

МОНАХИ
ИЗ
1999

DISTENCT

ISSUE #14 | May 2013
The Conflict Within
Dear James
Famous Couples in History
Food Zodiac





The early history of the school is closely connected with the name of its two great founders Lazaro-Otetelișanu and it was the first boarding school for young ladies in the Romanian Principalities at that time. It was a flourishing historical period for the Romanian education in the capital of Oltenia after the endorsement of the Organic Regulations. The Foundation of this school for "the best education of the noblemen's daughters" was the initiative of the boyard lordache Otetelișanu, "a great patriot who was very fond of the national culture."

In 1833 he built this school not only with his own funds but also with the financial support of the boyard Constantin Lazaro, who donated the private houses inherited from his wife Zoița Pârscoveanca. The school was called "Lazaro-Otetelișanu" Boarding School for Young Ladies.

It was meant to be a typically Western boarding school for young ladies and the students who passed the school entrance exam were supposed to be able to "read and write" in a foreign language. The first headmistresses of the school were mostly foreigners (French, Italian, German): Wilhemina Dahlen, Groulier Gros, Marieta Mazenta.

Along its history, the school changed its names several times:

X According to the Law of Education issued in 1860, the old boarding school became a secondary school with five grades and it was called The Head School for Young Ladies, the first pedagogical school for young ladies from Oltenia.

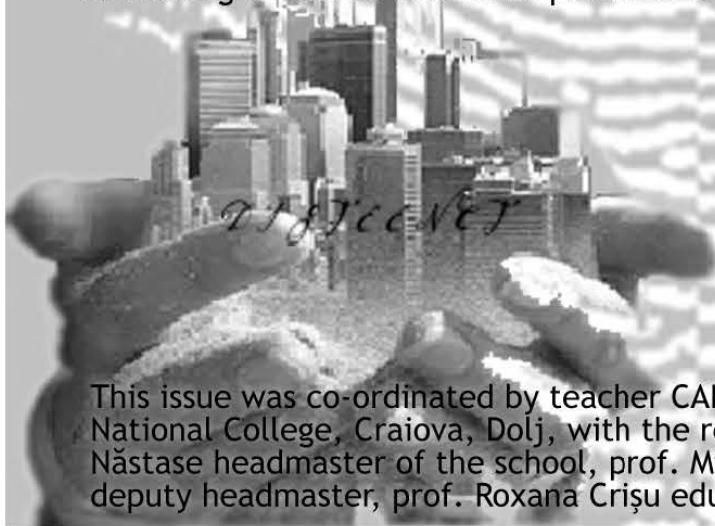
X The name of the school was changed again in 1883 when it became The Pedagogical Institute for Young Ladies because it aimed to train students to become school teachers.

X Due to Smaranda Celarianu's contribution and intervention, the school was called "Elena Cuza", in honour of the wife of the first ruler who united the Romanian Principalities. After this transformation the school had all the qualities of a high-school with superior grades.

X In September 1928 the school started to function as "Elena Cuza" High-School for Young Ladies. From 1959 until 1966 the public institute was given the name of Secondary School No. 3 and for the first time it became a mixed type of school for girls and boys. Between 1966-1976 the school was called High School No. 3, and between 1977-1989 it was named The Philology-History High School.

X In 1990, it was called "Elena Cuza" High School and from 1998 "Elena Cuza" National College

During its existence, the school has brought its contribution to the education of a great number of citizens, active participants in the social, cultural and economic life of the country. Our school trains students endowed with a real talent for learning foreign languages and it has become a real partner involved in different national and international projects. Taking into account the history of this school, we, today's people, must continue the struggle for the flourishing of this institution to preserve its fame and tradition.



This issue was co-ordinated by teacher CARMEN MĂLĂEȚ, English teacher at "Elena Cuza" National College, Craiova, Dolj, with the real support of our school management: prof. Mircea Năstase headmaster of the school, prof. Mirela Genoiu deputy headmaster, prof. Liviu Cotfasă deputy headmaster, prof. Roxana Crișu educational counsellor.



Raluca Says



Hello, fellow readers! Another year has passed, just one more to go. We are still the same and yet so different, more wise and more mature, one step further on our journey towards adulthood.

Disteent magazine is continuing its course and this year we bring you new and interesting articles, captivating stories and unique experiences from our lives as highschool students. Disteent is more than a magazine, it is a connection between you, our contributors and everybody else whose ideas and attitudes resemble ours and who have learned over the past 13 years that it is important to think "DISTEENCT". So, what do you say? Are you ready to jump on and see what I am talking about?

As for my experience as an editor-in-chief I must add that it has been an unforgettable experience. I feel blessed for having been given this wonderful opportunity to work with an amazing staff and create this magazine. Working in a team might have its ups and downs but in the end, being reliable, creative, funny and last but not least devoted to your work, can make every deadline easy to meet.

I have probably bored you already so I am going to stop now. After all, the purpose of "Disteent" is to make us realize what we are and what we are capable of, to be creative, to learn how to come up to our expectations and to top ourselves at every aspect of our lives. I hope you'll have as much fun reading this new issue of our magazine as we had making it. So, until the next issue... Take care!



Malina Cojocaru
Deputy Editor

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

OPINIONS	2-10
TEENKEEN ON INK	11-15
LEARN MORE ABOUT	16-24
MISCELLANEOUS	25-33

Raluca Butescu
Editor-in-Chief



Devotion for the things we love
Innovation in everything we do
Sincerity sprung from deep within us
Trust in our skills and powers
Enthusiasm for our future
Euphoria for things that passed
Nonconformism in our act
Commitment to our dreams
Thankfulness...for everything!
These are the values that we've learned and that we've come to cherish. Come what may, we'll take life bravely and face it... LIVE DISTEENCTively



Opinions

DISTEENCT

ISSUE # 14

The Trap

"The Trap" is a sound and dumb-show play written and interpreted by the students of 10th E of the "Elena Cuza" National College. It was performed on the 4th April 2013 as a part of the project called "My Boyfriend Sells Me Tomorrow" organised by the International Soroptimist Club Craiova.

The play's scenario was written by Daria Gi rju and Alexandra Bi Idea who found it a challenging task. They drew their inspiration from real life as nowadays, more and more naive young girls are deceived by their boyfriends whom they trust blindly. The two screenwriters along with their classmates tried to present one of the many cases of human trafficking, which is at the moment only second to drug trafficking as the most profitable illegal industry in the world.



In the play, Catalina, a popular teenage girl meets Bogdan, the son of the head of a human trafficking network. Lured by the boy's charms, she falls in his trap and gets kidnapped by Bogdan's men. Catalina realises how life can change in the blink of an eye from a normal one, filled with small joys to a miserable and dreadful one.

This project was a great opportunity to create bonds and stronger friendships between classmates, while also raising awareness to human trafficking. After all, Catalina is not just some random girl; she can be your best friend, your sister or even you!

Daria Gi rju and Alexandra Bîldea

Co-ordinating teacher: Carmen Mălăeș



INSIDE THIS CHAPTER

The Trap	2
Alumnus Column	3
Reading at Reading?	4
Advertising annoys everybody	5
Adolescence: something to be afraid of?	6
Fashion in our lifestyle	7
Jim Morgan Greet Romania	8
Book Review	9
Movie Review	10



ALUMNUS COLUMN

I remember what I was like in highschool: shy and not very social, but extremely talkative once I got comfortable with people, listening to metal music for its meaningfulness, painting and writing, reading with fascination Byron and Shakespeare, Scandinavian myths and Cradle of Filth's lyrics altogether. I was told that I was into magic because I was carrying the Divine Comedy and Faust in my schoolbag. At the National English Olympiad I wrote a short story about Odin and a viking returning home from the battlefield. I won second prize that year, in the 9th grade, and first prize in the eleventh grade.

Now I am amused when I remember these things, but if I come to think about it, I am not that different today. The things I did and studied in highschool defined the person I am now. The English Olympiad meant a great deal to me: the studying and the stress were pleasant because the subjects were interesting and the teacher knew so well how to show us their beauty and how to encourage and motivate us. It made me more self-confident because I saw the benefits of doing what you like best, which I kept doing after highschool as well. Studying English with passion, learning German and a bit of Swedish on my own made me want to follow Letters in University. I lived in Cluj-Napoca for five years to study English-Norwegian and Comparative Literature. It was a lot of fun – we learned to be open minded and original, we studied the craziest and most un-boring things and it gave us the key to a wide cultural knowledge. Still fascinated by magic and myths, I wrote my BA and MA papers on shamanism and death rites in Scandinavian culture and I will continue with a PhD in history of religions.

I also got the chance to study in Vienna for one semester in my second year with the Erasmus programme, and last year I studied in Oslo to research and write my paper. They were both fantastic experiences that I am lucky to have had; but if I had to chose which one I would repeat more eagerly, I have to say that setting foot in Norway for the first time, walking by hills and lakes, drinking mead and singing by the bonfire in the woods at night are memories that are always with me.

Whenever I think about these past years – from the beginning of highschool until now – I get a great satisfaction at least for the fact that, when in doubt, I always followed my heart and did what I liked and what represented me, no matter what others thought. What is "right" and what is "important" in life is what you feel it is.

Rebeca Toana, former
student at "Elena Cuza"
National College

Coordinating teacher : Carmen Malaet





READING AT READING



There was little reading done at Reading, I must confess, though the books were bought from the fine Waterstones library and stacked neatly next to my transitory bed during the two week camp at Reading University. As expected from a first prize, the camp was what it should have been. I confide in you the disappointment I felt upon my arrival, when the single-person modern room was far from the creaky old dormitory I had been expecting. Nonetheless, with little effort, I made the best out of it.

The schedule was tight; every day of the week was divided into two main time-frames. In the morning, after breakfast, we were required to be in class, while in the second half following lunch; the staff had a myriad of activities lined up for us. Each night was different, some were "date nights", some were "movie nights" and some were "we'll all meet on the lawn, order some pizza and talk nights".

Each week we had two excursions, and as you can imagine, most of the fun was on the bus. It was in these hours that we best mingled around, when the Italians and the Russians, the Polish and the Spanish came together and shared their lives. It is through these journeys that we saw London, Oxford, Winchester and many other sights on a tourist's must see list.

Though I have written these lines about my short adventure, I assume you are not yet satisfied with what I have told you. Without wanting to, I withheld the most enticing part from you, my dear reader. It took me less than seconds to call this place home. During fourteen days I lived the life you see in sit-coms. Words fail me when it comes to describing how it felt; energizing, optimistic and alive are just the tip of the iceberg. During two weeks, I was surrounded by great people, breath-taking places and invisible fairies I suppose, for it all seemed too good to be true.

And so the days passed, and I found myself at the end of my camp. In the minutes prior to our departure, I was overwhelmed by a sudden urge to pin myself to the ground I stepped on. With reluctance I left Reading all the while thinking about how in the end hard work pays off, and how I would return, this time to stay.

Catalina Grujdin

Co-ordinating teacher: Carmen Mălăeț

XI I



Have you ever wondered why advertising annoys us? Well, it does this because it interrupts our daily lives. I am sure you know what I mean. You are watching a movie, right? and Brad Pitt is about to kiss Angelina Jolie. You hold your breath for a moment and then; an advertisement about the newest, best, most amazing tooth paste comes on. And there's also this guy in the background talking about how bad breath has ruined his life. Can you go back to the kissing scene feeling the same way? No, you cannot. All you can think about now is Brad Pitt's breath and what brand of tooth brush he uses.

