



THE DUAL DIPLOMA TIMES

First Edition

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Dual Diploma News

by Andrea Alcaraz Ramírez

The Dual Diploma Program is an opportunity to study in English and earn a Florida high school diploma. You might have a better chance to get in a United States university by completing this program. The Dual Diploma program will help you to succeed in life.

People that take Dual Diploma courses are satisfied with their progress. These are some quotes by students from Saint Paul CEU School in Madrid, Spain:

“Dual Diploma Program is an interesting activity for several reasons: You need to complete a high level of work, research and analysis. You need to be able to transmit ideas in English; which is a challenge because this is not our mother language.”

Also from my personal point of view it is sometimes difficult because you have to balance your time between working together with your normal studies in your country. That means you need to put forth extra time and dedication to get the knowledge of the subjects you decide to do year by year. I feel the system of learning, the live sessions and the ability to increase your English level are the best aspects of the program.

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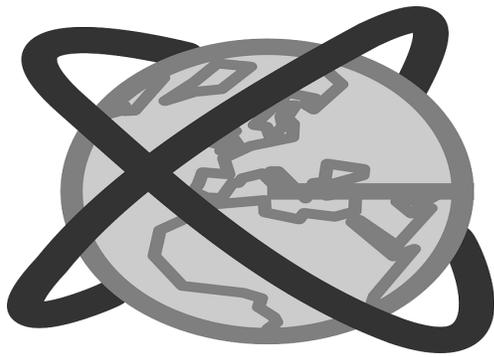
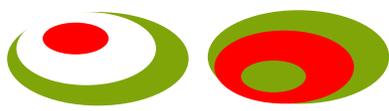
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The Ebola Virus

By Ángel Tosal Maradona

Today, we are going to talk about the ebola virus. This virus continues killing people, not in Spain or the U.S, but in Africa. Yes, since June, that is when it began, it has killed 7,000 people. It all started in Liberia, Senegal and the countries closeby with an African species of a bat. The bats transmitted it to pigs and then the population killed and ate them.

When two missionaries came from Liberia to Spain, the ebola virus appeared in another continent and when they were treated in a hospital in Madrid, a nurse got infected. She was the first person that hadn't been infected in Africa. All of them are alive now and safe. The United States received missionaries from Africa that were treated in a hospital in Nebraska. They are all well now

The problem, we hope, is solved in the developed countries now, but in Africa the ebola virus continues killing people wantonly and we have the power to stop it. There are a lot of NGOs (Non Governmental Organization) that help Africa with this virus and other more, like Doctors without Borders, in this NGOs we can donate or do volunteering.



Global News

NORTHERN WHITE RHINOS CLOSE TO EXTINCTION

by Sara Varljen

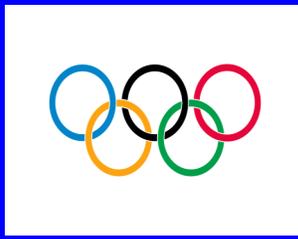
Angalifu, a northern white rhino, has died at the San Diego Zoo Safari Park. After this male has passed because of old age, there are only five ones of this species left worldwide. The other known northern white rhinos are kept in a preserve in Kenya, in a zoo in Czech Republic and in this Californian zoo, while it is said they do not exist anymore in wilderness. The only rhinos that could still reproduce naturally will not, but Kenyan preservationists will try with in vitro fertilization.

This species might become extinct because it has been killed by poachers for its horn. This object's incredible cost – tens of thousands of dollars – makes its selling a very lucrative business. These criminals are getting more and more organized day by day using new technologies for their evil acts, so it is very difficult to catch them or even to find them. Buyers are mainly from East Asia, where they use the horns as a cure, but there are other people interested in this material to make dagger handles. However this business is illegal in most of the countries.

Is it right to kill animals just for money? I do not think so. We should stand for this cause because those rhinos are not the only species in danger. It is not possible to help northern white rhinos anymore: those few ones cannot reproduce and laboratory ways are complex and expensive. We cannot do very much, but giving our support to those who factually fight injustices could be really important: we already have to be thankful to the people who spend their whole life to rescue animals from danger, but also from hunger and thirst.

SPORTS

The Olympic Games by Alberto Barban



The first Olympic Games, originated in 776 AC, were religious and athletic festivals held every four years at the sanctuary of Zeus in Olympia, Greece. Competition of these Games were among representatives of several city-states and kingdoms of Ancient Greece. In the beginning the competition of these Games was among representatives of several city-states and kingdoms of Ancient Greece. It has been written that during the Games all conflicts among the participating city-states were postponed until the Games were finished. Currently, almost all the countries of the world participate in the Games and each time they are played in different countries.

