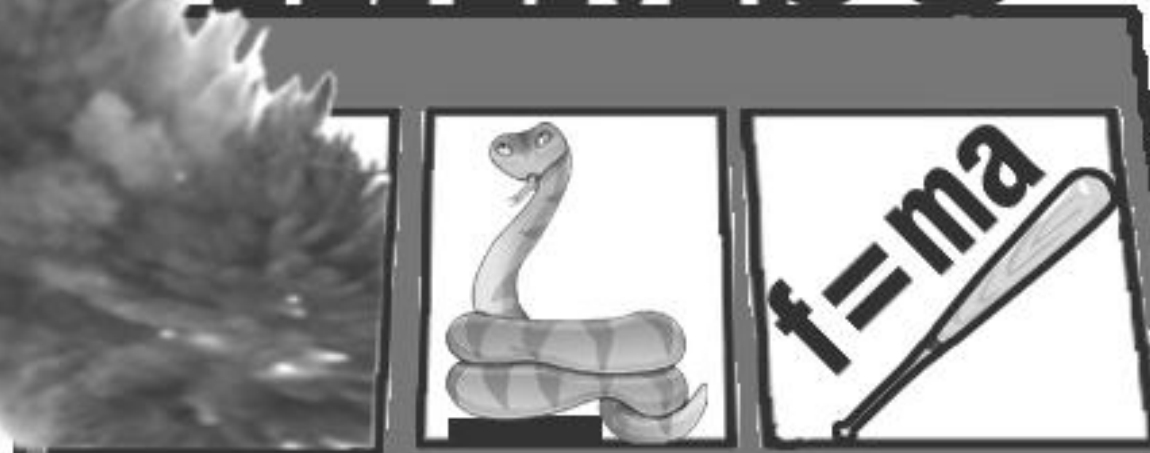


84 STEPS

KAMISC



84 STEPS

There is no elevator to success.

You have to take the 84 steps.

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LETTER FROM THE EDITORS

Gina Calco

Alisha Kamboj

Dear KAMSC,

Wow. It's only the second week of school and already KAMSC has us bogged down with homework, quizzes, and extraneous assignments (plant press, anyone?)

It's been quite the busy first couple weeks and will only become more intense in the following days, but we are hoping to provide you with a little fun (and perhaps comic relief) with 84 Steps. This issue will provide you with how to get through your KAMSC year, news happening in the KAMSC network, tips on going green, and much, much more!

As Seniors get their applications perfected for their favorite colleges, and Juniors try to get passed their first physics test, you will be glad for any distraction from your work. Sophomore, remember, you are envied as having one of the "easiest" KAMSC years, Freshman, one of the most difficult transitions.

As you go through your year, remember to focus on what is most important to you, even if that means writing a witty novella, once in a while. Because KAMSC is meant to both nurture you and give you challenges that makes us the KAMSC nerds we are.

Hope this is the start to a great year!

Sincerely,
Your Editors ☺

84 Steps is here for the students, especially those creative types, but

KAMSC SPEAKS!

Top 11 Nerdy Ways to Spend the Summer

Kes Nagler

11. Band Camp, baby!
10. Buying my school supplies... in July.
9. Reading Chekhov for fun.
8. Getting started on my AP summer assignment right away.
7. Going to the water park and calculating children's average velocity as they go down the water slides.
6. Creating a calculator program to tell how many days until Pi Day if you input the date.
5. Going to the beach to estimate how many grains of sand are in one cubic foot of space.
4. Spending my Saturday nights updating my Blog.
3. Finding the force of the ball upon impact with the glove when Grandy catches a fly ball.
2. Waiting for Star Trek to come out on Blu Ray and DVD so I can watch it any time I want to!
1. Volunteering at KAMSC's Freshman Orientation at the Nature Center.

How to Survive Freshman Year

Grady Sertic

All right, you made it! Now here comes the tricky part. The first year of KAMSC is likely to be a shock to your system; it's going to be pretty tough. That's not to say it's impossible, however. If you give every class your best effort, you'll find KAMSC to be manageable and hopefully even enjoyable.

For many students, the hardest class in freshman year is biology. The tests and quizzes can be very difficult and you may miss quite a few questions even if you study very hard. Even so, studying a lot for biology is the only way to excel at the class. For computers, you'll rarely need to study as long as you pay attention during the class. For math, studying is important but you'll sometimes be able to puzzle out answers to questions even if you forget the math needed to arrive there. For biology, however, studying is mandatory. Learning on your own and being able to connect concepts will help you to arrive at answers to test questions. Plus, if you know you're prepared for tests and quizzes before you take them, you won't psych yourself out and miss questions you know.

Different students will have different math classes at KAMSC, but thankfully the classes aren't as big of a change as biology is for more students. Sure, there's more math homework and the class goes at a faster pace than you may be used to, but overall it's very manageable. If you're in math II or math III, you're in a fairly good position because algebra II and pre-calculus don't require much rote memorization. Math I is geometry, which means that you'll have to memorize axioms and theorems. That could prove difficult on top of the studying that biology requires, but with effective time management skills you should be fine.

