

Opening
10 Writing
doors

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University of Pamplona - Colombia

Editorial

As you can see on the cover, we have obtained the ISSN. This gives 'OPENING WRITING DOORS' a unique, world identification. In order to get our newsletter registered in the ISSN International Center, we will be sending this issue there in a couple of days.

OPENING WRITING DOORS was born as a class project. Paraphrasing Newman, it is an 'educative medium' that serves a two-fold purpose: An area of development, a mark of achievement for amateur writers, and a way of learning by doing. From now on, our "doors" will be opening to other writers.

In this issue, sources are changing since one of our teachers has written about his hometown and a third-semester student shares an interesting project that 'mixes' the ingredients of cooking with English grammar.

It seems topics have not changed much; but attitudes about humankind have, and different slants through personal events, thoughts, reflections are shown; however, personal experience makes the difference. As human beings who belong to a society, we are influenced by the everyday essence, in which, we, sometimes are the thespians or the spectators.

As in the previous issue, I wish to thank Nadine Kieff for her professional support, Carlos Adrian Sanchez and the Media Center for their help.

Gabriel Cote Parra

Opening
writing
doors
Pamplona

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A GOD HEAVENLY DESCRIPTION

Luis Gabriel Franco Torres

Long, brown hair, beautiful blue eyes and handsome in appearance. This is how most people describe The Christ. Others view him as a natural force. How do you describe him? "I continued beholding him in my mind's eye until I envisioned angels placed around the Ancient of our Days; his tunic was white like snow, and the hair on his head like clean wool. His throne was surrounded by flames of fire; there was a stream of fire flowing out from before him.

There were a thousand times a thousand angels ministering to him, and ten thousand times a thousand standing in front of him". This was the vision Daniel the prophet beheld which is recorded in the bible. This vision gives an awe inspiring picture of God's description.

"And I begin to see, and, look! There was tempestuous wind coming from the North, a great mass of clouds and tremulous fire, and it was illuminated all around it; in the midst of it, there was something like a swirl of fire".

These two visions far exceed what anyone could imagine about Him. Do these two pictures fit yours?

ON TV

José Alfredo Deigado Rangel

Violence on TV induces strange behavior in people. When a child watches cartoons, he is receiving or learning quantities of violence, since cartoons nowadays are more violent than ever.

There are many cartoons like «Dragon ball» Z or «The Simpsons» from which children can also learn about the dangers of war, death, shooting, drugs, prostitution and the loss of family values.

On the other hand there are beautiful stories on TV that teach us to respect other people's opinions, points of view, beliefs, etc.

The news is the most violent on TV because they present deaths, rapes, drugs stealing and corruption in real life.

We can find several kinds of TV programs. It depends on each one of us to choose which ones to watch. The choice is in our hands. We should learn to select and to understand the dangers produced through this mass media.

FRIENDS FOREVER

accompanies our life's incidents. They support us in the most difficult moments and they share amusing events with us.

On the other hand, adults do not have the same capacity to trust other people as children do. It is hard for them to completely surrender to a new friendship. Through friends people know other customs. This lets us compare life styles and learn new values.

When we meet people from work or at the university, we spend funny times at parties, meetings, or just sitting around telling jokes. Sometimes these friendships end when we leave school, or we just do not share time together since our interests change.

ANGELA YANETH BAUTISTA CRUZ

Soul friends, from the neighborhood, school, sports, childhood pranks; they know our dreams and they take part in the best moments of our lives. Friendship is a school of tolerance that forges the personality.

To think about the good times is to think about our friends, games and confidential secrets while we were teenagers.

We always count on a partner, a comrade who

During childhood criticism, judgement and distrust have not developed yet. Children are ready to build a relationship based on togetherness, size, and willingness to play.

Friendship, especially among youngsters, is fundamental for structuring a strong character and interpersonal relationships: Comradeship is the link that forms solidarity. Real friends accept each other without criticism, and comradeship is built by giving the best of oneself.

My Autobiography...

Rose De La Mancha

There is always a reason to say 'NO' to DRUGS! It is a psychological sickness manifesting itself through the physical and mental dependency started first by any narcotic or alcoholic beverage.

Everybody should be aware that this is a sickness, since it is progressive. There is nothing that destroys more than addiction. The addict shows disinterestedness; he forgets his hobbies and he totally disregards duties to jobs, family, friends and activities. In his personal aspect, he becomes dirty and disorderly. He refuses all types of responsibility and he avoids activities that require any effort. His relationships with his parents and friends deteriorate quickly and he changes his circle of friends for those who satisfy his craving. He ends up by destroying his life.

