



Baccalaureate School for Global Education

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Kelly J. Johnson, Principal

June, 2010

Dear students and families,

We look forward to welcoming you to the BSGE community in September. We have a wonderful time working and playing together and are happy that you will be joining us.

It is well documented in the research* that summer is a time when gains made during the school year can be lost. In order to ensure that you come to school ready to work towards and achieve the high academic expectations we have for you, we want to give you a short reading assignment for the summer. **The assignment is mandatory and will be used in class during the first week of school.**

1. Read for at least 20 minutes every day. Do not save the writing for the last week of August!
2. Read at least **4 books, from four different genres (For example, read 1 fiction, 1 historical fiction, 1 memoir, 1 non-fiction book):** .
3. **For each book**, you must do two tasks:
 - a. Keep a double-entry journal as you read. *A sample is attached.* You should have at least one entry (probably more) for each chapter. By the time you finish the book, you should have at least 10 responses.
 - b. Write a response of at last 2 typed pages. Choose from any of the possibilities below to write your responses:
 - i. Describe an experience you have had that was like the experience of the character/ the description in the book.
 - ii. Write an interview with one of the major characters or with the author (for fiction or non-fiction)
 - iii. Review the book that you read and compare it to a movie made of the book. What happened in each and which was better and why?
 - iv. Create an informational brochure, with citations, about the information in your non-fiction book.
 - v. Write a poem (at least 35 lines) based on any aspect of the book.
 - vi. Create your own assignment, two typed pages.

We look forward to working with you in September.

Your (future) advisors

* **“Active Summer, Active Minds: Educators Seek Ways to Prevent Learning Losses During Vacation”** *Washington Post*, 15 June 2009.

“2009 New York Statewide Summer Reading Program: Research / Promoting Literacy”

<http://www.nysl.nysed.gov/libdev/summer/research.htm>.

Johns Hopkins University Center for Summer Learning, www.summerlearning.org/

All of the books below should be available at a library.

A YELLOW RAFT IN BLUE WATER, Michael Dorris, Fiction

This saga is the story of three generations of Indian women, beset by hardships and torn by angry secrets, yet inextricably joined by the bonds of kinship: fifteen-year-old part-black Rayona; her American Indian mother, Christine; and the fierce and mysterious Ida, mother and grandmother whose haunting secrets, betrayals, and dreams echo through the years, braiding together the strands of the shared past.

WISH YOU WELL, David Baldacci, Fiction

When tragedy strikes, precocious 12-year-old Louisa Mae Cardinal and her younger brother, Oz, leave the hectic New York City of 1940 to live on their great-grandmother's farm in the Virginia mountains. Suddenly Lou finds herself coming of age in a new landscape, making her first true friend, and experiencing adventures that are tragic, comic, and audacious.

WINTERGIRLS, Laurie Halse Anderson, Fiction

Lia's estranged best friend Cassie is found dead in a motel room. What Lia hasn't told anyone is that Cassie called her 33 times the evening she died; Lia didn't answer the phone. She also hasn't mentioned that she and Cassie once made a pact to see who could become the skinniest. At 99 pounds Lia is winning. Haunted by Cassie's ghost, Lia must choose between the exquisite control of anorexia and the sustenance she needs to live.

WHAT I WAS, Meg Rosoff, Fiction

Crossing over to adult fiction, celebrated young adult author Meg Rosoff still focuses on young people --- viewed through the lens of an old, world-weary narrator --- in WHAT I WAS, a most unusual coming-of-age novel about friendship and humanity.

WATER FOR ELEPHANTS, Sara Gruen, Fiction

Sara Gruen weaves an evocative and compelling tale of the frenzied, lawless and cruelly beautiful world of the Depression-era traveling circus. From the striking first scene to the unexpected ending, WATER FOR ELEPHANTS will have readers mesmerized.

A THOUSAND SPLENDID SUNS, Khaled Hosseini, Fiction

Khaled Hosseini's follow-up to the runaway bestseller THE KITE RUNNER is a worthy successor to that absorbing novel. Set against the turbulent and painful backdrop of recent Afghan history, A THOUSAND SPLENDID SUNS is the story of two remarkable women who endure persecution and violence.

