

MOOREFIELD TIMES

6TH EDITION

JUNE

2025

MESSAGE FROM THE TEAM

It's time for us to start the new term with an edition from the Moorefield Times! Our team has worked tirelessly, curating different pieces from the likes of educational articles to the infamous short story section .

These works do not appear out of thin air, but are products of everyone's hardwork and we, as a team, would like to commemorate the effort and array of voices within the newspaper. Every member should be applauded for their efforts, especially the journalists, creative team and our coordinator, Ms Bowen. We would also like to thank Ms Hale for her support in the making of the newspaper and her work in editing and proofreading our works before release, we couldn't have published the Moorefield Times without her! Thank you everyone for reading the sixth edition, if anyone would like to join our journalist or creative team make sure to ask around.



CONTRIBUTIONS

- Journalists:
- Ella N.

- Luana P.

- Lily V.

- Hayley H .
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-Otgo T.

-Tala T.
- Creative:
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KEY DATES & CLUBS

KEY DATES

Year 8 Deep Harmony program

Every Monday P1 & P2 - Week 2 to Week 6

Year 10 forensic psychology incursion

Thursday 12th of June - Week 7

Year 8 and 10 subject selection night

Thursday 12th of June - Week 7

Kings birthday - public holiday

Monday 9th of June - Week 7

Regional cross country

Wednesday 11th of June - Week 7

Year 11 EES depth study excursion

Monday 16th of June - Week 8

Year 11 Biology Cronulla rock platform excursion

Friday 20th of June - Week 8

Year 10 work experience week

Monday 16th to Friday 20th of June - Week 8

Zone athletics

Monday 23rd of June - Week 9

High achievers assembly

Friday 27th of June - Week 9

Year 7 to 9 parent teacher interviews

Tuesday 1st of July - Week 10

Year 9 camp

Monday 30th of June and Tuesday 1st of July - Week 10

CLUBS

Chess Club

Runs every Tuesday Week B, lunch, in room four. Great chance to build your chess skills with your friends as well as work towards the chess tournament later this year. Speak to Ms Golfinopoulos for more information.



Newspaper Club

Meetings run every Monday, recess. Our schools student run newspaper where you can have your voice heard. Speak to Ms Bowen for information on joining.



Homework Club

Runs Mondays and Tuesdays after school from 3:00pm - 4:30pm. Great chance to get extra help on Homework. Speak to Ms Bowen for more information and permission slip.



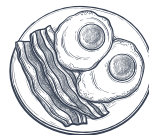
Badminton Club

Runs every Friday at lunchtime in the gym. Come down and play badminton, you might find some new friends !! Speak to Ms Bailey for more information.



Breakfast Club

Runs every Wednesday and Friday from 8:10am - 8:40am. Everyone is welcome to come and get some free breakfast to fuel up for the day ahead. Speak to Ms Beynon about volunteering as a helper.



Drama company

Listen out for the daily notices to see when it runs. Aims to produce high quality pieces for auditions and performance opportunities. Speak to Ms Darling for more information.



Anime Club

Runs second Monday, lunchtime in room 34 (art room). You don't need to bring anything. You don't need to be able to draw. See Ms Frag or Ms Jackaman if you have any questions.



Polynesian Dance Group

Runs every Thursday lunch in the drama room. Come celebrate your culture and work towards an exciting performance. Speak to Taloula P or Grace F in year 10 or Ms Darling if there's any questions.



Rainbow Club

Runs every monday at lunch time in the wellbeing hub. A support group for students from the Rainbow Community and their allies.



YEAR 7 UPDATE

Diya B, Mahina B, Ana P, Otgo T, & Tala T

As the previous year twelves leave to have their own adventures, a brand new set of students join in on the journey to become just as great as them. Every year followed by its new students will always have its own troubles and mishaps, especially considering that we are the last generation of female students to be a part of Moorefield Girls High School's legacy, so it's the schools' job to ease them into the work, make them feel welcome and get comfortable with the school. Let's see how they're doing so far, starting with the SRCs.

STUDENT STATEMENTS

UJIN (SRC OF 7R):

"So far, it's really great. Things I have never experienced in primary school like food tech."

AYLA (SRC OF 7Y):

"School is good so far. There isn't much to worry about."

DEVINE (SRC OF 7B):

"Year 7 has been an ongoing journey. The teachers are supportive, the students are very nice and carefree, and even if we're merging with James Cook next year, we won't change."



MOANA:

"It's okay, it's not as bad as I thought. Some of the work was easier than I expected."

KENISHA:

"I hate this. From the homework, to the school work, to the classes themselves!"



SMILE:

"It's been fun. Finding the classes was easier than I thought."

