# **IB CLASSICS** AUTUMN 2014

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**GAFL IB Committe Department of Communication** 

# PROLOGUE

It is our greatest pleasure to present the first print of the autumn session of IB Classics. Autumn is the season of red and yellow leaves decorating GAFL, and these intense colors of autumn remind us of the passion our IB students possess.

Autumn is the season of great change. The burning summer sun yields to the wind of romance, and the winter's picturesque but fierce coldness takes over the world. It is also time for IB students to undergo changes too. DP2 students will leave after their final IB Exam; DP1 students take on a new challenge of becoming DP2 students. Even for PreDP, it is time for them to start their IB life.

Our IB Classics has also made some significant changes in its contents and the writers. IB Academic Reports, Arts Reviews, Free Topic Essays, Meme Competition, and Sports Section have been included to enhance interaction, information, and communication with the world.

Reminiscing the 2018 Vision Declaration, our Headmaster had emphasized his vision of IB Diploma Program in GAFL being the apex of a higher education in South Korea. In the center of that vision are us, the GAFL IB students.

This IB Classics Autumn wishes all the luck for DP2 students for their IB Exam. The IB Classics will always do our best to encourage all IBDP students. Thank you.

-The Editors

3 November 2014



## **Free Topic Essays**



## Autumn's Festivals Katlyn Han (Pre-DP)

The season of festivals has finally arrived! Autumn is the season of richness, indicating that there are various festivals to celebrate and give thanks to daily abundance. Festivals differ regionally, depending on attributes of the Autumn season. From early September to mid-November, festivals are typically categorized into 3 major types; foods like Jumbo shrimp and gizzard shad, fireworks and culture, maples. The three aspects are clear distinctions to show that autumn is here. There are also other fall festivals existing in Korea, but I would like to recommend the three festivals in terms of the abovementioned categories in my article.

Maples are regarded as the symbol of autumn. Many people go on a trip to view the beautiful maple trees in fall. They add charm to the mountain, as leaves are turning into reds and yellows. On upcoming October 25th to 26th, Soyo Maple Festival is held on outdoor music hall, located in beautiful So-yo mountain with colorful fall leaves. This festival is renowned for providing wonderful memories to tourists. The old sound preservation association's subscription concert, invitation performances, culture and art performance, Yo seok princess beauty contests are ready to invigorate the atmosphere of the festival. Furthermore, it will operate various exhibition stands to amuse tourists. Visitors will also get to know a lot about Korea itself by singing traditional folk songs and experiencing Habongam Dodanggut while watching wonderful scenery of maple trees.

In autumn, it is deemed to be highly rich in seafoods. As mentioned previously, Jumbo shrimp and gizzard shads are considered as famous seasonal foods in Autumn. During September 5th to October 31th, the most glorious food festival is celebrated in Honsong. Nam Dang Li gizzard shads, started from the year of 1907, is the biggest festival in Korea, full of pleasant aroma and fresh taste of gizzard shad. From October to November, in the west coast, big shrimp party is hosted since it is the season of shrimping. During this festival, people can freely enjoy eating gizzard shads. Moreover, visitors are welcomed to catch clam in mud flat and Jumbo shrimp. Visitors can enjoy diverse events like ritual for a big catch of fish, fishing boat parade, peeling jumbo shrimp, and even catching shrimps experiences, buy delicious shrimps in cheap prices at special product market. Many different kinds of seafood, including savory cooked shrimps are ready for visitors.

Another magnificent sight you can experience during autumn is the sky embroidered with grand fireworks. The firework festival is the place where friendship and love start to blossom between people, in touching moods. Every autumn, effulgent light beams and cracks dominate the sky in front of 63 building. In "Seoul world fireworks festivals", on October 4th, foreign fireworks teams are also participating. Therefore, visitors can view fireworks from all over the world. The festival will show spectacle, not just simply displaying the fireworks but also demonstrating the art of fireworks with music, laser show and even lightening show. In this year, England, China, Italy and Korea is participating and event zones will be also prepared.

Autumn festivals held in Korea will definitely make you realize the beauty of autumn. Undeniably, it will help friends and families to spend happier fall within the realization of true autumn. Red and yellow maple trees, Jumbo shrimps, and fireworks festival will be a great chance for all of us to build good memories with your loving people. By seeing the various attractions of fall, you might feel gratitude towards Korea that it has the season of autumn

(the picture in the right is a image that I made that represents Autumn's festivals)



## Halloween

#### Andy Shin (DP1)

Halloween is one of the most celebrated and cherished holidays in the world, especially in the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom, and Australia. Halloween is celebrated on the 31st of October and is also referred to as All Hallows' Evening or All Hallows' Eve. Although this day is now constituted of costumes and candy, it was originally from the ancient Celtic holiday of Samhain. In Gaelic Culture, the Celts used the festival of Samhain to mark the end of the harvest season and the return of winter. For those unfamiliar with the word 'Gaelic' or 'Gael,' the word refers to a branch of the Celtic languages originated in Ireland, comprising of Irish, Scottish, Gaelic, and Manx, Anyway, the ancient Gaels believed that the changeover between the seasons caused the boundaries between the world of the living and the dead to overlap. For the Gaels, this day was the day where the deceased would come back to life to bring devastation upon the world. Due to this belief, ironically, Halloween was a solemn, depressing pagan tradition. Over the years, however, Halloween became a holiday that represented joy and delight, with particular costumes, parades, and candy for all children. Now, with more knowledge of history of Halloween, this essay will further provide explanations of traditions and rituals of Halloween in modern days.

I have aforementioned that modern Halloween is a holiday filled with merriment. Halloween rituals are especially prevalent and celebrated in North America. This holiday is brought to North America by the Irish and Scottish immigrants in the nineteenth century. Before the actual day of Halloween, people in town prepare in beforehand by decorating their porch, front yard, and anywhere around their houses. In addition to this, people buy costumes and carve out pumpkins in various ways. Furthermore, candles are put in these carved-out pumpkins, known as jack-olanterns and place them in front of their houses. Originally, bonfires were frequently involved in festivals. The purpose of bonfires was to attract insects and bats to the area to make it seem more like Halloween. However, in modern Halloween, "Trick-or-Treating" is a prevailing ritual, rather than bonfire ritual. Other rituals include costume parties and "haunted house" visits.

Trick-or-Treating is the main tradition of Halloween for children nowadays. Children, in their special costumes, go around houseby-house and ask the owner for candy by asking, "Trick or Treat?" The first part of the question, which is "Trick", is meant to threaten the homeowners to play a trick on them if candy is not given to them. Thus, if the homeowner does not want any trick to be played on them, he should give out candy to children. Preparation also should be conducted by homeowners as well by purchasing candy for children.

Dressing up in costumes is another tradition of Halloween. Originally, masks or costumes were worn in order to imitate evil spirits or appease them. The practice of wearing costumes is a prerequisite for all children because children without costumes will not receive candy. Costumes range from cute ones, such as characters from TV and princesses, to scary ones, such as ghosts, zombies, and monsters. Little kids dress in costumes, such as ninja turtles, super Mario, Luigi, and Cinderella. On the other hand, teens tend dress in more gruesome, extreme costumes, sometimes having blood all over their blood. For adults giving out treats, it is delight for them to see how trick-or-treaters dress on this day.

Now, I want to give personal experiences of Halloween. When I used to live in America, I also experienced this holiday of Halloween. Although I was a teenager, I preferred rather comical, playful costumes than scary, gory-looking costumes. Thus, when I was in sixth grade, I dressed up in mustard costume. With this on, I went to a friend's costume party. My friends and I partied and went on trick-or-tricking together. Furthermore, in seventh grade, I was a penguin. Personally, I loved the costume but inconvenience came from inability to walk well, due to penguins'

characteristic of short legs. Besides trick-or-treating, I went to an amusement park, which was specially designed for Halloween season. They had special rides and haunted houses, hospitals, and schools. They were actually enjoyable, although it was a bit chilly at night. Finally, in eighth grade, I was Luigi but a little before Halloween, Hurricane Sandy blew everything out so we could not go Trick-or-Treating. However, it was rescheduled to the week after the original day so people were still able to receive treats.

Halloween is an old holiday that contains much history and traditions. In the ancient times, it originally was a bit serious, somber holiday but it has evolved into an enjoyable, joyous holiday. On this day of Halloween, children can enjoy receiving treats and adults can enjoy having dressed-up visitors. Due to fun rituals, Halloween became one of my favorite holidays and although I will not be able to celebrate in Korea, the 31st of October will be the day I relive my past memories at least in my head. Thus, I hope that Halloween traditions are also brought to Korea, so that my children in future can experience the same joy I enjoyed.

#### Works Cited

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#### The Importance of Hangeul Day Janet Lee (DP1)

Hangeul is a holiday since 2013. I was in America last year so I did not think of Hangeul that much last year. But this year, two weeks ago, I took a rest on that day and I was so happy. But then suddenly something passed on my mind. 'Can I just spend this time meaningless and regard Hangeul day as just no school day?' I hope there are many activities in school, society that many people can regard Hangeul day carefully.

According to Wikipedia, the Korean Alphabet Day, known as Hangeul Day in Korea is a national Korean commemorative day marking the invention and the proclamation of the Korean alphabet ,the native alphabet of the Korean language, by the 15th century Korean monarch Sejong the Great. It is observed on October 9 in South Korea and on January 15th in North Korea.

King Sejong created Hangeul for his people. At that time Chinese character was known as a noble language because it is hard to learn for the normal. Only high-ranked people could read and write before he created it. He wanted his people to read and write also. But he was against so many governors at that time. People thought Hangeul would make their ranking lower and it is useless. Even though many people thought Hangeul was not valuable, these days Hangeul is the most important factor for Korean. From that, the day when Hangeul was created is so special and valuable. It is obvious that we should celebrate it on 10/9th.

On that day, we can think of how much Hangeul is priceless. We do not just take a rest on that day but also remind the importance of Hangeul. These days, Hangeul has been destroyed because of internet. We use slangs too much and shorten Korean. Korean's grammar errors are serious especially for my generation. On Hangeul day, there are lots of festivals to think of Hangeul's value but the thing is people don't know about this well. We should promote these festivals or activities. I suggest that for schools, they should make requirements for students to participate Hangeul festivals. Hangeul education should be the most important subject for all Korean students. We should recognize that Hangeul represents Korea and our identity. To add there, schools should force students to study Chinese character too because even though we use Hangeul now, most of Korean words are made of Chinese character. To understand Korean well, it is mandatory to know Chinese character well. Our ancestors used Chinese character for long time already, so it's important to study both Chinese character and Korean deeply.

However, despite of these important reasons, some people are against of Hangeul as a holiday. They say it makes overconsumption and only government officials and students can rest on Hangeul day. It is true but it is absurd if we don't celebrate the day when Hangeul was created.

We should gradually be awakening how important Hangeul is. Don't destroy it and think that it's less important than English.

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## **ARTS REVIEW**



## TROIKA: SOUND, LIGHT, TIME. PERSISTENT ILLUSION Ashley Hyun (DP1)



Many people often regard the art museum as a boring place, filled with paintings. However, not all museums make you sleepy. This September, I went to Daerim museum to see **"Troika: Sound, Light, Time. Persistent illusion"**. Although Seoul was empty because of ChuSeok, the museum itself was crowded with hundreds of people. Troika's exhibitions are a little bit different from exhibitions we are used to. Their exhibitions are full of incessantly moving things. It also enables us to realize things that we were not aware of.

The first thing I saw when I entered the museum was the 'cloud'. The 'cloud' was held to the ceiling of the ticketing place like a Chandelier. It continually moves and shines by reflecting the light and many people just stood there and glanced for minutes until it changed its shape. Such a beautiful yet, unique work, the 'cloud' is composed of 'flip disks'. Flip disks were used in departure board in train stations to notify times during 1970s~1980s. Here, by deliberately using flip disks, Troika asks people to think back about objects that we consider to be 'old' and reflect why we always consider only fast and big things to be good.

