

# BULLDOG TEA

Vol. 2 Issue #3 January 11, 2020



## TAKE A SIP OF THE TEA



## Is 2021 Going To Be a Better Year???

This past year has been a pretty horrible experience and I believe many people can agree. As the year is coming to a close, it is time to look forward and ahead to the new year that is rapidly approaching. No one knows what to expect but we just hope there are better moments than there were in 2020. Let's look back at the major and crazy events that we actually lived through and what actually happened.

When 2019 ended, everyone hoped that 2020 would be a great year but in January a new event happened every week. Immediately, a major problem was that Australia was on fire like never seen before. Then, news of COVID-19 began reaching our ears but was quickly dismissed as not a big deal. Also in the first few weeks, the unimaginable and tragic death of Kobe Bryant and his daughter occurred, which hurt fans of all ages. Another couple of weeks flew by and the news that Covid-19 was becoming an issue began to spread. The world quickly went into lockdown which caused massive drops in the stock market, causing a crash. Quarantine began soon after and everyone was advised to stay home. Spring merged with summer and at the same time the harsh death of George Floyd sparked many protests all over the country. With continued protest and a historical election approaching, Summer merged with Fall. Oh, how the days began to blend together. The immensely anticipated election began and rumors of voter fraud began to spread throughout the country. Even though Joe Biden won the election many are weary of these results. The country has become more divided than ever and we are all hoping for a better year to come.

Everyone hopes that 2021 will be a much better year, but will it? Covid-19 is still going to continue along with its restrictions and many wonder what the new president will bring to the table. It is hard to determine but with the storming of the Capitol, there doesn't seem to be an end in sight. Hopefully we can each take make this year better and that type of chain reaction can help us get back to the lives and the country that we're used to.

**Written By:** Luis Flores

**Interview:** Xavier Camacho

**Q:** Do you think next year (2021) will be better?

**A:** 2021 in my opinion will be "better" than 2020 but that does not mean that it will be a "good" year. We can be all optimistic and say that it's going to be good but in reality, it is never going to be the same again.

**Q:** What do you think will happen in 2021?

**A:** At this point anything is possible, I would have not been able to predict the outcome of 2020. So, if something crazy happens I would not even be surprised.

**Q:** When do you think COVID-19 will be fully under control?

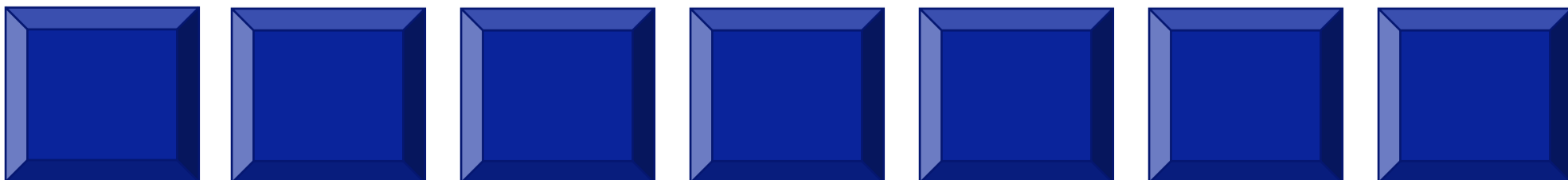
**A:** I believe that towards the end of next year is when Covid-19 will finally be under control. Vaccines will start becoming available to the general public in the 2nd quarter of the year

**Q:** Would 2020 be part of the history books?

**A:** They should be adding the year 2020 into future history books. Lots of historical events have happened. We should teach future kids about this year.

**Q:** Why do you think 2020 was so bad?

**A:** This entire year was just an example of Murphy's law. Everything that could go wrong will go wrong. Everything bad imaginable went wrong in just this year alone.



