

March  
2024

GETTING TO KNOW YOUR PET

EXPLORING THE LAND DOWN UNDER: A JOURNEY  
THROUGH AUSTRALIA

POEMS

BABY SHOES, NEVER WORN

HORROR FILMS AS MIRRORS: EXPLORING SOCIAL ISSUES  
THROUGH FEAR

A PEEK INTO THE BEHIND THE SCENES OF THE FIRST  
DEMUN

# IB REVIEW

Gliwice



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# GLIWICE 2024

## IB REVIEW

### **DESIGN :**

Natalia Brzozowska

### **PROOFREAD :**

Beata Krupiczka

Sonia Świtońska

### **PHOTOS :**

Jan Polak

### **ILLUSTRATIONS :**

Aleksandra Stangel

Alicja Łupieżowiec

### **ARTICLES :**

Aleksandra Baranowska

Antonina Latocha

Bartosz Wojciechowski

CECIDIT

D.A.R. Lightmind

Daria Luszawska

Dominik Pietrzak

Filip Kaptacz

Hanna Lach

Hanna Sztymelska

Kajetan Struski

Karolina Gajówka

Magdalena Iwańska

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# EDITORIAL

## **Welcome to the 2024 edition of IB Review.**

Just like all the previous editions, this one abounds in a wide variety of texts which reflect the creative potential of the students in our school and the multitude of pursuits they are involved in. I do hope each reader will find something of interest, be it an article on animals in need, an account of an exotic trip to Australia, the nuts and bolts of MUN (Model United Nations) organized by our school last year or learning Spanish.

I am invariably astounded by the plethora of students' literary talents which can be enjoyed in this edition. Apart from the regular section on poetry, you will find a truly engaging short story with an intriguing storyline and unexpected twists.

Have a wonderful time reading and enjoying this truly inspirational and informative edition,

***On behalf of the editorial board,  
Beata Krupiczka***

# GETTING TO KNOW YOUR PET

DOMINIK PIETRZAK

In this day and age, rapid changes and daily events make it easy to overlook the companionship and joy that our four-legged friends bring into our lives. Recognizing the importance of responsible pet ownership, I am proud to introduce the "Get to Know Your Pet" project - a heartfelt initiative aimed at educating people on the intricacies of caring for animals the right way and ultimately preventing pets from suffering and/or ending up in animal shelters.

## UNDERSTANDING THE ISSUE

Animal shelters countrywide are burdened with an overflow of abandoned and neglected pets. The reasons behind these situations vary, but a common thread is often a lack of awareness about the commitment and responsibility that comes with owning a pet. "Get to Know Your Pet" seeks to address this issue by fostering a deeper understanding of the needs and requirements of our furry friends.

## OBJECTIVES

Education on pet care: The project focuses on disseminating vital information about the proper care, nutrition and medical attention that pets require. That is what is posted on our social media pages.

promoting adoption: Through partnerships with local animal shelters, much like the "Psitul mnie" shelter in Zabrze, with whom we partnered up to organize a group walk with some of the shelter's dogs, the project





encourages pet adoption. By showcasing the joy and fulfillment that come with adopting a shelter pet, we hope to reduce the number of animals in dire need of loving homes.

Community engagement: We are set on incorporating as many people as possible into our awareness campaigns and in consequence creating a sense of responsibility within participants, who then shall spread valuable information on pet care.

## **HOW STUDENTS CAN GET INVOLVED**

Students of our school play a crucial role in the success of this project. From volunteering at local shelters to following our social media for key tips and attending our events, there are numerous ways for our school community to actively contribute. By participating in hands-on activities and gaining experience, students can develop skills and a genuine understanding of the effort required to care for animals.



In conclusion, "Get to Know Your Pet" is more than just a project - it's a way of living and a movement towards creating a society that values and respects the well being of its animal companions.



