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Sports Day 2019

JC Sports Day was a great success this year! The whole school met together again at Sports City, everyone ready to go following an anticipatory two day break. Teachers, students and parents can all agree it was a day filled with thrilling finishes, amazing record breaking attempts and nail biting results. The entire school, from first-timer Year 7s to the nostalgic Year 13s, showed up in full force to support and compete for their houses throughout the athletic events.

With participation from all ages, it was great to see the Jumeirah College students showcase their skills and talents outside of the classroom. Unforgettable highlights included astounding records across year groups! Shoutouts to **Emma Thompson in Year 9, Jessica Naude in Year 10, and Rushil Kiran in Sixth Form** for their speed on the track! Once again, the Sixth Form Retro events brought even more laughter and teamwork to the day. And, this year, the younger years will also be having their own, which will be held in school later in the month. A big well done to Sina who were undefeated and came out the eventual overall winners for Sports Day 2019, claiming the Gold House event trophy and the valuable 50 points that came along with it. Gibran followed with only 115 points behind, with Majid and Fihri coming 3rd and 4th. This was a result of perseverance, hard work and fantastic sportsmanship across the board.

A huge thank you to the PE team, support staff and all the teachers who made the day run smoothly. Further thanks to the talented Media Committee who were snapping away throughout the event and captured the special moments that made this years Sports Day. Congratulations to everyone who took part, and good luck with the rest of your sports this term- we can't wait to see what more you have in store for JC Sports this year!





SAT: BANE OF HIGH SCHOOLER'S EXISTENCE?

Arguments of whether or not to eliminate standardised tests such as the SAT have been pandemic these past few years, with both the proposition and opposition piercingly making their opinions known.

But real talk, are they really a reliable measure of students' intelligence? These tests are considered by most colleges and universities as a useful method of evaluation as to whether the student applying is able enough to participate in the rigorous courses colleges have to offer. However, I beg to differ.

Firstly, SATs tests come as a disadvantage for ethnic minorities whose first language is not English. If the SAT counts for over 50 per cent of the college decision process, people with an income or language difficulty are disadvantaged as they face a higher risk of getting into their desired colleges.

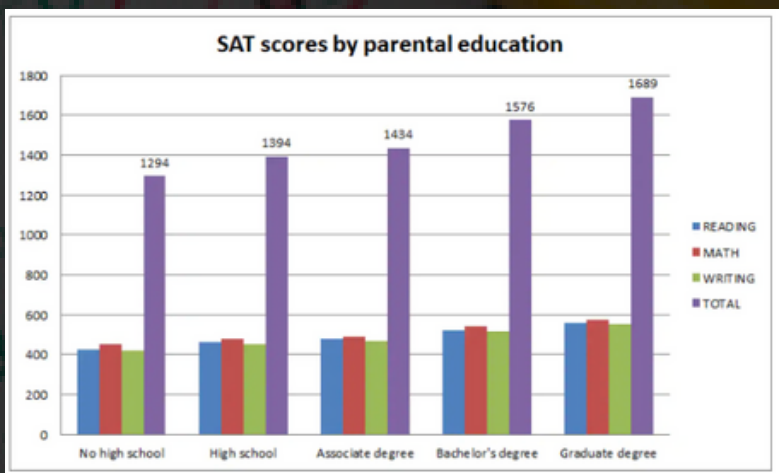
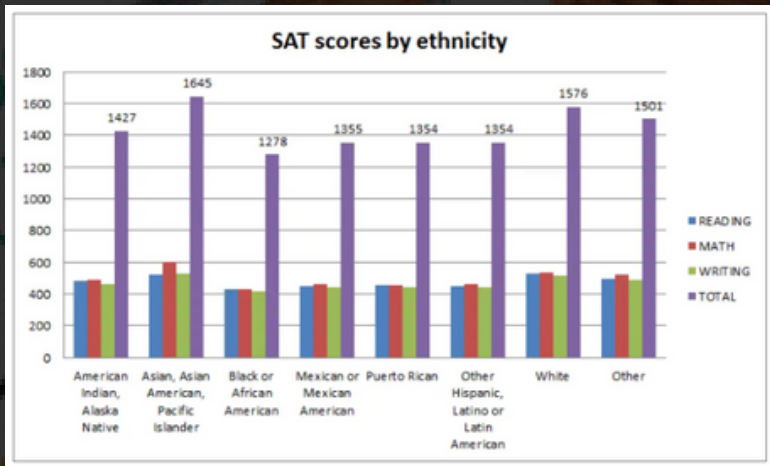
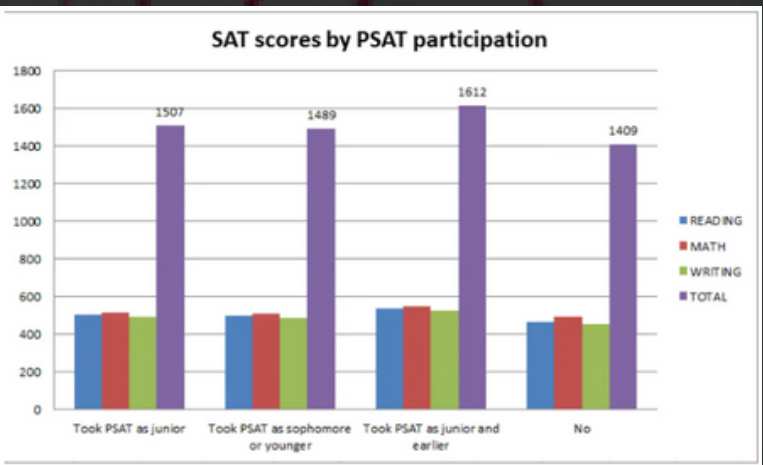
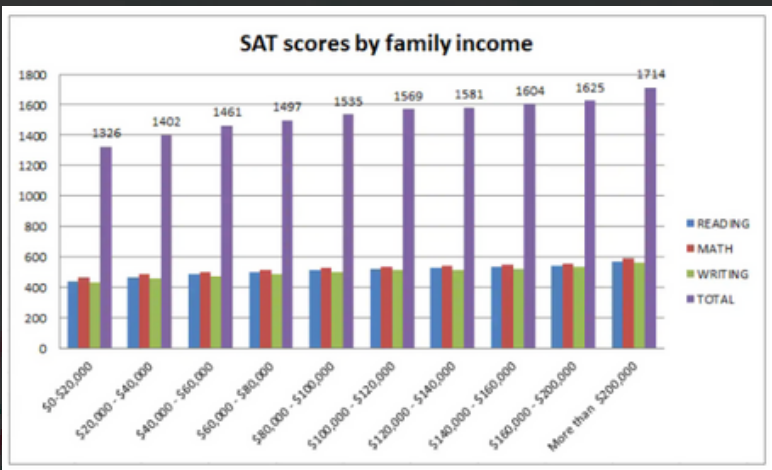
The Princeton Review described the SAT as a "white preference test" due to it being heavily ethnocentric and focusing only on topics associated with white demographic and disregard other minorities. The SAT especially inconveniences low-income families because of the tutors that cost farcical amounts of money.

