

The Voice of AUK

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Opal
October

A WOMAN whose mobile phone rang in a health food shop was told to turn it off because it would harm the homeopathic remedies.

Ellen Doyle, 33, from Crockenhill, had gone into Health Matters in Queensway, Petts Wood, to buy some homeopathic pills to relieve her stress.

Her pregnant sister-in-law is about to give birth and because she was expecting a call from her at any time, she took her phone with her.

She said: "I don't usually have it with me all the time but I'm one of her birthing partners so I need to be easily contactable."

"I was looking at the different types of stress pills when my phone rang. My hands were full at the time so they hung up before I could answer it."

"I carried on looking at the pills and it rang again. This time the woman in the shop started saying 'What's that

by **GINNY SANDRINGH**

first time mobile phone have been accused of affecting herbal medicine.

Owner of Health Matters Marion Allan said: "There's an element of truth in it."

"Homeopathic remedies are made up using vibrations so anything that interferes with the way originally put together affect it."

"You wouldn't put the phone next to a microwave computer and you wouldn't take it on holiday with you."

"I haven't told my staff to allow anyone to use mobile phones but they're obviously acting on the extreme side of caution."

"They certainly didn't tend to cause the customer distress."

Miss Doyle was so surprised by the reaction of shop keepers, she put down the things she was holding and walked out.

She said: "I was shocked. I had gone in there to buy pills

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The Voice Members

Editor-in-Chief

Zeinab Wasfy

Hello. I'm a 20 year-old who like's the color green. My vision for the future is to be surrounded by tree's, greenery, a blank un-lined book that comes with an attachable pencil and a puppy that will grow old with me. Maybe also a turtle, because they're usually green.

General Reporter

Farah Hamoudah

I'm Farah Hamoudah, an -18year-old computer engineering major. I have a passion for all things mind-boggling and writing happens to be one of those things. My friends say I'm too loud, but I think that makes me more enthusiastic than everyone else. I can't write too loud, so that's why I do it. Technology, science fiction, comedy and people (social psychology) are the four fields that I think I'll always be curious about, and AUK helps me curate that curiosity. My ultimate goal is to travel through time to erase all bad vampire novels from existence, which is laughable but necessary (like myself).

General Reporter

Sara F. Ayesh

السلام عليكم. I'm a 19 year old senior majoring in Management. I enjoy being a fact debunker, and taking photographs; ironic occurrences are my favorite subject, selfies are not allowed. I hope to be a writer in the near future إن شاء الله.

Section Manager

Shahad AlMousa

Entertainment Section Manager and social media correspondent. Managing and Editing the articles that fall under 'entertainment', also in charge of social media platforms related to The Voice Of AUK.

Section Manager

Shahad Al-Failakawi

My name is Shahad Al-Failakawi and I am a 20 year old. I love to spend my time writing random things, cooking, and binge watching TV shows.

Section Manager

Ahmad Hasan

Hello! My name is Ahmad Hasan; I am a 22 year old business student at AUK with a diploma in marketing and in a little under two years a degree in Finance and Management from AUK. The English language has always captivated me, to the point where my Arabic skills have fallen laughably behind in comparison. As such, I look forward to working in the Voice in a way that not only lets me share my love of the English language with others, but also combines that passion with a more practical, business-like application, which is relevant to what I am currently studying at AUK. I have also recently gotten into playing music as well as physical fitness, two aspects of my life I also enjoy sharing with others, and look forward to writing articles about.

Graphic Designer

Alaa' Dashti

I'm Ala'a Dashti, a 26 year-old graduate from Box Hill College, Kuwait with a diploma Graphic Design. I enrolled in AUK to continue and get my bachelors degree in Graphic Design. One of my initial projects for The Voice of AUK was the logo, which was successfully changed. I designed it to portray that all AUK'ers have the right to express their opinions freely.

General Advisor

Omar Mehdi

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Treasured Summer Experiences at Dartmouth College

By: Theodore Kruse

The Dartmouth-AUK Internship Exchange was developed as part of the Dartmouth-AUK Memorandum of Understanding and has been bringing Dartmouth students to AUK since 2005 and sending AUK students to Dartmouth College in Hanover, New Hampshire since 2006. The exchange provides the opportunity for Dartmouth students to spend a term at the American University of Kuwait and for AUK students to participate in select Dartmouth programs including interning for one month in the summer at Dartmouth College. While this experience is designed to assist with personal growth, it is also meant to build personal bridges between the AUK and Dartmouth communities and to encourage greater cultural understanding between the Middle East and the United States.

This past summer four AUK students participated in programs at Dartmouth program: Budour AlAnsari, Vincent Puyat, Hadeel El-Liethy, and Omar Khalil. In addition to their on campus activities/internships they had the opportunity to canoe down the Connecticut River, go hiking, and explore the picturesque New England scenery are but a few of the many exciting opportunities that made up their experiences at Dartmouth this summer. Although one month is a very short period of time, this summer's AUK students took advantage of every opportunity and made sure their experiences would be memorable. Below are accounts of the summer exchange experience from these AUK students. The selection process for Summer 2017 will begin, most likely, in early November. For more program details please go to the AUK website at http://www.auk.edu.kw/academics/ip_dartmouth_auk_main.jsp.

America here I come! Sunshine and Treasured Moments at Dartmouth

By: Budour AlAnsari

America here I come! I was standing in the U.S. just like my dad was 31 years ago, very proud. It was my first time in the States. And suddenly here I was, a bit confused, and sadly feeling far, far away from my family. I noticed the American public, the American license plates, their tall buildings, Dunkin Donuts, and the other American signatures. As the Dartmouth Coach picked me up, I was really excited to look out of the windows and see what the real America was like, not the TV version of it.

After I got settled, Beth Hindmarsh (program manager for the Dartmouth-American University of Kuwait Program), three other students from AUK, and I went for an adventurous hike beside the Connecticut River. Two loose dogs came running up and gave me quite a scare, but in the end I said to myself, I'll take all the surprises that come, bring it on!

In Dartmouth you either Walk or Take the Bus....No Taxi's Around.

I was the only intern this summer that had the opportunity to try out Dartmouth's free Advance Transit bus system. Using the bus for the first time got me a bit worried about getting on the right bus and arriving back to the same pick up point, but after taking the bus twice, and easily getting directions thanks to the friendly bus drivers, I was very satisfied with the bus system.

Work at the Office of Communications

At the Office of Communications, I met a lot of people and i received a lot of firm handshakes. Everyone seemed nice and friendly. Every morning as I arrived at work I would talk to members of the staff and tell them about the updates of my stay. They were always excited and ready to listen to my series of adventures. Being an intern and an ambassador of Kuwait at the same time put me under

pressure and ,at the same time, enabled me to reflect the uniqueness of my work and style into the tasks I was assigned. I was given some challenging writing tasks that allowed me to build my writing skills for the future. And most importantly, when tasks were assigned, I felt a great amount of responsibility, which spurred me to always complete the tasks efficiently and on time. I was told that I was the "sunshine" of this place, lighting things up with my smile and enthusiasm, and making everyone happy.

Dartmouth Students

Not only is the environment friendly in Hanover, but the people are, too. Once, while I was eating my lunch alone in the diner, two Dartmouth students asked if they could join me at the table, this made me realise how friendly the students are.

Speaking of the diner, it was the place where the other AUK interns and I gathered together to have a bite to eat and update each other about our adventures at Dartmouth so far. When I audited my "What Is History?" class, there was a more challenging environment than the one I'm used to at AUK. Some of the students who contributed were very energetic, ready to share their ideas with everyone. I hope that this taught me a lesson to always speak up in class and to never be afraid to participate in future classes.

The Fourth of July and the Great Outdoors of New Hampshire

I had a blast on the three-day weekend. Each of the days was spent outdoors with adventurous activities. First I went hiking down the Gile Mountain Tower Trail near Norwich, Vt. I climbed all the way up Gile Tower. The view up top offered, as Beth had described, "a 360-degree view of the green hills of Vermont and New Hampshire." On the third of July, Beth and I went canoeing on the Connecticut. I took the front seat and she took the back, and off we went for a nice trip along the beautiful scenery.

But the fun didn't stop there. On the Fourth of July, America's biggest celebration—Independence Day—I went to the Hanover parade with my colleagues and met a friend of Beth's named Susie. Susie took us for a tour, including the activities held on the Green. After the parade, I had the chance to talk to a firefighter and salute him, which made a great photo and memory. I hopped into the truck and took a couple of great shots. The day was just full of events—I couldn't even catch my breath from one to the other. But the best part was yet to come. I went paddle boarding and kayaking in Storrs Pond in Hanover. And even though the number of falls reached 10 plus, it was worth it and I had a great time.

To end the day nicely, Beth offered to take us to watch the fireworks beside the Connecticut. We managed to capture the setting of the sun until it got dark and the fireworks went "Boom! Boom! Boom!" bursting in all sorts of colors and setting a wonderful view in the sky.

Article courtesy of Dartmouth News

<https://news.dartmouth.edu/news/2016/07/intern-kuwait-finds-moments-treasure-dartmouth>





A Month in New England and at TuckGo

By: Hadeel El-Liethy

This summer I was given the opportunity to intern at Dartmouth College, along with Vincent Puyat, AUK student, at an office that had a new arrangement with AUK, the TUCKGO-office. I was aiming to educate myself through this experience and add value to my own college (College of Business and Economics) at AUK. TUCK is the business school at Dartmouth College that was founded in January 1900. As far as TUCKGO, they stand for TUCK Global, their aim is to give MBA students that apply at TUCK an opportunity to travel abroad within their 2 years at TUCK to diverse themselves into other cultures. This trip was challenging to me in all aspects of my life. Traveling alone for the first time, living in a different area other than what I am used to, adjusting to long days of Ramadan and fasting. Adding to that the new activities that I tried which included hiking, kayaking, canoeing and paddle boarding (which was pretty tricky). Amongst these many new exciting experiences I also faced some challenges.

I think at the beginning I was so excited to the point where I didn't believe I reached Boston Logan Airport, but that didn't last long. I had a small delay at the airport that made me miss three buses to Hanover, and I was so terrified that I might miss the last one and end up staying in Boston overnight. Thankfully everything was sorted before the last bus took off to Hanover, however

I didn't get the chance to enjoy the views of greenery all the way from Boston to Hanover since it was dark. Arriving earlier than our program date to campus was helpful, since it gave me time to explore the town of Hanover and Dartmouth's campus. Both are quiet, beautiful and refreshing environments. We were taken by Mrs. Elizabeth Hindmarsh (program manager for the Dartmouth-American University of Kuwait Program) around campus and were left to explore on our own. She also took us to explore the state of Vermont and witness workers at the Simon Pearce work their magic and make handmade glass.

