



HELLENIC AMERICAN EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

ATHENS COLLEGE- PSYCHICO COLLEGE

The Athens College News

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**KEEP
CALM
DURING
EXAM
TIME**

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

Apostolakou Elena: BE-5, CE-5, CE-13

Christopoulos Dimitris: CS-4, CS-11

Karantoni Connie: AE-5, AN-9, BS-10

Lykou Madlen AE-12, CE-12, CS-3

Marazioti Alexandra AS-3, AS-10, BN-1

Raymondou Elina AS-11

Tsoulogiannis Jeannie Literary Travel Club, AE-13

Witte Lucretia
(Teaching Fellow) Creative Writing Contest

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.

AT THE MOVIES



So Undercover

So Undercover is an American action comedy film, which has a very interesting plot.

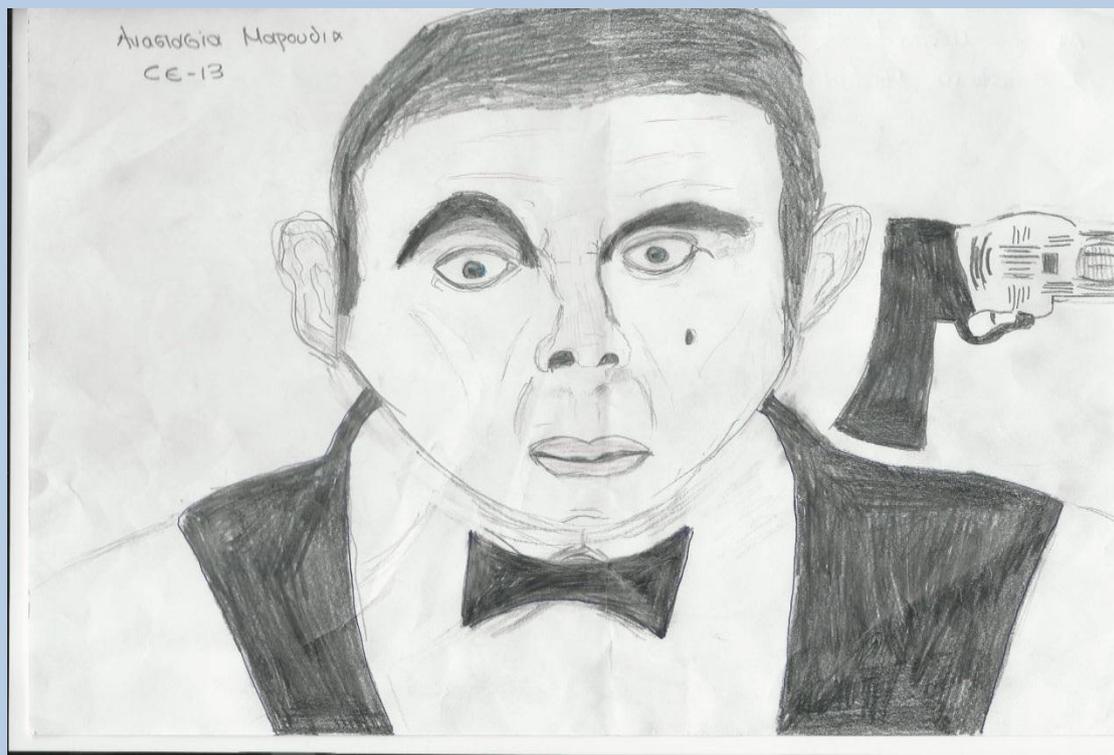
The story takes place at an American college. Molly is a private detective who is hired by the F.B.I. to go undercover in the college and protect one of the

students. Then she has to transform herself from a tough detective into a cute college girl, who finally discovers that not everyone is who they appear to be.

What I liked about this film is that it had me laughing from beginning to end. Miley Cyrus is excellent in the lead as Molly Morris and Jeremy Piven gives a brilliant performance as her boss.

So Undercover is an extremely funny film with lots of action. It is a film that the whole family will enjoy.

Vasiliki Efraimoglou AE5



JOHNNY ENGLISH

Johnny English is a 2003 British action comedy film, a parody and humorous imitation of James Bond secret agent. The film stars are the amazing Rowan Atkinson and John Malkevich.

The story is set in England, in London and on an island. Firstly, Johny English (Roman Atkinson) goes to the island where he is trained how to be a secret agent. Then he returns to London as a very good secret agent. Finally, he finds a job in the secret agent center and now he is very happy.

What I liked about the film is the action and the funny action from Johny English. He is the best British comedian and he got awarded with an Oscar.

Johnny English is a wonderful film and so funny that you will be laughing all the time. It is a film for all ages and young children will enjoy it a lot.

Philip Michopoulos AE5





Thanksgiving Today

Nowadays, Thanksgiving for some is just a holiday; a day off school. Of course, it should not be just that, but primarily a day of gratitude for what we have and an attempt to plan our good deeds for the following year. People always have things that they should be grateful for. Things that must not be taken for granted.

As the Pilgrims thanked God for the good harvest of the year, we should now thank God not only for material goods, but for more important things in life, such as a loving family, a trustworthy friend

and our good health. We really need to appreciate life; although, our daily routine does not give us enough time to consider how fortunate we are. We should not disregard what we have, because we should always remember that there are a lot of people who suffer on earth, either because of food and water shortages, or because of wars in their countries. There are children deprived of education, family warmth and their freedom. Moreover, people die every day and lose their friends and beloved ones. We should be thankful for the simple things in life, things that make us happy. Besides, not much is needed to make one's day! A simple "hello", "good morning", or even a "goodbye" can sometimes be enough.

Last, during this beautiful and unique day, we should gather with our families and think all together for a moment about how lucky we truly are and how we can help the less fortunate. Thanksgiving is a day to reflect on ways to help others and thus show our gratitude for our wellbeing.

Panagiota Parasiri CS-4

What is Thanksgiving Day and what does it represent?

Thanksgiving Day is a national holiday celebrated mainly in the United States and Canada as a day of giving thanks for the blessing of the harvest of the preceding year. Several other places around the world have similar celebrations. Thanksgiving is celebrated on the fourth Thursday of November in the United States and on the second Monday of October in Canada. It has its historical and cultural traditions and has long been celebrated in a secular manner as well.

Americans commonly trace the Thanksgiving holiday to a 1621 celebration at the Plymouth plantation, where the Plymouth settlers held a harvest feast after a successful growing season.

It all began when 100 people, many of them seeking religious freedom in the New World, set sail from England on the Mayflower in September 1620. Rough seas and storms prevented the Mayflower from reaching their initial destination, and after a voyage of 65 days the ship reached the shores of Cape Cod, anchoring on the site of Provincetown Harbor in mid-November. After sending an exploring party ashore, the Mayflower landed at what they would call Plymouth Harbor, on the western side of Cape Cod Bay, in mid-December. During the next several months, the settlers lived mostly on the Mayflower and ferried back and forth from shore to build their new storage and living quarters.

More than half of the English settlers died during that first winter, as a result of poor nutrition and housing that proved inadequate in the harsh weather. Leaders such as Bradford, Standish, John Carver, William Brewster and Edward Winslow played important roles in keeping the remaining settlers together.

Fortunately, the native inhabitants of the region around Plymouth Colony were the various tribes of the Wampanoag people, who had lived there for some 10,000 years before the Europeans arrived. Soon after the Pilgrims built their settlement, they came into contact with Squanto, a Patuxent Native American who resided with the Wampanoag tribe. Squanto taught the Pilgrims how to catch eel and grow corn and served as an interpreter for them. Additionally, the Wampanoag leader Massasoit had donated food stoves to the colony during the first winter when supplies brought from England were insufficient.

In the fall of 1621, the Pilgrims famously shared a harvest feast with the native inhabitants; the meal is now considered the basis for the Thanksgiving holiday.

Stampouloglou Angelos CS-4

Describe the Perfect Thanksgiving Meal You Have Ever Had

The best Thanksgiving meal I have ever had was a delicious meal organized by my aunt who comes from Brazil. The main course was roasted turkey with a delicious stuffing. There was cranberry sauce with sweet mashed potatoes, corn, and noodles. There was also a selection of vegetables, such as green beans, peas, and carrots. Apple pies, pumpkin pies, and a pudding were also included in the meal as desserts. Last but not least, there was wine for the adults and apple cider for the young ones. It was certainly a great traditional meal.

Nicolas Galanos CE-5



Things I am Thankful for This Year

When I was younger, I used to take for granted many things and consider them as rights and did not realize that they are privileges that I should be grateful for. This year I am grateful for my good health, for being able to do whatever I want to, while others spend days or even months inside hospitals. I am also thankful for my family and my friends, for being there for me whenever I need a shoulder to cry on, or someone to laugh with. Something that took me a long time

to understand is that deep inside I am also grateful for my enemies because they help me find my blind spots and manage to uncover them. In addition, I am grateful for the challenges I have faced in my life because they help me grow and become the person I am. Finally, I am really thankful for these kind strangers I meet every day, who brighten up my day and make me feel good. After all, we are all humans who can't survive without each other.

Kyziridou Eleftheria CE-13

Things I am Thankful for This Year

This year I'm very thankful for all the things I have. First of all, I'm thankful for being healthy, while many other children are dying every day because of the bad conditions that they are living in. Secondly, I am grateful for being able to go to such a nice school because many other children can't

Things I am Thankful for This Year

This year, like any year, I am thankful for a lot of things. Firstly, I am grateful for my health and my family's health. Another thing which I am thankful for is the fact that I have such special and caring friends around me. Moreover, I am thankful for having such a loving family who is doing the best for me. What's more, I am thankful for having food every day while other people don't have anything in order to feed their families. Lastly, I am thankful for having the house I live in and I think this is very important.

Stefanny Antonopoulou CE-5

Things I am Thankful for This Year

Nowadays, everyone needs to look around and be thankful for what they have. Personally, I am

afford it. Thirdly, I'm thankful that I can afford water and food when many other children can't. Last but not least, I'm very thankful that I have people who love me and care about me. Finally, I hope that next year will be the same for me and that all people will have as many things as I had last year!

