

SHARK TIMES

MAY & JUNE 2026 NEWS FROM YHIS

G11

Jesmin Jung

Spending a year writing articles for newspaper club taught me that deadlines always come faster than inspiration.

Thank you to everyone who worked hard to make such a great newspaper. And next year... please don't accidentally leave out my articles again (it happened twice this year....)

Sarah Lee

First of all, I would like to appreciate all the members for their hard work during this busy year. Through the support from Joy and Mrs. Carson, our Newspaper Club became a good place to broaden our thoughts and enhance our writing skills. I hope to see you again next year!! Also, I am looking forward to see the new writers!!

THIS YEAR'S REFLECTIONS FROM THE *SHARK TIMES* MEMBERS

G10

Daniel An

It has been a pleasure to be part of the newspaper club. As a writer for this club, I appreciate everyone for every lesson and skill I have learned. Well done, and see you next time.

Charles Kim

Being part of the Newspaper Club this year was an amazing experience. Writing articles about events around our school and the world improved my vision overall, and I was happy to be a source of information for everyone.

G12

Joy Tham

Thank you for keeping up with the Shark Times this year. The functioning of this club was made possible by the dedication of our members, who worked on articles alongside their schoolwork, and by the willingness of students and teachers to participate in interviews, which allowed our writing to elevate the thoughts and opinions of our secondary body. It has truly been an honor to have been part of this club during my final two years of high school, and I hope the Shark Times will continue to connect students and teachers while promoting reading, writing, and critical thinking at our school.

SHARK TIMES

MAY & JUNE 2026 NEWS FROM YHIS

G8

Jason Lyu

This year's newspaper club was a wonderful opportunity for me to participate in the development of the school newspaper. Although I was only able to write 2 articles, I look forward to joining the club again next year.

Agnes Kim

Being part of 25/26 newspaper club has been a great experience! I've seen my writing improve a lot throughout the year. Thanks to everyone who made being part of this so memorable and enjoyable!

Taein Kim

I had so much fun in this year's Newspaper Club. I was able to improve my writing skills and became interested in reading newspapers written by others. Throughout the club, I learned how to write better articles, share my ideas, and where to improve. The newspaper club helped me grow as a writer and as a reader. I learned many new things and gained confidence in my writing. I would like to thank everyone for making this club so memorable.

G6

Jiwoo Hong

Being in the 2025–2026 Newspaper Club has been such a memorable experience. It was a great opportunity to be part of this club. Writing different kinds of articles helped me to improve my writing skills and learn many new things. I'm proud of everyone for working hard and writing such creative articles. Thank you to all the members and Mrs. Carson for guiding us and making this club such a wonderful experience.

Chloe Choi

I had a great time at the newspaper club this year. It was wonderful that I joined the newspaper club. Thank you so much for helping me with the articles.

G7

George Park

It had been a great experience in the Newspaper Club to improve my writing skills, although I wrote just a few articles. I loved being a part of this club, and I would love to join next year as well! It was very memorable to be in this club.

Eunwoo Jeong

It has been really enjoyable and has helped me gain a lot of experience. Also, I truly appreciate all readers and writers who make me smile every day from the reactions that you have and the advice behind my articles. Lastly, I'm deeply indebted to Mrs. Carson, President Joy, and all members of our Newspaper Club for guiding me along the way.

Ellie Lee

It has been a great year being part of the newspaper. Thank you to everyone who read and supported us. I hope you enjoy this final issue and have a wonderful break!

Jackie Zhang

I was happy working in Newspaper Club. Even though I did not write an article for every month, I still really enjoyed the process of the work! I really enjoyed working with all of you!

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- Jin Kim (G8)

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- Ellie Lee (G7)

- George Park (G7)

- Jackie Zhang (G7)

- Eunwoo Jeong (G7)

- Chloe Choi (G6)

- Jiwoo Hong (G6)

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Spring Concert

Written by Chloe Choi

On May 15th, the YHIS secondary students had their Spring Concert. It opened with the after-school activity band, then the middle school band, the high school band, the middle school choir, the YIA middle school choir, the high school choir, and YIA high school choir. There was a total of 16 songs played during the concert.