ADVERTISING ANNOYS EVERYBODY

Firstly, advertisements annoy us because they never seem to let you choose for yourself. They always tell you they are the best and if you think otherwise ...well you are wrong. How could you even think for a second that this coffee maker is better than the other one? It's quite obvious the other one is by far better and I bet it would definitely be a great fighting tool in case your jealous neighbor thinks he could steal your new TV remote which by the way, can even turn on and off the coffee maker.

Secondly, ads never portray reality. My friend has just recently bought a hamburger and I assure you it looks nothing like the one on TV. They go to such lengths to make sure that hamburger looks good. They treat it like a celebrity. What would the cheeseburger say if he saw the poor hamburger in a horrible state? Why does everything have to look so perfect? The super model hamburger will end up in our stomachs anyway. Why do they have to feed us, no pun intended, such lies, don't

you think so?

Not only do advertisements come on at the wrong time and in the wrong place, but there are also people on the street who are employed to simply shout out how great their product is. You know them. They're like spies. You never know which way they're coming from. But be sure they will find you and run after you with a big grin on their face acting like the newest phone has been the greatest thing on Earth since sliced bread. Don't you find that annoying? Can't they see you are in a hurry or simply trying to save your ears from bleeding since you know you will need them? Or maybe you could buy the newest hearing aid. Maybe that's their market strategy. They try to deafen you with their voice so you would buy a new phone AND a hearing aid, who knows.

On the other hand, advertising can be helpful to us at times. It can give us information about a product that is quite unknown yet very good, don't you agree? Sure, you could buy an Iphone, which is not cheap at all, or you could buy a phone, not by a known brand but which is just as good. With the money saved you could even buy yourself a second phone, because who doesn't need two phones?

To cut a long story short, advertisements might help us from time to time, but most of the time they simply annoy us with their enthusiasm about the most mundane things and their lies about how great the product is. Now that I have shared with you my opinion, which i am sure most of you agree with, would you like to hear about our new hand moisturizers?

Ana Maria Amzoiu

Co-ordinating teacher: Carmen Malaet





ADOLESCENCE: SOMETHING TO BE AFRAID OF?

Have you ever wondered why the sound good examples of life based on experience, simpler than it may seem: it is in human everybody at this age calls "the

So why do teenagers ruin the connection the age which poses many problems to inexperienced to judge things rightly and to tell their parents how they feel about inch their way towards breaking up the most. It is a fact that the most immediate and friends, most of the time their own understand them better than the grown-

Why do adolescents choose to discuss advice? They live under the impression that a result they resort to their help. At this age their friends. They use to tell each other everything about their personal life and try to tackle the hurdles together. It may not always be a wrong thing to do, as adults, as well as teenagers, need friends in order to move on with a normal lifestyle. But that doesn't mean they have to ignore their parents in a way that may affect both the teens and their parents' future bond.

Of course, there are many factors that influence a teenager to turn into a person their parents are not capable to have control over anymore. At school, among other situations, there are those in which the strongest individuals in terms of personality impose their will on others. Here we must add that bad habits like smoking, drinking and drugs which have become the norm in teen's world, and God knows that everybody is aware of the negative effects they have in the long run. Popularity at this age is defined in terms of fashion, music, even cars and other likes and dislikes that seem "cool". As a result, studying thoroughly is not a priority anymore. It is a waste of time for some parents to make their children aware of the fact that progress in school is an essential step for their future career. This might also be a downside in the relationship parent-child because as a punishment parents cut their children off which makes them so desperate that they turn to their grandparents to be given more pocket- money, situation that can affect the entire family. Only rarely do we need students with high marks who are a role model during highschool.

Unfortunately, the realization comes too late in life and nowadays more and more adolescents have a harmful relationship with their parents that may be impossible to be fixed in time. Trying to strike a balance between family and social life is no easy task for teens, but with determination and the support of their parents, they will manage to overcome the controversial period of one's life, called adolescence.



advice that comes from parents and relatives, those are overlooked by teenagers? The answer is much nature to behave this way and to impel against what establishment".

with their parents most of the time? Adolescence is young people, firstly because they are too may be influenced by others. They stubbornly refuse anything in their lives and consequently end up to relationship with the people who love them the environment for teens to evolve is created by peers age. Teenagers strongly believe that their friends will ups and will stay by their side no matter what.

their problems with their friends and avoid parents' their peers go through the same tough period and as children think that they don't need their parents, only



Maria Neicu

Co-ordinating teacher: Delia Cristea





FASHION IN OUR LIFESTYLE

It is generally known that, nowadays, people are more interested in the way they look rather than in how many chances they have to succeed in getting a good job or in the way in which they act in the society. Of course, everyone is familiar with the expression that "first impression counts" and how else can anyone impress the ones they come into contact with for the first time than by a proper outfit. Unfortunately, fashion in clothes is not the only people's addiction. Now, everyone around us is judged by the music they listen to or by their genuine behaviour. These may also be considered the latest "fashions" people try to keep up with.

FASHION IN CLOTHES

More and more people forget about being themselves and try to turn into someone else overnight just by choosing as their role models a TV star or other celebrity they look up to.

Of course, people who really want to make a strong statement dress accordingly to the situation required. This may also give them confidence and the likelihood of them succeeding is higher. It is not a bad thing to follow fashion as long as you keep your personality untouched and and you do not change your sound principles of life. If you feel that dressing in a particular outfit will value your achievements in a positive way, then trust your intuitions and put on what suits your mood. Most teenagers tend to be deceived by fashion, that's why it is essential to have someone standing right beside them and draw their attention when they go down the wrong path.



FASHION IN MUSIC

People, especially adolescents, consider that listening only to commercial music is the best option they have because all their peers do so. But what about their feelings or their state of mind? The truth is that today's music conveys no message and touches your soul and your senses in no way. So, why don't we go back to the valuable music that will always count and which really has something to offer for your soul and mind?



FASHION IN BEHAVIOUR

These days, people simply refuse to act normally and show others their true, natural behaviour. They consider that being yourself is a waste of time because no one will ever appreciate them for what they really are. That's why they force themselves to put on a false mask that will not only cover their personality but, with time, also their feelings and actions. In fact, disguising in someone else is not as interesting and enchanting as they may think, but on the contrary, it is a very wrong decision to make, because being more like you and less like anyone else proves that you are a honest person not a "fake".

To put it in a nutshell, if you really want to follow the "latest fashions", don't do it entirely because your dignity and your personality are at stake. Try to remain what you are and avoid losing your inner self.

Andreea Neicu

Co-ordinating teacher: Delia Cristea





JIM MORGAN GREETES ROMANIA

So Jim, where are you from?

I am from Michigan, USA.

Why are you in Romania?

I'm working for God in Romania. I have a great team of Romanian young people, we have a van with a screen and go into villages in the summer to work with children, young people and show the Jesus Movie when it is dark. The movie is shown outside and attracts a lot of attention because it is an unusual thing for someone to come into a village to show a movie. Our focus area is Oltenia. It looks like this summer, 2013 we will have 2 vans and 2 teams!

What is the most beautiful memory from Romania and also which is the worst ?

I have many, many wonderful memories and experiences. We have been to 54 villages in Oltenia and each is special. I love to get to know and build relationships with people. I love to be in high schools like Elena Cuza. My best memories are all the wonderful friends I have in Romania. My worst was scary. When applying for my visa in 2011, I learned I was accidentally in Romania illegally! I was given a fine of 600 lei and allowed to stay and my 5 year visa was granted!

If you could change something about Romania, what would it be ?

I have a big heart for the Romanian people. I know most live on very little income. If I could change something it would be to create many new businesses to employ people at a much better wage. Romanians should make many times more than what they do in their jobs.

After spending so much time here, in our country, where do you feel at home ?

I feel Romania is my home now. I have been there more in the last 2 years than in America. My house in America is rented so when I am there, I can't stay in it! I feel very much at home in Romania, I'm blessed to be in your country!

You've said that you're working for God in Romania. Can you tell us when you started to be a faithful man, and if something special in your life made you be a more religious man?



I was raised in a Christian family, and have been a regular church attender all my life. When I was 8 I understood I needed to personally ask Jesus to be my Savior. I have had the desire to live for God ever since. I believe God put in my heart a love for people, which is why I enjoy building relationships with people of all ages. My desire is to point people to faith in Jesus. I'm not a perfect person, I have my ups and downs and struggle with living a spiritual life, and only do it with Gods help. There was a period of time when I knew God was asking me to come to work for him in Romania, between 5 Dec 2008 and

15 Jan 2009. I struggled and used excuses to tell him I couldn't do it, but He won in the end and I'm in Romania today because God told me to come. The most amazing part of it is that He has provided all the money for me to be here!!

What are the differences, in your opinion, between Romanians and Americans ?

There are differences between Romanians and Americans. The most obvious is the language. Romanians are friendly when you get to know them, but walking down the street they are not open to looking at you and saying hi.

Americans do this many times a day. I have heard this from people visiting the States from other countries.

Romanians drive much more wild than Americans! Romanians walk far more than Americans do. Only in the cities in America do people walk to work, school, shopping. The biggest difference is the economic status because Americans make more money than Romanians. I have found Romanians to be very friendly and open once I get to know them. I have many many Romanians I count as very good friends. I love Romania and its people!

Adrian Goga & Florin Mihalcea

Co-ordinating teacher: Carmen Malaet



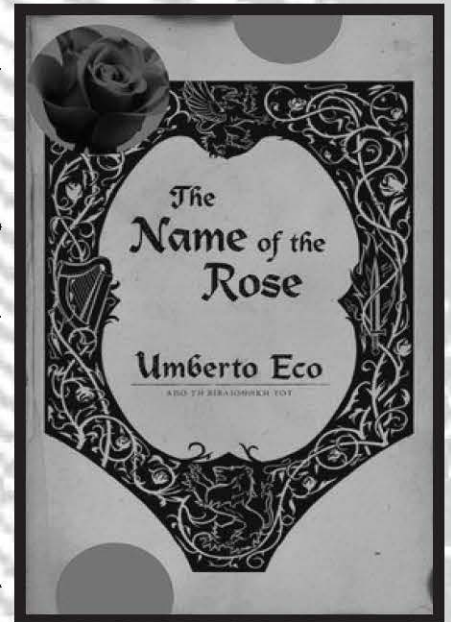


The Name of the Rose

by Umberto Eco

On any list of unlikely bestsellers from the last century, *The Name of the Rose* must hold a special place of distinction. Nothing is rarer than for a novel translated from Italian to reach the top of the New York Times bestseller list unless it is, of course, a megahit book written by an academic whose best known previous work was *A Theory of Semiotics*. And did I mention that the plot revolves around medieval theology?

The book follows the familiar genre patterns of the mystery. Monks are dying under curious circumstances, and the detective (okay, he's just a monk too, but a very smart one) William of Baskerville is asked by the abbot to get to the bottom of it. Baskerville is assisted by Adso of Melk, who is sort of a tonsured Dr. Watson. In fact, I kept waiting for William to interject: "Eleemosynary, my dear novice Adso."