Marily Zafeiropoulou CE-5

thankful for many things even though sometimes I don't show it. Firstly, I feel grateful for my friends and my family because they play an important role in my life. My friends and my family always stand by me and take care of me. Every day my friends and I experience precious moments that we will remember when we become adults. For me, this is really important! Secondly, I'm thankful for my house and my country, Greece, which is one of the most beautiful countries in the world. What is more, I feel thankful for the school that I go to because it is considered to be one of the best schools in Greece and because every day I learn new things that are very useful. Lastly, I can say that I am thankful for all the little gadgets that I use every day even though I could live without them.

George Darmaros CE-5

Anthology: A Potpourri of Essays

THE FALL OF THE HINDENBURG

What caused the Hindenburg to crash? What effect did it have on history?

The fall of the Hindenburg is one of the most famous disasters. It took place on May 6, 1937 when the Hindenburg, the German airship burst into flames. The tragedy was extremely big and, as a result thirty-five people, who were on board, were killed. But what actually caused the Hindenburg to crash and what effect did this disaster have on history?

To start with, there are no certain causes of the tragedy. However, there are many theories of what could have been the reason of such a terrible disaster. At the time, many people believed that the Hindenburg had been hit by lightning. Others still believed that the extremely flammable hydrogen caused the fall of the vessel. In addition, some Germans think that the reason of the tragedy was sabotage. On the other hand, NASA research has shown that the varnish the vessel was covered with was very flammable.

The fall of the Hindenburg has some effect on history. Firstly, this tragedy gave the opportunity to the scientists to discuss the causes and avoid such disasters. Furthermore, because of the fact that many people died, at the time, it is still discussed nowadays.

All in all, the Hindenburg crash is one of the most famous disasters in history. However, the cause of this tragedy is still uncertain. Although many people were killed, this helped the humanity to avoid such disasters. I believe that this accident played an important role in history and as a result people will continue to discuss it.

Dimatou Katerina BS10

What caused the Hindenburg to crash? What effect did it have on history?

The Hindenburg explosion is one of the most tragic historical events. The Hindenburg was a German airship, or as it is called “a zeppelin”, that took off from Frankfurt, Germany and had to arrive at New Jersey’s Lakehurst Naval Airstation. Before it landed, on May 6, 1937, it exploded and as a result thirty-five passengers and a crewman on the ground were killed.

The zeppelin did a transatlantic trip within 2.5 days, as it was going with 80 miles per hour. In addition, its length was 803.8 feet and weighed 242 tons. Also, its metal frame was filled with hydrogen.

The cause of the Hindenburg fall is still uncertain. Many people thought it had been hit by lightning. On the other hand, some Germans believed that it was sabotage, in order to damage the reputation of the Nazi regime. Furthermore, many think that the highly flammable hydrogen was the cause of the explosion. NASA research has shown that the highly combustible varnish treating the outside of the giant airship is the most possible cause.

The Hindenburg explosion is considered to be one of the most sad historical events. Many people managed to jump from the airship before it was engulfed in flames; however, 36 people were killed. Mankind still remembers it. Moreover, many interviews from people who survived it are quite shocked and sad since it was a really fearful moment for them. Finally, the fall of the Hindenburg is a historical event that mankind will never forget.

Kyriazi Eleni BS-10



The Advantages and Disadvantages of Moving Permanently to a Foreign Country

Many people move permanently to a foreign country. This has some advantages and disadvantages and it's absolutely a very difficult decision to make.

On one hand, there are many advantages to leaving your country. To start with, you can earn more money in the new country and have success. Furthermore, you will learn a new language and experience a new culture. Lastly, you will face a huge challenge and this will help you become more mature.

On the other hand, there are also some disadvantages. Firstly, you lose your friends and any relationship you may have. Secondly, it's very difficult to make a new start, especially for children who will have to attend a new school. Finally, the weather in some European countries where people usually move to is not very nice and can make you feel depressed.

So all in all, in my opinion, moving abroad and leaving everything behind is a very hard decision to make. You have to be strong to do this especially for someone my age.

Loukia Isidoridis BE-5



The Advantages and Disadvantages of Moving Permanently to a Foreign Country

Nowadays people make big changes in their lives. One of those changes is moving permanently abroad because of the financial crisis. This has both rewards and challenges.

On one hand, living in another country has many advantages. Firstly, you have more chances of making money. Secondly, your children can make new friends and you can meet new people. Lastly, due to the better conditions, you can have success in your life.

On the other hand, moving to a foreign country has some disadvantages, too. To start with, you are homesick and miss your family and old friends. In addition, it is difficult to bring up your children in a different culture and environment. Finally, the people in your new country might be unfriendly.

So all in all, many people move permanently to a foreign country, but they usually face some difficulties, too. Personally, I wouldn't leave my country, unless I really had to because it is a great risk.

Emmanouela Kappou BE-5

The Best Things in Life are Free

People's opinions on the best things in life differ widely. Many people find that the best things in life are free, whereas others think that the best things in life are not free and they can't imagine living without spending money on them.

On the one hand, there are many things in life which don't cost anything. First and foremost, every person has a family which can help and support him. He can also have a good time with his parents, his siblings or even with other relatives. Furthermore, there are relationships. Both friendships and love are free and are two things that most people have in their lives. Lastly, one of the best things which is free is nature. Everyone can enjoy a thrilling mountain-bike ride in a forest and a walk in a fascinating place because he doesn't need to pay for these.

However, there are many things in life which are very important and they aren't free. Firstly, amenities like having a big house are expensive. Having a big house is something really important for some people because they spend a lot of hours in the house and they want a comfortable place to live in. Apart from this, for many people travelling is a need. They can't live without going abroad at least two times a year.

More specifically, those people who like going to exotic places spend a lot of money on their trips. Last but not least, one of the best things in life is gadgets. Every year, many people spend money on gadgets because technology always changes and they like having the newest electronic devices.

So all in all, the best things in life are either free or not free. As I see it, it depends on the individual's needs and circumstances.

Dimitris Apostolopoulos CE-5

The Best Things in Life are Free

For years, there have been arguments over the question if the best things in life are free.

Some people claim that the best things in life are free and we can enjoy them anytime with anyone. Firstly, it's important to state that things we can feel, like our sentiments are the best things in a person's life. Moreover, family and friends fill you with happiness and joy, they make you feel loved. Furthermore, things we can't see like the love we feel towards a person are the ones that we will savor for the rest of our lives. When you get attached to someone, you feel special and the affection you receive from them makes you happy. In addition, special moments in our lives, like memories are much more important than material goods and they're free! The creation of beautiful memories will always stay with us and live in our hearts forever, no matter how many years pass.

On the other hand, some people take the opposite view and maintain that most people feel happy when they have money, own expensive things and have the ability to show off their wealth. Sometimes, it is true that money can help you satisfy your needs and fulfill your dreams, like pursuing your university studies and buying expensive clothes. It can make you feel good about yourself. Furthermore, having money, owning cars, houses and having a stable profession can give you a carefree life with no worries and concerns. Finally, money can cover your basic needs, since if you do not have enough money for food and clothes, then surely you can't be happy or satisfied.

To sum up, I would say that the best things in life are the ones we can't see, but we can feel. Money just helps us improve our standard of living.

Joanna Lytra CE-13



The Best Things in Life are Free

The most important things in life that make us happy are free. Can one live without money and be happy? Yes, one doesn't need to be rich to have a good life because money doesn't always bring happiness.

On the one hand, many things that are important are free and you can have them without money. Firstly, friendship is one of them because if you have friends, you will be happy and they will always be there for you when you need their help. Furthermore, another free thing is health. If you are healthy, you can do everything you want. It is very important. Finally, happiness is also precious. If you are happy and not grumpy or miserable and you always smile, people will like you and say that you are a good person.

On the other hand, some people take the opposite view, and maintain that some important things cost a lot of money. Private schools are one of them because there you make friends, you learn, socialize and do some extra activities that aren't done in other schools. In addition, holidays and trips may be important to some people because they allow you to take a rest, leave the city and relax. Last but not least, a house, food and water, the basic things one needs in life also cost money and sometimes you have to be well-off to have them.

To sum up, I believe that the most important things in life are free and you don't need to be rich to enjoy them.

The Best Things in Life are Free

In life there are many things that are free. The question, however, we need to ask is whether it is the best things that are offered free.

On one hand, some people claim that the best things in life don't cost anything. To begin with, love and close relationships make you happy and give meaning to your life. Moreover, making the most of your free time can be a great source of pleasure, for example going for a walk with your friends. Finally, getting closer to the environment can relax you and make you forget the daily problems that you are dealing with.

On the other hand, there are some things in life that you have to pay for. If you want to go out with your friends, you have to pay because you are going to eat or drink something. Another example is having to buy clothes for the winter or buying food to eat. If you don't do that, you will not survive. Last but not least, to have fun you have to buy games to play in your free time.

To sum up, I would say that the best things in life are free and people should take advantage of them. However, there are also things that are necessary for people to survive and sometimes you have to pay a lot for them.

Jerry Vasilatos CE-5

MY BEST FRIEND, MYRTO!

It was a warm, summer Monday evening. All the freshmen had been asked to come and get introduced to the teachers and shown around to the school. Everybody was waiting impatiently, chatting and shouting outside the theater. And there she was. A girl standing away from the crowd, just watching. I approached her and we started talking. And this is when I first met Myrto.

Myrto is a pretty girl. Her curly black hair is no longer than her shoulders. Her brown eyes sparkle whenever she laughs. Her French nose supports her pink glasses witch she doesn't like to wear. On her oval face, you can see a pair of puffy cheeks that blush when My BEST Friend Ever!!!

she speaks out loud. Everyone would say she is pretty.

She has a wonderful personality too. Her whole body shakes with laughter when she finds something funny. She also very honest and trustworthy. Even though I only know her for four months, I can tell her all my secrets and I know she won't tell a soul. She is the best student in class; however, she is shy when it comes to speaking out loud. But this is nothing comparing to all the good elements she has.

Myrto is definitely one of my best friends. I like her exactly the way she is and I would never want to change anything about her!

Eleni Retsou AS3

Andrew, my best friend!

Andrew has been my best friend for six years. I first met him in Stavraki School in 1st grade and we have been best friend since then.

