

The Reader 48



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Helping hands:

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HALLOWEEN

by Zofia Dudek and Julia Zięba 1E

How much do you know about Halloween traditions? Have you ever celebrated it? It takes place on 31st October. 🍂

Unfortunately, it's not so popular in Poland as it is for example in the USA, Canada or the UK.

You should definitely learn more about this amazing celebration!

HISTORY OF HALLOWEEN:

Beginnings of Halloween are uncertain. This tradition originates from the Celtic festival of Samhain, which marked the end of summer. Celts believed that this day the border between the world of the living and the dead was the thinnest. In order to look more similar to the dead, people wore different masks and costumes.

HALLOWEEN IN THE USA:

Halloween is most celebrated in the USA. An extremely popular part of Halloween there is trick-or-treating. During the evening children and teenagers travel from house to house in their neighbourhoods and ask people for treats using the phrase: "trick or treat!". Neighbours often give them sweets or even money. Moreover, families decorate their houses with scary decorations like carved pumpkins, spider webs, fake skeletons etc.

DON'T FORGET THESE WORDS FOR THIS YEAR'S HALLOWEEN!

🍂 jack-o'-lantern

🍂 cemetery

🍂 frightening

🍂 pumpkin

🍂 tombstone

🍂 werewolf

🍂 wicked

🍂 superstition

🍂 cobweb

Trick or Treat



The picture shows three animals: a dog, a sloth and a cat with carved pumpkins. Over them there is a text that reads : „Trick or treat”.

Young Blood's Voice – Show Yourself!

It is said not to speak out about politics. At the same time it is said to care about politics, because if we do not care about it, it cares about us. On Sunday, the 15th of October 2023, millions of Poles voted in general election. The statistics are heart-warming.

Let's not focus on who is going to govern now, but who has chosen the new government. The first and very important thing to emphasize is the turnout record from 1989 elections (62,7%) has been beaten. The turnout this year was 74,38%! It means that over 21 million of Poles used their right to vote. However, what causes the biggest surprise is the engagement of young blood. In the age group 18-29 the turnout reached impressive 70,9%. For comparison, four years ago only less than 50% of young adults decided to cast their vote.

Certainly, young generation made its voice as well as political views heard. I strongly believe we should perform our civic duty and be grateful for the opportunity to have an influence on our country, and the most importantly, on our future. It is something many people can only dream of. Let's never doubt our vote matters.



The picture shows someone's hand putting a ballot in a ballot box.

By Natalia Podawca Ilc

ORWELL'S TERRIFYING LANGUAGE

You may understand this title above in two ways: terrifying, that is bad, disgusting, poor, or terrifying, thus causing a true fear in those who came across that mysterious speech. And this is Newspeak, invented by George Orwell. You probably have read his *"Animal Farm"* or much more widely spread *"1984"*. Newspeak was created specifically for the latter. What is it like?

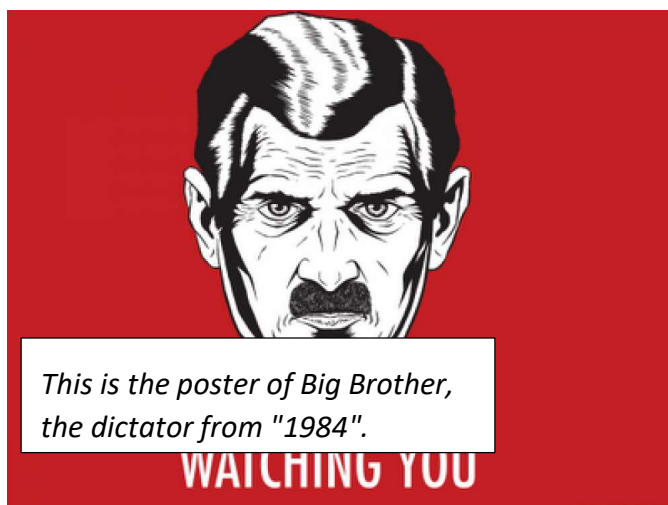
To design your own Newspeak, you take a language, reduce the lexicon to minimum, i.e. leave nothing but basic words. Lastly, so as to express any idea you want, combine these together. Probably the most famous example from *"1984"* itself is "double-plus-ungood", („extremely bad"). Why learn "bad" when you can just negate "good"? Incredible, how wonderful is that! Orwell was the biggest genius of all the time doing that, wasn't he?

