

# THE SEJONG

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# TIMES

## CAMPUS

Five Things You Can  
Enjoy Starting This  
Semester

## SPECIAL

NFT: Non-Fungible  
Token

## CULTURE

Cultural Differences in  
Schools Around the  
World

## SOCIETY

The status quo of  
doping in the sports  
industry

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# New School Life and New School Goals

The long period of online classes has finally come to an end and most of the classes will be conducted face-to-face starting from this semester. Many students are looking forward to their school life on campus, because other school festivals and other activities will be conducted. There will be changes in our daily lives, and we will have to change our lifestyles accordingly. We will have to get up in the morning, take public transportation to get to school, and take classes while sitting in classrooms. This may not be familiar to most students after 2 and half years of online classes, especially for students who entered Sejong University after 2020. However, I assure you that you will get used to it in the blink of an eye. New lifestyles may mean a new start. Therefore, we should try different things, which are pleasant and make our lives memorable. One thing I recommend is setting new goals.

One of my favorite books is *Atomic Habits*, which was written by James Clear. He states in the book that goals restrict people's happiness, because there is an implicit assumption that once I reach my goal, I'll then be happy. The problem with this is that it continually puts happiness off until the next milestone. Also, it creates an *either-or conflict*. If you achieve your goal, you are successful. However, if you don't achieve your goal, you are disappointed. This doesn't mean that we should not set goals. It means that we should set goals of endless refinement and continuous improvement. A goal for me was to achieve a high GPA. Every time I finished an exam and after my grades were uploaded at the end of the semester, I felt disappointment due to the unsatisfying results. Also, my will to learn disappeared at the same time a semester ended. After reading this book, I set up a new goal of focusing on the process and not on the results. I focused on the process of learning, so I was able to concentrate on knowledge itself, which are not the ones that are important for receiving good grades. Learning became interesting, and I passionately took classes. James Clear states that it is your commitment to the *process* that will determine your *progress*. The knowledge we learn and various experiences that we go through in school will build up and create the identity of who we are, which involves how one faces difficulties and manages to make progress in life.

The 2nd semester will bring significant changes and provide you with various opportunities. You should take the time to reset your goals and make refinements for your upcoming new life.

김민서

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# How Much Are We Improving?

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There are a few prominent rankings that are cited the most when global universities are compared, and these rankings are being announced simultaneously this June. The rankings begin with THE Asia University Rankings 2022 on June 1st, which are followed by QS World University Rankings 2023 and CWTS Leiden Ranking 2022. Most of the renewed rankings have been announced except for ARWU from ShanghaiRanking, which will be released on August 15th. It is impossible for all the universities to show a rise in the rankings, because there must be some universities that have to give up their positions every time other universities achieve higher positions. Where will Sejong University, which has been making significant progress every year, be positioned this year?

## 1. THE ASIA UNIVERSITY RANKINGS 2022

- Date of release: June 1, 2022
- Previous ranking: #46 in Asia → Current ranking: #41 in Asia

THE Asia University Rankings is an evaluation that is conducted by Times Higher Education, which is a British magazine that reports about news and issues that are specifically about higher education. In addition to THE Asia University Rankings, there are various regional rankings, which include Arab, Latin American, and the US. In THE rankings, the reputation survey impacts more than other indicators compared to the other rankings. Sejong University was ranked 41st place in Asia, which means 9th place in Korea.

## 2. THE QS WORLD UNIVERSITY RANKINGS 2023

- Date of release: June 1, 2022
- Previous ranking: #601-650 globally → Current ranking: #551-560 globally

The QS World University Rankings is an evaluation that is conducted by Quacquarelli Symonds, which is a UK company that specializes in the analysis of higher education institutions. The QS ranking is the most widely viewed university ranking worldwide, and it is one of the three major university rankings in the world, which also includes ARWU and THE. Sejong University was ranked 21st place in Korea, which was 4 places higher than the previous ranking.

## 3. THE CWTS LEIDEN RANKING 2022

- Date of release: June 22, 2022
- Previous ranking: #4 in all science fields → #2 in all science fields

The Leiden Ranking, which is from Leiden University in the Netherlands, uses different indicators from the existing rankings, which are advantageous for large universities. It uses size-independent indicators that are obtained by the proportion of highly cited publication that rank in the top 10%, which allows small-sized universities to be considered at the same level. A special feature of this ranking is that it shows the ranking of each field, which is divided into 5 different fields. Sejong University has been ranked first in Korea in social science and humanities for 5 years in a row.



# Five Things You Can Enjoy Starting This Semester

By Lee Woo-jin  
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You may have realized the end of prolonged online classes in the spring semester this year. It was significantly different from the last 2 years' limited campus life, even though all the classes were not conducted as face-to-face lectures. There were 340,000 remote classes in 2020 according to KAPUP, which increased about 27 times compared to 2019 due to COVID-19. The number of students taking these remote classes also increased about 9 times from 1.2 million in 2019 to 12 million in 2020. The Ministry of Education announced a *Return to normal higher education progress plan* and suggested face-to-face lectures for universities all across the country. As a result, 54% of the national universities and 29% of the private universities held face-to-face classes in the 1st semester. Sejong University chose a hybrid class plan as a COVID-19 response, but Sejong University will be back to face-to-face class in the 2nd semester. A lot of events that were restricted will be possible by then. School projects and exams as always are just boring, but a lot of things changed compared with the ordinary campus life before the pandemic in regards to the amusing parts. We will now review the 5 most entertaining facets that were conducted before the COVID-19 pandemic.

## 01 Sports Day

**When?** Before midterm every semester

**How?** Register to each department and the college's student council

Sports Day took place every semester in a tournament form, which was hosted by each college's student union. My department is Korean Language and Literature, so I participated in a Liberal Arts Sports Day in 2018 and 2019. The very first face-to-face event in the spring semester of 2022 was amazingly the Liberal Arts Sports Day. Only light exercises, such as jump rope were unfortunately included this year, which is unlike the previous events that included most of the ball games. Only a few light exercises were included, but it was meaningful that Sports Day took place after three years.



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## 02 Festival

**When?** November 4–6 based on the 2020 Hi-Light online festival

**How?** Just show your student ID in order to watch an indoor festival

Sejong University's festival, which was held every spring and fall, has continuously been delayed after the 2020 online festival. The festival includes both indoor and outdoor activities, which show us exciting performances by celebrities and various student clubs. Sejong University festival's main feature includes an outdoor bar from



each department and a club with unique spaces and concepts, which are located from the main gate to the back gate. There are a few universities that have already held spring festivals, so I hope Sejong University can also host a fall festival.

03

## Membership Training

**When?** During summer break or before the midterm

**How?** Register at each department and the club's student union

Some readers may have already participated in MT this year. There are various types of MT, such as a *united MT*, which is where all the upper year students can participate, and a *freshmen MT*, which is where only the freshmen can participate. These types of MT, which are for fun, are usually conducted during the summer break. However, there is a field trip when the semester starts, which is another type of MT. This type of MT is only for few departments, such as Hospitality and Tourism Management, History, and Korean Language and Literature, which require field training for intensive learning for their major.



04

## Blind date

**When?** Anytime

**How?** Recruit from the department's group chat or Everytime, introduction of friends, or upper year students

There are special blind dating customs, which are called *mee-ting* in Korea. A mee-ting blind date is a group date that consists of three or four people from different departments or other universities. This is one of the privileges for freshmen, because they can enjoy blind dates as much as they want. If you haven't participated in a mee-ting blind date, I highly recommend that you to try them. A lot of students who haven't enjoyed a mee-ting blind date blame themselves in their senior year. In addition, Sejong University is located near Konkuk University Station, which is one of the best party districts in Seoul, so it is a big advantage to hold mee-ting blind dates there. The mee-ting blind dates are usually held by the upper year students, but you should handle them yourself by asking your acquaintances or finding one in Everytime community after your freshmen year.



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05

## Extracurricular activities

**When?** Anytime

**How?** Wevity, Linkareer, and the Everytime promotion community

It's good to have fun, but there must be a reader who wants to constructively spend time by building their career. If you are that type of reader, why don't you participate in extracurricular activities? Volunteer work, supporters' work, promotions via social network accounts, and video editing are the types of extracurricular activities. COVID-19 restrictions will be lifted as the fall semester will be conducted face-to face. Therefore, organizing a team and participating in large projects will be a lot easier, so we can expect more diverse extracurricular activities.

We've looked at some of my memorable campus life experiences before COVID-19. There will be a lot more activities other than the activities that are introduced in this article, which will begin from the fall semester when we can go back to a normal campus life. I hope everyone who had a hard time entering university but couldn't successfully enjoy campus life due to COVID-19 will be able to find suitable activities and enjoy campus life in earnest.