Physically, Andrew is a tall, thin teenage boy. He has got curly brown hair and sparkling brown eyes. He also has rosy cheeks. He prefers wearing casual clothes.

As for his personality, Andrew's most striking characteristic is his humor; he's the funniest guy I've ever met. Andrew is also very generous; whenever it's my birthday, he always gets me the best present. He is very ambitious and wants to be a ship owner someday. In addition, Andrew is really mature and hardworking. Moreover, he's polite, interesting and tactful. That's the reason he is my role model.

Furthermore, Andrew is a very sporty person. Not only does he like all kinds of sports, but he is also the best at every single one of them. Therefore, everybody wants him in their team.

All in all, Andrew is the best friend I've ever had. I have never regretted having him as a friend!

Anthony Protogeros AS-3

"My favourite classmate"

I first met Ellie about five months ago, in 7th grade. One warm sunny day, I was walking down the school corridor and I was looking around my new school. I was a new student there and I didn't know anyone. I felt a bit uncomfortable, when I noticed a pair of sparkling blue eyes looking at me. I smiled and went to say hello. So that was Ellie, my new classmate!

Ellie is of average height, neither fat nor thin. Her round, clear face and her beautiful blue eyes show how friendly she is. She has rosy cheeks which blush whenever she is embarrassed. She also has a small nose and thick eyebrows. She always wears trendy clothes which make her look younger than she is.

As for her personality, Ellie's most striking characteristic is her friendliness and her sense of humor. She always likes telling jokes. Her whole body shakes with laughter whenever she says or she finds something funny. In addition to being good-natured and polite, Ellie is patient and trustworthy as well. She always listens to others and everyone trusts her, as she is able to keep secrets. There are times, though, when she can be naughty and fussy.

All in all, Ellie is the perfect classmate! I admire and respect her. I will never forget her and I'm sure I will have unforgettable memories of her when I grow up!

Myrto Salteri AS-3

A Person I Admire

Can you imagine an older sister who is also your role model and best friend? Well, that's the kind of sister I have and have grown up with ever since I was born. Her name is Helen.

Besides Helen's unattractive dark skin, she has one of the most beautiful, pleasant smiles the world has ever seen. Furthermore, her big, blue, lively eyes and especially her bright, fair hair make her stand out in the crowd. Although she is usually well-dressed because of the variety of school events she goes to, she has old-fashioned clothes that make her look ten years older than she actually is.

It is Helen's character that makes her memorable to every person she meets. To start with, she's full of kindness and honesty. In fact, she was voted the kindest person in school and her name was in the newspaper. In addition, she's extremely helpful, as she's willing to help with every problem I encounter, and is also smart because she finds the perfect solution for me. Helen is fairly tidy and has a really creative imagination that makes her the best storyteller I know. Additionally, she's a great listener, trustworthy and kind-hearted as she always cares about people who are suffering and does everything she can to help them. Lastly, she's self-conscious as well as patient because she never gets annoyed with repeating something to me that I haven't understood at all.

I always look up to Helen as she combines characteristics I wish I had. Thus, she's not only my sister, but also my role model and most importantly my best friend.

Celia Tzermia AE-12



Racism

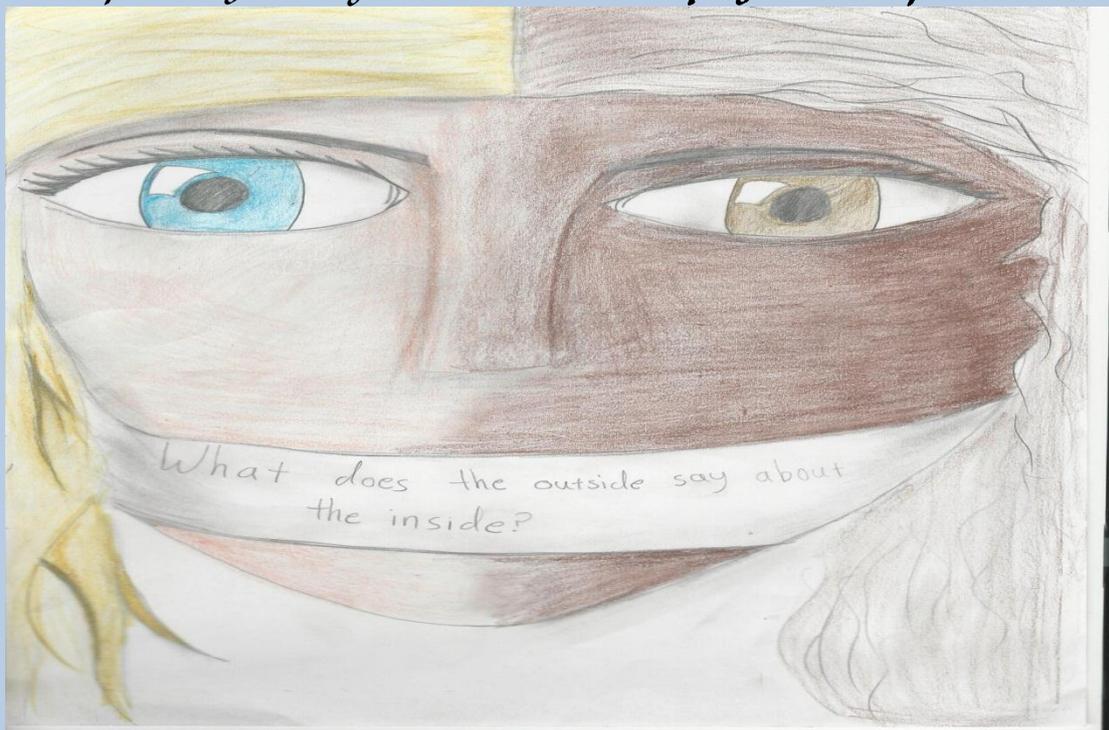
*Racism is a prevalent theme in *To Kill a Mockingbird* which caused Tom Robinson's life. Racism is a very big issue in every society. But, are there any ways we can fight racism? The answer is yes.*

First of all, racism is a behavior connected with taking advantage of vulnerable people. In my opinion, the best way to fight racism is to stand up for your beliefs. Racism's victims should stand up for themselves. Victims should organize campaigns and take action. Racism is an action based on difference. Racist people believe that being different is something bad. In contrast, it is not like that and people should start believing in the uniqueness of each individual. Also, people should treat others with respect because they would also like to be treated nicely. Racist people should put themselves in the other person's position and understand how he feels. In addition, people should understand that they shouldn't take advantage of others in 'inferior' positions. In every society of today's world there is equality, but people don't respect it and insult each other.

There are other ways of fighting racism as well. Firstly, people who are being discriminated against should show their feelings. In that way, racist people will become sensitive and they will most likely stop. Secondly, if racism happens in school, it would be good for the student to tell the principal or his parents about it. They will definitely help and give them advice. Finally, another way to fight racism is by asking the other person why he is enforcing it. If you ask, then racist people may realize and feel bad about what they support and it is more likely that they will stop.

To sum up, I personally believe that racism is a very big problem every society faces. I hope I have helped with my suggestions and I hope that racism will stop existing someday.

George Diamantopoulos CE-12



Runaway Children

Running away from home has become a common phenomenon and more children decide to do it. It is more common in the United States since there is a belief that children should leave their houses when they've reached adulthood, so running away from home earlier does not seem so scary. But what are the reasons that cause children to run away from their houses? Are they serious or are they part of a teenage crisis?

There are many reasons that force children to leave their family. Firstly, their parents might put a lot of pressure on them to perform well at school or sports. This is a lot of pressure for the children and it might make them feel that their parents 'use' them to fulfill their own dreams and ambitions which they, themselves did not manage to achieve. Furthermore, children might be given a lot of responsibilities such as cleaning the house or taking care of a younger sibling, but to an extreme point. This exhausts them and makes them want to run away and start over. Moreover, they might not be given the right amount of attention. Their parents might be overprotective, treat them like children and have not trust in them, or they might be neglecting them and think that it is acceptable if they provide them with what they want. Children run away to get the attention or to make their parents realize that they can live on their own. Additionally, teenagers might want to escape from home to become independent, to be free and to experience how life is without limits.

However, there might be some more severe reasons that make children abandon their houses. Firstly, they might have different ideologies from their parents which can make them feel like they are forced to live their lives in a way different from the one they would choose. Furthermore, they might want to relieve their parents from the financial pressure they cause due to their needs. Moreover, they might be abused physically or verbally by their parents that can cause many psychological problems and difficulty in their ability to socialize. This also puts them in the dilemma whether they should turn their parents in or just escape from home. In addition to that, their parents might be using illegal substances which can cause peculiar behavior and sometimes can make them violent. Before leaving their houses they need to consider helping their parents by taking them to rehab.

To conclude, there is a variety of reasons why a child might abandon home; some more and some less serious. Running away from home is often the only choice a child has. Before escaping from their houses, teenagers need to consider whether it is worth it and whether it is truly the best choice for them and their family. Sometimes there are other ways they can follow to find a solution. They need to make sure that this is what they need and want because the pressure they feel might simply be a combination of anxiety and depression rather than their parents fault for their feeling this way.

Runaway Children

These days, many children decide to run away from home. Some of them need to do that, some of them see it like an opportunity, and some see it as a good and effective way to protest in order to get what they want. There are reasons of no great importance, like the need to feel independent, and those that are so serious that the police must be called in, as in the case of child abuse.

To start with, most teenagers feel the need to be independent and be able to make their own choices without adult supervision. In some families, parents are overprotective towards their children and constantly tell them what they have to do without giving their children the chance to refuse or to make a choice for themselves. Children, and especially teenagers, are in need of privacy. There are many parents and siblings who do not respect that and ask personal questions, look through their bags, and some do not even respect closed doors and barge into their rooms without even knocking. There are also children like Dill from *To Kill a Mockingbird* who run away from home because they are getting too little attention. Generally, being given too much or too little attention is a reason that some children run away from home. Parents should respect their children's personal space and they should not be over their heads all the time. For example, they should not pressure them about homework, athletics, etc., but motivate them and certainly not ignore them completely. Another reason children often escape from their home is the pressure and the stress that comes with many responsibilities. Many children are interested in sports. Some parents, who see that they are talented, pressure them to become even better and do not respect that they need time to rest. Being responsible for too many things is tiring and if their parents do not understand that, then at some

point children feel so stressed that in order to relax they are forced to run away. Moreover, some families have problems because of a bad divorce or because the parents are constantly fighting and yelling at each other. This can cause children to have a bad mood and to become aggressive, as well as develop a negative psychology. Finally, the noise caused from fights makes studying and relaxing difficult for the children, so some decide to escape from it all.

