

# The Dragon

· YEAR 1 · ISSUE 1 ·

BACHILLERATO ALEXANDER BAIN

## Dear BAB community,

Greeting and welcome to the first edition of “The Dragon”, the digital magazine where our students will unfold their imagination, give life to their thoughts and dreams, and unleash their creative writing skills both in English and French.

We were thrilled to have so many freshmen wishing to have their work published. THANK YOU and EVERYONE who made this first edition possible!

Special thanks to our English & French teachers & editors: Ms. Ale Alanis, Mr. Jim Hurtado, Mr. Ruben Mitre, Mr. Danson Wolfe, Ms. Judith Escale, Ms. Danielle Schont; also, to Ms. Gaby Villa and our most talented graphic designer: Ms. Caro Lopez Llano.

We hope you'll be hooked on reading “The Dragon”, because we're looking forward to publishing two more issues during this school year.

Merry holiday season and ALL THE BEST to our BAB community in the year to come!

Happy reading!

World Languages Department

## Chère communauté BAB,

Voici la première édition du « Dragon », le magazine numérique où nos élèves pourront déployer des trésors d'imagination, donner vie à leurs rêves, et libérer leurs compétences d'écriture créative en anglais et en français.

Nous sommes ravis de voir autant d'élèves de troisième année souhaitant publier leur travail. Merci à vous et à tous ceux qui ont rendu cette première édition possible !

Un grand merci aux professeurs et éditeurs anglophones et francophones : Mme. Ale Alanis, M. Jim Hurtado, M. Ruben Mitre, M. Danson Wolfe, Mme. Judith Escale, Mme. Danielle Schont ; aussi à Mme. Gaby Villa et à notre très douée graphiste : Mme. Caro Lopez Llano.

Nous espérons que vous serez accro à la lecture du « Dragon », car nous sommes impatients de publier deux autres numéros au cours de cette année scolaire.

Joyeuses Fêtes et nous meilleurs vœux pour la nouvelle année !

Bonne lecture !

Département de langues du monde



Isaac Bashevis Singers

## The Plot of a Story

The plot of Utzel and his Daughter Poverty by Isaac Bashevis Singers was, that Utzel was a very poor man. He needed money, but he hated to work. What he did most of the day was sleep and sleep. He had a daughter named Poverty. She had big feet. That was a problem too. He was a man with many problems. Some factors were that he needed money. He was lazy, and he needed to take care of his daughter.

The main factor that changed Utzel's life was that he wanted someone to marry his daughter Poverty. Poverty had ugly feet and Utzel needed to buy her some shoes. He asked for money, bought the shoes and final Poverty could wear the shoes.

He then needed to pay the money that he didn't have. A man told him to work, so he and his daughter started working. Then her feet stopped growing.

The story won the Nobel Prize in literature because it entertains and teaches at the same time. It relates to us, because if you want to live, you need to work. No one can be happy and live without doing anything.

Juan Pablo Sanguino  
1st C

## The Main Theme of a Story

The central theme of Utzel and his Daughter Poverty by Isaac Bashevis Singers was laziness. Utzel was poor, because he was lazy. His daughter, Poverty, grew tall and heavy, because he was lazy and didn't work. That was a representation of how Utzel was, all because he was lazy. Utzel decided to change his life and work, because he loved his daughter. He wanted her to marry someone wealthy.

The story is about Jewish life. This story relates to me, because I'm lazy sometimes, and there are consequences.

Paula Bákula  
1st B

## The Theme of Back of the Bus by Martin Luther King Jr.

Back of the Bus is about racism in the United States and its consequences. A woman named Rosa Parks was on a bus, when a white person told her to give up her seat to another white person. Her refusal led to her arrest. This story is unfair and inhumane, because they couldn't understand that it doesn't matter the color you are, you are still human.



You have rights and should not be less worthy because of the color of your skin.

This incident had a very important impact in the United States, because Afro-Americans rebelled. They asked for rights and equality, like a proper seat on the bus. All that thanks to Rosa Parks who inspired them to show that they were equal.

Valentina Appendini  
1st B





# A Scary Story

This story takes place in a little town. Unlike other little towns, the people didn't take the time to get to know their neighbors. All were family and friends of those people who lived in a smaller town nearby. Not one got along with each other. When someone dared to look directly into the eyes of someone else in the street, he was judged and had to deal with threatening looks for at least a week.

Their houses were, at least, one block apart; so no one would get in each other's business. It was also considered very rude to cross in front of a house without moving to the other side of the street. People moved away very often but no one was sure when, no one knew why, and no one cared. You knew someone was gone or dead when you didn't see them on Sunday at church for 2 weeks in a row, because one week meant sickness or trip.

No one planned to live in that town forever; and no one was born there, except for a man whose name was Sam. He didn't go to church, but you could see him every day from 6:00 to 8:00am in his window just spying on people, and no one was brave enough to cross in front of Sam's house at all.

It hadn't always been like that. It had been a happy, little, sociable town until the first murder. The name of the victim was Lara. She was a young woman, almost 17, kind, and well behaved; and no one really knew who killed her or why, and the police weren't helpful.

After that people started to be more cautious, they stopped socializing and didn't trust their neighbors. But every month there was another death, some people claimed they had seen a tall man with large arms and a long face, and those people called him the shadow.

After a year and a half, the only person left in town was Sam. Everyone else was dead or gone. Eventually the town recovered, and people returned, but nothing was the same. the killer was never found, and the deaths stopped, or at least we thought they had.

It was October 3 when Sophie was found dead in her backyard. Her mother, an important lawyer in a big city 2 hours away from town, was just returning from work when she found her daughter with a hole on her back.

People feared the worst. Some people had already run away, but not me and my family. We didn't have enough money to buy a house in the city and my parents didn't want to

move to other places, so we stayed. We didn't know that the next person to die was going to be my brother.

It was a cold winter, me and my brother decided to go play in the snow for a while. We went near the frozen lake, but we weren't allowed to step on the ice so we didn't. Lucas, my brother, was making a snowman next to me when we heard a noise. It wasn't dark, but in a few hours, it would be; so, I decided it was time to go home. We were about to leave, when we heard a noise again. We stood quietly for a minute and then I saw a tall man with large arms and a long face. I grabbed my brother's hand and ran to the frozen lake. We were just about to get there, when I turned around and fell. I hit my head hard. I thought my brother had kept running, so I closed my eyes waiting for the tall man to kill me; but he didn't. My brother, trying to help me, returned. The creature hit him in the face bringing him to the ground. I was very scared so I ran to the frozen lake, and standing in the cold ice I saw how the creature took my brother's life. Then the creature looked at me still, silent. I got the feeling he was memorizing my face. Seconds later he disappeared in the woods leaving me and my lifeless brother alone, and somehow, I knew I was next.

After the funeral I tried to forget about everything. I was devastated but I needed to be strong for my mom and dad, even though they thought it was my fault he died. No one believed me when I told the story. Some people believed a wolf had killed him. Others believed I had done it and had made up the story.

After a month, I knew I needed to be cautious. So, I went home early every day; but one Friday, my mom and dad went looking for a house far away from that town leaving me alone at home. It was almost midnight when I heard a loud noise down stairs. My heart started beating very fast. Was it him, was I going to die? I grabbed my brother's old bat and went downstairs. With every step, I felt I was having a heart attack. When I got to the kitchen, there was a window wide open. I heard another noise and when I turned around, it was Sam in the living room. He just looked directly at my eyes and whispered, "be careful", then he opened the front door and left. The next morning, they found Sam's body in the woods.

