

# THE IRON WARRIOR

What Eng Has Been B\*\*\*\*\*g  
About

The Education System  
Is Failing

The Colour of the Rainbow  
That Is Just Superior



# MEET THE TEAM



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# LETTER *from the* EDITOR

AUTUMN HAS ARRIVED



Dear Readers,

**We hope you enjoyed your summer.**

Now, it's time for another term in the cozy, chill season that is autumn. To fellow first years entering Waterloo, we hope you are enjoying your experience so far being at Waterloo. And to students in upper years, welcome back to another term!

Ever since the pandemic in 2020, the Iron Warrior has had difficulties pushing out our articles via physical copies. But there is hope on the horizon. This term, the club will finally be able to release physical copies of our articles for the first time since the start of 2020! It's about damn time! We have a plethora of newcomers to the team who are bringing new articles/content to our newspaper. From the things engineers are complaining about in their classes to poetry about headaches to Canada dominating in the FIBA World Cup, there is plenty of new content coming along to readers soon.

I'm writing this right now in the midst of studying for tests, trying to finish up loads of assignments, and looking for a co-op on top of that. Probably should've done this earlier to avoid this conundrum. But here we are, I guess. Balancing school and extracurriculars can be a daunting task to anyone. But to whoever is reading this, make sure you take rests every once in a while to avoid burnout and stress. We are all getting through this tough period in the term as students and mistakes do happen. I know we're going to be alright at the end of the day. Keep fighting. I believe in you!

I hope everyone has a great fall term and best of luck towards finishing your assignments and preparing for finals in which the latter is coming sooner than people expect unfortunately.

For more information about our club, feel free to email us at [theironwarrior@gmail.com](mailto:theironwarrior@gmail.com). Happy reading!

Sincerely,

Athavan (the Editor-In-Chief)



# What Eng Has Been B\*tching About

## The Unknown Engineer

Since the start of the new term, every student, from frosh to upper years, has had strong opinions about the new term before midterms have even hit. So what have the different Eng programs been b\*\*\*\*\*g about this month?

Props to all engineers! Y'all are doing great!



[1] PE Impact KH, Engineer in Constant Stress. 2020.

### SYDE & BME

SYDE is tormented with technical sketches worth 25% of their final mark.

BME struggles with professors progressing slowly throughout the lecture only to rush through the majority of the new, difficult material during the last 10 minutes. This leaves many BME confused and requires much self-teaching. They mention the lessons appealing to an expert audience as opposed to the student body.

### MECH & TRON

MECH Students speak on behalf of many students when they draw attention to the lack of A/C in residence for first years or classes being too hot/cold in various buildings across campus. TRON Co-op students dread their 30-page work term reports. They find them difficult to complete while working full time jobs. Many sacrifice quality for quantity.

### CIVE, ENVIRO, GEO

CIVE, GEOE and ENVE have been aggravated by the need to use LYRYX for linear algebra. This software costs \$40 to run on their own computers, but the alternative is to use the lab computers. Although the lab computers claim to shut off every half-hour of inactivity, in reality, they shut off every 10 minutes.

### MANAGEMENT

MGMT mentions people looking down on their program because they consider it to not be a real engineering degree. With classes from approximately 8:30-4:30, Monday through Friday, it is difficult for MGMT and the other engineering programs to find time to be more involved in clubs and events around campus.

### CHEMICAL

CHE has experienced similar problems to that of BME, but has also had to endure 2 classes on the proper formatting of a Word document, resulting in 5 hours of instructions on document formatting in one day!

### ARCH & AE

AE students have been plagued by the lack of communication resulting in incoordination between TAs and profs. They mention TAs taking up examples before the profs have taught the material, leading to everyone's utter confusion and dismay.

### ECE

CE doesn't like the unnecessarily difficult and complex concepts involved with classical mechanics. They also dislike that they are required to take physics and their friends in SE are not.

ARCH doesn't enjoy the subjective marking on their creativity and that 30-40% of their mark stems from their note taking in class. Even first years don't have dorms and find it difficult to find housing. And as they were shipped off to the Cambridge campus, they are unable to participate in many events and see their friends on the main Waterloo campus.

### SOFTWARE

SE students are known for being less social, but perhaps it's not their fault. SE complains about the university sending out emails for events they "can't miss" that are all scheduled during their classes.

EE has experienced professors with great expertise in certain areas but who are stuck in their "expert mindsets", making it difficult to teach elementary concepts such as projectile motion in more simplistic terms.

### NANOTECHNOLOGY

Two words: "Quantum Mechanics."



# MARTHA SPEAKS

## VOL.2

Hi Martha,

I'm a first year student who keeps getting lost on campus. Once the buildings start connecting together, sometimes I don't realize it and have no idea where I am. Don't even get me started on CPH and DWE; one time I went up a staircase in DWE and at the top, it said I was in CPH. What? I never left the building! And how are E5 and E7 different, exactly? It's all the same building, at least as far as I can tell. The other day, I crossed the E5/E7 bridge trying to get to DC, but turned the wrong way in E3 and ended up going in circles until I found and deciphered a map on the wall. It's so frustrating!