# Any Difficulties You Are Having!

## :An Interview with **Sejong One Stop Center** in OIA



**By Kim Ye-Bin**

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After leaving COVID-19 pandemic behind over the past few years came a new semester to face each other. The Sejong Times has also brought good news for foreign students entering the first semester with face-to-face classes since the COVID-19 outbreak. To ensure a better campus life for the increasing number of international students, Sejong One-Stop Center(SOS) will be newly opened at the first day of September. The SOS center is an affiliated institution of the Office of International Affairs, and has provided various services in order to assist foreign students, such as job fairs and mock job interviews, since March 2nd this year. With a big anticipation for the renewed SOS Center, which has been in service at room 209 at the Student Center building, an interview was conducted with Director Lee Da-hae from the SOS Center.

**Q What is the difference between the OIA and the new SOS Center?**

The Office of International Affairs(OIA) consists of two departments, Department of External Affairs and the Center for International Students and Scholars. The SOS center took charge of each departments' work, recruiting students and managing them. It now consists of the Department of External Affairs, the Center for International Students and Scholars, and the SOS Center.

**Q Please give some information about the SOS Center.**

The number of newly enrolled students has recently decreased noticeably and it has been hard to maintain operations for certain universities. Sejong University is also recruiting a large number of foreign students and the SOS Center, short for Sejong One-Stop, was established to recruit and manage an increasing number of foreign students. We reach out to new students by opening special programs, such as learning languages in the Sejong University language

school, or helping students keep their grades up during their stay. Also, even students who are not part of Sejong University are also welcome to inquire about entrance examinations. Every difficulty that international students may face can be solved via the SOS Center even before admission. We started our services since March 2nd but the official office opening is scheduled on September 1st.



**Q Are there any activities conducted by the SOS Center besides the usual services?**

We recently held a job fair for foreign students. In order to help students with their employment, which is their top priority, foreign students had a chance to write resumes, receive career counseling, and obtain interview education about image-making.

In addition, representatives are selected for the International Student Association in order to provide living support, information about the school, assistance with registering for classes or settling, and even help with writing theses.

**Q What types of support can foreign students receive?**

Marketers from countries such as China, Vietnam, Russia, and CIS countries can provide support in each language. As it can be a big help being able to hear your native language while being abroad and having difficulties adapting to unfamiliar environments, students who are having a difficult time due to language barriers can receive extra help in their own language.



**Q When can students visit the SOS Center?**

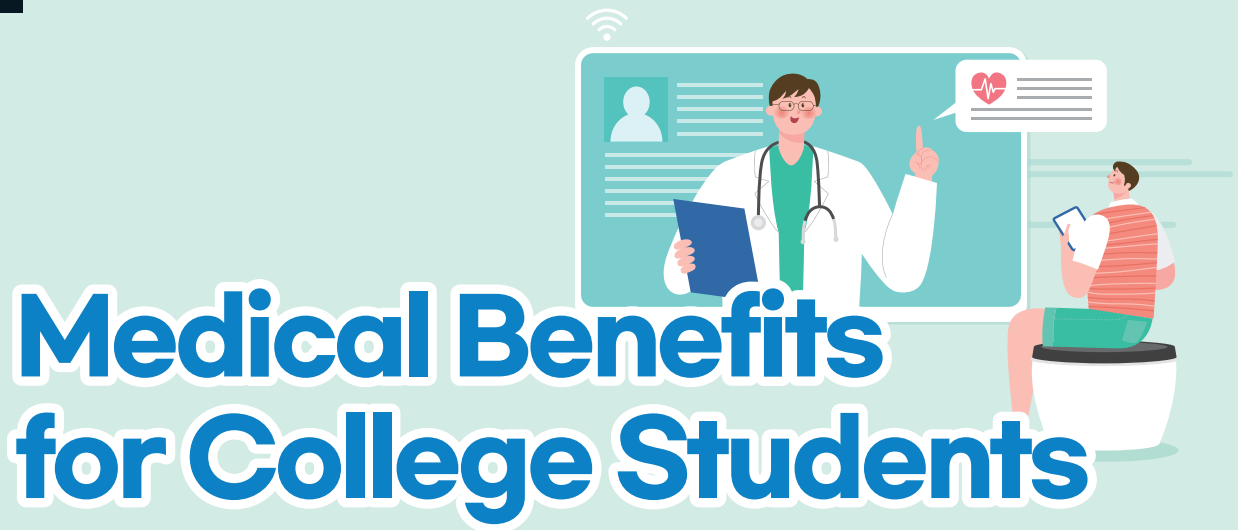
Students are welcome to visit the SOS Center anytime between 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. during the school vacation periods, except during lunch break between 12:00 noon to 1 p.m.

**Q Are there any programs or activities that are planned for foreign students in the future?**

Since not many activities that could be done due to COVID-19, we hope to have an athletic meet, or hold world culture festivals such as food festivals to experience making kimchi. We are also planning to seek out for students who have a great interest in learning, are full of aspirations and are able to instill love about the region and the country. We hope that students will possess a sense of pride in our school via various activities.

Finally Director Lee Da-hae said that she hopes that the SOS Center can be the first institution that foreigners reach out to when having a problem or facing difficulties. The SOS Center aims to lower the high threshold of administrative inquiries and create a virtuous cycle, so that students can easily visit the center and inform other students around them about the assistance they received. With gratitude for Director Lee Da-hae for granting this interview without hesitation, I hope that many foreign students can get help via the SOS Center.





# Medical Benefits for College Students

By Kim Ye-bin

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COVID-19 has been going on for over two years and social distancing in daily lives has continued, so the students' lives have significantly changed. The stage of returning to daily lives has begun since early this year, but it may not be easy to change irregular life patterns that have been maintained for a long time. Nutrition imbalances have been a problem for college students due to frequent overeating and skipping meals, tendency to prefer convenience and consuming processed food, and lack of awareness about nutrition. These daily habits can lead to problems such as reflux diseases, gastritis, high blood pressure, and spine disorders at an early age. Mental health which can be hard to self-diagnose in comparison to body health also needs constant management. Concerns about the younger generation's mental health have come up constantly, but the recent research from the Ministry of Health and Welfare has revealed that high depression levels became a serious issue for people in their 20s.

Health-related benefits expanded since COVID-19, but are not well-known. Here are some of the benefits for college students, which might have been hard to approach.

1

## Free Regular Checkups

The existing free checkups were originally for office workers. Considering that the employment age of 20s and 30s is increasing, while the age of people suffering from various health problems is decreasing, the Ministry of Health and Welfare expanded the age of examination since 2019. If your birth year is an odd number, you can receive a check-up in odd-numbered years, and if your birth year is an even number, you can get it in even-numbered years. This means that a free checkup is available every two years. The examination mainly focuses on diseases that have a high rate of occurring, such as obesity, high blood pressure, kidney disease, diabetes, dyslipidemia, liver disease, pulmonary tuberculosis/thoracopathy, and depression. In addition, in order to avoid the long waiting time, make reservations in advance, not at the end of the year. You will be able to get the results within a week or two by mail or email after filling out an inspection form and eight hours of fasting, and about an hour of examination. Tests for depressive disorder are additionally taken every ten years after the age of twenty for early treatments, which consider that depression has become a social issue among the younger generations. If you are a subject to this year's examination, consider getting a check-up before the end of the year since it is not a complex procedure.

## 2

**Free Psychiatric Examination**

The term *Corona Blues* emerged as the COVID-19 pandemic has been prolonged and many may have experienced anxiety, stress, and depression. According to the Health Insurance Review and Assessment Service, patients with depression or anxiety disorders have increased over 30 percent over the last five years. It was announced that younger people are even more vulnerable to these mental illnesses. Many universities offer psychological tests at their student counseling centers to assist students in order to better understand about themselves. Each local government goes one step further and offers fees for various examinations, treatments, and drugs at their respective Mental Health Promotion Center. Counseling is available for any local resident after making a reservation, unlike regular checkups. The benefits you can receive vary by region but there are various programs to examine your current mental health status from simple activities such as counseling via a brief call or an online mental status checkup, to depression scale testing, personal counseling with a psychiatrist, and rehabilitation programs. If you have concerns about paying psychiatric clinic fees or are worried about leaving a medical record, try visiting the Mental Health Promotion Center website in your region and discover the benefits you can get.

## 3

**Health Security System for College Students**

College students can get a deduction for medical expenses. In fact, students who have paid a certain amount of fee can get support when paying a cost for injury or illness since 1986. Enrolled students pay their expenses for medical deduction with their tuition fees, and are able to pay less when getting a medical treatment at any hospital registered as a medical institution, including dental clinics and oriental medicine clinics. The amount of payment differs from school to school within the 20,000 won range which is not much of a burdensome for students.

## 4

**Medical Benefits for Foreigners**

Foreigners who lived in Korea for more than six months have also become eligible for health insurance, since March 2021. Among them, foreigners who have obtained a residency status by studying abroad are able to immediately subscribe after the entrance of the country. Furthermore, foreign citizens studying abroad can even receive a reduction in their insurance fees. International students are automatically insured with the National Health Insurance, and insurance premiums are charged every month by mail from the Health Insurance Corporation.