The most compelling character is our detective William of Baskerville. Have you encountered mysteries where the private investigator was once a policeman, but left the force after encountering too much corruption? Well, the same is true of William, except the organization he left behind wasn't the LAPD, but the Inquisition. He didn't like the *modus operandi*, and now operates as a free agent, but unlike your typical private eye he has the benefit of an Oxford education, and mentoring by Roger Bacon and William of Ockham, whose approach to natural philosophy proves to be a good medieval substitute for a degree in criminology.

Much has changed in the world since the late Middle Ages, but there are some constants. The seven deadly sins are still around, and if you have any doubts over how deadly they might be, *The Name of the Rose* will settle the argument. Eco also adds a convincing love story, with just the right dose of ingredients for the modern reader: not easy for a story set in a monastery, but our author is a master of plotting, so such obstacles are deftly overcome. All in all, *The Name of the Rose* combines the best elements of a historical romance, a thriller, and a novel of ideas.

I can't say much more without giving away the plot, but I will tell you that, after reading *The Name of the Rose*, you won't ever again look at the library as just a clean, well-lit place for books.

Raluca Butescu

Co-ordinating teacher: Carmen Malaet





STAND UP GUYS



Directed by Fisher Stevens, *Stand up guys* is set in the glamorous city of Los Angeles. The movie shows the story of Val, a former mobster played by Al Pacino, who is released from prison and tries to reconnect with his old friends. The beginning gives the impression that the film is a powerful drama. However, the movie turns out to be a life lesson about trying to see the bright side even in the saddest situations.

The film centers on Val, who is released from prison after serving twenty-eight years for refusing to give up one of his close criminal associates. His best friend Doc (Christopher Walken) is there to pick him up, and the two soon re-team with another old pal, Hirsch (Alan Arkin). Their bond is as strong as ever,

and the three reflect on freedom lost and gained, loyalties ebbed and flowed, and days of glory gone by. But one of the friends is keeping a dangerous secret— he's been put in an impossible quandary by a former mob boss, and his time to find an acceptable alternative is running out. As the sun rises on the guys' legendary reunion, their position becomes more and more desperate and they finally confront their past once and for all.

Although its action is not as fascinating as many viewers would want, the movie has a strong, touching psychological side which makes up for the lack of adventure.

If you like to see how friendship can triumph over everything, whether it is the time or any other obstacle it encounters, then you should definitely see this film. In addition, the actors who do nothing but perform outstandingly, are another reason to enjoy this movie.

Constantin Mihalcea

Co-ordinating teacher: Carmen Malaet





Teenkeen on Ink

DISTEENCT

ISSUE # 14

I'M A STAR IN THE CONSTELLATION "Y"

I'm a star in the constellation "Y". I'm a little circle of gold which blinks in the ocean of the Galaxy. Apparently, when you look at the sky and sees me there shining, you think I'm another point of light among the other. But it is not so! Each of us is different, we have feelings and personalities. Nobody will be able to know us completely, nobody can ever know what our personalities hide. If I detached from my place and I crossed the cosmic abysses so as to knock on your window, it would be necessary thousands of light years. In the fights of Genesis I got hooked on the Moon and I sat next to her. I'm afraid that if I left I would be a sad and ephemeral shooting star. Therefore, I wait quietly in my place and I take care of you.

I am a dreamer and an optimistic! I like to think that everything is perfect and I'm a part of it. I'm sensitive and I cry when a star falls to Earth or when a romance is born here in the waters of heaven. I am also creative. I turn the most ordinary events into eternal weddings or real wars. I love stroking people with thin fingers of light and telling them the story of eternity.

Silence...Do you hear it? It's so flashy! It fills your soul with piece. Now I lie down on the lawn of cosmic waves and in a moment I am comprised by dreaming...

So, that's me! A happy star in the universe that will always shine because it is the illusion of permanence!

"For my part I know nothing with any certainty, but the sight of the stars makes me dream."

Vincent Van Gogh

Irina lordache

Co-ordinating teacher: Carmen Malaet



INSIDE THIS CHAPTER

I'm a star in the constellation "Y"	11
Dear James	12
The Conflict Within	13
I Had a Childhood!	14
Back in time	15

DEAR JAMES

A perfect ripper of gust followed along, setting the branches to tossing their arms, calling out to the sun. Light soon flooded the room and it was as bright as glory. The starch white rays pierced through my heavy eyelids, burning my insides with a euphoric thrill. I stepped out of the bed, feeling my full weight push me down. I idly pulled my silk robe over my pulsing flesh, caressing my skin with a sweet touch. The space around me seemed to diminish, as if balance had long been relinquished and time had seized to exist. Looking back I could see his serene face. By and by, it would remind me of our juvenile drama, like a story book that I never tired of.



As education had shaped us both, our affinity was demure and our meetings were bashful. Under the vigilant leer of our acquaintances we were friends, but, behind all curtains, our love was profound and ardent. His winsome smile and eyes, as dark as sin, enamoured me, alluring me into a dangerous state, making me yearn for his enticing presence besides me.

In days of yore, I can recall the enduring memories of his echoing laughter, as we would bike athwart the island and camp under a stout oak for the night. He would wax eloquently about his dreams and our future, about joining the navy and wondering across the world. It was genuine merriment, which sent jolts of elation through my body.

But that was then, and then it's true. Now beholding him, James had lost bountiful years of his life. He had become an old owl full of wisdom and wits. His sparse leaden hair rested peacefully on the crisp sheets. Towards our crowning years, our passion matured into attachment, and our desirous endearments, that once set the blood rushing through my veins and my heart pounding, became suave embraces.

James had become laconic, without any desire to change. Once in a blue moon, we would do something spontaneous, but otherwise, the habitual tea and jam didn't fall out of our quotidian life. Yet, though he was no longer the man I had married, he was mine. Every part of me belonged to him, and separated, we were miserable.

Reaching my hands to my face, the icy touch of my skin awakened me. My lips parted, letting a mournful sigh escape that crashed against the rigid walls. I remembered, though I had not forgotten; December 17th, 1999. It was the mere illusion of an old inept woman, a short insanity behind the unrelenting reality. The sheets were empty, and the air was cold. I was alone and he was gone. Today was Monday, April 23rd, 2012. Soon, we would find each other again, and I would tell him those three maddening words that clouded my judgment- I missed you.

First Prize – Passport for
Excellence National
Heat

Catalina Grujdin

Co-ordinating teacher: Carmen Malaet





The conflict within

Louis Armstrong once exclaimed in one of his songs “What a Wonderful World!” And wonderful it is! With its skies of blue and trees of green, with its friends shaking hands... The success of this track goes to show us how much the world agrees with his statement. Do you? Something tells me you do. Unfortunately, not everything is sugar-coated in this world. And the most common problem is, yes, conflict. As long as people have strongly different opinions of one significant subject to the well-balance of the world, we are bound to live in uncertainty, doubtful about what tomorrow may have in store for us and, up to a point, in fear. But it can be overcome if our cause is just and we have each other's support.

Lincoln's famous quote made reference to the division of the union in “slave” and “free” states. However, having its origins in the Bible, this quote addresses to a noticeably wider range of situations. Said “house” can be a metaphor for everything, from one individual to the whole planet. On a personal level, causes of the unbalance are many and varied, depending on both the individual and the circumstances. Yet, internal conflict can appear when there is an important decision to make – such as choosing a university major for example – or when there is a significant discrepancy between our system of values and beliefs and the exterior reality. In such situations, if not helped, a person's inner self is severely shaken, the subject beginning to always second-guess himself, and in severe cases, to spiral into a vortex of extreme anxiety, distress or depression.

Does this sound a bit exaggerated to you? If so, think only of Hamlet's conflict. He is torn between revenging his father and his revulsion towards cold, calculated murder. He is a man of great integrity, forced to commit an act which goes against his deepest principles. The outcome is a puzzle of costly mistakes, self doubt and innocent victims. And isn't this, in fact, a universal conflict? Maybe there is a Hamlet in you, or in you... or in you back there!

Nevertheless, for a harmonious life, there has to be unity and symmetry in the family unit as well as support and understanding. The only problem? Sometimes families are blindsided by a huge upheaval such as a mental or physical illness, a job loss, or an addiction, which may become a burden difficult to cope with not only for the “victim” but also for the immediately close relatives. Moreover, how many of you are part of an extended family? Good, then you are familiar with the problem of the generation gap. Between widely different lifestyles and opinions, conflicts arise; conflicts which, perpetuated long enough lead to a tense atmosphere and gradual isolation of family members. In Scott Fitzgerald's words “Family quarrels are bitter things. They don't go by any rules. They're not like aches or wounds; they're more like splits in the skin that won't heal because there isn't enough material.” Have you ever thought about it that way? Hardly is there any chance of recovery if drastic measures aren't taken and help sought. You would be surprised to see what communication and sharing feelings can do to resurrect the trust, reliance, unselfishness and the cohesion of any group.

2nd prize – National
Semifinals of the Public
Speaking Competition





As the scale grows bigger, so do the effects and responsibilities. But the concept stays the same. Plant two completely opposite ideas in a people's mind and feed them constantly, and you are bound to face a riot, a breach in the solidarity of a nation, and why not, a civil war. Take the Chinese Civil War for example. For over 20 years communists and nationalists turned arms against each other because of a difference in thinking! People died, little changed in the status quo of the country. And do you know what the “funny” side to all these is? It is that, subsequently to the aftermath of the conflict, we only discover what we already knew: that there is nothing to be gained from it. Nothing. You may be tempted to say “experience”, but NO, that doesn't count because people keep refusing to learn from history!

Before I finish, I would like to point out that if we look closely enough we can realize that the seed of all evil, the driving force behind all these fights and arguments is our own conflict within. My firm belief is that we should sort out our problems with ourselves and stop wasting our energy for nothing. So take a deep breath... and let it all out. And keep in mind what Dalai Lama XIV said “We can never obtain peace in the outer world until we make peace with ourselves.” Can we?

Malina Cojocar

Co-ordinating teacher: Carmen Malaet



I had a childhood!

School, drama and my crew. This is all that my life revolves around now, as a teenager, and, when everything seems to be shaking underneath my feet and I feel like Atlas, holding the world on my shoulders, I tend to escape... always back to my childhood years.

Let there be rain, clouds, drought or wind... I didn't care. From the first ray of dawn to the last, forgotten trail of dusk, nature was my friends' and my most loyal companion. Our playground was an island of green and laughter in a sea of grey concrete. Feeling safe and cosseted from the eyes of curious onlookers under a clump of trees, we used to let our imagination run wild all around the world and float into a universe of our own. We would depict ourselves in the shoes of parents, lawyers, doctors, famous chefs, superstars or even superheroes and feel like the very essence of life and reality lay in its full grandeur in our delicate hands.

Oh, how I miss those times when we used to spend all day outside, instinctively following the great advice of our Roman ancestors to “seize the moment”. All we needed to have a blast each day was a piece of chalk, our usual friendly environment and our customary innovation. I can't even start to remember the countless times I fell and galled my knees playing hopscotch or how many times we swore to never talk to each other again after losing a game. My mother used to come and drag me back inside when it was already way past my curfew but we were too absorbed into chasing each other in the hundredth game of Cops and Robbers of that day. Soaking wet, hungry as a bear because I hadn't eaten anything since breakfast and dead tired, I went straight to bed, looking forward to the next day when we were going to do it all over again.

