

March 2016

# YouthLINE

Different  
Cultural dishes

Ethnic traditions  
to catch on to

Politics worth  
arguing over





# of CHALK

**At CHALK, we persistently advocate for ethnic diversity and youth advancement. We all like to teach each other as well as learn about one another's culture. So get ready to go a little deeper into all of our cultures.**

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## Flan

### Ingredients:

- 1 1/2 cups granulated sugar, divided
- 6 large eggs
- 1 14-ounce can of sweetened condensed milk
- 2 13-ounce cans evaporated milk
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- pinch of salt

Occasion: Christmas Day and Thanksgiving

## Syrniki

### Ingredients:

- creamy quark
- flour
- eggs
- sugar

Occasion: Back in Ukraine we were making syrniki once a week, but now we stopped because my grandma didn't move to US.

## Mole Poblano

Occasion: My birthday since it's my favorite dish.

Ingredients: The Mole Sauce is one third chocolate, two thirds spice. Put it over cooked chicken, with red rice and tortillas on the side.

## Pasta

- Cheese
- Pasta noodles
- Seasoning
- Pesto or pasta sauce

## Fried Chicken

### Ingredients:

- Chicken
- Flour
- Seasoning\*

Occasion: Birthdays, Thanksgiving, Easter, any holiday that you can BBQ on.

## Vigorón

Ingredients: It's a cabbage salad known as curtido (chopped cabbage, tomatoes, onions, and chili pepper marinated in vinegar and salt), boiled yuca, and chicharrones (fried pork with skin or with meat).

## Baleadas Beans and Rice

Occasion: Everyday

### Ingredients:

- Baleadas
- tortillas
- cheese

Beans and Rice

- soup of beans
- fried rice

## TACO

Occasion: An celebration of tacos as it is and easy fix people on a friendly man being the center of attraction and of Latin culture. Ingredients: The meat may vary of animal and cooked and what part it is, this is essentially a meat, cilantro and salsa (optional) strongly suga

## Ph

Ingredients: It's generally made of slim rice noodles in a soup and vegetables. The soup base is usually made of chicken and can be a variety of things from dried bean sprouts. Occasion: There are any real specific occasions we have besides when we're eating as a family.

## **Mole**

Ingredients:

- sauce
- chili peppers
- spices
- day-old bread
- nuts
- chocolate

Occasion: In Mexico it is usually done in weddings. Now my family makes it every now and then.

## **Sweet Potatoes**

Ingredients:

- cooked potatoes
- butter
- sugar
- cinnamon

Occasion: birthdays, family get togethers, any holiday.

## **Gorditas**

Ingredients: It is Masa (corn dough) made into the shape of a thick mini tortilla, cooked in a Comal (flat griddle) then cut in a way to make room for stuffing. After it is cut, it is stuffed with ground beef and fried. Once its out the fryer, you finish it off with lettuce, sour cream and chile (salsa). Delicious!

Occasion: Birthdays, and holidays.

## **Lomo Saltado**

Ingredients:

- marinated strips of sirloin
- onions
- tomatoes
- fried potato slices (french fries)
- rice

Occasion: Just all the time because it's bomb. com.

## **POSOLE**

Occasion: Definitely for Christmas and also just regular days. My mom usually cooks it on her day off so that we can have food for most of the week because it can last us a while.

Ingredients: It's a rich soup. It can be made with either chicken or with beef and has hominy beans. Once it's ready my family usually adds cilantro, onions, avocado and breaks tostadas in it as well.

# Streets of S

The country of Spain, has a lot to offer to tourists. Something that tourists enjoy (of course, varies on the tourist), as well as natives are bull runs. Bull runs are deemed dangerous, but they are still considered to be fun and entertaining to watch. Bull runs are found to be unsafe, as the event is mainly consists of bulls chasing people.

Many people are intimidated by this event which is understandable, while others feel adventurous and are willing to participate in the bull runs. When these people decide to participate in the run, they have to be physically and mentally prepared. Physically prepared so that they can run faster than a bull and not get injured or even killed. Mentally prepared because they have to be prepared for anything that

