does.’” From this book, I learnt that there are many differences between two generations, for example, the marriage, the economy and so on. For example, Morrie thought that in the culture, it’s important to find a loving relationship with someone because so much of the culture does not give you that. (Page 148).

My third source is a video called, *The generation that’s remarking China*. I found it in Youku( <http://v.youku.com/v_show/id_XMzEwMDMzNTIw.html> ). Here are some important quotes from the video. “My generation has been very fortunate to witness and participate in the historic transformation of China that has made so many changes in the past 20, 30 years.”

“First of all, most of them were born in the 80s and 90s, under the one-child policy, and because of selected abortion by families who favorite boys to girls, now we have ended up with 30 million more young men than women.”

“Most of them have fairly good education. The illiteracy rate in China among this generation is under one percent. In the cities, 80 percent of kids go to college. But they are facing an aging China with a population above 65years old coming up with seven-point-some percent this years, and about to be 15 percent by the year of 2030.”

From this video, I learnt that how the young people’s generation looks like and how they changed the society with the high technology, and their viewpoint of the society. The economy is good now so the young people like luxury. In my parents’ generation, there is no luxury. They think young people are wasting money on these bags and clothes.

**Part 4: Reflections on my search**

From the process of doing this paper, I learnt that the society is developing quickly and the generations are very different. The economy is good these years so young people’s value is different from their parents’ value. In my parents’ generation, their requirement is less than mine. I am born under the one-child policy, so my parents put more expect and stress on me. In my parents’ generation, their parents have many children so they put less expect and stress on my parents. In my parents’ generation, they had many difficult times. They didn't have good conditions as mine, so they were independent. They could do all the housework and earn money by themselves. Also they studied hard so that they could go to big cities for college.

The thing that surprises me the most is my view of value and my parents’ views of value. The economy is different in our generations, so the prices of the goods are different. The goods are more and more expensive these years. My parents will tell me that in the pass, the goods are very cheap. For example, an ice-cream cost 1 cent in the pass, but now it will cost 4 kuai. That makes our views of value different.

After doing this paper, I might know more about this generation and the society, so I can decide how my future will be like that is fit to the society.