You can find our social media at:

**Instagram:** @\_posz\_

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100088149364476>

**TikTok:** [https://www.tiktok.com/@\\_.posz.\\_](https://www.tiktok.com/@_.posz._)

## EL MUNDO DE ARTÍCULOS – WRITING A PROJECT IN SPANISH CLASSES

FILIP KAPTACZ

Everybody knows that IB students need to be versatile at a variety of different skills, especially in regard to language and communication. The exams test our abilities to comprehend visual and auditory texts but also skills of verbal and written communication. In order to master all of these skills and feel comfortable with the tasks, students need to get as much practice as possible before approaching the exams. This is the reason why we were writing articles with elements of investigation in our Spanish classes.

A while ago our Spanish teacher gave us a captivating assignment. In DP1 Spanish B we need to do a couple of major projects, i.e. a poster featuring the IB learner profile, a recording of an interview and... of course, the article with elements of investigation. For me personally it sounded a little enigmatic at the beginning. I have had an experience in writing articles before, but never in Spanish. I have never heard of the investigation part either, therefore I was curious what it was going to be about.

The general principles were as follows. An article with elements of investigation is a form of written text that is supposed to inform a reader about a given topic, while also providing data taken from self-conducted research. This could be either an interview with an expert, an experiment or a survey. These are called primary sources and are an integral part of every investigative article. The purpose of this task was not only to make us practise writing a rather long form of text but also teach us how to conduct research by ourselves and use the data to create a piece of semi-journalistic work. Acquiring such skills would be helpful in writing our Extended Essays and Internal Assessment.

Another thing worth mentioning is that there were absolutely no limitations regarding the topic of the article. Only the sky was the limit! And well, all of the widely perceived social norms, but you know what I mean. The imagination was the main power here. We divided ourselves into groups of three. Each group has taken a different approach towards choosing the topic. Everyone wanted to delve into their own field of interests but eventually the compromise was reached. My friends and I decided to focus on movies and series, especially the preferences of the students of our school. Another group decided to investigate how people pronounce different words borrowed from the French language e.g. croissant. Another team was testing the knowledge of students about Spain and the last one tried to foresee the results of the UEFA Euro 2024 football cup. All of us got to work as soon as possible.

Different groups have taken different approaches to the conduction of primary research. The type of it was very dependent on the chosen topic. Three of the groups had chosen to use Google Forms to create a questionnaire, which they later sent to their research group. As for the projects regarding films and the knowledge of Spanish culture this group were the students of I LO. But it was not that easy for the girls who wanted to

write about Euro 2024. In order to predict the outcome of the matches the person asked needed to have some relevant knowledge about the current situation in global football i.e. which teams are the best, which footballers score the most goals etc. Therefore they decided to ask the boys training in the local team Piast Gliwice, as their profound interest in this sport was likely to provide insightful information and probable predictions. The last group - the French-pronunciation-checkers used yet another technique which was a little bit more personal. They were approaching people one by one and asked them to read out loud the borrowings while recording it. They later analysed the audio and summarised how different people actually pronounce these words. It was definitely an original idea.

Finally, when all of us handed out the projects to our teacher, it was time to discuss the articles with the class. All groups have done great work while creating the articles and in our own personal way, all of us could be proud of ourselves. It turned out that some people focused more on providing quantitative data: percentages, numerical values. The others put more emphasis on the visual presentation of the data and the article itself. While some of us cared more about the written content, there were also people making sure the article as a whole was good-looking e.g. provided pictures and made it more colourful. In the end, everyone was happy with the results and we received some positive feedback from our teacher, too.

This was definitely one of the most engaging projects we have done in high school. We developed our writing skills in Spanish, learned to conduct primary research and managed to arrange the visual aspect of an article. The process of writing was a very unique experience, especially considering the amount of artistic liberty we were given. The possibility to conduct research ourselves really made us feel like we were journalists. We, the students of Spanish B, highly advise you to try it out yourselves. Who knows, maybe we will see your article in a newspaper one day?