Habitual diseases are hard to self-diagnose at early stages. It is necessary to take precautions because the wrong habits have a high risk of leading to chronic diseases. Try not to miss out on the many benefits you can receive as a college student. Sejong University provides medical insurance benefits as well as a gym in the Student Union Building for students to utilize during their free time. Thirty-two equipments are available between 9a.m. to 10p.m., so if you have a chance, take a visit and take care of both physical and mental health.





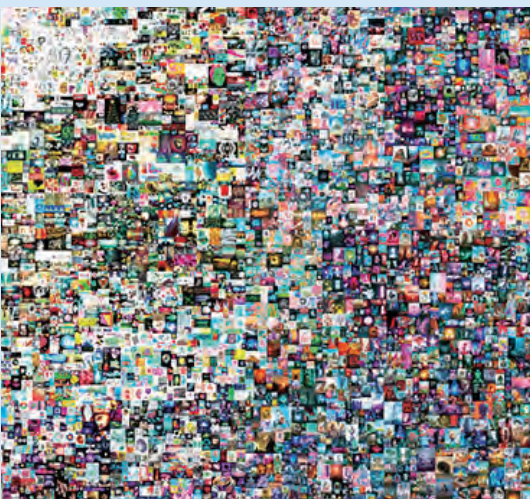
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# NFT: Non-Fungible Token

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Following the metaverse and bitcoin, the NFTs have been gaining attention from people all over the world as a new target for investment. Mike Winkleman, who is also known as Beeple, made one artwork every day by using computer graphics for 5000 days. He then combined the 5000 pieces into one piece of art and named it *Everydays: The First 5000 Days*. This piece of art was sold for 69.3 million dollars which is equivalent to 78 billion won, making it the 3rd most expensive artwork that has been sold. This served as a momentum to catch people's attention about NFTs. Thanks to NFT products, such as CryptoPunks and CryptoKitties, NFTs became more popular. You will discover what an NFT is, what value it possesses, and what we should be aware of when investing in an NFT via this article.





## WHAT IS AN NFT?



NFT stands for Non-Fungible Token, which is a digital asset that is traded via a coin that is called cryptocurrency, which uses blockchain in order to create and utilize the coins. NFTs include pieces of art, online games, videos and music. NFTs cannot be interchanged, and they have a digital signature that makes it different from bitcoins. NFTs act as a certified copy of the register in the digital world. It is possible to know who created the item as well as who owns it. NFT's are saved with unique digital passwords, so it is impossible to

manipulate the facts. In other words, NFTs make it impossible to make fake products because they allow people to prove whether the work is original or not. The development of technology has made it difficult for people to differentiate between an original and a replica. However, the advent of NFTs have allowed artists to protect their individual ownership. You may now wonder where you can buy NFTs. You purchase stocks at a stock market. The same goes for NFTs. You buy them from NFT marketplaces. NFTs are traded in various marketplaces such as Opensea, LooksRare, Rarible, and Veve.



## WHY ARE NFTS IMPORTANT?

The most important fact about NFTs is that they can protect the uniqueness and the ownership of artists and their pieces of art. It was previously difficult to protect the ownership of artists in digital media platforms, but it became possible to resolve disputes over digital ownership with the development of NFTs. In addition, the pieces of art can be sent directly to the consumers without the help of intermediate merchants, so it gives artists the power to control and expand the scope of their creations. This opens opportunities for amateur artists and guarantees various creative activities for them.



## HOW ARE NFTS BEING UTILIZED?



The most commonly used area is the game market. An example is CryptoKitty, which is a game that uses cryptocurrencies. CryptoKitty is an online game where users collect various types of cats. The users can create new types of cats by crossbreeding different species. If the type of cat created is rare, it is sold at a higher price. Genesis Kitty and CryptoKitty Dragon, which are some of the rare species, were sold for about 120 million won and 900 million won each. Approximately 270,000 have been sold in

total, which makes it the first online game that uses cryptocurrency to succeed.

NFTs are also actively used in the field of art and music. Convenience has increased as pieces of art can be

viewed, sold, and bought online using NFT marketplaces without actually visiting art museums. Christie, which is a global art auction site, has auctioned off digital art made from NFTs. In addition, the original work is protected, so there is no need to worry about replicas being sold. It now has become a product that only one person owns. In regards to music, artists are able to sell their music and videos using NFT marketplaces. A Canadian singer by the name of Grimes earned approximately 6 million dollars by selling 10 digital pieces of art, which included paintings and music videos that she created.

We cannot leave out the area of fashion in regards to NFTs. A representative example is Gucci, which is an Italian luxury brand. On Zepeto, which is a metaverse platform, Gucci set up a Gucci Village, and made it possible for avatars to fit and purchase Gucci products. They sold 60 products, including the products that were recently launched. This connected the online virtual world with the offline real world by having an excellent promotional effect, which provided the users with a positive brand image.



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## WHAT ARE THE PROBLEMS WITH NFTS?

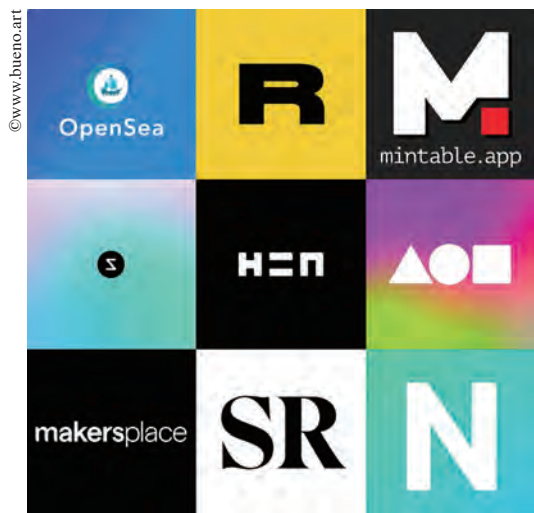
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The purchase of an NFT gives the buyer the ownership of the product, but it does not give them the copyright. Therefore, conflicts in regards to the ownership and the copyright can occur. A piece of art which is called *Free comb with Pagoda*, which was created by an American artist named Jean Michel Basquiat, was embroiled in controversy over this issue. This piece of art was put on the NFT market by a company called Daystrom. They declared that if the successful bidder requests it, they would get rid of the original piece

of art by burning it, which would make the piece of art the only remaining on NFT. However, Basquiat denied the fact that he had agreed to this agreement, and he announced that he had only handed over the ownership of the piece of art, not the copyright. The auction was eventually canceled, and no one bought the piece of art. This incident also questioned whether a piece of art that does not exist physically, which is only left as an NFT, can be considered as the original piece of art. The development of NFTs may have ironically damaged the value of the original pieces of art.

Reuters reported that Cent, which is one of the NFT marketplaces, temporarily suspended all trades. This was due to crimes regarding plagiarism, forgery, and fraud. There were frequent cases involving posting other people's pieces of art, which were not their own. Also, some pieces of art were being traded without the creator's



permission. It was a major problem for Cent as well as for other marketplaces, such as OpenSea, which is the largest platform that is used for trading NFTs. NFT's is an emerging and rapidly growing market, but it lacks laws in regards to regulating and controlling crimes that are committed on the marketplaces. Therefore, the users must go through the process of accurately verifying the pieces of art they are willing to purchase as well as differentiate the ownership and the copyright of the piece of artwork.

NFTs also cause environmental problems. Some people may wonder how currencies in virtual reality can affect the real world. Environmental problems surprisingly occur due to the creation of coins using blockchain technology. Mining coins using blockchain requires a lot of energy, which emits a considerable amount of carbon dioxide. The emission of carbon dioxide in order to create coins that are used for

NFTs is equivalent to the amount that is emitted by a commercial aircraft. HYBE, which is the agency of the worldwide boy group BTS, also planned to engage in an NFT business by releasing contents that are related to BTS, such as photo cards and behind-the-scenes videos as NFTs. However, BTS's fandom, which is called Army, indicated that this type of project would contradict BTS's speech, which was announced at the UN headquarters in order to respond to the climate crisis. They started a movement against HYBE by posting hashtags, such as #BOYCOTTHYBENFT and #ARMYSAGAINSTNFT on various social media platforms. As a result, HYBE did not proceed with the NFT business.



