

2019/2020
Issue 2



thehowler

Lock-in

Hsinchu, September 20 (Molly Cheng)

Lock-in took place on September 20th, 2019. It was an all-school event in which students stayed on campus for the night. To start off the event, the student council told the students the schedule for the lock-in before teaching the students the rules of the house games. There were 4 houses in total, the Blue Dragons, White Tigers, Black Warriors, and the Red Phoenix. The games played included: Charade Telephone, Pictionary, and Earphones. The winners received 20 house points and the losers got 10 house points per game.

The first game the students played was Earphones, which is when a person has to wear earphones and guess what the other person is saying while listening to loud music. During the game, students were full of excitement because they didn't know what the guesser

was saying at the time. The second game they played was Pictionary, the leader randomly chose people to draw the words and everyone else in the house had to guess what they drew. At first, everyone sat in their seats and guessed the answer, but after a minute everyone stood up

the food, just like when animals see food. When they finished their dinner, most of them went to the karaoke room to listen to Johnny sing "SOUTHSIDE".

At 11:00 p.m., there were 13 students playing volleyball on B1.



Photo Courtesy of Ms. Grace

and guessed the answers excitedly. The third game played was Charade Telephone. The funniest word was "dance" because one of the students performed the same movement as the sticker, Usagyuun, which is one of the stickers in the app, Messenger. The movements that the student did looked just as ridiculous as the sticker.

After the game, it was time for dinner which was BBQ! The students ate many sausages, hamburgers, pizza, and salads. They tasted really good. After Ben put the sausages on the table, everyone went to gather beside

They looked like they were having a lot of fun while they were playing. At 2:00 a.m., Mrs. Wilson asked them to go back to their room because the neighbor was complaining about the noise. After that, the students chatted and ate instant noodles together. At 8:00 a.m., the teachers went around to each room and woke everyone up. After they finished breakfast, the students cleaned the school before going home.

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Teacher Spotlight

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Local & International

HAS Halloween Party

Hsinchu, October 31 (Evelyn Kuo)

Thursday, October 31st was the annual Halloween Party for HAS students, a time for everyone to dress up with makeup for a horrific appearance. The Student Council gathered everyone and led to various events after lunch. The classic

into high school and middle school. Middle schoolers stayed at B1 for several activities.

High schoolers of Blue Dragon and Red Phoenix stayed indoor for the Egg-drop activity. The aim of the game is to use the available materials to make safe packs for two eggs, so

After the houses completed the outdoor matches, the whole school gathered at B1 again for the egg-drop contest. Each house dropped the modeled egg packs from the second floor. There were so many different designs. Some of them had a box inside a box, some were packed with many tissues, and one was designed by the concept of a parachute. All of the eggs were



costume contest was the first activity. Everyone had a vote for the best or the scariest outfit. Based on the result, Wen Chung won the funniest contest with a banana outfit and Hannah Li won the scariest award.

The whole school was then divided into four houses: Blue Dragon, Red Phoenix, White Tiger, and Black Warrior. The second event started with every house designing and coloring the icon flag that symbolizes their house spirit. Everyone in the house provided ideas and completed the flag cooperatively throughout the grades. Upon completion, houses were separated

they would not break when the packs were dropped from the second floor. The other two teams, White Tiger and Black Warrior went outside to the soccer field for the Paper Tag game. Each member of the teams had a paper taped at the back and whichever team member tore the paper from the opponent team member would gain a point. It was a very exciting game that required energy and strategy. Kelly Loo and Ethen Chiu were very sneaky and Vivian was a fast runner so the White Tiger won the first match. As the matches completed, the teams of indoor and outdoor activities made a switch.

Photo Courtesy of Molly Cheng
safely landed and every team won. Mr. Maginn was very proud of the achievements as a physics teacher.

Finally, it came to the highlight of the party - the candy rain. Many experienced high schoolers had boxes ready and they all looked for the best spot to stand among people. As the rain fell, everyone was so excited to harvest candy wherever they could. At 15:05, the party was ended with lots of laughter and joy. Everybody left with smiles on their faces and captures in their hands. They started to discuss what they would be for next Halloween. That's the spirit of Halloween.

Local & International

Homecoming 2019

Hsinchu, November 1 (Adam Gibbons)

On Friday, September 1st at 6 PM, Hsinchu American School high school and middle school students arrived at the Carlton Hotel for a night of activities, dinner, dancing, and hot sauce. Soon after everyone arrived, they settled down to eat and converse. There was an assortment of food including seafood pesto, clams, potato salad topped with shrimp and fish eggs, ribs, an assortment of fruit, ice cream, and an assortment of drinks. At around 7:00, people had almost finished their dinner, so it was time to start the first activity, "Scary Box." "Scary Box" is a game where contestants put their hand in a box that contains something weird, which gives them a gross feeling. The contestants then have to guess what the thing is inside. Many