Games back then may seem a little rudderless, chaotic maybe, but all that swarming back and forth was crystal clear in every child's mind. Unfortunately, there always had to be a nagging neighbor to disrupt true sacred rituals such as hide and seek, tag or blindman's bluff. Did we ever care enough to stop? No. And we didn't even mind when a simple warning turned into a swift chase around the block. In fact, the thrill of those narrow escapes was the highlight of the day.

I'm afraid it is time to snap back to reality. The mundane must take over the memories once again, as tenderly as a glass of ice cold water to one's face. But as a closing remark, I would like to point out one thing. My childhood was like any other: legendary in its commonality.

2nd place – National
Competition “Play
and Games”

Malina Cojocar

Co-ordinating teacher: Carmen Malaet





Back in time

Each year, during the summer the city of Sighisoara hosts the Sighisoara Medieval Festival, a festival that goes in perfect harmony with the town's profile. The festival is meant to reconstruct the atmosphere of a medieval citadel, with street music and theatre and parades of craftsmen and townspeople, damsels and knights in period costumes.

Since it is an important event in our country, preparations start taking place in early November. Young adults and teenagers are recruited to take part in the festival and are given their duties and roles. It's kind of like putting up a theatre play, everyone has its role. Also, foreign artists are invited to take part in different activities such as painters, singers, dancers or magicians. Participants include Romanian artists and performers from all over Europe.

Sighisoara's 15th century citadel was the inspiration for the festival—a group of enthusiastic people thought to raise awareness about the state of degradation of the structure. The beautiful and well-preserved urban medieval town is enhanced by narrow lanes, inhabited massive brick houses, all surrounded by walls buttressed with 14 defense towers. The ambiance of the medieval festival is perfectly suited to the surroundings. As you walk through the citadel's gates, a strange feeling will surely overwhelm you, making you feel like you are stepping into a different world. Medieval and Celtic music will enchant your ears as you proceed deeper in the atmosphere and the distant metallic noise of sword fights will give shivers down your spine. In the citadel you can always see people dressed in medieval costumes, wearing clothes with the dust of time upon them, acting as if they had left their house, 500 years ago.

During the 3 day festival you may attend the plays and the concerts. You can stroll in the citadel and at sudden you may hear some jester's screams or the citadel's representative communicating any important news for the different branches of workers in which the population was divided at those times. Concerts are always present during the festival, concerts with specific music that deals with the same cultural heritage. Every year an amount of foreign tourists come here especially during the festival along with thousands Romanian teenagers, to express freely their feelings, to play the guitar in the open and to breathe the air of history and its unwrapped mysteries.

I have been attending the Sighisoara Medieval Festival for 2 years now and I can say it's one of the most beautiful moments for me in the summer. It is a great way to learn about this country's history and also a way of meeting new people. If you ever find the chance, I strongly recommend visiting Sighisoara and the festival.



Alexandra Lupu

Co-ordinating teacher: Carmen Malaet





Learn more about...

DISTEENCT

ISSUE # 14

Saint Andrew's Day

Have you ever wondered who, in fact, Saint Andrew was, the meaning behind his name or how did he end up being celebrated on the 30th of November every year?

Saint Andrew is widely known as the Patron Saint of Scotland, and St. Andrew's Day is celebrated by Scots around the world on the 30th November. The flag of Scotland is the Cross of St. Andrew, and this is widely displayed as a symbol of national identity.

In Greek, Andrew means 'manly'. He had a strong sense of curiosity as he would have gone to the synagogue school at the age of five to study scripture and then astronomy and arithmetic. He was thought to have been a fisherman in Galilee, along with his elder brother, Peter, both followers of Jesus Christ, founder of the Christian religion.

St. Andrew is said to have been responsible for spreading the tenets of the Christian religion through Asia Minor and Greece. Tradition suggests that he was put to death by the Romans in Southern Greece by being pinned to a cross. His crucifixion led to the further development of Scotland's flag.

With over 50 million people around the globe claiming Scottish descent, not to mention current Scottish nationals currently living and working abroad, it's little wonder that St. Andrew's Day celebrations extend beyond Scotland's borders. Some peculiar marriage-related superstitions have attached themselves to Saint Andrew's feast day: an old German tradition says that young women should note the location of barking dogs on Saint Andrew's Eve: their future husbands will come from that direction.

On the day after Andrew's feast, young people float cups in a tub; if a boy's and a girl's cup drift together and are intercepted by a cup inscribed ☐priest☐, it indicates marriage.

A local superstition uses the cross of Saint Andrew as a hex sign on the fireplaces in northern England and Scotland to prevent witches from flying down the chimney and entering the house to do mischief.



Ana Teutan

Co-ordinating teacher: Carmen Malaet



INSIDE THIS CHAPTER

Saint Andrew's Day	16
Genghis Khan	17
Jules Verne Marilyn Monroe -Death and aftermath-	18
The Paradox of our Age	19
Why learn foreign languages?	20
The ghost of the Midnight Bride from Radovan	21
High Flyers	22
OMAR KHAYYAM	23
Making of a star	24



Genghis Khan

The Mongols were nomads from the steppes of Central Asia. They were fierce warriors who fought each other over pasturelands and raided developed civilizations to the east and south. At the beginning of the thirteenth century, the Mongol clans united and began a campaign of foreign conquest. Following in the hoofprints of the Huns, their predecessors by a thousand years, they carved out one of the largest empires the world has yet seen. The Mongols inhabited the plains south of Lake Baikal in modern Mongolia. At its maximum, their empire stretched into European Russia to the Baltic Sea coast. They held most of modern Iran, Afghanistan, parts of Burma, all of China, and parts of Vietnam.

The Mongol clans were united by Temuchin, called Genghis Khan ("mighty ruler"), in the early thirteenth century. His ambition was to rule all lands between the oceans (Pacific and Atlantic) and he nearly did so. Beginning with only an estimated 25,000 warriors, he added more nomads and attacked northern China in 1215 after a campaign that may have cost 30 million Chinese lives.

The Mongols then turned west, capturing the great trading city Bukhara on the Silk Road in 1220. The city was burned to the ground and the inhabitants murdered. Following Genghis Khan's death in 1227, his son Ogedei completed the conquest into Europe. He destroyed Kiev and Hungary. When Ogedei died, his army fell back to settle the question of succession. Europe was spared as Mongol rulers concentrated their efforts against China.

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Hulagu, a grandson of Genghis, exterminated the Muslim "Assassins" and then took the Muslim capital of Baghdad in 1258. Most of the city's 100,000 inhabitants were murdered. In 1260 a Muslim army of Egyptian Mamelukes (warrior slaves of high status) defeated the Mongols in present-day Israel, ending the Mongol threat to Islam and its holy cities. Kublai Khan, another grandson of Genghis, completed the conquest of China in 1279, establishing the Yuan dynasty. Attempted invasions of Japan were thrown back with heavy loss in 1274 and 1281. In 1294 Kublai Khan died in China, and Mongol power began to decline in Asia and elsewhere. In 1368 the Yuan dynasty in China was overthrown in favor of the Ming.

In the 1370's a Turkish-Mongol warrior claiming descent from Genghis Khan fought his way to leadership of the Mongol states of Central Asia and set out to restore the Mongol Empire. His name was Timur Leng (Timur, "the lame," or Tamerlane to Europeans and the Prince of Destruction to Asians). With another army of 100,000 or so horsemen, he swept into Russia and Persia, fighting mainly other Muslims. In 1398 he sacked Delhi, murdering 100,000 inhabitants. He rushed west defeating an Egyptian Mameluke army in Syria. In 1402 he defeated a large Ottoman Turk army near modern Ankara.

On the verge of destroying the Ottoman Empire, he turned again suddenly. He died in 1405 while marching for China. He preferred capturing wealth and engaged in wholesale slaughter, without pausing to install stable governments in his wake. Because of this, the huge realm inherited by his sons fell apart quickly after his death.



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Cristian Ionut Pirvu

Co-ordinating teacher: Carmen Malaet



Jules Verne



at Nantes on February 6th, 1828. He was educated in his native town and afterwards studied his attention to dramatic literature, he wrote a comedy in verse for the *Musée des familles* the talent: describing delightfully extravagant voyages and adventures with cleverly prepared hical details that lent an air of verisimilitude. During this period, he met Victor Hugo and offered him writing advice.

ne de Viane Morel, a widow with two daughters. They were married on January 10, 1857. With her encouragement, he continued to write and actively looked for a publisher. On August 3, 1861, their son, Michel Verne, was born.

His fame, however, rests chiefly on his scientific romances, the first of which appeared in 1863 under the title of "Five Weeks in a Balloon". Its success led the author to produce many similar works, now numbering nearly seventy of which several have been not only translated into English and other languages, even into Japanese and Arabic, but also made into live-action and animated. These include: *Journey to the Center of the Earth*; *From the Earth to the Moon*; *Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea* and *Around the World in Eighty Days*. Jules Verne died in 1905, being ill with diabetes, at his home, 44 Boulevard Longueville (now Boulevard Jules-Verne).

Catalina Nistor



Marilyn Monroe

Co-ordinating teacher: Carmen Malaet

- Death and aftermath -

On August 5, 1962, LAPD police sergeant Jack Clemmons received a call at 4:25 am from Dr. Ralph Greenson, Monroe's psychiatrist, proclaiming that Monroe was found dead at her home in Brentwood, Los Angeles, California. She was 36 years old. At the subsequent autopsy, eight milligram per cent of Chloral hydrate and 4.5 milligram percent of Nembutal were found in her system,^[137] and Dr. Thomas Noguchi of the Los Angeles County Coroners office recorded cause of death as "acute barbiturate poisoning," resulting from a "probable suicide." Many theories, including murder, circulated about the circumstances of her death and the timeline after the body was found. Some conspiracy theories involved John and Robert Kennedy, while other theories suggested CIA or Mafia complicity. It was reported that the last person Monroe called was the President.

On August 8, 1962, Monroe was interred in a crypt at Corridor of Memories #24, at the Westwood Village Memorial Park Cemetery in Los Angeles. Lee Strasberg delivered the eulogy. Joe Di Maggio took control of the funeral arrangements which consisted of only 31 close family and friends. Police were also present to keep the press away. Her casket was solid bronze and was lined with champagne colored silk.^[1] Allan "Whitey" Snyder did her make-up which was supposedly a promise made in earlier years if she were to die before him. She was wearing her favorite green Emilio Pucci dress. In her hands was a small bouquet of pink teacup roses. For the next 20 years, red roses were placed in a vase attached to the crypt, courtesy of Di Maggio.

In August 2009, the crypt space directly above that of Monroe was placed for auction on eBay. Elsie Poncher plans to exhume her husband and move him to an adjacent plot. She advertised the crypt, hoping "to make enough money to pay off the \$1.6 million mortgage" on her Beverly Hills mansion. The winning bid was placed by an anonymous Japanese man for \$4.6 million,^[2] but the winning bidder later backed out "because of the paying problem". In 1992, Playboy magazine founder Hugh Hefner, who never met Monroe, bought the crypt immediately to the left of hers at the Westwood Village Memorial Park Cemetery. He affirmed that the initial success of his magazine directly correlated with Monroe.