Computer class is likely to be your easiest class in freshman year by far. The assignments that you have to do for the class are not hard at all if you're efficient and you pay attention to the deadlines. Later in the year, you'll work on calculator programs which can be difficult, but you can always ask your classmates for help. Because most students can get done with the work fairly quickly, they wind up with a lot of free time.

Being in KAMSC is a challenge, and even if you give it your best shot, don't expect to get a 100% or even an A. If you do poorly on an assignment or quiz, it's not the end of the world; just suck it up and move on. You're bound to make some great friends at KAMSC, and when you do the whole experience will be much nicer. Just do your best, let the little things slide, and you'll be just fine.



How to Survive Sophomore Year

Fatima Mirza

Congratulations! You outgrew the bottom of the food chain. You made it through an interesting, unfortunately smelly, two weeks of fetal pigs. You lasted a whole year creating your first episode. And you are now officially called a sophomore, from the Greek words sophos and moros: a wise fool. Abide by the following tips and you will transform from a mere sophomore to only a sophos.

First stop, chemistry. This year, expect plenty of homework problems and lectures. Never procrastinate- a tough concept to grasp, I know. Complete all assigned problems fully and write notes during lectures. When it comes time for tests, you will be surprised how helpful a few extra minutes a night is. Try to construct a personalized glossary of unfamiliar terms each semester. By doing so, the first third of every chemistry test will be a breeze. As for labs, always prepare your lab notebook before hand, including outlines of graphs

and chart. By doing so, you won't waste precious class time trying to understand the lab or making charts and you can actually finish that titration before math starts!

Para otra clase, va a estudiar otra idioma. No! I'm not talking about Spanish. In Computer Science, you get the opportunity to learn a programming language: C++. Just like any language, practice is the only road to improvement. Take advantage of the USACO competitions to practice your newly found skills. Video quizzes are another important component of the class. If you are a fast typer, I highly recommend typing up notes as you watch the movie- that Jeff Bezos talks pretty fast! And if all else fails, there's always lots of yummy candy to sell. ☺

As your sophomore year continues, decide who you want to be. A sophos, a moros, or a little bit of both.



How to Survive Junior Year

Alisha Kamboj

The picture below may appear to be a cause of concern for many of you juniors...but don't worry...your KAMSC journey thus far has done a good job of preparing you for what lies ahead. So far, you have survived Ms. Hach's stressful lab practicals, Dr. T's crazy ties and structured labs, Mr. Houtrouw's confusing c++ programs, and Dr. Goudie's enormous research tests. The first nine weeks of junior year will probably be the most difficult nine weeks of your high school career. However, by establishing a strong work



ethic and taking advantage of the unique opportunities this year has to offer, you will be a step ahead in the game.

By now, most of you have probably heard some stories about Mr. Sinclair or have gotten a chance to see the "nurture stick" that sits in his classroom. To clarify...there is no denying the fact that physics is a college preparatory class and there is absolutely no way of bypassing the hard work. Physics may seem like a very abstract concept and truly understanding it requires several steps:

1. *Take thorough notes during lectures.* Although Mr. Sinclair writes down the basic concepts on the whiteboard, he mentions many other important things during the lectures that may show up on your quizzes.
2. *Do the practice problem worksheets and lab reports.* After every major subject matter, you will receive worksheets with practice problems. Do them! Understanding these problems is important because you will find similar ones on your tests. Also, if you follow the format and do your lab reports well, you will find that they are great grade boosters.
3. *ASK QUESTIONS.* If you don't understand something, don't be afraid raise your hand or stay afterschool to clarify! Mr. Sinclair is not as intimidating as he seems!Ok, maybe a little.
4. *Finally...study study study!* Now is a good time to learn that procrastination will get you nowhere. You will always have at least one week's notice before the next big test so take advantage of this time to pace yourself and study hard. Getting through a six page test in one hour is not the easiest feat to accomplish if you have no idea what's going on.
5. *(Knowing Ohio State University's fight song doesn't hurt either.)*

Asking questions, participating actively, and working hard and principles that apply for your other classes as well. Time management is important for completing Dr. Goudie's tests and Ms. Hach's organic biology labs. You should take

advantage of study groups and open labs for not only socializing, but also finishing labs or getting a chance to study your previous tests if your teacher will provide them.

This time of the year is also important for many other reasons. As you will soon learn from Mr. Streeter, the college paper you complete this year will be crucial in determining your future path. Take the time to finalize your college list, explore a possible career path, and visit some of the colleges on your list. Also, taking the ACT and SAT in the near future will give you the opportunity to get an estimate of your score and determine whether you need to study and retake them as opposed to finding that information out during the summer of your senior year. Your scores can provide you with an idea of which colleges might be a better fit and if those “exotics” are even plausible.

How to Survive Senior Year

Alaa Itani

Now that you have overcome the most difficult year of high school, it's time for you to face something much more time-consuming and elaborate: college applications. More finicky than a titration, senior year academics is defined by the college application process: the actual applications themselves, campus visits, interviews, standardized testing, scholarships, waitlists, and decision time by May 1. For those of you who are exemplary KAMSC students, you've already submitted most of your applications except for one where you need to review that one essay for the fifth time. For the other 99.9% of you, get ready for some fun times.

