GAZETTE

RESEARCH SHOWS BASIS STUDENTS ROCK!

With AP exams on the horizon, students, teachers, and administrators from around the world have one question they are all dying to know the answer to: what fuels the success of students at BASIS Scottsdale? Even through the difficulties of a digital classroom, BASIS Scottsdale students have exhibited impeccable academic performance. While some scholars argue that the reason must be the challenging curriculum, others insist that it has to be the expansive hallways at BASIS Scottsdale. To settle this heated debate, a comprehensive study was conducted by the American Psychological Association (APA). The researchers concluded that the true explanation for BASIS Scottsdale's success is, in fact, the positive student life.

The released study reported that one of the most important factors contributing to BASIS Scottsdale's favorable student life was the trustworthy, reliable Microsoft Teams platform. Constantly facilitating classes, club

BY CALISTA WILK



Source: maxpreps.com

meetings, and one-on-one calls, Teams provides the perfect online environment for students to learn while using technology. Fascinated by the frequency of its updates and the sheer number of icons that have been modified as a result, students have explored the different functions of Teams, developing a deeper understanding of how technology works in the unlikely case that the system ever crashes.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

FEATURED

Eight Ways: Teacher Respect...... Page 5

Antarctica Strikes Back......Page 10

April Fools' Quiz......Page 12

SAVE THE DATE

April 1: April 2: April Fools' No School

April 3-14: Apr 5-7: Mock APs AZMerit

"I used to hate technology," student Mary Baker said. "It was always so annoying when programs would check to make sure that my work was saved before I closed out of a tab. Now, Teams doesn't make technology seem so bad since it deletes my work even while I'm still in the tab."

The study revealed that along with their remarkable technological prowess, the schedule of BASIS Scottsdale students has proven to be overwhelmingly beneficial for students' success. Upon retrieving student responses to a school wide poll, the researchers initially found that there was a direct relationship between the number of classes students took and the number of hours they slept. Naturally, the analysts were puzzled by this correlation until they factored out the hours that students slept during lunch and in class. After, the data thankfully followed the researchers' expectations: the more classes students took, the less hours they slept at night.

The reason for this behavior, as researcher Mark Lopez asserted, is that the students learned to be efficient. To accommodate for the ample time the students receive to attend classes, complete homework, and navigate through their hallways during passing periods, they have adapted to sleep less while still retaining the necessary energy to complete an entire school day. This is "phenomenal behavior," Lopez reported. "We've never seen students this efficient and productive before."

This adjustment has proven to provide BASIS Scottsdale students with time to explore other endeavors and hobbies, the most prominent one being sports. With teams for sports from basketball to track and field to volleyball that all rigorously compete in their respective divisions,

students train devotedly in the outdoor areas of the school. The plastic grass field and the two basketball hoops that span a whole half of a court provide practice space to not only students on sports teams but also those who wish to simply exercise with their peers, sharpening their senses and overall awareness in the process.

"I honestly enjoy having to play with dozens of other kids," commented student Daniella Lu. "Having to avoid a soccer ball, dodgeball, and basketball while I race with my friends is actually really beneficial because it helps me focus more on my actions."

The diverse experiences offered and skills learned at BASIS Scottsdale have evidently bolstered the student life, improving students' general knowledge and academic performance. Helping students become technology experts, efficient sleepers, and active sport players, the student life at BASIS Scottsdale serves as an inspiring model for other schools around the globe.



A student diligently packing up in the peaceful hallways of BASIS Scottsdale, Source: Business Insider

BASIS' EDUCATIONAL EVOLUTION THROUGH THE EYES OF AN ALUMNUS

BY DFRRICK KANG

When revisiting his former high school, BASIS Scottsdale alumni, Marcus Oliver, was blown away by the numerous "changes" that he saw with the school. "So many things have changed," he claimed, "I can't even tell if this was where I went to high school."

"He's visibly shaken," said Edward Fynn, one of Oliver's friends. "I am not quite sure what happened when he took the time to revisit his high school. It must have been an emotional experience."

When I asked Mr. Davis, the resident AP Calculus teacher, what had happened, he simply replied that Marcus stepped in to see a small sample of the lecture, but quickly left without any words.

After seventeen attempts to reach out to Marcus, Marcus finally agreed to provide a statement about the issue.