We came across a viewpoint between Vermont and New Hampshire, which was my colleague described as something you'd see on a Windows XP wallpaper. The view was beautiful to the extent that you wouldn't believe you're actually standing in front of it. And there was that day when we went on a hike and came across a split in the trails. One looked so safe to hike through and the other had a sign "Unmaintained Trail, Use at your own risk." It was pretty shocking to see that sign, never thought that a sign like that would be hung there, and surprisingly, we actually went at our own risk having one thing in mind: "what is life without a small risk".

As for TUCK, my colleague and I were escorted by one of our coworkers around the TUCK offices. We met all the other co-workers, and we were guided around their programs and teams. There were three teams at the office, the Onsite Consulting team, the Global Expedition

and the First Year Project. Working and researching for all three teams was beneficial not only to the team but to myself too. I learned to deal with ambiguity in instructions that were given to me at work. I was able to research and use their library database (which was HUGE by the way) and accommodate my own needs. The whole experience was fascinating and almost unexplainable.

Dartmouth SISMAT Program – An Adventure of Cybersecurity

By: Omar Khalil

From the protection of our tiny mobile devices, to the coordination of numerous vital physical utilities such as gas networks and nuclear power plants, to the cryptologic achievement of the deconstruction of the Enigma machines that had led to the famous victory against the Germans during World War 2, cybersecurity is a significant, all-encompassing field that boasts one of the largest amalgamation of creativity, intellect and ethics that I have ever seen. This impressive repertoire behind the field and the opportunity to visit a new country so far away from Kuwait were why I signed up for Dartmouth's two week intensive SISMAT program the moment it was announced.

SISMAT is a boot camp program designed to teach more than just the nuts and bolts of computer architecture and hacking, but also many other important topics such as the ethics of hacking, techniques on how to develop the



proper “hacker’s mindset,” and the broken-down concept of privacy and security into a framework that can be used to assess where we actually are in an imagined security scale. Before I began this program, I learned that there is a common adage in cybersecurity that I immediately found hard to believe: “Hacking is only 20% technical skill and 80% creativity.” My experience in Dartmouth’s SISMAT program, however, served to finally affirm this notion deeply into my brain.

I was surprised when we learned that our first class was particularly designed to teach us no technical skill whatsoever, but rather to warm up our critical thinking skills through various creativity exercises. In one example, we were given a picture of an unknown street in a city and had to Sherlock Holmes our way into pinpointing exactly where this picture was taken. We figured out the answer by examining foliage, vague street signs and a slightly blurry car plate. Elementary! In another example, we were tasked to invent as many creative cheating techniques to be used in exams as possible, and later on watched a presentation of a famous social experiment where students were tasked to cheat in an upcoming exam without being spotted, all in the name of academic integrity, of course. The simplicity and creativity of some of the techniques we saw were astounding. Finally, we wrestled with many ethical questions regarding hacking and the concept of privacy. After hours of heated philosophical debate, we ultimately came to the conclusion that there was no concrete answer to any of these questions and that everything is a gray area.

Most of our other classes designed to teach us hacking techniques followed an interesting format. We were first introduced to the generic architecture of some system that we wished to compromise, as if we would in a typical lesson in a computer architecture class. This usually took more than a couple of days, where the majority of it I’d spent (truth be told) wondering if any of this teaching would lead us anywhere. But once it’s all noted down and we’re shown how that system can be broken through, everything we’ve been taught would suddenly come together and the sheer obviousness of that system’s flaw would hit me like a rocket. Once the theory was found, then comes the technicality of actually hacking into that system, and that, to my surprise, never took more than a short session to learn and accomplish.

After two weeks of intense classes following that same format, we had a fun little “final exam.” It was a Packet Wars exercise where we broke up into fictional teams of high-caliber national security forces, and had to stop a group of highly intelligent robots from taking over the world, also fictional. We were tasked to break into a network and locate the security threats, discover a backdoor, and compromise those attacks. We all failed miserably, but I feel that the exercise of pushing everything we learned against a problem that had a great deal of traction developed our skills ten-fold. Today, although the most I can do is crash a basic C program that takes a standard input and sniff into a primitive network built in the 1980’s, I feel that my cognitive ability and problem solving skills are now in a state that is much more developed than it used to be before undertaking the SISMAT program, which I believe was the aim all along.

Summer Studies at George Washington University in the US Nation’s Capital

By: Sumaya Al-Hunayan

AUK’s inaugural Study Abroad Summer Programs Scholarship provided me with the opportunity to study at the George Washington University (GW) over the summer (July 5th to August 12th). This opportunity turned out to be the most challenging and fun-filled experience of my life. GW’s Foggy Bottom campus is situated right in the center of Washington D.C., surrounded by famous sites within blocks of the campus, such as the renowned White House, Washington Monument, National Mall, and the Smithsonian Museum (my personal favorite), among several others.

I had the privilege of taking two classes at GW this summer. The first course, Anthropology of Africa, involved learning about early and recent Anthropological work and scholarship on African cultures. The second was Biological Anthropology, consisting of the anatomical study of primates and their evolutionary genealogy.

The latter course in particular included regular hands-on laboratory sessions, where we identified and learned the function of skull and bone structures of various primate species. Both courses were enriching and thought-provoking.



My professors did not take the university’s central location for granted. For example, one of the most enjoyable parts of the semester was being assigned to take a trip to the National Zoo to observe and document the behavior of living primates (gorillas, orangutans, chimps and monkeys), which proved to be quite challenging in sticky July weather. The summer program coordinators at GW kept us engaged with many activities including frequent tours of the D.C. monuments and memorials like the Theodore Roosevelt Memorial, World War II Memorial and Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial. Each site was both thrilling and educational, acting as its own standing segment of history.

The cosmopolitan nature of the D.C. area allows for a diverse collection of people (and, of course, food), which was highly enjoyable on both fronts. I eagerly took on a dual identity at GW as both student and tourist. I did not want to allow a day to pass by without experiencing what the city has to offer, but still allocating the appropriate time to complete my assignments due the following day. Operating on my own in a new city also proved to be quite challenging at first (to say the least) due to my complete lack of an internal compass. Needless to say, I got lost very often, even on the way to my own classes, but I quickly learned that it is okay to get lost, as long as you get to experience and appreciate every minute of your time and learn.

The experience I had at GW is unlike anything I have ever experienced. The people I met, the information I learned and the overall experience was truly unforgettable.



Bad Advice My Father Gave Me

By: Sara F. Ayesh

When I was 14 my big sister gave me some interesting advice. I didn't think there was anything odd about it at the time; rather it was relieving in my time of need.

Ms. A was a wonderful teacher, she taught me Geography in 9th grade, and I firmly believe that I learned a lot of things from her, none of which pertained to Geography. I still don't know the difference between a Cumulus and Nimbostratus cloud.

The one thing I didn't like about Ms. A were her tests. It was at a time where I lost faith in the difference between tests and quizzes and started seeing them as the same in terms of difficulty. Ms. A had a tendency to write very difficult tests, where even if you had the entire textbook next to you, you would still find difficulty answering the questions. She tested our understanding and critical thinking rather than our memorization abilities. Now as an adult I fully understand the importance of that, I see it applied to university in classes where memorization gets you nowhere (*BUS 321*) and how that applies to real life scenarios, but as a naïve child of 14 years, it was just annoying and oh-so-not-fair.

During one of those brutal examinations, my class and I were unable to finish our tests before the period was over. Being the kind soul she was, Ms. A gave us the chance to finish it next period. Of course not one of us mentioned how that does not make sense. I realize now, 6 years later, that she may have taken pity on our grades and most importantly on us.

That night I was faced with one of the most difficult dilemmas in my short life; does one continue studying in such instances? Is it morally correct to open my textbook, and read it knowing the questions that were presented on the test, or would that be considered cheating? I was conflicted, so I went to my wiser older sister so she could share some of her wisdom with me. I realize now that she gave me what was perhaps one of the worst pieces of advice you could give a young, impressionable child, quite paring with "everybody else does it" and "what's the worst that can happen."

"It's easier to ask forgiveness than it is to get permission."

The way my sister saw it, I should study to my heart's content and then inform Ms. A that I did so because letting this night go without revision before the test go to waste was not very intelligent of me. If I had difficulty writing the exam before, how did I expect to finish it 24 hours after I had last reviewed any of the material? Whether it was sound logic or not, I grasped at it, after all, if my big sister said it was okay then it *must be*.

Fast forward to my 20's and I am firmly convinced that I will never give my children that advice. If you really think about it, anything could be justified using that sentence; I would take 5 KD from your wallet and then apologize

for it afterwards, or I'll just pass a law and then beg pardon from the National Assembly. The possibilities are horrifyingly endless.

Does asking for forgiveness obviate the need for permission? Of course not! Forgiveness is given when one shows they are remorseful of their actions, but that doesn't happen when they already plan on apologizing for something before they do it. Then it is not a humbling act of regret, but rather a necessity that can be procrastinated to when it suites you.

When one asks for permission there is a possibility of the other side saying "no". This can easily be sidestepped if one only asks for forgiveness after committing the act, this method robs the opposing side from their choice in the matter. Doing so obliterates any kind of trust you may have built amongst yourselves. Is it worth it?

Professor Farah Al Nakib says, to fully understand the effect something has, put it to extremes. Can this idea work in the real world? Should it? Can someone rob a store then beg forgiveness in court? Can someone commit rape and then cry and plead for leniency? Life shows us that one cannot, so why is it such a common practice? Is it ever permissible to withhold someone's choice in the matter? Why is that phrase such common knowledge? Maybe the question isn't just when it is okay to act on that idea, but rather what kind of world do we want to live in and whether these kind of practices have any place in it.



How To Stay Engaged In A Classroom

By: Shahad Almousa

Halfway through the semester you realize that somewhere along the way you lost interest in your classes, you stopped caring, and you don't want to put in much effort outside the classroom.

Here are some tips and tricks on how to stay engaged in the classroom so you can find ease in studying later.

Try to make it, at least 5 minutes, early to class: Not only will you hear the lecture from beginning to end, but it will also help you find a good seat.

Find the perfect spot to sit: Speaking of finding seats, the best ones are usually in the middle, at the front. The front sides are great if you are not facing any computer stands.

Attend all lectures: This one speaks for itself. You really want to keep up with the professor's pace, and if missing a lecture means falling behind, then do not miss any.

Write notes: Sometimes you unwillingly blank out during class, notes can help you later recall what you missed when daydreaming. They are also a great study tool.

Ask questions: A lot of the time when people write notes in class they think that revising them later will answer a question, but if you don't understand what the professor is



saying, you won't really understand your notes either. Ask questions while the professor is explaining so you can keep up, and then revise your notes for extra practice.

Use office hours wisely: The professors have office hours for a reason. If you are too shy to ask questions in class write them down and use office hours to ask the professor on what you missed out on. If you need help solving problems, the professors are there to help you as well. If you are busy during a professor's office hours, email them and they will most likely tell you when they are in their office for a drop by visit.