I felt dizzy and my head hurt. It was Monday and my mom and dad had returned from their trip. At school I wasn't really paying attention and for that I needed to stay after school to speak to the teacher. After a long speech of how my brother's death couldn't be an excuse, he let me go home. I felt like the trip home was longer and darker. It usually takes 15 minutes to get home, but I had been walking for an hour. I stopped to look around when I felt something breathing behind me. I turned around and saw him. I started running into the woods, and I could hear him behind me. I kept running until I didn't hear him anymore. I looked around, I had returned to the same place, what was going on? My head hurt, I couldn't move, I felt cold, I touched my stomach and looked at my hands. They were covered in blood, I looked at his face while I fell to the ground. It hurt so much I couldn't feel it anymore. I could see my brother dying all over again. I closed my eyes and let a tear out as my soul left my body.

Freshman Camila Diez de Bonilla Celaya  
3rd C

# The scariest new Creature

Once upon a Halloween, when the wind sang through the elms, all the scary creatures got together. I was new at this stuff of being a monster, in fact, a few years before, I didn't even know I was a monster until the others found me in the woods. I had never had any meeting with the other monsters... not yet.

Halloween was the only day monsters can come to your world, Why? Don't even ask! It has something to do with the power of evil or something like that, as I told you, I'm new at this.

At the meeting, monsters started to discuss how to make this Halloween the scariest one in human history. All the ideas to frighten humans were very scary and creative, but then a beast, the most horrific of all the monsters said in a very deep and rough voice:

"Why not create a new monster?" I froze at the idea. I didn't know monsters could create new monsters. "But let us make it different." He said - "A creature that has enough power to stay forever with the humans. Yes!"

He continued, but Wow! That crossed the line of what monsters had ever done before, for what I know, our goal is to scare people every Halloween, but nothing else.

All the monsters looked at each other very nervously considering the idea.

"So, let us do it if there are no objections." He said in his scary, deep voice.

Some monsters nodded. We started mixing some of the things humans most hated, like spiders or worms, all in a vessel. First, it looked like a little bud, but then it had wings. Wait! Wait! It also had tiny legs. Wait! What?! It has stopped growing. Really? Is this going to be the next scariest monster?

"I bet you 15 yens that I can scare better than this little buddy."

Some monsters were really disappointed by the new creature. One said it was hilarious and called him a "bot"; yes, like butt, but bot. (Haha! Did you understand my pun?) The big beast got really angry at all these comments and shushed all the monsters.

"You are making fun of it because you don't even know its power. it can stay forever with the humans; but that is not all, this creature has the ability to touch and even cause pain to humans."

"So...so...sorry m...m...ma...master I di...di...di...didn't know."

"He can hurt humans!" - said the despicable beast. - "You owe me an apology!" - He shouted.

"So...so...sorry ma...ma...master." All the monsters happily celebrated the Bot's arrival.

The End

Symbolism: things are not always what they appear to be.

Namy Acedo Rendón  
2nd D

# Scary story: The Day my mind broke

My father officially died. I have to say, I am very unsettled, he told me before he died two small stories that will haunt me forever. I will tell them to you, because if my mind is broken yours has to be too...

My grandma used to "hallucinate." She saw lights, girls, ghosts, monsters, and a tall man with a hat. She was sent to a mental hospital. My grandma was tortured for several years until she died. After 33 years I also began to see all these things, with the little difference that now I see my grandma too.

When I was 16 years old, I used to work in an old mansion with an old evicted woman. She asked me to go for a walk with her dogs and we always stopped at a park, named Bain.

The first day that I discovered it, I also found out that there were 3 children there: John, Pablo and Alejandro. They were between 11 and 15 years old. They soon became my friends. After a while, they asked me to go to their house and tell their mother that they were fine. I just obeyed, even though it seemed weird to me. When I arrived, an old woman opened the door. As soon as I told her what I was supposed to, she broke into tears. I didn't understand anything, I just had to ask.

"Five years ago, my three children were kidnapped and 42 days later they were found dead."

Haven't you thought that you may have talked to a dead person accidentally in the street?

Listen to me, I am gonna tell you a little secret, but don't tell anyone because this enigma might drive people crazy...

They say that everyone of us has a little demon, but not inside us, it is always next to you. Pay attention, especially if you are one of those people who wake up in the middle of the night to go for food, water, to the restroom, or just for a simple walk, it is not your body that asks for it, it's them, and now... they are following you.

So don't you dare to look up or behind you, but if you are extremely curious it is at your own risk.

Freshman Valeria Villar  
3rd A



# Past, Present, and Future

To me, the past is a fundamental part of our lives, because it is basically the roots of who we are and what we can become. The Present is

the opportunity to change, continue growing, and structure the way we live. The Future is the effect of past decisions you made. In conclusion the

Past, Present, and Future are the structure of your life.  
**Camila Ramirez**  
1st D

## Society

Humans have been on Earth for millions of years,  
Trying to survive from their worst fears.  
Only we can take care of our-selves.

Our society is purposely flawed, so that the few rich can prosper and the rest are slaved through social media, controlling lives.

Every step, skip and jump, judging us:  
Are we interesting enough for people to care about us?  
Yet who judges our “heroes” making a profit from kids who earn pennies a month?

Society is messed up but we’ve chose this mess.  
We’ve chosen to be watched and monitored by huge companies.  
We’ve chosen to lose our privacy for free entertainment.  
We’ve chosen, haven’t we?

**Freshman Santiago Ahuad Durán**  
3rd D

## Nostalgia

(edited version)

Filled with nostalgia  
My body aches  
I remember the roads in California  
Not wanting to go home.  
As puzzled as I could be  
Always missing the sea

My parents growing apart  
And my world breaking up  
Melancholy filled my soul  
All I wanted was to be free

I felt like I could almost touch the sky  
But some days I just wanted to cry  
I fell from my cloud  
Hit rock bottom  
Caught up in all these problems,  
problems I couldn’t solve

My freedom slipping through my fingers  
Coming and going in waves  
All I could be was brave  
The pain carried me away  
Feeling gray

Nothing came my way anymore  
They misunderstood me  
Little could I do  
The wind blew  
Kept me far,  
Far from everything.

**Freshman Sabina Lopez Negrete Zarebska**  
3rd B

## I think

I think, therefore I am  
I think, therefore I overthink  
I think, therefore I regret  
I think, therefore someday I won’t  
I think myself in circles  
I tend to think the worst  
I try to transcend thinking  
I can’t escape my thoughts  
I think, therefore I read  
I read, therefore I think  
I rethink, therefore I write  
I write therefore I am

I live, therefore I’ll die  
I’ll die, therefore I must live  
I feel, therefore I care  
I care, therefore I cry  
People don’t think, people just act  
They don’t feel, they don’t care  
I regret, therefore I hate  
I hate, therefore I fight  
I fight, therefore I live  
I live, therefore I lie  
I lie; therefore, I trust  
I trust, therefore I fall  
I’m not afraid  
I’m not dead, I feel alive  
And I love life

**Freshman Juan Pablo Palacios**  
3rd D

## To a sleeping dog

I can cry tears because he is gone.  
I held him tight as he closed his eyes;  
but I’d rather smile,  
for he was whom I spoke to everyday.

No wagging tails,  
barks or howls;  
only empty food bowls  
and a lonely leash.

I miss him lots.  
Now, I’m alone.  
Although he’s gone,  
I want him home.

**Freshmen Lorenza Chavez & Natalia Larrañaga**  
3rd B



## What is love

(edited version)

When I fell in love with you  
I ruined my life and yours,  
because we were good friends  
until I started feeling something else,  
and you decided I was not enough.

My head is spinning and spinning,  
because perfect-you finally got in the game,  
and that changes every single thing.

