

WHERE CHAVISIMO HAS LED VENEZUELA AND GLOBAL POWERS

Venezuela was seemingly designed to prosper, rich on natural wealth and beauty. It sits on the largest known oil fields, and yet is extremely indebted and most of the population lives in poverty. How so, and what is happening now?



NBC News, photo by Ariana Cubillos

Only a few decades ago, people paid with gold and silver and in 1973, the Venezuelan Bolivar topped the US Dollar. An oil boom and subsequent economic depression fueled the flames of public dissatisfaction with corruption and income inequality, and this was exploited by Hugo Chávez.

The former president, declaring himself a political outsider and "champion of the poor", ran a successful populist candidacy in 1998 and launched the Bolivarian Revolution, an ultimate socialist rebranding of the South American state.

His economic plan had the nationalized oil industry revenues pumped into social programs rather than re-invested, the short-term results being quite remarkable; his first decade of presidency saw the GDP more than double while infant mortality and unemployment rates fell.

Unfortunately, populism seldom prioritizes slower development with sustainable benefits over great short-term success, and many now argue that Chávez failed to prepare the country for future economic downturns and led it towards the humanitarian disaster it faces today.

He passed away in March 2013 and Nicolás Maduro replaced him, continuing the dynasty of *Chavismo*. Commodity prices had been declining, Venezuela's oil-dependent economy suffered a striking blow and has been spiralling ever since. Unimaginable hyperinflation took place under Maduro, having reached an annual rate of 1,300,000% (according to the opposition) throughout 2018.

Oil output and GDP continuously fall, as does the Bolivar's value on the foreign exchange market. It is believed public mismanagement and destruction of democratic institutions have crippled the economy, however Maduro's military-backed socialist government blames "imperialists" like the US or EU.

The US recently imposed sanctions on

several Venezuelan government officials, prohibited Venezuela from trading in USD, and on 28th January sanctioned the national oil company (PDVSA). They aim to starve Maduro's regime of its main source of income (a loss of \$11bn worth of revenue is estimated over the following year) and foreign currency, and thus shift power towards the opposition. This move can endanger the vulnerable population, though, who suffer acute shortages of food, medicine and other basic necessities. It is also important to note that this is not the first US action targeting Venezuela's oil industry, nor is it the first attempt to harm the *Chavista* regime. For instance, the US is known to have backed a failed coup against Chavez in 2002.

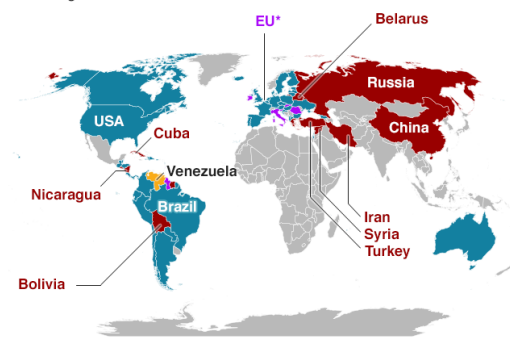
A prominent figure has emerged in the midst of massive anti-government protests, Juan Guaidó. Elected as president of the opposition-led National Assembly in January, Guaidó declared himself the acting president of the country and gained remarkable public support. He expressed wishes to end poverty and restore democracy, claiming he believes transition can be achieved peacefully. However, critics have pointed out his lack of policy-making and failure to present a clear vision.

The US recognized Guaidó immediately, urging other countries to do the same. Maduro reacted by accusing Guaidó of mounting a coup and threatening to sever diplomatic ties with the US, but ended up backing down from the latter eventually. The world is left divided in an almost Cold War-styled clash, as can be seen above.

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Where do countries stand on Venezuela?

■ Support Maduro ■ Recognise Guaidó as interim president
■ Calling for new elections



Source: BBC

TIME TO ENTER AND TIME TO LEAVE

There is time to leave, and a time to remain, a time to enter, and a time to exit. A time to be called the *Republic of Macedonia*, a time to hide love of Alexander the Great under the guise of the formal abbreviation *FYROM* (*Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia*), and a time to rewrite plates to *North Macedonia*. The time for this - perhaps complicated, but rewarding task - has just come.

After breaking off from the family of Yugoslav republics in 1991, a long latent problem reemerged: 'the M-word.' The name 'Macedonia' designates a larger area comprising of a part of Kosovo, Albania, Bulgaria, Serbia a northern region in Greece, and of course the country changing names.

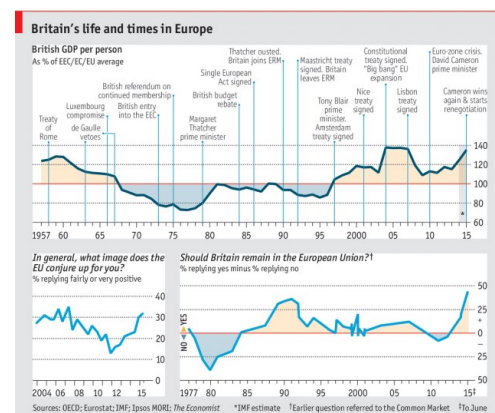
You may remember Shakespeare's Juliet wondering 'What's in a name? That which we call a rose by any other name would smell

as sweet.' To most of us, Macedonia will probably smell and look the same under any of the aforementioned names, but not to Greece. For in the name of Macedonia, there is legacy of Alexander the Great who was born in the Greek region of Macedonia, and is prided by both Macedonians and Greeks.

Moreover, the name of Macedonia has also constituted the key to accession processes of the former-Yugoslav republic into both the EU and NATO. Greece, a member of both, would block FYROM's attempts to integrate into the West until the country agreed to accept the label of *North Macedonia*. On 7 February, NATO officials in Brussels finally put on the table the NATO-accession protocol for North Macedonia, with Greece volunteering to be the first to ratify this.

This historical breakthrough happened after some very close votes (153 to 146 vote by the Greek Parliament on 25 January 2019), considerable and often even violent protests, international pressure (from Russia), a confusing referendum, ground- and ice-breaking election of Zoran Zaev's party, negotiations in Brussels and many doubts from experts like George Tzogopoulos who gloomily stated in January: 'I don't understand why so ma-

ny people are optimistic.' These ingredients seem to be reminiscent of another - but reverse, more blurry and anxiety-ridden process. Brexit.



From the Economist.com

The name dispute has been hanging over Macedonia like a sword since 1910 and contributed to a long history of stirring up violence. Similarly, the threatening atmosphere surrounding Brexit can be seen as the fruit of a precarious relationship of the UK and the EU which is not a question of the past three years. There were several referenda, including in 1975 when just over 67% of voters decided to stay in the EEC (a predecessor of EU). Then the general snap elections in

2017 in which the Prime Minister May failed to gather a substantial majority, negotiations in which she obtained a document of around 500 pages to be overwhelmingly rejected by the Parliament and some heated rhetoric from European Council President Donald Tusk who was openly 'wondering whether there is a special place in hell for those who promoted Brexit without even a sketch of idea how to carry it through.' And so as the chronos (a Greek word for time ticking on the clock) presses harder than ever with Brexit planned for 29 March, let us remember that not all European news, nor all Brussels, is about Brexit; there is also a prospect of a North Macedonian entry, a solution to a stalemate perhaps as painful as that between the UK, EU and Ireland. For there is also kairós - a slightly more relative way of thinking about time, such as that:

'There is time to kill, and a time to heal, a time to break down, and a time to build up, a time to weep, and a time to laugh [...] a time to love, and a time to hate; a time for war, and a time for peace, a time to leave, and a time to remain, a time to enter, and a time to exit (This March?).'

BETH JANEČKOVÁ



The region of Macedonia, from Deutsche Welle



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The US opposes the socialist authoritarian leader, while Russia warns against intervention and supports Maduro. The EU as a whole demands transparent early elections, but has not yet held any referendum or other forms of consulting citizens. Many individual EU states have, though, made their preference clear. The Czech Republic, for instance, was among the first to derecognize Maduro, and has invited Guaidó to Prague.

Both leaders now rally for legitimacy to both the public and the army. Maduro is resented by many but still widely supported primarily by those from lower-income classes, also retaining greater influence over the military than his opponent (at least at the time this edition goes into print). Guaidó has, though, managed to win over some military officials, and the political polarization in the country could easily escalate. The population seems cry out for change, but is wary of conflict and foreign intervention—rightfully so, considering the US's mile-long record of previous interventions in the region).

Whether Maduro had inherited a failing economy or doomed it himself, it is clear that the nation is in need of fundamental reform. Could Guaidó be what Venezuela needs, or is his claim to power yet another populist scheme facing the country?

NICOLE ČUMBOVÁ

FROM CONSUMER ELECTRONICS SHOW

CES (Consumer Electronics Show) is the biggest global event of consumer electronics happening annually since 1967 in Las Vegas. This fair has showed the world devices or gadgets we use or used in everyday life such as video recorder, CD, DVD, lots of TVs and devices with the Android operating system. This year, updating from 8.1. to 12.1. Here are the most interesting and popular picks of 2019.

Firstly, the Chinese brand Royole introduced a bendable smartphone. It is just a prototype of course, had multiple issues, but the flexibility was perfect and yet another pliable product on CES was a TV from LG. The TV allows the viewer to watch anywhere and then just place it into your bag. You should be ready for a

high price when it comes out. Moving on to the biggest TV producer Samsung presented new 146" 4K TV, called fittingly "The Wall", with new MicroLED technology. This tech should replace the OLED (Organic LED) tech because it has a longer lifetime. An advantage of this technology is, that you can assemble a big TV using smaller ones. They got no edge and when you connect them to the same connection and assemble them on a wall, the viewer can have a TV size of cinema screen.

Cars also received a lot of attention this year, because self-driving cars and smart cars are very hot topics lately. For example, the Korean car manufacturer Hyundai introduced a prototype of "walking car". Thanks to its adjustable legs with tyres, this car can "step" over 1,5



<https://www.electrive.com/2019/01/09/hyundais-car-with-legs-can-save-lives/>



<https://www.ces.tech/Media/fact-sheet-logo.aspx>

meters high wall and 1,5 wide hole. It can also help people with physical problems. They can call this car like a taxi and it could let them get into the car from their door, so they don't need to climb down front stairs.

CES had some other very interesting futuristic innovations like robots that can care about seniors or play with you. From what the visitors and journalists said, we know it was a great event accompanied with some funny moments. The most fun was when autonomous robots walked to a building and one of them left the line in which they were going and accidentally went to the street. There it almost made it to the other side of the road, but an autonomous Tesla knocked him over. It was fatally injured and did not attend the event.

CES is an occasion with a big tradition and it shows the latest and greatest technologies in electronics that year. It is important to large companies and small producers because they can show the world what they invented. And now they wait for another fair in 2020. It's a magical number, so perhaps we're going to see something big.

ADAM CHÁRA

HOMO ROBOTICS

Many of you probably have already read some sci-fi stories about our final battle with some kind of an artificial intelligence in robots' bodies. However, are these predictions really our future destiny?

First, we must realize that battle in this context doesn't mean only the one with blaster guns and terminators. The real battle is about our dominating position in the society. Many scientists and psychologists think that a human job makes us feel better and they also presume that when we are doing our jobs (doesn't depend if we are doctors or sellers), we are improving in our skills. But what will happen to us if we lose our jobs because of someone else? And is it actually possible?

Unfortunately it is. Currently our biggest concurrent in this job battle is robotization. Robots are just one of the latest stages of technological progress. The number of robots being used by businesses to boost productivity has increased rapidly in recent years. Moreover, the price of robots used in business is falling while the skills and effectivity of robots is improving. So IFR (the International Federation of Robots) anticipate that the number of robots participating in factories and in other sectors of the economy (where there used to be employed many workers before) will double. For example, in the USA robots are responsible for the loss of up to 670, 000 manufacturing jobs, and this number is expected to rise.

Moreover, the most important problem connected with robotization is income inequality. It isn't a secret that most factories and the capital in them belongs to a small group of owners. And it is acceptable when they provide jobs and incomes to "a class of workers". But what will happen if "the owner class" will own robots as a standard work labor? Not only will earn much more money because robots are more effective. The human workers



https://www.kollmorgen.com/en-us/blogs/_blog-in-motion/articles/eddie-yang/is-robotization-destroying-or-creating-jobs/

who don't own factories will be unemployed because there will be no one who will give them useful work. From this we can assume that robotization will extend the problem of income inequality. So in the end, people might not be much richer and happier because of robots as companies which are producing and developing

these technologies promise. Because richer will be only the owners.