## POINTS TO BE AWARE OF WHEN INVESTING IN NFTS

The metaverse and bitcoin are certainly areas where many people have gained by investing in them, but not all people have succeeded. The NFT market is not an exception. If you invest in NFTs without a sufficient amount of knowledge, you will eventually suffer a loss. You should refrain from indiscriminately investing in products that have the word NFT in it. In addition, when you purchase NFTs, you must check the original work. You will find an address that links you to a website where you can check the original work in the details of the NFT you are willing to buy. You must be aware that the existence of this website address does not guarantee that it is the original. You must access this website in advance, because the website may not even exist, or the artwork may not exist due to hacking. There is no law that regulates these problems, so it is essential that the buyer goes through the process of confirming the original work. Also, it is important to think separately in regards to ownership and copyright. Buying an NFT only gives you ownership. Therefore, you should know exactly how you can use the purchased work and utilize it without infringing on the copyright issue. The NFT market is definitely in the spotlight around the globe, and it is providing opportunities for passionate artists. However, NFT's are a rapidly growing market, so it is necessary to keep in mind that various problems exist because of them. As a result, you should pay extra attention when investing in NFTs.



# Perfume: Tips & Guides

By Kim Sang-yeon

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Sejong Times Editor



The first impression of a person through the sense of smell has a significant effect. It may be a good idea to find your own particular type of perfume or scent as the seasons change, so we will discuss some simple terms and precautions about perfumes.



## TERMS

Perfume consists of a variety of compounds, and each of these compounds is gathered in order to create a specific fragrance. However, there are differences in the properties such as volatility, molar mass, and evaporation rate for each compound. Therefore, different scents appear that depend on the different time zones. This is divided into *notes* and there are three phases.

- 1) The *top note* makes the first impression about a perfume, which is noticed the quickest and quickly evaporates.
- 2) The *middle note* is a stable but short-lasting scent that occurs after the top note.
- 3) The *base note* is the final scent that is observed, which is a slowly emerging scent that is in charge of the basic characteristics of a long-lasting fragrance.

The *fragrance concentration rate* refers to the fragrance's strength according to the density of the perfume oils and alcohol. There are several types of concentration rates. It is a good idea to decide your own concentration rate by considering the situation that you intend to use the perfume for.

- 1) *Parfum*: It has a concentration rate of perfume oils of 20~40% that lasts for about 10 hours.
- 2) *Eau de Parfum*: It has a rate of 15~20% that lasts about 6 to 9 hours.
- 3) *Eau de Toilette*: It has a rate of 5~15% that lasts about 4 to 6 hours.
- 4) *Eau de Cologne*: It has a rate of 2~5% that lasts about 2 to 3 hours.



## PRECAUTIONS FOR USE

There is no fixed method, but perfume is usually sprayed two to three times at a distance of about 20 cm with your clothes on. You can spray it on the inside of one wrist or the back of your hand, put it on the inside of both wrists, spray it under your ears, and spray it lightly on your neck near your pulse, which is also the jugular vein. Please be aware that rubbing the perfume on your wrist can distract and deteriorate its scent. In addition, *layering* which creates harmony by spraying several similar scents in different spots, is also recommended. Also, note that perfume is not a deodorant, so you should never spray it on sweaty areas. This is because perfume can be mixed with body



odor and make it smell worse. Finally, after 2 to 3 hours of applying the perfume, you may feel that the scent has evaporated, but there is still a remaining scent that you cannot realize. If you spray the perfume again, the notes may be mixed together and ruin the intended harmony, and people may feel that the scent is excessive.



## CATEGORIZATION

We looked at the terms, usage, and precautions, so let's discover the three representative categories of perfumes and identify your preferences.

### 1. Citrus

Citrus perfume has a scent that is extracted from the fruits of the citrus family. The sour and light fruit scents such as tangerines, oranges, lemons, limes, and grapefruit are the main notes. This type of perfume has a casual, light and neutral scent which goes well for both men and women.

- Editor's recommendation: Jo Malone Lime Basil & Mandarin  
Top: Lime, Mandarin orange, Bergamot / Middle: Basil, Thyme, Lilac, Iris /  
Base: Vetiver, Paschouli



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### 2. Oriental

Oriental perfume has a warm and heavy scent. It uses an exotic scent, such as musk as its base. Also, it is suitable for autumn and winter because it feels soft and spicy with cinnamon, ginger and pepper as its notes.

- Editor's recommendation: Diptyque Eau Lente  
Top: Clove, Cinnamon / Middle: Spices / Base: Opoponax



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### 3. Woody

Woody perfume is mainly extracted from trees, and it has a stable and heavy scent. Freshness and dignity can be emphasized with the smell of trees, soil, mountains, and ponds. It is suitable for spring and autumn.

- Editor's recommendation: Maison Margiela Jazz Club  
Top: Pink Pepper, Neroli, Lemon / Middle: Rum, Java vetiver oil, Clary Sage /  
Base: Tobacco Leaf, Vanilla bean, Styrax



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A variety of perfume hand creams and perfume hand sanitizer products have also been released for people who are not yet familiar with perfumes. It is important to find a perfume that suits you most aside from the trend. Why don't you go leisurely test the different types of scents and find your own scent?

# International Piano Competition



STEINWAY &amp; SONS

By Cha Jun-seok

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**L**im Yun-chan, who is a pianist, won a prize at the Van Cliburn Competition on June 18, 2022, which is a competition that is famous internationally. The international piano competition is usually conducted every 4-5 years. Moreover, the pianists can participate in these competitions only a few times, which is due to the age limit of the competition. Even though there was the possibility of being overwhelmed by the situation, he deeply expressed emotions, which touched the heartstrings of the judges. What other piano competitions are there? I'll invite you to the stage of world piano competitions, which are the so called *Olympics of Pianists*.



## THE WORLD'S TOP THREE PIANO COMPETITIONS



### 1. The Chopin Piano Competition in Warsaw, Poland

The Chopin Piano Competition was established in order to raise Chopin Frederick. It has been conducted every 5 years since 1927, which was when the first competition was held. It is renowned as the oldest piano competition in the world, and it has the best history and authorities in the piano field. In addition, this competition shows little differences with other international piano competitions in regards to



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② ©<https://ko.online-qrcode-generator.com/>



evaluating every round with only Chopin's piece. The competition stage is largely divided into 5 sections, which include the preliminary stage, stage I, stage II, stage III, and the final stage. The abilities of the pianists as a soloist are evaluated until stage III. However, the pianists are judged by the piano concerto in order to evaluate harmony with an orchestra in addition to the individual's ability in the final stage.

Cho Seong-jin is the first Korean winner in history. He performed Chopin Piano Concerto No. 2 perfectly in the final round in 2015. Expressing Chopin's emotions was the key in this competition. He was able to obtain good scores, which was due to his ability to express Chopin's unique artistries.

## 2. The Queen Elisabeth Competition in Brussels, Belgium

The Queen Elisabeth Competition, which has been held since 1951, was developed from the Ysaye competition, which was supported by Queen Elisabeth. The piano is not the only event, which is unlike the Chopin Piano Competition. In the order of the violin, piano, cello, and vocals, the competition is largely divided into 4 parts, and it is held every year in May in Brussel. The competition progresses for a total of 4 rounds, which include the preselection, the first round, the semi-final round, and the final round. The participants must perform an unpublished piece and a piano concerto. An unpublished piece refers to a song that was written exclusively for the contest and was not publicly released. The song is announced as soon as the next round of participants are confirmed, so there is not enough time to master the musical pieces. Meanwhile, there has never been a Korean first place winner in history in the field of piano. Lim Dong-hyek, who was close to winning, won third place. However, he refused the prize due to a biased judgement issue with the jury.

## 3. The Van Cliburn Piano Competition in Texas, U.S.A.

The Van Cliburn Piano Competition is the United States' international piano competition, which has been held by pianist Van Cliburn since 1962. It is considered to be one of the world's top three piano competitions after Russia's Tchaikovsky International Competition was expelled from the International Competition Federation, which was due to the Russia-Ukraine War. The competition stage is largely divided into 4 sections, which include the premier section, quarterfinal section, seminal section, and final section.



4



5

3 <https://www.tellerreport.com>

45 <https://ko.online-qrcode-generator.com/>

The participants can select their own musical pieces, which is unlike the previously presented competitions.

Lim Yun-chan, who was previously mentioned, is the first Korean winner in history. He won the top prize by performing Beethoven Piano Concerto No. 3 and Rachmaninoff Piano Concerto No. 3 in the final stage. Rachmaninoff's representative Piano Concerto No. 3 was performed in a dark atmosphere, which is a unique feature of Russia, so it was considered to have made a good impression on the judges. He performed the third movement of Beethoven Piano Concerto No. 3 with his fabulous keyboard skills, and a fantastic Rubato\* also shocked an instructor after the performance. In addition, it can be said that it was not a stage that was biased toward one side of the piano players or the orchestra. It was a harmonious performance. We learned via this article that there are different international piano competitions, which have various characteristics. Classical music might be considered to be boring, but you can feel the joy and realize its new meaning if you keep listening to it. The Busoni Piano Competition is scheduled on August, 2023. Why don't you watch the piano competition based on the knowledge that you learned via this article?

\*Rubato: Rhythmic freedom by a slight speeding up and then slowing down of the tempo of a piece at the discretion of the soloist or the conductor



대한민국  
청와대

# Cheongwadae

대한민국 청와대에 오신 것을 환영합니다.