Photo courtesy of Evelyn Lin

they got to decide the fate of a poor soul for the next activity: Limbo. Limbo turned out to be really fun. Everyone had a great time! After Limbo was freeze dance. Freeze

prince, princess, party pooper, the brightest star, and party monster. Homecoming King and Queen were Alex Tung and Ariel Chen. Homecoming Prince and Princess were Ben Lee and Brenda Hsiao. Ken was voted the Party Pooper. The Party Monster was Richard Lin, and the Brightest Star was Gigi Hsu. To close out the night an unexpected thing happened: Ethan Murphy brought a deck of cards and hot sauce for a twisted game of hot sauce roulette. The hot sauce that he chose for the game was the hottest of the three which is made of the spiciest pepper known to the world: the Carolina Reaper, containing 2,200,000 Scoville units of spice. Many people tried the hot sauces, and I'm certain some stomachs were churning from it! Hsinchu American School Homecoming 2019 was a great success. Everyone enjoyed themselves and cannot wait for the next school activity.



Photo Courtesy of Evelyn Lin

people reacted the same, disgusted. The second activity of the night was "Find Your Name." In this game, there were pieces of paper, with names on them, hidden somewhere in the vicinity, and if the person finds their name they win! Then

freeze dance is a game where you dance until the music stops, as soon as the music stops you freeze but if you don't freeze then you are out. Then it was break time and also time to vote for Homecoming king, queen,

Club News

MUN-The Club

Hsinchu, October 14 (Ethen Chiu)

For those that don't know what MUN is, MUN stands for Model United Nations. In MUN, students act as delegates from different nations, and they participate in debates to argue about the solutions of major events while expressing what is best for their nations. It is a club that can help develop presentation skills, debating skills and way more. Students travel around from place to place to fight with others verbally by representing a nation. This club has always been a major club at HAS.

You may think the whole process in a debate is confusing. It is actually not as sophisticated as you would think it is. First of all, everyone in the room introduces which country they are representing and state out the stance of their country on the issue that is being debated. Then, the process begins. Delegates in each committee give speeches of their nation's stance one by

one. As soon as they are finished their speeches, other delegates can start giving POI's (Points of Information).

The goal is to express the stance of one's country and to persuade people to favor the resolution. As all the delegates finish their speeches, there is a vote. That's when the result comes out and we see whether the majority favors the resolution or not. Nothing can be more interesting than winning a debate, right?

The conference was held in IBSH. It happened from the 18th to 20th, and was called HSINMUN. It was a great opportunity for those who

just joined MUN this year. It was also the first event for MUN since August. In November, there was another event held in Singapore. It was a great chance for students to experience an international event that will benefit them in later years.

Overall, MUN is a comprehensive club that can benefit you not only in school life, but also life in general. Additionally, it develops your skills in every way. Most importantly, it is great practice for speaking English. All of those reasons combined should give you the incentive to join MUN. So if you are not in MUN now, join!



Photo Courtesy of yla-youthleadership.org

Editorial

Earth Song

Hsinchu, October 14 (Hannah Li)

"Earth Song" is a song by the American singer, Michael Jackson and was released on November 27, 1995. The song is essentially about the way in which ignorance and greed play an important part in the damaging of the Earth by humans. It's important for us to protect our environment because it may cause global warming to an even more

severe extent. People are killing animals, causing innocent animals to die. The forests are burnt and people are suffering from breathing the haze.

The lyrics say, "What have we done to the world, look what we've done, etc..." and "Did you stop to notice, etc..." It is basically outlining the theme of arrogance and ignorance. Is this really the world that we want? Furthermore, there are scenes where

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Photo courtesy of gifquotes.com

Business

How to Invest in Stocks

Hsinchu, October 14 (Ethen Chiu)

What is a stock? Stock is the capital that is raised by a company or corporation through the issue and subscription of shares. Investing in stock is an act of financial management. From learning how to manage our income or finance at a young age, we can save money much easier and increase our savings.

Basically, there are four steps for a beginner to start an investment in stocks. The first step is easy. You will have to make a decision between investing in stock by yourself or using an auto-investing application. To make this decision, you have to understand the risks of each option and the types of possibilities that might occur. It totally depends on your personal needs.

After that, the second step is to create an investing account. It is helpful to open an account through a robo-advisor, an online computer financial consultant that is inexpensive, which you can find easily. In the third step, you have to know the difference between individual stocks and stock mutual funds. Buying individual stock means that you are getting a single share of a company. Buying stock mutual funds means that you are buying small pieces of the company. In other words, you own small pieces of the company. The amount of cost required may be very different. You need to think carefully.

Finally, in the last step, you set a budget for your investment. If you are thinking to set a small number

for your budget, investing in stock mutual funds might be a good idea. The budget for individual stocks will vary. It depends on how expensive the share is. The price of a share can range from a few dollars to a few thousand. Individual stock is for those who have a large budget for investments.

To reach a conclusion, investing

in stocks isn't difficult. Start by choosing the way you want to invest in stocks. Then create an account for investing, and try to fully understand the basic knowledge of your investment. Lastly, set a budget before you start to invest. Through these steps, your money can be managed wisely by using modern ways to produce gains, and enjoy life.