Well, let's conduct an experiment. Don't worry, it's fairly easy. Prepare your Newspeak. Take an excerpt from some scientific article about something you feel confident with. And finally, try to summarize it using only those simple words. Have you finished? I bet it was way more difficult than you'd supposed.

This is where the author's idea comes in. The main character of the book lives in an dictatorship. Newspeak's purpose is to prevent citizens from thinking freely.

What about us? Haven't you ever heard of someone calling somebody else's language "nowomowa"? "Newspeak" has become the worldwide synonym of speech filled with manipulations and common lies.

By Kacper Guziak IV e



♥ HEART COOKIES ♥

These Cookies are delicious and easy to prepare.

Ingredients:

- 300 grams of flour
- 200 grams of cold butter
- 100 grams of sugar
- 1 egg
- 1 teaspoon of vanilla sugar
- jam



The picture shows the finished cookies.

Preparation:

- 1) Mix the butter with the sugar using a mixer and then add the egg.
- 2) Start slowly adding the flour while mixing the dough.
- 3) Squish the dough with your hands ,roll it and cut out circles shapes.
- 4) Use a spoon to make a heart shape on the cookie and fill it with jam.
- 5)Preheat oven at 200 degrees. Put the cookies in the oven for about 10-15 minutes.

The Cookies are ready. Bon Appetit.

By Patrycja Sikora, 2C

I wrote this article on Thursday...

As it is known, state New Jersey is a mine of the rad bands. There are countless of them; the horror punk legends like *The Misfits*, more popular ones like *My Chemical Romance* or more obscure ones – *The Banner*, *The Early November*, *Old Wounds* or (actually gaining popularity) *Thursday*. And I'm here to talk about that last one because they deserve to be listened to by everyone who would simply need it as I do.

Thursday represents the fourth wave of post-hardcore scene (is classified also as alternative rock, screamo or emotional hardcore). The band was formed in New Brunswick in 1997 by **Geoff Rickly** on vocals, **Tom Keeley** as lead guitarist, **Bill Henderson** on rhythm guitar (replaced by **Steve Pendula** after releasing their debut album), **Tim Payne** on bass and **Tucker Rule** as a drummer. They started with playing basement shows surrounding their state and the nearest area – New York. They recorded demos of their first songs which they had played before releasing “*Waiting*” in 1999 on which the songs from EP “*1999 Summer Tour*” would be also found (except for “*Mass As Shadows*”). The first *Thursday* song ever is called “*This Side of Brightness*” and... it really sounds like summer '99 – like the beginning of the new century. You can easily hear that the style of music they play is influenced by the bands like Fugazi, Sunny Days Real Estate (textbook example of midwest emo), At The Drive-in or Sigur Rós.



ft: Rickly, Payne, Pendula,
Rule, Keeley

I will quickly get through their discography to give an outline of the work of this simple named band (simple and accidentally, they literally decided to name their group *Thursday* because that word was written on a tape of some rehearsals on the day of recording). As I mentioned before, their debut album "*Waiting*" was released in 1999. It wasn't loud about this project – release just happened; without any singles or support from television or radio.

Their second album "*Full Collapse*" (2001), featuring more popular songs like "*Understanding In A Car Crash*" or the masterpiece called "*Autobiography Of A Nation*" (which I have had on repeat lately) enabled them to perform during famous Warped Tour. But nevertheless, these times weren't the best for the band because signing to label meant the problems with "time to run everything by the band". The tense situation between Thursday and the huge company which was the Victory Records" created "*Five Stories Falling*" EP very soon. You can find only one new single on that record – "*Jet Black New Year*" recorded with MCR's Gerard Way on backing vocals. As regards the specifics, the next album was produced by another label – Island Records.

