

Student Scoop
November 2015



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Marina Siqueira

The Events that Shook the World

The attacks in Paris on Friday, 13 November 2015, were the focus of the media this week, and their consequences may forever change the strategy of the world powers in relation to their attempts to combat ISIS.

On 13 November, ISIS supporters sieged the Bataclan Concert Hall and killed at least 80 people before they were stopped. Simultaneously, a gunman opened fire at a Cambodian restaurant, killing 11 people. In addition, grenades were thrown and two explosions occurred near a soccer stadium hosting a match between France and Germany. But France was only one of many targets. The previous day, ISIS was responsible for killing approximately 43 people with two suicide bombers in a shopping area in Lebanon. On 4 November, in Egypt, ISIS's Sinai branch said it orchestrated another suicide bombing which murdered 4 people. A few days earlier, on 31 October, ISIS claimed responsibility for the loss of a Russian plane, in which all passengers were killed; though this is still being investigated. All over the planet, from Bangladesh to Turkey to Yemen, ISIS has been causing death and destruction. But the world only stops and pays attention when this devastation hits close to home

The French president, Francois Hollande, has just declared that the attacks were “acts of war” and has vowed that “Terrorism will not destroy France because France will destroy it.” France has closed its borders and is in a state of emergency, and Hollande has proposed changes to the constitution that will give more power to police as well as increase participation in the war against ISIS. There is also a possibility that France will invoke Article 5 of NATO's treaty, which states that an attack against one member is an attack against all. If this occurs, all NATO countries will join the fight. However, regardless of NATO's involvement, there will certainly be an increase in airstrikes and combat operations against ISIS.

Some media institutions are attempting to claim that the Islamic State is not actually an Islamic Fundamentalist group. A pro-Palestinian activist and journalist named Max Fisher has argued that ISIS cannot be an Islamic group because Islam is the religion of peace; therefore, it is not possible for them to be true followers of the religion while practicing acts of violence. Many government institutions, and even President Obama himself, have refused to call ISIS “Islamic” and instead refer to them as terrorists and

fanatics, even though the root of their actions is [Islamic fundamentalism](#). The role of religion in ISIS's actions needs to be acknowledged by our elected leaders.

In light of the events that have just taken place and the international community's reaction to them, the importance of MUN at our school should be noted. It is important that the world receives a generation of able-minded world citizens who are aware of their surroundings and understand and seek to influence their countries' choices for the better. Students who actively engage in opportunities such as these are will build a better tomorrow for the generations to come, and the world trusts them to make the best decisions so that massacres like those in Paris never happen again.

Ryan Strong

Impeachment: Playing with Fire

If one would care to visit ~~[Aq Ja YbcDfd-a dUWA Ybh](#)~~ the curious citizen would find a movement celebrating its successes. The first page proudly declares that over a million Brazilians have signed a petition to impeach the current president, Dilma Rousseff (polls show that about 60% of Brazilians support impeachment [CBS News, 2015]). As one scrolls down the page, various reasons are given for the impeachment of the president: the crisis of governability, illicit campaign finance, high taxes, and high inflation. Near the bottom of the page, the website declares "impeachment já," alluding to the demonstrations that helped topple Brazil's military dictatorship. An observer, therefore, may conclude that the movement for impeachment is good for Brazil. But look closer and impeachment becomes far more pernicious. True, impeachment may be justified; Mrs. Rousseff manipulated government accounts in the run up to her re-election to hide a widening fiscal deficit (Prada, 2015). However, there are two worries about impeachment: economic and constitutional. Let's examine each in turn.

First, impeachment will harm the economy by halting austerity and preventing key economic reforms. Brazil's austerity agenda, spearheaded by Joaquim Levy, is essential for the country. Without austerity, Brazil may have a second debt rating agency downgrade Brazil's debt to junk (Leah, 2015). The consequences of a second downgrade would be disastrous, as Brazil would lose huge amounts of foreign direct investment (Leah, 2015). There is already a political crisis that is holding up austerity, but if Mrs. Rousseff were to be impeached, the political crisis could worsen (Rapoza, 2015). The political crisis could then put a stop to the austerity agenda, which could lead to a downgrade. But austerity is not the end of the problems; Brazil needs a strong

government to push through reforms. According to the IMF, macroeconomic reforms will determine the long term growth of Brazil. For reforms, the IMF recommends a healthy dose of infrastructure spending, tax cuts, fiscal consolidation, free trade, and pension reform. Another important area is labor law reform (The Economist, 2013). However, a strong government is needed to push through all of these reforms, and a government battling impeachment is anything but strong. In these ways, impeachment could cause major economic problems for Brazil.

Secondly, there are constitutional problems with impeachment. Although there are possible arguments for impeachment, there are other arguments for impeachment that are not viable. Movimento Pro-Impeachment calls for Mrs. Rousseff's impeachment due to high inflation and high taxes. This is ridiculous; neither high inflation nor high taxes are impeachable offenses. This website is not alone, though; **JYU** has also called for the president's impeachment for economic mismanagement. Though these charges are slightly amusing, they also are frightening at the same time. After all, 2/3 of Brazilians supported impeachment in a recent poll (CBS News, 2015), even before the court ruling on budget laws (Prada, 2015), which provides the only credible path for impeachment. These charges against the president force every Brazilian to ask: does the rule of law go out the window whenever the popular opinion decides it would rather have something else? And this is the strongest cause of concern about impeachment: it threatens the rule of law by removing an elected official on the basis of unpopularity. The impeachment of Dilma, therefore, could set a dangerous precedent for the future.

So, with the many worries about impeachment in mind, is it justified? Probably. Mrs. Rousseff has violated a budget law, one of the crimes laid out in the Brazilian constitution that is impeachable. But if she is impeached, Brazil will need to prepare to deal with the consequences. For starters, the next government should keep Joaquim Levy, who is leading the charge to save Brazil's investment grade rating. On the issue of structural reforms, Brazil will probably have to wait for a new government in 2018, as the political impasse in Congress may still remain (Magalhaes, Jelmayer 2015). Finally, Brazilians will need to decide that their president should not be impeached for mismanaging the economy, but for breaking the law. No matter what happens, though, Brazil has a difficult road ahead.