GRACE:

"I can't balance schoolwork and sport well... homework is stressful, but it's okay because my friends and teachers help me get through it."

ALARA:

"It's good. I don't mind switching classes [school] as much as I thought."

EMILIA:

"It's pretty great. It makes me giggle and want to grow wings and fly away in a good way, you know?"

EMMA:

"It's been pretty enjoyable, sometimes a bit hard. I was worried about the amount of homework, but it wasn't as bad as I thought it would be."

POPPY:

"It's fun. Getting to the different classrooms isn't that hard."

YEAR 7 UPDATE CONT.

Diya B, Mahina B, Ana P, Otgo T, & Tala T

HIGHLIGHTS SO FAR

Although the contrast between Primary School and High School has been a very interesting experience, our entire year group has been consistently working to seek out the positive components that highschool holds for us. So far, our favourite experiences have been the International Women's Day Celebration where we had lots of delicious food and fun activities, including the Swimming Carnival, where each student had an opportunity to participate in fun yet competitive activities while cooling off in the water. Everyone is on the edge of their seats waiting for the day to come when we experience things every kid has dreamed of doing in highschool. For example, being able to dissect

animals in science as well as sewing and cooking in technology classes. One thing that we are all looking forward to later on in the year is camp where we are all able to spend quality time with our friends while having fun every second of the day.



CONCLUSION

While most of the responses are quite positive, there are a few students who are experiencing hardship with getting by on their assessment tasks, homework, following up with a whole lot of due work and a lack of time for themselves. Though, by making themselves a schedule and trying their best to do well and adapt to the struggles, it seems to help it a bit.

But so far, the people we have interviewed either think highly of the school or think that it isn't as bad as they initially expected it to be. High school in movies may seem very hard and extremely stressful yet in reality, it isn't as bad as expected. Except for the homework and the assessments we have ahead of us. High school has truly been an interesting experience with many opportunities waiting for us.



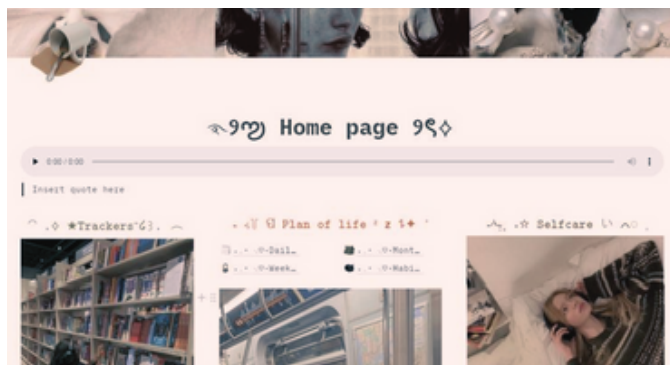
USEFUL RESOURCES FOR SCHOOL

By Lily V.

Assignment time is approaching once again, and with that ahead, it has inspired me, a year 12 senior, to provide a list of all the useful and effective educational resources that were crucial in helping me be efficient, effective and successful in my academic journey., but are also free!

NOTION

Notion is a place where you can constantly update your to-do lists, and have an all-in-one workspace. You can keep track of your academic goals, plan your goals and assignments, and create to-do lists. Moreover, not only is it a place where all the necessities are in one workspace, but one of the best parts is that you can make it very aesthetic, and as you may or may not know already, pretty things motivate people to get work done.



How it helped me

- Notion has helped me to stay organised with my heavy workload
- It has motivated me further to complete my work as seeing to do lists all ticked off helps you feel so satisfied and the sense of accomplishment continues to fuel your future motivation
- it has thousands of templates to help save time and increase your productivity

How it can help you:

- Customizable Pages & Databases: Organise subjects with pages, subpages, and databases.
- Kanban Boards for Essays: Organize research, outlines, drafts, and final versions.
- Toggle Questions: Hide and reveal answers for self-quizzing.
- Weekly Study Planner: Track assignments, deadlines, and revision schedules.
- Notion AI: Summarize long readings, brainstorm essay ideas, and generate study questions.

Note: At first, the notion may be overwhelming and complex to use, so I suggest watching a tutorial to help you get started.

ATAR NOTES

ATAR Notes is an educational platform that provides very high-quality resources to help students succeed in their studies. From sample answers and HSC syllabus dot points included, It also offers free online notes, study guides, forums, and video lectures tailored to various subjects, including English, Mathematics, Science, and Humanities.