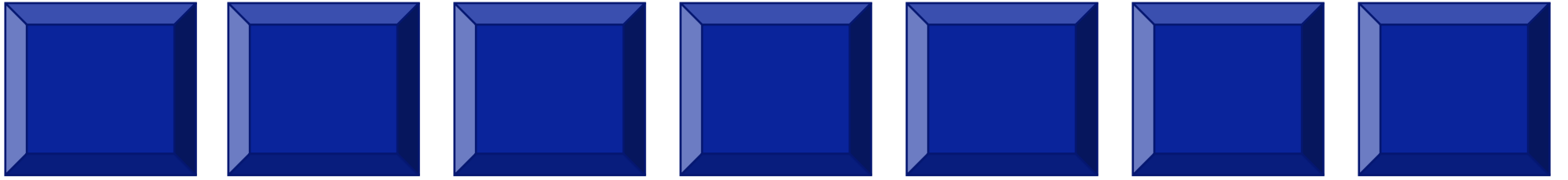


Image credit to <https://medium.com/@kellysaelee99/rhetorical-analysis-the-dangers-of-social-media-cobe6217eda1>

## The Dangers of Posting On Social Media

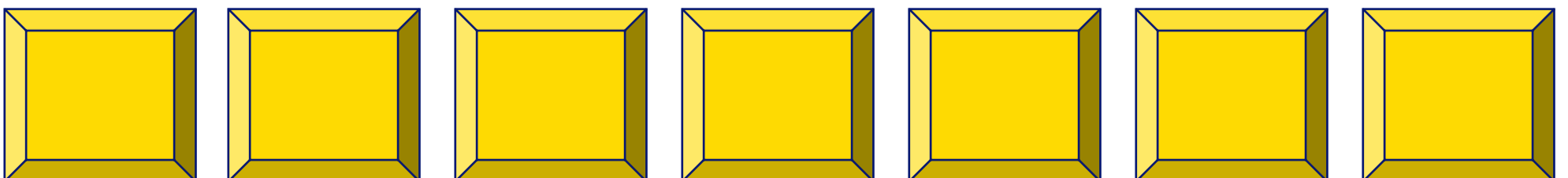
It has been said that social media has doomed children today. The reason being is because supposedly, the internet is being abused, especially on social media. Although social media can be used as a way to interact with friends, family, and others, it can also be a dangerous place that can affect your career or even lead to interactions with criminals.

It's fine to post pictures on social media but we should all be aware of the dangers that come with posting a picture or comment. Uploading online can impact your future job and can lure in potential predators. There was a case where a woman traveling to Africa posted a tweet on social media saying, "Going to Africa. Hope I don't get AIDS. Just kidding. I'm white!" This ended up being seen worldwide, angering many people and leading to her getting fired from her job. Not only can this get you fired but it can also prevent you from successfully getting a job with a major company.

In addition to the dangers of posting on social media, let's talk about predators. What are predators you may ask? A predator is a person who has committed a sexually violent offense and especially one who is likely to commit more sexual offenses. Sexual predators prey on mostly children or teenagers. According to patch.com, kids from the ages 12 to 15 are susceptible to being groomed and manipulated by offenders online. They're only sickening intention is to prey on children or young adults. In 27 percent of exploitation incidents, predators asked kids for sexual photographs of themselves. Some have even lured children in and kidnapped them by trying to gain their trust.

Posting on the internet can generally be a great experience but there are many dangers that are involved. Ruining your career based on posts you've made or falling prey to criminals are just a few to mention. These dangers should cause everything to think more on their actions and make the proper choices going forward.

**Written By:** Tanya Balleza



## The Poor American Diet

Food is a part of our everyday lives, it keeps us alive and happy throughout our days. Everyone eats differently though and our diets range to fit our lifestyles and schedules. The average American diet consists of excess sodium, saturated fat, processed grains, and calories from solid fats and added sugars. The dietary guidelines for the U.S. state that Americans eat fewer vegetables, fruits, whole grains, dairy products, and oils than recommended.