Marina Siqueira

Cunha's Attempt to Restrict Legal Abortion

A bill presented by PMDB-RJ parliamentary President Eduardo Cunha, from the Evangelical realm, restricting the access to legal abortion for rape victims was approved on Wednesday, October 21st by the Comissão da Constituição e Justiça da Câmara. His project requires victims to undergo forensic testing and an official communication to local police in order to be allowed a legal abortion. In previous laws, there were no specific references to providing evidence of the assault, and they therefore allowed women to come forward with their situation more openly. Additionally, the project criminalizes anyone who incites, approves, or supports a pregnant woman to have an abortion. Anyone who sells or provides any substance that can be used for abortive purposes will be punished by jail terms ranging from six months to two years, and, if this individual is affiliated with the health department, the range increases to three years. According to Evandro Gussi from PV-SP, one of the supporters of the project, "Abortion is not a right. It is an exception." In current Brazilian law, ending a fetus's life is only acceptable in three cases: when it endangers the mother's life, when the pregnancy is the result of rape, or if the fetus has anencephaly.

Another part of the project allows a health professional to deny drugs or procedures that he or she considers abortive, also known as the "objection of conscience." This allows for ample interpretation, as there are various different birth control methods that may or may not be considered abortive depending on the person's point of view. For example, a health professional may refuse to sell a morning after pill if he considers the medication to be abortive and feels that his conscience will be heavy. This has been a target for women's rights groups which claim that women should always be provided health care and support, and not be denied a basic right such as access to legal drugs.

Supporters of the project state that women have falsely claimed sexual violence in order to be granted legal abortions. They state that women are finding legal means of obtaining justification for their immoral actions, and that this will be resolved through the passing of this project. Their ultimate goal is to reduce the number of women seeking abortions and limiting the access of those who do.

Speakers who are against Cunha's bill argue that the law only restricts the access to safe abortion for rape victims, who are already terrified of coming forward with their issue. In a country where women face the threat of sexual violence, it is necessary to allow women freedom to access safe abortion providers in order to cope with the consequences of rape. They declare that it is a clear regression for women's rights and recognition in the country.

There have been continuous protests against the project aimed at turning the tide of public opinion against the bill. Now, it will move to debate and voting in the plenary assembly before it is fully passed as a Brazilian law.

Read more:

<http://noticias.uol.com.br/ultimas-noticias/agencia-estado/2015/10/28/mulheres-protestam-contr-a-eduardo-cunha-no-rio.htm>

<http://noticias.uol.com.br/ultimas-noticias/agencia-estado/2015/10/23/medicos-dizem-que-restringir-aborto-em-caso-de-estupro-e-assustador.htm>

Renata Prata

Women (and Men) of the World Unite!

A roar of criticism arose during the weekend during which 6.3 million Brazilians took the ENEM, the national standardized test composed and organized by the Ministry of Education and Culture (MEC) (G1, 2015). The first day of testing on Saturday 24 October, 2015 opened with insights from Simone de Beauvoir's work ***H Y G M B X G M***: "One is not born, but rather becomes, a woman. No biological, psychic, or economic destiny defines the figure that the human female takes on in society; it is civilization as a whole that elaborates this intermediary product between the male and the eunuch that is called feminine" (Beauvoir, 1949). Approximately five questions of the forty-five in the human sciences section on the first day of testing fell in the category under the lens of Marxism. On the second day, Sunday, which featured the essay, forty-five language arts questions and forty-five mathematics questions, the focus on gender continued, the theme of the essay being "the persistence of violence against women in Brazil". The legitimate linkage between all of these elements in the test is that the class struggle concept in sociological Marxism inspired and continues to inspire feminism. Common civilians and radical politicians are claiming that the presence of this line of thought is an attempt of governmental indoctrination (G1, 2015).

During the weekend and on the succeeding days, people "in the position of power" including Jair Bolsonaro (PP-RJ) and Marcos Feliciano (PSC-SP) manifested contempt towards the ENEM via social media. The comments of attention-seeking politicians are simply not worth a rebuttal, yet they represent the Brazilian and international (lack of) knowledge on gender issues and education, which is alarming. I have heard complaints about these characteristics of the exam, claiming them to be the

“annoying and boring politically-correct chatter”. Others argued that the combination of feminism with the Marxist themed human sciences questions is an attempt at propagandism by the Brazilian government.

The Brazilian education system does have a tendency to emphasize leftist arguments, as a consequence of our twenty-one years under a bourgeois, military dictatorship; yet Marxism did not occupy even one ninth of the human sciences section. Regarding the mere presence of questions with this orientation, they will provoke thought about social inequality, which is a topic that any critical student is expected to be familiar with, understanding that the urgency in addressing it overarches political positions, while the latter propose distinguishable ways of dealing with it.

Also, historical materialism, and the concepts of surplus value in economics and class struggle must be seen by independent thinkers as more than being correlated with leftist political positions. This association, in addition to the one made with feminism, many times provokes citizens to devalue these ideologies due to one’s attachment to a position in the political spectrum. The approximately five questions in the ENEM raise questions on the contradictions of neo-liberalism, and in fact, were they an governmental propagandism, would be a ridiculously faulty one, for pointing out one of Brazil’s main trading partner, the PRC, as a cancer of globalization – a country maintained by cheap (in the slave-like way) labor force.