THIRTEEN REASONS WHY, Jay Asher, Fiction

Clay Jenkins returns home from school to find a mysterious box with his name on it. Inside he discovers 13 cassette tapes recorded by Hannah Baker, his classmate and crush, who committed suicide two weeks earlier. She explains that there are 13 reasons why she decided to end her life --- and Clay is one of them.

THE THINGS THEY CARRIED, Tim O'Brien, Fiction/Short Stories

They carried malaria tablets, love letters, 28-pound mine detectors, dope, illustrated Bibles, each other. And, if they made it home alive, they carried unrelenting images of a nightmarish war that history is only beginning to absorb. THE THINGS THEY CARRIED has become an unparalleled Vietnam testament, a profound study of men at war that illuminates the capacity, and the limits, of the human heart and soul.

TANGERINE, Edward Bloor, Fiction

Though legally blind, Paul Fisher can see what others cannot. But no one listens to Paul --- until his family moves to Tangerine, where weird is normal and a new start might help Paul finally see the truth about his past. And give him the courage to face up to his terrifying older brother.

A WRINKLE IN TIME, Madelene L'Engle, Fantasy

In this beloved children's tale, an unearthly stranger appears at young Meg Murray's home. He

claims to have been blown off course and that there is such a thing as a "wrinkle in time." Meg's father had been experimenting with time-travel when he suddenly disappeared. Will Meg, her little brother Charles Wallace, and their friend Calvin outwit the forces of evil as they search through space for their father?

A WIZARD OF EARTHSEA, Ursula K. Le Guin, Fantasy

Ged is the greatest sorcerer in all Earthsea, but once he was called Sparrowhawk, a reckless youth, hungry for power and knowledge, who tampered with long-held secrets and loosed a terrible shadow upon the world. This is the tale of his testing, how he mastered the mighty words of power, tamed an ancient dragon, and crossed death's threshold to restore the balance.

VOICES, Ursula K. Le Guin, Fantasy

A darkly compelling fantasy, the second book in the Annals of the Western Shore series is the story of 17-year-old Memer, who lives in the one peaceful town of Ansul and for whom life is about to change. VOICES is a haunting and gripping coming-of-age story set against a backdrop of violence, intolerance, and magic

UGLIES, Scott Westerfeld, Fantasy/Action & Adventure

Would you betray a friend in order to gain your lifelong dream? In this futuristic first book in a trilogy, Tally faces that dilemma and plunges into an amazing adventure with a serious issue at the core: How much should anyone sacrifice for beauty?

THE WIDOW OF THE SOUTH, Robert Hicks, Historical Fiction

Based on a true story, this novel flashes back to 1864 and the Civil War's Battle of Franklin. While the fierce fighting rages on Carrie's land, her plantation turns into a Confederate army hospital. When a wounded soldier named Zachariah Cashwell arrives at her house, he awakens feelings she had thought long dead --- and inspires a passion as powerful and unforgettable as the war that consumes a nation.

WHAT HAPPENED TO CASS McBRIDE?, Gail Giles, Psychological Thriller

Claustrophobics, beware --- Gail Giles's latest novel might be too much for you to handle. In WHAT HAPPENED TO CASS McBRIDE? suicide, kidnapping and family histories collide in an intensely suspenseful, fast-paced and at times disturbing psychological thriller.

TUESDAYS WITH MORRIE, Mitch Albom, Memoir

Mitch Albom chronicles the time he spent with Morrie Schwartz, his college professor from nearly twenty years ago, after he rediscovered Morrie in the last months of the older man's life. Knowing he was dying, Morrie visited with Mitch in his study every Tuesday, just as they used to back in college. Their rekindled relationship turned into one final "class": lessons in how to live.

A TREE GROWS IN BROOKLYN, Betty Smith, Historical Fiction

Through it is often categorized as a coming-of-age novel, A TREE GROWS IN BROOKLYN is much more than that. Its richly-plotted narrative of three generations in a poor but proud American family offers a detailed and unsentimental portrait of urban life at the beginning of the century.

TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD, Harper Lee, Historical Fiction

One of the best-loved stories of all time, TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD is Harper Lee's classic novel of a lawyer in the Deep South defending a black man charged with the rape of a white girl.

A TIME TO KILL, John Grisham, Legal Thriller

In this searing courtroom drama, John Grisham probes the savage depths of racial violence as he delivers a compelling tale of uncertain justice in a small southern town.