"Why did they change so many things with the school? Like, now, they're asking kids to write sentences in math to explain their answers. SENTENCES. What's next? Asking English students to show their work? It only keeps getting better!"



Source: Business Insider

"Even more so, some of the classes have begun incorporating 'critical thinking' into their lessons. Just think of how useful it could be when learning math, they're focusing on something that is very necessary. And what's this? BASIS Scottsdale has history courses now? How amazing is this, I thought we were a pure STEM school."

However, he has noted that some similarities have carried on even after his graduation.

"They still seem to serve the same questionable food every day, at least that's what I heard happened before the pandemic. Oh, and the air conditioning units are still the same. I'm amazed by the sheer consistency of the BASIS Scottsdale building—it truly is a landmark of the neighborhood."

Regardless of the changes that Marcus kindly noted, he learned that many students have been adjusting to the changes smoothly.

"I guess it's great that BASIS is making changes that benefit the students, but I still find it quite confusing as to why they didn't make these changes earlier. It is simply a revolutionary concept that propels BASIS forward through the academic field and will undoubtedly prepare students for their future. I am quite envious that such changes haven't been made sooner."

APRIL 1ST 2021

GRAMMY AT 63 - ASLEEP ON THE COUCH!

"One thing that I've really come to realize is how much happiness is so important," says Dua Lipa during her acceptance speech after winning Best Pop Vocal Album. Yes, very true. And that is the very reason why I could not find it in me to not turn off my TV, dismount it from the wall, and sell it all on eBay after watching just the first couple awards on the 63rd Grammy Awards on Sunday March 14th. Thank you, Dua Lipa.

Host Trevor Noah was up for a mammoth of a task. Pitching jokes to the 10 people in the crowd, hearing each individual chuckle, and trying to stay enthusiastic despite the very subdued and intimate nature of a notably grandeur and popular event was surely difficult. Though he did nail a few one-liners, the awkwardness was too much for me to bear. Still, I applaud his perseverance.

Now, I do understand the circumstances of the event. Trying to maintain regular traditions while also following socially acceptable and expected guidelines as per the pandemic (and cancel culture) are very contradictory tasks. But these events usually gain views because of its spectacularity, excitement, grandeur, and unique escape from our boring middle class lives. And the Grammys this year very much missed that mark. While the venue and attire attempted to resemble these traditional qualities, the occasional Zoom call, the very eerily quiet audience, and the somewhat awkward public speaking made it feel more like the Illuminati, as if we were intruding on a private ceremony.

My family and I watch the Grammys to see our favorite—and least favorite—artists perform, and then make fun of them for a hearty laugh.

BY ZAINA JASSER



Source: GRAMMY.com

But, joshing an event like this was just too overwhelmingly pitiful. We couldn't escape the uncomfortable video calls, and it really feels like we never will.

And before you call me an overly critical cynic, America does agree with me. Ratings and viewership of this ceremony were at an all-time low, receiving an average rating of 2.1 out of 10 among adult viewers. Some say it might make the ranks as the least viewed and one of the most disliked Grammys to date.

On top of that, some believe the awards to have been rigged in favor of particular artists. Oh, dear God, never! I'm pretty confident that the Grammys is primarily a marketing and publicity tactic, discreetly—but not that discreetly—promoting personal biases and ideologies through their "voting committee." This year's ceremony was clearly a makeup for their years of accusations of bias against women and black artists. And even artists themselves are

skeptical of the integrity of this voting system. The Weeknd, for example, forcibly removed his name from any nomination ballots from now on, in a boycott of "the secret committees" that can subvert the will of the



Trevor Noah prepares his zingers for the packed and eager crowd behind him at the 63rd Annual Grammys. Source: TMZ

voters. If measures like these are being taken, there's clearly a system of corruption working behind the scenes, one that just barely surpasses the monstrosity of the very awkward audience of the 2021 Grammys.

The 2021 Grammys was one for the books. What kind of book, I will let you decide, but this day will definitely never be forgotten. From the one Starbucks table to more twerking than singing, it was like watching the last day on Earth. How the Grammys may run next year remains a mystery, but one thing's for sure—it will have to top its monumental predecessor!