Despite intensive tutoring sessions, children still have to retake the SAT more than at least once to attain an improved score. Due to the cost-heavy nature of the SATs, low-income families are unable to pay tuition for the preparation and therefore are less likely to perform as highly on the test, ultimately lowering their admission chances. This inequitable disadvantage will raise anxieties among low-income teenage families. Some people are born into more affluent circumstances than others and the SAT reinforces this fundamental fact of life.

Secondly, the SATs are an unreliable measure of students' intelligence. This is made evident by the fact that the majority of the subjects taught in the secondary school curriculum are whisked to the edge of a road. Humanities is largely ignored, while topics such as advanced maths and verbal are extolled far higher than their real-world relevance. Along with completely dismissing additional mandatory secondary school topics, the test also brushes to the wayside the numerous discretionary subjects students may excel in. Business, arts, philosophy and numerous others are not included in the SAT.

Although the SAT provides a clear-cut and speedy way of determining whether candidates are suitable for admittance, the negatives far outweigh the benefits. Removing the SAT could benefit students in a number of ways- not squandering away multitudes of weekends in crucial higher school years, saving large amounts of money on tutoring and test preparation.

Additionally, it would offer students with the luxury of time to pursue their academic passions, get a part-time job and make a change in their communities.



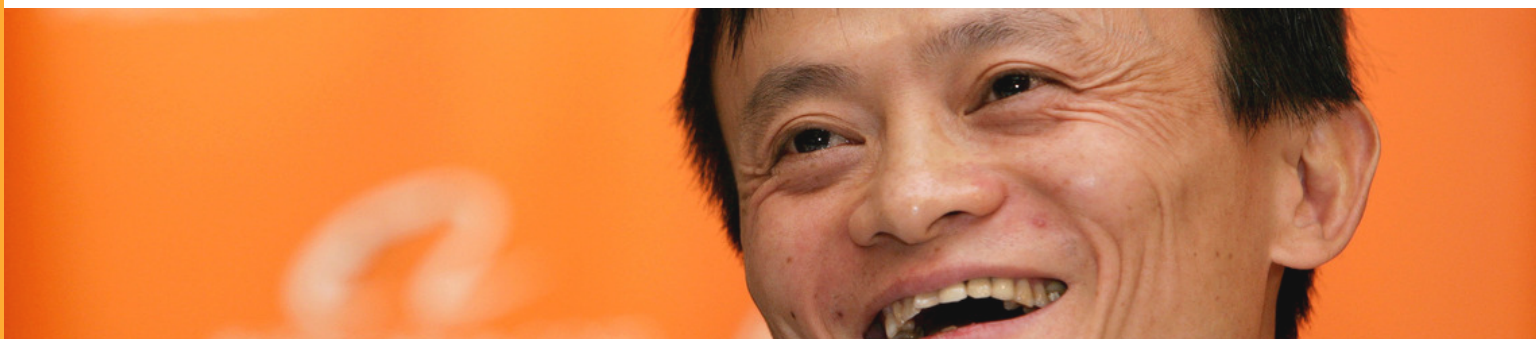
Jack Ma

*Co-founder of Alibaba,
Philanthropist, Billionaire.*

Alibaba Group is a website that a Chinese multinational combination of specializing in e-commerce, retail, Internet and technology. It is the world's fifth-largest internet company by revenue. Jack Ma is one of China's richest man, also known as the co-founder of the Alibaba Group. While he sees himself as an accidental executive who only entered the business world with Alibaba's founding almost 20 years ago, has become one of China's most recognized corporate leaders. Even after stepping down as chief executive officer a few years ago, the former English teacher remains the public face of a company with a market value of more than \$400 billion.

