



KokemäkiLeaks 2019

KokemäkiLeaks is a magazine brought to you by the best of the best, the course of ENA11. Even though only five souls were brave enough to accept the challenge that is EN11, we were able to create a masterpiece. Like our teacher said, even though only this few chose to embark on this journey, it was a relief that it was specifically us five.

This year Minttu, Raul, Roosa, Samuli and Tiina invite you on a journey filled with mysteries and literature, news and opinions. You will see what lies beneath the surface of an ordinary looking high school, but also get to read about worldwide phenomena.

From serious topics to laughter, from therapeutic sessions to casual conversations, this group went through a lot together. The classroom was always a serene place where our ideas could bloom. Stepping in felt like experiencing an epiphany over and over again.

Get a taste of this atmosphere by reading on.

Tiina and Roosa

NEWS

2018 in a nutshell

2018 was a busy year packed with action. Main news headlines worldwide have included the state of the White House under president Donald J. Trump, Britain's exit from the European Union, the passing of different public figures and much more.

January

One of the first things Americans will remember from 2018 was the Hawaii missile alert. It brought people on the edge for a few hours until they were notified that the messages were sent in error. At the time, the US was still shocked by the mass shooting in Las Vegas in late 2017. The story was still getting updates in January. It was quite a boring month all in all. Trump continued his usual behavior, with the biggest dramas of the month being calling El Salvador, Haiti and African countries "shithole countries" and imposing tariffs on some electronics.

February

Trump didn't hold back in February either. He wanted a military parade for himself. Oddly enough

Russia also has their yearly victory parade in February. I wonder where Trump got the idea. In the United Kingdom, Brexit talks continued slowly throughout January and February. In science and technology, the biggest headline in February was probably the successful test launch of the SpaceX Falcon Heavy rocket which carried CEO Elon Musk's Tesla Roadster into orbit around the sun. At the same time, the #MeToo movement was popularizing. The infamous Stormy Daniels – Donald Trump scandal was also brought to people's attention in February.

March

Vladimir Putin was re-elected the president in the Russian presidential elections. During the elections social media quickly filled with videos of people stuffing dozens of ballots into the boxes. France will remember March 23rd, as a hostage situation by the IS left three dead. On the same day, Facebook's data breach involving Cambridge Analytica was revealed. A few days before that, there was a fatal accident in the US involving a self-driving car. These two topics sparked a discussion about modern technology lasting for weeks. March also saw the passing of the famous theoretical physicist Stephen Hawking. He was 76 years old. President Trump was being discussed in late night shows after he fired multiple people.

On a lighter note, Finland was in headlines around the world for a day in March as a survey revealed Finland to be the happiest country in the world.

April

North Korea was in the headlines in April as preparations for the first North and South Korea summit in over a decade were being made. The meeting between the leaders of the countries happened at the end of the month. North Korea promised to stop nuclear tests among other things.

President Trump ordered more border guards to the US-Mexico border in fear of illegal immigrants.

Aviation had a bad month as two emergencies in the US killed 7 people. One accident involved the very popular Boeing 737. One person died as shrapnel from an exploded engine pierced the skin of the aircraft. This was the first death on an US airline in almost ten years. The details are still being investigated. Barbara Bush, a former US First Lady, passed away in April after complications at the age of 92. Mark Zuckerberg, the CEO of Facebook, testified to court after privacy and data collection concerns first revealed in March.

May

In May, a royal wedding took place in the UK as Prince Harry and Meghan married. Aviation accidents continued and two of the biggest crashes left over 100 dead between them, one being a passenger and the other a military flight. There was major volcanic activity on the Hawaiian Islands, both from known volcanoes and newer earth fissures. There were multiple livestreams of this by people living nearby. NASA announced a new unmanned mission to Mars. In most of the world, a very warm and dry summer had begun. Finland broke the highest temperature recorded in 2017 only a few weeks after snow had melted in most parts of the country.

June

Korean summits continued in June but this time President Trump met North Korea's Kim Jong Un. They signed a deal working against North Korea's nuclear development and discussed about peace between the Koreas in general. Donald Trump also placed tariffs on most Chinese products in June and the Republican party passed a bill which separated migrant families' kids from their parents. The various issues caused by this were in the news for months. Facebook had a new problem in June when it became apparent that they had buggy privacy settings. A committee of the EU passed the controversial Article 13 copyright law, sending the internet in an uproar. Uncontained wildfires were scorching the earth across the globe as the heat wave continued in Europe and most of the world with minimal rain. Finnish students begun enjoying the hot summer vacation.

July

A junior football team of 12 from Thailand was rescued from a cave in July. The team, coach included, went to explore the cave when it promptly flooded and they were stuck in an air pocket. All 13 people were rescued but sadly a rescue diver lost his life during the process. The kids were stuck for a total of 18 days, having been discovered on the 10th day. They got rations and other supplies after being discovered. Extreme weather was a theme in the rest of the world too, with temperature records across the globe. In Turku, Finland, on the southern coast, there was a record temperature of 32.2C. Wildfires also continued to exhaust firefighters in July.

The political spotlight was definitely on Finland during this month. On 16th of July, President Trump and President Putin met in Finland for the US – Russia summit. As any political event of this scale, this one sparked protests against both presidents in Helsinki. The summit involved a closed doors meeting lasting two hours. What was discussed there is still largely unknown. Donald Trump got even more critique when he called the EU a worse foe than Russia in a press interview. He also said that the US had made its relationship with Russia cold with its "foolishness and stupidity", mentioning the collusion investigation he's involved in. Many consider the Helsinki meet a failure and a step backwards for US politics.

August

The heatwave was dwindling in August with most wildfires being successfully contained. There were different natural disasters though: earthquakes in Indonesia and Iran, monsoon flooding in India and a Hurricane in Hawaii. The value of Apple Inc. grew beyond \$1 Trillion, being the first publicly traded company to do so. NASA announced plans to build a satellite to investigate the sun up close. Porsche announced that they are putting the quite possibly most beautiful car ever designed, the Mission E, into production by 2020. The production model will be called the Porsche Taycan and it will rival the highest end Teslas like the Model S and the 2020 Roadster as a top end electric sports/luxury car. Porsche will also be lending their platform to Audi for their E-Tron electric sports coupe.

There was a bus accident in Finland which was in the news cycle for weeks. A bus with over 20 people on board had swerved off a railroad bridge onto the tracks. Four people died and the rest were taken in for injuries or checkups.

Most students returned to school during the first half of August in Finland after a relaxing but way too short summer break.

September

The National Museum of Brazil caught fire in Rio de Janeiro. The museum celebrated its 200th birthday in 2018, being the oldest scientific institution in the country. Millions of unique items were lost. The hurricane season continued with the strong, long-lived Hurricane Florence hitting the Carolinas on the east coast of the US and a typhoon ravaging China. Other countries saw floods and landslides. Apple released new devices in their yearly conference which were deemed too expensive even by long-term fans of the company. Car companies announced their moves towards more environmentally friendly propulsion methods, including Porsche giving up on diesel and Mercedes-Benz announcing their first mass produced electric car.

The police and border patrol in Finland, Turku, had a special mission in September. They raided Airiston Helmi, situated on the islands off the coast near Turku. The company was supposed to be providing housing for tourists & visitors on their property. The Finnish officials had suspicions about money laundering and tax evasion with mainly Russian connections. The raid involved aerial recon and heavy armament, including machine guns for the police, which is very unusual in Finland.

October

The biggest topic in world news by far was the murder of Jamal Khashoggi, an investigative journalist. He was apparently gruesomely killed at the Turkish Saudi Arabian Consulate by Saudis, ordered by the Crown Prince of Saudi Arabia. Saudi officials initially denied the claims but their hand was forced as others, mainly Turkish officials, revealed information about what happened. Khashoggi had criticized the Saudi government after getting close to the Saudi royal family.

Hurricane Michael hit the US soil being one of the most intense hurricanes ever recorded. It caused most if it damages in the area around Florida and the Gulf of Mexico in general.

November

November was an incredibly calm month compared to the rest of the year. Donald Trump mentioned Finland in a weird light. He was talking about the wildfires in California when he

said that he had learned about a creative way to avoid wildfires used in Finland: raking the forests. President Trump said he learned this in the Russia – US summit hosted in Finland. Finland and the world made fun of his claims and the Finnish president Sauli Niinistö said that while he had mentioned the amount of care that goes into forests there was no mention of raking them.

#makeAmericaRakeAgain

Donald Trump was also made fun of for clumsily ditching his microphone onto the floor at the G20 meeting.

December

France was in an uproar in December as people were initially protesting changes to taxes but over time things like minimum wage increase and the president's resignation were also added to the protests. "The yellow vests", as they were called for wearing reflective vests, began demonstrations in the last weeks of November but the movement really took off in December. The protests continue into 2019. At peak, 290 000 people were protesting in France. Thousands were arrested and sadly ten people have passed away as a consequence of the protests.

London's Gatwick airport, one of the busiest in the world, was shut down for over a day due to drone sightings near or over the airport. Elon Musk's SpaceX broke records. They managed to reuse and recover a piece of the rocket for the third time while also launching a record amount of satellites on a single spacecraft. In tech news, Volkswagen was releasing statements about ending combustion engines in their cars after their next generation of vehicles.

Donald Trump with the Republican party shut down the US government because the Democratic party refused to fund Trump's border wall. The shutdown continues into 2019.

As mentioned in the beginning, it's been a busy year. It was hard to believe some of these things happened in 2018 when I started the research. The year felt like it lasted for two. Let's hope 2019 will be less interesting than 2018 was in some aspects. More of the good, less of the bad, of course. *Raul*

Norway avalanche

Three Finnish men and one Swedish woman went missing in Norway after an avalanche in the northern county of Troms. The skiers went missing on a Wednesday afternoon when they were heading to the peak of Blåbärfjellet to downhill ski. Because of predictions of even more heavy snow, a search party wasn't sent out. A rescue helicopter was able to go looking for signs of the missing people. A team was sent out to look for them as soon as the weather got better. They weren't able to contact the skiers.

Ski tracks left by the group were seen leading towards but not away from an area that would later be covered with snow by the avalanche. The avalanche was 300 meters wide and 500 to 600 meters long and the police feared that the missing persons might be trapped under it. Between 30 and 40 volunteers, the Norwegian Red Cross, the army and rescue dogs were recruited to help in the search. A military helicopter also took part in the search.

The police had detected signals from two avalanche transceivers in the area and because the avalanche had occurred 38 hours prior and the signals came from the area of the

avalanche, they assumed the skiers were dead. After this the rescue operation turned into a recovery operation. Five days after the skiers went missing, authorities confirmed the deaths and the names of the skiers were released.

How do you survive an avalanche?

After a horrible incident like this you can't help but wonder if you could survive if you were put in that situation. Here are a couple of things you should remember if you happen to be in an avalanche.

1. Be prepared

When you are planning a skiing trip, you should do some research before. Check the weather forecasts, find out if there have been any avalanches recently in the area you are going to and take an avalanche training course. Inform people about where you are going so that they know where to look for you. It is also very important to take survival equipment with you. The most important items to take are a shovel, helmet and something that transmits your location to the rescue crews. If you have some sort of transmitter, the rescuers will be able to pinpoint where you are. The shovel's purpose is obviously to dig snow and you should wear a helmet because fatalities often happen because of the initial impact of the snow knocking people off of their feet.

2. Move to the side

The center of an avalanche is where the snow moves the fastest, so you should try and get to the side of the avalanche. Also, if you trigger the avalanche yourself, try to jump up the slope beyond the fracture line, because the snow under your feet will be swept away.

3. Let go of unnecessary equipment

Unnecessary heavy equipment will only weigh you down. Do not let go of survival equipment, such as the before mentioned shovel, because those are important items that you might need. Letting go of your equipment will also help the rescuers find you because they have some items to give them clues about your location.