Despite all that, there are reasons to run away from home that require the police to be called in. The first reason is if parents abuse their children. Abuse is illegal in any form, physical or verbal. Physical is when parents hit their children, or, in rare cases, when they take advantage of them. Verbal abuse is when they yell at them a lot and when they swear at their children. Another reason to run away from home and call the police to arrest the parents is if they are alcoholics or do drugs. This is really serious because it means that the parents do not take good care of their children and are not responsible enough. It can lead to children being aggressive or feeling neglected. Both child abuse and substance abuse are serious crimes and the children who run away or any neighbors that notice such action, have to report it to the police.

To sum up, many children decide to run away from home because they feel under pressure, they feel they are getting too much or too little attention, they feel the need to be independent, they need privacy, or even because they want to escape from the tension at home. There are also severe reasons to run away which are connected with criminal actions such as physical or verbal abuse towards children and parental substance abuse.

Liarou Ioanna CS-3



This year our Grade 7 ESL class (AS11) read *Tuesday of the Other June*, a short story by Norma Fox Mazer.

It is the story of two girls, both named June. The protagonist is constantly bullied by her namesake, until she finally decides to stand up for herself and resist!

We read it and we had plenty of discussions on the problem of bullying, which has been one of the major issues among students.

I noticed that the students were motivated by the story and our discussions and I decided to ask them to write their own *Tuesday of the Other June* story.

They worked in three groups, they wrote the stories, which they later presented in class.

I am proudly presenting you.....

THE OTHER JUNE STORIES

by students of AS11

I hope you enjoy them as much as I have and you feel as proud of the young writers as I have!

Elina Raymondou, March 2014

The Day Everything Changed

The story takes place in an American state junior high school. It involves a boy with a low profile, named Philip and his arrogant classmate, Jessica. Philip is shy and sad because he has no mother and his father spends the day in his office leaving Philip at home all alone. That is why Philip is obliged to cycle home after school. On the way home he passes in front of Jessica's house. Of course Jessica always arrives home sooner than Philip because her mother drives her in a luxurious limousine, so she waits for him in order to torment him by making fun of him and pushing him off his bicycle.

One day, as Philip was cycling back home, Jessica waited for him near her father's new car with two girlfriends of hers. When she saw him she started laughing with the other girls. "Where is your father's car? Oh, wait I know... in the car scrap yard!", said Jessica laughing at him. He was so sad that he left his bicycle on the road and ran into his house. The next day, in class, Jessica threatened him and told him to cry and run to his daddy! Philip waited the whole school day to get back home but he had forgotten that Jessica was waiting for him.

As he was getting closer to his house Jessica, as usual, pushed him off the bike and started taking pictures of him crying in pain as he had fallen off. The next day everybody was mocking Philip and called him a cry baby. He was very sad and he wanted to change school but he knew he wouldn't because of his father's work. He had already realized that this was going to be the worst and most painful week of the school year.

While he was waiting for the beginning of his torture, he got a call from one of his classmates. He told him "Hey Philip! I am having a party tonight at my beach house and I was wondering if you

could come and bring a swimsuit because we are going to go swimming". Philip accepted the invitation with pleasure and went to buy a present, accompanied by his father. So at 7:30 they set off to the party and they were there at 8:15. Most of the other kids had already arrived so his classmate Jim told him to go and change to his swimsuit because they would soon go swimming at the sea.

Philip went into the bathroom to change but when he opened the door he saw Jessica. She was just sitting there looking at him. Philip was embarrassed and said, "Sorry I didn't knock. I will wait for you to finish", but Jessica just flew out of the room. When Philip took off his clothes and left them at a table right next to him, he realized that Jessica had stolen his swimsuit. Then suddenly a hand opened the door and grabbed his clothes! The only thing that was in there for Philip to wear was Jim's mother's bikini!

He didn't know what to do. The two choices were either to wait till the end of the party or to wear Jim's mother's bikini. He sat still for a few minutes in order to decide. He was thinking of Jessica pushing him off his bike and tormenting him and taking pictures of him when he was crying and calling him "cry baby". He was also trying to recite what his father had told him when he was younger. "Be brave, be brave, be brave. No one can hurt you. The only thing you have to do is to believe in yourself".

Finally, he decided to wear the bikini, go out and show everybody that he is brave and strong. In the beginning nobody received him well, but he remained strong. As the time went by, more popular boys and girls started talking to him and asking questions about his personality and hobbies. They thought that this outfit was a kind of fashion and some other boys did the same. Jessica had freaked out. Instead of laughing at him everyone was impressed by his look! Phillip became the soul of the party!!!

The next day at school, everyone wanted to be with Philip during the break. He became famous in one day. All his classmates wanted to be his friends. When the bell rang, Philip took his bike to leave but Jessica grabbed him from his arm and asked him if he wanted to come in her limousine. Philip was surprised with her offer, but he decided to leave the bad memories behind. A new friendship had just started...

George Beliotis
Marios Segas,
Stephanos Sinos,
Nikiphoros Tarkas

The Other Sherlock

"Oh, dear you know this isn't true. He didn't really mean it. Anyway, you are going to be late at school", said my mom and gave me my lunch.

The previous day I had met a student whose name was Sherlock. We had the same name. I had met him at the school's playground. He started bullying me when he asked me my name. He wanted to be special and he said that there must only be one guy with the name Sherlock. Then he told me that I had stolen his name and started hitting me, mocking me and calling me funny names. At the breaks he and his friends came close to me and he started accusing me of things that weren't true.

It was 9:25 and I was late for school. I got on the bus and I sat down next to my best friend Jonathan. He was the only one that didn't believe what Sherlock was saying. When we arrived at school, Sherlock came near us! He pushed me somewhere that no one could see me and started hitting me. He told me that if I told my teacher, he would bully me more. That was why I was late for class.

You know I am really good in volleyball too. I might be the best in school, so the City Club coach asked to have me in the professional volleyball club. I had to go there 4 times a week Monday, Tuesday, Friday and Saturday. It would be so awesome.

But it wasn't, because guess what! The other Sherlock was there too! The first day we went there, the teachers took roll and asked for our nicknames. It was my turn. My heart was beating so fast; I knew he would say something. And he did.

"What is your name boy?" "Sherlock".

What? He didn't say anything, but everyone started laughing. I didn't know why. While I was leaving he said, "That's right Mr. Useless at Volleyball". That's why everyone was laughing.

Red bushes climbed on my face and a whole waterfall fell off it. I just wanted to cry but not in front of him. He would think I was weak. Everyone was calling me Mr. Useless after that day. Every volleyball class was slower than an ice cube melting in the North Pole! I couldn't stand it.

The only way to get out of this was to prove the other children that I could play volleyball. In the following days I was training as hard as I could, in order to play well in the next game.

When the day of the match arrived, I was so anxious. My thoughts were: "What if I made a mistake???" I only played in the 3rd set and I scored 7 points. Although the coach congratulated me, the other children kept making fun of me. The other Sherlock bruised my eye... I couldn't handle it any more. I was wearing a patch on my eye, to hide the bruise.

The next day my mother told me that she had invited a friend of hers, who had a son in the same age, for dinner. The moment mom's friend David arrived, I just stood still, because the face of his son was very familiar to me, it was... the other Sherlock!!

It was the most awkward moment of my life. There was silence after that. I stood still like a baby who had lost his mom, wondering what will happen to me. When the other Sherlock saw me he waved at me with a smile creepier than the wolves' teeth. Then my mother said

"So should we go for dinner?"

"Of course Madam, we are going to have so much fun", said the other Sherlock.

After that we sat down to eat. The other Sherlock sat right next to me. He was always torturing me by pinching me and stepping on my foot. When the time came for them to go a big weight just got out of me. Before the other Sherlock left he said to me, "Don't smile, because I will be there today, tomorrow, the other day, and the other day, and the next day and the next and the next and the next". Without thinking much I said in a frightened voice, "Oh yeah?"

"Really?, said the other Sherlock.

That night I said to myself as I closed the door of my room angrily, "No.....no! I will not be your victim Sherlock ". I hit my red door so angrily that it almost broke.

The next day I was very worried about Sherlock showing up but he didn't.

One of my teammates was having a pool party. I was so sad. I almost cried until he approached me and said:

"Hey Sherlock! Don't tell the other Sherlock, but I think you are great in volleyball and I really want you to come to my party."



"Really? Are you sure?"

"Yeah. It is on Sunday at 7 o'clock. I hope to see you there."

That moment was the greatest in miserable life. Later, at the party the other Sherlock saw me. He said to his friends that I was useless at everything and I had the guts of a chicken. I couldn't stand it so I went close and fast as a ninja and said,

"So, I don't dare do anything, right?"

"That's right."

"Ok then, fine. I'll prove you wrong."

"Oh, now we're talking, huh? I dare you to jump into the pool.....FROM THE ROOF!" said the other Sherlock.

Without thinking I accepted his challenge and I headed to the roof. As I was walking to the roof I was praying to God to save me. When I was up there I remembered what my dad had told me before he left this world.

"My son, the world isn't a good place. Many challenges will come up and you will have to face them. The brain is your weapon so use it".

Then, I nodded to Jonathan and he pushed the other Sherlock into the pool. I closed my eyes and I started leaning forward. Seconds later there was a huge splash! It sounded like a fat man had fallen into the water. When I opened my eyes I saw Sherlock in the pool, mocking.

"Ha-ha! You missed me!"

"I wasn't going for you", I said.

Then Sherlock went out of the pool and everybody started laughing at him because as his swimming trunks had dropped, everybody could see his Dora the Explorer underwear!

Sherlock laughed with the underwear incident, too. Eventually we became really good friends.

After that everybody started hanging out with me and I was happy ever since. As I became popular a big smile appeared on my face.