Second artwork that I saw was 'The weather yesterday'. 'The weather yesterday' is a sophisticated work that show the weather of yesterday. Since the work is actually connected to Korea's weather centre, it displays yesterday's weather of Seoul accurately. From this, Troika criticizes drastic development of technology and people who only think about tomorrow. To be honest, I just realized that I can't even remember what I ate for yesterday's dinner. From this work, I realized that we are too obsessed about the future or things that 'might' occur, like a weather forecast. Not only future, but also reflecting and taking meanings of the past are crucial in our life. This work was very thought provoking and I think I should sometimes look back upon my life.



**So, who is Troika?** Well, we should actually be saying 'are' instead of 'is'. Troika 'are' a group of three artists who try to embody diverse aspects of our world in art. They get inspirations from life experiences and ponder about how to give people a chance to see the world differently. They said, "We would like to share our ways of looking world by the language of the art". Although there are some works that I still cannot understand, it was a fresh and memorable experience to go to the exhibition. I broaden my perspective and enjoyed it very much.

## BOOK COMMENTS CHRISTINE KIM (PRE-DP)

It is middle of autumn and is just about time for shopping. Having reminded of shopping, there is a book that I would like to recommend, Dorothy Parker's "The Standard of Living". The two main characters, Midge and Annabel, sincerely hope to go for shopping, while they cannot afford to purchase any goods or services. The lives of Midge and Annabel are just as an ordinary, lower-class citizen. They act as if they were reflecting themselves on the mirror. They work in the same office, eat the same meal, and think the same way. What is even worse, they do not have any hope or passion because they do not have a dream. They have to strive for better lives, yet they are not trying to change their hopeless life at all. The time when the girls play the game which is created by Annabel is when they feel uplifted and lighthearted. The game is based upon a straightforward guestion, 'What would you do if you had a million dollars?'. It is developed by Annabel, assuming that they have one million dollars as inheritance. Every time they play the game, both of them smile brightly. Sylvia, who works in the same office, says she would like to use her one million dollars to assassinate Mrs. Gary Cooper, a co-worker of their workplace. Midge would like to purchase a mink coat, but suddenly she changes it into an item that is more profound. Then they directly go into a shop, to ask the price of it and then they found out their mistake that it costs more than her assumption. Meanwhile, they change the rule of the game from the assumption of possessing one million dollars to ten million dollars.

Throughout the story, the two main characters seem to be acting ridiculously



and the game is full of pure nonsense. At the very first, though I was unconscious, I soon became certain that they don't like the way they were living. Simultaneously, they are not admitting that the game is never allowed to happen from the very beginning. Besides, her friend, Sylvia is also working at the same office and took part by question from Annabel and Midge. However, she never truly plays the game. Annabel and Midge were trying to detach from reality that they cannot afford those luxury items. I do not think that it is a bad idea to escape from reality by a method that can be anything, when the reality gives you a melancholy feeling. Autumn is a season that especially makes you depressed. If you feel depressed, you'd better try this book and the game, too!

#### 50 REASONS TO BUY A FAIR TRADE ELLEN LIM (DP1)

Fair trade is a growing global movement, with a widening range of fair trade goods now available in stores. This book provides fifty reasons why buying fair trade delivers a host benefits to people and the planet. I am introducing this book because I am interested in human rights, especially the right of getting general education of human. However, there are still a lot of children who cannot gain access to the school. I have learned that 'fair trade' can provide basic rights for children. I wondered how trade can protect them.

It's an inspiring account of how every consumer can play a part in improving and even saving lives; they are making global trade work for poor people. After reading this book, I could learn accurate information about fair trade. Fair trade is one kind of social trade which pursues fair wages of workers in multicultural corporations. When the company's working environment satisfy work provision of



International Labor Organization(ILO), goods of this company receives the title 'Fair trade goods' mark, and they will sell globally. To satisfy the provision of ILO, a company should give fair wages to their workers. Why did the words fair wage come out? This is because there are still numerous companies who exploit weak workers labor with nonsense wages. I did not used to know that workers in Africa Malawi coffee industry receives a maximum 1 dollar for each day for the compensation of all day work. Even more surprising information was that this company is Nestle, which is a very well known brand. Through fair trade, workers can receive accurate wages that they should be receiving, buy daily-goods, send their children to school, and eventually become happy. However, as a result of fair trade, the price of goods become more expensive than normal goods. Actually, I once have bought chocolate with fair trade mark, and that cost 3,000 won. Usually, I could have bought the same amount of chocolate with 1,000 won. It was delicious though.

Then, this 'Fair Trade' is only just for the poor? No! I realized this recently, the social image of brands is one of the major determinants of profit. When people see the fair trade mark, they can believe the brand's transaction process, and the brand's credibility increases. Then what is beneficial for consumers? When we buy fair trade goods, we are automatically helping the women who have to take care of their babies but have to work simultaneously, men who work all day but only get 1 dollar, and children who cannot even read or write their name. By buying these goods, we can become 'a conscientious consumer!'.

Trade, is achieved when there is plentiful demand. To achieve the 'ideal world', and promote peace by Fair Trade, we should buy more and more goods which are marked 'Fair Trade'. Consumers of these goods are participating to changing the world! If you want to help workers who are being exploited their labor, why don't you read this book and buy 'Fair trade marked goods?'

### FILM ANALYSIS: BEAUTY AND THE BEAST Ashley Kang (DP1)

Already the weather's getting colder and with every passing day I'm seeing more and more sweaters. Not to mention, it's the month of SATs here and I'm starting to find that the few hours I have not spent at a cram-school to be extremely fruitful. Just this past weekend I was re-watching Beauty and the Beast and I was taken back with how much appreciation I had for it.



#### SUMMARY

Taking place in Old France, an enchantress -disguised as an old beggar-offers a prince a rose in exchange for shelter from the bitter cold. The pompous prince refuses and seeing that he had no love in his heart, she then transforms him into a beast and his servants into household items. The only way he can break the spell is for him to learn to love another and earn her love in return before the last petal from his enchanted rose fell, which would fully bloom on his twenty-first birthday. But who could ever learn to love a beast? Time passes and an inventor by the name of Maurice becomes lost in the woods and seeks shelter in the Beast's castle. The beast, however, becomes furious and imprisons Maurice for trespassing. Maurice's daughter Belle, a bookworm who dreams of life outside her provincial village, finds him trapped in the castle and offers her place in his stead. The Beast accepts with the promise that she'll remain with him in the castle forever. In the beginning, Belle sees the Beast as nothing more than a monster with his short and fiery temper. And, in turn, the Beast views her as difficult and maddeningly stubborn. But as the two continue to spend time together, they both realize that they were wrong in their impressions and soon start to fall in love.



#### ANALYSIS/REVIEW

Let's just start off with the amount of feminism that was in this movie. From pursuing her interest in books to not being cowed by the men's inimitable size and egos, Belle was, and still is, an ideal image for young girls to look up to growing up. One of the мain reasons why I find Beauty and the Beast to be му favorite Disney princess movie is because of Belle. At the very beginning the main protagonist. Gaston, automatically assumes that Belle would agree to marry him just because he was the toughest, handsomest man in town. But Belle saw through his superficiality. Without breaking stride, she scorned the way Gaston only saw her as a housewife and a pretty trophy, even when the other мaidens in town мooned over hiм. She also мade it pretty clear that she wasn't happy in the little town that she grew up in. "I want much more than this provincial life. I want adventure in the great wide somewhere. I want it more than I can tell." From the get-go. Belle made a clear impression on the audience that she wasn't your conventional, dainty village gal. Unlike most Disney princesses. Belle chose intellectual stimulation over attention from boys, had big dreams of doing things rather than marrying someone, took her father's place as prisoner to save him, and most importantly, she never bowled over the minute she developed a crush.



Another aspect I appreciated in Beauty and the Beast was that the fondness between Belle and the Beast developed over tiмe. Instead of having your мain characters immediately fall in love with one another after one encounter. Belle and Beast's love for one another had to be earned. The biggest faults in Beast were how he was so callous, temperamental, and pessimistic, which was why Belle thought of him as a monster. Similar with Belle, the Beast found her to be infuriatingly stubborn and difficult. The break in the story comes with a pack of wolves in the forest. After saving her from the wolves and Belle treats to his wounds right after, that scene opened up a level of rapport that led to mutual appreciation despite their differences. As the story progresses, the Beast gradually learns to control his temper while Belle learns to control her fear and distaste for the Beast. There's even a scene where she saw how uncomfortable he was at handling silverware, but instead of being disgusted or impatient with him, she opts to eat the meal by drinking from the bowl instead. They learn to forgive each other's shortcomings and instead, bring out the best in each other. The ultimate act of love can be seen at the end of the movie when Beast lets Belle leave, even though she was his last hope of breaking the spell. He does this because he realized that loving someone meant that their happiness was equally or even more important than his own.

#### CONCLUSION

Re-watching this film gave me a newfound appreciation for Beauty and the Beast. By having powerful themes such as developed love and feminism, this animation can teach and be enjoyable to not only the intended younger audience but to anyone at anytime. Not to mention, the soundtrack was absolutely phenomenal and to this day, I dream about dancing in a grand ballroom with my own significant other —the stars hanging above us and the sweet sound of violins carrying our feet.



## WARNING!

# *SPOILER* MAZE RUNNER

Dylan Lee (DP1)



Last Sunday, I went to Megabox Gangnam to see "The Maze Runner." Seeing Movie alone was such an awkward idea that I felt discomfort throughout the movie time. Anyways, with caramel popcorn and coke, I pretty much enjoyed the movie.

"The Maze Runner" is a book-based film like Harry Potter series. There were some differences that I could find out during the movie, but they were not that obvious. In the maze, there is something called glide, where boys live in. Four big walls that have entries to the maze protect this glide. Maze is a complex system which changes its shape everyday, and people called runners go inside the maze to search for the exit. To talk more about the glide, boys living in glide do not remember their past, but only their name. They live harmoniously by assigning their roles and strictly following the rules of the glide. One day, a boy called "Thomas" is sent to the glide and everything changes.



Figure 1 Thomas should have been less handsome

Thomas is a newbie in the glide, and he suffers like others to get accustomed to the living style of the glide. With the help of Alby, Gally, Chuck, and Newt, he starts to get used to living. However, he always wonders about the maze and desires to be the runner. One day, one of gliders gets stung by something called *Griever*, and attacked Thomas in a fury. As a rule, that glider got expelled from the glide and Alby goes into the maze to find out what happened in that section. But, the Griever and faints also sting Alby. Minho struggles to get Alby into the



**Figure 2 Nasty Griever** 

glide, but fails. During this tight tensioned situation, Thomas goes out of the glide and enters maze. Minho and Thomas decide to hang Alby in the bushes so that the *Griever* does not harm him. During this, Thomas and Minho encounter the *Griever*, and scared Minho runs away. Alone, Thomas struggles with the *Griever*, but he manages to escape, and even kill one using the moving wall.

Thomas becomes a hero in the glide, and the story progresses fast. Thomas becomes a runner and finds something from the *Griever*, which shows that the *Griever* is a man-made robot. Minho and Thomas travel to the sector 7 because the unidentified object has number-7 on it. Then, they find a hole that looks like a path out, and come back to the glide. But that day, the first woman, but the last glider is sent. Her name is Teresa, and she also doesn't have the memory. This part is different from the book. Teresa in the book had a memory and also had ability to telepathy Thomas. But in the movie, these details ere deleted due to limited runtime. So, back to the glide, gliders find out that the doors do not close, and hear *Grievers* coming into the glide. They run, hide and fight against, but most of the gliders are taken including Alby. So, Thomas, Minho, and other gliders except Gally and few decide to go to that hole and successfully escape the maze. There, they find out that the maze was a test. Mysterious people come from nowhere and save the crew, but in the ending, a blonde scientist comes out and say phase 2, meaning they have another test to go.