Sports

NBA Pre-Season

Hsinchu, October 14 (Andy Liu)

NBA preseason games are games that do not count as regular-season games. It's particularly designed for the teams and coaches of the NBA to see what condition their various players are in. It also gives the fans a reminder that the season is going to start soon. It started on September 30 and ended on October 18. The results of the first preseason game were Houston Rockets 109,

Clippers 96. The results of the second game were Indiana Pacers 132, Sacramento Kings 131. The results of the third game were Indiana Pacers 130, Sacramento Kings 106. The results of the fourth game were Golden State Warriors 101, Los Angeles Lakers 123. The results of the fifth game were San Antonio Spurs 89, Orlando Magic 125. Finally, the results of the sixth game were Boston Celtics 107, Charlotte Hornets 106.



Photo Courtesy of sbnation.com

Life

Street Dance - Waacking

Hsinchu, October 5 (Angel Lin)

Waacking is a form of street dance and it is also a style that few people have heard of. Waacking is a dance style that originated in New York and Los Angeles in the early '70s.

According to Dance Centre My Way, Waacking was invented by Lamont Peterson, Mickey Lord, and Blinky, who first used the movements of hands and sharp swings in their arms in their dance.

This dance movement is very powerful, because it needs a lot of practice to perfect it. The music used in this dance style is biased towards Disco style. Because the times are changing, now many Waacking dancers use pop music to perform. There are also many excellent Waacking dancers now, and their goal is to hope that everyone recognizes their name and know this dance style.

We have many famous waacking dancers around the world. For

example, Tyrone Proctor, Lip J, Waacky, etc.

This style has its own characteristics and excellent dancers. Street dance will also continue to improve, and allow people to discover the beauty of street dance.

History of the Plastic Straw

Hsinchu, October 14 (Edward Kao)

What used to be one of the most widely consumed products, is the plastic straw: a cheap and durable product that allows people to sip their drinks to their lips with ease. It's easy-to-make quality, along with its convenience, made the plastic straw dominant in the market. According to USA Today, Americans use more than 500 million plastic straws daily. Anywhere you go, anyone with a beverage has a plastic straw tipped along with it. However, the reign of the plastic straw won't last long.

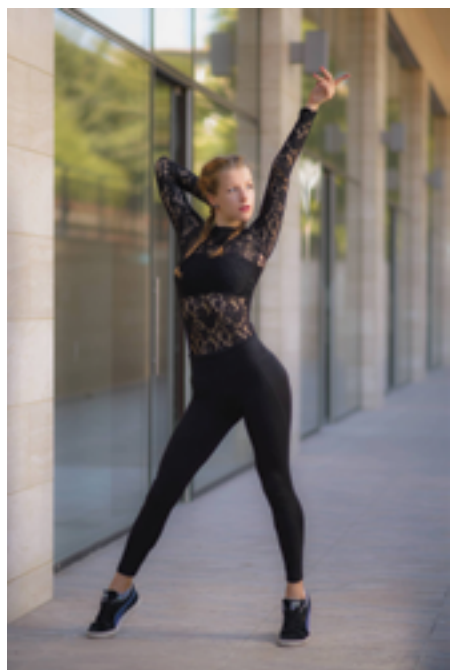
When marine biologist Christine Figgener uploaded a video of a marine turtle going through a painful procedure, the video caught worldwide attention. It turns out the turtle was getting plastic removed from its left nostril. This was the video that began a domino effect all around the globe that urged governments to enact a ban on plastic straws. As many incidents similar to this started to arise, governments only became more aware of the effects of plastic straws on the environment. Governments from all around the globe realized that this was not an eco-friendly product, and the worse

news was that it does not just affect people. Marine animals are hugely affected as millions of plastics are dumped in the ocean each year as people continue to consume plastic products. Microplastic is found throughout human and animal life as well. Anyone that uses plastic is a victim to the effect of plastic and there's no escaping that.

Now that a few governments have banned plastic straws, many have to come up with ways to drink differently. Instead of using plastic straws, many major corporations like Starbucks have agreed to switch from plastic straws to paper straws. In fact, Starbucks even pledged to ban plastic straws worldwide by 2020. Aside from using paper straws, many people have also decided to turn to stainless steel straws for reusability. Another alternative that corporations have enacted is to simply have no straws and allow people to simply sip directly from the cup itself. All of these methods allow for a more environmentally friendly world.

When we switch to a more environmentally friendly option, don't think of it as saving the environment, think of it as saving ourselves. If we don't act soon to protect our environment and our world, we will be doomed without

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Courtesy of derida-dance.com



Courtesy of cnn.com

Life

Teacher Spotlight

Enoch Loi



Photo Courtesy of Max Tseng
Hsinchu, October 14 (Alex Tung)

For our second teacher spotlight of 2019/2020, we are delighted to present an interview with Mr. Loi. During this interview, we're going to get to know more about Mr. Loi. After some hard digging, we managed to obtain some crucial information from him.