On the other hand, there is the one big section of human job in which using robots can be very useful. And it's the army. In status quo, the robotization of army is a normal process in many countries which are on the top of this process, such as the Great Britain, the USA or Russia. Here, robots (drones) which are driving a tank or flying fighter can replace a normal soldier or pilot who can make a mistake and cause a crash of this armored vehicle. So in future wars, there wouldn't be any human soldiers, there will be a big war of drones which do not feel any sentiments and have no mercy.

At the end it should be emphasized that there are many ways how to use robots as our vehicle to overcome odds of the modern life. But we must realize that only a few of them are the right ones. So we have to choose very strictly, to which type of technology we will give our priority in developing.

NATAN KRATOCHVÍLA

EDITOR'S NOTE

Dear readers if you haven't experienced it yet, try to imagine the feeling when you turn on a foreign radio station like the BBC and it reports of events in your own country, or even hometown. Or when you read an article from your favourite American newspaper and the writer suddenly knowledgeably alludes to a Czech politician. Or - as it happens at Open Gate - you learn about an event in history or a phenomenon in physics and then come from the school to realise that what had seemed to exist only in your textbooks, tests - and of course - mind, is at the centre of a real, and often heated debate in both the media and people's conversations.

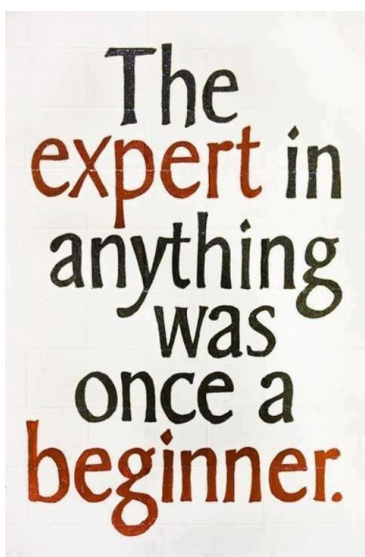
Be it with Venezuela, robotics or consumer electronics, I hope that you will find the seemingly slightly remote issues in some way connected to your life, society, economy and/or country - the country which has managed to be engaged in all that we write about, from celebrating the 20th anniversary of its entry into NATO, through inviting Mr Guaido to Prague and cooperating with China, an enthusiastic participant at CES, to inventing the word *robot*. Please feel invited to follow its example and engage—and if not directly with countries and trends around the world, then with our texts!

BETH JANEČKOVÁ

THE REAL JOURNEY HAS JUST BEGUN

The first semester ended, which means that it is now time for me to share with you some of my personal experience that can help you with your future study.

Although I might be overall satisfied with my results, there are still many things that I did and need to warn you about. The major thing which I consider to be the most crucial is procrastination. Seriously, try to avoid it. As your study progresses, the amount of work will increase and therefore also the time required. And trust me, you don't want to waste time because you don't have any time to waste. Therefore, do your work in the first place and then go enjoy your free time.



www.picturequotes.com/the-expert-in-anything-was-once-a-beginner-quote-1192

Don't be afraid of failures. It is natural for people and especially for students to make mistakes sometimes. It is essentially a way how you improve. Learning from mistakes they made, which caused them not achieving their desired grade or other types of goals. After all, this first part of your journey is meant to prepare you for your final exams. So, never be disappointed about your results. Instead, try to seek ways of improvement as your journey isn't always a straight path to your goal.



http://www.e-bioloji.com/slider_images/mk503022.jpg

Last but not least, I would like to mention the bigger tasks that are waiting for you at the moment. Things such as Internal Assessments or your Extended Essay are just round the corner, and you need to be prepared. Therefore, I advise you to stay calm and approach the tasks as every other. Plan your approach, give it some time and mainly stay patient. These tasks require more than just one night to complete which you should always bare in mind.

PETR BARTOŠ

EASTER: HOW TO DEFEAT THE BOYS

Easter is a nice and the most celebrated Christian holiday, due to the rebirth of Jesus Christ. Although our family is not that much into Christianity we still celebrate this day, because it is a tradition bringing joy and happiness to our family. Mostly the kids enjoy it, because of the Easter rabbit that brings them a lot of chocolate and sweets. We also loved this day with my sisters and cousins, and even now, when we are older, we love to prepare the sweet packs full of chocolate. What we find the most enjoyable is when we can hide those packs and wait for the kids to find it.



Photo by Kateřina Vaňková

On the other side, what especially I find wrong is the part of Easter where boys are hitting girls with their "pomlázka". Of course, it has a nice thought of making the women be young forever, but the difference is, if boys actually count on the thought or if they only enjoy

the power they have at that time. I have a lot of experience with both cases, and still, I find it very embarrassing to let the boys do that to girls. From this comes the story of my family and our tricks how to overcome this situation.

Every year, we close all the curtains at our house, to make it look that it is still the night when all the men wake up, and what is more, we change the time on the clock to twelve, so when they actually get up they are going to think that the time is over. Now the best part of the day comes ladies, the only thing you have to do is to prepare a huge bucket full of water and pour it on them, while they are still in the bed. Easy, right?

In the end, we are all laughing and the boys are upset, but after all, everyone is happy and glad that we are together and we are having the best time in our peaceful cottage.

KATEŘINA VAŇKOVÁ



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THE VARIETY OF AN EGG & SPRING RECIPE: TASTY OMELET

I am no cook. You can ask anyone who knows me at least a little and they'll confirm. But even when unable to cook, a girl has to eat, am I right? So when no-one's home and I have to rely only on myself, I have a couple of dishes reserved for such occasions. These are fairly simple, quick and made of things one always has home. To be totally honest, most of these dishes include eggs. Why, you may ask?

To start with, my Grandma breeds twelve hens, so we have bio domestic eggs which are always good. At any point throughout the year, when I open the fridge, there are at least sixty eggs somewhere, one just has to look.

Eggs have amazing nutrients values. Considering a medium sized boiled egg weighing 55 grams, there is 6.9 g of protein, 5.8 g of fat and 0.7 g of carbs present. This is why an egg has the power to satisfy your hunger for a really long time and to provide the fuel your body so desperately needs.

Last but not least, eggs are super easy to prepare. You don't want to consume them raw, so some preparation is always required. And this is where the magic comes: you can do almost anything you want with them. And they'll be ready in just a couple minutes. You don't believe me? Hard boiled egg requires about five minutes. Egg omelet is ready in seven, scrambled eggs in six. My personal favorite, egg-banana pancakes, take you about 15 minutes the whole batch.

The variability of eggs comes in handy when one is at home alone and hungry. You can prepare eggs however and whenever you want. It is easy, nutritious and fast. Try it out, you won't be disappointed.

And as a bonus for you, I will share a recipe for an ultimate egg omelet.

All you need is:
3 eggs
2 slices of ham
A quarter of red bell pepper
2 slices of cheese
A bit of butter
Few drops of tap water



Photo by Karolína Hrabalová

1. Let the butter melt in the frying pan
2. Cut the ham into small cubes and put it onto the pan, let it roast slightly
3. Cut the pepper into small pieces and add it to the ham
4. Beat the eggs into a cup, whip them, add few drop of water and stir (The water will ensure that your omelet isn't dried out)
5. Pour your egg mixture onto the pan and turn up the heat slightly, don't mix it so the eggs won't break
6. Cut the cheese into small cubes and when the eggs solidify, sprinkle the cheese across them
7. Wait until the cheese melts, turn off the heat and carefully fold the omelet

You can serve plain or with a side of mixed leaf salad and tomatoes or however you please!

And the best part about it? This delicious meal can serve as a great breakfast, lunch or dinner (even though probably not on the same day).

Bon appétit!

KAROLÍNA HRABALOVÁ

EDITOR'S NOTE

Dear readers of the variety section, Happy spring to you! This time of the year, when the sun finally makes its way through the clouds and the cold is perfect for trying out new things. How else can one stop the winter boredom? The article concerning Easter traditions suggests great defence for girls during the Easter Monday.

A symbol of Easter is an egg. It is the symbol of new beginning and new life. Or a new diet! Try out the spring egg omelet and enjoy it while reading about many uses and benefits eggs may bring you.

Finally, the second semester is here. Time to learn from one's mistakes and start out with a new, clean slade. Why is this so important? Find out in the newest part of IB tips.

I wish you all pleasant reading and joyful spring!

KAROLÍNA HRABALOVÁ
Senior Editor



<https://s3.us-west-2.amazonaws.com/prod.retreat.guru/images/id478158548.jpg>

PURSUING HAPPINESS IN THE 21ST CENTURY

The advancements of the 21st century have brought about unpredictable changes. One of the revolutions that has transformed our society has been the one in communication. The world has become strongly interconnected, giving birth to countless, so far untried, social and political structures. The demanding nature of these structures require a significant amount of our time to maintain and to secure their stability. The individual, however, has forgotten to maintain his own stability, and, in other words, to secure his happiness, which has only been facilitated by unsustainable materialistic tendencies.

The impact starts becoming visible as the generations born in the 2000s grow older. The rate of depression is shooting up in the sky and there is a growing proportion of young people who seem to be stranded when it comes to questions such as what they want to be doing, what motivates them and most importantly *what makes them happy*. It is remarkable how our society, steadily fixated on happiness, fails so miserably at achieving it. An important cause for this was the expectation that new technology or other advancements, which used to be unaffordable decades ago, would make us happier. The dream of having a mobile cell-phone was thrilling, however now it plays little to no role in making us happy. Now think about the thrill you felt when you last received or bought a new cell phone and compare it to how little joy it gives

you now. This effect is called hedonistic adaptation and it is the reason why advancements failed so much at making us happy. It has never been more crucial to assimilate new habits that would help us achieve fulfilment, happiness and stability. The market reacted and provided us with success advisors and motivators.

The mainstream, in my opinion, chose the wrong path by believing that book-sized, "one-size-fits-all" solutions would change the nature of their lives for the better. An imperative optimistic way of thinking, proposed by tireless and annoying self-help gurus and basic motivators, has infected the minds of many of their followers. There is one thing I know for sure; out of the countless options we have, the opulent seminars such as *Get Motivated!* or pseudo-intellectual books like *The Secret* by Rhonda Byrne rarely make someone truly happy. The reason for this is that the advice given in them is simplistic, yet thrilling for anyone who is deceived by the promise of instant success and happiness. But it simply does not work. One common piece of advice is *visualization*, which reportedly helps us achieve success by actively imagining it. A couple of scientific experiments were sufficient to show that people undergoing this mental exercise lose their motivation, as the visualization makes them believe they have already *achieved* it. Another one is so called *affirmation*, which is based on phrases we are supposed to repeat to ourselves to feel better, such as the most famous "Every day in every

way, I am getting better and better." Yet again, psychologists warned us about the downside of these. We have mechanisms in our head which check whether we lie or not. By repeating this, one becomes more conscious that the repeated sentence is not true, and sinks deeper into the mud of misery, straying further from the desired outcome.



<https://innatehealthcare.org/blog/2016/11/22/what-makes-us-happy>

Believing that mainstream literature will make us happy is very naïve, and I would be even more naïve (and also hypocritical) to give advice myself in this article. Seeking happiness has never been more difficult and more important (and nobody ever said it was easy), so let us not get deceived by plain promises and superficial advice and instead start thinking for ourselves, trying out new methods and realizing the true consequence of the actions we take, since we often tend to exaggerate their negative impact.

MATYÁŠ BOSÁK

EDITOR'S NOTE

Dear readers,

The grass is greener, the birds noisier, and the temperatures warmer - it is clear that the joy of spring has struck us once again. Perhaps ironically, the unpredictable temperature drops and sporadic showers of this year's spring fittingly mirror the current state of politics at home and abroad.

This spring, newspapers headlines have a lot to strike us with given the overwhelming feeling of instability in the European political context due to upcoming events such as Brexit. Thus, in that spirit, the theme of this edition is *Instability* in its political, social and psychological context.

We do not have to go far to find astounding cases of instability, as Adéla Archalousová proves in her article about the questionable state of Czech politics. Furthermore, our other writers analyse several cases of political uncertainty from the Mediterranean to Ukraine, or the Eurozone as a whole. Matyáš Bosák and Viktor Říha show us that instability is not only a matter of politics in today's world, but instead tackle it in a sociological sense.

There sure is a lot to learn in this spring's edition of our section, therefore, I wish you an enjoyable and educational read. And as always, do not forget to brace yourselves for what this spring might bring, think critically and enjoy the weather!

ANNE-MARIA MATEJAS

WHAT IF THE EURO COLLAPSES?