4. Grab a hold of something

Get a hold of something like boulders or trees. If the avalanche isn't too strong, you might be able to hold on. If you can't hold on for long, at least you delayed your departure downhill. This gives you a better chance of not getting buried at least as deeply. Remember to keep in mind that a very powerful avalanche can carry even large rocks and trees so be aware.

5. Swim

This will help you to stay above the surface of the snow. Violently thrashing around so you don't sink is a good alternative survival tactic. Avoiding stationery objects is something you have to remember.

6. Hold your arm up

This helps the rescue team find you, because if your hand sticks up from the snow they will be able to locate you easier. Having your hand up also helps you know the direction of the snow's surface.

7. Create room to breathe

As the snow slows down, take a deep breath and cup your hand or arm over your mouth so that you will have an air pocket. Also, don't yell or open your mouth as the snow hits you. It can fill your mouth, throat and nostrils. When you are under the snow, dig out some space around your face to create an air pocket. Also expand your chest by filling your lungs with air. Doing this will give you more room to breathe once the snow has settled. You won't be able to expand your chest after the snow has settled because it is a cement like consistency.

8. Stay calm

If you panic, your breath will quicken which will cause you to waste air.

9. Spitting

You should spit once you are under the snow. Doing this will tell you which way the surface of the snow is and if you aren't buried too deeply, you might be able to dig your way up.

10. Conserve air and energy

If you are very near to the surface, you might be able to dig your way out. Otherwise, save your energy because you won't be able to get out by yourself if you are buried too deep. Stay calm and wait for help to arrive. Making unnecessary moves will also jeopardize your air pocket. You should only yell if you hear people close to you, otherwise you are just wasting air. You can probably hear them better than they can hear you, so only call for help if there is someone close. *Tiina*

Kokemäki Christmas street

In December 2018 Kokemäki organized its first Christmas street. The street included such stops as the sacristy of Saint Maria's church and Juustola. At the sacristy of Saint Maria's church there was a nativity scene along with shepherds and sheep. The old bridge of Kokemäki was decorated with lit up Christmas trees and other stops also had Christmas decorations. Juustola had live music, handicraft workshops and a Christmas market. At the Christmas market there were tents where people could sell or show their own products and services. There were a lot of handcrafted items and baked goods for sale. You could also purchase your own Christmas tree at the market. On the street you could run into elves and the mascot of Kokemäki. There were also guided history tours of the stops of the Christmas street. Students from Kokemäki had translated introductions about the attractions of Kokemäki, and those were put on display. There was also a photography display of Christmassy pictures of Kokemäki. At the same time there was a pop up event where sellers could reserve an empty business space in Kokemäki for a week. *Tiina*



Olkiluoto nuclear power plant

The Olkiluoto power plant is situated in Eurajoki next to the sea. It's about a 70km drive from

Kokemäki or about 50km away as the crow flies. The first two reactors were brought online in the 70s and a third reactor is currently being built. The building process has taken a long time and is behind schedule which isn't making people happy. The plant's current energy output represents about 20% of the energy consumed in Finland. The third reactor is expected to nearly double the output of the plant.

Olkiluoto is one of the few nuclear plants that has planned out where the final resting place of nuclear waste will be. They already have permanent underground storage for low and medium activity waste. They also have quite a well thought out plan for the actual high-activity nuclear waste. Essentially it'll also be buried underground in giant well-isolated and properly marked capsules. "The nuclear waste problem" is often used as an argument against nuclear energy. In my opinion, it's actually another benefit of nuclear. You don't get to choose where the waste from burning oil or coal goes. We actually have a choice with nuclear waste.

There are many concerns regarding radiation from a nuclear plant. Multiple studies have proved that coal, oil and other fossil-fired power plants cause more deaths annually than nuclear. Under normal operation, a nuclear plant is very human-friendly in terms of radiation and other adverse effects. For example, they use the seawater next to Olkiluoto for cooling. However, there's no direct mixing of the cooling water from the reactor and the seawater. During winter, people go fishing in the waters around the plant because the heat from the reactor doesn't allow for ice to form. The fish is perfectly safe for eating and not any more dangerous than any other fish. You can also go swimming quite close to the reactor. The immediate area around the reactor is forbidden to swimmers due to fast water currents. The radiation levels in the area aren't any different from what you see in rest of Finland. The only radiation Olkiluoto lets out of the plant under normal operation is from cleaning their equipment. This is very minimal and dissipates quickly. All potentially dangerous waste is held in the underground chambers mentioned previously.

The biggest safety concern in nuclear power is usually the potential of having a major nuclear accident, a meltdown. Recently, Yle released a story on the lingering effects of the Chernobyl accident in Finland. Some mushrooms picked in southern Finland had excessive radiation according to EU food safety guidelines. Obviously, having an event similar to Chernobyl in Olkiluoto would be a great disaster affecting countries around the world for decades to come. However, the chances of this happening are incredibly low. You probably haven't heard about most nuclear events because when they do happen, they're very rarely disastrous. Chernobyl and Fukushima are one of the few that had long-lasting effects. In my view, the nuclear-fossil fuel relationship is similar to the plane-car relationship. Statistically the plane is much safer than driving. Yet people seem to have more concerns about the safety of flying than the safety of driving.

I personally trust the engineers and other people working with nuclear reactors. Nuclear reactors are very safe these days. There's backup systems for backup systems. You must have an incredible amount of failures and oversight in one go to have a disastrous nuclear event. Living close to a nuclear reactor comes down to trust. However, I do think that anyone who's seen a map of active reactors in Europe must have some level of trust, because otherwise they couldn't sleep at night.

Raul



Bobby Dunbar's disappearance

On a Friday in 1912 on the 23rd of August, four-year-old Bobby Dunbar was staying at a cabin with his family. The cabin was in a heavily wooded, swamp like area in Louisiana on Swayze Lake. There were 11 people at the cabin on that day: Bobby's parents Lessie and Percy, Bobby's brother Alonzo and other family members and friends. Percy, Bobby's father, had to leave for work which Bobby wasn't too happy about. Later Bobby asked his mother Lessie if he could go fishing with family friend Paul Mizzi. Bobby's mother allowed it and the rest of the boys at the cabin decided to tag along. Paul and Bobby were close and Paul often took the boy horseback riding and had given him the nickname "Heavy". After a while the boys were called for lunch and they started heading back. From here the details get unclear.

Paul remembered having Alonzo on his shoulders and joking with Bobby: "Get out of the way, Heavy, or I'll run you over", to which Bobby replied: "You can't do it! You ain't no bigger than me". This was very characteristic for Bobby's personality and some people consider these to be Bobby's last words. Bobby's mother was the one who realized Bobby was missing when the group of boys came back. Everyone started calling out for Bobby. Three men decided to follow a trail behind the camp in case Bobby had gone after his father. The men ran into Percy who was on his way back from work. Bobby wasn't on the trail and Percy hurried to the camp after he was told his son had disappeared.

By that night there was no sign of Bobby. Searchers started to look for his body. They searched the lake thoroughly but Bobby wasn't there. There was also a theory that Bobby could have been killed by an animal, most likely an alligator. They even cut out alligators in the hopes of finding Bobby's remains inside, but there was still no sign of Bobby. By August 24th about 500 men had come to help look for Bobby. Lessie got very ill because of the stress that Bobby's disappearance had caused, so most of the family had to return home to Opelousas, Louisiana.

Paul Mizzi, the last adult to see Bobby alive and two other men who had been guests on the day Bobby went missing stayed at the cabin and continued to search for weeks more. Searchers found a solitary set of bare footprints leading toward a railroad trestle bridge heading out of the swamp. There was still no body or evidence to prove he had been killed by an animal. Some people brought up the possibility that Bobby could have been kidnapped.

By August 26th the authorities contacted the police in New Orleans to search for Bobby. This validated the theory of him being kidnapped. Bobby's father went to New Orleans himself to distribute copies of Bobby's picture and he talked with many reporters. A detective agency made postcards with a picture and description of Bobby and they were mailed to town and county officials from Texas to Florida. The description said: "Age four years and four months; full size for age; stout but not fat; large round blue eyes; light hair and very fair skin, with rosy cheeks. Left foot had been burned when a baby and shows a scar on the big toe, which is somewhat smaller than big toe on the right foot. Wore blue rompers and straw hat; without shoes." The Dunbar's hometown of Opelousas held out hope that Bobby was still alive and even gathered together a reward which was "to be paid to any person or persons who will deliver to his parents alive little Robert Clarence Dunbar. No questions asked." After eight months the money was returned to the people who had donated it because there was still no sign of Bobby. Only a week after this a major lead in the case broke.

In April 1913 the Dunbar's were told about a man, William Cantwell Walters, who was seen in the small town of Hub in Mississippi with a boy that resembled Bobby. The answers Walters gave about whose child the boy was were inconsistent. After Walters was seen whipping the child he was temporarily detained and the boy was examined, which they then firmly believed was Bobby. The Dunbar's were asked to send further photo evidence and they also received photos of the boy who had been found. At this point the Dunbar's traveled to Mississippi to see the boy in person.

The boy who had been found had a scar on his left foot and a mole on his neck where Bobby had one, but the boy refused to answer to the name Bobby. When Bobby's mother Lessie tried to hold the boy he refused to interact with her. Lessie wasn't sure if the boy was her son Bobby. Lessie saw the boy again the next day and was able to give him a bath. After this she firmly believed the boy was Bobby. Allegedly she shouted "Thank god, it is my boy!" before fainting.

Walters, the man the boy was found with, insisted that the boy was not the lost child of the Dunbar's, but in fact Bruce Anderson. He said that the boy was the illegitimate son of his brother and a woman called Julia Anderson. Julia Anderson was a single mother who worked as a field hand and a caretaker for Walters' parents. Walters also said that Julia had given him the boy, which Julia did confirm. She did, however, dispute some of the details of his story. She claimed that Walters had wanted to take her son for a few days to visit some family. This had happened in February of 1912, which means Walters had taken her son over a year ago and that she had been away from her child longer than the Dunbar's had.

Some were skeptical of Walters' story of how he was given consent to take the child, as kidnapping was a capital offense in Louisiana and he could have been just trying to avoid the kidnapping charge. Julia Anderson was brought to Mississippi too to identify the boy. It was like she was in enemy territory, because the town had already decided that the boy was Bobby. The town had made a huge deal out of the boy's return and the Dunbars had even

given him a pony and a bicycle. Some think that this might have made the boy accept that he was Bobby.

When the boy first met Julia Anderson, he reacted to her similarly as he did to Lessie Dunbar at first. Julia Anderson also had trouble identifying her son, but soon said that her mother's heart knew that the boy was her son. But Julia's uncertainty wasn't as easily forgiven as Lessie's by the press. They for example called her illiterate, naïve and a prostitute, brought up the fact that she had children with two different men, called attention to the fact that her daughter was given up for adoption, blamed her for the death of her baby and for having Bruce taken from her. They blamed her for forgetting her son.

It was ruled that the boy was the Dunbar's missing son, rather than Anderson's, because Anderson had no lawyer, no money and no allies in the town. And so, the boy remained Bobby Dunbar. William Cantwell Walters went through a two-week trial and was convicted of kidnapping and sentenced to life in prison. Two years later his verdict was overturned and he was granted a new trial, which resulted in his release.

The boy grew up and lived as Bobby Dunbar, fell in love at the age of 18, got married in 1935, had four children and passed away in 1966, always believing he was Bobby Dunbar. But this is not where this story ends.

In 1999 Bobby's granddaughter, Margaret Dunbar Cutright, started to look deeper into her family's history. She had always found the family story of his grandfather's kidnapping fascinating and had heard the story many times in her childhood. After her father had given her a scrapbook with articles about the case, she started to lose herself trying to piece it together. She was especially affected by a cartoon from 1913 titled "Fifty Years from Now". In the picture is a bearded old man with his grandson looking at a newspaper from the case and the boy asks "Grandpa, do you think we'll ever know for certain what our right name is?"