How it can help you:

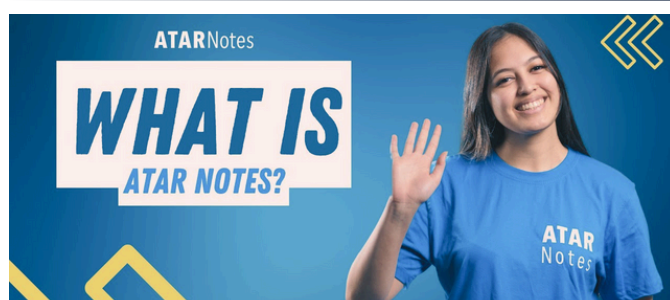
Comprehensive Study Notes: ATAR Notes provides detailed subject notes written by high-achieving students, making complex topics easier to understand.

Exam Preparation: The platform offers revision guides, practice questions, and past papers to help students prepare effectively for assessments.

Motivation and Guidance: The platform features articles and success stories that offer study tips, time management strategies, and motivation to stay on track

How it helped me:

Provided me with very useful and game changing tips
Provides sample answers



USEFUL RESOURCES FOR SCHOOL CONT.

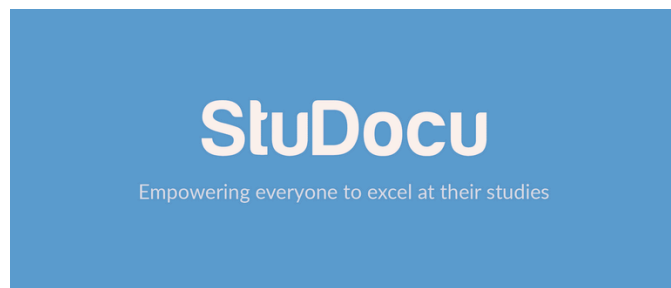
By Lily V.

STUDOCU

Studocu is an online document-sharing platform where students can access and upload lecture notes, study guides, summaries, and past exam papers for various subjects and universities worldwide. It offers both free and premium resources, covering a wide range of academic disciplines.

How it can help you:

- **Access High-Quality Notes:** Provides study materials from top-performing students.
- **Exam Preparation:** Offers past exams, sample answers, and revision guides.
- **Collaborative Learning:** Allows students to share and compare notes for a deeper understanding.
- **Time-Saving:** Helps students find well-structured summaries instead of creating their own from scratch.

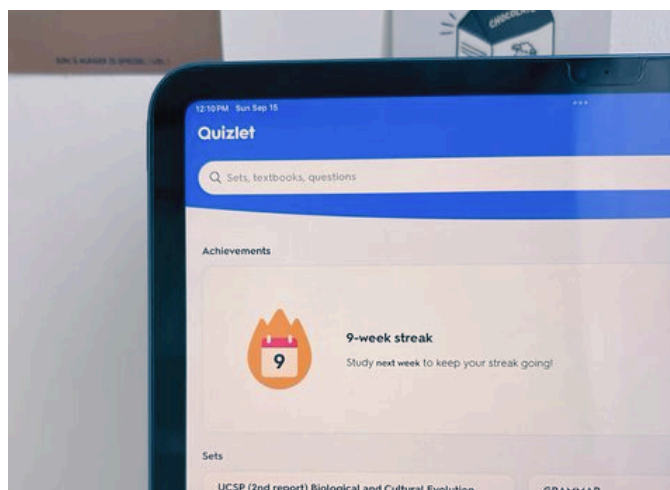


How it helped me:

- It has helped me to cross check the quality of my work
- Other students work has inspired me when i didn't have ideas
- Provided great notes for revision (enhancing the quality of your work)

QUIZLET

Quizlet is a highly effective study tool that enhances and tests the effectiveness of your learning and memory through active recall, spaced repetition, and interactive engagement. It provides students with a customisable, efficient, and accessible way to study across various subjects by allowing you to take quizzes for your subjects made by other people and also offers a feature for you to create your own quizzes.



How it can help you:

- **Pre-made study sets:** You can have access to pre-made quizzes
- **Multiple Learning Modes** – Flashcards, practice tests, writing exercises, and games.
- **Customisable Quizzes** – Multiple-choice, matching, and written response options.
- **instant Feedback** – Identify mistakes and improve accuracy.

How it helped me:

- Consolidate my knowledge
- Revise effectively
- Save time from rewriting notes that won't stay in your brain

Thank you for reading everyone, and I hope the article has provided you with some useful tips and educational resources that make your school life easier. Please feel free to also ask questions in person if you need any specific tip as long as questions you may have. Don't forget to not compare yourself and do your best for yourself.

You can do it!

With love and support, Lily.

RACISM AWARENESS

By Helena N.

Racism separates us.

Humanity is a broad term that is divided throughout time as collective morale is inevitably strengthened and weakened. In the face of the moral weakening within this unity, history poses us the question of what constitutes humanity and who is a part of that definition?