Yet now that my head is just fool,  
full of names of the girls I should love;  
NOW you want me... Why?

**by Confused 1 & 2**  
(3rd B Freshmen’s pseudonyms)

# They call me

They call me weird.  
They call me antisocial.  
I’m scared.  
I’m vulnerable.

They call me boring.  
They call me stupid.  
They don’t know it’s hard.  
They don’t know how it feel.

I want to scream,  
But I can’t.  
I’m afraid.  
What are they going to say?

All the insecurities,  
All the past,  
Are saved,  
Are locked.

So many ideas,  
So much to give,  
But nothing ever comes out,  
Nothing...

It’s kind of sad,  
So many opportunities,  
So close to say something,  
But, why won’t my mouth open?

More friends don’t exist,  
Because they call me boring.  
They call me weird.  
They call me creepy.

All those doors  
Are closed,  
Because the words didn’t escape,  
Like they were supposed to.

Why doesn’t she speak?  
They asked.  
She looks lovely,  
But I don’t know,  
She doesn’t look friendly.

Her only friend,  
Can’t let her go.  
Maybe they are the same,  
Or maybe not.

Feeling lonely,  
Feeling trapped,  
Falling into a black hole,  
There is no way out.

Okay, it is time,  
Be yourself.  
Don’t be scared.  
They will like you,  
she thought.

Little by little,  
She starts to open up like a book,  
Sharing her ideas,  
Sharing her thoughts.

Do you want to hang out?  
They asked.  
A smile was drawn in her face.  
Is this for real?  
I like them, she thought.

They call me funny.  
They call me kind.  
They call me lovely.  
They call me friendly.

**Friendly Freshman**  
(pseudonym)  
3rd D



# What are heroes?

Heroes are the people that you admire. The type of people you wish you were, either because they are famous, or because they invented something that helped human progress. My heroes are Corey Taylor, Dave Grohl, and Rollo Lothbrok. Here's why.

First, Corey Taylor is an amazing song writer and musician. He started from the bottom. He was poor, bullied, raped, a drug addict and an alcoholic. Yet, he overcame all his problems and never gave up. The one thing he loved the most and what helped him was music. Now, he is the singer of two very famous bands: Slipknot and Stone Sour. He has written lots of books, too. Instead of playing victim, he has never surrendered.



## Let's Change the World

Heroes are not only people who can fly, break rocks, or create fires. Still, they are different from the rest of humanity; they innovate and create. They persevere to make the world a better place. They decide to raise their voice. True heroes are not admired for their physical beauty, but for their intellect, for their incredible minds. Heroes change the world; they are brave and strong. Are you ready to become a hero, too?

First, Malala Yousafzai changed the world by fighting for her right to education when she was 14 years old. She held her head high even when people were against her ideas. She was sure about what she believed in and wanted to improve girls' rights. Nowadays she is the youngest person in the world to have won a Nobel Peace Prize. There's no better example of resilience and courage than Malala.

Next, Emma Watson is not only an actress, but she's also an activist and a feminist. She is always encouraging people to be better and to start acting and helping others because, as she says: "If not us, who? If not now, when?"

Finally, Jerome Jarre. He used to make 6-second comedy videos on the Vine app to make people laugh. Nowadays, he has helped a bunch of people such as the Rohingyas who are war refugees, people in Somalia who were dying of starvation. He also made a campaign in which he lightened some islands near the Philippines. He hasn't stopped helping. He always strives to give more than what he could ever possibly have, and that's why he's a true hero.

In conclusion, all these heroes have in common their will to help others improve their lives. We must be more like them without losing our own essence. They are ordinary people with extraordinary ideas. It's our turn to have extraordinary ideas and to become heroes, too!

Freshman Isabel Robles  
3rd D

Next, Dave Grohl is also a musician. He started out as an amazing drummer for the band Nirvana. After the traumatic experience of having his friend commit suicide, he decided he wasn't done with music. He started a band called Foo Fighters. He was the lead singer and guitarist (not the lead). He didn't have much support from the fans, but he didn't quit. He did what he loved most without giving explanations; and it paid off, since he has become very famous and has won lots of prizes.

Finally, my last hero is Rollo Lothbrok. He was a Viking war leader, who became the Dutch of Normandy thanks to his great strategies against



## Heroes

Everyone has their own favorite heroes, the ones they look up to. I admire my grandma, my dad and my mom.

First of all, my grandma's the strongest woman I know for many reasons. She has been through so much, but that has never stopped her from being the amazing woman she is. She always moves on, even when her world is falling apart. She moves on for her and for her family. She is that one person that will do anything in her power to help others and to give them what they need. My grandma is always there for us, helping and making us feel loved, wanted, and happy. If we're happy, she's happy.

I also look up to my dad, He is always making me laugh and smile with all his funny jokes. He sees everything in a positive way, and that is something I admire much. He is good almost at everything, and he always tries out new things. If he sees you struggling, he will help you, even



## My Heroes

Heroes are the people we look up to as role models, not fake heroes like Spider Man or Hulk. Steve Jobs, Jeff Bezos, and Bill Gates are some of my heroes. They have changed the world for the better. They've helped humanity evolve.

Firstly, unlike other people, Steve Jobs had nothing, but his brain. He started, all by himself, a project called "Apple". He paved the way for the company, and his work and effort will someday be the key to the future.

Secondly, Jeff Bezos is the owner and chief executive of "Amazon", the worldwide online shopping center. His system has helped us obtain what we want by just clicking and typing on our computers. His goal was to have an online bookstore, and he now sells all types of products. It's amazing how small thoughts can lead to huge actions!

Last but not least, Bill Gates is the founder of "Microsoft", another big software company like "Apple" that sells about the same number of products. There's no doubt such competitor is essential. He's made an enormous change in the world. It would be wonderful to see more people interact, help, and work the way he does.

To sum up, these three people are truly the heroes we need these days. The work and effort they put in their jobs makes our lives easier; and that's what matters to them, not money, prestige or fame, but a way to make the world a better place, by first showing people what really matters: the future.

Freshman Patricio Quintanilla Giordano  
3rd D

other fellow Vikings. But, how can I admire someone who betrayed everyone he knew? This is why: Life doesn't give you many chances to succeed. Some people decide it's better to betray themselves out of fear, but not Rollo. He was unstoppable and ready to achieve his goals. Vikings and Norse mythology are amazing!

So, my heroes followed their dreams and decided to act and take a chance, even if they didn't know if things were going to turn out well or not. Who are your heroes?



## Heroes

Last but not least, my third favorite hero is my mom. She has done incredible things, most people simply can't. That's what I admire so much. She is super smart, caring, and nice. For starters, my mom and her best friend wrote one of the most amazing theses ever! She speaks fluent Italian. She studied in Florence, and she went to one of the greatest universities in the world: Harvard. Whatever she sets out to do, she achieves it! Furthermore, she loves to help. She is simply the greatest mom anyone could ever ask for!

In conclusion, my grandma, my dad and my mom are the most admirable heroes I can think of.

Freshman Isabel Vera  
3rd B



## Heroes

How would you define a hero? Maybe it's a very strong person, or a very smart one, or maybe it is someone you admire and love. It really doesn't matter if you have one. I have three: my mom, my sister, and the famous tennis player Serena Williams. I admire each one of them in different ways.

Let's start with my mom. I admire her because, even though she's always telling me what to do, getting mad, and yelling at me when she is angry; I know she's always going to be there for me and my sister, no matter what. She is an amazing mom!

Next, my sister is a very funny, crazy, and well, a little lazy person; but what I most admire about her is her commitment. When she decides to do something, even though it's hard, she doesn't give up.

