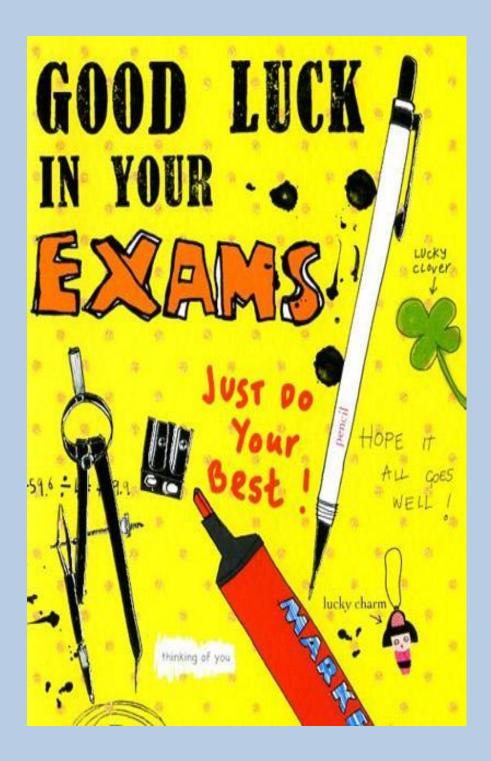


HELLENIC AMERICAN EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

ATHENS COLLEGE- PSYCHICO COLLEGE

# The Athens College News

Volume 27, May 2013

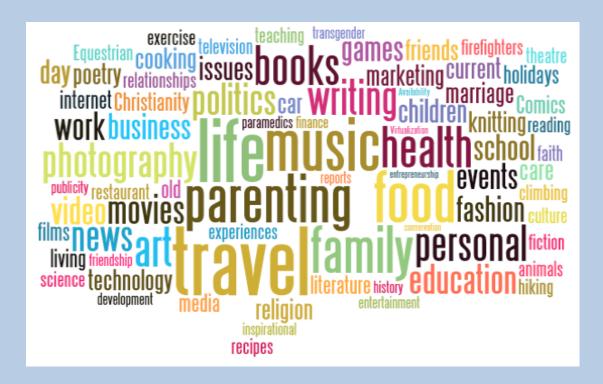


## Volume 27, May 2013

Welcome to the 2012-2013 issue of the Athens College Gymnasium English Magazine! I would like to thank all of the students who have contributed their work to this edition and their teachers who encouraged them to be creative.

## Alexandra Marazioti

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2012-2013

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# English teachers and sections that have contributed to this edition of the English magazine:

Apostolakou Elena:	AE-13, BE-7, BE-14, CE-6
Axiotis Sylvia:	CS-12, AE-11
Christopoulos Dimitris:	AN-8
Hadjidakis Lydia	AN-1
Kagiarou Kalliopi:	AE-4
Karantoni Connie:	AE-6, AE-12
Marazioti Alexandra	AS-2, AS-9
Raymondou Elina	AS-3, BE-8

## A Note from the English Teachers:

After reviewing texts, teachers felt that, in the interests of authenticity, they should refrain from correcting or "improving" all aspects of the pieces in the magazine, so some mistakes might be found in students' written work.



#### Ageliki Liaska - AS2 i



#### TWILIGHT, BREAKING DAWN PART I

<u>Twilight</u> is based on a book. It is a fantasy adventure. The main actors of the film are Kristen Stewart as Bella, Robert Pattinson as Edward the vampire and Taylor Lautner as Jacob the werewolf.

The story is about two people who like the same girl, Bella. Bella is going to marry Edward.

But the enemies of the vampire family are not so happy with hat....This film will keep your interest. You will enjoy it a lot. However, it's not a family movie. Young people will like it more.

I recommend the film, if you like these types of films. You are going to love it! The actors were brilliant and very convincing. The make-up artist and the director did a great job too.

The only disadvantage of the film is that it is a little scary. Finally, I want to say that the movie has unforgettable effects.



**Elly Papamargari AE-6** 

## A film review: "The Titanic"

<u>The Titanic</u> is a love story, which is based on a true story. The story takes place on the biggest ship, "The Titanic", which sank in 1912. The main characters of the story are Jack and Rose, who fall in love.

What I liked about the film is that it has excellent and convincing effects. Secondly, Leonardo gives brilliant Dicaprio а performance as Jack and Kate Winslet, who plays Rose in the movie, gives perfect а performance. Finally, too. the director and writer of the film,

James Cameron, doesn't make the film dull or boring, even though the movie is really long.

<u>The Titanic</u> is a romantic film, but it has an unhappy ending, so children under ten years old, can't watch it. However, 'The Titanic" is a wonderful and beautiful film, which I loved and I will watch it again in the future.

In conclusion, <u>The Titanic</u> is a romantic film, which is based on a true story, it has convincing effects and the actors are outstanding.

#### Emmanouela Kariamba AE-12



Marios Kolitsopoulos AE-13 i

#### **JOHN RAMBO**

John Rambo is a war film about a soldier who fought in the Vietnam War. In the film, Sylvester Stallone stars for the 4<sup>th</sup> time.

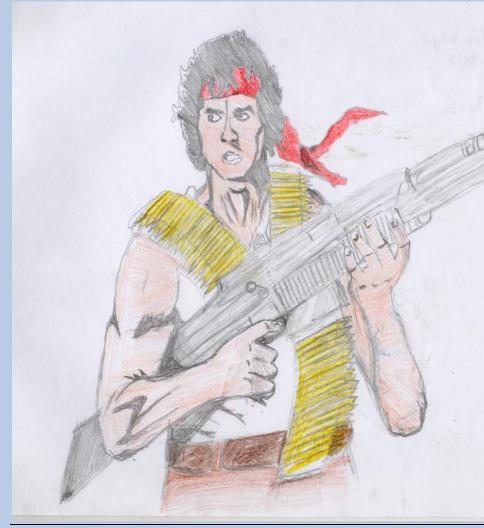
The story is about a small group of American people who want to help a tiny village in a civil war that takes place in Burma. When the team meets Rambo, they ask him to take them to the village by the river. At first, he refuses their demand, but after a while he agrees. When they try to help the people in the village, some local soldiers attack them and kill many villagers and a lot of Americans. The only survivors are some of the members of the American team. The soldiers take them away. After that, Rambo and a small group of trained mercenaries try to save them. After a lot of action and killing, are they going to kill

the dictators and save the team?

What I liked about this film is that it has amazing special effects and a brilliant plot .In addition, it might sound like a war movie with violence, but it is also moving. The outstanding performance by the actors will make you want to watch it again and again. The only bad thing is that it has many violent scenes and killing.

This is the best film I would suggest to someone who can stand gruesome scenes with a lot of action and adventure. You won't regret it.