We all may think of ourselves as human, we all have veins lacing our epidermis, embroidering the gushing blood within its elastic confines. This skin stretches over our faces, shaping our nose with a tinge that for some apparent reason, defines who we are within society. Beige. Pale peach. Brown; or those loose terms of 'black' and 'white'.



Inevitably, humanity falls victim to the words of 'black' and 'white' to divide ourselves through the language of racism. These labels of humanity divide and unite us even though we all have the same blood, the same bodily organs that gush within us, yet the commonalities of racism still plague us. Everyday, every hour of the day, one in five people have experienced discrimination.



Aren't they human? Even though we are collectively united under the umbrella of a "homosapien", we allow words to estrange our relations with each other and drip our existence into obscurity. Into a mash of blood and gunk. Into a human without the plasma, blood and heart. Into a rogue ape in a zoo ogled by the pale peach figures.

Someone becomes the monster of another person's narrative, something that isn't human.

In the past, we built that Tower of Babel together. Together we said "come, let us build ourselves a city and a tower with its top in the heavens, and let us make a name for ourselves", together we fortified the bricks of the tower through the language we shared in our community. Yet, letter by letter, character by character, God divided our powers of collectivity, or was it us?

Someone said God decided to "go down and confuse their language there, so that they will not understand one another's speech", but is this just to excuse the incessant rise of

RACISM AWARENESS

CONT.

By Helena N.

derogatory language? We allow ourselves to crumble that Tower of Babel through our own means.

These racial narratives entangle the webs of the Tower to tirelessly tell the tale of a collective humanity. One that was crafted by God through the same chromosomes; we all have 46 chromosomes, the same streaming fluids that enrich our inherent essence, we are the same within this narrative. A tale that was constructed by the multitude of contradictions and reiterations of a distinct communal narrative that vouches that we are all indiscriminately the same, a core part of our experience as humans.

But apparently we aren't, each day, even though the blood we bleed remains the same, we all have plasma, red and white blood cells beneath our very skin. Everyday, humanity discover differences that further set us apart. To build this barrier between us, the words, one by one, language fortifies these differences into reality.



We still let language separate, we topple the tower through destroying the human collectiveness that enriched our innate powers, God has stomped on this to further estrange ourselves from the communal aspects of language.

A language that is now built on discrimination.

We all speak the language of the oppressor, English. This piece you're reading at this very moment, English. That sign on the highway beckoning cars to stop, English. It has become our universal language to bind the tower of babel back together, but bricks and windows are missing, stolen territory of our past no longer allows the oppressed to speak back but to rip apart the tower from the insides as an act of resilience.

They are no longer capable of speaking their native tongue, the human inside of them now joins with the community of English to neglect the cultural discrepancies that bridge us apart. These languages, a creation of generation after generation, are now tarnished by the ideas of collectivity, or the racist past that colonial powers opposed upon the oppressed.

But, perhaps this is for the better. Together through a united language in an increasingly globalised world we are capable of melding our interpersonal veins together to bridge the gap between these differences. In doing so, we are one step closer to building towards the heavens and defeating the monster of language and intolerance towards racism that separates us.

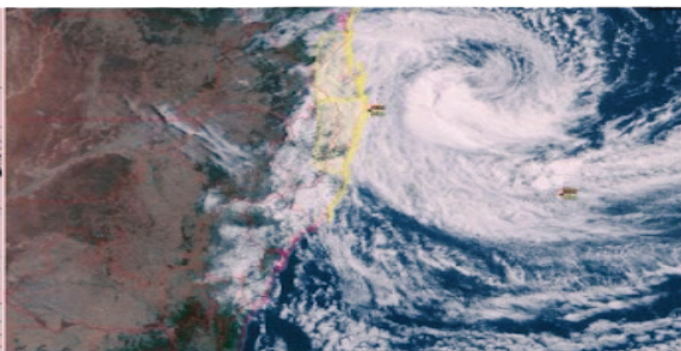
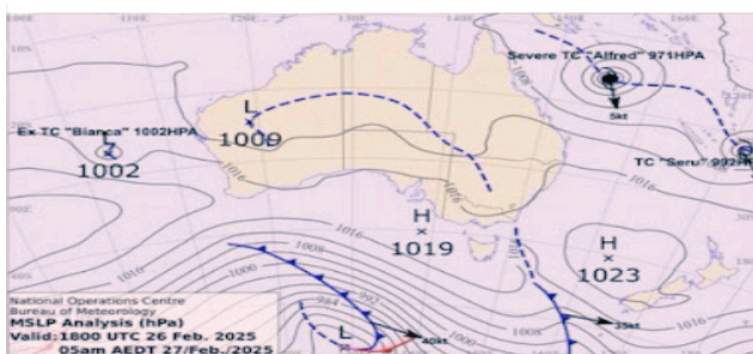
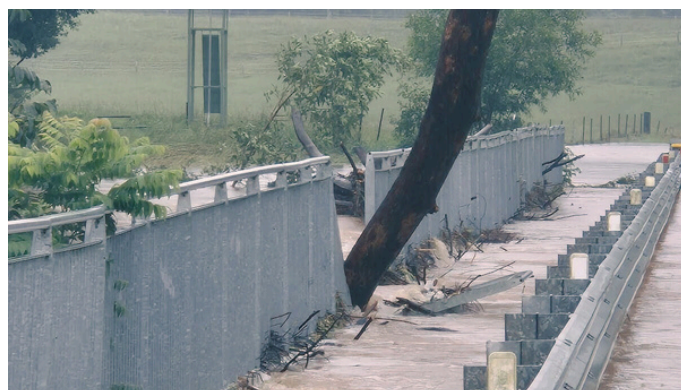
EX CYCLONE ALFRED

