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SCOPE

VOL. 58 NO. 1 ISSN 0036-6412

Reading,
Writing &
Reality
For Teens™



READERS THEATER PLAY

Romeo and Juliet

Bring Shakespeare's
classic tale to life

NONFICTION

Connection Disconnect

Is today's technology
making you antisocial?
Debate it!

King of Comedy

Humor writing with
Adam Sandler

NEW!
WRITE NOW!
Writing
Program

- **SCOPE'S ROAD MAP TO GREAT WRITING!**
- **15 Writing Prompts!**



SCOPE

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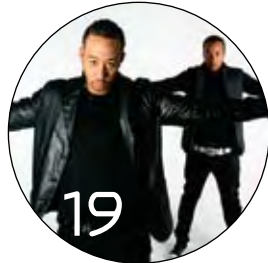
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THE SCOPE 100

WOW THEM WITH WORDS!

With our SCOPE 100 program, you'll learn 100 SAT and ACT words by the end of the school year. The first six words appear throughout this issue in red.

antagonize [an-TAG-uh-nize], *v.* oppose **Synonym:** contest

formulate [FOR-myoo-late], *v.* to express as or reduce to a formula **Synonyms:** plan, word

grave [GRAYV], *adj.* requiring serious thought **Synonym:** weighty

nuance [NOO-ahnts], *n.* shade of difference **Synonym:** variation

prodigious [pro-DIH-juhs], *adj.* of great size or power **Synonyms:** enormous, exceptional

weary [WEER-ee], *adj.* worn out **Synonyms:** tired, lackluster

Teachers:

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LITERARY ART

Gigantic Gulliver!



He has nostrils as big as soccer balls, teeth the size of pillows, bones as long as telephone poles—and room for people to walk through his insides! Who is this 196-foot-long giant in Taichung, Taiwan? He's a replica of Lemuel Gulliver from the classic 1726 novel *Gulliver's Travels* by Irish writer Jonathan Swift.

In the novel, Gulliver is shipwrecked in Lilliput, where the six-inch-tall Lilliputians tie him down because they think he is a dangerous giant. Recent visitors to the enormous Gulliver sculpture know how the Lilliputians felt!

The giant plastic-and-canvas inflatable tent-like sculpture was part of an exhibit called "Discover Gulliver." Tour guides led visitors into Gulliver through his foot for an up-close look at some of his organs, including his lungs, large intestine, and pumping heart, before exiting through his ear. The sculpture was a gift to Taiwan's children for 2009 Children's Day.

Write a story about the giant in the photo coming to life.

TEEN SPOTLIGHT

Atticus Essayist

"While reading a book, I notice characters that remind me of people in real life," writes Abigail Macias, 15, in her award-winning essay. Her local library in Topeka, Kansas, asked teens to compare Atticus Finch, the hero from Harper Lee's novel *To Kill A Mockingbird*, with someone in their lives. Abigail knew

just whom to write about.

"Atticus reminds me a lot of my dad," writes Abigail. "They are both hardworking men who are gruff, intelligent, protective, and brave."

In the novel, Atticus Finch is a lawyer who defends a wrongly accused man. Atticus shows his daughter, Scout, how to



Abigail Macias and the book that inspired her to write an essay.

do the right thing, even when it's hard. **Write an essay comparing a character in a book with someone you know.**

SPORTS NEWS

Mannings Write Book

Football stars Eli and Peyton Manning are on the field. Eli's got the pen. He passes to Peyton. Peyton runs into writer's block, but wait—here's their dad, Archie! Peyton passes to Archie. It's a family effort all the way to the goal line. SCORE! The Mannings make a touchdown for literacy with a new book.

The Manning brothers took a break from scoring points on the field to write *Family Huddle*, hitting bookshelves later this month. The picture book, illustrated by Jim Madsen, tells the family's story in their own words. Even their father,

MANNING FAST FACTS

- **MVP BROS:** Eli and Peyton are the first brothers to both win Super Bowl MVPs. Peyton won in 2007 as quarterback for the Indianapolis Colts. Eli won in 2008 as quarterback for the New York Giants.
- **PEYBACK:** Peyton runs Peyback Foundation, which helps families in need. Eli helps build children's clinics in Mississippi.



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP RIGHT: (left to right) Eli, Peyton, and Archie; an illustration from *Family Huddle* shows Eli (left), oldest brother Cooper (middle), and Peyton as kids; Peyton and Eli face off in 2007.

WORD WIZARD

Education:

Teachers bring out the best in students. Maybe that's why the word *educate* comes from the Latin verb *educere* [ed-yoo-CHAY-ray], which means to bring out.

legendary quarterback Archie Manning, helped write the book.

Eli, Peyton, and Archie are also the first ever Ambassadors of Reading for Scholastic Book Clubs' ClassroomsCare, a program that provides books to young readers who don't have the funds to buy their own. When a

participating class promises to read 100 books, ClassroomsCare donates 100 books to readers in need. To celebrate the Manning family's new status as literary leaders, ClassroomsCare will donate up to 1 million books!

"Reading has always

been an important part of our lives and success," Peyton says of his family. "With this book, we hope to share our message about the value of literacy and **education** to children and their families."

Write a paragraph about how reading impacts your life.



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CLASSICS

Tennyson Turns 200

The English poet Alfred Lord Tennyson (1809-1892) was so famous in his day, he was like the J. K. Rowling of the 19th century.

To mark the anniversary of his 200th birthday (August 1), fans are celebrating all year with concerts, exhibits, and poetry readings.

Alfred Lord Tennyson



Tennyson's most famous poems include *The Lady of Shalott* and *In Memoriam*. He wrote *In Memoriam* after his best friend died. *Write a poem about a friend.*

BOOKSHELF

Stars' Book Picks

Ready to read a real page-turner, but don't know which to pick? Try one of these celebrity faves!

SARA PAXTON

PRIDE AND PREJUDICE

by Jane Austen

This novel tells the story of Elizabeth Bennet, whose parents want her to marry well. Her pride threatens to stand in the way of true love.

WILL.I.AM

CHARLIE AND THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY

by Roald Dahl

Charlie is thrilled when he wins a contest to tour the world's most mysterious candy factory—until his sweet trip turns sour!

SETH ROGEN

THE OUTSIDERS

by S.E. Hinton

There are two kinds of guys in Ponyboy's world: greasers and socs. Everything Ponyboy thought he knew is turned inside out when a greaser in his gang murders a rival soc.