Avoid using electronic in class: Try to use your lecture time wisely. Unless it is an emergency, try to avoid using your phone or iPad for anything that is not related to your current lecture. Listen to the professor and try to stay focused.

Take a breather: If you have trouble focusing for long periods of time, or if you get uncomfortable sitting in the chair for a long time, try to take a breather; get a cup of water or go to the bathroom. It might seem weird to leave a lecture for a few minutes for a breather, but missing a few minutes is better than blanking out for half an hour.

Study the lectures as you learn them: Do not put off revising or solving problems, because if you study the lectures as you learn them you will be updated in every class and thus save a lot of time and energy when it is time for a test or exam.

Make friends: Sometimes having a friend in the same class can help encourage you to do better. They can also help with your notes, help you study, and help you revise something that you don't know or don't fully understand.



What it Takes To Be a Genius

By: Mariam Naser

'A fish is great at swimming, but if it is judged on its ability to climb a tree it will go on for the rest of its life thinking and feeling like a failure'-Albert Einstein. This is definitely one of my favorite quotes; Even though it is true and simple, it is forgotten (or dismissed) quite a lot. Einstein is known as one of the smartest, if not the smartest human on Earth. It may surprise you to know that although he is now deemed a world-renowned genius, he was a slow learner at a young age and was seen as very 'behind' at school that he even failed numerous classes. Only until he was able to realize he was smart in his own way, he was able to prove himself and make what would later become the greatest achievements of humankind. Therefore, naturally, he is a great example to take into consideration and learn from.

Einstein believed that everyone is a genius in their own way. Intellect can not be judged by a specific sector in education solely such as, scientific subjects, social sciences, the arts, etc. Everyone is good at certain things and bad in other areas. Focusing on what we might not be so good at can lead to always feeling like a 'failure' since it is simply not your area of interest. You should consider your disinterest as OK. If Einstein could get back on his feet after getting kicked out of his studies since he was seen as a 'failure', and was able to prove them all wrong, then, dare I say, so can we.

Focusing on the personal talents and dislikes will allow us to excel our own elusive genius. By focusing on what we are good at instead of focusing on what we are bad at. Also, doing what you like will mean there will always be room for improvement since doing something you love keeps you motivated and will increase your self confidence. As you accomplish more and are able to continue to thrive in your personal strong field, you will develop a particularly influential expertise in the matter.

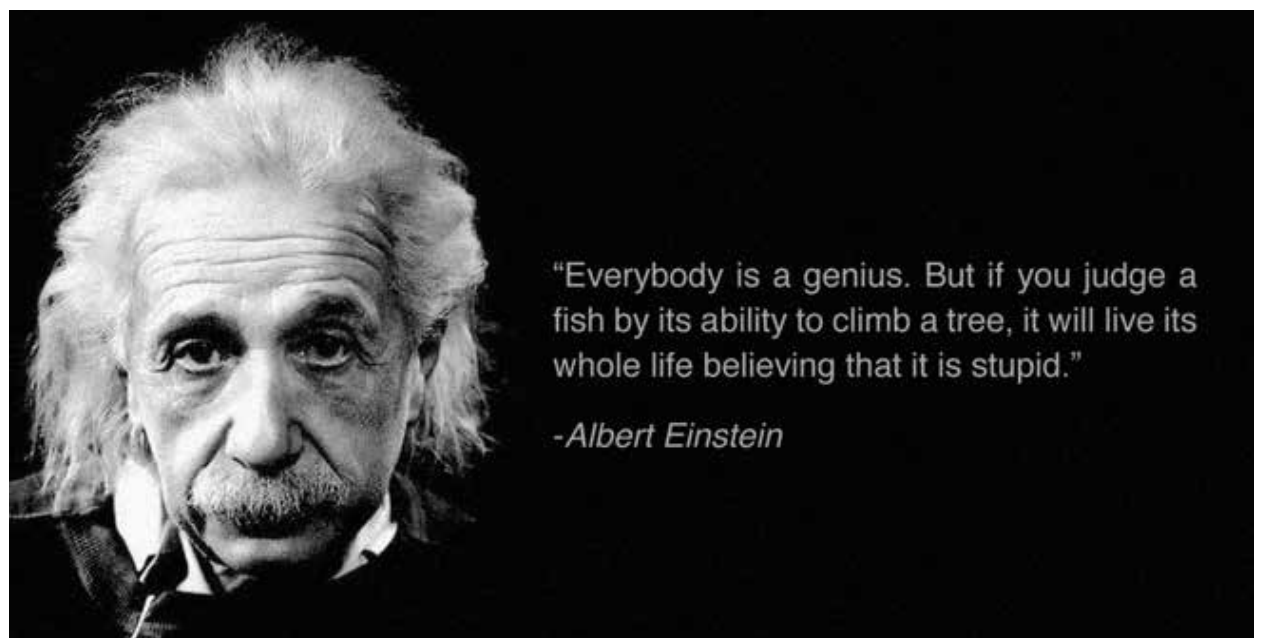
It is so easy to forget this, with a lot of pressure from friends, family, and society to fit in; So much so as it can

be hard to focus on our strongest pursuit. Figuring that out is pretty simple and easy, finding out what you enjoy doing and where your personal accomplishments have come from in the past. Other helpful tricks to discovering 'who you really are' can be sought by experimenting, trying different hobbies and things like checking out personality tests online.

Personality tests can help redirect your focus and energy where it really matters even if it isn't what you think it is. It is so easy to get lost and confused on what your talents and strong areas are with all the distraction in today's society we all have to face. Therefore, trying to find out more about yourself is definitely the right first step to take to finding your strongest points and weaknesses. Instead of focusing on what other people around you want or expect you to take and be able to do, listen to yourself. In the end it is your life and you should be able to thrive in your personal strengths and (as cliché as it may sound) do what you love. You will be able to not only improve your self, but also will contribute with a crucial factor towards the prosperity of your very own society.

Other ways to be able to learn more about yourself are by taking psychology tests, (i.e. forest tests) that are a series of questions that should be able to give you helpful, truthful answers from your self conscious, unconsciously. It is important to know and remember that we are all geniuses in our own way and that judging someone's intellect in one particular part of studies is not fair, unreliable and unrealistic.

Furthermore, realizing there is always room for improvement will help focus your energy and time in the right place. Though keep in mind that being good at something does not necessarily mean being the best at it from the beginning, being a genius takes time. Einstein kept studying on his own, in his free time in what he was interested in, including math, the sciences and other subjects until he was able to excel his knowledge and improve further to discovering the laws of physics and many more incredible discoveries the world still uses till this day. Do not give up until you find something you're interested in and are good at, because ultimately, there is something out there for you!



Flower Lady From Admissions Department

Our guest this month: Anita

By: Shahad Al-Failakawi

At first, Anita was a very shy lady working at Admissions. I have seen picture of creative papers flowers she designed herself. I was mesmerized by the amount of creativity she put in these paper flowers. I decided to give her a visit.

I walked into Admissions and started talking to her. If I could describe her in a couple of words, it would be shy and generous. After I showed her pictures of the flowers she made, she had a huge smile on her face, and I couldn't help but smile myself. We ended up walking around AUK for about an hour just talking about random things.

We ended up in the 4th floor of the Liberal Arts Building and she stopped in a printing room. She automatically took a plain A4 paper and without any glue or scissors, she made a paper flower in exactly 4 minutes and handed it to me. I was speechless at this cute gesture. I saw her folding and twisting papers.

During our walk, she mentioned that she learned to make these flowers in 5th grade, and ever since then, she does it for fun. She also mentioned that she was married and had two kids, a guy and a girl. After giving me the flower, I was astonished and thanked her probably 34 times. She smiled shyly and told me that she was able to make these flowers out of garbage bags, plastic bags, paper bags, and fabric.

At the end of the day, we were both so happy at the outcomes of this interview. She was happy to be noticed for her talent and I was happy to see her happy.



Eco-Friendly Makeup: Everything You Need To Know

By: Nazish S. Quraishi

Organic Makeup, natural makeup, vegan makeup, and cruelty-free makeup...there are tons of things to keep in mind while shopping for beauty products. Are they all same? Does eco-friendly makeup cover all of them? And -the question everyone wants to know- can eco-friendly makeup produce the same high-quality results as your standard classics?

First things first... what does "eco-friendly makeup" actually mean?

Let's start clearing up some basic terminology...Vegan makeup doesn't contain harsh chemical ingredients or ingredients derived from animals.

Cruelty-free makeup doesn't harm or kill animals in its production- that includes avoiding animal testing. Natural makeup is a general to describe products that are produced from natural sources.

Organic makeup contains only plant-based ingredients grown without chemicals or pesticides. Sometimes eco-friendly makeup covers all of the above bases but, sometimes it doesn't.

Basically, eco-friendly makeup just includes products that are toxin-free that don't release harmful chemicals into air when they are manufactured. Good for the Earth? Yep. Good for you? For sure! And, most importantly, good for creating that killer look you're going for. Well, like any other kind of makeup, this look heavily depends on finding just right products that work for you, and fear not this is definitely do-able.

Pro Tip: "vegan" and "cruelty-free" are pretty straightforward labels, but be careful while buying products that are marked with "natural" or "organic," labels since these terms are not strictly regulated, and unless a product states that it is 100% organic, it can still contain non-organic ingredients.

The "Dirty Dozen"

From the packaging to the product to the ways you wear it, makeup is downright pretty. But, what is not so pretty are the ingredients that go into it. Many popular products are made with industrial chemicals that include carcinogens, pesticides, and other gross stuff that messes with both your precious body and our fragile planet. According to the David Suzuki Foundation, there are twelve common chemicals you should try to avoid when you are shopping for makeup:

Pro Tip: Yes, the dirty dozen may be bad for you and for the earth- but that doesn't make all synthetic ingredients evil! In same way, organic products and ingredients can still cause irritation or allergic reactions. So, always make sure to do patch test before using any kind of product.

Gone are those days when eco-friendly makeup was a tiny niche market for hardcore environmentalists. Nowadays, tons of women have switched to eco-friendly products to keep their bodies and the earth at their healthiest- and that means you have got tons of high quality eco-friendly makeup products to choose from.

But where to start? So, here are five eco-friendly products to add to your kit:

Burt's Bees Lipsticks: These lipsticks pair the traditional moisturizing power of Burt's Bees lip products with bright, long-lasting color, available in 14 different shades.



Alima Luminous Shimmer Eyeliner:

Finding eco-friendly skincare and cleansing products tends to be easy, but pigmented beauty products can be a little trickier. This shimmery loose powder liner is highly pigmented and also eco-friendly.



Ilia Mascara: Mascara made from organic, sustainable ingredients in four enticing shades.



Josie Maran Argan Color Stick:

Available in five shades from a nude brown to a peachy coral, this color stick can easily become a staple. This is another product that does double duty- use it to give lips and cheeks a natural flush.



