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Editorial

WHY DOES FINLAND HAVE THE BEST EDUCATION SYSTEM IN THE WORLD

Finland has the best education system in the world, according to a report by the *Economist Intelligence Unit* for publishing company Pearson. But why is it so good? Here are a few possible reasons. Most teachers in Finland are professionals who have been selected from the top 10% of the nation's graduates. And in order to teach, they need a master's degree in education (the equivalent of five years of university study). Teachers also have a lot of respect and status in Finland.

Teachers get ongoing professional training, and they work closely with the university that's closest to their school. They also have fewer teaching hours than any other school system in the world, which gives them more time to reflect on their teaching methods. Teachers have a great deal of autonomy. Even though there's a national curriculum that says what children should learn, all teachers are free to decide how and when they teach it.

Teachers also set their own lessons and choose the textbooks for the classes. Students spend fewer hours in school than pupils in other western countries. Class sizes rarely exceed 20 students, so teachers can monitor students' progress more closely. There are also specialised assistants in the classroom to help the teacher. If a child is falling behind, the teaching staff create a plan to address that child's individual needs. Likewise, if a child is doing really well, staff will address this too. Nearly 30% of Finland's children receive some kind of special help during the first nine years of school.

There are no standardized tests in Finland, apart from one exam at the end of students' senior year in high school. There are no rankings, no comparisons or competition between students, schools or regions. Finnish schools have sports, but no sports teams - competition isn't valued; and there's no competition from private schools either because there are no private schools. The atmosphere at school is fairly relaxed. Students call teachers by their first names, there's no uniform and they take off their shoes when go into class, using special indoor slippers. The school day starts at 8am and finishes at midday for young children, and between 2 and 4 pm for older students. Pupils have 10 to 11 weeks of holiday in the summer, and many other days are added throughout the year. Children never get more than half an hour's homework at night, which they aren't obliged to do.

Compulsory school in Finland doesn't begin until children are 7 years old; and children play outside for at least 30 minutes each day even in the cold winters. Schools often have a lounge area for children with a fireplace. Clearly, a lot of factors determine how well students do in class. But Finland seems to have created the perfect formula!

By Loredana Bodnar

Florin Tecuceanu

I. LITERATURE CORNER:

Stopping By Woods On A Snowy Evening

By Robert Frost

Whose woods these are I think I know.
His house is in the village, though;
He will not see me stopping here
To watch his woods fill up with snow.

My little horse must think it queer
To stop without a farmhouse near
Between the woods and frozen lake
The darkest evening of the year.

He gives his harness bells a shake
To ask if there is some mistake.
The only other sound's the sweep
Of easy wind and downy flake.

The woods are lovely, dark, and deep,
But I have promises to keep,
And miles to go before I sleep,
And miles to go before I sleep.

By Stirbu Marius Gabriel from 10 E

The book

Book is the best friend, a human being can have. Book is a friend that is never disloyal. Books make our life easy to lead as they inform us about various ways of leading life. Books are informative as well as instructive. Books have many wonders in it and they make a person absorbed in their interesting content. The best example of being a friend of book can be seen while long journeys when a person has nothing to do except to sit and wait for his destination.

To love a book does not mean you will like her cover name. To love a book, it means to know, to discover content, to make you read it again and again, to make you enter the realm where everything is possible, make friends with the characters and you want to be in place, to want to live in their world, a world in which you own the story and be the hero.

For me, the word "book" means refuge. A place when I can put to test my ideas and feelings. The book is a world of children can travel in wonderland. She can help even the grown-up, to teach life lessons. When I am reading a book, I feel like "Alice in Wonderland" traveling in a dream game. I can say that, for children, the book is a ray of light to the whole world knowledge.

I think that more people would be attracted to reading if we were interesting.

We understand each other more easier and why not? We could do more for humanity. A book can help you in life, you can learn useful hatches and can show you the right path.

The book is a fountain of knowledge. The books help us understand better the world, but we are more sensitive.

The "book" means :love, hope, light hearted and freedom...

By Alexandra Ungureanu, 10 E

The Legend of Christmas Trees

The evergreen fir tree has traditionally been used to celebrate winter festivals (pagan and Christian) for thousands of years. Pagans used branches of it to decorate their homes during the winter solstice, as it made them think of the spring to come. The Romans used Fir Trees to decorate their temples at the festival of Saturnalia. Christians use it as a sign of everlasting life with God. Nobody is really sure when Fir trees were first used as Christmas trees. It probably



began about 1000 years ago in Northern Europe. Many early Christmas Trees seem to have been hung upside down from the ceiling using chains (hung from chandeliers/lighting hooks).

Other early Christmas Trees, across many parts of northern Europe, were cherry or hawthorn plants (or a branch of the plant) that were put into pot sand brought inside so they would hopefully flower at Christmas time. If you couldn't afford a real plant, people made pyramids of wood sand they were decorated to look like a tree with paper, apples and candles. Sometimes they were carried around from house to house, rather than being displayed in a home.

It's possible that the wooden pyramid trees were meant to be like Paradise Trees. These were used in medieval German Mystery or Miracle Plays that were acted out in front of Churches on Christmas Eve. In early church calendars of saints, 24th December was Adam and Eve's day. The Paradise Tree represented The Garden of Eden. It was often paraded around the town before the play started, as a way of advertising the play. The plays told Bible stories to people who could not read.

The first documented use of a tree at Christmas and New Year celebrations is in town square of Riga, the capital of **Latvia**, in the year 1510. In the square there is plaque which is engraved with "The First New Year's Tree in Riga in 1510", in eight languages. The tree might have been a 'Paradise Tree' rather than a 'real' tree. Not much is known about the tree, apart from that it was attended by men wearing black hats, and that after a ceremony they burnt the tree.

A picture from Germany in 1521 which shows a tree being paraded through the streets with a man riding a horse behind it. The man is dressed a bishop, possibly representing St. Nicholas

In 1584, the historian Balthasar Russow wrote about a tradition, in Riga, of a decorated fir tree in the market square where the young men "went with a flock of maiden sand women,



first sang and danced there and then set the tree a flame". There's a record of a small tree in Breman, Germany from 1570. It is described as a tree decorated with "apples, nuts, dates, pretzels and paper flowers". It was displayed in a 'guild-house' (the meeting place for a society of business men in the city).

The first person to bring a Christmas Tree into a house, in the way we know it today, may have been the 16th century German preacher Martin Luther. A story is told that, one night before Christmas, he was walking through the forest and looked up to see the stars shining through the tree branches. It was so beautiful, that he went home and told his children that it reminded him of Jesus, who left the stars of heaven to come to earth at Christmas. Some people say this is the same tree as the 'Riga' tree, but it isn't! The Riga tree originally took place a few decades earlier. Northern Germany and Latvia are neighbors.

Another story says that St. Boniface of Crediton (a village in Devon, UK) left England and travelled to **Germany** to reach the pagan German tribes and convert them to Christianity. He is said to have come across a group of pagans about to sacrifice a young boy while worshipping an oaktree. In anger, and to stop the sacrifice, St. Boniface is said to have cut down the oaktree and, to his amazement, a young fir tree sprang up from the roots of the oaktree. St. Boniface took this as a sign of the Christian faith and his followers decorated the tree with candles so that St. Boniface could preach to the pagans at night.

There is another legend, from Germany, about how the Christmas Tree came into being, it goes:

Once on a cold Christmas Eve night, a forest errand his family were in their cottage gathered round the fire to keep warm. Suddenly there was a knock on the door. When the forester opened the door, he found a poor little boy standing on the door step, lost and alone. The forester welcomed him into his house and the family fed and washed him and put him to bed in the youngest on his own bed (he had to share with his brother that night!). The next morning, Christmas Morning, the family were woken up by a choir of angels, and the poor little boy had turned into Jesus, the Christ Child. The Christ Child went into the front garden of the cottage and broke a branch off a Fir tree and gave it to the family as a present to say thank you for looking after him. So ever since then, people have remembered that night by bringing a Christmas Tree into their homes!



In Germany, the first Christmas Trees were decorated with edible things, such as ginger bread and gold covered apples. Then glassmakers made special small ornaments similar to some of the decorations used today. In 1605 an unknown German wrote: "At

Christmas they set up fir trees in the parlours of Strasbourg and hang there on roses cut out of many- coloured paper, apples, wafers, goldfoil, sweets, etc.

At first, a figure of the Baby Jesus was put on the top of the tree. Over time it changed to an angel/fairy that told the shepherds about Jesus, or a star like the Wise Men saw.

The first Christmas Trees came to Britain sometime in the 1830s. They become every popular in 1841, when Prince Albert (Queen Victoria's German husband) had a Christmas Tree set up in Windsor Castle. In 1848, drawing of "The Queen's Christmas tree at Windsor Castle" was published in the Illustrated London News. The drawing was republished in Godey's Lady's Book, Philadelphia in December 1850 (but they removed the Queen's crown and Prince Albert's moustache to make it look 'American!').



The publication of the drawing helped Christmas Trees become popular in the UK and USA.

In Victorian times, the tree would have been decorated with candle store present stars. In many parts of Europe, candles are still used to decorate Christmas trees.

Tinsel was also created in Germany, were it was originally made from thins trips of beaten silver. But when plastic/man made tinsel was invented, it become every popular as it was much cheaper than real silver and also lighter to go on the tree!

One legend says that the Christ Child first made tinsel by turning spider's webs into silver after taking pity on a poor family that couldn't afford any decorations for their Christmas Tree!

Because of the danger of fire, in 1895 Ralph Morris, an American telephonist, invented the first electric Christmas lights, similar to the ones we use today.

In 1885 a hospital in Chicago burned down because of candles on a Christmas Tree! And in 1908 insurance companies in the USA tried to get a law made that would ban candles from being used on Christmas Trees because of the many fires they had caused! So we have to say a big thank you to Ralph Morris for making Christmas safer!

The most lights lit at the same time on a Christmas tree is 194,672 and was done by Kiwanis Malmedy / Haute Fagnes Belgium in Malmedy, Belgium, on 10 December 2010!

Many towns and villages have their own Christmas Trees. One of the most famous is the tree in Trafalgar Square in London, England, which is given to the UK by Norway every year as a 'thank you' present for the help the UK gave Norway in World War II. The White House in the USA has had a big tree on the front lawn since the 1920s.

By Cosmin Pauliuc, X E

THE GIVER (By Lois Lowry)

Why you'll love this book

Lois Lowry is one of the most outstanding writers for children and young adults in the USA. She is well known for her stories about Anastasia Krupnik – funny stories that have been hugely popular with young readers since the first one was published in 1979.

Lois Lowry has said that she got the ideas for the Anastasia stories from remembering her own childhood and, later, from her own experiences as a parent. But **The Giver** is a very different sort of story from the stories about Anastasia. And it shows that Lois Lowry can write a sinister book as well as a funny one.

The Giver is possibly the most alarming story of all her books...a book for young adults and adults, rather than younger children, though good and thoughtful readers could certainly read it with understanding and appropriately mounting apprehension.