The European Union (EU) was formed in 1993 after the fall of the Soviet Union to promote peace and democracy in Europe. 19 out of the 28 countries that are members of the EU adopted the Euro as a shared currency to enhance European political and economic integration. However, the loss of ability to devalue a currency during recession made countries such as Greece, Portugal or Spain unable to repay their debt or bail out over-indebted banks, even though other eurozone countries tried to support them. It ended with European banks owning a significant amount of government debt. What would happen if the eurozone failed?



<http://planetponzi.com/blog/how-long-will-this-misery-continue-lets-bid-farewell-to-the-euro-now>

Financial markets are terrified of the eurozone, one of the world's largest economic zones, abandoning its shared currency. A more plausible scenario is the abandonment of some of the weaker nations which would lead them to a recession and depression for multiple years. On the

other hand, this scenario is less likely than bailouts and quantitative easing. After the collapse, countries would devalue their currency, for their individual finances are much weaker than those of the whole. This would include all "PIGGS" and maybe every nation except Germany which would still lose on the whole, even with a stronger currency.

Switching back to national currencies, "redenomination" would be painful for the EU members and it would influence both foreign countries and exchange markets. Countries would redenominate in a way that best benefits their debt or account surplus, thus creating havoc in the country's devalued economy. This process would be less complicated than coordinating the adoption of the Euro in 2002, since each country could do it their own way. It would entail two broad changes. Firstly, official adoption of a new currency within one nation's boundaries, and secondly, installing an international value of the currency. It is rather unlikely for open trade to survive the dissolution of the eurozone and if it did, the currency difference would make the trade relationships difficult.

Likewise, it would compromise the so-called "Schengen Area" and collapse would affect all countries inside and outside the region. If the Schengen fell, countries inside the eurozone would implement border controls, checkpoints and other regulations previously eliminated in the Schengen Agreement. Costs would

spill over into private businesses which rely on continental transportation or tourism. In addition, there would be a corresponding decline in international trade and economic growth, based on the implemented quotas and tariffs.

Eventually, the world would recover, but it would not be an improvement for anyone involved. Since most supposed economic benefits inside the EU would not transfer to external trading partners, it would mean huge repercussions for economies all over the world. In the short term, markets would react negatively to the added uncertainty. It would be a worse global recession than that of the 2007-08 global financial crisis due to the shrinking of global trade and financial uncertainty. Also, many Euro bonds would take losses when translated into other currency or default entirely. There would be less demand for goods from China, South Korea, Japan and imports and exports between the US and EU. On the other hand, in the long term, the world could benefit from once-again-growing Europe.

Even though the Euro is currently out of the danger zone in the short term, EU has to beware of Italy triggering a recession in 2019 which would threaten the stability of the eurozone. Still, the collapse is extremely unlikely due to the high economic price it would extract from everyone involved.

KATEŘINA ROUŠAROVÁ

DADDY ISSUES

Amidst turmoil all across the world, fewer and fewer people actively think about the ongoing crisis in the Ukraine. Whilst some news outlets occasionally publish a short report on the climate in the region, this is declining as well. However, I think that there is little doubt that the War in Donbass is far from over, which is an issue rarely talked about today. But how did the Ukraine become so unstable, and what is likely the fate of the region?

Whilst most would agree that the Ukraine is located in Eastern Europe, this does not translate well into the country's political alignment. For example, it has always shared a close bond with the Polish state, be it the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth or both of the Polish republics. This is especially noticeable in the country's west. Yet the link with Russia is arguably even stronger, both with the Russian Empire and the later Soviet Union. After the latter's dissolution, the Ukraine faced a difficult choice: align with the West and reap the likely economic benefits, or stay with Russia, appeasing the Russians in its eastern districts and keeping the country stable. Though handing over thousands of soviet nuclear weapons in exchange for Russian guarantees for Ukrainian territorial integrity might seem nonsensical, their bargaining position was rather weak and the country would remain stable for the next two decades.

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Yet with the events of 2014, Russian-Ukrainian relations plummeted, and the country started to incline toward the West. This has not really changed in the past 5 years.

Therefore, the obvious question presents itself: is there any hope left for a stable Ukraine? With the war in the east a stalemate, Russia has turned to other methods of weakening the Ukraine. Firstly, it is actively working on building gas pipelines around the state, since the existing ones are a great source of profit for the country's government. Secondly, Russia is actively trying to block the Straits of Kerch, one of them being the construction of a bridge spanning from the Caucasus to the Crimea, in order to pressure Ukrainian ports on the Sea of Azov. In addition to all of this, corruption in the Ukraine is rampant and many key reforms need to be passed. Only once these issues are addressed, may the economy truly achieve its greatest potential, which would in turn improve the country's stability. This hinges greatly on the country's presidential elections later this year.

All of the issues above stem primarily from one source: an uncertainty about the Ukraine's cultural and political identity. Many post-soviet republics faced this, yet none have been hit harder by it than the Ukraine. Whilst only time will tell what the future of this country is, the looming threat of escalation in this region should be enough to frighten any of us, hopefully making us learn from our past mistakes.

NICOLAS WICHERT

POLITICAL TURMOIL IN THE MEDITERRANEAN

With the complexity of today's politics and the unceasing struggle of the public to find a satisfactory representative of their beliefs and notions, today's continually changing society is obstructed from reaching a true state of happiness. That is the reason why both the radical right and left have experienced significant growth in number of supporters across the political spectrum. It is no wonder that the main factors for the rise of radical left in Mediterranean countries, such as Greece and Spain, are the financial crises and Euroscepticism.

The first thing that comes to the minds of Greeks and Spaniards when commenting on the consequences of the 2008 economic crisis are the Greek party 'Syriza' and its Spanish equivalent 'Podemos'. Syriza, aka the 'coalition of the radical left', which has been in power since 2015 after the failed governments of PASOK and *New Democracy*. Podemos on the other hand, translating to 'we can', was founded in 2014 inspired by Syriza. The ongoing recession that has arisen in the Mediterranean region since the outbreak of the Euro Crisis has put these countries in a vicious cycle of austerity policies proposed by foreign commissions and later set in motion by the local governments. Therefore, it is no surprise that the developing frustration and distress of the public has led to a justified mistrust and hatred towards the European administrative bodies. This was a

great opportunity for the rise of eurosceptic parties to confront the choices of previous right-wing prevailing governments and their use of austerity policies that suffocated the public.

Both Podemos and Syriza fought against oppression and inequality in a post-crisis environment. During this time period Alexis Tsipras, the controversial leader of Syriza, came into power with the support of the public in the unprecedented elections of 2015 in which Greece broke its bipartisanship that had been going on since the 1980s. Syriza, a party that had been barely acquiring the minimum percentage of votes to acquire the status of a registered



<https://www.thelocal.es/20160514/five-years-on-spains-indignados-have-shaken-up-politics>

party in the parliament through the years gained an outstanding 36% of the votes in the elections of 2015, in stark contrast to the 4% of the previous year. Simultaneously, Podemos was founded in Spain by Pablo Iglesias as the aftermath of the 15-M movement, aimed against the austerity policies and possible

bailout programs that were or would be implemented under the Rajoy presidency. Podemos stirred the emotions of the Spanish society which feared what the possible future; similar to the terrifying and crumbling socioeconomic state of Greece. Due to that, Podemos gained vast popularity and admiration reaching 21% during the 2015 general elections, becoming the third largest party within months of its establishment.

So how have things developed today? From my recent visit in Greece I have learned that Greeks seem to have accepted the statement of Yanis Varoufakis, former minister of finance: "Greece is a debtors' prison." The public has officially lost their faith in the radical left. A right-wing party, *New Democracy*, is gaining ground yet again, while general elections are approaching. As for Spain, the upcoming general elections have caused quite a turmoil; Podemos' founding members broke their partnership, while the Spanish prime minister is pressured by Catalan separatists. Either way, the radical left has been on an electoral decline. One thing is certain; the mainstream trend of a populist Europe is near its end.

EMMA EVGENIOU

Sources: Understanding the 'rise' of the radical left in Europe: It's not just the economy, stupid. (2018, July 12). Retrieved from <http://www.democraticaudit.com/2018/07/12/understanding-the-rise-of-the-radical-left-in-europe-its-not-just-the-economy-stupid/>

FIDDLER ON THE (HIGH SCHOOL) ROOF

Most people know "Fiddler on the Roof" for its playful songs, witty humor and perhaps the portrayal of historical events. For me, the predicament of Anatevka's dwellers mirrors the reality of our high schools.

Those, who have not seen the play will be staggered by the unusual title, which is explained in the very first scene, as the lead character Tevye introduces viewers to his small village: "...you can say every one of us is a fiddler on the roof; each trying to scratch out a pleasant tune without breaking a neck." To understand the poor milkman's line, one must look at the historical setting of the play. Jews, scattered in small rural communities in the early 20th century Russia, were hunted by hunger, cold, and the erratic will of the Tsar. Every day, they would wake up knowing that it may very well be the last day before they are evicted or eat a warm meal. Regardless, every day was also seen as an opportunity to create something beautiful in the world.

A day after our drama class performed the play, I looked at my peers through new eyes. One in ten receive medication for a mental health condition. I see foreign-born immigrants, often living in illegality. They are true warriors who do not live in a proper house or with both parents, yet they continue and learn to cope with their situation, and take part in meaningful projects. Sadly, some also fall off the roof and descend into the abyss of alcohol and drug use.

What connects our performance's characters and their actors is a unique way to approach the predicaments of their lives. Both rely on traditions as a coping mechanism to get them through days of "pain and poverty and hardship". Every moment of the life of an orthodox Jew is predetermined. His matches are arranged, his days scheduled and anger pendant on the will of the rabbi. "Because of our traditions, everyone knows who he is and what God expects him to do.", the saying goes. It is easy to draw a parallel with the 'rules of high school' every freshman must learn.

Tradition serves as a double-edged sword. While it was a refuge for students and desperate dairymen alike, transgressions are not tolerated. One can easily lose his position in the community (school), or the right to sit in the good parts of the synagogue (at the cool table) and be viewed as a radical (*weird kid*).

Routines help both get through their days, but can easily become obsolete. Jews in the play ignored the politics of the outside world and were forced out of their village and some graduates are still seen in school almost every day and some fail their classes to gain one more year.

It is impossible to not fall in love with the attitude and bravery of *Fiddler's* characters, as well as America's teenagers.

VIKTOR ŘÍHA
(CURRENTLY STUDYING IN OREGON)

FRAILITY OF THE CZECH GOVERNMENT

Throughout the not so long history of the Czech Republic, there have been various governments with many different people in charge. However, only on a few occasions, would a government rule our country with less than half of the seats in the Chamber of Deputies. Currently, this is the situation as the government is formed by a coalition of the movement ANO and the ČSSD party. These two political groups do not have enough support in the Chamber of Deputies, and so, they have an agreement with the KSČM party which helps them during elections.

Still, this agreement is very frail, therefore for us, the people of the Czech Republic, there is no assurance that strong and resolute decisions are being made to help the country improve. How do we know that the government will stay united in the most important aims when they have to rely on KSČM to have a majority in the Chamber of Deputies? Also, are there any parties who could rule this country in a consensus?

In my opinion, the current administration should be replaced by a much more efficient and differently thinking government. Yet, this is more of a dream than a possible solution at this moment due to the other parties in the Chamber of Deputies. Presently, there is no coalition capable of taking over the government, as the movement ANO is very much outnumbered in the Chamber of Deputies and any possible coalition would need this party on its side. The ANO party

would possess huge influence in any coalition due to its high number of votes, and so, the political priorities would remain very similar even if the current government was replaced.

Moreover, there are not only issues regarding the administration itself but also the president, who supports this government despite its minority in the Chamber of Deputies. In addition, he refused to appoint one of the ministers. Do you think that it was in the best interest of the citizens that he left an incomplete group to rule the country even for just a short period of time?

To sum up, the country of my birth is led by a president who agreed to a government incapable of making important decisions. It is all up to the KSČM party that is currently deciding whether they should cancel the agreement with the coalition regarding the support during votes. How can I or anyone else feel safe in this country when one cannot be sure if the government will still be in agreement tomorrow? If we are willing to change this, there should be new elections that would bring us new capable members of the Chamber of Deputies. In order to achieve this, all who are free to vote must participate in the upcoming elections. If the whole nation tries, we might pick the right people to lead us in the upcoming years.