SWIMMING TO ANTARCTICA, Lynne Cox, Autobiography

This is the joyful, inspirational memoir of swimmer Lynne Cox, who by age sixteen had broken all records for English Channel swims. With a poet's eye for detail, Cox shares the beauty of her time in the water in this new classic of sports memoir --- from being the first to swim the Strait of

Magellan to a near miss with a shark off the Cape of Good Hope to the iceberg-choked waters of the Antarctic.

THE SPACE BETWEEN US, Thrity Umrigar, Fiction

In this richly textured and engrossing novel, Thrity Umrigar explores the relationship between two women whose connection transcends their place at opposite ends of the social spectrum of modern-day Bombay. Weaving between past and present, Umrigar reveals their shared struggles, their solitary hardships and the secrets that threaten to destroy them both.

SOPHIE'S WORLD, Jostein Gaarder, Fiction

One day Sophie finds two questions in her mail --- Who are you? and Where does the world come from? --- prompting her to enroll in a correspondence course with a mysterious philosopher. When she begins receiving unusual letters from someone she doesn't know, Sophie must make use of the philosophy she is learning to unravel the riddle. But the truth is far more complicated than she could have imagined.

SNOW FLOWER AND THE SECRET FAN, Lisa See, Fiction

In nineteenth-century China, seven-year-old Lily is paired with a laotong, "old same," in an emotional match that will last a lifetime. They communicate in a secret written language, and together they endure the agony of foot-binding, and reflect upon their arranged marriages, shared loneliness, and the joys and tragedies of motherhood --- until a misunderstanding arises and threatens to tear apart.

SNOW FALLING ON CEDARS, David Guterson, Thriller

San Pedro Island, north of Puget Sound, is a place so isolated that no one who lives there can afford to make enemies. But in 1954 a local fisherman is found suspiciously drowned, and a Japanese American named Kabuo Miyamoto is charged with his murder. And in the course of the ensuing trial, it becomes clear that what is at stake is more than a man's guilt or innocence.

THE SECRET LIFE OF BEES, Sue Monk Kidd, Historical Fiction

Set in South Carolina in 1964, THE SECRET LIFE OF BEES is the story of Lily Owens, whose life has been shaped around the blurred memory of the afternoon her mother was killed. When Lily's fierce-hearted "stand-in mother," Rosaleen, insults three of the town's fiercest racists, Lily decides they should both escape to Tiburon, South Carolina --- a town that holds the secret to her mother's past.

THE SECRET HISTORY, Donna Tartt, Thriller

Richard Papan arrived at Hampden College in New England and was quickly seduced by an elite group of five students. As Richard is drawn into their inner circle, he learns a terrifying secret that binds them to one another --- a secret about an incident in the woods in the dead of night where an ancient rite was brought to brutal life and led to a gruesome death. And that was just the beginning....

RUNNING WITH SCISSORS, Augusten Burroughs, Memoir

RUNNING WITH SCISSORS is the true story of a boy whose mother (a poet with delusions of Anne Sexton) gave him away to be raised by her unorthodox psychiatrist who bore a striking resemblance to Santa Claus. Augusten Burroughs offers a funny and harrowing account of an ordinary boy's survival under the most extraordinary circumstances.

THE RULE OF FOUR, Ian Caldwell and Dustin Thomason, Suspense

An ivy league murder, a mysterious coded manuscript, and the secrets of a Renaissance prince collide memorably in THE RULE OF FOUR -- a brilliant work of fiction that weaves together suspense and scholarship, high art and unimaginable treachery.

ROLL OF THUNDER, HEAR MY CRY, Mildred D. Taylor, Historical Fiction

ROLL OF THUNDER, HEAR MY CRY is the story of African American Cassie Logan and her family, fighting to stay together and strong in the face of brutal racist attacks, illness, poverty, and betrayal in the Deep South of the 1930s.

READING LOLITA IN TEHRAN, Azar Nafisi, Memoir

Every Thursday morning for two years in the Islamic Republic of Iran, a bold and inspired teacher named Azar Nafisi secretly gathered seven of her most committed female students to read forbidden Western classics by Jane Austen, F. Scott Fitzgerald, Henry James, and Vladimir Nabokov. Nafisi's story is an exploration of resilience in the face of tyranny and a celebration of the liberating power of literature.