Jonas, the hero of **The Giver**, lives a highly ordered life as a member of a group who describe themselves as “the community”. And, though Jonas is happy enough with his parents, his lively sister and his friends, he is also beginning to experience strange moments of visions... visions that belong to him. We come to understand that the life lived within his community is ominous as well as protected. People around Jonas have chosen to live extremely ordered lives but, as the story unfolds, the reader comes to see that this order has a particularly dark side. Memories of colour and music for example have been surrendered. But these memories are not altogether lost. They are contained and held by a mysterious man called **the Giver**. A lot of the story deals with the relationship between Jonas and the Giver – a man who is beyond the community, and a container of those memories of feeling and colour which he can pass on to Jonas, who will become a Giver himself. In order to communicate with the present Giver Jonas is released from the rules that govern everyone else around him, so the story becomes very much a story of self realization – a self realization that is expected, ultimately, to enrich a group of people denied self realization themselves.

As for the ending – the reader has to make up his or her own mind about it. Is it realistic? Is it symbolic?

Lois Lowry has written a note about **The Giver** saying that she did not immediately realize that it was different from any other book she had written, until she started receiving letters from readers proving that the story was being widely read. Many people praised it but there were some towns that banned it from their schools or libraries. Lois had intended to write a children's adventure story, but **The Giver** turned out to be more than that. While some people hated it, others admired it and in 1993 it won the Newbery Medal.

The Giver is a book that is hard to put down – a book that haunts the reader for days after it has been closed.

By Loredana Bodnar

Learning or teaching English could be a smart choice ...

Methods and techniques of teaching English

By Loredana Bodnar

According to academic research, linguists have demonstrated that there is **not one single best method for everyone** in all contexts, and that no one teaching method is inherently superior to the others.

Also, it is not always possible - or appropriate - to apply the same methodology to all learners, who have different objectives, environments and learning needs.

Applying the most appropriate method for that learner's specific objectives, learning style and context is vital.

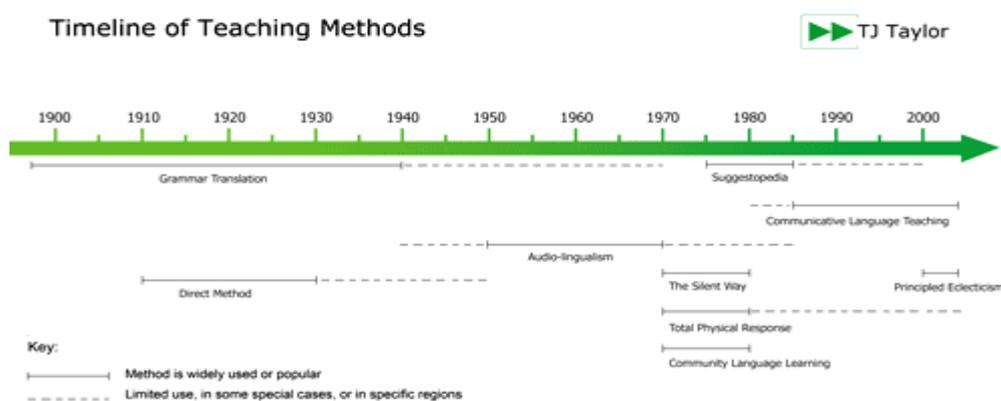
An experienced professional language teacher always adopts the **Principled Eclecticism** approach, deciding on the most suitable techniques and applying the most appropriate methodology for that learner's specific objectives, learning style and context.

Methods of teaching English have developed rapidly, especially in the previous 40 years. It is important that language learners and training managers, as well as teachers, understand the various methods and techniques so you are able to navigate the market, make educated choices, and boost your enjoyment of learning a language.

Each teaching method is based on a particular vision of understanding the language or the learning process, often using specific techniques and materials used in a set sequence.

The main methodologies are listed below in the **chronological** order of their development:

- **Grammar Translation** - the classical method
- **Direct Method** - discovering the importance of speaking
- **Audio-lingualism** - the first modern methodology
- **Humanistic Approaches** - a range of holistic methods applied to language learning
- **Communicative Language Teaching** - the modern standard method
- **Principled Eclecticism** - fitting the method to the learner, not the learner to the method



What are the Differences?

Each method has a different focus or priority, so let's look at what this means in practical terms in the classroom. The more common methods have a link to a separate page with more details and an explanation of how they work, including the most common method currently used - Communicative Language Teaching.

Method	Focus	Characteristics
<u>Grammar Translation</u>	Written literary texts	Translate from English into your native language
<u>Direct Method</u> (also called Natural Method)	Everyday spoken language	Student learns by associating meaning directly in English
<u>Audio-Lingual Method</u>	Sentence and sound patterns	Listening and speaking drills and pattern practice only in English
Cognitive Code Approach	Grammar rules	English grammar rules deduced and then understood in context
<u>Humanistic Approaches</u> - 4 popular examples:		
- The Silent Way	Student interaction rather than teacher	Teacher is silent to allow student awareness of how English works
- Suggestopedia	Meaningful texts and vocabulary	Relaxed atmosphere, with music; encourages subliminal learning of English
- Community Language Learning	Student interaction	Understanding of English through active student interaction
- Comprehension Approach (Natural Approach, the Learnables, Listening comprehension and Total Physical Response)		English speaking delayed until students are ready; meaning clarified through actions and visuals
<u>Communicative Language Teaching</u>	Interaction, authentic communication and negotiating meaning	Understanding of English through active student interaction; role play, games, information gaps
Content-based, Task-based, and Participatory Approaches	What is being communicated, not structure of English	Content based on relevance to students' lives: topics, tasks, problem-solving
Learning Strategy Training, Cooperative Learning, and Multiple Intelligences	How to learn	Teach learning strategies, cooperation; activities vary according to different intelligences

Based on Techniques and Principles in Language Teaching (Oxford University Press)

As mentioned above, the modern language teacher doesn't follow one rigid method, but applies the Principled Eclecticism approach - fitting the method to the learner, not vice versa.

This means choosing the techniques and activities that are appropriate for each particular task, context and learner, with a focus on **motivation** and helping learners become independent and inspired to learn more.

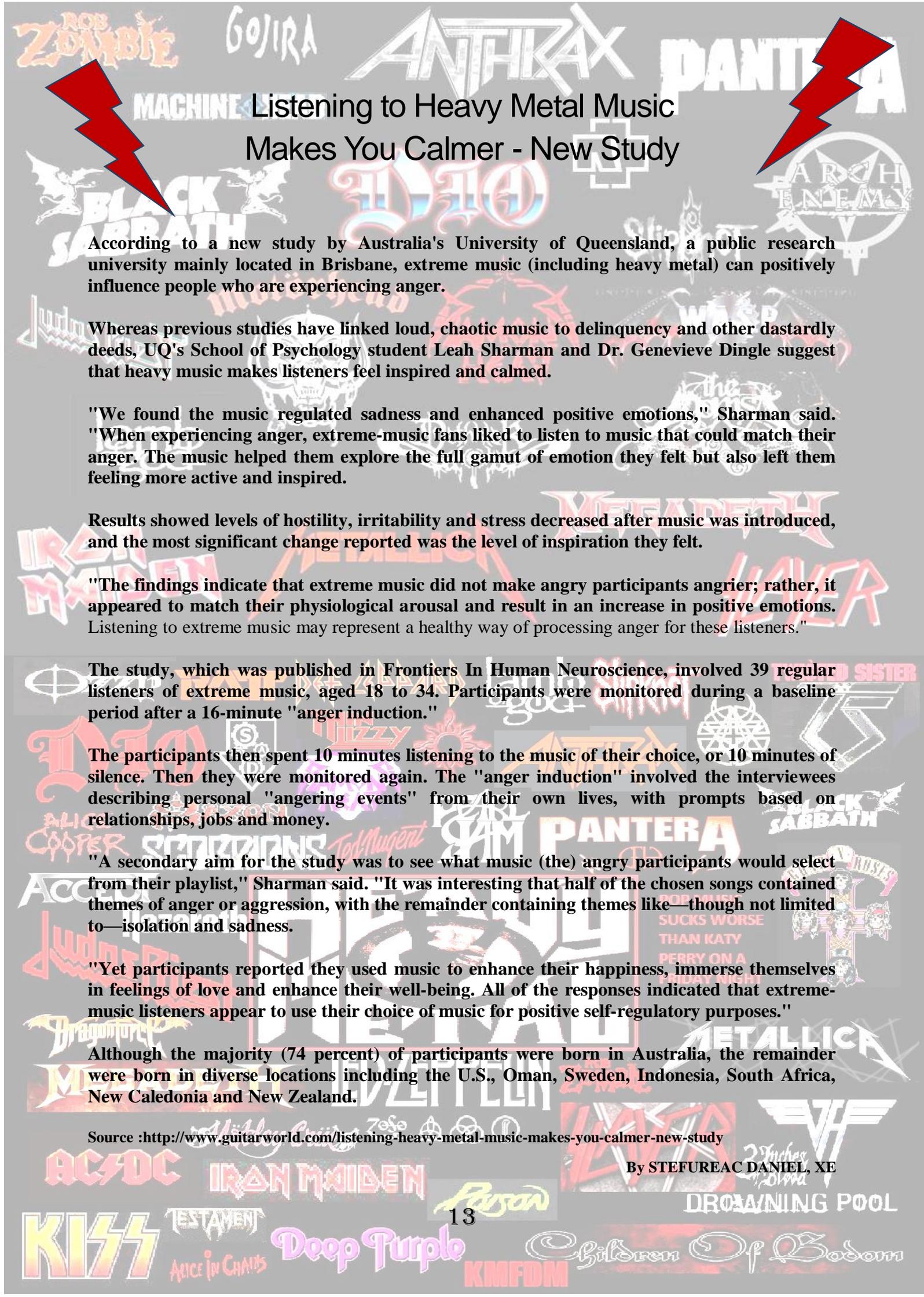
II. MUSIC CORNER

AC/DC

Angus and Malcolm Young were born in Glasgow but the family moved to Sydney, Australia, when the boys were young. Angus' musical career began at the age of five when he restrung a banjo as a guitar. Eventually, he got his trademark Gibson SG and, since then, has never changed instruments. Their brother George had a band, The Easybeats, and gave his younger brothers guitar lessons when he wasn't touring. He would eventually become AC/DC's producer. In 1973, Malcolm and Angus formed AC/DC. They got the band's name from a sewing machine - AC/DC is an electrical reference. They eventually met another Scottish-born Australian, Bon Scott, who was their driver for a while. After their first singer left, Scott became their frontman. He has been voted as the greatest frontman ever in *Classic Rock* magazine. Part of this success came from his bad-boy image as he had spent time in prison. He was also refused entry into the army for being "socially maladjusted". Along with Scott's wild stage antics, they also gained popularity for Angus' crazy spasms, his mooning and his other famous trademark: his school uniform. Although their music has been described as heavy metal, they have always hated this reference. Their music is, in fact, ordinary rock 'n' roll, played loud and aggressively. This straightforward type of music has kept them popular all through their career. Their first few albums were popular in Australia but when they released "Let There Be Rock" in 1977 they became world famous. They toured with Black Sabbath. In one incident, Sabbath's bassist, Geezer Butler, threatened Malcolm with a knife. Malcolm then reportedly beat him up. Despite this, the two groups remained friendly, and in 2006 Angus inducted Sabbath singer Ozzy Osbourne into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. Their next album, "Highway to Hell" made them big in America but trouble was coming. In February 1980 Bon Scott was found dead in London from alcohol poisoning. The band thought about quitting but eventually replaced Scott with Geordie singer Brian Johnson. AC/DC fans showed their loyalty and their next album *Back in Black* became one of the biggest selling albums in history. Apparently, Scott admired Johnson's singing. Scott saw Johnson in concert once. During the concert, Johnson fell on stage and started yelling on the floor. The crowd thought it was part of his act but it was actually acute appendicitis. Brian Johnson has become known for his trademark flat cap, which is fashionable in his home town of Newcastle, England.