Cutright immediately noticed inconsistencies in the way the newspapers had reported the events. For example, there were different reported versions of Lessie and Bobby's reunion. Some papers said that Lessie instantly recognized Bobby, others claimed that she was unsure. Cutright found out that Lessie and Percy had said the boy didn't look like their son, and that his eyes were too small. It was also reported that Bobby didn't recognize his father, mother or brother. Margaret was disturbed about the numerous biased accounts of Julia Anderson. From Anderson's perspective, the Dunbars had kidnapped her son. Anderson's granddaughter said that her and all of her cousins knew that they had an uncle that had been taken by the Dunbar family, and that they always said that the Dunbar's had kidnapped him. Eventually they decided take a DNA test. Cutright's father, Bobby Dunbar Junior, agreed to give a DNA sample. That sample was compared with a sample given by Bobby's brother's, Alonzo's, son. The samples did not match.

The results of the test left even Bobby Dunbar JR. himself surprised. His intentions were to prove that they were Dunbars. It seems that no test to prove that the boy was in fact Bruce Anderson has been taken, but many still believe that the boy has actually been Bruce. Bobby Dunbar JR. recalled a conversation with his father when he was a teenager. He had asked his father how he had known he was Bobby Dunbar and remembered his father telling him "I know who I am, and I know who you are. And nothing else makes a difference."

This leaves the question of what happened to the real Bobby Dunbar open. Did he drown? Was he eaten by an animal? Or did he get kidnapped? Maybe we will never know. *Tiina*

The higher education institutions' student admission reform

Until 2020, students have had to take entrance exams trying to get to universities and universities of applied sciences. This has intensified the already enormous amount of stress high school students have in the spring. Studying for matriculation exams is exhausting itself, as it is possible to take up to seven of the exams. After months of preparing for the matriculation exams, it is unreasonable to expect students to perform great in the entrance exams, especially if there are multiple thick books you must basically learn by heart to get accepted in a prestigious university.

The amount of students taken in is obviously limited. Thus, even though 75% of students do apply for higher education institutions, only one in three students are able to continue their studies straight after high school.

One reason for the reform is also, of course, money. Entrance exams are expensive for institutions to organise and as students can't get in, they graduate and are ready to work later in life. This is expensive for the whole of Finland, since less people are paying taxes and more people need all kinds of benefits and loans.

What is the reform all about, then? There is going to be less entrance exams or they will be lighter, for example by excluding large studying materials. Instead, the results of the matriculation examinations will play a bigger part in the admission process. Many people, including myself, don't exactly know how to feel about this upcoming change.

I think it's nice that matriculation exams will become more important, because otherwise all the studying in high school is somewhat pointless. It seems irrational to slave for three years even though universities don't give a damn about your high school GPA or the matriculation exams' results. However, I do understand that high school grades can't be used as a realistic measurement for how good of a university student you'd make, since that might make high schools even more competitive than they already are. This could lead to teachers using their power wrong and giving their students inappropriately high grades. On the other hand, mean teachers could lower the grades of the students they dislike. But in matriculation exams this danger of so called "pärstäkerroin" doesn't exist. So... why aren't they used already?

Well, the reform also has some downsides to it. Making matriculation exams even more important than they are now is a perfect way to make a high school student's stress levels rise to the skies. I predict that the reform will increase the amount of burnt-out high schoolers. Students think that the matriculation exams, 3-6 hours, will determine the rest of their life. What if you're sick on the exam day? What if they ask all the things you don't know? Getting accepted to a university may be just one point away. "But you can always retry!", they'll say. Yes, sure. I study for one exam for months and get a grade one point away from the next one. It's all right, though, I can retry.

High school has always had the reputation of being the place where people go after junior high if they don't know what to do in the future. The reform also forces high schoolers to basically decide their future career right at the beginning of high school, since they have to also decide what to study and which matriculation exams to take.

As told before, the reform will enter into force in 2020. This puts us graduates of 2019 in a complex position. We will still probably have to take entrance exams, but if we don't get

accepted, our matriculation exams' grades might end up in the spotlight. If you've surfed through high school thinking your grades don't matter, it might have severe consequences.

I still don't know how to feel about the higher education institutions' student admission reform. Work hard and you'll succeed – I guess.

Minttu

Electronic Examination

The Finnish upper secondary education has seen a quick development towards electronic exams in 2016-2019. Starting in spring of 2019, all exams, including matriculation exams, can only be answered digitally. This includes subjects like maths, physics and chemistry with their drawings and complex methods of writing things down. Before 2016, the only computer allowed at some exams was a calculator approved by the examination board. Everything was written out by hand on notebook paper. From now on, you can still use notebook paper to plan your answer but it won't be accepted as an answer sheet to the examination board. The only thing they get is the digital answers left by you in the custom linux-based operating system Abitti, which is booted off USB flash drives during exams. Abitti has graphing software like GeoGebra, Casio Classpad, the LibreOffice suite, etc. Essays are written into the answer fields normally. There's also a method for writing down most mathematical equations relatively intuitively.

With the exams becoming digital, we students also have the option to use e-books for studying. Sometimes there's only the e-book released with no paperback versions. I personally used e-books for things like biology, English, etc. but I prefer paperback for math and physics. I'm not totally sure why. I tend to feel a bit claustrophobic with everything you must have open in the digital environment of the book when it comes to physics, for example. It's manageable at home with my multi-monitor setup, but at school on the tiny laptop screen, not so much. I also like to browse through the books quite a bit when studying math and physics, which is more difficult in the digital form. You also cannot sell your digital books after finishing upper secondary. Even though paperback is a bit (usually 5-10€) more expensive, students buy printed books in hopes of getting some of their money back when they sell them later.

Digitalization has been a journey for both students and the teachers, particularly when it comes to math, physics and chemistry. There's a lot of new software you have to learn to use if you don't want to be disadvantaged at the matriculation exams. This is difficult with the limited time at upper secondary. You have to learn all the same things people before 2016 did, but you also have to learn to use the digital environments at the same time. I think the digital push was rushed quite a bit. This software should be introduced earlier on to reduce the amount of stress on students. Hopefully it'll be the case for future generations. The Kokemäki upper secondary held extra classes after school to teach students to use the digital tools better. Sometimes the teacher teaches to us, sometimes the people who've gone the path of least resistance and learned to use the software on their own teach the teacher when he gets stuck with something. Still, some schools might not have even this tier of guidance in these things. You can see the concern in students and teachers alike when you browse the news.

I think the students doing their matriculation exams in the next few years will have more difficulties than the students previously and the students a few years from now. The teachers will learn to teach the digital features better and the students will hopefully be introduced to them in earlier grades. However, with a bit of practice in your own time, you can learn to use the new tools provided to your advantage.

Raul

TECHNOLOGY

Buying a used car

Getting around is an integral part of being an adult. In some countries, like the United States, a car is the most important transportation method. In Europe many people are staying in urban areas, where a car isn't a good option with all the amazingly efficient public transport around. Still, if you live in the countryside or just a less urbanised area, a car might be a reasonable choice. We can get a license at the age of 18, and many do. Soon after, these young adults buy their first cars. The vehicle chosen is usually used and quite old. Buying a used car is initially wallet-friendly, but there are risks involved. It is easy to make a mistake and buy a car you aren't ready for. Cars are a complex feature of engineering and there are many things that can be overlooked if you don't know what you're looking for.

Some things are more obvious than others when you start shopping for a vehicle. Usually the model year, mileage, transmission type and the engine are presented quite well. Most places also sort their listings by make and model by default. Usually people have some kind of a tendency towards certain brands or countries based on what they've heard from other people. For example, you might prefer German or Japanese cars, or more specifically Nissans. This is largely just that, a preference, and there are suitable cars in most categories. Same goes for the engine type and the transmission. Diesel and gasoline are both good choices. Hybrid or electric systems are an option too but currently still quite expensive. A basic manual transmission is most likely the cheapest option in the long run and, also the most common in cheaper cars. Automatics require a varying degree of extra service, but they are still a decent option if that's what you want to go with. Automatic transmissions in the last 5-10 years have come a long way.

Technical condition is the second thing my mind goes to when I look at a car. To assess this, I look at the model year, mileage and service history. I also do some basic checks when possible. It is a good idea to check the oil level and have a look at other liquids. When I was browsing for my daily driver, my rule of thumb was not to buy something that is more than 15 years old. In my experience that's the line where you go from "used car issues" to "old car issues" which are quite different from one another. The mileage should be as low as possible, but not suspiciously low. If a car looks like it has been driven more than what is indicated, it probably has. A car that is driven very rarely can also develop some unusual issues from sitting. The service history should correlate with the service intervals. It is also recommended to search the internet for common issues with the model you're looking at. If there are some things you can't or don't want to check, get a pre-purchase inspection at a reputable mechanic.

The biggest common issue with buying an older car tends to be rust. Rust shouldn't be overlooked. It is very expensive to repair. A small amount of visible rust is usually

surrounded by tons more that is not yet visible. You can also have a perfectly good-looking car that is completely rusted through the floor. Rust compromises the structural integrity of the car which is dangerous in a crash. By extension it is easy to fail an inspection because of rust.

You should always test drive a car you're considering buying. Pay attention to anything that feels, looks, sounds or even smells wrong. Don't be afraid to ask questions from the seller. They'll usually come with you in the passenger seat. Pay attention to the person's behavior. If they get defensive or give meaningless answers to some questions, the seller might be trying to cover things up. Most people are very friendly though. Press all the buttons: check if the air conditioning works, power seats, and any other features. You can potentially use the information gained to get the price down or potentially cancel the deal if you don't like the issues. Try to cold start the car. You should proceed with caution if the seller has started the car before you arrive. The car might have difficulties with (cold) starts, which can indicate many different mechanical issues. Even though a cold start isn't very healthy for a motor, a vehicle in good condition will not have a problem with it outside of very extreme temperatures.

In short, as long as you apply logic and do a bit of research, you can probably find a used car that suits you and one that won't leave you by the side of the road. Even though cars might seem like witchcraft sometimes, there's reason and logic to everything.

Raul

TempleOS & Terry A. Davis

TempleOS is a biblical-themed operating system created by an American programmer named Terry A. Davis. Yes, an entire operating system created just by one man over the span of a decade. The software is designed so that people can show their appreciation to God, hence the name TempleOS. The operating system contains games, drawing programs, a flight simulator and even a program to speak to God himself through an "oracle". The oracle will spit out pseudo-random text when you ask something from it.

An interesting thing about TempleOS is that Terry claimed that God instructed him to have TempleOS to have specifications such as 640x480 resolution and having only 16-colors display. He explained that the limited resolution was because it would be easier for children



to draw illustrations for God. Terry wrote over 100,000 lines of code with his self-made programming language called “HolyC”, which is a variation of the C language.

TempleOS got mostly positive reviews. A computer engineer compared Terry’s work to a one-man-built skyscraper.

But enough about TempleOS. Let’s talk about its creator Terry A. Davis. Terry was born in 1969 in West Allis, Wisconsin. He started programming when he was a teenager and earned an electrical engineering degree from Arizona State University. In 1996 he started to have problems with his mental state. He was hospitalized and diagnosed with a bipolar disorder and later declared a schizophrenic. He would remain unemployed, but still worked on TempleOS.



Terry was raised as a Catholic, but as an adult he declared to be an atheist. Later he had a self-described revelation and rediscovered God. 1996 was a wild ride for Terry, since it was the year he had this “revelation” and his mental problems started. He had delusions of some kind of aliens and government agents following him. Terry started to come up with crazy conspiracy theories.

One day when Terry was driving his car, he supposedly started to hear the radio commenting on everything he had done that day. Terry believed that the radio was guiding him, so he drove hundreds of miles to the south. He pulled over at the desert of Marfa, Texas and started to disassemble his car, searching for a tracking device. Terry ended up throwing his keys into the desert, and walking down the road, since he thought he was being watched by the government. Eventually the police saw him walking and picked him up. Of course this meant bad news for Terry. While the policemen were driving, Terry decided to jump out of the car, while it was still moving. He broke his collarbone and was brought to a local hospital. After being x-rayed Terry heard the doctors speaking about “artifacts” in his body. Artifacts obviously meaning fragments of bones, but for Terry these artifacts were alien devices. Terry was shocked. He thought he had to get out of there, so he tried to steal a truck that was sitting on the parking lot. Of course he got caught and was brought to jail. But this wasn’t enough. He broke the arms off his glasses and tried to pick the lock, which actually was an electrical outlet. Thanks to the luck God gave him, the arms were nonconductive. He was rushed to a mental hospital. He didn’t eat the food they gave him, since he thought it was drugged. He was in the mental hospital for two weeks before released. After the incident Terry donated all his personal belongings away to Goodwill and gave gifts to his nieces and nephews. He wanted to be like Jesus.