ADÉLA ARCHALOUSOVÁ



BEFORE READING

Dear readers of the OG Chronicle's spring edition of 2019, I would like to welcome you on the page of *Special Interests and Interviews*, where our team have prepared a relaxing and enjoyable reading for you. When I was thinking about what this edition's editor's note should include, I realized we have never really fully described what is the overall goal of our section. What themes are we focusing on? Are we creative, or do we analyze? Do we search in our memory or on the internet? What parts of our brain are we challenging while forming our articles? The truth is, we are all of the above. The members of our team have the opportunity to share experiences, to share what are they interested in with others. These experiences may include a certain sensation, adventures in the past, a research or even a tip that helped overcome a challenge. The topics contained in this edition represent a variety of experiences. We can offer you an insight into an interesting research concerning an environmentally helpful invention. We'll recommend you a way of relaxing via a selection of beautiful songs. You can learn about simple tips that can make your life more pleasant. You'll meet a Puerto Rican woman and an Argentinian who compare our culture to the ones in their home countries. When going to London, you can follow our guide to the best places in the city. You can really choose from wide variety of options...

So, to answer the questions stated above; a theme of an article can be almost anything unless the author has interest in writing about it and sharing it. Our articles are written by both creatively and analytically thinking people, and that certainly reflects in their works. Sometimes we rely on our memory to share some adventurous journey, and sometimes we inform others about an interesting research we have made. The goal is for our writers to share experiences and broaden their interests. It is a mixture of everything, and anyone can find their place here. Me and all of the member of our section hope you will find something that will bring you satisfaction and that you'll learn about something that interests you. We are a section of special interests after all... Thank you and now, enjoy your reading.

TEREZA CHÁROVÁ
Senior Editor



<http://www.alwaysonpurpose.com/2016/08/happy/>

BEST PLACES IN LONDON

Recently, I took a trip to London with my mom and sister, and I thought I'd share some of the most interesting and enchanting places in this beautiful city. So, if you ever decide to see London, make sure to visit these spots!

Covent Garden

Covent Garden, a square located in the West End, is an engaging place with countless shops, restaurants, cafés, and a market with interesting merchandise. Everyone can find something they like here, my personal favorite being Peter-sham Nurseries, a shop connected to a restaurant that looks like straight out of a fairytale and sells stunning furniture, plants, and gardening tools.

Crumbs and Doilies

This quaint little bakery in Soho offers a plethora of cakes and cupcakes of different flavors, all being baked on the spot. My favorite one is probably raspberry ripple, which has a very unique flavor you won't ever forget. The surrounding area is also worth exploring, so make sure you look around.

Leon

During our stay, most of our meals were take-outs from this very place. And there is a reason for that; Leon is an organic restaurant with low prices and unbeatable flavors. They also use fresh ingredients and mostly sell salads, wraps, and curries. My personal favorite was the Satay chicken, and the delicious brownies. They are all over London, so don't worry about having trouble finding one.

Muji

Sadly, this captivating stationary store isn't in the Czech Republic but only in surrounding countries, such as Great Britain. I could spend hours in this store, admiring all the beautiful notebooks, pens, and markers. They also sell minimalist Japanese clothes, organizers, and even furniture in some stores. It's also all around London, so it won't be difficult to get there.

Biju

Another food store that has grown close to my heart. Biju is an organic bubble tea cafe, and unlike the unhealthy and cheap alternatives in the center, Biju is tucked away in China Town. There is a ton of flavors to choose from, what I recommend is the matcha milk tea with peach jelly. Chinatown is also a great place, so you can go and seek adventure there.

So, these are my recommendations, and I hope that next time you are in London, you might want to take a look!

SOFIA JELIČIĆ



Photo by Sofia

HOW TO BECOME HAPPIER

There are over seven and a half billion people in the world, yet we are all different. Nevertheless, we share one common goal - happiness. Unfortunately, the statistics show that only about one third of the population claims they're happy. Are you amongst them? If not, there are five easy ways to become happier.

Firstly, you should find some hobby you like and want to dedicate your free time to. It can be almost anything, but the important thing is for it to be something you will enjoy doing repeatedly. While focusing on something you love, you will take your mind off your problems. In addition, you will avoid being bored and spending your time lying in bed or watching television. Even though television may seem tempting at the moment, unlike at times spending your time doing some hobby, it won't make you happy in the long run.

Another important thing is to take time for yourself. Everyday life can be pretty stressful since we all have a lot of work to do, and in our free time we often rush to help others, do some extra work or do stuff ahead. Our schedules are full, but we still manage to find room for more and more work. What some of us often forget though, is to make time just for ourselves, to relax and regain energy. All of the exhaustion makes you stressed, and that definitely doesn't add to your happiness.

Furthermore, you should stop caring about things you can't control such as other people's lives or what other people think about you. These things only bring you unnecessary worries and unhappiness. Thinking about things you can't affect will not only be in vain, it will also waste the time you could use for focusing on positive things that could make you thrive.

Another way to become happier is to travel. Traveling means adventure, new opportunities and a wonderful time. It can open your eyes and create new relationships as well. Also, sometimes it can be beneficial to "run away" from your problems and worries for a while. After all, traveling and exploring the world will bring you the most valuable memories.

Last, but not least, surround yourself with people you love. Nobody can be happy when they're alone all the time or when they're surrounded with people they don't really like. Unlike that, spending time with people you love will bring you joy and happiness more than anything else. And doing the things above with them will make it even better and you will become even happier. In conclusion, step by step you can easily become a happier person. And if that's not the goal, I don't know what is.

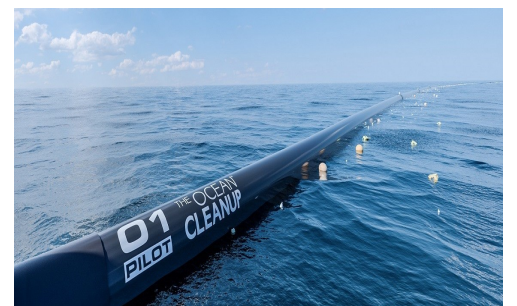
ŠÁRKA NEUMANNOVÁ

OCEAN CLEAN-UP

Most of us know that our oceans are polluted, mainly with plastics and other garbage. There have been much research and ideas about how to avoid this problem and most importantly how to get rid of it. And some of you might even have heard the name Boyan Slat, a 24-year-old dutch inventor and entrepreneur who came up with the genius invention of the 'Ocean Array Cleanup'.

Oceans are covering over 70% of our planet and are one of the most significant natural resources. Unfortunately, humans generate a massive amount of pollution, and oceans are the place where all the garbage produced on land ends up in. The main component of this garbage is plastics. Unlike other materials, plastics won't undergo biodegradation, yet only break up into smaller particles called microplastics. Later, microplastics enter the ocean, which we then use as a resource once again and so the microplastics move to us and apart from the lives of all marine organisms, indirectly affect our lives too.

Boyan Slat has focused his research and inventions on improving the cleanliness of our oceans. Boyan had founded a non-profit entity called *The Ocean Cleanup*, which has raised \$2.2 millions so far. Therefore, he invented the Oceanic Array. But what is it actually? You can imagine it as a long floating fence, three meters deep under the ocean surface level. It prevents plastics from flowing through it and escaping underneath. It's extraordinary due to the way it moves in the ocean. It was created and placed in a way that it moves with the water mass carried by the ocean currents. It actually floats as a piece of garbage, but way slower so that it's able to capture the plastic.



<https://www.lifegate.com/people/news/ocean-array-cleanup-boyan-slat-ready>

Moreover, it's expected that a full-scale cleanup fleet, of sixty models, could clean 50% of the Great Pacific ocean in just five years. The first model was launched in San Francisco in September 2018 and should prove the functioning of the system on the Pacific Garbage Patch, which is the largest accumulation zone of plastics/garbage.

Despite this, however, we still shall not depend on the new technologies and we should take care of our planet on our own, even with small supports such as recycling and not throwing garbage out into nature. Good luck to Boyan's project! I hope that future mankind will learn from our present mistakes one day and stop contributing to the destruction of this magnificent world by pollution.

MICHAELA RENDLOVÁ



CZECHIA AS A FOREIGN COUNTRY

Everyone has met at least one Czech citizen who was born abroad and has moved into the Czech Republic later in his or her life. What we often do not realize are difficulties these people had to overcome and are still overcoming till the present day. However, despite these obstacles, deciding to live in a foreign country challenges a person's current views and brings many beautiful experiences. With arranging an interview with a non-native speaker living here in our country, me and my friend wanted to learn more about the point of views of these people and what they go through in their everyday life. The person we decided to interview is Gabriel Ruberto and, in this reportage, he represents all of the people whom we meet on the streets but whose country of origin and background doesn't match ours.



<http://www.statnivlajky.cz/argentina>

Firstly, I would like to tell you some basic information about our friend Gabriel and where have we found him. Senor Ruberto is a father of one the students here at Open Gate, it is as simple as that. His native land is the country of tango and Lionel Messi, Argentina. Specifically, he was born in the city of Buenos Aires.

However, from this place he has moved to the center of Europe, Prague, which has been his home for 17 years now. The reason for his migration is a beautiful love story; he fell in love with a Czech woman and together they moved to the Czech Republic.

Now let me move on to the interesting things we have chatted about with Mr. Ruberto. The first obvious question a Czech speaker would ask a non-native speaker is definitely: "So, do you have problems with our language? It's pretty difficult for the rest of the world, especially the pronunciation..." (Something the Czechs are very proud of and not scared to show off with anywhere they go.) What Mr. Ruberto told us is that he doesn't actually speak Czech very well, however, he does understand a bit. Another thing that came to our mind was to ask about the languages they speak at home. We learned that the languages you could hear around the house are Czech, Spanish and also English. For an individual in a foreign country, English has become one of the most basic means of communication. Even for Gabriel Ruberto it comes to use in his everyday life, especially when communicating with his friends. The things that we learned from Mr. Ruberto about his ordinary life, helped enlarge our ability to empathize with non-native speakers living in the Czech Republic. And that's a quality everyone should possess.

When we finished talking about the obstacles of a foreign language, we

moved on to Mr. Ruberto's opinions about the lifestyle here in our country. Generally, he said he likes Argentina more. That is understandable because for many foreigners it is hard to adapt to the ignorance of the Czechs towards foreigners and the climate. Another problem that is obvious for migrants is, of course, homesickness. Many people, including our friend, experience a lot of moments when they miss their friends and family at home. What Gabriel Ruberto recommends, and we agree, are frequent visits back to the native country. By this, people avoid a total loss of contact with their acquaintances and home culture.

Last but not least I would like to talk about the benefits that moving into a foreign country brings. Generally, exploring a new culture, a new way of living, strengthens a person. His knowledge widens as he educates himself about different customs (such as Mr. Ruberto learning about the Christmas celebrations in the Czech Republic), a discovery of a new cuisine is always a pleasant plus and by meeting with a new lifestyle a person can gain many new skills. Gabriel Ruberto told us that hadn't it been for his stay in the Czech Republic, he would have never learned how to ski. And I would like to end this article on this good note. Travel to new destinations, educate yourselves about new points of views, challenge yourselves and most importantly, broaden your horizons.

JOSEFÍNA DUŠKOVÁ

SPRING PLAYLIST

I don't know about you, but I'm very happy, that winter has almost ended. Finally, we can enjoy the sun more, and and become more energized. To welcome spring properly, I wrote down a bunch of songs that can help you keep yourself motivated and happy.

Suncity - Khalid

I've always been a fan of Khalid, but now he came with something completely new that made me admire him even more. This talented 20-years-old singer from Georgia is mostly known for his R&B. His latest album, *Suncity*, was released on October 19th 2018 and it has already gained a lot of success. My favorite songs from this album would be *Vertigo* and *Suncity* (feat. Empress Of), which is partly in Spanish.



<https://pitchfork.com/reviews/albums/khalid-suncity-ep/>

When the party's over - Billie Eilish

This emotional electropop song came out just two days before *Suncity* and is very pleasing to listen to. In contrast with other songs Billie Eilish produced, this one is sad, yet beautiful. It's hard to describe, the best you can do is just listen to it yourself.

Hold Me Down - Daniel Caesar

A breathtakingly harmonical soft song to chill to. If you pay attention to the lyrics, it's a great song for those who are in love. *Sunflower* - Post Malone feat. Swae Lee This special song came out with the film *Spider - Man Into the Spider Verse*. This collab is like a dream come true, because Post Malone's rapping goes great with Swae Lee's vocals.

High Hopes - Panic! At the Disco

I heard this song at Prom, and I really love it, especially more now that I have it connected with that great evening. It's uplifting, and perfect to dance to with friends and "let your hair down".

Doing Me - RAY BLK

"Don't you know to be yourself and never ask permission." This is the perfect song for getting ready, because it is about how you should dress just the way you want to, no matter what others may think.

