

Year 2 , Issue 2, 2014

Games of 2014



HALLOWEEN SPOOKY PARADE

Malentine & I activities

"Gheorghe Sincai" National College, Baia Mare Editura "Maria Montessori"



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Nelda Mialțu, X A Andreea Pop, XI D Adriana Grigoraș, XI D Dragoș Chiș, X A



EDTORIAL

"Life has but one true charm: the charm of the game. But what if we're indifferent to whether we win or lose?" (Charles Baudelaire)

If the outcome of the game is insignificant to you, then you know you've been playing for the sake of having fun. We, the editorial staff, decided that this year, we should all experience the fun of the games.

Therefore, in the second issue of Teenglish, Sincai's English magazine for teenagers, you can find an interview with one of the people who make things move in your college, Ms Marina Lici, our college deputy mistress. We have also prepared an interview with one of the brightest minds of our school, Omer Cerrahoglu. Next, there's an interview with the famous fashion designer, Lorand Coza, and last but not least, an interview with a fascinating granny.

Another consecrated section in our magazine is the one dedicated to the main events of the school year that took place in our college. You can read all about the inside of the organization of the school's junior prom, "*Sincai's Channel. Beyond Appearances*". The spookiest day of the year was - beyond any doubt - October 31st, *Halloween* with its spooktacular activities: the pumpkin exhibition, the class decoration contest and the fabulous costume parade. Next we had a romantic day in Şincai, on Valentine's Day, when everybody was invited to express their feelings of love during our varied activities.

We have also published the winning creations of our extremely talented colleagues: love letters, short stories and poems. Additionally, there are several articles about the upcoming games of this year and some of the biggest hits in the gaming industry.

On top of it all, you'll find some useful advice coming from a former Şincai student who is opening her heart to tell you about her experience in Şincai.

Enjoy this second issue of Teenglish if you believe in free speech and if you have something significant and intriguing for the next issues.

Happy gaming! ③

Dragoş Chiş

Nelda Mialţu

Oana Rob



THE INTERVIEW CORNER

Interview with Mrs Marina Lici, the deputy headmistress

By Nelda Mialţu & Oana Rob, X A

How do you feel as deputy headmistress of a top high school? Busy. Very busy, but very well because it's an honour to be the deputy headmistress of such a great high school.

2. Have you always wanted to be a teacher or, just like any child, have you dreamt of becoming something else?

I have always wanted to become a teacher.

3. How great is the difference between being a deputy headmistress and being a teacher?

It is a big difference. As a headmaster, you tend to lose touch with the students. Now, the students often tell me that I don't have as much time as I used to have, to help prepare for contests. Unfortunately, as a headmaster, you interact less with the students and you are more involved in organizing things.

4. How were you as a teenager?

I was very obedient and shy, not as outgoing as you are now.

5. Describe yourself in 5 words.

This is a though one. I could say: ambitious, energetic, serious, sensitive, and warm.



6. How did you get to teach at the National College "Gheorghe Şincai"?

This is an interesting story. I have never imagined that I will teach here because I studied here and I thought it would be weird to have as

colleagues some of my ex-teachers. But about 6-7 years ago the former principal, Mr Ioan Mureşan, called me and asked me to teach here. And I said yes because I thought it would be interesting.

7. Is it difficult to lead such a big school?

It isn't easy, but it isn't hard either. Everything is possible if you really want to do it.

8. What advice would you give the students of the National College "Gheorghe Şincai"?

They should be serious, they should study but at the same time they should have fun because everything in life should be balanced. They should love what they do.



Interview with Omer Cerrahoglu

Reporters: Maria Cristina Mociran and Dan Cezar, V B Translator from Romanian into English Dan Cezar, V B

Reporter: Who helped you most? *Omer*: I was helped by my family, especially by my mother. *Reporter*: What advice can you give to the new students, in the fifth grade? *Omer*: To keep their innocence. *Reporter*: How did you get those important medals? *Omer*: In fact it was a mixture of talent and work. *Reporter*: How did you discover your passion for Maths? *Omer*: When I was little, I took part in the contest "Cangurul Matematician" where I had very good results. I began to work a lot and I made progress.

Reporter: What university would you like to go to? Why?

Omer: I want to go in America and study Computer Since. I want to go to one of the universities: M.I.T. (based on technology), "Harvard" or "Standford", because they are very good universities.

School of Fashion – An Interview with Lorand Coza

Iulia Nan and Larisa Boncos, IX G

Nowadays students are particularly interested about fashion, besides everyday concerns. One of the big daily issues for teenagers is thinking about how to match clothes and how to be fashionable. They are preoccupied about the way they are seen by their peers. Therefore we have asked Lorand Coza, our local designer a few questions and he was thrilled by the challenge.

1. What are the most appropriate outfits for a student? In school attire teenagers tend to be casual, trendy, elegant, and stylish. For some students who have limited financial resources, they have to resort to a few tricks with which to give the impression that their wardrobe is always a new one. You need to be creative and use your imagination, so that older clothes will look like new pieces of clothing. There is need to have some special outfit for school, you have to be yourself.

2. Tell us some basic tricks to have a trendy outfit! To secret to always have a trendy outfit, especially at school, is not necessarily to buy new clothes all the time. In my opinion, teenagers need to buy some basic clothes items that fit anytime and anywhere. Once you establish basic clothes, you can juggle them to create matching outfits for every occasion. The clothes must be first of all simple, elegant, clean, and only then in trends.

3. What are the trends in fashion this year? From mixes of simple elements with glam applications 2014 seems to promise a lot in terms of fashion. In 2014 pink is the new black, so propellant coats, dresses, shoes in shades of delicate pink. Not surprisingly, the color of 2014, the " orchid radiant: is shade of purple with undertones of pink and fuchsia. This color is cheerful and optimistic and I advise you to include it in your wardrobe this year.