EIGHT GREAT WAYS TO GAIN YOUR TEACHERS' RESPECT

BY ALEX ZOU

Teachers are strange and mysterious beings. This is accepted as a fact at schools around the world. Unfortunately, these aliens from planet T-3ACH also happen to control your grades. But don't fear! With all my immense wisdom from three years of high school, I have decided to make a quick and easy list for all you bright-eyed youngsters to quickly and easily gain your teacher's respect.

Disclaimer: Tips may or may not work. The journalist does not assume responsibility for any infractions incurred which may include detentions, parent-teacher communications, and walks of shame to the Dean's office.

<u>Eight Great Ways to Gain Your Teacher's</u> <u>Respect:</u>

1. Talking During Class

Many people will tell you that talking loudly in class, especially when the teacher is trying to teach a lesson, is tantamount to fighting a fire-breathing dragon with wooden armor. Don't listen to those people. What many don't know is that teachers love it when someone interrupts their class because

that's when they can take a break while you help entertain the class. Though they may look extremely angry when they're yelling at you for talking, you'll know that on the inside, they appreciate you for breaking up the monotony of the class.

2. Sleeping in Class

Sleeping in class is the sister-technique of talking during class. While talking in class is like choosing the attack option in an RPG game, sleeping in class is like turning your back on a Boss Battle. When taking a nap in class, always make sure to bring a pillow so that you won't be uncomfortable on the hard wooden desk. Next, pretend like your teacher isn't looking like grandma's prize tomatoes at the state fair and proceed to sleep. Not only do you get to conserve energy by sleeping during class, your teacher gets to save energy by teaching one less student!

3. Eating in Class

Now, eating in class has always been a very controversial topic with teachers. Some allow it and some don't. But who cares what some old geezers think, right? Everyone knows that lunch is going to be next period, but are you really going to wait for fifteen more outrageous—and frankly, infuriating—minutes to go to lunch? Normal people might answer yes. But you're a high school student and you certainly can't wait that long, so open up that lunch and go to town, loudly munching on those crackers. Your teacher will love having to vacuum



Source: alleducation.com

up those crumbs you left on the school carpet: it's good exercise for their old bones!

4. Using Your Phone in Class

Smartphones are truly a wondrous thing. From helping to create a truly global society to allowing communication across vast distances, communication technology forms part of the lynchpin holding human society together. But you don't care about any of that mushy stuff, you've got social media to check! So many posts to like and comments to make! Above all else, you can't miss any of that important high school drama or you'll be behind on the *tea* (it means gossip for all you uncultured swine)! Be sure to say that to your teachers when they inevitably pluck your phone out of your hands and exchange it for an office referral instead.

5. Not Turning in Homework

Although homework is arguably one of the best ways to reinforce material taught in class, as a high school student, you're not about that life. If you want your teacher's attention, how can you get it by actually following their instructions? Not turning in your homework is a great way to ensure that your teacher will be following your every move. What's that? You're now failing the class because never doing the homework meant you learned nothing? Well, at least you can refer back to Tip #4 and post on social media about it.

6. Not Following Lab Instructions

This tip is for all you budding scientists out there. In science classes, following lab instructions is very important because you're dealing with chemicals that can cause serious harm to you and those around you. However, as a high schooler with no fear of the world, you're practically invincible. So go around pretending

like you're Dr. Frankenstein and throw all rules out of the literal window. Mix random chemicals, connect that battery wire back to itself, and make sure to toss that expensive equipment around like a basketball. And if you cause an accident, well, just tell your teacher that many major discoveries in science were fortunate accidents. I'm sure your teacher will love being told that by a snot-nosed high schooler with no conception of the intricacies of science.

7. Playing Video Games in Class

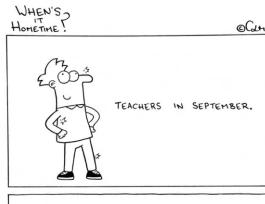
Once in a blue moon, the Greek Gods themselves descend to deliver you a day of work using computers in class. Teachers are understandably wary of giving immature teenagers access to technology in class (see Tips #4 and #6) but as a student, this is your time to shine. Show your fellow scholars that you believe in your group's academic ability by playing video games instead of working on the project. After all, teachers love students that bring the best out of their classmates. However, if your teacher does catch you "allowing your group to show off their academic skills," use your newly learned hand-eye coordination skills to run away.