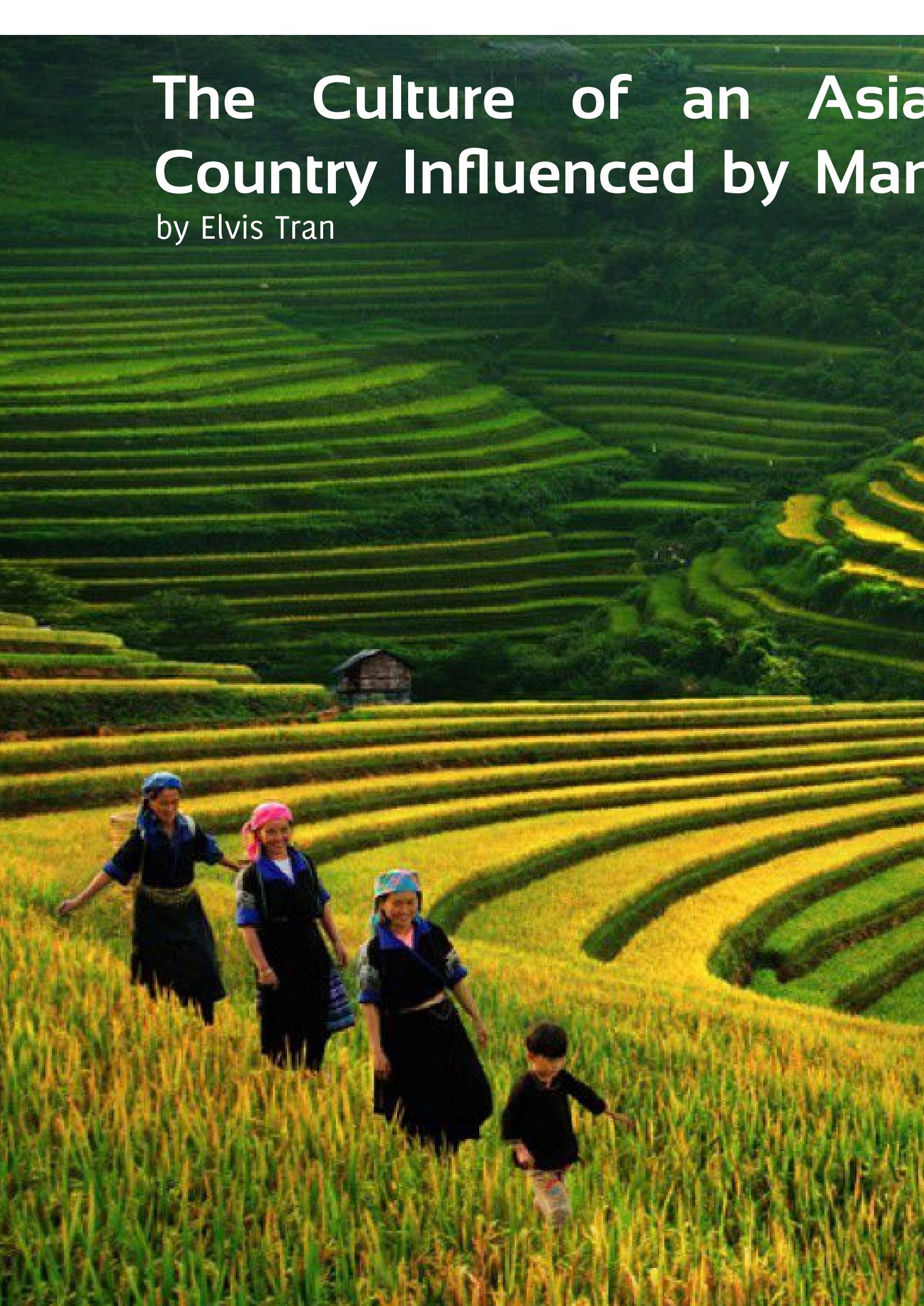


by Joseline Saucedo

The event basically starts with all of the people that are participating line up at the starting line. The bulls are released once the flare gun is shot up in the air. Once everyone sees the bulls behind them, they start running for their lives. What is interesting about bull runs is that they originated here in Spain around the 14th century. Along with fun, injuries and death accompany this tradition. Each year 50 - 100 people are injured during the race. Charlotte, a bull runner in July of 2013, said, "Last summer, in 2013, was my first experience at the San Fermin Festival, and oh boy! It was crazy! The one thing that I couldn't have expected is the incredible amount of energy in the city. It literally goes from quiet sleepy Spanish town to FIESTA CENTRAL in one night! So many happy, laughing, drunken faces everywhere. Everybody is on such a high, everybody is there to have fun, everybody is there to be respectful." "Bullfighting is a cruel blood sport that should have been relegated to the history books a long time ago," argues the animal right group Peta. "No matter what its history is, bullfighting consists of the torture, mutilation and slaughter of animals for entertainment." Although this culture has its pros and cons, it is embedded into the culture. It is very influential to all the participants that even though there are injuries and deaths, it remains to be celebrated. Bad or good, this is one of Spain's main aspect of culture.

# The Culture of an Asian Country Influenced by Matriarchy

by Elvis Tran



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Vietnamese food, but  
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y of an American  
e Dong, it would cost  
a bowl.

Vietnam was  
f Saigon. In Saigon,

the main source of transportation were  
motorcycles and taxis. The amount of cars  
(excluding taxis) was a ratio about 1:50 if I  
remember correctly ( it could have been  
more ). The first floors of many homes  
were made into shops that sold a variety of  
things from snacks to home equipment  
like brooms, sandals, and dishes. On the  
sidewalks were movable carts that sold  
sugarcane drinks, food, or other things.  
Sugarcane drink is very well-known in  
Vietnam, aka as n c mia. The carts that  
sold them had a pile of sugar cane so that  
the drink would be freshly made in  
addition with some lime for flavor. In terms  
of religion, once or twice a year my family  
would go to a Buddhist temple in order to  
give respect to the dead (my grandparents).  
Even in my home are multiple shrines, one  
that is taller than 7 foot tall and about 5 foot  
wide whereas the other 2 is about the size  
of half an adult's upper body and burning  
incense is natural. Sandals were worn  
everywhere, inside and outside but shoes  
weren't allowed inside similar to other  
Asian families. Truthfully, I do not know all  
the rules and manners in Vietnam, but I do  
understand the complexity of the history  
of Vietnam. Hopefully you also found this  
information interesting!

