

The Globe



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Illiteracy- The Threat of the World

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Illiteracy is the inability to read and write well, which has been one of the most serious issues of many countries all over the world for many years. No matter whether it is a rich or poor country, there are still people who do not have the chance to be educated and, thus, remain illiterate. This problem may lead to many serious consequences, such as poverty, poor living conditions, limiting the abilities to obtain and understand information, lacking the opportunities to get jobs, and affecting the economy of the countries.

First of all, the people who cannot read and write do not have many opportunities to get jobs because most jobs require those abilities. Therefore, they can only apply for manual labor. Jobs are the sources that provide money for our needs in life, so if we cannot have good jobs, we will not have good living conditions. Moreover, there are several studies showing that the higher rate of illiteracy a country has, the more people live in poverty. Generally, illiteracy may cause one problem and lead to many other consequences.

In addition, illiteracy affects the growing process of people. It limits their abilities to obtain and understand information. For example, when a person cannot read and write, he will be limited from knowing many things in the books, and he will not have enough knowledge to develop his abilities even though he was born smart. Furthermore, the inability to read and write affects people’s self-esteem and leads to isolation because it makes them feel ashamed and not have the confidence to communicate with other people. That is why illiteracy is a nightmare for many people.

One other important effect of illiteracy is making the economy decline. If a country has a high rate of people who are not able to read and write, it will not have many chances to develop new technology because there are not enough people who have the high education to contribute to the country. Besides that, there will be more poor and homeless people in that country because they do not know how to earn a living. Overall the consequences are related. Illiteracy causes people to not have jobs, and that leads to poverty, which affects the economy.

Education is one of the most significant factors in our lives. It is the beautiful road which leads us to a bright future and a wonderful life. Without education, our world might walk into a dark hole, and our Earth might be an empty sphere. After all, illiteracy is a scary issue that causes many bad results—poverty, declining economy, and limited human abilities.

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illiteracy is scary.



The Monitor's Children

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In my opinion, nowadays childhood is so busy. I can see people, teens and children that are distracted with superficial stuff. All of them have a commitment to vain things, and they cannot see it by themselves. Every day I see these people everywhere, but the worst part is that this kind of attitude has pushed our children to grow up faster. Therefore, the children are busy now with smart phones, advanced computers, tablets, videogames, and HD television. They are in front of any kind of screen almost all day. I cannot see children playing anymore.

I recognize that the technology has a lot of advantages; however, the people exceed the use and nobody pays attention to the small details of life. Technology is addictive and this spreads to the children, who right now prefer to ask Google for advice than ask to their own parents. I recommend that we should focus on this fact.

Before this time, childhood was simple and making friends was easier. We didn't care about getting wet with rain, or making mud cakes with plants or stones instead of a cherry on the top. We trusted in our parents and also we had more human contact with the natural world. By the way, we didn't have a lot of problems with people, who just exist on the network and want to damage our children. Be careful and the next time when you decide to stay at home to watch TV or get out and have a great time with your children, think twice which is the best choice.



Senna: Success on the Tracks of Life

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In the soccer country, Brazil, a racing driver, Ayrton Senna da Silva, or just, Senna, shone at the end of the 1980's and 1990's . He was often voted one of the greatest formula one drivers of all time. He was fearless, bold, bright and precise like no other rider of his generation. Definitely Senna was experiencing devotion and passion on the tracks of his life. Like the Super Bowl, here in the United States, Brazilians stopped to watch Senna on TV every Sunday morning as he drove his race car all around the world. Senna was a genius on the racetracks and as many talent geniuses he taught us how important was the hardwork mixed with faith and passion. As Mozart, Beethoven or Michelangelo, Senna knew the importance of practicing, practicing and more practicing. He wasn't paralyzed by challenge; maybe this characteristic can be the main feature of success. He said one time: "Fear is exciting for me." Senna's life was short but also extremely intense and leaves us a legacy of what is being a successful person who lives with determination, discipline and passion every second on this planet. (continued on page 3)

(continued from page 2) Senna took part in a multibillionaire sport and performed worldwide. Here in the United States, the Formula Indy was more popular. Central America, South America, Europe, Asia and Oceania, in all continents Senna played and showed his life style with good values and professionalism that inspired many people. The performance of Senna in 1986 in the glamorous Monaco circuit, where the narrow winding streets made any overtaking almost impossible, made him the title: "King of overtaking." He started the race in 13th place and after 31 laps, when the race was canceled due to heavy rain, he was already in third place with a taste of victory.