Their following material grows out from the experience of tragedy of the 21st century – from the terrorist attacks on World Trade Center of September 11. This historical event shook the world, especially the east-coast's kids who lived there. "*War All the Time*" (2003) was believed to be the political album comparing the world's war past (or simply reality?) on terrorism. As Rickly said himself, the purpose of the recording was rather to present the love being a war. However, the songs like "Division St." or "For the Workforce, Drowning" help to realize the catastrophic historical nature of civilization.

On the next album the vocalist vented his poetry passion by titling this record "*A City by the Light Divided*" (2006) which is combination of two lines from "*Sustone*" by Octavio Paz. And come on, who calls their song "*The Lovesong Writer*" if they don't like poetry? This releasing began a very generous period of touring, making friends of scene and using MySpace. They also shared with the world their demos, unreleased songs (like "*Ladies And Gentlemen, My Brother, The Failure*"), footage of live performances and documentary on the occasion of appearing of compilation "*Kill the House Lights*" on CD and DVD.

They changed the label again (Epitaph Records) and announced "*Common Existence*". This change enabled them to be more socially conscious and politically active. As the leader of *Thursday* explained, title refers to humanity's shared experience. The songs refer to numerous literary inspirations of band members – for example, "*Resuscitation of a Dead Man*" is influenced by Denis Johnson's "*Resuscitation of a Hanged Man*".

Last but not least, 2011 is the year of releasing "*No Devolución*". The style was to be back to the roots – more vulnerable and atmospheric as it is easily heard. Then *Thursday* disbanded and some members started working on side projects. Without going into details, I would say that band reunited few years later and then broke up again to announce definite return in 2020. But since 2011 they haven't released any new single. Their return is to give concerts around the world and giving second life to their old recordings which, I would definitely say, they're doing even better than expected. What I value the most in this band is instrumental consonance. As a guitarist, I devote the most attention to listening to guitar parts which seriously give the sound of the turn of the 20th and 21st centuries. The style is typically post-hardcore with driving distorted riffs, bouncy rhythms (so New Jersey), moving melodies and unique tone. They also don't shun the grip of acoustic guitars. The loud bass levels are also worth mentioning because Tim Payne proves that playing bass is not a piece of cake. What's more? The drummer is definitely killing it every time with his inconceivable amounts of energy. Put all this together, we have a band that has helped many people survive their youth with their raw, even angsty and simply powerful sound. And I didn't even start talking about vocals (spoiler)! Like, there are also violin parts on the first album. It is just crazy... and amazing.

Here I'm going to talk away about Geoff Rickly's role in *Thursday*. This guy is a poet (and also the writer, he has released the book "*Someone Who Isn't Me*" a few month ago) – the lyrics of every songs are full of emotions, of reflections of love, loneliness, work of the world, changes in society (actually about lack of change) and many important issues that deal with modern man. Undoubtedly they're relatable for all of us – his emotional vocals and unusual screams are the voice of the community of people who are given to live now.

I decided to write about this band because they're not just the creators of my favorite music but also my saviors and the ones who understand what's going on - they're afraid of the same thing that I fear, they don't leave me alone with a broken heart and uncertainties. Thursday is the people who gave me **"hope that we will make it through"**.

Glenn

Max Verstappen: Three-Time World Champion!

The Dutch driver won a third world championship title in the realm of motorsport, thereby cementing his place among the legends of the sport.

Max Verstappen clinched the championship title in Saturday's sprint race, securing a second-place finish. Verstappen's achievement makes him the first driver to accomplish this feat in a sprint race, marking a notable milestone in only the third season of this innovation in F1.