In my opinion, the movie did not suck but did not meet my expectations. From what I have heard, the movie was supposed to be amazing and well plotted, but it was not that good. It had thrills, and was not boring, but the time management was not impressive. The director had passed the

**Figure 3 Minho, Thomas, Newt** important scenes very quickly, so the movie seemed hurriedly made. If I were the director, I would have made the Maze Runner (1) and the Maze Runner (2). Anyways, deriving from the ending, there certainly will be follow-up movies.

Thus, I give 8/10, which is not a bad score, and suggest readers to watch this movie in the cinema. If not, I do not promise the same thrill I experienced during the movie. So, it is very important to have popcorn, coke, and a movie ticket.

P.S: the movie characters in the movie were too good looking compared to the descriptions on the book. They are supposed to be living in a cage like house and should look like undeveloped people, but they were clean, and even were handsome. Not realistic enough! Moreover, there are no certain patterns to the maze; so finding the path by speculating the maze movement was also not matching.

Hope you enjoy the movie and see you soon with another movie review!!

# «Film Review» The Truman Show (1998, Peter Weir) Kevin Moon (DP1)



There are times in our lives when we feel like the world is revolving around us. It seems as if we are the center of the world. Most of the times, our nerve-racking suspicions just end up being false alarms that lead us to nowhere. However, this is not the case for Truman.

Truman Burbank is an ordinary insurance salesman who lives with his beautiful wife, Meryl. At least, that is what HE thinks.

Truman has a trauma of water, which even by the sight of it causes him nausea and dizziness, bringing back awful memories of death of his dad who drowned in a stormy sea during a boat ride. Since that incident, Truman has never set a foot in another place, other than his hometown island, Sea Haven.

The real story begins when the peaceful life of Truman is disturbed by the unanticipated appearance of Truman's old man who was once thought to be drowned over few decades ago. Just as the

dramatic reunification of a son and his long lost dad was about to take place, people came out from nowhere and took Truman's dad away. It is then that Truman realizes that something is wrong and he becomes determined to



figure out what the problem is. Other than the unpremeditated emergence of Truman's dad, there have been several other occasions that insinuated faults in Truman's too-perfect world. Early on, Truman is puzzled by a piece of lighting equipment that falls from the sky. Later, he is sprinkled by his own little mobile rainstorm which follows him around. However, the most significant event would have to be Truman's sweetheart Sylvia who tells Truman that everything is fake and full of lies. But, before she could talk anymore, Sylvia's "parents" takes her home and permanently moves to the Fiji Island, never to return again.



Through struggles of fight between himself and millions of cast and crews, Truman finally finds out that he is the star of a 24-hour live TV show, the Truman Show. Well, the problem here was that everyone in the world all knew about this, except for Truman himself. He was the only

one who was blinded from seeing the truth. What an irony. As Truman is astonished to discover, viewers from all over the world have been with him in moments of his first step, his first bike ride and his first kiss. The whole world is watching his every little moves and every little sounds that. He lives in a world where he is the main attraction and every other living creature, from families to street passengers; exist only as settings for Truman's spotlight. Keeping Truman happily duped is all they're there for. From the sun, the moon, and the sea to friends, neighbors, and co-workers, everything is unreal in Sea Haven. The sparklingly antiseptic island community called Sea Haven is part of a huge stage set, located in Hollywood. It encompasses about 5,000 hidden cameras that capture Truman everywhere he goes. The man behind all this setup life is Christof, the sinister tycoon in television show business. He is like a god in the world of Sea Haven. He controls pretty much everything from weather to little conversations that Truman has with his best friend, Marlon, another actor implemented to manipulate every aspects of Truman's life.

After discovering that he has been deceived for all his life, Truman reaches end of Sea Haven, both end of his little world and start of a new world. There, he is left with a dilemma of choosing to jump into



reality, full of adventures and unknown dangers, or to give up freedom and stay in his safe haven forever where everything is laid out for him, never to know what true freedom feels like. The reality is a harsh and cold place where everyone is too obsessed with their own individual affairs to care for others. Maybe Truman would be miserable out there. Maybe Truman could have lived a much happier life in Sea Haven where nothing matters more than



Truman. However, it is the inevitable nature of humans to seek for freedom and extricate oneself from a place where one is disenfranchised of freedom. Truman was a

true man. That was why he chose to step out of the haven that kept him safe for thirty years and face reality, no matter how unpromising the blurry future of reality might be. Nothing tastes sweeter than freedom.

The only problem I had with the film was that the film was based on a premise that was highly unlikely to happen in real life. Also, it did not make any sense that Truman, for the first time in 30 years, suddenly began to notice something amiss in his too perfect life. Other than that, the film was superb. It made me really think about the pivotal role that freedom plays in our lives. How much the human race have gone to fight for what was right

indicates how much we as human beings crave freedom. Without freedom, life would be a mistake. Acknowledging the significance of freedom in our lives, l also questioned myself about how true and



free my own life was. Was it really any different from the life of Truman in Sea Haven? Could I really say that I was 100% free from everything? It is going to take some time to answer that question. The world we live in is very paradoxical. We have created social structures such as laws to prevent disorders and developed technologies to free ourselves from laborious works. However, the real twist is in that these artificial devices that we have created have slowly turned us into a group of people who are strained by our own social conventions and cannot carry out even the most basic tasks without the help of technologies.

Christof says in the film, "We accept the reality of the world with which we're presented; it's as simple as that." Well, the truth. Life is not as simple as that. It is time for us to take a step back and critically reexamine how free our lives are.



Ingmar Bergman is a Swedish movie director who won various awards awar d ceremonies such as Cannes Film Festival, Berlin Film Festival and etc. He is considered as one of the greatest filmmakers of the modern era. The film t hat I will introduce is Ingmar Bergman's <Winter Light> that was released in 1963.

<Winter Light> is a story about a priest of a local church who struggles to cle ar his view about God. When a man who is frightened of nuclear power com es to him, Ericcson counsels him but fails to be helpful to this man since he i s also having confusions about his religion. Unfortunately, the man commits suicide on his way home from church. The rest of the film focuses on how th e priest gets more confused with his faith and a schoolteacher of the village a ccompanies him for some time while he informs other residents about the ma n's death. She constantly confesses her love for the priest even though Ericcs on rejects her affection.

<Winter Light> was presented in black and white color. Characters speak in Swedish and the acting styles were quite mild. Since the story is about one m an's faith, actors and actresses did not exaggerate or express their overwhelm ing emotions. They simply showed their thoughts and beliefs through quiet c onversations while they were having daily lives. The genre of this film is dra ma and it is deeply related to philosophy and religion. As this is one of Berg man's trilogy of 'Silence of God', the theme of this film could be seen as 'hu manistic disbeliefs and doubts towards religion'.

Throughout the film, there was not one moment when the story seemed to flo w towards happy ending. Black and white color effects increased the depressi ng mood of the film. However, I would still like to recommend it to others as it makes people to think about their faith towards God. <Winter Light> not o nly gave me a chance to think more about what a true 'faith' is but it also gav e me inspiration that made me want to watch more of Bergman's films.



<Ingmar Bergman>

a scene from <br/>
<Winter Light>



### Film Review: Han Gong-Ju (한공주) Steve Koo (DP1)

Have you ever witnessed or experienced any kind of sexual offense in real life situation? The truth is that we often see them on news reports, or hardly see any. Director Su-jin Lee produced her first masterpiece <Han Gong-ju>, a movie that truly reflects the hidden rapevictims in the Korean society. "Han Gong-ju" is the name of the film's protagonist, a high-school girl with no parental care available, who's nursing a shock of unspeakable severity. The opening scene of the movie is guite misleading, where Gong-ju is surrounded by many students' parents, getting scolded for something she have done in the past. Without revealing any clues about why she was scolded, she gets transported to one of her teacher's house, as she can no longer remain at her old school. Gong-ju then guickly gets enrolled into a new school where



"A stunningly misguided trauma-rape tale that piles on far too much yet reveals far too little." -Film Variety (Review Site)

nobody knows about her past. Then the story progresses rather sporadically, through frustrating alternations between present and past. Everything about Gong-ju gets pealed piece by piece throughout the movie; she has a cold-hearted mother who got remarried, and an alcoholic father who forgave his own daughter's sex offenders for money. Gong-ju's terrible incident turns out to be a group-rape, happened when she got drugged by a group of libidinous school boys. Final scene of the movie is rather extreme, as a video of Gong-ju being raped gets spread all over the internet, after that she goes on a train in order to jump out of it when she reaches a bridge. But the intriguing part is that when Gong-ju jumps off from the train and dives into the river, she began swimming which is really odd considering the fact that jumping off a bridge normally indicates suicide.

This movie was indeed shocking, so it did have a strong impact on me. Even though I have watched many disturbing films in the past, "Han Gong-ju" goes beyond the bounds, not because its unique subject of horrific gang rape, but because of the unsustainable accumulation of afflictions designed to work viewers to have emotional shockwave.

One of my favorite elements of this film was the flashback techniques that director has used. I personally loved the way story was progressed through flashbacks, because it somehow doubled the intensity of the movie by going back and forth between the present and the past, teasing the viewers throughout the entire movie. There are numerous films used flashback techniques, but <Han Gong-ju> got to be my all-time favorite as it really utilized its effect. And another thing to praise about this movie is that the director successfully conveyed the intended message. In Korean society, sexual offense is something that is quite uncomfortable to even talk about. But <Han Gong-ju> did so well in terms of delivering the "anti-rape" message to the audiences.

On the other sides, there are surly some areas that this movie can improve on. One thing that I must point out is that the horrid rape scenes were too lengthy, and I thought it was a little bit unnecessary.

To sum up this short review, it was certainly one of the best films that I have ever encountered so far. Not only the content that was intriguing, but the director's unique way of folding the story and conveying the message was truly brilliant. I would definitely recommend this movie to whomever gets to read this, and it will no doubt blow your mind away.

#### Film Review: Her (2013, Spike Jonze) Suha Hwang (Pre-DP)



I have watched many films in my life, but this film was the most stunning I have watched in months. In fact, the movie was too amazing for me. The reason why I watched this film was because of my friend's recommendation. His dream is also to become a film director like me. He said that this film was one of the most brilliant films he had watched so far in this year. Actually, he normally does not praise a lot in terms of movies, so I wondered how great this film was. <Her> was first released in 2013 in America, but it came out in 2014 in Korea so I finally had a chance to watch it.

⟨Her⟩ is based on the future era, under the assumption that computers are capable of thinking and communicating just like human beings. In this film, the protagonist falls in love with computer operating system(OS). It sounds very weird that a human being falls in love with OS. This makes people wonder, 'Is it even possible to share love between person and OS?' since there is no 'who' and 'how' in that relationship. However, this film completely turns over audience's doubts. When I heard about the plot before watching the movie, I thought (Her) would be more of a Science-fiction genre rather than a serious romance. However, I was able to sense that this film is not just talking about a bizarre romance between human and computer after I watched it. I realized why my friend had profuse compliments about this film because this film is talking about true meaning of relationships. The relationship that not 'who' or 'how' but 'why' and 'what' truly matters.

I was deeply impressed by the way that director expresses the subtle relation between protagonist and OS. You will probably feel empathies about relationships regarding love, while watching <Her>. Even though the relationship itself in movie might sound eccentric, director did an amazing job in embodying the invisible operating system, Samantha, that the relationship feels so natural while watching it. I believe <Her> deserves big praise in vivifying inconceivable character.