As most of you have already heard, essays, teacher recommendations, and your academic history are the most important aspects of your application. Yet there are still those of you who

Furthermore, now is a good time to start padding your resume with volunteer hours (you will need these for NHS too!) and participation in extra-curricular programs. KAMSC has many great teams to offer – Research Team, JETS, Robotics, Programming, etc – so embrace your inner nerd and find your best fit. These teams compete regionally, nationally, and internationally and they will develop many important skills you can use later on in life.

Last, but definitely not least, remember to HAVE FUN! Completing your homework and doing well on tests isn't easy, but when the stress starts to build up, take a deep breath and congratulate your hard work and effort so far! You've only got two more years to go... make them memorable.



when (God forbid!) receive a 750 on your SAT II Chemistry, insist on retaking the test five more times until you receive the coveted 790 or 800. Try to remember that your test scores aren't going to harm your chances unless they're truly abysmal (but, honestly, you still probably won't listen to me). If you want to improve your SAT I score, consider taking the ACT instead which is actually supposed to be easier. In fact, if you're applying to Yale, you don't have to submit SAT II scores if you submit your ACT score. Most importantly, focus on your essays since they are the only window for a college admissions officer to see what you're really like, and don't be afraid to consult better writers than you for help. Furthermore, ask early for college recommendations—if you want a recommendation from Mr. Sinclair but haven't asked him yet, drop this

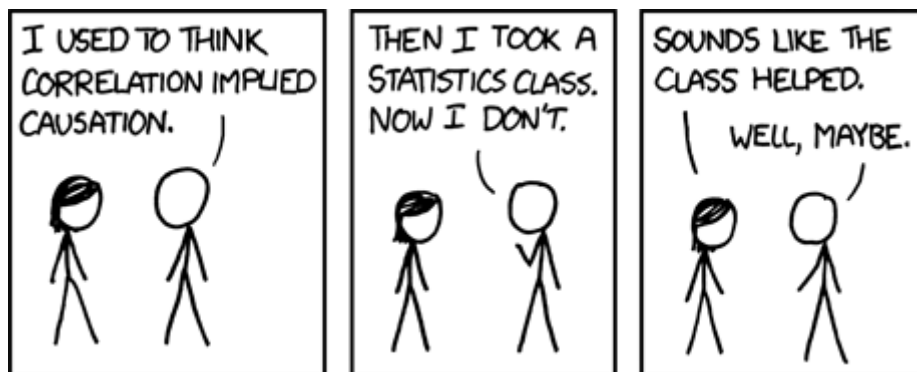
magazine right now and run! Mr. Sinclair writes a billion recommendations a year (that's not an exaggeration), so he will most likely appreciate an early request.

Also, it's necessary to reiterate that *you may not trick-or-treat before applications are complete!* As Mr. Streeter emphasizes, the ultimate deadline for your college applications should definitely be October 31st if not before. If you are applying to more prestigious schools, seriously consider turning in your applications even earlier (like tomorrow). For example, Harvard admissions officers do read applications as they come in although they may not make a final decision until after the deadline. University of Michigan and other state schools review on a rolling basis, so the earlier you submit your application, the earlier you'll receive an admissions letter. Also try to visit the schools before submitting applications; most colleges ask if you've even visited the campus and the surrounding city. After you find out where you were accepted (small envelope = deferred or waitlisted or rejected, humongous envelope = accepted), Spring Break is an excellent time to visit campuses one more time before decisions have to be made. If you need help during the application or decision process, don't be afraid to ask KAMSC Alumni. They won't hurt you, I promise.

Once you finally have decided on your college, congratulations! When you move in next

year, don't forget your Ethernet cable (wireless internet is so overrated) and wait until you see what electronic deals your college offers before buying laptops, iPods, software, whatever; often times, the college packages are better than what's offered in stores. Once you find out what courses you have and whether the instructor often uses the textbook, buy them from Amazon.com or half.com; textbooks will cost you a kidney from the campus bookstores. And don't forget to continue applying to scholarships (even before May). A good rule of thumb is to finish a scholarship application per week. Your parents will thank you.

Finally, try to enjoy what's left of your KAMSC experience. Hopefully, by now, you've already developed a study routine that works for you. If not, use this year to improve your study skills for college. And, although I understand that you will receive Senioritis, fight the symptoms. Remember that your teachers have built up immunity to this infectious disease and still work hard on their lesson plans. So, in case you forget what a student does, here's an acronym to help you remember: **P.A.D.** your education with knowledge when you **Pay** attention, **Attend** class, and **Do** your homework. It may be difficult at times, but I believe in you. And in times of stress, remember that you are almost done—Congratulations Class of '10!



<http://xkcd.com/>

Teacher Fast Facts

Lindsey Owen

Name: Mrs. Becker

Classes: Information Technology, Integrated Math III
Pet Peeve: Students not shutting computers off when they leave
Summer Activities: Lots of singing; Computer presentations to such large crowds that the whole room was packed.
Quote: “Yours is not to reason why, just invert and multiply.”

Name: Mrs. Kalnins

Classes: Integrated Math I, AP Statistics
Pet Peeve: Students coming to class without calculators
Summer Activities: Went to Nova Scotia for 3 weeks and camped, hiked, and whale watched; spent time with children at the zoo, museum, etc.
Quote: “You can’t be successful unless you’re willing to try. Just do it!”