According to the University of Alabama at Birmingham, almost 35% of people in the U.S. are extremely obese, and estimated statistics show that the numbers can rise by 50% in the next 15 years. Obesity isn't the only bad thing that can come out of a bad diet though, you also can pose a higher risk of getting cardiovascular diseases, cancer, or even damaging effects to your brain. Diets of some young people high in saturated fats and refined carbohydrates are associated with greater incidences of depression, depressive symptoms, and anxiety. In cases with older people, an unhealthy diet is associated with a smaller left hippocampus, a brain structure associated with learning, memory, and mood regulation, and is thought to play a role in depression according to Brigham. Taking care of these health problems cost money that could've been used on a better diet, and your body would be improved greatly by it.

People love to point the finger at fast-food chains, but they're not solely to blame for the eating habits of Americans. If you walk into your local grocery store, you can clearly see the patterns of healthy and nutritious foods being more expensive than pre-packaged foods. Working and active families might not be able to afford a healthier lifestyle, leading them to buy pre-packaged foods that are usually loaded with trans fats, sugars, and tons of carbs. There are even aisles dedicated to junk food like chips and candy, yet there's only a small section of the store reserved for minimally processed, ethically raised, and naturally rich in nutrient type foods. The CDC and other organizations are constantly trying to track and monitor the eating habits of Americans all the time. They look at certain states and their population numbers to see how much sugar and trans fats, that specific area is consuming so they can step in when needed.

The American diet is far from ideal and this has caused the suffering and stress of millions of Americans on a daily basis. Getting that burger or eating that bag of chips may be easy and fast, but the overall dangers to health greatly outweigh the pros. A change towards a healthier diet is a much needed one that would not only save lives but change America for the better.

**Written By:** Leah Hayward

**Interview:** Emma Lane

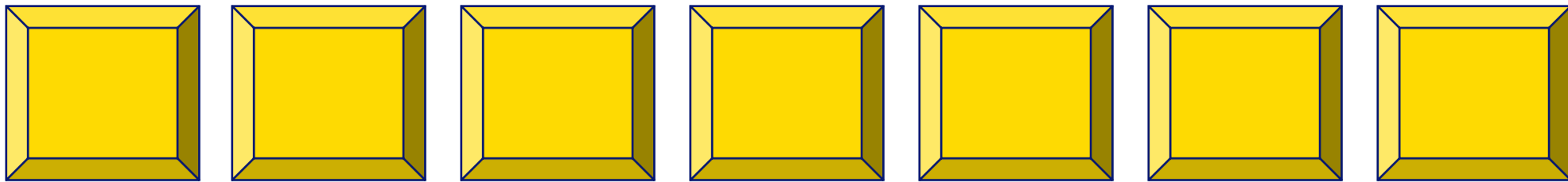
**Q:** Have you ever been alarmed or concerned about the amount of something in a food you ate?

**A:** I've been shocked at how much sugar was in a can of baked beans once, it was something I never thought about. Beans have a lot of sugar.

**Q:** How do you feel about parents not controlling or watching over their children's diets, and letting them eat junk food all the time?

**A:** Well that's just their style of parenting so I can't really comment, but I find it really sad. You are responsible for helping your kid grow healthy and strong, not eat whatever they want all the time.





## Who is it: Teacher Edition



We are continuing the game that I have been writing for all you Venus High School students. If you have forgotten, I will remind you of how this game works. In the *Who is it* game, I will choose a teacher that I think is worthy enough to find information about. I will tell everyone facts about this teacher so that the Venus High School student are able to try and guess which teacher I am writing about. If you think you know who the teacher is all you have to do is email Mr. Webster [harrywebster@venusisd.net](mailto:harrywebster@venusisd.net) to see if you guessed correctly. Remember, if you do guess correctly you will be able to win a \$5 Whataburger gift card. Now that we have explained the game, let's get started.

This six weeks' teacher is a favorite teacher among students. This teacher went to Texas State University for College. Her favorite food is pizza. She likes to watch sports such as baseball, softball, and soccer. Her favorite thing about the Christmas holiday is how much joy everyone has. She loves that Christmas brings people together. For a hobby, she enjoys reading and crafting to keep busy. She really enjoys making things. She has two children, a husband, and a dog. Her favorite color is pink and she has always lived in Texas.