4. To conclude, tell us what you think about school uniforms. I've always been pro school uniforms and I would have liked to wear one when I was in school. I strongly believe that uniforms can be customized for each student, and it doesn't imply that you are part of the same flock. Also, I believe that your uniforms highlight the history and image of a school. So, wear yours proudly and stylishly!

I entirely agree with Lorand Coza and I believe that clothes do make a person so we should be careful to project exactly the image we want to by wearing certain clothes.



A Glimpse into the Extraordinary Life of my Octogenarian Granny

By Ilinca Leuștean, XII A

My grandma had a tough life growing up during World War II and sometimes she tells me stories from her childhood and youth. They are really great stories especially because they are true life stories. Since she is not able to tell them to you herself, I thought I'd do a short interview. I hope you'll enjoy reading it as much as I do listening to her.

1. Could you tell me a few words about yourself?

My maiden name is Moldoveanu Ilinca and I was brought up by my mother in a family of three in the village of Chiscani, 10 km from Braila. My father disappeared in the war when I was 9. I later became a dentist, I got married when I was 25 to a university professor and we had two children.

I still remember from my childhood that we had an immense garden, a kind of orchard, with a great variety of fruit-bearing trees. Still, those of



our neighbours were tastier. We would, time and time again, "visit" her, no matter how strong the shame of being caught was. The winters were the most spectacular of them all. The most fun we had was ice-skating on the frozen Danube. The skates were handmade by us. Even though the ice would sometimes break under us, or we would fall and acquire some mighty bruises, it was all worth it. Before the Russians came, there were the Germans. I gladly remember them since they were kind to people. Because our house was one of the biggest in the village, it was transformed into a sort of headquarters during the war. Every morning the Germans would go to Braila and take me with them to get tutored.

2. How was life before and during World War II in that part of the country?

With the start of the Second World War, the majority of the people fled from their villages, retreating to the Braila Pond because of the Russians. I remember that they stole our horses when they came. After they settled, I recall watching them play Kazaciok. Every evening, there would be the same ritual: partying and dancing and, if it weren't for the fear that we had, the dances would've been quite amazing. To the upmost bafflement and disappointment of the Russians, they did not find any girl in the village. To keep the food away from them, we had to hide it in the barn.

3. What was it like under communism and how did it affected the life of your family?

The arrival of communism meant only a disaster for our family. My mother was locked away for being a landlady since they needed her wealth. Even though they did not simply take it away, the taxes were so high that it seemed the land was not even ours. After my mother was released from prison, army lists came, searching every square inch to find our animals and to take them away.

Ever since I was a child I dreamt of becoming a doctor. I opted for Dentistry (which is "Stomatologie" in Romanian) thinking that it was related to the stomach. I was greatly surprised when I found out it wasn't quite like that, but I still went with it. It was difficult because I had to hide the fact that I was the daughter of a landlady, being under the constant threat of being kicked out of school. However I succeeded to become a dentist and then life started to be a bit better; I met your grandfather, which was love at first sight, and we moved to Maramureş where we made a life together.



THE EVENTS CORNER

Şincai's Channel. Beyond Appearances

by Ioana Gherghel, XI E

I had the great chance to take part in the organization of my College Junior Prom of this school year and I really enjoyed it! It was beyond my expectations and everybody else's expectations for that matter!

I remember the time when we were in search of a prom theme and we put our ideas on the blackboard, voting for the best one... There was a problem in choosing one because we had so many ideas and we could not decide which one we liked the most. The rescue came when one colleague said that we can put all this together in a bigger theme, as they do in in television: every show of some channel has got some kind of theme or concept. So this is how our prom theme was born: "Şincai's Channel".



My classmates and I were so excited about this idea of organizing the prom, that we could hardly think of anything else but how we were going to do it, before having the confirmation that we were actually going to do it.

First we had to write down a plan of how we would organize this prom and present it to the school

committee. All the eleven classes which wanted to organize the prom had to make a project. After a heavy battle (as I've heard by word of mouth), the committee decided that my class, XI E, was going to do this.

I think that this experience managed to establish a more powerful connection between us because we spent a lot of time together and had to co-operate in this project in order to make ends meet. As grown-ups do, we decided to split work in groups so that everyone had a specific thing to do. But beyond all the things that we had to do - from rehearsing the choreography of the dance for the opening of the show, to decorating the stage and helping the 9th grade pairs of contestants to do their parts - we had a lot of fun! When we tested the sound, a day before the show, the music was so loud and everybody was singing and dancing and eating pretzels or sandwich while doing these. We knew that it was going to be a great show and that we would be so proud of it!

We learnt how it felt like when we have a common purpose and what it was like to be stressed, tense, nervous and - of course - happy.

The day of the prom was very hectic for all of us, we were all so restless because we wanted everything to be as we had imagined. Beside the fact that we came across some unexpected problems, we stayed positive, or at least we tried to. Even if things did not work out exactly as we had expected, people said that they had a great time and they really liked it.

I truly think that everybody had a great time and I would do it again anytime!



by Laura Pop

Is Halloween Dangerous? I'll Leave It Up to You...

As everybody knows, Halloween is both spooky and sweet. It's spooky because there are witches and wizards, walking zombies and skeletons. It's sweet because children go search of treats.



Halloween has a very long and storied past,



rich with tradition. Originally it was known as "Samhain," a Celtic festival marking the end of the summer and the beginning of the cold months. The pagans who first celebrated the holiday believed that on Samhain the veil between the two worlds was at its thinnest, and the dead could walk the earth. The otherworldly nature of Halloween has captured people's imaginations for centuries, and led to many superstitions and traditions that last to this day.