Name: Mr. Milka

Classes: Integrated Math II, AP Calculus AB
Pet Peeve: Procrastination; students not taking advantage of the time given to them
Summer Activities: Graded AP Calculus exams; taught summer algebra class; worked on house with sons, such as rebuilding fence and painting shed.
Quote: “Live long and prosper.”

Name: Mr. Sinclair

Classes: AP Calculus BC, Physics, Astronomy, Geology
Pet Peeve: Students being inattentive
Summer Activities: Worked at Notre Dame for 8 weeks; spent time writing.
Quotes: “You don’t know what you know until you know what you know.” “The greatest inventions of

mankind are duct tape, atomic weapons, and graphing calculators.” “Go Bucks!”

Name: Mr. Houtrouw

Classes: Computer Science, AP Computer Science, Discrete Mathematics
Pet Peeve: Students being rude to classmates and/or teacher
Summer Activities: 2 week trip to Israel, Jordan, and Egypt; discovered the National Endowment for Humanities and was able to attend ‘Daily Life in Ancient Times: Archeology of Israel and Jordan,’ a month long course, at no cost to him; taught at KAMSC.
Quote: “Never give up, never give up, never, never, never.” – Winston Churchill

Name: Mr. Alsheri

Classes: Integrated Math III, AP Calculus BC, Advanced Calculus, Advanced Physics
Pet Peeve: Students texting in class
Summer Activities: Went to Portland, OR and saw amazing waterfalls; drove to NY, to DC, to MD, to VA, to NC, and SC, saw beautiful scenery and absolutely enjoyed the east coast; then went to Mammoth Cave, great for geology.
Quote: “Don’t just read it; fight it! Ask your own questions, look for your own examples, and discover your own proofs.” – Paul Halmos

Name: Ms. Hach

Classes: Biology, Evolution of Scientific Thought I, Organic Chemistry, and Biochemistry
Pet Peeve: Students saying they don’t understand something when they haven’t done the assigned reading or assignment

Summer Activities: Laying by the pool, floating and reading ladies magazines; creating a curriculum for KPS Biology courses.

Quote: "Take advantage of what you're given."

Name: Dr. Thorstenson or Dr. "T"

Classes: Chemistry, AP Chemistry

Pet Peeve: Using the word "Like," patterns of speech, not being clear as to whether one is stating something or asking a question

Summer Activities: Went to Oregon to spend time with daughter; went to Keystone conference on Climate Change at Western.

Quote: Directed at Seniors: "It's not over till it's over."

Going Green

Ryan D'Mello

Welcome back! After working hard for nine months, these past three months of summer have flown by quickly. Warm weather is said to bring out the best in people, and with winter approaching, let's aim to do something good for both our bodies and our planet.

FOCUS: Warm Weather

- 🗑️ **Switch your water bottle!** ~ With the exception of camping trips, there is no need for plastic water bottles. Too much space is taken up in our landfills, and drinking from plastic may be harmful to your health [toxins leech out from the plastic]. Use aluminum re-usable bottles, and your body will thank you! [So will mother earth!].
- 🗑️ **Ride your bike!** ~ I'm sure most people have heard this one enough, but think about it, it just makes sense! Why waste electricity powering a treadmill and gas driving to a friend's house, when you could burn your calories riding your bike!
- 🗑️ **GUYS!** ~ This school year, why not take your "Main Squeeze" on an environmentally sound date?
 - 🗑️ Driving to your date's house, a movie, dinner, and back can guzzle a lot of gas, and thus produce a lot of carbon dioxide. Dates such as go-karting, while fun, are centered on using gas and polluting the environment.
 - 🗑️ Why not try something different this year and plan a romantic evening in a park [think red-checkered blanket, picnic basket...*]. Utilizing public parks [and not littering on them!] is a great way to reduce your carbon footprint, and have a fun time!



STRAIGHT FROM THE NERD FARM

KAMSC Verbatim

Gina Calco

So here we are again at the start of a new year. If you don't know what verbatim is, it's a collection of quote from all of our KAMSC teachers. I am always on the lookout for quotes, so if you hear anything you would like published in 84 Steps feel free to email: kamsc84steps@yahoo.com.

"Let's see if this hearing-aid can pick up any alien frequencies." – Mr. Houtrouw

"Stay away from those middle aged men, Rachel!" – Mrs. Kalnins

"An apple is an ovary and a watermelon is an ovary...a very big ovary." – Dr. Goudie

There's an instrument called a bomb - I've always wanted one." – Dr. Goudie (in reference to a bomb calorimeter)

"And when I put my cup of coffee on top of the car and accelerate, it goes WOOOSHHH!" – Mr. Alshehri

"Can I be smart about making this equation prettier?...sexier as they say? – Mr. Alshehri

"You probably just popped it [a peanut] into your mouth. You baby killer" – Dr. Goudie

Ask BUNSEN

Hello Everyone,

My name is Bunsen, and I am Ms. Hach's new puppy. I'm a seeing eye dog in-training. I will be your new advice columnist. I love answering your questions as much as I love chewing on your shoes and stealing your pens. Any questions you have for me can be sent to kamsc84steps@yahoo.com. Enjoy the year (and come pet me when you have a minute)!