First of all, could you please tell us about yourself:

I'm from California. I moved to Taiwan for the first time when I finished college in 2011. I went back and forth between Taiwan and the U.S for a few years, but all together, I've been in Taiwan for around 6 years. I love the nature in Taiwan. I enjoy hiking, playing sports, and doing physical training. I also like reading books, working with students, and watching them improve and learn.

Why did you decide to become a teacher?

I decided to become a teacher because I like working with people. I can continue learning about how people think, how people act, and how people behave through teaching. I feel like sometimes I learn more from teaching than maybe my students are learning.

What was your major when you were an undergraduate?

My major when I was an undergraduate was literary journalism, and I did a minor in education. After I went back to school, I got my master's in teaching English language art for high schools and middle schools.

What are your most and least favorite

Technology

iPhone 11 Pro

Hsinchu, October 14 (Chris Tung)

Thousands of people were lining up at Apple stores across the world because on September 20th, the newest version of iPhone - iPhone 11 - is now released. Despite the fact that the design of iPhone 11 is almost identical to the last version, it is still worth it because of an improved camera (compared to the old ones), a new range of cover colors and a good battery life still remains.

Initially, the idea of the iPhone was created by the co-founder - Steve

foods?

I'm a big fan of Mexican food. Growing up in California, there's a lot of Mexican food and it was just something I grew up with. My least favorite food is durian. I actually like almost all foods, but durian is just pretty disgusting.

Tell me some of your unique talents:

As most of you know, I can do some physical movements such as backflips, front flips, and wall runs... I'm also very good at sleeping. I can sleep at any time or any place.

How did you feel about coming to HAS?

I felt really excited. It is a new school and I have a new opportunity here. I was looking forward to meeting the students, and I had some friends who worked here that told me many great things about the school.

Jobs - and his team. They started to sell them in 2007, but it wasn't as easy as it seemed: Facing hundreds of problems - from tiny software bugs to seemingly insurmountable hardware hurdles and a hard shipping deadline of June 29, Apple's employees were



Photo courtesy of <https://www.inc.com>

highly under pressure as managers were screaming for completion and executives locked horns. This

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Life

iPhone 11 Continued

complex and crucial story led up to the launch of iPhone.

Currently, in 2019, the iPhone has improved a lot throughout the years. This became one of Steve Job's legacies, and the idea of iPhones as flawless and remarkable. iPhone 11 is still something of a surprise - it brings more advanced technology (new capability for taking better pictures) and offers a lower cost than the iPhone XR in 2018. It combines

a large 6.1-inch display with a premium-feeling surface and comes in an array of colors too.

The most eye-catching feature of the iPhone 11 is the imaging capabilities. With two sensors on the rear, you can now take wider-angle snaps alongside the 'normal' main images. These sensors are 12MP each and are raised from the rear of the phone in a square glass enclosure - which we're not enamored with visually. Also, the night mode is an impressive part of the iPhone

11, bringing brightness and clarity to dark scenes. The Portrait mode, defocusing the background and focusing on the subject, is improved on the new iPhone too.

In conclusion, the iPhone 11 has impressive abilities. iPhone 11 is worth you to buying to enjoy the features and designs. Speaking of iPhone 11, I think it's a time for me to get a phone.

Food & Culture

Taiwan Treats

Hsinchu, October 25 (Kevin Huang)

Taiwanese cuisine has several variations such as Hoklo dishes, Aboriginal, Hakka, and local derivatives of Japanese cuisine and Chinese cuisine.

Taiwanese food itself is often compared with influences from mid to southern provinces of China, most notably from the south of Fujian which often leads to it being classified or grouped with 'Southern Fujianese cuisine'. However, influences from all of mainland China could easily be found after the Kuomintang retreated to the island, which brought along many mainland Chinese chefs. A notable Japanese influence also exists due to the period when Taiwan was under Japanese rule. Traditional Chinese food can be found in Taiwan, alongside Fujian and Hakka-style as well as native Taiwanese dishes, there are dishes from Guangdong, Jiangxi, Chaoshan, Shanghai, Hunan, Sichuan, and Beijing.

Ingredients and culture

Pork, seafood, chicken, rice, and soy are common ingredients. Beef is far less common, and some Taiwanese still refrain from eating it. A traditional **reluctance** towards slaughtering precious cattle



needed for agriculture, and an emotional attachment and feeling of gratitude and thanks to the animals traditionally used for very hard labor lead Taiwanese to stay away from beef. Substantial snacks along the lines of Spanish tapas or Levantine meze.

