

# The POWER of Words



FOREIGN LANGUAGES

PUBLIC SPEAKING

CARE AND BE FAIR

ROMEO & JULIET

UNEMPLOYMENT

HALLOWEEN

SPEAK OUT



## *The Power of Words*

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## CAN WE TACKLE UNEMPLOYMENT?

In these times of crisis the phenomenon of unemployment has become more and more widespread. Many persons are asking what measures the governments could impose and which of those measures would be more effective in reducing unemployment. Some are also asking what each and every one of us could do in order to help in the efforts of limiting this phenomenon.

Tough unemployment was an important phenomenon when times were better than they are now (It has been present through the entire human history.), it is even more important nowadays, when the economical conditions are not as good as they used to be.

First of all, we should try to find out what the definition of unemployment is. This term is used in order to designate that part of the adult population which is currently searching for a job. It can also be utilized to name a social phenomenon, which is characterized by the fact that a large portion of the population is either capable, but unwilling of finding a job, or willing, but incapable of doing so..

There are 2 types of unemployment. One of them is the voluntary unemployment. In this case, people who are capable of having a job do not wish to have one. The people who choose voluntary unemployment are, generally, rich people that already have enough resources and do not need to work to sustain a decent life-style for themselves.

This type of unemployment is not good, but it is not necessarily bad, either. I say this because, in spite of the fact that it limits productivity, both on a personal and national scale, it does not create social problems.

What governments could do so as to limit the extent of this type of unemployment is encourage people to work and to do their best while working. For example, the governments could give to the people the message that even tough they are rich they must always try to be better than they are. In other words, on a professional level (but not only), they should try to break their own records (being rewarded with happiness, personal pride and social recognition).

And with regards to what the people could do to avoid the type of unemployment presented above... the best idea would probably be to simply follow this advice. They should also remember that people who do not work may start feeling useless to society.

The second type of unemployment is the involuntary one. Of this particular type of unemployment we should be far more worried than of the previous one. This is due to the effects it has on the population. Not only does it decrease the country's productivity (in a far more drastic way than the previous one did), but it also puts pressure on the social system and creates problems within it.

Involuntary unemployment describes the case in which people who want to find a job are not capable to, due to considerations such as the economical situation.

The consequence of the involuntary unemployment is the apparition of a surplus of In these times of crisis the phenomenon human history.), it is even more important nowadays, when the economical con-

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ditions are not as good as they used to be.

First of all, we should try to find out what the definition In-voluntary unemployment describes the case in which people who want to find a job are not capable to, due to considerations such as the economical situation.

The consequence of the involuntary unemployment is the apparition of a surplus of work-force. This surplus, which is constituted of people who have lost their jobs, creates major problems for the social system, because the people in question are no longer able to sustain themselves and might cause the whole system to collapse.

Effective measures that the governments could apply in order to prevent or diminish this phenomenon would be reducing taxation and increasing the number of jobs, by helping private enterprises, as well as by investing in the state-owned ones.

These measures would, on the long term, help the national economy and, therefore, reduce unemployment.

The population's role is also important. The most important thing people could do is assist the government in applying the

measures mentioned in the paragraph above. The people could also double the effort they invest into their current job. By doing so they would help their company grow and contribute to the reduction of unemployment.

My conclusion is that, in order to reduce unemployment,

they should simply be capable of managing the country's internal resources correctly. The population should be willing to work, even harder than usually, if necessary. It should also help and be helped by the government.

•Vladut Mihai 12F

### RAINBOW OF COLOURS

I LOOK AT THE WHITE  
AND I THINK OF PURITY.  
I ADD A COLOUR,  
AND WHAT CAN I SEE....  
HAPPINESS  
ALONG WITH SADNESS...  
STILL... I CONTINUE TO ADVANCE.  
LIFE IS DIFFICULT, BUT QUITE A DANCE  
OH! YOU, DEAR SOUL,  
IN YOUR LIFE THAT CAN BE SOAR..  
YOU SEE  
ONLY RED AND WHITE  
AND YOU PASS OVER THE SITE  
THAT IS  
BLACK,  
OPAQUE...  
LOOK AT THE SKY  
AND SIMPLY TRY  
TO WATCH THE EARTH LESS...  
UNLESS...