~ Bunsen

Dear Bunsen,

I have a terrible lab partner! She doesn't let me record any data, and she doesn't read the lab directions before she begins work. She is ruining my grade in my science lab. What should I do?

Sincerely,

I'm gonna fail.

Dear I'm gonna fail,

You have a few options. You can ignore your lab partner and take down this data yourself as you do the lab. Your other option is to let me know who this person is and I will be sure to eat her homework and nibble at the bottom of her jeans next time I see her. Good Luck!

Bunsen

Dear Bunsen,
Why must you keep chewing on my shoes?
Yesterday, I was wearing my favorite pair and you took them off of my feet and then ran away. You are really cute, but so are my shoes. Please stop!
Sincerely,
I miss my shoes.

Dear I miss my shoes,
I am truly sorry, but I'm afraid it may only get worse as I begin teething. Not going to lie, flip flops are my favorite flavor so I thought you were wearing them to make it easier for me to take them away from you. I guess I was mistaken but I will try my best.
Sorry,
Bunsen

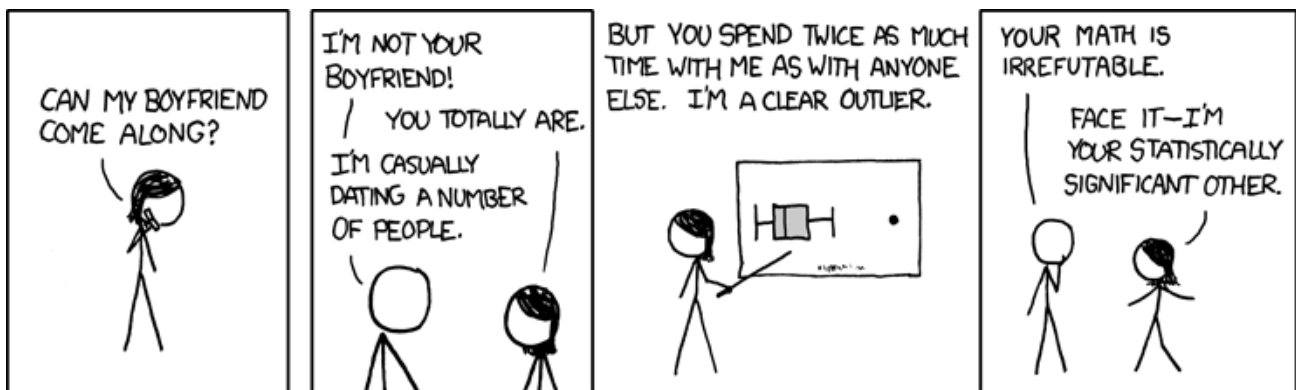
Dear Bunsen,
I don't have time to eat lunch at my home school so I have to eat on the KAMSC bus. My lunch needs to be kept cold, but I am afraid to put food in Dr. Goudie's fridge. What should I do?
Sincerely,
I need lunch

Dear I need lunch,
I haven't been at KAMSC long, but I don't think I'd put my lunch in his fridge...or anywhere near his room. It scares me. Instead you should bring a cold-pack in your lunch or something that doesn't need refrigeration.
Good luck,
Bunsen



Dear Bunsen,
I failed my first physics quiz. I studied really hard, but just didn't do well. We have a test coming up soon, and I don't want to fail again. What should I do.
Sincerely,
I want to go to college

Dear I want to go to college,
Don't worry about your first quiz, but if I were you, I'd get used to not getting A's in physics, at least your first quarter. You should get with your friends and STUDY. And when all else fails, just quit worrying, it will just make it worse.
Good Luck! (you need it)
Bunsen



<http://xkcd.com/>

Freshmen Survey!

Gina Calco, Alisha Kamboj

The freshman survey has become somewhat of a tradition at the KAMSC Freshmen Orientation. Here were some of the responses we got.

*note: this survey was done school blind, even though many students appear to be from Kalamazoo Central.

The infamous question –Math or Science?

Math had a slight lead...

37% said Math...32% said Science. Personally We're with the 31% who choose both.

On which fruit or vegetable they are most like...

"A banana because I 'brown' easily" – Grace Houtrouw, *Kalamazoo Central*

"Grapes because they are fun sized like me!" – Marine Bolliet, *Kalamazoo Central*

"Spinach 'cause popeye eats it and I'm just like him" – Zac Folsom, *Vicksburg*
(Popeye the sailor man!)

"Raddish – colorful & amazing underneath" – Sujay Dewan, *Portage Northern*
(Interesting logic)

On their biggest KAMSC fear...

"Fear is not one of my emotions" – Jonathan Brelje, *Portage Northern*
(well, good luck on those lab practicals...)

"I'm afraid the sophomores will beat me up." – Gauri Rangrass, *Portage Central*

"FAILING!" – Beatrice Powers, *Loy Norrix*

"The drug addicts in the bottom floor bathrooms" – Grey Braybrooks, *Kalamazoo Central*
(ummmm...)

"What don't I fear about KAMSC?" – Thomas Barth, *Kalamazoo Central*
(good question)

On their most interesting summer activity...