Some can say he is extremely successful but he has also found time into giving back to the community. He is the founder of the Jack Ma Foundation, a philanthropic organization focused on improving education, the environment and public health. In China, over 90 million children are raised in rural villages and towns, many with parents working far away in wealthier cities. In 2016, the Jack Ma Foundation launched the Rural Principal Initiative to identify and support 20 outstanding rural principals in China annually and pledged to donate \$30 million over the next 10 years to the initiative.

Last year, Mr Ma said he has to step down as executive chairman to pursue philanthropy in education. He thinks that he can never be as rich as Bill Gates, but one thing he could do better is to retire earlier. He thinks someday he would like to go back to teaching which is something he think he can do much better than being CEO of Alibaba. He says "I was not considered a good student but I improved, we keep on learning all the time". So now he wants to devote most his time to this and help others.



NBA MVP PREDICTIONS



The 2018-19 season is going to be a hard one to predict. With a number of players shining so far this season, here are a few candidates for the MVP.

JAMES HARDEN, Houston Rockets:

Who has a forest on his face and is dominating the NBA right now? JAMES HARDEN. Harden's career high 61- point match winning performance against the New York Knicks at Madison Square Garden was a sight to behold. He has averaged 52.2 points per game in his last 5 games and has constantly scored 30 or more points in his last 21 games (and counting). If he continues his form, that MVP will come straight to him.

GIANNIS ANTETOKOUNMPO, Milwaukee Bucks:

The Greek Freak, is here to stay as he is boasting a 25.6 point average with a .558% percentage in his last 5 games. His verticality allows him a lot of dunks, some of which have got the crowd roaring in delight. Even if he doesn't win the MVP, I'm sure he'll get the same applause in his dressing room, as his game-sense is on another level.

STEPHEN CURRY, Golden State Warriors:

Curry continues to show why he is one of the most resilient performers in the game, as he carries on his incredible form from last season. His 38-point game against the Wizards more than made up for his performance against the Lakers(where he scored a dismal 11 points only). So far, he is averaging 31.6 points per game. There is no doubting that he is the one to watch on the MVP side of things, as the tables could definitely turn in his favor.

PAUL GEORGE, Oklahoma City Thunder:

After facing flak for re-signing to the Thunder at the end of last season, Paul George has proven all his doubters wrong by smashing it in the NBA. His constant brilliance on the court match-after-match, is putting OKC on the map. At this rate the Thunder are capable of rivalling the Golden State Warriors, which is more than what most other teams on the West side of things can say. His strong defensive capabilities is one of the reasons that set OKC apart from other challengers. If he's not a strong candidate for MVP, then I don't know who is.

JOEL EMBIID, Philadelphia 76ers:

Not many other players in the league are having as much fun as Embiid. He struggled with a back injury but that did not stop him from playing against OKC, the Rockets and the Spurs. He scored 30 points or more in each of these games. He played exceptionally in each of those games, whether it was on offense with his height, or on defense with his denials. Joel Embiid also has an NBA-best 21 games with 30 or more points and 10 or more rebounds. That's MVP potential right there, if you ask me.

OTHER CANDIDATES:

There are however, other candidates for this prestigious award:

- Nikola Jokic, *Denver Nuggets*
- Kawhi Leonard, *Toronto Raptors*
- Kevin Durant, *Golden State Warriors*
- LeBron James, *Los Angeles Lakers*
- Kyrie Irving, *Boston Celtics*
- Anthony Davis, *New Orleans Pelicans*
- Damian Lillard, *Portland Trailblazers*
- Donovan Mitchell, *Utah Jazz*



Many of the MVP candidates are also on the NBA All-Star list.

EAST:

Giannis Antetokounmpo
Kawhi Leonard
Kyrie Irving
Kemba Walker
Joel Embiid



WEST:

LeBron James
Kevin Durant
Paul George
Stephen Curry
James Harden





How powerful is Ryu's "Hadouken"?

Ryu is the protagonist of the Street Fighter series created by Capcom, and is a fighter from Japan who uses a Martial Art fight style based on Karate, Judo and Kenpo. His special ability is the Hadouken, most often referred to as a "fireball" due to its appearance. It is a surging energy wave that is released from his hands that results in a punching force travelling towards the opponent.

So, how powerful is the Hadouken? We can use real-life maths and science to figure out how effective the special move really is. Ryu's canon height is 1.75m. Using pixel measurements and an image of Ryu from the latest instalment of Street Fighter, Street Fighter V, we can figure out that Ryu is 605 pixels tall. These two measurements can be used in a ratio to figure out the proportion between real and digital units of measure. Between Ryu and his opponent, the distance is 978 pixels. With previous "metres : pixel" measurements, we can find out what 978 pixels is in metres.

$$\begin{array}{l} 1.75 : 605 \\ x : 978 \\ \\ x = \frac{(907 \cdot 1.75)}{605} \end{array}$$

This gives a result of approximately 2.8289m, which can be rounded to 3 significant figures: 2.83m. To find out the speed at which the fireball travels when it is released, we can divide the distance between the two characters by the amount of time that it is on-screen, which is 1 second, making the speed 2.83 m/s.