On May, 1, 1994 with three titles of Formula One Champion, Senna died. It was a "Labor Day" in Brazil, and on that weekend all Brazilian families were prepared to watch Senna on TV in the San Marino Grand Prix at the Autodromo Enzo and Dino Ferrari in Italy. We couldn't believe that "our Senna" inside his McLaren, was dead at 34 years old. Professor Sid Watkins, a neurosurgeon from Medical Delegate on Formula One reported after the crash: "He looked serene...As we did, he sighed and, although I am not religious, I felt his spirit depart at the moment."

Professor Watkins was Senna's friend and he wasn't right. Only Senna's body departed. As a real successful person, Senna's legacy is present in spirit and works. With his sister, Viviane Senna, he shared his desire is to improve the education in Brazil. Senna believed that they needed to give at least basic opportunity for the world (Hilton 13). His family created a non-profit organization that became a benchmark in the development of public education. For production and teaching solutions to human development, the Institute was granted by UNESCO in 2004, a Chair in Education and Human Development to all children and young people up to 2015.

Although Brazil has one of the largest economies in the world, the country has among the highest levels of inequality and social exclusion in the world. Senna knew about this and he needed to change this scenario. He endlessly sought to extend his limits to go faster than he turned himself into a legend, not only in sports but also outside it. Today, his concerns with his country, Brazil, help thousands of children and inspire everyone to live with determination, discipline and passion whatever race that you have to experience in life.

Works Cited

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Cyber Racism

Pegah Mozaffar Moghaddam

Although we no longer hear racial insults on the street these days, now we can find all kinds of discrimination on the Internet. Unfortunately, we still see racism among people in a new form called Cyber racism which is used to offend and abuse people.

The progress of digital media such as the internet has brought a new aspect to racism by giving people a new weapon to support discrimination. Unfortunately, Cyber racism would be offered in the attractive formats of music, videos, radio and audio files in many languages. When racism existed in the print-only time, it was easier to control, now anyone from a middle school student to an eighty year old man - can easily see racism online.

One form of Cyber Racism which can be easily found on websites is the contents of videos that everyone can freely post on YouTube, Facebook and MySpace. Another way to send

hate speech to others is sending racist messages through emails.

The other form of Cyber racism on the Internet is the racial comments in the comment section of weblogs. These sections of websites are meant to get people closer and keep them engaged with the site; although with the



presence of these online racist minds, it has been changed to a battle place which directly affects human relations and their rights.

Cyber Racism has many negative effects on human society. It may happen in somebody's real life and lead to human rights violation, which has been condemned the Declaration of Human Rights. To avoid handing down

racism from one generation to the next and having a society without racism, we should teach non racism to our children. Also supporting non-racist ideas and movements is the next step in the Declaration of Human Rights. According to this organization: "Everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms without distinction of any kind, such as race, color, sex, language, religion, political... or other status" (Articles 2 and 12).

The internet has changed the ways in which people communicate and exchange ideas all over the world. Now we have to be well aware of the websites, blogs, email and on-line comments and always criticize them if they cling to racist ideas. All people have the right to live without fear of abuse and they should live in a non racist society. This only can be achieved by unlearning racism beginning from school. We must not spread cyber bullying but keep expanding the non-racism organizations. It is time to grow up and grow out.



How I Feel As a Twin

Yinghong Lin

ESL 33B

Twins are amazing because they have similar faces and thoughts, but they are different individuals at the same time. People are always curious about twins. Indeed, it is hard for people to imagine how twins feel. In fact, twins' lives are full of challenges. Even though the identity of twins brings some problems, there is still inexhaustible fun.

To be honest, being twins can be a torment. There are some standard questions that people will ask when they see a pair of twins: "Who is the older one?" "How can I distinguish you?" "What is the time difference when you were born?" and many others. I could not remember how many times I have answered those questions, and keep doing the same thing over and over again. It is boring. What makes me feel worse is they might compare us by asking who is smarter or performs better. I have to maintain my smile even though I am feeling depressed inside for admitting I am not as good as my sister in some areas. In addition, we quarrel a lot when supplies are not being distributed evenly. (continued on page 5)

(continued from page 4) Despite the fact that we have unfavorable issues to deal with, most of the time we enjoy the fun. If women and men in love are two halves of one soul that are seeking reunion, then twins are two halves of one soul that had already found each other back by the time they were born, and they have been and will always be together ever since. My sister is the person who knows me the best in the world. Whenever we are happy, angry or sad, we share. We spend most of the time together, so we always have same thought or reaction about one thing; thus, a look at each other is our tacit understanding that we are thinking of the same thing. Although we always fight or quarrel against each other, we will be reconciled after a while.

Sometimes, I am bothered by the identity of twins. We are bored by answering same questions repeatedly. Being compared forces me to admit my shortcomings by competing with my sister in some ways. Having quarrels too often is also a burden for us. Nevertheless, I always have my sister to talk to, and she can be trusted and understands me well. For this reason, we are the closest partners in the world and would not be lonely. Therefore, I am proud of being a twin.