The first performance was “C Minor Rock” from the 6th grade band class. The 6th graders had a hard time learning the instruments because it was many of their first time playing those instruments. “C Minor Rock” was a funny song with many different instruments. Then the MS A-Day band performed “Acropolis” and “F-1,” followed by the MS B-Day band who performed “Epic” and “Happy.” All the songs they performed were amazing.

The high school P5 band performed next. They performed “Terracotta Warriors” and “Deus Ex Machina.” It was amazing that the instruments can make so many different sounds.

Next, the high school P8 band performed “Spring Festival” and “R-E-S-P-E-C-T.” Even though the high school bands had less students than middle school bands, they still made an awesome sound. The choir classes had their performances after that. The YHIS Middle school choir performed “Here Comes the Sun” and “A Million Dreams.” It was awesome to hear their voices and two solos were wonderful. Then the YIA middle school choir sang a song called: “Don’t Worry Be Happy.” It was a great performance even though they sang only one song. The last performances of the concert were by the high school choir students. They performed “Los Momentos” by Eduardo Gatti, “Swing Song,” and “Festival Sanctus.” The songs and their voices were amazing.

I want to thank Ms. Forstrom and Ms. Figueroa for teaching us and leading us to this wonderful concert. Each student tried their best on the stage performing. Overall, I think everyone did a wonderful job at the spring concert.

MS Basketball Tournament

Written by Eunwoo Jeong

FAST/FASTER

From April 23rd to 25th, the Yantai Huasheng International School middle school basketball teams traveled to Tianjin by train to participate in the exciting LifePlus Basketball Tournament.



Students from different international schools gathered to compete, improve their basketball skills, and represent their schools with pride. For many players, the tournament was not only about winning games, but also about teamwork, perseverance, and creating unforgettable memories together.

This year's tournament included five boys' teams and six girls' teams from different schools across China. Throughout the three-day event, players competed in intense games while also supporting one another from the sidelines. Although the competition was challenging, both the YHIS boys' and girls' teams showed determination, sportsmanship, and strong team spirit during every game.



Girls' Team Shows Determination

The YHIS girls' basketball team faced difficult opponents from the beginning of the tournament. Despite several tough losses early, the team continued to work hard and never gave up. Their persistence paid off when they earned an impressive 19–6 victory against TISB. Later, the girls secured another exciting win against WYISB with a close final score of 7–6.

The girls' team advanced to the championship rounds and eventually finished in 4th place overall after competing against TISW in the third-place game. Although they narrowly missed a podium finish, the players demonstrated resilience and improvement throughout the tournament.

Many players made important contributions during the games. Doi Lim received the MVP award for her strong leadership and performance on the court. Selina Jin and Betina Supeleto were recognized as the Most Diligent players for their consistent effort during practices and games. Ellie Lee also earned the Most Improved award for showing noticeable growth throughout the season.

Final Girls' Rankings:

1. ISQ
2. WYIS A
3. TIS W
4. YHIS
5. WYIS B
6. TIS B

MS Basketball Tournament

Written by Eunwoo Jeong



Boys' Team Earns Third Place

The YHIS boys' team had an impressive tournament run. During the round-robin stage, the team earned important victories against TISW and TISB, allowing them to advance into the championship bracket.

On the final day of competition, the boys played one of the most exciting games of the tournament against TISB for third place. The game remained extremely close from beginning to end, keeping both players and spectators nervous until the final seconds. In the end, YHIS secured a dramatic 27–26 victory and earned third place overall.

George Park was named MVP for his outstanding performance and leadership during the tournament. Jude Korving received the Most Improved award after showing major progress throughout the season. The boys' Most Diligent award was also presented to recognize consistent hard work and dedication during practices and games.

Final Boys' Rankings:

1. WYIS
2. ISQ
3. YHIS
4. TIS B
5. TIS W



More Than Just Basketball

Beyond the games themselves, the tournament gave students the chance to bond with teammates and create lasting memories together. Traveling by train, spending time at the hotel, and supporting each other during difficult matches helped strengthen friendships within both teams.