The Taiwanese xiao chī has gained a reputation internationally. Many travelers go to Taiwan just for xiao chī. The most common place to enjoy xiao chī in Taiwan is in a night market. Each night market

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Budae Jjigae

Hsinchu, October 25 (Evonne Hsu)

Budae Jjigae, also known as Army Base Stew is a reddish stew with ham, sausage, kimchi, tofu, noodles and more. It is one of the most popular spicy hot pot dishes in Korea. The origins of Budae Jjigae began in the early 1950s in Uijeongbu, South Korea. After the Korean War, food was extremely scarce in Korea, and so those leftover ham, spam, and sausages from the U.S. were a great

cooking supply for Koreans. What the Americans didn't finish, Koreans

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Photo courtesy of koreastardaily.com

Art and Literature

Decluttering And Reclaiming The Mind

Hsinchu, October 15 (Vivian Chen)

My utopian dream was interrupted by a pestilent ear-piercing sound. I immediately smashed the snooze button without any sense of pity and treasured my last 5 minutes residing in this majestic fantasy. Oh no, here it comes again... The infuriating sound came back to life, with the intention to force me to face the agonizing reality that awaited me. I laid in my soft sheets as the angel and the devil poisoned my thoughts, intending to persuade me to take either one of their sides. In psychological terms, the angel would be "The Superego", convincing me to follow the moral compass, while the devil represented "The Id", driving my behavior towards hedonism.

"Ah," sighed the devil. "A few extra minutes won't hurt anyone."

"Do not listen to her," said the angel, rolling her eyes. "You set an alarm for a reason so you should hop out of bed as soon as possible and focus on what you want to accomplish today."

They disappeared in a puff of smoke. Letting out an exasperated sigh, I groaned and rolled out of bed groggily. While performing my morning routine like a zombie; dead on the inside, but subconsciously awake, dark circles arose under my eyes, drooping slightly. I rubbed the crusts out, and that was when it really hit me: I'm flying to Cambodia in a few hours!

I threw everything that was neatly laid on my desk from the previous

night inside my luggage, breaking a sweat from trying to close the zipper. It was stretched to the maximum potential, it was so full it seemed as if it could explode any second. My loose shirt was clinging to my back, and my hair looked like I just came out of a car blowing machine. It was like a tornado had visited my room.

My brain was on fast-forward, anticipating every possible situation that could happen during the volunteering trip. All of my hard work and preparation during the summer vacation was going to be paid off during these 11 days. I tried to keep a positive mindset but was filled with trepidation. The



Photo Courtesy of BBC.com

only thoughts that generated in my mind were, "what if I fail to teach the children, it would be a complete waste of time to them", "what if the children do not cooperate and see me as an embarrassment", followed by several other "what ifs". Panic rose like bile in my body, and I could not get rid of these pessimistic thoughts. My heart was thumping so loudly at an increasingly rapid pace-- my imagination was running wild. Cornered and trapped in my own gloom-ridden thoughts, I took a deep breath to calm my dancing nerves. You can do it, I believe in you. There are a lot of people rooting for you.

My mom yelled from the kitchen, "Vivian, it's ti--"

"Ok! I'm coming!" I butted in.

When I arrived at the airport, it was like stepping inside a morgue. The bitter cold penetrated to the marrow of my bones, chilling my fingers into numbness. My heart skipped a beat as I encountered the perpetually seething mass of bodies laden with their suitcases and baggage, waiting to be attended in the check-in area. Whilst I was proving to be remarkably forbearing awaiting to be attended in the line, a child's screeching filled the atmosphere like a scene from a horror movie. The bitter smell of coffee lingered in the air, revitalized me. My mom accompanied me during check-in, thank God my baggage was not over the limit.

Finally, the most dreaded time had come, as I had to say goodbye to my dear mother. Her eyes went bloodshot red, and a single tear ran down her face. We embraced, and that was the last physical contact we had with each other before I entered the immigration zone.

After clearing the security check, I headed directly to my designated gate, and searched for the perfect seat to enjoy the supercalifragilisticexpialidocious view of airplanes taking off and landing. The gate finally opened, I showed my boarding pass, and made my way down to the aircraft. Greeted by the crew in the kindest form brings warmth to my heart,

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Art & Literature

The Most Dangerous Game

Hsinchu October 4 (Johnny Yang)

The protagonists Rainsford, an expert on hunting, and Zaroff, the host of Ship-Trap Island, played a human hunting game on the island. The uncanny name is called Ship-Trap Island because Zaroff set up a fake channel over razor-edged giant rocks with the flash of lights in the velvet-covered sea to trap his quarry. Rainsford lost his balance while standing on the rail of his yacht. He managed to climb over the cliff and find his way to the island. After Zaroff's strategic negotiation with the repulsed Rainsford, Rainsford finally agreed to the human hunt. Rainsford was the better hunter because of his rich survival experiences, physical endurance, and improvisation capability. He prevailed over Zaroff's familiarity with the island and his hunting experiences.

Rainsford's key winning strategy was setting up fatal traps. First, Rainsford made a series of intricate loops and labyrinths to mislead his opponent, but Zaroff pretended to be fooled in order to continue the game. Then, Rainsford made a Malay man catcher, which crushed down and struck Zaroff's shoulder, then, he made a Burmese tiger pit, in which one of his twelve hounds fell. Zaroff acclaimed Rainsford's intricate Malay man-catcher and Burmese tiger pit, "You've done well, Rainsford," the voice of the general called. "Your Burmese tiger pit has claimed one of my best dogs. Again, you score. I think, Mr. Rainsford, I'll see what you can do against my whole pack. I'm going

home for a rest now." (Connell 78, 643). Zaroff indeed congratulated Rainsford and enjoyed playing with this strong opponent, "Thank you for a most amusing evening." (Connell 78, 646). After that, Rainsford was able to improvise a weapon from a springy young sapling and his hunting knife, which killed Ivan, Zaroff's guard. All of these demonstrated that Rainsford was the better hunter.