Phoevos Papanikolaou,
Jason Philippou,
Dimitris Rellos,
Nick Vernardakis

The Boy and the Girl with the Same Name

"Be good, be good" said my parents to me. They told me that they're sending me to the language school so that I could improve.

I'm Nick and I hope to meet new friends...How nice! There are a lot of kids and I'm going to make new friends. When I saw a girl in my age and I went to speak to her.

"Hi! What's your name?"

"My name is Nicky, what's yours?"

"Mine is Nick. Wow, we have almost the same name."

"NO! We don't, your name from now on it is NERDLOSER."

"No it's not!"

The next day and from then on she was calling me NERDLOSER. I would see her every day except weekends and she would call me NERDLOSER. She would keep bothering me, annoying me, hitting me and pinching me. Every weekend I would anticipate for Friday so that the next day I wouldn't have to see her...

Once again I was face to face with her. I couldn't stand her anymore! Before I left from the language school she told me that she had become fed up calling me NERDLOSER so she changed the name into PIGNUTS. She looked like she was enjoying it. When I returned home, I thought about the whole situation... the first thing that I did

was to ask advice from my parents. Unfortunately it wasn't very helpful. All they said was to ignore her and move on. I thought they exaggerated a bit because they didn't even know the whole story. However, I decided to take the initiative to clear things out. When the next day came and I went to the language school, Nicky said that she had a surprise for me. While I was walking down the corridor, all the kids started calling me offensive names. I freaked out, turned around and ran as fast as my feet would take me back home.

When I got back home, I ran up the stairs to my room and started crying. I don't think anything worst could happen to me. But I was wrong...

That evening, when my mother came back home she told me that she didn't like me staying home in the summer so she had decided that I would go to summer camp. I didn't really like it. All I wanted to do was stay home, alone, protected from everyone and Nicky.

Nicky would still call me PIGNUTS, pinch me and mock me in front of everyone. I was relieved when I found out that I wasn't going to take the summer classes in the language school.

The days passed peacefully and everything finally turned out fine! No more language school and most important, no more Nicky! The day I was going to summer camp came pretty fast. I hadn't even realized that I was already packing my things.

The next morning I was leaving for camp! I was really excited. I had almost forgotten about what had happened to me at the language school. No more Nicky, no more NERDLOSER, no more PIGNUTS. The bus from my camp just arrived. When I got in, I realized what I had just seen! It was Nicky! And she was sitting in front of me... The bus just left and I couldn't leave now. I was stuck in a camp bus with Nicky and, what is even worse, I would be with her the next 20 days. I was sure that she would keep calling me names, bothering me, hitting me, annoying me and pinching me. I wanted to return home and stay there forever. But I couldn't do anything now...

When we arrived, she saw me. "Aww look who's here! PIGNUTS!" She said and I started crying. I didn't want the next days to be the same. I needed to find a way to stop her.

The first day at the camp ended, and it was by far the worst day of my life. All the children were calling me NERDLOSER and PIGNUTS. They were hitting me, mocking me, pinching me and making me cry.

When the next day came, I woke up and I saw my mom outside my tent. I couldn't believe it! I asked her what had happened and she

told me that my father had found a new job in America and that we had to move there. I felt relief. My mom told me that I had to pack my things.

I went to my tent with a very big smile on my face. I kept telling myself... “No more bullying! No more NERDLOSER and PIGNUTS! But most important, no more NICKY!”

I packed my things, and before leaving, I walked towards Nicky. All I said was “Goodbye”. She took a silly face and said, “Goodbye...Nerdloser!”

I went to my mom, got in to the car and left. I looked out of the window and I saw Nicky waving at me. All the bullying had ended. It was all over and I was ready for a new beginning!

Tereza Boudiokou
Thalia Philipopoulou
Christina Skourogianni
Erifili Soroga
Fotini Tsitsirigou



“A Christmas Memory”

It's another dark, rainy day in London. In only a few days, on the 24th of December, little Zoe will turn 4. Her main thought though, is Christmas. I am really looking forward to giving her the little doll I got her. Not a major toy, but she wanted it and has been asking for it for over a month. I, on the other hand, am very excited for the New Year. 1995 will be my year and I know it, even though I will be passing its first 15 days here. My aunt and uncle always welcome me during the holiday period.



I love listening, while Zoe rambles about Santa and his elves that will make her toys. “Do you think Santa will bring me my dollie?” she asks, her eyes filled with hope. “Did you ask for it?” I answer with a question. “Of course I did! It was the first toy I asked for!” I am not impressed. The evening is very quiet, a rather strange thing with Zoe around.

The next morning, I find my aunt and uncle sitting at the kitchen table waiting for me. They are staring at me, while I cross the hallway. “What

are you guys up to?” I must looked terrified. That's mainly because the last time they looked at me like that, it was for no good. “We need your help to surprise Zoe for Christmas”, my uncle says with a crooked smile on his face. I know what he has in mind. The family tradition that, since I grew up, has haunted me until today. Basically, it's a dress-up game. My uncle dresses up as Santa and I have the honor of being... an elf. “This has to stop” I whine. “Come on darling. It's going to be fun!” my aunt says. There's not much I can do or say. I agree to do it, mainly in order to get it over with.

That evening my uncle drives me to “Harry's Christmas shop” to buy our costumes. I don't know why he buys a new costume every year, since the old ones are sitting in the attic. He is welcomed by Harry, the shop owner, and he quickly picks both of our costumes. Mine is simply hideous, but better than the one from last year. I accept it with a sigh and after he pays, we drive back home.

The days pass and it's finally Christmas morning. My aunt wakes me up at 9:00 am, in order to get ready before Zoe wakes up at 10:00. Like I need an hour for that! I find my uncle ready in his Santa suit. I chuckle and he hands me my elf costume. I go into my room to get ready and then we both wait for Zoe to wake up, while hidden in the closet. When she wakes up, my aunt gets her to sit on the couch and it's our time to shine. My uncle hands me two of Zoe's presents and counts to three. “MERRY CHRISTMAS!” We both shout as we come out. Zoe jumps and hugs her dad, well, Santa. He lifts

her in the air and we give her all the presents.

I was a bit grumpy, but when I saw the happiness and joy in Zoe's eyes, while she opened the presents, I immediately forgot the fact that I was dressed as a little green

creature. I got happier and happier and, when she opened the last gift, my gift, she hugged the doll and started to jump around singing. I should probably rethink this tradition. It is not that bad after all.

Irini Vouzaki-BN1

Horror

I woke up and found him right on top of me. It was the man who had been following me for the past couple of days. That was definitely him; I recognized his light blue vulture eyes. His face was five inches away from mine. I could smell his bad breath and hear him breathe. I was terrorized. I screamed immediately as he came to my sight and my brother rushed into my room switching the lights on. I had just woken up so my eyes were not used to the light yet. By the time I could see clearly, the man had disappeared in thin air. Where did he go? Even though I explained everything to my brother, he thought that I was completely insane but that wasn't true. I knew exactly what had happened.



My parents were out of town so my brother and I were all alone for the weekend. My brother had planned to sleep over his best friend's house. I didn't want to stay by myself after what had happened. Therefore, I begged him not to go, but he wouldn't listen. He left and I wanted to get out of the house. I locked all the windows and the front door and went out with some friends. While I was walking, I got a glimpse of a dark shadow behind me but didn't pay much attention.

When I went back home, I saw my bedroom's window open and the curtains wavering from the wind. I knew something was wrong. I opened the garden's door and ran to the front door. It took me by surprise seeing it wide – wide – open. Someone had been there; it was obvious. I entered the house, switched all the lights on and checked every single room for anything unusual. All the doors and windows were locked exactly as I had left them, except from the front door and my bedroom's window.

When I entered my room I saw him -the dark figure stalking my every move standing still in front of my bed as if he was waiting for something. I didn't have the nerve to make a single move, so there we were standing one opposite the other. I could feel my heart beating faster and faster, louder and louder. I thought it would burst so I took a deep breath and tried to run away. I went in my parents' room, locked the door, grabbed the phone and called the police. While it was ringing I was able to hear an eerie sound from behind the door; he was trying to unlock it. When the police answered, I told them everything, and they tried to calm me down but their effort was useless. The idea of a stranger stalking me for the past week, being inside my house, and listening to my phone conversations was unbearable.

The police ensured me that they will be there in five minutes and advised me to stay locked up. I followed their advice and hung up the phone. Then the stalker started pushing the door and tried to break it down in order to get in. The police arrived but those five minutes seemed like an eternity.

The police officers searched the house, and found the stalker hiding in the basement. He was finally caught and I was safe. But the fright of this experience will hunt me for the rest of my life.

Prousanidou Paraskevi-Maria CS-4

Laundry Day

It was early in the afternoon and I was at home waiting for my friends. We had arranged to watch a film on my home cinema. On the ring of the bell, I heard my mum calling me from upstairs.

- Could you do the laundry for me, honey? I'm running late for a business meeting.

Suddenly, my enthusiasm turned into despair. I showed my friends the way to the attic with an awkward smile on my face and rushed to my mum's bedroom.

- Mum, my friends have just arrived for a film. I should act like a proper host and make them feel welcome.

- I'm sorry honey, but it's a matter of setting priorities. Offer your friends a snack and take care of the laundry. Hopefully, it won't take long.

In vain I tried to explain to her how ridiculous that would make me look. Mum would not accept any of my excuses, and I was left with the laundry.

Seconds later, I found myself desperately knocking on my brother's bedroom door asking for help.

- Let me remind you, said my brother, that I'm grounded for bleaching our colored clothes. Sorry!

I was urgently in need of help. While still in my brother's room, I caught a glimpse of a photo. It was a photo of Jonas, our neighbor and good friend. Then it dawned on me. I could ask Jonas to help me. I picked up the phone and dialed his home number. To my bitter disappointment, he had already made plans for the afternoon but offered to come and spend a few minutes with my friends. My friends! They had been waiting for the past quarter of an hour. I ran to the attic only to find that they were not there.

Suddenly, I heard voices from downstairs. My friends were in the kitchen, obviously looking for something to eat and drink. When the doorbell rang, they were the ones to open the door and started chatting to Jonas. I quickly started loading the washing machine, hoping that my friends would not notice.

It took me an hour to finish, but I was finally ready to watch the film with my friends. I walked down the stairs only to notice that my friends were getting ready to leave.