Welcome To Cheong Wa Dae

By Jang Hwan-ho

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Sejong Times Editor

Cheongwadae was used as the presidential residence from the first president, which was the Rhee Syng-man government in 1948, to the 19<sup>th</sup> president's government, which was the Moon Jae-in government. However, President Yoon Seok-yeol, who is the 20<sup>th</sup> president, moved the new president residence to Yong-san, and confirmed opening Cheongwadae, which had been veiled in the past, as of May 10th this year. It became very popular after the announcement, and people started making reservations to visit it. Wait! Why don't you take this opportunity to visit Cheongwadae? It will be helpful to learn about its functions and history via this article before visiting it.

There are three gates in Cheongwadae, and there are three routes that are recommended by the Cultural Heritage Administration. I'll explain the main facilities along the recommended route B.



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Yeomingwan



Nokjiwon

### Yeomingwan

You will see Yeomingwan when you enter the main gate and turn right. They are the offices of the Presidential Secretariat, which are comprised of Yeomin 1, Yeomin 2, and Yeomin 3. *Yeomin* is derived from the phrase *Yeomin Gorak* which means *share the people's hardship and joy*. This was the office of secretaries, but many presidential events were conducted in this place.

### Nokjiwon

This place was used for outdoor events, such as Children's Day, Parents' Day, and the day for the disabled. There are more than 120 types of trees, which include the commemorative trees, which were planted by the past presidents in order to commemorate their presidential inauguration. The UN veterans, who visited Korea in order to mark the 72<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of the Korean War, also had a meaningful time taking photos at this place.



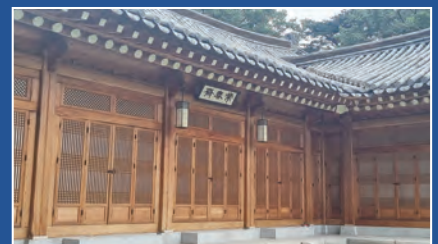
Chunchugwan

### Chunchugwan

After passing Nokjiwon and going out through Gate 37, you can see Chunchugwan, which was completed in 1990. It was used as a briefing room where journalists enter, and the presidents make their speeches. Its name is derived from *Chunchugwan*, a government office which was responsible for recording history during the Goryeo and Joseon dynasty. There may be restrictions on re-entry since chunchugwan is outside the gate, so I recommend you to spend enough time inside and visit this place afterwards.

### Sangchunjae

There is the first traditional hanok style building in Cheongwadae, which is called Sangchunjae, opposite of Gate 37. The government introduced the Korean traditional house to guests from other countries and held receptions or unofficial meetings. There is a lawn yard in the front of this place, and you can see harmonious flowers beside the yard.



Sangchunjae



Official Residence



Sugungteo

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### Official Residence

The place where the president and his family live is divided into a bonchae, which is a living quarter, and a byeolchae, which is a detached reception space. The living quarter has a bedroom, a study, and a restaurant. The reception space has a conference room, a large restaurant, and a kitchen. This is the place where the family of the president lived, and it is known that each president used those rooms for different purposes. The traditional Korean-style garden and sarangchae, which is a men's quarters, are in the front yard. The official residence is constructed in order to suit the mood with the front door and an L-shaped roof that is covered by Korean-style blue tiles on the top, which is traditional Korean structure.

### Sugungteo

We have to go further back into the past in order to understand the construction of Sugungteo. The current location of Cheongwadae used to be a park behind Gyeongbokgung Palace. The state examinations and martial arts competitions were held at this place in the past. The Japanese Government-General of Korea, which was founded at this place during the Japanese colonial era, was demolished and rebuilt as Sugungteo in order to set history straight in November 1993 after Cheongwadae was reconstructed in 1991.

### Main Office Building

The Main Office Building was newly built in 1991, which was based on the traditional wooden structure and palace architecture. The hipped-and-gabled roof of the Main Office Building was raised and covered by a total of 150,000 Korean blue tiles. The outbuildings are placed on the second floor of the main building, which are placed both sides. There is a large garden in front of the main building where events, such as a welcoming ceremony for state guests, were held.

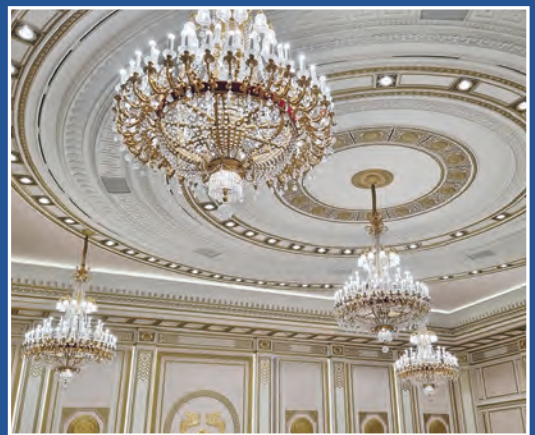
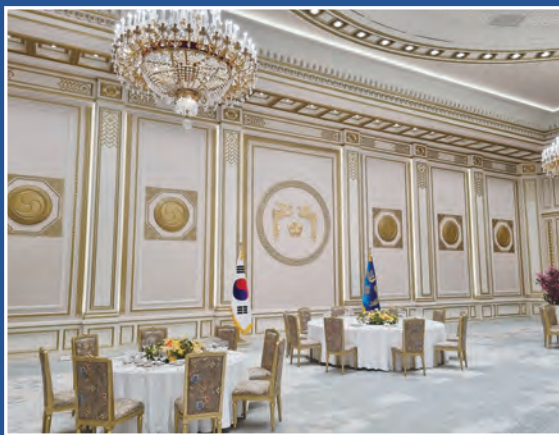


Main Office Building

The office, where the president works, is located on the second floor of the Cheongwadae main building. The experts said that the structure was inefficient and authoritative due to the long distance between the president's office and the office of the secretary. As a result, the former presidents created separate offices in Yeomingswan, or they worked at the official residence.

### Yeongbingwan

This is where official events for foreign guests were held. It consists of two floors. The first floor was a state reception hall, and the second floor was a dining hall, which was used as a venue for large-scale luncheons and dinner events. The traditional Korean folk performances and dinner banquets were held here to welcome foreign presidents or prime ministers who visited Korea. The exterior of the building is magnificent, which includes 18 stone pillars that support the entire building, and the interior is decorated with mugunghwa, laurel, and taeguk patterns that symbolize Korea.



Yeongbingwan

You will notice Chilgung Palace and Mugunghwa Hills just outside of the Yeongbinmun Gate after you look around Youngbingwan. Chilgung is a palace that was constructed to honor seven concubines who gave birth to the kings during the Joseon Dynasty, but failed to become queens. Mugunghwa Hills was included in the Cheongwadae, so it was not accessible. However, it has become a citizen's park, since the road in front of Cheongwadae was opened in 1993. There is mugunghwa, which is a Korean national flower, and there is also a magnificent fountain for citizens to take a rest.

Various events, such as taekwondo or traditional tightrope walking have been conducted every weekend since it was opened. The government is considering opening Cheongwadae for everyone without having to make a reservation as the demand for visiting it continues to increase, which is similar to Gyeongbokgung Palace. However, many visitors visit Cheongwadae, so the damage issues to Cheongwadae have been raised, which include damage to the cultural heritage and trampling on the grass that should not be stepped on. Guidelines have been applied since June in order to cope with these problems, which you should be aware of before visiting.



# Cultural Differences in Schools Around the World



You can obtain good grades in school if you focus on your studies, but there are times when you do not have enough time for stress relief from academic work. On the contrary, if you concentrate only on things other than school, such as parties, you will not be able to fulfill your duties as a student, so it will be difficult to obtain satisfactory grades in school. Finding the balance between studying and leisure is the most effective way to optimize academic functioning and personal development. This is why students should use their time efficiently with their studies as well as personal lives. Schools thankfully provide various intramural activities and events in order to assist students maintain the school-life balance. We will learn about the world's different school cultures in this article, which varies from country to country.

## THE UNITED STATES' HOMECOMING, PROM, SPIRIT WEEK, AND TAILGATE PARTY

There are a variety of school cultural activities in American schools. The most distinctive one is the party culture, which is evident from the beginning to the end of the school semester. There is a homecoming party in order to welcome students back to school. The party is held in September or October after the summer vacation. There is then a Prom Party, which is held at the end of the semester, that is usually attended by senior students and their partners. This party provides seniors with the last memory of their school days before graduation. The purpose of the two parties is not exactly similar, but the process of the events is similar. Students at both parties wear gorgeous dresses and tuxedos, dance to exciting music, eat delicious food, and have fun with their friends. The promposal or the homecoming proposal is one of the most unique cultural events that is conducted when you prepare for prom day or homecoming day.