Concerning the vilification of feminism and Marxism, the latter due to the changes in the twentieth century gained a heavily negative connotation, and is made clear that the association between it and feminism, has been done in the past weeks for, instead enriching the understanding of what are these ideologies, to compel readers to dehumanize and reach simplistically conclusions, or embrace false dichotomies. The hostility toward debating or even thinking about gender issues is preoccupying and indicates the root of the problem that the MEC brought forward in its exam. Until women and men in Brazil start speaking continuously about all kinds of violence against women, from verbal assaults to physical aggression, the adjective “feminist” will continue either to be unknown among the large masses or used interchangeably with “female superiority” or “femismo” and violence will persist. It is being revealed in the Brazilian response to the ENEM’s theme that there is a general fear of changing an oppressive social order.

Rubén López
October 28th, 2015

AbhiJit K Jha 'A f''HfUa a Y'

Perhaps one of PASB's most outstanding aspects is its Model United Nations program. SALMUN, taking place in November and held at our school, is one of our school's most important events for MUN every year. With this backdrop, **Gi XibhiGibdi** had the chance of speaking to Mr. Christopher Trammel, our high school's IB History professor, about his thoughts regarding MUN and his involvement as advisor of PASB's MUN club.

Gibdi First, thank you for agreeing to share your views with us. **Gi XibhiGibdi** really appreciates it.

Af''HfUa a Y. Oh, you're welcome.

Gibdi Let's start by talking about what you think of MUN in general. How would you describe Model United Nations?

Af''HfUa a Y. Well, it's fascinating from a teacher's standpoint because it's so student led and student driven. Also, coming into PASB and seeing the culture that has grown around it is fascinating; it's very strong, the Model United Nations program. So, seeing this student leadership as a teacher, as well as the qualities it instills in students, the debating and the research, has been really interesting to see. From a teacher's standpoint, it's good to see students engaged in that kind of activity.

Gibdi When you were in high school or college, was Model UN, or any type of related event, as well known as it is today?

Af''HfUa a Y. When I was in high school, we had Knowledge-Bowl type activities, but the high school I was at did not participate in Model United Nations. Instead, we had the kind of Knowledge Bowl quiz-like event, but not a simulation like Model UN.

Gibdi Do you remember the first time you ever heard of the concept?

Af''HfUa a Y. It was actually in the last international school I was teaching at, in Egypt. That's where I was introduced to the concept.

Gibdi Did you like it?

Af''HfUa a Y. Definitely. It's fascinating, although, personally, I don't know if I would be a great participant because my debate skills really need some work. I'm a good

researcher, and I think I'd be a good assistant, but I don't know. It's great to see students who just think on their feet and are good debaters, though.

GMbd Would you say, then, that you are passionate about being the club's advisor?

Af''HFUa a Y. Yeah, yeah. I mean, my passion again goes back to the idea that it's so student driven. We've got a group of students that are really passionate about it, and helping them is something that I find very rewarding.

GMbd Yeah. About the club, I know that a few months ago you were working on SPMUN. Right now, what are you working towards?

Af''HFUa a Y. Well, we would like it to be a place where students can come and get things ready. For example, right now we have SALMUN coming up. So, 9th graders and 10th graders have that. It is part of their regular classes, too, so some people are using that time as well. But, I've got a few people that are coming to do some extra preparation for that and making sure that they are ready.

GMbd As you have previously mentioned, MUN is a huge thing here at PASB and is very strong within the school community.

Af''HFUa a Y. Yeah.

GMbd Would you say that PASB provides enough opportunities for students to participate in MUN, or do you think we could tell students about more conferences and events they can participate in, for example around Brazil?

Af''HFUa a Y. There is that difficult balance that always plays out. Often times conferences do run into schooldays, and, I mean, we have to be in class. It's this balance of trying to get as many conferences as possible, so that students can get the experience and the fact that we can only be out of school for so many days. And so, looking at conference opportunities, it would be possible to take a look at certain conferences that are aligned with vacation time. If there is enough interest, we might build the program and get some things done that do not take students out of school. But, regarding the amount of conferences we go to now, I think we are doing just right.

GMbd Yeah, it has to be balanced.

Af''HFUa a Y. Yeah, it has to be balanced. We want to give you guys the opportunities for the extracurricular, but you also have a lot on your plate with regular classes and working on the assignments that you're given there. So, that's kind of where we're at with that.

GMbd Going back to the delegates here at PASB, you said that some students are really passionate about it. But, overall, would you say that PASB has strong delegates?

Af''HFUa a Y. Yeah. So far, from what I've seen, our record somewhat shows for it. At SPMUN, of course, we came back with quite a few honorable mentions. It'd be nice to boost those up to, you know, "Best Delegate", but we have had best delegate candidates in the past. So, definitely. I think that speaks for a strong candidate base.

GMbd Do you think you could tell us what you think about SALMUN?

Af''HFUa a Y. Well, looking at SALMUN in general, one of the things that puts it out there is the regional caucuses. They set it apart from other MUN conferences.

GMbd Is it satisfying for you to help the students achieve their MUN goals and to see them grow as delegates?

Af''HFUa a Y. Yeah, that's why I'm a teacher. I mean, that's part of the satisfaction that comes from my job.

GMbd What would you tell to our school's first-time delegates? What advice could you give those students in 9th grade and middle school that will soon be experiencing MUN?

Af''HFUa a Y. Talk to your chairs. They want to help the debate be successful, that's their job. When you have questions, feel free to ask them. That would be my first bit of advice. Second of all, since it is part of the PASB curriculum, students are getting some lessons in class about what to expect. Take note of those and understand them. The third thing is you just have to go to your first conference and see what it's like. We can prep you so you know what it's like, but it's one of those things that you don't really understand until you're there. Things like parliamentary procedure, until you see them in action, you can't really understand what they mean. So, it's one of those things where you prepare the best and then you just experience it. And of course, with practice, you'll get better. If it grabs your attention, and you enjoy it, then the more conferences you go to, the more you learn.

GMbd Finally, what last thing would you like to tell our readers? What would you tell the PASB community about MUN? What are your final thoughts about it?

Af''HFUa a Y. Take the opportunity. It's a great opportunity to grow. It's one of those things with a lot of people that are passionate about it and that are gonna be great at it. Also, to those coming into it that are brand new, just enjoy this new experience for you and make it the best.

