

KAMSC'S



STEPS

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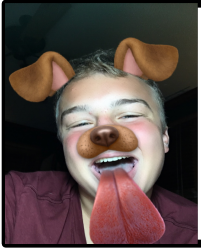
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# LETTER FROM THE EDITORS

Hello all and happy Halloween! We here at 84 Steps hope that the first couple of weeks have treated you well and you're settling back into the routine of school. With the cool and crisp weather setting in, we hope you find a nice place to cozy up and enjoy this issue of 84 Steps, which includes articles discussing the college application season, the stress of the end of the first marking period, fall festivities, and general KAMSC activities.

We're always looking for more writers! Contact us to inquire about writing or leave a comment by emailing [kamsc84steps@yahoo.com](mailto:kamsc84steps@yahoo.com), [lily.kitagawa13@gmail.com](mailto:lily.kitagawa13@gmail.com), or even texting (312)-860-8017.





**Andrew  
Backer**

# SPOOKY WORD SCRAMBLE

Unscramble the following *spine-chilling* Halloween words and e-mail your answers to [kamsc84steps@yahoo.com](mailto:kamsc84steps@yahoo.com)! The first first-year/sophomore and junior/senior to have all of the correct answers will win a bag of Halloween candy!



1. NGAREO \_\_\_\_\_
2. LLIRKE \_\_\_\_\_
3. KICWED \_\_\_\_\_
4. BROMDI \_\_\_\_\_
5. VILOGRENT \_\_\_\_\_
6. DUNTHERA \_\_\_\_\_
7. RIEEE \_\_\_\_\_
8. SIMOONU \_\_\_\_\_

Unscramble the first letter of all the words above to reveal the scariest thing that's going to happen to you this Halloween!

\_\_\_\_\_

# TOP 10 HALLOWEEN CANDIES



Zoha  
Aqeel

1. You can never truly go wrong with super size Milky-Way, Twix, and Snicker bars... Am I right?
2. Nothing can ever go wrong with a bag of M&M's! Mini or mega sized... neither would be enough. The cravings never end.
3. Tootsie rolls, tootsie rolls, and more tootsie rolls! Chocolate flavored, or candy flavored these mini-sized candies should not be underestimated—they are filled with flavor.
4. Sometimes, with all the sweetness, a little bit of crunch does no harm. Kit-Kats are always a pleasant surprise to break the monotony of smooth chocolate.
5. Reese's Cups! These seem to be a very popular treat. The peanut butter swirled with chocolate is a perfect delicacy!
6. Don't forget about Junior Mints... Sometimes after all that chocolate it's nice to get a restart... so that you can continue to eat candy...



7. Tootsie pops! If you get a bit hungry while Trick-or-Treating, pull out your favorite flavored Tootsie Pop! One can never go wrong with one of these.



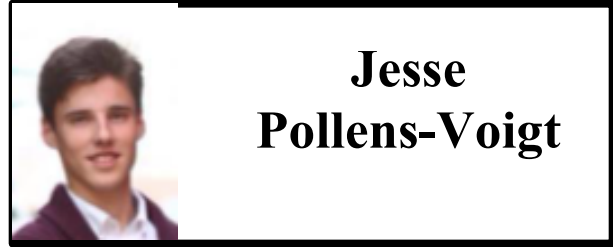
8. How about we throw Hershey's into the mix? Except, let's switch it up a bit. COOKIES & CRÈME!

9. Candy corn is a seasonal favorite; hopefully you get enough to last until next season...

10. Dove Dark Chocolate Pumpkins are an extremely delicious candy available this year. Make sure to scout one of these out!