Furthermore, cinematography and editing took a great role in this film. Using warm-colored coloration and light throughout the entire movie delicately portrayed the atmosphere of an un-seeable operating system, Samantha. Also, the use of flashbacks during the character's lines made audience empathize easily with protagonists, leaving lingering images.

(Her) leaves us an important message that human relationships should be put above everything else after all. Although, characters in the movie become lovers and share friendship with OS, the only ones left at last are humans. I interpreted this message as a director's warning to people who consider online network life prior to real social life nowadays.

If you need a movie that defines 'relationship' and 'love', I highly recommend you to watch <Her> because it is one of the best romance movies I have watched so far and you will also be overwhelmed by the bitter sweetness of relationship and love that this movie conveys.



# **IB English A Literature**

#### Shakespeare's Influence on English Language

#### Rebecca Choi (DP1)

Literature itself is a very wide and open subject to study about. Every book that you read could a used as a topic for a literature class. But when you grab someone out on the street and ask, "What's the first thing that comes to your mind when you hear the word literature?" the most obvious answer would be, Shakespeare. Shakespeare is the most influential writer not only in the literature section but also to the whole world. Everyone knows who Shakespeare is and at least one literature he wrote throughout his life. At this point you might be wondering what kind of impact he actually had on our English language. Without even realizing it, our everyday speeches are full of words, phrases that were invented by Shakespeare. Moreover, his work still survives today and is continuously performed and read worldwide.

Early modern English was boundless in structure and vocabulary compared to Latin and Greek. Therefore, the language was constantly changing from time to time absorbing words from other languages from war, diplomacy and colonization. Most writers at that time lacked the skill to use extended vocabulary to express their thoughts.

Which brings us to Shakespeare, an author who was able to express new ideas and perception by creating, borrowing, and putting words together to create his own word. He used both old and new English to express his thoughts. Some words that he used were even antique at his time when other words were brand new to his culture. It is said to be that nearly ten percent of the vocabulary that he invented was new to him and his audiences. Some of the words that he created were, accommodation, countless, dwindle, submerged and many more. These words are regularly used in our daily lives without us realizing it. Shakespeare was also able to create words by changing nouns into verbs and verbs into adjectives. For example he used the word 'assassin' (which he created) and turned it into the word 'assassination'. Even though writers at that time were able to use the English language at their best advantage, no one was able to compete to the level of Shakespeare.

Shakespeare gave a significant influence on European and American literature. A lot of famous authors, including Charles Dickens, Thomas Hardy, and Herman Melville have used Shakespearean language in their novels. It is said that Dickens' love for Shakespeare was apparent through a lot of his works. Dickens includes the performance of Hamlet in Great Expectations and lots of people say that the death of Nancy by Bill Sykes in Oliver Twist is evocative to Duncan's murder in Macbeth. Like this, used bountiful amount guotes and phrases Dickens that Shakespeare used in his novels. In Melville's work, he often used Shakespearean stage manners such as formal stage directions and soliloguies. Melville was so greatly influenced by Shakespeare that the main antagonist in Moby-Dick (Melville's novel) portrayed the Shakespearean tragic figure, "a great man brought down by his faults" (Shakespeare's influence).

Shakespeare's work and use of vocabulary is constantly in use in our daily lives without even noticing that we are using them. He has made an incredible contribution to the English language by sculpting and modifying English at that time and using it into his own work. Moreover, he had an ability to articulate his ideas precisely and simply for the readers to read. Despite the fact that his work is considered to be a difficult and cliché read for modern readers, his novels, poets and plays will continue to have an immeasurable influence on the way we view literature.

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# **IB English A Literature**

#### Literary Commentary on Family Ties

#### Heeun Soh (DP1)

Despite vast social and technological developments achieved by the society, we are still unsteady, vulnerable beings. We are entangled by the incessantly growing branches of philosophical wonders and uncertainties; forced to encounter the torturing ambiguity of our existence. Unfortunately, due to our individual existence, we are often condemned to face such horrors alone, and reveal the feeble position we hold in the realm of incertitude. Such fundamental fears of mankind are thoroughly reflected in *Family Ties* by Clarice Lispector, a collection of delicately crafted short stories which provides insight into human condition and existence. Among the stories, *"The Dinner"* not only best delineates human behavior encountered by the ambiguity and significance of existence, but also bestows us with the opportunity to reflect upon human condition and nature.



The Dinner" is an erratic, strange, and even grotesque sight of a man devouring a piece of steak for dinner, narrated by the watcher. The man shows extremely strange behavior; after he gobbles down a piece of meat, he would begin panting and crying, just to continue gnawing his food. Here, Lispector provides extremely elaborate descriptions for even the slightest action the man performs, weakening the implicit barrier between the reader and the events within

the story. More importantly, she utilizes sentences with highly existential connotations, such as "...started to eat slowly, slightly nauseated without knowing why, taking part in something I could
not understand." to strengthen the core theme of the story. The core theme of the story is in fact addressed constantly, through Lispector's deliberate and brilliant usage of a highly ordinary activity; eating. She effectively symbolizes the meat as the ambiguity and incertitude of human existence we encounter daily, and reflects our unconscious but vigorous attempts to stay indifferent and simply 'gulp down' the meat we have every day. Lispector's *Family Ties* is a delicate collage of such impactful stories; it is undoubtedly a masterpiece for those who seek philosophical guests and challenges.

## **IB** Japanese B

### 日本の高校生の一日

#### Phil Jin Sang (DP1)

韓国で住んでいるあなたの毎日はどうですか?午前8時から午後11時半ま でずっと勉強、勉強、勉強だけしてだるくないんですか?今、この記事を読んで いる皆さんも一度は『勉強したくないんだよ~ 何かアジアにいる国で生まれた 子供たち残念だね。アメリカとかイギリスで生まれたら、このように勉強だけしなく てもよかったのに。。。』と考えたことがあると思います。でも、こんな考えで少し間 違っていることがあります。実は、一日中勉強だけする国は韓国しかないんです。 韓国と一番近く所で位置してある中国も日本も、学生たちの生活が韓国の学 生とは全然違います。どんだけちがうかしりたくないんですか?じゃ、今から私が 説明しておきます。

日本人高校生の一日は自転車を乗ることで始めます。運動もできるし、学校 ヘ早く行くこともできる自転車は、日本では小さい時から習うことです。とにかく、 学生が学校についたら、アセンブリがあります。アセンブリでは学生たちが前に行っ てその日に予想してある計画を発表します。これが終わったら、ついに、授業が 始まります。日本にある大部分の学校たちは毎日6時間の授業だけしません。 授業が終わったら、皆自分たちが決めたクラブへ行きます。だれでもできるクラブ はただ一つ。皆クラブを一つ決めて高校の生活が終わるまで続かなければなりま せん。このクラブは学生がすきなことをたくさんすることができて、皆面白く学校へ いきがれます。クラブまで終わったら、学生たちは家に帰ります。そして、勉強じゃ なく、ラジオを30分聞いて日記を書きます。ラジオを聞くことは学生たちに日本 とか世界になにがおこっているかおしえますから、学生たちの成長に大事です。ラ ジオを聞いて日記を書くのが終わったら、学生は勉強をしてねます。これが日本 の学生たちの生活です。

皆さんはこれを読んでどう思いましたか?私は日本の学生たちを見て、あのこたちの生活がうらやましかったんです。私たちがここで勉強だけしている時、あのこたちは自分が好きな物がいっぱいできるながら、'本当の勉強'ができるのです。ただ紙に書いている文章を読んで覚えることではなく、実際にする活動から出てくる経験で自分を成長するのです。これが慎重な勉強ではないのですか?

IBの皆さん!今までこの記事を読んで何のことが考えられましたか?『まあ~ 自由なことをすることもいいけど。。。。今は勉強しなきゃ~』と考えませんでした か?私も同意します。どんだけ疲れても、楽しくなくても、今は勉強してください。 だったら、よい大学へ行くことができて、自分が好きなものをたくさんすることがで きるかもしれません。IBの皆、最後までがんばりましょう!

# **IB Economics**

### Introduction to Unemployment and the Effect of It During the Great Depression

#### Alex Kim (DP1)

Economists constantly try to figure out what state they are currently in and what conditions they will be facing in the near future. In order to identify such facts, they have developed multiple indicators. Gross Domestic Products, commonly known as GDP, shows the total value of the goods and services produced in a nation, and Consumer Price Index, or DPI, measures changes in the price level of goods and services consumed by households. One of these indicators is 'Unemployment'.

The lexical meaning of the term 'unemployment' is the condition of someone of working age who has both will and ability to work. In order to be considered as 'unemployed', one must be actively seeking for a job. Also, if one works even a single hour in a week, he is considered as employed.

Unemployment rate shows the rate of unemployment in a society. It can be easily calculated by dividing the number of unemployed people by the total labor force of the society.

Now, what exactly is labor force? Labor force represents the total population in a society that is capable of working. When measuring unemployment rate, one must remember that multiple parts of population do not belong to labor force. Students, stay home mom/dad, and retired people are excluded from the labor force. Also, even though one may not have a job, if he is not currently looking for a job, he is considered as a part of neither unemployed people nor labor force.

There are three types of unemployment. The first is frictional seasonal unemployment. Frictional unemployment is caused by people switching jobs, either by their own will or not.

A doctor may decide to become an engineer, and may start studying to be an engineer. Then, the time between switching jobs in considered as unemployed. Seasonal unemployment has more relationship to nature; it is usually affected by climate and temperature. For example, construction workers will not be able to work during snowy winter, so they will not work. Thus, they are considered unemployed.

Second case is cyclical unemployment. This happens due to business cycle, where firms and households constantly adjust their spending, which causes decrease in aggregate demand and decrease in production output. Since this unemployment is cyclical, the unemployment rate changes over time. When the business cycle is at its peak, cyclical unemployment will be very low, and when it is at trough, cyclical unemployment will be high.

The last type of unemployment, the structural unemployment, is affected by overall economy itself. Structural unemployment is a long lasting unemployment situation where there is a serious mismatch between the demand of labor force from the companies and the supply of labor force from households. This situation is heavily affected by the current economic state, and may last for decades unless the government takes right actions.

As aforementioned, the unemployment rate is considered as one of the most critical economic indicator. Why would this be? It's because all parts of a nation's economy gets heavily affected by unemployment. Primarily, the overall wages go down, since supply and demand determine wages for the employed. If the number of unemployed personnel is high, then that means the supply for labor is extremely high, while the demand stays same. Thus, the wage is lowered. Following the lowered income for households, the overall demand (aggregate demand) for goods and services will also reduce, since the households will try to spend less. As a result, firms will try to reduce their outputs, by laying off more workers. This will only make consumer demand to decrease once again, leading the nation's economy into vicious cycle of recession. Furthermore, brain-drain is very likely to occur, since skilled and intelligent workers will migrate to other nations where there would be more chance of being employed. Also, more crimes will occur, since the unemployed people will suffer from poverty and commit crimes to sustain themselves. Governments can also be severely affected from unemployment, since its revenue will decrease. Taxes from households and firms make up most part of government revenue. However, if great part of population becomes unemployed, governments will not be able to collect as much tax as they did before. This means that governments cannot participate in most of public services they provide for free.

Now, we've looked into some details about the concept of unemployment so far. Moving on from the basic concepts, I'd like explore about a case when unemployment became everyone's horror instead of the minority's.

On October 24th, 1929, the day commonly known as "Black Thursday", the Wall Street crashed. The stock market of United States of America began to collapse. Stock values dropped astronomically in such a short time. Millions of personal investors and firms went bankrupt. Soon, even banks began to go bankrupt. This was the sign of the beginning of the Great Depression, the deepest and longest economic crisis in United States history.