One memorable part of the tournament was the atmosphere created by different schools during games. Schools like WYIS had loud and energetic cheers that could be heard throughout the gym. Although the YHIS students tried their best to support their teams, many players felt that the school spirit and cheering could have been louder. Still, teammates continued encouraging one another from the bench and showed positive attitudes throughout the event.

In addition to their strong performance on the court, YHIS received the boys' sportsmanship award. This award recognized the team's respect toward opponents, their positive attitudes, and fair play during the tournament. It reflected not only the players' basketball abilities but also their character and teamwork.

Overall, the LifePlus Basketball Tournament was a valuable experience for everyone involved. Both teams faced challenges, celebrated victories, and learned important lessons that will help them continue improving in the future. The tournament was not only about competition, but also about growth, friendship, and representing YHIS with pride.

G8 Spring Trip

Written by Jason Lyu



From 5/27 to 5/29 the YHIS 8th graders travelled to Beijing for their spring trip. The event was full of many unexpected surprises, such as trying dòuzhī (豆汁), a foul-smelling traditional Chinese drink that all the students disliked. It was a time to make memories with friends and experience the unique culture of Beijing. Overall, many students liked the event and made good memories.

On the first day, students arrived at school at 5:20 A.M. and undertook a grueling 5-hour long train journey. After the train ride, the students were greeted by their tour guides: Peter and Dora. They then went to a restaurant to eat lunch. Many students commented that the food was delicious. After lunch, the students visited an acrobatics school, where they were able to see many talented people practicing their tricks, and were able to try a few tricks themselves. Some students tried walking on wires, juggling balls, spinning dishes, and other activities. Jin Kim, an 8th grader, said that it was interesting to see people practicing, and that it was nice to have new experiences, and to try the tricks on his own. Pedro Coutinho, another 8th grader, said that the activity was fun, and that it showed him that with practice, you can reach perfection. For dinner, students travelled to a hot pot restaurant. Multiple students commented that the hot pot was not spicy enough, and there weren't enough selections of sauces. Overall, the first day was a day with its own ups and downs. The acrobatic school visit was very popular, while the hot pot had mostly negative reviews.

On the second day, the students woke up at around 7:00 to eat breakfast at the hotel. Afterwards, they travelled to the Great Wall. On the bus, the guide explained about the history and usage of the wall. Due to time constraints, after arriving at the Great Wall, students were given 25 minutes to climb as far as they could go and come down afterwards. A few students travelled with Mrs. Vars and managed to complete most of the hiking course. Other students went as far as they could manage and regrouped afterwards. Rafael, a Brazilian student, said that the hike was tiring, but the view was worth the effort. Students were also able to watch the performance of a Beijing opera. It featured the traditional story "The Monkey King." This story is about the monkey king who wreaks havoc in the heavens and fights with the gods. Chiu Lee said the performance was very interesting, but the scene where the monkey king was fighting took too long.



On the last day of the trip, the students visited the Forbidden City, where they learned about the history behind the palace and about traditional Chinese monuments. Many students thought that the sweltering heat made the tour too tiring. After visiting the Forbidden City, the students ate their final meal in Beijing. It was at a Beijing duck restaurant, and many students enjoyed the meal. However, some people thought that there was not enough duck. Right after lunch, the students went to the Beijing train station to go back to Yantai.

G8 Spring Trip

Written by Jason Lyu



Many students enjoyed the trip, and some enjoyed it more as it was their last spring trip. Overall, the meals at Beijing were rated high, and many students got to experience Chinese culture through visiting monuments and watching cultural performances. Some students said their favorite part of the trip was the acrobatic school visit, and others said that it was the food. Some students had a negative opinion of the hot pot restaurant, and the long hikes and tours took a toll on all students. However, it was still a great and memorable trip for all students.



G10 Spring Trip

Written by Charles Kim

From May 26th to 29th, Grade 10 students went on their annual Spring Trip to a place with wonderful weather, remarkable architecture, and great places to visit: Harbin! The trip was packed with constant moving, with new buildings, new food, and new environments opening with every step.

On Day 1, Tuesday, not much happened. It was just a plane ride to Harbin, then Korean food for dinner, and then going to the hotel for bed. Many Korean students marked that they enjoyed the dinner despite how spicy some of the dishes were. Later, G10 MingYeol Kwon and Daniel An mentioned that heading to Harbin early in the morning and having activities in the afternoon might have been better, while, on the other hand, the 10th grade girls thought that being able to sleep later was better.