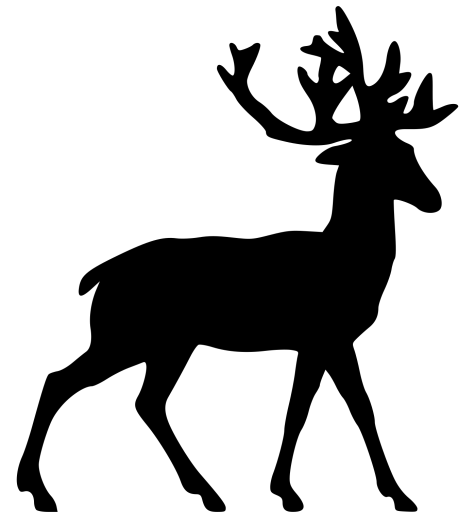
# Jokes For When Your Grades Aren't Funny Enough (Lucky You)



- A physicist, a mathematician and an engineer are staying in a hotel. The engineer is awakened by a smell and gets up to check it. He finds a fire in the hallway, sees a nearby fire extinguisher and after extinguishing it, goes back to bed. Later that night, the physicist gets up, again because of the smell of fire. He quickly gets up and sees the fire in the hallway. After calculating air pressure, flame temperature and humidity as well as distance to the fire and projected trajectory, he extinguishes the fire with the least amount of fluid.

Finally, the mathematician awakens, and finds another fire in the hallway. He looks out the door, then goes back to bed. The hotel ends up burning down, but the physicist and engineer manage to save the mathematician. When asked why he didn't put out the fire, he says: "I saw the fire, I saw the extinguisher, the solution was trivial."

- A biologist, a chemist, and a statistician are out hunting. The biologist shoots at a deer and misses 5 feet to the left, the chemist takes a shot and misses 5 feet to the right, the statistician yells "We got 'em!"



- A programmer is going to the grocery store and his wife tells him, "Buy a gallon of milk, and if there are eggs, buy a dozen." So the programmer goes, buys everything, and drives back to his house. Upon arrival, his wife angrily asks him, "Why did you get 13 gallons of milk?" The programmer says, "There were eggs!"

```
#include <iostream>

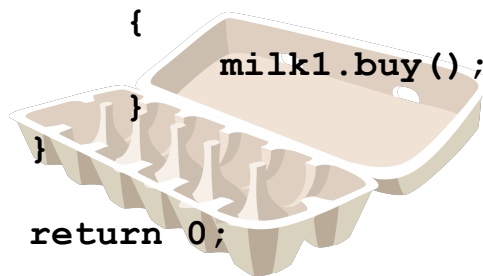
using namespace std;

bool eggs = true;
milk milk1;

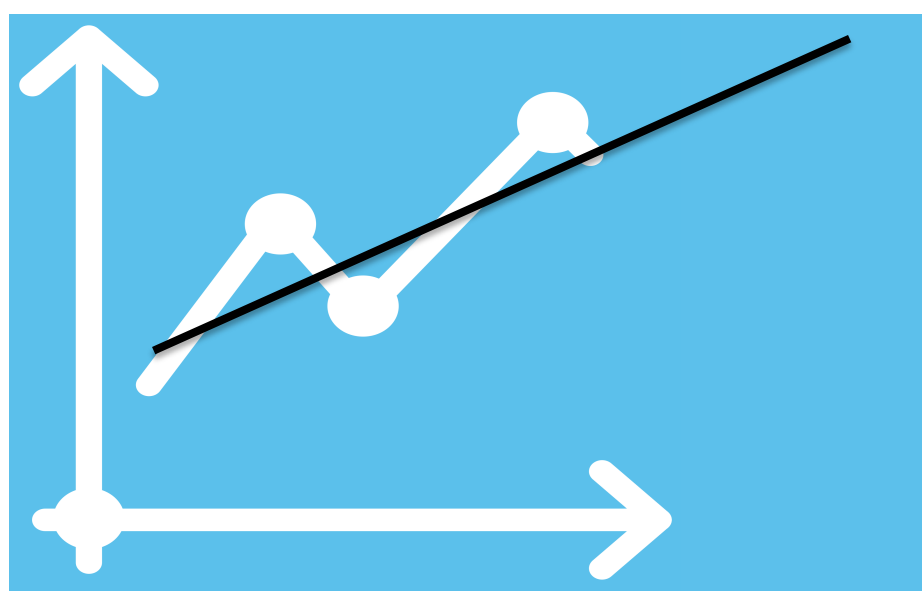
milk1.buy();

if (eggs)
{
    for (int i = 0; i < 12; i++)
    {
        milk1.buy();
    }
}

return 0;
```