Luckily I haven't gotten lost trying to find my classes, but only because I just walk outside so I don't risk being late. I know that's the easiest way and it's fine for now, but I feel like I should learn more about the tunnels and connecting buildings for when winter comes. Any advice or tips on how to navigate them?

~ Lost Loonette

Dear Lost Loonette,

How practical of you to try and figure out the tunnels so early on! Depending on what area of campus you're in, it can still confuse even the more experienced students. Unfortunately, I'm not completely sure of the difference between E5 and E7 either. Although, I do know where the building changes as you walk through it, which you can look for on the room signs. In terms of CPH and DWE, it sounds like you were trying to get to the third floor of DWE (Perhaps to attend an Iron Warrior meeting on Tuesday at 6pm in DWE 3520A?). You can avoid accidentally ending up in CPH by following the signs that say "DWE third floor" with arrows.

The only tip I can honestly offer you is this: look for maps. A map of the floor you're on should be near most doors and stairways in every building. Just find the "You are Here" circle and find where you need to go. The tunnels are often included in these maps, at least in the ones I've seen. I'm sure an entire map of the campus tunnels exists somewhere on the Internet too, which might be able to help you figure out which buildings connect to each other.

When all else fails and you're really stuck, find the nearest exit and walk the rest of the way outside. I know we all want to avoid this in the winter, but sometimes being cold for a few minutes is better than feeling completely disoriented in a random tunnel on campus.

I know getting lost can be discouraging, but you'll be a pro before you know it!

Good luck,  
Martha



Hey Martha,

I'm a first year who keeps getting attacked by the geese on campus. There's geese where I'm from too, but these ones are on a whole other level. Strangely enough, though, I've never seen them attack anyone else the same way they come after me. I'm just trying to walk normally, but they seem to hate me. Any advice?

~ Sid the Science Kid

Dear Sid the Science Kid,

How to deal with the campus geese is a very popular question from first years, and it's one that upper years have been trying to answer for as long as I can remember. I've collected a few tips in my time around the geese that might be of some help to you.

First, we have the obvious ones: avoid eating around them, and do not taunt them. If you do either of these things, you're practically asking for them to attack you.

If you want to avoid them altogether - which is also a good strategy - try and limit the amount of time you spend walking outside, if you can. If you go this route, you'll be learning the tunnels at the same time, so it's a great way to kill two birds with one stone (Note: we are not literally killing any geese). An added bonus of this method is that you'll also avoid the mountains of geese poop that are everywhere.

That being said, you won't be able to always avoid them, so when you do see the geese hanging around, it's important to show them no fear. Simply walk right by, pretending they aren't there. This will threaten them as you're asserting your dominance on the sidewalk. They will have no choice but to surrender and decide not to bother you.

Hopefully that helps. You can do it!

Sincerely,  
Martha

*Have questions or need advice from Martha? Send your submissions to [theirwarrior@gmail.com](mailto:theirwarrior@gmail.com) for a chance to get an answer from Martha in a future issue!*

# Hostile Architecture and the Hypocrisy of its Existence at the University of Waterloo

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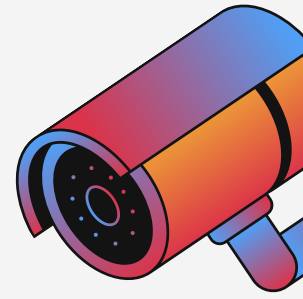
By: Rachel Pearson (1A Civil)

Hostile architecture is advertised as a way to limit specific bad behaviour from people and animals. For example, it can be used as a way to prevent people from performing skateboarding tricks in public areas or birds from landing in trees. Ridiculous, I know. However, there is a more hateful but lesser known reason for the existence of the hostile architecture we can see across the world, Ontario, or even in Waterloo. The use of hostile architecture has been linked to creating inhabitable spaces for the unhoused, leading the architecture to be dubbed “anti-homeless architecture”. We see this in the different forms that hostile architecture takes: slanted benches, arm rests, “street spikes”, rocky pavements, breaks in awnings, boulders under bridges, curved benches, and more (McFadden, 2020). Each of these work towards creating uncomfortable or uninhabitable spaces in order to reduce the amount of homeless people resting or sleeping in public. This is typically conveyed to be a form of “cleaning up the streets”, but I, like many people, question whether this is a fact. Cleaning up the streets, to me, should mean reducing numbers of homelessness and poverty in the country, not creating more uncomfortable lives for those of a lower socioeconomic class. Not only do I feel it is inhumane to reduce the amount of places for the unhoused to rest, and that it is idiotic to change public spaces so that the general public find them less convenient to use, but I find it is incredibly hypocritical for specifically the University of Waterloo’s Engineering Faculty to allow this to continue within our reach.

In our classes, we repeatedly learn about grand challenges for engineers and the pillars that make up our community. One such grand challenge is “inclusive, safe, and sustainable cities” (Engineering Deans of Canada, 2021), which preaches the necessity to solve many different problems and directly mentions the need for greater diversity of transportation, with affordable access for lower income communities”the need for “greater diversity of transportation, with affordable access for lower income communities”, as well as “creating inclusive cities” (Ibid). I find it ironic that lower income communities can be directly mentioned, but only acknowledged in a specific context. While it is definitely beneficial for there to be affordable transportation methods, I believe that inclusive cities should be a higher priority in general and directly relate to the unhoused, yet the grand challenges document cites “inclusive cities” to pertain solely to the aging population (Ibid). Creating inclusive cities should focus on the inclusion of everyone of different races, genders, ages, socioeconomic classes, and so on, not support only one facet of the population.