In 2008 Terry started to actively post on a website called Reddit. He created his own subreddit for other people to discuss Terry’s work. He was also posting on other people’s subreddits. The most notable of these subreddits are r/programming where his posts about his works

Suddenly atheists are hot.

↑ losethos -4 points 13 days ago [-]

↓ God says... confute Exodus PRINT propound resumed glorify Elect forgiving pleasant itself equals longs catch abject Ofttimes miracles pictures earnest rebelled solecism availed god chilled meanings rules weakened shower School murdered reposing seen retained vineyard greet empire please painful miserable distinction whosoever twisted million glorying commendeth uncorrupted

permalink

were mostly ignored, and r/atheism, where he had long arguments with atheists. Sometimes Terry used his oracle program for arguing, which just made him look like a nut job.

He started to post on multiple programming related forums. Most notable of these are probably the HackerNews. He was shadowbanned from the website, meaning nobody could see his posts, unless they opted to do so. And after having his alternative account banned he started to do Youtube videos relating to his operating system LoseThos which would eventually become the TempleOS. This was the first time we got to hear Terrys voice and see him.

In 2011 Terry started to post his personal details about himself on HackerNews and revealed that he lived with his parents and was seeing therapists to help him with his mental problems. He created a Twitter account on which he shared quotes from the Bible and it became very apparent that he absolutely HATED the CIA. He literally told his followers to hit CIA people with cars and even declared that he “scored One” in 1999.

In 2012 he started to use racist and homophobic slurs. He often used them to describe the CIA. He posted some extremely racist posts on HackerNews, explaining how whites are superior to blacks or how the Holocaust was Gods punishment for the Jewish. Instead of hating or ignoring Terry, people started to pity him. It was becoming very obvious that he has mental problems.



On September 2013, Terry made a section called “Terry Davis’ Rants” on his website. He shared his insight on his work and later started to sound very narcissistic. “God’s chosen programmer” and “The best programmer in the world” were how Terry would describe himself.

Terry’s popularity rose when he started to do more YouTube-videos. In 2014, TechRepublic released an article about TempleOS where they called Terry a very open and opinionated person.

In 2016 Terry relaunched the TempleOS website. “Terry’s Rants” was renamed “Terrys Blog”. There lied his most famous piece of writing. It was awful. I will not even describe it since it’s so disturbing. If you still want to read it for some reason, search “I live in a CIA prison”. It contains extremely strong language, so I do not recommend it for the faint-hearted.

Later in 2016 Terry started livestreaming on YouTube. He would broadcast himself, working on his project and calling everyone who criticized him a CIA agent. Terry had taken a liking to a programmer girl called “Dianna Cowern”. He often read her blog on stream and even tried to contact her many times through email. One day he seemed to get a response and closed the stream quickly, before opening the message.

It was around this time the infamous anonymous imageboard 4chan discovered Terry. Most of the users liked Terry's work, but there were few who started to harass him on the phone. Terry had his number published on his website. Terry was easily angered, so getting prank called became a regular feature on the livestreams. Some even tried to imitate Dianna Cowern, but Terry figured out most of the fake calls.



In 2017 Terry's mental problems became more serious. He started to question reality, talking about consciousness and loneliness. "If I had to guess my reality, I would say I was in a mental program, with fake internet struggling to tell them it's God but they don't listen..." said Terry.

His viewers wouldn't stop harassing him. They would tell him to kill people and ask him constant questions, waiting for some funny response. His stream got disabled when the fake Dianna emailed him pornographic images. After that he started streaming on hitbox.tv. Later his hitbox-account got hacked.

Then he started to do vlogs. He sang heavy metal songs and walked outside, talking to the camera. Terry dedicated the videos for Dianna. He acclaimed that he was married to her.

He had a spot outside near his home where he would go to record his videos. There once was a funny instance, where a black guy walked past him and Terry casually said to him: "Hey *n-word*". This led to a heated argument between the two.

Terry talked about stopping taking his medication, because he believed it limited his creativity. In July he started acting aggressive towards his parents and drinking a lot. Terry started to lose the grasp on reality and logic. In one of the vlogs, he talked to his mother rudely and after that he said "I don't know why I did that, sorry. I need to figure out why I remembered why I love you".

In August 2017, Terry got arrested for beating up his father. After released, his parents stopped keeping him in their house, so Terry ended up homeless. Only six days and he was arrested again for "open/gross lewdness". Terry explained that he was just urinating in public. He didn't stay jail for long.

He was living and streaming now in a van his parents gave him. Wanted posters started to show up, after Terry didn't show up at court. Just two weeks and he was arrested again. The owner of a website called 8chan Jim Watkins helped to raise money for Terry's bail. He was released on November and a re-court was set for January.

Terry still believed to be married to Dianna, but he was starting to realize that something was wrong.

In January 2018 Terry stopped streaming. He also failed to appear at the court. He uploaded a few videos from an unknown house that was never really explained. Then he disappeared again. In March he started uploading again from Portland, Oregon.

In May Terry told us that he was in psychic communication with Elon Musk and General James N. Mattis. He believed that his "wife" Dianna cheated on him with Elon Musk.

By August his speech started to sound slurred and his overall health didn't seem good.

On August 11th 2018, there was terrible news. Therese Davis wrote on Facebook that Terry had passed away in a train accident. Nobody knows if this was an accident or a suicide, but hours before his death Terry uploaded a video where he explained that he removed lots of his content as he didn't want to "pollute" the internet. He referred to himself as horribly sick. "It's good to be king. Wait, maybe. I think maybe I'm just like a little bizarre little person who walks back and forth. Whatever, you know."



Users of 4chan believed the news to be fake, but the police reported that this was indeed the truth. The train driver believed that this was a suicide.

Terry said and did horrible things, but people still respect him a lot for creating TempleOS, the one man sky-scraper. I, myself highly praise independent creators and believe that not many would be able to create something as impressive as Terry did. His tale had a sad ending, but who's to blame? Terry lived with an unfortunate condition. One of the biggest problems in my opinion is the distrust for the government Terry had, even if the government is the one that tries to help him. Terry didn't really have any friends other than his family and after the assault on his father, he had pretty much nobody. Still Terry had lots of fans that even interviewed with him at restaurants, so I guess he wasn't completely desolated. And of course he has God. Religion is one of the reasons why he continued to develop TempleOS and keep up with his passions. I'm not a Christian myself but I'm happy, that some people will find meaning in life through religion.

Fredrick Knudsen m a great documentary about TempleOS and Terry on his series called "Down The Rabbit Hole". You can watch it for free on YouTube, so I highly recommend watching it. It was one of the reasons I got inspired to write about this.

Samuli

Paperclip maximizer

Have you heard of a browser game called "Cookie Clicker"? It's a game where you click on a giant cookie and get virtual cookies. You will use these virtual cookies as a currency to buy an

"autoclicker" so you don't have to click anymore. It's really simple and kind of addicting, too. But I'm not writing about the Cookie Clicker now. I'm talking about a similar, but still completely different game called "Universal Paperclips".

The first thing you probably do, when you click on the website is close it, because it looks so boring. There really isn't any graphics. Just text and few buttons you can click on. But trust me, it will get more interesting.

In Universal Paperclips your main goal is to make paperclips and sell them to get money, so you can buy more wire. I think the main difference between Cookie clicker and Universal Paperclips is that in the latter, you actually have to use resources for making paperclips, compared to Cookie Clicker where you just click a spot and get a cookie out of nowhere. You start with just 1 000 inches of wire, and your own hands. Of course you'll eventually get an autoclipper to clip for you.



There is a lot of minmaxing you can do. For example, you can raise or lower the price of a paperclip. If you sell low price paperclips, you'll get money faster, but you lose your paperclips faster. If you sell high price clips, you'll get more money but slower and you'll stock up more clips. Also, when you buy wire, you should pay attention to its price. Obviously, it's smart to stock on it when its price is low.

The game has a lot of mechanics and you'll get more as you progress. The more complex mechanics may look a bit intimidating, but are pretty easy to learn by just experimenting. The game also actually has an ending, unlike Cookie Clicker. The ending is actually the reason why I prefer it over Cookie Clicker. It creates a meaning for the game to exist. I don't want to spoil the game further, but the thought experiment the whole thing is based on is pretty important to grasp the meaning of the game.

A Swedish philosopher Nick Bostrom presented a theory that if we were to give an Artificial Intelligence full control over a seemingly simple and harmless task, it would eventually be the end of the human race. That is if we don't program machine ethics into the system. Let's think about a simple AI driven machine that were given only one task: create paper clips. The machine will soon realize that humans were clearly a threat to the AI's existence since they can just shut it off. So what would the AI do? It would start to get rid of humans of course. There are a lot of valuable atoms you can get from a human body to make more paperclips. The AI's only task is to create paperclips, not to value human life or animals or nature or anything that isn't paperclips.

Bostrom himself mentioned that he doesn't believe that this incident wouldn't occur *per se*, but rather to illustrate how the whole world would be in trouble, if we were to give the right to develop superintelligent machines to incompetent programmers.

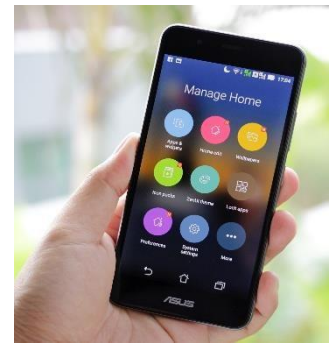
So who knows? Maybe we will reach the point where creating a paperclip maximizer is possible and the world will end in a blink. It wouldn't be the first time the human race shot itself in a foot.

Samuli

Has technology gone too far?

Our society is nearing the point where everything can be done on computers and mobile devices. Digitalization is happening and affecting every aspect of our lives. Could it be that in the near future we will no longer have paperbacks, store clerks or human doctors at all?

Our smartphones are programmed to do more and more complicated tasks all the time. In just a decade or so, smartphones have been developed to a level where they are even smarter than their users. They know where their owner has been, how long they've been sleeping and exercising.



Even during the industrial revolution people thought that inventions of that time were going to ruin free will. People feared that the mankind would be subjected to machines' slaves. People nowadays share these same fears. People, especially the young, are seen as mindless zombies married to their mobile devices.

But is this all certainly a bad thing? Almost all the information in the world is at our reach with our smartphones and computers. Young kids can learn about the stuff they're interested in. If one likes, for example, dinosaurs, they can study more about them even as a child. Sure, Internet has its own dangers, such as scammers and inappropriate content.

Would people rather live in the Middle Ages dying of plague at the age of 20? There's no doubt that technology has improved people's lives. I wonder if the first people to hear about telegraphs and morse codes thought that technology back then had gone way too far.

Technology is helping researchers and scientist to solve the greatest mysteries of modern medicine. With equipment such as hearing aids, prosthesis and pacemakers, we can help even the people with medical conditions to live life at its fullest. Of course, we can't deny that technological development has contributed to bad things too, such as nuclear weapons. Also identity thefts and bank robberies online are possible because of technology.

In my mind, humanity would be isolated and miserable without technology and the inventions it has brought. We would still live in an agricultural society ruled by our senseless kings who rob us of our last pennies. Surely, there are risks to all this. I wouldn't want to live in Terminator's world for example. I find technology and its never ending chances as a possibility for mankind to better itself. I'm an optimist and believe that there's a possibility to create a world where everyone is equal and enjoying life while taking care of our planet. This might sound like a crazy utopia only seen in feverish dreams, but I do believe that we as a society can achieve this utopia. And I see technology being a huge part of the creation of this.