Vapour Halo illuminator: Whether you're into strobing or just looking for a little bit of glow, this illuminator stick provides an eco-friendly way to highlight your best features.

Sustainable Shopper's Guide to a Dirty Dozen Ingredients to Avoid in your Cosmetics

BHA and BHT: In moisturizer, makeup, etc. May cause cancer and interfere with hormone function. Harmful to fish and other wildlife.

Coal tar dyes: Look for P-PHENYL-ENEDIAMINE in hair dyes, and colours identified as "C.I." followed by five digits in other products. Potential to cause cancer and can be contaminated with heavy metals toxic to the brain.

CYCLOMETHICONE and siloxanes: Widely used in moisturizer, makeup, hair products, etc. May interfere with hormone function and damage the liver. Harmful to fish and other wildlife.

DEA, MEA and TEA: In creamy and foaming products such as moisturizer, shampoo. Can react to form cancer-causing nitrosamines. Harmful to fish and other wildlife.

DIBUTYL PHTHALATE: In nail products. Toxic to reproduction and may interfere with hormone function. Harmful to fish and other wildlife.

Formaldehyde-releasing preservatives: Look for DMDM HYDANTOIN, DIAZOLIDINYL UREA, IMIDAZOLIDINYL UREA, METHENAMINE, or QUARTERNIUM-15. Widely used in hair products, moisturizers, etc. Formaldehyde causes cancer.

Parabens: Widely used in makeup, moisturizers, etc. May interfere with hormone function. Associated with breast cancer.

PARFUM: Widely used even in some products marketed as "unscented" (often the last ingredient). Mixture of chemicals that can trigger allergies and asthma. Some linked to cancer and neurotoxicity. Some harmful to fish and other wildlife.

PEG: Widely used in conditioners, moisturizers, deodorants, etc. Can be contaminated with 1,4-dioxane, which may cause cancer.

PETROLATUM: In hair products, lip balm/lipstick, skin care products. Petroleum product that can be contaminated with cancer-causing impurities.

SODIUM LAURETH SULFATE (SLES) and SODIUM LAURYL SULFATE (SLS): In products that foam such as shampoo, cleansers, bubble bath. SLES can be contaminated with 1,4-dioxane, which may cause cancer. SLS may damage liver. Harmful to fish and other wildlife.

TRICLOSAN: In "anti-bacterial" products such as toothpaste, soaps, hand sanitizers. May interfere with hormone function and contribute to antibiotic-resistant bacteria. Harmful to fish and other wildlife.

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Trend Alert- Korean Beauty Products

By: Nazish S. Quraishi

Do you want to take your beauty routine to the international level without hurting your pockets? Lately, Korean beauty products have been popping up everywhere. It seems like every month a new product launches and people go all frantic trying to get their hands on it. With big retailers like Sephora jumping on the bandwagon, this trend is here to stay!

But I'm here to assure you that it's not all just hype without any substance. K-beauty products are some of the most advanced and innovative makeup and cosmetic products in the market currently.

So, what do Korean cosmetic products do differently?

Skincare: Famous for their 10 step daily skincare routine, Koreans take skincare Very seriously. Maintaining a youthful glow is their primary goals and they are owning it.

Innovation: Top Korean beauty brands are known for their innovation. The Korean market is super competitive, so they are always coming up with new products that give consumers the most bang for their buck. understand that unpronounceable ingredients don't hold much sway with the public, so they focus on creating eco-friendly products with natural ingredients.

Versatility: Why buy two products when you can get the same results with just one? Most selling products often have two or more different functions.

Now let me provide you with some holy grail products for someone who is new to Korean products:



TONYMOLY: Panda's Dream Magic Cream. This hand cream is sold in a container designed to look like a panda (so kawaii!). The rest of their product line is equally adorable, from bunny lip glosses to banana hand milks. When it comes to adorable packaging, TONYMOLY does it right.



Missha: M Perfect Cover BB Cream SPF 42 PA+++. With over 512 reviews, this BB cream is their best-selling product. They were one of the first brands to introduce a range of shades for their BB creams and have dominated the market ever since.



Dr.Jart+: Ceramidin Cream: Don't let its no-frills packaging fool you. This face cream has become a household staple for those suffering from dry skin. This product is founded by dermatologist; it is no wonder why this product consistently gets rave reviews.



lope: Air Cushion Sunblock XP. In 2014, the first-of-its-kind product was sold once every four seconds. This innovative cushion compact foundation provides the UV protection of sunscreen while covering all your imperfections.



CLIO: Waterproof Brush Liner. Lauded as one of the longest lasting eyeliners in market, CLIO'S Kill Black liner is a force to be reckoned with.



SKINFOOD: Black Sugar Mask Wash-Off. All their products contain food extracts, like broccoli or kiwi, to refresh and boost your skin. You'll be tempted to taste this sugary mask, but you may want to hold off- it doesn't taste as great as it looks.



MIZON-All in one Snail Repair Cream: Products that contain this key ingredient help fade acne scars, hydrate and brighten skin tone. Snail mucin extract is found in many products ranging from face serums to lip treatments. It is a better alternative from going to a snail spa and having snails slither over your face, so why not give this cream a try?

Fit4Life Expo

By: Nazish S. Quraishi

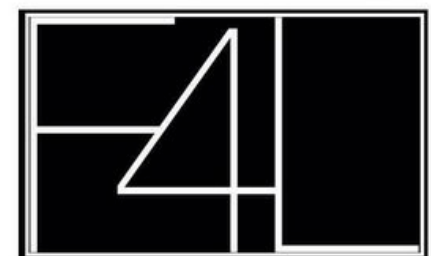
There is a new, disturbing rumor floating around the internet that Kuwait has become king of the fattest countries in the world in recent years. According to Gazette Review, Kuwait's love for fast food has led to the alarming high rates of obesity. In 2014, Kuwait was the fourth most obese country in the world.

So why does the percentage of obese people keep on increasing? Even though, I myself think of Kuwaitis to be quite health conscious. The reason I gather from what I have observed is that not many people are aware of the health and fitness facilities in Kuwait.

Luckily, Fit4Life Kuwait has taken an initiative so as to spread awareness on being health conscious in Kuwait in fun way. Fit4Life is so far, the first and only fitness-centric expo in Kuwait, which gives hope for all of us that this appeal in health will catch on to the rest of the population. There is going to be a 2-day expo which will enable you to check out fantastic gyms, dieticians, and find the hobby you were born to play. There will also be loads of fun activities for people of all shapes and sizes.

So, awaken your inner fitness freak, put on your trendiest, comfiest pair of sneaker and come on out to Fit4Life to change your lifestyle for the better!

Location: Murouj
Timings: 4-10pm
Date: 21 & 22 October





10 Fall Beauty Hacks

By: Shahad Almousa

Each season brings its own complications when it comes to beauty. As basic human needs change with weather, we need to know how and when to keep up with changes and trends. Here are the best beauty hacks, for both men and women, that can help you adapt to Fall easily:

Tape for Winged Eyeliner:

A recent fall trend with makeup has been a bold eye, bold lip combination. To perfect winged liner all you need is some scotch tape and practice. All you have to do is press the tape on your palm so it won't pull on your skin, then line it with your lower lash line until your brow. This helps you create a crisp, clean wing line when you remove the tape.

Hydrating Masks:

Fall is not only the season for bold makeup and dark clothing, it is also the season for dry skin and drained colour. During the fall everyone needs a hydrating mask at least once a week to help restore life into their skin. A lot of people don't know this, but having oily skin does not mean your skin isn't dehydrated, *all* skin types need hydration.

Exfoliate Lips for Bold Colours:

Okay so we already know that the best way to wear makeup during the fall is to avoid accentuating your skin, but bold lip colours also accentuate dry, and cracked lips. Before applying a bold lipstick try scrubbing your lips with brown sugar and coconut oil. This will help with bold lipstick colour applications.

Oils:

Essential and carrier oils, like lavender, tea tree, argan and olive oil, have so many uses and benefits; they keep

you moisturized when applied to the skin and face, they help with anxiety and stress when smelled or diffused, and they help treat bruises, etc. Because oils are heavy they usually moisturize the skin for a longer period of time. If you are too lazy or too busy to soak your body with creams and lotions then oils may be your preferred choice. Just make sure to always mix essential oils with carrier oils before applying them to your skin as they can be dangerous when applied neat.

Honey and Activated Charcoal:

This combination is great for removing imperfections and blemishes off the face. With less hydration our skin is not only more prone to blemishes, they are also more visible.

Brown Sugar and Coconut Oil:

They not only help with dry lips, but also with dry feet. There's nothing worse than cracked heels, and this mixture will help dead skin fall out.

Hair Removal:

Mix together 1 tablespoon of iodine 2% with 1 cup of baby oil and rub it onto the desired area. Let it set for only five minutes without water flow, then wipe away with a damp cloth and hair will fall right off.

Eating Healthier also Means Looking Healthier:

For dark under eye circles try vitamin K found in pears, avocados, plums, and kiwi fruit.

For Uneven Pigmentation:

Vitamin B found in fish and garlic will help to combat redness by boosting circulation in the body.

For Dull Skin:

Vitamin A from carrots will keep your skin healthy, and vibrant with their high beta carotene levels. For dry skin, vitamin E found in mangos, almonds, broccoli, and spinach helps to balance the skin's moisture levels.



Taking a Break 101

By: Zeinab Wasfy

I sit here on a rooftop of a restaurant in a small country called Dahab, located on the coast of South Sinai. As I sit I'm thinking about how I've managed to take a 4 week break from work, because I must admit it was a difficult decision to make. Have you ever encountered the same situation? Well, here's what I know about taking a break from work. The ultimate 101 on how to *just let go*.

Note: this is what works for me... maybe it works for you too?

One: Work. Work. Work. Give yourself enough reason by the end of the year to actually take a break from work. If you are exactly like me, someone who cannot admit to anyone but herself that she is an overachiever, you need to find the energy and dedication for the next random number of months for work.

Two: Set a goal. A goal that is also monetary. Why? Because this is what will help you stay dedicated and motivated. Once again, this only worked for me because working my job provided the necessary funds to take the vacation. Trust me, it's extremely rewarding if you take a vacation using your own hard earned money.

Three: Keep going. As Shia Labeouf would say "Just, DO IT!". I sent my unofficial resignation at one point. Then I took it back and decided to "just, DO IT!". There's going to come a time where you feel like throwing your laptop out the window and then going after it because... well, because it's your laptop. Find a friend who is a hardcore pessimist... tell them your situation and wait.

Four: Book everything. Let your close people know. You're good. I know, there's this thing called 'separation anxiety'. Realize that you'll definitely be back and that taking a break is necessary to take a break so it feeds back into your work routine. It's a circle. It's a horrifying circle of life that has nothing to do with life.

Five: Make the best of it and relax. Take an occasional minute to check in on work and deliver your responsibilities. Sit back and enjoy the night sky and stars. Or beach. Or enjoy whatever it is that you're doing.