# ALL THE WAY FROM

by Bogdan Semeniuk





## Holidays

Social gatherings like Vechornytsi have a long history in Ukrainian culture, and so do traditional holidays like Ivan Kupala Day when people celebrate the day John's baptizing people through full immersion in water. Maslenitsa is a celebration of the end of winter where people make nalysnyky. Koledovanie is related to Christmas and it's about people going out and doing something very similar to trick or treating. For the last, Malanka, Ukrainians celebrate Malanka to symbolize the release of spring and to welcome it soon.

## Art

Ukrainian art is very diverse and colorful, and one example which comes to my mind is a traditional costume called Vyshyvanka. It is national shirt with Ornamental art on it. Often it has a hidden meaning in ancient symbolism. Another example of Ukrainian art, is a dance which called hopak and it is very energizing, and involves many fast-paced movements. Hence hopak as a dance is derived from hopak martial art of Cossacks.

# How to Learn a New Language

From Someone You Will Probably Never Meet

By *Elvis Tran*

**L**anguage is a significant part of one's culture. In order to connect best to a culture, it is important to be able to communicate and understand the people of that culture. However, learning a new language isn't easy. Most people have thought about it once or twice in a fleeting moment, and some have even tried. To successfully learn a new language, there are many things that should be kept in mind and things that should be constantly done.

When attempting to learn a new language, people often research for tips and tricks that would help them "learn faster". In most cases, these don't work as well as you would like them to. Rather, the most important part of learning a new language is daily effort (obviously) and then efficiency. Without effort, you won't get far and without efficiency, your effort would go to waste. Makes sense right? There are a few things you should definitely keep in mind or think about if you want to learn a new language. To keep yourself from losing motivation (as I'm sure the people who tried to learn a new language have probably lost already or are in the process of losing it, if not then you are awesome!), it is best to remember WHY you are trying to learn this new language and have some kind of factor that pushes you, for example grabbing a friend to join you in your journey. who are doing the exact same thing.



There are many websites or communities online of people attempting to learn a new language. Joining one of those and posting about your progress would be a great way to garner support and motivation. Although it is not wrong to tackle the challenge of learning a new language by yourself, it would be best to get involved with other people who are doing the exact same thing.

Efficiency is a completely different problem altogether. People want to learn FAST and push themselves, but the direction they go in may not be the best one. Vocabulary lists. These two words are something every language learner knows about, and some people focus on these at the beginning all the way to the end of their attempt.

Instead of using vocabulary lists and sticking true to them, it is much better to learn phrases, sounds, and words in context. You don't learn a language, you live it. It is best to regard a language as a living being rather than an object, it will always continue to change. In the case of learning words (such as the kanji in Japanese), first hearing how it is said and then using a spaced-repetition-system to remember it is recommended. For those who never heard of it, use wikipedia. Easy and simple.

Use an application, mobile or on the computer to help make a set for yourself. Anki is one of applications programmed as a spaced-repetition-system that you can use. Continuously add words to the list you wish you add to your repertoire and practice it daily. Set time aside to use the application. Pick a moment that you will certainly go through everyday, like during lunch or right before you go to sleep [although this time wouldn't work for most people because they'll feel lazy and say to themselves "I'll just do it tomorrow" (**DON'T DO THIS**)]. It is much better than an ordinary vocabulary list with flashcards in getting you to learn words. Learning should be fun, the moment you get bored of vocabulary lists, they aren't so useful anymore.

Failure. This word literally has the worst feeling floating behind it, at least in my opinion. However, when learning a new language, it shouldn't be something to fear nor avoid. Fearing failure would hinder you rather than help you in learning a new language. "Learn from your mistakes", everyone has heard of this saying, but don't just learn from it, live with it. People don't expect you to be a 100% fluent perfectionist in a language. Even in English, almost everyone makes mistakes in writing and speaking... even \*gasp\* natives. Of course this article is quite loose while informative, but even the sentences can be edited and therefore can be corrected and written better. If possible, try talking to someone who is fluent in the language you wish to speak in, and have them correct you. This way you can learn both faster and more efficiently, while having fun and laughing at your horrible mistakes. For people who attempted to learn or know mandarin/cantonese, you would know about the difference that one

