



Ysern's Parrot

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SIMPSONS' PREDICTIONS

In recent days, The Simpsons have appeared in all the news and newspapers in the world. Do you know why?

Well, with the recent victory of Donald Trump in the U.S Elections, The Simpsons have become famous for their prediction 16 years ago, in the chapter 17 of season 11, issued in the year 2000, when they supposed that Donald Trump will become the United States president. 16 years after this chapter, the 9th of November, Donald Trump is chosen for president.



Does this seem like a coincidence?

Well, this is not the only prediction that they have done. In 1997, this picture appeared in the episode "The city of New York vs Homer Simpson" and you can see 9/11 and The Twin towers destroyed in the bottom of the photo. In the 9th of September of 2001 (9/11), The Twin Towers were attacked. Obviously, these are only coincidences.



(Rubén Gallego Gil - 2ºA Bachillerato)

The independence of California?

California is a state of the United States of America, geographically located in the western part of the country, recognized as the most populous state, with nearly 40 million inhabitants, and the third most extensive by area.

California is well-known around the world due to cities such as San Francisco, Los Angeles and San Diego, and beaches like Malibu or Santa Barbara. However, not everything is leisure there. This state has some of the best universities in the world, where any student would love to be admitted, highlighting some of them such as Stanford University or University of California in Berkeley. Moreover, it is one of the most technologically and economically developed places in the world. So much so, that if it were a country, California would be the 6th largest economy in the world.

Nevertheless, this state is traditionally democrat, and after Trump's victory in the past elections, some protest marches have begun claiming a referendum for the independence of California. This movement has always been present in the country as a flight of fancy. Nowadays, all we know is that the hypothetical referendum would take place in March 13th of 2019, even though the chances of its realization are really small.

(Sergio Álvarez Lara. -- 2º A Bachillerato)



The Great Wall of China

In the 7th and 4th centuries BC, in the Spring and Fall and Warring Kingdom periods, feudal principalities built defensive walls on their respective frontiers in order to protect themselves from attacks by the Huns, one of the tribes Nomads of northern China, as well as neighboring feudal principalities. After the unification of all of China, in the 3rd century BC, Qin Shi Huang, the first emperor of the Qin Dynasty, united the isolated walls of the north, making it the Great Wall of Ten Thousand Li. Subsequently, the wall was repaired and rebuilt by numerous dynasties. Badaling, a section of the wall, which is now frequented by many tourists, was rebuilt during the Ming dynasty based on the original work. The Great Wall, which has a total length of more than 6,700 kilometers, runs from Shanhaiguan in the east to Jiayuguan in the west. It crosses six provinces and autonomous regions and one municipality in Northern China: If a wall were raised one meter thick and five meters high with the bricks, stones and earth of the Great Wall, that wall would give more than one journey around the world. The Great Wall is composed of walls, steps, watchtowers and towers. In the steps, usually erected on important roads and protected by several walls, the imperial army was quartered. The battlements of the wall are almost two meters high, and there are holes for the firing of arrows and other projectiles. On the nearby summits stand watchtowers and signal towers, forming a network of military communication. The Badaling sector is nowadays a center of tourist attraction important for its beauty. After the Liberation, the popular government has repaired and restored several sections of the Great Wall in order to maintain its original aspect of grandeur and grandeur. The Great Wall is today a bridge that links Chinese people with those of other countries and regions of the world.

(Jorge Alberto Pérez Gómez – 2º Bachillerato)



Books to read

Girl With a Pearl Earring by Tracy Chevalier

With precisely 35 canvases to his credit, the Dutch painter Johannes Vermeer represents one of the great enigmas of 17th-century art. The meager facts of his biography have been gleaned from a handful of legal documents. Yet Vermeer's extraordinary paintings of domestic life, with their subtle play of light and texture, have come to define the Dutch golden age. His portrait of the anonymous Girl with a Pearl Earring has exerted a particular fascination for centuries--and it is this magnetic painting that lies at the heart of Tracy Chevalier's second novel of the same title.



Girl with a Pearl Earring centers on Vermeer's prosperous Delft household during the 1660s. When Griet, the novel's quietly perceptive heroine, is hired as a servant, turmoil follows. First, the 16-year-old narrator becomes increasingly intimate with her master. Then Vermeer employs her as his assistant--and ultimately has Griet sit for him as a model.

The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn by Mark Twain

Of all the contenders for the title of The Great American Novel, none has a better claim than *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*. Intended at first as a simple story of a boy's adventures in the Mississippi Valley - a sequel to *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* - the book grew and matured under Twain's hand into a work of immeasurable richness and complexity. More than a century after its publication, the critical debate over the symbolic significance of Huck's and Jim's voyage is still fresh, and it remains a major work that can be enjoyed at many levels: as an incomparable adventure story and as a classic of American humor.



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THE IMPORTANCE OF MUSIC IN HEALTH

For many people, music is synonymous with pleasure and tranquility. For others it is a way to charge energy. Science has discovered the therapeutic power that makes music a true ally of health.

- **Delays brain aging.** Research has shown that listening or playing music at maturity can help delay brain aging and keep it healthy.
- **It enhances sleep quality.** Some of the common problems that interfere with sleep are stress and anxiety. Because music improves both, research has shown that listening to music at certain times promotes quality sleep.
- **Increases exercise performance.** Listening to music is also a great ally of our sporting performance. And it is that exercising while listening to music has been shown to help improve our performance. This is because we divert our attention and the feeling of fatigue, fatigue or boredom is mitigated.
- **It improves the coordination of our body.** Another positive effect that music has on our health is related to its ability to reduce muscle tension and improve coordination and movements of our body.

Consequently, it is demonstrated that music is wonderful for our health.