By Hayley H.

In March, there was news that Parts of Queensland and Northern NSW were to be hit by Cyclone Alfred, an Ex-tropical Cyclone that brang widespread heavy rain and Strong winds. Around 300,000-350,000 houses have been left without power.

DETAILS OF THE EVENT

This weather phenomenon began on the 20th of February, where the storm originated from the coral seas just off the coast of Queensland near Moreton Bay, Brisbane. It then slowly moved its way across parts of Queensland and northern NSW as it continued developing. Cyclone Alfred was downgraded from a Category 2 cyclone to a Category 1 tropical cyclone. Almost 20,000 residents around these areas were still told to evacuate by the SES (State Emergency Service) to minimise people being injured or isolated throughout the extreme weather event. Its heavy and strong winds damaged and ripped apart countless buildings and homes and caused extreme erosion along the coastline as it crossed the mainland, and was said to still be moving inward. More than 300,000 Queensland and NSW residents lost power due to this event and many were still without power for quite a while.



This event not only impacted Queensland but also Northern parts of NSW such as Coffs Harbour, Port Macquarie, Lismore, Grafton and more. These areas had been deeply affected with the dangerous floodwaters that overrun local rivers and waterways. They thankfully had members of the SES, the ADF and Nema spread throughout the region helping to get people back on their feet.

TIKTOK TRENDS

By Luana P.

Hey y'all!! It's your girl Luana, I'm going to make a very CUTSIE and DEMURE piece of writing basically all about..... TIK TOK TRENDS woooooooooooo. So I'm definitely not a tik tok addict (wink wink) but I'm just going to talk a little bit about the trends that are circling around everyone's FYP (and if you don't know what that is, it's a For You Page). Happy reading!!

DUBAI CHOCOLATES

Okay so one of the MOST POPULAR trends going around right now is the Dubai chocolate trend. This basically started out as a dubai based chocolate bar that has a layer of chocolate on the outside, and then when you take a bite or crack it open you get the sweet deliciousness (not that i've tried it yet) of the pistachio cream that is mixed with crunchy Kataifi pieces. Now the ASMR with this bar is CRAZY but then as it got more popular businesses started coming up with a cup filled with strawberries, the pistachio cream, melted chocolate and toasted Kataifi. Now THIS is diabetes in a cup but does it tastes and looks good, DEFINITELY. As it's super easy to make at home, lots of people have been putting their own spin on this like adding bananas or

making them into brownies, which is so creative. But overall this trend has been one of the BIGGEST and LONG LASTING trends, and I believe that people will be making this for years to come as a sweet treat or dessert.



POP OUT



Okay so this trend is the FUNNIEST TREND, it's literally where you put the video in speed and you dance to the song called 1 AM, this guy on Tik Tok is really popular for it as he started doing a silly dance to this song in speed and he instantly got popular and he usually sets his phone up in an empty elevator and does the dance semi inside and semi outside the elevator, and as he does the dance the elevator almost CLOSES ON HIM but he persists and keeps dancing his heart out. As he and other people have danced and

sang to this song it's gotten more and more popular as people get the lyrics and song stuck in their head very easily as it's SO CATCHY.

TIKTOK TRENDS CONT.

By Luana P.

CUCUMBER SALAD

Cucumber salad: This cucumber salad trend always makes my mouth WATER at how healthy and delicious the creations look, so scrumptious. The guy who created this trend is called Logan and he has LOADS of different styles of this recipe like a tuna version, a California roll version, a salmon version and more, and lots of people recreate this trend to this very day even though it started a little while ago. Ill have to recreate this one soon!!