Photo Courtesy of imfdb.org

Zaroff's fatal weakness was that he took the enemy lightly at the onset. Zaroff was off to a good start; Zaroff talked Rainsford into the game with his excellent soft and hard negotiating tactics; If Rainsford had refused to hunt, he would have been whipped like a criminal by Ivan, "If he does not wish to hunt, I turn him over to Ivan. Ivan once had the honor of serving as his official knouter." (Connell 72, 476). On the first night, after three hours of the start, Zaroff meticulously studied the ground in the forest and caught

Rainsford on a tree where he was concealed. However, he deliberately blew his pungent smoke into the tree and let go of his opponent, "It was General Zaroff. He made his way along with his eyes fixed in utmost concentration on the ground before him. He paused, almost beneath the tree, dropped to his knees and studied the ground." (Connell 75). Zaroff could have killed Rainsford on the first day but did not.

Both Rainsford and Zaroff were adept hunters, but Zaroff's overconfidence and game addiction cost him his life. Rainsford was energetic throughout the game, but Zaroff withdrew in the end. If Zaroff had not underestimated his opponent's capability, he would have won the game.

Art & Literature

Hsinchu, October 15 (Evelyn Kuo)

Students draw on a glass viewfinder and transfer their drawings to paper. The purpose of this exercise is to practice foreshortening.



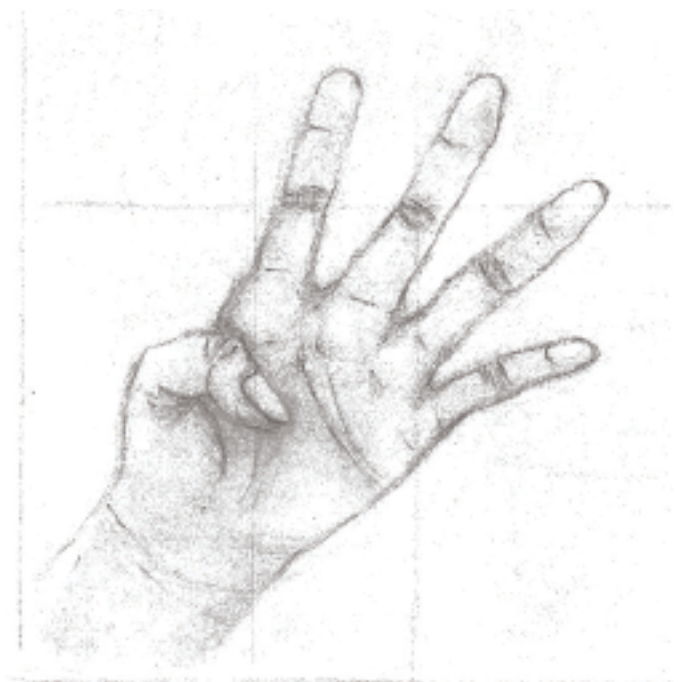
Draw by Wén Chuang



Draw by Ian Hsu



Draw by Mila Chen



Draw by Hannah Li

Life

Animals

Tarantulas

Hsinchu, October 14 (Richard Lin)

Around 12 to 15% of the global population suffers from arachnophobia—the fear of spiders. However, spiders would make for a fantastic pet and it would be an exhilarating experience to raise one. Among all the spiders, tarantulas are the ones most commonly raised as pets. With its longevity, female tarantulas are able to live over 25 years unlike male tarantulas, who only have a life span of 8 years. Tarantulas are gentle and placid creatures that have minimal mishaps with humans. Moreover, tarantulas

are very low maintenance. A 5-gallon aquarium will work well with them since larger tanks would make prey harder to find. After the initial set up of the tank, it only needs to be cleaned once a year. They would finish up all the waste and leftover food to maintain a naturally clean environment. Besides, tarantulas do not demand bright light but rather should be kept away from sunlight exposure. Most species of tarantula can be kept in the range of 70- 75 degrees Fahrenheit, which is room temperature in a warm house. Regarding their diet, tarantulas only require sustenance twice a month, and water once a week. Sometimes they will fast for months for the preparation of molting. The only

drawback with tarantula feeding is that they only eat living insects, so preparation of crickets and cockroaches is necessary! On the other hand, tarantulas are incredibly delicate and fragile, a single drop of water is enough to frighten them. They would defend themselves by throwing needle-like hairs at their attackers. The hair is venomous and would cause a nasty, irritating rash. Luckily, the toxicity of their venom is much like that of a bee or wasp, so it's nothing much to worry about. Turning fear to fascination might be a huge step, but as you get used to the existence of the tarantula, you will fall in love with it.