The next school culture event is spirit week. Spirit week is a week-long event where students dress up according to the given theme of the day. Typical themes include generation day, pajama day, twin day, and movie character day. There is an award ceremony in some schools that decides the best dressed up person for spirit week. One of the parties that is held in American Universities is the tailgate party. It is held on and around the open tailgate of a vehicle in parking lots or arenas. It is held before or after a sporting event, which people can enjoy food and drinks. It is the best place to feel American students' passion for sporting activities.

## NORWAY'S RUSSEFEIRING



There is an event called russefeiring in Norway, which is similar to a prom party in the US. It is a Norwegian school event that is held before graduation that lasts for almost three weeks from late April to May 17. It is a big part of Norwegian schools' culture, so it is common for students to start planning for it as early as their freshman year. Students decorate old cars or buses, play loud music on the buses every night, and enjoy a party during this period. The general dress code for the party is colored overalls. The color of the overalls is determined by the subjects that students take at school, and red and blue overalls are the most common. Students who take general study courses, such as mathematics, physics, history, and literature wear red, whereas students who study business administration courses, such as economics and marketing wear blue. In addition to these two colors, students who take



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occupational classes wear black, and students who take agricultural classes wear green. The final exam week takes place in June, which occurs after enjoying parties every night for a month. Some students feel confused about taking classes at school during the day and having parties at night, but it is their choice whether to attend a russfeiring party.

## GERMAN SCHULTÜTE AND UNIFORM POLICY

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German schools prepare a small event for children who are entering elementary schools. The parents give their children a schultüte, which is a large cone-shaped container that is made from cardboard, for this event. This large cone is decorated with colorful types of paper, and it is filled with sweets, toys, school supplies, and various other special treats. Schultütes give children comfort and happiness on the first day of school. One way to learn about the German's school culture is by looking at the school uniform policy. It is not common to see German students wearing school uniforms, which is unlike some other countries, such as South Korea where it is common to see students in school uniforms. This is possibly due to the impact of a historical event, which is the Hitler Youth Corps' military uniforms during World War II, that is still vividly remembered. However, some schools sell branded clothes at school as the perceptions change, which are still designed to look different from the military uniforms. Hoodies or bright-colored T-shirts are the common option, which are not mandatory whatsoever.

## CHINA'S MILITARY TRAINING AND NAP TIME

We often think of formal clothes that resemble suits when it comes to school uniforms. However, students in China wear uniforms that are in the opposite style, which are similar to gym clothes that are worn in physical education class. The purpose of this is to provide students with a comfortable school life. One of the special activities that can be seen in Chinese schools is military training, which follows a unique dress code. According to the Law of the People's Republic of China about National Defense Education (中华人民共和国-国防教育法), university and secondary students are required to go through military training. The military training lasts for about a week to a month when a new semester begins. This training includes activities, such as mental concentration and marching in formation. Middle school students learn relatively simple training activities, such as close-order drills, and high school students learn about fundamental military studies as well as the knowledge that is needed for everyday life, such as emergency evacuation. Some Chinese schools require students to go to school early in the morning and run a few laps on the school playground before they attend their next class, which is apart from this military training. This exercise aims to improve their concentration and physical strength that is required in order to keep up with their academic courses. Chinese schools have a long lunch break, which includes a separate nap time. Chinese schools have these systems established in order to help students develop their physical strength and concentration on school work via military training, morning exercises, and sufficient rest time.



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We learned about numerous cultural differences in schools around the world, such as the party culture in the US, the school uniform policy in Germany, and military training in China. Schools in some countries encourage students to enjoy cultural life and sports activities, whereas schools in other countries place more importance on preparations for concentrated learning as opposed to cultural life. By looking at the school cultures in different countries, we recognize the cultural differences and even the educational values of each country. However, the schools should not forget that the priority is students' healthy and balanced school lives regardless of what type of school culture and tradition a country sticks to and what educational values they pursue.

# The status quo of doping in the sports industry

By Jang Su-rim

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Sejong Times Editor

There was controversy against the participation of a Russian athlete in the Beijing Olympics earlier this year despite testing negative with a doping test. Doping in the Olympics has been discussed several times, and in other sports industries it is common to see people using drugs in order to improve their performance. This article presents the current state of doping in the sports industry in addition to the risks of using drugs.

## THE HISTORY OF DOPING

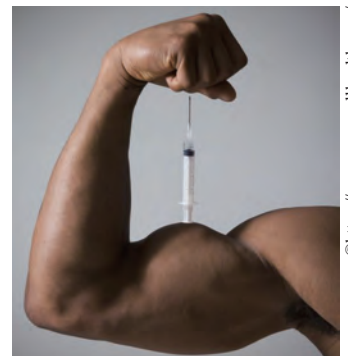


There have been doping cases in regards to increasing athletes' physical ability since primitive times. Zulu warriors in South Africa drank alcoholic drinks before battles. The drink is called *DOP*, which means *to cheat* in Netherlandish, which is the origin of the word *doping*. Furthermore, the athletes in ancient Greek ingested animal testicles in order to increase male hormones.

The first time when chemical materials were used in sports was in the 1896 Athens Olympics, which is also known as the first modern Olympics. The paradigm for medicine changed from natural to chemical during this period, so it is predicted that chemical materials were used despite no direct evidence. The Germans started extracting and synthesizing testosterones in the 1930s, which is one of the male hormones. Also, using chemical materials to win the Olympics has been accelerated in order to publicize the superiority of their system, since the cold war in the 1950s and 1960s. However, a cyclist in 1960 Rome Olympics who took amphetamines died due to drug use. Doping tests since then have been officially implemented in the Olympics procedures.

## ANABOLIC STEROID: THE SIDE EFFECT OF DRUG USE

An anabolic steroid is a drug that is mainly used these days in the sports industry. It induces assimilation that synthesizes protein, which is a high polymer, by compounding small molecules and energy. A steroid is an essential material that leads to the growth of cells, bones, muscles and other organs, and it is also used for medical purposes. However, it is used to enhance the athletes' performance in the sports industry. The use of drugs induces the muscles growth and temporary metabolic activation, but it eventually brings about fatal side effects.



The case of Andreas Krieger, who was a German female shot putter, is a representative case for the side effect of doping. The national organization had been injecting Andreas with an anabolic steroid without her recognition. It eventually led her body to androgenization, which made her receive transsexual surgery. Apart from this extreme case, our body makes a judgment that there are too many androgenic hormones when we use a steroid, which leads to the reduction of hormones production and a sexual dysfunction. A more critical factor is that it affects the cardiovascular system<sup>1</sup>. The influence of a steroid is applied to every muscle, which includes the heart. This means that if we use steroids for muscle mass, the size of our heart will increase as well. This leads to the reduction of the space for heartbeats, which pressures the surrounding blood vessels. This will disturb the blood flow, which increases the risk of myocardial infarction<sup>2</sup> and also affects the brain.



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## DEVELOPMENT OF DOPING TESTS AND WAYS TO EVADE THEM

There were not any developed techniques for doping tests in the 1960s and 1970s despite the perception of risks about drug use, so people used drugs under the decision of medical teams. A technique was then developed in the 1970s and 1980s with the advance of computer analysis and biochemical technology. However, ways to evade the tests were developed as well. The representative way is using a drug on the days before an event and quit using it when the competition period approaches. The purpose is to increase muscle quantity without getting caught by the inspection. The way that is recently being used is *blood doping*, which extracts the blood and keeps it during the new blood production period, and injects only the red blood cells, which are extracted from the blood that is drawn. This is used to improve endurance for aerobic exercises, such as long-distance running, swimming, and cycling by increasing the total number of red blood cells in the blood. A doping test can never detect it, but it increases blood viscosity and the risk of a heart attack from cardiac infarction.

In order to root out continuous doping, the World Anti-doping Agency (WADA) was founded in 1999, but the problem has not been solved. However, it is necessary to solve this problem for the fairness of the competitions and the athletes' health. In addition, there is the danger of people following doping as their role model, such as Maria Sharapova, Alex Rodriguez, and Marion Jones, so the importance of the solution should be strengthened further.

1. A system that consists of the heart and blood vessels. They release blood and circulate throughout the body.

2. A disease that induces necrosis of the heart muscle, which is due to poor blood circulation from arteriosclerosis.

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The reason we are enthusiastic and impressed by sports is not simply due to the brilliant performances. It is also due to the passion and efforts behind them. The reason for the applause for the players who failed in the competitions would be same. However, who would ever pay tribute to players who won a victory from using drugs?

# Subway Protests led by the Disabled Advocacy Group

By Jeong Ji-yoon

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Sejong Times Cub-Reporter

A group of disabled people keep on conducting a subway protest, so controversy continues among citizens who use the subway on their way to work. There are complaints about whether it is necessary to interfere with others at a crowded time, but some say they understand the reality of human rights for the disabled, which is the only way for them to attract attention. According to the National Solidarity for the Elimination of Discrimination against Persons with Disabilities (SADD), the organization says it will continue to protest on the subway unless the government guarantees a budget that is related to the disabled. Train services are delayed from as little as five minutes to more than an hour when a group protests, and the citizens who use the subway on their way to work often complain about the inconvenience. Some citizens show violent reactions by swearing at the group members at the scene. Why then are these protests happening?