In the beginning in the Olympic Games were featured mainly athletic games but there were also combat sports such as wrestling and the Pankration (ancient judo), horse and chariot racing events. Instead currently there are mainly athletic games in the Olympics track and field, swimming, gymnastics, etc... not wrestling, Pankration, horse and chariot racing.

Some of the track and field athletic games that are currently played in the Olympics are divided into three principal categories:

- RACE: Marathon, race from 100 meters to 10.000 meters and 110/400 meters hurdles race
- JUMP: high jump, triple jump and long jump
- THROW: discus throw, hammer throw and javelin throw

Important news about the Olympics is relative to wrestling: some months ago the International Olympic Committee (IOC) decided that wrestling will be reinstated during the 2020 Olympic Games. In fact on 12 February 2013 the IOC excluded wrestling from the following Olympic Games, but many wrestling champions have fought until some months ago to reinstate wrestling in the Olympics.

SPORTS by Alejandro Serrano

Sports are very important in our lives. Sports are not only important for our health and physical appearance; they are incredibly important in other aspects.

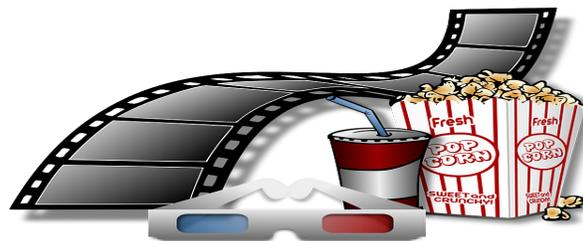
There are many different sports. In some of them you have to run, in others you have to use an instrument and in others you just have to perform the action of kicking a ball.

It is amazing how a simple activity can enhance humans' lives! Some people only practice sports to improve their health and fitness, but sports have a lot more advantages. There are not many things that can unite people as much as soccer does and there are not many things that can help street and problematic boys as boxing does. Sports are also extremely important in a student's life. What would I do without my running evenings before studying? As in my case, sports help students to concentrate more while doing homework and studying.

I think sports are one of the things that teenagers enjoy most. All types of sports are important. When somebody practices any sport or exercise, it usually gives them a feeling of freedom. It is very difficult to imagine a world without sports, because we love sports!



Entertainment



Hi guys!

I have one question for you: What is entertainment? Each person knows different things about this, for example the most typical response is that entertainment is something that you do when you have free time to have fun, this is an opinion. Now, I'm going to tell you my opinion. For me, entertainment can be a lot of things. Personally, when I have fun with something, whether it's when I'm swimming or when I am with my friends or my family, I consider that entertainment.

Something I also consider as entertainment is watching television shows. One of my favorite shows is CSI. In general, my favorite TV series are with a criminal plot (Criminal Minds, Bones...) CSI is very interesting; the series is from the USA and all the plots are criminal. Also each chapter is different because the murders have different problems.

The general ideas about entertainment are the same: go to the cinema with your friends, go to the swimming pool in the summer, go to town to drink something and go shopping or even watch a show on tv. Therefore, entertainment can be a lot of different things according to people's likes, but in general it's something that you have fun with.

Paula Barcelona Lahoz



Top 10 movies of 2014

by Miriam Robledo

Mockingjay part 1 (adventure, sci-fi) After the games, Katniss goes to the district 13. President Coin convinces her to be the symbol of rebellion, while she tries to save Peeta from the Capitol.

Blended (comedy) In this comedy Jim and Lauren have their worst blind date ever and decide they don't want to see each other again, but accidentally the two find themselves and their families stuck together in one suite at an African Safari vacation spot.

Divergent (action, adventure) In a world divided by factions, Tris discovers that she's divergent and won't fit in any of the factions. She has to hide her identity so they won't kill her.

The Giver (drama, sci-fi) In a flawless world, Jonas is chosen to be the apprentice of the Giver who will show him the emotions of the real world.

The Hobbit (adventure) To stop Smaug from getting his revenge, Bilbo and Company will have to face many dangers.

The Fault in Our Stars (romance, drama) Augustus and Hazel, who have cancer, fall in love after meeting at a cancer support group. Augustus will help Hazel to make her dream come true.

The Maze Runner (action, sci-fi) Thomas has been sent to a maze where other boys live, he doesn't remember anything. He'll join the 'runners' to find a way out of the maze.

Guardians of the Galaxy (action, adventure) A group of intergalactic criminals joins forces to protect a mysterious ball and its powers.

22 Jump Street (action, comedy) Two police officers Schmidt and Jenko have to go undercover on a local university.

Boyhood (drama) This movie tells the life of Mason, a young man, from age 5 to age 18. The movie was filmed over 12 years but actually took only 39 days to film it.