The photo shows Max Verstappen after winning the third world title

This season showcased the dominance of Max Verstappen and his team, securing the title in both the driver and team standings. The Dutchman surpassed Sebastian Vettel's record for consecutive wins by achieving an

impressive 10 victories in a row, breaking the previous record of 9. Meanwhile, the Red Bull team set a new milestone, claiming 12 consecutive wins and surpassing McLaren's 1988 record.

After the race, Max Verstappen said that he felt amazing. It had been a fantastic season for him and his team, during which they had many brilliant races. He was very proud of the team, delighted to be a part of it, and also proud of being a three-time world champion.

Without a doubt, Verstappen is one of the best drivers ever. Through constant self-improvement, he has reached a level of near-perfection, which he demonstrates time after time in races. This season, he has undoubtedly been supported by the excellent Red Bull car.



The photo shows Red Bull's car for 2023, which is called the RB19

The Dutchman will undoubtedly be the favorite to win the championship next year. The biggest question remains whether he will face someone equally matched in this battle.

By Kacper Rochowski IID

Now and Then

The picture shows the members of the band called „The Beatles“



The long-awaited last song of the legendary band The Beatles will be released soon.

The song "Now and Then", created by John Lennon at home in the late 1970s, has taken on a fuller shape thanks to new technology. The premiere is on November 2 at 3 p.m. According to the band's living musicians, this is the last composition by The Beatles.

“It's not like we're pretending. It's really John's voice, Paul's voice and bass, George [Harrison] on rhythm guitar and me on drums,” Ringo Starr told Variety in July of this year.

A demo of this song came into McCartney's hands in 1994, when Yoko Ono gave him a cassette of Lennon's 1980 recordings titled "For Paul". The demos were recorded on a piano in John Lennon's New York apartment. A year later, the song was considered to be released as an addition to "Anthology", but due to the poor quality of the recording, the idea was abandoned. Thanks to the technological revolution that has taken place over the last three decades, Lennon's vocal track has been refined and distortion-free.

Now we can enjoy the new song of The Beatles

By Agnieszka Twardowska IV e

Juvenes Translatores – preliminaries

On 7th November 2023 our school held translating competition preliminaries for the students who wanted to take part in UE competition called Juvenes Translatores. 5 students of the group of 11 qualified to take part in it on 23rd November 2023. They are Piotr Stępień III E, Milena Saturnus IV E, Maria Małachowska III C, Aleksandra Malej IV B and Dominik Kula III D.

It's a pleasure to introduce to you two best translations of the text of the preliminaries. Although the texts are not faultless (bear in mind the contestants had only 45 minutes to do their best and had no time to dwell on their translations too long) they show that both Piotr Stępień as well as Milena Saturnus are skillful enough to understand English texts well and convey their meaning in Polish. And it makes their attempts quite a good read

Compare and enjoy!

By Natalia Król



The picture shows a poster promoting „Juvenes Translatores”. On the yellow background there is a white box with text which reads in English „Juvenes Translatores . Competition for the best young translators in the European Union”

EXTRACT 1

Archaeological report: Brussels, 8 May 2095

Digital archaeologists find occasional gems in the vast European information repository. Taken from the mountain of uncatalogued ephemera, this text is written in a style suggesting composition in the early 21st century, possibly even on paper.

Diary fragment 1:

After last night's hotel (really scraping the bottom of the barrel!), I was prepared for the worst tonight, but I have my own room with its own bathroom and everything! In the lounge, I scraped together enough German to introduce myself to an Austrian group I met, and soon we were chatting away nineteen to the dozen.

EXTRACT 2

Translating chance into career

It never fails to amaze me how apparently insignificant events can have such a far-reaching impact on people's lives. In my case, three chance occurrences led me to move from England to three other countries and become a professional translator.

It all started at a rock festival. Towards the end of the final night, with the rain drizzling down as usual, a group of us were approached by three somewhat bedraggled fellow festival-goers, one of whom asked us in faltering English how to get to the station. It emerged that they were from Germany and had been travelling around Europe. My German was fairly basic, and the station was a long way away, so I offered to show them at the end of the show. To cut a long story short, we stayed in touch and I opted to study German at university.