I hope that everyone is having a good time asking around trying to find out which teacher I chose to write about this six weeks. Actually, try to question and quiz your teachers with the facts that I provided for you all. Teachers quiz us all the time. If you ask me, it's our turn to quiz them. Have fun and don't forget to email Mr. Webster if you have a solid idea of what teacher was written about. Goodbye until next time.

**Written By:** Olivia Ayala



## Who is it: Student Edition

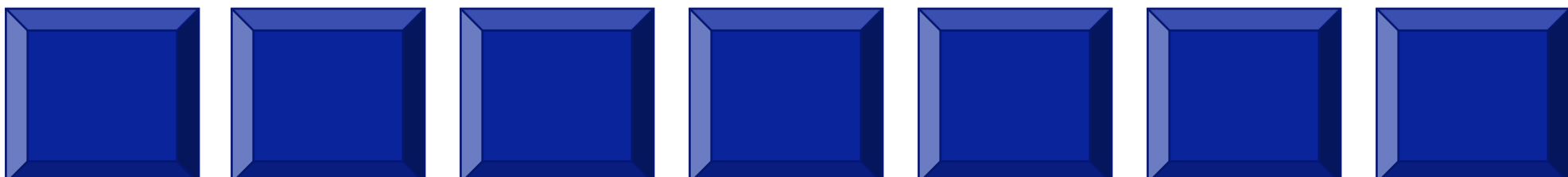


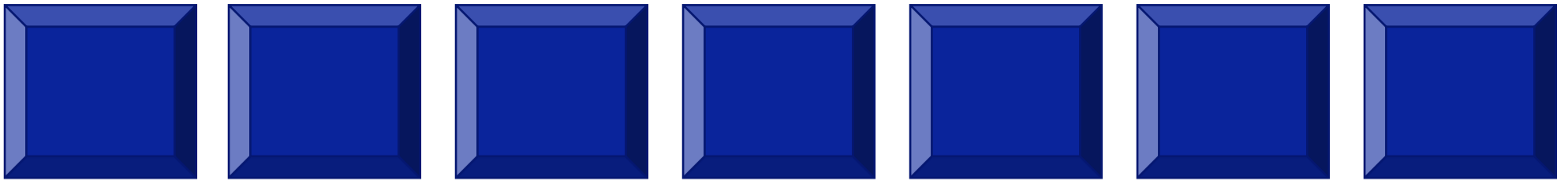
We're back at it these six weeks. I'm excited for everyone to try and find out who was picked for this six weeks' game. Again, I will explain how the game works in case we have new people reading about this game. How this works is, I will select a student from VHS that I will list interesting facts about. Once you have read what I found out about them, you can try to find out who I wrote about. You can do this by questioning your fellow classmates. After you have done so, and you think you have found out who was chosen, you can email Mr. Webster you guess at [harry.webster@venusisd.net](mailto:harry.webster@venusisd.net) After doing so, you will have the chance to win a \$5 Whataburger gift card for the VHS student guessing correctly. Now that we're all done with that, let's get into the game.

The student participating in this six weeks' game is someone very dedicated to her school work and making sure her grades are up. She has three cats and likes volleyball and basketball. She really likes to shop at Hollister and finds winter as her favorite season. She has a little hobby of reading books and has nine siblings. Her least favorite subject is history. Now for our last fact, our selected student used to live in Ohio when she was younger.

Now, I've given a little more information that I did for the last six weeks. I made everything a little more detailed than last time. I hope that everyone is enjoying the game and encourages more people to participate. Who knows, maybe you will find out who I've chosen to write about. Remember, if you think you have an idea of who was chosen, email Mr. Webster as instructed above. Have fun and maybe you will guess what student was selected.

**Written By:** Olivia Ayala





## Oh, What A Time For Christmas Music!

There are so many Christmas songs that people listen to during the Christmas season. Every year, Christmas songs are played over many radio stations throughout the world. These have become commonplace in our society and a lot of people view these songs as traditions.