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## THE PURPOSE OF THE SADD PROTEST

SADD is a progressive human rights organization for the disabled that was established in 2007. Radical struggles, such as rallies, solidarity, and political declarations, are underway as of 2022, which are based on minority political ideology. A member of SADD told reporters and citizens, “We will take the abusive language and hate, and we understand the abuse of citizens on their way to work.” They are appealing that even if they enter the grave of abuse, a society of indifference and inequality that does not guarantee the basic rights of severely disabled people should

change. What then are they asking for via the protests? According to the media, they asked the government to be responsible for the operation of lifelong education facilities for the disabled by increasing the 20.4 billion won that is allocated to the facilities to increase to 622.4 billion won and mandate the introduction of city buses and facility rights. The National Assembly dealt with the Traffic Vulnerability Act on December 31th, 2021, which included a bill to mandate low-floor buses. However, organizations for the disabled are demanding additional revisions, such as the establishment of an optional clause being supported by the government of the metropolitan mobile support center.



## HISTORY OF THE PROTEST

A demonstration was held on December 20th, 2021, which was during rush hour on Monday, by blocking the departure of a train by inserting wheelchairs between the entrance and the screen door at Wangsimni Station on metropolitan subway line number 5. In addition, during a weekday rush hour, train delays were caused by protesters habitually riding on and getting off the train on line 4 and line 5 in the metropolitan area. The protestors said they would immediately stop the demonstration if the presidential candidate discussed the budget for the disabled in the presidential debate. Presidential candidate Sim Sang-jung mentioned it on February 21th, and she visited the protest site on February 23th, which resulted in SADD temporarily stopping the demonstration until March 2nd. However, they later said they would continue propaganda campaigns, such as demonstrations on the day of the presidential debate, and they held demonstrations on the airport railway on February 25th. They changed the commuting protest to a shaving struggle instead of a commuting protest after the meeting with the Presidential Transition Committee on March 30th. They also mentioned that they will resume the protest if the transition committee does not respond to, or it only gives a theoretical answer. SADD said on April 22nd that they would not proceed with the 29th subway ride on the way to work protest that was scheduled for the 25th if their demands were met. The protest site has been moved to Samgakji Station since then, which only remote struggles were conducted, so the delay of the subway was not serious. However, the National Solidarity for the

Elimination of Persons with Disabilities announced on June 9th that it would resume the 29th subway ride on the way to work. In the most recent demonstration, which was held on June 20th, three activists demonstrated by hanging ladders around their necks and blocking the train doors and the screen doors. The police responded by forcibly pulling out the ladder, which SADD is also predicting a head-on confrontation against it by saying that the level of police response is too coercive.

## PROS AND CONS OF THE LEGITIMACY OF THE SADD PROTEST

There are pros and cons among the citizens whether SADD protests are justified. People who claim that their actions are legitimate say that the protests are the only way to fully consider the reality of the disabled, and they have cited that numerous administrations have neglected policies that are related to the vulnerable. Korean society has ignored and disregarded the convenience and safety of the disabled for decades, so that's why they claim that it is the best way to attract more public attention in order to inform the injustice. It is natural that the protests can be inconvenient, but they argue that Korean society and the state should pay more attention to the disabled, which should lead to the solidarity to build a world that makes them like the non-disabled as well as benefit from each other.



©konstem

On the other hand, the critics are in a different position. SADD's appeal is to urge the full mobility of the disabled, the elderly, and the weak and have it legislated. However, some critics say that their appeal is not proper, because it can cause harm to the citizens. A citizen who uses the subway in order to get to and from work said, "No matter how desperately they insist, they have to think of another way, and I can't agree with this demonstration, which is damaging the majority." The staff who were working at the stations during the protest are also said to be exhausted by the complaints from the passengers. An official said, "It is serious, because there are continuous complaints from the passengers asking when the train will leave." As such, the scale and equivalence of the damage accepted by others are not consistent, because the SADD protests have caused financial and non-monetary damage to innocent citizens, which have caused time and economic damage to individuals and local governments. In addition, the fact that they are holding illegal rallies without permission is the reason for the critical view about the SADD protests.

#### MOVING RIGHTS FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES

Kalle Könkköl, who is one of Finland's first Green Party members, was born with severe physical disabilities and was a fierce activist for mobility rights. He had to use a wheelchair to move around since he was young. He entered the student movement after entering Helsinki University in 1970. He and his colleagues formed an organization called Helsinki-Liike and launched radical activities in order to expand the accessibility to public transportation and buildings in Helsinki after he graduated from college. During this time, low-floor buses had not yet been introduced, but he also engaged in a life-threatening struggle by dragging a wheelchair between Helsinki and Turku.

He joined the Finnish Green Party movement in this process, and he was elected as a member of the National Assembly in 1983. However, there were no lifts or ramps for the wheelchair users in the Finnish parliament building at that time, and he had to continue fighting for improved physical access for the disabled to the parliament. The Finnish parliament building, which was built in the early 1930s, boasts a magnificent appearance that was constructed in a neoclassical style, but the building's facade consists of high stairs, which makes it difficult for wheelchair-disabled people to access it. The security

personnel in the past tried to enter the capitol by hugging him and moving a wheelchair separately, but he refused and demanded improvement in the capitol space in order to ensure accessibility and continued efforts to improve the mobility rights of the disabled. As a result, Finland's parliament today has facilities and services that are easily approachable for all physically challenged people, which include the disabled, and it is easy for people to bring strollers for young children in order to join the parliamentary tour or the audience.



As a result, the issue of guaranteeing the rights of the disabled has emerged again in the wake of the conflict. It has been mentioned in meetings with disabled groups, such as the presidential transition committee and SADD, that it has been 20 years since the Transportation Vulnerability Act was enacted, and conservative and progressive governments took turns in order to solve it but failed in the meantime. This means that it is a task that the ruling party and the opposition party should solve together, and it should not just occur at a specific level of government. The welfare budget for the disabled as well as the right to move should also improve the reality that is absurdly lower than that of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development.

It is a duty for all of us to protect the disabled as members of our society. It is right that our society should make more efforts in order to guarantee the right to move for the disabled. However, the act of taking unspecified citizens' transportation to work as pawns by saying, "You did not accept all our demands," cannot receive public sympathy. If this type of protest works, other groups will try to cause inconvenience to the citizens in one way or another. A democratic society

can mature when it follows principles that do not infringe on the rights and interests of others as well as consideration for the weak and the minority groups. It is true that many problems have been raised in our society in regards to

the right to move for the disabled, and institutional and practical improvement measures have been steadily taken. However, it is also clear that more improvement and changes are still needed, and the government and civil society should make efforts in order to raise sufficient funds and reach a social consensus. Nordic countries, which have universal welfare states and high-level social citizenship systems, continue to strive to realize equal access for everyone that have included the disabled from the 1960s until today, which is when the disabled rights agenda began in earnest. Political parties, politicians, and parliament have the responsibility to exercise political leadership and take the lead in regards to effective conflict mediation for a democratic decision making, so it is desperately required to exercise responsible leadership for democracy for all members of society, which includes the disabled.



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# Recession in the U.S. and Korea

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## Economic status evaluation due to the COVID-19 and the Ukraine-Russia war

When the fear of COVID-19 increased in 2020 and 2021, the Federal Reserve Board (FED) prompted active investment activities by decreasing interest rates in order to prevent recession. Also, they made lots of dollars available via the supplementary budget<sup>1</sup>, which was due to the fear of stiff import and export markets. Several experts predicted incoming inflation due to these acts. However, the unexpected war soon led to a surge in international oil and raw material prices. The war added fuel to the fire, which has made it urgent to extinguish inflation. The World Bank warned about stagflation, which is the occurrence consistent high inflation with a country's economy. What is then the case for the U.S. economy? Also, what is the adverse effect on Korea due to the U.S. recession?



### MAIN 1 DIAGNOSIS AND ANALYSIS OF THE U.S ECONOMIC STATUS QUO

FED decided to take a giant step in order to prevent quantitative easing, which is due to the low interest rates that were caused by COVID-19. The FED taking a giant step involves the unprecedented measure of raising interest rates by 0.75% basis points at a time. This decision can be interpreted as returning the dollars that were released during the COVID-19 period. This leads to a huge damage in regards to the import and export markets fluctuating currency exchange rates. Also, these rate adjustments caused the investing activities to weaken, which returned the investors' capital to their account.