#### **Dimitris Kolitsis - AE12**



Theofilos Kolyvas BE-12 i

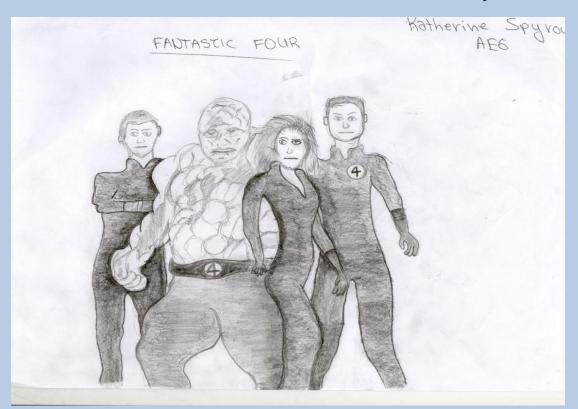
## THE FANTASTIC FOUR

The Fantastic 4 is a science-fiction adventure film.

The story is set in New York, where a team of five people in a space mission get hit by a massive amount of radiation which changes their DNA and gives them supernatural power. Unfortunately, after the failure of the mission, one of them loses his reputation and a big part of his fortune. So he decides to use his powers in an evil way, murder the other four former colleagues and destroy every single city in the world. However, the real question is, can the other four heroes stop him save themselves and the world?

I loved this film because it has a lot of action. However, it is also entertaining and will make you laugh a lot. In addition, the acting was awesome with many famous actors starring in the film. On the other hand, what I didn't like about the film was its soundtrack. It was very monotonous.

<u>The Fantastic 4</u> is a film suitable for all ages and I would recommend it to the whole family. But the ones that are going to love this film are all the adventure-seekers.



#### **Thomas Tryfon AE-12**

Katherine Spyrou AE-6 i

Rhymes and Verses



ACROSTIC POEM

**Bicycles, books and scooters** 

Running shoes, t-shirts and



I have received



other stuff



These, I have received

Having you as my parents is like a

Dream come true

Always giving me birthdays

You know how much I love you









Antony Roussos AE-6

#### NOTHING

Nothing means "not a single thing." Nothing is the absence of something. Is Nothing ever better than something? What do you prefer? I have nothing for homework or I have something for homework, There is nothing wrong or There is something wrong, Nothing can stop me doing what I want or Something can stop me from doing what I want. I love the word Nothing.

I have Nothing more to say.

Michael Macridis AN-8

#### WHATIF

Last night, when I lay in bed, some Whatifs were eating my bread. They partied for long, singing their Whatif song: Whatif I'm suspended from school? Whatif I cannot get out of the swimming pool? Whatif I don't pass the exam? Whatif I do not have a mum? Whatif I have a big pain? Whatif I miss the train? Whatif I do not have a brother? Whatif someone does not bother? Whatif a shark will bite me? Whatif nobody likes me? Whatif I do not have any friends? Whatif all things have ends? Whatif I couldn't play basketball? Whatif I couldn't even catch the ball? Whatif my brain will get off my head? Whatif I suddenly be dead? They finally stopped partying, while I was loudly shouting!

#### Konstantinos Mihail AS3



Kyriakos Mazitzoglou BE-13 i

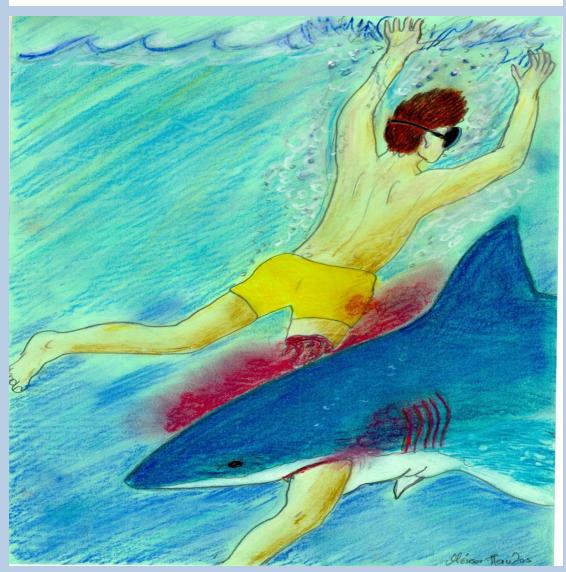
## <u>WHATIF</u>

**EVERY TIME I GET CONFUSED** I THINK IT'S TIME FOR ME TO CHOOSE AND I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO WHEN THE WHATIF SONG CALLS FOR YOU SO I ASK MYSELF WHAT'S INSIDE THE SELF? AND MY MIND IS FULL OF QUESTIONS WHEN I START MAKING SUGGESTIONS WHATIF MY GRADES ARE NOT GOOD? WHATIF I GET SUSPENDED FROM SCHOOL? WHATIF I BREAK MY LEG? WHATIF I GET ON MY KNEES AND BEG? WHATIF I LOOK SILLY? WHATIF I EAT HOT CHILLY? WHATIF I'M ALONE IN THIS WORLD? WHATIF I BUY A SILVER SWORD? WHATIF I PRESENT A SHOW? WHATIF MY HEAD STARTS TO GLOW?

WHATIF I FIND A PIRATE'S TREASURE? WHATIF I DON'T KNOW HOW TO **MEASURE?** WHATIF A TSUNAMI HITS MY CITY? WHATIF MY GIRLFRIEND DOESN'T LOOK PRETTY? WHATIF I ROB A BANK? WHATIF I DO A BASKETBALL SLAM DUNK? WHATIF I CAN'T DRIVE A CAR? WHATIF I STEAL A CANDY BAR? WHATIF DAYS START GETTING SMALLER? WHATIF GIANTS GROW TALLER? AND THEN SUDDENLY IT STOPS YOU HAVE TO WAIT UNTIL IT STARTS FINALLY I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S **INSIDE THE SELF** SO AGAIN I HAVE TO ASK MYSELF WHATIFS START GETTING INSIDE MY BRAIN AND TRAP ME WITH A BIG FAT CHAIN I SHOUT AND SCREAM INSIDE MY ROOM AND THEN I NEED & FAST RESUME.

#### **PANOS RISKAKIS AS-3**

Paul Mayson AE-13 i



#### WHATIF

Last night while I was writing there, Some Whatifs shot me in the air. So I started thinking all night long, And I began to sing the Whatif song. Whatif I'm not so cool? Whatif they don't like me in school? Whatif I get low grades? Whatif I have to wash the plates? Whatif I have to wash the plates? Whatif I look like a trout? Whatif the sharks come to Greece? Whatif there is no more peace? Whatif I start to cry? Whatif the birds don't fly? Whatif I lose the race? Whatif I lose the race? Everything looks strange, but The Whatif appears like a cat.

Melina Stefanou AS-3

# THE WHATIF POEM

One boring Monday night Three weeks before Christmas Some Whatifs came in my mind And started to say "tell us..." Whatif today was tomorrow? Whatif you couldn't borrow? Whatif your bed was green? Whatif it was Christmas Eve? And then..... Bad questions started to fill my head.... Whatif Santa didn't exist? It's a thought I couldn't resist Whatif my cat was an elf?