Last but not least, Serena Williams is admirable because she is such strong woman in every way. She didn't give up at any moment in her career. She didn't care about what people said. She worked and trained very hard to get to where she is right now. She's an extraordinary hard-working woman.

In conclusion, my mom, my sister, and Serena Williams are true modern heroes. They all have something in common: They never give up, no matter what; and I hope, one day, I can get to be like each one of them.

Freshman Aitana de la Puente  
3rd D



## Heroes

The world changes thanks to our heroes' example. They change the way we see and think about certain things. The author of Harry Potter, J.K. Rowling, one of the members of The Beatles, John Lennon, and Jenny Han, a writer, have had a huge impact in my life.

First of all, J.K. Rowling is incredible, not only because she created some of the most fantastic stories; but also, her autobiography is truly inspiring. She showed the world how she never gave up when times were hard. After her divorce, her mother's death, and her depression; she gathered the strength to succeed. After knowing all of this, I admire her even more.

Next, John Lennon is absolutely awesome! I admire him for his talent in music. He wrote some of The Beatles' most iconic songs; such as "Imagine", which is one of the best songs of all times.

Last, but definitely not least, one of my favorite authors, Jenny Han, wrote my beloved trilogy "To All the Boys I've Loved Before". The way she writes, the way she builds her characters to make them easy to relate to, and the way they are so human make the reader fall in love with her books. She is so talented, she should get more recognition.

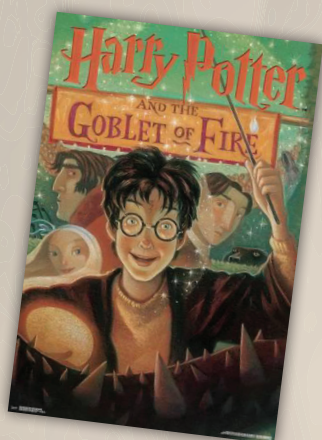
To conclude, my heroes have definitely changed the way I think and see the world. They've taught me to have an open mind and not to label people. Everyone is different and that's OK. We shouldn't give up. We should fight for what we want, because some eventually get there.

The world needs more people like my heroes.

Freshman Indira Naranjo Martin  
3rd B



# Book Reviews



## Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire

Reading opens our mind showing us new realities. Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire by J.K. Rowling is an extraordinary book. The way the author narrates the story makes you believe that you're seeing the story with your own eyes. If you like reading action and adventure, you'll be interested in this review.

On one hand, Harry is a very intelligent teenager that manages to solve every problem he gets into. He is about 17 years old. Harry is a person to admire, when you think there's no way out of a problem, you will be surprised of how he manages to sort it out. Harry is that kind of boy you want as a friend.

On the other hand, the conflict of the book starts when the Goblet unexpectedly selects Harry as a fourth champion for the Inwrigard Tournament. Dumbledore tries to get him out of the tournament, but the Ministry official, Barty Crouch, insists that the champions are bound to a contract after being selected. Harry knew he was in serious problems.

Last but not least, the themes of the book are bravery, uniqueness, friendship, loyalty and discovering one's strengths and power. To a teenager, there's nothing more important that discovering himself and Harry is the best example for that. Throughout the story, the narrator shows us how Harry learns new things every time a problem arises. That's why he becomes one of the greatest wizards of all time.

The character, the plot, and the themes make this book one of your best bets. It is an awesome option for people that like fiction and want to get out of the real world. This book will transport you to a world of magic and surreal things that can be most enjoyable. Things you can only dream of come true in this novel!

Freshman Derek Lippert Andonegui  
3rd B

## A Book Every Teenager Should Read

Books are a powerful tool for your brain. They make sure you use most parts of your brain, especially if you are reading in another language. You are multi-tasking, while you are imagining and reading. You are also learning and checking your knowledge in the language. My favorite book of all time is Dorothy Must Die by Danielle Paige. It has had a huge impact in my life. The plot, the characters, and the details are astonishing.

For starters, it's the author's version of Oz after the fairytale we all know. The plot starts many years after the classical Wizard of Oz, in which Dorothy met the Scarecrow, the Lion, and the Tin Man. In this version, after Dorothy goes back to Kansas, Glinda brings her back to Oz. She tries magic for the first time and becomes the villain. She starts to suck the magic and happiness out of Oz. But then, Amy Gumm (the protagonist) arrives in a tornado the same way Dorothy had, and she has the responsibility to help Oz. This plot line is a quite interesting take on the original version. This book is a saga, so there are four books to the story. I have only read two, so I don't know how it ends; but I can certainly say that Paige's books are seriously underrated and everyone should read them.

Moreover, the characters are very much like real people. All the characters have their own personality, including their flaws. Every single one of them has the same credibility as a person you would meet in a supermarket. None of them are exaggerated in any unrealistic way. Obviously, the sixteen-year-old protagonist, Amy, has the strongest personality. She is a brave, stubborn, hormone-affected teenager. She evolves before your eyes, in every chapter. She becomes stronger and more focused. But Amy isn't the only one

with a firm identity, Dorothy, Glinda, and some witches are quite present when it comes to character uniqueness.

This book has therefore, had a great impact in my life. It has helped me through sunny and rainy days. Even though I found out about this book two or three months ago, it feels like I have needed it my whole life. It serves as an inspiration. In the story Amy hates the first 15 years of her life. Her mom is an alcoholic, she has no friends, and she feels lonely. Her story is motivating; and it shows me how I should persevere and keep going, even if I don't want to. Thanks to Amy (and to Danielle Paige) I'm stronger than I was two months ago.

Summarizing, this novel is in my heart. Its plot, characters, and advice have made me a better person. I fell in love with this story from the start, and I still am. If anyone dared to do what Amy does during the plot, no one would live afraid to be who they are. The good thing is, you can make a difference, you just have to try until you change your world.

Freshman Montserrat Djaddah Meillon  
3rd D



## The Best Book I Have Ever Read

The best book I have ever read is in Spanish. Its name is "La sombra del viento" by Carlos Ruiz Zafón. I read the book because, last year, our Spanish teacher told us to do so. It was very interesting, and I really liked it. I was very proud of myself for having read it, because it was a long book (575 pages). Ever since I read that book, I started reading more, because I found the type of books that I truly enjoy.

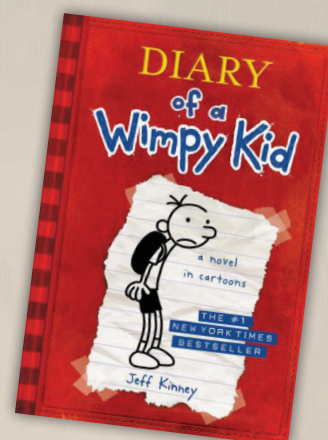
To begin with, it is about a kid named Daniel, who is fascinated by a book. He wants to read more books written by the same author; but, while he tries to find out more about him, he discovers that the author had disappeared without leaving a trace. Even his books were gone, because someone was burning them. As time went by, he learned more about the author's life, from his childhood till his disappearance. So, teenagers, who like mystery, will really get into the book. Once you start reading it, you just can't stop!

Furthermore, the book is part of a trilogy called "El Cementerio de los Libros Olvidados". Right now I'm reading the second book that was brought out af-

ter "La sombra del viento". It's called "El juego del Ángel". It doesn't matter which book you read first, because there is no chronological link among the books, and the characters aren't the same ones.

In conclusion, teenagers must read this trilogy. It doesn't matter if you like to read or not. I didn't like to read, but now, I'm unstoppable. So, if this book helped me enjoy reading, it could help other teenagers as well.

