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The journey to Daping is meaningful and memorable to me. I have not only acquired practical civil engineering skills on construction site, but also found out things to be improved in Chinese society.

When we arrived the construction site, we separated into two groups. One group was responsible for measuring the dimensions shown on drawings while another group had to discuss details of the projects with contractor. I was in the second group and we held the meeting in the staff room of the school. The discussion with contractor is far more interesting than taking measurement. I have learnt that the job of an engineer is beyond calculation and design. Problem solving and communication skills are the most important abilities of a successful engineer.

Throughout the trip, I have observed that there are severe hygiene problems in Chinese society. Rubbish and garbage could be seen everywhere throughout the trip. In the primary school, there are many flies flying everywhere, especially in the canteen. Food provided to students may be polluted and cause health problems consequently. Although this deep-rooted problem cannot be cured immediately, we can improve the situation by teaching students about how to keep the environment clean.

Local teachers and students are enthusiastic and generous. They provided delicious lunch and alcohol for free. Although the living conditions there are tough in my point of view, they are always smiling and enjoying their lives. I really appreciate their simple life style and positive attitudes of living.

In conclusion, I am glad that I was provided the opportunity to be participated in this meaningful trip.