"Spit into the Grand Canyon" – Kyle Buffin, *Kalamazoo Central*

"I went canoeing down the Little Miami River" – Alex Lim, *Kalamazoo Central*

"I got contacts. (my summer wasn't very interesting)." – Sabrina Hirsch, *Kalamazoo Central*

"I lived in Puerto Rico for most of the summer." – Amber Henniges, *Gull Lake*

"I met an indigenous mountain gorilla of the West Indies" – Tevin Monroe, *Kalamazoo Central*
(That sounds cool!)

On where they would prefer to travel...

"The Galapagos Island; I can experience diverse culture & exotic endangered animals" – Joy Rutherford, *Kalamazoo Central*

(Are you related to Ernest Rutherford...??)

“Africa because it’s where my ancestors were born.” – Naomi Johnson, *Kalamazoo Central*

“To the moon to see how it is.” – Siani Johnson, *Kalamazoo Central*

“Ethiopia, because it’s different.” – Zaria Starfeldt, *Loy Norrix*

On what they want to be when they grow up...

“Doctor (Neurosurgeon) – Cooper Quartermaine, *Gull Lake*

(What a standard KAMSC answer)

“A lawyer.” – Kate Scheurer, *Gull Lake*

“A professional baseball player.” – Conor Gorczyca, *Portage Central*

(Now that’s interesting...)

“Intelligence operative programmer.” – Matthew Cartier, *Portage Northern*

“An interesting person!” – Isabel McMullen, *Loy Norrix*

“A painting pediatrician.” – Anirudh Ghantasala, *Portage Central*

“I want to be Sujay” – Jack Sheppard, *Gull Lake*
(umm...I don’t think you can do that...)

On why the chicken crossed the road...

“Tell me why it wouldn’t , and I’ll give you a reason.” – Abhiram Krishnan, *Portage Central*

(hmmm...don’t’ think I can supply you with that)

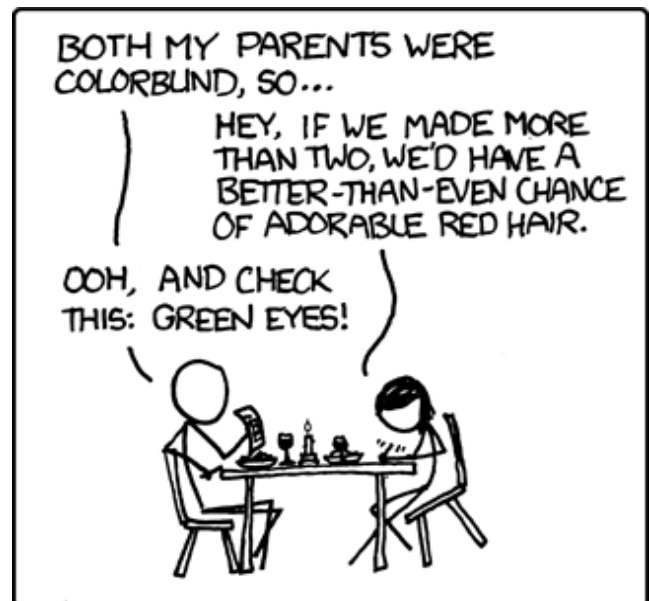
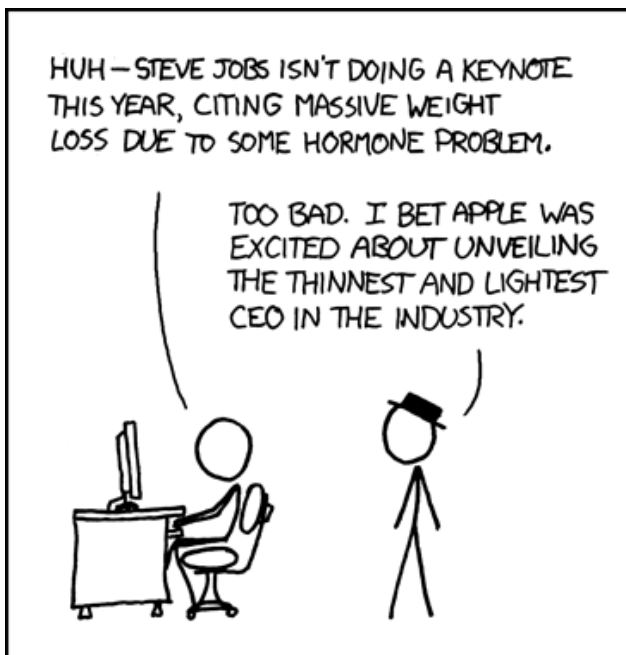
“...but wait, who let out the chicken?” – Zach Meyers, *Schoolcraft*

(Answering questions with questions is not allowed!...clever response though)

“To become a KAMSC nerd like us!” – Reinie Thomas, *Portage Central*

“It crossed the road because it was its destiny to do so” – Brice Calco, *Portage Northern*

(This could be true...)