## WHATIF

Whatif I'm late at school? Whatif I'm not very cool? Whatif I get suspension? Whatif I don't pay attention? Whatif my brothers cry? Whatif my goldfish die? Whatif Santa doesn't bring the gifts this year? Whatif I have a spider on my ear? Whatif I don't have nice hair? Whatif my sisters were twelve? Whatif Christmas was to disappear? Whatif I wasn't here? That was my greatest fear! But....wait! Whatif Christmas was all year? Whatif Christmas was all year? Whatif Santa lived here?! Whatif the reindeer parked next to our pavement? Whatif the elves had their toy factory in our basement? That would be my greatest dream Even better than ice cream!!!

## Celia Economou AS-2

Whatif my skin is fair? Whatif I don't have tears? Whatif the sky don't clears? Whatif I'm not very proud? Whatif I'm not very clean? Whatif I i'm not very clean? Whatif I become a bean? Whatif I become a bean? Whatif I find a clue? Areti Vasiou, AS2



PRESENT Prepare your Self to receive a gift Receive it With Happiness EXpress gratitude For the gifts Say al Ways "thank YOU" EXchange presents in every OpportUnity Never reject your Friends' gifts To Make your Self Happy!

#### Maria Alexandra Gourzi AE-11

Be yourself And Live your Life Without caring What the Others say and you Ought to Live Nice because...Life's gone!

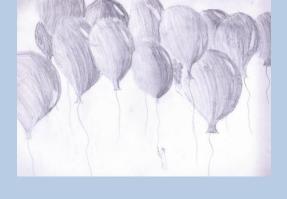
Maria Gerogianni AE-11

## BALOON

## Katerina Grintzia AE-11



Ageliki Liaska - AS2 ii



Celia Gazepi AN-1 i

SUMMer is the time, I alwayslong For I long For the sound of the sea, Nights With clear SKy, Full of stars Getting around With no Worries, I long For the sun to shine No More grey days, no More homeWork Great Joy, SUMMer is coming our Way!!!!!!!

## NIKOLAS GIANNOUTSIKOS AE-11



ELEVEN

ELEVEN dogs are in a café. They laugh and eat their bones. They even play cards Variety of card games Edie, the Labrador, just lost five bones to a game. No other dog Was as sad as he Was.

#### ALLEY

All the cats in the alley were waiting Look! Here comes Mrs. Milkin holding Large bowls of cat food to feed them Every cat gathers around her You should see how much they love her!!!!



Ageliki Liaska AS-2 i

#### **SWEATER**

So I don't want to wear it Why is it so strange? Either you think it's so ugly And why it's supposed to be Me? The moment I saw it Eeeeeew, it's disgusting Right, it's not mine!!! Theodora Germanopoulou

AE-11

#### RUNAWAY

Roses are red Under my bed Nothing is said After you're dead When you arise Angels will cry You can even fly! Marcia Gotsi AE-11

Chris Vassilaras AE-11



#### **Sunday Mornings**

Sunday mornings are very exciting for most children of my age. It is something to look forward to. However, I find that they are the worst mornings of the week.

You must be wondering 'why' I hate Sunday mornings so While other children are much. playing around and having fun, I am stuck at my desk at home doing homework! I have so many extracurricular activities during the week that I have to plan ahead. Most parents give priority to homework and worry when children spend too much time on other activities. I think it is not easy to effectively balance school and extra-curricular

activities, but it is worth the effort. I consider my activities very nice and interesting; therefore, something to look forward to. My weekly schedule includes long distance running, forensics, Spanish, French, violoncello lessons, choir practice, basketball, swimming, and English. As you can probably see, I am interested in sports, music, and foreign languages.

Come to think of it, it is because of Sunday mornings that I am able to do all of the above extra-curricular activities. In fact, Sunday mornings are the best mornings!

#### Alexia Psalti AN-8

#### Traveling

What I enjoy the most is traveling. The opportunity to visit places around the world with my parents and siblings enthralls me. The feeling I get when I reach a new destination, where I experience new cultures, new architecture, and different weather, is unbelievable.

I have traveled to many cities within Greece and around the world. Internationally, I have visited Paris, Zurich, New York, Philadelphia, Orlando, Boston, London, Oxford, and Rome. Each city has its own character, smell, and feel. Just to give an example, people in New York never make eye contact, whereas people in Rome will even try to help you especially if you look lost.

My goal is to travel the world. Traveling makes me feel alive and helps me learn about the world. I hope that I will be fortunate to achieve my goal.

#### Alexander Kalamotousakis AN-8

#### Working for Scrooge

Dear Leslie,

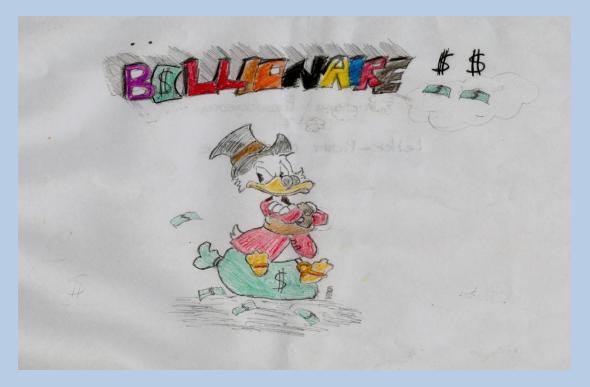
I've been working at Dim Manor for almost two weeks, and I'm already getting fed up with Mr. Scrooge's behavior. He is always grumpy and never says "please" or "thank you." I try to be kind and openhearted every single day, but all I get is a grunt or no answer at all.

He is old with a weird-looking nose that tilts downwards. His eyes have the color of the night sky, yet they can barely be seen since he scowls at me most of the time. His hair grows only on the sides and the back of his head is white as snow. He seems very miserable. All I see him do is fiddle with his golden coins, counting them again and again, before he sleeps on his broken armchair.

I clean his house, but the house is almost like its owner: dark, old and sad. Dust keeps on settling in every crease and crevice. It is almost impossible to keep the house clean. I really have started worrying for how long I will be able to stand it, because I can barely breathe with the hard work and the horrible mood of old Mr. Scrooge. I hope things are better for you.

With love,

Martha



#### Martha Lazarakis AN-8

Christiana Papadogeorgi BE-7 i

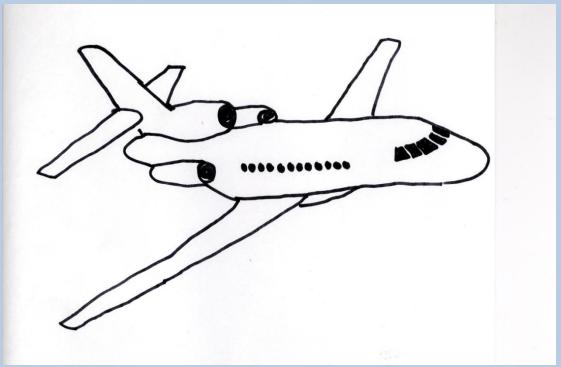
## **Unforgettable Day**

It was a day that I would remember in my whole life. It was the first time that my family and I got on an airplane to go to Rhodes for Easter! It was a long time ago. At first I was extremely scared to get in, but I had to do it sometime. Everyone was relaxed and happy, but I wasn't at all.