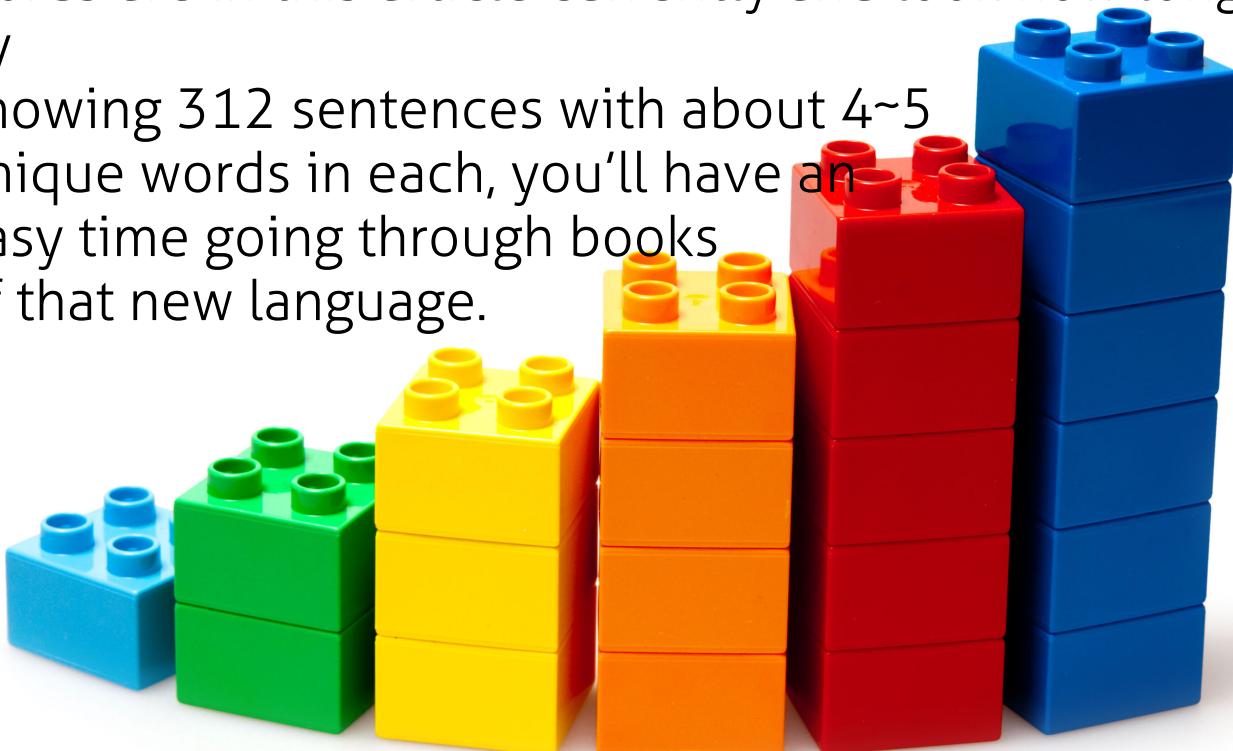
tone mark makes and how it would affect the sentence you just said. You're not a surgeon or a rocket scientist where one mistake would cost lives (if you are one and are currently reading this, then I would like to thank you, but the aspects of your career does not apply to learning a new language). You will eventually fail so much times that you become successful, something that doesn't happen too often in life.

Learn how it sounds before you know what it means. Repeating the word and knowing how it sounds helps incredibly in learning overall. It's pretty much the same thing that happens when you see a new word in a language you know and become curious in its meaning. Let me give an example, "floccinaucinihilipilification", who has even heard of this word? You know how it sounds (or can guess how it sounds) and proceed to learn its meaning and how to spell it/write it. If you don't know how it sounds, all it would look like it a jumble of lines and shapes that will never be used. If anything, just

will never be used. If anything, just watch a whole lot of foreign dramas and slowly incorporate the meanings that come with sentences or words. Later connect these words to its written form and boom, you learned a phrase that would ( or would not ) be used in daily life. You could probably break apart that sentence and use pieces of it in other sentences. Just keep doing it for every sentence (if it's fun for you, because having fun is the best way to stay motivated) you want to know, and you'll eventually have things down in concrete. Think to yourself, "what would be a cool thing to say in this language?" And put those thinking caps on and the internet ready for research. Learning a few sentences every week in both speech and written form could be a goal of yours, and by learning about 6 sentences every week (which actually isn't that much, only about 2 hours a week or to make it seem even smaller, nearly 1/4 of an hour a day) for a year, you'll have near fluency (of course this is exaggerating, but 312 sentences is more than enough to get by, as long as there's variety in word usages). In truth, I didn't even use that many words, only about 400 unique words are in this article currently and look how long it is!