You want to cry...

• Redactor: Cana Maria 10F



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## HOW CAN WE TACKLE SCHOOL?

The education, the school in Romania has always been considered among the most solid and thorough shapers of young minds in Europe.

This is due to a large range of academic subject our students are exposed to. For example a seventeen-year-old

student has to cover in thirty classes per week fifteen subjects including sciences, humanities, foreign languages, arts, as well as sports, while a British school offers him a set of five courses, at most the ones he's supposed to sit for graduation.

Another asset of Romanian education is the professional training of the educational staff. Most of the people working in schools are dedicated educators whose main achievements in life are connected to their students' success.

boards to motivate the students into getting involved in the educational process. Teaching methods are rather conservative and teacher-oriented.

My deepest hope for education in Romania is to provide wonderful teachers with the necessary equipment and educational materials to improve the achievements of their students.

Interactive methods of teaching, practice-oriented courses, numberless experiments conducted in upgraded laboratories are some of the developments I hope for Romania.

- **Popa Irina 12F**



On the other hand, Romania has never been renowned for its well equipped schools due to a poor economic growth and little money. There are no large IT labs, no video projectors and no interactive



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# THE “SPEAK OUT” CONTEST

## “CARE AND BE FAIR”



One year ago there was a contest at our school, “Speak out” and I wanted to participate. I joined the contest with the topic “Care and be Fair” and I wrote a love poem which sent me further to the next stage of the competition. I started learning harder and studying more about this topic. My teacher, Roxana Neatu, and my friend, Cristina Bolohan, helped me with ideas and tried to prepare me for the big day. Despite being nervous all the time I wasn’t in the mood to do anything else but specialize myself on the topic. When the day came, there were the best competitors from the most famous Bucharest high schools. Each of them had his own speech about the same “Care and be Fair”, they were all so well-prepared and self-confident that, when I looked at them, I felt I lost all my hope and confidence: I thought I was the weakest, that my English was the worst and when my time came to present my speech I lost myself for a lit-





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but after a few days she got more flexible and ready to conquer the world with her arguments. All went well on the big day, although she was a little down and overemotional.

She finally won the prize for originality, so I was very proud of her!

• **Bolohan Cristina**  
11 F

tle while, felt butterflies in my stomach and the earth spinning round my head.. and everything around disappeared for a second just enough to scare me to death... but I eventually came back to reality and kept on speaking. I read my poem and supported my ideas with arguments. When the judges announced the prizes, I couldn't believe that my name was said. Attending this contest was a great experience for me, I didn't win a prize, but self-confidence, too.

### **Tanase Roxana**

The atmosphere wasn't too relaxing, Roxana wanted

to learn something more about the subject that is interesting for almost all the people, love. This wasn't easy because everyone has his own opinion, and what she had to sustain should include everybody's tastes. But because she is a romantic person, she knew how to hit the point, and the teacher helped her all along with her speech and acting skills. I slept at her home some nights to help her revise everything and I think the whole experience was useful not only for her, but for me, too. Firstly, she was thinking too much of the competition, fact that made her too stoned and insensitive,



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# PUBLIC SPEAKING WHAT DOES THE FUTURE HOLD FOR US?

Our presentation for the Public Speaking contest despite the fact that gave us many emotions, offered us an useful experience in our lives, it gave us the opportunity to socialize with other people and learn good debating skills and managing emotions, as well.

A few competitors even came from countries where English is the national official language, so, we had a lot of things to learn from them, beginning with spelling and ending with intonation and self-control. We were amazed by a little boy, who came from a bilingual English school. He was younger than us, but he was such a good speaker.. This made us a little jealous. We were nervous and the expectancy of the presentation moment was bitter. The great emotions came only when we presented our essays. But as everybody was watching us interested and encouragingly this gave us confidence. During the presentation we got used to public speaking

and ignoring the chills of sudden fright we started feeling great on the stage when, unfortunately, the time was up and we had to end up our presentation and leave the podium. Then the people who have watched us asked a few questions about what we said and that was the moment when the competition was finished.