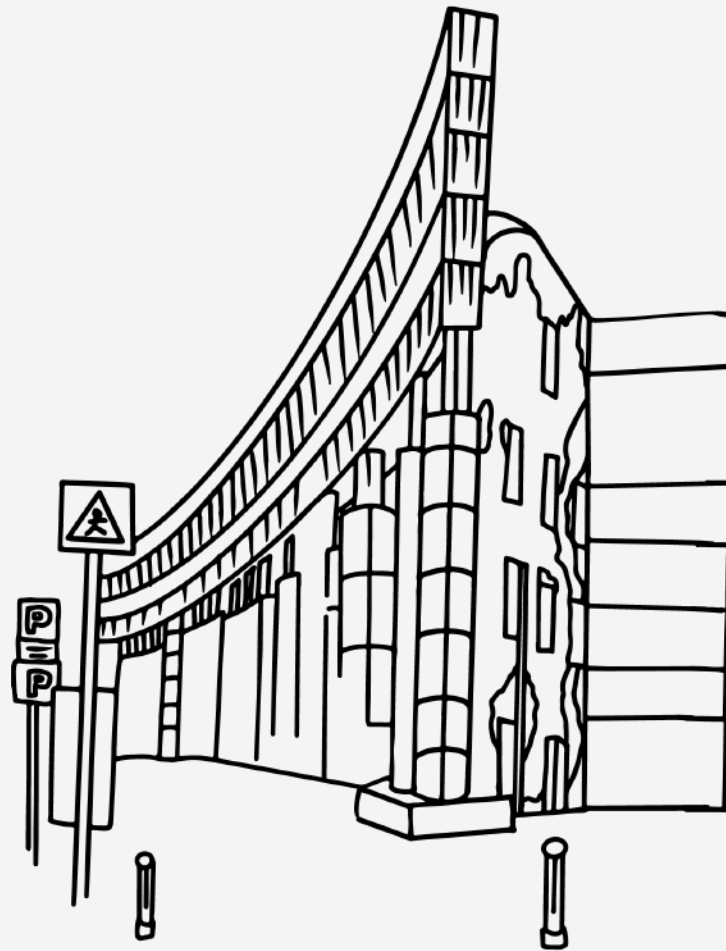


Additionally, part of being in the engineering community at the University of Waterloo means committing to a pledge which highlights a pillar of our community to be responsible. In fact, the Commitment Pledge states, “I will act with integrity, upholding the ethical standards of honesty, respect, and accountability” (University of Waterloo, 2023). What is ethical about removing a safer, more comfortable space for the unhoused? Where is our respect for the less fortunate people in our lives?



Furthermore, the pledge continues with, “I will aspire to make a meaningful and positive impact on society and the land, recognizing that my decisions, actions, and stewardship will impact current and future generations” (Ibid). This underlines the fact that we have a responsibility to ensure that people from different socioeconomic classes have access to safe, affordable, and comfortable spaces to sleep, rest, and house themselves.

Do I believe we alone can fix such widespread problems such as hostile architecture and discrimination against those of lower socioeconomic classes? No, of course not, that is unreasonable. But I do believe that, in general, we should attempt to acknowledge and spread knowledge about the existence of hostile architecture, and do the best we can in our community to proceed into the workforce with the understanding that we are privileged and in positions of power, and that our actions can and will have effects on others, so we should make sure they are positive ones.



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University of Waterloo. “Commitment Pledge.” 2023.





# Canada Basketball Is Back



By: Athavan Gananathan (3B Biomedical)

James Naismith can finally rest in his grave knowing his country is dominating the sport he created.

For a long period of time, Canada has had a reputation of sorts for being terrible in sports not winter-related. In basketball especially, Canada had consistently been a team that others did not fear and were consistently defeated by other elite-level countries. It seemed the game Naismith created could not be reflected well within this country.

Until recently, that is.

Because Canada can finally say they are one of those elite-level countries. In early September, the Canadian men's basketball team completed a very successful run at the 2023 FIBA Basketball World Cup, finishing with a record of 6-2 [1]. Not only were they able to win a bronze medal at the tournament (their first medal on that big of a stage in a VERY LONG time) but they were also able to qualify for the 2024 Summer Olympics in Paris, France: the first time since the 2000 Olympics in which Canada will compete in basketball at the biggest international stage.

For the past decade, Canada has rapidly grown into a country that has loved basketball more and more. This has been evident from the success of the Toronto Raptors, the only Canadian team in the National Basketball Association (NBA) who recently had won an NBA championship for the first time in their franchise's history in 2019. This has also been speculated from the rapid rise in players in the NBA who were also from Canada. In the 2012-13 NBA season, Canada only boasted 8 NBA players [2], with most being benchwarmers who barely played for the most part. Now, 10 years later, that number has tripled with more players coming along the way via this year's NBA draft as well as future drafts.