The 1980s saw AC/DC's popularity drop and their music is seen as being below standard at this time. And there were problems for the band. Malcolm got into another fight, this time with Phil Rudd, the drummer, who then left. For a while, there were rumours that they were a gay band, especially as in some countries, AC/DC is a slang term for "bisexuality", and also because they played gigs in gay clubs. They responded by saying that they would play gigs anywhere they wanted – the more fans, the better. They had also got into trouble for referring to a real Australian telephone number in a song. This led to the owners of the number receiving thousands of crank calls. In the United States a serial killer, Richard Ramirez left an AC/DC hat at a crime scene and was also claimed to be inspired by their song "Night Prowler". Ramirez, AKA "the Night Stalker", was a devil worshipper and the band were also accused of this. A campaign to censor popular music in the US included AC/DC as targets. Despite this, the group survived and became more popular in the 1990s. They made a comeback and their latest songs are considered a return to form for them. They are releasing new material now in September and a world tour is expected. The band never forgot where they were from and footage from their Scottish tours shows the band wearing Scottish football jerseys. One of their songs, *Bonny*, which is a tribute to Bon Scott, is actually a traditional Scottish air. Bon Scott has been honoured in his birthplace Kirriemuir, north of Edinburgh. Their 1978 live album "If you want Blood, you Got It" was recorded at a concert in Glasgow. Newcastle man Brian Johnson has also strengthened the connection as his hometown is close to the Scottish border. Despite the controversy surrounding the band, they continue to be popular and Angus is frequently named as the reason many young people start to learn guitar.

By Florin Tecuceanu



Listening to Heavy Metal Music Makes You Calmer - New Study

According to a new study by Australia's University of Queensland, a public research university mainly located in Brisbane, extreme music (including heavy metal) can positively influence people who are experiencing anger.

Whereas previous studies have linked loud, chaotic music to delinquency and other dastardly deeds, UQ's School of Psychology student Leah Sharman and Dr. Genevieve Dingle suggest that heavy music makes listeners feel inspired and calmed.

"We found the music regulated sadness and enhanced positive emotions," Sharman said. "When experiencing anger, extreme-music fans liked to listen to music that could match their anger. The music helped them explore the full gamut of emotion they felt but also left them feeling more active and inspired.

Results showed levels of hostility, irritability and stress decreased after music was introduced, and the most significant change reported was the level of inspiration they felt.

"The findings indicate that extreme music did not make angry participants angrier; rather, it appeared to match their physiological arousal and result in an increase in positive emotions. Listening to extreme music may represent a healthy way of processing anger for these listeners."

The study, which was published in *Frontiers In Human Neuroscience*, involved 39 regular listeners of extreme music, aged 18 to 34. Participants were monitored during a baseline period after a 16-minute "anger induction."

The participants then spent 10 minutes listening to the music of their choice, or 10 minutes of silence. Then they were monitored again. The "anger induction" involved the interviewees describing personal "angering events" from their own lives, with prompts based on relationships, jobs and money.

"A secondary aim for the study was to see what music (the) angry participants would select from their playlist," Sharman said. "It was interesting that half of the chosen songs contained themes of anger or aggression, with the remainder containing themes like—though not limited to—isolation and sadness.

"Yet participants reported they used music to enhance their happiness, immerse themselves in feelings of love and enhance their well-being. All of the responses indicated that extreme-music listeners appear to use their choice of music for positive self-regulatory purposes."

Although the majority (74 percent) of participants were born in Australia, the remainder were born in diverse locations including the U.S., Oman, Sweden, Indonesia, South Africa, New Caledonia and New Zealand.

Source :<http://www.guitarworld.com/listening-heavy-metal-music-makes-you-calmer-new-study>

By STEFUREAC DANIEL, XE

Arctic Monkeys



Arctic Monkeys are an English rock band formed in 2002 in High Green, a suburb of Sheffield. The band consists of Alex Turner (lead vocals, rhythm guitar, lead guitar), Matt Helders (drums, backing vocals), Jamie Cook (lead guitar, rhythm guitar) and Nick O'Malley (bass, backing vocals). Former band member Andy Nicholson (bass guitar, backing vocals) left the band in 2006 shortly after their debut album was released.

They have released five studio albums: *Whatever People Say I Am, That's What I'm Not* (2006), *Favourite Worst Nightmare* (2007), *Humburg* (2009), *Suck It and See* (2011) and *AM* (2013), as well as one live album, *At the Apollo* (2008). Their debut album is the fastest-selling debut album by a band in British chart history, and in 2013, *Rolling Stone* ranked it the 30th-greatest debut album of all time.

The band have won seven Brit Awards—winning both Best British Group and Best British Album three times, and have been nominated for three Grammy Awards. They also won the Mercury Prize in 2006 for their debut album, in addition to receiving nominations in 2007 and 2013. The band have headlined at the Glastonbury Festival twice, in 2007 and again in 2013.

Arctic Monkeys were heralded as one of the first bands to come to public attention via the Internet (through fan-based sites rather than from the band), with commentators suggesting they represented the possibility of a change in the way in which new bands are promoted and marketed.

The band began to grow in popularity across the north of England, receiving attention from BBC Radio and the British tabloid press. In May 2005, Arctic Monkeys released their first single, *Five Minutes with Arctic Monkeys* on their own 'Bang Bang' label, featuring the songs "Fake Tales of San Francisco" and "From the Ritz to the Rubble". Soon after, the band played at the Carling Stage of the Reading and Leeds Festivals, reserved for less known or unsigned bands. Their appearance was hyped by much of the music press and the band was watched by an unusually large crowd.

Their second single, "When the Sun Goes Down" (previously titled "Scummy"), released on 16 January 2006, went straight to No. 1 on the UK Singles Chart, selling 38,922 copies and taking over that position from Shayne Ward. The band's success with little marketing or advertising led some to suggest that it could signal a change in how new bands achieve recognition.



Discography -some of the songs, the entire discography on wikipedia

"2013"	2013	"Do I Wanna Know?"
"505"	2007	Favourite Worst Nightmare
"7"	2006	"When the Sun Goes Down"
"A Certain Romance"	2006	Whatever People Say I Am, That's What I'm Not
"Balaclava"	2007	Favourite Worst Nightmare
"Blond-O-Sonic Shimmer Trap"	2011	"Don't Sit Down 'Cause I've Moved Your Chair"
"Catapult"	2009	"Cornerstone"
"Chun-Li's Spinning Bird Kick"	2005	"I Bet You Look Good on the dancefloor"
"Cigarette Smoker Fiona"	2006	Who Are Arctic Monkeys? EP
"D Is for Dangerous"	2007	Favourite Worst Nightmare
"Dance Little Liar"	2009	Humbug
"Do Me a Favour"	2007	Favourite Worst Nightmare
"Electricity"	2012	"R U Mine?"
"Evil Twin"	2011	"Look and See"
"Fireside"	2013	AM
"I Want It All"	2013	AM
"I.D.S.T."	2011	"Don't Sit Down 'Cause I've Moved Your Chair"
"Joining the Dots"	2010	"My Propeller"
"Knee Socks"	2013	AM
"Library Pictures"	2011	"Look and See"
"Love Is a Laserquest"	2011	"Look and See"
"Mardy Bum"	2006	Whatever People Say I Am, That's What I'm Not
"Nettles"	2007	"Teddy Picker"
"No Buses"	2006	Who the Fuck Are Arctic Monkeys? EP
"Perhaps Vampires Is a Bit Strong But.."	2006	Whatever People Say I Am, That's What I'm Not
"Plastic Tramp"	2007	"Fluorescent Adolescent"
"Potion Approaching"	2009	Humbug
"Reckless Serenade"	2011	"Look and See"
"Secret Door"	2009	Humbug
"Snap Out of It"	2013	AM
"Stop the World I Wanna Get Off with You"	2013	"Why'd You Only Call Me When You're High?"
"Too Much to Ask"	2007	"Fluorescent Adolescent"

Classical music

By Berari Andreea – Mălina, 11D grade

Classical music is art music produced or rooted in the traditions of Western music, including both liturgical (religious) and secular music. The central norms of this tradition became codified between 1550 and 1900, which is known as the common practice period. The major time divisions of classical music are as follows: the early music period, which includes the Medieval (500–1400) and the Renaissance (1400–1600) eras; the Common practice period, which includes the Baroque (1600–1750), Classical (1750–1820), and Romantic eras (1804–1910); and the 20th century (1901–2000) which includes the modern (1890–1930) that overlaps from the late 19th-century, the high modern (mid 20th-century), and contemporary or postmodern (1975–present) eras.

Western staff notation is used by composers to prescribe to the performer the pitches (e.g., melodies), tempo, meter, individual rhythms and exact execution of a piece of music. This leaves less room for practices such as improvisation and *ad libitum* ornamentation, which are frequently heard in non-European art music and in popular music styles such as jazz and blues. Classical music has been noted for its development of highly sophisticated forms of instrumental music such as the concerto, symphony, sonata, and mixed vocal and instrumental styles such as opera which, since they are written down, can attain a high level of complexity.

The term "classical music" did not appear until the early 19th century, in an attempt to distinctly canonize the period from Johann Sebastian Bach to Beethoven as a golden age. The earliest reference to "classical music" recorded by the Oxford English Dictionary is from about 1836.

∞ Roots

Burgh (2006), suggests that the roots of Western classical music ultimately lie in ancient Egyptian art music via cheironomy and the ancient Egyptian orchestra, which dates to 2695 BC. This was followed by early Christian liturgical music, which itself dates back to the Ancient Greeks. The development of individual tones and scales was made by ancient Greeks such as Aristoxenus and Pythagoras. Pythagoras created a tuning system and helped to codify musical notation. Ancient Greek instruments such as the aulos (a reed instrument) and the lyre (a stringed instrument similar to a small harp) eventually led to the modern-day instruments of a classical orchestra. The antecedent to the early period was the era of ancient music before the fall of the Roman Empire (476 AD). Very little music survives from this time, most of it from ancient Greece.

∞ Classical music

The term "classical music" has two meanings: the broader meaning includes all Western art music from the Medieval era to the 2000s, and the specific meaning refers to the music from the 1750s to the early 1830s—the era of Mozart and Haydn. This section is about the more specific meaning.

Classical musicians continued to use many of instruments from the Baroque era, such as the cello, contrabass, recorder, trombone, timpani, fortepiano and organ. While some Baroque instruments fell into disuse (e.g., the theorbo and rackets), many Baroque instruments were changed into the versions that are still in use in the 2000s, such as the Baroque violin (which became the violin), the Baroque oboe (which became the oboe) and the Baroque trumpet, which transitioned to the regular valved trumpet.

The Classical era stringed instruments were the four instruments which form the string section of the orchestra: the violin, viola, cello and contrabass. Woodwinds included the basset clarinet, basset horn, clarinette d'amour, the Classical clarinet, the chalumeau, the flute, oboe and bassoon. Keyboard instruments included the clavichord and the fortepiano. While the harpsichord was still used in basso continuo accompaniment in the 1750s and 1760s, it fell out of use in the end of the century. Brass instruments included the buccin, the ophicleide (a serpent replacement which was the precursor of tuba) and the natural horn.