# THE TOOL

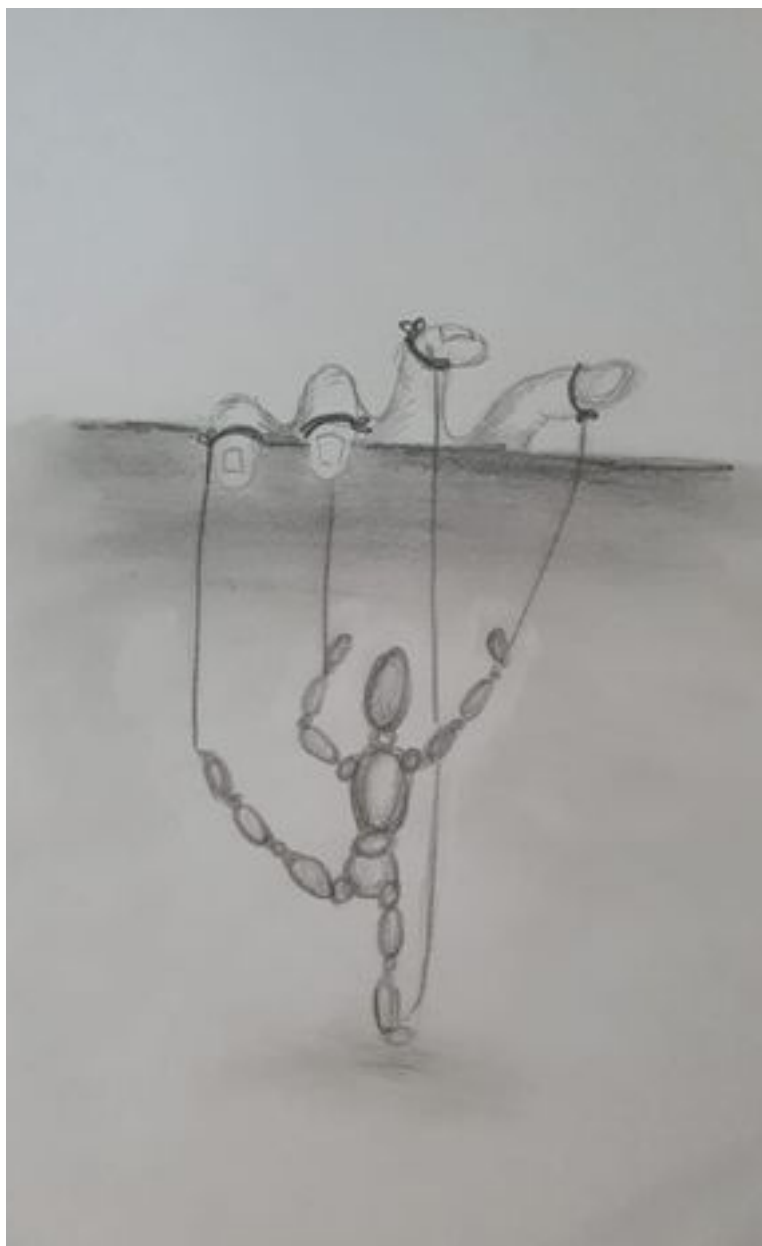
CECIDIT

When I am putting my head on the plate  
You are smiling at me

Like when you have seen  
Me falling down  
Me dropping out

Is this what you want?  
Me, just for you  
Me, killing all

You boasting out  
Playing the God  
I wanted to make  
Devoting my life  
You took away



## **TALLY-HO**

KAJETAN STRUSKI

Tally-ho, oh, darkest night  
When the black man slips my mind  
I wake up with sudden sigh  
And see whether is living I

Tally-ho, oh, lovely day  
When the blue deputies pray  
I stand up with sudden sigh  
And see whether is living I

Tally-ho, oh, precious life  
Is it dagger, is it knife  
That makes way through body my  
And sees whether is living I