KEKE PALMER

EVERLOST

by Neal Shusterman

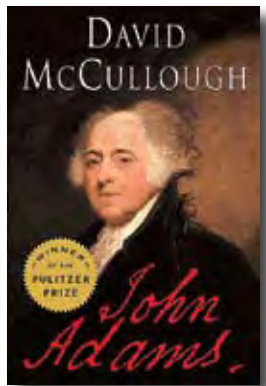
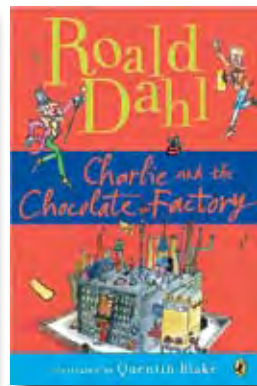
A fatal car crash leaves Nick and Allie in Everlost, a parallel universe between life and death. The afterlife isn't easy. The two must stick together to stay safe.

BEN STILLER

JOHN ADAMS

by David McCullough

In this best-selling biography, former President John Adams weathers storms of controversy while building a foundation for young America.



TOP: GRANGER COLLECTION, NY; BOTTOM LEFT TO RIGHT: TAMMIE ARROYO/AP IMAGES; JEFFREY MAYER/WIREIMAGE/GETTY; JOHN SHEARER/WIREIMAGE/GETTY; KEVIN MAZUR/WIREIMAGE/GETTY; TRACY NEARMY/AP IMAGES.

issue, log on to SCOPE's Web page: www.scholastic.com/scope.

BY WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE.
ADAPTED FOR SCOPE BY KRISTIN LEWIS.

Romeo & Juliet

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN TWO TEENS FROM WARRING FAMILIES FALL IN LOVE? FIND OUT IN THIS ADAPTATION OF SHAKESPEARE'S CLASSIC LOVE STORY.

PROLOGUE

N1: It's the 1500s in Verona, Italy. Two powerful families, the **Montagues** and the Capulets, are at war with each other.

SCENE ONE

N2: Sampson and Gregory, who work for the Capulet family, hang out on a street corner.

GREGORY: Draw your sword, Sampson. Two Montagues are

coming toward us!

SAMPSON: Put your sword away; let *them* start the fight.

GREGORY: Good idea. I'll glare at them instead.

ABRAM (*walking up*): Are you glaring at us?

SAMPSON: I'm glaring, but not at you.

GREGORY: Are you trying to **antagonize** us? Do you want to start a fight?

ABRAM (*sarcastically*): No.

BALTHASAR: Draw your swords if you call yourselves men!

N3: As the men begin to brawl, Benvolio Montague and **Tybalt** Capulet arrive.

BENVOLIO: Stop, fools!

TYBALT: Are you afraid of death, Benvolio? Are you a coward?

BENVOLIO: I'm just trying to keep the peace.

TYBALT: Peace? I hate the word as I hate hell, as I hate all Montagues, and as I hate you.

N4: Benvolio draws his sword. Everyone starts fighting again. Lady and Lord Montague walk into the scene. More people join the skirmish. It's totally out of control.

PRINCE (*walking in*): Enemies of peace! You disturb our quiet streets with your rage.

N1: Everyone stops fighting.

PRINCE: If this happens again, your punishment will be **grave**!

N2: Everyone exits, except Lord and Lady Montague and Benvolio.

LORD MONTAGUE: Who rekindled this ancient quarrel?

BENVOLIO: It was Tybalt.

LADY MONTAGUE: Hey, has anyone seen Romeo?

LORD MONTAGUE: He has been moping around for days.

BENVOLIO: Why?

LADY MONTAGUE: He won't say.

BENVOLIO (*seeing Romeo down the street*): Here he comes! I'll find out what's bothering him. Good

SHANE L. JOHNSON

Characters

Write your initials next to the character you're going to read. **Starred characters are major roles.*

___ *NARRATOR 1 (N1)

___ *NARRATOR 2 (N2)

___ *NARRATOR 3 (N3)

___ *NARRATOR 4 (N4)

CAPULETS:

___ **GREGORY**, employee of the Capulet family

___ **SAMPSON**, employee of the Capulet family

___ ***TYBALT CAPULET**, Juliet's cousin

LADY CAPULET,

Lord Capulet's wife and Juliet's mother

___ ***JULIET CAPULET**, daughter of Lord and Lady Capulet

___ ***NURSE**, Juliet's caretaker

SERVANT,

employee of the Capulet family

___ **LORD CAPULET**, powerful head of the Capulet clan and Juliet's father

"DID MY HEART
LOVE 'TIL NOW?
FORSWEAR IT, SIGHT.
FOR I NEVER SAW TRUE
BEAUTY 'TIL THIS
NIGHT!"

"ROMEO IS
HERE TO MOCK
OUR PARTY! I'LL
NOT ENDURE HIS
PRESENCE."

"PEOPLE SAY HE
IS A VIRTUOUS YOUNG
MAN. LET HIM ALONE
FOR NOW."



afternoon, Romeo.

ROMEO: Is the day so young?
Sad hours seem long.

BENVOLIO: Are you in love?

ROMEO: Out—

BENVOLIO: —of love?

ROMEO (whining): She does
not love me.

BENVOLIO: Who is this woman?

ROMEO: Rosaline.

BENVOLIO: I thought she
decided to become a nun.

ROMEO: Yes.

BENVOLIO: Oh, forget her!

ROMEO (glumly): How can I?

SCENE TWO

N3: Paris, a rich relative of the
Prince, wants to marry Juliet,
Lord Capulet's daughter.

N4: Lady Capulet visits Juliet's
room to give her the news, while
Juliet prepares for a costume ball
the Capulets are throwing.

LADY CAPULET: How do you
feel about marriage, Juliet?

JULIET: It's an honor that I don't
dream about.

LADY CAPULET: Well, think
about it now. Paris wants to

marry you.

NURSE: Such a man, Juliet!

LADY CAPULET: There are
women in Verona younger than
you, Juliet, who are already
married. Can you love him?

JULIET: I can try.

SERVANT: The guests are here,
and dinner is ready.

SCENE THREE

N1: Benvolio and **Mercutio**
formulate a plan to lift Romeo's
lovesick spirits. They will sneak
into the Capulets' party, dis-

MONTAGUES:

___ **ABRAM**, employee
of the Montague family

___ **BALTHASAR**,
employee of the
Montague family

___ ***BENVOLIO**
MONTAGUE,
Romeo's cousin

LORD MONTAGUE,

powerful head of the
Montague clan and
Romeo's father

___ ***MERCUTIO**,
Romeo's friend

LADY MONTAGUE,

Lord Montague's wife
and Romeo's mother

___ ***ROMEO**
MONTAGUE,
the only son of Lord
and Lady Montague

OTHERS:

___ **PRINCE**,
ruler of Verona, Italy

___ ***FRIAR LAURENCE**,
a holy man

___ **PARIS**,
a wealthy young man

guised by masks.