Day 2 was the first day when students actually did activities. The first activity was the Urban Exploration, where students were divided into a few groups and needed to navigate their way to a total of 6 different locations, including Harbin Institute of Technology (HIT), the Central Street (Zhongyang Dajie), and the stunning St. Sophia Cathedral. Without guidance, students had to explore and search for ways to walk, bus, or metro, to get to the checkpoints and take a picture.



The students went to different shops and restaurants freely. Overall, many students enjoyed the freedom when doing this activity, allowing them to have fun together and buy souvenirs and snacks. On the other hand, G10 Gabriel Miller argued that it involved exhaustive walking, and there weren't enough engaging things.



After the exploration, all students rode a boat across the Black Dragon River to Sun Island. It started to rain, so things didn't go as planned, but everyone played team games instead. The games involved 'punishments' when you fail the mission, and one of the Insight Adventure tourists mentioned that G10 Matthew Shin's dancing and singing performances made the team activity much brighter. That night, students had dinner at a Russian Restaurant that sold great Western dishes like steaks, pastas, and pizzas. Then, students had free time at the hotel until most students went back out in the evening to see the beautiful night view. Overall, Day 2 involved a massive amount of walking, which was painful and exhausting to multiple students, but the number of amazing places we visited and the closer bonds we made with our friends definitely made it worth the walk.

Day 3 started with visiting the Volga Manor Park. It was a very large park with stunning Russian-style buildings and chapels, and the perfect weather helped make great synergy. One small chapel was remarkable to G10 Gabriel and RJ, and a bunch of big and beautiful structures and buildings kept everybody's cameras on. There were also animals taken care of in the park, being another fun point. After the long walk, students rode a bus to have lunch at the Daoli Market, a place full of street food. It was definitely one of the toughest places to get 'good' food for some Koreans and foreigners there, but G10 Jacob found his "life's drink," Kvass, which is a sweet, fermented drink that looks like beer, but is non-alcoholic. After lunch, students visited the Harbin Music Museum, a museum dedicated to preserving music history and honoring Harbin's love for music. There were a lot of instruments and pictures to see, and the creator of the museum was very kind and fun.

G10 Spring Trip

Written by Charles Kim



Dinner was at a Thai Food place. Delicious and interesting dishes filled the table, and G10 Max said that this dinner was the best food throughout the trip, eating until his stomach was nearly going to explode. After dinner, students were brought to a huge Night Market. Since there were so many people getting food, drinks, and gifts, it made the busy street a beautiful place full of spirit.

Couples and friends definitely spent a great time just walking around, as G10 SuA mentioned that “Walking around the night market was very fun,” and that she “kept finding new things to look at and ended up buying way more stuff than planned.” Furthermore, some students prepared flowers for our tour guides, Ms. Forstrom, Mr. Rauhala, and Ms. Kim, for being wonderful leaders for us. Then, everyone headed back to the hotel, spent some free time, and went to bed.

The final day had a very fun place involved: the Tiger Conservation Park, where Siberian Tigers and other animals were open to feeding and filming. It was definitely a very memorable experience, since students were able to feed meat to tigers on a safari bus, and the biggest thing that happened: G10 Max and Judy paid for LIVING CHICKENS to feed the tigers. It was very exciting but also quite tragic to watch, but many students said it was a ‘legendary experience.’ After taking several videos and pictures of these amazing beasts, students then headed to lunch. It was a place that used walnuts to light the fire for grilling meat, which made the meat taste amazing, and a lot of students enjoyed the time eating and talking with friends.



In the late afternoon, Grade 10 hopped onto their plane back to Yantai and got home late at about 10 P.M. Everyone was exhausted and had their long-awaited rest in their cozy homes. Overall, the Spring Trip to Harbin involved a lot of independent and free activities, which divided the students into two sides.

One side thought that the freedom made the trip fun and gave lots of time to bond with friends, while the other thought that there should’ve been more structured activities, and too much walking was involved. On the bright side, all the students were happy with the cool yet sunny weather and felt that the trip made for the best memories with friends.