I understand this problem very well because I was addicted to drugs. Everything began 3 years ago when I recognized an old acquaintance.

We went out over a weekend to drink some beers and after a long time he offered me 'grass'. I really did not want to try it but the curiosity was stronger than my resistance. I smoked it and liked it. I continued smoking it for several months, everyday all day long. After some time, it was not enough. Then I decided to try other things like cocaine, base, amphetamines.

I BECAME DEPENDANT. I wanted to stop but could not. One day I traveled to Bucaramanga and decided to visit "N.A." -Narcotics Anonymous-. I thought that is was possible to find the solution there, but it was not as I had thought. I felt pointed at and judged.

Time passed and I continued consuming drugs. I became thinner and lost my natural beauty inside and out. I did not want to go to the university and the consequence was, I failed two semesters. All I wanted to do was get "high".

One thing made me change. When I received the news that my nephew had been born, it really made me happy. That day I swore in the name of that baby to stop consuming drugs forever. I kept that promise and TODAY, I AM "CLEAN".

CHILDREN:

STAND UP FOR YOUR RIGHTS!

Erika Gómez Lavado

**UNICEF is an
organization
which is working
to favor children.
In addition this
organization has
consistently ruled
against child
exploitation.**

Today governments celebrate International Day of Action. With their multiple problems, security, drugs, lack of education they try to resolve these questions in the best possible way.

Child labor is the most insidious outrage. Work exploitation turns helpless children with their goals, wishes, purposes and feelings into a machine moving the global economy.

Sometimes, people do not know or want to publicize it. Fortunately, there are organizations created to protect the child but the majority of people ignore the plight of child laborers for the pursuit of profits, no matter what the cost. Imagine your child being forced to work long hours under hellish conditions for the profit of an individual.

UNICEF is an organization which is working to favor children. In addition this organization has consistently ruled against child exploitation.

In some countries these violations are illegal. The ban or boycott on the basis of the violation of human rights is also illegal. Nations can even be punished by fines for refusing to buy products made by children.

Domestic violence caused by members of our own families, such as; physical and moral violence slaps, punches, kicks, psychological, emotional and verbal mistreatment causing fear and submission. The lack of education, clothes, medicine are among other basic human rights sometimes denied us.

On the other hand sexual harassment, child pornography, pedophilia, children in work camps, or «mulas» are found in the illegal black market traffic. Exploiting human beings without one iota of shame is very common in today's world.

We swore never to be silent whenever and wherever human beings endure suffering and humiliation. We must never be neutral since this helps the oppressor, never the victim. Silence encourages the tormentor, never the tormented.

MARRIAGE

Yanessa Tatiana Diaz Garcia

«Marriage is the union between two people: one who loves more; the other who loves better.»
(Victor Hugo).

Finally, after nine long months, the moment arrives. If a boy was born, father is happy, but if it was a girl... Here, is the first problem; when the baby cries at midnight nobody wants to get up.

Daddy says: my love, "I can't go, remember I must work tomorrow". Then, baby is five or six months old. Daddy doesn't help his wife and she has more work than ever. Mom doesn't even have time to make up or fix up nor be beautiful; moreover, after the pregnancy, she's fat. So, he sees his divine love as very ugly. This is another problem.

At work, he looks at beautiful women. On his way home, he looks at more beautiful women. At the end of «a hard day's work» he arrives home to find his wife very untidy and very fat!

He wants to look very handsome. He does exercises with the excuse "my work demands it". He becomes bossy: "You must wash and iron this shirt very well", "I told you I can't eat these!" Then, the arguments worsen.

Suddenly, he has the "great opportunity"; afterwards he changes towards his wife. "I must work until very late"; "I'm exhausted"; "hmmm! you're fatter" The only and the worst solution she finds is to continue arguing.

All his friends know this, and they sympathize with him.

Then, there is another problem. He never has any money. Consequently, the home lacks many things. He's bored because she bothers him a lot about economic necessities.

Finally, he decides to leave home because as he puts it: "I can't stand my wife!"

Where is the communication? Where are our principles? Where is the promise of eternal "love for better or for worse?"

When two 'lovers' get married, they promise to love each other 'til death do them part'. They are the happiest couple on earth. They go on a honeymoon and all things are perfect and wonderful.

This perfect romance continues during two or three years, more or less. Then the wife gives her husband the greatest news: "I'm pregnant". There the honeymoon ends. That's when problems start. They see all of each other's defects.

All of their friends and family members are happy because of the news, and immediately all sorts of attentions begin; fruit here, presents there, etc. and above all, she has the perfect husband again. He's a domesticated man during all the pregnancy.