N2: At the party, Romeo spots Juliet dancing with Paris.

ROMEO: Who is that young woman?

SERVANT: I don't know, sir.

ROMEO: Did my heart love 'til now? Forswear it, sight.

For I never saw true beauty 'til this night!

N3: Romeo asks Juliet to dance, and she agrees.

ROMEO: My lips stand ready to a tender kiss.

N4: Romeo kisses Juliet. It's love at first sight!

JULIET (*coily*): You kiss by the book.

NURSE (*breaking in*): Juliet, your mother wants to speak to you.

ROMEO: Who is her mother?

NURSE: Lady Capulet, the lady of this house.

ROMEO: She's a Capulet?!

N1: While Romeo considers this bad news, Tybalt runs to Lord Capulet.

TYBALT: There is a Montague here! Romeo is here to mock our party! I'll not endure his presence.

LORD CAPULET: People say he is a virtuous young man. Let him alone for now. He isn't causing trouble.

TYBALT: I will strike him dead.

LORD CAPULET: I forbid it! We are under pain of death from the Prince to keep the peace.

N2: Tybalt sulks until the party ends and the guests depart.

SCENE FOUR

N3: Nurse helps Juliet get ready for bed.

JULIET: Who is the gentleman who danced with me?

NURSE: Romeo Montague—the only son of your great enemy.

JULIET: My only love sprung from my only hate.

N4: Juliet wanders out onto her balcony, lost in thought, and stares into the orchard.

JULIET (*to herself*): **Prodigious** birth of love it is to me, that I must love a loathed enemy.

N1: Romeo, meanwhile, sneaks into the orchard looking for Juliet.

ROMEO (*to himself*): But soft! What light through yonder window breaks? It is the east, and Juliet is the sun!

N2: Romeo watches as Juliet rests her hand on her cheek.

ROMEO: Oh that I were a glove on her hand, that I might touch her cheek.

JULIET: Oh Romeo, Romeo! Wherefore art thou Romeo? Deny thy father and refuse thy name!

ROMEO (*calling up to her*): Call me but love, and henceforth I'll never be Romeo!

JULIET: Who is there?

ROMEO: A man whose name you hate. Had I it written, I would tear the word.

JULIET: I know your voice. You are Romeo, and a Montague.

ROMEO: Not if you don't want me to be.

JULIET: How did you get here? The orchard walls are so high.

ROMEO: With love's wings I flew over the walls!

JULIET: My kinsmen will kill you if they find you here.

ROMEO: I'd rather die than wait for your love.

JULIET: Oh how I love you! If you think I love too quickly, I'll turn you down. You'll have to woo me then. But believe my love is true, though I've only known you for a few hours. Now I must go.



ROMEO: Will you leave me so unsatisfied?

JULIET: What satisfaction can you have tonight?

ROMEO: The exchange of your love's faithful vow for mine.

JULIET: I gave you my vow before you asked for it.

NURSE (*from inside*): Juliet!

JULIET: I'm coming, Nurse! Romeo, a thousand times good night.

ROMEO: Is this a dream, too sweet to be real?

JULIET: If your love is real, marry me, and I will follow you anywhere in the world.

NURSE: Juliet, where are you?

JULIET: I'm coming, Nurse!

ROMEO: Tomorrow?

JULIET: It's 20 years until then. Parting is such sweet sorrow



that I will say good night 'til it be morrow.

SCENE FIVE

N3: Early the next morning, Friar Laurence sits in his church.

ROMEO: Good morning, Friar.

FRIAR: So early, young man.

ROMEO: I haven't slept yet.

FRIAR: How is Rosaline?

ROMEO: Who? Oh, I'd forgotten that name, and that name's woe.

FRIAR: So where have you been?

ROMEO: I was feasting with my enemy when I saw the fair daughter of rich Capulet. We are in love, and you must marry us.

FRIAR: Holy Saint Francis! Is Rosaline forgotten so soon? Does your love live in your eyes and not your heart?

ROMEO: You criticized me all

the time for loving Rosaline!

FRIAR: I chided you for foolishly doting on her, not for loving her.

ROMEO: Juliet is the one I love.

FRIAR: Well, such a marriage could bring peace between your two families. I will marry you.

ROMEO: Marry us today. I'm in a hurry!

FRIAR: Wisely and slow; they stumble who run fast.

SCENE SIX

N4: Benvolio and Mercutio walk down the street, talking.

MERCUTIO: Where is Romeo? If he's still pining after Rosaline, he's going to go insane.

BENVOLIO: I just spoke to his father, Lord Montague. It seems that Tybalt sent a letter.

MERCUTIO: A challenge to fight?

BENVOLIO: Yes, and Romeo will answer it. Is Tybalt strong?

MERCUTIO: He's a fierce fighter.

BENVOLIO: Here comes Romeo.

ROMEO (walking in): Good morning!

MERCUTIO: Where did you go last night?

ROMEO: I'm sorry, Mercutio, but I had important business.

MERCUTIO: We looked for you everywhere!

NURSE (running toward them): Where can I find Romeo?

ROMEO: I am Romeo. *(aside to the Nurse)* Tell Juliet to meet me at the Friar's.

NURSE: She will be there, sir.

SCENE SEVEN

N1: Juliet paces in the orchard.

JULIET (to herself): I sent Nurse hours ago. Where is she?

NURSE (walking in, out of breath): I've seen your Romeo.

JULIET: What did he say?

NURSE: Oh, my head aches!

JULIET: I'm sorry you don't feel well, but please, what did he say?

NURSE: He says, like an honest, handsome, virtuous gentleman, that—where's your mother?

JULIET: Romeo said, "Where's your mother?" Nurse!

NURSE: From now on, get your own messages.

JULIET (frustrated): What did Romeo say?

NURSE: Go to the Friar's, and Romeo will marry you there.

JULIET: Farewell, Nurse.

N2: Juliet hurries to the Friar's, where she and Romeo marry in secret.

SCENE EIGHT

N3: Mercutio and Benvolio hang out in a public square.

BENVOLIO: Let's go home. It's hot, and this weather makes people edgy.

MERCUTIO: You're just as moody as everyone else.

BENVOLIO: Am I? Look, here comes Tybalt and his cronies.

TYBALT: Gentlemen, a word with one of you.

MERCUTIO: A word, or a fight?

TYBALT: I'll give you both.

BENVOLIO: This is too public. Let's go somewhere private to talk.

N4: Romeo enters. He's beaming.

TYBALT: Here comes the man I want. Romeo, you are nothing but a villain.

ROMEO: You don't know me at all if you think I'm evil. For reasons you don't know, I must love you.