It was a honor for us to be there and to represent our high school.

This contest improved a lot the communication in English and helped us speak fluently. It also helped us in different situations when we had to get rid of shyness and control ourselves, it was also enriching in many ways. It made us aware about the advantages of speaking a foreign language, helping us to meet other people with whom we can share information. It also enriched our vocabulary, it made us correct our spelling, it taught us what to do to make ourselves

heard and known. It's a good point to start if we want a career in which we need to speak foreign languages. We recommend everybody to overcome the emotions and to take part in this type of contest. They have a lot of things to learn, they will be grateful for the chance to make themselves known, to deepen their English knowledge and open new perspectives in the field.

- **Dumnitru Ana-Maria**  
**10F**
- **Ursu Maria-Gabriela**  
**10F**



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### CARE AND BE FAIR

Crying sadly over you  
Shyly asking what to do.

Even if she was mad  
With love in her voice, but sad,  
Before you may leave..  
What I say you have to believe!

When you fall in love again,  
She will hurt your feelings , then  
Try and remember and mind  
What you did is what you `ll find.

What goes around comes around,  
What have you already found?  
If now you do feel you care  
That means you `re finally fair.

### WHY DO WE LOVE FOREIGN LANGUAGES?

Ever since I was age of 3 I started learning foreign languages. Since then they started being part of my life.

I învăț Englisch din Kindergarten. Ich mi-a plăcut very viel, deci I didn't stop to learn.

In clasa a-5a am început să învăț German. La început nu mă plăcea. Dar când am început 9TH grade, am început să mă placă, pentru că ceilalți colegi, nu șeau limba și eu simțeam că sunt mai bună.

Îmi place foreign languages pentru că prin asta pot să vorbesc cu persoane din alte țări.

I didn't imagine cum ar fi să învăț alte limbi. Am început să învăț dintr-o dată.

Sunt utile când vrei să citești ceva scris în alte limbi într-o carte sau să vezi ceva la televizor sau pe calculator.

• Tanase Roxana 11F

• Gârbă Monica – 11 F



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# HALLOWEEN FRIGHT

There we were, on the 31<sup>st</sup> of October, in a spooky house, at 10 o'clock. We came there for a party but we didn't quite like what we actually got...

In that dancing, loud music and shouting, we couldn't really hear what we were saying to each other, but we heard the door on the top of the stairs screech while the lights went out and the music stopped. We stopped for a moment to watch the horrific creatures exiting the door, all kinds of ghosts, werewolves and zombies. Jesse, one of our friends greeted them, because we all thought they were other people that came to have fun at our Halloween party, but, to our fright and horror, he was bitten by one of them and then a loud screech dazzled us:

„SLAUGHTER”. We started to run in horror and we didn't stop until we were far from that place. We were still scared by what we saw and we were talking about it when someone yelled: „Jesse is still in there!”. We decided to go after him, but only some of us had the courage.

When we arrived at the spooky house a shivering chill went down my spine and I started thinking about the worst possible... When we entered we were struck by a deathly view: blood on the floor and a skull on the stairs near the door. The girl that realized Jesse was missing started crying and gasped: „Jesse, oh my dear brother, why?...”. I went near her and told her maybe it's not his skull. She didn't seem to listen to me and we needed to make sure if Jesse is alive or not, so I told them we need to open the door. We went up the stairs and opened the door, carefully stepping into the dark room. Suddenly, a sound draws our attention. The lights went on and we could see Jesse and the „monsters” wishing a happy Halloween in a beautifully decorated room. His sister obviously knew but I didn't think she did. I sighed and asked: „Why?” and Jesse answered

lightly : „Didn't you want a creepy Halloween party?”. I stared at him for a couple seconds but I accepted the situation for the rest of the night.

I will always remember the horror we experienced when we saw that fake skull. But now I laugh about it and wish you a **HAPPY HALLOWEEN!**

- **D'Ecclesis 9D**



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# LITTLE BLACK RIDING HOOD

Once upon a time there lived a little little girl in the middle a forest in a far far away country named Neverland.