GMbd Well, I think that's it. Thank you very much for your time and cooperation.

Af'HUa a Y. Thank you for your interest. It was my pleasure.

F YZ YWcb

Model United Nations is always beneficial for students. It transforms them into responsible, strong delegates ready to face the world's toughest conflicts. MUN prepares our youth to face life's challenges. Although it is almost entirely a student-led phenomenon, it is always important to know what our teachers and other adults think about the program. Speaking with Mr. Trammel was a great opportunity. **Gi XbHGbd** would like to wish all delegates good luck in any upcoming conferences and future events.

Alice Braga

Interview with SALMUN's Secretary General

The **Gi XbHGbd** talked to 2015 SALMUN's Secretary General, Juliana Brandão. For some tips on how to prepare for the debate, check out what she had to say:

1. Check the SALMUN website, it has a lot of helpful information :
<http://salmun2015.weebly.com>
2. Be mindful of parliamentary procedure (order of debate)
3. DON'T be lazy with research, it is essential to a fruitful debate
 - a. Be aware of other nations' positions in all topics, (research)
 - b. Don't blurt out false or irrelevant information– be ready to back up your arguments with concrete evidence (facts, statistics, etc.)
 - c. Check your sources, make sure they are trustworthy so if a delegate asks you to provide your sources you don't show them a Wikipedia page.
4. Forum participation is important, specially for delegates who want to get an award: it will help you prepare for the conference and become more comfortable with parliamentary procedure and formal language
5. Avoid warnings
 - a. be respectful

- b. control your temper
 - c. manage your time wisely (don't be late!)
 - d. and follow the dress code!
6. Confidence and tone matter
7. Be a good listener – pay attention to the debate so you can use what opposing delegates said against them and engage in discussion
8. Write things down – before stepping up to the podium or raising your placards, write down what you are going to say, that helps with the nervousness and it saves you from forgetting what you were going to say
- a. Take notes – write down your research, points of information, speeches, etc.
 - b. Be organized – keep all of your notes and research organized so you can refer to it easily (you definitely don't want to raise your placards and then take five minutes to find your point)

* Good luck, delegates, we hope you found this helpful!

Lua Presidio

GIN to Me

GIN is an amazing way to start a life changing project, but it's also extremely demotivating because participants are put in real-life situations of taking actions that most of us aren't used to. I definitely wasn't, and after having my group's ideas continuously denied by the administration, I was ready to give up on the project. I still intended to travel, but that was it for me. My plan was to go to the conference, learn from other people, come back, tell PASB students about it, and quit everything. Exceptionally flawed logic, I know, but that was what I thought when I gave up.

I started my GIN project, Fertillife, full of motivation to get my hands on the issue. We had a truly concrete proposal that should have been approved, however the devil's advocate was fierce and the administration had serious doubts about composting as a general solution. The conference was fast approaching and we were still close to nothing. We wanted to show our ideas at the conference and demonstrate that we were trying to do something concrete, but what if we appeared immature? What if we didn't have enough material? What if no one cared?

Fortunately, those questions are not what GIN is about. No one cares if a project is only beginning, or if the project is small; the important thing is to incite change, try, and keep trying until change is accomplished.

At the conference I learned so much! I recognized that most of the amazing projects that the Keynote Speakers presented started with small ideas and minimal steps that had a positive, snowball effect. There was a lady that replanted an entire forest, and another girl that actively raised awareness in ways that are not commonly seen by students like promoting a walkathon with hundreds of people participating. These people were deeply inspiring, and I probably will never be anything like them, but at the same time I feel empowered to do my part to make everything a little better, the world a little cleaner, the people a little more positive because I know that all it takes is one small idea. GIN has taught me to keep trying and never give up. In the end, a proof of success was all I needed to give me hope. So, if you are considering going to GIN, know that you will come back feeling like you can change the world.



Anya Hermans

THE ACT SERIES
DUFhCbY



Until now, the ~~Gi XhGtd~~ has provided students with insights and guidance only about the SAT. So, it has decided to change its course and focus on the ACT or the American College Testing Program, founded by Everett Franklin Lindquist. It is now the more

popular college admissions standardized test in the US, with the number of test-takers exceeding those of the SAT, according to the website PrepScholar.

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The ACT is a national college admissions examination that consists of subject area tests in Mathematics, English, Science and Reading. It includes 215 multiple-choice questions and takes approximately 3 hours and 30 minutes to complete, including a short break (or just over four hours if you are taking the ACT with writing). The actual testing time is 2 hours and 55 minutes (plus 40 minutes if you are taking the ACT with writing), according to the official ACT website. The test results are accepted by **U** four year colleges and universities in the United States. The ACT is designed in order to analyze students' ability to apply their knowledge and skills to a set of questions.

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The ACT can benefit students in numerous ways. A high score will, obviously, give you a greater chance of being accepted in the college(s) of your choice. Additionally, it gives you a solid idea of your academic standing, which is beneficial for those who are planning their educational path. Furthermore, the ACT offers students an “interest inventory” feature, which compares students' final scores to those of accepted national averages, helping students to determine what careers are most suitable for them. As the ACT official website lists, there are several other reasons why high school students should take this standardized test. Besides helping colleges find you, your ACT score is based only on what you know, and you are not penalized for missing an answer. Moreover, you choose which scores you send to colleges, giving you the option of only sending your best ones in each subject area. Additionally, the Writing Test is optional and the multiple-choice questions are based on what you're learning. The ACT has been offered to students for years, which means it has been studied and is familiar, unlike the new SAT. Overall, the ACT aids students in planning for their future, offering numerous handbooks, study guides and practice tests in order for students to achieve their best performance.