- What about the film? I asked.

- It's time for us to go home! they said and left in a matter of seconds.

I was speechless, but at least I got the laundry done!

Stamatis Petropoulos CS-11

The Three Children's Adventure



Once upon a time, there were three children, Angelica, George and Mary, who lived with their parents in London. Their family was very poor and their parents were forcing them to go and

beg for money on the street. For that reason, they decided to leave home and look for a better life.

They planned it very well and at exactly 12 o'clock at night, they left. They started wandering in small roads until they found a wooden house, which was good enough for them to live in, so they decided to stay there. They found food and water in a forest nearby.

They were having a good time. Until they heard their father, who was really mean, shouting their names. They were afraid of him and they didn't want him to find them so they hid in the house. As Angelica was running to hide, she made a loud noise, so he went into the house. He saw George's head appear behind a chair. He reached him, grabbed him from his hair and started pulling him outside. George was determined to win this battle, so he kicked and did everything in his power to survive. The two girls were sitting and watching them full of fear, unable to do anything.

George was almost ready to faint when the three children saw a kind man coming out of the forest. He had heard the noise and had come to help them. When he saw the father, he grabbed a stick and hit him on the head. The man fell on the floor so George managed to free himself.

The strange man told the children that his name was Mr. Bertram and wanted to know something about their lives. When he heard their story, he immediately wanted them to come and live with him and his wife. They agreed, so they went to a big beautiful house and met his wife, a cheerful and very kind woman. She welcomed them and offered to be like a mother to them. After that, they stayed there and lived happily ever after!

Chara Zacharaki AN9

Travelling in the future...!

Three children decide to travel in the future and see what their life will be like. George, who was the smartest of the three, was able to create a time machine for the three of them to travel. Maria and Suzanne were best friends, not really smart but funny and good friends. Maria, Suzanne and George decided to travel to year 2056.

The next day, the time machine was ready. They got in and pressed a button. It was a short trip and when they arrived, they found themselves in a garage. There was a staircase. They went up the stairs and realized that they were in a

large office building... The three children begin to look around and finally see their other selves on the third floor working really hard. They see themselves unhappy and having no time for fun. They seem so busy in the future and so stressed.... The children don't like that, especially the two girls.



“Maybe growing up is not as fun. Maybe school might be better than work in the future,” they are thinking.

They didn’t want to stay any more so they went downstairs and found the time machine. George, Suzanne and Maria went in and

soon.... they were home again, trying to have fun, being children!! They had no idea how it is to be a grown-up.

Perhaps being a grown-up isn’t as exciting after all.

Melina Kertsikoff AN9

A NIGHT IN THE MUSEUM

It was three o’clock in the morning when the phone rang and woke Mr. Smith up. It was his turn to guard the museum that night. It had been a very long and exhausting day reminding children, who had come on a school trip, not to touch the exhibits, and as nothing exciting had happened until then, he fell asleep in his office. When he answered the phone, he heard the head of security’s loud voice asking him whether something important had happened to make the alarm go off. The guard realized that it must have gone off while he was asleep and decided to go and have a look around.

Mr. Smith took his torch with him to examine the area. After having searched the whole museum, he decided to return to his office. On his way back, he heard a strange noise and turned around but saw nothing. He must have imagined it. He had nearly arrived at his office, when he was sure, he heard footsteps. He turned around and saw a shadow running towards the exit. He chased it, but when he turned around the corner, there was nothing to be seen.

He called the police, who were there in no time, to investigate. They had a thorough look around but found nothing was missing. They looked around for fingerprints or any clues leading to the identity of the intruder, but found absolutely nothing. Mr. Smith considered himself lucky as nothing had been stolen while he was on duty.



Maria Angelika-Nikita AN9



The Discovery

This story is about a 12 year old girl named Susanne. She is very lonely and so she finds a way to have some fun by diving. One day she finds a “treasure” that hides a lot of secrets . . .

Susanne lives in a house near the sea, in Hawaii, in Honolulu. After a bad day at school, she goes diving in the afternoon.

Before she dives into the sea, she hears two people talking about a treasure that would give a lot of happiness to the person who finds it. From that day on, Susanne sets her sights on finding the treasure. First, she looks in the school library, then in the local library and last, in the library she has at home. There, in a dusty old book, she finds what she is looking for, “ The Mystery of the Underwater Town”.

“ It was once said that a beautiful queen ruled a magical town. One day, though, she became very ill. The citizens tried to help her but she died just as they had made the elixir of life. From that day on, they drank the elixir until their next queen could be found.”

Susanne immediately grabs a map and decides to start looking for the lost town the next day, after skipping school. The first time she dives, she uses the equipment she has at home. Then, she realizes that it is too deep. So, she borrows equipment from an old man near the sea. After searching for a long time, she sees

a glow of light in the water underneath her. “What’s that?” she keeps asking herself over and over.

Out of curiosity, she decides to swim deeper. The glow of light grows bigger and bigger. Suddenly, a huge serpent appears in front of her, ready to gobble her up.

Just before the serpent’s sharp teeth tear into Susanne, the old man who had followed her, saves her and brings her to the seashore. There, he explains that he is a citizen of the underwater city and now his job is to protect the town and the new queen. Susanne has a question mark in her mind. “Why would you tell me stuff like that?” she asks.

“I’m telling you this because you are the new queen we’ve been looking for, for so long.”

From that day on, Susanne isn’t lonely. She visits the town when she can. It doesn’t matter that she can’t breathe under water. She has limited time and that is what makes her each visit so special.

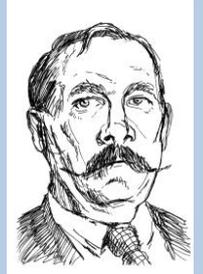
Maria - Elisav et Papavasiliou AN9





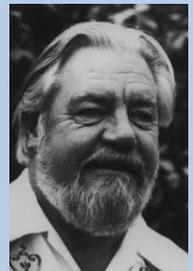
Authors, Authors, Authors

Who is Who?



Shakespeare- 'Macbeth'

Agatha Christie- 'Poirot'



Ian Fleming- 'James Bond'

JK Rowling- 'Harry Potter'

Oscar Wilde- 'The Centerville Ghost'



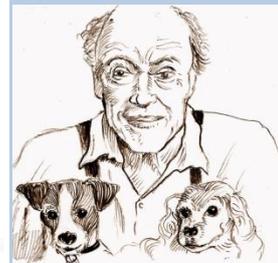
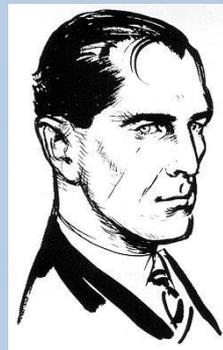
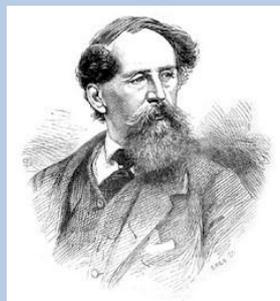
Hg Wells- 'The Invisible Man'

Gerald Durrell- 'My Family and Other Animals'



Arthur Conan Doyle- 'Sherlock Holmes'

Roald Dahl- 'Matilda'



by ARISTIDES FRAGAKIS for the Literary Travel Club

Did You Know That

William Shakespeare, the famous British author, has written the play “*The Merry Wives of Windsor*”? As the title indicates it takes place in Windsor, a town in the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead in Berkshire, England. Shakespeare was inspired there and most people of his time have walked the town’s streets, near the castle and river, much as people still do. The play may have been written in the Garter Inn, although this was certainly not part of the modern Harte and Garter Hotel opposite the castle of Windsor. So, when you travel to England don’t forget to visit!

-Anagnostou Vivian for the *Literary Travel Club*

Shakespeare died because of a fever that was very common during his century and that he had asked people to write the following words on his grave:

*Good frend for less sake forbeare,
To dig the dvst enclosed heare.*

Bleste be ye man yt spares the stones,

And curst be he yt moves my bones.

If you ever visit Stratford-Upon-Avon, you should visit Shakespeare's grave in order to see it from a close distance.

-Fragopoulos Stefanos for the *Literary Travel Club*

Did You Know That

Lots of people know about Roald Dahl but most of them do not know where he was born and where they can see details about his work. A place that people can visit to learn more about him is "The Roald Dahl Museum and Story Center" which is located in Great Missenden the town where he was born in England. There visitors can see parts of his work and children can participate in many activities. If you visit on a sunny day, why not take the Village Trial? Roald Dahl wrote for over thirty years and he often found inspiration and wrote his successful stories that everybody

knows in places and things you will see on High Street in Great Missenden.

-Zoitou Asimina for the *Literary Travel Club*

What you may not know about JK Rowling is that:

- JK Rowling and Harry Potter share the same birthday, July 31.
- The least financially successful Harry Potter film made \$90 million more than the most successful Twilight movie!
- Over the course of the Harry Potter movies, 6 actors have played Voldemort.
- JK Rowling is the first person to become a billionaire by writing books.