Her father was the terrifyingly violent Freddy Kruger and her mother was a mean horrific witch.

Still her grandmother was an ordinary person ..so ordinary that she ended up paying for her humanity with her life.

The little girl's age? She has no age ....she is ageless. She has a demonic look, big red eyes and a white scary face. She has a terrifying voice because she stole it from a lion. Her hair is long and messy, her hands are always stained with fresh warm blood and her nails are violet and putrefying.

She loves nothing and nobody. She is only knows the feeling of hate imposed by her parents when she was a baby as the only true emotion anyone can have.

She always wears a black hood to hide her angry look. Her little basket is full with poisoned food-snakes and fungus and worms are all she carries with her every day. She destroys nature transforming the flowers into mushrooms and the green colour of life into the black of Death.

She is the Wolf's friend and he helps her murder her victims .She is mean just like her mother who wants to kill her grandmother as part of a family tradition to kill some blood-related members at night, on Halloween.

She is sadistic because she loves to torture everybody just as she did to the forestman who tried to kill the wolf .

She is devilish because she has connections with the devil who tells her how to do his work when she is asleep.

She is a traditionalist because she follows the tradition of Halloween-to scare, to terrify, to kill...

We described her...

Can you guess who she is?

One day your turn will come....

She is still alive!!! Don't forget!!!

She is ageless.

We know her from fairy tales but we changed her personality a bit ....(in fact a lot not a bit)....

We chose her because we have plenty of originality. ..especially on HALLOWEEN....



• **Anca Munteanu-9F**



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# BLOODY MARY

Almost everyone knows her. Many people are saying that her legend is true, that they saw her but some others think her story is fake. I had the opportunity to learn more about her on the Halloween party where I was dressed in a black dress and my team helped me by putting make-up on my face and doing my hair. It was hard for them as it was for me to play Bloody Mary's role, though, because we had a very short time to write an essay about her and learn all that stuff.



Basically all you have to do to make her appear is to stay in front of a mirror, in total darkness, surrounded by candles and repeat her name three times.

Many of us heard about her in different legends or scary stories like the TV series "Ghost Whisperer" or in the original movie. She is typically described as a pale-skinned child-murderer, dressed in black having long messy hair and a disfigured face because of a car accident.



Also, Bloody Mary is known by some people as the spirit of a young mother whose baby was stolen from her, fact that made her so angry. The story says that if she doesn't kill the one who had summoned her, then she will haunt them for the rest of their life.

The mirror ritual by which Bloody Mary is summoned may also relate to a form of divination involving mirrors and darkness that was once performed on Halloween. Other versions tell that if one chants her name thirteen times she will appear into the mirror and the summoner could talk to her 'til 12:08 a.m.

Acting in this role was one of the many great experiences I have had in my life. I enjoyed it so very much.

"If you think you are safe from me.. Well, think again. I will come for you regardless of whether or not you're trying to call for me.."

• **Nicoleta Bleiu 9F**

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### To be a guest upon this Earth

To be a guest upon this Earth

Means to respect even the values of the dirt,  
To know the history of what had been before  
you were,

To feel what your heart tells you... to feel the  
lust,

To love and to respect what has been turned  
to dust,

To desire to be everywhere

And, at the same time,

Nowhere.

To love the planet as a  
whole

And to have it as a goal...

That your heart be not of  
steel...

And have the strength to  
climb a hill...

To have victory

And glory

In climbing the hill of life

And emerge as a rising sun

From the strife

In which we all are.

• **Vladut Mihai 12 F**

### Romeo and Juliet

Last year we decided to become actors so  
May was a romantic month, full of colours  
and flowers, perfect for acting in an original  
and funny "High school Romeo and Juliet".

Romeo and Juliet is known as a tragedy  
written by William Shakespeare, having as  
theme "the Italian love", a forbidden one be-  
cause of families who were enemies.