(Cecilia Guerra Ruíz – 1º A Bachillerato)



Typical British desserts

Victoria sponge:

It is a cake that English people eat at afternoon tea with scones.

- 160g unsalted butter, softened
- 160g self-raising flour,
- 160g caster sugar
- 3 large eggs, lightly beaten
- 1tsp vanilla extract

- 100ml double cream
- 125g strawberry jam
- 1tbsp icing sugar, for dusting



Scones with jam and cream:

We eat a thing called "toad in the hole", scones is a good one. You eat scones at afternoon tea and you eat toad in whole for dinner.

- 120g butter
- 450g self raising flour
- Pinch of salt
- 60g caster sugar
- 15mls baking powder
- 2 medium free-range eggs
- a little milk
- 450g fresh Scottish strawberries
- 1 jar good quality strawberry jam (homemade is ideal!)
- 300mls fresh double cream
- whipped to soft peaks
- a little icing sugar



(Sara and María Ortiz – 1º A Bachillerato)



Chapter 5: Suffering and Laughter from the novel by Valeria Pérez

He was shattered by Sara, the idea of whether he had to fight for her or forget her forever. I spent the whole night crying because I loved her and, as she was my best friend, I would have to endure all the details of her relationship with Jesus. I wanted to think that at least my grandfather had done well ending up with Cecilia. I decided to continue reading to see if I could forget about Sara a little.

September 29th

When I woke up I could not believe that she was for me. I went downstairs feeling very happy to have my breakfast and then I went to see if I could meet up with my friends and the one that showed up was Cecilia:

- Do you want us to stay on the street tonight like we did yesterday?

- Okay, at ten o'clock.

- It seems perfect.

"Do not be late, I do not like being kept waiting."

- I would never be late if I was meeting you.

It was time and we were both there. I had brought a bottle of cider, we drank it all, played "truth or dare", laughed, sang and danced. And without realizing we were getting closer and closer until our mouths were an inch away from each other. I approached her slowly and we merged into a kiss so passionate, special and beautiful, that when we separated, we looked at each other and we kissed again. This time it was a fleeting kiss and my heart was racing faster and faster, I felt butterflies in my stomach and my legs were shaking...

When I finished reading this I realized that I was crying because of how beautiful my grandfather had expressed it and how precious the beginning of the relationship was. As I went on reading, I remembered Sara more and more, and I decided to fight for her at whatever cost.



(Valeria Pérez del Real- 3º A)

WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE COLOUR?

RED: you are a strong and an optimistic person, you tend to have a lot of personality. Sometimes blurt things out during an argument and then you regret it.

ORANGE: you are an easy-going and competitive person. You are usually very creative.

BLUE: you are so calm and peaceful, you normally are confident and friendly, which can mean fidelity and fantasy, therefore the Spanish expression "a blue prince".

GREEN: you are calm and sociable. You need people accept yourself because you love getting rewarded when you do something well.

YELLOW: you are very creative and intelligent, you are critical and don't normally cry, so you are a strong person too.

PINK: you are sensitive, funny and romantic, you hate solitude so you love meeting up with your friends or your family.

BLACK: you are in control and organised, you have a lot of insecurities so you're not that confident.

WHITE: you are sensitive and simple, you usually fend for yourself so you don't need a lot of things to be happy. However, you hate talking about your problems and listening to other people's problems as well.

PURPLE: you are tidy, sensible and resentful. You like helping other people, which can be associated with magic, eternity and power.

(Raquel Manzanero 1ºAB)



A poem by Oscar Colomo

*A crystal tear
Down his cheek falls
No one knows why
That crystal tear is there
Shines brighter
Than all the others
Maybe the reason is
She lost someone who she wants
In a fist, her heart
And in the other an immense pain
On one side, her dear ones
Giving her comfort
On the other, her beloved
Taken away by the Boatman
To the depths of the underworld
Where she will not see him
Until He calls her
To go with him.
Rains incessantly
On her porcelain face
For days and nights
She has lost her desire to live
Already white her face
And nothing can be done
At her door they have called.
It was the Boatman.
To take her with her beloved
Now she can be happy
And in death, she'll be able to live*

*Una lágrima de cristal
por su mejilla cae.
Nadie sabe el por qué
de esa lágrima de cristal.
Brilla con más intensidad
que todas las demás.
Puede que la razón sea
que perdió a alguien que desea.
En un puño, su corazón
y en otro su inmenso dolor.
En un lado, sus seres queridos
dándole consuelo.
En el otro, su ser querido
llevándose el Barquero
al interior del inframundo
donde no lo verá
hasta que no la llame
para irse con él.
Llueve sobre mojado
en su carita de porcelana
durante días y noches.
Ha perdido las ganas de vivir.
De un blanco su carita es
y ya nada se puede hacer.
A su puerta han llamado.
Era el Barquero.
Para llevarla con su amado.
Ahora podrá ser feliz
y, así en muerte, poder vivir*



THE RESPONSIBILITY TO HAVE COMPANION ANIMALS.

Having a pet is a responsibility for a long time. A dog or cat can live between 12-15 years or more. That is the reason why it is necessary to be responsible when we decide to have a pet.

- You never have to abandon it or mistreat it.
- You will have to take responsibility for its needs.
- Take time to take care of it.
- Take it to the vet.
- You will have to educate it.

The abandonment of animals is prohibited in Spain and in many other countries: they are living beings and must be respected. But, there are still many animals that are found on the streets alone and without a home, for reasons such as:

- not enough time to take care of it.
- problems of aggressiveness or bad education.
- holidays periods.
- the puppy becomes too big.
- old animals.

The main cause of abandonment in my opinion is the irresponsibility of the owners. To have a pet you have to be responsible and think that it is one more member of your family.

(Alba Aguilar – 1º A Bachillerato)