He buys things for his baby. Obviously, he always thinks, the newborn will be a boy and he will have his father's name, face, likes and dislikes.

My Hometown

Horacio Sánchez Ospina

Tucked away in the Saint Nicholas Valley, one comes upon the surprising town of Guarne, Antioquia. There, more than anywhere else in the world where high mountains and rivers meet, Guarne rises over 1800 meters above the sea, with about 30,000 inhabitants. It is actually the best town you can imagine near Medellín.

To get there you start from Pamplona to Bucaramanga by car. Otherwise, you have to go to Cúcuta and take a plane to the Jose Maria Cordoba Airport in Rionegro, a 45 minute flight.

It is the prettiest town in Antioquia. El Organo and La Eme, two high mountains that can be seen at a distance running along the Mosca River on the speedway. The different blues in the sky give hues to the greenest landscape worthy of a postcard.

There is no town in the world like it. Guarne has several levels of temperature and several climates. There is everything that can grow in the tropics: tobacco, sugar cane, plantains, yucca, coffee, fruit, flowers vegetables and potatoes.

The typical lunch is the "Bandeja Paisa". This is a platter of stewed beans, meat, plantains, arepa* and eggs; all with white rice.

In the jungle near the base of El Organo mountain, outside of town, we can find several kinds of snakes, near the top, the condors, the largest of birds and lords of the sky; the masters of the heights are part of the mountain's life. The mountain looks like a pyramid which shoots up from the valley. From the plains below, we can look up to the patches of green clumps of trees, offset by the white of sudden snows that refresh the body and spirit.

In Guarne, people speak about the mega-project, The San Jeronimo Tunnel.

This will shorten the distance between the big city and the Atlantic Coast.

There is also The Oriental Tunnel which will put the modern International Airport, Jose Maria Cordoba and the fertile, eastern region only 20 minutes away.

Before people used to go out fishing in La Mosca and in La Brizuela rivers; they cultivated their food, even eaten by the highest classes of people who live in Medellín. But this perfect organization was totally destroyed by the factories removed from the capital to the valley of Guarne. Today, most of the old farms have been converted into summer resorts where rich people can take refuge escaping from the crowded city.

The "paisa" dresses in RUANA* and CARRIEL*; he carries a bottle of aguardiente in his pocket for spiritual uplifting.

Everytime I come back from Guarne to Pamplona, I am torn between two feelings: joy and sadness. The sadness comes from having crossed the path of people who have many material problems. The joy comes from the way they have learned to solve them, because of their highly religious respect of the forces of Nature's world.

I love Guarne because it is my HOMETOWN and my family lives there. Get to know it!

*arepa-corn flour patty without salt usually grilled.

*RUANA - It is like a Mexican poncho

*carriel- typical pocketbook of thick leather slung over the shoulder with many different compartments.

THE CASK OF AMONTILLADO

MARIANA MARCELA MOLINA GAMEZ

One of the main themes of Edgar Allan Poe's 'The Cask of Amontillado' is revenge. Here, dramatic irony is used all through the short story as a way of reminding us of the true intentions of the character who vowed revenge. The story is supposed to have happened more than a hundred years ago; first published in 1846, during the Italian Carnival festivities.

The main character, a man called Montressor, feels terribly offended, even insulted by a friend named Fortunato, and firmly decides to take this friend's life. In order to achieve his aim, Montressor elaborates a plan which consists basically of two steps: first, to take Fortunato to the wine cellar of the Montressors' mansion, and then, to stab him and leave him down there forever.

Irony first appears in Fortunato's name. Once we are made aware, that he is going to be killed, the irony continues present during the entire short story as something to call our attention to the reality of underlying intentions.

In the second paragraph Montressor states that in spite of his decision to kill Fortunato, he continued smiling in his face, but he adds: "... and he did not perceive that my smile now was at the thought of his immolation." So, when they meet each other, they behave as always, but now Montressor's smile has another meaning.

A certain evening, "during the supreme madness of carnival season"... , Montressor meets his "friend" Fortunato. Montressor is very kind, even affectionate towards him. He greets Fortunato... "My dear Fortunato, you are luckily met..." . The reader knows Montressor's real intentions. Here this greeting has another meaning, different from what it would mean if we did not know about Montressor's plan.

Once we are aware of Montressor's macabre goal, we perceive still another meaning of the sentence. It could be interpreted "my odious enemy Fortunato. It is bad luck for you having met me". Here, the irony dresses itself bitterly tasting of a sadist's disguised anger.