∞ Romantic music

In the Romantic era, the modern piano, with a more powerful, sustained tone and a wider range took over from the more delicate-sounding fortepiano. In the orchestra, the existing Classical instruments and sections were retained (string section, woodwinds, brass and percussion), but these sections were typically expanded to make a fuller, bigger sound. For example, while a Baroque orchestra may have had two double bass players, a Romantic orchestra could have as many as ten. "As music grew more expressive, the standard orchestral palette just wasn't rich enough for many Romantic composers." New woodwind instruments were added, such as the contrabassoon, bass clarinet and piccolo and new percussion instruments were added, including xylophones, drums, celestes (a bell-like keyboard instrument), large orchestral harps, bells, and triangles and even wind machines for sound effects.

The Wagner tuba, a modified member of the horn family, appears in Richard Wagner's cycle *Der Ring des Nibelungen* and several other works by Strauss, Béla Bartók, and others. Cornets appear in Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky's ballet *Swan Lake*, Claude Debussy's *La Mer*, and several orchestral works by Hector Berlioz.

Modern era

Electric instruments such as the electric guitar, the electric bass and the ondes Martenot appear occasionally in the classical music of the 20th and 21st centuries. Both classical and popular musicians have experimented in recent decades with electronic instruments such as the synthesizer, electric and digital techniques such as the use of sampled or computer-generated sounds, and instruments from other cultures such as the gamelan.

Many instruments today associated with popular music filled important roles in early classical music, such as bagpipes, vihuelas, hurdy-gurdies, and some woodwind instruments. On the other hand, instruments such as the acoustic guitar, once associated mainly with popular music, gained prominence in classical music in the 19th and 20th centuries.

Songs that I love

After presenting all those pieces of information about classical music history, I thought of sharing with you some of the songs I like to listen to when it comes to talk about classical musica and playing the piano and when autumn sets in. Most of them are for piano, but if you want you can play them at any instrument.

- ∞ Alexandre Desplat - New Moon (The Meadow)
- ∞ Alexandre Desplat - Dreamcatcher
- ∞ Yiruma - Kiss the rain
- ∞ Yiruma - The Moment
- ∞ Yiruma - River flows in you
- ∞ Carter Bruwell - Love Death Birth
- ∞ Beethoven - Moonlight sonata
- ∞ Christina Perry - A thousand years - This

song is for piano, it has many versions and it is not necessarily a classical one, so are the followings:

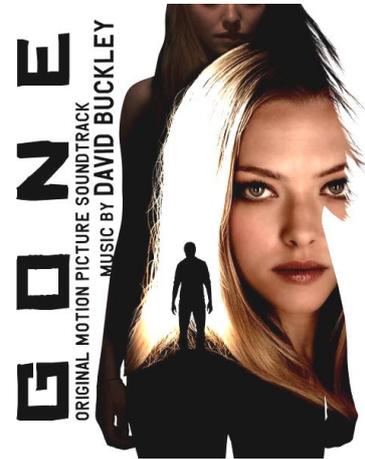
- Boyce Avenue - It will rain (cover from Bruno Mars's song)
- Sam Smith - Writing's on the wall



III. IN THE LIMELIGHT

THE MOVIE "GONE"

Jillian "Jill" Conway (Amanda Seyfried) lives in Portland, Oregon with her sister Molly (Emily Wickersham), a college student. Much earlier, Jill was kidnapped by a brutal serial killer who put her in a deep vertical hole somewhere in Portland's 5100 acre Forest Park. Jill found human remains, used one of the bones to stab her abductor, and escaped from the hole, using his rope ladder. When the Portland police are unable to find the hole, and discover that Jill had been committed to a psychiatric institution after her parents' death, they believe the abduction only happened in Jill's head, and send Jill back to a psychiatric facility.



A year later, Jill now works as a waitress in a local diner on the graveyard shift. She and her friend Sharon Ames (Jennifer Carpenter) are generously tipped by a regular customer. Returning home from the shift, Jill is shocked to discover Molly is missing, as she was to take an exam the next day and wanted Jill to wake her early. Molly's boyfriend, Billy (Sebastian Stan), tells her that he hasn't heard from Molly, and later that she didn't show up for the exam. Jill is then convinced the serial killer who took her has now taken Molly.

Police Lt. Ray Bozeman (Michael Paré), Sergeant Powers (Daniel Sunjata), and Detective Erica Lonsdale (Katherine Moennig) dismiss her claims, trying to look for any other excuse for Molly to be missing, believing that it's all in Jill's head. The department's newest homicide detective, Peter Hood (Wes Bentley), tells her that he believes her, giving Jill his card in case she needs any help about the case.

Jill interrogates her neighbors and learns that a van with a locksmith company's name on it parked in front of her house in the middle of the night. Jill finds the company it belongs to and talks to owner Henry Massey (Ted Rooney) and the van's driver, Massey's son Nick (Joel David Moore). When Nick denies any knowledge, Jill breaks into the van, where she finds a receipt from a hardware store for things that the killer would use. Jill holds Nick at gunpoint and forces him to reveal that he allowed a stranger named "Digger" to rent the van during the night.

Nick reports Jill's gun waving behavior to the police, who then want to arrest Jill, as her time in the psychiatric facility means she can not legally possess a weapon. Jill goes to the hardware store, and learns that Digger's real name is Jim LaPointe (Socratis Otto) and that he's staying at a rundown hotel. After narrowly eluding the police, Jill heads to the hotel, and breaks into LaPointe's room, where she finds duct tape, pet food like that which she was given by her kidnapper, and matches from the diner where she works.

Jill visits Sharon, and learns that LaPointe is the generous tipper from the diner. Sharon gives her LaPointe's phone number and—after another narrow escape from the police—agrees to let Jill borrow her car. Jill then calls LaPointe, who gives her directions to a location in Forest Park. Jill locates a small campsite and finds pictures of LaPointe's prior victims, and at the same time, Molly breaks the duct tape off of her hands, and escapes, only to discover she has been concealed under her house all along. Powers and Lonsdale are shocked when they hear Molly's story, finally believing what they have heard from Jill. They also learn Jill is to meet the kidnapper, but they don't know where that is to happen.

Jill finds the hole where LaPointe held her captive. LaPointe emerges from an alcove from within the hole and grabs Jill, pulling her into the hole. He intends to kill her with the piece of bone that Jill stabbed him with in her initial escape. Jill kicks LaPointe to keep him away, then grabs her revolver and shoots him. She starts climbing up the rope ladder to get away, but LaPointe grabs her foot and attempts to pull her back down. Desperate, Jill kicks LaPointe to break his hold and shoots him again. She then manages to climb away and extracts the rope ladder, trapping LaPointe in the hole. After shooting LaPointe a third time in the leg so that he cannot stand, Jill demands he tell her where Molly is, on a promise of not shooting him again. LaPointe admits that Molly has been bound and gagged under their house the whole time, and he only used Molly to lure Jill into the trap. Jill pours a can of kerosene into the hole. As LaPointe begs for his life, saying "You said you wouldn't kill me," she says "I lied," and drops in a lantern, burning LaPointe to death.

Jill disposes of the revolver and returns home, finding Molly okay, along with Powers, Lonsdale, and Hood. As Molly is terrified at the ordeal, Jill whispers to her that LaPointe is dead. When Powers asks about the man she was to meet, Jill (sarcastically) tells the police, "It was all in my head." Then she and Molly go into the house and close the door, leaving the police and Billy frustrated.

Some time later, Bozeman, in his office, receives an anonymous package. Inside are the pictures LaPointe had taken of each of his victims, bound and gagged, including Jill herself. An included map indicates the spot in Forest Park where the police can find the hole. Realizing how wrong he was about Jill, Bozeman calls Powers into his office to investigate the new leads.



Jennifer Lawrence

Early life

Jennifer Lawrence is an American actress, born in Louisville, Kentucky, on August 15, 1990. Lawrence was an athletic child, involved in cheerleading, field hockey and softball, and thought she might be a doctor when she grew up. She did some modeling and community theater, but never dreamed that she'd become an actress.

Personal life

Lawrence graduated from high school two years early with a 3.9 GPA, part of the deal her parents made with her to allow her to pursue acting. She now lives in Santa Monica with her dog and plans to pursue directing.

She dated her 'X-Men' co-star, Nicholas Holt, from 2011 to 2013. A year later, she was involved in an on-and-off again relationship with Coldplay's Chris Martin, which reportedly ended in the summer of 2015.

Career

She got her big break at 14, when she was discovered while vacationing in New York City with her family. She quickly landed a role in the TV series *'The Bill Engvall Show'*, and roles in films including *'The Burning Plain'*, *'Winter's Bone'*, *'X-Men: First Class* and *The Hunger Games'*. She is reprising her role in *The Hunger Games: Catching Fire*. Lawrence won an Academy Award in 2013 for her work in *'Silver Linings Playbook'*.

In media

Jennifer's performances in 2012 prompted *Rolling Stone* to call her "the most talented young actress in America". Donald Sutherland compared her to Laurence Olivier and described her as an "exquisite and brilliant actor". Director David O. Russell has praised her effortless acting that make her performances look easy. Lawrence was never involved with theater and did not take acting classes, stating, "I've always studied people and been fascinated by their reactions and feelings. And I think that's the best acting class you can take – watching real people, listening to them and studying them."

Achievements

Lawrence won an Academy Award for Best Actress for her performance in *'Silver Linings Playbook'* (2012). She won two Golden Globe Awards, Best Actress – Musical or Comedy for *'Silver Linings Playbook'* and Best Supporting Actress for *'American Hustle'* (2013). Jennifer Lawrence was recognized as the highest-grossing action heroine in the 2015 edition of the *'Guinness World Records'* for the role of Katniss Everdeen in the *'Hunger Games'*.

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By Stan Andreea, X E

Entourage

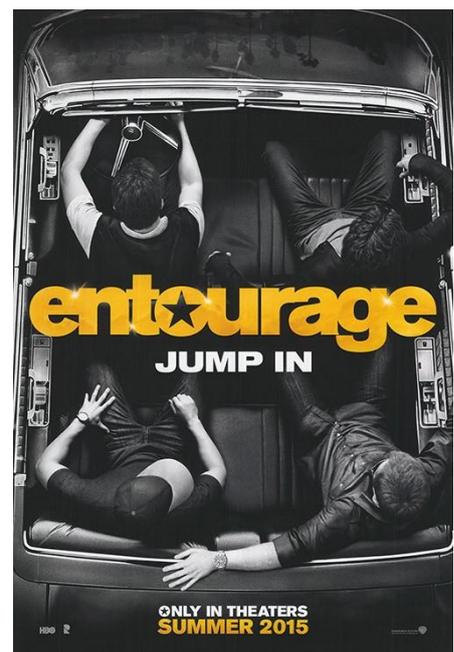
HIS FAME IS THEIR FORTUNE
entourage

Entourage is an American comedy-drama television series that premiered on HBO on July 18, 2004 and concluded on September 11, 2011, after eight seasons. The series was created and largely written by Doug Ellin and chronicles the acting career of Vincent Chase, a young A-list movie star, and his childhood friends from Queens, New York City, as they navigate the unfamiliar terrain of Los Angeles. Mark Wahlberg and Stephen Levinson served as the show's executive producers, and its premise is loosely based on Wahlberg's experiences as an up-and-coming film star. The series deals with themes of male friendship and real-life situations in modern-day Hollywood. The show is known for its array of famous guests, having featured several actors, athletes, and other celebrities in guest star and cameo roles, often playing fictionalized versions of themselves.