## **FREE**

HANNA SZTYMELSKA

Yellow, dry grass  
Bare trees  
Few wooden houses  
Low mountains  
No roads  
Green fields  
Humble winter sun

Sitting here alone  
A moment to admire  
A moment to feel

Gentle touch of wind on my face  
Slightly cold  
But so peaceful

Birds singing in the distance  
Mouse prowling in the grass  
Soft whistle of the wind

So much depth  
In that simple place  
So divine

I am free

KAROLINA GAJÓWKA

This house never felt like home,  
these walls never looked familiar,  
they were like mirror,  
where the memories roam



## BARTOSZ WOJCIECHOWSKI

Oto są Bartoszowe wersety  
Napisane na skraju serwety  
Napisane w minut pięć  
Ot tak naszła mnie chęć  
The language is a tool  
A subject to your rule  
Bend it, twist it - anyhow  
Just as I am doing now  
Wie in German means jak  
Sí in Spanish means tak  
Have some fun, Carpe Diem!  
Otherwise I'll hit you kijem  
You will find no moral here  
Just some fun, some words my dear  
Now ich denke its okej  
Hope you have a lovely day!

## **FATES**

ANTONINA LATOCHA

fates, oh, fates  
give me please  
a little Someone  
or a not-little Someone  
but a Someone

fates, oh, fates  
to watch the  
candlelight  
pretty candlelight  
with this Someone

fates, oh, fates  
send a Love to me  
a Someone  
who will be  
a Love of mine

fates, oh, fates  
and may that Someone

Love me as well.



**ANTIQUÉ SHOP**

HANNA SZTYMELSKA

I can't stop thinking  
 About the boy from his antique shop  
 His modern clothes  
 Modern face  
 So cut out from this place  
 Yet he knows so much  
 About what he sells  
 He talked with this lady  
 Showed her an old Italian teakettle  
 And I was admiring  
 His lovely lips  
 Oh I will come back there soon

I can't stop thinking  
 About the girl from my antique shop  
 Her modern clothes  
 Modern face  
 So cut out from this place  
 Yet she was so interested in everything  
 Every item I sell  
 She walked around for so long  
 And listened humbly when I talked  
 About that old teakettle  
 I can't forget her deep blue eyes  
 Oh please come here again  
 Come back

**THE HAPPY WILLOW**

BARTOSZ WOJCIECHOWSKI

Have you ever wanted to flee?  
 Not to see  
 Not to be  
 Just - break free  
 Leave this world plenty o' woe  
 Souls of gold that yet fly low  
 The audacity that makes the dullest glow  
 Crippling sadness so vivid and raw  
 Labels stamped on man by man  
 Thy deepest dreams - finished, done  
 The oyster of ways yet one to run  
 All the marrow sucked out of fun  
 Oh, to sit under a willow tree  
 Heavens smiling upon thee  
 If it only could be me  
 If it only could be me.