Note: I'm now going back to my night sky and stars.

Deserving

By: Mariam Naser

Growing up is a scary thing. It can be intimidating and messy, but it can be fun sometimes, hopefully. The older we get the more pressure and responsibilities keep growing. It can be very confusing to "grow up" and start to be an adult, although the idea of being an adult is pretty cool. There are a lot of things to look forward to by becoming an adult, driving, no curfew, etc, as well as a lot of drawbacks that affect all of us at some point. What I realized within myself is that the older I get, the more I change. My likes and dislikes change, my palate changes, what I wear on a daily basis changes. What I'm trying to say is, change is inevitable.

We are all constantly changing in some way, especially in today's society filled with input from everywhere; social media, advertisements, parents, teachers and so much more. There is a lot of added pressure from the world to think in a specific way, act a specific way, and to contribute something to society. In all this distraction comes the added pressure of growing up and thus trying to find out who we all are as individuals.

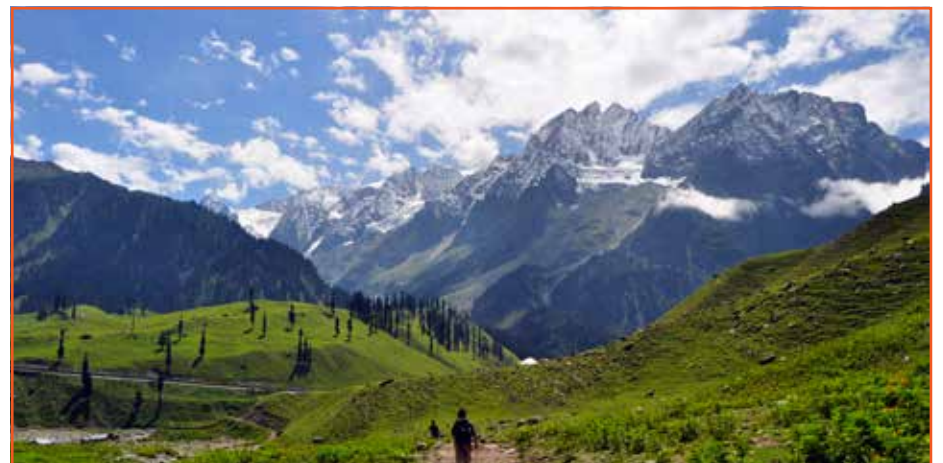
I think that's what makes growing up scary. We start to realize that things have to change to fit ourselves and then we start to tell the world *no*, take me as I am, because all the things that made me weird in school are what are going to make me stronger, unique and independent in adulthood. The transition from high school to adulthood/university is scary and that's ok. Own it and take on the change with full speed. University is an amazing adventure that should be cherished and experienced to the fullest. With that in mind, accept change and experiment- it's now or never.

Growing up is hard, not only for us, but family members and parents have difficulty accepting it as well. Only time can fix that... if it can be fixed at all, but parents get over it soon enough or learn how to hide it better. Also, old relationships with friends can get confusing. Since many friends get separated and attend different universities or move to different places. People change and friends can have different opinions and views that can cause a drift in the friendship. But that's

ok too since it is a fundamental step of maturing. That all contributes to making the experience much more scary and exciting. Limits get tested and we all get to know ourselves more. Overall growing up might suck sometimes, try your very best to get through it.

Always remember you are deserving. Deserving means that whatever you are going through, put yourself first. Be the better person for yourself. Take your medicine so you could get well soon. Exercise and eat healthy to feel good for yourself. Let go of negativity and embrace positivity. That will contribute to help you be the best *you* the world needs. We are all here for a reason, and this change is part of it to get to the best version of you. Thinking of it like that always turns my bad days around. Embrace change and all the confusing, scary attachments it brings along with it. It is only for a short period and it will pass, might as well make the best of it. You never know you might learn something from a bad time.

I had a fall out with a friend and to say it was "tough" or "bad" is an understatement, but it taught me more about myself. This friend was a bad influence and so I got rid of the added negativity in my path. Maybe in the future things might change and we may become friends again, but until then I'm really appreciating this time I had to reflect on myself and being able to make decisions that are for me. Growing up allows us to realize who we are so we can make the best choices for ourselves. On that note, 'Live and let live' is another favorite quote of mine.



Through the Valley

By: Yousef Muzairai

Down by the river where the children played,
Their bodies lifelessly lay
The river once flowed with water
Flows with blood
A place that was once pure, now defiled.
Through the dark valley
Down Mother Nature's cheeks
The tears roll;
So heavily,
The river drowns
Or so we would so arrogantly die,
mother nature's most arrogant spawn
We tend to think we are her only
We are not even her oldest,
Nor her strongest,
Just her luckiest.
We just forgot about the Earth.
No dirt of green
No water too clear
We just treat the Earth like it's not part of being human;
The vast wasteland of our greedy actions.





Editorial: Naji Al-Ali, Handala and the Downtrodden Arab

By: Farah Hamoudah

My earliest memory of life is a blurry, moving image of myself floating from one arm to the next, in the living room, whilst the whole family watched an old man uttering some nonsense about such and such and such (I couldn't understand what he was saying) on the news. I remember observing them watch TV. They all looked angry at the time. Angry at the television set! They were yelling and moaning and crying and wailing. It made me angry at the TV as well ever since that day; so much so that I vaguely recall throwing a tissue box (or was it my juice box?) at it at the time!

Of course, back then I didn't particularly understand why they were enraged by a compact black box, but now I know. And man, I wish didn't.

Something very commonplace amongst Arabs, particularly those who are displaced or living in exile, is that they become radically obsessed with keeping up with the news. It's in our blood. And, the reason they do that is because they feel a burden so heavy that nothing in this world could ever fix it. We feel that the least we can do to help our families and relatives in countries suffering unthinkable pains like war, xenophobia, genocide, and famine is to be informed of their dire circumstances, to share their pain with them, to weep with them, to await hope with them, and to survive with them through a TV screen.

But even though I happen to be an Arab, watching TV, waving my fists at it, and yelling at it only brought me more misery not relief, so I stopped. I stopped because I found something much more powerful than any broadcast, and someone more inspiring than any news anchor. At 12, I learned Arab politics through Naji Al-Ali's character, Handala. In Arabic, Handala's name translates to bitterness. His hair resembles sticks, his clothes are old, weary and dilapidated, his feet look unkempt and rough. He looked nothing like me. Mostly, I felt bad for him, that Handala. I say *mostly* because the

one thing that Handala had that I wanted was eternal life in his homeland of Palestine, my homeland as well. He was always going to be ten years old. He was always going to be in his little Palestinian village. Alas, he was also always going to be watching terrible things happen to his home, standing idly by, with both hands tied behind his back.

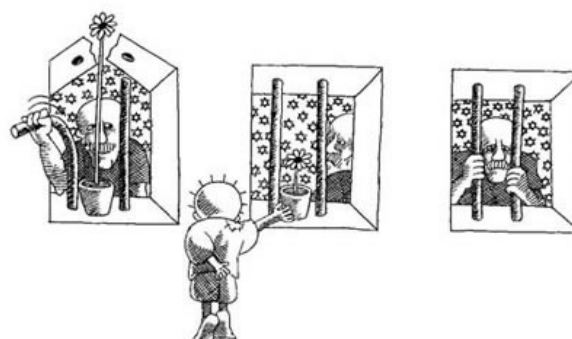
To elaborate on that, Al-Ali once wrote: "The child Handala is my signature, everyone asks me about him wherever I go. I gave birth to this child in the Gulf and I presented him to the people. His name is Handala and he has promised the people that he will remain true to himself. I drew him as a child who is not beautiful; his hair is like the hair of a hedgehog who uses his thorns as a weapon. Handala is not a fat, happy, relaxed, or pampered child. He is barefooted like the refugee camp children. He is an icon that protects me from making mistakes. Even though he is rough; he smells of amber. His hands are clasped behind his back as a sign of rejection at a time when solutions are presented to us the American way." The reason Handala is always ten years old was Ali-Ali's way to show resistance to the Israeli occupation. To them, he was exiled. To himself, he will never be away from his land. And the reason Handala always had his back turned to us was because of the mess of the Arab-Israeli war of 1973. Before that time, Al-Ali drew Handala normally, showing his face. This back turning is a sad gesture of disappointment that the world had failed Handala.

Al-Ali's cartoons not only spoke to me louder than my VCR, but I had found solace in Handala that I never even dreamt of pursuing before. He made me realize that even though I am not in Palestine right now, even though it might take time and effort to get there, and even though I can't *possibly* make sense of every single mournful loss, of every single settlement built on my land, of every single air strike that drops on the Gaza strip, and of every single political conundrum, there's still hope for me to rekindle my identity as a Palestinian. Unfortunately, 29 years ago on August 22 1987 Naji Salim Al-Ali was mortally shot in the head (the right temple) by an Israeli Mossad- PFLP double agent who assassinated him as he was walking down Ives street, Chelsea (in London) to his workplace of Al-Qabas offices (Al-Qabas is a Kuwaiti newspaper). Prior to his death, Al-Ali received threatening phone calls, calling him to stop drawing cartoons. He refused to do so. His heroic decision will live with me and the people he influenced for ever.

Like Handala, the things I've seen on TV aren't at all pretty. They're tyrannical. The people behind them, the 'tyrants', appear to be cold, hard, and perfect with their smug smiles, their sadistic excuses, and their hidden agendas. Like Handala, I refuse to be like them. I will never be cold or hard or perfect. Al-Ali's cartoons didn't make me any less angry, but they sure made me a lot kinder, and taught me the most valuable schooling of all;

always clutch on resolutely to your humanity as strong as you can, for if you lose it (and you can), you shall also lose your very soul and that's a lot worse than a tragic death because at least death preserves a person's soul in the hearts of the tens/hundreds/thousands/millions of people that they touched.

R.I.P Naji Al-Ali.



Talking About the Wolfpack Community with Fatima Al-Sahlawi

Why are you here? Why AUK?

An academic degree is what I'm here for, at this point it can be anything from a business major to an engineering one. Why auk? It all started when I graduated from high school with a GPA that I'm very proud of. I wanted to apply abroad but my parents weren't exactly satisfied with my plans knowing I'm their only daughter. Let's just say they weren't ready to let me walk away, so I stayed. Most of my friends went to GUST, and AUM. At that point of my life, I wanted to start over, make new friends, see new faces and make small talk with hall buddies. It's not that I don't like my old friends I do I really do, but living a new routine with different people sounded just right. I applied to AUK online and in a couple of days I was registered as a student.

Give another abbreviation to AUK, other than the American University of Kuwait. (be funny, creative)

After a few weeks I realized that I applied for the American University of Staring. People STARE.



What other animal would you use as the slogan? Besides the wolfpack.