Lies - The Glowsticks, Annet X

In my own opinion, Czech music isn't that good. But Annet X is definitely changing that. With her new song *Lies* she brought a little bit more coolness into the Czech pop scene and I'm proud of that.

You can find all of these songs and many more in my playlist on Spotify, which I named Spring Essentials. I hope that these songs will inspire you and make you feel more confident and thriving. Enjoy!

JULIE SCHOLZOVÁ

PUERTO RICO MEETS PRAGUE

A few weeks ago our Spanish teacher Sra. Perekopská introduced us to a new project we will be working on called "entrevista con hispanohablante", in other words an Interview with a Spanish speaker. We had to contact a native Spanish speaker living in Prague and arrange an interview with him/her. My chosen Spanish person was my former teacher Mariyo Bengoechea who moved to Prague from Puerto Rico 13 years ago, and has been living here ever since. In this article I would like to share some of the questions and answers from my interview with Mariyo about her life in Prague and the cultural differences between the two countries that she has observed.

To begin with, please introduce yourself.

My name is Maria Bengoechea but everyone calls me Mariyo. I am originally from San Juan in Puerto Rico. I currently teach piano using the Suzuki method. I have a decent number of students, and there are even some on the waiting list, since there aren't many Suzuki teachers in the Czech Republic. I live here with my husband and we have a daughter who lives in New York, working as an actress. My passions besides teaching piano are painting and playing the violin.

Why did you move to Prague?

I moved to Prague because I heard about a good opportunity to become a Montessori teacher at IMSP, so I contacted them and they called me and asked me to come right away.

What are the biggest differences between Puerto Rico and the Czech Republic?

In my country the people are very unruly, noisy and super cheerful, which is one of the biggest differences between the people here and there. They always sing in the bus, they like to have big parties, they invite people they met on the street for food. You don't come across this in the Czech Republic very often, it was a slight cultural shock when I first arrived.

What surprised you the most in the Czech Republic?

There is almost no rhythm, Czech people don't have any rhythmical music! That was my biggest surprise when I came here.

What is your opinion on Czech people, do you have good friends here?

Yes I have many very good friends, and in fact, I think that Czech people make amazing good friends because they take things seriously, are reliable and I love that they are so well disciplined.

Is Czech a hard language for you? What are some of your favorite words?

Yes, very, especially to be able to understand and pronounce the sounds that we do not have in Spanish, such as č, ř, ž. I love the words "zmrzlina" or "řepa"! But my favorite word has got to be "popovice" because it helps me with the word "popokatepetl".

What do you miss the most about Puerto Rico?

Oh, meals made from green bananas, we call them platanos, and especially when they are put into a bowl made of bread - so basically bread fruit. And definitely the music, I miss that a lot.

Would you like to return to Puerto Rico some day?

No, I would not. I wouldn't be able to get used to it again. Corruption is seen almost everywhere there and things just aren't going well.

What are your plans for the future?

My plans for the future are to help the Suzuki method education develop so that more children here in the Czech Republic can learn it and then have the whole family enjoy their music. Then probably to move into our "chata" close to Beroun and be able to enjoy this beautiful country.

Mariyo Bengoechea welcomed us in her beautiful apartment close to villa Kajetanka. We met her husband, saw some of her amazing paintings of Prague and the beach and even embarked on a long discussion regarding the Suzuki method of learning how to play an instrument. We got to catch up on how our lives have changed during the years since we last saw each other and I am very grateful that I got to see one of my favorite teachers again thanks to this project.

VALERIE PYTJUK

POVEDLO SE



FOTOSOUTĚŽ

1. MÍSTO — MATĚJ RENDLA



2. MÍSTO — LUCIE MÍŠKOVÁ



3. MÍSTO — SUREN ŠKARDOVÁ



UTILIZA TU ESPAÑOL EN ESTOS CUATRO PAÍSES

Una de las razones por la cual estudiar una lengua extranjera es para usarla cuando viajas. El español o castellano es una de las lenguas más usadas en todo el mundo y por eso te da muchas opciones donde puedes utilizar tu conocimiento. Y además de los lugares más obvios como España o América Latina hay también lugares menos conocidos:

1. Andorra

Un país pequeñito entre España y Francia, es uno de estos lugares menos conocidos. Aunque la lengua oficial es el catalán, la mayoría de los habitantes habla español y esto significa que es una buena opción para practicar tu español. El país está más cerca de nosotros que España y es conocido por sus excelentes condiciones para esquiar y por compras baratas gracias a la zona libre de impuestos.



2. Gibraltar

Justo al lado de España es una de las opciones cercanas donde se habla el castellano. Gibraltar es parte del Reino Unido y es famosa por la roca en que está construida toda la ciudad. También es zona libre de impuestos pero a diferencia de Andorra está a lado del mar y es mejor visitarlo en verano. Y un hecho interesante es que la carretera principal cruza la pista de aterrizaje.



3. Guinea Ecuatorial

Español es la lengua oficial en Guinea Ecuatorial y más de 800 mil personas, la mayoría de la población, tienen al español como su lengua materna. El país fue parte del reino de España hasta 1968. Este país, localizado en el este de África, tiene playas lindas con mariposas, bosques tropicales habitadas por elefantes y simios y también cinco islas volcánicas.



4. Filipinas

Filipinas fue una colonia de España en los siglos XVI y XIX y el castellano fue la lengua oficial hasta el año 1987. Ahora más de 3 millones de personas hablan español y es una de las opciones más especiales y exóticas donde se puede practicar español. Filipinas consisten en más de siete mil islas y es muy famoso por sus playas y rocas cubiertas por árboles en el mar.



MATEO RENDLA

DESTINOS MÁS POPULARES PARA LOS ESPAÑOLES

Muchas personas de diferentes naciones disfrutan de visitar otro país para vacaciones o simplemente como un viaje. Los alemanes, los franceses y los británicos disfrutan haciendo eso, sin embargo, los españoles no lo hacen y prefieren quedarse en su país. Vamos a mirar y caracterizar los destinos más populares para ellos.

1. Tenerife

Tenerife puede traer a la mente paquetes de vacaciones y playas, pero esta isla canaria es más que eso. Sus paisajes lunares y picos volcánicos son de otro mundo. El Teide es el pico más alto de España y se encuentra dentro del Parque Nacional del Teide, donde puedes explorar el peculiar paisaje de cráteres y antiguos flujos de lava, las gemas geológicas más singulares de España.



2. Granada

Granada es como un cuento de hadas de Disney que cobra vida: tiene la impresionante y antigua fortaleza, los picos nevados y las sinuosas calles adoquinadas. La Alhambra es una de las atrac-

ciones más famosas de España, y por una buena razón. El palacio morisco se encuentra en lo alto de la ciudad y contiene parte del arte y la arquitectura islámica mejor conservados del mundo. No te pierdas el Sacromonte, un área de cuevas blancas que se aferran a la ladera donde originalmente vivía la comunidad gitana de la ciudad y el baile y la música flamencos florecieron.



3. Barcelona

La segunda ciudad de España es la eterna favorita de los visitantes por su impresionante ubicación mediterránea, su arquitectura icónica y su atmósfera cosmopolita. Vaya a Gaudí en la Sagrada Familia y el Parque Güell y vea algunas de las obras menos conocidas



del arquitecto, como la Casa Batlló. Realice el viaje hasta el Monte Tibidabo para disfrutar de las espectaculares vistas de la ciudad hasta el mar; Los amantes de las montañas rusas deben visitar el Parque de Atracciones del Tibidabo, inaugurado en 1905, mientras que la montaña también es un gran lugar para montar en bicicleta o caminar.

4. Madrid

La capital de España es un gran destino para un fin de semana. El triángulo dorado de las galerías de arte de Madrid alberga algunas de las obras más famosas de Europa, desde el Guernica de Picasso hasta las Meninas de Velázquez. La ciudad alberga el Palacio Real, el palacio más grande de Europa en términos de



área, y en cada esquina puede descubrir nuevas iglesias, tiendas y bares. El barrio de La Latina es el hogar de algunos de los bares de tapas más famosos de la ciudad y es un gran lugar para un recorrido de tapas.

FILIP HALTMAR

Durante del intercambio con España, una oportunidad perfecta para conocer los puntos de vista a los que no estamos acostumbrados, hicimos una entrevista con los visitantes. Nuestras preguntas fueron sobre el intercambio, la comparación de las culturas diferentes, adaptación a una cultura nueva y viajar en general. Aquí puedes ver lo que aprendimos de nuestro amigo Nacho y quizás aprenderán algo también.

¡Hola Nacho! Entonces, vamos a hacerte preguntas sobre viajar, el intercambio, culturas nuevas etc. ¿Estás listo? Vale. ¿Ya has visto diferencias entre la República Checa y España?

Sí, sí, pues, principalmente en Alicante todo es marrón y aquí ves verde en todos lados. Me gusta mucho esto. También, me gusta mucho esquiar y la nieve, pero en Alicante no hay nada de nieve.

Hablando sobre la nieve aquí, ¿fue difícil adaptarse al frío?

Para nada, En realidad, me gusta.

¿Qué interesante! ¿Crees que las personas actúan de una manera diferente que en España?

He observado, que dependiendo de la zona hay gente o muy abiertas o cerradas. Por ejemplo, en el sur de España, Andalucía, sin conocerte, la gente puede empezar hacer bromas y hablar muy personal contigo. En cambio, aquí definitivamente no puedo ver esto.

Es verdad que el resto del mundo dice que los checos son muy cerrados o incluso pasivo agresivos... Esto también es visible en los saludos, en España son muy íntimos.

¡Ah, sí! Cuando llegamos aquí por la noche, una chica me dio una mano como un saludo. Fui muy confundido, no hacemos esto en España.

Oh, no sabía esto. Vale, ¿cuáles son los lugares más interesantes que has visitado?

Estuve un mes en Italia con los amigos y fuimos en Sicilia. Las playas allí son totalmente diferentes de las en Alicante. Allí, si miras la playa ves distintas tonalidades de azul. Después fui a Lisboa y me gustó también porque es un sitio muy verde. Estos sitios totalmente diferentes de donde estamos nosotros son los sitios que me llaman atención.

Y finalmente, ¿qué cultura encuentras más interesante?

Me llama mucha la atención Asia. Hay personas muy tranquilas y los monumentos, las religiones también son muy curiosas. Son cosas totalmente diferentes de las que conocemos.

Estoy muy contenta de que conocí a Nacho. No sólo conocí a una persona con la que tengo mucho en común, aprendí cosas de él que nunca había pensado y creo que es un humano muy amable con mucho potencial. ¡Gracias a Nacho!



TEREZA CHAROVÁ

POURQUOI VOYAGER À MONTPELLIER?

Montpellier, la ville au sud de la France, dans la région Occitanie, est un endroit historique, culturel et c'est la ville idéale pour passer des vacances. Des plages se trouvent seulement à dix kilomètres du centre-ville et sont vraiment magnifiques. Les monuments historiques déjà d'époque romaine sont mélangés avec des centres commerciaux et des trams modernes.

J'ai visité Montpellier deux fois et je suis sûre que je veux y retourner. J'y suis allée pour apprendre le français en France et je le recommande. Les Françaises au sud sont très gentils et leurs accent est à mon avis facile à comprendre.

Le cœur de Montpellier est La Place de la Comédie. C'est un endroit toujours vivant, avec beaucoup des locaux et des touristes. Au milieu est La fontaine de Trois Grâces, un monument historique classé. Autour de la place se trouvent l'Opéra, beaucoup des restaurants, cafés et il y a une chose très mignonne : un carrousel.

Un monument spécifique de Montpellier est l'Arc de Triomphe. Cette porte de Peyrou, comment on le peut aussi appeler était ériger en 1691 pour célébrer le roi Louis XIV. Devant l'Arc, il y a Promenade du Peyrou, un endroit très jolie et aussi très utile quand il fait très chaud et il y a beaucoup du soleil. Sur la Promenade, il y a beaucoup d'arbres et banquettes où c'est très sympa de s'y asseoir et se reposer.

Le centre-ville est idéal pour sortir, faire

du shopping ou prendre des photos. On a retrouvé que la rue le plus "instagramable" est la rue l'Ancien Courrier. Le zoo local est gratuit en forme d'un parc ou tout le monde va pour se promener ou faire du jogging. Et si Montpellier ne suffit pas, vous pouvez visitez les autres villes au sud de la France: Marseille, Avignon ou Carcassonne qui sont seulement à deux heures en bus de Montpellier.