During the era of Great Depression, the world economy faced an utter downturn. Consumer spending and investment dropped immediately. Soon, failing firms started to lay off worker since the aggregate demand was too low. Firms that weren't strong enough to sustain went bankrupt. Due to this, the level of unemployment rose day by day. In 1929, the unemployment rate stayed at 3.2%. By 1933, when the Great Depression reached its peak, unemployment rate rose to 24.9%. This extremely high rate of unemployment during the Great Depression affected everyone in the economy, along with the whole society.

To households, the Great Depression struck the strongest. Even though President Herbert Hoover ordered the firms not to reduce wages of the workers, the firms had no other options, so they started to reduce wages. About 25% of overall labor force experienced wage cuts. The number of unemployed was just too high. Approximately 13 to 15 million Americans were suffering from poverty due to unemployment. While the demand of labor force kept decreasing, the number of unemployed kept rising, so wage had to be lowered. Thus, households had less money to spend, so they spent less. This led to failures of the firms.

The firms were also critically damaged due to continued unemployment. Since the consumers' aggregate demand decreased significantly, they had trouble running the business, so tens of thousands of firms (including farms) went bankrupt. Between 1930 and 1935, about 750,000 farms went bankrupt. The bankruptcies of the firms catalyzed the unemployment even more.

Great Depression was a bad time for governments, too. Due to extremely high unemployment rate, taxes weren't being collected so well so government revenue fell significantly. Also, in an attempt to revive the economy, the government continuously lowered the tax rate, which decreased the government revenue even further. However, US government had to do something in order to fix the economy, so they carried out multiple projects in order to reduce unemployment such as "Tennessee River Valley Project"

For the overall community, it was an era of chaos. Mass migration of citizens occurred throughout the country during 1930s. Anyone who had skills or received education decided to move to other countries in order to sustain themselves and probably get a better job with higher payment. The 'brain drain' was happening all over the place. The Great Depression also caused a rapid rise to crime rate, since myriads of unemployed workers tried to make their living by committing crimes such as robbery and fraud. For example, prostitution was extremely abundant anywhere in United States. Due to extreme psychological terror and depression, suicide rate also increased astronomically in large cities such as Chicago.

In my personal idea, the Great Depression can be considered as a case of both structural unemployment and cyclical depression. The high unemployment rate was caused by the overall failing economy. After the stock market crash, firms started to go bankrupt, so the overall money circulation was suffering. Also, during this era, the gap between the supply and demand of labor force was too great, so unemployment rate kept rising. Thus, it can be considered as a structural unemployment. However, considering the fact the cycle of economy keeps happening, as the economy reaches the trough and peak, the Great Depression can be considered as one of the many troughs of the cycle. Actually, the unemployment rate started to decrease significantly as US economy recovered due to New Deal project by President Franklin Roosevelt and US participation in World War II. Then, unemployment during the Great Depression is also a case of cyclical unemployment.

It is true that unemployment is the key of figuring out a nation's economy. However, at the same time, I think it is the key of both fixing and ruining a nation's economy. Governments and economists should always keep a close look at the current level of unemployment level. If there is an opportunity, I wish to explore the methods the economists use to reduce the unemployment rate in reality.

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# **IB Economics**

### **Price Discrimination in Airline Industries**

#### Kenny Yoon (DP1)

Some may wonder why such an extreme gap exists between a cheap airline ticket and an expensive one. A Korean Air ticket from Seoul to New York, for example, may cost from \$800,000 up to \$13,000,000. Many people are hysterical about the price gap between first class seats and economy seats because the first class passengers are not offered that as much advantages. Despite the VIP services, personalized meals, and comfortable seats of first class seats, it is indeed hard to say that these are worth more than ten times the money than the standard economy seats. Then some may ask: if so, why are people consistently purchasing first class tickets? Why hasn't the inefficiency of airline prices caused trouble for the industry?

The phenomenon discussed above can be ascribed to price discrimination. But, before we understand how this works, let's start from the basics of the airline industry. The airline industry can be most closely categorized as a monopoly out of the 4 standard forms of competition: perfect competition, monopolistic competition, oligopoly, monopoly. The traits that distinguish monopoly from the rest of the forms are that monopolies are single sellers with complete control over price, no substitutes, and extremely high barriers to entry. But, the most important trait of a monopoly is the fact that they can use price discrimination most effectively.

There are 3 ways to discriminate price. The aim of all of them is to increase total profit and get rid of excesses in a market. One method of price discrimination is charging the maximum price customers are willing to pay. This method is typically used by car sales men and real estate agents who are able to identify the customer's budget range before dealing with them. Since consumers purchase up to their demands, there is no consumer surplus. The diagram below shows how price discrimination, when most effective, can eliminate consumer surplus and expand profit for in a market.



The second method of price discrimination is to get consumers to buy more products at a time. For example, many convenience stores in Korea have adapted 'buy one get one free' or 'buy two get one free' sales. Also, most department stores have reward programs where they give the customers a discount if the customers purchase over a certain amount(20% off for over \$100). These discounts had consumers practice "bulk buying". Bulk buying is a concept where consumers purchase large amounts of products at once because they feel they are at

"economies of scale". This usually is very beneficial for a market because while it lowers the price, its quantity can be dramatically increased in turn. Since quantity is increased in much larger amounts than price, the total revenue is bound to increase as well. Bulk buying also tends to earn revenues in blocks as shown in the right.



The third way of discriminating price is separating the consumers into various groups based on demand elasticity. If a group of people was relatively inelastic, it would be charged a higher price. If a group was elastic, it would have a lower price. The airline industry is a typical market which uses this method. Airlines analyze the consumer's behavior and set the criteria for dividing the customers. Now, how is price discrimination related with the huge price gap between airline tickets?

One major criterion for sorting consumers is their level of income. Consumers with higher levels of income would be relatively inelastic in the increase of ticket prices. Even if the airline were to significantly increase the price, the wealthy group would still have a constant demand for the tickets. Another aspect of this criterion is that people with higher levels of income value comfort and luxury over price. Since they have the money, they are willing to purchase the expensive first class tickets for having a comfortable trip. This is behind the reason why the price for first class seats can remain so high. Consumers on the lower levels of income, however, are very elastic to price. Small increases in price would immediately lower the demand for the seats. Therefore, prices would need to remain cheap. First class tickets are not an option for those consumers because first class tickets are luxury goods and therefore unnecessary. Economy seats would suit the low-income consumers because these people value price over comfort.

Another main factor which divides consumers is time. There are peak times in air transportation where the demand for tickets is naturally very high. For example, people prefer to fly on weekends and holidays. Consumers would be very inelastic during these peak times because the times are ideal for their travel and leisure. The inelasticity would allow airlines to boost the prices because the demand would still be stable. Additionally, many airlines differentiate between travelers and businessmen. In most cases, travelers are very lenient on their schedule so they plan ahead. On the contrary, businessmen are very strict with their schedule and have very little anticipation for their next flight. In other words, travelers are elastic while businessmen are inelastic consumers. Airlines try to draw a line between the two types of consumers by promoting sales on tickets with plenty of time before the actual flight while raising prices for tickets that only have days left before departure. This way, demand elastic travelers would travel on low prices while demand inelastic businessmen would inevitably fly on high prices.

Price discrimination is a very effective way to gain profit. Firms, especially in monopoly, love to use this because they can reduce dead-weight loss and transfer consumer surplus into producer surplus. Although the price gap in the airline industry may seem unjustifiable, the consumers are well satisfied with the prices because the prices are consumer customized. So rather than calling the price discriminating system inefficient, I would call it a clever strategy. Price discrimination is no doubt a breakthrough in airline economics.

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# **IB Economics**

### Is GDP an Effective Indicator of Our Economy?

#### Kevin Moon (DP1)

In DP1 Economics class, we learned about measuring national economic performance. So, first off, there are two types of measures to evaluate the economic growth of one nation: Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and Gross National Product (GNP). GDP is one primary indicator used to measure the total value of the production and consumption of all the goods and services of a nation. GDP indicates how successfully society is in addressing the scarcity problem. Basically, higher GDP indicates that more goods and services are being produced. There are three ways to calculate this GDP.

First is the expenditure approach. "This method of determining GDP adds up the market value of all domestic expenditures made on final goods and services in a single year, including consumption expenditures, investment expenditures, government expenditures, and net exports."

Second is the production approach. This method also called the Net Product or Value added method measures the net production level which is calculated by subtracting intermediate consumption such as cost of materials, supplies and services used in production final output from the estimated gross value of output from all sectors.

Third is the income approach. "This method of determining GDP is to add up all the income earned by households and firms in the year." These incomes include wages, profits, rents, and interest income.

Although GDP is an adequate measure of the economic growth, this seemingly effective evaluation has some real limitations, as well.

First of all, GDP does not take into account the sustainability of future GDP. For instance,



cutting down trees which are essential natural resources for economic development would add to GDP in the current year but significantly reduce the possibility of economic growth in the future. In a nutshell, GDP indiscriminately take both depleting assets and generating incremental wealth into account as economic growth.

On top of that, GDP does not distinguish between more or less productive economic activity. For example, hiring guards, buying security systems, purchasing insurance, paying lawyers, building prisons are all additive to GDP. However, since most of these economic activities are negative, GDP may be overstating the economic growth.

To sum up, the biggest challenge is that nothing can possibly serve as a good measure of an economic system. There always are issues with what to measure, what to include, and what to exclude. No number could possibly determine the variety of experiences and vagaries of output and growth. Therefore, we should not solely rely on GDP far too much because it does not accurately define one nation's economic performance.

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# **IB History**

### Why did Japan Lose the Pacific War?

#### Teddy Son (DP1)

Japan's entrance into the Second World War became a reality in December 1941, when Japanese forces launched an attack on Pearl Harbor in the Pacific. However, despite the fact that she had the first strike (and the upper hand for about 6 months), Japan was ultimately defeated in 1945 following the infamous atomic bombing raids of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Taking this into consideration, this essay will focus on the main reasons why Japan was defeated in the Pacific War, divided by four main factors; technological, political, military, and economics.

H.Willmott claimed that "Japan's defeat was inevitable." He further elaborated that this was mainly due to Japan's inferior economic state compared to that of the USA. At the time, the USA was outnumbering Japan's industrial capacity by 10:1. For instance, Japan's production of aircraft carriers was meager compared to the USA. Japan had only produced 7 carriers during the war, whereas the USA produced a staggering amount of 90. Even if Japan put all of her smaller carriers (escort ships, etc.), the number reached up to only 20, which was still short of catching up with the Americans. In addition, the USA's aircraft production rates were far superior to Japan's; at peak production, the USA was capable of producing one aircraft every 294 seconds. In other words, Japan was already the underdog as she went to war, as she would never catch up to the massive production rates of the Americans. To make matters worse for the Japanese, they were reliant on the Americans for their production. Japan lacked raw materials, and although she did manage to extend her supply by exploiting her colonies (most notably Manchuria), the fact remained that she was still lacking the resource that she required most: oil. Oil was a major necessity to Japan's industry, but it

could not be found in Japan or her colonies. As a result, about 80% of Japan's oil supply was imported from none other than the USA. However, as the USA had placed an oil embargo on Japan prior to the Pearl Harbor attack, Japan had about two years' oil supply left before she would be depleted. With a main supplier gone and left with only meager resources, Japan was already fighting a losing battle when she started the Pacific War, and her situation worsened as the war progressed. Finally, there was one other factor that Japan lacked in terms of economics; women. In the USA, the female population was encouraged to work in factories, hospitals, etc., wherever they were needed in order to contribute to the war effort. However, this was not the case in Japan. Only 42% of the Japanese female population did likewise. As a result, Japan not only had an inferior population compared to the USA, but she had an inferior population contributing to the overall war effort, which eventually tipped the scales in favor to the Americans.