BILLIE EILISH AND TATE MCRAE, AND SABRINA CARPENTER:



Now I know that Billie, Tate and Sabrina aren't really considered as 'Tik Tok Trends' but they are SLAYING the days away with their tours. From billie's Hit Me Hard And Soft album, to Tate's So Close To What album and Sabrina's Short n' Sweet album (which I really hope all of you go listen to) these songs all hit and vary from emotional to absolute bangers that you can dance and sing to. Now I'm just going to recommend my favourite songs from each album just for you guys to pop over to spotify or apple music (or whatever platform you listen on) to go listen to these ones!! Now with HMHAS I actually PHYSICALLY AND MENTALLY cannot pick one song to recommend because of how great and popular the whole album is, especially "Wildflower" which had the BIGGEST explosion on Tik Tok. Tate McRae's So Close To What album has lots of hits but the more popular ones on everyone's FYP are 'Its ok im ok' and 'Revolving door', I



I definitely approve of Tik Toks decision of making these artists and songs popular. And last but not least Sabrina Carpenter's Short n' Sweet album, and especially with this one again, LOADS of popular songs in this album but the biggest hits are 'Espresso', 'Taste' and 'Please please please' which have great dancy beats to them. These 3 independent and strong women are all on tour right now and (i'm pretty sure) are surfing everyone's FYP with their on stage dances and songs.

Now for the ENDING of my very special part of the Moorefield Girls Times, as a tik tok watcher, I am very glad that the Americans got back onto tik tok after the big app ban of 12 HOURS!! (I could not survive without tik tok) I know they're silliness makes everyone giggle, and I hope this section draws your attention (wow how very englishy of me) and that you enjoyed reading about the most POPULAR trends and recurring popular videos on THE TIKI TOKI!! xoxo

HOROSCOPES

By Nirvee D.

ARIES (MAR 21 - APR 19)

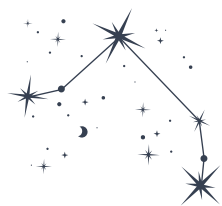
Mood: Energetic but impatient—try not to rush through things.

Productivity: You'll start strong but might lose momentum mid-month. Stay consistent!

Lucky Subject: P.E. or anything active.

Luck: High! You might get a lucky break in work or social life.

Best Snack for You: Spicy chips, something bold and exciting like you!



TAURUS (APR 20 - MAY 20)

Mood: Calm, but easily annoyed if things don't go your way.

Productivity: Slow and steady. You'll get things done, but at your own pace.

Lucky Subject: Math—you like structure and routine.

Luck: Medium—you'll have to work for your wins, but they'll be worth it.

Best Snack for You: Chocolate chip cookies—simple, sweet, and satisfying.



GEMINI (MAY 21 - JUN 20)

Mood: Social and chatty—work will feel more fun than usual!

Productivity: You might forget about an important task until the last minute. Set reminders!

Lucky Subject: English or anything involving discussions.

Luck: Unpredictable—you'll have lucky streaks but also some chaotic moments.

Best Snack for You: Popcorn—light, fun, and easy to munch on while multitasking.



CANCER (JUN 21 - JUL 22)

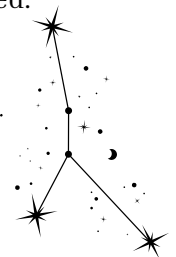
Mood: Emotional but motivated—good time to express yourself.

Productivity: Decent, but procrastination might hit when you're overwhelmed.

Lucky Subject: Art or anything creative.

Luck: Good, but mostly in emotional and social areas.

Best Snack for You: Ice cream—sweet and soothing after a long day



LEO (JUL 23 - AUG 22)

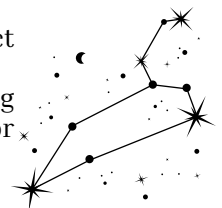
Mood: Confident and thriving—expect attention for your achievements.

Productivity: You'll do well, but only if you stay focused. Avoid distractions!

Lucky Subject: Drama or anything that lets you shine.

Luck: High—you'll attract opportunities & recognition.

Best Snack for You: Something fancy, like a caramel chai latte or fruit parfait.



VIRGO (AUG 23-SEP 22)

Mood: Super organized but might overthink small details.

Productivity: Ahead of schedule! You might even help others catch up.

Lucky Subject: Science—you love logic and problem-solving.

Luck: Steady—nothing wild, but you'll be rewarded for hard work.

Best Snack for You: Nuts or granola bars—something healthy and efficient



HOROSCOPES CONT.

By Nirvee D.

LIBRA (SEP 23 - OCT 22)

Mood: Balanced but indecisive—big choices might stress you out.

Productivity: Average. You'll get things done, but might need extra motivation.

Lucky Subject: History—you love analyzing different perspectives.

Luck: Up and down—some days will be super lucky, others not so much.