Photo by newsweek.com

Life

Travel

New Zealand

New Zealand, October 4 (Kelly Loo)

Kia Ora! That's Maori for hello. The Maori are the natives of New Zealand, which is where I had the privilege of traveling to this summer, or winter for them. New Zealand consists of the Northern and Southern Islands with the main focus being on the Southern (arguably the more beautiful) island. During this trip, there were two things that stood out : the fascinating picturesque scenery and the steps New Zealand takes to protect the environment.

One location is Blue Lake, which holds the record for the clearest water on Earth. Unfortunately, it was cloudy that day so it was not obvious. The secret to achieving such cleanliness was the removal of catfish, as they would cause movement on the sandy floors and cause the water to be murky. An interesting location, and prominent to Lord of the Rings fan, is Hobbiton. The Party Tree looks bigger in real life, and the iconic hobbit holes contribute to the aesthetics of Hobbiton. The iconic road where Bilbo Baggins yells, "I'm going on an adventure!" runs through the little town. There were a few more beautiful locations on the North Island, but the showstopper is the South Island. To get from North Island to South Island, there is a ferry connecting the two islands. Not only is there a view of the high mountains against the clear, blue skies. Albatrosses

were flying all around -- in the skies, above the surface of the water, and right outside the ferry window. The city where the ferry lands is Picton, where they serve delicious meals of codfish. The saltiness of the fish, the crispiness of the bread and the crunchiness of the lettuce gave it a satisfying taste. There are many notable locations in the South Island. The famous Fox Glacier, although it's beautiful, has changed a lot as compared to 20 years ago. The majority of the ice has melted and the size of the glacier has decreased rapidly. Milford Sound cruises

Mount Cook is amazing inside and out. The benefit of traveling during the winter is the view of the snow-capped mountains.

Their conservation program is called Tiaki, which is Maori for protection. This program is effective as it is beautifully reflected in the whole country, ranging from cities to the most remote towns. This means that it is everyone's responsibility to protect and conserve the environment. Everywhere we went, there was not a single plastic straw in sight. The people are happier



give tourists and photographers a perfect opportunity to see and appreciate the beauty of nature. Whale watching in Kaikoura is another must-do. They do not use fancy pieces of equipment to attract whales, instead, they search for them using sonar. This equipment helps to pick up whale calls before speeding off to find them. The sight of a whale is truly rewarding. It is hard to pinpoint certain locations of New Zealand to visit since everywhere gives a relaxing vibe.

in general, *Photo courtesy of Kelly Loo* with them constantly greeting strangers on the street.

In general, New Zealand's picturesque country is a must-see, especially when the unfortunate effects of human actions are destroying the rest of the world. Although New Zealand is not the most influential country (they are constantly forgotten from the world map!), the measures the government takes to protect the environment are truly amazing.

Continued...

Earth Song Continued

people are ‘grabbing’ Earth’s soil but it falls out of their hands in the video. It symbolizes how we have damaged the Earth so much that we have basically ‘disconnected’ or separated ourselves from the Earth and made ourselves the first priority. This classic work was released 20 years ago, yet it still accurately reflects on the Earth’s current situation. The strong depiction of the burning rain forest has been depicted truly by the video as a real example in the Amazon Forest currently burning right now. This song is sending out a message to us that “it is up to us to make a change!” We need to act now before it is too late to slow down the global climate change.

Plastic Straws Continued

even knowing it. A famous proverb, is “better safe than sorry.” This teaches us an important lesson on how we should act to protect our Earth. We should be safe and cautious, after all, there’s nothing to lose when you save the Earth.

Taiwan Treats Continued

also has its own famous xiao chī dishes.

Moreover, the Taiwanese xiao ochī has been improving to a higher level. Nowadays, Taiwanese xiao chī is not only served in night markets but some luxury and high-end restaurants. These restaurants use higher quality ingredients and creative presentations, reinventing dishes whilst keeping the robust flavors. The prices in restaurants usually double the price or even higher. The Taiwanese government supports the Taiwanese xiao ochī and has held national xiao ochī events in Taiwan regularly.

Budae Jigae Continued

used to cook with Kimchi and Gochujang. In the past, people had to rely on canned meat because of the war. However, with the development of the economy and convenience today, Budae Jjigae has become more and more diverse. People started adding modern ingredients such as noodles, sliced cheese, rice cakes, onions, scallions, hot dogs, mushrooms, pork, tofu, vegetables and more. It has now gained popularity in a number of Korean cities.

The Mind Continued

but I soon got distracted by the nostalgic odor resembling a cocktail of chemicals in the plane. Luckily, I was assigned to the window seat, with the view being of the grandiose wing.

“Cabin crew, prepare for take-off,” the captain announced.

Immediately after the safety procedure has been explained, the engines started to roar loudly, and I was pushed back in my seat due to the acceleration. The first response was to place my hands on the armrests and shut my eyes. I sensed the plane leaving the ground, as my glutes felt like they were being pushed down. It climbed higher than the Burj Khalifa within seconds, making my ears pop. I gazed at the fascinating view. It was like being in a different dimension, contrasting the chaotic world that I was used to seemed so serene.