THE RAG AND BONE SHOP, Robert Cormier, Mystery

Taking its name from a line in a W.B. Yeats poem, THE RAG AND BONE SHOP is a suspense tale that explores the lengths to which a person will go to get what he wants.

THE POISONWOOD BIBLE, Barbara Kingsolver, Fiction

In 1959, Nathan Price, a fierce, evangelical Baptist, takes his four young daughters, his wife, and his mission to the Belgian Congo --- a place, he is sure, where he can save needy souls. But the seeds they plant bloom in tragic ways within this complex culture.

PILLARS OF THE EARTH, Ken Follett, Fiction

The building of a mighty Gothic cathedral in the fictional town of Kingsbridge in twelfth-century England sets the stage for a story of intrigue and power, revenge and betrayal, as the ambitions of three men merge, conflict and collide.

THE PERKS OF BEING A WALLFLOWER, Stephen Chbosky, Fiction

Standing on the fringes of life offers a unique perspective, but there comes a time to see what it looks like from the dance floor. This is the story of what it's like to grow up in high school, where Charlie is caught between trying to live his life and trying to run from it --- setting him on a strange course through uncharted territory.

THE PERFECT STORM, Sebastian Junger, Nonfiction/Adventure

October 1991. It was "the perfect storm" --- a tempest that may happen only once in a century. Creating waves ten stories high and winds of 120 miles an hour, the storm whipped the sea to inconceivable levels few people on Earth have witnessed. Except for the six-man crew of the Andrea Gail, a commercial fishing boat tragically headed towards the storm's hellish center.

ONE HUNDRED YEARS OF SOLITUDE, Gabriel Garcia Marquez, Fiction

Using his signature style of magic realism, Gabriel García Márquez chronicles 100 years in the mythical South American town of Macondo through the history of the Buendía family. It is a rich and brilliant chronicle of life and death, and the tragicomedy of humankind.

ONE FLEW OVER THE CUCKOO'S NEST, Ken Kesey, Fiction

Boisterous, ribald, and ultimately shattering, this is the unforgettable story of a mental ward and its inhabitants --- especially the tyrannical Big Nurse Ratched and Randle Patrick McMurphy, the brawling, fun-loving new inmate who resolves to oppose her. We see the struggle through the eyes of Chief Bromden, the seemingly mute half-Indian patient who witnesses and understands McMurphy's heroic attempt to do battle with the awesome powers that keep them all imprisoned.

NICKEL AND DIMED: On (Not) Getting by in America, Barbara Ehrenreich, Current Affairs

Millions of Americans work for poverty-level wages. But how can anyone survive, let alone prosper, on \$6 to \$7 an hour? Inspired in part by the rhetoric surrounding welfare reform, which promised that any job equals a better life, Barbara Ehrenreich decided to find out --- by joining them. This expose, acclaimed for its insight, humor, and passion, this expose has changed the way America perceives its working poor.

MY LIFE AND HARD TIMES, James Thurber, Autobiography

Widely hailed as one of the finest humorists of the twentieth century, James Thurber looks back at his life growing up in Columbus, Ohio, with the same humor and sharp wit that defined his famous sketches and writings. In MY LIFE AND HARD TIMES, first published in 1933, he recounts the delightful chaos and frustrations of family, boyhood, youth odd dogs, recalcitrant machinery, and the foibles of human nature.

MEMOIRS OF A TEENAGE AMNESIAC, Gabrielle Zevin, Fiction

If Naomi had picked tails, she would have won the coin toss. She wouldn't have had to go back for the yearbook camera, and she wouldn't have hit her head on the steps. She wouldn't have woken up in an ambulance with amnesia. She certainly would have remembered her boyfriend, Ace. She might even have remembered why she fell in love with him in the first place. She would understand why her best friend, Will, keeps calling her "Chief." She'd know about her mom's new family. She'd know about her dad's fiancée. She never would have met James, the boy with the questionable past and the even fuzzier future, who tells her he once wanted to kiss her. She wouldn't have wanted to kiss him back. But Naomi picked heads.

LORD OF THE FLIES, William Golding, Fiction

William Golding's classic novel of savagery and survival begins after a plane wreck deposits a group of English school boys on an isolated tropical island. Their struggle to survive and impose order quickly evolves from a battle against nature into a battle against their own primitive instincts.