So everything was okay when the plane arrived and it was ready to take us to Rhodes. I said to myself "everything is going to be great" and actually, to tell you the truth, it was! When we got in, we sat in our seats waiting for the plane to take off.

Suddenly the plane got up, and up and up, high in the sky. I didn't even realize it at first, but it was magical. It was the first time that I was traveling in an airplane, and also it was the first time that I could see the clouds from so close. I am telling you it was great!!!

When we arrived in Rhodes and got out of the airplane I could feel the ground again, but at the same time I didn't want to get off the plane!! It was an unforgettable experience and I will definitely do it again!!!!



Stefania Fytsili BE-8

Ageliki Liaska AS-2 iii

## **A SPECIAL FRIEND**

WHO IS THE PERSON WHO IS ALWAYS WITH YOU? WHO IS THE ONE WHO NEVER LEAVES YOU ALONE AND LOVES YOU? OF COURSE, THIS PERSON IS YOUR FRIEND, AND MY FRIEND IS ULYSSES.

ULYSSES ALWAYS TAKES CARE OF HIS APPEARANCE SO HE IS ALWAYS WELL-DRESSED. HE IS TALL WITH BLACK HAIR AND GREEN EYES. HE HAS A VERY PLEASANT SMILE AND HE'S VERY ATTRACTIVE.

HIS PERSONALITY IS UNFORGETTABLE. FIRST OF ALL, HE IS AMAZINGLY HELPFUL AND AMBITIOUS. MOST OF ALL THOUGH, HE IS EXTREMELY PATIENT AND THAT GETS ME ANGRY SOMETIMES. FINALLY, HE IS VERY HONEST, BRAVE AND FRIENDLY.

I WILL NEVER FORGET A FRIEND LIKE HIM BECAUSE HE WAS THE ONE WHO HELPED ME BECOME MORE SOCIABLE AND THIS HAS HELPED ME VERY MUCH.



JOHN GIANNOPOULOS AE-4

Danae Athanasiou AN-11

## THE BEST MUM IN THE WORLD

CAN YOU IMAGINE A MOTHER WHO HELPS YOU IN EVERY MOMENT OF YOUR LIFE AND MAKES YOU COOKIES EVERY WEDNESDAY? THAT'S MY MUM NAMED MARLEN WHO IS MY ROLE MODEL.

MY MUM HAS AN AVERAGE HEIGHT. SHE'S ALWAYS WELL-DRESSED AND GOOD-LOOKING WHICH IS REALLY NICE. SHE HAS QUITE LONG, FAIR HAIR AND A WARM SMILE.

IT IS MY MUM'S PERSONALITY THAT MAKES HER SO SPECIAL. FOR A START, SHE IS EXTREMELY HELPFUL BECAUSE SHE HELPS ME SOLVE MY PROBLEMS. SHE'S ALSO OPTIMISTIC BECAUSE WHEN I FEEL I HAVE GOT A LOW MARK SHE INSISTS ON TELLING ME NOT TO GIVE UP. WHEN I ARGUE WITH MY SISTER, SHE'S REALLY PATIENT AND SHE NEVER LOSES HER TEMPER. MOST IMPORTANTLY, SHE IS INDEPENDENT BECAUSE SHE HAS MANY INTERESTS AND SHE IS VERY SOCIABLE.

I WILL ALWAYS LOOK UP TO MY MUM BECAUSE SHE GAVE BIRTH TO ME AND BECAUSE I CAN LEARN LOTS OF THINGS FROM HER!

#### TINA KALLIMANI AE-4



Maria Dima AS-2 1

## BEST SISTERS!

Do you have any siblings? If you have, I'm sure you don't love them as much as I love my sister. Her name is Urania and she's 18 years old. She's studying at the University of Athens.

My sister is beautiful and she's always well-dressed. She is tall and thin and I think she's also attractive. She has long, brown hair. My sister is the most beautiful person in my family!

Her personality is a little bit confusing. She is very shy, just like me. She doesn't speak too much when she is with other people that she doesn't know. At other times she talks so much that I can't stand her! My sister also helpful, because she is supports when Ι have. me problems and this is one of the reasons I admire her so much. She gives me solutions and ideas and she is always there when I need her. Apart from this, she is generous, because she shares with me her clothes and her things and she doesn't shout at me when I take them without permission.

I admire my sister because she is patient and friendly. We don't

have anything different from other siblings but it feels like we're the best sisters in the world!

#### Emmanouela Kappou AE-4

#### TRUST

Trust is a really small word, but it has such a huge meaning for us. Trust is when people really believe in one another and have faith in them and in what they do. Trusting people gives many the sense of recognition they need to continue with their lives. Many feel secure when they are trusted, because they know somebody believes in them and respects their opinions. There are other people that no one trusts. They are people who have faced a lot of difficulties and obstacles during their lives. Consequently, they are afraid to trust and they do not let others see the good in them. So, they turn into "bad" people, because they believe it's the only way they can react to and fight their loneliness. They don't understand though that what they do has only negative results. That's why we should encourage these people to overcome their difficulties, so

that they can create strong relationships based on true values.

Furthermore, a person can be characterized as untrustworthy, when he/she doesn't appear to have stability in his/her decisions. In addition, s/he might not have the ability to keep secrets, or even worse, s/he might not have a character with virtual depth.

However, everyone in my opinion deserves to be trusted, because every single one of us is special in his/her way. Everybody a side which is really has different from what others see. so we should all have the chance to trust and be trusted. Earning trust, though, is a very difficult thing, because you need to be honest with your own self, so others can see your honesty as well. That's why, once trust is lost, it is very difficult to be regained and I believe that even though a relationship might get better, it will never be the same as before.

### Alice Athoussakis CS-12

#### TRUST

The best way to be trusted is......to trust! !! If you show someone that you fully trust them, they will trust you back! It's simple physics! When a force is applied, then automatically another force appears which the opposite to the other one is; for instance, when the light hits on a mirror, it reflects back, when a ball hits the wall, it comes back.

This also happens in the emotional world, as we usually talk about mutual feelings. When you love, you receive love, when you hate, you receive hate, when you help, you are helped. In the same way, when you trust, you show that you value the other person's personality and that they can trust you. It's a matter of fact that a simple relationship can be transformed into a true friendship if one of the people involved trusts the other.