TYBALT: You have injured me, and you know it. Draw your sword.

ROMEO: I don't know what you're talking about.

MERCUTIO: Tybalt, you King of Cats. Come here, and I'll take one of your nine lives!

N1: Mercutio and Tybalt draw their swords, and they begin to duel.

ROMEO: Stop! The Prince has forbidden this violence!

N2: Romeo steps between the men to stop them. Tybalt lunges under Romeo's arm and stabs Mercutio. Tybalt flees.

MERCUTIO: Oh, a plague, a plague on both your houses!

BENVOLIO: Are you hurt?

MERCUTIO: It's just a scratch.

N3: But it's more than a scratch.

MERCUTIO (*falling*): You have made worms' meat of me.

ROMEO: Courage, man. (*to himself*) Juliet, your love has weakened me. This is all my fault!

BENVOLIO: Mercutio is dead!

N4: Just then, Tybalt returns.

ROMEO: Tybalt, murderer—die!

TYBALT: Prepare to meet Mercutio's fate!

N1: An intense sword fight ensues. Romeo's rage gives him the upper hand, and he kills Tybalt.

BENVOLIO: Romeo, leave. Now!

ROMEO: Oh, I am fortune's fool!

BENVOLIO: The Prince will have you killed! Go! Leave!

N2: News of Tybalt's death travels fast. Romeo is now a wanted man.

SCENE NINE

N3: Juliet waits in the orchard.

NURSE: He's dead!

JULIET: Who is dead?

NURSE: Oh Romeo, who ever would have thought it?

JULIET: Romeo is dead?!

NURSE: I saw the wound with my own eyes!

JULIET: Oh break, my heart!

NURSE: Romeo killed Tybalt, and Romeo is banished from Verona.

JULIET: Wait—Romeo is alive?

NURSE: Will you speak well of him who killed your cousin Tybalt?

JULIET: Nurse, you *must* find Romeo and bring him to me.

SCENE TEN

N4: The Prince banishes Romeo from Verona. Before he leaves, Romeo says goodbye to Juliet.

N1: The next day, Lady Capulet walks into Juliet's room.

LADY CAPULET: Have you been



crying for Tybalt?

JULIET: Crying for loss, yes.

LADY CAPULET: We will have our revenge, but first you must marry Paris.

JULIET: Paris? No! I refuse!

LORD CAPULET (*walking in*): What is all the fuss?

JULIET: Father, I beg you—

LORD CAPULET: You'll marry Paris if I have to drag you there.

JULIET: Mother, please—

LADY CAPULET: Don't speak. I want nothing to do with you.

NURSE: Paris is a good man. You should consider him.

N2: Juliet goes to the Friar for help.

FRIAR: Oh Juliet, your grief must be immense.

JULIET: What are we going to do?

FRIAR: I have an idea. Take this potion. It will make you sleep for three days. Everyone will think you're dead. I'll write to



I am losing my mind with pain.

PARIS: I'll arrest you here!

N3: They draw their swords. Romeo stabs Paris, and Paris dies.

ROMEO (*walks to Juliet*): Oh my love, my wife. It's time for me to leave this **weary** world.

N4: Romeo puts the poison in a goblet.

ROMEO: Here's to love!

N1: Romeo drinks the poison and dies beside Juliet.

FRIAR (*enters the tomb*): Blood stains the entrance to this tomb! (*sees the bodies*) Oh Romeo! And Paris is dead too? How can

Romeo about our plan. After your funeral, I'll rescue you from your grave. You'll leave Verona and love Romeo in peace.

JULIET: I will do as you say. Love, give me strength.

SCENE ELEVEN

N3: Juliet follows the Friar's instructions. The next morning, word of Juliet's "death" spreads throughout the city.

N4: Meanwhile, the Friar sends a letter to Romeo, but the letter gets lost. When Romeo receives news of Juliet's death, he doesn't know that she's actually alive.

N1: Romeo secretly returns to Verona and breaks into Juliet's tomb. He brings a vial of poison.

N2: Paris is there, mourning.

PARIS: Romeo! You killed Tybalt, and grief is the reason Juliet died. This is your fault!

ROMEO: Don't provoke me, Paris.

these swords be stained with blood in this place of peace?

JULIET (*waking up*): Oh Friar! Where is my Romeo?

FRIAR: Come Juliet, we must go. Your husband is dead, and so is Paris. I'll place you with nuns.

JULIET: Go, Friar. I will not leave.

FRIAR: You can't stay. Please, come.

N2: Juliet still refuses, and the Friar leaves without her.

JULIET (*going to Romeo's body*): What is this in my true love's hand? Poison? He drank it all and left none for me!

N3: Juliet takes Romeo's knife.

JULIET: Oh, happy dagger! This is thy sheath!

N4: Juliet stabs herself and dies.

N1: A guard, having heard a noise, enters the tomb to investigate. He finds the bodies and calls the Prince, the Montagues, and the Capulets. The Friar is

found in the churchyard.

LORD MONTAGUE: Prince, my wife has just died of grief. The news of Romeo's banishment killed her. What more terrible news could there be?

PRINCE (*pointing*): Look here.

LORD MONTAGUE (*sees Romeo*): How can a son die before his father does?

LORD CAPULET: Oh wife, our daughter is dead!

LADY CAPULET: This sight is too much to bear!

PRINCE (*to the Friar*): What do you know about this tragedy?

FRIAR: I married them secretly on the same day that Tybalt was killed and Romeo banished. I arranged for Juliet to fake her death, but Romeo never received my letter. He thought Juliet was really dead, so he came here to kill himself. When Juliet awoke and found her Romeo dead, she killed herself too.

PRINCE: Capulet, Montague! Do you see what your hate has done?

LORD CAPULET: Oh Montague, give me your hand.

LORD MONTAGUE (*taking Lord Capulet's hand*): I will build a statue to honor your daughter.

PRINCE: Never was there a story of more woe than this of Juliet and her Romeo.

Write Now!

When Romeo tells the Friar of his plan to marry Juliet as soon as possible, the Friar says, "they stumble who run fast." In a short essay, explain what the Friar means. How is he trying to caution Romeo? Does he have a point? Do you think Romeo and Juliet fall in love too fast?

No-Sweat Test Prep

NOW THAT YOU'VE READ THE PLAY,
IT'S TIME TO ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS!



Claire Danes and Leonardo DiCaprio as the tragic teens in the 1996 film version of *Romeo and Juliet*.

20TH CENTURY FOX/THE KOBAL COLLECTION/WIREIMAGE/GETTY

1 In Scene 1, why does Romeo feel sorry for himself? (*motive*)

- Ⓐ Benvolio hurt his feelings.
- Ⓑ Rosaline doesn't love him.
- Ⓒ There was a fight between the Capulets and the Montagues.
- Ⓓ Tybalt made fun of him.