A LONG WAY GONE: Memoirs of a Boy Soldier, Ishmael Beah, Memoir

In *A LONG WAY GONE*, Ishmael Beah tells a riveting story: how at the age of 12, he fled attacking rebels and wandered a land rendered unrecognizable by violence. By 13, he'd been picked up by the government army, and Beah --- at heart a gentle boy --- found that he was capable of truly terrible acts.

THE LION, THE WITCH, AND THE WARDROBE, C.S. Lewis, Fantasy

The first volume in the *Chronicles of Narnia* series follows the four Pevensie siblings into the magical world of Narnia. Under the guidance of a noble and mystical ruler, the lion Aslan, the children fight to try to overcome the White Witch's powerful hold over Narnia.

LIFE OF PI, Yann Martel, Fiction/Adventure

When sixteen-year-old Pi Patel finds himself stranded in a lifeboat in the middle of the Pacific Ocean with only a menacing 450-pound Bengal tiger for company, he quickly realizes that the only way to survive is to make sure the tiger is more afraid of him than he is of it.

LETTERS TO A YOUNG POET, Rainer Maria Rilke, Nonfiction

This collection of letters was penned over a period of several years on the vocation of writing by Rainer Marie Rilke, the great Austro-German poet whose greatest work was still to come.

LES MISERABLES, Victor Hugo, Fiction

In Victor Hugo's classic tale, ex-convict Jean Valjean struggles for redemption in the punishing world of post-Napoleonic France.

THE KITE RUNNER, Khaled Hosseini, Fiction

An epic tale of fathers and sons, of friendship and betrayal, *THE KITE RUNNER* takes us from Afghanistan in the final days of the monarchy to the atrocities of the present. The unforgettable, heartbreaking story of the unlikely friendship between a wealthy boy and the son of his father's servant, it is a beautifully crafted novel set in a country that is in the process of being destroyed.

IT, Stephen King, Horror

Master of horror Stephen King spins a story about seven kids who stumbled upon a hidden terror in their hometown. Now, as adults, they are summoned together when the cycle of evil begins again. But none of them can withstand the force that has drawn them all back to Derry, Maine, to face the nightmare without end, and the evil without a name.

INTO THIN AIR, Jon Krakauer, Nonfiction

A bank of clouds was assembling on the not-so-distant horizon, but journalist-mountaineer Jon Krakauer, standing on the summit of Mt. Everest, saw nothing that suggested "a murderous storm was bearing down." He was wrong. The storm, which claimed five lives and left countless more -- including Krakauer's --- in guilt-ridden disarray, provided the impetus for this epic account of the May 1996 disaster.

IF YOU COME SOFTLY, Jacqueline Woodson, Fiction

Miah and Ellie meet at a private school in New York and fall in love. Theirs is a rare and special first love, but the people around them don't see it that way. They can only see black and white: Miah is black, Ellie is white and Jewish. And their love, no matter how real, is too strange and scary for the world they live in.

I KNOW WHY THE CAGED BIRD SINGS, Maya Angelou, Autobiography

In the first volume of an extraordinary autobiographical series, one of the most inspiring authors of our time recalls with candor, humor, poignancy and grace how her journey began --- growing up in a small, rural community in Arkansas during the 1930s.

I KNOW THIS MUCH IS TRUE, Wally Lamb, Fiction

The author of SHE'S COME UNDONE has crafted a heartbreaking and poignant multigenerational saga. A story of alienation and connection, power and abuse, devastation and renewal, this novel is a contemporary retelling of an ancient Hindu myth. A proud king must confront his demons to achieve salvation. Change yourself, the myth instructs, and you will inhabit a renovated world.

BOY MEETS BOY, David Levithan, Romance

Paul is a sophomore at a high school like no other: The cheerleaders ride Harleys and the homecoming queen used to be a guy named Daryl. When Paul meets Noah, he thinks he's found the one his heart is made for --- until he blows it. This is a happy-meaningful romantic comedy about finding love, losing love, and doing what it takes to get love back in a crazy-wonderful world.

CHRONICLES OF NARNIA, C.S. Lewis, Fantasy

C. S. Lewis's timeless adventure follows the exploits of the four Pevensie siblings --- Lucy, Edmund, Susan and Peter --- who enter the magical world of Narnia through a wardrobe.