Freshman Ximena Maria Avila Islas  
3rd B



## Diary of a Wimpy Kid

Reading helps you free your imagination and get into the story. You literally watch the story in your mind. The Dairy of a Wimpy Kid by Jeff Kinney was the most enjoyable book I read in my childhood. Its main character is hilarious and kind of dorky. The sudden conflicts during his puberty and the topics are very important for a teenager.

To begin with, Greg, the main character, is an example of what could go wrong during adolescence. He likes adventures, and has a best friend who is also dorky but understands Greg perfectly and follows him in his adventures and problems. The character helps you grow and go through your adolescence with a touch of comedy.

Moreover, the problems narrated are typical teenager issues. It goes from puberty changes, hilarious acts and naughtiness, to teaching some lessons on how to behave and mature. His parents are the typical authorities. A mother that is caring and overprotecting, and a dad that's strict but understanding. His two brothers (one older and one younger) help out with some funny jokes and lessons. They tease him and have the typical brother relationship. You will certainly crack a laugh or two.

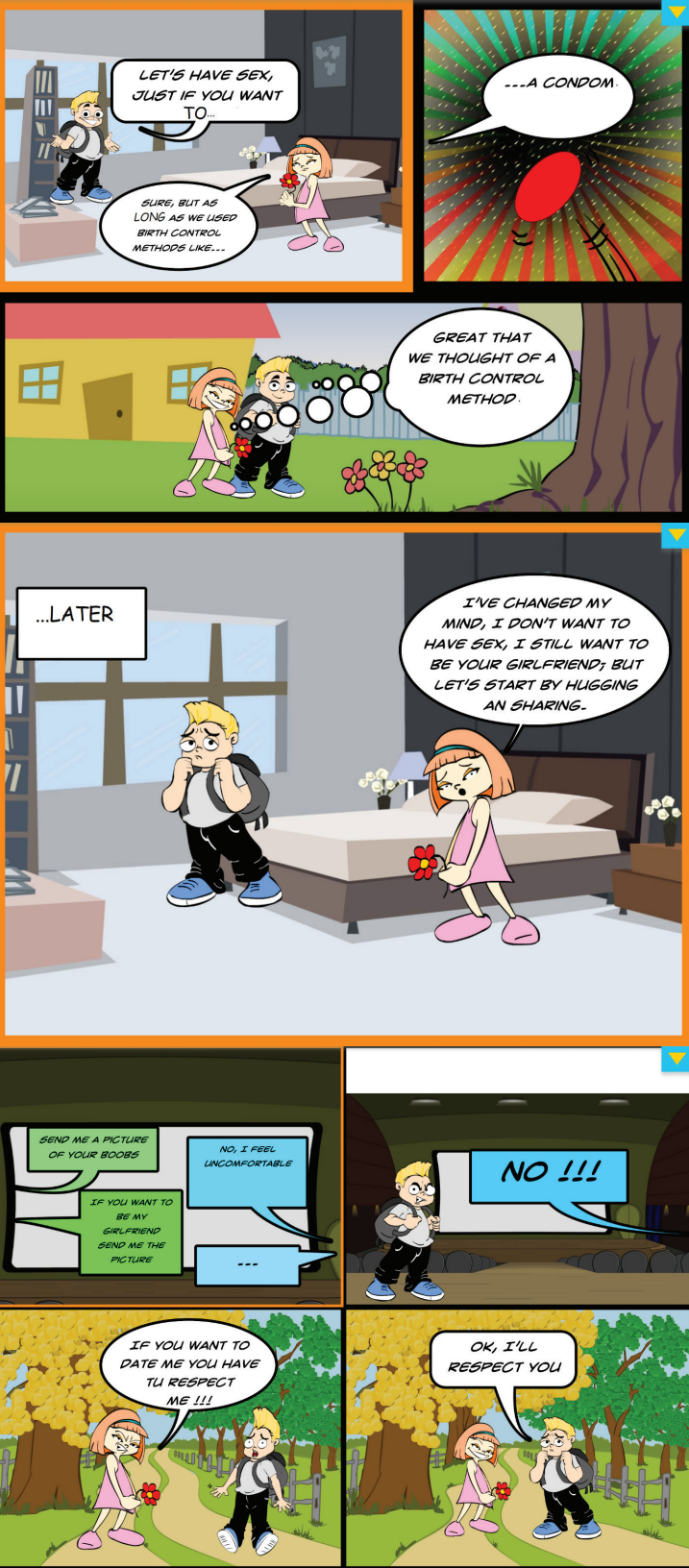
Finally, the themes of the book are different problems one faces throughout life, especially during adolescence. The funny graphic scenes with comic drawings are lessons on how to deal and solve family problems and issues with friends. It transmits a lot of handy knowledge, great book!

In conclusion, the novel has brought all kids across the globe the opportunity to read an interesting, funny, educational graphic novel in which you learn. Read and remember it as the book of your youth for life! It has transformed the classic childhood novels into pedagogical instruments that kids want to get and read. The sequels just get better and better!

Freshman Andres Alvarez  
3rd B



Sexual Education for Teens



Freshmen Rafael Cornu de la Torre & Juan Pablo Meade Corona 3rdD

Movie Reviews

Alexa is a happy, organized and friendly person who enjoys spending time with the people she loves. Alexa really likes sports, she's a runner, and she spends a lot of time in the gym. She also plays the piano and loves animals (especially dogs). She is a determined girl, with goals and achievements.

"EXTREMELY LOUD AND INCREDIBLY CLOSE"

This truly sentimental work written by Jonathan Safran Foer is an amazing story about a young boy that goes through a lot, and is able of provoking so many feelings inside everyone around him. After watching the movie, I can anticipate you the tears it makes you drop. It's an amazing film that somehow gets to everyone's heart. On one hand, it makes you cry of sadness; but on the other, you end up happy and reflecting about lots of things.

The story takes place in New York City, during the horrifying 9/11 attack, which had a great impact in every character of the story. Oskar Schell is an extraordinary young boy, curious and adventurous, who is determined to persevere until he finds what he is looking for, in order to keep a connection to his father.

During his adventure, he learns a lot, and eventually discovers much more than what he was searching for in the first place. Talking about actors and actresses, I'm sincerely amazed by their performance during the whole film. I admire their work and their ability to communicate strong feelings through a camera. I think of the work, the dedication, and the time spent

for this movie to be done. It's unbelievable.

Thomas Horne (Oskar) is one of the best actors, in my opinion. At that age, it must be really hard and demanding. Sandra Bullock (Linda) also plays her part well. When she cries for her husband's death, she is able to pass on her sadness to everyone watching the scene. I loved the movie's photography when Oskar is walking in the streets of NYC. As I said earlier, I loved the actors and actresses. I specifically liked the scene when Oskar is in the middle of the city, surrounded by people, noise and buildings. He expresses his anger and frustration through shouts. It's such a strong and powerful scene, I think.

Above all, the story taught me about gratefulness. After watching it, I felt thankful of my family, the love they have for me, and how lucky I am. I think others will feel some way similar. It also makes you reflect about the boy, and Asperger syndrome. It helps you understand what those kids are feeling and thinking, and comprehend why they act like that.

I think people that are 13 years old or older are perfectly able to watch this film. Not younger because there are some tough scenes with verbal aggressiveness. Besides, maybe young kids would not understand them, or would feel disturbed. So, PG-13 would be the correct rating.

Movie rating score: 5 out of 5

Sophomore Alexa Mondragón 1020

Santiago is a life-lover and enjoys a good movie to watch.

"Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close" will have you on the edge of your seat!

Imagine being a kid who lived through the death of his dad, during 9/11. A kid who lived the next months based on a lead which led him to virtually nothing. "Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close" pictures this plot amazingly. It shows the true pain a kid can sometimes feel.