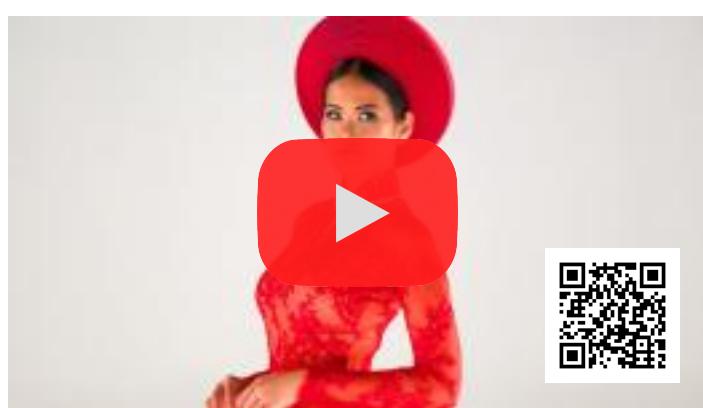
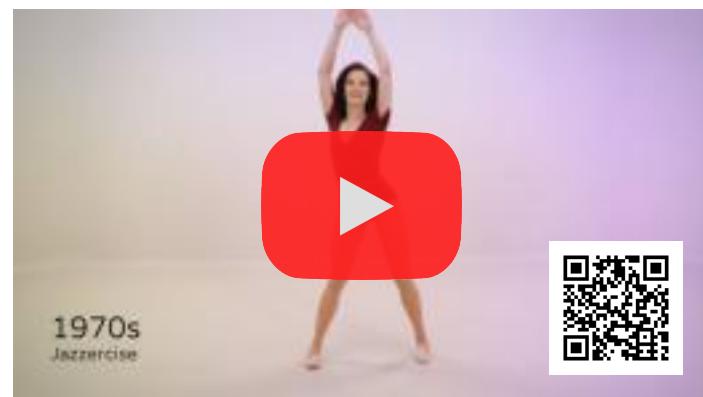
By

knowing 312 sentences with about 4~5 unique words in each, you'll have an easy time going through books of that new language.



Learning a new language is a challenge and it's not easily done. One of my teachers told me it takes 10,000 hours to be a master a skill, but you don't need to be a master to be able to thrive in a country. You just need to be able to know a few hundred words and you should be able to communicate well. If you don't know a word, you can simply spin it in a way that's slightly vague like, a door hinge, you can say the part of the door that allows the door to turn and connects it to the wall. All it takes is motivation, patience, being open to mistakes, efficient learning styles, and enjoyment to learn to be able to speak and write in it. All of the things mentioned in the paragraphs are ways to keep that motivation, have patience, understanding importance of mistakes, and some ways that are efficient. For those who will try to learn a new language, I wish you luck and for those who are currently attempting, I hope this was helpful!

# EVOLUTION OF HUMAN THINGS



# Lots of Green and Tons of Eggs

by Elvis Tran

## Easter

Easter is a holiday well-known and celebrated around the world (but not in every country). Its celebration is meant for the rebirth of Jesus who crucified himself in Christian religion, however for kids, it is a time for the Easter bunny, eggs, and vacation. Where exactly did this infamous symbol come from? In fact, the word "Easter" was never inside the Bible (excluding when it was used in the meaning "Passover"), rather it's origin was from a pagan (something that isn't Christianity or related to the Church) belief deriving from the name Ishatar/Eostara/Estra. Some sources say that she was the wife of a King in ancient Babylonian time who was deified into the sun god and who was also later deified into the goddess of the moon, fertility, and birth, the goddess of Spring in Saxon religion, or the goddess of Dawn in another religion. All these religions had the same theme of "birth" / "new beginning" and with it came the symbol of the egg which represented fertility and the animal symbol of fertility, the bunny. These symbols were also incorporated into the Christian celebration (although they have no specific Christian interpretation) because of their widespread use! As celebrations after celebrations came about, the use and decoration of the bunny and egg became inseparable from its celebration.



## Saint Patrick's Day

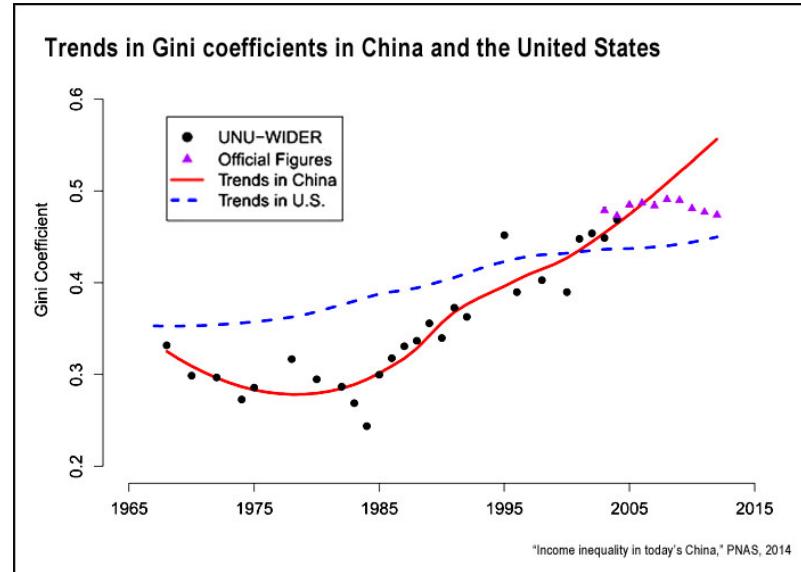
Saint Patrick's day (aka Feast of Saint Patrick) is celebrated on March 17th every year, the official death date of the foremost patron saint of Ireland, Saint Patrick. In a well-known legend, Saint Patrick used a three-leaved shamrock to explain the concept of the Holy Trinity to Irish pagans. Green wasn't actually the color associated with Saint Patrick, it was originally blue. The combination of emerald/green and the legend of the shamrock were the reasons that green became the widespread color to be worn on Saint Patrick's day. This celebration and holiday extended all across the world with the Irish population along parades (which actually started in America due to the large influx of Irish immigrants during the potato famine) and the wearing of green even if you're not really celebrating or honoring the saint.