2 Throughout the play, who is most eager to fight? (*character analysis*)

- Ⓐ Lord Capulet
- Ⓑ Juliet
- Ⓒ Tybalt
- Ⓓ Paris

3 What does the Friar think of Romeo? (*detail*)

- Ⓐ He's fickle.
- Ⓑ He's too hasty.
- Ⓒ He's irresponsible.
- Ⓓ all of the above

4 In the balcony scene, what do Romeo and Juliet decide to do? (*plot*)

- Ⓐ leave Verona forever
- Ⓑ get married
- Ⓒ change their names
- Ⓓ ask the Prince for help

5 In Scene 9, how does Juliet misunderstand the Nurse? (*interpreting dialogue*)

- Ⓐ She thinks Romeo abandoned her.
- Ⓑ She thinks Romeo is dead, not Mercutio.
- Ⓒ She thinks Romeo killed Paris.
- Ⓓ She thinks Tybalt killed Romeo.

6 What happens LAST? (*sequencing*)

- Ⓐ Romeo climbs over the Capulets' orchard wall.
- Ⓑ Paris and Juliet dance at the party.
- Ⓒ Tybalt kills Mercutio.
- Ⓓ The Friar's letter gets lost.

7 Even though he has concerns, why does the Friar agree to marry Romeo and Juliet? (*motive*)

- Ⓐ He does what he's told.
- Ⓑ He owes Romeo a favor.
- Ⓒ He hopes it will bring peace between the Capulets and Montagues.
- Ⓓ He enjoys performing wedding ceremonies.

8 Why does Romeo refuse to fight Tybalt? (*inference*)

- Ⓐ Romeo married Juliet, so now he and Tybalt are relatives.
- Ⓑ Romeo is too in love to fight.
- Ⓒ Romeo wants to obey the Prince's decree.
- Ⓓ It's too hot outside.

Short-Answer Questions

ON ANOTHER PIECE OF PAPER, WRITE YOUR ANSWERS TO THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS.

9 Romeo acts quickly without thinking things through. How does this trait lead to the tragedy of the final scene? (*inference*)

10 In the tomb, the Prince says, "Capulet! Montague! Do you see what your hate has done?" What is the price of hatred in the play? (*analyzing theme*)

Comedy Versus Tragedy

GET TO KNOW THE LAUGHTER AND TEARS BEHIND SHAKESPEARE'S PLAYS

As you may have noticed from the adaptation of *Romeo and Juliet*, William Shakespeare knew how to make people cry. The Bard also loved to make people laugh. Of his 37 plays, at least 12 were comedies and 10 were tragedies. In Shakespeare's day, comedies and tragedies were theatrical forms with specific characteristics. Find out more about these two genres.



Kevin Kline and Michelle Pfeiffer in the comedy *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.

Comedies

PROTAGONISTS: The main characters are usually a young couple that must overcome an obstacle.

PLOT: In the characters' pursuit of love, they get mixed up in all sorts of complicated predicaments.

TOPE: Comedies treat heavy subjects lightly. The Bard used metaphors, insults, and puns to make the audience laugh and to make them think more deeply.

LOVE TRIANGLES: A love triangle happens when two people have a crush on the same person. In *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, a love triangle starts a plot involving fairies, hasty getaways, magic, and a donkey—seriously!

MISTAKEN IDENTITIES: Confusing one character for another leads to many mishaps. For example, in Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night*, Viola pretends to be her twin brother in order to get a job. When her brother shows up, things get out of hand.

ENDING: A comedy always ends well, usually with a marriage.



Kenneth Branagh and Kate Winslet in the tragedy *Hamlet*.

Tragedies

PROTAGONIST: The main character is an admirable hero, but he has one fatal flaw that will destroy him. In *King Lear*, for instance, the King's flaw is arrogance. His ego actually topples his entire kingdom.

PLOT: Tragedies often deal with revenge, murder, war, doomed love, and political conspiracies.

TOPE: The audience feels powerless because the tragedy is usually avoidable. For example, if only Romeo had received the Friar's letter, he and Juliet could have lived happily ever after!

SUPERNATURAL BEINGS: Otherworldly creatures like witches and ghosts mean trouble. *Hamlet*, *Macbeth*, and *Julius Caesar* all have supernatural beings that spell catastrophe.

BAD WEATHER: As a tragedy unfolds, society gets chaotic—and so does the weather. Killer storms and creepy mists are a clue that something bad is happening.

ENDING: Most of the characters die.

Write Now!

Write a letter to Shakespeare explaining how he could change *Romeo and Juliet* into a comedy. Explain what things would have to change and what things could stay the same. For example, could you keep the same protagonists and plot turns? Should some characters wear disguises? How would the comedy end?

King of Comedy

LET ADAM SANDLER TICKLE YOUR FUNNY BONE AND INSPIRE YOU TO WRITE LIKE A COMIC GENIUS!

The Teen Choice Awards crowned him Choice Comedian in 2008. *Forbes* magazine dubbed him 2009's Most Valuable Comedian. You know him as Adam Sandler.

"Every day I wake up and say, 'I gotta have some fun today,'" Sandler says. "I try to laugh and make other people laugh. It's something my family gave to me."

That gift of laughter is the gift that keeps on giving. Unlike most actors, the comedian doesn't just work in front of the camera in his blockbuster movies—he often writes them too!

Way With Words

Fans still quote lines from Sandler classics like *Billy Madison* and *Happy Gilmore* years after the films were released.

Sandler's fastrack to fame began in 1990 when he landed a writing gig for the NBC TV show *Saturday Night Live*. The following year, he started acting on the show and quickly became a fan favorite. After leaving the show in 1995, Sandler broke into filmwriting. He became one of America's leading

comedic writers, with movies like *Big Daddy* and *The Waterboy*.

How does Sandler write such funny stuff? He uses different kinds of literary devices (*see sidebar, right*). For example, many of his films feature a literary device called *irony*. This is when a joke or plotline defies your expectations in a funny and surprising way.

For example, in *You Don't Mess with the Zohan*, Sandler plays a fierce military commando who leaves the army to pursue his lifelong dream of becoming a hair stylist. This plot surprise is ironic (and funny) because you don't expect such a tough guy to aspire to style hair for a living.

Sandler also uses a form of verbal irony called *sarcasm*, in which a statement expresses the opposite of its meaning in order to mock a situation. For example, in *The Waterboy*, ex-quarterback Dan Fouts and announcer Brent Musberger (playing themselves) have a scene where Dan says, "The water-boy just needed some water!" Musburger responds, "Wow, Dan, did you come up with that all by yourself?" Brent uses sarcasm to

Sandler weathers a candy downpour in *Bedtime Stories*.

make fun of Dan for stating the obvious.