G11 Spring Trip

Written by Jesmin Jung

From May 26 to May 29, the Grade 11 students traveled to Guangzhou, China, for their annual Spring Trip. Despite unexpected challenges, hot weather, and a few travel mishaps, the trip was filled with memorable experiences, delicious food, and plenty of laughter.



Day 1

The trip began with an unexpected problem. Early in the morning, the North Gate of the school was locked, preventing the students and teachers already on campus from leaving. Fortunately, everyone was eventually able to exit through the Aihua North Gate and continue to the airport.

The weather did not make things easier. It was raining, and the bus arrived late. However, the biggest surprise came at the airport when one student realized he had forgotten his passport. Although he missed the original flight, he was able to take a later flight and safely arrive in Guangzhou.

Airport security also caused some trouble for a few students. One student's power bank was confiscated because it lacked the required certification mark, while another battery issue resulted in additional security screening.

After finally arriving in Guangzhou, the students enjoyed a delicious Thai lunch before heading to Beijing Road, a very large pedestrian street. Unfortunately, the weather was unbelievably hot. Many students quickly escaped into nearby cafés to cool down. Coincidentally, a large group ended up gathering in the same café, which turned out to be one of Guangzhou's famous cafés: lù suì (陆穗).

Dinner featured a variety of grilled meats that were enjoyed by everyone. The day ended with the Pearl River Night Cruise. Although the weather remained warm, the beautiful city lights and riverside views created a memorable evening.



Day 2

The second day began with a visit to Yongqing Fang, a historic cultural district. However, because the group arrived at 8:30 a.m., most shops were still closed and would not open until 10:00 a.m. Several students did manage to buy gifts from a specialty store that sold hand creams inspired by different dates and themes.

Next came an outdoor opera performance. While some students watched attentively, many others could be found searching for shade or standing near air conditioners to escape the intense heat.



Lunch consisted of traditional Cantonese cuisine. One of the most memorable dishes was pigeon, which many students tried for the first time.

In the afternoon, students attended a Lion Dance Workshop where they watched a performance and learned some of the dance movements themselves. The practice session produced plenty of laughter as students attempted to copy the performers.

G11 Spring Trip

Written by Jesmin Jung



Later, everyone participated in a handbag-making workshop. Many students discovered that creating a handbag was much more difficult than expected, but the finished products reflected each student's creativity and personality.

Dinner featured Western-style dishes including pizza, steak, pasta, and waffles. To end the day, the group visited Guangzhou Tower, one of the city's most famous landmarks. Students traveled by elevator to the 108th floor, reaching a height of 433.2 meters. Cheers erupted as the elevator climbed upward, and many students spent time taking photos of the spectacular nighttime views.

Day 3

The third day was dedicated to fun and excitement at an amusement park. Students were surprised to see hundreds of Chinese students wearing identical school uniforms, creating a striking sight throughout the park.



There was a brief issue at the entrance because the group had purchased tickets intended for visitors under 18, while some students had already turned 18. Fortunately, the situation was resolved, and everyone was able to enter.

One of the most popular attractions was a roller coaster called Rocket. Several students enjoyed it so much that they rode it more than four times. Although rain had been forecast, the weather stayed dry throughout the day. Unfortunately, the heat remained intense, making cold drinks and air-conditioned areas especially popular. In the evening, students returned to the hotel for dinner and enjoyed some free time to relax, socialize, and reflect on the trip's adventures.



Comments from the Class

Rafael: During our Spring Trip, I really enjoyed the company of my classmates. We spent good times together, exploring several different restaurants – each day was a new food I had never tried. We also participated in various activities, but the highlight was the fun at the amusement park.

Sam: The trip to Guangzhou was hot, but it was really fun. However, the hotel room was too small. The food was also delicious. Overall, I had a great time and really enjoyed the trip.



Purpose

Written by Daniel An

Purpose, goal, reason, and dream—these words all share a same definition: why you do something or why something exists. Some individuals start from scratch with a clear, ambitious goal and many of them succeed and become well-known figures in the society.

A perfect example of this is Elon Musk. He literally started from scratch with the ultimate goal of improving human civilization. This dream led him to have multiple failures, but ultimately, the steps he took toward his goal built him to become the CEO and major owner of massive companies like Tesla and SpaceX.