Best Snack for You: Macarons—pretty and well-balanced, just like you.



SCORPIO (OCT 23 - NOV 21)

Mood: Focused and intense—nothing will stop you this month.

Productivity: Top-tier! You're in full productivity mode.

Lucky Subject: Engineering—perfect for your sharp, problem-solving mind.

Luck: Strong, especially in personal goals.

Best Snack for You: Dark chocolate—bold and mysterious, just like you.



SAGITTARIUS (NOV 22 - DEC 21)

Mood: Restless—you'll want to escape routine.

Productivity: Could fall behind if you're not careful. Keep an eye on deadlines!

Lucky Subject: Geography—you love learning about the world.

Luck: Mostly good, but only if you take chances.

Best Snack for You: Trail mix—perfect for someone always on the go.



CAPRICORN (DEC 22 - JAN 19)

Mood: Determined and goal-oriented—you'll crush challenges.

Productivity: Ahead of everyone else. You're setting the bar high!

Lucky Subject: Food Tech—working on something tangible will keep you motivated.

Luck: Stable—you make your own luck through effort.

Best Snack for You: Protein bars—you like efficiency in everything.



AQUARIUS (JAN 20 - FEB 18)

Mood: Creative and thoughtful—your ideas will shine.

Productivity: You'll get it done, but might space out a lot while working.

Lucky Subject: Music—let your creativity flow.

Luck: Unexpected—you'll have surprise wins when you least expect them.

Best Snack for You: Sour candy—unique and unexpected, just like you.



PISCES (FEB 19 - MAR 20)

Mood: Dreamy and introspective—you're thinking about the future.

Productivity: Decent, but you might daydream too much. Stay focused!

Lucky Subject: Drama or anything creative.

Luck: Strong intuition—trust your gut this month.

Best Snack for You: Bubble tea—sweet, dreamy, and fun.



OUR GREAT NATION

By Ella N.

Jasper sat, legs crossed, arms folded in front of him to hold today's newspaper, curled hair ruffling slightly in the breeze, at a small table belonging to a hole in the wall café in LA. It was how he spent far too much of his time. It was a Saturday, and the news was filled with lovely little pieces on tax reductions, found people, more houses, thriving animal populations, the same as most days. As he idly flicked through the pages, he heard a scream ring out from somewhere behind him.

Probably a shout of joy.



Now, he was working in another factory, this time much, much larger, and instead of furniture, they were making tools ranging from guns to axes. Helping the farming hands out was what they were told.

He was proud to help the farmers feed the nation. Especially after all they have to go through with the warring factions.

Ever since the American Republic had won the Great War of the Americas, rebel troops had constantly been attacking their borders, destroying crops, hijacking supply wagons, blowing up buildings and taking people in the dead of night. They were horrible monsters hellbent on destroying our great nation, despite the peaceful deals we had struck with them and the liberties and opportunities we continue to grant them.

He ignored it, keeping his eyes plastered on a story about an increase in wages. They were being raised by 20%. He had no idea how much more he would be paid, but if the papers said it was good, then it was good.

The café Jasper had chosen was littered with people, each at their own table, reading the news. None of them had actually ordered anything, as it seems they had chosen one of the areas more expensive cafés.

He had to stop doing that. Almost every café he walked into nowadays ended up being one of those posh ones, LA was just like that he assumed.

He had been moved here 3 weeks ago for work, previously having been stationed in a small country town factory making furniture, however, more than $\frac{3}{4}$ of the company had been cut recently as apparently, they were opening up newer, better branches further south.

Nothing to worry about.



OUR GREAT NATION CONT.

By Ella N.

Just as Jasper had begun to recount the glorious deeds of his great nation, a loud, shrill whistle suddenly sounded, and, almost like sleeper agents, each and every worker who had been outside, enjoying a peaceful afternoon, shot up out of their seats.

It was the work whistle.

Jasper cursed his timing as he stood. He had forgotten to refill his water rations and was now going to have to work through the second part of his 13-hour shift without even a drop of it.

He sighed. In his head of course, as he would never dare to appear anything other than happy in this great nation.

The workers filed into the streets, walking hastily to make it to their posts on time, yet still making sure they never strayed from their two-line formation.

Each man, a few women and child made their way to their respective factories, each dressed in a fraying, dirty jumpsuit. The jumpsuits had been free, given to them by the generous higher-ups who oversaw their work. They were simple blue suits with two hands, reaching towards a star, printed in white on their backs. A reminder that they should always strive to be their best as they served the nation.

Great nation.



Jasper turned a left, following a now smaller, but still heavily populated, line towards the 'Tools and Equipment Factory 27'. They all made their way towards the small entrance, having to pause as they were patted down by the guard, before making their way inside the cramped, dim interior.