If I were to pick another animal as a slogan it would definitely be an American Hawk. American Hawks have great eye-vision which explains the "staring" situation, they are bold and fierce just like our players.

Describe AUK in one word, be totally honest! You can be mean.

Our school in one word? Ancient. It's great to see some renovation going on though..

Are there any movies or songs that automatically remind you of Auk?

One song that reminds me of AUK is red lighter - some, no reason

If you were to make one change in the structure of AUK, what would it be?

If I could change one thing, I'd probably cover the hallways with glass, that way it'll still have the same spirit but cooler in the summer.



What does the AUK Diner smell like?

The Diner, well I know from friends that the food is good but it's very unfortunate to say that it always smells like burnt French fries. Not so appetizing.

What's the worst thing about AUK?

Worst thing, sorry, but the hallways stink. Smells like wet cigarettes, not my favorite.

The best?

Best thing about AUK is it's soul. Although it's not the perfect university but as a whole it's not bad. All the different events are interesting

Tell me a funny or embarrassing story you encountered with one of your professors.

Something embarrassing... I get mixed up between professors. I asked professor Mohamed, a professor who he never taught me, about my grade, when I meant to ask professor Karim. He played along and told me my grade. A week ago I realized that I mixed up and went to apologize. Now every time professor Mohamed spots me, he reminds me of his name.

What do you see yourself doing five years from now?

Five years from now, I'll hopefully be working on my interior design skills. Practicing smart homes.

Talking About the Wolfpack Community with Faye Al-Mutawaa

Why are you here? Why AUK?

I am here to pursue a degree in International Relations, I had to choose AUK because I didn't want to go to other Universities, they didn't stand out to me. Also because my siblings study at AUK.

Give another abbreviation to AUK, other than the American University of Kuwait. (be funny, creative)

Are u kidding?



What other animal would you use as the slogan? Besides the wolfpack.

A sloth. I feel like at a certain point, everyone tends to be lazy and has no energy to do anything.

Describe AUK in one word, be totally honest! You can be mean.

That's a hard question, how can you describe a whole university with all its students and professors in just one word? Ummm... let me get back to you on that. (Authors edit: she never got back to me on that)

Are there any movies or songs that automatically remind you of AUK?

Hahaha, I have to say- High School Musical.

If you were to make one change in the structure of AUK, what would it be?

The architecture of AUK, to be more specific the system structure and just the way it stands.

What does the AUK Diner smell like?

Easy- food and grease

What's the worst thing about Auk?

The worst thing about Auk is that people know way too much about everybody.

The best?

The best is that they know everything, and you don't even know how, haha.

Tell me a funny or embarrassing story you encountered with one of your professors

So far, nothing has happened to me yet. I really hope it doesn't happen.

What do you see yourself doing five years from now?

Hopefully working in the United Nations, it is a dream of mine to work with cultural interactions and helping other people.



Review: "Kubo and the Two Strings" Breathes Life Into Paper

By: Farah Hamoudah

If you must blink, do it now. These overwhelmingly inveigling words, spoken at the very beginning of this stop-motion animated movie will have you spellbound, with eyes wide open to watch this fascinating action-packed epic. Produced by *Laika*, a company known for other glorious animation masterpieces like *Coraline* and *Tim Burton's Corpse Bride*, the film was bound to gain instant popular attraction.

The film features wondrous Japanese mythology, the still-vibrant ancient art of origami, cut-throat samurai fighters. It tells the tale of Kubo (voiced by Art Parkinson), a perky young hero with an undeniable presence that lives a quiet, uneventful life near a small village, atop a rocky, desolate mountain with his half absent-minded mother. Kubo has a magical talent for telling captivating stories with origami, and puts on a show for the whole town every day- but never manages to finish it.

Like all great heroes and all great stories, Kubo has a shadowy and unclear past, that of which made him make a promise to his mother to never stay out in the village after sunset. When Kubo mistakenly breaks that promise, his quiet life changes

and he must join a stringent snow monkey named Monkey (Charlize Theron) and a fickle Beetle (Matthew McConaughey) on the same quest that Kubo's late father has been on years ago, before his death. In the words of Joseph Campbell (American mythologist, writer and lecturer), from his book *The Hero With a Thousand Faces*, "He must put aside his pride, his virtue, beauty and life and bow or submit to the absolutely intolerable."

There's a lot of the dark-side in this made-for-kids animation with the emotional trauma of a missing father, but the bubbly personality of our gallant, resilient, fledgling hero, the unconventional band of allies, and their hilarious yet charismatic exchanges strikes a delicate balance with the glum atmosphere. As the three go through hardship together (and believe me, they go through *a lot*), they showcase values such as bravery, and fortitude and reaffirm the notion to put love and kindness above all else.

(scene from movie)

Kubo: Don't you ever say anything encouraging?

Monkey: I encourage you not to die.

Kubo: [Mockingly, mimicking Monkey] I encourage you not to die.

(end scene)

Even without the flawless performance of the incredible voice actors (all of whom I'm a major fan of), the film is still ahead of its time. I've never before seen an animation packed with so many perfectly executed thrills that every scene etched itself into my memory. Watching it was a non-stop joy ride. Who knew paper was so powerful? Kubo's gorgeous play on paper and the two-stringed guitar that turns the paper alive, are his gifts which keep on giving. It helps him defend himself against adversaries who want to hinder his quest, occasionally makes Monkey irritable (which in turn, makes us laugh harder) and acts as a legacy from his loving parents.

The events were also all so wisely timed as to trigger emotion after emotion in its audience, ensuring the film's hypnotic effect. Best of all, the movie easily succeeds at targeting comprehensive demographics, from adults who enjoy legendary combat and golden storytelling, to toddlers who are inspired by the rambunctious journey of a boy that is

much alike to them. The only discernible flaw that I could pick up is that I had not found any sense of closure or peace in the ending. For some reason, there's this annoying empty feeling that I can sense which leads me to believe that the movie wasn't perfect after all.

Despite that bump in the road, as far as I'm concerned, *Laika* can now proudly rejoice and add this showpiece to its esteemed collection of beautiful films. As I predict that this unflinching legend will live on in the hearts of many for years to come.

Rating: 4.5/5





Game Review: No Man's Sky

By: Ehab Soliman

No Man's Sky is an exploration and survival game set in an infinite universe. It is based on exploring different types of plants and living creatures on several planets. You can travel back and forth between planets, and inhabit them. This helps you level up and gain better survival kits that can help you with explorations. The whole game is based on exploring the infinite universe improving your items and moving around different planets.

The main goal of the game, which was set by the developers, was to give players the absolute complete freedom to explore and have their own walk through these planets, almost like a real-virtual world. The game does not force you to follow any campaign or story line. It was all based on how the players will perform on their own and how the discoveries they make help them to understand the game. It kind of takes a situational storyline where every event builds up on the one before it.

No Man's Sky is rated for ages 7 and above. The game, however, seems to reach an audience aged 15 and above. This was because the game was somewhat hard to understand. The age 7 rating was just an indication of the content in this game.

The game has fantastic graphics. The universe in the game is huge and differs from planet to planet. The solo game play, where you decide your storyline, makes exploring more interesting because you get to learn from your mistakes. However, the game failed to deliver when it started crashing excessively. Some of the glitches happened when animals got stuck to the ground and got in your way.

If we compare this game to other survival games we can see that it's idea is unique. The fun factor is that the survival aspect was not typical like zombie survival or war survival. It was a new idea that attracted many gamers. We, the gamers, never had a futuristic survival game where people can travel from one planet to another and explore it and the different environment that each planet has.

According to graphics: I would rate it 8.5/10. According to game play: I would rate it 5/10, because after a while the game becomes so repetitive. You travel to a new planet,

discover it, get resources, then move on to a new one. A player that reaches mid or late game will get bored. Another reason I rate it 5/10 is because of the glitches and bugs.

According to surveys, online ratings, and feedback the game attracted an audience of different ages. Streamers, kids, and even old people got a chance to experience the game. This was due to the publicity and marketing of the game. The game would probably attract people who are just starting to game.

The game got so much advertisement and publicity because the developers went on almost every single gaming community and talk show available to showcase "The biggest game of all time". His statements promise a limitless and endless universe of gaming fun. The game developer Sean Murray went on the talk show "The Late Show with Stephen Colbert" and talked about the game. He even showed some game play. He was quoted on different articles on "pcgamers.com" and "gamerant.com" and soon the game was introduced. News about the game even made it on to E3 2015 that helped in gaining much of its popularity.

The game was popularized and publicized so much by the developers before it hit stores that it was questionable whether they would be able to deliver. Promises and high hopes drove people to preorder the game. This somewhat helped in the game development but maybe their goals were too difficult to achieve. His publicity backfired and turned against his favor.

During his interviews and reviews on the game, Sean Murray made so many promises that all showed how vague and inconsistent he is. He basically had no idea how the finished game will turn out. He once stated that players can customize their character, while in another interview he said players can't even see themselves and that the game is in first person.

Many people did not focus on character customization but there was one thing that he made sure of in every single interview. He made a promise that the game will be in multiplayer. He set hopes that people can come across other players on the same planets, but it was all random promises that he was not sure he could keep. He also mentioned that they can interact with one another by joining forces or being enemies. This multiplayer idea attracted people to the game and how fun it would be to have a limitless universe where people can interact with one another randomly or share resources.

After people pre-ordered and the game got released many people got disappointed about the finished product that the developer promised to deliver. On the CD copies of the game people noticed that the sticker label on it that had nothing to do with the casing. The company removed the multiplayer logo on the back of the case. Which was

shady because you can basically see that the case did show that the game was multiplayer.

So many people got confused on how Sean Murray manipulated them into buying the game. When asked later about the multiplayer feature Sean Murray, the developer, stated that there was never a promise to make it multiplayer. Basically you're stuck in a virtual world alone if you are to buy the game. People were furious beyond explanation.

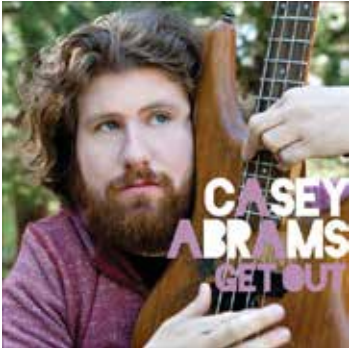
After playing the game for about 30 hours on record it gets really boring. The developer said that this is the final and finished product of the game, which means there is no room for changing anything. There are many solo survival games out there, some good and some bad. This was a neutral addition. Maybe if the developer hadn't promised so many things and was clear from the start the game would have gotten better feedback. In the end, it is personal preference of course, so if you enjoy solo play then you will love 'No Man's Sky'.

Game Developer and Company: The game developer that worked on the game and made it this public is Sean Murray. The company that helped in developing and funding the game is Hello Games Ltd. They are British video game developers and publishers based in Guildford, England. They are best known for the science fiction adventure games.