Most of modern society believes in and pressures its children and students to focus solely on academic improvement, not even giving a chance to discover their true dreams. Academics is just one of several routes a human being can take, but dreams and goals are what truly drive a person to live and drive these paths.

The right way for humans to thrive is to first find their dreams, and then discover their own routes to reach them, rather than having other people's dreams and paths forced upon them. A person with a dream can do anything.

Ultimately, a society should be measured not by the academic scores of its students, but by how well it leads them to pursue their passions. When we value purpose over these, the next generation would thrive their whole life.

Here are some practical ways to discover any “purpose” in your life:

1. Explore new hobbies: Step out of your “own” zone and try activities you’ve never considered; you might find purpose in the unfamiliar.
2. Read biographies: Try out books about people who have achieved great things; learning about their life goals, failures, and steps they took might inspire you.
3. Practice connection: Seek more connection with others; often, you might find purpose through compassion and connection within others.



Movie Recommendation

Written by Libby Moon



Released on April 29, 2026

Cast

Anne Hathaway: Andrea (Andy) Sachs

Merly Streep: Miranda Priestly

Emily Blunt: Emily Charlton

Stanley Tucci: Nigel

Summary

At the beginning of the movie, a worn-out, but successful, Andrea Sachs gets fired out of nowhere from her journalism job. At the same time a PR mess hits the high fashion magazine: *Runway*. In order to keep the magazine afloat and to protect the company's reputation, Andrea is re-hired under Miranda Priestly. Together, the two of them have to deal with how messed up the struggling magazine world is, plus a bunch of corporate takeovers happening all at once.

Two Main Plot Points

1. The Layoff and Return: Right before Andy is about to get her journalism award, she receives the message that she's been fired. At the same time, *Runway* is dealing with a scandal—people are upset because the magazine advertised a brand that supposedly uses sweatshop labor, meaning work done in pretty bad conditions. The owners pull Andy back in as a featured editor to help “fix” the brand's ability, but this choice is made without Miranda's first yes, so Miranda is not exactly thrilled at the timing.
2. The Corporate Takeover: Emily—who is now extremely successful and basically a famous Dior executive—tries to buy a vulnerable Runway using her billionaire boyfriend. To stop the takeover and keep their company's legacy intact, Miranda and Andy kind of form this odd partnership, and at the end they try to outmaneuver the competition, plus lock in a new buyer so Runway doesn't get swallowed up.

Overall Thoughts

The Devil Wears Prada 2 is kind of a meaningful movie to watch because it shows and celebrates female ambition, it also explores how women support each other in corporate spaces and it gives this poignant commentary about how print media is evolving in the digital age.