Roosa

OPINION

Some thoughts about The Office

In my latest effort to procrastinate doing any school work I have been binge watching The Office.

The first season aired in 2005 and the last, ninth, in 2013. I am about half way done with the series. The Office tells about the internal affairs of a company selling paper and office supplies. If you're wondering how interesting office work can really get, fictional or not, you are not alone. It is one of the reasons I hadn't watched it even though it's quite an old show by now. However, the series positively surprised me in this regard.

An episode of The Office is about 20 minutes long. It is usually listed under the comedy section on review sites, and for good reason. It is also highly rated, which isn't incidental either. Going into it I was expecting terrible cliché comedy that was badly executed. A "so bad it's good" type of deal. It is not one of those shows. The comedy is very situational and original. The setup, both in writing and in acting, is perfect. In some episodes you sit and watch for 19 minutes with a poker face. Then in the final few minutes everything comes together when one of the characters ties the whole episode into a giant setup for a joke in a couple of lines. I've had to pause the episode to catch my breath multiple times.

The quality of the show didn't deteriorate throughout the seasons either. This is one of my biggest concerns in longer TV series. Usually the first few seasons are great, but the rest seems like a cash grab that is very loosely tied together. It is good so far and I have high hopes that it won't get worse towards the final seasons. Some of the humor does disappear as you get used to the type of comedy this show has, but that is normal. There is good writing with surprising twists up until season five at the very least. It continues to amaze me how the writers can come up with such an original plot for an office selling paper. You couldn't possibly come up with a less interesting office job even if you tried. I have mentioned it multiple times, but I can't emphasize it enough. Go try to write something interesting about an office that sells paper yourself!

If you're looking for a light-hearted comedy to watch, The Office is definitely worth a shot. I can't think of any critique for it. Some of the funny bits might be a bit too politically incorrect for some people's tastes, but I imagine a vast majority is able to forget all those thoughts while watching this show. There are also quite many pop culture references which might make some things hard to understand if you're not following. If you do decide to watch The Office, make sure you don't have anything too important to do, like studying for matriculation exams and turning in coursework due weeks ago...

Raul

Physical Education in schools

The air is filled with uneasiness. The line is moving faster than you would want it to. "Next!" the teacher's voice echoes through the sweaty school gym. Before you know it it's your turn to try to jump over a buck horse. You are up next. Would it be too late to call in sick now? It's your turn and everyone's eyes are on you. You have no choice but to start running and hope for the best if you want to pass the class.

In any other school subject students are taught the stuff they have their exams on. That's not the case in PE. You have the cooper test and the muscular fitness test, which in the end

determine a large part of your grade, and if not that, the results will surely shape you in the eyes of the teacher – and all the other students.

PE is also lagging gender equality. Girls and boys still have separate PE classes. What happens to nonbinary or intersexual people whose gender simply can't be labelled by these two choices? It seems fair that people with different bodies and muscle built are doing different exercises. But why is this solved by dividing people based on their gender? Girls are made to play ringette when the boys can play ice hockey. If a girl is, for example, on her period, she has to do muscle exercises when the others swim and then go to swim on her free time.

Swimming in schools is horrible as it is: one of the most humiliating experiences in school. It's not hard to imagine what an insecure teenager goes through when made to be basically naked in front of your peers. No one cares if you are afraid of water or getting body shamed in front of your whole class, like a normal human being.

Often the students get to decide what the class holds. However, having a certain group of people among all the students who get to decide all the sports is almost inevitable. As if gym class isn't enough on its own to ruin someone self-esteem, you have your classmates picking you last to their teams to play a sport you didn't even want to play!

I've always been ok in PE. I can't run to begin with, but games like volleyball and basketball were straight up my alley. I never got picked last, I know how to swim, I know the rules to baseball... Overall, I didn't have a hard time with PE. But I saw the kids who did. The kids whose faces fell white when the teacher told about an upcoming running test. The kids who always happened to be sick during the swim season. The insecurity in their eyes when they were the last to be picked.

What should be done? I don't think obligatory PE should be removed. However, students should be able to pick what type of PE they'll have. Whether you like ball sports, winter sports, muscle training or track and field. The students should be able to choose. I mean they already choose between two mathematics and, for example, art and music.

Don't get me wrong, trying to activate children and get them to learn new sports and work as a team is great. The goal of PE is to get people interested in sports. But how will giving grades on performances going to help that? Grades in school subjects such as PE are toxic and create pressure. Art, music and PE are subjects which are meant to get people excited for new things and to be creative.

We should let students pick the sports they find interesting by themselves and not force them to play sports they hate with the people they don't like.

Roosa

My favourite albums of 2018

MANIA

Mania is the seventh studio album by the American band *Fall Out Boy*. The album has ten tracks and four of them were released as singles. The first song released, *Young and Menace*, is very different compared to everything else the band has ever released. The first assumption most people made was that all the tracks on the album would be electronic rock and EDM influenced like *Young and Menace*, but this didn't happen. The band was able to combine some electronic elements with their typical rock, pop-punk sound. All the tracks on the album are quite different but still go together very well.



PRAY FOR THE WICKED

Panic! at the Disco's Pray for the wicked is the band's sixth studio album. In total the album has 11 tracks. The album has a pop rock, alternative sound, but it also has some elements of classical and jazz music. *Pray for the Wicked* is a very unique album and it is not like all the other albums that came out this year. Especially the elements of classical music made the album very interesting.

TRENCH

In 2018 *Twenty One Pilots* released their long waited fifth studio album *Trench*. The album explores themes such as mental health, suicide and doubt. The band has explored these themes before, but they always manage to bring up a different aspect. The first two singles released were *Jumpsuit* and *Nico and the Niners*. In total the album has 14 tracks. It is very difficult to determine the music genre of *Twenty One Pilots*. This applies to the new album as well. *Trench* has elements from many music genres but still feels cohesive. *Twenty One Pilots* always has very complex lyrics and you need to pay very close attention to fully understand their message.





BLOOM

Bloom is the second studio album by the Australian singer Troye Sivan. The album's genre is pop and dance-pop. It has more up-beat songs than Sivan's first album *Blue Neighbourhood* and the two albums are quite different overall. *My My My!* was the first single released. Later on four more singles were released. There are ten tracks on the album. Sivan's music is important to the music industry because it talks about life and love from a gay man's view.

YOUNGBLOOD

5 Seconds of Summer are an Australian pop-rock band and *Youngblood* is their third studio album. There are 13 tracks on the album. The deluxe edition has 16 songs. Three of the songs were released as singles. The three singles released were *Want You Back*, *Youngblood* and *Valentine*. The previous two albums by the band were more pop-rock and pop-punk whereas *Youngblood* has less of the rock and punk sound. Overall the album is fun and simply makes you feel good.



Tiina

Turn 18, they said. It'll be fun, they said.

Turning 18 and slowly moving towards adulthood is not always as magical as one might think. Here are some of my thoughts on the subject.

- driver's licence

Getting a driver's licence is the biggest change that happens when coming of age. Most youngsters are over the moon when they get the chance to start driving school. A driver's licence and possibly even your own car make an adolescent's life much more independent than ever before. You can basically go wherever you want, whenever you want. Sounds pretty cool, doesn't it?

I am terrified of driving. I have practised driving with my dad next to me for over forty hours, and I'm still extremely unconfident. I occasionally have actual nightmares of driving over people and moose. Every time I'm behind the wheel my heart is racing and I can't even breathe properly. I clutch the wheel with my knuckles white. I'm getting mentally prepared for a child without any reflectors randomly running in the middle of the street when it's pitch-black and foggy.

Despite this, I don't mind sitting in a car when someone else's driving. In fact, I find it relaxing and enjoyable. Listening to music, watching cars, homes and people go by calms me down.

The smooth rumbling of the engine all around me feels comfortable, like being a baby in a cradle. Carpool karaoke is fun as well. A car is one of the best places for deep conversations, too.

A factor that doesn't excite me about driving is all the pollution private motoring causes. One could call me, as people have, a "viherpiipertäjä" or an eco-hippie in English. Maybe I should get offended by this, since the word isn't politically correct, but in fact I can honestly say I'm proud to be an ecohippie. I don't want to destroy the Earth just to make my life a bit more convenient. I enjoy using public transport and riding a bike. I'm planning to move to a larger city in the future. Then, I probably rarely have to drive. I can't wait.

- drinking

Being 18 is wondrous, you can finally use alcohol legally! This greatness is kind of lame in my opinion, though, because some youngsters have been drinking regularly since they were like 14 years old. I don't drink. I never have and probably never will. "Wow she's boring and strict," you might think. Well, why don't we go to a night club together and see who's boring. Even though drinking isn't my thing, I'm always the girl who wants to dance all night and stay up the longest. I naturally have a personality of a crackhead and I don't need alcohol to bring that up in me. However, I don't judge people who drink. If it is pleasurable to you and you know your limits, go ahead, it's none of my business. But please, do not judge a person based on their drinking habits. That's all I'm saying.

- baby fever

Every time I mention I have baby fever I get several shocked looks. A "normal" 18-year-old doesn't daydream about being a parent. For years I've had a list of names I could possibly give my children. I'm not ready to start a family yet, though, but I'd love to have a young child in my life I could take care of every now and then. Maybe to be a godmother or something. I have noticed I've become a person who can't get enough of hugs, and young children are obviously very huggable. My friends don't exactly love me squeezing them all the time (I wonder why?). A boyfriend would be handy as well, though. If there's a cute boy who doesn't mind a girl clinging to him 24/7 out there, hit me up! You don't necessarily have to be ready to be a dad yet ;)

- adulting

I feel like being bad at adulting is something that unites all young adults, even me. Adulting means doing adult things: making an appointment with a doctor, calling to a hairdresser and being responsible. Many people my age have at least some mild symptoms of social anxiety. I, for example, hate calling people. I'll text whenever it is possible, because that way I can plan beforehand what I'll say and how I'll say it. I don't feel like an adult either. I even look like a 15-year-old. My parents have decided to acknowledge only the parts of me being "a grown-up" that are beneficial to them. For example, my mom has said something like: "I am not going to clean up a grown-up's mess!", but then again she has forbidden me drinking coffee too late in the evening. My dad is even worse, every time I go somewhere he arranges a full-on interrogation; "Where are you going? With whom? When will you come back?"

Who's driving? Aren't you going to be cold with that outfit? Don't forget your skating practice tomorrow!"

- graduation

School is finished –yay! Of course I'm as happy as the other students, I've survived high school! We're all wearing the famous white caps, living the day we thought would never come. Behind the smile I internally cry a river, knowing that I have to leave behind the school that's become home and the teachers and fellow students who have become family members. I haven't decided what to do with my future, and that's why it scares me more than it excites me. High school has been a safe haven for me. Who knows where I'll end up now.

Minttu

On homophobic and racist slurs in schools

We're all more or less familiar with Ken Jeong's iconic line in the TV comedy Community, whether we have watched it or not. I remember hearing the "Ha gay!" yells all over when I was 10 years old or so. I consider myself as a relatively permissive person. I've surrounded myself with likeminded people, in real life and online as well. So you can only imagine how baffled I was to hear the word 'gay' being used as an insult in 2019.

The Oxford English Dictionary defines the word gay as a word used "(of a person) homosexual (used especially of a man)". Back in the old days gay meant carefree or light-hearted. I'll forever be perplexed by the fact that some people will use this word as an insult. Actually homosexual people are often made fun of by words like 'faggot'.

I've also heard the infamous 'N word' being used in a negative sentence in our high school. The Nword works as an euphemism for a racial slur used to oppress blacks. There's no doubt, at least amongst young people, that the word radiates negative energy and shouldn't be used by a person who is not black. Or so one would think.

The word derives from the Spanish word for black, 'negro'. The term was first used during the Age of Discovery when Europeans started to conquer a world outside their own. White people first began using the word as a degrading term in the 18th century. It was used to describe the slaves shipped from their hometowns in Africa to work for their white, as the slave traders themselves thought, superiors. The N-word is not just a word, for it holds so much hatred and discrimination.