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The ACT is administered on six test dates within the US, US territories, Puerto Rico, and Canada, says the ACT website. In other locations, the ACT is administered on five test dates. In 2015/2016 the test dates for international locations are:

Registration Deadline

GYdHya VYf%&ž&\$%)	5i [i gh+ž&\$%)
CWtcVYf (&ž&\$%)	GYdHya VYf% ž&\$%)
8YWa VYf%&ž&\$%)	Bcj Ya VYf*ž&\$%)
5df] - ž&\$%*	A UfVX (ž&\$%*
>i bY %ž&\$%*	A Um* ž&\$%*

For more information or questions regarding the ACT, please feel free to contact the High School Counselor, John Martyn, or myself! In next month's article, a comparison between the ACT and the SAT will be made for those who don't know if they should take only the SAT, the ACT or both, and how many times!

Lua Presidio

Mini-Travel Guide: Dubai

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If you're like me, your international trips are very busy. You never stay **cbim** one place for much longer than 2 days. That doesn't mean you see any less of the city, it just means you're curious to learn more and see more in limited amounts of time. However, be careful that the trip doesn't become a blur. Balance is important. In this edition I am going to write about Dubai.

Some general suggestions

1. Be flexible. Don't worry about having a perfect schedule. You never know what to expect while traveling, plans can change.

2. Know what you want to visit before hand, but also accept suggestions (almost always) from the hotel clerk since they know the place better than you do. Be skeptical about suggestions though; many times tourism agencies will prioritize recommending places that have a liaison with them, rather what would be more appealing to your profile.
3. If you want to buy something to remember, do it sooner than later. Chances are you will never find that quirky little store in the corner of the small street ever again.
4. If you feel that you could spend 5 more days at the same place, and wish you had more time, GREAT! You just provided yourself with an ideal trip opportunity for another time.
5. Don't linger in your hotel room. Enjoy your trip! Hotels are meant only for emergency naps.. There is an entire world out there and more than enough time to rest once you get back home. The only acceptable reason to chill in your hotel is if it is a resort and you purposely booked it for that reason.



General Info on Dubai

Located in the United Arab Emirates (U.A.E.), Dubai is a surprising place to visit. The city was created in the middle of the desert out of nothing and it mixes the traditional and modern. It goes without saying that it's a hot place (boiling in the summer, where temperatures can reach 52 C). If you are planning on visiting Dubai, be careful with Ramadan. The holy month of Ramadan, which is usually in July, prohibits the

consumption of food during the day. Therefore, all restaurants are closed and eating in public spaces is frowned upon. Hotel restaurants function normally, but you should still eat a full breakfast before leaving the hotel in the morning and take some snacks. Dubai is a business city, so the most spoken language is English; however, the culture shock might be challenging to some. There is a great number of women wearing burkas on the streets, and, if you are a woman, it is recommended that modest clothing be worn, even in the hottest of temperatures.

Dubai is an expensive city, but taxis are cheap. There is also a metro that crosses the city and leads to the majority of the tourist spots within a 15 minutes walk. It is a city known for its resorts, and of course you have to visit at least one of them, but it's not really worth it to pay for a really expensive hotel for all the days you stay there since you will

spend them mostly going around. Instead, a good option is to choose a more centralized hotel chain like the Mövenpick located at the Jumeirah Beach , and then book one or two days at the resort of your choice. The best hotels in Dubai are The Palm (even if you don't stay there, visit it), the Burj Al Arab (the one that looks like an open sail), and the Madinat Jumeriah Complex. Both The Palm and the Madinat Jumeriah Complex have water parks, the Wild Waldi located in the former is more well known, but both are worth going to especially in the summer. The Madinat Jumeriah (image below) is an amazing complex, which I personally consider to be the best hotel in Dubai, that consists of three hotels: Dar Al Masyaf, composed of "summer houses" of 702 m², Al Qasr, which has a traditional feel, and the Mina A'Salam, the more international and business like of the three. It also has more than 40 options of restaurants inside it, a 5 km waterway that is utilized to get around the hotel, an amazing beach with transparent and warm water, and a traditional "Souk" or market. Some of the best known pictures of Dubai are taken inside this complex.



If you have extra time or get tired of Dubai (which I doubt will happen) consider visiting Abu Dhabi, the capital of the country. In addition, there are desert safaris available at Dubai, but those take an entire day, so it's not recommended for those that don't have much time.

An extra tip: arrive very early at the airport because the Duty Free is amazing and possibly takes up half of the entire area you see in there.

What you can't miss

The Palm Resort and Atlantis Aquarium: This resort located on the famous private neighborhood the Palm has a small subway style train that leads directly to it. If you are not a guest your access will be limited, but even then the grand view is worth it. Inside this complex there is one of the world's largest indoor aquatic zoos. It is well constructed with interesting features and thematic rooms, featuring amazing creatures.

The Walk: Similar to the Barra in Salvador, this area of the city is full of little restaurants and is extremely pleasant to walk around. It is a place to visit at night and to explore at your wish.

Souk Madinat Jumeirah: This is an imitation of a traditional souk for tourists, located inside the Jumeriah Complex, but open for the general public. It is interesting to explore, and it leads to an amazing view of the Burj Al Arab.

Dubai Mall: The second largest mall in Dubai, it is famous for its indoor aquarium/underwater zoo.

Mall of Emirates: The largest mall in the world has the largest indoor skiing station and a subway line that stops inside it.

Burj Khalifa: The tallest building in the world is a must see. During the day or night the view is amazing and gives you a sense of being too small in this immense city. You will only be able to go up half way (around 400m), but believe me it will be more than enough, especially after you step outside on the small balcony available. Buy your tickets quickly since time slots are limited. Also, don't forget to take many pictures.