-Meleti Eleni for the *Literary Travel Club*



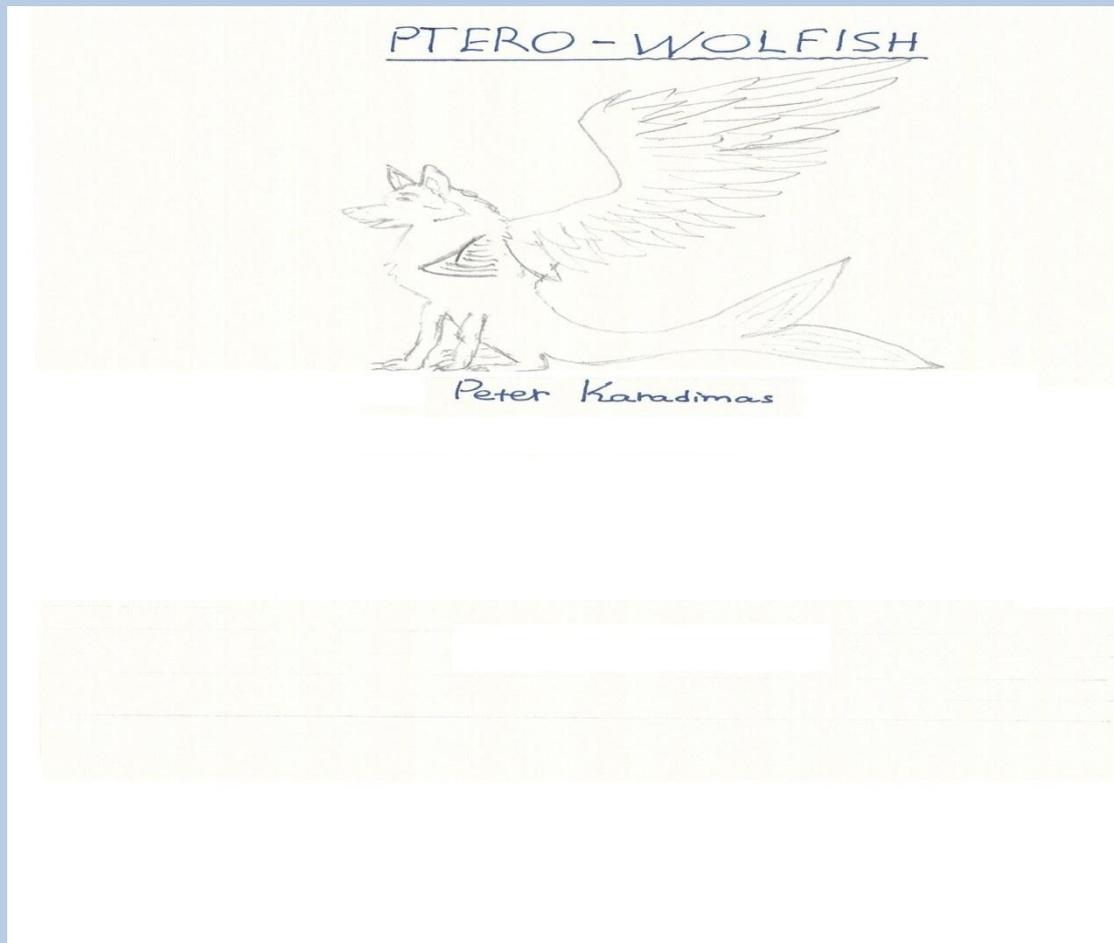


My Perfect Animal: SUGARFLY

My perfect animal would be called 'sugarfly'. It looks like a butterfly but it can also sing, dance and do my homework! If such an animal existed it would have big, bright yellow eyes and big ears. It would be blue, purple, and red. It could become so tiny small to get in my pocket. It would be the perfect animal because, as I said, it would always do my homework! It could even hear all the gossips, and it would come in my class and tell me all the answers for the test and nobody would see it. And, of course, it would be perfect for a party, because it is colorful!



Ptero-Wolfish



Pterowolfish is a wolf with wings, gills, and a fish tail. Its name comes from 'ptero-' which means that it can fly, 'wolf-' means that it belongs to the family of wolves, so it is strong and clever, and from 'fish-' which means that it has the skills of a fish and can breathe under the water and swim very fast. I love this animal because I think that it can live in all ecosystems and it can also beat all his enemies in a battle. I also think that if you domesticate and train it, it can be your personal pet and the best guard ever

Peter Karadimas AE-13

Dragondog

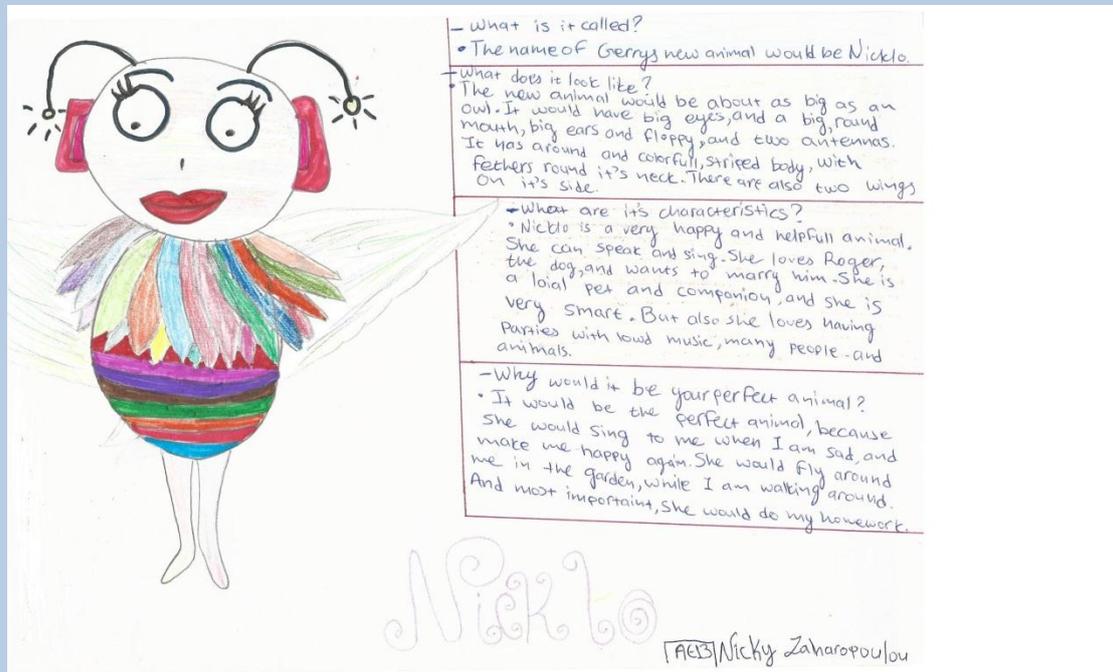
In my imagination my perfect animal is called "The Dragondog". As you understand by the name it is a dragon and dog hybrid. The head and the body are from a husky with ice-blue eyes and a white thick fur. It has a tail and nails just like a dragon as well as two big wings, which when unfold are three meters wide each. It is as big as a horse and I can easily ride him. I really like it when I am on

top of his back on its warm thick fur and fly high up in the sky. I also like it when he shoots flames out of his mouth and I can actually bake my marshmallows. He is such a very loyal and good friend!

Jerry Kazantzis AE-13



Gerry's New Animal



(from *My Family and Other Animals*)

WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE

Gerry's new animal would be called Nicklo. This new animal would be about as big as an owl. It would have big expressive eyes, and a big, round mouth. Also, huge ears and floppy, and two antennas. It has a round and colorful body with feathers round its neck. There are also two wings on either side.

WHAT ARE ITS CHARACTERISTICS

Nicklo is a very happy and helpful animal. She can speak human language and sing beautifully. She loves Roger, Gerry's dog, and actually wants to marry him. She is a loyal friend and a great companion. By the way, she is also extremely intelligent. Finally, she loves having parties with loud music and always invites many people and animals.

WHY THIS IS THE PERFECT ANIMAL

It would be the perfect animal for Gerry because she would sing to him when he is sad and make him happy again. She would fly around the garden while Gerry is trekking trying to find insects. And most importantly she would do his homework because he hates school !

Zaharopoulou, Nicky AE13

Rhymes and Verses

WHATIF

What if I had three ears
What if I had no tears
What if the sun was blue
What if my pants had glue
what if my hands were red

what if I went to hell
"cause it's a hiiiiihgway to hell"
what if I couldn't eat
what if I got a hit
That's all I got
And if you don't like it
oh gosh that doesn't make a rhyme
Max Bolotas AS-3

WHATIF

Last night while I lay thinking here some
whatifs crawled inside my ear
and pranced and partied all night long
and sang their old whatif song
what if I never have the feeling I am safe
and sound
what if my features function only when I
frown
what if I always arrive late one hour
what if I stop singing in the shower
what if butter doesn't stand by my side
what if I get locked outside
what if hear a mockinjay sing

what if cooking becomes my thing
what if I get divorced from a king
what if I lose my diamond ring



what if I learn to swing
what if I learn how to voodoo

what if I encounter Scooby-doo
 what if I come in like a wrecking ball
 what if I find headless my fat Cindy-doll
 what if T.V. Shows stop being amusing
 what if someone uses the toothbrush I am
 using
 what if I become a stoker
 what if I get obsessed over poker
 what if I put on lipstick like joker
 what if stop functioning right
 what if my teeth fall of and I can't bite
 what if trespassers try to train
 what if the blood turns green in my main
 vein
 what if I always win
 what if I realize I am a drama queen
 what if get addicted to ice-cream
 what if I drift away from a stream
 what if live in a constant dream

what if I always linger
 what if someone cuts of my middle finger
 what if I never learn to put on make-up
 what if I brake my favorite May cup
 what if get inside a video game
 what if my character is the most lame
 what if I never watch "fame"
 what if my sister kills my dog
 what if she kills you too
 what if my thoughts turn to a permanent
 fog
 what if I get a tattoo
 what if finally Silvester eats Twitty
 what if my boyfriend isn't pretty
 everything seems well and then
 the nighttime Whatifs strike again

Argyro Hadjieleftheriadou AS-3

ACROSTIC

S for students to sail through their finals, study,
scream at laughter and be safe after.

C for correct choice in a loud voice, use the chalk
and don't talk.

H for homework, like we don't have enough classwork
and why we do history is a real mystery.

O for observe or get what I deserve, organize my time
well or miss the bell.

O for Orthography, followed by Geography when can I
object to a particular subject.

L for the labour to be on good behaviour, and hope
that the lessons will someday be lesser.

Andrew Michail AS-3

Black and Blue

The first time I saw you
the sky was black and blue



The second time the rain came
as I waited for you in vain
When I saw you again at last
my memories away they flashed

Aris Gryllis AS-10

My song with rap lyrics

Hey, hey

I am, powerful,
That is true, hopefully,
This is who I should be,
And yeah, that's all, true to me,
I believe my thoughts,
And everything I say,
And I don't change my opinion,
five times per day,
hey, hey, why don't,
I know you won't,
But every time,

I try to lose my mind,
I never get the chance to forget you
babe,
Hey, hey, hey, hey
I gotta say some lyrics,
Though they might not count,
All this thought is physics,
Do I offend or not?
Where I was found,
There's no thing such as "fan"
Imma* tell ya* something,
You gotta* hear me out,

Yeah, that counts to the mind,
But some appreciation might be difficult
to find,
That also counts to behind,
It's right there man, are ya blind?
Day per day,

I do my pay,
My play,
Hey, hey,
Yey, yey, *
That was my word,
I don't want any award.