Last year's Halloween party in 'Gheorghe Şincai' National College was a special one. Our students' imagination had no limit. Everybody could feel the spooktacular atmosphere on the 31st of October 2013. There were three main events which unrolled throughout this day:

The Pumpkin Exhibition turned up to be a very challenging competition among the secondary school pupils who tried their best to produce the most originally decorated pumpkins. The winners were from all the classes:

- two 1st prizes; Temian Maria & Eötvös Iulia (from the 8th grade) and Nechita Ioana, Ardelean Alexandra & Reznek Carina (from the 8th grade)
- two 2nd prizes: Radu Patricia (from the 7th grade) and Gălățanu Iustina, Oşan Ștefania & Zăgreanu Anna (from the 7th grade)
- one **3rd** prize: Kadar Elias (from the 6th grade)
- two special h onourable mentions: Afrosinei Cătălin, Biriş Eric, Tătaru
 Mihai & Zăgreanu Luca (from the 5th A grade) and Lendel Andreea (from the 5th B grade)

The Classroom Decoration Contest was another challenge for the high school students. They were given permission to decorate their classrooms in the



most original way in order to recreate the spooky atmosphere of this Celtic festival. And what they have accomplished.... you can judge for yourselves...





The Costume Parade was undoubtedly the main event of the day. It gathered students from all over the college classes, all dressed up in costumes. For about a quarter of an hour, the college halls steamed with life, with unusual characters and spooky creatures. Some of them looked frightening, others just seemed to be in pain. There were even some cute ones, while others could only mumble and grumble a few sounds.

All in all, like all good things, the whole event ended with the sound of the bell calling the students



taking part in the parade or simply watching the others' performance on the college corridors, but most definitely nobody was harmed during the events.

So, is Halloween dangerous? I'll leave it up to you...

Valentine's Day in Şincai

Cosmina Odăgeru, XA

The 10th A grade prepared lots of surprises for the students on Valentine's Day. We asked you to write who or what it is that you love or care about on a post-it and we were happy to see that you covered three boards in a just a few hours.

Also, we gave you the opportunity to send a love letter to your crush through Cupid's mail. We kept the box open for three days and everyone received their secret messages on Friday.

Some of you were lucky to get your letters attached to a balloon and we hope that our work managed to make your day brighter.

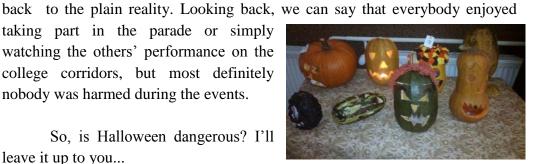
We also want to thank the students from the Vth, VIth and VIIth grades for accepting to be interviewed for the movie we made and played in the hall and for helping us decorate the hall.

We love you! ③















THE CREATIVITY CORNER

LOVE LETTERS section

1st PRIZE: To my future, lucky one, husband!

Mara Andreicuţ, XII E

Dear future husband, we haven t met yet, but after all, it's Valentine's Day, and I think it's a great idea to celebrate it. I have always loved Valentine's Day! It's my favourite day of the year! Even before X Mas! I can't wait to meet you! And I know you will be great and you'll love Valentine's Day, too because I'll be the love of your life and you won't have a choice.

This year I'm single. Yea, I broke up with that rich doctor. I also knew he wasn't the one (also, I'm sorry I stopped writing while I was with him[©]). But that's all in the past. I must admit, though, last Valentine's was awesome. All those candles, the nice music, the neck kisses... yea..after all, he was a great guy.

But my heart felt like there was something missing. I'm sorry but I have to say I don't think I know yet what true love is. I've read somewhere that people feel butterflies in their stomachs when they fall in love, maybe that's true.

I've only imagined that when I meet you I'll feel that you are the one, and I still think it's true. I hope our first Valentine will be great. I can't wait to have somebody just for me.

I know love is something bigger than we all think, something that most of the time we don't understand. We let people enter in our lives and smash all the strong walls we have built. We become vulnerable, and our universe is represented by the person we love the most. All we do is to make that person happy. Affection is not something you can buy, it's something you get and give. But nothing's better than shared feelings, and nothing's worse than that moment when Cupid forgot to pull the second arrow.

I don't know if you'll ever come into my life, or if there is in this world one person brave enough to stay with me forever, 'cause forever is such a great word, and love is the greatest one.

Hope I'll meet you in a few years, 'cause I don't want we to be too old. I want our wedding pictures to look great, me with my white dress, and you with your great abs.

P.S.: hope you go to the gym every day.

P.P.S: we'll have a girl and a boy. But that's not really important. Can't wait to meet you. Kisses from here to you.



2nd PRIZE: Dear you,

By Nelda Mialţu, 10A

I don't really know where to start. The thing is that... I miss you. I really miss you. It's Valentine's Day and you're not here, you know? Yesterday I was sitting in my room, when I heard a song. Our song... and then a lot of memories came into my mind. And I realized that after all this time I still do care about you and that there are a few things I never had the chance to tell you. So I'll put them down on this piece of paper hoping that one day you'll read this...

Remember the first day we met? I will never forget that day. The way you looked at me. It was just like Shakespeare said: "When I saw you I fell in love, and you smiled because you knew. From the very first time I saw you I knew that you are made for me. And I was right. But you never knew this... I never told you that I loved you from the first second I saw you. I don't know why. Maybe because I didn't want to look weak. All the time we were together you thought that I felt in love with you after I knew your story, but that's not true. I was crazy about you from the first day we met and I've always known that you are not who you pretended to be. I was so happy when you told me everything about the real you. At that moment I realized that all my suppositions were real and I started to love you even more.

Another thing you never knew is... It's so hard to say it. One day, a woman came to me and told me some things about you. Not good things. She said lots of horrible things. And the problem is that at that moment I believed her. And I lost my trust in you. Those were the most terrible days of my whole life. I didn't tell you because I knew that you will deny everything even if it was true, so I spoke to a friend of yours. He told me everything about that woman. And when I heard the truth I was so happy that you never were the kind of man she said you were. But the problem was another. A lot of time after that I hated myself because I didn't trust you after all we had been through. I still blame myself sometimes for that. The thing is that I want you to know that I'm very sorry for that, for not trusting you. This was maybe the biggest mistake of my life. I think that's it. These are the things you didn't know about. I'm sorry I didn't tell you about them earlier, but I just couldn't. I only hope that one you will read this. Or I hope that you can see what I wrote from where you are. You know? It's still so hard to talk about you and about what it was. I mean, it's been more than 3 years since you're gone and everyone it's telling me that I have to get over it...but they don't know how it feels to lose the only person who really understood you and loved you for who you were. Yeah... It's hard. Sometimes I break... But then I remember that you are somewhere there, above me, watching me and taking care of me. And even if I can't see you I know that from the place you are you're thinking of me and loving me like I do.