Article by Tanja Paulmichl

At first, why do you think you chose to participate in the Dual Diploma Program? Was there a particular reason?

Dual Diploma Program offered me a great opportunity to simultaneously study in English and in Spanish and that is something I have always dreamed of.

Which program have you completed and how long did it take you ?

I completed the program in two years because it was offered to me by the time I was 17 years old and about to start "Bachillerato".

From your point of view were the assignments you had to complete difficult or easy?

Some of them were difficult and some of them easy, but you were always given good instructions and examples to follow. Furthermore, our teacher was available most of the time to help us out. It was well organized.

How much time did you spend on your homework assignments? Was it easy to organize the required time or did you have to renounce something really important for you?

Some assignments took longer than what I have expected. But as I said before, if you knew how to organize the time instead of procrastinating, it was not a big deal. For example, I play golf and during those two years I was able to complete Dual Diploma Program and practice at the same time. You need to make an effort but organization is crucial.

Did you like the learning methods, so were you more likely to complete assignments of the Dual Diploma Program on the Internet than doing for example normal homework with paper and pen?

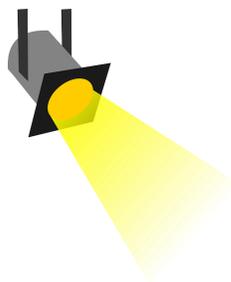
I really liked the learning methods. They also helped me improve my pronunciation which I am very grateful for. Nowadays you need to get familiar with internet and technology. Dual Diploma also helps you in this field!

Do you notice that you have improved your English Level? How is your English Level now, after you graduated from the Dual Diploma Program?

My English Level has improved and I am still working hard to get even better. I am now studying in United States and the language is not an obstacle when it comes to get good grades and be successful.

Now that you have finished the Program, do you think it was useful, so is the Second Diploma of use for you, for example for an admission on a university or something else?

I absolutely think the Program was useful. I have learned a lot and it has helped me to be where I am. I got a scholarship at University of Iowa because of playing golf. In order to be admitted I needed to take the SAT and the TOEFL exams, but I also submitted my Dual Diploma.





Fashion

Fashion in our Life

by Maria Fernandez

Nowadays fashion is a concept that is in all aspects of our daily life. Not just in clothes, moreover, fashion is included in everything around us like cars, accessories, and even home décor. Fashion is an important aspect of our life, so, why not know a little about what's hot right now? Well this is a question that a lot of people ask themselves every day, and that's the reason that today there are of fashion magazines and blogs that talk only about one thing – fashion.

Well, I am not an expert about fashion but I am really sure that the magazines that I read explain a lot about this topic. I searched through a lot of info that could help you in fashion a little bit if you are unsure in this area.

Here are a few of my fashion tips: We are going to start with your hair, if you don't know how to brush and make your hair beautiful, just style a nice and easy braid. Now, what to wear?? You can put on jeans and a white t-shirt that always will be a great option! And of course boots for the winter that will be a great point for your appearance.

And if you want, you can add some makeup (discreet) and some necklaces with animal designs that are very common in this time of the year.

And of course, be creative if you want to make the difference between the other people!

VICTORIA'S SECRET FASHION SHOW

by Alicia Lluzar Frias

Unless you were in hiding, you know that last month there was a lot of winking, kisses blown at the camera, and amazing outfits on the show.

The show, seen in approximately 200 countries, included performances from Taylor Swift, Ed Sheeran, Ariana Grande, and Hozier.

London hosted the 2015 Victoria's Secret Fashion Show. Taylor Swift was wearing pretty black lace, Ed Sheeran was loving life and Ariana Grande was singing her little heart out.

Models Alessandra Ambrosio and Adriana Lima were tasked with strutting their stuff down the runway at the Victoria's Secret Show in the dazzling \$2 million Dream Angels Fantasy outfits. Each of this year's designs was made by Mouawad jewelers using 16,000 rubies, diamonds and sapphires.



The show was divided into six parts, gilded angels, with gold and yellow colors; university of pink, with pink colors; exotic traveler, with extravagant designs and with explosive colors; fairy tail, with light blue and white colors; dream girl, with light colors and white; and finally, angel ball, with a lot of dark colors in the outfits.

Italian Culture

by Benedetta Rigotti

Dear readers,

Today we are going to talk about Italian Culture.

The Italian culture is an ancient culture which has very deep roots that go back to the Greek and Roman period. The Italian tradition is very interesting. The Italian culture includes several fields: architecture with its impressive palaces and sculptures, in addition to fashion with its very important stylists. Italy is also well known for its delicious food with its famous cooks as well as its beautiful, refined and impressive pictures. The language, one of the most difficult to learn and not to mention our wealth of history has left many scholars puzzled.