Development

According to Mark Wahlberg, *Entourage* was initially conceived when his assistant asked if he could film Wahlberg and his friends, calling them "hilarious." Other reports credit Eric Weinstein, a long-time friend of Wahlberg, with the idea of filming the actor's group of friends. However, according to Donnie Carroll, who was the inspiration for the Turtle character, the idea for a show involving an actor and his friends had come from him. It had originated as a book idea, centered on Carroll's own life and his experiences with Wahlberg, titled from the 'Hood to Hollywood, A Soldier's Story. To be more satirical of the Hollywood lifestyle, a fictional approach was chosen rather than a straight documentary in order to keep the content light, and avoid directly depicting Wahlberg's violent past. Vincent Chase was envisioned to be more similar to Wahlberg, but it was decided that some of his and his friends' activities (particularly some elements of their criminal past) would not work well on television. A lighter approach was subsequently decided upon.

Entourage revolves around Vincent Chase (Adrian Grenier). His best friend and manager is Eric Murphy (Kevin Connolly). "E," as his friends call him, is based on Mark Wahlberg's friend and executive producer Eric Weinstein. He's also been reported to be inspired by Stephen Levinson, Mark Wahlberg's manager. Vincent's older half-brother, Johnny "Drama" Chase (Kevin Dillon), is Vince's personal chef, trainer and bodyguard. Johnny is a C-list actor who was in the fictional show *Viking Quest* during his younger days. His role in the new fictional hit show *Five*



Towns had begun to resurrect his fame and career, although he still received less acknowledgment than he would have liked for it. As the show went on, Drama got offers for more and more roles. The show ended with Drama having his own animated TV show called "Johnny's Bananas" and him landing a new TV movie with the help of Vince. Drama's character is based on Johnny "Drama" Alves (cousin of Mark Wahlberg), whom Donnie Wahlberg had hired to keep his younger brother out of trouble. Rounding out the entourage of friends is Salvatore "Turtle" Assante (Jerry Ferrara), who is another of Vince's old friends from childhood. Turtle's official role is as Vince's driver and assistant, though his value as such is often brought into question. This character is based on Wahlberg's former "gofer" Donnie Carroll aka "Donkey." Carroll auditioned for the role, but the Boston native was turned down when it was decided the actors would have to be New Yorkers. Carroll died on December 18, 2005, after an asthma attack. Ari Gold (Jeremy Piven) is Vince's abrasive but lovable agent. The role has led to several nominations and Emmy Awards for Piven. Ari is based on Wahlberg's real-life agent Ari Emanuel. Connolly, Grenier, Dillon, Ferrara, and Piven are credited in every episode in the opening credits of the entire series. Debi Mazar, who has a recurring guest star role as Shauna in season 1, is promoted to opening credits billing in season 2. Her appearances in season 3 were limited due to her pregnancy and Mazar made her final regular appearance in episode 42 (season 3 finale). Mazar made appearances in seasons 4 through 8 and is credited as a special guest star. Melissa Gold (Perrey Reeves) and Lloyd (Rex Lee) have recurring roles in the first two seasons. Starting in season 3, Reeves and Lee are credited as "starring" in the end credits in the episodes they appear in. Reeves receives opening credits billing starting with season 4, and Lee is added to the opening credits starting with season 5. In season 4, Rhys Coiro, who portrays recurring character Billy Walsh, is credited as "starring" in the end credits for the first six episodes of the season. However, when his character returns in episode 52 (season 4, episode 10), he is again credited as a guest star; he returns in season 7 as a recurring special guest star and is credited as "starring" in the end credits again in season 8. Emmanuelle Chriqui portrays E's on-again, off-again girlfriend Sloan McQuewick as a recurring guest star from season 2 to 5, and beginning with season 6, she is credited as "starring" in the end credits. Gary Cole guest stars in three episodes of season 5 as agent Andrew Klein, and beginning with season 6 he is credited as "starring" in the end credits and returns in season 7 as a special guest star. Scott Caan guest stars in two episodes of season 6 as Scott Lavin, and in season 7 and 8, he is credited as "starring" in the end credits.



include: Turtle's laziness and quest for marijuana; Drama's struggle to follow in his younger brother's footsteps; E dating Ari's assistant Emily (Samaire Armstrong); and Vince's many and varied girlfriends.

By Popa Daniel, X E

OTAKU WORLD

The word of anime and manga is widely varied from giant robots to magical girls, from love to horror, from shoujo to shounen.

What means Anime?

Anime is a style of animation that originated and is still heavily centered in Japan. The word 'anime' is based on the original Japanese pronunciation of the American word 'animation.' The stereotype of the anime style are characters with proportionally large eyes and hair styles and colors that are very colorful and exotic. The plots range from very immature (kiddy stuff), through teenage level, to mature (violence, content, thick plot).

Common Anime genres:

Action - By far one of the most common genres out there and the name basically explains it all, normally anime based solely on this genre tends to be lacking in substance although exciting due to lack of character development or an underlying story, to resolve this creators of action based anime try to mix in other genres, usually comedy, Adventure or Fantasy.

Adventure - These anime tend to be very long and drawn out but the characters typically have a solid background. The anime itself usually has a well formed story-line but due to the nature of this genre viewers often get bored and annoyed at the slow progression.

Drama - The Drama anime genre is one of the most appreciated anime Genres, characters and the plot are usually well developed and viewers are very easily swept up with emotion and side with one character or a group of characters, it is usually well paired with Romance as well as Adventure, in fact, the Drama anime genre is very often synonymous with the Romance genre.

Horror - Despite the name, the horror anime isn't very scary, instead it implies a lot of bloodshed and mutilation, I suppose a better word would have been gruesome.

Romance - This is a relatively popular genre which deals with the detailed creation and progression of the romantic relationship between two characters.

Now let's talk about the most popular anime of all time:

1. **Dragon Ball Z** - Dragon Ball Z follows the adventures of the protagonist Goku who, along with his companions, defends the Earth against an assortment of villains ranging from intergalactic space fighters and conquerors, unnaturally powerful androids and nearly indestructible magical creatures. While the original Dragon Ball anime followed Goku from his childhood into adulthood, Dragon Ball Z is a continuation of his adult life, but at the same time parallels the maturation of his sons, Gohan and Goten, as well as the evolution of his rivals Piccolo and Vegeta from enemies into allies.

2. **One Piece** - Gol D. Roger was known as the Pirate King, the strongest and most infamous being to have sailed the Grand Line. The capture and death of Roger by the World Government brought a change throughout the world. His last words before his death revealed the location of the greatest treasure in the world, One Piece. It was this revelation that brought about the Grand Age of Pirates, men who dreamed of finding One Piece (which promises an unlimited amount of riches and fame), and quite possibly the most coveted of titles for the person who found it, the title of the Pirate King.

Enter Monkey D. Luffy, a 17-year-old boy who defies the standard definition of a pirate. Rather than the popular persona of a wicked, hardened, toothless pirate who ransacks villages for fun, Luffy's reason for being a pirate is one of pure wonder; the thought of an exciting adventure and meeting new and intriguing people, along with finding One Piece. Following in the footsteps of his childhood hero, Luffy and his crew travel across the Grand Line, experiencing crazy adventures, unveiling dark mysteries and battling strong enemies, all in order to reach One Piece.

3. **Bleach** - Ichigo Kurosaki has always been able to see ghosts, but this ability doesn't change his life nearly as much as his close encounter with Rukia Kuchiki, a Soul Reaper and member of the mysterious Soul Society. While fighting a Hollow, an evil spirit that preys on humans



who display psychic energy, Rukia attempts to lend Ichigo some of her powers so that he can save his family; but much to her surprise, Ichigo absorbs every last drop of her energy.

Now a full-fledged Soul Reaper himself, Ichigo quickly learns that the world he inhabits is one full of dangerous spirits, and along with Rukia—who is slowly regaining her powers—it's Ichigo's job to protect the innocent from Hollows and help the spirits themselves find peace.

4. Naruto—Twelve years ago, the powerful Nine-Tailed Demon Fox attacked the ninja village of Konohagakure the village hidden in the leaves.

The demon was defeated and sealed into the infant Naruto Uzumaki, by the Fourth Hokage who sacrificed his life to protect the village.

Now, Naruto is the number one most Unpredictable knuckleheaded ninja who's determined to become the next Hokage and be acknowledged by everyone who ever doubted him! From cool fights showing what it really means to be a ninja to fights for things they believe in to hairbrained fun and jokes Naruto's adventures have got it all!

With the will to never give up and a great left hook along with his ninja way: to never go back on his word will Naruto the former outcast achieve his dream?

5. Inuyasha—Kagome is a modern Japanese high-school girl. Never the type to believe in myths and legends, her world view dramatically changes when, one day, she's pulled out of her own time and into another! There, in Japan's ancient past, Kagome discovers more than a few of those dusty old legends are true, and that her destiny is linked to one legendary creature in particular—the dog-like half-demon called Inuyasha! That same trick of fate also ties them both to the Shikon Jewel, or "Jewel of Four Souls." But demons beware...the smallest shard of the Shikon Jewel can give the user unimaginable power.

What means manga?

Manga, in Japanese, means "flowing words" or "Undisciplined words". It is an ancient art that has been used for centuries as a form of entertainment. It's basically Japanese comic books, which can be easily translated to English. However, just saying manga are comics from Japan is wrong. First of all, in the US and in Europe, most comics are addressed to young children between the ages of 9 and 13. That is not the case of manga. There are 6-7 major types of manga, each having its own audience. Kodomo manga is for children. Shonen manga is for boys ages 12-18, Shoujo manga is for girls age 12-18, Josei manga is for adult ladies above the age of 20, mainly working women. Seinen manga is for young men between the ages of 18 and 30, and Hentai manga is an unusual adult manga.

Here are some manga:

1. Skip Beat!
2. Horimiya.
3. Tokyo Ghoul.
4. Noragami.
5. Akatsuki no Yona.
6. Kuroshitsuji.
7. Namaikizakar.

Source: <http://mangafox.me/directory/>
https://ro.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pagina_principal%C4%83

By Poroch Patricia, X E



10. HISTORY CORNER

BRITAIN – THE MEDIEVAL PERIOD

The successful Norman invasion of England in 1066 brought Britain into the mainstream of western European culture. Previously most links had been with Scandinavia, Only in Scotland did this link survive; the western isles (until the thirteenth century) and the northern islands (until the fifteenth century) remaining under the control of Scandinavian kings. Throughout this period the English kings also ruled over areas of land on the continent and were often at war with the French kings in disputes over ownership. Unlike the Germanic invasions, the Norman invasion was small-scale. There was no such thing as a Norman village or a Norman area of settlement. Instead, the Norman soldiers who had been part of the invading army were given the ownership of land- and of the people living on it. A strict feudal system was imposed. Great nobles, or barons, were responsible directly to the king; lesser lords, each owing a village, were directly responsible to a baron. Under them were the peasants, tied by a strict system of mutual duties and obligations to the local lord, and forbidden to travel without his permission. The peasants were the English-speaking Saxons. The lords and the barons were the French-speaking Normans. This was the beginning of the English class system.