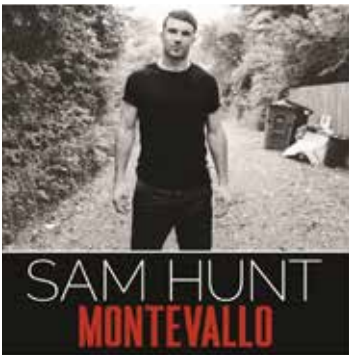


October Playlist

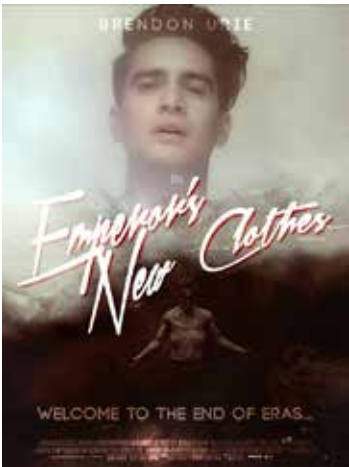
By: Shahad Almousa



Casey Abrams – Get Out



Sam Hunt – Break Up In A Small Town



Panic! At The Disco – Emperor's New Clothes



Justin Timberlake – Can't Stop The Feeling



DNCE – Cake By The Ocean



Designer – Panda



Yg Ft. Drake – Why You Always Hatin



Nick Jonas - Bacon



Jonas Blue – Perfect Strangers



Charlie Puth ft. Selena Gomez – We Don't Talk Anymore



Russ – Pull The Trigger



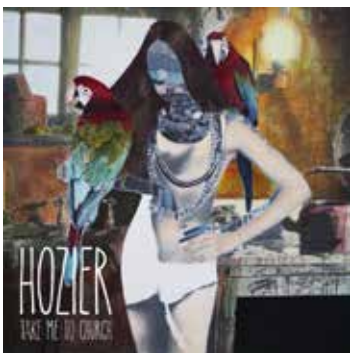
Vampire Weekend – Diane Young



Daya – Sit Still Look Pretty



Designer – Timmy Turner



Hozier – Take Me To Church



DNCE – Toothbrush



Lil Dicky – Professional Rapper



Big Gigantic Ft. Logic – All Of Me



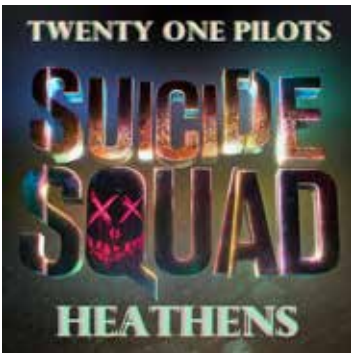
Calvin Harris Ft. Rihanna – This Is What You Came For



Sia – Cheap Thrills



The Chainsmokers – Closer



Twenty One Pilots – Heathens



Twenty One Pilots – Ride



Gnash Ft. Olivia O'brien – I Hate You, I Love You



French Burkini Ban Overturned for Now

By: Farah Hamoudah

During August, a controversial image went viral of a 34-year-old Muslim woman being forced to strip down her 'burkini' outfit on a Nice beach by French police who threatened her with pepper spray and baton beatings if she did not do so.

I am aware that police brutality is never really considered 'news' because well, it happens to be very prevalent amongst our societies and our time, but what *is* news, is the the European region's endemic and permeating intolerance to a concept as harmless as a 'halal' bathing suit that covers the body from head to the ankles, showing the face, all of which abide by France's "secular" laws following the 'burka' ban.

It seems to me that what really bothered those policemen about the woman wearing the burkini was not really the burkini itself, but rather the woman wearing it. If that's the case, then I'm terror-stricken to go anywhere near France, where my personal, lawful choices are unaccepted,

abhorred, frowned upon and shunned by millions.

However, France's grating opinions on the full body swim suit have divided the country into two contradicting outliers. On Friday, 26th of August 2016, France's highest administrative court decided on the verdict to revoke the 'burkini' ban. The court reasoned that local authorities do not have a right in restricting public freedoms unless there is vital evidence that it is threatening for public order, therefore overturning another court ruling to ban 'burkinis.'

Still, even after the top administrative court's clear and doubtless ruling, the majority of mayors and authority figures who have already set burkini bans in their town beaches, are plainly and imprudently ignoring the court's decision on the matter and are continuing to issue fines for women wearing the modest full-body swim suits.

As a result of this trivial anarchy and split sidedness that's tearing the country apart, the state council (France's highest administrative court) is now wavering to try and appease the majority. On the one hand, it does not want to overlook the possibility that the French public may find

'burkinis' to be fearful or burdensome, but on the other hand, if the court eventually decides to rethink its verdict on lifting the ban, the decision will conflict with France's policy with freedom.

In my opinion, I feel strongly that the erratic, childish behavior of 'supposedly prominent' authority figures is downright embarrassing. Especially when they [Socialist mayor Ange-Pierre Vivoni] say things like the ban is necessary to "protect the population," or imply that the secular nature of France prohibits Muslims from practicing their faith by wearing a modest suit that *should not be offending anyone in the first place!*

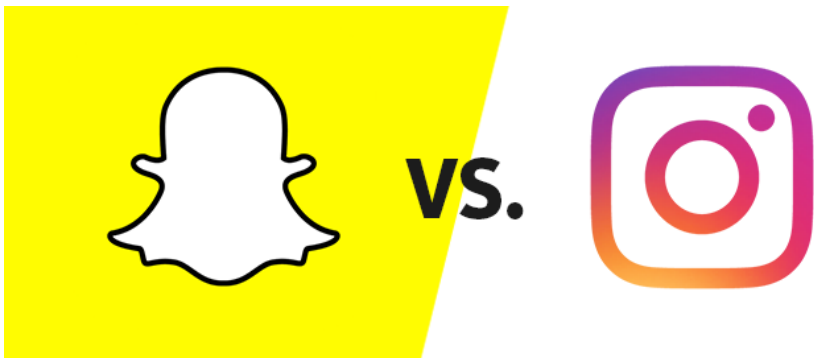
As a Muslim woman, I went through both phases, the phase before the hijab and that one after wearing the hijab. I faced criticism in both as well. Harsh criticism. Comments like: "Wow, why must you let your clothes oppress women everywhere," or "cover up more, will you?" It's a never ending charade, which makes me question whether I, as a Muslim woman, will be able to hush the verbal disapprovals about what I should or shouldn't wear, do, or say. I know for a fact that many other women feel the same way as well on a daily basis, and, shockingly a lot of who are behind those abusive comments are women as well! Whether I choose to wear a hijab or not should not be anyone's business but mine. And contrary to popular belief, that's what it says in my religion as well as Islam should never be forced upon anyone.

However, in France's cryptic burkini case, this is not your average sexist comment.

This goes deeper than that. Nor is it even remotely related to the Bastille day terror attack. This is just classic political fear mongering (I say political because those behind it are politicians who have unyielding power that they can abuse). The French public and its enduring, larding government have a very long, very grueling history with Islamophobia (recall the burka ban mentioned before). Muslim women are the modern-day, non-direct victims of so-called "Islamist Jihadists" everywhere and it's all thanks to the hard work of xenophobes everywhere. This is not me patronizing the French government, dear reader. On the contrary, this is me talking to the world, everywhere and everyone, about the importance of tolerance; the French government is merely a cautionary tale about what happens when people become mulish, intolerant fantasists.

So if you're reading this, please, try and accept everyone's personal freedom regardless of your choice in religion or non-religion. Either that, or risk losing yours in the process as well. If the French government caves into 'public' irrational fears and spoon-feeds every mayor of every town with laws of their choice, then France will inevitably begin to fade into a nation of uniformity and singular thought, and soon the contagious trend will spread like wildfire unto other nations, and diversity of thought, color, and belief as we know them will cease to exist. I don't know about you, but I don't want to live in a world without burkinis, simply because I don't want to live in a world without distinction and idiosyncrasy.





Instagram Stories Is Sign that Temporary Data Reigns

By: Farah Hamoudah

When Instagram first rolled out its envy-green, velvety curtains to launch its newest feature of Instagram Stories, I recalled a most classic of scenarios from *The Wizard of Oz*, in which Dorothy heroically exposes the great and powerful Oz to be no more than a mere mortal and a fraud called Professor Marvel. I'm sure as well that most of the users of the popular app felt just as disappointed as Dorothy did when she unmasked the humbug. I say that because for most of August, I've constantly seen stories on Instagram with attached texts that always say the same things, like "I'm still loyal to Snapchat, though," or "follow my account on Snapchat."

The feature contains a lot of the same qualities as that of Snapchat Stories like the fact that it showcases 24-hour slideshow images that allow text (typed or etched via screen) and drawings. It would seem that the public considers Instagram Stories to be an exact imitation of Snapchat Stories, however, what they don't know is that co-founder and C.E.O of Instagram Kevin Systrom, according to an exclusive interview with the website *TechCrunch*, gives Snapchat full credit for the idea of "stories" and looks at Instagram Stories as a feature that all technology enthusiasts should work with, much like how social media platforms (including Snapchat) adopted the "@" sign used to call out usernames from Twitter.

I can't say that Systrom's logic is at all flawed. He simply capitalized on a feature that was limited to only one platform

and duplicated it into his own social media experience all while fairly and truthfully raising acclaim and recognition to Snapchat's feature and popularizing it further.

Besides, after a while of using Instagram Stories, it became quite difficult for me to stop. I usually don't like sharing pictures on Instagram for one very good reason—they're permanent. Or, If I ever do post an image, I make sure I delete it later. So Instagram Stories really did help me make the best of the app.

As for my loath for imperishable media content, it's a mystery to me. All I know is that there's something about posting pictures of my life for the world to see (forever) makes me squeamish. I don't know how or when I've developed such a habit, if it's some kind of weird subconscious insecurity or even if it's just instinctive social media survival, but I know I'm not the only one that does that. In fact, "posting and deleting" has become a teen craze.

For some of us, it might be easier to speculate as to why we prefer 'temporary' sharing of data. We are all aware that our social media profiles act as "summaries" of ourselves, our lives, our interests. Because of such knowledge, for some of us (such as idyllic bloggers), we may suffer the pressures of keeping our audiences invested enough in our virtual profiles that we have to change up Instagram "themes" quite often to please the masses.

Whatever the reason may be, the bottom line is that the amenity to 'forget' that we ever posted something gives us all a lot of relief—relief from having to deal with 'negative comments' on a post (since everything online is controversial), that no one can google it anymore and most of all relief from Internet-based ideals even if that relief is dangerously volatile as well.

So, although Instagram Stories may not be a replacement for Snapchat, I don't think that was the point of it. Just by launching stories, Instagram has waged a war between its rival Snapchat, sending a message that it too knows the importance of ephemeral online posts. On that note, it becomes worthy to mention that Facebook acquired Instagram for 1 billion U.S dollars on April 9 2012, and a year later a report in *The Wall Street Journal* revealed that Snapchat C.E.O Evan Spiegel turned down Facebook's offer to acquire Snapchat for \$3 billion U.S dollars, so this rivalry may also be a result of Facebook's begrudged boastfulness proving that it can *always* get what it wants.