AN ABUNDANCE OF KATHERINES, John Green, Fiction

Dumped by 19 girls named Katherine, child prodigy Colin Singleton and his best friend take a heart-healing road trip where Colin hopes to prove mathematically that relationships are predictable and earn his way into adulthood as a certified genius.

FAST FOOD NATION: The Dark Side of the All-American Meal, Eric Schlosser, Popular Culture

Fast food has hastened the malling of our landscape, widened the chasm between rich and poor, fueled an epidemic of obesity, and propelled American cultural imperialism abroad. That's a lengthy list of charges, but here Eric Schlosser makes them stick with an artful mix of first-rate reportage, wry wit, and careful reasoning.

AM I BLUE? COMING OUT FROM THE SILENCE, Marion Dane Bauer, editor, Short Stories

The group of YA writers --- some gay, some not --- who have written these sixteen short stories have something to say about gay awareness. Their stories cut across color and class lines to incorporate everything from a contemporary tale about a girl's coming out to a nod to the Vietnam War to a fantasy in an Amazonian kingdom and a story set in a Catholic girls' school. Look for reviews of the following books on www.amazon.com or www.goodreads.com.

Don't Judge a Girl by Her Cover (Gallagher Girls Series #3) by Ally Carter

Dont Sweat the Small Stuff for Teens: Simple Ways to Keep Your Cool in Stressful Times

by Richard Carlson, Non-fiction; self-help

The 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens by Sean Covey, Non-fiction, self-help

New Moon by Stephenie Meyer, Fiction

Twelfth Night (Barnes & Noble Shakespeare) by William Shakespeare, drama

Prozac Nation: Young and Depressed in America by Elizabeth Wurtzel, non-fiction

Murder on the Orient Express (Hercule Poirot Series) by Agatha Christie, fiction

Three Musketeers (Barnes & Noble Classics Series) by Alexandre Dumas, fiction

Feed by M. T. Anderson, Science Fiction

Speak by Laurie Halse Anderson, Fiction

The Bluest Eye by Toni Morrison, fiction

Angels and Demons by Dan Brown, Fiction

**Healing ADD: The Breakthrough Program That Allows You to See and Heal the Six Types
of Attention Deficit Disorder** by Daniel G. Amen, Non-fiction

Double Entry Journal Example and Instructions

Do 10 for each book. Hand-write or type your responses.

Title: _____

Author: _____

Genre: _____

#1 Copy down a quote from the text that you find:

Significant or striking, or that puzzles you, or that makes you think of interesting connections, or makes you pause for some other reason. Your chosen quote could be one that made you use one of the thinking strategies. Write the page number.

Example.

“A growing demand and “need” for technology/ instant gratification will soon make certain forms of entertainment and enlightenment intolerable and of no use.” (45).

Write a response to the quote. If it is complex, you should first paraphrase it. Explain why it is interesting, your observations, what connections you make, what questions you have, whether you agree or not and why. (You do not need to do all this, but do write in detail; “talk” with the text). Try to write at least ½ page for each response.

Example: We are all becoming dependent on newer and newer forms of tech. and we want what we want NOW! This is so true. Why read a book when you can download the main points from off the Internet. My mom got one of those “city tour” programs on her iphone and on our last vacation, we just followed it around. I can honestly say that we didn’t notice half the cool stuff there was to see because we were so focused on following the itinerary on the iphone. If we turn every function we once had to perform ourselves into a machine based thing we’ll soon lose interest and understanding for certain things. We won’t appreciate the simple things in life (like this summer reading assignment that I’m doing on my roof-top with a giant bowl of cut up watermelon next to me and my dog licking up the hunk of ice I brought up for her)

2 Quote:

“... our parents and our relatives always made us get dressed up...” (7).

Response

Again, we see the importance of Mexico for Rios. He likes the Mexican culture more than American. His family is more Mexican than American and whenever there is an important event, it’s the Mexican culture that they want to highlight. This is exactly like my family. I don’t even know how to wear a sari properly, but my mother insists that I wear one whenever there’s a festival or family gathering. I used to keep asking why I can’t just wear jeans, but now I kind of understand that we would just lose this part of our culture if parents didn’t insist on having their kids follow it. It would be lame if I became an adult and had no clue of how to wear a sari. Even though it is sometimes irritating, I am glad I have another culture that I am part of.