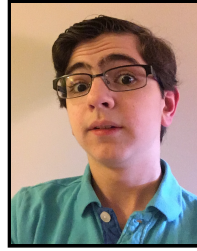


- Three logicians walk into a bar. The bartender asks, "Does everyone want a drink?" First one says, "I don't know". Second one says, "I don't know". Third one says, "Yes please".
- There are two types of people in the world: those who can extrapolate from incomplete data.

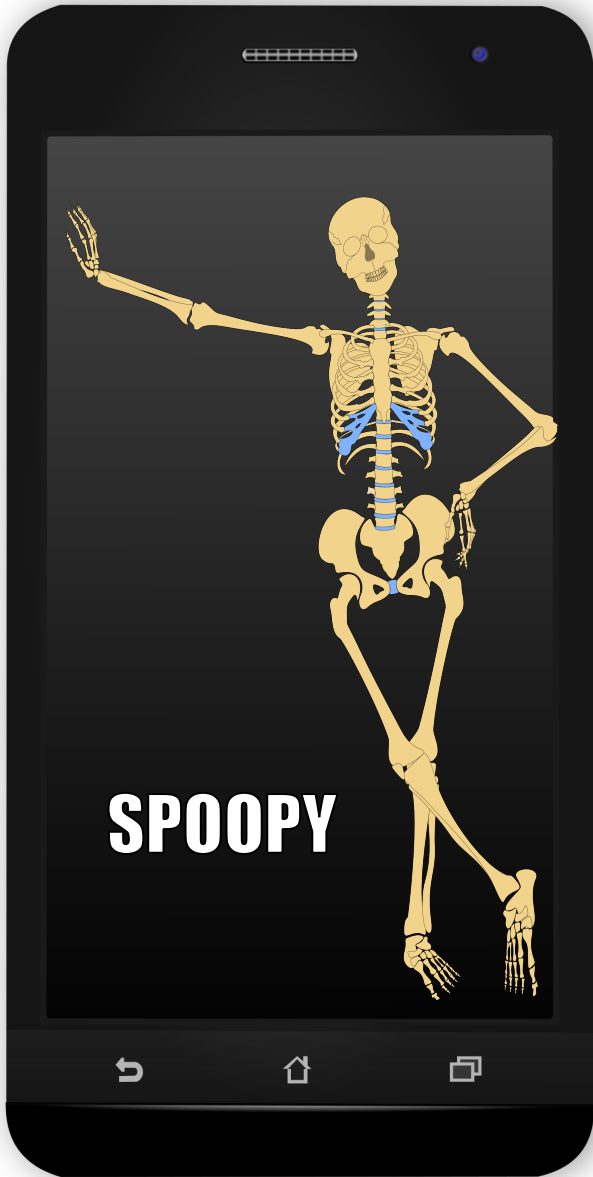




# TECHNOLOGY UPDATE



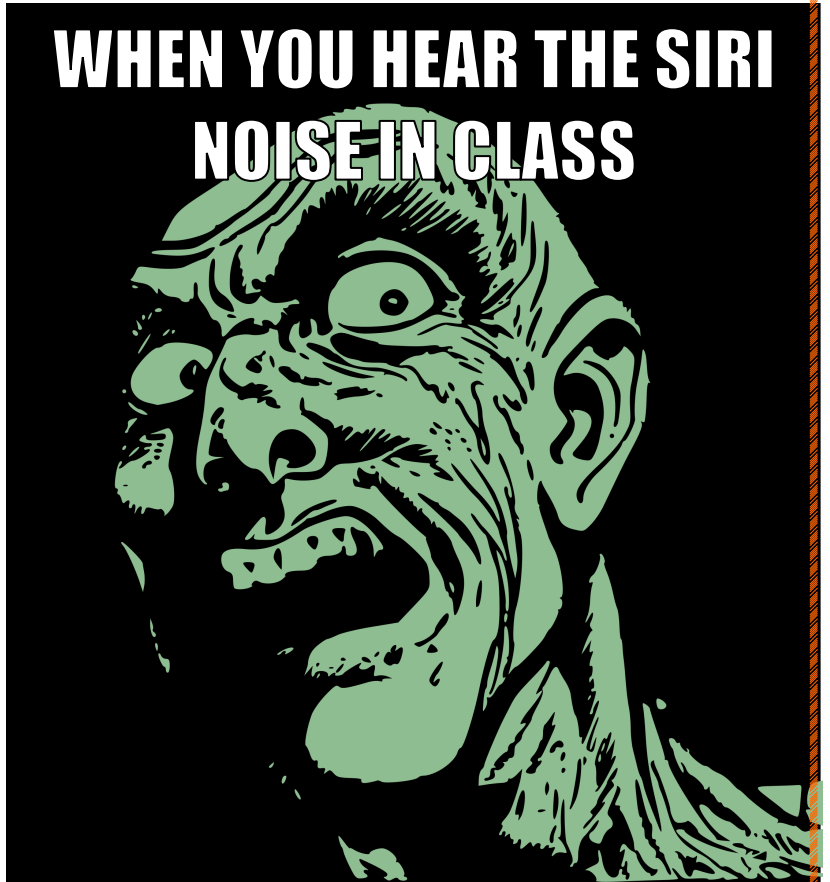
**Brian  
Calco**



Since its release on September 13<sup>th</sup>, iOS 10 has been installed on iPhones, iPods, iPads, and other Apple devices almost everywhere. Whether it be through manual updating or through buying a new device with iOS preinstalled, this iOS update has had the highest number of users switch to it than any other previous update to Apple devices. However, Apple's new updates have become nearly annual at this point, and one should thoroughly investigate all of the new

features included in the update before making their choice to switch versions. As always, one can just downgrade from the newer version if he or she finds the update unsatisfactory, but it's still useful to know what's new.

For the positive sides of the latest version of iOS, the most prominent of all the changes would be the device's personal assistant, Siri, now being able to cooperate and interact with other apps on the app store. This is the first time this has been attempted with non-