In the end, I want to thank you for everything. And I just realized something. I changed a lot since you're gone. I see life with different eyes. Now I know that every second is a gift from God and that we should enjoy it and do more things that are important in life, like having fun. And, of course, we should do all the things we want, chase our dreams and most importantly, we should tell the ones we love how much we care about them before it's too late...

P.S. I just bought some Raffaello candies for Valentine's Day. Our favorites... This Valentine I'll look at our photos and videos and eat Raffaello. I will celebrate it like we used to. I miss those days so much. But don't think I'll get depressed. No. The truth is that until now I kept all of our photos and memories in a box and I was afraid to open it. But now I know I'm ready. Happy Valentine's Day! P.P.S. You'll always be my Valentine. I LOVE YOU!

With love, me

3rd PRIZE: My beloved one



If you are reading this it means that you are already far away from me and on the point of making your dream come true. I wanted you to open this letter when you miss me. I have to say that I miss you too, but believe me, distance means so little when someone means so much.

When II first saw you I fell in and you smiled because you knew. Your smile lights up my day. Thank you for choosing me. Of all the girls in the high school you picked me. And I still remember how my heart stopped beating when you smiled at me. From that moment I knew I wanted you to be part of my life.

The best things come unexpectedly and you are a clear example of that. The little things you do ofr me make me feel the luckiest girl, the way you look at me, the way you hug and most of all, the way you hold my hand makes me feel that I can rule the world.

You are more important to me than actions and words could ever express, and there is honestly no one else I'd rather spend the rest of my life with and I have to confess that being with was the only time I've ever been happy!

I love you for all that you are, all that you have been and all you're yet to be. Yours, Ari

SHORT STORIES section

1st PRIZE: The Unicorn

Iulia Șimonca, X D

Have you ever seen a rainbow? Of course you have!

And I bet you saw a pink fluffy thing dancing on the rainbow! Do you wonder what it is? It's a UNICORN! The best pet in the world. Please, give me one second to describe to you this beautiful animal.

It looks like a horse! But it isn't. It has a big white corn on its head. It can be whatever colour you want: yellow, blue, purple ,even black if you are a depressive person. Its colour depends on your mood. It is really cool.

Would you like me to tell you the unicorn's story?

One day, a mustang horse met an amazing rhino. They fell in love, but they couldn't be together because the horse's mother didn't accept their relationship. So they met with each other secretly. After one year the rhino was pregnant. She was too ashamed to go home and the horse's family didn't



want her...She packed her things, left the earth and went up in the sky, on a rainbow. She gave birth to a little boy... she named him ''UNICORN' but after three days she died. The poor unicorn was so scared that he couldn't jump on the earth. So he lived there. One day he met another unicorn, maybe with the same story and they decided to stay on the rainbow and dance all day long.

They can become your pet only if you write to Santa to bring you one because he can catch one on his way from North Pole, but be sure you want one, because it can be moodier than a high-school popular girl.





by Iasmina Roxana Pop, X E

Standing by the window, surrounded by a lot of cushions, reading a book and enjoying a cup of hibiscus tea – that was me, on the 13^{th} of February. It was pouring outside, but the sound of the raindrops hitting the steamed glass relaxed me even more.

All of a sudden, a crazy idea popped into my mind. That's how I ended up doing nothing else, but walking, under my brightly coloured umbrella, and thinking. A shadow came out of nowhere and bumped into me, causing my umbrella to fall out of my hand, the icy raindrop to fall on my already cold skin. As if awakened by the stinging drops of water, I noticed the tousled light-brown hair and the confident smile of the so called 'shadow'', both very familiar to me.

After ten minutes, I found myself entering some kind of pub, having opened the door by the one I consider the most handsome and mysterious boy on this planet. I immediately noticed one of my favourite songs playing on the radio, making the atmosphere even more welcoming. A little too fascinated about our conversation, as if the extra-foam and cinnamon hot chocolate we were having got bewitched, we lost track of time. By the time we realised it was time to leave, it had already got dark outside and the rain had turned into foggy drizzle.

As we were walking side by side on the paved road, which was surprisingly empty, touching our arms and shooting short, shy glances at each other from time to time, all the streetlamps but the one above us went off, leaving us highlighted as if we were the two leading actors on an infinite stage of darkness. Partly surprised, but mostly very nervous, I started tattling and twiddling and my legs were shaking hastily. My entire twiddle could have gone on for much longer if it weren't for those dark-green eyes, staring at me.

Oh, those eyes which, just a few moments ago were as bright and green as emerald stones, in the dim light that all those then lit streetlamps cast on us. "Where is that map when you most need it?" I thought and got completely lost.

3rd PRIZE: How I Met My Love

by Carina Ţînțaş, IX G

My lover and I have been very happy together for 5 years. I start laughing when I remember how we met. It was a rainy day, and I was very stressed because I had to finish a very important project at work. I was on the sidewalk, and I was talking on the phone with my best friend, when suddenly a stranger stole my mobile phone. I shouted: "Help! Help, please! Someone has just stolen my phone! Help!" At that moment, a man started running and eventually caught the thief. Then he walked to me and gave me my mobile phone back. I was very impressed that he could help me. But something else happened. When I looked in his eyes, my heart, my mind and my stomach got crazy. I felt butterflies in my stomach. He smiled and invited me to a cup of coffee to forget about what happened. I accepted his invitation. As soon as we began to talk we realized how much we had in common.