FRAGMENT 1

Raport archeologiczny: Bruksela, 8 maj 2095

Archeolodzy znajdują klejnoty w ogromnym europejskim skarbcu. Pochodzący z kopalni niezidentyfikowanych, krótkowiecznych przedmiotów, ten tekst jest napisany w stylu sugerującym kompozycje z początków XXI wieku, możliwe, że na papierze.

Pamiętnik część 1:

Po hotelu z ostatniej nocy (naprawdę dno dna), tej nocy byłem przygotowany na najgorsze, ale mam swój własny pokój z prywatną łazienką i w ogóle! W pokoju wypoczynkowym, wydobyłem z siebie na tyle Niemieckiego, żeby przedstawić się grupie Austriaków, których spotkałem, a już wkrótce nawijaliśmy jak najęci.

FRAGMENT 2

Od szansy tłumaczenia aż po pracę

Zawsze zadziwia mnie jak pozornie nieistotne wydarzenia mogą mieć tak ogromny wpływ na życia ludzi. W moim przypadku, trzy zdarzenia sprawiły, że przeprowadziłem się do Anglii do trzech różnych krajów i zostałem profesjonalnym tłumaczem.

Wszystko zaczęło się na festiwalu rockowym. Przed końcem finałowej nocy, w jak zwykle kropiącym deszczu, nasza grupa natknęła się na trzech przemoczonych uczestników festiwalu, a jeden z nich zapytał nas niepewnym angielskim jak dostać się na stację. Wydawało się że są z Niemiec i podróżują po Europie. Mój niemiecki był raczej na poziomie podstawowym, a stacja była daleko, więc zaproponowałem, że pokażę ją po zakończeniu występu. Krótko mówiąc, pozostaliśmy w kontakcie i zdecydowałem się studiować niemiecki na uniwersytecie.

FRAGMENT 1

Raport archeologiczny: Bruksela, 8 Maja 2095

Cyfrowi archeolodzy odnaleźli najprawdziwszy biały kruk w gigantycznym magazynie informacyjnym Europy. Najnowsze odkrycie zostało znalezione w masie nieskatalogowanych efemerydów. Styl tekstu wskazuje na datę powstania w zamierzczłym wczesnym XXI wieku.

1 fragment pamiętnika:

Po nocy we wczorajszym hotelu (nie było żadnych przyzwoitych opcji, ale tonący brzytwy się chwyta!), byłam przygotowana na najgorsze na tą noc. Jednak okazało się, że mam swój własny pokój, łazienkę i wszystko co mogłam sobie zamarzyć! Będąc dziś w holu zebrałam moje marne umiejętności niemieckiego i zagadałam do pewnej grupy Austriaków, którą poznałam. Nie minęło dużo czasu, a zaczęliśmy wspólnie nawijać bez przerwy.

FRAGMENT 2

Przekład szansy na naszą karierę

Nigdy nie przestanie mnie zadziwiać to, jak pozornie nieznaczące wydarzenia mogą mieć długofalowe skutki na życia ludzi. W moim wypadku ciąg trzech niespodziewanych zdarzeń, pokierował mnie z Anglii do trzech innych państw i rozpoczął moją karierę jako profesjonalny tłumacz.

Wszystko zaczęło się na festiwalu rocka. Gdy powoli zbliżał się finał tamtej nocy, a na nas nieustannie kapąca łagodna mżawka jak zazwyczaj, grupka trzech przemoczonych festiwalowiczów podeszła do nas. Jeden z nich spytał marnym angielskim, gdzie znajduje się stacja. Podczas rozmowy wyszło, że są oni niemieckimi podróżnikami po Europie. Mój niemiecki pozostawia wiele do życzenia, a droga do stacji była dość długa, zatem obiecałam im odprowadzenie pod stację po zakończeniu festiwalu. Nie przedłużając zbędnie tej historii, utrzymaliśmy ze sobą kontakt, a ja zadecydowałam studiować germanistykę.