KAROLÍNA HRABALOVÁ



ENQUÊTE

Quel est votre plus grand choc culturel?

Quand j'étais petit, ma famille et moi nous avons voyagé aux États-Unis. Le choc a été à la salle à manger de l'hôtel où nous avons pris le petit déjeuner. Quand je suis allé chercher mes céréales, au lieu du lait, ils ont utilisé du jus d'orange. Cela m'a beaucoup surpris, mais lorsque j'ai essayé, ce n'était pas si mal.

ONDŘEJ LUKA

LÉA ÉCRIT DE SON SÉJOUR

Lundi 5 novembre, je me rendais à peine compte de ce qui allait m'arriver. Mes billets d'avion étaient réservés, ma valise prête, et en route pour l'aéroport de Nantes. Une fois arrivée tout s'est déroulé comme prévu, mais je dois dire que de quitter mes parents était émouvant. C'était la première fois que je prenais l'avion et je suis fière de l'avoir fait seule d'autant plus que j'ai adoré et vu des paysages magnifiques. Une fois arrivée à Prague vers 16h45 j'ai rencontré Vladimir qui m'a conduit jusqu'à Open Gate School. À destination, des élèves m'ont gentiment accueilli. Pour mon premier jour d'école j'ai été agréablement surprise de voir autant de personnes avenantes envers moi, ainsi que les professeurs qui se sont montrés compréhensifs. L'après-midi j'ai pu tester le krav-maga que j'ai adoré. Malheureusement il s'en est suivi d'une petite blessure au pouce mais rien de grave. Ma première semaine fut assez riche en émotion car ma famille me manquait un peu. Cependant les élèves par leur amabilité me changeaient les idées.

Viens ensuite, mon premier week-end chez Eliška où j'ai passé de merveilleux moments, en effet, on a visité Prague, été à la patinoire etc... Ça a été de réels échanges et j'en garde de super souvenirs. Le début de la deuxième semaine ne s'est pas très bien passé, effectivement, j'ai été malade donc je suis restée deux jours au lit. Après la fin de semaine était super !

Pour mon deuxième week-end, j'ai été

accueilli par Zuzka. Elle habite à proximité de Prague et donc j'ai pu aller à un grand défilé en plein centre de Prague. De plus, j'ai assisté à son cours de danse qui était très joli à regarder. Ensuite, les jours sont passés et j'ai commencé à avoir un peu de devoirs.

Pour le troisième week-end, j'ai été chez Eliška, une élève de sexta, ensemble nous avons beaucoup fait les magasins, ce qui était intéressant car nous étions le black friday et nous avons aussi visité Prague. Ses grands-parents ont été vraiment gentils avec moi.

Viens ensuite le week-end, où mes parents m'ont fait la surprise de venir me voir, nous étions logés dans un hôtel au pied du pont St Charles. C'était vraiment bien d'avoir pu revoir mes parents et aussi de reparler français. C'est vrai que d'entendre et parler une langue étrangère peut s'avérer un peu fatigant. Nous avons beaucoup marché dans Prague. C'était super ! Ils sont repartis le lundi soir, j'ai donc passé trois jours avec eux.

Pour le dernier week-end, je l'ai passé chez Magda pour une birthday party, Mili était également avec nous le premier jour.



LES PARCS NATIONAUX DANS LES PAYS FRANCOPHONES

Chaque pays a quelque chose de beau à offrir aux touristes - nourriture, belles femmes, châteaux ou nature merveilleuse. Et la belle nature, c'est ce que tous les pays francophones ont en commun. Bien que les paysages et les biomes soient très différents. De même pour les animaux dans les forêts ou les savanes et les fleurs dans les champs ou la jungle, ils sont si différents, mais tous ces endroits valent le détour. Regardons ensemble les parcs nationaux les plus célèbres, beaux et intéressants des pays francophones!

Le premier parc et le plus connu en Europe, Parc national de la Vanoise, est situé en France, près des frontières avec l'Italie, dans la région des Alpes françaises. C'était le premier parc national français établi et il a été officiellement ouvert en 1963. Si vous êtes un grand amateur de ski, vous devez visiter la région en raison de ses stations de ski incroyables et de ses conditions de neige. Les sommets des montagnes couvertes de neige atteignent presque 4000 mètres et même dans ces hauteurs, on peut apercevoir des bouquetins des Alpes, des marmottes des Alpes, des loups ou des lynx d'Eurasie.

Dans une autre partie du monde francophone, vous pouvez trouver des animaux et une flore à couper le souffle - en Afrique! Le parc national, Parc national des Virunga, situé dans la partie orientale de la République démocratique du Congo est devenu l'une des premières zones protégées d'Afrique et a été créé en 1925. Il couvre une superficie de 8 090 km² et est inscrit sur la Liste du patrimoine mondial en péril depuis 1994. Deux volcans actifs se trouvent dans le parc, le mont Nyiragongo et Nyamuragira. Ils ont considérablement façonné la diversité des habi-

tats et de la faune du parc national. Plus de 3 000 espèces fauniques et florales ont été répertoriées, dont plus de 300 sont endémiques de la Rift Albertine, dont le gorille oriental et le singe doré.

Maintenant, nous allons passer à un environnement un peu plus froid, au pays des lacs, des castors et du hockey - le Canada! Dans ce pays diversifié, nous pouvons également trouver des parcs nationaux et l'un des plus beaux parcs est Parc national d'Aiguebelle dans l'ouest du Québec. Malgré sa petite taille, il cache plusieurs secrets tels que des volcans terminés, des lacs magnifiques avec des centaines d'espèces animales intéressantes - il y a plus de 80 lacs. Vous pouvez apercevoir ces animaux typiques de la taïga - orignal, lynx canadien ou rat musqué.

Après avoir visité ce pays froid, nous allons passer à une île dans l'océan Pacifique, qui est un territoire d'outre-mer français - au parc national Blue River sur l'île Nouvelle Calédonie. Dans le parc, vous trouverez de nombreuses rivières, de belles cascades et même un barrage construit en 1958. Le parc comprend deux biomes typiques de la Nouvelle-Calédonie: le maquis et la forêt tropicale humide. Blue River est le seul endroit au monde où vous pouvez voir le kagu, un oiseau en voie de disparition qui est devenu le symbole du pays, dans son habitat naturel, mais il n'y vit que 700 individus. Les amoureux de la faune seront comblés par les fleurs carnivores et les orchidées qui poussent dans la nature sauvage et intacte.

Êtes-vous intéressé à visiter l'un de ces endroits? Êtes-vous intéressé à visiter l'un de ces endroits.

JASMÍNA ŠVARCROVÁ

Deux des amies de Magda nous on rejoint le deuxième jour. Ce dernier, nous avons été en Autriche dans la capitale, là-bas nous avons fait de la patinoire en face de la cathédrale, c'était magnifique avec toutes les illuminations de Noël. De plus, j'ai pu faire le tour des markets en plein centre de Vienne. Durant ma dernière semaine j'ai vu le salon des sciences où des élèves exposaient des travaux pratiques. C'était des expériences intéressantes et les élèves faisaient l'effort de parler en anglais pour moi.

Ici s'achèvent mes derniers jours dans un splendide esprit de Noël et la neige. J'ai beaucoup aimé me dépayser et avoir pu observer le fonctionnement d'une autre école, dans un autre pays. Open Gate est une superbe école basée sur des concepts géniaux et remplis de solidarité. Elle est très différente de Campostal de part sa taille mais aussi ses règles comme le port de l'uniforme ou l'utilisation des ordinateurs portables. Je dirais que c'est une école ouverte d'esprit dans le but d'assurer un avenir aux élèves. La mentalité est également un point important à souligner pour moi. En effet, les élèves ont tous une motivation de réussir et travaillent avec ambition et intérêt. De même, il n'y a pas de cas d'harcèlement, de mise à l'écart ou de jugement, cela prouve l'intelligence et le respect impliqué dans cette école. J'ai été aussi surprise de voir le niveau des leçons et la capacité de compréhension des élèves. C'est motivant et ça donne du cou-

rage pour la suite des études. En ce qui me concerne, c'était également ma première fois en internat, et j'ai adoré. Open Gate propose beaucoup d'activités avec des encadrants géniaux et motivés. Les élèves ont de la liberté et de l'autonomie, cela permet de pouvoir pratiquer ses passions dans une même enceinte. La nourriture est aussi différente ce sont des plats équilibrés et avec énormément de choix afin de s'adapter à tous types de régimes alimentaires. Le nombre d'élèves dans les classes est idéal car nous pouvons avoir un suivi plus individuel et une écoute plus attentive.

En conclusion, je n'ai aucun point négatif, j'ai vraiment été séduite par tout, que ce soit les étudiants très gentils, les professeurs attentifs, les bâtiments adaptés aux besoins des élèves, le dortoir fonctionnel et ses activités, la nourriture excellente et les encadrants qui partagent leurs savoirs avec plein d'énergie.

Ce fut une superbe expérience juste inoubliable qui doit malheureusement se terminer, j'en garderai d'excellents souvenirs. J'espère rester en contact avec les étudiants le plus longtemps possible et au plaisir de les revoir un jour. Un grand merci à tout Open Gate de m'avoir reçu avec une telle gaieté et à Campostal de proposer ce genre de voyage et de m'avoir permis de le faire.

LÉA

(UNE ÉLÈVE DE SECONDE DE CAMPOSTAL)

DIE KATASTROPHE EINER STADT

Wenn eine Stadt oder ein Land schöne Natur, atemberaubende historische Sehenswürdigkeiten oder warmes Meer hat, die zahlende Touristen anziehen, ist es profitabel für die Bürger. In einigen Gebieten ist der Tourismus sogar die größte Einkommensquelle und ohne sie wäre der Zustand der Volkswirtschaft wirklich anders, siehe z. B. Ägypten oder Kroatien. In Einzelfällen kommt der Profit auf Rechnung der meisten Bürger, die höhere Preise zahlen, häufige Probleme mit Ruhe zu bekämpfen haben und das neue, kommerzielle Bild der Stadt akzeptieren müssen. In Venedig haben allerdings diese Nachteile eine Grenze überschritten, wo das Leben in der Stadt wesensmäßig unmöglich ist.

Wer mal Venedig besucht hat, erinnert sich meistens an riesengroße Menschenmassen in engen Gassen und auf Plätzen, eher als an das reiche Stadtzentrum oder etwa eine romantische Lagune. Pro Jahr wird Venedig, ein aus 118 Inseln bestehendes Ganzes, von etwa 30 Millionen Touristen überströmt. Das Leben für die geringen 55 Tausend einheimische Bürger wird mit jedem weiteren Besucher schlimmer, obwohl es für sie ein Dilemma ist, weil praktisch alle Bewohner von den Einnahmen der Tourismusbranche abhängig sind. Der Besucheransturm bringt neben Finanzen eine Vielzahl an Problemen für die ganze Stadt.

Die Situation sei nicht mehr erträglich und ohne einen Eingriff von der Seite der Regierung sei das Kulturerbe bedroht, sagen die Bürger und Politiker, die gegen den Ansturm eine Bürgerbewegung formiert haben. Es ist kein Wunder, weil das tagtägliche Leben der Venezianer betroffen ist. Städtische Einrichtungen wie z. B. der Fischmarkt, die jemals den Bürgern dienten, sind heute nur noch eine Kulisse für fotografierende, nicht zahlende Touristen. Dazu ist die Stadt eine von den lukrativsten Destinationen und die Mieten steigen in Himmelshöhen, selbstverständlich auch für die Bewohner. Als wäre das nicht schon schlimm genug, kommen die meisten von den Touristen auf riesigen Kreuzfahrtschiffen und spenden fast kein Geld. Wenn schon, dann nur für Erfrischung oder kleine Firlefanzerei. Die Handwerker, die die Bürger allerdings brauchen, sind fast verschwunden, und es gibt keinen Laden, wo man seine Schuhe reparieren oder ein Buch binden lassen kann. Die Handwerker sind entweder weg oder öffneten stattdessen einen Laden mit Souvenirs, die den Geist der Stadt nicht reflektieren.