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Now, we need to find the initial speed of the Hadouken from when it is first summoned to when it is released by Ryu. He drags his hands across his waist to do this, so the initial distance is half his waist size, which would be half of 81cm. This would make the distance 0.405m (40.5cm). The time between the generation and release of the Hadouken is 0.12 seconds, so the initial speed is 0.405 divided by 0.12, which equals 3.375m/s.

The formula to find acceleration is change in velocity (speed) divided by change in time. The change in velocity here is 3.375 subtracted by 2.83, which equals 0.545m/s, while the change in time is 1 second, making the acceleration 0.545m/s².

The next step is to find the mass of the fireball, which means finding the mass of fire, which is 0.3kg per m³. To find the volume of the ball is quite simple; as it is a spherical shape, we can use the formula for the volume of a sphere, which is:

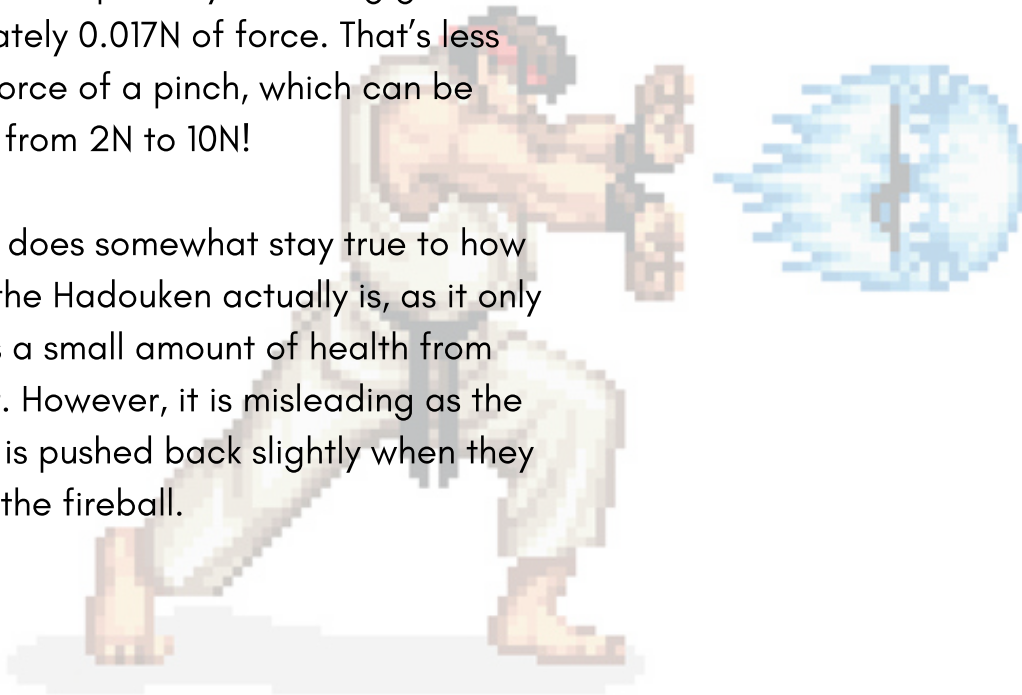
$$\frac{4}{3} \pi r^3$$

The diameter of the Hadouken is approximately 200 pixels, making the radius 100 pixels. If we convert this to real-life metres, we get around 0.289256m. When using this radius, the volume of the fireball is about 0.101376m³. This would make the mass of the fireball roughly 0.0304kg.



Now that we have the mass and acceleration of the Hadouken, we can find the force acting upon it (the same amount of force will eventually hit the opponent). 0.545m/s² multiplied by 0.0304kg gives us approximately 0.017N of force. That's less than the force of a pinch, which can be anywhere from 2N to 10N!

The game does somewhat stay true to how powerful the Hadouken actually is, as it only eliminates a small amount of health from the target. However, it is misleading as the opponent is pushed back slightly when they are hit by the fireball.



CHINESE NEW YEAR

Chinese New Year starts a new animal's zodiac year. In China, each lunar cycle has 60 years and 12 years is regarded as a small cycle. Each of the 12 years is defined by an animal sign: Rat, Ox, Tiger, Rabbit, Dragon, Snake, Horse, Sheep, Monkey, Rooster, Dog, and Pig. 2019 is the Year of the Pig.

1. Chinese New Year is a day for praying to gods and fighting off monsters

The Spring Festival was originally a ceremonial day to pray to gods for a good planting and harvest season. As an agrarian society, the harvest was everything. People also prayed to their ancestors, as they were treated as gods (see Mulan for reference). But the myths are much more interesting. According to one legend, there was a monster named Nian (年). It would come about every New Year's Eve. Most people would hide in their homes. But one boy was brave enough to fight him off using firecrackers. The next day, people celebrated their survival by setting off even more firecrackers. And that practice became a crucial part of the Spring Festival.

2. As in the myth about Nian, firecrackers are supposed to scare off monsters and bad luck. So people stay up on Chinese New Year's Eve and set off firecrackers at midnight. In the morning, firecrackers are used again to welcome the new year and good luck. That same night, families also burn fake paper money and printed gold bars in honour of their deceased loved ones. Similar to the Korean Chuseok holiday or the Mexican Day of the Dead traditions, they believe the offerings will bring fortune and good luck to their ancestors in the afterlife. (But sometimes its illegal) Due to safety reasons and concerns for air pollution, many Chinese cities have banned fireworks. More than 500 cities have restrictions too.