Dubai Creek and the traditional Souks: The more traditional part of the city is the creek. Before reaching it, you can go to the Dubai Museum if you're interested in history and experience the more rudimentary part of Dubai's culture. Cross The Creek with an **UMF** a small aquatic taxi that costs 1 dirham, to reach the souks. The souks or markets are impressive. The three main ones are the Spice Souk, the Gold Souk, and the Old Souk. The Spice Souk is probably the most spectacular. It has the most amazing things from crystallized sugar spoons to stir tea to chocolate made of camel's milk and in the shape small rocks; this place has everything. You will be tempted to take a lot of stuff home, but my suggestion is to buy the things you can consume like goji berry, sweet nuts, or some lavender tea. The Gold Souk is close by and is more for looking than actually buying. The largest gold ring in the world is found there, weighing about 5 kg in the size of a woman's torso. It is mesmerizing, but unless you want to buy some jewelry, not very interesting. The Old Souk is located on the other side of the Creek and is more focused on textiles and traditional handicraft. There are beautiful things, and no women to be found, but don't let that keep you from exploring.

Dubai is an astounding city, and one of the most liberal in the U.A.E.. Still, be sure to follow general traditions, and enjoy your stay because it probably not every day that you will encounter yourself in one of the richest cities on earth.

Oh, and if you happen to look like me (a.k.a very Arabic) and someone comes up to you and asks you something in Arabic, just tell them you only speak English and they will probably switch languages.

Rubén López
October 28th, 2015

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Unfortunately, many foreign students have to leave our dear school before the end of high school. This year, we are all sad to say goodbye to Sarah Nappi, a fellow panther and remarkable 10th grader. **ﻏﻲ ﺧﻲﺑﻲﻏﻮﺩﺍ** had the opportunity of speaking to her before her departure to China.

ﻏﻮﺩﺍ Well Sarah, for all those readers who didn't have the pleasure of getting to know you, tell us a bit about your life.

ﻏﻮﻓﻮﺍ. So, my name is Sarah Nappi, and I'm 15 years old. I was born in Arizona but moved to Michigan when I was less than a half year old because my father got a job with Ford Motor Company. I moved to Hiroshima, Japan when I was three and then Bangkok, Thailand when I was six. I was back in Michigan by the time I was ten, and I moved here, to Salvador, Brazil, when I was 14. At 15 years old, I am again on the move, and this time it's to Nanjing, China.

ﻏﻮﺩﺍ That is a lot of cities! Tell me, how has it been to live in all these different places?

ﻏﻮﻓﻮﺍ. I love living in different places. It has been an incredible experience, one I would give nothing up for. Living in different places makes you who you are. The travel and moving has shaped my interests and my ambitions for life. For example, I dream of being a part of the United States Foreign Service.

ﻏﻮﺩﺍ How have these experiences shaped your personality?

ﻏﻮﻓﻮﺍ. Well, I believe I am much more comfortable with being uncomfortable. As in, I'm okay with being out of place. Many people don't like the feeling of sticking out, yet I grew up with that feeling. It allows me to be more confident in myself. Growing up around the world also gave me the passion for traveling, something that I hope will follow me through life!

GMbd What would you say is your favorite place in the world?

GFUA. That's a tough one. I have a lot of favorite places. One would be Plymouth, Michigan. It is the place where I have lived the longest, and my closest friends live there. It's always a pleasure to go back. Another place is New York City. It's my favorite city in the world for its electricity, its excitement, its international feel... I love everything about NYC. The last place on the list is Bangkok, Thailand. This is my second favorite city. I miss the city so much, and I am so glad that I'm visiting again this Christmas!

GMbd About that, we know you are moving to China, as you said before. Why are you leaving us?

GFUA. Well, the Brazilian economy has tanked, so my father's job was relocated.

GMbd Well, that's unfortunate. Tell us, from a foreigner's point of view, how your time here has been. How have Brazil and PASB treated you?

GFUA. Coming to Brazil has been the biggest culture shock of all of my moves. As a foreigner, PASB can come as a big shock. The school, especially the high school, is predominantly Brazilian. As a foreigner, you have to adjust to living a very different life at PASB. That being said, I think having a culture shock can be an amazing life lesson. It teaches you about varying lifestyles and approaches to everyday life. It makes the adjustment period longer, but I think it pays off in the long run.

GMbd Did you have fun in the almost year and a half that you spent here?

GFUA. I did have a lot of fun here in Brazil! I took some amazing trips, ranging from the Amazon to NR (Nosso Recanto, also known as ISSL). I have made friends here that I know will last a lifetime. It has been an incredible experience living here, and it has been an incredibly fun experience.

GMbd Great. What about the future chapters in your life? What do you expect for your future?

GFUA. I expect a lot of things from my future. I have a lot of dreams, but most of them include me ending up in the United States Foreign Service and raising a family around the world. I think that my childhood has made me very hopeful for raising my family in the same way. Maybe one day my children will also be attending the Pan American School! But speaking about the short-term, I really want to attend a four-year university in New York City and travel around the world before applying to the US Foreign Service.

GMbd Will you miss PASB and the friends you made here?

GFUA. Of course I will miss my friends here at PASB! I have met some incredible people here and I will miss them so so so much!!

GAbcd We will miss you too. Do you have any final thoughts for the school community?

GFUA. Final thoughts for the school community... I think I just want to say thank you to everyone. I have grown more than I thought possible in the last year and a half, and it's completely reliant on the people I have met and befriended. PASB challenged me in unorthodox ways, but I'm proud of what it did for me, and I am proud to say I was a Panther. So, thank you!

GAbcd Thank you for being part of our school! We hope the best for you, and thanks for sharing this time with us!

GFUA. It's been a pleasure!

F YZ YW dcb

Sarah, you have always been a magnificent person. You have touched the lives of everyone at PASB, whether it has been through your strong personality, wit, or just plain awesomeness. You will always hold a place in our hearts. We are all very happy to learn we had as much of an impact in your life as you did in ours. We hope the best for you, and it would be great if we ever got to see you again. Representing the PASB community, **Gi Xb hGAbcd** would like to say you will not be forgotten, and we want to wish you good luck in whatever adventures and challenges life presents to you!