However, there are passages in which it is impossible to assure that Montressor was using irony in his speech. For example, in the passage where Fortunato says: "Enough (...), the cough is a mere nothing; it will not kill me. I shall not die of a cough." and Montressor replies, "True-true..." Perhaps Montressor said that without thinking that he, himself, would be the agent to cause it.

Another very interesting part in which there is implicit irony is when the two men talk about The House of Montressors' coat of arms; a foot stepping on the head of a snake. In this case the irony has meaning in itself, revealing revenge as a family trait.

All these examples demonstrate how Edgar Allan Poe used dramatic irony in his short story to call the readers' attention to the double meaning of words, even the title shows irony since the wine cask will probably be Fortunato's casket. This is one of Poe's favorite motifs, the duplicity of human nature.

TIA TOMASITA

A TENDER DREAM

María José Guerrero Díaz
&
Claudia Cabrera Yarsen

There is always a feeling that moves, fills and softens hearts. Tenderness! It makes people more sensitive and opened to love.

CAIMIUP, The Integral Attention Center for Infants at the University of Pamplona is a socio-educative area, created with the purpose of contributing to the personal development of children. The hope is to develop creative, autonomous, rational individuals within a social reality. CAIMIUP offers the university family the opportunity of receiving appropriate stimulation and integral attention by means of nutritional, mental and physical care.

The active team of professionals: two teachers, a psychologist, a physiotherapist, community mothers, and five auxiliary students who are doing their scholarship work.

CAIMIUP has an agreement with the ICBF, a Colombian institute of family well-being. It also supplies food for children's lunch boxes assisting community mothers.

The center is organized into four classrooms: one for toddlers, a nursery, and one for the physically challenged.

There are fifty-six children distributed in these classrooms. 80% of these children's parents are students at the University of Pamplona. The center takes care of the University workers' children and outsiders' children as well.

MISSION

It offers boys and girls a holistic education in the physical, intellectual and spiritual areas. This is a research center that offers an educative program to the community family

and the child who has special educative needs.

VISION

These children will obtain the resources that contribute to a social transformation and become adults who are aware and integrated with society. Here joyfulness and energy are projected as a constant that will result in a full life of peacefulness within their own surroundings.

SERVICES-PORTFOLIO

The Integral Attention Center for Infants at the University of Pamplona offers:

1. Pre-natal Preparation: This program is directed to women in the period of gestation; it is directed at trying to ensure that babies arrive into the world with intelligent attitudes, a healthy condition and spiritually protected. This program is coordinated by experienced physiotherapists.

2. Postnatal Education: This program seeks to address the necessities of newborns until they are three years old. It contributes to the improvement and development of children with neural disorders; that is, children who have alterations on the sensorial, motor, intellectual and emotional levels.

This sums up most of the things that contribute to the CAIMIUP but above all, we must point out our staff's dedication, their compassionate and loving attitudes towards children from all walks of life.

To get to CAIMIUP, just follow a stone road leading to a little house and Children's Park where you begin a big adventure.

SECRETS TO TRIUMPH IN LIFE

Anonymous.

Did you know that something so simple like human relations could be a secret for your triumph in life?

Generally, most of us do not have good human relations for several reasons. Our level of awareness is not optimum. Since we do not exercise our conscience, we do not have good human relations. This means speaking logically and coherently. Our brain should be in gear before speaking; our acts show our thoughts.

Emmanuel Kant says: "the external reflects the internal." A person is the result of his own thoughts.

We can be successful at home if we are comprehensive,

respectful, loving and sincere with our parents, brothers and sisters. Also, we could be victorious at work if we assume responsibility and diligence for doing our job.

Our belief in a positive attitude and ourselves produces energy, abilities necessary for the triumph of any person in any professional area.

Furthermore, if we are good students, our academic record and discipline will be excellent; pressures, fears, frustrations, worries, and failures would disappear.

If we believe in ourselves, as Jesus said "if you have faith, like a mustard seed; you can move mountains".

MY HAND.

Gina Esperanza Gelvez.

There are many things that exist but we never stop to think of their use; for instance, the parts of our body. I see my hand. The extension of my arm. It is on the table. It lives! It is! It opens. The fingers unfurl and point. The palm supports the back of it. It shows me its fat womb. It looks like an animal face up with its feet in the air. I enjoy making them move fast, like the feet of a crab fallen down on its back. Now, the little crab scratches his belly with his feet.