One of the most important aspects of Italian culture is art. Over the centuries, Italy has seen great writers and artists who, today, are appreciated worldwide; such as Cicerone, Marco Aurelio and Pitagora. There also have been many important Latin writers, poets, philosophers, mathematicians and historians throughout history. In the IV century there was, Dante, Boccaccio and Petrarca. During Renaissance, there was Da Vinci and Galilei, the fathers of the modern science and in the IX century, one of the most important Italian writers was Leopardi. Nowadays, there are writers such as Umberto Eco, Barricco, Calvino and Dario Fò. Italian tradition doesn't only mean art, but also music and fashion. We have got a lot of famous and very well known musicians, like Puccini, Rossini, Verdi, Vivaldi, Paganini and others. In fashion we also have a lot of famous stylists like Dolce & Gabbana, Valentino, Prada, Armani, Cavalli, Ferragamo, Aspesi, Moschino, Gucci and Versace.

All of the above are characters who made our Italy a country full of history and culture. They are important people who fought for their ideas, creativity and ideals. We must learn from these people, because without such people humanity doesn't grow and there is no progress.

In Italy, there is a lot of art and history on the street, in our cities, everywhere. Unfortunately, we don't always appreciate what we have, because we don't value them enough.





Spanish Culture

Hello, my name is **Victor Serrano Rojo** and I am from Madrid, Spain. I am 14 years old but I have been very lucky and I have visited a lot of places such as Amsterdam, France, Ireland, Italy and more. This is why I know a lot about the differences between Spanish culture and others.



For example one thing here in Spain that doesn't exist elsewhere is "Semana Santa", this is a religious celebration during Holy Week that consists of going out to the street with sculptures of Jesus and Maria.

Another difference between the United States and Spain is that in Spain we don't celebrate Halloween, in Spain it is a celebration for people to buy things. We don't celebrate Thanksgiving because in Spain the most important celebrations are during Christmas. I hope this helps you to know more about Spain and our culture.

Global Economics

MICROCREDITS FOR INDIAN WOMEN

By Ana Esponera

Microcredits are small loans to people above the poverty threshold. They are given to citizens of developmental pathway countries in particular, which have no resources to obtain decent wages. Companies that take advantage of their situation and exploit these people, do not respect the basic right to a living wage.

Mohamed Yunus began his fight against poverty in 1974 during the floods in his homeland, Bangladesh. Yunus founded the Grameen Bank, which gave microcredits to the neediest people. Indonesia, Colombia and Brazil "copied" this style and started giving loans.

All loans have something in common, their protagonists are women because they are more likely to invest the money in their family. . Although the difficulties of getting women involved in the project, as they tend to always be under the control of man, are gradually participating. Thus the confidence of women improves as their ability in economic management.

A recent study states that 75% of beneficiaries have significantly reduced poverty by improving their social status.

Access to these microcredits allows women to develop a career and through small businesses, financially contribute to the economic development of their countries, so that they improve their autonomy and self-esteem.



PENGUINELION

BY LUIS SERRANO

ONCE UPON A TIME, IN A LAND WITH OUT NAME, THEY LIVE SOME CREATURES CALLED PENGUS...



THERE WERE 2 TYPES OF PENGUS: PYNKIES AND BLACKIES, THEY LIVED PEACEFULLY IN THEIR LANDS USING ADVANCEND TECHNOLOGY...

BUT ONE TIME, A GIANT CREATURE CALLED GREAT MEKON...

... WANTED TO CONQUER THE WHOLE WORLD, AND TO DO IT HE NEEDED TO KILL ALL THE PENGUS...



MY NAME IS PENGU, AND I AM

...THE LAST PINKY PENGU

...FOR THIS HE USED HIS OWN ARMY OF CREATURES CALLED MEKOS. THESE CREATURES WERE VERY FAST, AND THEY KILLED PENGUS VERY EASILY.



MY PARENTS, WERE KILLED BY THE MEKOS, AND I CLAIM REVENGE



I GREW UP WITH THE "OLD MAN" AND HE WAS VERY PULLL AND BAD WITH ME...

AND TODAY I'M GOING TO BE THE PILOT OF ONE NUMA-ROBOT SERIE III., AND MY OBJECTIVE IS TO DESTROY ALL MEKO, AND TO REVENGE MY PARENTS ...

BUT THIS ADVENTURE HAS ONLY STARTED...

TO BE CONTINUED...

The Dual Diploma Times

Thank you for reading the first edition of The Dual Diploma Times!

Please look for the second edition to be published in the Spring!

If you have any suggestions for article topics that we didn't cover in this edition, please send us your thoughts.

Contact Us

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