Japan's failings in politics and foreign relationships were also a key factor in her defeat in the Pacific War. One of Japan's major flaws was that she failed to gain the support of the peoples that had originally she conquered. Japan created an organization/alliance called the Great East Asian Co-Prosperity Sphere, which aimed to create an economic self-sufficient bloc free of Western influence. However, Japan's main aim behind the Sphere was to spread her influence throughout Asia. Japan was covering up for her real intentions of exploiting her colonies and resources; some notable examples include Japan's raid of the Vietnamese rice harvest of 1944 sentencing 1 million Vietnamese to starvation, and comfort women. Japanese sex slaves during the war. To sum up, Japan had merely replaced Western imperialism with Japanese imperialism, which was not taken pleasantly by the oppressed. As a result, Japan had lost the support of her colonies by taking an invasive result. Had the Japanese gone in as liberators rather than an imperialistic approach, they may have earned more support from the other Asian nations, and may have gained something of an upper hand

in the war. However Japan's lack of support was another cause in her defeat in the Pacific War. Not only did her colonies desert her, but Japan had little or no support from her allies as well. Japan was originally allied with Germany and Italy following the Tripartite Pact of 1940. However, despite the "alliance", the three nations did not cooperate during the Second World War. Had Japan cooperated with her allies, she may have been able to avoid the defeat she would suffer in 1945. Germany was close to defeating the Soviet Union prior to Japan's Pearl Harbor attack. Had Japan cooperated with Germany, they would have gained a joint victory over the Soviets. However Japan's fear of the Soviets and desperation due to lack of resources got the better of them, and they chose to attack the USA instead, resulting in defeat for both the Germans and the Japanese. Now the fact remains that Japan was simply taking on more than she could take. Japan was fighting China, the most populous nation in the world, the Soviet Union, the most militarized nation in the world, the United Kingdom, the best naval force in the world along with the USA, the most industrialized nation in the world. It was therefore impossible for a lone nation with limited resources and support to take on these "superlatives" at the same time, which was a major trigger to the Japanese defeat of the Pacific War.

Not only did Japan lack foreign support and resources, but she also lacked the proper technology to compete with her opponents. For instance, Japan's aircraft carriers were inferior to the American carriers in both quality and quantity. Due to her lack of carriers, the Japanese eventually converted many merchant ships, commercial ships, and even oil tankers into crude aircraft carriers. These naturally served little assistance to the Japanese navy, and many were destroyed relatively easily. Japan's aircraft development was also inferior to that of her opponents. Japan's main aerial weapon was the Mitsubushi Zero, which was utilized throughout the war. Although the Zero was very effective during the Pearl Harbor attack, it was eventually outstripped by the USA's considerable development in fighter planes during the war. The result was the P-51 Mustang and the F6 Hellcat, both of which

were far superior to their Japanese counterparts. Japan went as far as to design specific planes for kamikaze, or suicide attacks on the Americans, such as the MXY7 Ohka, which were not extremely effective (as far as to earn them the nickname "Baka (idiot) bombs"). The American superiority in aviation technology became evident during the Battle of the Philippine Sea, also known as the Marianas Turkey Shoot. The nickname was coined since the Japanese planes were apparently "so easy to shoot down." The Japanese lost an astonishing 600 aircraft, as well as 3 of their carriers, signaling the destruction of the Japanese air fleet. But the biggest example of the USA's superior technology was the development of the atomic bomb. Japan was not able to develop a weapon of such destructive power at the time, unlike the USA, who exploited Japan's inability to her fullest advantage. The development of the atomic bomb would lead to the infamous bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, which in turn led to Japan's surrender. Such examples of Japan's failing technology prove that technological flaws were crucial to Japan's defeat in the Pacific War.

Finally, Japan's repetitive defeats in numerous battles led to her defeat in the Pacific War. Japan's first major defeat was the Battle of Midway. The Japanese had originally planned to gather her fleet into a giant armada and ambush the Americans. However, the Americans had already decoded the Japanese secret code, and launched an ambush themselves. The Japanese were completely taken by surprise and suffered a massive defeat; they lost all 4 of their aircraft carriers, and most of their planes were also lost due to the lack of carriers (no place to land; planes ditched in sea). In contrast, the USA only lost one carrier, and the damage was insignificant considering the USA's industrial ability. next major humiliation was the aforementioned Japan's "Marianas Turkey Shoot" in which the Japanese lost 600 aircraft and 3 carriers, signaling the destruction of the Japanese air force. The Japanese navy followed in the footsteps of destruction at the Battle of Leyte Gulf of October 1944, the biggest naval battle in the Pacific War. The Japanese lost 3 battleships and 1 fleet carrier,

sustaining damage beyond repair. The Japanese were eventually defeated on land as well in the battles of Iwo Jima and Okinawa, in which 20000 and 200000 Japanese were killed, respectively. After conquering the Marianas, the USA carried out heavy bombing raids of Japanese cities, as well as carrying out submarine attacks on Japanese merchant ships. This not only crippled the Japanese ability to fight, but also the economy. The USA delivered the final blow with the atomic bomb attacks of Hiroshima and Nagasaki of August 1945, after which the Japanese surrendered.

In conclusion, Japan's defeat in the Pacific War can be attributed to many factors. These factors overlap and can be elaborated in depth as to which factor contributed to a series of chain events that culminated in Japan's surrender. As much as the events overlap and interrelate, though, there can be one major factor that can be blamed for Japan's defeat, which are the economic factors. Japan's lack of resources led to some rash decisions (namely her attack on Pearl Harbor), which did little damage but invoked the wrath of her opponents. In addition, Japan failing economy also forced her to produce inferior goods compared to the USA. These economic factors eventually led to Japan trailing far behind in terms of industry and losing vital battles throughout the war. In other words, inferior economic abilities hindered Japan's chances of victory, which were already low against global superpowers such as the USA. So to sum up, Japan's defeat in the war can be attributed to many factors, but it was the economic factors that really pushed Japan to defeat by launching a rash challenge on the world, an action referred to as a "national kamikaze"(Willmott).

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# **IB History**

### Debates and Interactive Classes in IB History Ashley Kang (DP1)

Sometimes I wonder why I chose History over Econ starting DP1, especially when Mr. Matthews (our History teacher) asks us to prepare for debates. But then I'd remember, "Oh yea, I'd rather memorize names and events over graphs and statistics." And that's the thing. The key difference between history and econ is the fact that Mr. Matthews makes us learn the material through debates and interactive classes.

My class has been taking history classes ever since Pre-DP year. And even then he would always ask of us to prepare for debates every week or every other week. Majority of the class, myself included, used to dread those hours but I came to realize that through these debates the material we learned in class would naturally become ingrained into my head. Basically, I didn't have to make up silly acronyms to remember policy names anymore. Very aptly put by Northern Illinois University's Faculty Development and Instructional Design Center, "Classroom debates help through friendly competition, students learn examine controversial topics, and strengthen skills in the areas of leadership, interpersonal influence, teambuilding, group problem solving, and oral presentation." (Classroom Debates, 1) What's even more interesting, though, is how Mr. Matthews would motivate us into wanting to win. Splitting the class into three groups of four, we'd all be given around 30 to 40 minutes to research and prepare our arguments. The next period class would be used to debate and present our points. And Mr. Matthews has a strange way of dividing up the teams. Every group always has one individual who's more comfortable with talking and arguing in front of the class, which makes every debate run smoothly, effectively, and without awkward pauses.

Two important skills I learned through history debates were how to organize my thoughts into coherent arguments and how to work with a team. When I first came to GAFL, I had never really been in a formal debate before. I didn't know how to organize my thoughts and I didn't know how to effectively rebut the opposing sides. After taking part of history debates for over a year now, I can confidently say that I can hold my own in an argument or debate. I learned to not be afraid to speak up when an opinion clashed with my own but I also learned how to be respectful during a debate as well. It isn't always about winning but instead, how coherently you expressed your reasons and how cool-headed you can present your rebuttals even after hearing out your opponent's justifications. Not only that but through these history debates I learned how to take charge when things needed to be done while still having fun with my fellow teammates. By dividing up certain topics and assigning people to specific research topics, it effectively made us use our one-hour of preparation time. I was able to use this newfound leadership skill in other subjects as well -such as TOK and film- which greatly saved my teammates and I time and energy in preparing ourselves for any kind of presentation or debates. And since no one likes a bossy know-it-all, these experiences taught me how we could all have fun and work hard without offending anyone.

Overall, while I wasn't the biggest fan when Mr. Matthew would assign us to work on a future debate, I've come to realize how much these experiences would help me to grow as an individual. I gained a lot of confidence and ease to express myself when I needed to while still showing consideration for others. I can also confidently say that through these history debates, the material in class come into my mind easier and by recounting what I or my other classmates had said during a past debate, I can recall a lot of information needed to do well on an essay or exam. I hope that there will be a lot more debates in the coming months and I will continue to grow as a person through them as well.

# **IB History**

### Mao and Deng's Approach to Social Development

#### Catharina Kim (DP1)

After the end of World War II, the guest for development was the compelling and prevailing concern in many Third World Countries. Development is a value-laden notion and people's understanding of the meaning and process of development has diverted from a narrow, one-sided and western-oriented perspective to include more aspects into development thinking. The emergence of the concept of social development and different approaches to social development are the forceful expression of such a transformation. The idea of social development then becomes a crucial theme in the thinking of development at both national and international levels. The analysis of two contrasting social development approaches guided by Mao Zedong and Deng Xiaoping in China since the second half of 20th century is set against such a backdrop. These two leaders have given the notions of social development two contrasting meanings which gave rise to different strategies and policies, although they might share the same long-term objectives. The below two set of dichotomies are to categorize the essential elements in Mao and Deng's approaches to social development and to highlight and synthesize the differentiating nature of their approaches. There are many other dichotomies but this exploration will only specifically focus on: Collective versus Individual.

#### <Collective versus Individual>

Mao assumed that the pursuit of personal interests was incompatible with the collective interests and so with authentic social development, and thus must be discouraged. To Mao, collective effort and wisdom were the driving force of social change and socialist construction. Common interests were superior to individual interests and the collective spirit was powerful enough to overcome every difficulty and constraint in the course of development. The sacrifice of oneself for the sake of others and society was unavoidable and the great worth. The well-being of the individual must be hinged on that of the collective and the interests of the latter must be steadfastly upheld. Individual desire and preferences must not be encouraged to prevent the splitting up of society and the emergence of bourgeois elements and outlook. People were treated predominantly as elements of the collective, who owned the assets collectively, must contribute to collective interests, were amenable to collective leadership and entitled to an equal share of the benefits.

The formation of the commune system was promoted and facilitated the realization of collective values. It was created based on the elimination of the fragmented land tenure system based on private ownership strengthened by the land reform. Each commune performed a combination of political, administrative and economic functions, and was the primary unit to promote rural development. It opened up new possibilities for coordinated agricultural planning and modernization in such areas as water conservation, land reclamation and capital formation. More important, the commune was responsible for the provision of needed services to the rural population such as roads, sewers, electricity, local transportation, sanitation, parks, schools, clinics and recreation facilities, funded out of the local resources.

Deng was inclined to believe that the best way to arouse the incentives of the people was to allow them to pursue personal interests in a freer environment. The well-being of individuals largely hinged on their own efforts and abilities with the use of resources under their control. They were best motivated by supporting the aspiration to better meet their material needs and improve their living conditions. Those who were more capable should be permitted to earn more in the normal situation. An overwhelming weight was given to the role played by individual responsibility in the process of development in order to stimulate working incentives to the fullest. Material rewards were used as a means to recognize and reward different potentials and abilities of people on the one hand, and to differentiate their labor contribution on the other. The best way to improve people's wellbeing was seen as resting largely on how to give their personal efforts full play. The individual was seen as the key element and force in development rather than collective endeavor.