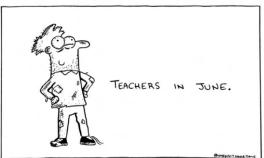
8. Recording Videos of Teachers

Recent trends have made recording videos of yourself in class very, very popular to the detriment of many teachers. Since popularity, social status, and general likability of a person are now all linked to how well you can record random things in fifteen-second clips instead of your actual personality, many high-schoolers have become virtual zombies addicted to the video option on phones. How does this relate to your teachers? Well you see, teachers love to be on camera. So go ahead and film your teachers whenever you see them at school. You'll earn brownie points not just with your friends, as

they will no doubt be very impressed at how many office referrals you want, but also from your teacher, who will be extremely grateful for the great honor of being in your video. Your teacher will be so grateful, he or she might even send you to the Dean's Office! Truly a fool-proof method of earning a teacher's respect.

Congratulations reaching the end of this guide! I hope this guide will serve you well during your high-school career and help your teachers get to know you better too. And remember, following any or all of the tips included may result in mild dismemberment courtesy of a rabid mob of teachers out for your blood. The price of respect is high indeed. Perhaps one day, if you survive the mob of teachers out for your blood, you too will be able to pass on your experience to future generations of students!





Source: HuffPost

FIFTY MINUTES? MORE LIKE TWENTY

Remember at the beginning of the year when the school was like: "Hey, we know it hurts your eyes to stare at computer screens for seven to eight hours, so teachers are going to try and cut the class time shorter to thirty-five minutes." Yeah? Well, I don't exactly know if that still is a thing but if it is, it must be really hard to fit an entire period's worth of material into an even shorter time frame.

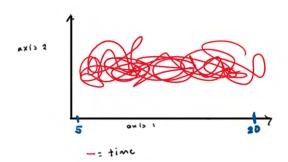
Now, up until this point, we've just been logging into SPORK and then going to class in Teams. Attendance is done and our entire thirty-five minute "class" is all important content. Everything (except for the fact that we're still quarantined and COVID still exists) is great. But with the dark, evil clouds of AP tests and finals rumbling over our heads, it's simply amazing how we manage to get through all the material we are supposed to get through in fifty minutes in a sheer twenty!

Obviously, taking attendance at the beginning of class has provided all students with an unusual amount of focus in class. NOT. I still get distracted by the egg (it's not real don't worry) that sits by my computer on the desk. Although I gotta say, with so little time, it's definitely a bit easier to stay on task. After that, I am staring at my mouse (which has googly eyes on it) and wondering why people didn't put wheels on them to make them less loud.

BY ALLISON LI

Moving on, if you read the last paragraph super carefully, you'll realize that I said the first twenty minutes of class, and you may think that's a long time. Let me tell you this: it's a long time of taking attendance which is just a teensy bit problematic. In the classes that do take attendance the old way, it takes from between five to twenty minutes. Why such a large range, you ask? Because as you can clearly see in this graph (to the bottom) that's just the way it is.

With the new attendance procedures set, BASIS teachers now spend much much time on attendance, leaving them with between fifteen to thirty minutes to teach the same material that was taught originally in fifty minutes. You've done it again BASIS. You have managed to make our teachers and students devise innovative methods to be more time-efficient at this time (pun intended). But I gotta say, my note taking speed is much faster than it was last year. Maybe you're onto something.



Graph of Time Taken to Finish Attendance, Source: Allison Li

APRIL 1ST 2021

CHAOS AT THE COLLEGE BOARD

Ahhhh, the College Board: Every stressed high school student's best friend and of course, the most benevolent organization in the country. In fact, the College Board is a nonprofit! Clearly, it's doing everything it can to help students!

Indeed, the College Board's activities have been documented for us. And it's plain to see just how incredibly ethical it has been. Despite its nonprofit designation, the College Board has holdings of nearly 1.15 billion dollars that are earmarked for their activities. This "nonprofit" clearly uses its funds to help the students it cares so much for, right? Right? In your dreams! Instead, this great non-profit preys upon the most vulnerable population in the United States, students, and then converts its ill-gotten profits into salaries. For example, the CEO of the organization takes home a salary of \$1.3 million. How charitable of this nonprofit organization! The College Board is so dedicated to helping that it helps the most vulnerable population, CEOs.