Justice

Victor M. Rojas

ESL 33B

What is the real meaning of Justice, and where can we find it? Justice is like a giant ocean where human beings can take a part for themselves, but that fact is what creates problems in our society. What happens when someone takes their own justice and ignores the justice that belongs to others? Have you thought about the justice that belongs to other people? I don't think so, but if we should mix the two kinds of justice, the one that belongs to us and the one that belongs to others, the world might change and it will be possible to live in a better society. However, I'm not talking about the justice that is written in law or in books; I'm not talking about the justice that everyone expects in criminal or civil courts. I'm talking about the justice that is inside all human beings. The justice I'm speaking of is the human right to life, the right to live without discrimination and to have every thing that everyone needs to survive and be a part of society.

I'd like you to understand that this kind of justice comes from nature and belongs to all mankind. I compared justice before to a giant ocean, but if you take only the justice that is yours, this will cause an imbalance to our society. Did you read the story of King Salomon, the story of two women that claimed each of them to be the mother of a child? Salomon, who was known as the wisest man in the ancient world, had made the most awful decision, and ordered to cut the child in two and give one half to each woman to resolve the dispute. The child's true mother, horrified with the King's decision, asked that the child be given to the other woman instead. Salomon knew then that she was the child's true mother. That was an impressive solution, but not because the King was a just man, but the love of a mother who preferred to loose her child instead of letting him be harmed.

Justice represents compassion, love to mankind, giving others what belongs to them; justice is not a selfish feeling; what's more, justice means to take the rights that belongs to us and share them with others.

Don't try to find justice inside law books or inside a court room, you have to see inside yourself and when you find it there, you'll find the real justice and you'll find a new world.

Interview with UCLA Student, Hanna Chu

Yu Lin Wang (Arlene), Onyx Dubon, Iris Yap, Kevin-Zhang, Zhuoyi Chen

ESL 422

Professor Potter's ESL 422 class interviewed a former PCC ESL student who has just graduated from UCLA. She had some great advice for us.

We met a new friend who is about to graduate from UCLA. Her name is Hannah Chu. It was interesting that she was a student at PCC, and she started ESL the same as we did. We interviewed her during a friendly conversation in our classroom. We asked her some questions about her student life, transferring and her major. She gave some helpful suggestions for current students.

Q: Hi, Hannah! First at all, welcome back to PCC.

A: Thanks!

Q: When did you move to the United States?

A: I moved to the United States when I was seventeen years old.

Q: Have you ever attended any high school here?

A: Yes, I studied at Arcadia High School one year and a half, and I started college at PCC. After three years I transferred to UCLA.

Q: How is your UC life?

A: It is cool, and the courses can make you crazy! My major is Linguistics, which means you need to study at least two or more foreign languages. Foreign languages are hard, especially if it is a language you never know about. I took Japanese, French, Mandarin, and English classes.

Q: Wow, that's a lot!

A: Yeah, and do you know what is crazy about UCLA? During the finals week, some students even take their toothbrushes and blankets to the libraries! They have eight libraries in UCLA, and they are open for 24 hours 7 days. Some students just live there for a whole week.

Q: Interesting! What was your G.P.A. to transfer to UCLA?

A: Well, my G.P.A was low when I transferred. It was 3.5.

Q: What? 3.5 is not high enough!

A: (Laughing...) I didn't think UCLA would have accepted me. I applied to four different UCs, and UCLA was the last one to send me their letter. I didn't believe it. I even told my brother to read it for me about ten times.

Q: What are the differences between PCC and UCLA?

A: At UCLA, we have three quarters a year. Compared to other colleges, they only have two semesters. It's a rush at UCLA. Usually, a quarter only has 10-11 weeks. However, a PCC semester has 16 weeks. It's kind of challenging at UCLA, so be prepared to suffer!

Q: What's the fastest way to transfer from PCC to UC?

A: Well, first of all, you need to talk to a counselor as soon as you decide your major. You need to know what your interests are. Don't waste time on classes that do not match your major. Also, try to join A.G.S. for some volunteer work. It will help you to transfer.

We finished our interview feeling excited and pressured. Hannah is a successful example for PCC students. There is not an easy way to succeed; however, if we work hard, we will be successful.



Inside *Southland*'s Writer: Nina Revoyr
Geisa Mourao
ESL 33B

Nina Revoyr has good ability not only in handling letters and sentences, but also in speaking words and connecting with her audience. Last week on the PCC campus, she showed those skills talking about her book but, first, conquering the audience chattering about her hobbies, one of them, basketball. The subliminal message was: I'm like you, so, you can trust me! Actually she has great similarity with the audience. Born in Japan, the little Nina arrived here in the United States when she was 5, and lived with her grandparents, after her parents split up. Her book, *Southland*, was selected by PCC and her reading led several studies and research in the school community. Revoyr's creativity started in her childhood when she began writing and could remake her heavy feelings to something positive, not only for her, but she awakens in readers a desire to learn more and more, also, to develop the ability to observe the world through different ways.