Many songs have grown to be a big part of the Christmas season. A lot of famous singers and band groups have released Christmas albums or singles as well. There are a wide variety of Christmas songs you can listen to and lots of platforms to find them on. These songs bring people from everyone so much joy during the Christmas season.

Many traditions have evolved around Christmas songs. A lot of people like to go caroling. A Christmas carol is a carol about the theme of Christmas, traditionally sung at Christmas itself or during the surrounding Christmas holiday season. Some of the most popular songs Christmas carolers carol to are; Jingle Bells, Joy To The World, and We Wish You A Merry Christmas. These songs are very popular and you might have even heard them on the radio. Other songs you might've heard are, all I want for Christmas, Run Rudolph Run, and Oh Christmas tree.

These traditions are here with us for the long run. We all know what's around the corner as soon as we hear this music ringing through our ears. What a great tradition we all get to be a part of.

**Written By:** Hayleigh Sherrill

## The Magic of Christmas Trees!

Christmas trees have been an amazing addition to the Christmas season for hundreds of years. The traditions, decorations, lights and presents, make for a wonderful Christmas scene in the households of millions of people across the world.

Christmas trees have been around since the 16th century, and they started in Germany. Christians would bring trees into their home and decorate them with evergreens and candles. They have been around for quite a while, and over all the years Christmas trees have changed.

Christmas decorations around the house have also slowly changed over the years. Now, most people get artificial trees with lights. Some people will still get live trees and string the tree themselves.

Christmas trees make Christmas feel magical and the love and care put into the decorations show just how much this tradition means to people. The season would feel incomplete without one and we get to experience the magic of Christmas in our homes.

**Written by:** Taylor Hoag



Image credit <https://www.fandangonow.com/details/movie/dr-seuss-how-the-grinch-stole-christmas->

## Movie Review: "How The Grinch Stole Christmas."

How the Grinch stole Christmas Is a live action adaptation of the children's book called, "How the Grinch stole Christmas" by Dr. Seuss.

The movie is shown mostly through the Grinch's point of view. This movie was released on November 8 2000. It gained a lot of popularity and is a well-known Christmas movie. "How the Grinch Stole Christmas" is a great movie to watch with the whole family. This movie talks about forgiveness and change which is a really good theme to touch on for people of all ages. When watching the movie you can connect with the characters very easily.

I really like this movie because I watch it with my family and we get to spend time together. What makes this movie interesting is the characters and how they are all portrayed. If you want to watch this movie, you can find it on Netflix. Do you like holiday movies? If you said YES, then this is for you!

**Written by:** Iraliz Vargas

**Interviewed:** Melanie Vargas

Q: What do you think of the movie?

A: It's a good movie to watch on the holidays.

Q: Who is your favorite character in the movie?

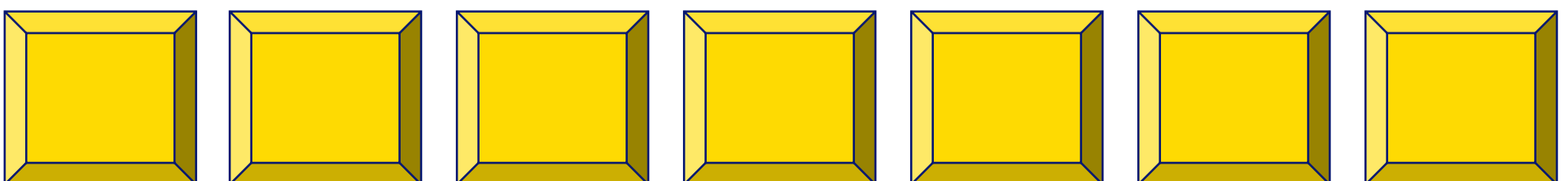
A: Max cause he's a cute dog.

Q: What do you think of the plot?

A: It's selfish because of the Grinch.

Q: Who's your least favorite character in the movie?

A: Cindy Lou Who because she's a little annoying.