The strong system of government which the Normans introduced meant that the Anglo-Norman kingdom was easily the most powerful political force in the British Isles. Not surprisingly therefore, the authority of the English monarch gradually extended to other parts of these islands in the next 250 years. By the end of the thirteenth century, a large part of eastern Ireland was controlled by Anglo-Norman lords in the name of the English king and the whole of Wales was under his direct rule (at which time the custom of naming the monarch's eldest son the 'Prince of Wales' began). Scotland managed to remain politically independent in the medieval period, but was obliged to fight occasional wars to do so. The cultural story of this period is different. Two hundred and fifty years after the Norman Conquest, it was a Germanic language (Middle English) and not the Norman (French) language which had become the dominant one in all classes of society in England.

Furthermore, it was the Anglo-Saxon concept of common law, and not Roman law, which formed the basis of the legal system. Despite English rule, northern and central Wales was never settled in great numbers by Saxon or Norman. As a result the (Celtic) Welsh language and culture remained strong. Eisteddfods, national festivals of Welsh song and poetry, continued throughout the

medieval period and still take place today. The Anglo-Norman lords of eastern Ireland remained loyal to the English king but, despite laws to the contrary, mostly adopted the Gaelic language and customs. The political independence of Scotland did not prevent a gradual switch to English language and customs in the lowland (southern) part of the country. First, the Anglo-Saxon element was strengthened by the arrival of many Saxon aristocrats fleeing the Norman conquest of England. Second, the Celtic kings saw that the adoption of an Anglo-Norman style of government would strengthen royal power. By the end of this period a cultural split had developed between the lowlands, where the way of life and language was similar to that in England, and the highlands, where (Celtic) Gaelic culture and language prevailed - and where, because of the mountainous landscape, the authority of the king was hard to enforce. It was in this period that Parliament began its gradual evolution into the democratic body which it is today. The word 'parliament', which comes from the French word 'parler' (to speak), was first used in England in the thirteenth century to describe an assembly of nobles called together by the king. In 1295, the Model Parliament set the pattern for the future by including elected representatives from urban and rural areas.



By VELNICIUC COZMINA, 10 E



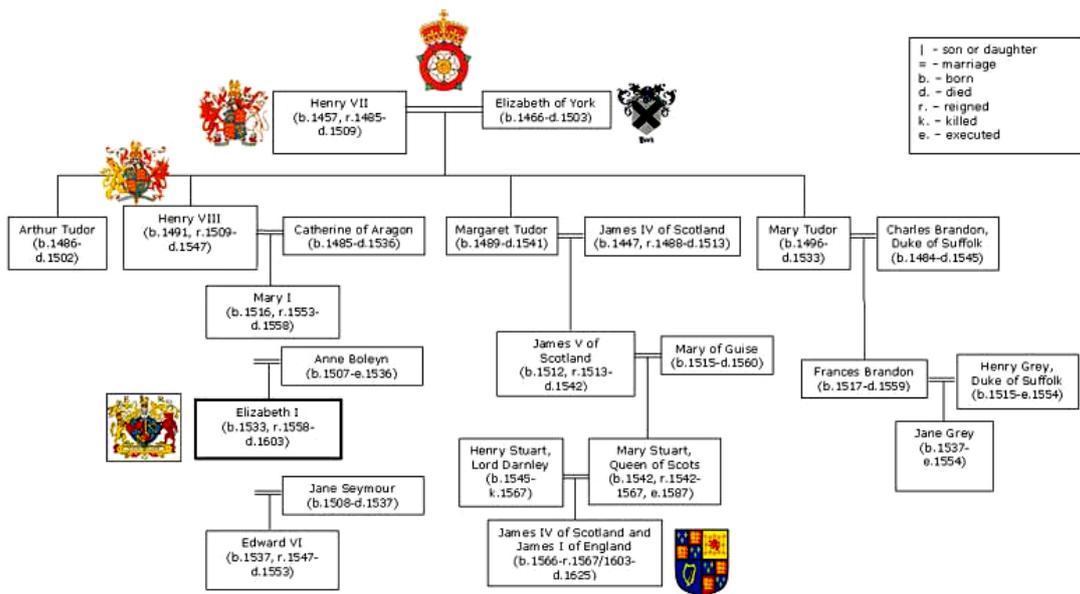
Elizabeth of England



Elizabeth I (7 September 1533 – 24 March 1603) was Queen of England and Ireland from 17 November 1558 until her death. Sometimes called The Virgin Queen, Gloriana or Good Queen Bess, the childless Elizabeth was the fifth and last monarch of the Tudor dynasty.

Elizabeth was the daughter of Henry VIII by his second wife, Anne Boleyn, who was executed

two and a half years after Elizabeth's birth. Anne's marriage to Henry VIII was annulled, and Elizabeth was declared illegitimate. Her half-brother, Edward VI, ruled until his death in 1553, bequeathing the crown to Lady Jane Grey and ignoring the claims of his two half-sisters, Elizabeth and the Roman Catholic Mary, in spite of statute law to the contrary. Edward's will was set aside and Mary became queen, deposing Lady Jane Grey. During Mary's reign, Elizabeth was imprisoned for nearly a year on suspicion of supporting Protestant rebels.



By Monica Georgiana Schiopu, IX F

V. WORLDS OF SPORTS

SIMONA HALEP

Simona Halep (born 27 September 1991) is a Romanian professional tennis player who is currently ranked a career-best world No. 2. Halep first broke into the world's top 50 at the end of 2012, the top 20 in August 2013, and then the top 10 in January 2014 (after reaching the Australian Open quarterfinal). She won her first 6 WTA titles in the same calendar year in 2013 (a feat that was last achieved by Steffi Graf in 1986 when she won her first 7), being named the WTA's Most Improved Player at its end, as well as being named ESPN Center Court's 2013 Most Improved Player. Halep reached the 2014 French Open final, her first Grand Slam final, where she played against Maria Sharapova, losing in three sets. She also reached the final of the WTA Finals the same year, but lost to Serena Williams.



CAREER



Early years

Simona Halep was born in the Dobrujan city of Constanța, to Stere and Tania Halep, a family of Aromanian descent. Her father, a former football player at Săgeata Stejaru playing in the lower leagues, owns a dairy products factory. Halep started playing tennis at the age of four, in emulation of her older brother. At age 6, she was practicing daily. At age 16, she relocated to Bucharest to further her tennis career. She named Justine Henin and Andrei Pavel as two of her idols when she was younger.

2008-09: Junior slam title

2013: Breakthrough; 6 WTA Titles

2014: Reaching Top 2, first Major final & WTA Finals debut

At Wimbledon, Halep made it through her first four rounds with relative ease, dropping just one set on her way to a third consecutive Grand Slam quarterfinal. She then defeated last year's finalist Sabine Lisicki in straight sets to reach the semifinals at Wimbledon for the first time, where she

faced Canadian Eugenie Bouchard for a place in the final. Halep lost in straight sets, an ankle injury suffered in the first set proving to be her downfall. Halep then returned to her home of Romania to play the inaugural 2014 Bucharest Open, winning the final in straight sets against Roberta Vinci to clinch her second title of the year.

Halep won her first ever WTA Finals match, beating fellow Finals debutante Eugenie Bouchard in



straight sets. On 22 October 2014, Halep stunned two-time defending champion Serena Williams. Williams's two games won equaled her career worst; the last time Williams managed to win just two games in a WTA Tour or Grand Slam match was in 1998 when she was just 16 years old. Halep could have eliminated Williams from the tournament had she lost her final round-robin match to Ana Ivanovic in straight sets; however,

Halep chose to play to win the match and ended up losing in three sets. Despite the defeat, Halep won her group and secured an appearance in the semifinals. She advanced to the final by beating Agnieszka Radwańska in straight sets. In the final match, she once again faced Williams, but this time lost in straight sets.

2015: First WTA Premier Mandatory title, US Open semis

With world no.1 Serena Williams not playing in Singapore, Halep was seeded no.1 in the 2015 WTA Finals, and she started very well her evolution in Singapore, with a 6-0,6-3 stun over recent US Open winner Flavia Pennetta. After losing in two sets both to Maria Sharapova and Agnieszka Radwanska, she failed to qualify further. Yet, she kept her 2nd position in WTA rankings.

COACHES

In January 2014, Simona Halep hired Belgian coach Wim Fissette, former coach of Kim Clijsters and Sabine Lisicki. At the end of the year, she chose to split with him and hired Romanian coach Victor Ionitã, with Thomas Högstedt serving as a coaching consultant for the first three tournaments of the year. She is managed by Virginia Ruzici. Her fitness coach is Teo Cercel.

PLAYING STYLE

Simona Halep has self-described her playing style as being "an aggressive baseliner" and "she models her game on Justine Henin". Henin herself said of Halep, "She has an intelligent game. There is a little something that reminds me of myself... it is offensive and aggressive."

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https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Simona_Halep

by Pascariu Cristina Florina, IX F

VI. TEENAGE CORNER:

Teen Behavior

Problem 1:

Your Teen Seems To Hate You

One minute your sweet child is begging you to come on the class trip or to lie down with her while she falls asleep. Then, seemingly overnight, she starts treating you like dirt, discounting everything you say and snickering at your suggestions. If you look closely, you'll see that you've been through this before, when she was a toddler -- only instead of shouting "no!" like a two-year-old would, a teenager simply rolls her eyes in disgust.

"It's so hard for parents when this happens. But part of adolescence is about separating and individuating, and many kids need to reject their parents in order to find their own identities." Teens focus on their friends more than on their families, which is normal too.

Problem 2:

Communication Devices Rule Their Lives

It's ironic that teenage forms of communication like instant messaging, texting, and talking on cell phones make them less communicative, at least with the people they live with. In today's world, though, forbidding all use of electronic devices is not only unrealistic, but unkind. "Being networked with their friends is critical to most teens,"

Problem 3

Staying Out Too Late

It's 10:30 p.m. and you told your daughter to be home by 10 p.m. Why does she ignore your curfew again and again?

"Part of what teens do is test limits. But the fact is that they actually want limits, so parents need to keep setting them."

Problem 4:

Everything's a drama

Every little thing seems to set your daughter off lately, and the more you try to help, the more she sobs or shouts or slams the door.

Part of being a teenager is feeling things intensely, so what may seem like no big deal to you is hugely important to her.

How to reduce stress

Relax. You deserve it, it's good for you, and it takes less time than you think.

You don't need a spa weekend or a retreat.

1. Meditate

A few minutes of practice per day can help ease anxiety. “Research suggests that daily meditation may alter the brain’s neural pathways, making you more resilient to stress”. It's simple. Sit up straight with both feet on the floor. Close your eyes. Focus your attention on reciting -- out loud or silently -- a positive mantra such as “I feel at peace” or “I love myself.” Place one hand on your belly to sync the mantra with your breaths. Let any distracting thoughts float by like clouds.

2. Breathe Deeply

Take a 5-minute break and focus on your breathing. Sit up straight, eyes closed, with a hand on your belly. Slowly inhale through your nose, feeling the breath start in your abdomen and work its way to the top of your head. Reverse the process as you exhale through your mouth.

3. Be Present

Slow down.

“Take 5 minutes and focus on only one behavior with awareness”. Notice how the air feels on your face when you’re walking and how your feet feel hitting the ground. Enjoy the texture and taste of each bite of food.