But... many people don't care and they do it anyway. Beijing had banned fireworks for 13 years. The ban was lifted in 2006 because of the angry public.

If you're in China during this time, you'll probably be able to hear and see the explosions for at least 3 nights (and it can go on for weeks).

3. The Spring Festival causes the largest human migration in the world

The most important part of the Chinese New Year is the family reunion. Everyone should come back home for the New Year's Eve dinner.

But since in modern China, most elderly parents live in rural villages while their children work in the cities. The migration back home and to go on vacation is called chunyun (春运), or Spring Migration. Plus, the earliest you can buy train tickets is 60 days before. It leads to a mad rush of literally fighting for tickets. In 2015, statistics showed that around 1,000 tickets were sold each second.

4. No showering, sweeping or throwing out garbage allowed! Showering isn't allowed New Year's Day. Sweeping and throwing out the garbage isn't allowed before the 5th. This is to make sure you don't wash away the good luck! On the other hand, there's a day before the Spring Festival dedicated to cleaning. This day is to sweep the bad luck away and make room for the good.

5. Do you know those nosy relatives during Thanksgiving? It's even worse in China. Especially since having children and passing down the family name is one of the most important parts in Chinese culture. Some desperate singles resort to hiring a fake boyfriend or girlfriend to take home. Those who can't (or don't want to) go home can rent themselves out. For some of the other questions though, such as your salary, career or when you want to have kids, can't be helped.



In Conversation with....

THE EXEC

The JC Juice Team (Scott & Wen Qi)
sat down with the Exec to learn
more about their role!



A: Amir, E: Ebani, O: Olivia, N: Neil

Describe a typical week for the Exec

E: So, Sunday...

O: Oh god, are we going through it like that? That'll take ages!

N: It's at least 2 meetings a week

O: At least 2 for sure. This week we've had about 4-5.

E: Wednesday is always a busy day. We either have Student Council or a meeting with Mr O'Connor.

N: Many things pop up within the week that take up lunch and form. They vary every week.

Scott: What about your frees?

N: Those are usually not too bad. Thursday's free is booked with the Sixth Form Office to catch up.

A: Leading up to assemblies, we use our frees need to sit together and plan scripts.

N: Besides these regular meetings, it's not fixed. Some weeks it's more and some weeks it's less (although rarely!).

A: We also have the Sixth Form evenings and Award evenings to be present at. It's not just in school hours.

O: Sometimes, you'll just be walking past someone and they just stop you and they just suddenly need something.

E: We're always on the job.

Scott: You're like first response.

O: Yeah, on call, all the time. Lots of e-mailing to do.

E: If you don't use your e-mail, you will not survive.

O: Ebani and I send like 2 a day.

E: I think we've done a hundred between us.

O: For sure. Easy.



What are some skills you've gained that you will carry forward into the future?

E: How to write good e-mails!

N: My biggest one was public speaking. Compared to our first assembly, it's a bit easier to go up on stage and address the school.

O: I'd say we're experts at writing speeches. Delivering them is still a little difficult - I guess the nerves will always be there.

N: It's a lot better though.

O: It's a given, but time management is a major skill that has improved.

A: There's a lot done at home as well. People think that at the end of the day it's over. It doesn't stop at 3pm. Following up with people, updating scripts, planning SC meetings and more.

N: And anticipation. We're better at judging what to expect from work, which in turn helps us manage time appropriately.

A: And how to please people. In the sort of sense that not every decision we make will be loved by the majority.

E: For instance, common room tax. Everyone complained about 10AED increase. Regardless, we still went through it because we knew that it would be better in the long run. We wanted to make sure that the Sixth Form would have great socials in the Common Room.

O: Not only that, but how to deal with what happens when you don't please people. How to be diplomatic.

Scott: You four deal with a lot! From lockers to assemblies, and so much more that we don't even know about. I hear Ebani [Scott and Ebani are in the same form] saying "Oh, I have an Exec meeting" for what feels like everyday!

O: Aw!

What's the key to managing the workload that comes along with being Exec?

E: [All of us just watch Olivia slightly struggle with her lunch] Let's wait till Liv puts her pineapple into her oats.

A: Oh, how bougie!

E: Back to the question! Honestly, it's my planner.

A: Um, I haven't written a single thing in my planner this year.

O: Same here. I don't know where my planner is!

E: I guess I'm just the only one.

N: Relying on the other exec.

Everyone: Yes!

A: Carrying each other's weight

N: Communication is key! Delegating tasks as well.

E: I think that's something else we've improved on. We know how to delegate to the other leaders. It seems weird, they're just people we see every day, they're our friends, but we know how to give them jobs now.



Yes! They met Donna from 'Suits'!

E: This job is very consistent, I would say.

O: We can't afford to slack. Never have stuff building up that you think "Oh, I can do it tomorrow". You probably won't be able to.

What's some advice that you would give to any future Exec?

E: Communicate and use your e-mail. Please.

N: Make use of the full leadership team. You're their line managers, so you have to make sure that everybody has their responsibilities and is attending to them effectively.

A: Don't fight over tasks. It's so much easier to go with the flow. You're a team of 4. Splitting the work is key to maintaining sanity.

E: You have to trust your team.

O: Work together.

E: Teamwork makes the dream work #Ebani2k19



Favourite meme?

E: Subtle curry traits!

O: What's that? #mindboggled

E: It's just a meme group with a bunch of Indian-related memes.