Our "Romeo and Juliet" is in fact a paro-  
dy in which the Frier is a drunk priest, the  
young maid is a modern Juliet used to hang-  
ing out in night clubs together with her own  
nanny who is a cunning match-maker, the





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bawdy Romeo with his friend Benvolio are snobbish school-boys longing for parties.... the balcony seems to be the only wise mature character who, along with the narrator, can tell the story and comment upon the amusing illogical lines of everybody involved.



Romeo and Juliet was a challenge for us and an opportunity not only to know each other better but also to meet other people's perspective on acting, too.

I, personally think theatre is for professionals, but as beginners I think we acted pretty well, given the standing ovations of the auditory.





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I was the narrator so for me things were much easier as I didn't have to act on stage, but, on the other hand, I got fully involved in the plot and lived each and every line to the full. Our involvement (and not only ours but our teacher's, too), the care for clothes and details made us give our best so, we actually realized that things go well when you work hard- we all eventually checked it in our agenda as a well-done project .

I can speak on my classmates' behalf when I say that we would all like to take part in this year's theatre competition as, who knows maybe this year we will go not only for a better acting, but for a better English and a more interactive efficient class and time spent together.

•**Raluca Radu 11 F**

### Motto

A WORD IS DEAD

WHEN IT IS SAID

SOME SAY

I SAY

IT JUST BEGINS TO LIVE

THAT DAY..

EMILY DICKINSON



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## JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT ROMANIA

This year in May we got a proposal of collaboration with a non-governmental organization dealing with planning educational events for students ,named Junior Achievement.

Since 1993, Junior Achievement Romania (JAR) has been implementing programs for students of different levels under the slogan “Invest in education!”. JA Romania is part of Junior Achievement Worldwide, like the USA and JA-YE, Europe.

We got in touch with this organization guided by our English teacher Roxana Neatu who advised us to get involved in a project that promotes Alumni Fair (Targul Absolventilor), voluntarily , event that took place on the 7-8th of May at the Parliament Palace. Thanks to a three-month attendance, we obtained experience in promoting a specific project, and a diploma to benefit our CV.

As we arrived at Junior Achievement we met our ex-teacher, Luiza Cristea , who distributed us tasks



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according to our capabilities . We got the task to go to the “Lucian Blaga” Theoretic High school and to the Law School.

At “Lucian Blaga” High school we had the opportunity to meet another type of collective than in our high school, less enthusiastic, I may say... Even if initially the students seemed not so seriously involved in the project, they turned up to be interested in what we were promoting and they eventually asked for more information.

When we arrived at the Law School we were very nervous because we weren't familiar with the faculty atmosphere, but we were helped by the dean, namely Flavius-Antoniou BAIAS, who welcomed us warmly and showed us how to distribute our promoting materials. We were obviously taken by surprise by the difference in commitment between the students of the Law School and the ones of “Lucian Blaga” Highschool.

We took part in the event on the very first day of developing the project. Here we spread flyers to promote the program of the two days



of the fair, we also filmed and photographed the participants at the workshop and informed everybody about the national and international activities we could apply for.

Even though we consumed a lot of energy, that was not a waste , on the contrary it was an interesting experience from which we have learned new things - we faced situations we hadn't met before and we had lots of fun at the same time.

We'd like to thank our teacher, Mrs. Roxana Neatu, for the tip as we were advised ( just as we recommend you now) to take advantage of any opportunity that can help you in the future.

- **Raluca Barbulescu 11F**
- **Monica Garba 11F**



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## A NIGHT TO REMEMBER

A group of seven people entered Cardiff Castle in two big, black and rather dirty Land Rovers, the sound of tires on gravel announcing their arrival. Outside, the weather was dreadful. It had been raining for two days straight and it didn't show any signs of coming to an end. As they got out of their cars to examine the place, they noticed how intimidating the castle was, its tall, stone walls looking down on them as a lightning bolt flashed suddenly through the sky. They decided it would be time to start unpacking before midnight would come. After setting up recording cameras in every room they were going to investigate, the group split in three teams of two, leaving one of them to handle the computers.