Funny language choices aren't all you need for success in comedy. Sandler says it's important to consider an audience's feelings. "My intention is never to hurt anybody. I'm happy when people are having a good time."

In other words, Sandler's no bully. This was especially true of *Bedtime Stories*, a recent film that Sandler wrote and starred in. "I actually had a great time on this movie trying to make friendlier jokes," he says.

Funny Bone

Having a natural sense of humor also helps a person write comical stories and dialogue. Part of a funny family, Sandler was always cracking jokes at home. In high school, he was voted Class Comedian.

Still, Sandler never considered a career in comedy. He says he felt lost when he was 17. "I had no idea what I was going

to do with my life," he says. One day his brother came back from a comedy show with a big idea: Sandler should become a professional comedian.

The first time he did live stand-up, the crowd started laughing only when Sandler made fun of how no one was laughing. "It took about five years to start being OK with my friends showing up and watching me," he admits.

These days, the whole world shows up for Sandler's comedy, and the audience always laughs!

—ZACH JONES



Surf's up! Sandler won Choice Comedian at the 2008 Teen Choice Awards.



Sandler and Seth Rogen laugh it up in *Funny People*.

5 Tricks for Funny Writing

1 IRONY is when a situation ends differently than expected. *Unfortunately, Adam Sandler couldn't get tickets for his own family to see his latest movie.*

2 SARCASM is a form of verbal irony that mocks a situation. *After his car broke down for the 10th time, Adam Sandler said, "At least my car's reliable."*

3 HYPERBOLE is an exaggeration that can't literally be true. *Kim swore she would stop breathing if she had to wait one more minute to see Adam Sandler's new movie.*

4 PUNS are jokes using similar-sounding words with different meanings or different meanings of the same word (as in the example given). *Why did Adam Sandler shoot an arrow? He tried to get a point across.*

5 PARODY pokes fun at genres or artistic creations by imitating their style. *What light through yonder window breaks? It is the east, and Adam Sandler is the sun. So arise fair sun and make me laugh already.*

Write Now!

On a separate sheet of paper, write your own examples for the five literary devices above.

Remember to infuse your writing with as much hilarity as possible! Share your writing with a classmate for a true test of your comedic skills. Did you get some laughs?

Scope's Road Map to

START

Buckle up, writers! Throughout the year, *Scope* will help you master the skills you need to be the best writer you can be. Follow this road map to read about elements of great writing. You will receive in-depth lessons about each of these writing tips in upcoming issues. Now, put on your sunglasses and hit the gas!

1

Pick Your Ideas

The ideas of a story are its central message or theme, supported and developed by details. To hold the reader's attention, your ideas should be specific, interesting, and fresh.

2

Organize Information

Organization is how you arrange and present information to the reader. For example, one organization scheme is to begin an essay with a powerful quote that gets the reader's attention. A good essay has an introduction, a thesis statement, details that support the thesis, and a conclusion.

3

Vary Your Sentences

When you write, be sure to vary the length and structure of your sentences, and avoid starting with the same word or words. This is called sentence fluency, and it will give your writing pace.

PLUS!

This year, *Scope* will help you practice many types of writing, including:

- humor
- fiction
- poetry
- monologues
- speeches
- news articles
- editorials
- journaling
- letters
- compare-and-contrast essays
- critical reviews
- personal essays
- descriptive essays
- persuasive essays
- narrative essays
- cause-and-effect essays

Great Writing

DESTINATION Write Now

From family vacations to a stroll around your neighborhood, any journey can make for a good story. Write a short essay about a recent journey you took. Include these six elements of great writing in your essay.

4

Find Your Voice

Voice sets apart one writer's style from another. You can write with a friendly voice, a formal voice, a sarcastic voice—anything you want! It's your chance to be unique.

4

5

5

Choose Words Carefully

Word choice is the use of precise language to communicate, inform, or inspire readers. Picking just the right word can make a good sentence great. What's the secret to developing this skill? Reading can help build your vocabulary as well as your appreciation for tone and **nuance**.

6

6

Rewrite, Revise, Edit

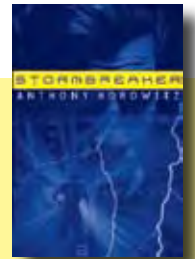
Nothing can spoil a fun piece of writing like poor spelling and grammar. This year, you will learn how to rewrite, revise, and edit to make your work accurate and error-free.

Express Yourself

TWO SCOPE READERS SHARE A POEM
AND BOOK REVIEW WITH YOU



Book review by
9th-grader
Habib Rasouly,
New York



Stormbreaker

By Anthony Horowitz

Have you ever read a really interesting book that you couldn't stop reading? One of my favorite books is *Stormbreaker* by Anthony Horowitz.

Alex Rider is a mysterious British teenager with an interesting background. He lives with his uncle because his parents passed away when he was young. Alex discovers that his uncle worked for MI6, a British intelligence agency, when he gets a knock on the door and learns from a visitor that his uncle is dead.

Alex becomes a teen superspy, and goes on missions to find out what happened to his uncle. He faces many challenges but fights through them. Alex taught me to never give up. This book has action, adventure, and tragedy. It shows that time is of the essence.



Poem by 8th-grader Rebecca Robbins, Pennsylvania

Courage

Courage is taking a leap off the high dive at the pool,
Courage is ignoring the bully last week, the one who thinks he's cool.

Courage is standing up for what's right, even if it's wrong,
Courage is getting onstage to sing your favorite song.

Courage is making new friends when you have to move far away,
Courage is being the lead in the school musical play.

Courage is the oral report you gave in school today,
Courage is dressing in that goofy outfit for the holiday.

Courage is the team relying on you to score the winning goal,
Courage is sticking your arm in the ground to see what's in the hole.

Courage is being the one who's bold and daring,
Courage is being loud even when everyone's staring.

Courage is killing the spider that crawls across the wall,
Courage is tripping and getting back up when you're being laughed at in the hall.

Courage is courage no matter what the action may be,
so be courageous and it'll make a difference you will see.

Write Now!

Scope reader Catherine Chavez and her language arts teacher Wendy Streit (below, left to right) landed on the pages of their local newspaper in Illinois when Catherine's book review appeared in a recent issue of *Scope*. Send your reviews, poems, essays, and stories to *Scope*, 557 Broadway, New York, NY, 10012, and maybe you'll be published!





Tourie (left) and Damien Escobar.