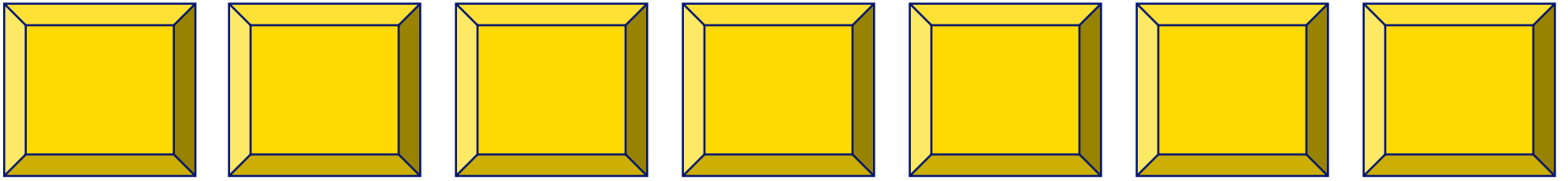


Image credit <https://theholmeseducationpost.com/is-it-time-for-random-drug-testing-of-high-school-student-athletes/>

A person's education is one of the most important things they need. It is the biggest tool to change somebody's life. Education can improve someone's knowledge, skills and also develop their personality and attitude.

In our society, we need to know a lot of things in order to be successful and without going to school we wouldn't know how to do things such as reading, writing, basic math, and much more. The lack of writing skills means missing out on a lot of information, which makes possessing these skills very important. We would all be clueless without education.

What does education have to do with our society? Education teaches us about society because it prepares us for work, and a lot of the things we learn in school, will eventually be used in the outside world. Learning math teaches us how to count money, and helps us understand situations with bills. Learning how to read and write helps us receive and transmit information. Without learning those things in school, we would be hard pressed to find people to advance our society.

Being educated and going to college can be a bright light in the darkness that is evident in our daily lives. Society and school are mutually exclusive and one fails without the other. Think on the importance of this as you make choices regarding your education each and every day.

**Written By:** Lazette Gomez

**Interview:** Leonardo Claudio

**Q:** Why do you think education is important?

**A:** Education is important because it can get you somewhere in life.

**Q:** Can you live a good life without any education at all?

**A:** No because you will be clueless and not know anything at all.

**Q:** Do you think college is important?

**A:** Yes, because college teaches you more about life than all the other grades do.

**Q:** Do you want to go to college?

**A:** Yes, I want to live a good future.

**Q:** Do you think school has a lot to do with our society?

**A:** Yes, because without school we wouldn't be able to do the things we do now.

## Is Cheating Getting

**Worse?** As the years have grown cheating among students has gotten really bad. Their cheating tactics have become incredibly common and easily caught by teachers but is it reasonable to think that teachers can catch every instance?

Josephson Institute Center for Youth Ethics ran a study and 59% of students admit to cheating while 34% report doing it more than twice when taking a test. Another study they did showed that students that cheat have a 3.41 GPA average and non-cheaters have a 2.85 GPA average.

When students get caught cheating there are consequences. For instance, in college when someone is caught cheating they get kicked out and that goes on the student's permanent record, making it hard to get accepted to other schools. In high school, when we get caught, we get our tests taken up with no chance to remediate and can also receive reprimanding from the school. Most people will never admit to cheating, considering the trouble they might get in.

Cheating has changed drastically through the use of technology because students can message each other the answers. There are many apps where just a simple photo can tell you the answer and how to solve the problem. Though convenient these methods don't help students learn a thing. Should the consequences be more severe?

Cheating is a major issue in school and one that needs to be kept close at watch. Is it really worth losing everything for a simple grade? I think the right answer is to study and get grades the right way!