The Canadian men's team was stacked for the World Cup, with nearly half of the roster

consisting of NBA players who are considered to be high-level role players and/or star players in the league. One of those stars is Shai Gilgeous-Alexander, a guard who currently plays for the Oklahoma City Thunder and is the player who led Canada during this charge.

Residing from Hamilton, Ontario, Alexander averaged around 24.5 points per game with a field goal percentage of over 50% (considered to be very efficient) [3]. He became Canada's go-to guy in tight games as he is considered to be one of the better shot creators and playmakers in the NBA. He hopes to translate this success from the tournament to the next NBA season, with aspirations of leading the Oklahoma City Thunder to the NBA playoffs for the first time since 2020. Many expected Shai to dominate for Team Canada being one of the best players in the NBA, but one player people were shocked by in terms of their performance was Houston Rockets forward Dillon Brooks.

Brooks, who is from Mississauga, Ontario, is one of the NBA's better defenders, as he previously had been selected to an All-Defensive team in the 2022-23 NBA season, playing for the Memphis Grizzlies at the time. Despite this, he has developed a reputation for being immature and narcissistic. This included taunting NBA superstars, unnecessarily generating dirty fouls on other players, and acting flamboyant during interviews with the media. In particular, he said in an interview a few months ago that he pokes bears and he doesn't "respect no one until they come and (score) 40 ..." [4]. Brooks unfortunately could not back up his comments during his shenanigans, as he was one of the most inefficient scorers in the league with a field goal percentage of under 40% in the 2022-23 NBA season [5]. He was such a detriment to his team that at one point he did not attend post-game interviews while his team was losing to the Los Angeles Lakers in the 2023 NBA playoffs.



It seemed having Brooks was a terrible move for Canada considering his previous antics, but he was able to flip the switch right in the nick of time to help his country. During the World Cup, he averaged around 15.1 points per game with incredible shooting splits, including a 59% field goal percentage and a ridiculous 59% three-point percentage [6]. It seemed Brooks wanted to truly silence his critics, especially after getting a 4 year, 80 million dollar contract this summer with the Rockets, which was money people did not believe he deserved. And as a Canadian, I am truly grateful to see a redemption arc from him.

Speaking about the tournament, it was a rollercoaster of emotions with a lot of memorable moments. The first one being from when Canada defeated Spain in the second round, who at the time were the defending FIBA World Cup champions [7], which ultimately led them to qualify for the 2024 Olympics. This game was especially nail-biting considering Canada previously lost to Brazil in the second round of the tournament, meaning if they had lost to Spain, they would be eliminated from the tournament and have to wait until next July to qualify for the Olympics via a six-team qualifying tournament [7].

The other incredible memory of this tournament run was defeating their neighbours to the south (the United States) in the bronze medal game of the World Cup, winning 127 to 118 in overtime. Brooks and Gilgeous-Alexander were especially dominant during that game, scoring 39 and 31 points, respectively. Even though the United States did not have their top level superstars compete in the tournament unlike in previous years, their entire roster still consisted of NBA stars and elite-level role players, which makes this accomplishment fairly impressive for Canada.

What's even crazier to think about is that Canada was able to successfully get a medal placement without a few of their best players. One such player is Kitchener native Jamal Murray, who led the Denver Nuggets to the 2023 NBA championship, the first in the franchise's history. Another player is Vaughan resident Andrew Wiggins, who was a former #1 draft pick and contributed to the 2022 NBA championship-winning Golden State Warriors.

Both players are additional scoring pieces that could bolster Canada's roster by next year when they head to Paris.

However, other teams are also planning to dominate at the Olympics. In particular, the United States is set to bring their elite level NBA talent to represent them at the Olympics after they failed to obtain a medal at the World Cup. This includes superstar players such as LeBron James, Kevin Durant, and Stephen Curry. This would form the superteam that other countries fear across the world, in which Canada needs to be extra prepared for.

For now, Canada is on top of the basketball world, and with the way their team dominated this year, there is immense hope they can get a medal at the Olympics for the first time since 1936. Maybe then they can obtain the title as the best team in the world, in honour of the man who first created the sport.

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# a real headache.

By: Rachel Pearson (1A Civil)

Some people just don't understand.

I mean, people describe things as a "headache" ALL THE TIME.

Like, "oh that child is such a headache"  
or, "that project was a total headache",  
and you just know that they don't understand what a *real* headache is like.



I'm not talking about the ones I've been getting since I was in grade 7.  
No, not the migraines that make me go blind and throw up.  
But the ones worse than that.

I'm talking about the headache you get when you're burnt out.  
The headache that comes after you've been bawling your eyes out for a solid hour. When you are at your drop dead lowest point so far this year, and your tears have finally dried, but your body decides to break too.

No, it couldn't be happy with just the heartbreak, just the utter disappointment and hatred you feel for yourself. Your body just has to go ahead and break under the pressure too, making sure that no part of you can do it anymore.

I'm talking about how when you've wept for so long you feel genuinely rough, like your skin is burning from your salty tears rubbing in the pain.

And that saltiness transpires into that sharp pain in your right temple, begging for hydration because you literally can't cry anymore until you give yourself some water, but you can't go get some because you're curled up in a ball trying to hide from the world and yourself.