Susan Cavalcanti

H YUHf GYW dcb

Mi f ZJ cf JYgi fWZcf bYk gUci hDEG6jXfUa UXVdUfha Ybh

This month, rehearsals for PASB's new productions started taking place, including for The Incomplete Works of William Shakespeare Part II. Part I consisted of a summary of Romeo and Juliet, Titus Andronicus, and Macbeth, including crossdressing, plastic swords, actors climbing on other actors, and some exquisite bad acting as well. To those who are unfamiliar with the play, The Incomplete Works is a comedy performed by

three actors who clumsily attempt to present all of the Bard's plays and sonnets, somehow teaching some information about his works through comically sloppy acting. It is a play worth seeing. At the very least, audiences will walk away knowing how **bcht** act Shakespearian text. This performance's cast is Ruben Torrez, Susan Cavalcanti, and Geraldo Tavarez.

The second piece will be the play within a play from the actual A Midsummer Night's Dream. Audiences will be surprised to find out how alike it is to contemporary comedies, like The Incomplete Works. Shakespeare wrote jokes such as "PYRAMUS: O kiss me through the hole of this vile wall! THISBE: I kiss the wall's hole, not your lips at all." (for those not familiar with the text, the Wall is an actual character, not just an object), and used humor almost as silly as Abbott and Costello. This play closely resembles Romeo and Juliet in that it tells the story of a couple, Pyramus and Thisbee, whose forbidden love is doomed due to their inability to tell when one is really dead. This short piece will be enacted by Geraldo Tavarez, Ruben Torres, Carol Ribeiro, Susan Cavalcanti, Ivan Gounin, and Gervásio Oliveira.

Both plays are under the direction of the DP theater examiner and teacher Ms. Lord-Ryan, who has been leading multiple creative workshops with the actors. With an IB Theater mentality, the process for these plays focuses on "outside the box" thinking and physical movement. Ms. Metha has also been helping the group by, once again, allowing the students to meet in her room, and stopping by to give a word of incentive whenever she can. The IB theater course has just been implemented at the school this year; however, Ms. Lord-Ryan had students captivated and willing to immerse themselves into the class immediately. Theater is not just an acting 101, but includes analysis of lighting, staging, costume design, playwriting, and directing. Students learn acting techniques, such as Stanislavski's method, while becoming familiarized with the process of remarkable director and a range of theater companies. Students also get to learn about different world theater costumes, becoming more open-minded thespians and individuals. The best part of the class being that it's designed **bcht** be overwhelming and to approach topics in fun and dynamic ways.

This semester's plays are looking promising, with an amazing group of young dedicated performers. Make sure to keep checking **Gi XbriGAbd** for performance dates and more news on PASB's theater.

Brent Strong

The Martian

Director: Scott Ridley

Starring: Matt Damon as Mark Watney, Jessica Chastain as Melissa Lewis

The plot of **HAYATHUB** can be summarized as follows: Astronaut stuck on Mars, NASA tries to save him. It doesn't get much simpler than that. In spite of its elementary plot, however, **HAYATHUB** successfully combines frenetic action, scientific problem solving, and unexpected humor to create, dare I say it, the most enjoyable movie of the past 5 years.



The film takes place in the 2030s when NASA is in the midst of exploring Mars with manned missions. Mark Watney, botanist and astronaut, is a member of the **516** mission and is conducting tests on Mars. However, a violent storm forces the team to evacuate. In the midst of the evacuation, Mark is struck by debris and presumed dead; the team launches without him. Unfortunately for Mark, he is very much alive and must learn to survive in one of the harshest environments known to man. Steps needed for survival include, but are not limited to, growing potatoes in Martian soil, communicating with NASA headquarters, located millions of miles away, with only an old camera and not freezing to death. Throughout his struggle, NASA officials race to develop a rescue plan as Commander Melissa Lewis and the team hurtle back to Earth, unaware of Watney's survival.

HAYATHUB is incredibly suspenseful and Watney is perpetually on the edge of death. However, Director Scott Ridley still manages to offset the grave events of the film with plenty of humor; one of the funniest scenes is when Watney declares himself a "space pirate." Also, while the plot is simple, it is perfectly suited to the nature of the film, allowing the focus to be on Watney's trials and the awesome, nerdy science of it all. Only one word can be used to describe **HAYATHUB**: spectacular.

Rating:

Luca Espinoza

A I G=7 1 D85H9G`

Song: Hello

Artist: Adele

Link: <https://youtu.be/YQHsXMglC9A>

Rating:

Gcb[.

Adele's new song "Hello", released on October 22nd, has already gained a powerful name in the music industry due to its numerous accomplishments. The song debuted as number 1 on ~~67 VUFXg< dPSS~~ chart last week, and sold over 1 million downloads in its first week. According to Nielsen Music, "It's the first song ever to sell at least 1 million digital copies in a week", and the third to sell at least 1 million physical and digital copies in a week, only losing to Elton John's "Candle in the Wind 1997"/"Something About the Way You Look Tonight." "Hello" is taken from Adele's new album, ~~9~~, which will be out on November 20th. It is comprehensible why the song has gained significant acknowledgment since its release. Besides its similarity to Adele's other songs, "Hello" conveys a mix of emotions, as the singer sounds both nervous, sad, and determined. As it was stated on ~~HAYHY[FUB 1 ?~~, "This sense of every woman emotion is what people always responded to in Adele, she is a pop diarist, sharing the simple secrets of her heart with no pretence," and that's why there are a lot of people who can connect with her. From the opening piano chord to the great blast of the chorus, the combination of orchestral instruments playing altogether is perfect, resulting in this masterpiece.

J]XYc.

The well-elaborated music video is worthy of having such a wonderful soundtrack. The video, which is a representation of the song, tells a story of a couple (played by Adele and Tristan Wilds), who have broken up, and the woman wonders why such a beautiful relationship has come to an end. By the end of the video, she accepts the reality,



and even though mournful, moves on with her life. Released only 3 weeks ago, this video has gained over 300 million views on youtube so far, which is impressive, considering the only music videos able to gain such huge amount of views in such short amount of time in all of modern music's history were "Gangnam Style" by Psy and "Blank Space" by Taylor Swift. The video has also broken Vevo's 24-hour viewing record by receiving 27.7 million views on its first day, thus beating Taylor Swift's "Bad Blood", which was the previous record-holder with 20.1 million views.