Here's a personal example. In fourth grade, a new girl arrived. We could all see that she was always miserable and lonely so we never approached her, as we thought that she didn't like having friends. One day, our teacher informed us that we were going to work on a project and I was going to be with the "mysterious" girl. So, we met at my house. That day Ι was miserable because I had lost my favorite notebook. I had no one to talk to so I started telling her about all the secrets I had written in it. Suddenly, she smiled and I understood that she felt more comfortable with me. She then told me that she was sad because her beloved grandmother had died and that she was afraid that no one would understand her. In conclusion, that's a simple, everyday example about how trusting someone can make them feel accepted and able to trust you back.

### Tatiana Anastasopoulou CS-12

#### MOVING ABROAD?

People often move permanently to a foreign country. They do this for a number of reasons, such as a country's bad economy, difficulty in finding a job, poor career prospects, lack of proper education, or sometimes because they want to make a new start.

There are many advantages to living and working in another country. Firstly, people can standards achieve better of living, such as lower house rent and taxes. Secondly, they find better prospects career and Lastly, they chances. make friends, meet people and discover different styles of living.

On the other hand, there are also many disadvantages to living abroad. To start with, you miss your friends, family and home and feel homesick. Secondly, it is difficult to adapt to a new way of living because of your past habits. Finally, the language can be a barrier for communication, at least in the beginning.

To sum up, moving abroad may be necessary for a group of people because of their country's bad economy, but it can also be a free decision for others who want to meet new people, countries and cultures.

#### Cleo Lagadianou BE-14

#### MOVING ABROAD?

Emigration is the movement of people from their home country to another one. The main reason for voluntary emigration to a more developed country is the increased economic opportunities. Greek people usually go to Germany seeking a better life.

Emigrating to a foreign country surely has several advantages. Firstly, people may find better career opportunities and in a more developed country they will have a better chance of achieving their goals. Secondly, immigrants will improve their life style with better living conditions in a more organized society. Last but not least, they may have cultural freedom, such as religious freedom, and may find more educational opportunities for their children.

On the other hand, moving permanently to another country can have some drawbacks as well. First of all, immigrants may find it particularly difficult to adjust in a new country that is different in terms of language, music and eating habits. Secondly, they might miss their friends and family and may feel homesick. Finally, they will have to get used to the new climate.

All in all, moving abroad can have both advantages and disadvantages. In my opinion, it is the best thing to do in case your country cannot offer you the life you have dreamt of.



Lazaros Efraimoglou BE-14

#### **MOVING ABROAD?**

Nowadays, many people move permanently to a foreign country. They take this decision because they want to make a new start in their life and earn more money. But this process has both its benefits and challenges.

There are certainly many real advantages to moving to a foreign country. First of all, you have the chance to begin something new because it gives you real freedom and independence. Secondly, you will meet new people and also different cultures and traditions. Lastly, it will be easier to earn more money because the standard of living is higher. On the other hand, moving away has some drawbacks as well. Firstly, you will miss your relatives and your close friends and you may regret it when you get older. As well as that, you will find it very difficult to communicate and make new friends, especially if you don't know the language spoken. Finally, in the beginning, you will have money problems until you find a new job.

To sum up, moving to a foreign country is a good thing and it is something that you have to do if you want to improve your life. But if you stay in touch with your family, it will be easier to adjust.

## Evi Dinopoulou BE-14

#### The Best Things in Life are Free

In most parts of today's world, people prefer material things to their relationship with their family, their friends and generally the people close to them. But are they happier? This is the question we need to answer.

It is hard to say that without material things, you can be happy. Some things such as phones, computers and TVs can make your life interesting and fascinating. Also, without material things, life would be very boring and wouldn't have the meaning it has today. To that extent, it's true that material things can make you very happy. It seems clear that you can't live without them, especially today that they have become a part of our lives.

On the other hand, material things are not the main source of happiness for most people. Sometimes they can ruin your relationships, which are much more important, in my opinion. Moreover, they can distract you from your duties, such as school or your job, but you definitely shouldn't think they are more important than your relationships. Material things can make your life enjoyable and interesting, but they can't take the place of other free things, such as love or sympathy.

To sum up, I believe that material things can make you really happy sometimes, but if you don't know how to use them correctly, they can make your life really sad and miserable. It seems clear that material things on their own are not enough to bring happiness.

## Markos Fragiadakis CE-6



#### The Best Things in Life are Free

Nowadays, the majority of people have lost the true value of life and its real meaning, because of misery, consumerism and capitalism in today's society. People prefer quantity rather than quality. But does the abundance of material goods lead to more satisfaction? This is the question we need to answer.

The best things in life are free and are based on simplicity and purity. First of all, from the day we are born, we have the support, the kindness and the love of our family. Then, during our childhood and generally throughout our life, we make priceless friends and we become socialized. Through these relationships, we cultivate the values of love, honesty, loyalty and confidence. It seems clear, that the right to think, to feel and to dream doesn't require any money. So, people are free in order to have a life based on values and spirit. People need to follow the motto: "Something that is worthwhile doesn't always cost".

On the other hand, money is important in order to live comfortably and satisfy your needs. Essential things like food, clothing and medicine, which are needed in order to survive and stay healthy, are not free. To that extent, it's true that money is important in order to enrich your life because of the corruption which governs our society. Money equals status and quality of life. It's hard to deny that money is the only way to enjoy recreational activities, such as travelling and entertainment. In addition, you need money to pay the bills. Finally, even though affluence does not lead to happiness, it is difficult to be happy if you don't have enough money.

To sum up, I would say that money is not everything. Values and emotions can't be expressed with money. It is only the prices of things that can be expressed with money. Money should be the means to improve our lives and not be an end in itself.



#### **Aristoklis Lagos CE-6**

# Stories...Stories...Stories

#### **Rescue!**

It was very cold. I couldn't even move. It was also very difficult for me to talk. I had a strong, cold feeling that reminded me of my difficult situation.

"I will die," I thought.

Earlier that day, my friends and I had gone skiing. I had never imagined my favorite sport would become my worst nightmare. I don't blame them, I was responsible for decision. We were just skiing down a snowy slope. Then, I found another path, and followed it even though my friends had suggested not skiing there. I



guess I just like taking risks. However, as soon as I took my equipment with me and started going down that slope, I completely regretted what I had done. Suddenly, I realized my friends were saying something to me, but I couldn't hear them from that distance. All I could hear was a strange noise from behind. Then I felt very nervous and scared. "Avalanche!" I shouted. But no one could hear me.

The snow was all over me. No one was there, so I just shut my eyes and waited silently for the end. To my surprise, I heard something.

"George!" someone shouted.

I tried to reply, but I panicked and I couldn't.

"Down here!" I finally added.

"We're going to bring help. Don't worry!" they said.

I was relieved. The rescue party arrived very quickly, in seconds, or at least that's what I thought. They took me to the hospital just in case I had broken something, but I was fine.

I thought I would never go skiing again. However, my passion was so strong that I couldn't resist. After a few months, we went skiing in the same area again, but I promised myself to listen to my friends' advice this time.