George Anastasiou AS10

MORE POETRY...!

THIS POEM RHYMES

WHICH SIGNIFIES THAT I PERHAPS DID MY WORK CORRECTLY

I'M GOING TO ADDRESS THIS DIRECTLY

I MAY HAVE DONE IT WRONG

BECAUSE IT SOUNDS LIKE A SONG

BUT I DESERVE A CHANCE

SO PLEASE GIVE IT A GLANCE

YOU CAN CALL IT A TRAP

BECAUSE IT MAY DISTRACT

YOU FROM YOUR WORK FLOW

THERE IS NO MORE TO SAY

SO THIS IS THE END

PLEASE DON'T GIVE ME A 10!

Chris Mentis AS-10



Alice Valioli

Grade 7

Short Story

*Winner of the Rachel Carson Award for the Glorification of
Nature*

It was spring. The white snow and the dark, cold weather were gradually giving their place to the warm sun and the green grass. Multi-colored flowers—red, yellow, pink, blue, turquoise, even white—were growing everywhere. The birds were singing their song in every tree, and the animals were waking up from hibernation. But there was a spot of sadness in this happy picture, on pigeon's face. It was sitting on a church's roof, staring at the infinite blue sky. Its pair was a swallow, a migrating bird which flew over the countries to warm places, so the two could meet only in the spring. That didn't matter, because their love was so strong that they couldn't forget each other.

In the beginning of spring, the pigeon was waiting, full of happiness, for the swallow to arrive. But it didn't come. The pigeon thought that the swallow forgot it, and it got sad. Usually, it asked itself, "Why? Why did the swallow forget me? Did it really love me?"

While the pigeon was thinking all of this, another swallow saw it on the church and said to it, "Hey there! Why are you sad? It's spring! Be happy!"

But the other swallow looked closer at the pigeon's face. It was near to tears. The other swallow asked, "What happened?"

The pigeon answered: "My partner, a swallow, didn't come. Probably it left me."

The swallow replied, "It didn't. I know what happened. While we were coming here, we saw a factory. It was next to the sea, polluting it. Some swallows died from breathing the poisonous smoke that came from the factory, and some survived. Your partner died of the smoke."

It continued, "I'm sorry for your loss."

The pigeon said: "I want to die."

Pigeons have only one partner in their lives. If their partner dies, they will be alone forever. They will be sad, of course, as well.

The swallow said: "Maybe you loved your pair, but you won't achieve anything by dying. You can't ruin your life because of this." The other swallow flew off.

The pigeon couldn't sleep that night. It was thinking of what the swallow had said. The next morning it got up for a walk. It looked around. Everything was wonderful.

It thought of the time it met the swallow. They met in a place covered with flowers. By the time they saw each other, they knew they were in love.

Every year when the swallow was leaving to go to warmer places, the pigeon pretended that it didn't matter much, but when it got home alone it wanted to cry. But, it had known it would see the swallow again. Now... now the swallow would never return. They would meet again only in Paradise.

But, the other swallow was right. The pigeon couldn't waste its life for that. Life is an important thing. You can live only once. The pigeon looked at the flowers, the butterflies and bees flying around... And it thought how nice the spring is...

The pigeon met the swallow again in Heaven, and they stayed together forever. The pigeon took care of having fun before it died. It made friends, and was really happy with them. It continued its life. It was with its friends, and died at a very old age.

But one thing still got it mad... the factories and the humans that didn't care about the animals that died because of them.

Eva Antonelou-Gialleli

Grade 8

Winner of the Martin Luther King Prize for a Call for Social Change

Dear Diary,

I guess I wonder a lot.

No, scratch that.

I guess I ask a lot of questions about things that I'll never get an answer to. Yes, that is a better way to put it. I ask a whole bunch of questions and end up bothering people who I cannot blame because it's not their job to answer; it's my job to find the truth myself. And then, I ask myself: are my questions that hard to answer?

To answer the previous question: no. Personally, I don't think people are illiterate and incapable of answering. They just choose not to whenever it seems convenient for them. I feel like I've rambled a lot at this point so I'm just going to get straight into it and not tire you with my thoughts—although that's what you're here for, right?

Spring is practically the "renaissance" of nature after a cold, plain, and deadly winter. It's the season where everything blooms; thousands of colorful flowers marvelously slowly covering the fresh-grown grass, insects gracefully dancing on the ground, gathering food crumbs in an inaudible music-filled dance. Animals mating here and there, creating families and friendships with their fur-covered partners. Everything blooms, except people.

I am not judging anyone at the moment, not all people, at least. But even after so many thousands of years of evolution and miracles, there are still people whose minds are locked up in a cage. But not a cage with a bird inside, with a bird that wants to open its wings and fly; no. Their minds are similar to empty cages that stand rigid in abandoned zoos, prepared for the moment that dust will swallow them whole.

Can you believe it? Can you imagine that there are still people in this world we live in that have not yet learned to accept the different? Who do not even acknowledge why Martin Luther King, Jr. was shot? Who have not yet grasped the essence of Princess Diana's ideology? It's 2014 and there are still people who discriminate against others just because they're different. It's sad.

Dear Diary,

Surprisingly enough, I am not talking about men in underdeveloped countries who kill women just because of their need for freedom. Those people never really had a chance to be educated and change their minds. I am, though, talking about us, the people of modern society, the children that in a few years will have to carry the last generation's faults on their shoulders. The people who do not choose to bloom.

Why can't people accept difference? Of course, it sounds unacceptable to me, because I grew up in a family where I could freely form my own opinions without anyone influencing me or forcing me to think differently. And it's difficult for me to put myself in someone else's shoes, to imagine, for example, being a boy in a traditional family in Greece that has learned that it is forbidden to love men. I tell myself: sometimes men love women, sometimes men love men, sometimes women love men, and sometimes women love women, but underneath, it's all about love, isn't it? Why then do we restrictively forbid love that is "not normal?"

Our society has decided already what's normal and what's abnormal, when really, that's what stops people from blooming like flowers. For example, why is it strange when people dye their hair blue? Why is it considered "not nice" when someone has tattoos? Why does everything have to be associated with money? Why can't I pursue my dreams? Why do I have to end up doing the same job my parents did? Why is wanting to change gender such an embarrassing thing to say out loud? Why do people make fun of other people who have psychological or physical disorders?

Dear Diary,

I'm not inconsiderate. I don't know if this is good or not but I am aware of things and situations around me and I do know that starting over again is a very heartbreaking decision, whether it's after a failed relationship, deciding to go on a diet, or changing your ideas and beliefs about certain sensitive subjects. I don't think of myself as someone who preaches about what's wrong and what's right, aiming to inculcate what I say to illiterate, defenseless crowds. I accept different opinions, but when someone is being rude about their beliefs and shaming others, then it needs to be changed, and unfortunately nowadays, most people are like that.

We need a new beginning, all of us. We need to start over and rethink our opinions, maybe change them a little. We need to bloom, just like the flowers during spring. We need to be born again, not physically but mentally. It might be difficult for the ones who have grown up and this old ideology has suffused their minds, but it's never too late, especially for teenagers like me. Don't you think the world would be better if we were all more open-minded and welcoming to new ideas? I choose to ignore the pessimists who continuously state that we're already in too deep down the rabbit hole, and that nothing and no one can change us.

I believe in a new tomorrow. I do believe in a new beginning. I do, I do, I do! And a lot of people might call me crazy, but just like Steve Jobs said, "The crazy ones are the ones who end up changing the world."

I think I can give the world the "renaissance" that it needs.

Dear Diary,

I guess I wonder a lot.

Don't scratch that.

-Eva

Vanessa Liakopoulou

Grade 9

***Winner of The Walt Whitman Prize
for Free Verse***

Oh hi welcome number eleven
billion to real life would you
be as kind as to fill out this
form that one as well no its
nothing just red tape please
sign over here too

if you agree with the terms
of service please tick yes it's
not like you have another option
anyway so

Yes yes i agree
i agree with everything
i am desperate to believe
in anything
free thought is folly.
silence is consent.

oh hi welcome back it's
time to make your first steps
into the unknown why don't
you jump into the black void
i promise i'll catch you
do not worry about a thing.

yeah sure i'll just grab that
invaluable chance and so
naively take the fall
trusting that the world didn't lie
knowing that it did anyway
hoping these lies would magically
turn into truths

Oh boy turns out they didn't
oops too bad what a
marvelous mistake that was
i wager it was intentional.
well done well done try
again so that you can fail better
next time good job good job.

but how can i restart when i
hit the ground so hard and
(ouch ouch ouch ouch)
broken things don't work you idiot.
help me glue the pieces together
help me receive a dead soul

hey yes you what do you think
you're doing you cannot do that it's

against the terms of service you
need to watch me laugh and
walk away walking over
the life you lost
the life you never had.

So come on everyone why don't
you go ahead spending your
entire life for the sake
of a show
(play dumb or dead and they
will notice you)

why don't you just sell your
personality to a lost cause
for a nickel and a dime for
five minutes of fame sounds like
a heck of a bargain to me

and what if you trick and
kick and shove your way to
the top can't you tell that
raw force and comical tragedy
appeal to the public.

and oh before i forget I'm so
sorry to have blatantly
discarded you like that no it
wasn't my fault i swear it wasn't
you just couldn't quite fit to my
one-man show idea of a spectacle

i mean you're talented and ethical and
all that but who told you
talent is the way to
success obviously it's not.

so yeah just spring into
action walk all over the
ones who count

yeah of course i'm totally
ok with that sure no
problem really i'll just sit
there n do you a favor and
stay in the background
(will not will not will not)
(will do)

Halloween Bakesale!



On Thursday 31st October, the English Department along with the 15-member council, organized the second Bake Sale in order to raise funds for the Scholarship Fund. The first graders brought cakes and muffins, the second graders biscuits and cookies and the third graders sausages, bread and ketchup or mustard to make hot dogs. We set up tables in Davis building where we placed the goods. The response was great and we managed to collect about 1.800 euros.