When I got home I started thinking about him more and more each day. I felt like God blessed me. I had many things to do and I was very stressed, but when I started thinking about him, I forgot about all my problems. Then I realized he had become a special person for me, but I was scared at the same time that he may not like me. We were just friends, we had only seen each other once.

After a week my phone rang and when I picked up, I heard a familiar voice. It was him. Wow... He wanted to go out with me and have dinner at a restaurant. Of course my answer was "yes". Now, we are celebrating 5 years of a beautiful relationship, and when I look back I am thinking about how we first met, and I start laughing. "Yes, God really blessed me!"



The Magic of a Simple Trick during the English Class

by Adrian Butnar, X D



Many of you may think that magic cannot be related to school in any way. But, what if you have a school project and you want to get an astonishing reaction from your colleagues, and more importantly, from your teacher of English? Well, you should keep in mind the fact that a little show will always do the trick.

Magic is quite a complex concept, on the one hand, and an unexpectedly simple one as well. It is like beauty: "it's in the eyes of the beholder". You might think it's fiction, but you would be so

wrong.... in fact, magic is something so deep and fascinating, that it can blow your mind instantaneously. The only thing you really need is faith. If you don't believe in it, nothing will ever happen, but if you your whole being believes in I, the only limitation left is you imagination.

"It was a professional yet, become one soon. with the tricks proved to us how

"The trick astonishing! It smart guy like trick." Şerban

"Adi is an trick seemed only wish he disappear..."



amazing! Maybe he is not but I'm sure he will Not only did he impress us themselves, but he also clever he is" Claudia Pop

Adi did was absolutely was obvious that only a him could do such a clever Rusu

amazing magician. His magic. I was speechless. I could make some classes (anonymous)

"His tricks were absolutely amazing! He did the tricks with in such a natural way, that we were

speechless for a few moments, before we began applauding him frantically" (anonymous)

"I was fascinated when I saw what my colleague and good friend could do with a pack of cards and with his mind because I have never seen a truly professional trick being done so close to me. He was incredible and I want to congratulate him for this!" Alin Voicu





Aut Caesar, aut nihil!

by Iulia Voicu, X F

I never actually thought I'd find a way to stop being so rudely competitive. Well, sure, I did tell myself I'm kind and non-violent and such other things. I did! And then I figured out what pointless self-deceiving lies those were. I WAS competitive.

I'd sometimes make a competition out of everything while everyone else would just hang around... existing.

During quite a time, that part of me started eating so much space and thought that I would have happily spent the rest of my life sleeping, since competition was my worst vampire, and I was already in such a state that had you looked up in a dictionary "empty", it would have been explained in one single word: Iulia. I don't know what happened to me, but I suddenly stopped caring.

It felt SO good that not giving a flying shoe became a habit.

My best one. It's spooky, though, for I've come to realise I can get to the top of mostly anything without putting emotional effort into it, and I would not go back to what I used to be. Not in the least!

POEMS section

1st PRIZE: Love

by Ruskal Agnes, X D

Love is just like any drug, A little devil pill, It makes me sad, it makes me happy, It makes me do things else ever will.

Love is either like the weather, It can be good or can be bad, \Sometimes it won't last forever And often it just makes me mad.

In some cases, love may hurt. Many say it's just a lie, I never know if it is worth, But for a lot of times it made me cry.

You can spread it, you can keep it, In my life I shared a lot, I don't regret any of it, 'Cause loving you is all I got!

2nd **PRIZE:** Colour-blind Love by Bogdan Indre, IX B

Roses are green As much as I see Your eyes are red Ehen you are looking at me.

Just stop for a moment And look outside Don't mind the red trees Or the fading light.

Look at the sky And see what you can get The sunset is coming Green clouds up ahead.

Stay with me today Because I'll remember this time And I have one more question Do you want to be my Valentine? 3rd PRIZE: Our love Ioana Nechita. VIII

Our love was like diamonds, precious and clear-We kept it hidden, we kept it sheer... Our love was like water, slipping away-It started to tremble, it started to sway... Our love became thunder, stormy and loud-We wanted to run, we couldn't get out... Our love's now an old glass, fallen to the floor-It's shattered to pieces, it's broken and torn.

Because

By Ligia Todea, XII G

You have no kindred under the Sun, You are boundless, you are great Your love darling is my Elysium And yet, you are so rare. You are my rain dance, my drop of water, You are the lost treasure in the sea, My beautiful sunrise in the morning The song heard upon the sky, With thousands of stars enclosing us. You are an angel, I am a fay. You are my love, my universe, I live by the light of your eyes Don't ever lose that light of your eyes, Because ... you are mine!

Dark, dark eyes

Ioana Nechita, VIII

There's some sadness in your dark, dark eyes You keep hiding yourself, you keep telling me lies... There's some sadness in your dark, dark hair

Broken whispers of longing float around in the air.

You look at me with your dark, dark eyes and I blink

Then you're gone, gone away, it's cold and I sink... The sad, lost goodbye is breaking my heart And I'm going under, my soul's ripped apart.

I close my eyes and the tears start to flow It hurts, hurts so bad but I will let you go...

I can't live anymore buried all in lies, So I will say goodbye do your dark, dark eyes.



Foolish Love Suciu Alexandra, XI D

And there I found you In a dark, empty room. I thought I'd etered Hell, But you just poisoned the air.

> I looked at you. You haven't changed. Unless this time, I felt something else.

You chose me And then I understood. Love began. I fell in love with you.

I fell in love with an evil soul. You came closer and closer. Your hands were on me... I saw your red eyes... I couldn't breathe... But I didn't care... Inside I felt alive.

Her mind flew over

Patricia Puşcasu, IX G

Her mind flew over Desperate to contain The loud animal in her heart; A smile crossed her face, So she decided to keep it. - "Smile" She created a world of her own Because the one she lived in Could destroy her mind in seconds, And if that would happen, Her heart would have to run her soul, And we all know how bad she is When she's being put in charge. - "Mind, soul, heart"

Promise

Ioana Nechita, VIII

Don't worry, I promise I'll love you tomorrow, When I'd gotten away of all the cobwebs and sorrow...