# Words of a Socialist: The Space Between Us

by Yonglin Chen

When we think about culture, there are certain things that come to mind immediately—food, music, clothes, the list could go on and on. We'll never run out of pleasant things to talk about, so let's put things back into perspective.

We like to think that we've come so far and we have all the technology to thank. But here's one thing that haven't changed—the income gap. The uneven distribution of wealth is the reason behind the heated debates between presidential candidates. It's not a surprise that today, the rich are richer and the poor are poorer. Many of the countries that we romanticize have problems dealing with this issue. Popular tourist destinations only show the pretty sides of the city, never the struggling families in the countryside. Despite all the new technology, many of the



how farmers lived centuries ago.

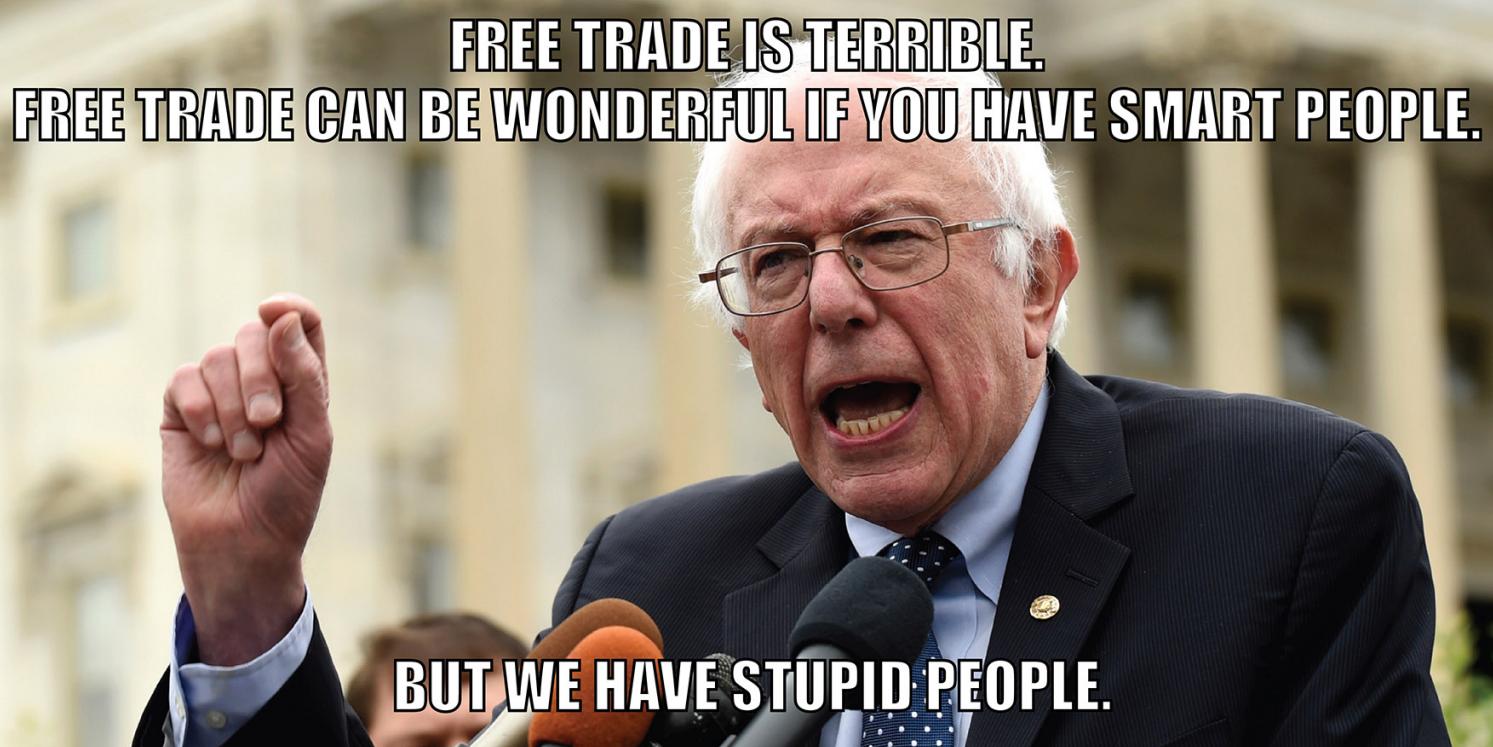
We know the income inequality is already bad in the US, but Germany takes the first place for having the biggest gap. As theorized on theguardian.com, studies back in 2014 credit the wealth gap to the “lack of data to abolition of wealth tax in 1996”. This isn't too surprising since rich big business owners have a habit of taking advantage of the incoming wealth under the limited government control. Many fingers point to Hartz IV—the long-term unemployment benefits first named after Peter Hartz. Although the plan lowered the unemployment rates by a little, it's nonetheless