Die Kreuzfahrtschiffe selbst stellen ein riesiges Problem dar. Die Schiffe haben einen gewaltigen Auftrieb, und wenn so ein Koloss der Lagune zufließt, steigt der Wasserspiegel um 20 Zentimeter und sinkt danach wieder, was den Fundamenten der Häuser schadet. Die mehrstöckigen, hundert Meter langen

Schiffe überragen sogar die Höhe des Turmes auf dem Markusplatz und zerstören die Atmosphäre der Altstadt. Es ist, als würde in der Mitte ein moderner komplex von Wolkenkratzern aufwachsen. Die größten Schäden sieht man aber auf den ersten Blick nicht - die Schiffsschrauben unterm Wasser wühlen den Schlamm vom Boden auf und schicken ihn aufs offene Meer, was das langsame Sinken der Stadt zur Folge hat. Aus Sicht des Umweltschutzes ist es auch eine Gefahr; die Abgase aus den Schornsteinen der Schiffe verschmutzen die Luft, die ansonsten sehr sauber und frisch wäre, weil es in Venedig keine Autos gibt. Die Weite der Straßen gewährt nur den Fußgängern Raum. Trotzdem wartet man stundenlang in der Menschenmenge, die sich sehnsüchtig die berühmte Brücke und andere Sehenswürdigkeiten besichtigen möchte. Polizisten müssen oftmals den Menschenstrom regeln, denn die Anlegestellen, wo die riesigen Schiffe ankern und tausende Leute auf einmal ausgelassen werden, sehen aus, als gäbe es hier ein Musikfestival, wo Leute vordrängeln, um näher an die Bühne zu kommen.

Bürger stehen vor einer Entscheidung, denn die Kapazität Venedigs wird überdimensioniert und die Lebensbedingungen der Venezianer werden furchtbar. Viele sind aber bereit, auf einen großen Teil ihres Verdienstes zu verzichten, wenn es der Stadt helfen würde. Allerdings geht

es hier um gewaltige Summen. Jeder, der die Preise in Hotels, Restaurants und Nobelboutiquen der luxuriösesten Modemarken sieht, bekommt erst eine Ahnung, um wie viel Geld es sich hier handelt. Nach der Meinung der Statistiker bringen die Gäste aus den Kreuzfahrtschiffen etwa 500 Millionen Euro pro Jahr mit und geben das Geld hier aus. Einige Politiker sind aber gegen alle Beschränkungen und schlagen den Bau eines Flughafens vor, um den Schiffsverkehr zu reduzieren. Die Stimmen der Venezianer sind aber dagegen. Sie sagen, dass es keine Probleme lösen würde, sogar umgekehrt. Es würde nur zum Wachstum des Tourismus führen. Den Vertretern der Lokalregierung ist es gelungen ein Gesetz durchzusetzen, das Schiffen über 55000 Tonnen den Eintritt in die Lagunen verbietet, die neben dem Stadtzentrum liegen. Das ist bisher nur der Anfang, sagen die Mitglieder der Bürgerinitiative.

MATYÁŠ BOSÁK

<https://www.dw.com/de/zu-viele-touristen-in-venedig/1-41484723>
<http://www.spiegel.de/reise/europa/venedig-weltkulturerbe-im-ausverkauf-a-1177535.html>

REISE ENTLANG DER DONAU

Die Ferien nähern sich und Sie wissen noch nicht, wie und wo Sie sie verbringen. Fast alle reisen ans Meer, aber Sie wollen etwas anderes erleben, als am Strand oder im Korb liegen.

Wenn es Ihr Fall ist, sollen Sie nicht verzweifeln. Sie haben viele Möglichkeiten, wo Sie Ihre Ferien verbringen. Zum Beispiel können Sie mit dem Fahrrad entlang der Donau fahren. Der Donau-Radweg ist der schönste Radweg in ganz Europa. Er ist ungefähr 2 800 km lang und er geht durch Deutschland, Österreich, die Slowakei, Ungarn, Serbien, Bulgarien und Rumänien.

Treffpunkt der drei Flüsse (Inn, Donau und Ilz) sehen. Außerdem gibt es da auch einen Dom und eine wunderschöne Altstadt.



Es gibt viele mögliche Orte, wo Ihre Abenteuer anfangen oder enden können, aber Sie sollen auf jeden Fall durch den österreichischen Teil fahren. Dieser Teil fängt in der Stadt Passau an, wo die Grenze zwischen Deutschland und Österreich verläuft. In Passau können Sie einen

Wenn Sie von Passau nach Wien fahren, haben Sie den ganzen österreichischen Teil des Donau-Radwegs zurückgelegt (er ist 300 km lang). Viele Schlösser und Burgen stehen entlang des Weges, deshalb sollen Sie nicht nur radfahren, sondern auch die Sehenswürdigkeiten besuchen. Also, wenn Sie etwas Neues erleben wollen und ein bisschen sportlich sind, ist der Donau-Radweg eine gute Wahl für Sie.

MARKÉTA MALCOVÁ

AUSFLUG NACH NORWEGEN

Hallo, ich bin Broňa und ich will euch über meinen Ausflug nach Norwegen erzählen.

Ich habe mich schnell entschieden und sofort meine Flugtickets gekauft. In 10 Tagen saß ich im Flugzeug nach Frankfurt und von Frankfurt nach Oslo.

Als ich in Oslo angekommen bin, haben mich Marie mit ihrer Mutter vom Flughafen abgeholt und dann fuhren wir nach Hurdal in ihre Hütte. Marie war zu der Zeit nur 17, aber sie konnte schon Auto fahren, deshalb hat sie uns dorthin gebracht. Dort habe ich ihre Familie kennen gelernt - außer ihrer Mutter auch den Vater, den Bruder und auch den Hund. Sie waren alle sehr nett und liebevoll. Die Nachbarn waren auch sehr nett und sie ließen mich ihre Pferde streicheln. Ich habe sie gefragt, wie man sowas auf Norwegisch sagt. Ich kann kein Norwegisch sprechen, aber ich kann ein Paar Sätze, zum Beispiel: „Kan jeg klappe hestene?“ - „Kann ich die Pferde streicheln?“. Sie waren sehr begeistert, dass ich etwas in ihrer Sprache sagen kann.

Gleich ab dem ersten Moment, habe ich mich in die norwegische Natur verliebt. Die Berge, die Wälder, die Seen, alles war so schön und sauber. Auch die Hauptstadt Oslo hat mir total gefallen. Wir haben einen ganzen Tag in Oslo verbracht und Marie hatte eine große Überraschung für mich. Sie hat drei andere Mädchen aus Norwegen, die auch aus den USA kannte, nach Oslo eingeladen. Ich wusste nichts darüber, und als wir in einem Restaurant saßen, sind sie alle drei plötzlich aufge-

taucht. Ich war überrascht und sehr froh, dass wir uns wieder sehen können und den Tag in Oslo zusammen verbringen. Wir haben zum Beispiel das Wikinger-museum besucht und auch den Frogner Park besichtigt. Frogner Park ist ein schöner Naturpark in der Mitte von Oslo. Am Abend sind wir aufs Dach des Opernhauses hinaufgestiegen und zusammen den Sonnenuntergang gesehen. Am nächsten Tag haben wir in der Nähe von Maries Hütte in einem See geschwommen. Es war inmitten eines Waldes, deshalb war es sehr schön und das Wasser war das sauberste Wasser, das ich je gesehen habe. Maries Hund Nova liebt das Schwimmen und hatte viel Spaß, genauso wie wir.

Danach sind wir mit dem Zug zu Marie nach Haus gefahren. Sie wohnt in Lillehammer, der Olympiastadt des Jahres 1994. Lillehammer war auch sehr schön und Marie hat mir viele Sachen dort gezeigt. Ein anderes Wikingermuseum und auch die Orte, wo die olympischen Spiele stattgefunden haben. Ich habe auch viele neue Freunde gefunden, weil Marie eine Willkommensparty organisiert hat. Ihre Freunde haben mir viele neue Sachen über Norwegen beigebracht. Die Mädchen haben gesagt, der wichtigste Satz ist: „Jeg elsker norske dame“, das heißt: „Ich liebe Norwegerinnen“.

Die Reise nach Norwegen war ganz toll und ich habe mich in das Land verliebt. Ich hoffe, dass ich bald zurückkommen kann. Zuerst aber muss Marie Tschechien besuchen, sonst wäre das ja nicht fair. BROŇA THEUER

■ DRAMATIZACE EZOPOVI BAJKY VLK A KŮŇ

Sbor: Pozdního letního večera na úzké
lávce přes lesní tůň
potkal se dobrák a příšera.
Kdo ustoupí? Kdo prosadí názor SVŮJ?
Ta liška proradná lest ji není neznámá.
Vlk ustoupit nechce koně se bojí, avšak
ví,
že když kůň na něj šlápne, bude v loji.
Vlk: Dobrý večer majestátný, ctihodný a
vážený koni.
Kůň: ustup mi z cesty šediváku, dobře
víš, že tě mám na háku.
Vlk: Ach, koni ustoupit bych chtěl, leč
nemám sil,
co kdybych ti za svůj průchod zaplatil.
Sbor: Vlk už v duchu kuje plán,
Vlk/(Sbor): jak koni zavděčit se mám?
Kůň: Poslouchám!
Sbor: Vlk přemýšlí, čím by koni zaplatil,
tak aby na tom on sám moc netratil.

Vlk: Drahý koni, ty jsi velký pán!
Sbor: Vlk už svoje pikle kuje.
Vlk: Já ti za svůj průchod dám.
Sbor: Vlk už svůj škleb roztahuje.
Vlk: Všechn oves, co já v sluji mám.
Sbor: kůň však není žádný prostřáček,
v žádném případě neskončí vlkovi na
háček.
Kůň Vlků nezahrávej si s mojí důvěrou,
vím dobře, že vlci oves nežerou.
Sbor: Prohlédl kůň vlkovu léčku
a hned mu dal kopytem tečku.
Nevyšla vlkovi jeho zrada,
teď z lávky do tůně padá
V příběhu snad poučení najdete,
není zásluhou rozdávat něco, co sami
nechcete.
MILI MACKOVÁ, SANDRA
SUŠIČOVÁ, NELA UHLÍŘOVÁ

■ STROMY

Je pravda že nás stromy
v mnohém předčí?
Je slunce, voda a vzduch vše, co
jim stačí?
Bylo by dobré, kdyby takto
skromní všichni byli?
Nebo by si naši krásnou planetu
vůbec neužili?

NICOLAS IVANOV

■ PAMPELIŠKA

Proč pelichá ta pampeliška?
Chce se zbavit svého kožíška?
Proč ten vítr v létě víří?
Proč z ní létá jemné chmýří?

LETICIA KOOPS

■ ŠKOLA

Je škola unavená, že musí na jed-
nom místě stát?
Nesní spíš o tom, jak se volnou
stát?
A co když chce normálním živo-
tem žít?
Co když se bojí, že jí někdo může
zavraždit?

NIKITA RODIN

■ KVĚTY

Proč květy na jaře musejí kvést
a jen barvy jara musejí nést?
Chtějí snad křehké motýli vábit
a hrozbu zlé zimy více oddálit?

RICHARD ČESNEK

■ EKOLOGIE

Proč krásné kytky nerostou věčně?
Proč je vzduch cítit tak
nebezpečně?
Proč je oceánská voda plastová?
Proč je příroda tak špinavá?

LEONARDO RUBERTO

■ MRAKY

Letí rychleji, když vítr sílí?
A proč nejsou modrý, ale bílý?
Proč nejsou na zemi, může za to
Bůh?
Plní je voda, anebo vzduch?

PAVEL GALYAŠ

■ ALERGIE

Nač má pampeliška chmýří?
Proč její květy vzduchem víří?
Proč kvůli ní kašlu a pšikám?
K čemu je ta pampeliška? To si
pořád říkám.

STANISLAV DVOŘÁK

■ BRANKA

Chce schytávat všechny rány?
Chce, aby na ni sedaly vrány?
Chce být přítomna u všech vyvrk-
lých kotníků?
Chce následně vidět nové kopačky
z botníku?

KATEŘINA ŠVEJDOVÁ

■ BOTY

Co když přijdu do zahrady?
Proč je tahle bota tady?
Proč je druhá bota vedle?
Proč je vedle staré jedle?

ANDREA POKORNÁ

■ OD HOUPAČKY KE SMYSLU ŽIVOTA

Nebolí houpačku každý den záda?
Nebudem houpačku nazývat
Sláďa?
Neměli bychom oblíbené věci na-
zývati hravě?
Neměli bychom se radši válet
támhle v trávě?

BÁRA VOTLUČKOVÁ

■ PROČ?

Proč je tu červená houpačka?
Proč na ní sedí roztomilá Kačka?
Proč se vůbec nehoupe?
Proč se radši nekoupe?