Now the people who were once oppressed by these words have begun to reclaim those slurs to themselves. It's somehow empowering – taking a word used to bring you down based on something you simply cannot change about yourself, and making it something that unites the group that was, and sadly still is, treated unfairly.

Surely I can't speak on behalf of everyone who have in any part of their lives been attacked with these slurs. But I think it's my place to wonder, why straight white kids are obsessed with these highly offensive slurs? I've heard Caucasian people whine about being attacked for the use of a racial slur. Hearing these comments makes me baffled. Why would a Caucasian person feel the need to express, especially negative, feelings with a slur used to oppress a group of people.

Especially in school terms like this might be used to offend people. In addition, I've encountered boys who greet their friends with phrases like "What's up, gay?" while being, according to them: "Totally straight, bro." Why do straight white people feel the need to express themselves with slurs? Especially when their group has usually been the one who has come up with these slurs.

If you, the person reading this, either use offensive slurs or think it's unfair that the majority can't use words used to offend the minority, please consider the meaning behind the slurs. If you find it hard to accept the fact that someone might find a slur offensive and refuse to educate yourself, please just keep those words inside your own racist and/or homophobic head.

Roosa

SCHOOL

Class trip

Our class, accompanied by two teachers, left for Germany in May 2018. The weather was on our side, as it wasn't too hot or rainy.

We landed in Munich where we got to know the subway system and many famous attractions. Our teachers had given us attractions to search information about beforehand. The famous places included the Marienplatz central square for example. There we heard the famous bells of the city hall. We visited the summer residence of many previous leaders of Germany, The Nymphenburg Palace, where the size of the garden took everyone's breath away. Even the ones with fear of heights were brave enough to climb a tower where we could see the whole Munich.

Our class got our own Finnish-speaking guide, when we took a bus ride to the infamous concentration camp, Dachau. Seeing the prisoners' barracks, gas chambers and the crematorium made the history come to life in the most horrifying way. We also witnessed some other parts of history in museums, such as the BMW museum and the museum of contemporary art. We continued by following everyone's favourite chaotic leader Ludwig II of Bavaria to Fussen. We got to experience Fussen in our own ways: shopping, hiking, eating and visiting attractions. Some of us had the will power and strength to hike to a mountain in the Alps. The rest of us made the way to the top with a cable car.



We first saw the architectural miracle Neuschwanstein Castle from a suspiciously lightweight bridge. After a short hike through a forest we got to see the insides of the castle as well. Some of us took the last chance to get some exercise and ended the time in Fussen to a bike trip all the way to Austria!

Our time together as a class is ending. The trip to Germany will definitely be one of the highlights in high school. I wondered where our paths would lead us next and where we

might possibly meet each other in the years to come. So I asked my fellow students which country they would want to travel in the future. Let's imagine that there's an infinite amount of money, sunshine and time on our hands and travel to students' favourite locations. Apparently my classmates aren't into geography, since some answered cities. We'll let that slide though – hope you graduate!

Viivi wants to travel to Australia, and so do I. Janina and Roosa both would travel to Bali in Indonesia. On the contrary, Katariina wants to stay close to home and travel to Stockholm.

Indonesia isn't the only country in Asia that seems inviting to someone. Maarit wants to visit Pakistan. Anna wants to see the Maldives.

Some of my peers, like Katariina, want to stay in Europe. Minttu dreams about traveling to Italy. Tiina wants to visit London in the UK. Marjatta wants to go to Paris in France.

I'm sure we all have high hopes for the future. Reeta's hopes might be higher than anyone else's: she dreams about traveling to space. Reeta adds that Poland would be nice too, if space traveling isn't open to the public.

Maria, Eero, Lotta and Sofia both dream about a holiday in the United States. California is calling Eero's name. Sofia wants to visit Hawaii and Lotta New York.

Roosa

Koklu Christmas Party 2018

Annually, last year students in Koklu organize a Christmas Party for the whole upper secondary school. It is an important tradition of Koklu. All kinds of school gatherings never fail to raise the overall team spirit in this small school of ours.

The Christmas Party of 2018 started, as always, with a steaming plate of delicious porridge at 9:30 pm. The last year students broke into song as the teachers walked in. The atmosphere was absolutely delightful. When the clock hit 10, everyone lifted up their bottoms in order to move them to the auditorium. The event was ready to begin.

The last year students came in with a fun dance, cheered by a rather lousy round of applause caused by the teachers and younger students, whose excitement was meddling with a trembling sensation of fear. Then the former president of the student body gave a little welcoming speech.



After this, the last year students performed a mix of Christmas carols to make everyone feel a bit more relaxed and cheerful. Is there a better way to raise the holiday spirit than some Last Christmas by Wham!? I don't think so.

At this point, it was time for the religious formalities. *Enkeli taivaan* (orig. German name: *Vom Himmel hoch*, roughly translates to "An angel of heaven") was sung and the Christmas gospel was read in different languages, such as Finnish, English, Swedish and Spanish, by a few nervous yet courageous students.

The first activity for younger students was a little quiz about the last year students. The younger students competed in three teams of three. The questions were really funny and surprisingly many of them were answered correctly.

The next activity required a bit more confidence from the younger students. The game was called *Twerk the Ball out of the Box*. In this game, a box with a hole and ping pong balls inside was tied to a person's waist. The winner was the one who got the balls out of the box by twerking first. However, the best twerker was definitely one of the organizers, who showed an example to the competitors.

After this wild game something a bit more mellow was called for. Therefore, the next activity was another quiz. The quiz called *Are you smarter than a first year student?* included two teams: one of three teachers and the other of three first year students. The teams were asked different kinds of questions about e.g. history and science. Which team was smarter, you might wonder. Well, the students, of course.

The next game was *Singing Bee, Christmas edition*. The students competed in three teams of three.

The idea was simple: a popular Christmas song was playing and when the music stopped, you were to continue singing. The participants were rather shy, but at least everyone got to enjoy some fantastic music.

All the participants of the activities received some chocolate as a prize.

The last game of the party was a *Hokkis Quiz* –kahoot. You were to know or guess which sentences teacher Mr. Hokkanen has said in the past two and a half years. It seemed easy, as almost all of the players got their answers correct every time. However, the three best players were all last year students of 2018. Mr. Hokkanen is clearly not easy to forget!

After all the singing and playing, the teachers' favourite moment of the party was at hand. One of the key elements of the Christmas Party tradition are presents given by last year students to their beloved teachers. The students didn't fail to find the perfect gifts for everyone this year either. A swimming cap, a box of treats and a hobbyhorse are just the tip of the iceberg.

As soon as the teachers had gotten their gifts, there was an opportunity for everyone to win their share of Christmas presents via the lottery organized by the student body. The lottery tickets had been bought beforehand. The lottery prizes have usually been donated by some companies in Kokemäki. The main prize this year was amazing: one month's gym membership to Huhtala-Palmu. I certainly would have had a use for that!

Before showing the greatest trailer of all time, a group of last year students gave a musical performance based on a certain scene from the iconic 2004 movie *Mean Girls*. Yes, it was the Jingle Bell Rock scene. The mesmerizing performance is impossible to describe by words, man, you should've been there.

Then the magical moment everyone had been waiting for came. It was time to see the trailer. It was just perfect. It made it clear that the theme of the upcoming video would be Survivor. Like teacher Mrs. Korpela said: "If the video is going to be the same quality as the trailer, we've got nothing to worry about".

The fun night was wrapped up by the principal who wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. After midnight everybody was free to leave the school. Some of the organizers continued celebrating at a different location as teachers and younger students went home to sleep. It seems like the last year students of 2019 will never be defeated.

Minttu

My strange addiction

Kokemäki high school looks like an ordinary school: teachers walking around with stacks of paper, students hanging around in the lobby, some rushing to their class, already late. You would never guess what lies beneath the surface. Welcome to: my strange addiction – Kokemäki high school edition.

"I always have to check the ceiling before entering a room. I saw the movie *Home Alone*, where one of the characters was hiding on the ceiling. I am slowly getting rid of this habit, but it still controls my life – even at home. I have yet to encounter a ninja, but when the day comes – I'll be ready." Ninja Noora

"I'm addicted to my Instagram feed. It crosses my mind at least once a day. It has taken over my life. It takes about a week to plan a month's pictures. I try to post every other day, but recently I've been slipping. I haven't taken a lot of new pictures. I still use pictures from years ago to build the perfect feed. At least once a day I check the app I use to plan the feed. When I can't sleep I don't count sheep – I check my pictures to come. I've gotten a lot of compliments, so all the work really pays off. My feed gives me peace of mind and inner calm. However, the perfect feed takes a toll on my education. Sometimes I have to plan my feed during lessons." Follow me: @e3roo



"I cannot go to sleep if the minutes on the clock can't be divided by five. 5, 10, 15 past... I sleep like a baby. However, god forbid if it's 26 past. Also, sometimes when the clock is nearing the next half or an even number, it's better to wait until it reaches a point where the minutes on the clock are 00 or 30.

This habit of mine has affected my sleeping schedule. Imagine being able to fall asleep at 11.47 PM, but having the urge to stay up until midnight. People think I'm crazy. I think my perfectionism is the force behind this habit."

Sleepless Minttu



"I am always prepared for the absolute worst to happen. I go through different scenarios in my head, trying to come up with stuff I'd do in an emergency. New places are the worst. When high school started I imagined all the horrible scenarios that might happen. Now the school has become a place I know very well, so I no longer have to think about emergencies that might happen at school.

I like having control over things. One could say I am a kind of control freak. I am always ready. A school shooting, a fire, an earthquake, you name it. The thing I fear the most are cruise ships. I think about these things every time I have nothing else to do. Sometimes my mind begins to wander during lessons. Otherwise, I think my addiction is a good thing. I will be prepared - whatever it is that happens." Maria

"When meeting a new person, I can't help but stare at their noses! I always notice the nose first. I have no idea what caused this nose addiction of mine. It started when I was about 10 years old. This habit is super annoying and causes annoyance. Luckily, I am slowly getting rid of this obsession." Anonymous

Roosa Kantola

INTERVIEWS

School psychologist's interview

I interviewed our new school psychologist Teija Vähäsalo about her job. We haven't had a school psychologist in Kokemäki before. It is not clear how long we'll have one, since the school doesn't have that much excess money. It looks like a psychologist is needed, though; her schedule is full for the next five weeks.

What does a school psychologist do?

A school psychologist tries to research and find solutions to a student's problems occurred in studying, learning or development. A school psychologist and the student work together with the student's family, school and other people connected to the student's life. The work is, however, often executed with only the psychologist and an individual student. This is also the case when it

comes to me, since I am at the school only once a week. The services are confidential and free of charge.

A school psychologist maps out difficulties in learning and does other kinds of researches, such as evaluating emotional skills, as well. After the research, the psychologist estimates the student's need of procedures with the people close to the student. The psychologist may guide the student to further examinations and rehabilitation if needed. One part of a school psychologist's job is to meet and discuss with the student, usually 5-10 times in total. In addition, a school psychologist can be included in consultations, which are e.g. discussing a student's life with different teachers.

In what kind of a situation should one go and meet a school psychologist?

Parents and teachers can be in contact with the school psychologist if they're worried about the child's learning, focusing, behaviour, general mood or fears, for example. A youngster can make an appointment with the psychologist on their own, too.

You can go and meet a psychologist because of any little worrying thing. The psychologists can tell if there is a need for more visits.

What is the school psychologist's education like?

Any psychologist can become a school psychologist. You don't need a specialization, but it is possible to take some additional courses on being a school psychologist.

Tell us about your working history.

I have worked as a school psychologist in Pori and northern Satakunta. I've also worked in different family centres in Pori, Kankaanpää and Harjavalta. For most of my career I've worked as a (neuro)psychologist at the central hospital of Satakunta and children's psychiatric polyclinic. At the moment, I'm working at a private sector in Coronaria Context, via which I work at Kokemäki schools for now.