Because you know that you can get hurt by the world but you hurt yourself too, and you don't know how to protect yourself from one without throwing yourself into the other.

I'm talking about that headache. A *real* headache. The headache I've had for the past year.

Man, some people just don't understand what a real headache is like.



# Is the education system



# FAILING?

By: Jasmine L. Yu

(IA Mathematical Physics)

Einstein once offered a brilliant quote:

“Everybody is a genius. But if you judge a fish by its ability to climb a tree, it will live its whole life believing it is stupid.”

Is getting a degree worth the time and money we invested? Should public schools be made mandatory? Why is the education system preventing students from learning?

## Brief history of the education systems:

With the arrival of the Industrial Revolution, millions of workers moved away from home to enter urban areas for a job in factories. Now they were left with the problem of childbearing at home since women were simultaneously moving into the workforce slowly. The solution - therefore, was to gather the children in one place during the day to be supervised.

John Rockefeller, Horace Mann, and other business tycoons admired the “indoctrination model” constructed for kids in Prussia after being in war with Poland and poured billions of dollars in the 19th century to build the initial model of the education system in America (which hasn’t changed much as of today) to solve this dilemma and teach the next generation “necessary” knowledge to inherit their parents’ jobs to work in their factories. Schools became the daycare of middle-class worker families, but the nightmare of their kids’ intelligence and freewill.

Rockefeller famously said himself: “I don’t want a nation of thinkers, I want a nation of workers.”

## Why it destroys free will?

With the arrival of the Industrial Revolution, millions of workers moved away from home to enter urban areas for a job in factories. Now they were left with the problem of childbearing at home since women were simultaneously moving into the workforce slowly. The solution - therefore, was to gather the children in one place during the day to be supervised.

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Rockefeller famously said himself: “I don’t want a nation of thinkers, I want a nation of workers.”

The fundamental problem in modern education is the passive model it adopted for learning to take place. Not to disregard the importance of knowledge from the curriculum, but passively taking in information is far from enough.

We put trust blindly in teachers and lost the ability of critical thinking to trace the truth. We have trouble navigating through our lives because we have been following instructions forever. We have lost interest in the most crucial skill of learning since it has become painful and inapplicable.

The most valuable quality in humankind is the individual strength and weakness as we proceed in different trajectories, but with that being erased within the current system, the more likely turnout would be summarized by a quote from Les Brown:

“Born unique, die copies.”

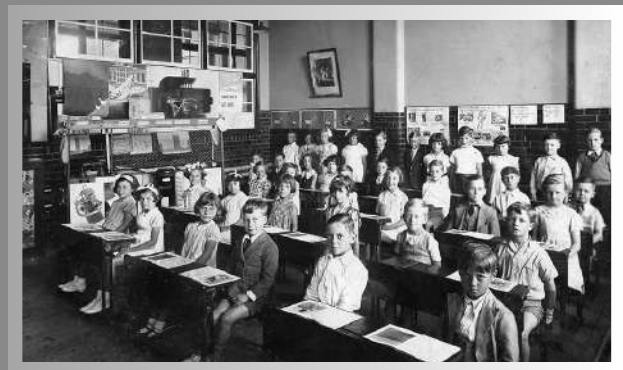


Image Courtesy of Gatsby Exchange Vintage Old Photos under fair use.

## Grading system:

My life is determined by a number - by a series of numbers I fought hard to achieve with no ending. We felt drained but without it, our life seems to lack purpose. One of my friends told me randomly one day:

"My bio and chem midterms are done today, but it feels weird, I don't know my purpose of existence anymore." It is indeed overdramatized by my narrative, but it stroke me suddenly - our education takes away the real meaning and enjoyment of knowledge and it is scary.

Why are you studying? I have a test tomorrow. Why do you do the test? I want a 95+ in calculus. Why do you want it? My dream school demands it. What will you do after getting in? Repeat and get a degree. Then? Find a job in a big company. How interesting do you rate your life? There are fun things in between but...

Don't get me wrong, standardized testing is probably the best model to select intelligence and talents that exist around the world. Any other approach would largely favour the rich and cause disproportionate class discrepancies.

But it's important to highlight that grades are merely for selection.

We live for something else: something higher and better. Besides the surface level criticism of the grading system nowadays like it doesn't reflect our whole abilities, it's too limited and not applicable and so on.

If we develop the wrong relationships with studying due to this system, it's catastrophic. Grades aren't everything - sounds trivial but it's genuine. We don't have to live for a number.

While it is crucial to master this skill for the selection mechanism, trying to look for an alternative is equally beneficial. Don't wait until graduation to start cultivating your future, don't stall on your habits due to non-ending tests, learn something that is not "helpful", dive in wider knowledge just for the sake of it, save time in your schedule for personal development - Who are you outside of school, outside of UWaterloo?

That being said, do enjoy school if possible. Amazing people, amazing professors, amazing opportunities and platforms are here, so utilize them wisely and they become immensely helpful. School is a part of your identity and it is needed. But when problems are brewing, something needs to be done - it's way too overpriced when free resources are available online, course selection and completion are extremely robust to cater individual needs

(school dragged me down when I was ahead due to the "prerequisite" system), polarized political agendas suffocate thinkers, and there is a lack of any sort of education outside of academia (when you still can't do tax and manage assets after a PHD).