O: I don't have one. Next question.

N: I refuse to answer this question.

A: There's a facebook group called Mathematical Memes for Logarithmically Scaled Teens.

O: Of course you'd like that Amir!

E: Come on, you must have one type of favourite meme or something.

O: Funny memes.

N: Really? [his tone dripping with sarcasm]

Everyone: Wow!

O: Ones that feature babies are always so funny.

When you get a same term
after by parts and you decide
to integrate by parts again



If you could live anywhere in the world, where would it be?

O: Australia. It's amazing. Or Tahiti.

E: I just want to live in New Zealand. There's just this Netflix show called World's Most Extraordinary Homes and it's amazing. There's this house in New Zealand that's just gobsmacking. It's in the middle of a forest.

A: Japan seems cool.

O: But, they have the highest rate of government debt.
[Olivia's inner economist comes out]

E: And it's quite expensive.



A: But it's really clean though

N: Liv, what does that mean??

O: It means that there are structural problems in the economy.

Scott: I think I would be more worried if you were to own a house about the earthquake risk and the tsunami risk, rather than structural debt.

N: I think I'd just move a lot. Like, New York, Amsterdam, Australia.

Pizza or Chocolate?

Everyone: Pizza!

N: I feel like I could eat it everyday.

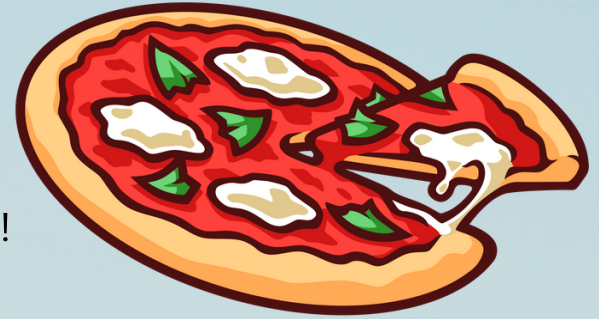
O: But, I love chocolate.

E: I would just put the chocolate on pizza. Dessert pizza!

A: Sort of like a pie!

Scott: Gosh, how American of you.

A: I meant like a crepe or something!



That's Mo Farah!

BILINGUALITY MAKES YOU SMARTER? YES, IT DOES.



Bilinguality makes you smarter, but so many researchers, educators and policy makers of only a few decades ago would have told you it was nothing but a hindrance to development of a child's academic and intellectual development, an interference to the human brain.

While now, scientists have been able to prove the multiple benefits of bilinguality – conversing with a wider range of people, improving cognitive skills, and even shielding against dementia in old age – in the early 20th century, it was considered a waste of resources in the education system of countries like America to teach all students a foreign language (the kind of opportunity we at Jumeirah College receive throughout all year groups!)

While they were not wrong about bilinguality being an interference – with its tendency of having both language systems in a bilingual's brain even if they are only speaking one and thus causing confusion – to say it is a disadvantage and a problem is utterly wrong. Scientists have been able to conduct studies showing that this previously considered 'handicap' is actually a blessing in disguise for it forces the brain to solve internal conflict and thus strengthens its cognitive muscles. This function has many benefits to reap from bilingualism and, as scientists have discovered, is one of the most important reasons that learning multiple languages should be promoted.

In a study conducted by Albert Costa, a researcher at the University of Pompeu Fabra in Spain, Mr. Costa wanted to test his theory that bilinguals have a heightened ability to monitor the environment as compared to monolinguals, and are thus more emotionally aware and alert.

After his experiments, Mr. Costa's results were found to indeed evidence his original hypothesis for they showed that his bilingual subjects not only performed better, but also with less brain activity compared to the monolinguals during the experiment showing that they were more efficient at completing the tasks.

In his final report, Mr Costa remarks "Bilinguals have to switch languages quite often – you may talk to your father in one language and to your mother in another language. It requires keeping track of changes around you in the same way that we monitor our surroundings when driving.", talking about how the switch of the languages in the brain leads to the brain having a superior ability to catch small details and thus make the speaker fundamentally smarter.",

Furthermore, the bilingual experience is seen to last from infancy to the old age as seen in studies by scientists at UC San Diego who found out that the elderly with a higher degree of bilingualism – tested through proficiency of the languages they spoke – were more resistant to diseases such as dementia and Alzheimers; the higher the degree of bilingualism, the later the age at which they contracted these diseases.

Such studies show the direct impact languages can have on you, and how learning new ones may benefit you, and thus really show how much a bilingual or any person who can speak more than one language has to gain!

So try boosting your IQ by learning another language!

Le bavardage

Ms. Thornley, Mr. Dela Cruz & Mr. Khan

1. What did you do over your summer break?

I went to Hong Kong, Bali, the UK and Ibiza. It was an action packed summer!

2. What's your 90's jam?

Ooooo good question ... It would have to be any of the 90s House anthems!

3. Pizza or Chocolate?

Chocolate all the way. Although the Nutella pizza is pretty epic too.

4. Everyone has had more than one kitchen disaster, what is your most memorable kitchen disaster?

It probably was cooking frozen pizza as a student with the plastic base still stuck on the bottom! Instead of throwing it away (I was on a strict budget!), I scraped the plastic off the bottom and served it to my house mates. Needless to say, the outcome was not good!