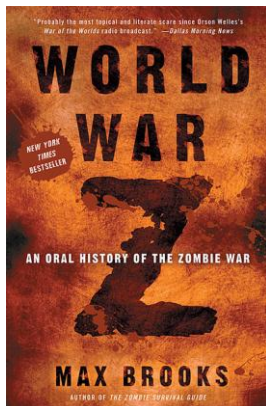


TRIVIA: 30% OF BIOLOGIST FIRST DATES DISINTEGRATE INTO MAKING PUNNETT SQUARES.

Sure, everyone at KAMSC does math and science all the time, but KAMSC is also a community of avid readers! Of course, normal books simply won't do for KAMSC kids, so it's essential that we find the best nerd books out there. And what's better than zombies. Zombies are a well known fixture of pop culture as well as nerd culture. In addition to dominating the movie screen, zombies can also be found in literature. This issue's two Nerd Books are *Pride and Prejudice and Zombies*, a remake of the classic Jane Austen novel, and *World War Z*, one of the hottest new zombie novels to hit book shelves.

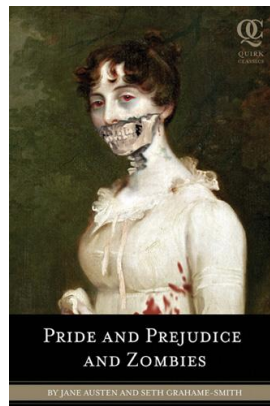
World War Z

World War Z, by Max Brooks, is the product of crossing a World War 2 documentary with a campy zombie thriller. The book is written as a report about a recent massive zombie outbreak that nearly destroyed all civilization on earth. It is a series of interviews of important people around the world who survived the zombie outbreak: high ranking government officials, foot soldiers in the war against the zombies, and various everyday survivors. Max Brooks manages to ascend beyond the usual stereotypical zombie slasher novel by weaving in social commentary, using the zombie problem as a comparison to the many problems the next generation will face. Additionally, Brooks gives the stories genuine emotion, achieving a sense of horror more real than most horror zombie tales ever achieve. Brooks also doesn't lose sight of the nerd roots of zombie fiction by including several nerd references that are a joy to find. *World War Z* is an addicting book that is truly unique, and truly nerdy. If you enjoy *World War Z*, take a look at Max Brooks's *The Zombie Survival Guide*.



Pride and Prejudice and Zombies

Seth Grahame-Smith writes this masterful and irreverent remake of Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice*. *Pride and Prejudice and Zombies* takes the original text of *Pride and Prejudice* and adds in zombies and sword fighting, turning Jane Austen's classic, as Grahame-Smith writes, "...into something you'd actually want to read." *Pride and Prejudice and Zombies* places the heroine Elizabeth into an apocalyptic England where zombies are constantly rising up from the ground to attack the people of Britain. However, Elizabeth has also undergone a change: she is now a deadly fighter capable of destroying waves of zombies with bow, gun, or blade. *Pride and Prejudice and Zombies* is decidedly more violent than the vanilla *Pride and Prejudice*. Over the course of the book, Elizabeth and Mr. Darcy get into an epic sword fight, country parties are disrupted by zombie attacks, and Elizabeth kills her fair share of evil zombies and even ninjas! However, Grahame-Smith's addition of zombies is not mindless; he uses the beasts artfully, illuminating the book's themes by using the undead as symbols. You still get the essence of *Pride and Prejudice* after reading *Pride and Prejudice and Zombies*; it's just more awesome because there are zombies. Grahame-Smith plans on adding nerd culture icons to other works of classic literature, helping to modernize what many see as tedious books.