Song: Blue

Artist: Marina and the Diamonds

Link: <https://youtu.be/gDr7aTfBffU>

Rating:

Gcb[. .

The song "Blue" by Marina and the Diamonds has significantly grown in the music industry throughout the past few months. According to **Fc]d** **GcbY** regarding her new album, **: FCCH** "The groovy title track works itself into a tizzy of dizzying disco, while electro-pop insta-earworm "Blue" could play well next to any current pop hit." "Blue" is a pop-ballad with a relatively fast, ceaseless beat, that sings about love and relationship in its lyrics. One of my favorite lines from the song is a part of the pre-chorus, where Marina says "Gimme love, gimme dreams, gimme a good self esteem," which can be considered a social critique, conveying the notion that people in our society are always seeking validation from others. The song didn't get a position on **6] VclFXg< ch%\$** chart, however, it is well known and appreciated by many fans. Finally, the song was given four stars because it acquires a really interesting and addicting beat, that summing up with Marina's vocals, create a delicate melody, perfect for your shower sessions!



J]XYc. .

The music video for “Blue” was filmed at Dreamland Margate, a thematic park in England, and directed by Charlotte Rutherford. The video doesn’t exactly have a storyline, nor any characters besides Marina herself; however, it is flawless. I personally thought the video was eye-catching due to the entertaining scenery, and how quickly its mood changes. For example, the video begins with her, singing alone in her car, in the middle of the day, and then after a few minutes, time changes and she’s crying alone in a park at night. It is an artistic video, more focused on aesthetics and general ideas than a storyline.

Song: Hotline Bling

Artist: Drake

Link: <https://youtu.be/uxpDa-c-4Mc>

Rating:

Gcb[. .

Drake released "Hotline Bling," on Apple Music as an one-off single back in July. The song initially sounds like any other Drake song; however, according to **DJMCf_fj** review, “the bump and shuffle of the beat, muted and intimate, differentiate its melody from all others. It sounds like a candlelit dinner in an attic.” As the song gained popularity, it peaked at only number 2 of Billboard’s Hot 100, and the fans were disappointed for being so close to number 1, but not achieving the position. Newspapers blame Apple Music for the almost accomplishment because the company doesn't report music video views to Nielsen Music, (the company that provides Billboard with the information regarding songs) so “Hotline Bling’s” information (number of copies solds, and views overall) weren’t taken into account while making the Hot 100 list. Conclusively, this song received 5 stars because it sure surpasses all of Drake’s other songs, and besides its catchy chorus, there is a beguilingly and delicate melody to top it off.

J]XYc. .

Even though the song was released in July, the music video only premiered in October. The video became a smash hit and trended worldwide almost instantly after uploaded, specifically because of the abundance of memes on the internet deriving from Drake’s dance moves. According to **Fc`bl`**



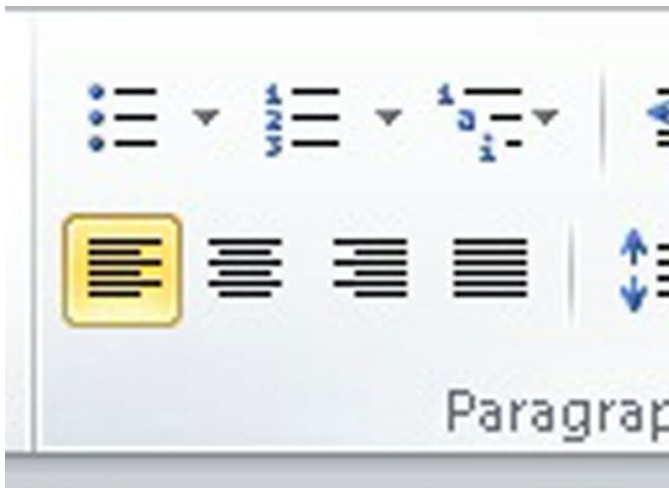
Grab the video has a “hypnotic, minimal vibe showcasing Drake's endearing goofball dance moves and director X's highly stylized sets.” Also, in a recent interview with the video’s director, he stated “That's him going for it. That's him doing him. You can't choreograph that. That's just a man dancing.” Drake did a great job on Hotline Bling’s video, and although it hardly expresses the meaning of the lyrics, it was exceptionally original and entertaining.

Brent Strong

A Call to Arms

Brothers. Sisters. Comrades. A grave issue has come to my attention. An injustice perpetuated over hundreds of years that persists like a pernicious and destructive disease, intent on bringing about the downfall of humanity. Do you know what I speak of, comrades? I speak of the continual oppression of the Right by the Left. For untold centuries, dating back to the Roman Empire, the Left has stood over and degraded the Right such that its influence and power has become subservient to the alignment of the Left. Comrades, we cannot and we will not allow this to continue!

Thankfully, our brothers and sisters in the Arab world have resisted. They have fought back against the Left in a never ending fight to restore the Right. While movements have sprung up in America and Europe, resisting the dominance of the Left, no success has equaled that seen in the Middle East.



Today, the Right holds a glorious position in the Arab World. Every official document, every personal letter, every email, and every essay begins on the Right! The Left has been reduced to its rightful place: relegated to the end instead of exalted at the beginning.

Brothers. Sisters. Comrades. We can accomplish the same thing here. We can overcome the overpowering and evil dominance of the Left in the Americas and in Europe. The first step is to Rightify

all government documents. The next is to Rightify every news story. Soon an

unstoppable Rightification will begin and forevermore, text will begin on the Right side
of the page!

Gi Xyb hGbbd STAFF:

9X]hcf g

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Di V]Vh]cb '8]fYVhcf g

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5Xj]gcf. Ms. Davey