But now, in the black clouds, I can't find my heart It beats in the darkness, but it's torn apart; It's so loud I can hear it, but feels so far away!...

I promise Γ ll find it, just not today.



Don't worry, I promise Γll love you tomorrow, When Γd found an unbroken, new heart to borrow...
I lost mine yesterday, in the thick dark despair cloud, A raw, broken heart... Oh, it beats so loud!...
Γm here, trapped alone, and my blood has gone

dry

So maybe I won`t love you tomorrow, but I swear I will try...

Dr. Love

Dear Dr. Love,

I have a little, well, problem...if I could name it like that. I hope you could help me. So the thing is I'm in love with a guy who has a girlfriend And I feel there is something, but I don't know what. Maybe I should leave him alone but he always texts me first and things like that. Do you think he likes me? I really don't know what to do. What's your advice?

Dear Ana,

I understand your problem. It's not very easy to make a decision. Maybe he just wants to be your friend. So my advice is to ask him. It's difficult, I know, but it is the best solution for you. Good luck!

Dear Dr. Love

My name is Eric. I have had a problem for so long and now I need help. I can't tell anybody because they will judge me so that's why I'm writing you. I like a girl for three months but I can't tell her because I'm very shy. Can you give me some advice?

Dear Eric,

My advice to you is to tell her before it's too late. Maybe she likes you too, but you'll never know if you don't say anything. You have to believe in yourself even if she doesn't like you. Don't give up! She's not the only girl in the world.

Dear Dr. Love,

This is really really embarrassing , but.. I've never had a boyfriend and I'm 15... it's really weird. All my friends talk about their crushes and boyfriends and I didn't even have my first kiss. Now I like a boy so much, but I don't know how to talk to him. Help me please! Maria

Dear Mary,

First of all: you don't have to hurry when it comes to this. If you have never had a boyfriend before, it's not a problem. Everything has a beginning, it's not too late. And actually, it's better a little later than too early. One important thing is: make sure he's a good guy... If he's gonna be your first boyfriend, you don't want this relationship to end badly. Think about it.

We are waiting for your letters at teenglish@mail.com and you'll get the answers in the next issue of Teenglish.

Ana



D.I.Y – How to Make Your Very Own Heart Sweater

Denisa Jurje, XF

Now that Valentine's Day is coming I've prepared for you something cute and easy to make. This D.I.Y.(Do It Yourself) is all about hearts.

You will need: a sweater; a piece of fabric (lace); some beads (small and big ones); pins; paper; a black marker; a pair of scissors; a needle and, of course, thread (the same colour as the fabric and beads).

There are three easy steps in order to make this Valentine's sweater:

1. Fold your paper in half and draw the outline of half of a heart. Cut along the outline using the scissors. It should look like this:





2. Fold the fabric in half. Place the shape of your 'heart' on the piece of fabric. Secure with some pins so you can cut the heart shape perfectly.





3. Start by putting the beads on your thread, but remember the order: big bead, small bead, big bead... Do this until you can make the shape of the heart. Then sew the lace heart on your sweater. After you have finished sewing the lace, sew the beads by making the outline of the lace heart. For a more glamorous look you can sew some beads around the sweater 's neckline as well.



Enjoy your Valentine's sweater and, untill next time, Stay chic!!!



THE GAMES CORNER

Hearthstone: Heroes of War craft

By Dragoş Chiş, X A

Hearthstone: Heroes of War craft is an upcoming free-to-play digital collectible card game (CCG) from Blizzard Entertainment.

Hearthstone is a collectible card game that revolves around turn-based online 1vs1 matches between two opponents, operated through Blizzard's Battle.net. Players can choose from a number of game modes, with each offering a slightly different experience. Players start the game with a substantial collection of 'basic' cards, but can gain rarer and more powerful cards through purchasing packs of additional cards, or as reward for competing in the Arena. Card packs and entry to the Arena can be purchased using real money, or 'gold', an in-game currency earned through completing special 'quests'.

Hearthstone is set within the *War craft* universe, with the majority of its characters and cards drawing from existing lore.

Hearthstone was first announced at Penny Arcade Expo in March 2013 for Windows, Mac, and iPad, with a release date of the same year. In August 2013, the game went into closed beta, to which over 1 million players had been invited as of November 8, 2013 with plans to enter open beta in December. Blizzard later announced that it would continue closed beta into 2014 despite their original estimation. Blizzard announced open beta for North America on January 21, 2014. Open beta was announced for Europe on January 22, 2014 and on January 23, 2014 it was made available in all regions.

Plans to release on Android and iPhone were announced in November 2013, with a release date sometime in the second half of 2014.

The Elder Scrolls Online

By Dragoş Chiş, X A

The Elder Scrolls Online is an upcoming massively multiplayer online role-playing video game developed by ZeniMax Online Studios, to be released in 2014.

It is a part of *The Elder Scrolls* video game franchise, of which it is the first openended multiplayer instalment.

As with other games in *The Elder Scrolls* franchise, the game will be set in the continent of Tamriel and feature a storyline indirectly connected with the other games. The game will be set a millennium before the events of *The Elder Scrolls V: Skyrim* and around 800 years before *The Elder Scrolls III: Morrowind* and *The Elder Scrolls IV: Oblivion*, with the Daedric Prince Molag Bal appearing as the main antagonist as he attempts to pull all of Tamriel to his realm of Coldharbour.

As with Oblivion and Morrowind, there will be classes. In this particular game there will be four, these include: Dragon Knight, Templar, Sorcerer and Nightblade.

As in previous *Elder Scrolls* titles, the gameplay will be mostly nonlinear with a mixture of quests, random events, and encouragement for players to simply explore the world. The game has no offline mode, although the developers have stated that there will be "plenty of content" designed to accommodate players who prefer to play solo.