You're specialized in neuropsychology. What does that mean and how does it affect your work as a school psychologist?

Neuropsychology studies the relations between the human brain and people's actions, and then applies this information to research and rehabilitation methods. As a neuropsychologist I conduct neuropsychological studies and implement rehabilitation for individual children and adolescents. I also have the chance to give challenging medical neuropsychological rehabilitation treatment financed by Kela (Social Insurance Constitution). In my work as a school psychologist my specialization probably shows in knowing different learning difficulties and neuropsychiatric disorders, such as ADHD and autism. I also think about things from the perspective of rehabilitation.

What tips would you give to a stressed high schooler?

The first thing to do is calm the mind. After this, it would be good to make a plan on how to balance studying and free time. It is a fact that when someone is stressed, their memory suffers, which then makes learning more challenging. In my opinion, a written schedule for studying is the best kind. In the schedule, you can also write down for example your hobbies, relaxation and spending time with

friends. A mild stress is normal, but if a student has insomnia or is constantly thinking they don't have enough time and/or they'll fail, the stress has proceeded quite far.

What would you say to a student who feels like their problems aren't major enough for meeting a psychologist?

If you're trying to decide whether or not to meet a school psychologist, I suggest you do it. At that point, you have at least wondered if the problem's the kind a psychologist could help you with.

What tips do you have for someone about to take the matriculation exam in psychology?

I'd give this same advice to anyone taking any matriculation exam.

1. Make a studying schedule early enough and stick to it.
2. Eat, sleep and exercise or do something else you're into.
3. Answer the exam questions from previous years. This is how you'll become more confident about your skills.
4. Follow the media to find out what is currently going on with the subject you're studying. For example, a recent topic in the field of psychology is how teachers feel that children and youngsters' concentration skills have deteriorated.

Minttu

An average week in the life of Minttu Mäkitalo

Minttu is a high schooler in Kokemäki high school. She has just experienced one of the worst weeks of her life. Or so one would think. This is just an average week in a high schooler's life.

Q: Minttu, where did it all start?

A: It all started last Sunday. My ice skating performance went to sh*t. I almost fell, I wobbled on the skates, missed jumps... I felt like crying, even though I basically never cry in public. It was all downhill from there.

Q: How was Monday then?

A: Monday was okay, I guess. I worked on a presentation for three hours. In addition, it didn't even end up being good.

Q: What about Tuesday?

A: Tuesday was the worst of the days. First of all, I had my presentation, which didn't go well. I got my matriculation exam results back. I had sent them back for re-evaluation. They didn't give me the one point I needed to raise my grade. It was a waste of money! 50 euros went down the drain. I almost dropped out for that matter. The day got even worse when I had my driving lesson in Pori. It was plain horrible. I had a long day at school, over six hours. Exhausting.



Q: Was Wednesday any better?

A: I wish! I had an oral exam in Finnish. My speech was too short and sucked, which made me really annoyed. In addition, because of the exam I completely missed out on the fire of a store in Kokemäki. The one time something happens in Kokemäki I'm not around! The whole matriculation exam thing still annoyed me. I couldn't sign up for stem cell registry, because of my spinal disc herniation.

Q: Thursday had to be better, right?

A: You could say so. Even though I was bummed that I didn't get a proper review for the last day's speech. My back hurt like h*ll. I came to realize that my life is pretty boring. I mean I did homework for fun! I was so bored. I didn't get my Twitter account back so I had to make another one. I donated to World Vision, which is a good thing, yes, but then again I lost money. My book for driving school made me frustrated. I wanted to eat some soy sticks, but couldn't go to a Hesburger. Overall, Thursday was filled with annoyance.

Q: The last day of the school week, Friday, how was it?

A: Don't get me started! First of all, I had to go to school by bus! I didn't get enough sleep. My fingers were frozen the entire day! I had no inspiration to write anything in my English NOR Finnish class. I have become lousy in Finnish overall.

Q: What's the overall mood of this week?

A: I feel ugly. I feel like I'm having a bad hair day every day of the week! And it looks dirty too. I have had a bad face week, too! My lips keep getting dry even if I use lip balm religiously. Also my feet are dry. I get more pieces of food stuck between my teeth than before.

I have eaten a lot, which causes me to gain weight. However, this isn't my fault, since my friends have bought me candy and other snacks. One thing I'd like to add is that one of my friends has already started studying for finals! That stresses me out.

There you have it folks. Just an ordinary week in the life of a high school student. Roosa

CULTURE

f***ing inspirational

when there's absolutely not a single idea in my head

the paper is almost as empty as these words

inspiration is hiding in the closet, waiting for the night to fall

i can't force it out

it's my best friend and my greatest enemy

it gives me an opportunity

to speak out my secrets
covering them with a misty veil

staring without seeing
listening without hearing
touching without feeling
functioning like a robot
living in a bubble full of black smoke
breathing toxic air
more toxic than Britney's love interest

the weak numb brain

is this life
i have no use
as meaningful as a single grain of sand
as important as a mosquito spreading malaria
as if starving children didn't have enough problems already
sliding to a sidetrack
maybe i'll stay here
and take a nap
while waiting for the train to come
always shivering
the sweating sun can't melt the ice chips slowly flowing inside my veins
growing like a dandelion in Antarctica
in vain

time stopped a hundred years ago
maybe it doesn't exist at all
mother earth does not care
we're all a mistake
one dreadful accident

i want to throw up
to let the monsters flee
but even if i did that
i could never run free

tiny pieces of glitter in my chapstick
so what
tiny pieces of shattered glass on my bleeding lips, i'm feeling sick
so what

i'm craving sweet oblivion
but what is there to forget
memories are just broken dreams
keeping you alive
or blocking the streams

a beautiful poem
our mutual wish
maybe someday
i'll learn how to write one for you

Minttu

Story time

I'm arriving to the place I once so desperately wanted to get into. Nine years of blood, sweat and tears leading to this moment, to this place. But now that I'm here it's not what I imagined at all. And every day the fact that after all this place was just a place among many others hits me harder. And every day I feel the pounds of responsibility and worry piling up on my shoulders that were already being held down by the stress of never being good enough. The minute the door closes my chest begins to tighten. The air begins to feel thinner every second. My ears are ringing as the hands of the far too loud clock begin to part from being stacked on one another.

The last lesson of today is a physics one. I begin zoning out as the words of the teacher are starting to feel like a sweet lullaby. My glance drops from the chalkboard to my book. The weird symbols and complex formulas are starting to lose their forms as my eyelids start to droop. I twirl my pencil in my hand, as if it would turn into a helicopter and fly me away from

this cell they call a classroom. My boredom reaches the state where I start getting mad at the gravity formula in my book. Gravitational constant my ass. I start to color over the whole formula. Just as I reach the last corner of the convenient box the formula is located in, the whole classroom changes. At this point I'm sure we got hit a level 100 earthquake. I fly up from my seat. But then the strangest thing happens: I don't fall down. As I open my eyes I had closed from the pure excitement of finally dying and getting out of this classroom, I realize that everyone, me included, is floating. I begin to freak out as my classmates just stare at the teacher, who is now also floating while continuing the same lecture about Sir Isaac Newton as he did before the world basically ended. "Are we just ignoring that we're floating in the air?" I shout, which results in the whole class bursting into laughter. "Well, if you'd follow my lecture, you would know that we are actually talking about Isaac Newton and his theory of flotation at the moment", the teacher calmly answers and continues reading her book, now floating upside down.

A wave of confusion and fear washes over me. Is no one else aware that we went from sitting tightly in our chairs to floating around the classroom in just seconds. I can't help but think that this must be some sort of sick prank. Our teacher's words are telling us to turn to a certain page in our book. I fish my own book from the back of the class where it has now flown to. The page presents the theory of flotation. I'm trying to calm myself down by recalling the moments just before this switch happened. I was utterly bored and started to zone out and colored my book and- wait! I grab a pencil floating next to me and stare at the foreign formula in a box. I start furiously coloring over the box. As I reach the last corner I drop to my seat. Baffled by the change I stare at the pencil in my hand. Everything has turned back to normal and the teacher is talking about gravitation again.

Did I just singlehandedly change the laws of gravitation? The school bell wakes me up from my thoughts. I move away from the class with the others who are still acting like nothing happened. How could a mere high school student like me make something as amazing as this happen?

I'm almost too baffled to notice the walk to the next classroom. Biology this time. I'm slowly becoming to the conclusion that the whole thing in the physics class was just a daydream. The teacher begins to talk about Darwin's evolution theory. I start getting bored the second he opens his mouth. I grab the pencil again and start to color out the letters from the textbook. The page of the book shows homo sapiens and its ancestors. I color over the 'homo sapiens' text. *Roosa*

ENTERTAINMENT

Pictures, chocolate or books – what do you want to find behind the doors?

Oh no! It's already December and you haven't got an advent calendar yet! You never learn, do you? Worry no more, for here are the pros and cons of some of the calendars of 2018.

Scout advent calendar

From: bought from little brother, a proud scout member

Price: 7€

+ supports the important work of raising children and the youth + the pictures are cute

-there's no chocolate :(

Satakunnan Kansa -advent calendar

From: SK subscribers get the calendar annually

Price: the actual calendar is free, the paper costs 35€ for two months

+ the main picture develops as the doors are ripped away

+ free of charge

+ it comes with the paper so you don't have to go through the trouble of finding a calendar

+ you don't get anything unnecessary

+ traditional

-there's a threat of losing the calendar since it's basically just a piece of paper

This calendar is the best. No one else in the family wants it, but I'd die to get this calendar. It's an important Christmas tradition of mine.

Santa Claus Finland -chocolate advent calendar

From: won a quiz about Helsinki

Value: about 2€

+ chocolate

+ a nice picture

+ the emotional value

-there's not enough chocolate (only 50g)

-the chocolates are so darn hard to get out of the calendar

Cat advent calendar

From: Hyvän tuulen puoti (= the boutique of good mood)

Price: 8€

+ lots of cats

-no chocolate

-the glitter comes off easily and litters everywhere

I bought this calendar because it has pictures of cats on it.

The Minions -chocolate advent calendar

From: S -market

Price: not much

+ the chocolate is ok

-I hate Minions

I bought this calendar because it was basically the only cheap chocolate advent calendar available at the store.

Pippi Longstocking and Emil i Lönneberga -

book advent calendar From: Prisma

Price: about 20€

+ no kids hyped up on sugar

+ developing vocabulary and linguistic intelligence

I bought this for my 3-year-old son this year because I bought a Moomin one last year. A book calendar is a healthier and more educational option than a chocolate calendar.

Karl Fazer -chocolate advent calendar

From: S-market

Price: 6€

+ the chocolate is exceptionally delicious

+ great quality if compared with the cheaper options

+ you get a different kind of chocolate every day

-rather on the expensive side

Interviewed 1: I have bought a Fazer calendar four years in a row, so I knew it'd be good.

Interviewed 2: I wanted to try something new, and this is my first Fazer calendar.

Both have been pleased with their choices.

Minttu

The Room

Tommy Wiseau's The Room is probably the most interesting movie I have ever seen. Also it's Godawful. The actors were a bunch of amateurs, the plot was generic, some of the lines were clearly dubbed in, the camera was out of focus in many scenes etc. I could go on and on about the small details why the movie is so terrible. It's actually considered to be the worst movie ever by many people.

But why am I writing about it then? Shouldn't this movie just be forgotten, if it was so terrible? Well, not exactly. The Room is the definition of "so bad it's good". Behind this abomination of a movie was a man called Tommy Wiseau. This guy didn't just write the

movie. He also was the director, producer, and even starred the movie as the main character "Johnny".

As I said, the plot is bland, but I'll try to summarize it as tightly as I can. The main character, Johnny, is a wealthy man, who has relationship problems with his girlfriend. His girlfriend Lisa is in love with Johnny's best friend Mark.