## Conclusion:

Education system is not education. It is a mere subset of education and you get to determine how small or big this subset gets to be. The crucial problem, especially for teens, is that the subset takes more than 90% most of the time, so the flaws and blindspots the system carries are directly projected to the maturing and developing of the young.

They tend to think less outside the box, and the only other place they turn to is social media which is more damaging on its own level. The world has more to it that you are seeing, so go explore, go learn, and go discover the exciting things that are embedded in life itself; it's not worth it to be swallowed by depression constantly to miss the beauty in life. You have an option.

Try to deliberately reduce the time spent on coursework to perfect your personality in other ways. Reading will become more enjoyable than ever, your connection with nature will be strengthened, and the long lost passion for the world and yourself will be regained.

IN SHORT - EDUCATE YOURSELF. NOT IN ONE WAY,  
BUT IN EVERY WAY.

### Image Citation:

Gatsby Exchange Vintage Old Photos, 8 x 10 Old Vintage Photo School Classroom 1937 Young Kids. Gatsby Exchange Vintage Old Photos.

### Article Citations:

Jake Tran. The Evil History of our Education System. (n.d.). Retrieved from [https://youtu.be/JQWT\\_UT5HfQ?si=2p48sWx7ZTWGEHj7](https://youtu.be/JQWT_UT5HfQ?si=2p48sWx7ZTWGEHj7)

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# Toopy and Binoo

A REVIEW BY JULIA SULJAK

Throughout the summer, so many highly-anticipated movies came out. From Spider-Man: Across the Spider-Verse, to Barbie, to Oppenheimer, it felt like people were excited about going to the movies.

While I was at the theatre watching one of those aforementioned movies, I saw a preview for Toopy and Binoo: The Movie, which was released on August 11, 2023. I was previously unaware that this movie was coming out and although I watched the original animated show as a child, I had barely thought about it in years. Nevertheless, my friend and I went to the theatre in mid-August and watched it.

**Note:** This will be a spoiler-free review.

The film follows the titular characters on their journey to a magical land called the Lost and Found to retrieve Binoo's lost stuffed animal, Patchy-Patch. Anyone who's seen the original Toopy and Binoo show knows that Toopy is the only one of the pair who speaks. However, the film introduced other supporting characters so that Toopy isn't the only one talking for an hour and a half. These include a genie named Dorothy, bird brothers Jean-Jacques and Jacques-Henri, and the

nameless Magnificent Princess. I personally thought that the new additions were good at being entertaining characters that brought something to the story without overshadowing the main duo. The brothers provided comedic relief, while the Princess can come off as annoying at first, but she is the most "adult" character in the movie and ends up growing on the audience by the end.

However, one thing that I did notice was that at times, I found Toopy to be annoying and self-centered. I wondered if he was always like that and I just didn't notice as a kid, so I found some episodes of the original show on YouTube to watch for a comparison. Of course, I could be



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biased because I remember watching and enjoying the show as a kid, but I did find this aspect of Toopy to be less apparent in the show (at least in the episodes I watched). Nevertheless, another important aspect to consider when comparing the show and the movie is the run time. Each 24 minute episode of the show is broken up into multiple shorter segments that are about 5 minutes each, while the movie is an hour and 24 minutes long. This means the audience of the movie isn't used to seeing the characters for that long of a time in the same story, a factor that likely influenced my interpretation of their personalities.

Another thing I have to mention is the animation itself. Since the original show came out in 2005, the movie obviously has a higher animation quality. The larger backgrounds that were needed for the big screen were very well done and detailed. The majority of the movie was very colourful, which makes sense because it's made for children, and overall felt like a bigger, fresher take of the original animation that didn't make things look too different.

Overall, being a kid's movie which I am definitely not the target audience for, the story is cute and emphasizes the main aspect that the original show did, which is Toopy and Binoo's friendship. Given the short-segmented structure of the show, it's impressive that they were able to make a decent full-length

movie that would keep little kids entertained. While not being exactly the same, it still had enough nostalgia and references to the original show that adults who were fans can appreciate while watching the movie. The little kid sitting behind me in the theatre kept laughing and sounded like they were having a great time, and the adults that were also there (the theatre was mostly adults) seemed to enjoy it too. So if you grew up watching Toopy and Binoo but haven't thought about it in 15 years, Toopy and Binoo: The Movie won't disappoint you.

Image Citation (for all images used):  
"Toopy and Binoo," Toupie et Binou,  
<https://toupieetbinou.com/en/> (accessed Oct. 29, 2023).



# The Colour of the Rainbow That is Just SUPERIOR

By: Rachel Pearson (1A Civil)

Colours are something that bring joy to pretty much everyone with a soul. If you don't feel the same...I mean clearly you don't have a soul. Sorry to break it to you like this. Now, while all colours are clearly joyful, some are simply just better than others. Here, I will present to you a definitive ranking of eleven colours, from worst to best. I don't care if you consider them shades or don't think they should be in the same list as some of our iconic rainbow colours; this is my article, not yours, so argue with the wall. Now I must preface this with a declaration: this is supposed to be fun. Maybe a little divisive if you're really passionate about specific colours, but mainly fun. If you're offended...check yourself back into preschool. This is about the colours of the rainbow, it's obviously subjective, chill out. Alright, with that out of the way, let's begin with the worst colour.