The crab has died. The feet shrink. They double up on the womb of my hand making a fist. I see the fingernails. It is the only thing of mine that does not have a pulse, besides my hair... and again, my hand extends face downward as it offers me its back; a silvered back, shiny like a fish... but not one! because of the red hair on the tips of the phalanges. I feel my hand. It is one of those two animals that

shake at the extreme of my arms. Its weight is on the table. This impression of weight never ends. It is unbearable.... I take it away and I put it in my pocket.

I immediately hang it over the back of the chair. Now, I feel its weight at the extreme end of my arm.

It draws back a little. It is voluptuous and soft. It exists.

It does not resist wherever I put it. I continue feeling its existence.

I cannot ignore the other parts of my body. Sensations that walk, swing, and sway...

Oh well, it vegetates sweetly from morning until night.

So, each time, we use a part of our body, we must thank God for such a magnificent creation.

Venezuelan Traditional Snacks








STEP BY STEP


















Antipasto Machiguense

ANTIPASTO A LA MACHIGUENSE

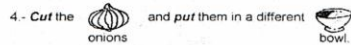
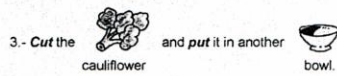
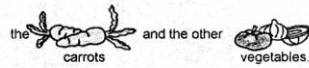
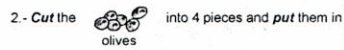
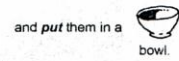
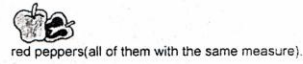
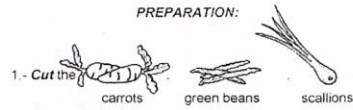
INGREDIENTS:

- 500 grs.  Cauliflower.
- 500 grs.  Carrots.
- 500 grs.  Green beans.
- 500 grs.  Scallions.
- 500 grs.  Red peppers.
- 500 grs.  Onions.
- 500 grs.  Olives (filled with red peppers).

Jimmy Gómez Lozano

- 1  Can of tuna (200 gr.)
- 2  Soupspoons of  mustard
- 2  Soupspoons of  ketchup.
- 2  Soupspoons of  Worcestershire sauce.
- 2  Soupspoons of  57 sauce.
- $\frac{1}{4}$  cup of  oil.
- Salt. 
- 2  bay leaves.
- 4  cloves of  garlic.

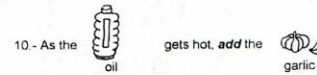
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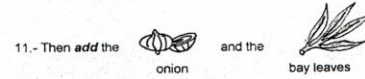
Now you are ready to start to cook.



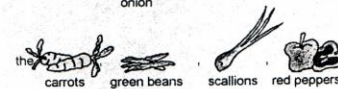
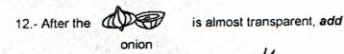
and **turn** it on.



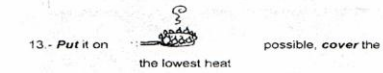
until it is **brown**.



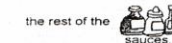
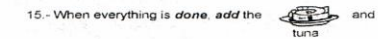
and **mix**.



but watch them so you do not **burn** them.



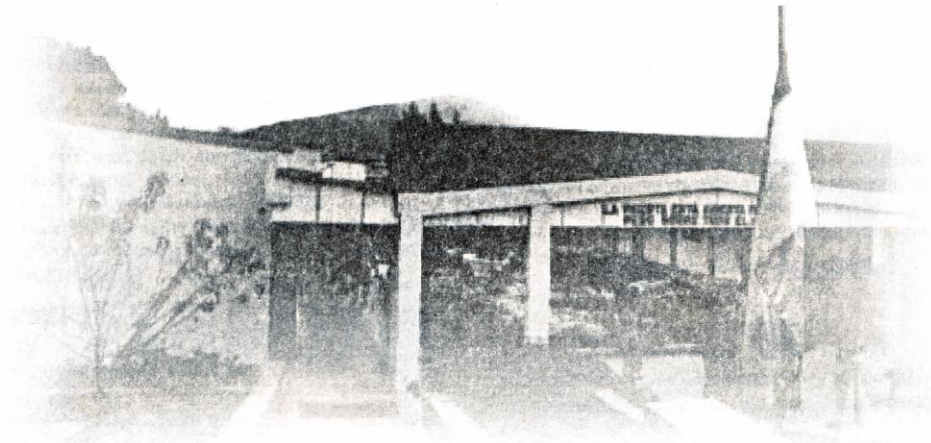
and let it **cook**.



cook for 10 to 15 minutes more.

TIPS: You can add more sauce if you think it's necessary.

Try to mix constantly in order to avoid the stew sticking to the pan. This is usually eaten at parties. Enjoy yourself



*Our doors are always open,
but especially our hearts*