Siblings With Strings

THESE BROTHERS FIGHT VIOLENCE WITH VIOLINS

This fall, Damien and Tourie Escobar, the pop-classical violinists called Nuttin’ But Stringz, will launch *Violins Against Violence*—a program that donates instruments to schools with gang problems.

“The whole mission for us is to go into at-risk communities that were affected by budget cuts and get not only violins but music programs [into schools] to keep kids off the streets,” Tourie, 24, says.

Gang violence is a _____ issue close to the brothers’ hearts. When they were in high school in New York City, they began to hang with a tough crowd.

“I got hurt. I got jumped. I was hospitalized,” Damien, 22, says. He even dropped out. Luckily,

both brothers decided to change their lives and leave the gang world behind. Now they help others do the same.

Subway To The Charts

When they were younger, the violin virtuosos played in the streets and subways of New York for pocket money, gaining fame for their _____ skill.

As teens, their music tastes set them apart from their peers. Even though friends _____ them, their love for classical music never faltered. “Classical music was like pop today,” Tourie explains.

“Vivaldi was a rock star. Tchaikovsky [chi-KOFF-skee] was R&B.”

This appreciation helped them _____ their unique musi-

WHAT TO DO:

Match each word in Column A to its meaning in Column B. Then, fill in the blanks of the story with a form of one of the SCOPE 100 words from Column A.

| COLUMN A | COLUMN B |
|-------------------|----------------|
| ___ 1. antagonize | A. tired |
| ___ 2. prodigious | B. subtlety |
| ___ 3. weary | C. devise |
| ___ 4. grave | D. provoke |
| ___ 5. nuance | E. serious |
| ___ 6. formulate | F. exceptional |

cal style. Nuttin’ But Stringz adds _____ to its classical chords by weaving in contemporary songs. “It’s pop music with a classical vibe,” Damien says. “We call it pop classic.”

They spent two years writing, practicing, and producing every song on their first album, *Struggle from the Subway to the Charts*, which was released in 2006.

Since then, their career has hit many high notes. Their songs have popped up in sound tracks for movies, including *Step Up* and *The Soloist*. They made it to the finals in the third season of the TV show *America’s Got Talent*, and their music was featured in the 2008 Summer Olympics.

The brothers will soon embark on a world tour to celebrate their upcoming album, and they’re working on their own line of violins!

Even with their very busy schedule, the brothers are anything but _____. “People would say it couldn’t be done,” Tourie remembers of their early days. “We proved them wrong.” —ZACH JONES



Connection

DOES BEING SOCIAL ONLINE MAKE YOU ANTISOCIAL IN LIFE?

Disconnect

Tweet! Ashton Kutcher just ate a bowl of cereal. Tweet! Miley Cyrus is memorizing her lines. Tweet! Will Smith is reading a script.

You might recognize that these mini-messages belong to Twitter, the latest online sensation that has everyone, well, atwitter.

Twitter is just one of many online options available to teens today—Facebook, MySpace, YouTube, instant messaging, and online video gaming are some of the ways teens can plug in.

With the vast digital world at your fingertips, you might wonder: Is it really possible to have meaningful human interaction behind a computer screen? In the rush to be superconnected, are you *less* connected than ever?

Gateway To The World

The online world offers many benefits. First of all, it's a great place to get real-time updates and breaking news. "Twitter, Digg, and sites like CNN.com are all easy ways to stay connected to

the news," says teen Anaís Alexich-Duran of Chico, California. "Twitter comes from us, the people, and in real time too."

Twitter is also a way for teens to connect to the people they admire. Celebrities like Sean Combs (*aka* P. Diddy) and Kutcher use Twitter to talk directly to their fans and get the word out about important social causes. Earlier this year, Kutcher raced CNN for 1 million Twitter subscribers—and he won!

Online social networking sites offer teens a place to connect to each other. "Facebook may be the only source of communication to stay connected with loved ones," says 9th-grader Michael McMahon, also from Chico. "This Web site

Today, 93% of teens use the Internet.



has brought me to many people I didn't believe I would stay in contact with."

Some experts see the upside of life online. "It may look as though kids are wasting time, whether it's on MySpace or sending instant

Your Digital World

97%

of teens play video games.

87%

of teens use e-mail.

70%

of teens who use the Internet visit social networking sites.

30%

of teens who use the Internet have blogs.

20%

of teens who use the Internet make their own art with online content.

messages, but their participation is giving them the technological skills and literacy they need to succeed,” says Mizuko Ito, a lead researcher on a study called Living and Learning With New Media. “They’re learning how to get along with others, how to manage a public identity, how to create a home page.”



“Real World” Disconnect?

Sure the online world has its perks, but not every teen is convinced. “A little technology isn’t bad, but if you are spending hours on the computer, you start to lose connection,” says teen Lauren Mullins of Chico, California. “You’ll stop walking your dog. Jumping on the trampoline with your sister will come to a halt. The dog-

house you and your dad planned on building becomes the dog-house your dad is building alone.”

The same goes for teens who can’t put down their video games. Some studies estimate that 1 in 12 teens show signs of addiction. “I think they should be doing something more productive,” says 7th-grader Mario Jeleu of Haltom City, Texas. “Maybe getting their grades up or playing sports, doing something active with their friends.”

Do those endless hours in front of a screen keep you from your offline relationships?

Teen Jeongwon Park, also of Haltom City, says they do. “You can connect with people using Twitter or YouTube, but in the end, you don’t know them unless you talk to them in real life,” she explains.

Anaís agrees.

“Although we believe that we are connecting when we text, write, or Webcam our friends and family, we are not connecting,” Anaís says. “True communication is when you can physically see, hear, and talk to another person.”

What are your thoughts on this hot topic? Does socializing online make you feel a connection disconnect?

—KRISTIN LEWIS



Ashton Kutcher (left) and Sean Combs talk about Twitter on *Larry King Live*.

Dig Deeper

READING COMPREHENSION

1 Which is NOT a benefit of the digital world?

- (A) getting real-time news
- (B) video-game addiction
- (C) keeping in touch
- (D) building technological skills

2 Which of the following is a FACT?

- (A) Ashton Kutcher raced CNN for 1 million Twitter subscribers.
- (B) “A little technology isn’t bad.”
- (C) Texting is the best form of communication.
- (D) “Twitter, Digg, and sites like CNN.com are all easy ways to stay connected to the news.”

3 How can the digital world lead to a disconnect?

- (A) It’s harder to know a person if the relationship is only online.
- (B) It’s easy to lose track of time.
- (C) You miss what is happening around you.
- (D) all of the above

DEBATE IT, Write Now!

Does being social online make you more or less social in person? Write a short paragraph explaining your opinion. Then, debate the topic with your class or among your friends!

Power of Art

By Amanda LaMunyon

A recent painting by Amanda, *East Coast—America*.