On August 21, 2013, it was announced that *The Elder Scrolls Online* will have a monthly subscription fee upon release for all platforms. The monthly fee is set at \$14.99. It was announced on January 28, 2014, that the game will not require a PlayStation Plus subscription to play online. *The Elder Scrolls Online*, however, on Xbox One will require an Xbox LIVE Gold subscription in addition to *The Elder Scrolls Online's* \$14.99 /mo. subscription.



The Walking Dead: Season Two

By Dragoş Chiş, X A

The Walking Dead: Season Two is an on-going episodic graphic adventure based on Robert Kirkman's *The Walking Dead* comic book series and developed by Telltale Games. It is the sequel to *The Walking Dead*, with the first episode released digitally in December 2013, and a retail collector's DVD edition planned at the conclusion of the season.

The game employs the same narrative structure as the first season, where player choice in one episode will have a permanent impact on future story elements. The player choices recorded in save files from the first season and the additional episode *400 Days* carry over into the second season. Clementine, who was the player's companion during the first season, is the player-character in *Season Two*.

The Walking Dead: Season Two follows on the first game, and coincides with events of the comic, in which a zombie apocalypse has occurred, turning humans that are bitten or die into zombies, or "walkers"; the only way to stop this conversion is to damage the brain. As with the comic, the game takes place in the state of Georgia.

In the first season, Clementine is left at home with a babysitter as her parents go on vacation when these events start. Lee Everett, an ex-professor and convicted murderer, finds Clementine alone after the babysitter has turned, and helps to rescue her. The two join a group of survivors with plans to head to Savannah, where Clementine's parents had gone to as well as hopes to find a boat to flee the mainland. As they travel, Lee helps to teach Clementine about survival in this new world, and the two bond closely. Their movements are tracked by an unknown man who wanted to get revenge on the group after they ransacked his car and caused the loss of his wife to walkers. Once in Savannah, the man kidnaps Clementine, and in his haste to find her, Lee is bitten by a walker, but with help from the remnants of his group including Omid and Christa, he is able to reach the man before he turns. He rescues Clementine from the stranger, but by the time they escape, Lee has nearly lost his human side. Lee gives Clementine final bits of advice and tells her to find Omid and Christa, and then may urge her to shoot him to prevent him from turning fully. This is a choice left to the player, but regardless of the option, Clementine escapes the city and begins to search for her friends.

Following the events of the first season, Clementine was able to regroup with Omid and Christa, and Christa is now in the late months of the pregnancy that was revealed in Season One. However, while stopping at an abandoned service station to clean up, Omid is killed by a scavenger using Clementine's gun that she set down for a moment, before the scavenger is herself killed by Christa. Sixteen months later, Christa has apparently lost her child and her relationship with Clementine has become strained. When they are set on by scavengers, Clementine is separated from Christa and falls into a nearby river.Separated from the only living soul she knew,Clementine is forced to survive on her own.

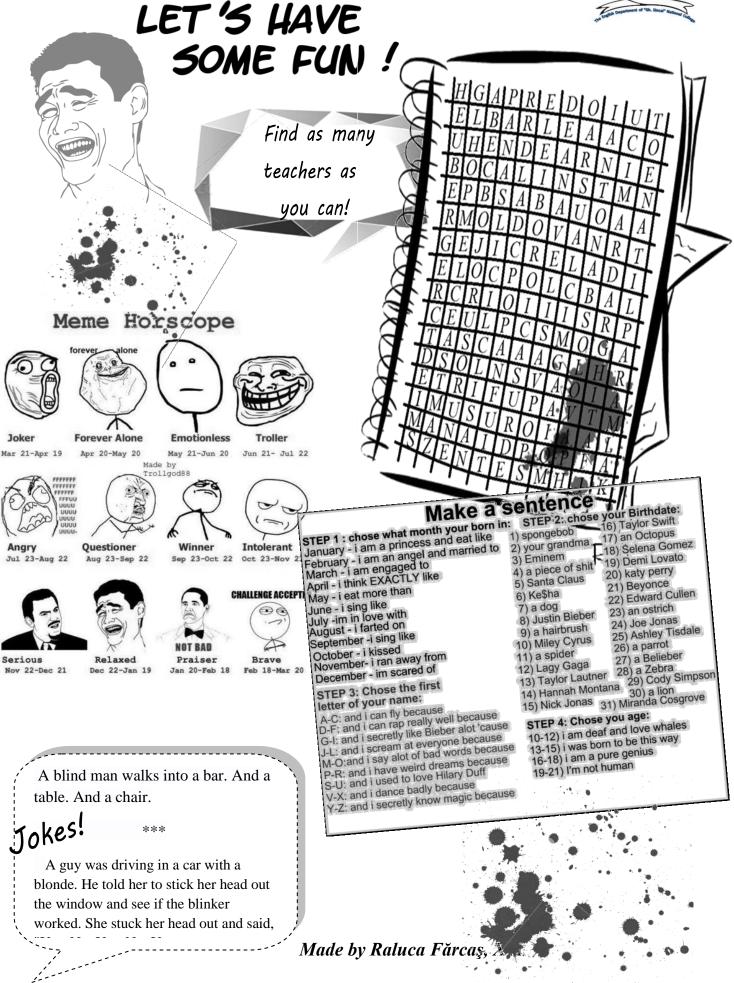


Games of 2014

Set in Chicago, where a central network of computers connects everyone and everything, Watch_Dogs explores the impact of technology within our society. Using the city as your weapon, you will embark on a personal mission to inflict The Sims 4 offers a rich canvas of possibilities. Create your own Sims, build the home of your dreams, help your Sims start a new career, find love and start their family. Fulfill your Sims' needs, explore their aspirations, and experience how they respond to life's moments !