Nina moved to L.A. when she was 9 years old with her daddy and immediately she fell in love with this new land. Here, in LA people didn't watch her as if she were a circus attraction or something bizarre. In LA she was another different part among ethnic groups in the city. In this diverse environment, Revoyr started to reduce the "outsider" sensation that was the first reason she had begun writing. In that time her sense of observation led Nina to pay close attention to the rich cultural universe that she had around. Blacks, Latinos and Asians were a great family community, where helping others was not politically correct practice, but only, it was simply a way of belonging. Examples of this sense of community are present in her character's life, when Frank Sakai (*Southland*) went to Manzanar camp during the second war and his black friend, Victor Conway, took care of his home. These things actually happened in real life and Nina heard and experienced these stories in her day to day life.

One of the many purposes in her writing is to show the facts that we don't find in history books. In some of the typical research which she did, she discovered how racist Santa Monica's area was. The segregation was faithfully represented by signs on the beach indicating different places for "colored" and "whites". Such information had not been studied by her in high school, so the public probably is also unaware of that dark side of the LA history. According to Revoyr, this kind of knowledge about the past, gives us the chance to build a more equitable and better future. This practical result represents another goal achieved in her writing.

When she received feedback about her writing which show how people have been touched by their stories or influenced by her characters, her greater purpose as a writer is accomplished again. She points out that people do not change with new information, but they only change when they are touched intimately. She feels fulfilled when she can deeply touch readers. *Southland* helps us to understand a different Los Angeles. The readers begin to discover a LA beyond the Hollywood sign and the luxury of Rodeo Drive.

Revoyr contributes to develop our empathy and help us put on the shoes of the other. Her writing helps us increase our perspective on the observation of facts, additionally encourages me to share my own experience with other expatriate immigrants, especially women, who exchanged their independence to follow their families. As Revoyr said in her final message: "Do what you want to do, regardless of who speaks otherwise. Follow and work for your dreams." A good reading frees us to great flights and Nina contributes much to do it.



If I Were an Asian American
Ching-Cheng Chuang (Jerry)
ESL 33B

Sometimes I was confused about why my mom kept forcing me to learn Chinese. This annoyed me and made me uncomfortable. I, Jerry, am an Asian American, and I was born and raised in America. However my parents are Chinese. Therefore, having the background issue often makes me want to keep my distance from it. Fortunately, I appreciate our professor. She asked us to do a project to clarify our own roots. Instead of making me want to keep the distance from my background, doing this project helps me understand my cultural heritage.

Even though my appearance is Asian, I have American spirit in my heart. I do exactly the same things as my American classmates, eating hamburgers and drinking soda for most of my meals. However, I don't really understand why my parents ask me to drink tea and to eat orange chicken. In addition, they force me to go to Chinese class after school. Although I do not really hate Chinese culture, I am just not familiar with it. For example, one time when we ate noodles at home, I was using a fork to eat it, but my mom said that I needed to use chopsticks. Thus, I used chopsticks just like my mom said; however, I gave up when I had just eaten a quarter of the plate.

Last Wednesday morning in the class, our teacher asked us to do a project about our background history because when she taught another class about the Vietnam War, there was a student crying because her grandfather was killed in that war. Consequently, our teacher found out she needed to know about our background, and also she wanted us to understand our own roots. I did the research about Chinese culture. Now I try to accept orange chicken and tea, instead of hamburger and soda. Then I finally figured out why my parents kept asking me to learn about Chinese culture. They use chopsticks because they found out this was the easiest way to eat the food, and it has scientific proof. They drink tea because tea has a lot of advantages; such as preventing many kinds of cancer, and it tastes good. Moreover I found out the Chinese words come from the appearance of objects, and it is incredible and amazing. After doing this project, I finally understand my cultural heritage. When I was unfamiliar with Chinese culture, I wanted to keep my distance from it. Nevertheless, I am proud of it now, and I feel happy and enjoy it when I learn Chinese. Also sometimes I invite my American friends to the Chinese restaurant to eat Chinese food. These things would not happen before I did this project.

Important Dates

Monday, 12/2 Begin accepting applications for summer-online
Begin accepting admissions applications-online
New & returning in district student registration
Monday, 12/9 New international student registration
New in district & returning students registration
Final exams administered: 12/9-12/13
Mon, 12/16- 12/23 Classes faculty grades are due
Monday, January 13--Spring Semester begins.

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