The factory itself was huge, and Jasper was sure, that without any of the large, bulky equipment it could easily fit double them comfortably.

But with the equipment taking up majority of the space, they were made to work side by side, bumping elbows if they did anything more than stand still. But Jasper didn't mind. Anything to serve their Great Nation.

There were only four windows in the factory, one of each wall, directly in the middle, so they could see their work. However, when the sun eventually set, they had to pull out the candles, which were extremely hard to work with in such a tight space. He had acquired numerous scars due to his negligence around candles.

It was entirely his fault, of course.

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They soon got to work, not wasting a second as they started banging, hammering, welding and building so much that his ears had moved past ringing and instead started making a much more pleasant buzz that seemed to drown out the noises of the factory.

Jasper's job was extremely simple, him and too many other workers to count all stood along a conveyor belt, each armed with a small mallet, with which they hit the bits of metal rolling by. They did this all day, every day, until they were old enough for the retirement village.

The retirement village was, as the higher ups put it, a haven for those who had served the nation diligently their whole life. When someone eventually turned too old to work, they were cared for and looked after in this village.



No one actually knew what the village looked like, as it was reserved for those living or working there, no visitors were allowed. Not even for publicity reasons. Jasper could understand the lack of entry, after all, why would you want constant visitors after finally being given the chance to relax?

He understood the higher-ups. Even if no one else did.

Of course, no one actually knew anyone in the village, as relationships were discouraged. It would upset the work schedules if everyone was talking all the time. They were completely pointless. He didn't even know who had been working beside him. Here in LA or even back home, where he had worked from 10 to 31 before being moved.

Why would he? Relationships were pointless.

Even talking was pointless. He hadn't heard anyone speak since he was a child. And that was to merely get to work. Everyone just knew what happened. Why even bother talking?

Even thinking was essentially pointless. Who needed thinking when everyday was gloriously the same. A smile crept onto his face as he turned over these ideas. They were perfect, he decided. His smile widened; eyes blank as he hit every piece of metal that came by.

Clank.' It rang'

'Clank.'

'Clank.'

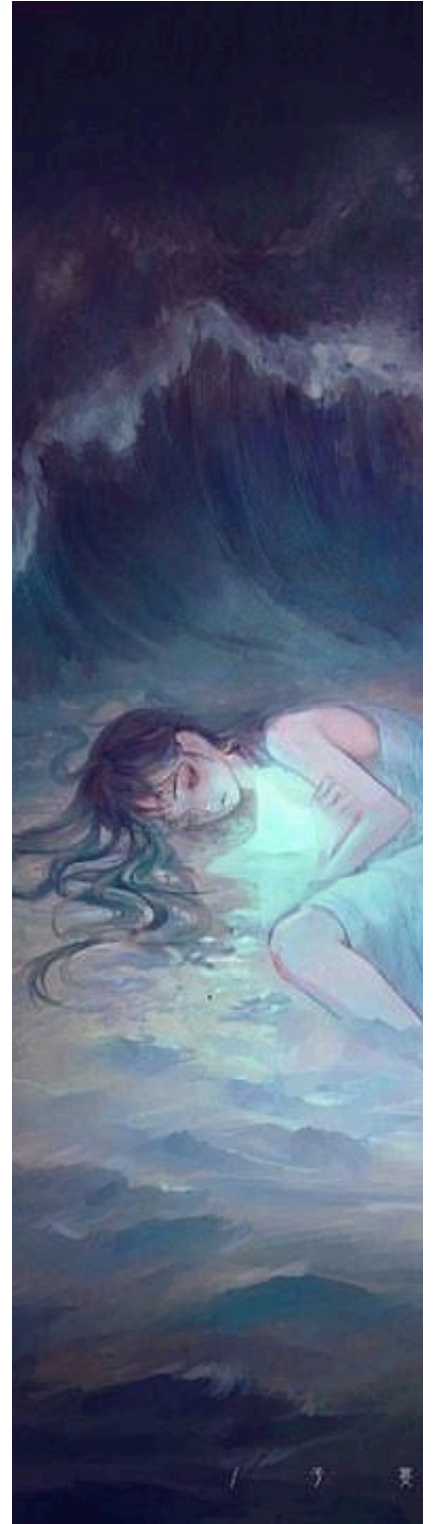
'Clank.'

CUT OFF

By Ella N.



Her hair lay,
In clumps, like hay,
Strewn across the floor,
From the sink to the door,
Large black piles,
That seemed to stretch for
miles,
The door closed.
Slow. As slow as someone in
snow,
As if the scene was too
beautiful to hide away.
It wasn't.
The door shut.
And she was out of luck.



MAZE GAME

By Ella N.