The implementation of the "Household responsibility system" in the place of the commune system in the countryside marked the triumph of Deng's individual approach to social development. Formerly collectively owned land and production means were redistributed to rural households, each of which was made the basic accounting unit, and lodged with the production decision making power. In this system, a farmer's income hinged on how much he and his family could produce because the more crops the household could grow, the more income they could enjoy after they had fulfilled the tax obligations. They could make the production decision according to their own knowledge and perception, which would be much affected by the existence of the market economy. The responsibility for providing the needed services was assumed by the village and township governments. The essence of the system was the use of material rewards and autonomy to arouse individual incentives according the principle of "to each according to his work".



# **IB Biology**

## The Science Behind Crime Scene Forensics

#### Sophia Jung (DP1)

Plant cells, respiration, diseases, the human body. I thought I would be learning about more interesting things in bio but so far, we've been learning only about the human body. However, lately I've been finding that bio class is really fun. Just the other week, we watched a documentary showing how the discovery of genetics leads to the police catching murderers. In the video, we could see some cases in which criminals were caught by a process of comparing DNA samples called gel electrophoresis. Since things we learn in classes usually stay just as knowledge, rather than getting applied to real life, I think it was especially exciting for me.



So we carried out an experiment similar to the real gel electrophoresis. Since genetics has always been my favorite part of Biology and what I wanted to explore and learn a lot, I enthusiastically participated in the lab. What we did was we actually made the instrument we were going to use for gel electrophoresis, and compare the results of different color dyes (replacement for DNA samples). Since every gene is unique, components are all located in different places due to different charges and sizes. The result of the experiment is down below.



The reason why this lab experiment felt so much more attractive and interesting is because it was biology applied to real situations. The fact that this experiment extended not only to simple observations but also to comparing and deducing the names of the mysterious colors also added to why this experiment remains as one of my favorites experiments.

As a student who wants to major in applied biology in the future, I further explored and learned more about gel electrophoresis and its different usages. Since the logic behind it - separating into fragments - is relatively simple, I found out that it is used only for dissembling components of a certain compound. For example, in microbiology, the study of microorganisms, gel electrophoresis "is helpful in pulling information out about these organisms" ("What Can"). I also learned that it is used in virology, which I am interested in the most because of vaccines and virus. In fact, gel electrophoresis is used to "help diagnose different strains of viruses" ("What Can"). This is only one of the few lab experiments that we did during class. Every other week, we do science experiments where it directly correlates with what we learn during class. So not only do we read about cells or genetics in our textbooks, but we actually carry out our own experiments. These experiments have made me a better biology student as they showed me how important it was to take down careful observations and to note any inconsistencies. Also, every time we work together as a team, or as partners, we learn how to be considerate for one another. I found this especially important since it's what the IB program expects and requires of a student. Just like this particular experience, I hope that I will learn how biology can actually be used in real life through this investigating this kind of experiments.

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# **IB Biology**

### Nature's Kluge: Rubisco

#### Craig Lee (DP1)

Throughout the past 3 weeks DP1 Biology has investigated basic information on cell respiration along with photosynthesis. The photosynthesis and cell respiration mechanisms of were investigated, along with the diverse environmental factors affecting these mechanisms. Although the mechanisms were somewhat mundane and very intuitive, we were able to uncover further when interestina knowledge we expanded upon these mechanisms.

Enzymes are biological catalysts that carry out the functions of life by supporting biochemical reactions in the body. Ribulose-1,

5-bisphosphate carboxylase, which is abbreviated as Rubisco, is an enzyme that fixates the substrate Carbon Dioxide into forms of sugars during the Calvin cycle, which is later



used for cell respiration. The enzymes are active in chloroplasts in order to aid photosynthesis. Since the Calvin Cycle is performed by almost all plant life or any other autotrophic organisms living on Earth, Rubisco is also the most abundant protein in the world. Indeed, it is estimated that there are 40 million tons of Rubisco on Earth.

Furthermore, because all inorganic forms of carbon enter the biosphere by means of carbon fixation occurring in chloroplast, all organic material in any organism's body is likely to have undergone carbon fixation aided Rubisco at some point. Can you believe this? Every single carbon atom inside our bodies have been fixated into this organic form by the same enzyme, Rubisco. Clearly, Rubisco is one interesting type of protein. However, Rubisco is also a very inefficient enzyme, which frequently fails to function properly.

We have all learned about how mitochondria and chloroplasts have similar Prokaryotic aspects. Indeed, according to the endosymbiosis theory, they have been theorized to develop from Prokaryotes. In fact, the ancestors of these Prokaryotes once used to perform aerobic respiration as well as photosynthesis on their own. Therefore, they possess an enzyme, which utilizes oxygen to respire.

Ironically, the enzyme they had once used to utilize oxygen for respiration is again Rubisco. This means that these prokaryotes, at the beginning of life, used a single type of enzyme, Rubisco, in order to perform both cellular respiration and photosynthesis. This has left a Kluge in the photosynthetic Eukaryotes existing nowadays. Kluges are errors in living organisms, which have failed to be fixed in the process of evolution.

The Kluge that are left in the chloroplast, is that Rubisco will fail to fixate carbon dioxide frequently because they also possess the ability to incorporate oxygen molecules. We have learned that the enzyme substrate complex is how Enzymes catalyze metabolic reactions. In the case of Rubisco, 3 molecules of oxygen or carbon dioxide for each enzyme molecule create the enzyme substrate complex. When the three molecules of gas are not carbon dioxide, the carbon fixating process will fail, and return the gas molecules. This leads to inefficiency in photosynthetic rate.

Rubisco is one of the many examples of how nature fails to fix problems through natural selection. Considering the thousands of years nature had to fix this error and failed, the question of whether natural selection is effective is a very though provoking one. Perhaps the Rubisco is the only enzyme that works in the real world. Perhaps, they can be fixed artificially.

## **IB** Theatre

### How to be a Good Actor for Theatre Class?

#### Gayoung Lee (DP1)

If you take theatre class or will be taking it, it is important to act in front of audience as an actor. It is a hard job, cannot be done very simply. For those who have troubles with those, I am here to give you guys a simple guide, according to my own experience. It may work, or not, so it is important to know your own style of acting and learning the play.

In the beginning, there are people who feel embarrassed to act in front of people, so that they don't know what to do as they are told to act. I was same too. That is because there are people watching you acting, usually people who you know, like friends and teachers and maybe parents and siblings. You start to care about how you would be seen by others. That is the one of the biggest problem which will interrupt you for doing your thing. I know, it is really difficult to get rid of those stares, sometimes I think strangers would be so much better. So what I have come up was that enjoy the look of others, try to change their emotion with your action. Make them sad and touchy with your teary face; make them laugh with your comedic attitude. Therefore, you are proven as a great actor by the others, and they know you are serious.

After your role is decided for the play, what is the best way to be the character? I'm pretty sure you got your script. Do not lose it! The script will play the most influential role for your acting. Make sure you read the whole story of the play, not just your lines. You have to know what is happening in the total play, what happened before and after your scene, so that you know what exactly the character knows in the play. Then you have to figure out what kind of character you are in the play. Gender, the way he or she speaks, costume, gestures, and etc. Catch the features of the character from the script as much as you can. The best way to do it is you picture them out with your imagination. However, it won't be that easy for some of you. For the costume you can research on internet or magazine, or maybe compare with the actors with similar characters. For example, if you are to be a royal king of England, you may get your ideas from some of Shakespeare's plays, like Hamlet. Since the king of Denmark of 'Hamlet' was Claudius, how does the actor of Claudius act as the King? How does he speak? But be careful that you are not Claudius. Do not get confused with your concept.

Lastly, remember that you are not performing by yourself. There are staffs, stage managers, and other actors collaborating with you. Make sure you follow the instructor's instruction, complete things that you have to do before deadlines. If you lose your trust from your partners, it is your loss that you are not trustable anymore, and you can be fired from your role. Memorize your lines, before you have off book run through (non- stopping rehearsal with your lines memorized), prepare your props and costume for the final rehearsal, which is the dress rehearsal. That will be your final practice; it must be a completed play.

These are not the perfect accurate answer key. Actually there is no answer for you to be a good one. It is a personal opinion on what would be the 'best' answer for you to become the best actor in theatre class. But I am certain that having being brave, having serious attitude and good relationship with your crew is a best answer you can get. Do not be so shamed on yourself, practice makes perfect. Good luck on you.



# EDITOR'S CHOICE

CATHARINA KIM









### PLOT

Qu'est-ce qu'on a fait au bon Dieu? (2014, France)

The Verneuil family comes from the great, provincial, catholic bourgeoisie with a penchant for Old France. Over the years, it has reluctantly welcomed a Muslim, a Jew and a Chinese son-in-law into the family. The parents have since seen their vision of a traditional French family disintegrate. Hope remains with the youngest daughter, who may yet offer them a big church wedding. A wish that comes true, except for the fact that who she is about to marry is from... the Ivory Coast (Africa)!

#### RECOMMENDATION Unlike the title, this movie gives the

people a warm and positive perspective about marriage. This movie is not a movie that has a new type of humor code, it is rather similar to other normal comedy movies that has several clichés. However, the reason why this movie is an outstanding comedy movie is because its' skills of describing and presenting the clichés is tremendously remarkable. Literally, you'll get to laugh nonstop. Even though this movie does not suggest a new type of humor code, people don't get fed up at it at all because this movie has a laughter that comes out from a fresh stage, so it feels new. Then where does the laughter come from? The background of all the humor and laughter made is surprisingly from racism and mechanism that makes people laugh is from the sarcastic and cynical portrayal of racism. Having son-in-laws of different religion and origin (a Jew, Islam, Asian and African) is a very fresh setting. The sensitive conflicts in this movies doesn't occur discomfort or bothers people, but makes people laugh about it. Also, one virtue of this movie is that all characters have a unique magnetism. The process of resolving the conflicts is not that 'kind' but slowly assimilates, which makes everyone warm-hearted.







### **PLOT** ノルウェイの森 (1989)

This novel is set in Tokyo during the late 1960s, at a time when Japanese students were protesting against the established order. The story is told from the first-person perspective of Toru Watanabe, who looks back on his days as a college student living in Tokyo, Through his reminiscences, we see him develop relationships with two very different women - the beautiful yet emotionally troubled Naoko, and the outgoing Midori, But Toru and Naoko's mutual passion is marked by the tragic death of their best friend years before. Toru begins to adapt to campus life, the loneliness and isolation he faces there, but Naoko finds the pressures and responsibilities of life unbearable. As she retreats further into her own world, Toru finds himself reaching out to others and drawn to a fiercely independent and sexually liberated young woman. A poignant story of one college student's romantic coming-of-age, "Norwegian Wood" takes us to that distant place of a young man's first, hopeless, and heroic love.