When you spend time in the moment and focus on your senses, you should feel less tense.

4. Tune In to Your Body

Mentally scan your body to get a sense of how stress affects it each day. Lie on your back, or sit with your feet on the floor. Start at your toes and work your way up to your scalp, noticing how your body feels.

5. Get Moving

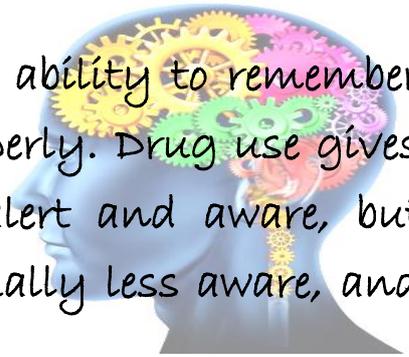
You don’t have to run in order to get a runner’s high. All forms of exercise, including yoga and walking, can ease depression and anxiety by helping the brain release feel-good chemicals and by giving your body a chance to practice dealing with stress. You can go for a quick walk around the block, take the stairs up and down a few flights, or do some stretching exercises like head rolls and shoulder shrugs.

By Madalina Todosia, X E

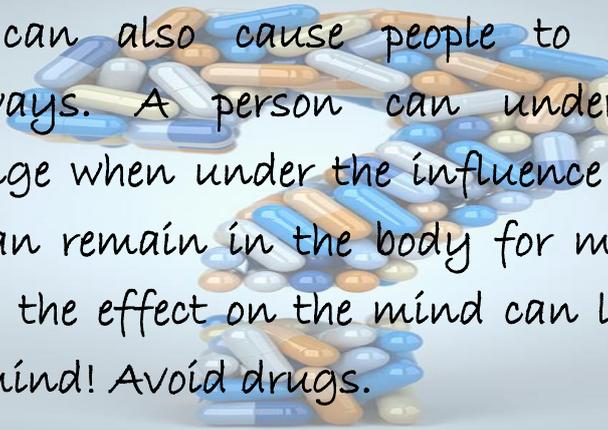
Some good reasons **NOT** to take **drugs**

1. **Drugs mess with your mind**

Drug use can cause you to lose your ability to remember things, to think clearly and to study properly. Drug use gives you the impression that you are more alert and aware, but under the influence of drugs you are actually less aware, and less alert.

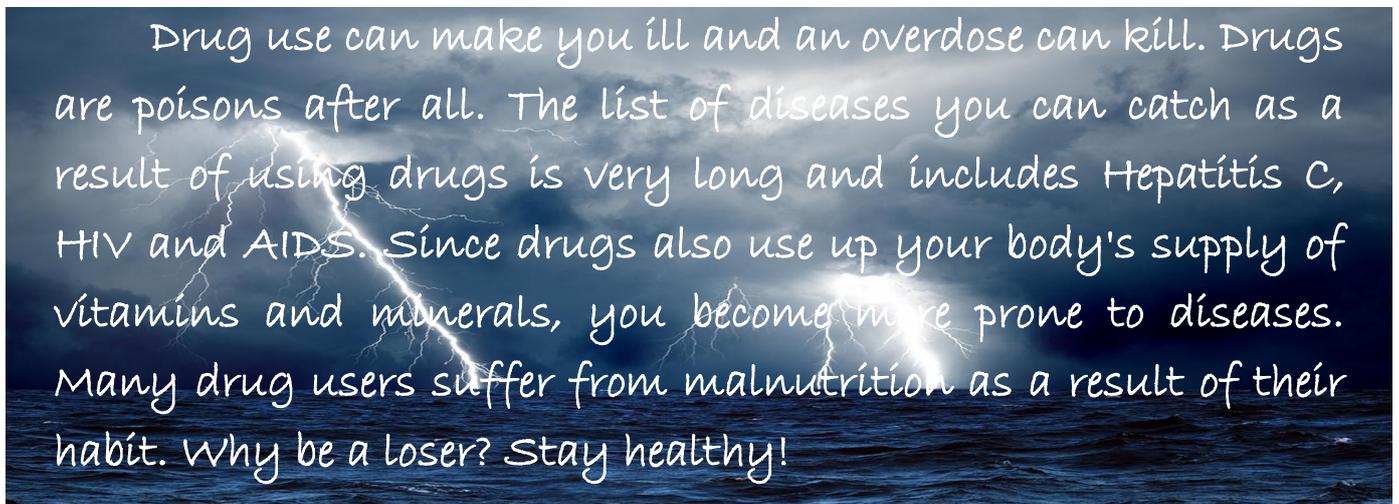


Drug use can also cause people to act in strange unpredictable ways. A person can undergo a complete personality change when under the influence of drugs. Since drug residues can remain in the body for many years after they were taken, the effect on the mind can last a long time. Don't lose your mind! Avoid drugs.



2. **Drugs mess with your body**

Drug use can make you ill and an overdose can kill. Drugs are poisons after all. The list of diseases you can catch as a result of using drugs is very long and includes Hepatitis C, HIV and AIDS. Since drugs also use up your body's supply of vitamins and minerals, you become more prone to diseases. Many drug users suffer from malnutrition as a result of their habit. Why be a loser? Stay healthy!



3. Drugs mess with your travel plans

Anyone convicted of drugs offences will not be allowed entrance into some countries as Japan, Canada and USA.

Why lose exciting opportunities to travel?

Why limit your options as to where you want to work & live?

Many people like to work abroad, particularly in the USA, for a time during their career. This would be impossible with a criminal record.

4. Drugs mess with your hopes and dreams.

Drug addicts, when craving their next fix, often do not care about anything other than the immediate high demanded. All other considerations, every aspect of normal human behaviour are ignored in this compulsion. Everyone has hopes and dreams for the future, but for addicts those hopes and dreams only focus down to where the next score is coming from. Hopes and dreams for the future? Only despair and nightmare for addicts.

Drugs are for losers...

Drug Prevention Program

By ANA LAMASANU, IX F

Bullying

Most people don't realize how big of a problem this is. Bullying is so common in our lives that we don't even realize that it's happening when it does. We believe it to be something normal, everyday thing, when it's not. Not even close. Whenever it happens, adults say „They're kids. They'll get over it.” and „it builds character and makes them stronger. They can deal with it themselves.” when in reality, it breaks us and rips us apart bit by bit.

Why should people give in to bullies? Why do we have to let them hurt and harass us physically and emotionally? Is it because we're different? Because we're not normal? What makes us different from the rest of them? What is normal?

According to recent studies, twenty percent of kids have been bullied. fifteen percent of students report not showing up for school out of fear of being bullied while there. Over ten percent of these kids believe the only way to get away from the harassment is to change schools where they can start over again. But why should these kids be the ones changing when bullies roam free all over the place?

The harassment doesn't end when you step off the bus and go home. Cyberbullying is becoming common on many social networks. Facebook, Twitter, MySpace, Tumblr, and so many other sites experience this. Teens of a variety of ages hide behind a computer screen, feeling they can do whatever they want to and say what they want and no one would be able to catch them. forty two percent of teens have been cyber bullied. Eighty percent have said they have seen it happen I've seen it and experienced it. I've felt how much it hurts not only me but my friends and family. How many of you, reading this right now, have experienced any type of bullying? And how many of you have thought, any time in your life, that you weren't good enough or thought bad things about yourself? I have felt both of those. I bet many of you have experienced some type of cyber bullying at one point.



Telling someone that they're fat doesn't make you any skinnier. Telling someone they're stupid doesn't make you any smarter. And telling someone to die definitely doesn't make you better than them. It takes one second to say these things but a lifetime for someone to get over it. We need to start standing up to those who believe they can walk all over us and do whatever they want to us. We are human beings, just like them. No matter if your religious beliefs are different or if your skin color is different. If you like reading and doing school work more than going to parties and getting drunk every day. We are all different and that's what makes us unique and special in our own ways. That's what makes life exciting.

By Denisa Polocoseriu, X E

VII. THINGS YOU DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT:

English words and their story

Tea

On 25 September 1660, Samuel Pepys wrote in his *Diary*: 'I did send for a cup of tee (a China drink) of which I never had drunk before.' The beverage had been imported into Europe from China early in the 17th century, but the British seem not to have taken to it until mid-century. Pepys probably got his tea from one of the coffee houses which had begun to sell both liquid and dry tea in the 1650s. The first recorded reference to the word is 1655. In 1661, tea-taking was introduced into the Restoration court by Queen Catherine, the Portuguese wife of Charles II. It immediately became a fashionable ritual, accompanied by an elegant apparatus of silver spoons, pots, stands, tongs and caddies, and an occasion for conversation. But the innovation was taken up by other levels of society too. As its price fell, everyone adopted the habit, upstairs and downstairs alike, taking tea usually twice a day. The linguistic consequences were both functional and social. Over the next fifty years we find a family of words introduced to describe all the bits and pieces needed in order to drink tea efficiently, such as *tea-pot*, *tea-spoon*, *teawater*, *tea-cup* (with handle, unlike in China), *tea-dish*, *tea-house* and *tea-room*. And a century later the family multiplied in size when society recognised the crucial notion of *tea-time* – the ideal midway point between midday and evening meals.

Thereafter, the technology becomes more sophisticated and the occasions more elaborate. Few words can have developed so many uses so quickly as *tea*. We find *tea-treats*, *tea-saucers*, *tea-trays* and *tea sets*. People bought from *tea-shops* and made *tea-visits*. In the 19th century, we find *tea-bags*, *tea-cakes*, *tea-towels* and *tea-services*.

High society met for *tea circles* and *tea nights* and rang *tea-bells* for service. New fashions introduced *tea-gowns* and *tea-jackets*. In the 20th century, we find an extension into the world of business and manufacture, where *tea trolleys* and *tea wagons* are pushed by *tea ladies* and *tea girls*. People take *tea breaks* and visit *tea bars*. *Teashades* (wire-rimmed sunglasses) were popular among 1960s' rock-stars such as John Lennon and Ozzy Osbourne. Meanwhile, the word was worming its way into 20th-century English idiom. *Not for all the tea in China* seems to have started in Australia. *Tea and sympathy* became popular following a stage play and film from the 1950s. The most curious idiomatic development was *cup of tea*. The expression was originally used for a person, as in *You're a nice strong cup of tea*. Then it became a focus of interest, either a person (*He's my cup of tea*) or a topic (*Science fiction is more my cup of tea*). We then find it used in a negative way (*Science fiction isn't my cup of tea*) and then as an expression of comparison (*That's a very different cup of tea*). Nobody knows how the idiom started. It feels like something that would come out of a Victorian music-hall, but its earliest recorded use in the *Oxford English Dictionary* isn't until 1908. The story of *tea* isn't over yet. It continues to be reported in street slang in a huge range of expressions, though one never knows just how widely used they are. *To go tea tax?* To get really angry. *Tea-brained?* An obtuse person. In 2009, *tea* even became a political acronym in the USA, when the *Tea Party* was formed. *TEA?* Taxed Enough Already.