The story takes place in New York, right after 9/11. It shows the scavenger hunt Oskar Shell has to make to figure out a message his dad, Thomas, apparently left before his death. The movie tells the amazing journey he made across all New York with nothing but of a key, a tambourine, and his will.

The acting job in this film is stellar. There is not a better lineup than

Sandra Bullock, Thomas Horn, and the Oscar-winning Tom Hanks. There cannot be a better person to portray the intense, but crazy feelings Oskar had during the plot.

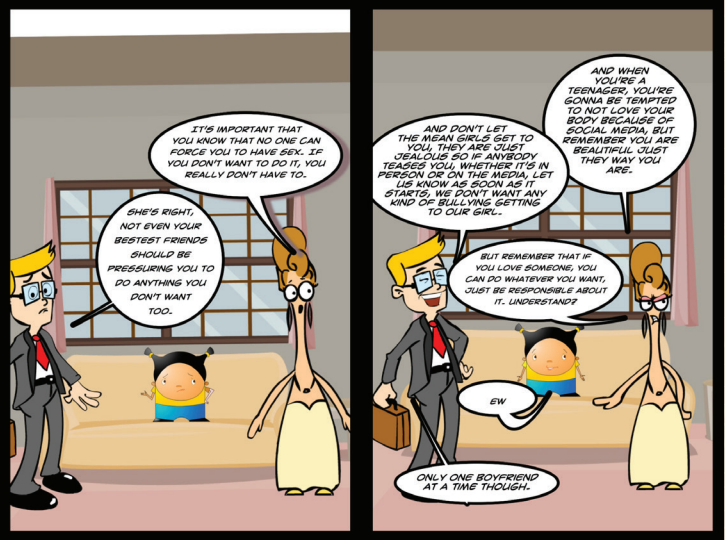
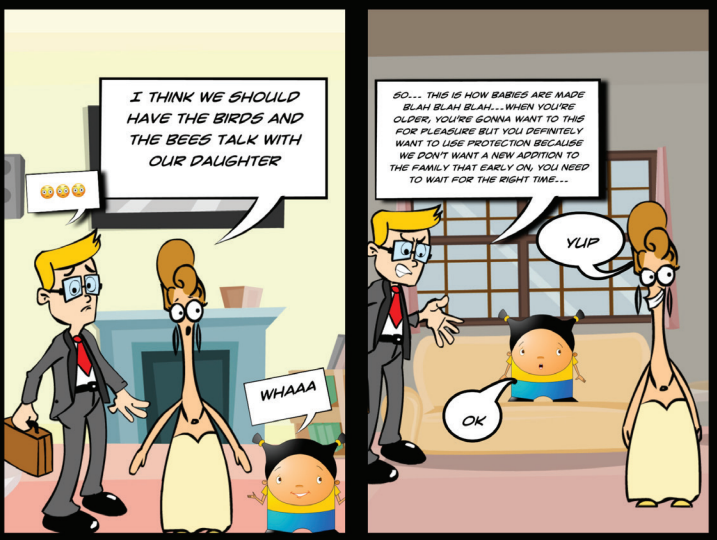
Amazing piece of art. It just was an incredible way to represent such a crazy (but in a good way) movie. It could be a little bit shorter. Ten minutes or so less, could really make the film tidier.

No matter what happens, never stop searching, is the lesson Thomas gave his son.

I recommend the film to everyone who wants a thrilling, current-themed movie. However, not to kids, as some scenes might seem disturbing. A PG-13, good movie.