### RECOMMENDATION

This story is on one side a story of misadventure and a melancholic exploration of adolescent love and another side a thoughtprovoking and poignant study of memory and morality. Murakami never disappoints and always writes with a poetic richness that leaves almost every line hanging with symbolic possibility. "Norwegian Wood" may be lovely and able in its depiction of unrequited love and grief, but it's tough to leave the experience and muster much more than a sign, "Norwegian Wood" is depressing beautiful...or beautifully depressing. The emotional side of Norwegian Wood is the effort to let go of things. Kizuki's death in the first chapter has repercussions which echo throughout the book, with both Toru and Naoko struggling to deal with it in their own ways. Murakami writes several scenes which directly show the moment of release and the difficulty of moving on. The most moving of these is the moment when Watanabe is given a firefly and he decides to let it go. Ultimately Toru continues to carry the memory of all that has happened. never able to let it rest completely. We meet him as he enters the memory of that day in the field and he maybe never exits. The opening sequence set in the contemporary world of 1986 is not directly referred to again. He does mention snippets of his life after university but these would total no more than a page or two. When the book ends the reader is not taken back to the 36 yr old Toru, arriving by plane into Hamburg: Toru remains lost, still dreaming of the girl in his memory, walking through the same field, talking about wells,



# 2004 Recommendation



#### **Beneath the Wheel**

(Herman Hesse 833 H5876 Cannon) This book may strike a little too close to home as exam season approaches. Hesse examines the effect that.

constant studying and academic pressure takes on a student named Hans. Hans is a talented student at a prestigious school where his focus on his studies leaves him lacking in other areas of personal growth. This has consequences—find out what happens in Beneath the Wheel. (F)

XIX



#### Laika

(Nick Abadzis 741.5 A1161 Graphic Novels) We know the story of human astronauts thanks to

books like Buzz Aldrin's (the second man on the moon) book Magnificent Desolation and An Astronaut's Guide to Life on Earth the memoirs of Col. Chris Hadfield. We don't however as much detail about the story of Laika, one of the first animals in space. Laika tells the story of the Russian street dog who would make history as the first animal to orbit Earth. (GN)

#### Freddie Mercury: His Life in His Own Words

Freddie Mercury of the band Queen remains one of the greatest musicians. Very few people had or have his sheer charisma and persona. This is an autobiography compiled of interviews that Mercury gave over the course of his career. As you read his words you can feel his energy and drive to succeed. If you want to know what it takes to be a



superstar, or how to own your quirks, or how to overcome tradition and upbringing this is the book for you.

Ms. Fountain

Ps. You should ask Mr. Cartmel about Queen! (NF)

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#### The First Test

(Tamora Pierce 813.54 P618f) Keladry of Mindelan is the first girl to apply and be accepted at the palace school for training to be a knight. (There was Alanna the ioness before her but she had

to masquerade as a boy and that is another story). Kel has one year to prove that she can keep up and be as good as the male pages. She faces bullying classmates, bandits, fantastical creatures, a grumpy horse, and homework. See if she survives until the end of the year.. (F)



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#### Seeds of America: Chains

(Laurie Halse Anderson 813.6 A547s v.1 Fiction) Halse Anderson does not shy away from difficult topics—in other novels she has examined topics such as depression (Speak) and anorexia (Wintergirls). In Seeds of America Halse Anderson tells the story of the American Revolution from the point of view of slaves. Many books talk about the two sides of the war, the Patriots and the Loyalists. This book however talks about another large group who was affected by the war: the slaves. Narratives forget that for the slaves neither group was a 'better' group. They were often forced to participate on the side of their owner rather than their own interests. Chains follows Isabel as she gets caught up in the war effort as a spy though she is not loyal to either group. All Isabel wants to do is take care of her sister and gain their freedom.(F)



#### **Third Culture Kids**

(David C. Pollock and Ruth E. Van Reken 303.3 P776t)

With the world becoming a more interconnected and smaller place DAVIDIC POLLOCK and RUTH E. VAN REKEN it is not unusual to

meet people who have spent many years living abroad, outside of their 'home country'. Third Culture Kids examines the lives of TCKs and the impact of being a TCK leaves. The authors show the positive and negative realities of being a TCK or Cross Cultural Kid (CCK). I leave it for you to decide what it means to be a TCK or CCK. (NF)

(NF)

#### **Rickshaw Boy**

(Lao She 813.52 S539r Cannon)

Rickshaw Boy is a classic novel of 20th century China telling the story of Xiangzi who works in Beijing. The novel focuses on the decisions





and choices that Xiangzi makes in his quest to make a better life. Much like Beneath the Wheel when you focus on one aspect of life there are often unintended consequences. (F)

All of the books mentioned in the descriptions are also available in the library.



#### Extremes

#### (Kevin Fong 612 F674e)

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If you are interested in any combination of biology, the human body, medicine, history, or exploration then this is the book for you. Fong incorporates personal anecdotes, history, and information about the medical field into his narrative as he describes how exploration and medical technology intertwine. Without medical technology parts of our world would be largely unexplored. Without exploration and an understanding of what may be encountered medicine as a field would not be as advanced. If you are interested in reading about the natural limits of the human body and how science can help surpass them then I encourage you to read Extremes.


On September 28<sup>th</sup>, GAFL boys' and girls' lacrosse team participated in High School League. Girls' matches were planned on 27<sup>th</sup>, but was changed for better time management.



The boys' first match was against Bugil. Compare to GAFL, Bugil was not a hard opponent, but their goalie was a great wall. Many of our attackers' shots were blocked by him, and the opponent scored the first goal. However, the team did not give up and managed to score an equalizer by the end of the first half. In the second half, Jason Song did not allow any goal, and Kenny Yoon scored the winning goal. The overall score was 2:1, and the MVP was Jason Song for some super-saves.

The second match was against Haneul. During the first half, Leo Shim scored the first goal. As it got darker, it was hard to see the ball, and the team let an unlucky goal in. The match was suspended due to the darkness, and will be continued on the other day. Well done to the whole team and good luck for the next round.





The girls' first match was against Haneul. The team started well with Jiyoung's goal, but the opponent's attack was also fast and accurate. The overall score was 5:5, and the MVP was Jiyoung Yun.





The girls' second match was against Bugil. Many goals were scored between the two teams, and especially four PreDP girls contributed on victory. The overall score was 8:5, and the MVP was Kelly Shin. Well done to the whole team and good luck for the final.

# IB MEMES



TOK PRESENTATION

WHEN YOU HAVE TO DO YOUR'S

# TOK PRESENTATION WHEN YOU WATCH OTHERS'





## ONE DOES NOT SIMPLY

### CHOOSE TOPICS FOR MATH IA

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## College Counselling

gaflccprogram.wix.com/knowbeforeyougo

### Universities of the Uni ed Kingdom

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### 1. Imperial College London

Imperial College London is a university in London, UK, with a history over 100 years. Students with as diverse background as 126 different nations currently attend ICL. ("About Imperial") It is one of the major universities in the science fields. It offers various courses from the fields of medicine, life sciences and physical sciences. Some of the courses are also offered as co – curricular studies as BSc with management, and BSc and MSci degrees with a language for science, where you can take a standard science course and a business class or a language study along with it. ("Centre for Co – Curricular Studies")

Imperial College London offers 6 years of medicine program, which earns both a BSc and a MBBS. The curriculum is ranked 2nd in Europe and 3rd in world for clinical courses. The course is designed so that undergraduate students may have direct contact with patient from the first year of their study, and that they may learn necessary research skills through supervised research projects. The research opportunities led ICL to be recognized as one of the top R&D medicine schools. ("MBBS/BSc Medicine")

ICL also offers one of the best engineering courses in the world. In particular, the mechanical engineering course is ranked 1st in the UK on research assessments; in other words, the mechanical engineering course conducts the most world – leading research in the country. ("Mechanical Engineering") Unlike traditional undergraduate engineering courses, which are focused on lectures, ICL's engineering courses are focused more on developing practical skills in workshops, designing, and basically, using your creativity. ("MEng Mechanical Engineering")

#### 2. London School of Economics and Poltical Science

The second university we will talk about in London School of Economics and Political Science, commonly known as LSE. As you can notice from the name of this college, it specializes in social studies, such as economics, politics, law, and business. But it is not just specialization – a reliable source who has worked in an international organization said that organizations such as the United Nations Development Program, the World Bank and such seek for LSE-graduate specialists. For those of you interested in human sciences such as Law, Economics, International Relations, and Politics, you might want to check out LSE.

The graph below shows the rankings of selected subjects, compared to the rest of the world ("London")



#### Rankings (world, from QS Rankings)

Now, moving onto the general information about the school, it is located in the center of London. It's also in the downtown (LSE). For anyone who is worried about the living expenses in London, the price level isn't particularly high compared to other metropolitan cities around the world (read the other article from myth-busters for tuition fees). Besides, one of the best benefits of joining any college in UK is that students can graduate in three years, while others in US or Korea takes 4 years. Going back to the specifics about London School of Economics (LSE), it requires IB Score of 35–38, with some specific subject requirements. You can check specific requirements on this link: http://www.lse.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/degreeProgrammes2015/ degreeProgrammes2015.aspx.

LSE's mission is to foster social scientists, so one of the key courses it operates is called LSE 100. No matter which degree you chose, you have to attend LSE 100, which "introduces first year undergraduates to the fundamental elements of thinking as a social scientist by exploring real problems and real questions" (LSE). Besides, what's good about this school is that being located in the center of London, which is one of the cities around the world with largest financial sectors, internship opportunities are high.

What's also known about LSE is its debating culture. Not only there are many debating clubs among students, LSE holds programs such as LSE Public Lecture. The lecturers include many renowned social scientists, professors, experts, and economic policymakers, including famous speakers such as Thomas Piketty, UK government officials, and Ha–Joon Chang (LSE). The LSE also posts the lecture videos on YouTube. You can find them in this link. http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCK08 B5SZwoEUk2hDPMOij Just think of the time when you will be listening to their lectures one day, in this hall where leading experts share their insights and ideas of social problems. Wouldn't it be amazing?

In addition, LSE is a member of University of London intercollegiate group which introduces college life in UK, with video interviews from alumni. Their videos can be found here. http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCkLeu0yFUQk4fThSvnru8XA.

So far, we informed you about two universities in London, famous for their specialties: social sciences and natural sciences. We hope you got intrigued with those colleges.

### Curious about what College life is like?

Everyone has his or her ideal dream about what college life is like, especially if they are keen on getting accepted to one of their top schools. For those who are interested in college life or just want a glimpse at what current undergraduates are saying, I recommend the following sites:

College Prowler: <u>http://colleges.niche.com/</u> Unigo: <u>https://www.unigo.com/</u> \*Both sites require a sign-up process

College Prowler allows you to choose colleges that you're interested in, and based on your selection, provides daily reviews on campus life, school atmosphere, etc. from undergraduates currently attending those schools.



Unigo provides equally insightful information regarding college life and culture. One on one Q&A sessions with current undergraduates are available as well as a general 'admissions advice' section. And for those who are especially keen on receiving expert advice, a live counseling service is also offered.



#### Good luck to those out on college-hunting!

\*Disclaimer: While College Prowler and Unigo claim to post honest reviews from college students, We cannot guarantee that all information is 100% reliable. Some discretion is needed when viewing both sites.

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# CALENDAR

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# SCHEDULE





DP2 Robert Kim (10.03) Pre-DP Shery Ahn (10.16) DP1 Jason Song (10.20) DP1 Teddy Son (10.23) DP1 Jiyoung Yun (10.24) DP1 Phil Jin Sang (10.30)



#### Schedule

- National Foundation Day of Korea (10.03)
- Hangul Proclaimation Day (10.09)
- DP2 IB External Assessment (2014 November Session 11.04-21)
- SAT II Subject Tests (11.08)
- Pre-DP/DP1 Final Exam D-30 (11.10)
- Korean SAT (11.13)
- Pre-DP/DP1 Final Exam D-20 (11.20)
- Pre-DP/DP1 Final Exam D-10 (11.30)

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## 1B Department of Justice Announcements

<Late Night Independent Study Schedule>

SATI: 22 Sept (Mon) ~ 11 Oct (Sat) SAT II: 20 Oct (Mon) ~ 8 Nov (Sat) (Two Weeks) -Final Exam Period in December

#### <Prohibited Acts>

1. Leaving the Self-Study Room in Independent Study Time and the Free Periods (studying in the hallway and sleeping in the sofa)

2. Organizing Lacrosse Equipment (leaving the equipments on the field are prohibited)

The Schedule of Student Trials will be announced later.

## **IB STUDENT COMMITTEE** Department of Communication



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