Apple developed programs, and currently works with apps such as "Whatsapp," "Uber," and "Lyft" among others. Along with this, Siri's voice has been upgraded to seem much more lifelike, and the conversations one can have with her have been greatly expanded upon. In fact, Apple is becoming very close to creating one of the most practical artificial intelligences (AI) to date! While the operating system's actual look hasn't changed much, the mechanics of it have improved greatly. Sliding up to reveal the control center now has a much cleaner and revised look, as do push notifications. Additionally, iMessage has also been altered,

allowing for cooperation with the app store to send stickers and messages with varying effects to them.

However, iOS 10 does have quite a bit of “innovation” that can be seen as unintuitive the normal user. The iMessage effects are a bit cluttered and a little useless besides being a quirky gimmick. The lock screen has also been redone, providing a change which can be odd to adjust to. Instead of sliding to unlock the phone, one must now tap the home button again. Finally, Apple has added a new feature called “Raise to Wake”, which allows the phone to wake up when it is picked up, meaning the phone can wake during unneeded times. All of these changes make for an odd experience for the phone, as none were really requested. While Apple is attempting to take steps towards being the most innovative company, as shown with the iPhone 7, it seems to be alienating a lot of its users at the same time. While ultimately it’s up to one to decide whether or not to upgrade, keep in mind that keeping your phone with the out-of-date operating system can leave one exposed to security threats and harmful programs. Overall, iOS 10 wasn’t exactly needed, but can be considered a welcome addition to the iOS family.