As the clock struck one, the first team, consisting of Jack and Henry, started making its way through corridors until they reached the storage-room. Jack started asking questions and record-

ing until they heard a noise. It was as if somebody was scratching a wall with the nails. Suddenly a grey form, resembling that of a young woman dressed in a long and flowing dress, started floating around. Those were the spirit visitors said to have been seen on numerous occasions. The digital thermometer Henry held showed no signs of another presence but their eyes weren't lying. The entity disappeared leaving a faint breeze and two astonished and speechless men. They hoped, however, that the voice recording held some proof.

While the first team was in the storage-room, Lucy and Frank were investigating the library where Marquess of Bute was said to have appeared walking through the fireplace of the library, passing through a six-foot-thick wall into a corridor, then passing through the wall of the chapel into the room in which he died.

"The EMF meter doesn't show anything. Do you seri-

ously think he's going t..., "Lucy started speaking but was interrupted by Frank.

"Shhh! I heard something."

Lucy brushed it off, blaming the old floor for the cracking noise, but in a blink of an eye the fireplace came to life with a violent fire. Lucy, who was sitting on a chair next to the fireplace, rose quickly. The Marquess's spirit came out of the flames as if he returned from Hell and headed towards the wall, giving her an evil glance. Henry, on the other hand, stood there, stoned, while the phantom came towards him and, seeing that the man was too scared to move, through him. For a moment the man was engulfed by a bone chilling sensation and he felt as if his soul left his body for a split second. Feeling a wild rush of adrenaline, he followed the entity to the room where he died. Lucy screamed and ran to the place where the computers were, being followed shortly by Henry.

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In the main dining-hall of the castle Anne sat with Cindy, doing EMF readings and voice recordings. Thinking about the other two teams and that they must be finished by now, the two girls tried to finish as quickly as they could. However, their thought were interrupted when at precisely 3:45 am all doors started opening and shutting by themselves, making loud banging noises. The situation wasn't getting any better as all the lights in the mansion started flickering, then flashing on and off, making them feel confused. Anne and Cindy sat in the middle of the room with no options of escape. They closed their eyes, praying to God it would end and when they opened them and saw that it had stopped the girls ran for their life.

In the room with computers, Matt had been playing on his mobile phone, not paying any attention to what happened to the others. Running out of battery he decided to play a little with the whatever ghost there might have been at that mo-

ment and do a voice recording session.

"Is there anybody here that would wish to speak?" he started.

No reply.

"Do you have a message for me?" he continued.

"Help me..." a faint voice could be heard in the dark of the night.

Matt had no time to continue when his friends came in with frightened looks on their faces. Some told him bits and pieces of what happened in erratic voices and some were gasping for air. They immediately packed their stuff, got into their Land Rovers and drove to their hotel, leaving the recording cameras behind.

After trying to sleep, the crew had a meeting to see what the scientific results of the previous night were. They caught some faint voices on the corridors and a blood-curling scream from the main dining-hall.

"What about the cameras in the castle? We left them there." Anne asked with a

tired voice.

"We can see what the cameras are filming now from our laptops. They weren't turned off. Let's take a look," Jack told them as he opened the laptop and began watching what was happening in the castle.

The entire group came closer to watch and they froze when they saw Mar-quees of Bute walking through the corridors and stop in front of the camera before it shut down completely. The weird thing ... he looked at the camera as if he was gazing at their souls.

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• **Tish 10G**



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## PHOTOGALLERY

My name is Ioana Pita, I'm 16 years old and I'm from Bucharest. I am a student at "Matei Basarab" National College and my passion is photography. I was introduced to the fascinating world of photography when I first photographed one sunset with a compact camera, back when I was only 13 years old. When I saw the result I was amazed, I can not imagine how I could make myself something like that. Then, with the same device, have appeared other landscapes, other sunsets, reaching slowly to devote more time to this hobby. Photography for me is a passion now. When I move from a compact camera to a DSLR I chose a Nikon and I focused especially on portrait pictures. But I also love to photograph landscapes and conceptual photos. Now I work with youth magazine, Teenpress, where I am a photographer. I hope to develop this passion and drive viewers to beautiful images and be appreciated for what I do.



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