5. What was the last movie you watched?

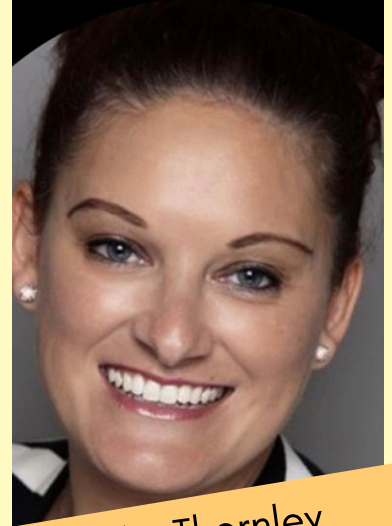
Bohemian Rhapsody – loved it!

6. Describe your life using film titles

Almost Famous

7. Would you rather fight one horse-sized duck or a hundred duck-sized horses?

A hundred duck sized horses, as that sounds really cute and I would try to negotiate with them by sprinkling oats on the ground in a distraction tactic. Then, as they are distracted, I could step over them and run away.



Ms. Thornley



1. What did do you do over your summer break?

Went back to London to visit family and friends. I did a couple of projects with music artists such as Bluey Robinson and Raheem Bakare, focusing on promoting art and creativity. I also created some portraits that will eventually go into a magazine publication.

2. What's your 90's jam?

Hip Hop definitely – Dead Prez, Find a way – A Tribe Called Quest, and all of J Dilla's songs.

3. Pizza or Chocolate?

Pizza

4. Everyone has had more than one kitchen disaster, what is your most memorable kitchen disaster?

Once, I accidentally burned my younger brother's foot with hot oil.

5. What was the last movie you watched?

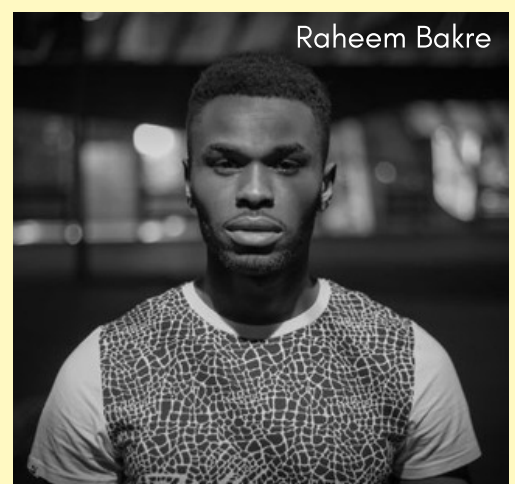
Black Mirror's – Bandersnatch

6. Describe your life using film titles

Land Before Time, Spirited Away, The Goonies, You got served, Inception, The Truman Show, The Matrix, Up, The Incredibles

7. Would you rather fight one horse-sized duck or a hundred duck-sized horses?

Fighting or violence never solved anything. But if it was to save a life I would fight a 1 horse-sized duck! It might be big, but it'll be slower. It will also allow me to focus all my attack on one opponent instead of 100's of small opponents attacking from all directions.



1. What did you do over your summer break?

During summer break, we always go back to the UK so it's just catching up with families and friends. But over the Christmas break I went to Cuba and Mexico.

2. What's your 90's jam?

'Sweet like chocolate' by Shanks and Bigfoot. I remember it well as I was 17 years old when I heard it and I had just bought my first car, an old Honda Accord.

3. Pizza or Chocolate?

Chocolate – everyone in the Science department know about my addiction to sugar!

4. Everyone has had more than one kitchen disaster, what is your most memorable kitchen disaster?

I once made a curry (cliché I know) but instead of using teaspoon for all the measurement, I used tablespoon!

5. What was the last movie you watched?

I genuinely can't remember it's been that long. I have 2 kids (4 and 8) and the drama that goes on in our house is more than enough. Plus I am more of a sports fan.

6. Describe your life using film titles

Having taught in London for 13 years, it was very much like the movie Dangerous Minds. However, teaching in Jumeirah College feels more like the Dead Poet Society, the first half of the movie!

7. Would you rather fight one horse-sized duck or a hundred duck-sized horses?

Hundred duck sized horses! It's the only way I will have a chance to win as I am pint size myself!



Mr. Khan



So change. Much English. Very technology.

(No, I don't have horrible grammar. It's the DOGE meme)

Can you guess how many texts one person exchanges in a day? 65 text messages every two days (well, I think this number is quite deflated). Ten years ago, this was the number of text messages shared every month. During the past decade there has been a huge change in how we communicate. Eyebrows were never 'on fleek' and we never looked 'fly'. We are in the midst of the largest communication shift in human history. Digital technology has influenced the way we process and speak the English language.

A commonly acknowledged fact is that with the rise in texting, there is a fall in grammar and punctuation. Thanks to technology, communicating online, however that may be, is so informal that it is guiding English to its grave **#RIP**. It's hard blame the **#haters** when this sentence:

Thank you for having me over! I really loved the gift.

....turns into this:

Thx 4 having me over!!!! Omg i SO <3 da gift! :)

Texting, to a large extent, has contributed to the erosion of literacy in our generation, and this might lead to large grammar and literacy barriers between generations.

But, there is another way to look at it. Instead of getting unintelligent, we may have gained a new cognitive ability. "What texting is, despite the fact that it involves the brute mechanics of something that we call writing, is fingered speech," John McWhorter, author and associate professor of English and Comparative Literature at Columbia University, said in a 2013 TED Talk.