**Written By:** Sayuri Ramirez



Image credit [https://thegachalife.fandom.com/wiki/Gacha\\_Club](https://thegachalife.fandom.com/wiki/Gacha_Club)

## Game Review: Gacha Club

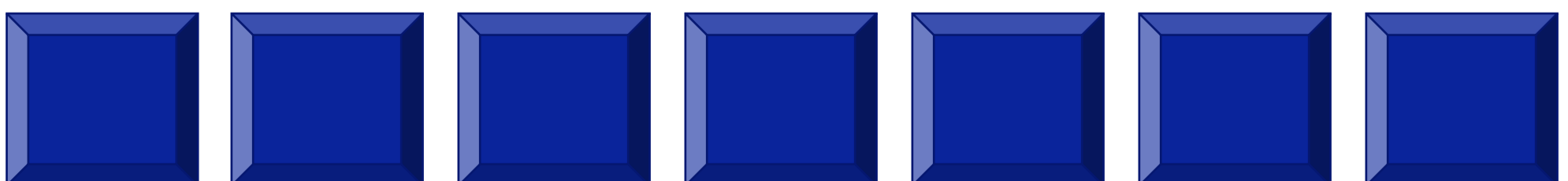
Gacha club is a new version of gacha life. It came out on android in June 2020 and it came out on iPhone in august 2020. In this game, you get to make your own characters (oc) and is super popular.

Some kids use this game to make videos for their YouTube channels. They also edit these characters to make them look realistic or make them look more like animated characters. It's cool to play, you make your own scenario and it makes you feel creative.

When I play gacha life I feel like I can be myself because I can do what I like. Even me and my friends have played since the 8th grade. I would really recommend this to kids who like anime. Not every kid who watches anime will like it but the game has a strong connection to the Japanese form of media. The game is for children of almost all ages so long as they can work a phone properly.

I give this game a five-star rating on a scale of 1-5. I would suggest to try it out to see if it's something for you!

**Written By:** Clarissa Ramirez



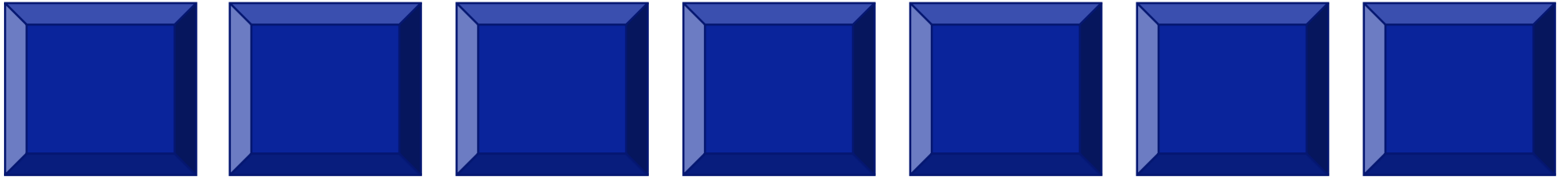


Image Credit <https://wrirosscities.org/our-work/project-city/jalisco-mexico>

## Las 2 ciudades de México más visitadas durante el invierno y cómo mejorar tu español

¿Crees que hablar o aprender español es importante? Durante el invierno las estadísticas han demostrado que la gente visita Ajijic, Jalisco y San Miguel de Allende, en el estado de Guanajuato. Dos de las ciudades más bellas de México. Estas dos son las ciudades mexicanas más visitadas por su cultura y vistas únicas. Es muy importante aprender a hablar y comprender español. Te preguntas ¿por qué? imagina que vas a una ciudad de habla hispana, vas a visitar esta ciudad de alta cultura y no sabes qué significan nada o lo que estás haciendo. Va a ser un viaje aburrido si no sabes nada.

Por ejemplo, Ajijic, Jalisco es conocido por tener el lago más grande de México. Las hermosas flores, palmeras y pinos son solo una parte de las características. También hay pescadores que hacen o tienen botes muy pequeños, utilizan los botes para pescar en agua fría todo el año. Imaginense un lago grande con pequeños botes que sería una gran vista. Ajijic también tiene algunos de los desfiles más coloridos durante el mes de diciembre. Los colores son brillantes, hermosos e inolvidables.