Bianca Vasile



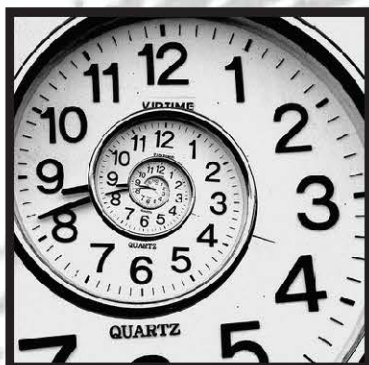
Co-ordinating teacher: Carmen Malaet



You are going to read an article which brings into the open many issues and actual problems faced by humanity throughout history. We may ponder upon those words. It lists down our flaws, and fortunately, we do have the capacity to correct our errors and perceptions.



The Paradox of Our Age by Dr. Bob Moorehead (1995)



We have taller buildings but shorter tempers; wider freeways, but narrower viewpoints; we spend more, but have less; we buy more, but enjoy it less; we have bigger houses and smaller families; more conveniences, yet less time; we have more degrees but less sense; more knowledge, but less judgment; more experts, yet more problems; more medicine, but less wellness; we take more vitamins but see fewer results. We drink too much, smoke too much, spend too recklessly, laugh too little, drive too fast, get too angry quickly, stay up too late, get up too tired, read too seldom, watch TV too much, and pray too seldom.

We have multiplied our possessions, but reduced our values; we fly in faster planes to arrive there quicker, to do less and return sooner; we sign more contracts only to realize fewer profits; we talk too much, love too seldom, and lie too often. We've learned how to make a living, but not a life. We've added years to life not life to years. We've been all the way to the moon and back, but have trouble crossing the street to meet the new neighbor. We've conquered outer space but not inner space; we've done larger things, but not better things; we've cleaned up the air, but polluted the soul. We've split the atom, but not our prejudice. We write more, but learn less; plan more, but accomplish less; we make faster planes, but longer lines; we learned to rush, but not to wait; we have more weapons, but less peace; higher incomes, but lower morals; more parties, but less fun; more food, but less appeasement; more acquaintances, but fewer friends; more effort, but less success. We build more computers to hold more information, to produce more copies than ever, but have less communication; drive smaller cars that have bigger problems; build larger factories that produce less. We've become long on quantity, but short on quality.

These are the times of fast foods and slow digestion; tall men, but short character; steep in profits, but shallow relationships. These are times of world peace, but domestic warfare; more leisure and less fun; higher postage, but slower mail; more kinds of food, but less nutrition. These are days of two incomes, but more divorce; these are times of fancier houses, but broken homes. It is a time when there is much in the showroom window and nothing in the stockroom. Indeed, these are the times!

Diana Gabriela Cisma

Co-ordinating teacher: Carmen Malaet





LANGUAGE IS WHAT MAKES US HUMAN. IT IS THE WAY WE USE TO SHARE OUR THOUGHTS WITH THE WORLD. COULD YOU IMAGINE THOUGHTS WITHOUT WORDS? GREAT LANGUAGES ALSO HAVE A WONDERFUL MUSICAL QUALITY, LEARNING NEW "DIALECTS" IS LIKE LEARNING A NEW WAY TO THINK AND A NEW WAY TO SING. DON'T SELL YOURSELF SHORT BY STUBBORNLY IGNORING EVERY LANGUAGE BUT ONE.

BELIEVE IT OR NOT, THE MAJORITY OF THE WORLD DOES NOT SPEAK YOUR LANGUAGE. WE ARE SO ISOLATED THAT WE HARDLY REALIZE THIS. THE WORLD IS GETTING SMALLER AND SMALLER. WE ARE COMING INTO CONTACT WITH MORE NATIONALITIES. YOU SHOULD GIVE YOURSELF AN ADVANTAGE, BECAUSE KNOWING THEIR NATIVE LANGUAGE GAINS YOU RESPECT AND CREDIBILITY.

AT THE SAME TIME SPEAKING A TOTALLY UNKNOWN LANGUAGE, LIKE RUSSIAN OR CHINESE, HELPS YOU IMPROVE YOUR NATIVE ONE. CHOOSING THE EASY AND COMFORTABLE WAY, REJECTING ALL OTHER LANGUAGES EXCEPT ONE WILL JUST KEEP YOU CLOSE MINDED. AS A PERSON WHO SPEAKS ONLY ONE LANGUAGE GIVES YOU NO BASIS OF COMPARISON; CONCLUDING YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW YOUR OWN LANGUAGE AT ITS BEST. YOU CAN ONLY IMAGINE JUST THE OTHER ONES ARE NOT SO DIFFERENT AT ALL. THAT EVERY "DIALECT" HAS NOTHING IN COMMON WITH THE OTHER SPEAKING ABOUT HISTORY, TRADITION, GRAMMAR OR ACCENT. YOU WILL FIND YOURSELF SPEAKING, WRITING AND EVEN THINKING MORE PRECISE AND CREATIVE SENTENCES. HAVE YOU EVER WONDERED WHY MOST GREAT WRITERS AND POETS HAVE STUDIED MANY LANGUAGES?

WHY LEARN FOREIGN LANGUAGES?

FOR EXAMPLE DR. CARLOS DO AMRAL FREIRE IS SPEAKING 115 LANGUAGES. HE MANAGED TO TRANSLATE POEMS FROM 60 DIFFERENT LANGUAGES IN HIS OWN "DIALECT"- PORTUGUESE. CARLOS FREIRE, AT AGE 74, LIVES IN A COUNTRY HOUSE IN MORRO DAS PEDRAS, FLORIANOPOLIS. IN 2009, HE PUBLISHED A BOOK ENTITLED "BABEL DE IDIOMAS" ("BABEL OF LANGUAGES"), IN WHICH HE TRANSLATED POEMS FROM 60 DIFFERENT LANGUAGES INTO PORTUGUESE.

UNLESS PROVEN OTHERWISE, CARLOS HAS BEATEN ANOTHER RECORD: THAT OF MANAGING TO PUBLISH POEMS FROM THE LARGEST NUMBER OF OTHER LANGUAGES, TRANSLATING THEM INTO HIS/HER MOTHER TONGUE (IN HIS CASE, PORTUGUESE). THE GUINNESS (BOOK OF RECORDS) WILL BE CONSULTED SHORTLY TO PROVIDE A CONFIRMATION. FREIRE DOESN'T SPEAK 115 LANGUAGES. THAT'S HUMANLY IMPOSSIBLE. HE IS REASONABLY FLUENT IN ABOUT 30. THERE ARE LANGUAGES HE STUDIED 30 YEARS AGO, BUT FOR LACK OF TIME NEVER WENT BACK TO REVIEW, SINCE HE IS ALWAYS STUDYING A NEW LANGUAGE, AND IF HE COMES ACROSS A LANGUAGE STUDIED IN THE DISTANT PAST, HE WON'T NECESSARILY BE ABLE TO REMEMBER IT RIGHT AWAY, OF COURSE. BUT WITH A FEW HOURS OR DAYS HE CAN BRING IT BACK.

CARLOS WAS RECOGNIZED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE, IN ENGLAND, WHICH CONFERRED UPON HIM THE CERTIFICATE AS ONE OF THE 2001 MOST AMAZING MEN OF THE 20TH CENTURY.

Andreea Avramescu



Co-ordinating teacher: Carmen Malaet



It all happened more than 60 years ago, but, for most of the villagers from Radovan, it seems like yesterday. None of them can forget the tragedy that struck the whole village, the sad story of the girl who didn't find peace even after death.

Although more than half of a century has passed since then, the story of the young girl who came here because of the famine in Moldova still impresses the villagers of Radovan, who pray while passing by her grave.

Spring 1940, a teenager of just 17 was with the cattle in the forest of the village, without thinking that the next sight would remain in his mind for the rest of his life. "And as I was walking I saw something hanging from a tree. At first I didn't realize what it was. I thought somebody had hung some piece of fabric from the tree. When I got closer I realized horrified that there was a woman caught in a rope: Ileana had hung herself," remembered Constantin Tipiste, the one who discovered the body of the woman known today as the midnight bride of Radovan. "I was only 10 when she hung herself in the forest. I didn't know her very well, but I'd heard she had come from Moldova and was working for a villager named Mitran. When I got there, some were pulling her feet, to see if she was still alive, but none dared to cut the rope and get her down." said Dinu Vasile, another one of the witnesses.

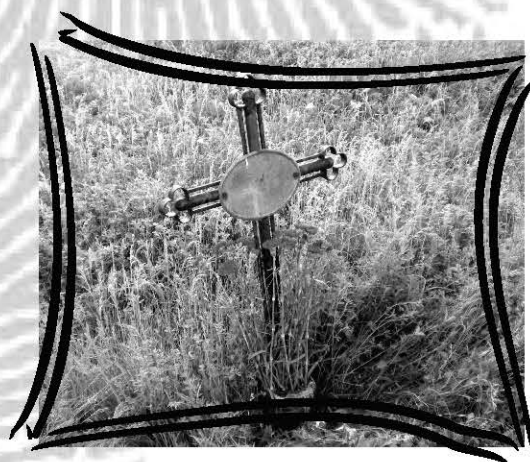
Ileana had come to Radovan a few months before taking her life. She was around 20, nobody knew the age for sure. She came with one of her sisters and found work in the house of Marin Mitran. Although he saw her more than 60 years ago, Constantin Tipiste has never forgotten the beautiful face of the girl from Moldova. "She was very pretty and all the men from the village wanted to be with her. But she had no interest for any of them. She came to the meetings in the village, but was more interested in working hard to keep her family in Moldova safe. Probably she didn't intend to stay here, just to earn money and go back to her relatives" continued Constantin Tipiste.

Radovan is a commune, part of Dolj County, and has a population of around 3,300 inhabitants. The main reason besides Fantanele Lake, for which this town is known is the story of Radovan Bride

THE GHOST OF THE MIDNIGHT BRIDE FROM RADOVAN

I must add that there is evidence for this legend supported by documents from the archive part of the village Radovan deaths register, records certifying the following:

- Document: Register of Deaths of Radovan village for 1948
- Name of deceased: Eleanor Padomianu
- Date of death: February 3, 1948, 17:00
- Occupation: farmer
- Religion: Orthodox
- Born: 1931, village Ghergheasa County Ramnicu Sarat, Moldova
- Age: 16 years
- Parents: Ghita and Mary Padomianu
- Died: Commune of Radovan - in the Vladasel Forest
- By order Parquet Court Dolj 933/1948 (violent death)



Luiza Maria Miculescu

Co-ordinating teacher: Carmen Malaet





HIGH FLYERS

A long time ago, a young man, called Icarus, wanted to fly like a bird. He made himself a pair of wings, using wax. He flew so high that he got too near the sun. The heat melted his wings and he fell to earth and died. So goes the story in classical Greek mythology.

Man has always wanted to fly. Many people have devoted their lives to building flying machines. Many have died in the process. We have been travelling by air for such a long time that it is easy to forget the achievements of the pioneers which have made it possible for us to fly.

The first person to fly did so in 1783 with a hot-air balloon designed by the Montgolfier brothers in France. The first hydrogen-filled balloons carried passengers until the 1930s. People have continued to fly balloons since then, but mostly for pleasure or sport.