#### George Mavrigiannakis BE-7



Ageliki Liaska - AS2 iv



## The hidden Candy Land!

One Saturday morning, I went for a walk with my best friend Christina. At one point, she said maybe instead of continuing to walk, we should go to look at the shop windows in town. As we looked and looked, we came across a fortune-teller. The fortuneteller told us to look into her magic ball, and say these words: 'Open up, give us the key, let us in'. When we were finished, the ball instantly sucked us in.

We saw an enormous door in front of us. A key was in my hand. So Christina said we should open it. 'WOW!' we said together, looking at a huge place full of candy. We were amazed by such things. We started looking around and found a small fuzzy creature. We asked a few questions like, 'What is this place and how is it called? Who are you, and how can we get out?' And the little creature said, 'My name is Zorca the fuzz ball, if you are wondering, you are in Candy Land. If you'd like to get out though, you have to press the green button on the wall over there.'

Christina and I quickly went all around looking for the green button, until we finally found it. Sadly, at that stage, I woke up, and called Christina to ask her if she was ok. She told me that nothing happened and that it had most probably been a dream.

#### Letitia Papagiannakopoulou AN-1

#### Dlrow

'Oh, no! I have to read Literature!' I took my book and opened it on page 83. Then, I felt a strange feeling throughout my body. The next thing I remember is being alone in the middle of a huge dark room. Apparently, I had been sucked in by the book! Later, a man's voice who claimed to be called Invisible **Devilish Figure took my hand and** grabbed me out of the room. It was incredible! His country, which was named Dlrow, had colored flying substances everywhere! To make it easy for you to understand, it was like everyone was living on creamy. colored clouds! The people wore colored clothes too, which changed color depending on when their feelings changed. I stepped forward and fell. I screamed and woke up all sweaty from my dream.

#### Danae Athanasiou AN-1

## **CANDY LAND!**

I was going to faint. I hadn't eaten candy for three days and my mother wouldn't give me any, if I didn't first finish my homework! Then I remembered that behind my bed, under a loose floor board, there was a jar

full of candy for emergencies! I quickly went to my bedroom sat on my bed and uncovered the jar. The thousands of different colors in the jar were twinkling under the lamp light. I quickly opened the jar and suddenly a blinding gold light came out of it. Π started falling inside the jar and a loud terrifying scream came out of my mouth. The split second that elapsed I was terrified, but to my surprise I landed on something pink and fluffy. It was cotton candy; everything was made of cotton candy!

The little town buildings and houses were all made of cotton candy. I started eating as much cotton candy as I could grab, only to have two gingerbread police officers come and grab me by the arms, in order to stop me from eating the police station. They looked so delicious that I could not resist. I ate their hands and started running as fast as I could. Now I am stuck in a gingerbread cave full of M&Ms and I do not know how to get out. Help, I will get fat!

#### **Christina Piliouni AN-1**

### **CANDY LAND**

Yesterday, as I was coming home from school. I noticed a creek in a hidden wall. I tried entering when, suddenly, I started falling! When I landed everything was pitch black, but then I realized I was in a magic land! Everything was made from candy! The grass was made out of jelly beans and the trees had gumballs. Unexpectedly, a tiny man came running towards me: "HELP! Our mayor is stuck in the marshmallow rocks", "I'd be glad to help!" We ran as fast as we could, passing over the ice cream mountains. Then, I grabbed the mayor from his arms and pulled him out! **Everyone started cheering!** "Thank you so much for helping me! As a reward I'd like to give you a priceless ring and when you rub it you can come to Candy Land instantly," he said. "Thank you very much, I'll be back soon."

#### Joanna Theocharakis AN-1

## "My Extraordinary Land" The Story...

Irenia had a really interesting visitor yesterday. My best friend. She was really impressed by the leaf that got us there and all the lights.

Now she is telling me everything about her adventure here. As we were flying we suddenly bumped into a tree. The taffy actually. We stuck but I'm used to it so I continued flying though my friend fell into the tree hole. Serafina, the rich cat that lived there, was really upset and she kicked her out. As she was running, she screamed and I finally saw her. She won't probably want to come again.

#### Irene Vouzaki AN-1

#### **The Candy land!**

It was the first week of summer holiday. I was with my family on the beach when suddenly I felt my tummy hurt. I decided to go and buy a cupcake. Something happened when I ate it. I felt as if I was changing lands! At no time, I was standing in the middle of a Candy land. One strange carambar greeted me friendly and told me all about its land. Their house was made out of ice-cream and lollipops. You could eat them and the houses would grow back again. The sky was colorful and small marshmallows fell. The clouds were made out of cotton candy and the sun was a huge orange candy. The grass was full of jelly beans and the trees were gummy bears. When I ate a sweet the earth started swirling and there I was again standing in the same place I was before. It was only a dream!!

Natalie Aliprantis AN-1

#### **The Country of Holiday Fun**

It was the first week of school after the summer holidays and my classmates and I were looking for our English classroom. We had almost given up opening doors when I opened the last one and suddenly we all disappeared from the school corridor. We had been sucked in by the door. We were flying through a hole until we landed with a thump on the ground. Then we realised we were in a magical world!

It was really strange because half of the country was summer and the other half was winter. Before we knew it, Santa had come and was giving out presents. What we found really funny was that while he was on the winter side he was wearing his usual red outfit but when he crossed onto the summer side he was wearing bright pink swimming trunks! He told us that it was Christmas every day.

We didn't want to go home, so we sent a magic car to get our parents and we lived there for the rest of our lives!

#### **Constancia Deriziotis AN-1**

#### THE LOCKER OF TIME

It was during school when my friend Andrew and I got sucked in by a locker at our school to another world. We ended up in our school, but in a different period. In this period, the students were enchanted by a spell of a wizard called Nostradamus and had to work for him by force. His aim was to make a mind controlling machine. We felt sorry for the children and chose to help them be set free and stop the wizard from controlling all minds. While we were trying to stop the wizard, he put many spells on us and sent us monsters. Luckily, while Andrew was being chased by a monster in the wizard's laboratory, he accidentally knocked on himself some of Nostradamus' potions that gave him super powers. Andrew went first to knock out the monster and then the wizard. In this clash with the wizard and Andrew, Andrew won and put Nostradamus in wizard jail. After we had set the kids free, we set off back to school. We thought we had been missing for hours, but we were away only for 5 minutes. Andrew was so excited with his new powers but they only worked in the other world, so we travelled back there every day.

#### George Kavussanos AN-1

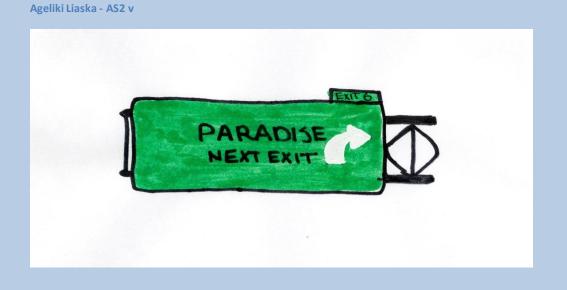


Stefania Fytsili BE-8 i

#### **AThe paradise**

Last year, while I was walking in the forest with my best friend Ioli, I bumped into a tree. Immediately a gate opened and we found ourselves in a huge castle. There, a dwarf explained to us that we were the ones that must rule this kingdom: "This kingdom is called: 'The paradise'. You are the first people who managed to enter it! Now, you are meant to rule it!" we followed his commands, we became queens! Our island is massive and beautiful. It is full of trees, forests, beaches, waterfalls, lakes with crystal clear waters, all the creatures that live here are kind and they take good care of the nature. They all talk the human language. I love my kingdom!