Still, it would seem that Instagram hasn't had its fun yet with Snapchat. Recent reports from Systrom indicate that there are greater things in the horizon. It is expected that soon enough (if all goes well during trial period), Instagram aims to use Facebook's cutting edge, robust algorithms so that you can access different Stories in your "Explore" page from strangers that match your interests, likes, and have "shared" friends. However,

the technology requires for merging of both users' Facebook and Instagram accounts together, so some people (those who have privacy concerns or who want their accounts to act separately) may find that off-putting rather than engaging.

In closure, I quote *The Wizard of Oz*'s own Professor Marvel when I say, "Pay no attention to the man behind the curtain." Why? Because there's only *so much* that men like Systrom or Siegel can do to help their 'social networking services' boom and catch appeal. There's a million ways to change Instagram or Snapchat, but the real change lies within the network's users. Ultimately, we are the decision makers. If we dislike a feature and neglect it, the app evolves to accommodate our needs. If we decide that temporary, transient data is how we want to share **and** receive data then that shall be the new norm. But do we really want to bask in the art of forgetting where information is not deemed important enough to last on the web (our 21st century database) based on a shortfall in likes? So the statement goes, **choose wisely.**





One Way Trip To Mars!

By: Sara F. Ayesh

For as long as anyone remembers, mankind has looked up at the rest of the universe and wondered if there was life out there. In less than 10 years, that might just be a reality. 2026 will start the first ever human one-way trip to Mars.

Founded in 2011 "Mars One is a [Dutch], not for profit foundation, with the goal of establishing a permanent human settlement on Mars." They hope that in due time, knowing that the first established colony outside of Earth is on Mars would be common knowledge to all. According to Mars One, mankind has inhabited all of Earth's seven continents, and the red planet "is the next logical place to start a settlement", citing that this will be "the most profound and influential event of the 21st century" and who can really disagree, the whole idea is really out of this world.

Mars One's board is made up of a lot of colorful people; "ambassadors and advisors from all of the world, including an astronaut, Nobel Prize laureate, and the former NASA Chief Technologist." Since it is a non-for profit organization it therefore uses a lot of different means to raise the billions of dollars needed to fund their mission; broadcasting rights, sponsorship deals, crowdfunding, donations from philanthropists, and licensing intellectual property rights from inventions made along the way." Donors from over 100 countries have helped fund this worthy mission.

While their ambitions are astronomical, Mars One will not be building their own rockets, rather they have contacted rocket manufacturers to build them the rockets they need. Discussion meetings were held with potential suppliers from the United States, Canada, Italy, and The United Kingdom. Mars One stated that "established aerospace companies" were going to be contacted to manufacture all the "major systems required" for the mission.

When the call for astronauts came by the Astronaut Selection Program (ASP) in 2013, 200,000 people volunteered. Applicants need to fit certain requirements; adaptable, resilient, above 18, free from any diseases or drug addiction, speak English well, etc. Candidates will also be tested "on their ability to live under harsh conditions and work together under difficult circumstances." Six groups of 4 will be selected and will train from 2017 till launch time in 2026, "they will learn how to repair components of the habitat and rover, train in medical procedures, and learn to grow food in the habitat." Their first "outpost simulation location" will be a Mars-like terrain and easy to reach but the second will feature a more remote environment. They are considering the Arctic desert. These teams will be carefully monitored and tested in order to choose the best 4 candidates for the mission, 2 men and 2 women. KWD 1.8 billion is needed for the first mission alone.

Going to Mars is one thing, and to come back safely is another. In terms of difficulty, expenses, and danger, a one-way trip to outer space is easier, but less monumental. This is why Mars One has

decided that their mission is to create a permanent, habitable settlement rather than just an outer space vacation home that one visits occasionally.

Mars One is promising a demonstrative unmanned mission to Mars in 2020 to "provide proof of concepts for some of the technologies that are crucial for a human mission to Mars." They will also launch a communication satellite "into stationary Mars orbit" to provide 24/7 (except when the sun is between them) communication between the blue and red planets.

2022: Mars One plans to launch a rover to Mars in order to find the best location for a settlement; north enough for the soil can contain adequate amount of water, near "enough to the equator to produce maximum solar power, and on flat enough terrain" so the settlement can be constructed on it. Once the location is chosen, the rover will then make the area fit to receive cargo, and clear spaces for the solar panels to be placed. A trailer will also be sent so the expats don't have to walk all the way to their outpost location.

2024: "A second rover, two living units, two life support units, and a supply unit are sent to Mars," for the settlers. The first rover's signal is used as a beacon.

2025: With the help of the rovers, the living and life support units will be connected by a hose that transports air, water, and

electricity to the settlers. Once everything is connected, the Environmental Control and Life Support System (ECLSS) is ready to be activated. The ECLSS will use water from the soil to produce oxygen and filter nitrogen and argon from the Martian atmosphere to make up the other components needed for breathable air. "Before the first crew begins its journey, the ECLSS will have produced a breathable atmosphere of 0.7 barometric pressure, 3,000 liters of water, and 240 kg of oxygen which will be stored for later use."

2026: The long awaited "first fully trained Mars crew" will start their journey to the Martian planet. During the same month the necessary cargo for the next group of settlers will be launched.

2027: The Earthbound crew has landed on Mars and history is made! Having spent 6-8 months in space, the crew will get settled, "re-acclimatize to gravity", recover from their long journey, and then start deploying the remaining solar panels, and "set up food production units" This is truly ground breaking in every sense of the word.

2028: The second crew launches from Earth and the cargo for the third crew is launched as well. They arrive with their living quarters already settled and ready by crew one and the cycle is the same for the third crew and so forth every 2 years.

Source: <http://www.mars-one.com/>





Suicide Squad Review

By: Shahad Al-Failakawi

Even the best, award-winning movie can turn into the worst movie you've ever watched, all because of whom you watch the movie with.

It was a late night and my brother and I were at home, with nothing to do. We were scrolling through our phones, showing each other funny videos and chattering about what so and so have been up to. You know, the usual.

A few minutes passed and he asked me what the date was. "4 th of August," I replied curiously. He paused for a minute and said, "Let's go watch Suicide Squad!"

We changed in a matter of seconds, and on the way there, I reserved two seats. The movie theatre was filled with people, not what we expected at this time of day.

Before attending the movie, I was reading reviews and people were apparently not satisfied with the way the movie turned out. Some descriptions included *"it winds up feeling sour, dark, and thin, like a cup of cold coffee"* a review by Anthony Lane, from The New Yorker, a prominent and influential magazine.

I strongly disagreed with most of these reviews; I found it to be quite amusing and wildly fun. I really enjoyed this movie especially the cast like Will Smith and Margot Robbie. Their performance was phenomenal and entertaining throughout the whole film.

Of course, like 90% of the movies released in Kuwait, many of the scenes were cut throughout the movie and censored due to certain policy- making it hard to even make out the exact plot of it. I felt I'd watched a 90-minute film instead of a 2-hour movie.

I found Suicide Squad to be one of the most enjoyable comic book-turned-films of the "Dark Knight" era. The Enchantress-villain final battle scene was excellent, I mean come on!- any scene with Cara is without a doubt, amazing.

It seems the "professional" reviewers are going out of their way to make this film sound like one of the worst superhero flicks of all time and a 26% Rotten Tomato rating has me very confused. It's not perfect, no, but like I mentioned, if you watch it with the right people- you enjoy it more. If you're even remotely a fan of **ANY** of these DC characters as much as I am, you should do yourself a favor and check it out -- and if you're not? Check it out anyway, you'll instantly fall in love with all the incredible action scenes!



By: Sara F. Ayesh

Days in October					1
					World Vegetarian Day
2	3	4	5	6	
International Day of Nonviolence	World Day of Bullying Prevention	World Animal Day	World Teachers Day	Physician Assistant Day	
7	8	9	10	11	
Bathtub Day	Children's Day (Iran)	World Post Day	World Mental Health Day	International Day of the Girl Child	
12	13	14	15	16	
Take Your Parents to Lunch Day	World Sight Day	World Standards Day	Global Handwashing Day	World Food Day	
17	18	19	20	21	
International Day for the Eradication of Poverty	No Beard Day	Mother Theresa Day (Albania)	World Statistics Day	Apple Day	
22	23	24	25	26	
International Stuttering Awareness Day	Mother-In-Law Day	United Nations Day	International Artist Day	Lung Health Day	
27	28	29	30	31	
World Day for Audiovisual Heritage	International Animation Day	World Stroke Day	Sugar Addiction Awareness Day	World Savings Day	

By: Madame Esmeralda



Aquarius:
January 20 – February 18
(Air sign)

Stop munching on salads. We get it, you're healthy! Why not try pizza slices with pineapple on top and act like your age. Change has become a requirement in your social life, so get used to it and stop moaning.



Taurus:
April 20-May 20

What you have up your sleeve is all but foolishness indeed. You have been way too impatient. Cover your heart before it gets broken up again.



Leo:
July 23- August 22 (Fire Sign)

This is the most important time of your entire life. Don't mess it up. A scoop of cherry garcia ice-cream might help the medicine go down.



Scorpio:
October 24- November 22
(Water Sign)

You talk funny. Talk slower, be clearer, seek answers not questions. Don't look down at the ground all the time, I promise that it will get to you if you do. .



Pisces:
February 19 – March 20
(Water sign)

"Is this the real life, or is this just fantasy?" is a song lyric you think about all the time. It literally defines your life. Stay optimistic. You need a large dose of optimism. Hold on tight for this ride.



Gemini:
May 21-June 20 (Air Sign)

You're asking yourself "So, what happens now?" When instead, you should be watching for passer bys' footsteps, looking for a sign.



Virgo:
August 23- September 22

You are thinking too much, singing too much, talking too much, waiting too much. Don't do anything for a while. At least until something comes your way.



Sagittarius:
November 22 - December 21
Your coffee looks very saddened and muddled by your vibes. Have yourself some extra, extra whipped cream on it next time, will you? That should brighten things.



Aries:
March 21 – April 19 (Fire sign)

Consider the apple which you are chewing on. Reminisce in its suffering. Does this remind you of anything?



Cancer:
June 21- July 22 (Water Sign)

What the universe has to offer you is worth its weight in gold. Be happy, be glorious, and most important of all, be wise.



Libra:
September 23- October 22
(Earth Sign)

Indulge in this lyric by Leonard Cohen: "There is a crack in everything, that's how the light gets in." You are not who you say you are. Feel free in the embrace of yourself.



Capricorn:
December 22 - January 19
Friends are great, yes, but sometimes they can be very talk-y. They need your advice, but you're not giving it to them. What are you waiting for?

Earn 5 KD!



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