The next development after balloons was the airship, or dirigible. This was a sausage-shaped balloon powered by an engine. The first flight of an airship, La France, was in 1884. Many huge hydrogen-filled airships were built to carry large numbers of passengers. On 6 May 1937 the world's longest airship, the Hindenburg, burst into flames, killing 35 of the 97 people on board. Airships have not been used again since that accident.

There have been many other exciting developments in the last hundred years. In the USA, Orville and Wilbur Wright built The Flyer, a biplane (with sets of wings. Bicycle chains and gears connected the engine to two propellers which turned at about 450 times per minute. Passenger flying developed after World War 1.

During the 1920s, passengers flew abroad mail planes, but by the late 1930s, flying was much more luxurious.

The wealthy can travel on Concorde, the first supersonic airliner. Concorde has been carrying people around the world since its launch in 1969. It can carry up to 144 passengers at twice the speed of sound and can cross the Atlantic in three hours.

Now that air travel is a common experience, man has turned his attention to the conquest of space. It isn't yet possible for you or me to travel into space for a holiday but you can be sure that someone, somewhere, is working to make this possible, perhaps during our lifetime.



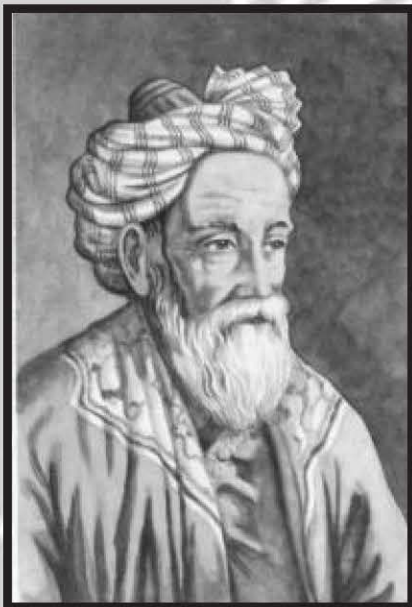
Catalina Duta

Co-ordinating teacher: Carmen Malaet





OMAR KHAYYAM. THE TWO TOOLS OF KNOWLEDGE: COMPUTER AND POETRY



Omar Khayyam (1038-1124), one of the greatest mathematicians of mediaeval times, was also philosopher, astronomer and poet. His Algebra contains geometric and algebraic solutions of equations of the second degree; an admirable classification of equations, including the cubic; a systematic attempt to solve them all, and partial geometric solutions of most of them. Khayyam's greatest legacy is a remarkably accurate solar calendar, which he developed when the Seljuk sultan, Malik-Shah Jalal al-Din, required a new schedule for revenue collection. Khayyam's calendar was even more accurate than the Gregorian calendar presently used in most of the world: Khayyam's calendar had an error of one day in 3770 years, while the Gregorian had an error of one day in 3330 years.

For his mathematical and astronomical researches he utilized a sophisticated instrument called astrolabe. The astrolabe is a very ancient computer for solving problems relating to time and the position of the Sun and stars in the sky. The astrolabe is a computer without software components, without operating system, only a hardware computer. An early astrolabe was invented in the Hellenistic world in 150 BC. The astrolabe was effectively an analog calculator capable of working out several different kinds of problems in spherical astronomy. The back side of the astrolabe includes a variety of graphical devices for determining trigonometric functions. The astrolabe owes its simplicity as a mathematical instrument to the stereographic projection. Khayyam used this originally computer to solve many astronomical problems that would otherwise require rather sophisticated mathematics.

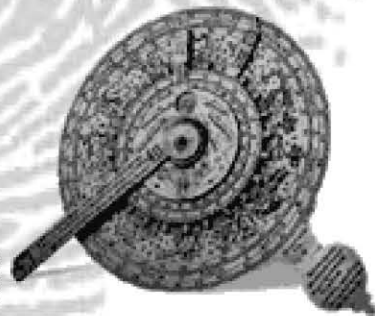
But Khayyam was not only an outstanding scientist, but also a deep philosopher. Khayyam understood the meaning of not being in control of our lives and deaths, and found the limits of our freedom. He understood what was important in life. Khayyam understood that it was our fate, our destiny, something beyond our control to be born into this world. He also understood that death was an inevitable fate for anyone who was ever born. He understood that our bodies come from dust and clay, and return to clay. He understood the fantasy of concerning ourselves with the future, as well as the neurosis of staying in our past. He saw that all we have is this ever slipping moment, this now, which itself has a timeless quality.

And if for his scientific researches he used the computer as a tool of investigations, for the philosophical approach he used the poetry. It is impossible not to mention the Rubaiyat, which have become one of the most popular classics of the world literature in 1859, when Edward Fitzgerald published the first and most famous English translation.

Below is an example from Rubaiyat, chosen as a conclusion of his scientific and philosophical insights:

Below is an example from Rubaiyat, chosen as a conclusion of his scientific and philosophical insights:

**My heart was never deprived of knowledge
Few secrets remain that I have not learned
For seventy-two years I have pondered day and night
Now I know this: Nothing is really known.**
(Omar Khayyam, quatrain 93)



Robert Andrei Stan XII F

Co-ordinating teacher: Laviniu Aurelian Bădulescu



Making of a Star

We're pretty sure that most of you know who Psy is, and if you don't know, the line "Oppa, Gangnam style" will surely sound familiar. However, how many of you know that he is not from China, nor Japan, but from a relatively small country called South Korea?



Psy is not the only Korean artist known worldwide. Boy groups such as Big Bang, Beast, Super Junior, TVXQ or girl groups like 2NE1, Girls' Generation and Wonder Girls have fluttered the hearts of millions of international fans. The songs they sing fall under a musical genre called k-pop, which stands for Korean pop. Contrary to popular belief, their road to stardom is not as easy as it seems.



It all starts with an audition to entertainment companies such as YG, SM, JYP or Cube. Every week they receive about 500 audition tapes online. However, only about 100 to 200 of those pass the first round, and only then can the audition entrants participate in an offline audition, which is held twice a month. If they are talented enough to pass it, they start taking lessons in vocals, choreography, acting and foreign languages, being able to call themselves trainees

under the respective companies. This tough process can take up from two to even six years.

You may wonder what the life of a trainee is like. Well, like any other student of their age, they go to school every morning and afterwards they head straight to their entertainment company. At the entrance of the building, the trainees must hand over their cellphones which are seen as a distraction. They proceed to vocal lessons, dance practice, yoga classes for girls and hours of workout in the company's gym for the boys. The trainees also receive foreign language lessons, usually for Chinese, Japanese and English. Moreover, once a month they participate in volunteer work and once every two weeks, they go around their neighbourhood and collect trash, because the directors of their companies wish to forge artists who possess both talent and proper characters.

Once you become a trainee, your lifestyle changes completely. Because the majority of the trainees are still in their teens, their trainers are also responsible for checking their health and school grades. For example, should they receive a low test score at school, the trainer will sit with them and come up with a goal to bring up their grade. In other words, their trainers become like their parents during their stay at the company.

In spite of their hard work, not all of the trainees hit the stage and actually debut. Every week they are evaluated in order to see if any progress has been made. If not, they have to leave the company and return to their normal lives. It may sound harsh, but only the best trainees from all points of view can make it to the top, because once they debut, they not only have to be able to put up mindblowing shows, but also be able to cope with the hardships fame comes with: from outrageous scandals to obsessed fans.

Taking everything into account, you should think more than twice before insulting an artist, whether he is Korean or not, because behind those glamorous outfits and perfect bodies may lie years and years of hard work, perseverance, fierce competition and of course, genuine talent. Concerning us, we respect all Korean artists, even those who we don't listen to, because we know the hardships they had to put up with from becoming a trainee to a worldwide-known artist.



Daria Girju & Alexandra Maria Bildea

Co-ordinating teacher: Carmen Malaet



BE HAPPY !!



Miscellaneous

DISTEENCT

ISSUE # 14

THE WEIRDEST ANIMALS IN THE WORLD

SEA DRAGON:

THE SEA DRAGON LIVES ON THE SOUTHERN AND WESTERN COASTS OF AUSTRALIA. THIS STRANGE ANIMAL IS PERFECTLY CAMOUFLAGED, HARDLY DO YOU FAIL TO DISTINGUISH IT FROM A PLANT. MOREOVER, IT HAS THE ABILITY TO CHANGE COLOR TO BE CONFUSED AS EASILY WITH THE ENVIRONMENT.



AYE-AYE:

THE AYE-AYE IS CERTAINLY ONE OF THE STRANGEST ANIMALS. THEY SAY BEAUTY IS IN THE EYE OF THE BEHOLDER, BUT UNFORTUNATELY FOR THIS ANIMAL IT CANNOT BE CONSIDERED BEAUTIFUL. SUPERSTITIOUS RESIDENTS BELIEVE THAT THE AYE-AYE IS EVIL. BUT THIS LEMUR FROM MADAGASCAR IS AMONG THE RAREST SPECIES IN THE WORLD.



Monica Gabrea

Co-ordinating teacher: Carmen Malaet

INSIDE THIS CHAPTER

The weirdest animals in the world	25
Fashion trends 2013	26
Famous couples in History	27
Folk's wisdom	28
Can dolphins talk?	29
Wenlock and Mandeville	30
JOKES	31
Food Zodiac	35
The 1980's Craze	36



FASHION TRENDS 2013



Whether we choose to consciously compute the fact or not, how we look does impact the way we feel. It may be that we dress to a theme that evokes a mood, that we choose to pull on something that incites a certain confidence within us, or that we – for no definable reason at all – simply fall in love with a particular piece of clothing or accessory. Either way, the reality is that a large part of how our style evolves each year has to do with the clothing, hair, beauty and accessory trends sweeping fashion, sweeping the runways or the magazine pages or the streets. Not because we have to follow them, but because they inspire us. Each year we analyse what's happening in the fashion world as a way to understand where the trends are coming from, where they're going, and – should you so choose – how you can adapt them to your own personal style, in a way that suits you.

It's not uncommon for a massive wardrobe clean-up to end up on the New Year's resolution list. New year, new wardrobe, new you. Doing it properly means being ruthless, whether you adhere to the philosophy of a curated wardrobe or not. But knowing what to keep is just as important as knowing what to throw away. Otherwise, come the change in season, you'll be left saying that awful phrase of damn, I wish I'd kept my....

The spring 2013 runways shone with metallic hues: bronze, gold, silver, leather, silk, lurex... If it was metallic, odds are you could spot it on some runway or another. You'll also find that, come spring / summer 2013, metallics will be on many a shop shelf. Keeping any metallics you've invested in through 2012 is not only a good idea, it's a must.

If you've found yourself indulging in some playfully retro pieces – like 1950s style costume jewellery, pencil skirts, vintage-style hats and anything that takes its cues from the bold, bright side of 1960s fashion, fear not: there's no reason you can't keep playing dress-ups with it. Spring brings ample opportunity to show off legs in micro-mini mod dresses, or to cinch waists and layer on the attitude like a retro bombshell babe.

Leather is just for winter – said no-one ever who actually knew what they were talking about. Leather works across the seasons and those leather skirts we loved so much for the colder months aren't precluded from working in spring and even summer. Lighter weight leathers and in lighter hues will of course be ideal, but don't forget that you can always head out at night – once the sun has gone down – in your black pleated leather skirt even in spring.