Movie Recommendation

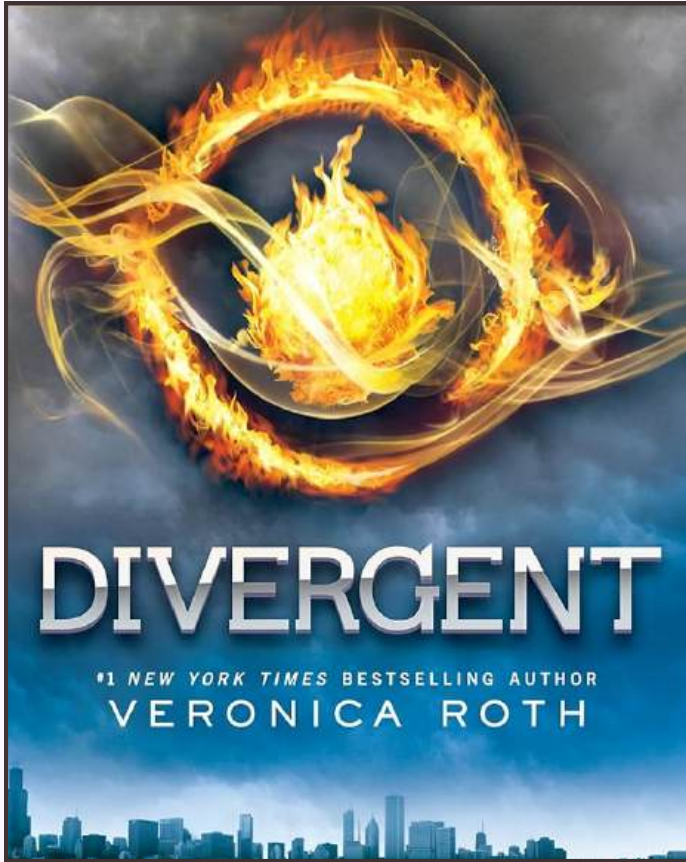
Written by Libby Moon

The central message of *The Devil Wears Prada 2* is basically the heavy toll that comes with unchecked ambition, plus the importance of keeping your personal values intact, and also figuring out the often-toxic compromises you have to handle if you want to succeed in a demanding career.



Book Recommendation

Written by Agnes Kim



Have you ever wondered what our society would look like if we eliminated the core flaws within human nature - duplicity, cowardice, ignorance, selfishness and aggression? Written by #1 New York Times bestselling author Veronica Roth, the book *Divergent* explores a dystopian world that attempts to create a peaceful society without wars and with people who seek to eradicate qualities that lead to evil. In the Divergent world, the society is divided into five factions, each one committed to the virtue they value the most: Abnegation the selfless; Amity the peaceful; Candor the honest; Erudite the intelligent; Dauntless the brave; and the Factionless, those who failed to complete the initiation of their chosen faction or decided to leave because of their disagreement with the views of the faction they chose. At the Choosing Ceremony at the age of sixteen, everyone is forced to make one choice, a choice that will bind them to a faction for the rest of their lives, or send them among the Factionless. It is a choice that will decide their friends, define their beliefs, and determine their loyalties.

The book is told from the perspective of a sixteen year old girl, Beatrice Prior, who lives in the Abnegation faction and who is soon going to face the Choosing Ceremony.

Living among the selfless Abnegation, she hides herself among the crowd, dissolves in other's needs, and neglects from observing her reflection in the mirror and wears plain gray. However, there is a silent yearning in her, to be freer, like the Dauntless she watches every morning as they jump onto a platform from their moving train. As the aptitude test approaches, a simulation that allows examiners to determine the examinee's best-suited faction, Beatrice is full of anxiety. What if her loyalty lies somewhere else other than Abnegation? What if her results tell her she belongs in elsewhere? What if she chooses to leave her blood faction-would her family approve?

After the perplexing aptitude test, Beatrice receives her result as 'inconclusive.' She turns out to be 'Divergent,' belonging to no specific faction and having an abnormal ability to control simulations. Her results give her the opportunity to choose different paths in life, one where she is not suffocated by the weight of selfless acts. Back at home, a day before the Choosing Ceremony, her brother, Caleb Prior, gives her some mysterious advice: "We should think of our family. But we must also think of ourselves."



At the grand Choosing Ceremony, the moment when her whole life would be defined, Beatrice is almost certain she will stay as a dutiful daughter at Abnegation. Finally, her name is called, and her decision is made by a drop of blood, but she gets new inspiration and makes a shocking choice. From this choice, she gets a new name, Tris. Throughout the book Beatrice leads us through the challenging obstacles of initiation, secretive life of keeping the label 'Divergent' to herself, previously unknown domain of romance, and shocking plot twists throughout the rest of the book.

Book Recommendation

Written by Agnes Kim



One of the most notable aspects that made this novel truly spectacular was how the author conveyed meaningful messages throughout a series of dramatic events, exploring themes that led readers to truly reconsider some aspects of their life. For instance, Tris struggles to find out where she belongs and her true personality, whether she is a selfless person or a brave one. This can be interpreted by the theme of belonging and identity, which teenagers struggle to find. In addition, using various shocking scenes and breathtaking moments, the author successfully incorporated elements of suspense and surprise, which, from a personal standpoint, was an important factor that kept readers hooked on the book.



Overall, I would rate this book 4 out of 5. *Divergent* is a meaningful novel with deep and memorable messages, with a series of thrilling events told in excellent storytelling, and mesmerizing words that captivate readers to the story. I stayed up late reading this book. Every page was filled with curiosity and I felt a thrilling anxiety, waiting for the story to unfold. However this book contains several violent scenes and romance, so you should read it only if you are of an appropriate age.