Hello

It's such a natural expression, used every day as a greeting. Surely this is one of those words which has been in the language for ever? In fact, its first recorded use is less than 200 years old. English people have been using *h*-words to catch each other's attention since Anglo-Saxon times. *Hey* and *ho* are recorded in the 13th century, and *hi* in the 15th. *Hollo*, *hillo*, *holla*, *halloo* and other shouts used in hunting are known from the 16th century, and are doubtless much older. For greetings, one of the words used by the Anglo-Saxons was *hal* ('whole', 'healthy') in such expressions as 'be healthy'. *Hail* appeared in the 13th century. But we have to wait until the 19th century to see the modern greeting. When it emerges, we find it in several spellings. All five vowels are used: *hallo*, *hello*, *hillo*, *hollo* and *hullo*.

The variations arose because the stress in the word was on the second syllable, making it difficult to hear the quality of the vowel in the first. Today, *hello* is the usual spelling, about four times more common than *hallo* – except when authors are putting words into the mouths of policemen: *Hallo*, 'allo, 'allo says PC Palk, answering the phone in Agatha Christie's *The Body in the Library*.

Why did *hello* catch on? The word was around in the early 1800s, but used very informally, often as a part of street slang. The more formal usage seems to have emerged when the telephone was invented. People had to have a way of starting a conversation or letting the other person know they were there, especially if they were using a line where the connection was always open. Various forms were suggested, such as *Ahoy!*, *Are you there?* and *Are you ready?*, but Thomas Edison, the inventor of the telephone, evidently preferred *Hello*. This was the word he shouted into the mouthpiece of his device when he discovered a way of recording sound in 1877. And there is a famous letter which he wrote to a colleague about the telephone saying, 'I do not think we shall need a call bell as Hello! can be heard 10 to 20 feet away.' Within a decade, the women who were employed as the first telephone operators were being called *hello girls*. *Hello* illustrates how technology can influence vocabulary, pushing a word in a new direction. Other uses continue to emerge, of course. In particular, since the 1980s *hello* has developed an ironic attention-getting use, implying that someone has failed to understand or has missed the point in some way: 'I mean, hello! How crazy was that?' But its future as an informal greeting is being seriously challenged by *Hi*, which emerged in the USA in the 19th century. *Hi* is now heard globally across the age range – though it's rather less widespread among older people, where *hello* is still the norm – and has become frequent in written English too. It's the commonest way of beginning an email to someone we know. Two letters are quicker to type than five, no matter how old you are. Technology rules, once again.

By COZMINA VELNICIUC, 10 E

Chocolate

Chocolate is a food product obtained from a mixture of cocoa, sugar, milk and sometimes some specific flavors. Chocolate is served, usually, in tablet, slab, praline, ice-cream other pastry products.

Type of chocolate:

1. ***Dark chocolate***

Dark chocolate is, also, called bitter sweet chocolate. This type of chocolate is made of cocoa and cocoa butter with sugar.

2. ***Milk chocolate***

The first milk chocolate was launched by Swedish Daniel Peter in 1875.

3. ***White chocolate***

This chocolate is produced from cocoa butter, sugar, milk, vanilla and other flavorings.



History of chocolate

The history of chocolate begins two thousand years ago, when the cocoa shaft culture was practised in South America.

Christopher Columbus (1502) was the first explorer who was in contact with cocoa beans from new world. Made in Europe, they did not enjoy a little attention because nobody knew what's the use.

In 1519, Hernando Cortés discovered that Montezuma was addicted to a drink prepared from seeds of cocoa, called "chocolat". Montezuma served Hernando Cortés with this royal drink and he found it a little bitter. The Spanish have added cane sugar and enriched their flavor with vanilla and cinnamon. In addition, they found that this drink is better served hot. The inhabitants of Spain started, slowly, to appreciate the miraculous drink. They did not reveal this secret to Europe for a century. The Spanish monks were the ones who made the method of preparation of this drink public.

In the XIX-th century two important transformations in the history of chocolate occurred. In 1847, an English company created a technological process of solidification of chocolate and two years later, the Swedish Daniel Peter added a new ingredient: milk.

Within a short period of time, a new invention marked the history of chocolate: melting at lower temperatures. Therefore, chocolate melts in your mouth. Dark chocolate melts at 34-35 Celsius degrees, while milk chocolate needs a lower temperature to melt. Currently, milk chocolate is the most appreciated. Dark chocolate is bought only by 5-10% of the consumers.

Bibliography: https://ro.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ciocolat%C4%83_-_Istoria_ciocolatei

By Vitega Daniela, X E

Humor from Great Minds

1) *"As you get older three things happen. The first is your memory Goes, and I can't remember the other two..."*

- Sir Norman Wisdom -

2) *"One of the most difficult things in the world is to convince a woman that even a bargain costs money."*

- Edgar Watson Howe -

3) *"A true friend is one who overlooks your failures and tolerates your success!"*

- Doug Larson -

4) *"A harmful truth is always better than... a useful lie!"*

- Eric Bolton -

5) *"When I was a kid I used to pray every night for a new bike. Then I realized that The Lord doesn't work that way, so I stole one and asked him to forgive."*

- Erno Philips -

6) *"Laughter is the closest distance between two people."*

- Victor Borge -

7) *"Everything is funny as long as it is happening to somebody else."*

- Will Rogers -

8) *"Always get married early in the morning. That way, if it doesn't work out, you haven't wasted a whole day."*

- Mickey Rooney -

9) *"Women now have choices. They can be married, not married, have a job, not have a job [...]. Men have the same choice we've always had: work or prison."*

- Tim Allen -

10) *"Always and never are two words you should always remember never to use..."*

- Wendell Johnson -

11) *"In life, it's not who you know that's important, it's how your wife found out."*

- Joey Adams -

12) *"If you never want to see a man again, say: I love you. I want to marry you. I want to have children... They left skid marks."*

- Rita Rudner -

13) *"I'm not afraid to die. I just don't want to be there when it happens."*

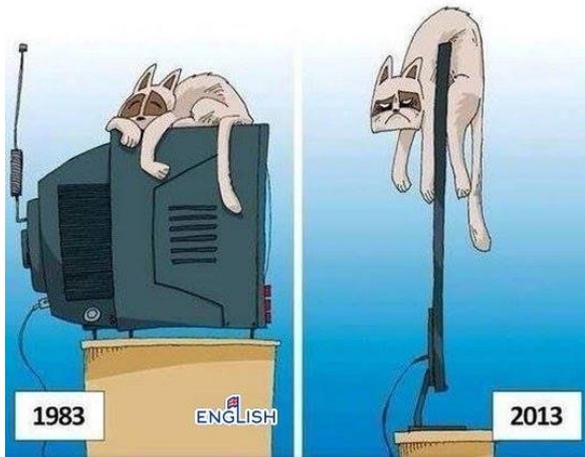
- Woody Allen -

14) *"Advice is what we ask for when we already know the answer but wish we didn't."*

- Erica Jong -

15) *"Don't take life too seriously, you'll never get out of it alive."*

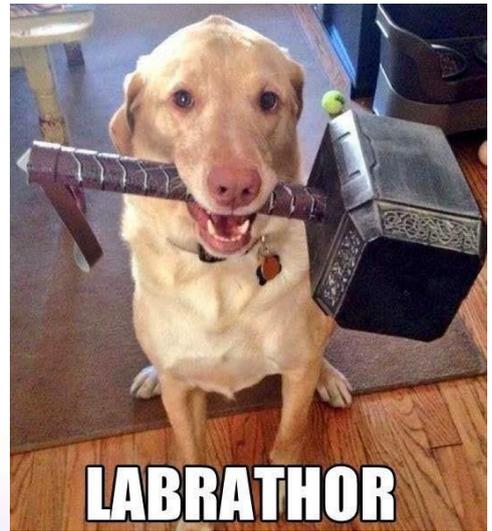
- Elbert Hubbard -



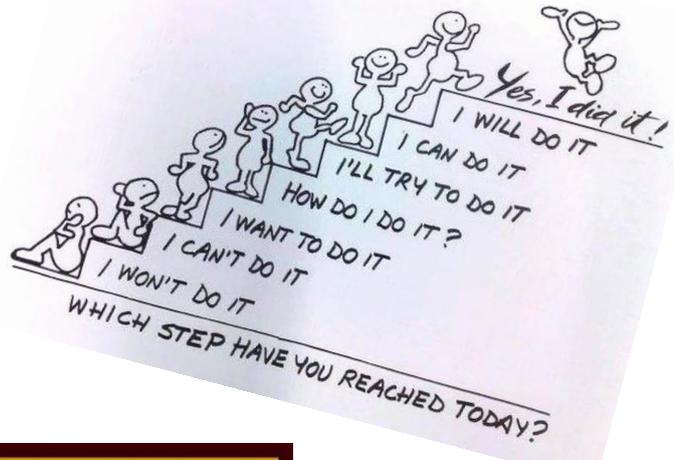
1983 ENGLISH 2013 ENGLISH
HOW I LOOK WHEN I LEAVE WORK



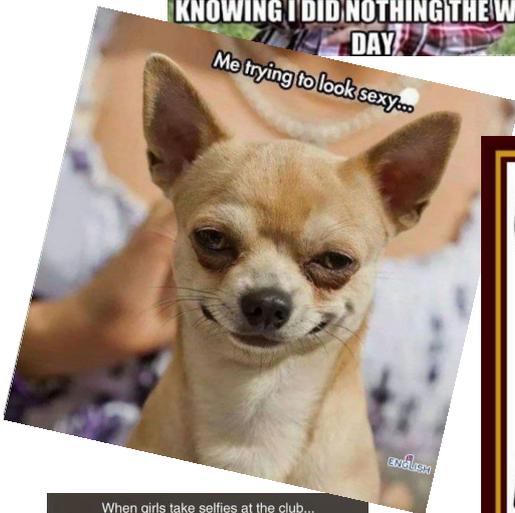
ENGLISH
KNOWING I DID NOTHING THE WHOLE DAY



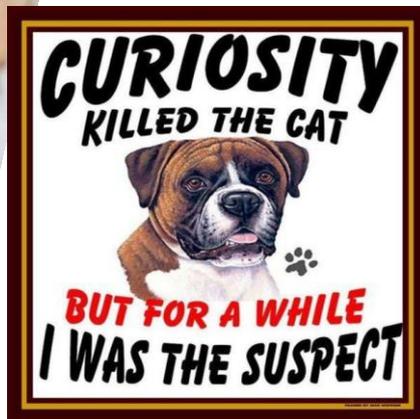
ENGLISH
LABRATHOR



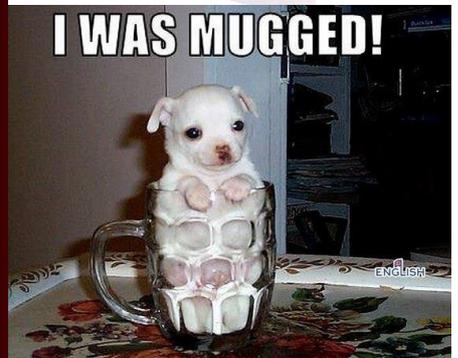
Yes, I did it!
 I WILL DO IT
 I CAN DO IT
 I'LL TRY TO DO IT
 HOW DO I DO IT?
 I WANT TO DO IT
 I CAN'T DO IT
 I WON'T DO IT
WHICH STEP HAVE YOU REACHED TODAY?



Me trying to look sexy...



**CURIOSITY
 KILLED THE CAT
 BUT FOR A WHILE
 I WAS THE SUSPECT**



I WAS MUGGED!



When girls take selfies at the club...
So good!!!



I am starving



Dessert?!?