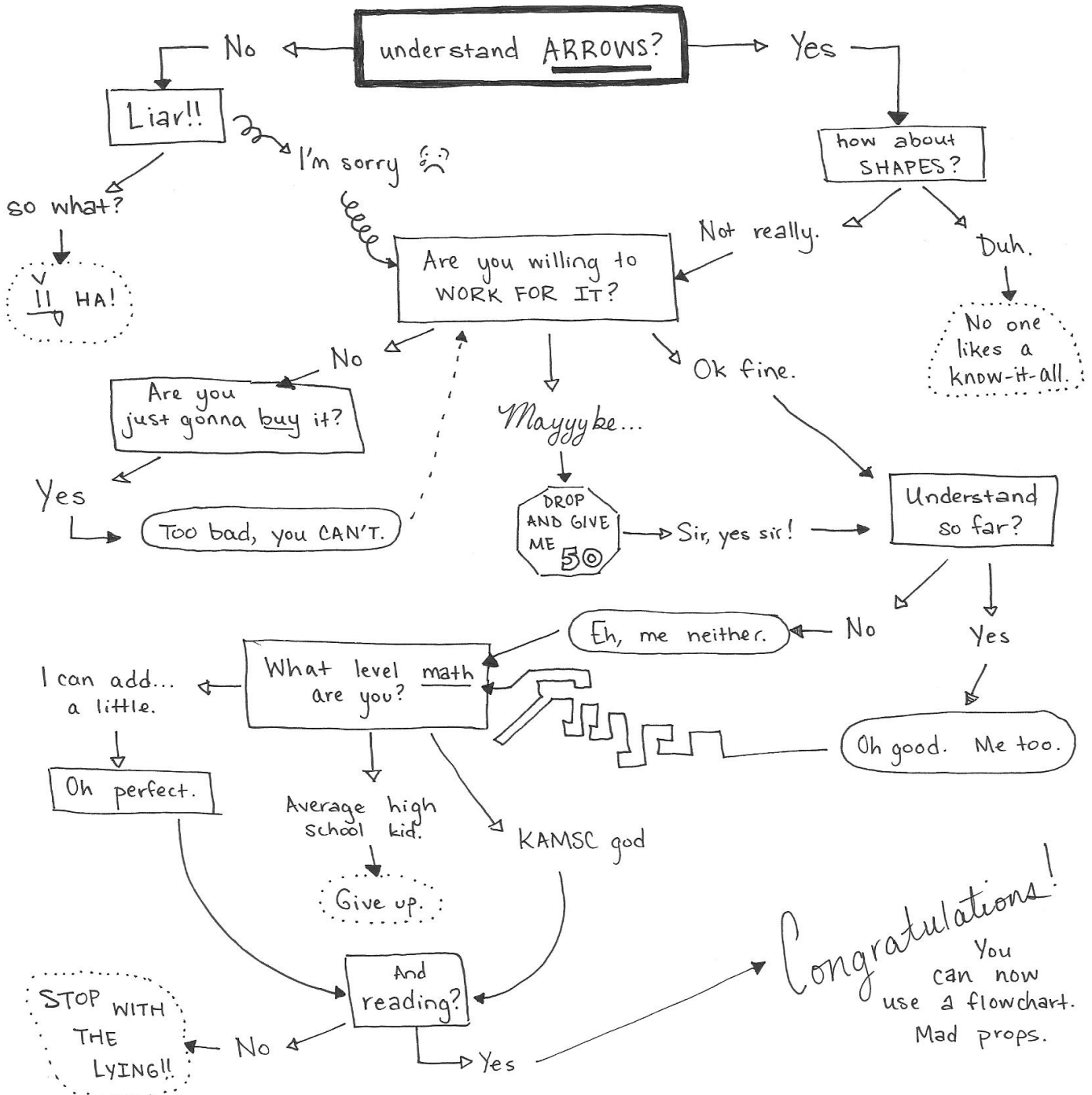


CREATION THEORY

HOW TO: Use Flowcharts

Isabella Wu

A step-by-step guide by your new 84 Steps How-To Guru. Need a how-to guide for your own problem? Email 84steps@yahoo.com and let her share the wisdom.



Horrorscopes

Philip Mulder

Aries - March 21st – April 19th

Your near future is looking especially bleak. You will be attacked by vicious dogs as you walk into KAMSC, and they will eat all your homework. Don't even try to tell your KAMSC teacher that a dog ate your homework; believe me, it doesn't work. Your best hope is to carry around a full can of mace, or else some juicy steaks that you can throw to occupy the dogs while you run.

Taurus - April 20th – May 20th

You must avoid rounding at all costs! The fate of the world will hang in balance depending on whether or not you can successfully perform a mathematical task. When you're working with those radians and you're tempted to write two pi as 6.283, remember what Mr. Milka would say: close only counts in horseshoes and hand grenades...and nuclear war. If you make the fatal mistake of rounding, then the whole world will be doomed.

Gemini - May 21st – June 20th

In order to avoid a catastrophic fate, you must go to Cedar Point and ride the Gemini, since it has the same name as your astrological sign. If your car beats the other car to the end of the ride, the stars have arranged good fortune for your future. However, if you lose, all three of your KAMSC teachers will schedule tests...for exactly the same day!

Cancer - June 21st – July 22nd

You should learn how to read hex.

59 6f 75 20 77 61 73 74 65 64 20 79 6f 75 72 20 6c 69 66 65

Leo - July 23rd – August 22nd

It is critical that the next time you see Philip Mulder in the hallways at KAMSC, you give him five dollars. Good fortune will befall you if you do.

Virgo - August 23rd – September 22nd

For the next week, in order to avoid terrible misfortune, every time you see Nigel Beaton, you must go "Nigel Beaton" "clap clap clap clap" in the same rhythm as if you were saying "Let's go ____" "clap clap clap clap". Ask Chelsea Angel if you're really confused.

Libra - September 23rd – October 22nd

It is imperative that you go to the library as fast as you can! Once you're there, find a book on how to deal with attacking dogs. Then, go find one of your friends whose zodiac sign is Aries.

Scorpio - October 23rd – November 21st

If you see Philip Mulder in the halls, you should give him a high five, or else great misfortune will befall on you.

Sagittarius - November 22nd – December 21st

You need to talk as if you were a character in a Shakespearean play for a month in order to avoid a terrible accident. By invoking the immortal bard, you'll make everyone avoid you, meaning that you won't

suffer the terrible calamity awaiting you.

Capricorn - December 22nd – January 19th

Apocalyptic tragedy will strike if you don't eat or drink anything for a week. Therefore, in order to not suffer a terrible fate, you should really have three meals a day and drink plenty of water.

Aquarius - January 20th – February 18th

You should watch the food network obsessively, and then cook the best recipe you see. Then, go find a friend who's a Capricorn and feed them.

Pisces - February 19th – March 20th

To save the world from a fate worse than death, you need to go out and buy a nice graphing calculator. Then go find a friend who's a Taurus and give him the calculator.