World Environment Day

Written by Sarah Lee



Every year on June 5th, people around the world come together to celebrate World Environment Day. As environmental challenges continue to grow, this day reminds us that protecting the Earth is our responsibility that requires both individual and collective effort.

World Environment Day was established by the United Nations General Assembly on December 15, 1972, in the Stockholm Conference on the Human Environment. That conference was the first major international conference focused on environmental issues. The first celebration took place in 1973. Currently, more than 150 countries participate annually in raising awareness about environmental challenges through significant environmental events.

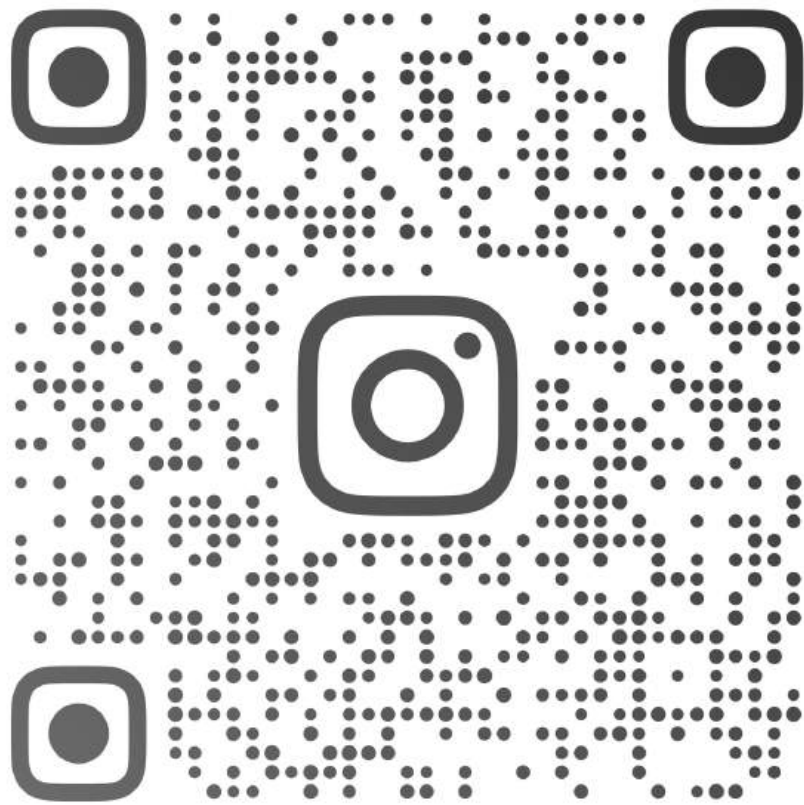
The 2026 World Environment Day is being hosted by Azerbaijan in its capital city, Baku. This year's campaign focuses on climate action under the global hashtag #NowForClimate. In Azerbaijan, the theme is "Inspired by Nature. For Climate. For Our Future." The message behind this theme is clear. Nature is not only suffering from climate change but also can help us fight it. Healthy forests, wetlands, oceans, and ecosystems play a crucial role in absorbing carbon dioxide and protecting communities from environmental disasters.

The need for action has never been greater. Today, approximately 3.2 billion people are affected by land degradation, and nearly 40% of the land has already been damaged. At the same time, almost one million plant and animal species are at risk of extinction due to habitat loss, pollution, and climate change. Plastic pollution is another major concern. Around 11 million tons of plastic waste enter aquatic ecosystems every year.

They are directly harming marine life and polluting waterways. In fact, more than 800 marine and coastal species are affected by plastic pollution through ingestion and entanglement. Pollution overall causes an estimated nine million premature deaths annually. Our current situation is demonstrating how environmental problems directly affect human health.

In recent years, World Environment Day has highlighted several urgent environmental issues. The 2025 theme, which was "Ending Plastic Pollution," focused on developing an international treaty to reduce plastic waste. In 2024, the campaign promoted land restoration and drought resilience through the slogan "Our Land. Our Future. We are #GenerationRestoration." These themes show how environmental challenges are interconnected and require long-term global cooperation.

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