When mentioning China, many immediately think of trips to the Great Wall or night trips around the Shanghai. This Asian country is also the one to be a self-proclaimed communist country that runs on democratic ideals. According to an article in [theweek.com](http://theweek.com), the wealthy 20% of China owns the 47% of the country's wealth. People are even going to extents of claiming that China are becoming like America. Elites from both nations take clear advantage of the opportunities in global free trade. The Gini

coefficient represent the national income distribution. In a graph taken from [journalistsresource.org](http://journalistsresource.org), China has seen a steep increase in the Gini coefficient the last decade while the US is leveling off. Even if the US is trying harder to solve its wealth inequality, other countries are still suffering.

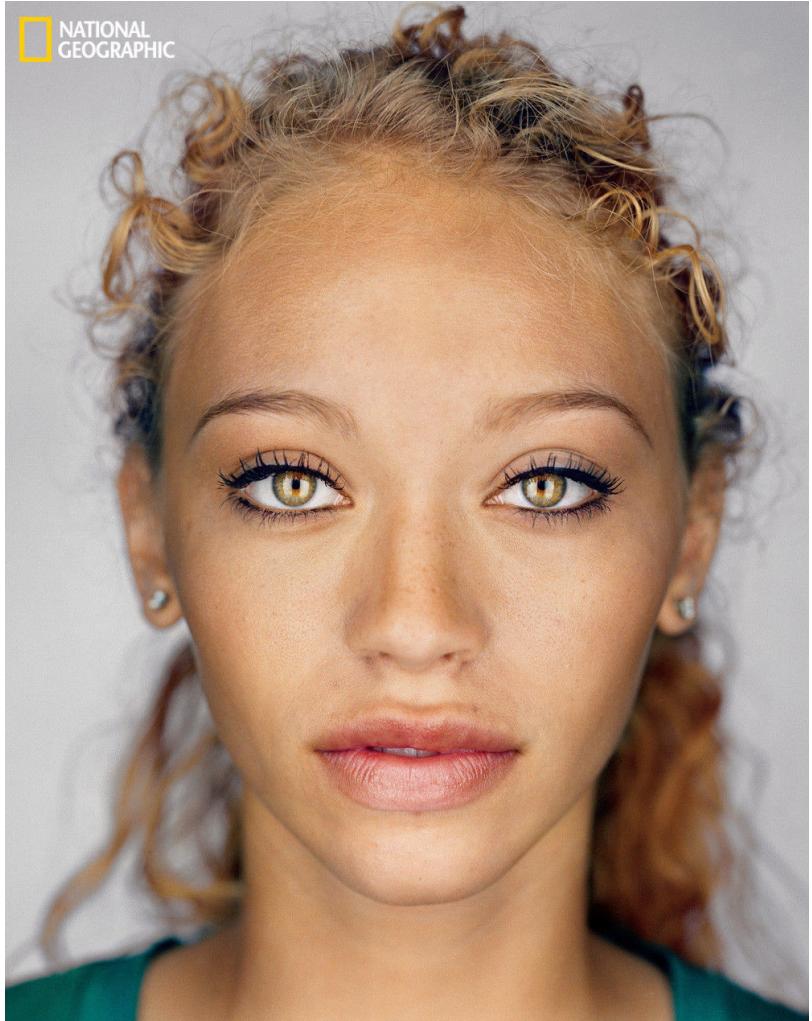
Many attribute their country's problems to the political parties and the leaders on the podium, a the reason many youths are flocking to Bernie Sander's speeches. Our little anecdote on Germany's economy

relates to many of our own country's issues. The presidential election is no doubt bringing a heated debate about wealth distribution and government intervention in business. Many support the idea that the US need to get onboard the reform wagon and that there needs to be serious change to the government. Filling up the arenas where Bernie are giving his speeches, Millennials and the Generation Z are enjoying Sanders's talk about free healthcare and visa reform for hopes of "a future to believe".



# Mixed Race, One Race

by Joseline Saucedo



In contradiction to the “only one race, no mixed family” idea, National Geographic has released photos that are there to refute this idea. National Geographic has released photos that help us understand what they mean. They say that by 2050, there will be so many diverse families in America that everyone will look different. To the point where everyone looks exotic. Everyone will range from being half asian, half white, to half latino, half black. Everyone will be

mixed of every race one can possibly think of. Mic.com, in an article about National geographic and the mixed race, said, “Their numbers will only grow. The U.S. Census Bureau let respondents check more than one race for the first time in 2000 and 6.8 million people did so. By 2010 that figure had increased to nearly 9 million, a spike of about **32%**”. This increase of multiracial families might even be a way of ending the superiority of one culture over the other.