The Autism Society of America named Oklahoma native Amanda LaMunyon, 14, the 2008 Outstanding Individual With Autism.



My name is Amanda LaMunyon.

I have Asperger's syndrome, a form of autism. I don't see myself as a person with a disability. I share who I am when I paint, sing, and write.

I started writing poetry because I wanted to tell people what it was like to have Asperger's syndrome. I don't know how my life would be different without Asperger's. I have had it for as long as I can remember.

Autism spectrum disorders are neurological conditions that affect the brain's ability to read, write, speak, and know how to deal with life in general.

I look at the world differently than most people. Sometimes it is difficult to know how to respond to certain social situations. I find it hard to be in control when a particular situation is confusing, but I am learning how to work through these things. I'm also learning that you don't have to be

like everybody else. You just have to be confident in who you are.

Life-Changing Painting

I discovered I could paint when I was 7. My teacher Mrs. Brock was so encouraging about my art, even when she became very ill. She loved my painting of a snow scene. She called it "Winter Wonderland" because it reminded her of her favorite song. After she died, her husband told me that she hung that painting at the foot of her bed so that she could see it all the time.

Knowing that I had made something that meant so much to her meant so much to me. It changed my life.

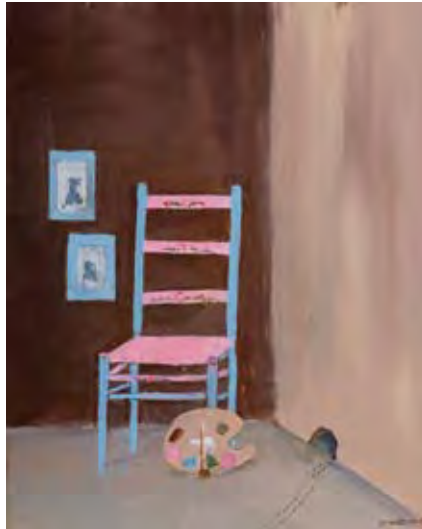
Before then, my life had been spinning out of control. I couldn't stay focused, and I didn't think very much of myself because it seemed I was always getting in trouble for not being able to understand the world around me. Because of Mrs. Brock, I realized I had something to give that might make a difference in people's lives. She made me think about the songs I loved, and I began to paint my impression of those songs.

A New Point Of View

Soon after, people asked me to show my art and sing for charity events. I was so surprised, but also happy to do it. I began to donate prints of my work for charity auctions. People started to look at me differently when they knew I could paint.



Vase of Pink Roses, 2003.



My Little Corner, 2006.

I know that having something to give made me a different person. I learned that when you give, you receive happiness.

When I had the honor of speaking at the United Nations for Autism Speaks and RCM Autism Notebook, I was able to share my story with delegates from all over the world. This was very special to me because these people really want to find out what causes autism and how to cure it.

Actions and words do matter. That's why I love to speak about

autism. Everything we do has some kind of consequence. We can hurt people, or we can build people up. It is our choice.

Get Creative!

I think it is very important for teens to express themselves. It's a way to know yourself more clearly. You can turn your thoughts and feelings into a piece of artwork or a poem.

For example, when you paint, colors can help you express different emotions. When you write a poem, you have to get really honest with yourself and not be afraid to write down what you feel.

Creativity makes you unique and sets you apart from others. Creative ideas also help you make your dreams come true. They help you wipe away your inhibitions and make you look at things in a new way.

I hope my story helps people to believe they can overcome their challenges and achieve their dreams. I like to encourage others. I know what encouragement has meant to me.



Amanda sang at the Oklahoma State Capitol in Oklahoma City last February.

ALL PHOTOS COURTESY THE LANUNYON FAMILY

Dig Deeper

READING COMPREHENSION

1 In what does Amanda NOT believe?

- (A) the value of creativity
- (B) the power of art
- (C) the value of encouragement
- (D) thinking of herself as a person with a disability

2 Which is NOT a reason Amanda paints?

- (A) to wipe away inhibitions
- (B) to get an A+ in art class
- (C) to share her story
- (D) to encourage others through creative expression

3 Which of these would be the BEST alternate title for this story?

- (A) "My Trip to the U.N."
- (B) "Living in Oklahoma"
- (C) "How to Paint"
- (D) "Express Yourself!"

Write Now!

Amanda's life changed forever when she gave a gift to a teacher. Amanda says that "when you give, you receive happiness." How have you influenced the lives of others? Write a personal essay about a gift, helping hand, or a kind word you've given to improve someone's day, and how your action made you feel.

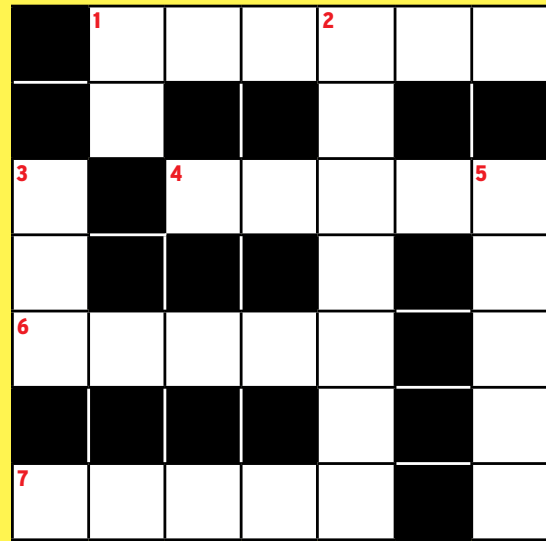


To learn more about autism spectrum disorders, visit www.scholastic.com/scope.

CROSSWORD

PUZZLE IT OUT!

HINT: Read "Your World" (pages 3-5) for clues!



ACROSS

DOWN

- 1. She wrote *Pride and Prejudice*. (last name)
- 2. Will.i. __ loves a novel about a boy's trip to a crazy candy factory.
- 3. *Gulliver's* __
- 4. David McCullough wrote a biography of this President.
- 5. Both Eli and Peyton Manning won this title.
- 6. Will Elizabeth Bennet's __ keep her from true love?
- 7. *In Memoriam* and *The Lady of Shalott* are both __.

WRITE THE CAPTION



YOUR CAPTION HERE:

WORDS TO WRITE BY

“The difference between the right word and the almost right word is the difference between lightning and a lightning bug.”

—Mark Twain

What do you think Twain means? Explain!



COMIC STRIP

Jane & Austin's Literary Laughs

Back-to-School Mix-Up



JOE RAEDLE/GETTY IMAGES(BALL); GRANGER COLLECTION, NY(TWAIN); ILLUSTRATION: AMANDA BAEHR-FULLER