“Ladies and gentlemen, we are approximately 5 minutes away from our destination. Please fasten your seat belts and make sure your trays are clear and in an upright position,” reported the captain.

Adrenaline coursed through my veins and anxiety curled into my stomach. I sucked in various shaky and shallow breaths, feeling my throat contract as if it were clawed up by my perspiring hands.

“Cabin crew, prepare for landing.”

My heart was threatening to burst out of my rib cage. What was I gonna do with myself? Then, I was reminded of what my mother would always tell me at these times of desperation: “My dear daughter, you have the tendency of overthinking, so just take a deep breath, and be the boss of your own mind.”

Feeling my ears pop, I opened my mouth in an attempt to release the pressure. I experienced the thumps as the landing gear was released, and we successfully landed with a mild rumbling. The brakes were slowly applied, and the speed was reduced. My mind was filled with determination, and I was ready to overcome any obstacles that awaited me in Cambodia.



Photo by tourradar.com

Classified

HSINCHU AMERICAN
SCHOOL 2019

Christmas Party

It's Time to Celebrate
Christmas Together!

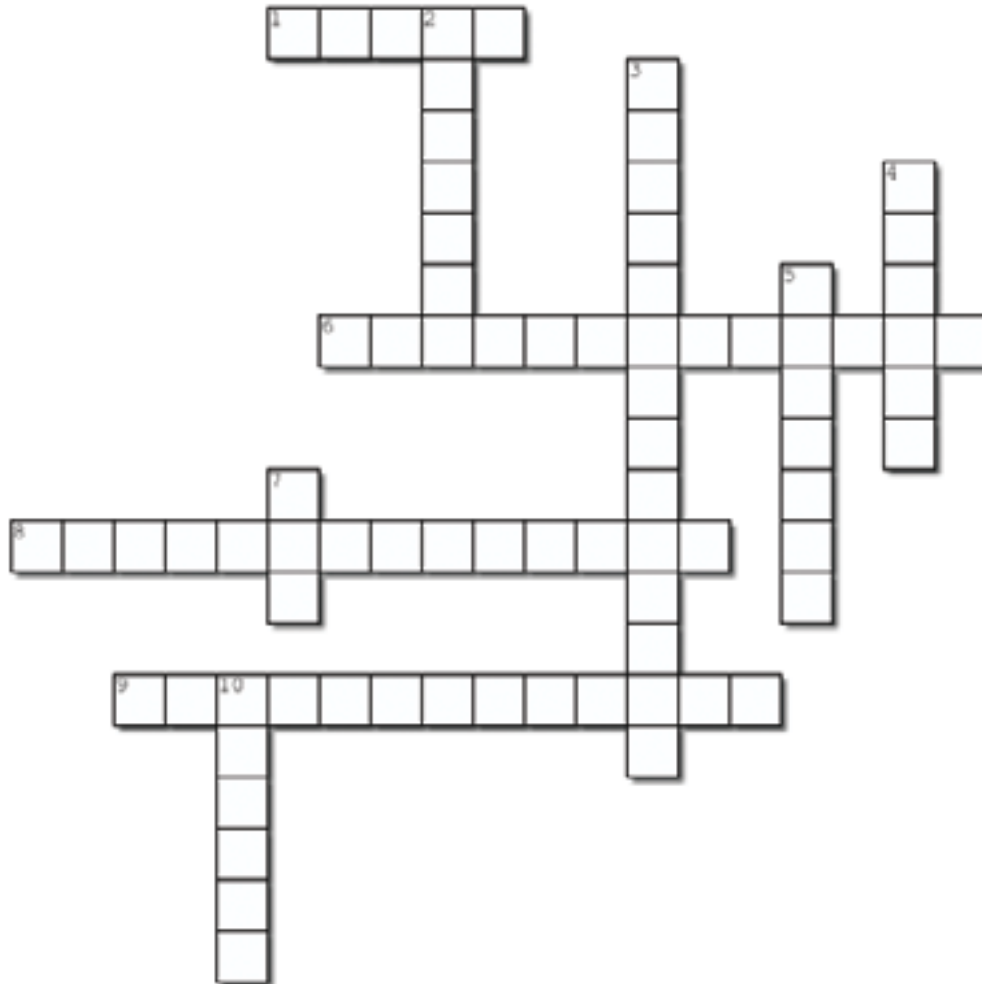


DEC. 19, 2019 •
FROM 15:10 - 4:30

Crossword Puzzle

HALLOWEEN

Boo this spooky Halloween themed crossword puzzle.



Across:

- 1. ? Or Treat
- 6. A dream demon that has a clawed glove
- 8. A pumpkin carved with a candle
- 9. The antagonist in the horror movie "Halloween"

Down:

- 2. Something you wear while Trick Or Treating
- 3. A hockey masked killer
- 4. A horror movie directed by Wes Craven in the 90's
- 5. Something orange that you carve
- 7. Something that a ghost says
- 10. A killer doll