#### Nikolina Adam AN-1



#### **The Perfect World**

I wonder if it's still there. Yes, that world – the one that's got amazing things. The Perfect world! I once got lost over there...

It was a spooky cold night. The wind was blowing hard. Then suddenly it stopped. The power went off. All of the streets were dark and empty. So dark! So empty! I tried to find a small flashlight I had to see what was going on. It was so hard. I couldn't see anything. Then, a small light started to glow at the end of the hall and got bigger and BIGGER, till in the end it covered the whole house. Only that I wasn't in my house any more... I reached the other world, the Perfect world.

It looked as if, I was, it was... a big lake with fresh water and big, green spaces surrounding it. At first I got scared but then I realized I had everything I wanted... The world had completely transformed into a world of – it just had everything: Music, my favourite! It was transformed into music stuff. As for sports, the same...

When after an hour or two, while I was jumping all around, I closed my eyes, here I was, walking down the hallway again! I

started looking for my Perfect world again but nothing. The power went on, the sun came up... my normal life returned...

#### **Andrew Devletoglou AN-1**



Nicolina Adam AN-1 i

#### THE CHOCOLATE LAND

Yesterday, something strange happened. When I opened the secret cupboard that I have in my room to hide chocolates (and then eat them) I saw a chocolate moving. When I touched it, I was in another world! Everything was made of white and dark chocolate. All the people, the trees, the houses, and the rivers were made of chocolate. I immediately began to eat one tree but then I heard a strange noise. It was a man who was screaming that I was ruining his garden! I was so annoyed that I ate him too and continued eating almost every tree in his garden. Now, I am stuck there as I can't get out of the cupboard! Help!

Danae Bili AN-1

#### THE TREE LAND

I took a deep breath and entered the hollow of the tree. The wind blew and, a few minutes later, I found myself at the peak of a mountain. It was cold and windy and absolutely silent, and I was absolutely alone. I shouted out, but I heard no answer, just my voice reverberating. I dragged my feet through the deep snow until I found myself at the mouth of a cave. All at once, a huge beast appeared in front of me. Its teeth were sharp, as sharp as a needle. And its eyes were glowing. I took a stone, but he frantically moved his hands telling me to stop. At that moment, I heard a familiar voice telling me that I was late for school. It was all over...

#### Celia Gazepi AN-1



#### THE TORNADO MAGICAL PLACE

One day a friend of mine and I were at the beach cycling like crazy, as fast as we could go. Suddenly, I felt like we were flying. Literally! I looked down and saw that we were up in the air. We heard thunder, and in the blink of an eye, we were caught in a huge tornado. We were left unconscious for what seemed like an eternity. I woke up and saw my friend by my side, speechless. I looked up and I faced the most beautiful and magical place I had ever seen. Birds were singing, the sun was shining as bright as a diamond and all I could hear was the sound of falling water. Instead of rocks, there was gold; instead of clouds, cotton candy. The weather was hot and water surrounded us. Then, unfortunately, I heard my name being called and I awoke from my fuzzy dream. It was all an illusion. But then some cotton candy fell from the sky and I began to wonder if it was all a dream after all.

#### **Chryssoula Synodinou AN-1**



<u>Seventh Grade</u>: Victor, a seventh-grader pretends to be able to speak French in order to impress the girl he likes, Teresa. Will she find out eventually? The students give the story the ending they like!

The next day, Victor had a test in French. The day before, he hadn't done any ho mework because he had been watching TV all day and that's why he didn't know the answers to the test. He thought that if he got a bad grade, Teresa would discover that Victor was lying and that she would never forgive him. So he decided to cheat!!

Leo, who was a very good student was sitting in front of him. He tried to copy from him and his plan was going pretty well until the teacher saw him! Very angry as he was, he gave Victor a big zero on his paper.

His who le life was ruined, now Teresa would know the truth and she would never talk to him again. Indeed, when everybody left the class, Victor went to explain to Teresa.

"Hey Victor, what was that?" asked the girl.

"I do n't know Teresa, Mr. Bueller must be the most stupid person in the world!!!" replied Victor.

"Don't lie to me, I saw you," said Teresa." You don't know French and you were trying to copy from Leo's paper. Why?"

"W ell...me...you know...eee..."Victor had no answer.

"You are just a pathetic liar!!!!" responded Teresa . And she left the class!!

Victor's heart was broken into pieces!!!!

#### Aitor Zerdilas AS-2

# Seventh Grade

Later that afternoon, Victor went to Teresa's house to help her with her French. W hen they began to study, Teresa asked Victor:

"How do say 'goodbye' in French?"

Of course, Victor didn't know the answer, so he answered, "Giganateo."

"W hat?" Teresa asked.

"Giganateo!"

"OK, I trust you, you know French."

This happened again, and again, and again until they finished. When Victor was about to leave, Teresa gave him a kiss on his cheek. "Thanks Teresa", he mumbled. After that, Victor thought: "Hmm.... Maybe Teresa does like me! The next day, he bumped into Michael on his way to school:

"How are you?" Victor asked.

"Not good."

"Why not?"

"My scowling stopped working! I was scowling all day long and nobody looked at me! How about you?"

"Me? Great! I think Theresa will be my girl TODAY!"

"Yeah.....good luck with that!"

The first class was French. All the students gave their homework to the teacher.

After school Victor, full of courage and confidence, asked Teresa to be his girlfriend.

This was her answer: "Of course! I LOVE THE WAY YOU SPEAK FRENCH!"

Later that afternoon, the two of them had a blast together. Victor dreamt of her all night long. The next day, when Victor entered the French class, he saw Theresa with a mad – looking face coming to him. She shouted: "I GOT AN "F" THANKS TO YOU!!! YOU DON'T KNOW FRENCH DO YOU?"

"A.... well..." Victor mumbled.

"That's it! We...are...OVER!"

"B... b ....but!?"

"You heard it! It's over!"

She shouted, and then she left... Victor was stunned! He couldn't believe that Teresa just broke up with him! But then he thought, "Hm....this year I wasn't very lucky...again, but I'll try again next year!" So, the following year, he tried again and he succeeded. And the two of them lived happily ever after.

Nicholas Karanikas AS-2

# Seventh Grade

After a few days, the first lesson started at Teresa's house. Victor told her some things about the French language. Then, he started writing "French" words and next to them their meaning. After an hour, he had to go. He said goodbye to Teresa and left the house by doing the sign of the cross and wishing the words he wrote were correct.