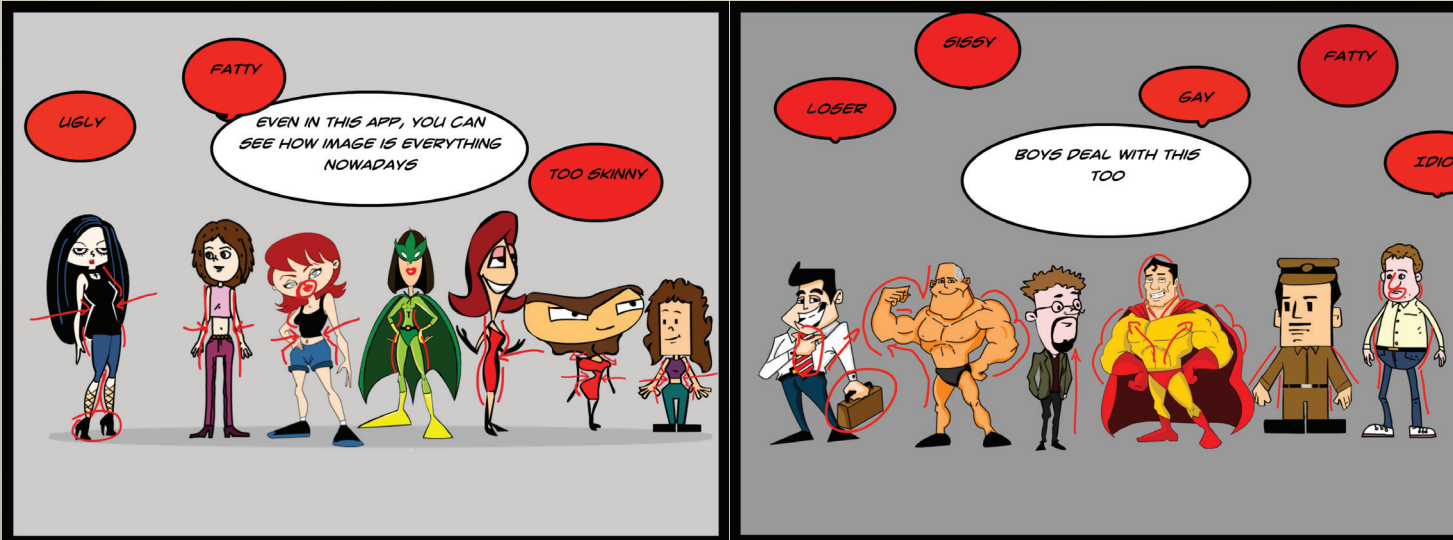
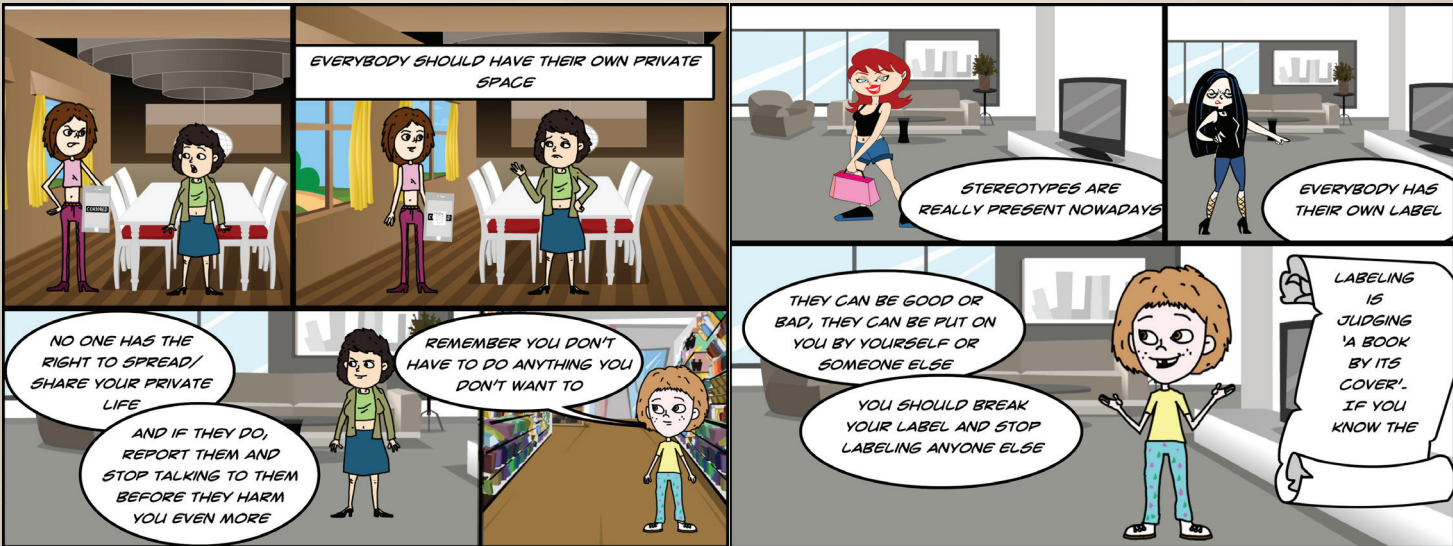
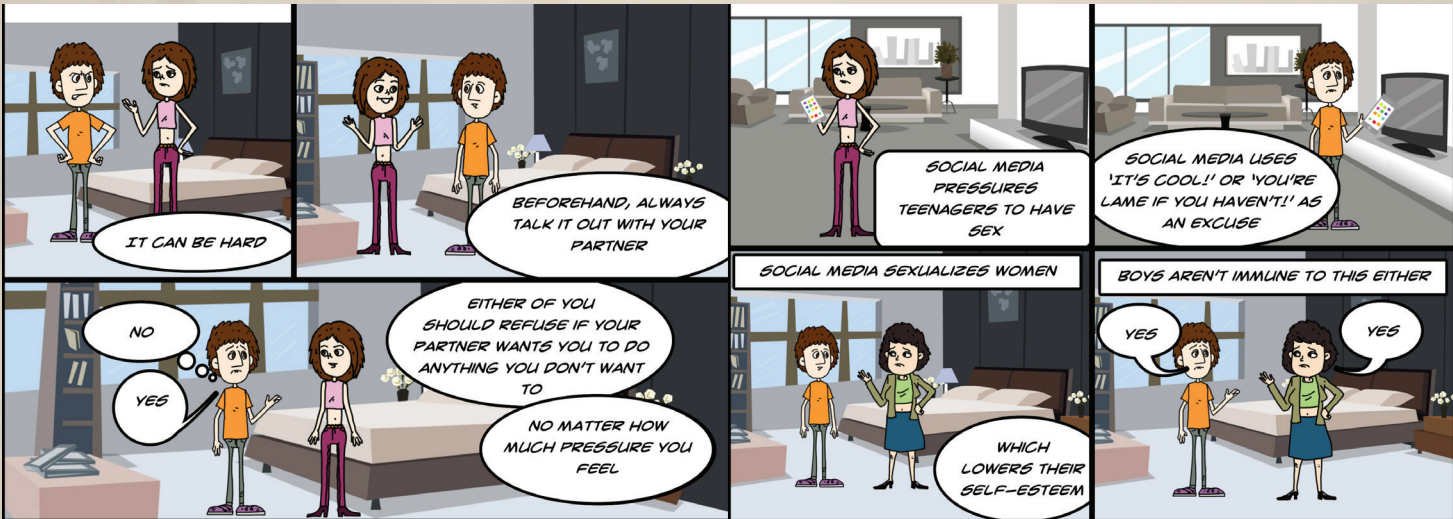
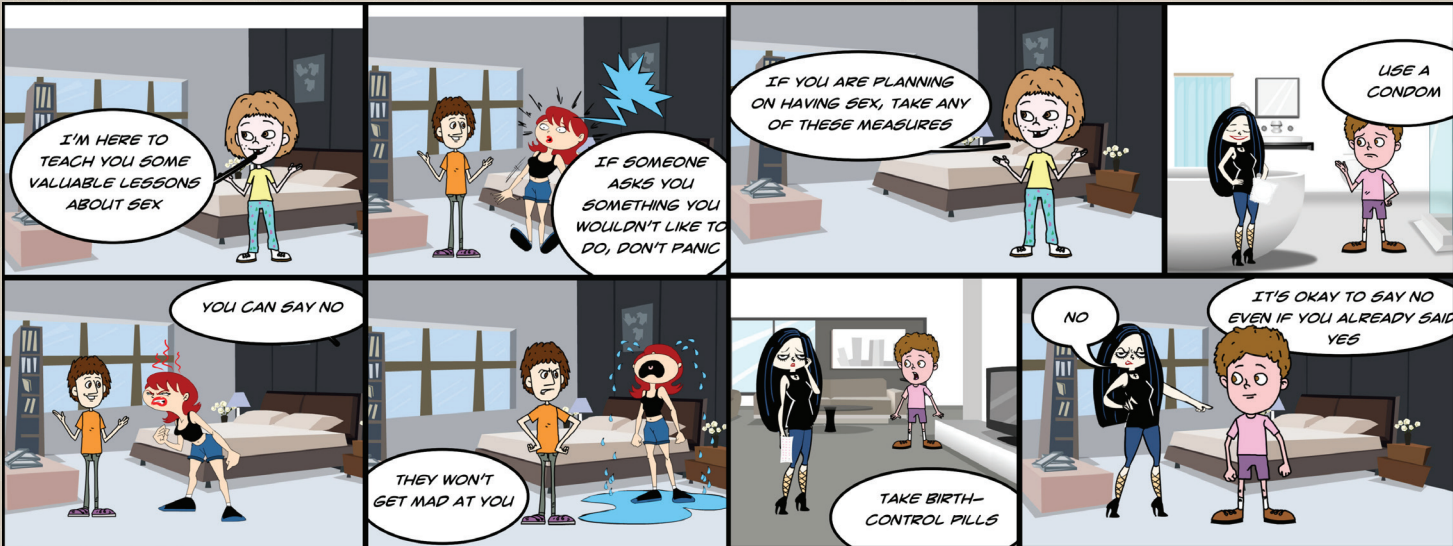
Rating: 8.5/10

Sophomore Santiago Gómez Peón 1010





# Sexual education for teens







## Feminism and Why it's no longer Feminism

Feminism, supposedly, is the belief that men and women are equal on all aspects... and we agreed, until third wave feminism appeared. Feminism is divided in waves, the first two were quite successful (suffrage and employment), but the third one... not that much. Today's feminism is violent, and it has caused the word misandry to rise. Misandry is basically the opposite of misogyny; it's an aversion to men.



Today's radical feminists or "feminazis" want to be above men. So, people that believe in gender equality are now using the word "egalitarian" instead.

Radical feminists go on marches, and violently attack men, or anyone that doesn't agree with them. Egalitarians also go on marches, but they keep their hands to themselves. So, which one are you?

Freshman Dieter Cornejo Godoy  
3rd B

## Interpretation of "The Road not Taken" by Robert Frost

What is a poem? A poem is an artistic expression. Many poems have other meanings apart from the one that society might give them. An example is the poem "The Road not Taken" by Robert Frost, which has been misinterpreted by most people who disregard the author's point of view.

First of all, the poem can be perceived in a positive way, which means that the author made the best choice by walking the less-traveled path. It seems that he is not a sheep; he is a leader, not a follower. Circumstance that led him to success. The poem can be related to life, because in life choices have to be made, and there's always a better one.