# RAIN

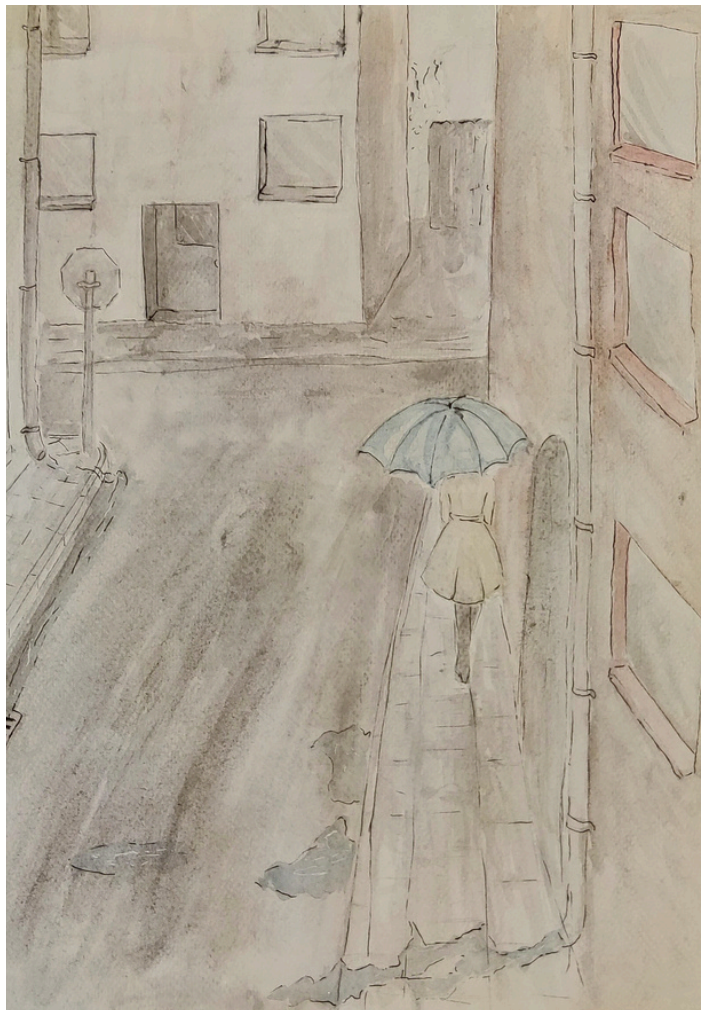
HANNA SZTYMELSKA

Rain makes everything grey.  
When sun comes up,  
A spark of light  
Smearing happiness everywhere,  
You feel that you want more life.

Rain makes everything grey.  
The last rays of hope,  
The last reflection of the inner spirit,  
The last looks of the hidden beauty,  
Washed out with cold tears of the sky

Rain makes everything grey.  
Walking down the streets  
That used to carry joy.  
How can it be so easily,  
So gone.

Rain makes everything grey.



# UNREAL

D.A.R. Lightmind

It still feels unreal

It still feels unreal

to be here with you

It still seems unreal

that everything is so imperfectly

perfect

It still seems unreal

I'm living in a dream

beautiful dream

Only worrying it'll fade away

Is it real? Is it here?

I try touching your hand

not wanting to see it disappear

The fingers are like feathers

though going through thin air

in the end, turning it to smoke

A light gasp erupts from the insides

You only smile and take a step back

'Don't try' you say

Willing to listen for once

I only sigh

I retreat

Forgetting for happiness

# GOBLET AND GLASS

ANTONINA LATOCHA

blood  
flesh  
bone  
makes I

blood  
flesh  
bone  
makes You

to love  
to desire  
to lust  
to devour

and here  
I am  
and here  
You are

so  
tell me  
what happens  
Now?





# EXPLORING THE LAND DOWN UNDER: A JOURNEY THROUGH AUSTRALIA

MAGDALENA IWAŃSKA

Under the golden Australian sun, our family embarked on an adventure – a journey to uncover the treasures of bustling cities, ancient landmarks, and natural wonders. Our trip to Australia wasn't just a vacation; it was a shared experience of exploration and connection.

Starting in Melbourne, a city alive with culture, we immersed ourselves in the Moorabbin Air Museum's rich history of aviation. Vintage aircraft sparked conversations that bridged generations, igniting our curiosity and appreciation for past achievements. At the ArtVo gallery, we became part of interactive artworks, creating memories filled with laughter and wonder, showcasing the boundless creativity of the human spirit.



Ascending the Eureka Tower, Melbourne's skyline unfolded before us, a vibrant tapestry of human ambition. It was a moment of reflection, as we marveled at urban life's intricacies against the backdrop of endless possibilities. urban beauty.