After five lessons at school, the teacher gave his students a piece of paper with so me questions on it. Teresa wrote the answers based on what Victor had taught her. Also she used the grammar that she had learned with Victor. When they finished the test, Victor wished that Teresa had got twenty out of twenty. When the teacher corrected the tests, he gave them to his students so they could see the mark they had got. When Teresa saw the mark she had got, she started crying. She had got a five out of twenty.

When the French lesson ended, she slapped Victor and she left him alone. But, that afternoon, Victor bought chocolates and flowers and visited Teresa. When Teresa opened the door, he mumbled that he was sorry. He promised it would never happen again and gave Teresa the chocolates and the flowers. After a while, Teresa left the chocolates on the table and she hugged Victor. Victor admitted to her that he couldn't speak French.

After a few years, they got married and they had two children.

George Dimitratos AS-2



Ageliki Liaska - AS2 vi

## Seventh Grade

...He was going to like seventh grade! The next morning, Victor came to school after spending a long night studying French. He really wanted to impress Teresa. The first period was English, then Math and then French. Victor walked down the school hallway and went to his homeroom. He hadn't seen either Michael or Teresa.

In English, Victor was thinking about third period, French; he really wanted to impress Teresa with his French (which he didn't speak). The bell rang and everybody ran to the door and left the classroom. Victor walked down the hall to his math class, he sat in the front because all the seats in the back were taken. He lo oked for Teresa, but she wasn't there. He thought she was maybe late, but she never came. Victor was really disappointed. After French, Victor sat in a desk ho ping that Teresa would come in. "All the studying I did was a waste of time!", he thought.

In the fifteen-minute break, he met with Michael. Michael was scowling again. They didn't really talk. The day passed and Victor went home. When he finished with his homework, he thought about Teresa.

The next morning, Victor went to school hoping that she would be there. And she was. Victor saw her going to her first period. He really wanted to run and hug her, but he wasn't brave enough. He went to his classroom, he had social studies, after biology, then a fifteen-minute break and after that, math and finally lunch. The only chance for Victor to talk to Teresa was in Math. In the fifteen-minute break, Victor searched for Michael but he couldn't find him. At lunch, Victor bought a chicken salad sandwich, juice, French fries and a muffin. He sat at a table and his eyes were searching the room for Michael. Then he saw it, he couldn't believe his eyes. Michael was seating at a table with Teresa. They were laughing and eating to gether. Victor went red, he was speechless. What was Michael doing with Teresa? How could his best friend betray him that way? He got angry and sad. "Maybe Teresa likes scowling," he thought.

When the last bell rang, Victor ran to Michael.

"W hat were you thinking?" Victor said.

"W hat?" Michael complained.

"W hat were you doing with Teresa?"

"Oh..."

"Yes..."

"I would have told you earlier... I'm dating her..."

Victor looked at Michael and said, "How could you do this to me?"

"W hat did I do? Is it bad that I'm dating her?"

"You knew I had a crush on her!" Victor said.

"No, you never told me that!"

Than Victor realized that he had never told anyone about his feelings for Teresa. He turned and walked away. Michael stopped him and said, "So you want me to break up with her!?"

"No Michael, it's my fault. I have to leave now, bye."

Victor walked away and left the school. He was really sad. When he went home he cried and he didn't know what to do. The next day he went to school and didn't talk to anyone. That happened for several days, until one day at lunch Michael sat at the same table as Victor and said to him, "Hmm, I wanted to tell you that me and Teresa aren't dating anymore, she may be cute and good in math but she gets on my nerves. If you want you can date her, but I prefer that we stay friends."

Victor smiled and said to Michael, "I prefer that we just stay friends."

So they became best friends again and Teresa was forgotten.

The endo

Efstathia Zouridaki AS-9

## Seventh Grade

He was going to like seventh grade. Day after day, he went to the library and read at least 3 French books. Once, he borrowed a French dictionary and he learned it off by heart. At French classes, they started writing tests, and he was the only one that got As. Teresa was very impressed. They went to the cinema to gether and it was like they were going on a date. Apart from Teresa, other girls were impressed by his progress in French. Teresa was jealous, although Victor was a very good boy and he wasn't interested in other girls. He only loved her. From then on, they were a couple. Eventually, he could impress a girl without scowling.

One day, a new girl showed up at Victor's class. Her name was Lillian. She was so pretty and so smart that all the boys were charmed, except for Victor, of course. She realised it and, because she was so selfish, she wanted to be his girlfriend. She told him that she was in love with him, but he replied that his heart belonged to another girl. The whole school started talking about that, so Teresa heard it. She told Victor that she wanted to see him. They discussed and they realised that they liked each other and they wanted to be together.

They lived a happy life, full of adventures!!!

Marleta Kontou AS-9



Ageliki Liaska - AS2 vii

# Seventh Grade

Victor ran home and thumbed through the textbooks he got from the library. He realized that learning French was difficult. He thought and thought about what he should do. He didn't want to look like a fool to Teresa. So, he decided that honesty was probably the best solution.

One Friday afternoon after school, he invited Teresa to his house to study French. As they sat down to study together, Victor took a deep breath and he told her the truth. Teresa was silent for a while, but she understood that Victor had lied in order to impress her and she forgave him. This was the beginning of their friendship.

Anthony Vekios AS-9

# Seventh Grade

He was going to like Seventh Grade.

The next day Victor was very happy. He thought that everything was going to be great in his life. But he forgot something... That he had lied to Teresa about French and he didn't know the basic things.

It was time for the French lesson. All the students were in class waiting for the lesson to begin. But a new girl came to class with Teresa. She was from France and it was her first day at school. She only had one friend, Teresa. After the lesson had finished, Teresa said to Victor, "Hello Victor, this is my friend Clara. She knows French, just like you."

"Yes, just like me", replied Victor uncertainly.

"Sorry but I have to leave", said Victor because he didn't want Teresa to understand that he didn't know French. He had to think of something clever to cover himself.

Victor also had Clara in his Math's class. It was quite obvious that Clara liked Victor. She was telling him all the time that it wasn't a coincidence that they could both speak French. After an hour, Victor told her everything. That he lied to impress Teresa, and that he liked Teresa.

Clara seemed very angry. Maybe she would tell Teresa, maybe not! Victor didn't know, but he could understand that Seventh Grade wasn't so good. Victor couldn't disguise his feelings and talked to Michael about all this.

Michael felt really sad for his friend and he knew that he had to do something about it. So, he went to talk to Clara to tell her not to say anything about Victor's lie to Teresa. She said that she would think about it and tell Victor her decision the next day. The next day came and Clara had her answer. She told Victor:

"I won't tell Teresa the truth if I start dating Michael."

Michael was very happy and started dating Clara. Victor started dating Teresa, too.

They were both going to like Seventh Grade!

Peter Ioannidis AS-9



Nick Tzanetos-Alevras BE-141