However, if the author's life when he wrote the poem is taken into consideration, then the poem has a totally different meaning. The author actually wrote it describing his friend, who always regretted the choices he made. His friend had two options: to go to war and be brave or to escape to the USA as a coward. He decided to go to war, where he was killed. He left out the option of being safe and happy with his family. That's the road he didn't take.

Therefore, the poem can also be negative. It can be interpreted as regret, regret of having taken the other road. The author might be sad, because in the last stanza he mentions a "sigh". Is it a sign of regret? He doubts throughout the whole poem: Did he make the right choice?

In conclusion, everyone may



have a different perspective of the poem. Still, everyone can agree it is indeed memorable.

Sources:

- Understanding "The Road Not Taken"- Video. <https://m.youtube.com/watch?reload=9&v=8x3LZXqaCSg>
- The Almost Universally Misinterpreted Poem "The Road Not Taken" and the Fascinating Story Behind It-Video. [https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=sBlFWqq\\_qCw](https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=sBlFWqq_qCw)

Freshmen Patricio Solana and  
Emilio Guzman's  
3rd D



# Mes Activités de la Semaine

Le lundi je fais du squash au club avec ma sœur et mon frère. Le mardi ma mère et moi, nous faisons de la natation à la piscine. Le mercredi, je fais du foot au collège avec mon amie. Parfois, le jeudi mon père et moi, nous jouons au volley au club avec les amis de mon père. Le vendredi, avec mon amie Lucile, nous faisons du patinage au Pedregal et le samedi, avec mon père, je fais du golf.

Mateo Blanes  
1ère B

# Consommation et dépénalisation du cannabis

En bref – en bref – en bref – en bref- en bref – en bref – en bref

Constanza Toscano - Je suis pour la consommation du cannabis. Je crois que le gouvernement devrait orienter sur les possibilités d'utilisation thérapeutiques du cannabis. Cela mettrait fin aussi à la guerre principale qui se joue au Mexique : celle du trafic de drogue.

Emilia Muñoz – Je suis d'accord pour dépénaliser la consommation du cannabis car celle-ci présente des avantages médicaux qui peuvent aider les patients ou les malades à résoudre certains problèmes de santé.

María Paola Orozco – Je suis d'accord. C'est un bénéfice pour la santé. Cette dépénalisation présente aussi des avantages en ce qui concerne la sécurité car elle diminuerait le nombre de trafiquants de drogue.

Opinions du groupe 5030

# Une Annonce!

Bonjour aux 'élèves de l'Alexander Bain !

Parlez-vous français ? Est-ce vous êtes intéressés à pratiquer le français ? Ne vous inquiétez pas, vous pouvez le faire au Club de Conversation à partir du mercredi 28 novembre de 14:30 heures à 16:00h, une fois par semaine.

Nous t'attendons là!

Groupe 1030



# Mes activités

Bonjour ! Comment ça va ? Aujourd'hui, je vous parle de mes activités de la semaine. Bon, le lundi je fais de l'équitation. Le mardi je fais du badminton. Le mercredi je fais encore de l'équitation. Le jeudi je fais du foot à l'école et le vendredi je fais de la natation au club. Toutes ces activités je les fais de manière régulière. De manière occasionnelle, je joue du piano et je joue de la batterie. Le Samedi je mange avec ma famille et le dimanche matin je fais du jogging. Merci de lire mes activités. Bonne journée ! Au revoir !

Cassandra Flores Madrazo  
1ère B



# Biographie

Je suis Santiago Aguilar. J'ai 15 ans. Je suis né à Mexico, au Mexique. Je suis élève au Collège Alexander Bain. J'habite à Mexico.

J'aime le soccer. J'adore jouer de la guitare. Je déteste manger des oignons et de la papaye.

Dans ma famille il y a trois gens et un animal domestique. Mon père s'appelle Salvador, il est ingénieur civil et il a cinquante-deux ans. Ma mère s'appelle Dalila, elle est diplômée en administration des affaires. Mon chien e s'appelle Cocola, elle est très belle et elle a six ans.

Santiago Aguilar  
3èmeannée

# Ma nouvelle voiture

Bonjour Monsieur ! Aujourd'hui, je voudrais acheter une voiture, mais je suis un peu nerveuse.

Bonjour mademoiselle ! Comment allez-vous ? Pourquoi êtes-vous nerveuse ?

Parce que je viens de frapper ma vieille voiture.

Oh, quel dommage ! Ne vous inquiétez pas, je vais vous aider, d'abord, dites-moi, quel est le modèle que vous cherchez ?

Je veux une petite voiture facile à conduire.

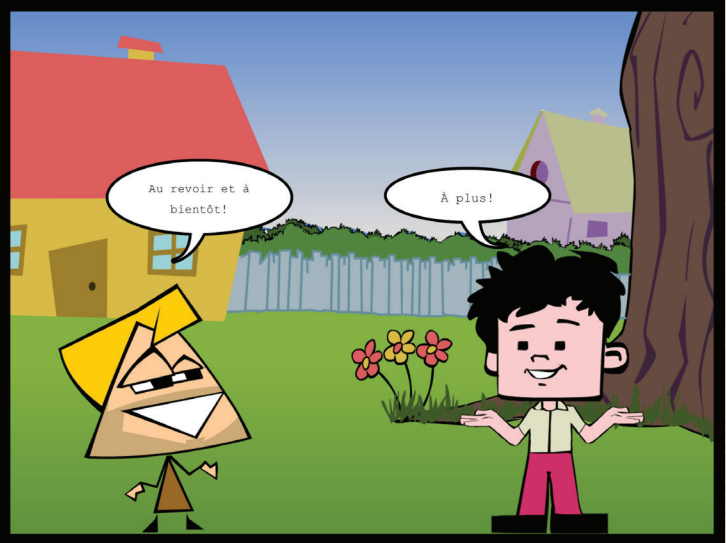
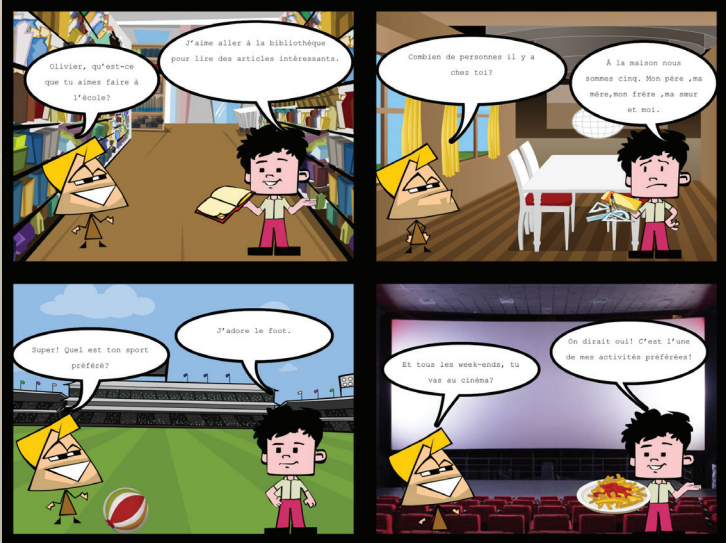
Parfait, venez avec moi. Ce sont tous les modèles que nous avons, jetez un coup d'œil.

Oh ! moi, j'aime cette Nissan, c'est très jolie, je vais l'acheter.

Parfait, merci de votre achat.

Merci monsieur.

Alexa Mondragón Gómez Tagle  
Jimena Ortiz Baigts  
1020





—••—  
Didn't like what you read?  
Think you can do better?  
Show us!

**Happy Holidays!**



Avez-vous aimé ce que vous venez de lire ?  
Pensez-vous que vous pouvez mieux faire ?  
Montrez-le-nous !

**Joyeuses Fêtes !**