Continuing our adventure, the Great Ocean Road beckoned with its stunning coastal vistas and rugged landscapes. Driving along this iconic route, we were treated to panoramic views of towering cliffs and pristine beaches. Each

bend in the road revealed a new marvel, from the majestic Twelve Apostles to the enchanting Loch Ard Gorge. It was a journey through nature's masterpiece, where every moment left us in awe of the Earth's breathtaking beauty.

Leaving the city behind, we explored Moonlit Sanctuary and SeaLife, where encounters with native wildlife and marine creatures brought us closer to nature's wonders. From feeding kangaroos to marveling at vibrant marine life, each moment fostered a deeper connection with the natural world and with each other.



Continuing to Sydney, iconic landmarks like the Opera House and Royal Gardens captivated our hearts. The Opera House's architectural brilliance mirrored the harbor's waters, while the Royal Gardens provided a tranquil oasis amidst the city's hustle and bustle. Ascending the

Westfield Tower, we marveled at Sydney's skyline, a testament to human ingenuity and urban beauty.



But the highlight of our journey was the Great Ocean Road drive, offering breathtaking vistas of cliffs and beaches. Each twist and turn unveiled nature's splendor, leaving us in awe of its magnificence and beauty.

As our expedition concluded amidst Uluru and Kata Tjuta's ancient monoliths, we felt a profound connection to the land and each other. It was a moment of shared reverence, reflecting on the wonders witnessed and memories created.



Our journey through Australia was a bonding experience that brought us closer as a family. As we bid farewell to this remarkable continent, our hearts overflowed with gratitude for the adventures shared and the memories made. Though our trip concluded, the spirit of exploration it ignited within us will forever inspire new horizons.

# FOR SALE: BABY SHOES, NEVER WORN

HANNA LACH

I have been staring at the screen of my computer for the past hour, unable to brace myself to push the final button. The green square with “confirm” written across it, is staring at me, asking to finalize the sale offer.

I was sitting on the couch in our new apartment, my parents surprised us with this fantastic place right after we got married. It was the first thing of our own, the place only ours. What we didn't know at that moment was that in a matter of seconds, we would learn that it won't be just the two of us here anymore. As I turned over the pregnancy test in my trembling fingers I let out a shaky gasp. My husband rushed through the living room door, he already knew, and I knew too; we were going to become parents. Our legs became weak, we crashed to the floor in a tight embrace filled with joy, a feeling so warm and sweet I've never felt before. Tears of joy spilling like waterfalls down my face.

The magical surreal feeling came back once again, after months had passed, as I looked into the eyes of our daughter.

A baby brought into existence just a second before, the most beautiful view I have ever laid my eyes on. I held her for what seemed like an eternity, and I wished it would be an eternity, at this moment I wanted to stay in it forever. Her heart connected to mine, the heartbeat of the one and only girl, my girl. As I put her down, I had no idea it would be not only the first but the last time I did.

A doctor came to me a while later as I was talking to my mom on the phone, sharing the happy news; the words that came out of his mouth killed every part of me at that moment, the words forever bound to stay in my heart, to ring in my ears.

“I'm sorry.”

Hot tears were streaming down my cheeks uncontrollably, the same way they had been nine months earlier on my living room floor.

We sold or gave out everything that we prepared for our girl immediately. Baby furniture, toys, cradle, clothes. Neither one of us was able to endure the painful reminders of her surrounding us.

That's why after years had passed and we were moving, it stung as if a million thorns were being stuck into my skin when I found a box, lost somewhere, with a pink pair of baby shoes inside.

The feeling of my skin and heart ripping open, the same pain I felt after hearing “SIDS. Sudden Infant Death Syndrome.” that night in the hospital.