# 5 Reasons to Stay in KAMSC



I am constantly bombarded with questions from the masses—people ask me, “Ava, how do you get your nails to look so nice?” and “Ava, what kind of conditioner do you use to get your hair to look so luscious?” Alas, I cannot divulge my beauty secrets, because that would mean that they would no longer be secrets. However, I can answer another question that I am commonly asked: “Why do you do KAMSC?” As hard classes kick into gear, this is a central question that many KAMSC students are forced to ask themselves. Perhaps the most obvious reason to stay is the fact that KAMSC provides students with the work ethic and study skills that are necessary for college. I’m here to provide you with a few more reasons that will convince you to stick with KAMSC!

1. If you quit KAMSC, you might have to miss out on KAMSC dances, which you know by now are much better than any dances at your other school. You might think that it will be fairly easy to get a guest pass, but the less people there are, the harder it is to get a pass. Don’t take your chances.

2. The 84 steps up to KAMSC are sometimes taken for granted. Even if they normally seem like a pain, just think about the fact that they keep you healthy. They serve as my daily cardio!



3. One of the biggest reasons to stay is that if you leave KAMSC, you'll have to leave your KAMSC friends. It can be hard to maintain relationships when you don't see your friends on a daily basis. So, if you're struggling through homework, just think of your friends and remember that you are doing it for them. If you don't have friends, I don't know what to tell you. Get your head out of a book and go talk to some people!
4. It is also important to remember that as an afternoon KAMSC student, you get out of school twenty to sixty minutes earlier than your home school peers. Just think about all of the things that you could do in that time! You could do ten math problems, five chemistry problems, or one really challenging advanced physics problem! Just kidding! If you go and ask Mr. Alsheri for help, you can probably get two advanced physics problems done.
5. If you drop out, Mr. Houtrouw will be sad because there will be fewer people taking his AP class. Don't make Mr. Houtrouw sad. Sad Mr. Houtrouw may just take up caffeine again.

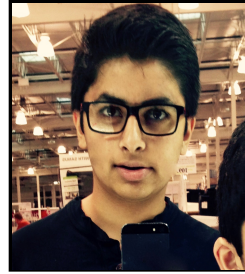


Figure 1. Example of sleep-deprived KAMSC student or sad Mr. Houtrouw



Figure 2. Coffee, the beverage of choice of both students and sad Mr. Houtrouw alike.

# TOP 10 HALLOWEEN COSTUMES



Saad  
Qureshi

## Presidential Candidates

With the upcoming presidential election, there is a lot a focus revolved on Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton. Whether you support Trump or Hillary for this year's campaign, you can go as either one this Halloween. And don't forget to vote this November if you are able!



## Harley Quinn

This year the movie *Suicide Squad* was released and was a successful hit around the world. This movie was also where the character, Harley Quinn, had her first live-action cinematic debut. Following the release of this movie, many people expect people to dress as Harley Quinn this Halloween.



## The Joker

The Joker costume has been an all-time favorite Halloween costume for the past few years. With the release of *Suicide Squad*, the Joker costume is sure to be a hit this Halloween (even if nobody likes Jared Leto and the world will forever long for Heath Ledger's objectively superior Joker).

## Deadpool

Deadpool of the X-Men series had his first movie this year. The film was very popular, especially amongst the teenagers, and analysts are certain that there will be many people disguised as Deadpool this Halloween.



## Darth Vader

With the upcoming release of *Rogue One: A Star Wars Story*, Star Wars characters are expected to be popular Halloween costumes this year.



## Pikachu

Pokémon Go is one of the top grossing apps of 2016, so why dress as Pikachu and show your passion for the game. Everybody loves spicy cheeks and everybody will love this costume!



## Emoji

An emoji costume a great costume for those with a minimalist approach to Halloween night. The concept of “twinning” costumes has become the ultimate icon for best friends everywhere, so get together with yours and choose your favorite emoji!

## Harry Potter/Hermione Granger

Don (Ron?) your robe for this year's Halloween and represent your favorite character from the Harry Potter series! With the debut of *Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them*, the Harry Potter experience will remain. After all, Halloween is the one day you get a chance to blend in with the muggles! Enjoy it and get some chocolate frogs and Every Flavor Beans™

## Classic Nerd

Here at KAMSC, every student is considered a nerd, so why not go out and embrace your inner nerd this Halloween? But remember seniors, be a real nerd and get all of your applications done early. Do not go to trick or treat until applications are complete!