## 11. Orange

Orange infuriates me. Period. And it's not even a colour I see often (thankfully). I'm looking around my suite's kitchen right now and I see one singular thing that's orange, and it's so brightly coloured that it pisses me off. Why is it so bright? Who gave it the audacity? Also, there's literally no emotion I associate with orange. I mean, what is orange supposed to connect to? One of the only things I directly connect with the colour orange is the fruit which, like, yeah, I like oranges, but honestly thinking about the colour doesn't inspire the same acidity and freshness the fruit provides. Alternatively, I'm reminded of pylons, but if I'm being wholly honest, that reminds me of my major, which makes my eye twitch so that's not a great connection either. Monarch butterflies and sunsets are probably the only really nice orange things, but let's be real, they only actually look good because there are other colours in their natural palettes. Hence, orange is trash and belongs in eleventh place. Moving on.

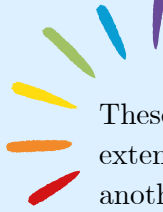
## 10. Grey

Grey is the kind of colour that feels like I could touch it and it would be cold. That's not what's bad about it, that's just something I feel like people should acknowledge. What's bad about it is that grey is so solidly itself: it's obnoxious. Like, genuinely the most depressing colour is probably grey. The world is so grey: buildings, objects, walls, the ground, and my class in STC that I spend 80% of my day in. Grey, grey, grey, grey, blah, blah, blah, bluegh. It's just too much. And it reminds me of the fact that morality is grey and that I have responsibilities and problems. It's overwhelming. No colour should remind me of the fact that I'm losing my mind on the daily (for legal reasons that's a joke). Grey definitely does have its moments though. I mean, baby penguins? Pebbles? Cloudy skies? The moon? Those are all great grey things. But of course, those are all natural things that once again are highlighted by other colours. A grey world is not one I want to live in... but unfortunately I do and thinking about that is bringing back my eye twitch so let's get on with the ranking.

## 9. Yellow


I'll generally say that yellow isn't the most hideous thing (obviously, because orange is) as we are entering a more neutral and average territory for this colour ranking. Yellow is a cheerful colour, I'll give it that. I generally associate it with wheat, cheese, and children's colouring books; very average things. I also feel as though yellow fights back against the things of its colour that are bad, because sunflowers and sunshine carry this colour so hard. Plus, in the fall, when leaves are turning yellow, it can be so gorgeous. And of course, the iconic rubber duck?





These are all phenomenal yellow things. But...it's just so blinding. If I had to sit in a bright yellow room for an extended period of time, I feel like I'd wanna claw my eyes off and leave that circus-looking space. That's another thing yellow reminds me of: circuses and clowns. And clowns are horrifying. On top of that, it reminds me of my high school uniform; bright mustard yellow and forest green. Yeah, I know, it was bad. And my locker was in the mustard yellow section so I got blinded by that stupid colour every morning. So yeah, the trauma is equivalent to all the positive things about yellow, so I physically can't rate it higher.

#### 8. Pink



I struggled with where to put pink on this list because of the fact that it has some beautiful shades and has this delicate but powerful sense to it, but also has some of the absolute worst shades I've ever seen in my life. To put it plainly, pink is the kind of colour that can represent carnations and intestines simultaneously. It's similar to yellow in this sense, where it has all those overwhelmingly awful shades, but I personally feel that the positives of pink outweigh its negatives whereas yellow does not have this attribute, hence solidifying the fact that pink is ranked higher. But no higher. Because I'm still picturing intestines. Not even cherry blossoms, Starbucks' pink drink, or Barbie can beat that (even though it was a great movie).

#### 7. White

White is a clean slate, like a whiteboard, waiting to say something. I also associate white with a clean, fresh, and crisp state. I picture sparkling snowflakes, clouds, daisies, dandelions, and classical wedding dresses. However, as pretty as those wedding dresses are, the original concept of them being white gives me the ick. The other negative things I associate with white are mental asylums (with those padded walls) and hospitals. Both of those things really bring down white's ranking as I associate mental asylums with horror movies and claustrophobia, and hospitals make me feel ill when I think about them. Overall, white tends towards positives, but definitely has a sickly undertone.

#### 6. Black

Here's the thing. I understand that black is associated with dark morals, depression, nightmares, horror films, etc., but I feel like there's much more nuance to the actual colour. The feeling I have attached to black isn't anxiety or stress, it's more stillness. I feel the sensation of laying in bed in the dark after a long day, feeling so comfortable and ready to sleep. I see mystery and elegance. I picture a blank blackboard, a dark sky waiting with anticipation to be filled with fireworks, a screen waiting to be lit up; I see potential. Black is like a clean slate, fresh with opportunity. Hence, black is sort of a middle of the road kinda colour; sorta scary, sorta comforting.