Therefore I'm sitting here, letting go of the only thing tying me to her, my heart breaking once again as I hit the “post” button. The offer is up. I look at the words, blurred now, with the tears filling my eyes;  
“for sale: baby shoes, never worn”



## ***HORROR FILMS AS MIRRORS: EXPLORING SOCIAL ISSUES THROUGH FEAR***

ALEKSANDRA BARANOWSKA

Horrors excel in delving into our innermost fears and stretching the limits of our imagination. Whether through heart-stopping jump scares or mind-bending psychological twists, these films have continually pushed boundaries, ensuring audiences remain spellbound throughout. Horrors transcend mere entertainment, exerting a profound influence on society and culture. They function as reflective mirrors, illuminating our shared fears and societal concerns, while offering a platform to delve into taboo subjects and confront our deepest fears. Through intricate narratives and symbolic storytelling, these films frequently explore intricate themes like identity, morality, and the essence of being human.

One of the movies that shatters the silence surrounding taboo topics with its gripping narrative is "Get Out," directed by Jordan Peele. Centered around Chris Washington, a young African American man, the film unravels a weekend getaway to his white girlfriend's family estate, where unsettling discoveries expose the family's disturbing intentions. Through its suspenseful storyline, "Get Out" delves deep into the insidious nature of racism in America, shedding light on cultural appropriation, exploitation, and the dehumanizing commodification of



black bodies. As viewers are drawn into the chilling tale, they confront uncomfortable truths about the normalization of everyday racism in contemporary society.

Psychological horror telling a story of a ballet dancer who tries her best to get a main role shows us not only how competitive is the ballet industry but also how a person can lose one's mind while aiming for a goal. In directed by Darren Aronofsky, 'Black Swan' mentioned ballerina Nina Sayers becomes consumed by the pressures of perfectionism and the pursuit of artistic excellence, she descends into a nightmarish world of paranoia and madness. The film serves as a chilling reminder of the sacrifices individuals make in the pursuit of success and the destructive nature of obsession.

What if, for just one night, all crime was legal? 'The Purge: Anarchy' delves into this chilling premise, thrusting viewers into a dystopian America where violence reigns supreme. Directed by James DeMonaco, this heart-pounding sequel takes us to the streets of Los Angeles on the deadliest night of the year—the annual Purge. Through its gritty depiction of societal breakdown it challenges us to consider what we would do in a world where survival is the only rule. In the end, this film serves as a cautionary tale about the dangers of unchecked power and the consequences of allowing fear and hatred to consume us. As the night draws to a close, viewers are left to ponder the chilling reality of a world where the Purge is not just a movie, but a terrifying possibility.



In 'Us' director Jordan Peele crafts a chilling tale of duality and societal divides. The film follows the Wilson family as they encounter their malevolent doppelgängers while on vacation. As the night unfolds, they are forced to confront the terrifying truth about these sinister counterparts and the dark secrets that bind them together. Through its riveting narrative and thought-provoking themes, the movie explores the shadow self and the unseen underbelly of society. Through the lens of horror, 'Us' forces viewers to grapple with uncomfortable truths about society's divisions and the systemic injustices that perpetuate them.



Directed by Mary Harron, 'American Psycho' story follows Patrick Bateman, a wealthy investment banker in Manhattan who leads a double life as a serial killer. As Bateman indulges in his violent fantasies while navigating the cutthroat world of finance, the film offers a biting critique of consumerism, materialism, and the moral vacuum of capitalism. 'American Psycho' is more than just a horror film; it's a scathing indictment of the shallow values of the

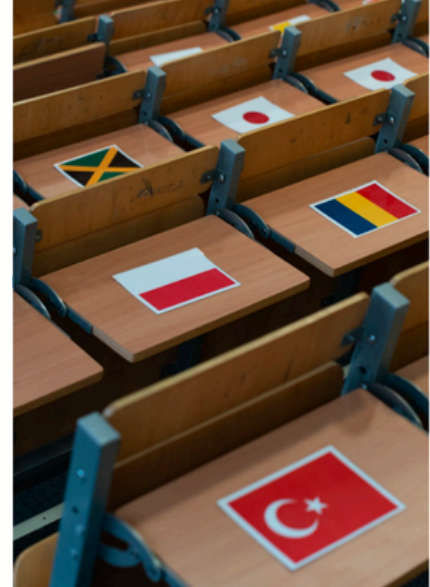
1980s and the dehumanizing effects of unchecked privilege. Mary Harron's direction infuses the film with dark humor and biting satire, creating a portrait of a society consumed by greed and excess