JOSEFÍNA SARAH ELISOVÁ

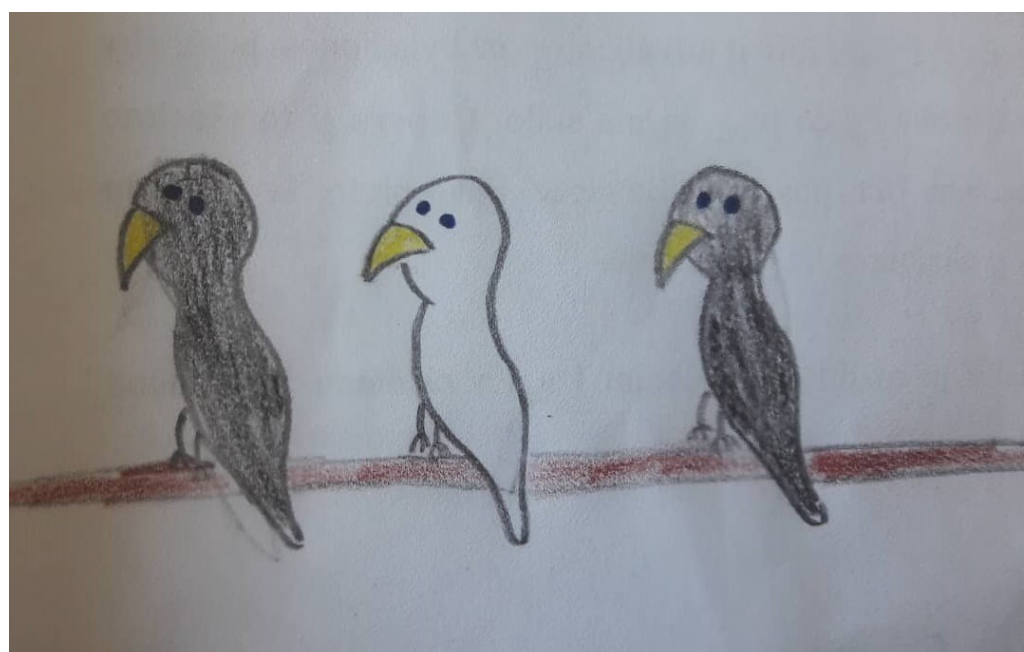
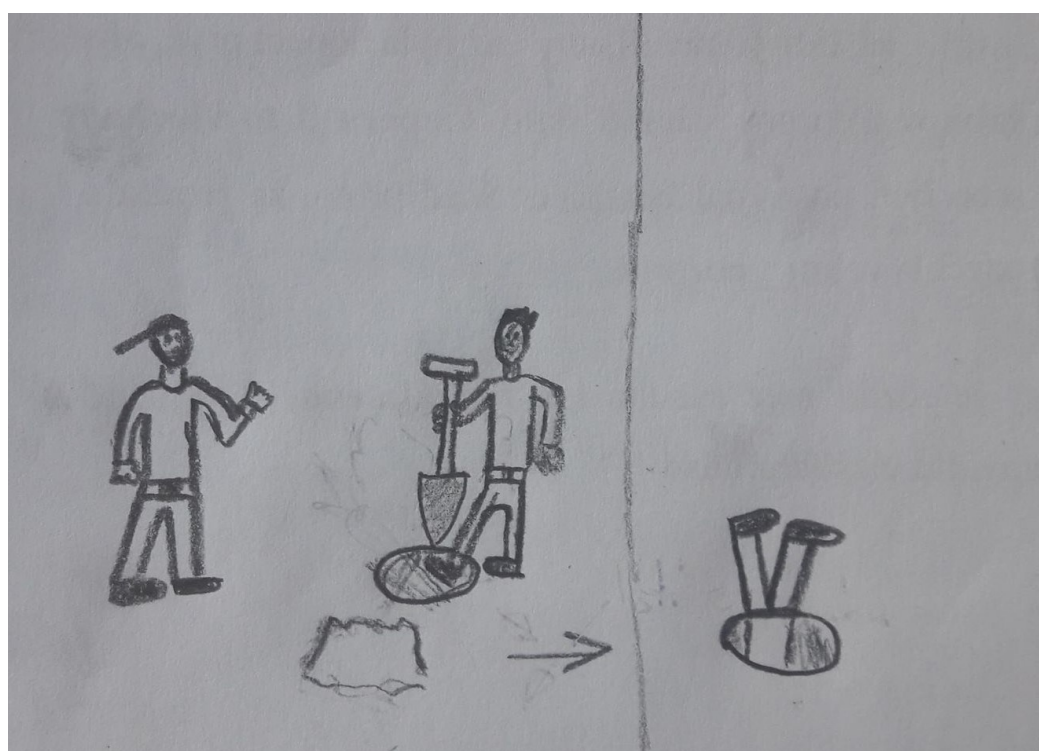
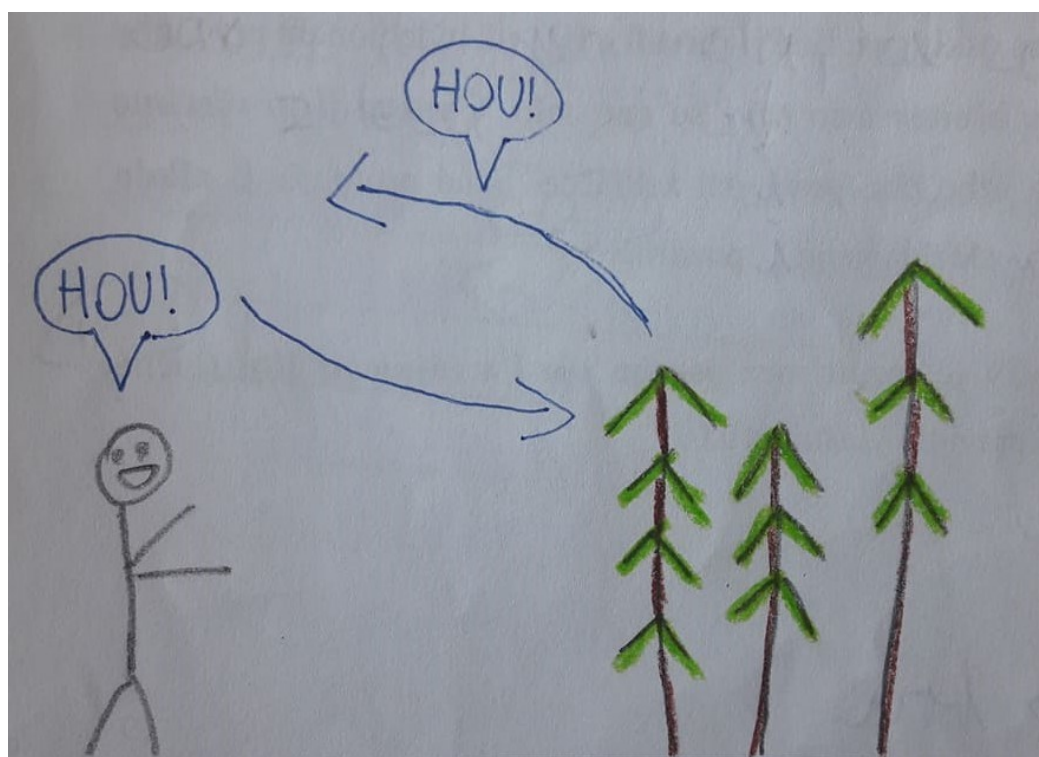
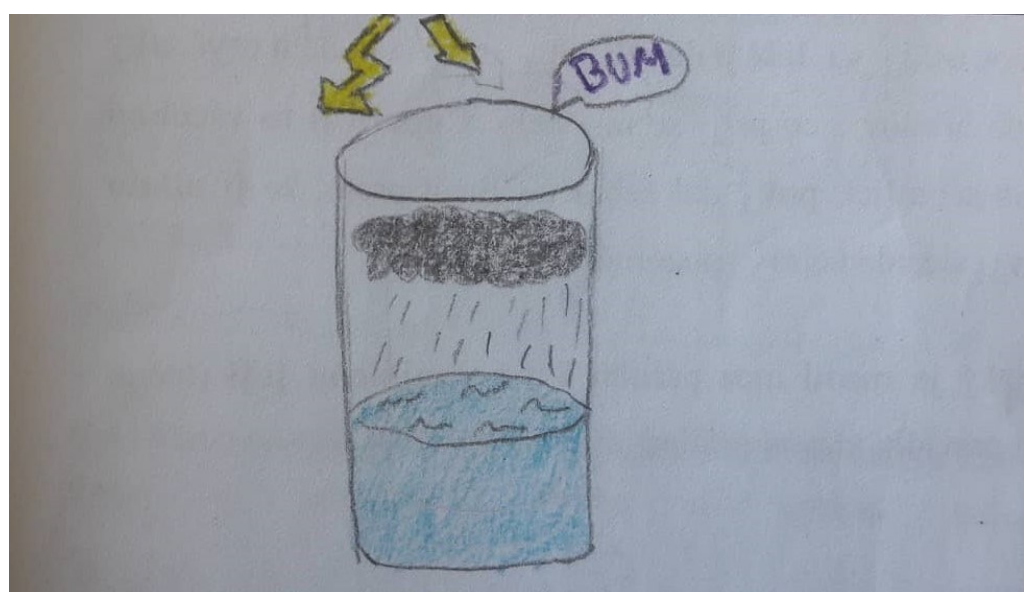
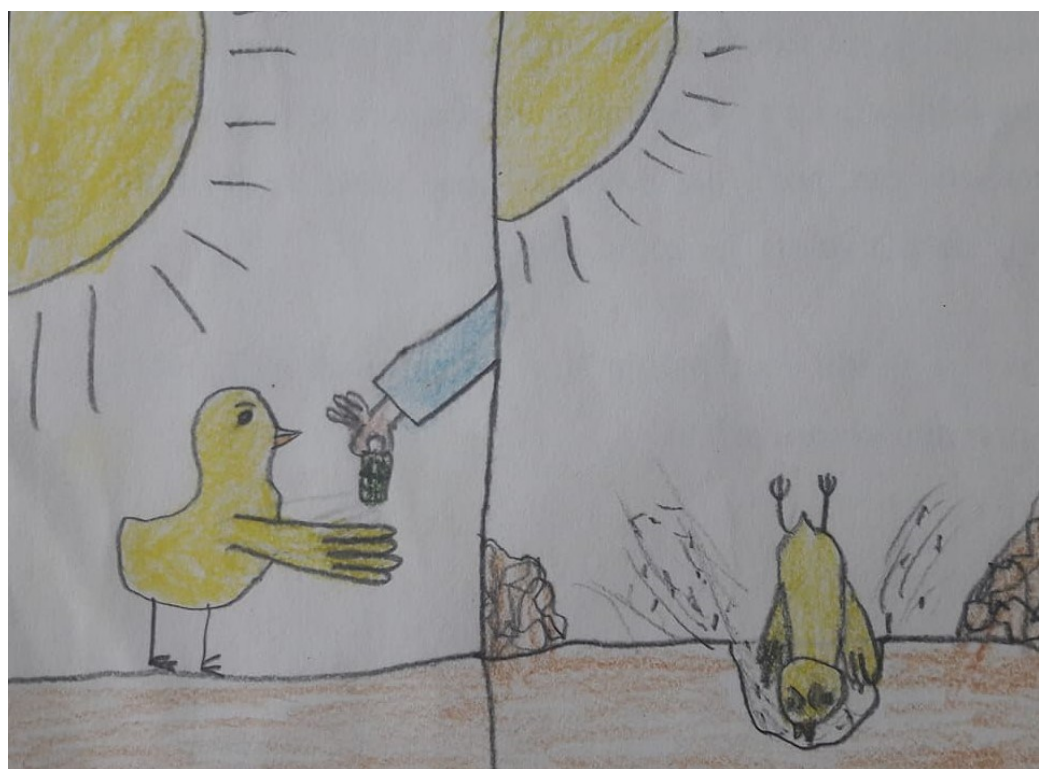
■ PAMPELIŠKA

Sytě žlutá pampeliška, proč jen se
k ní čichá?
Když si takhle roste v trávě, jak to
že usychá?
Je jich tady vážně tolik, že se blíží
ke stu?
Krásná je i odkvetlá, napomáhá jí
to k růstu?

VALERIE PAVLIŠTÍKOVÁ

FRAZÉMY

Naši primáni během čtení Werichova **Fimfára** narazili na pohádku **Až opadá listí z dubu**. A jelikož se tato pohádka frazémy jen hemží, měli za úkol namalovat svoje oblíbené přísloví či rčení. Navzájem pak hádali, jaký frazém je jednoduchým obrázkem znázorněn. **Uhádnete je i vy?**





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