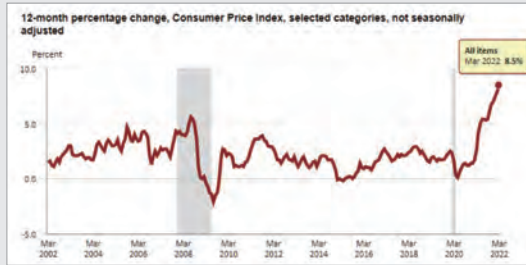
Meanwhile, the Customer Price Index (CPI) growth rate, which is an index that shows consumer price trends in the aftermath of inflation, hit a record high for 45 years. This means that investor sentiment and consumption were weakened due to the adverse effects of the inflation on the real economy. Furthermore,



<FED Interest Rate Chart>

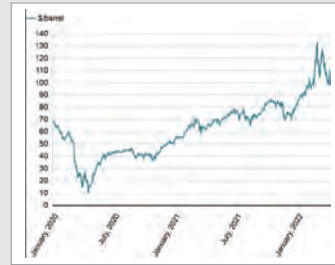
1. Supplementary budget: The request for additional funds by Ministries and Departments during the course of the year

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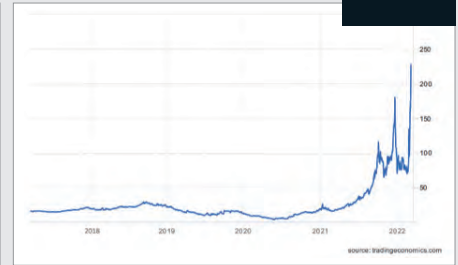
<CPI Index>

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<Price of Brent Crude>

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<Natural Gas Prices in Dutch>

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<India Coal LTD>

the international oil price has been increasing, which is due to Russia countering the economic sanctions of the U.S. LNG's price has also been soaring, because Russia stopped exporting LNGs as revenge against the U.S. sanctions. In addition, the demand for coal, which is an alternative fuel, has been increasing as the natural gas price rises. This means that most of the prices for energy resources soared due to the war.

## MAIN 2 DIAGNOSIS AND ANALYSIS OF KOREA'S ECONOMIC STATUS QUO



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The Bank of Korea also raised interest rates, which were in line with the FED's giant step. However, the decline in the KRW is even greater than the decline in the value of the USD, which resulted in an unusual increase in the 1,300 USD-KRW exchange rate. In addition, the investors' capital is being returned

in conjunction as inflation weakens the investment sentiments. As a result, the price index of stocks on the KOSPI has been on the decline, which is inclined to break the 2300 point level as of July 1.

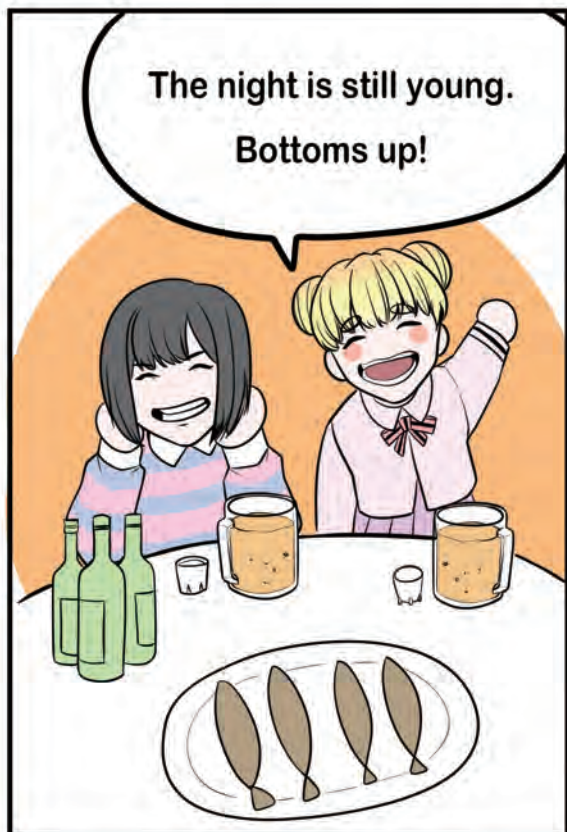
Meanwhile, the price of raw materials and international oil prices are also affecting the export market. In particular, oil is essential to the manufacturing process, so increased oil prices are decreasing the export competitiveness. In addition, international grain prices are rising due to the Ukraine-Russia War. This will soon have a significant impact on Korea's inflation, and the experts expect that the rate of inflation will be between 6 and 8 percent after June. This figure can also become higher than expected considering that the rate of inflation averaged 3 to 4 percent by June this year. In other words, it has been analyzed that the influence of inflation will further expand, which will have a huge impact on the real economy.

## DISCUSSION

Many experts argue that the variable of the Ukraine-Russia war must be preferentially removed in order to avoid the current economic crisis. However, this is an area that we cannot control, so we need to see the status quo as it is and prepare as much as we can in the current situation. We learned via this article that the economic situation in the U.S. has a considerable connection with Korea. Therefore, it is necessary to preemptively respond by devising adjustment measures after diagnosing the economic situation in the U.S. in advance.



## Don't forget!







# WORD PUZZLE

F	S	E	M	E	S	T	E	R
A	L	E	V	C	T	F	U	B
J	O	C	Z	O	S	Z	T	E
B	B	S	K	L	E	H	P	W
O	M	E	I	L	T	O	W	V
M	N	D	M	E	O	O	Y	V
W	T	I	W	G	R	R	L	X
W	C	U	P	E	P	H	Q	V
X	D	G	W	O	R	L	D	L

해당되는 기사 페이지에 힌트가 있습니다.  
정답과 설문내용을 엽서에 적으셔서 11월 25일까지 세종타임즈 이메일로 보내주세요. 채택되신 분들께 소정의 상품을 드립니다.

When you find all the hidden words in the puzzle, please send the postcard attached at the end to [thesetimes@sejong.ac.kr](mailto:thesetimes@sejong.ac.kr) by November 25th. There are prizes for those who send in the correct answers.

1. Medical Benefits for \_\_\_\_\_ Students

2. NFT: Non-Fungible \_\_\_\_\_

3. Perfume: Tips & \_\_\_\_\_

4. Subway \_\_\_\_\_ led by the Disabled Advocacy Group

5. 5 Things You Can Enjoy from This \_\_\_\_\_

6. Cultural Differences in Schools Around the \_\_\_\_\_

## Dictionary

**consensus** a general agreement about something, an idea or opinion that is shared by all the people in a group

**solidarity** a feeling of unity between people who have the same interests, goals, etc.

**legitimate** allowed according to rules or laws

**freshman** a student in the first year of high school, college, or university

**extracurricular** An activity or subject which is not part of the usual school or college course

**prominent** known and recognized by many people

**affiliate** to link a group, a company or an organization very closely with another, larger one

**aspiration** a strong desire to have or do something

**respective** relating or belonging to each of the separate people or things you have just mentioned

**compound** a thing that is composed of two or more separate elements

**fragrance** a sweet or pleasant smell

**deteriorate** to become worse

**recession** a period of temporary economic decline during which trade and industrial activity are reduced, generally identified by a fall in GDP in two successive quarters

**competition** the activity or condition of competing

**rubato** flexibility of tempo in performance

**optimize** to make something as good as possible

**intramural** happening within or involving the members of one school, college, or university

**priority** something that is very important and must be dealt with before other things

**assimilation** The development of male sexual characteristics, especially after treatment with androgens

**dysfunction** the state of being unable to function in a normal way

**cardiovascular** of or relating to the heart and blood vessels

**cryptocurrency** a digital currency in which transactions are verified and records maintained by a decentralized system using cryptography, rather than by a centralized authority

**dispute** to say or show that (something) may not be true, correct, or legal

**intermediate** occurring in the middle of a process or series

**magnificent** causing admiration esp. because of an unusual quality such as great size or beauty

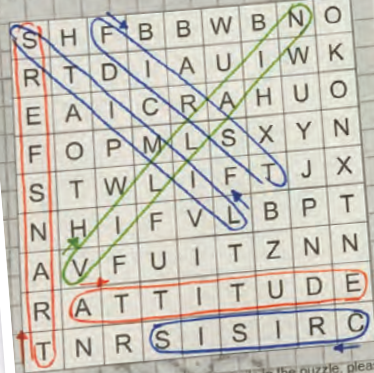
**demolish** to completely destroy a building, especially in order to use the land for something else

**traditional** following or belonging to the customs or ways of behaving that have continued in a group of people or society for a long time without changing



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### WORD PUZZLE



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*One of my Profs recommended it when he was showing me around.*
2. Is there a specific topic you'd like for Sejong Times to cover?

*Healthy Life style Notes*

3. Which is your favorite article in this issue?  
And why? *LOGOUT*

*↓ staying away from tech*

4. Are you willing to work as a guest reporter for Sejong Times?

*Sure, that's my pleasure.*

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22150036 Jalal Safari Bazargani



We will continue to strive for  
better contents

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Thank You For Reading  
Our Magazine

# SEJONG PEOPLE 공모



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