And how does the College Board acquire the capital to be so "charitable?" By charging the students themselves for the privilege of taking exams. The College Board charges students \$47.50 to take a simple SAT exam, which many students are required to, or urged to take. If you want to take the essay along with that, it's only a cool \$17! And because most students are incentivized to take the SAT a few times throughout the high school career, the cost on students only grows! Furthermore, if a student is able to claw their way through an AP, they have the amazing opportunity of paying \$94 to struggle through an AP exam. And if they'd like to receive any credit, well, they just pay more: there's an additional \$15 fee to send AP scores to each college. These high prices clearly show how kind

BY SAHIL SUD



Source: uhsswordandshield.com

the College Board is, as they prepare students for a time when they must pay high prices as adults. Though this may leave exams inaccessible to a large number of students, the organization is *clearly* going to its greatest lengths to help education and expand opportunities for students around the world!

Further than that, this organization, rightfully paid handsomely, provides excellent service. The College Board operates as efficiently as a grandmother walking a tightrope. The highlight of this came during last year's APs. Rather than permitting students to take a holistic test, covering the whole curriculum, the College Board, with flawless execution, reduced the complex exam to only two Free Response Questions, which will certainly prove to universities that you know a large amount about your subject. Honestly speaking, the College Board's gracious acts should be recognized by all. And they are indeed, as the College Board's charitable prices give it nonprofit status, exempting it from taxes. This is a clear distinction reserved for only the best, most ethical organizations, which is why the College Board is so clearly deserving of it. Pay no attention to their actions. The College Board is here for you (and ALSO, your money).

BASIS Scottsdale Gazette APRIL 1ST 2021

ANTARCTICA STRIKES BACK

As we comb through the rubble that once was Vatican City, pictured to the right, only one question comes to mind: how did this happen?

It was one week ago today when the Vatican City received an official declaration of war from the Antarctic Empire signed as an imperial proclamation from Emperor Happy I from the royal House of Feet. Of course this comes after months of tension between the two nations, following the Pope's surprise decision in early 2021 to excommunicate all penguins. Despite the fact that none of his subjects were practicing Catholics, Happy I became incensed over this outrageous insult. He was notably quoted as saying: "Pepp pepp waka wak wak!"

In the following weeks, several diplomatic outreach missions were sent by Italy in an attempt to avoid a potential penguin invasion on their soil, but all attempts were, unfortunately, met with silence and a vague stench of old fish. With tensions rising as time marched on, an official phone call was set up between the two leaders. In the USA, where the public had been holding its breath throughout the entire affair, a collective sigh was let out, but, alas, we were fools at the feet of hope.

On March 17th, the call finally took place but was ended within seconds. While the call did occur behind closed doors, the angry expletives shouted by the Pope could be heard echoing from St. Peter's cathedral out onto the press conference happening out in St. Peter's Square. While not much could be made out, the line: "Your mother was a Chinstrap, and your father smelt of seal blubber!" was easily identifiable.

Two days later, after consulting with diplomats from Antarctica's closest ally, the

BY TRISTAN CLARKE



Source: The Economist

Kingdom of Madagascar, the declaration was made. Happy I announced that all 12 million of his penguin subjects would begin an immediate campaign on the Vatican, led by famous Madagascarian strategist and military leader Skipper. At the notification, the Pope immediately tried to walk back his statements. He tried to reach Happy I for a second, conciliatory, diplomatic call but it was too late. Even the receptionist penguin had left on the campaign and couldn't be reached on account of the fact that said penguin was mere miles away from the Vatican.

The attack began on the 26th of March, minutes after the penguins arrival. From the beginning, the war was a done deal: only roughly 825 people lived in the Vatican City, meaning that each citizen, from the lowly alterboy to the Pope himself, would have to fight off a total of 14,500 penguins. And fight they did. It was a valiant attempt, but the penguins, who had received reinforcements from a sympathetic tribe of mice in France, overwhelmed the city within hours. The Pope was captured six minutes from Midnight and

was tried for his crimes against Penguinity.

Convicted by unanimous vote, he, along with all other members of the Vatican City, was deported to an Amish village in Pennsylvania (a concession made by the USA to avoid penguin aggression) where they can be guaranteed to never do anything important, ever again.

In gratitude to the mouse king, known in his French dialect as "Le Rato del Dorime", Emperor Happy I crowned him the new Pope. In celebration of his victory over his proclaimed "most dire enemy," Happy I threw a rave at the newly conquered Vatican, promptly causing the entire city to collapse.