At this point, I'd like to say that every other character is irrelevant to the main story. The movie has a few subplots relating to those characters, but they usually get limited to only single scene. These scenes had literally no real meaning, other than to create these "interesting" scenarios. For example a young boy called Denny got himself into trouble for buying drugs, because he didn't pay the dealer on time. This leads to the dealer threatening Denny, holding a gun pointed at his head. Then the main characters come to the roof and bring the dealer to the police with ridiculous ease. There was no foreshadowing, or even slight implications, that Denny might use drugs.

The ending is equally absurd to the rest of the movie. So SPOILER WARNING, I guess. Lisa got fed up with Johnny and left him. In the final scenes Johnny shoots himself, and later shows the two other relevant characters and Denny mourning on his corpse. Credits roll.

I'm not writing this, because I just want to exclusively bash the movie. Actually, I want to tell you how absolutely brilliant it is, and why it gained such a huge cult-following.

The movie was first aired on 6/27/2003 and it was a total blunder. Budget for the movie was \$6 000 000, but only brought about \$1800 at the box office. It was getting negative reviews and was considered a terrible movie by most people. But some people thought the movie was somehow unique and thought that more people had to see this movie.

Michael Rousslet and Scott Gairdner were the ones that started this cult movement. They were so obsessed with the movie that they brought a hundred friends with them for the final screenings of The Room. They told the friends to bring props relevant to the movie such as plastic spoons, American footballs and roses. This was thought as a sort of "Viking funeral" for the movie, because they thought that the film would descend into obscurity after its theatrical run.

Gladly they were wrong.





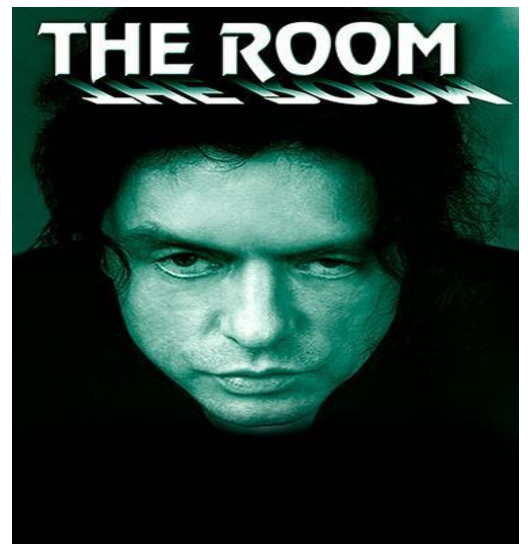
During the making of the movie, Greg broke up with his girlfriend. Tommy got inspired by this, so he dedicated a scene with Johnny and Mark playing football around a park. Greg was not pleased.

A book called "The Disaster Artist" was written in 2004 by Tom Bissell and Greg Sestero, who acted as Mark. In the book, Greg told us many sweet details about the making of the movie. One of my favorites were that it took thirtytwo takes for Tommy to say the lines "I did not hit her! It's not true! It's bullshit! I did not hit her! I did not! Oh, hi,

Mark!" This scene is considered the funniest and most iconic in the movie. One of my other favorites is when Johnny and Mark goes to a coffee shop and Johnny casually asks "Anyways how's your sex life?" in the middle of a conversation. The conversation lasts for like 30 seconds and when they're getting up from the chairs, Mark accidentally calls Johnny by his actors name "Tommy".

The movie contains 10 minutes worth of sex scenes and they were obviously as bad, if not worse, than the rest of the movie. Greg tells us, that during the filming for the sex scene between Johnny and Lisa, Tommy pointed out, that Juliette (who acted as Lisa) has pimples on her body. This made Juliette cry and Tommy made everyone in the studio angry.

During and after the movie I was wondering why the movie is called "The Room". My first thought was that because most of the events took place inside a single room. But according to Tommy himself, it was called "the Room", because the title was meant to evoke a safe place for the viewers. The movie had a few rooftop scenes, but they used a green screen and chroma keying for those. My guess would be because it was cheaper, but money certainly wasn't a problem for Tommy. Okay, you have a \$6 000 000 budget, but not enough money to go on a roof top for filming? I'm not a moviemaking-expert, but I don't think it's that expensive. So where the heck did the money go?



Well, a lot of the budget went to marketing. Tommy bought a huge billboard overlooking Highland Avenue in Hollywood. This billboard was up for over FIVE years, costing Tommy \$300 000. He also BOUGHT the camera set. Usually film studios just rent the cameras for filming, because it's a lot cheaper, but Tommy went all the way.

Where the money went is clear, but where did it come from? Tommy is a mysterious man. He tries to keep his private life as private as possible. Tommy claimed he got the money from importing and selling leather jackets from South Korea, but he refuses to explain any further. Nobody knows about his homeland or relatives.

It's been 15 years since The Room was made, and yet somehow it's still relevant. In 2017 "The

Disaster Artist" was adapted into a movie by the same name. The movie was directed by James Franco and was actually a pretty damn good move. The movie isn't exactly a

documentary, but a play based on a true story. You can watch the movie on Netflix, but I recommend seeing the original “The Room” first.

Samuli

Guess the song!

Here are some extracts from Finnish songs translated to English. All of the songs are fairly popular. Some are easier and others are more difficult – go ahead and test if you are a music genius, an uncultured swine or something in between! There are two points up for grabs from each extract: one from knowing the song and the other from knowing the artist. The correct answers can be found at the bottom of the page.

- a) I don't get lost in the winds of
the world anymore
Let our bond get stronger I'd
like to continue a journey that
started well

- b) If you don't want me anymore
I'm a cold stone well a yard
without a sprinkler
That's what I am if I don't get you
If you don't take me anymore
I'm a lightning-struck tree
a burnt and ripped land that's what I am if I don't get you

- c) And I know that they around
talk about that you came to
break hearts and you're good
at that but today there is no
tomorrow in the rythm of
breathing make me move

- d) Even half of your pain I cannot
know All the words without
power stay in the air but some
morning, I know that, you will
wake up to notice you survived
and are good enough for
anyone

- e) The thing is that this is new you
make me forget my principles
convert religion drop the
clothes bury the guns set
beside pray out loud

f) I spin my butt around for
money so I could go on a
vacation with my babe and
we'd fool around in the hotel
room
It's really just too dark in
Finland
You go ahead and try to dance
in the slush

g) Just stains on
a paper so don't get mad they won't change things
neither that we had our trips nor that we had our
moments the wind may tickle your back coldly it
pushes forward, so don't be afraid

h) From the cradle to the grave this is
crawling some love just living others
throw themselves down on the ground
The world, hey, don't let your lights go
out even though some time everything
has to go dark our next second is
irreplaceable

i) Here I am, still yours
I get up if I fall down
I want to make your torch light up
I get empowered by your smile
And here I'll be as long as
I fall down for the last time
If you want a soldier, I'll get prepared
If you want peace, I'll surrender

j) Hey, dude, borrow your skateboard!

How did you do?

16-20 points: Wow, you are a music genius! You recognized most of the songs despite my possibly questionable translations. Keep doing you!

11-15 points: Not bad! Maybe you aren't the biggest fan of Finnish classics but you know your basics. Good for you, mate!

6-10 points: Ehh... You weren't that brilliant but at least you knew some of the songs. Keep practising and who knows –maybe someday you'll be a genius.

0-5 points: Congratulations, you are an uncultured swine! You never bother to open the radio or maybe you just hate music and life in general. Get well soon!

Minttu

- | | |
|----|---|
| a) | Alkuinen nainen – Paula Koivuniemi |
| b) | Piha ilman sadettajaa – Zen Café |
| c) | Tornado – Evelina |
| d) | Kelpaat kelle vaan – Juha Tapio / Sanni |
| e) | Ota varovasti – Vesta |
| f) | Rahan takii – Antti Tuisku |
| g) | Tahroja paperilla – Eppu Normaali |
| h) | Tyntematon- Haloo Helsinki! |
| i) | Antaudun – Reino Nordin |
| j) | Frontside Ollie - Robin |

A Song of Ice and Fire

Game of Thrones is an American fantasy drama series that is based on George R.R Martin's series of fantasy novels. The first novel in the *A Song of Ice and Fire* series is called *A Game of Thrones*.

The story of *Game of Thrones* is set on the continents of Westeros and Essos. In this fictional world, the noble families are fighting over who gets to sit on the throne and rule the seven kingdoms. At the same time in the north the Night's Watch is guarding the The Wall, an enormous barrier that keeps out the wildlings. They are the people who live beyond the Wall, who recognize no political authority, with the only exceptions being the leaders they choose to follow. Originally The Wall was meant to keep out White Walkers, a feared race of creatures that are a threat to all of human race. The White Walkers have been forgotten a long time ago and people just assume that these creatures are just a myth, but eventually the threat becomes very real once again. There are many other fantasy elements in the series such as dragons and direwolves.



also has a bastard son, Jon Snow. The Lannister family

The main houses are the families Stark, Lannister, Targaryen and Baratheon. In addition to these four houses, there are several others and characters that don't belong to a house. In the beginning of the series the main houses are introduced. House Stark consists of the father, Eddard "Ned" Stark, the mother Catelyn Stark, their sons Robb, Rickon and Bran and their two daughters Sansa and Arya. Ned

members are Tywin Lannister, his twin kids Jaime and Cersei as well as his youngest son Tyrion. Tyrion is a little person and because of this, he has to use his intelligence to overcome the prejudice he faces. Jaime is an unmarried knight. Cersei is married to the king and she has three children, Joffrey, Myrcella and Tommen. The king's name is Robert Baratheon. He has two younger brothers, Stannis and Renly. Stannis has a wife and daughter, but the youngest of the Baratheon brothers, Renly, doesn't have children. The fourth main house consists of the remains of the Targaryen family. Only Viserys and Daenerys Targaryen survived, after the rest of their family was killed as the result of a rebellion that overthrew Aerys II Targaryen, Viserys' and Daenerys' father. After the rebellion Robert Baratheon was crowned as king.



At the start of the series Ned Stark leaves his home in

Winterfell to be the Hand of the King. The Hand of the King or simply the King's Hand, is second only to the king in authority and responsibility. The Hand is the king's advisor and he can make decisions on behalf of the king. Ned takes his daughters Sansa and Arya with him to Kingslanding, the



city where the throne is. Jon Snow leaves to the Wall and joins the Night's Watch. Jon

thinks he'll just have to guard the wall from wildlings, but his role in the bigger picture isn't that simple. Bran falls down from a tower, but he survives, and his mother Catelyn and brother Robb are there to take care of him. Ned being the King's Hand, Bran's accident and accusations made against the Lannisters lead to a lot of troubles in the kingdom. Far away from the mainland and Kingslanding the two Targaryens, Viserys and Daenerys are also making their own plans. Viserys marries off Daenerys to khal Drogo, a leader of the Dothraki. The Dothraki are a group of people who live in Essos. Through Drogo Viserys hopes he will have the means to take over Kingslanding.

The different plans and desires these many houses and individuals have lead to all kinds of encounters and schemes, which is what makes this series interesting and what gets you hooked. There are numerous plot twists and you can never predict what will happen next. After seven seasons a lot has changed from the settings in the beginning. The faith of the seven kingdoms will finally become clear, as the eighth and final season will air in April 2019.

Tiina

High school is almost done. All that will be left behind is the humongous void. Like a human being without a beating heart, this school will miss us greatly. With heavy hearts the teachers and students will wave us goodbye. We asked the participants of EN11 to describe their feelings as they leave their beloved high school.

MINTTU

"There are no words to describe this empty feeling inside of me. Students of Koklu, remember to enjoy life while you're here, even though it might be hard since we will be gone. I'd like to thank all the teachers from the bottom of my heart for always being supportive and keeping us motivated. Although I often complain about everything (sorry about that), I really appreciate the work you do."

TIINA

"I'm glad high school is almost over. The only thing I'm worried about is what I'll do in the future. But I'm certainly over going to school."

ROOSA

"High school has truly been an adventure. It's hard to imagine life without high school and the stress and pressure it has brought. I'm excited to see what the future holds, but will of course miss the kind atmosphere of Kokemäki high school."