The story features an older <u>Sora</u> as the main protagonist who sets forth on a new adventure with<u>Mickey Mouse</u>, <u>Donald</u> <u>Duck</u>, <u>Goofy</u>, <u>Riku</u>, <u>Kairi</u>, and your other favorite Disney characters in search of the seven guardians of light and the "Key to Return Hearts," to stop <u>Master Xehanort</u>'s devious plan. <u>Kingdom Hearts III</u> will harness next generation console technologies to weave together an incredibly stunning universe full of both new and familiar Disney worlds. Earn your place alongside Stan, Kyle, Kenny and Cartman and aid them in a hysterical adventure to save South Park as only fourth-graders can. From the creators of South Park, Trey Parker and Matt Stone, comes an epic quest to become ... cool.







Jokes

1.Teacher: Donald, what is the chemical formula for water?	4. Teacher: Today is the first day of the school, any questions?
Student: H I J K L M N O.	Students: Yes, when will the Holidays start?
Teacher: What are you talking about?	
Student: Yesterday you said it's H to O	5. Why did Johnny take a ruler to bed?
	Because he wanted to see how long he slept!
2.Teacher: Andy, your composition on "My Dog" is exactly the same as your brother's. Did you copy his?Student: No, teacher, it's the same dog!	6. Teacher: Didn't I tell you to stand at the end of the line?Student: I tried but there was someone already there!
3.The teacher says:"I wish you'd pay a little attention Mary.""I am paying as little as I can Mrs. Bell," said Mary.	7. Teacher: If I had 6 oranges in one hand and 7 apples in the other, what would I have? Student: Big hands!



THE GRADUATES' CORNER

A Message from Mădălina Indre

Dear mates,

I am Madalina, I used to be student at "Gheorghe Sincai" and now I study General Medicine at The University Of Medicine and Pharmacy "Iuliu Hatieganu", Cluj Napoca.

First of all I have to confess that writing for you is a great honor. Not all of us, Sincai students, have this opportunity, so I want to send all my best regards to those who have decided that I could give you some pieces of advice about how I achieved my goal and, all in all, tell you a few things about my experience in Sincai. I hope this will help you achieve your targets too.

When I was admitted in the 9th grade I had a different view about life and its meanings, a different dream and a different mind. I must confess that I was a superficial person, but fortunately my experience in Sincai was exactly the thing I needed and by saying this I am talking about how my personality evolved and how I reached to change and appreciate everything around me. Achieving in life it's like a final chapter in a book. You have to go through the whole book, you read the climax and then you realize that it was worth it, even though there have been some boring pages.

I dreamed about becoming a Doctor since the 11th grade. That time I decided that I must study hard at Biology and Chemistry and I somehow tried to avoid studying at other subjects, but in Sincai that was impossible. I studied Mathematics, Informatics, English, French, Arts, Music, and I never thought that all of them would help me in my future career. That was completely wrong! I came to "Iuliu Haiteganu" and I realized that without my high school experience I would have given up from the beginning, and it happened to all of us, ex-Sincai students and future Doctors. Now we must read hundreds of pages a day so studying for two tests was just a good exercise (I still remember how we tried to postpone everything).

Education is very important but other things should be taken into account too: the way you act, the way you start a conversation and communicate your ideas and this may be learned in Sincai, you just have to throw a quick glance in the proper direction and the information comes instantly. Please take advantage of everything you have there and try to become beautiful people both inside and outside.

This is the way I see NOW my high school experience and I am grateful to all of those teachers and classmates who helped me become better.

To sum up, you have to see high school as a great experience where you can make true friendships and learn a lot of useful things which actually are the solid ground for your illustrious future.

I am looking forward to seeing you in Cluj at The University of Medicine!

All my love,

Mădălina.



Being a teenager means living life to the fullest, letting your hair down and feeling free to beam in the sun as if you had no worries... It's like setting off on a journey full of joy and happiness. (Oana Heredea, 11E)

"Being a teenager is about experimenting everything around you, learning who your friends are, discovering yourself and gaining self-confidence." (Alex, 12A)

"Adolescence is discovering the essence of adulthood." (Raul, 12A)

"Being a teenager is the only period in life when every feeling is felt at its extreme power." (Ilinca, 12A)

Adolescence means handling changes in such a way that you don't miss the entrance into the adults' world. (Ana Hofer, 11E)

"Too young to care, too old not to think about the consequences." (Sina, 12A)

In my opinion, adolescence is the best part of a human's life after childhood. In this period, every child takes a step towards maturity and adulthood. Adolescence is also a very difficult part of our lives, because we have to decide what path we are going to choose and most the time we get confused as it is difficult to decide which way is the best. (Oana Florina Rus - XI E)

"Teenagers are the persons who think less about the past and the future and live the moment." (Aura, 12A)

Adolescence is that period in every single person's life when we become more responsible, careful, mature. It is the border between childhood and adulthood. Teenagers try to find their own personality and start to learn to survive in this world. They want to be understood and respected, like adults, but they don't want to have responsibilities, just like children. (Dana Ardelean -XIE)

"Teenagers are sparkles that need a little help to become flames." (Bianca, 12A)

Adolescence is the age full of gossip, it is the period in our life when everything changes, when we grow up and learn how to solve our problems alone. Teenagers spend most of their time with friends, but, unfortunately, problems appear between them and their parents, because teenagers are used to do what they want, not what their parents tell them to do. (Emil Kasa – XI E)

"Being a teenager means not to know what you want but getting really mad if you do not get it." (Eva, 12A)

For me, a teenager is a child learning to deal with responsibilities. (Ioana Gherghel, 11E)

"Being a teenager... you have to work for what you want and make people hear your voice." (Ruxi, 12A)

A teenager constantly struggles to find the perfect combination between studying and having fun. (Stefania Lucaci, 11E)

A teenager is in a continuous search of identity. (Cristina Crisan, 11E)

"To be a teenager means to be free, to think that you are on top of the world and no one can hurt you." (Diana, 12A)

For me, being a teenager feels like having all the time in the world ahead of you, and still feeling constantly pressed by time. (Marius Palfi, 11E)

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