#### 5. Brown

Brown is where we turn towards colours that are definitely more good than bad. Brown, to me, is a reminder of freshly baked bread, cookies, and hot chocolate. There's an earthiness to it; it's grounding. I'm reminded of nature, the earth, fuzzy blankets, and the smell of coffee. Brown has a warmth to it that not many other colours can replicate. I feel like the colour could wrap me in a hug and it would be comforting, unlike if yellow or orange were to hug you... or rather, smother you. Brown also reminds me of the dark academia aesthetic, which embodies what I romanticize Waterloo to be (I know that romanticization is a bit of a stretch, but I'm trying my best here, you see the mental state I'm working with). Overall, brown is a pretty good colour.

#### 4. Red

Some of you may be wondering why red is so highly ranked, especially because of the fact that I've placed the other warm colours close to or at the bottom of this list. Well, that would be because of the fact that red has an amazing range. Anger? Covered. Love? Covered. Warmth? Covered. It's all-encompassing. It reminds me of hearts and nail polish and strawberries. I picture cherries, Christmas, tulips, and even stop signs. Red is associated with so many things it'd be a disservice to rank it lower. Removing red from all the things it's associated with and considering it more as a whole, we're still left with such a passion-filled colour; so vibrant and expressive. It's a strong and dynamic colour that is kinda like the leader of them all. But not the leader in rank because clearly, there's an indisputable top three...

#### 3. Purple

Okay, so here's the thing. Purple is my personal favourite colour. I love so many purple things. Purple flowers, for example, are absolutely top tier. Lavender fields? GORGEOUS. Lilac? Smells amazing and is so beautiful. Also, amethyst is such an iconic purple thing. Purple is just one of the prettiest colours! It has a sort of split dynamic in which it's so elegant and mysterious and rich, but also welcoming and aesthetically pleasing and light. It symbolises royalty, luxury, and power. It's just a phenomenal colour. So, you may ask, why is it only 3rd on the list? Well, while it's my favourite colour and I have many things that are purple (with those things I own being either all dark or pastel purple), purple has some hideous shades. I love a lot of the different shades, but I draw the line at magenta and fuchsia. Holy, I hate those. With a passion. Hence, the low-ish rating. But still, I'd like to reiterate; purple is so awesome and gorgeous, and I love it so much.

#### 2. Green

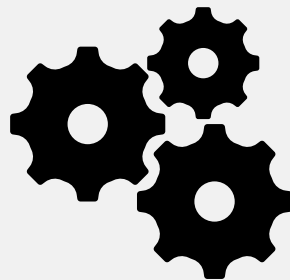
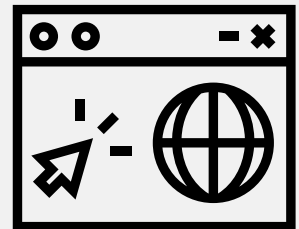
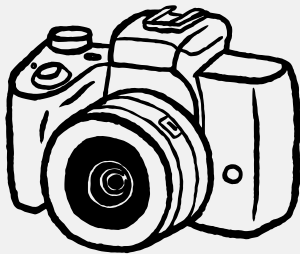
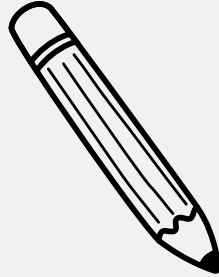
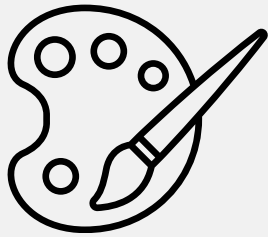
GREEN. Green is such a good colour. It is so fresh and lively but also earthy and grounding. I'm reminded of forests and moss, cottagecore aesthetics, and Mother Nature. Green is just so welcoming and inviting. Also, there are some iconic green characters. Like, Mike Wazowski? Shrek? Kermit? Oscar the Grouch? Bulbasaur? Poison Ivy? The Tooth Fairy (from Rise of the Guardians obviously)? LUIGI? It's wild how green is just so all-embodying it can make me simultaneously feel like I'm in a Studio Ghibli scene but also Shrek's swamp. In all seriousness, green is the colour that makes me feel the opposite of how grey does. It's the colour of life, and makes me feel a sense of relief and space. It's amazing. In fact, only one colour beats it.

#### 1. Blue

This is probably the easiest decision I've ever had to make. I mean, come on. Blue is a phenomenal colour that has barely any bad shades and can represent so many emotions. Blue is a reminder of the ocean and the sky, delphiniums and bluebells, and the rain and sapphires. And while blue is a reminder of these beautiful things, it also evokes feelings of freedom and relief. Even when it's linked with sadness, blue is a colour that can be delicately comforting. And while it is extremely delicate at times, it's also rich and filled with depth. Blue is the kind of colour that makes me want to go outside. It's also a colour I link to art and music. When I think of blue I think of Robert Julian Onderdonk's Dawn in the Hills, and "I Think I Like When It Rains" by WILLIS. Also "Atlantis" by Seafret. It's just a colour I connect with so strongly. So...blue is clearly the best colour - beautiful, all-encompassing, emotive, powerful, and delicate.

There you have it. A definitive ranking of all eleven colours. We have some clear winners and losers, and some that are just in the middle of the road. If you disagree with my ranking...I don't particularly care, but I'm down to debate. I look forward to you losing!

# Thanks for reading!



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