The cape is such a perfect winter layering staple that it can be hard to imagine wearing one in spring. But capes can not only work, they can be a pleasant and unexpected surprise in the warmer months. Burberry Prorsum's runway was the perfect example of that: capes in Duchess Satin in seasonal colours proved that the cape was here to stay, and more desirable than ever.



Corina Amelia Firescu



Coordinating teacher: Carmen Malaet



Famous Couples in History

Caesar and Cleopatra

During Cleopatra's attempts to get the throne back from her brother, Caesar was also in Egypt, running from his enemy Pompey. They could not see each other due to these circumstances but, one night during a riot, a boat slipped into the harbor and tied up to the palace steps. A slave got off the ship carrying a roll of carpet. In the midst of the confusion, no one bothered to stop him from entering the palace. Once inside, the slave unrolled the carpet that held Cleopatra. When she rolled out of the carpet that night, it began one of the history's greatest love stories. Her ruse and her dramatic entrance into Caesar's life surprised and delighted him; he was immediately captivated by her charm and intelligence.



Prince Charles and Lady Diana

Diana attended school at West Heath in Kent and then spent a short time in Switzerland. Although she was not an excellent student, her determined personality, caring nature, and cheerful outlook helped her through it. It was about this time that Prince Charles, in his early 30s, was under increasing pressure to choose a wife. Diana's vibrancy, cheerfulness, and good family background caught his attention and the two began dating. It was a whirlwind romance and on February 24, 1981, Buckingham Palace officially announced the couple's engagement. At that time, Lady Diana and Prince Charles seemed truly in love and the whole world was awed by what seemed like a fairytale romance.

Adolf Hitler and Eva Braun

Eva Braun was the longtime companion of Adolf Hitler and, for less than 40 hours, his wife. Braun met Hitler in Munich when she was 17 years old, while she was working as an assistant and model for his personal photographer. By 1936, she was a part of his household at the Berghof and lived a sheltered life throughout World War II. On 29 April 1945, she married Hitler during a brief civil ceremony; she was 33 and he was 56. Less than 40 hours later, they committed suicide together in a sitting room of the bunker. The German public was unaware of Braun's relationship with Hitler until after her death.



Henry VIII and Anne Boleyn

"Wishing myself (specially an evening) in my sweetheart's arms, whose pretty dukkys I trust shortly to kiss. Written with the hand of him that was, is, and shall be yours by his will." This is a part of Henry's letter to his greatest love, Anne Boleyn. She was a young, very popular and intelligent girl. However, when Anne caught Henry's interest, she was already engaged to Henry Percy. Despite their relationship, Henry ordered his minister Cardinal Wolsey to break the engagement and after that, he did everything to marry Anne. When she gave birth to a girl and not a boy, like he had expected, Henry got mad and ordered her execution on 19

May 1536.

Alexandra Lupu

Co-ordinating teacher: Carmen Malaet





LA SAGESSE DU PEUPLE / folk's wisdom

Trouvez le correspondant de chaque proverbe / Match the sayings in the two columns :

- A) c'est dans le besoin qu'on connaît ses amis
- B) rira bien qui rira le dernier
- C) qui se ressemble, s'assemble
- D) à la saint – glinglin
- E) tomber de la poêle sur la braise
- F) il vaut mieux aujourd'hui l'oeuf que demain la poule
- G) la dernière goutte est celle qui fait déborder le vase
- H) la semaine des quatre jeudis
- I) qui sème le vent récolte la tempête
- J) vieille peau ne peut tenir couture
- K) suer sang et eau
- L) c'est une façon de parler
- M) parler latin devant les cordeliers
- N) suivre quelqu'un comme son ombre
- O) n'écouter que d'une oreille
- P) travailler d'arrache-pied
- Q) mettre son pied dans tous les souliers
- R) c'est le ton qui fait la chanson
- S) suivre quelqu'un comme le lundi le dimanche
- T) avoir les cheveux qui se dressent sur la tête

- a) jump out of the frying pan into the fire
- b) birds of a feather flock together
- c) when two Sundays come in one week
- d) prosperity makes friends and adversity tries them
- e) he laughs best that laughs last
- f) the last straw that breaks the camel's back
- g) when the Ethiopian changes his skin
- h) an old dog will learn no new tricks
- i) never quit certainty for hope
- j) he who sows the storm will reap the whirlwind
- k) to carry coals to Newcastle
- l) to stick to somebody like a burr
- m) save the mark
- n) it goes in at one ear and out at the other
- o) to work oneself to death
- p) good words cost nothing and are worth much
- q) to be kept with one's nose to the grindstone
- r) his hair stood on ends
- s) to thrust one's nose everywhere
- t) to stick to somebody like a flea to a fleece



Dănuț Cîrloiu\

Gymnasium School "Lascăr Catargiu"

Co-ordinating teacher: Mihaela Ivan



A-d; B-e; C-b; D-c; E-a; F-l; G-f; H-g; I-j; J-h; K-o; L-m; M-k; N-l; O-n; P-q; Q-s; R-p; S-t; T-r



CAN DOLPHINS TALK?

There are about 32 species of dolphins. Their size can vary. The smallest dolphin is less than 1.2m long. The largest, the bottle-nosed dolphin can be 3m long. The killer whale is considered a dolphin despite its great lengths of 9m.

Scientists have discovered that dolphins almost constantly emit clicking sounds or whistles. The clicks are like a radar system; the signals that are sent by dolphins bounce back when they strike an object. In this way the clicking sounds help the animals locate objects; dolphins are able to navigate among their companions and other large objects to detect fish or even small shrimp.

Dolphins can't talk to each other by making whistling sounds. They send signals when they are sick or in danger. Dolphins help each other; if one is ill or hurt, the others will carry it to the surface of the water so that it can breathe through the hole at the top of their head. This prevents it from drowning. The other dolphins will not leave the sick animal until it gets healthy again.

Dolphins are highly intelligent animals. Because of their ability to learn and perform complex tasks in captivity, some investigators have suggested that the animals could be taught to say words and communicate with people. In the wild dolphins are protected; they can live more than 30 years. In captivity most of them die young. Performing the same trick every day is also bad for them. People are concerned about the treatment of dolphins on display in public aquariums.

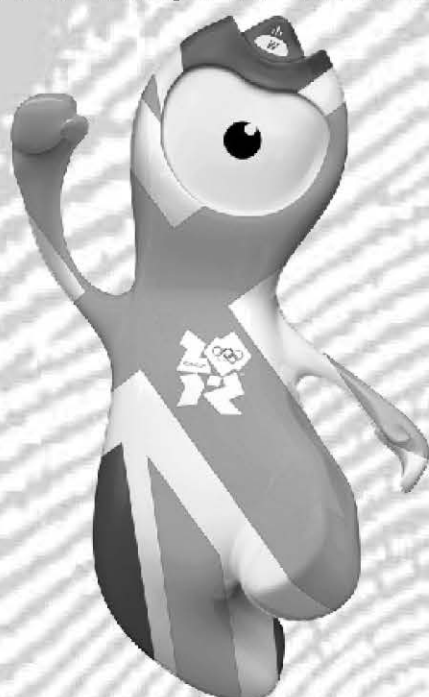
Cristina Barbu

Co-ordinating teacher: Carmen Malaet





WENLOCK AND MANDEVILLE

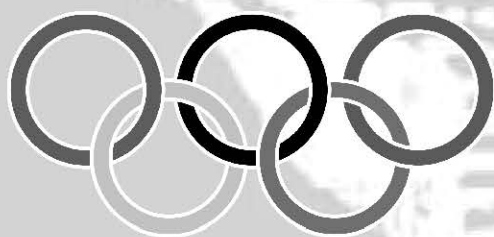


Wenlock and Mandeville were the official mascots for the 2012 Summer Olympics and Paralympics in London, United Kingdom. They were created by iris, a London-based creative agency. The mascots were unveiled on 19 May 2010, marking the second time that both Olympic and Paralympic mascots were unveiled at the same time.

Characteristics: according to the associated storyline, they were formed from the last girder of the Olympic Stadium. Their skins are made of highly polished steel allowing them to reflect the personalities and appearances of the people they meet. Their one eye is a camera and on their heads are yellow lights symbolizing those of a London Taxi.

Wenlock's name is inspired by Much Wenlock in Shropshire, England, where the Wenlock Olympian Society held its first Olympian Games in 1850, regarded as an inspiration for the modern Olympic games. The five friendship rings on his wrists represents the Olympic rings, and three points on his head represent the three places on the podium. The pattern on his body symbolises the whole world coming to London, and the shape of his helmet represents the shape of the Olympic Stadium.

Mandeville is named after the Stoke Mandeville Hospital in Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire, which organised the first Stoke Mandeville Games for the first time in 1948, which is considered to be the precursor to the Paralympics. The three spikes on Mandeville's helmet represent the Paralympic Agitos.



Andreea Adelina Milotin

Co-ordinating teacher: Carmen Malaet





DID YOU KNOW?

- ... that the white of the egg and almost all the yolk are not part of the chicken, but food for the developing chicken?
- ... that a growing plant can push very hard against anything that gets in its way? If soft, little ferns begin to grow underneath a sidewalk, they can crack the cement.
- ... that elephants are very good swimmers?
- ... that the whale can jump higher than other animals?
- ... that the squirrel can climb a tree faster than it can run on the ground?
- ... that tree-fourth of the potato is water?
- ... that until about a century ago people thought that the tomato, though beautiful, was a poisonous fruit? People grew it in flower gardens for decoration and called it love apple.
- ... that lions are cleverer than tigers and leopards? Among the domestic animals the cleverest are the horse and the dog. These animals take much from the people with whom they live



Jokes

There was a new cook in the house, but she could not cook very well. There were eggs for breakfast. The lady said to the cook:

"You take an egg, put it in hot water and boil it for three minutes, three minutes are enough." At breakfast the cook brought the eggs. They were hard.

"Mary, said the lady, these eggs are hard. I told you that three minutes were enough to boil an egg."

"But madam, said the cook, there were five eggs, so I boiled them for a quarter of an hour."

During an international exhibition in Paris a Scotsman and a Frenchman make friends. As a token of their friendship they each buy a fan.

Several years later they meet again. The Frenchman no longer has his fan, but the Scotsman still has it.

"How did you manage to keep it so long?" the Frenchman asks. "I've spoiled mine."

"I'm sure you've used it wrongly. You have to keep it still and move your head in front of it."

A little girl is walking with her mother along the street. In front of them is a very bald gentleman. "Look, mother," the girl says, he has to comb less hair than me"

The gentleman hears her and answers:

"Yes, but I have to wash much more face!"

In a newspaper there was the following advertisement:

"Gentleman, owner of a car made in 1938, wants wife younger than his car."

Cristina Barbu

Co-ordinating teacher: Carmen Malaet





DO YOU BELIEVE IN ASTROLOGY? I'VE NEVER TAKEN MY ZODIAC SIGN OR WEEKLY HOROSCOPES VERY SERIOUSLY, ALTHOUGH THE LATTER CAN BE FUN TO READ FROM TIME TO TIME. I'D HEARD OF DETERMINING WHETHER OR NOT A ROMANTIC RELATIONSHIP WILL BE SUCCESSFUL BASED ON ZODIAC SIGNS, BUT UNTIL RECENTLY, I'D NEVER HEARD THAT YOUR SIGN COULD DICTATE THE FOODS THAT YOU SHOULD AND SHOULDN'T EAT! IT MAKES SENSE, THOUGH—IF YOUR ZODIAC SIGN DETERMINES YOUR PERSONALITY, YOUR COMPATIBILITY WITH OTHERS, AND WHO YOU ARE IN GENERAL, WHY SHOULDN'T IT ALSO DETERMINE WHICH FOODS ARE BEST FOR YOU?