Texting, he argues, is ushering in new writing forms and rules, meaning that not only is it not a bad thing for grammar, it actually means we have a generation of people who are bilingual in a new way — able to seamlessly switch between speech, writing, and an entirely new mode of communication that has its own linguistic rules. "Texting is an expansion of young people's linguistic repertoire."

In 2009, Beverly Plester and Clare Wood, taking interest in the question of the influence of texting on literacy, focused on the use of text messaging by pre-teen British children. In this study, the researchers paid specific attention to the abbreviations and characteristic language used within text messages, also known as 'textese' and 'textisms.' Their results did not conclusively support the negative reports surrounding cell phone use and texting. Quite the reverse, they discovered that textese and textisms assisted the development of literary skills.

Grammar is not the only thing that's evolving, it's words too. 'To Google' has become a universally understood verb and 'I don't know' has been chopped to 'idk'. Let's face it. Our parents probably only understand 85% of what we are saying. When we do try and educate them with the definition of 'tea' or 'beef' and they begin use it in their daily conversations, it never fails to cringe any 14-year-old.

Such shifts in grammar and wording are always happening. It's natural for words to drift into one another over time. They seem to be shifting faster than ever thanks to technology. And just like how every country has a different language, the internet is made up of different countries, each with their own language. Reddit has a particular style, as does Twitter and Instagram.

However we decide to continue the evolution of the texting language, balancing the old and the new, we must be mindful to never end our English Literature Shakespeare analysis with 'xoxo'.



Riddle Me This!

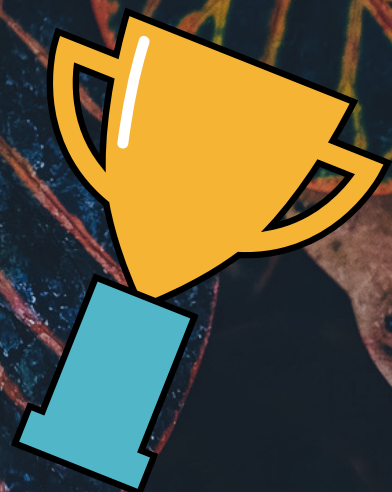
Q: The more you take, the more are left behind. What am I?

Q: Look at the image below. Which celebrity's name is being sounded out?

Got the answer?
Reply to JC Juice
with your form to win
some chocolate!



Winner of January!



Lily Beesley 13F1



Scott's Trivial Titbit

Check This Out!

After an explosive start to the year, with mock exams and an ever increasing workload, Half term should be a time for us all to unwind and get away from our studies. Therefore, his month's trivial titbit will be focused on de-stressing and relaxation!

If you want to relax, but city breaks are your thing, then head off to Stuttgart, Germany for the week. The home of Mercedes Benz is the least stressful city in the world, thanks to its low levels of noise and air pollution, its lavish parks and green spaces and low crime levels, it is the place for you to unwind whilst exploring the world.

Looking inwards towards the human body, half term isn't just an opportunity to recharge your batteries, but improve your overall health. Stressful environments have been found to lead to a decrease in the repair of damaged brain cells, whilst relaxation and meditation have been found to have lead to increased brain cell growth over long periods of time. So by disconnecting from your studies for a week, you may actually develop the capacity to become smarter! If only revision worked like that...

Whether you choose to de-stress by reading, exercising, spending time with your families or just simply properly looking after yourself, I hope you all have a chance to recharge your batteries, and we'll see you again in March!



Sophia Beisser | 13F1 | Feb 19

Climate Change is Real.

The German government has recently agreed for an official proposal to phase out all coal-fired power from the country's energy mix no later than 2035-2038. It is believed that Germany will be able to achieve this goal far earlier than its proposed date, as businesses are already being pressured to use renewable energy where many have resorted to being fully dependent on clean energy.

Currently, coal is responsible for over 800,000 premature deaths per year globally where in Europe alone coal is responsible for 23,300 of these deaths. Companies that have committed to source 100% renewable energy include BMW, Allianz Investment Management and Commerzbank. Furthermore jobs in renewable energy are seeing rapid growth where the renewable energy sector in Germany currently employs 325,000 people; which is ten times greater than that of the coal mining sector. Austria and Norway are following closely within Germany's footsteps where Spain is attempting to set up pathways to be 100% renewable by 2050.

In and Around town in...

FEBRUARY

Building Blocks:**Art Exhibition**

till 27 Feb

Alserkal Avenue

Groove on the Grass

8 Feb

Emirates Golf Club

RedFestDXB

14-15 Feb

Media City Amphitheater

Piaf! Le Spectacle

14-15 Feb

Dubai Opera

Macklemore: Live

15 Feb

Meydan, Drai's

Dubai Tennis**Championships**

17 Feb - 02 Mar

Aviation Club

Editor's Note

Welcome back, everyone, to the JC Juice! This month we've got lots of content that we hope will keep you entertained and informed over the half term break.

This month, the JC juice editors have been busy getting back into our schoolwork after mock exams and finishing coursework. Therefore, it's safe to say that we're all looking forward to a quick break from studies. Happy Chinese New Year, Happy Valentines' Day, and enjoy your week-long break!

-- Scott

February

Thank You's

to Mr. Simpson for all the support!

and to all the writers... without you there would be no magazine