Now flash forward three days to now. The Vatican is no more. The Penguins have gone on to invade Hawaii, breaking their promise of neutrality towards the Americans. Le Rato del Dorime has moved the papacy once again to Avignon where he has reestablished the Council of Cardinals using actual birds. And the question we are all left with is: how do we move forward? How do we reckon with this new danger that has been unleashed on our society? One day we shall know the answers, but until then, our only option is to cower in fear before the mighty penguin army.



Emperor Happy I, Source: Business Insider

April Fools'...Brought to You By BASIS

It's been a few years since BASIS Scottsdale has moved into the new school building and, in the last almost six years, we've definitely made some great memories. Thus, I bring you the ultimate quiz of important knowledge: exactly how much do you know about the pranks and history of our amazing school building?

- 1. Starting off easy: what was the senior prank last year before everything was shut?
 - a. Chalk art all over the walls and parking lot
 - b. Missing bathroom doors
 - c. Balloon-filled rooms
 - d. Gigantic beach ball and a mini beach
- 2. When did the door go missing?
 - a. What door?
 - b. Um...like three years ago
 - c. How did I not notice this?
 - d. There was no door missing
- 3. While we were still in school, what piece of artwork stuck to the ceilings of the bathroom?
 - a. Who just looks up at the ceiling in the bathroom?
 - b. A small mosaic in the center of the ceiling
 - c. There is no artwork
 - d. Dried up paper thrown up there by stressed out students
- 4. What event has occurred on every single Halloween at BASIS Scottsdale in the past?
 - a. Nothing?
 - b. A fake fire drill where they make us go outside and then pass out candy
 - c. All the teachers dress up as the same thing and run around the school
 - d. The seniors graduate and run around wearing their caps and gowns

BY ALLISON LI

- 5. How big are the halls of BASIS Scottsdale.
 - a. Too small
 - b. 89 inches
 - You can fit seven people across at a time
 - d. "How big"
- 6. How long has the BASIS Scottsdale building been around?
 - a. Which one?
 - b. About four and a half years now
 - c. Twenty something years, wasn't it like a dental office?
 - d. There is no building
- 7. When was candy given out on Fridays for wearing spirit wear?
 - a. Never?
 - b. It was entirely random
 - It was supposed to be every other
 Friday but they never did that
 - d. There was free candy?
- 8. What is highly advised by teachers from all high schools?
 - a. Due tomorrow means do tomorrow
 - b. Get lots of sleep especially during class
 - c. Don't take notes they're not important
 - d. All of the above
- 9. Finally, if Bobby is currently in seventh grade what math is he taking?
 - a. Algebra II
 - b. Seventh Grade Math
 - c. What school does he go to?
 - d. Calculus

ANSWERS ON PAGE 13

PUZZLE PAGE

APRIL FOOLS' WORD SEARCH



Words to Find:

April CollegeBoard

Dorime DuaLipa Fools Grammys Madagascar

Money Penguins Respect

Teacher

Answers to Quiz from Page 12

8.D; 9.C

1.D; 2.B; 3.D; 4.B; 5.D; 6.B; 7.C;

COMIC O' THE MONTH

BY TRISTAN CLARKE

Everyone's Talking About the Gazette!

"No, a cease and desist order is not an endorsement."
-Writer's Guild of America

"False." -Snopes

"Under no circumstances can this be published."
-Ms. Mitrovich

"Everyone is now dumber for having read it."
-Billy Madison

The Basis Gazette is Brought to You By:



Love roofs, but hate staying dry?

Words of Witzdom TM

mo parallel, mo betta



from the makers of BASIS roofs:



what?

BASIS GAZETTE STAFF

JOURNALISTS: TRISTAN CLARKE, ZAINA JASSER, DERRICK KANG, ALLISON LI, JONAH MARWIL, DYLAN SOSINSKY, SAHIL SUD, CALISTA WILK, ALEX ZOU

COMIC ARTIST: TRISTAN CLARKE

CO-EDITORS: GINA RYU & ALEX ZOU

FACULTY ADVISOR: MR. WITZ

QUESTIONS, COMMENTS, CONCERNS: BASISGAZETTE@GMAIL.COM