Aries " Eat: Brown rice, lettuce, cauliflower " Avoid: Spicy food, salt, and alcohol	Taurus " Eat: Cranberries, asparagus and horseradish " Avoid: Rich and heavy foods, and excessive amounts of carbohydrates	Gemini " Eat: Plums, grapefruit, grape juice, raisins " Avoid: Coffee, root vegetables (e.g. potatoes and radishes), yeasty foods, and refined sugar
Cancer " Eat: seaweed, vegan yogurt, beans, and natural sugars " Avoid: Oily foods, salt, sweets, and refined sugar	Leo " Eat: Whole grains, root vegetable and figs " Avoid: Spicy food, and dairy products	Virgo " Eat: bananas, oranges, leafy greens, vegetables with spices, sprouts, soups, and almonds " Avoid: Rich and heavy foods, and chocolate
Libra " Eat: oats, grapes, steamed vegetables " Avoid: Alcohol, carbonated beverages, yeasty foods, and refined sugar	Scorpio " Eat: Fruits, bananas, black cherries, steamed vegetables, green salads, leeks, cauliflower, onions, radishes, tomatoes, asparagus, cucumbers, beets, beans, lentils, and almonds " Avoid: Oily foods, yeasty foods, salt, sweets, and refined sugar	Sagittarius " Eat: pears, apples, oranges, strawberries " Avoid: Spicy food, sweets, refined sugar, and alcohol
Aquarius " Eat: cabbage, celery, corn " Avoid: Coffee, yeasty foods, and refined sugar	Pisces " Eat: lemons, peaches, spinach, onions, seaweed, beans, dates, and natural sugars " Avoid: Coffee, oily foods, yeasty foods, asparagus, salt, sweets, and refined sugar	Capricorn " Eat: cabbage, corn, potatoes, sprouts, soups, teas, peanuts, figs " Avoid: Rich and heavy foods, spicy foods, and chocolate

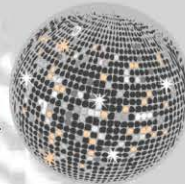
Maria Alexandra Andrei



Co-ordinating teacher: Carmen Malaet



The 1980's Craze



THE 80'S WERE VERY IMPORTANT YEARS IN MUSIC'S HISTORY. KNOWN AS THE "DECADE OF EXCESS", THE 80'S BROUGHT A MORE VISUAL EXPERIENCE TO MUSIC. FROM FIREWORKS AND NEW STAGE PROPS AT CONCERTS, TO TELEVISED MUSIC VIDEOS, THE 80'S MADE SITTING NEXT TO THE RADIO A THING OF THE PAST. THE 60'S WERE THE NATURAL, HIPPIE MUSIC ERA. THE 70'S WERE THE DANCE CRAZED DISCO ERA. BY THE TIME THE 80'S ROLLED AROUND, PEOPLE NEEDED SOMETHING NEW AND CRAZY. BRIGHT COLORS AND FLASHY CLOTHES WERE THE CRAZE. HAIR AND CLOTHES WERE A DIRECT REFLECTION OF THE MUSIC PEOPLE LISTENED TO. THE 1980'S WAS A DECADE OF REVOLUTIONARY CHANGES TO THE MUSIC SCENE. THE TWO MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS WERE THE ADVENT OF MTV AND THE COMPACT DISC. MUSIC BECAME MORE DIVERSE, WITH NEW STYLES SUCH AS WAVE, HEAVY METAL, RAP, TECHNO POP, ALTERNATIVE ROCK AND THE NEW COUNTRY SOUNDS. MUSIC BECAME A HUGE MARKETING TOOL AS FILMMAKERS, TV PRODUCERS AND MANUFACTURERS OF EVERYTHING FROM SNEAKERS TO SOFT DRINKS USED HIT SONGS AND HOT PERFORMERS TO SELL THEIR PRODUCTS. DURING THE 80'S, MTV, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS MUSIC TELEVISION, BROUGHT VIDEOS ALONG WITH MUSIC TO TV. MTV BROUGHT THE ARTISTS CLOSER TO THEIR FANS BY BEING IN THEIR HOMES AND SHOWING HOW THEY LOOK, ALONG WITH HOW THEY SOUND. MTV BECAME A PLACE WHERE UNKNOWN ARTISTS COULD BECOME HUGE. SOME OF THESE ARTISTS ARE STILL KNOWN TODAY LIKE MADONNA, DURAN DURAN, DEVO, THE POLICE, PRINCE, MICHAEL JACKSON, R.E.M., PUBLIC ENEMY AND MANY OTHERS. THE MUSIC VIDEO BROUGHT A NEW STYLE OF LIFE TO PEOPLE'S HOMES. HAIR AND CLOTHING WERE VERY MUCH AFFECTED BUT ALSO CARS, SPORTS, AND OTHER SUBJECTS WERE. AFTER SEEING ROCK STARS DRIVE AMERICAN MUSCLE CARS IN THEIR VIDEOS, PEOPLE WENT AND BOUGHT MUSTANGS, T-BIRDS AND CORVETTES.

THE POST-DISCO DECADE BROUGHT MORE WILD MUSIC AND DANCING TO AMERICA. ROCK AND ROLL WAS THE BIGGEST FORM OF MUSIC AT THE BEGINNING OF THE DECADE. THE ROCK AND ROLL LIFE STYLE WAS A PARTY LIFE STYLE. MANY ROCK ARTISTS WERE CRITICIZED BECAUSE THEY PRAISED BEER AND TRASHING IN THEIR MUSIC. ARTISTS LIKE BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN, VAN HALEN, DEF LEPPARD BECAME BIG ROCK STARS DURING THE 80'S. LATER ON DURING THE 80'S POP MUSIC BECAME POPULAR. POP WAS MUSIC THAT EVERYONE COULD ENJOY, WITH ITS CATCHY BEATS AND TUNES. MICHAEL JACKSON PAVED THE WAY OF POP MUSIC AND EARNED THE NAME KING OF POP. HIS AMAZING DANCE MOVES AND SINGING ABILITY MADE HIM ONE OF THE BEST KNOWN ARTISTS IN THE WORLD. HIS ALBUMS AND SONGS BROKE MANY MUSIC RECORDS AND SET POP MUSIC AS A STRONG FORCE IN THE INDUSTRY.

ALL IN ALL THE 1980'S LEFT A STRONG MARK ON MUSIC'S HISTORY WITH ARTISTS SUCH AS MICHAEL JACKSON AND MADONNA WHO HAVE REMAINED POPULAR EVEN IN OUR DAYS. IT WAS AND WILL REMAIN ONE OF THE MOST BEAUTIFUL DECADES IN MUSIC.



Alexandra Lupu



Co-ordinating teacher: Carmen Malaet



CONGRATULATIONS!

We mention the following best results at the
County English Olympic Contest:

9th Grade

1. Botu Cristina- Mention; co-ordinating teacher Popescu Georgiana
2. Dumitru Ana- Mention; co-ordinating teacher Popescu Georgiana
3. Dzediti Maria Lucia- Mention; co-ordinating teacher Delia Cristea
4. Nove Miruna Stefania- Mention; co-ordinating teacher Delia Cristea
5. Popa Anca Gabriela- Mention; co-ordinating teacher Roxana Crisu

10th Grade

1. Amzoiu Ana Maria- Mention; co-ordinating teacher Carmen Malaet
2. Cristea Catalina Andreea- Mention; co-ordinating teacher Delia Cristea
3. Girju Daria- Mention; co-ordinating teacher Carmen Malaet
4. Neicu Maria Cristina - Mention ; co-ordinating teacher Delia Cristea
5. Neicu Natalia Andreea - Mention; co-ordinating teacher Delia Cristea
6. Paduraru Alexandra- Mention; co-ordinating teacher Palastea Cornelia
7. Salceanu Andreea - Mention ; co-ordinating teacher Carmen Malaet
8. Sbirna Sebastian - Mention : co-ordinating teacher Silvia Smadu

11th Grade

1. Teutan Ana Carmen - 3rd Prize ; co-ordinating teacher Carmen Malaet
2. Cojocaru Malina Elena- Mention; co-ordinating teacher Carmen Malaet
3. Cotoi Ioana Mihaela - Mention; co-ordinating teacher Roxana Crisu

Public Speaking Competition

National Semifinals

Cojocaru Malina Elena ; grade XIE

1st Prize

Co-ordinating teacher: Carmen Malaet

Missing Eminescu- Recitation County Contest

Gheorghita Simona, Grigorascu Andreea & Iordache Irina
Grade XE 1st Prize

Co-ordinating teacher: Carmen Malaet



Play & Game Contest

National Heat

Cojocaru Malina Elena ; Grade XIE -

2nd Prize

Co-ordinating teacher: Carmen
Malaet

Art & Poetry National Heat Contest

1. Girju Daria & Cisma Diana Gabriela - Grade X
E- 1st Prize

2. Cojocaru Malina Elena & Butescu Raluca -
Grade XIE- 1st Prize

3. Bildea Alexandra & Pitigoi Diana Maria-
Grade XE- 3rd Prize

4. Ionescu Anda Sabina & Salceanu Andreea
Lavinia - Grade XE- 3rd Prize
Co-ordinating teacher : Carmen Malaet

My Universe County Contest

Amzoiu Ana-Maria & Netoiu Stefania-
Grade X A - 1st Prize

Co-ordinating teachers: Carmen Malaet &
Radu Scorajitu

Girju Daria & Ionescu Anda Sabina - Grade
XE- 1st Prize

Co-ordinating teachers: Carmen Malaet &
Irina Capatina



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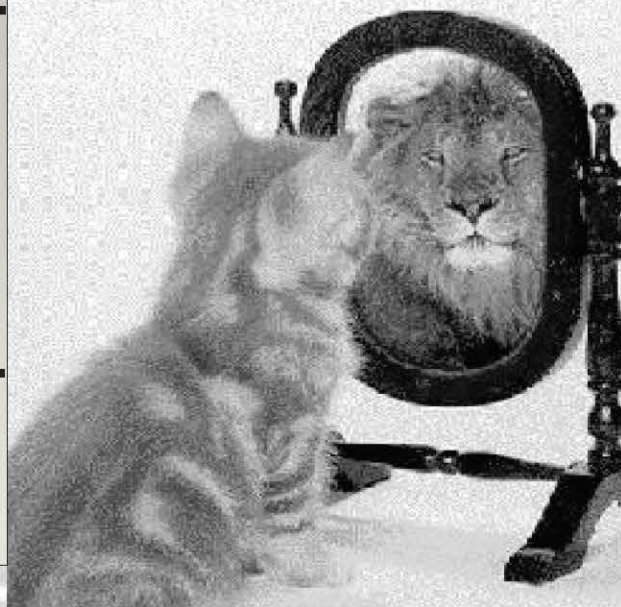
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