Asimismo, San Miguel de Allende es otro de los lugares visitados en México. San Miguel es conocido por sus calles bien estructuradas, arquitectura de estilo colonial español y crucero creativo, la ciudad mexicana de San Miguel de Allende ha atraído a visitantes de todo el país y de todo el mundo. Este año está a punto de ser nombrada la mejor ciudad del mundo.

De hecho, estas dos ciudades suenan como lugares para visitar, podemos comenzar con la importancia de hablar español. Tener un poco de español hará que tu experiencia sea mejor. Entenderás el significado de cada detalle. Probarás comida nueva que no suena muy buena, pero si alguien te la explica, la entenderás. También puede ahorrar algo de dinero si no recibe un turista. Son muchos los beneficios de hablar y comprender el español. En este caso, hablar un español puede ayudarte con una variedad de experiencias de tu vida.

**Escrito Por:** Natalie Lopez Delarosa

## Comidas Navideñas

¡Ya llegó el mejor día festivo del año! ¡Es la temporada de la navidad y de las posadas! Eso significa que hay mucha comida para disfrutar. Las comidas hispanas más hechas durante esta temporada son tamales, pozole, y el mole.

Los tamales han estado aquí por mucho tiempo. Proviene desde Mesoamérica. Es probable que la preparación de tamales se haya extendido de la cultura indígena en México y Guatemala al resto de América Latina. No son tan difíciles de hacer y hay muchas formas y sabores en que se pueden hacer.

El pozole viene de México pero se originó con los Aztecas y tribus indígenas de Mesoamérica. Según los estudios históricos, la gente usaba carne de humano pero cuando el canibalismo fue prohibido, lo reemplazaron con carne de puerco. El pozole ahora se puede hacer de pollo y carne de puerco, pozole verde y rojo.

El mole se origina de dos países en México, que son Puebla y Oaxaca. También proviene de Mesoamérica. Mole viene de varios sabores e ingredientes, con chiles que son el ingrediente común. Las primeras recetas escritas de mole sólo aparecieron después de la Guerra de Independencia en 1810.

**Escrito Por:** Aryadna Mendoza y Andrea Moreno

## Navidad en los EEUU vs México

Cada país tiene sus costumbres navideñas. Dependiendo de la comida, ambiente y gente navidad es un día festivo muy único. Los E.E.U.U., tiene sus propias tradiciones comparado a las de México. Vamos a tomar un momento para ver las diferencias e igualdades entre los dos.

En México, la navidad se basa más en la religión católica. Usualmente, lo celebran en nochebuena, que es el 24 de diciembre y madrugan hasta la navidad. En la religión católica, la navidad se admira el nacimiento de Jesucristo. En el nacimiento usualmente la escena es en un pesebre que incluye la virgen maría, el papa de Jesus, Jose, y los tres Reyes magos. Es común que las familias organicen posadas. Las posadas son eventos de rezos en cambio por bolsitas de dulces. Estos son reconocidos mucho en México por los eventos grandes de comida, cantar, y dulces en piñatas. A diferencia de los E.E.U.U. no intercambian regalos porque no es costumbre.

En los Estados Unidos, hay una tradición de celebrar la navidad el 25 de diciembre. Para ellos, San Nicolás es reconocido por Santa Claus y contribuye mucho en la tradición ahí cuando viene la navidad. Santa Claus es un hombre gordo con una barba blanca que se viste de color rojo, y también tiene renos que jala su trineo. Dicen que él viene por la chimenea a dejar regalos debajo del árbol y los niños le dejan galletas y leche para consumir. Sin embargo, también hay familias mexicanas que practican sus tradiciones navideñas; las posadas. Y mezclan un poco de la tradición de E.E.U.U. y México; también entre cambian regalos.

Aunque hay igualdades y diferencias, la navidad es un día festivo para reunirse con queridos amigos y familiares. Con México empezando en la tarde del día 24 y terminando el 25 de diciembre, y los E.E.U.U. empezando en la mañana del 25 de diciembre. Cada país tiene sus tradiciones únicas.

**Escrito Por:** Maria Barcenaz y Joselyne Nunez