## iPhone 7

One of the world's largest product release event this year was the Apple Event on the 7<sup>th</sup> of this September. The iPhone is believed to be the most popular smartphone in the world, and it was updated this year. Why not go as an iPhone this year and display your tech obsession!



# THE WALKING DEAD (COLLEGE APP VERSION)



**Amirah  
Bin-Mafouz**

Coincidentally, college apps are due around the same time as Halloween. This is very helpful because all the seniors automatically have a free costume; we all already looks like a sleep-deprived zombie. I could advise everyone to start on their college apps early, but no one ever does. Instead, I have a few tips for writing essays that I wish I knew before I started the process.



1. Your life doesn't have to be super interesting for you to write a good essay. I have heard many people, including myself, claim that they can't write a good essay because they have never grown strawberries in their locker or broken into a car or overcome some great hardship. However, I have found that the best essays are those that take on a unique view or describe an event in a unique way.
2. Figure out what point you want to make before you write your essay. How do you want colleges to perceive you? As someone who is hardworking? Or maybe as someone who is persistent and never gives up on a challenge? This planning can be very helpful in determining what angle you want to take on your essay. Outlining all your main points comes in handy as well.



3. Peer edit! Don't be afraid to have your friends, or even teachers, read your essays and make comments. It is normal to be hesitant with sharing your personal writing, but a fresh set of eyes can often find mistakes that you would never notice.



4. Most importantly and most cliché: be yourself! If you are a funny person, add some light humor to your essay. Don't try to make yourself seem like someone you're not, though; it is much more transparent than you may think. Don't try to make yourself sound perfect. If someone you knew read your essay, would they know that you wrote it? Does your voice shine through your paper?

I'm sure all you 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, and 11<sup>th</sup> graders are not concerned with college apps at the moment. You might even think it's funny to watch the seniors suffer. Just remember: your time is coming soon so don't clown around (too soon?)



## *Oh, the Places You'll Go...*



**Ava  
Wood**

Choosing a college is one of the of the hardest decisions that seniors must make. There are so many great schools to choose from! I decided to talk to some KAMSC alums and get some feedback on their college experiences. Hopefully, their advice will make your college application process a little bit easier. Even if you're not a senior, this will probably also help you with your career paper. You're welcome.



**Favorite thing:** “The wonderful things about K College are seriously endless. I love the people here, they're all so interesting and kind and I love my classes, my professors are super cool and because they're small we really get close in our classes. The campus is beautiful and there are so many clubs here to join. There's also so much free time to just do my homework and hang out with people and explore. The best part is probably the fact that we have so many squirrels.”



**Least favorite thing:** “In all honesty, the worst part is the cafeteria food. By week two, I was craving some off-campus and just ordered in Chinese with my friends.”

Boemin Park



**MICHIGAN STATE**  
**U N I V E R S I T Y**

**Total enrollment: 50,543**

Favorite thing: "I'd say my favorite thing about state is the Lyman Briggs classes because they're pretty small so you get to know the classmates and teachers, and the classrooms are just downstairs from your dorm. Also the fact that they're pretty easy because KAMSC prepared me so much!"



Least favorite thing: "My least favorite thing is the size, honestly. I hate having to bike or take the bus or walk everywhere and being in the East neighborhood means that I'm far away from everything exciting."

Kim Romph



**Total enrollment: 43,651**

Favorite thing: "The environment. The students and staff at Michigan create an intense vibe like no other that just pushes you to work your hardest and be the best that you can be. And, when not working, Ann Arbor is a great city and community that is always open for life and exploration."



Least favorite thing: "Ahh this is really hard. Like really hard. Like I can't think of one thing. Not sure if I can say nothing, but my mind's coming up blank. Go Blue!"

Lexi Roberts

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