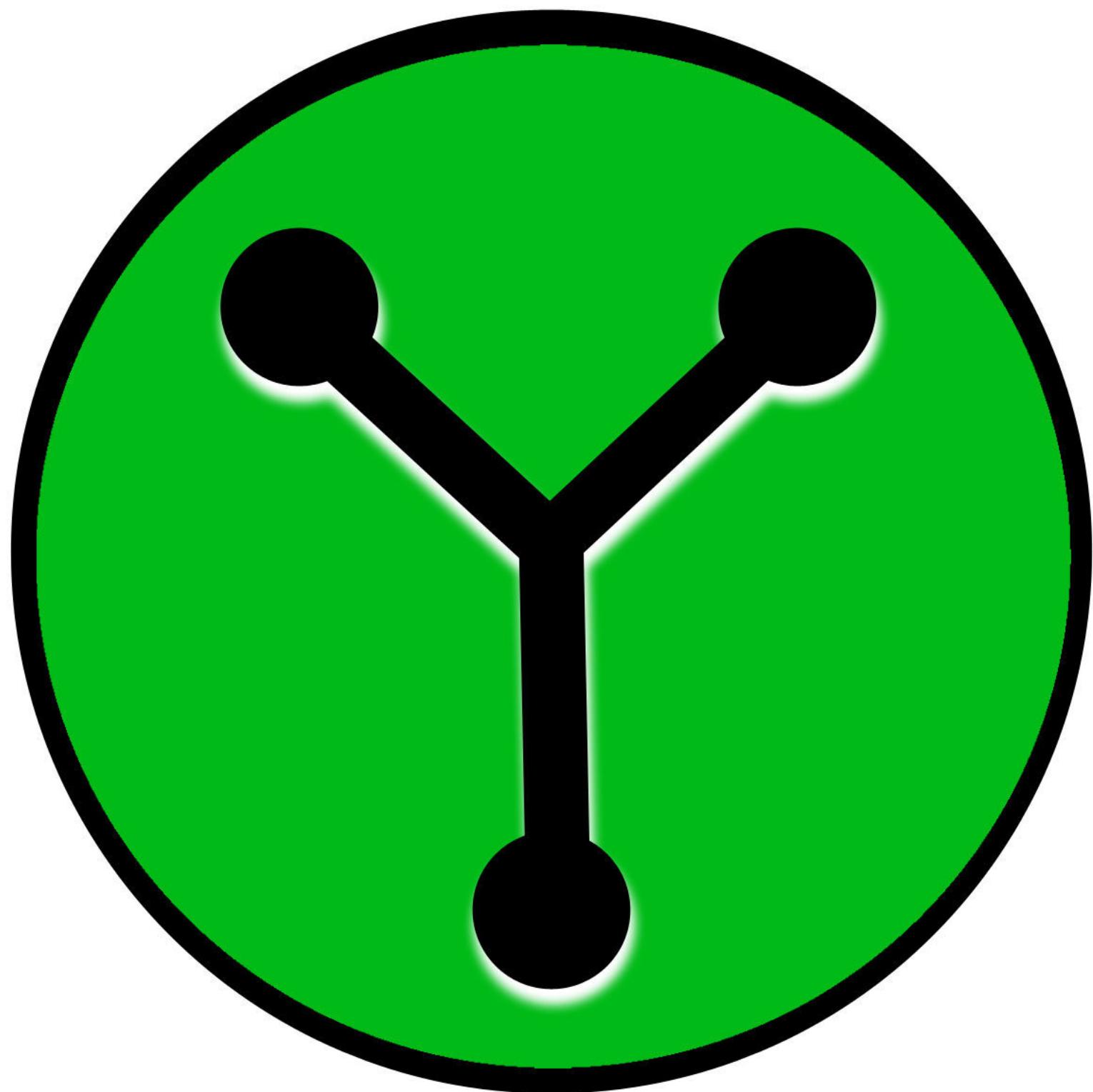
The idea that one race is superior over the other is still here in the United States. In a recent high school basketball game in Andrean High School, some students lifted giant Trump faces in the air while screaming

**“Build that wall”**. The opposite team of Andrean High School, the Bishop Noll team from Bishop Noll Institute, is mostly Hispanic as well as the

people cheering for them. However, they felt like Trump's face was not enough to get their point across to the people. They went even further by lifting a Dora the Explorer face, the maid from Family Guy, and the ESPN Deportes sign. Nevertheless, there is an increase of interracial couple who are putting the acts of these kids in vain. These couples are not only proving something, but also ending something.

For example, what Trump wants to do with Mexicans and how he wants to kick them out is crazy. In spite of that, there are Mexican white couples. This sort of balances what is happening in the United States with superiority and discrimination. The future interracial couples to come in the future are going to be what unites the United States as a nation.





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