How does 'The Invisible Man' directed by Leigh Whannell, shine a light on the pervasive issue of domestic abuse and its toll on survivors? Through the gripping narrative of Cecilia Kass viewers are drawn into a world where the line between reality and illusion is blurred. But amidst the suspenseful storytelling, the film skillfully delves into the psychological trauma experienced by survivors, shedding light on how abusers manipulate and control their victims. As Cecilia fights to be believed and reclaim her autonomy, the movie becomes a powerful commentary on the challenges faced by survivors of abuse. With its thought-provoking storyline and timely social commentary, the movie serves as a poignant reminder of the need for greater awareness and support for victims of domestic violence in society. Among many others these movies, renowned for their ability to provoke intense emotions, also serve as a powerful medium for exploring societal fears and pushing storytelling boundaries. By daring to confront taboo subjects, horror movies offer a compelling opportunity for filmmakers to confront uncomfortable truths that might otherwise remain unaddressed. Through provocative narratives, they provide a unique lens through which to examine society's deepest fears, shedding light on topics often relegated to the shadows. While it's crucial to acknowledge their fictional nature, it's equally important to appreciate their capacity to entertain, provoke thought, and deepen our understanding of the human condition. Despite the divisiveness of controversial themes, they play an indispensable role in shaping the evolution of horror cinema and our collective consciousness.

# A PEEK INTO THE BEHIND THE SCENES OF THE FIRST DEMUN

DARIA LUSZAWSKA

Between 1st and 3rd December 2023, the DeMUN conference took place at our school. DeMUN, meaning Dembowski Model United Nations, was the first in Gliwice simulation of the meetings taking place in the United Nations. The organizers - 4th grade students - had spent the previous school year gathering experience on similar events in Wrocław, Poznań, Cracow, Warsaw, Lublin and even New York. The following months, especially during holidays, they threw themselves into the work to manage everything and make sure the conference would be perfect. With all hands on deck and financial help from the School Head and Rada Rodziców, the whole committee was unstoppable and managed to bring the never-seen-before event into our school.



With over 70 delegates from all around Poland and even a few from abroad, the three days of DeMUN were thriving. The cohort of dedicated Pages (volunteers) was running up and down the stairs of the new building and at times between our school and Politechnika with arms full with messages and materials. And during breaks they served coffee and tea to others. During that snowy, December weekend anyone could think it's not school but some lively corporation or organization.

There were 5 committees that discussed various global issues and proposed different solutions. The Security Council addressed the topic of Nigerian coup d'état, UNODC (United Nations Organisation for Drugs and Crime) spent their time over the issue of doping in sports, World Bank was rethink global strategies to prepare for and mitigate consequences of the next



conomic crisis, and DISEC (Disarmament and International Security Committee) concentrated on how to protect critical infrastructure in the era of cyber threats and attacks. As for the last committee, the Crisis Cabinet... If you weren't there no one will be ever able to even describe it to you - it's always a once in a lifetime experience.



Looking at so many young people enjoying themselves while doing their best to resolve global problems is really inspiring and restores hope and motivation. Moreover, the fact that underclassmen expressed their interest in continuing the idea and possibly making it a tradition, has brought warmth to the hearts of all organizers, and other people engaged in the project. The organization committee is also overjoyed with the fact that their CAS Project turned into something grand and inspiring.



We would like to express our gratitude to all participants and volunteers as it wouldn't have been possible without them, and we hope to hear about DeMUN in the following years as well - organizers of the first DeMUN 2023.



*Photo credits to Mikołaj Rojek*



