## Your own choices

Has anyone here watched the movie Titanic? I watched it for the first time when I was in junior high school, and ever since it has been one of my favorite movies. In fact, during my high school admission interview, I sang "My Heart Will Go On" as part of my self-recommendation. The reason I sang it was because I was applying for the English course, and I wasn't confident in my academic skills. I thought singing a song with English lyrics would show the interviewers just how determined I was to pass. But anyway, I'd like everyone to imagine that we're all on the Titanic right now. Can you imagine it? You might be imagining yourselves as Jack or Rose. In a few hours, we'll sink to the bottom of the ocean along with the ship. Some people will panic, desperately trying to survive, while others may accept their fate and choose to spend the remaining time with their loved ones. It's all up to you. However, when we face death, I'm sure many of us will think of the things we left undone or the things we wished we had done. Do you feel that way right now? Some may have many regrets, while others may be content with where they are and feel they have little left undone. In the movie, Jack says, "Make each day count." I feel the same way. Even if, like Jack, you win a Titanic ticket by chance, it might be the last ticket of your life. But by cherishing each day and living in a way that makes you happy, you can reach the end of your life without regrets, no matter when that may be. I live my life by valuing each day and challenging myself to do what I love. I have a tattoo on my right arm, and many people often tell me, "You'll regret it later" or "You'll have fewer job opportunities if you get a tattoo." And while I don't think these opinions are necessarily wrong, I still choose to enjoy being myself and doing what I love. I'm passionate about self-expression. I love working on self-improvement, dressing in clothes I like for school, wearing my favorite piercings, and styling my hair the way I want. I'm living a life that I enjoy. However, sometimes I feel like I might be swayed by what others say. But we can't see the future. We can only live our best in the present. That's why, no matter what anyone says, I won't give up on the things I love. I often hear the phrase, "Time is limited and can't be bought with money," and I completely agree. We

can't rewind the past, try again, or change what's already happened. That's why, no matter who denies what I love, I won't give up. After all, it's better to regret something you've done than something you haven't. Because it's a choice I've made for myself. Even if there are people or society that reject someone like me, I'll keep looking for a place where I can be myself and carve out a new path there. Everyone has things they're suited for and things they aren't, whether it's a part-time job, school, or extracurricular activities. Even if something was fun at first, if it later becomes something that's no longer enjoyable or starts to hurt you, it's okay to quit. Someone said that "Efforts spent doing what you love will bear fruit, but efforts spent on something you don't love will not." I completely agree with that. What I want to say is cherish the present and don't hesitate to challenge yourself with what you want to do, no matter what anyone else says. It's that pursuit that shapes the incredible person you are. And I hope one day you'll look back and feel that you lived a life without regrets.