

RESEARCH OUTPUTS / RÉSULTATS DE RECHERCHE

PhD Game

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PhD Game

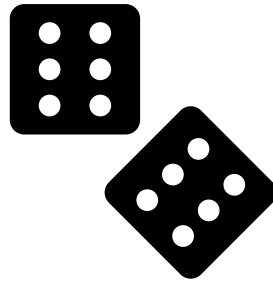


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DISCLAIMER

The use of the masculine gender has been adopted for ease of reading and has no discriminatory intent.



Description

The PhD Game offers a playful approach to exploring the journey of obtaining a PhD thesis. Suitable for all PhD students, regardless of their level of advancement, this game takes the form of a goose game. Whether individually or in teams, players move through the squares and encounter various situations related to the doctoral experience. They then collectively share their experiences, anecdotes, and advice. The objective is to progress through as many squares as possible to facilitate exchanges and discussions about the doctoral journey.



Materials

One dice
Several pawns
The printed game

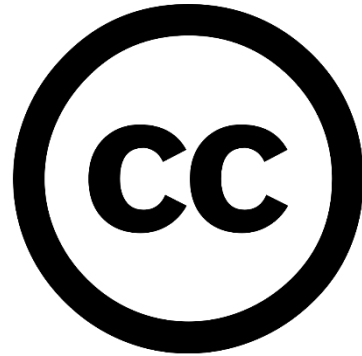


Instructions

- As a team or individually, assign yourself a counter.
- Roll the dice and move your pawn to the corresponding square.
- Read the situation aloud. Share your experiences, anecdotes and advice freely.
- Repeat until you have completed the PhD journey.
- Have fun!

Details

- Note that some squares (e.g., joker, prison) and instructions (e.g., square jump) may be optional.
- Note that some squares and instructions can be adapted to suit the country, university, faculty, research field, etc.



License

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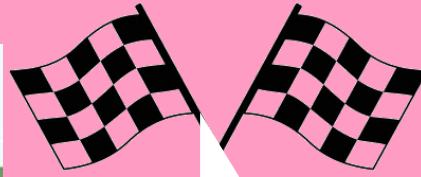
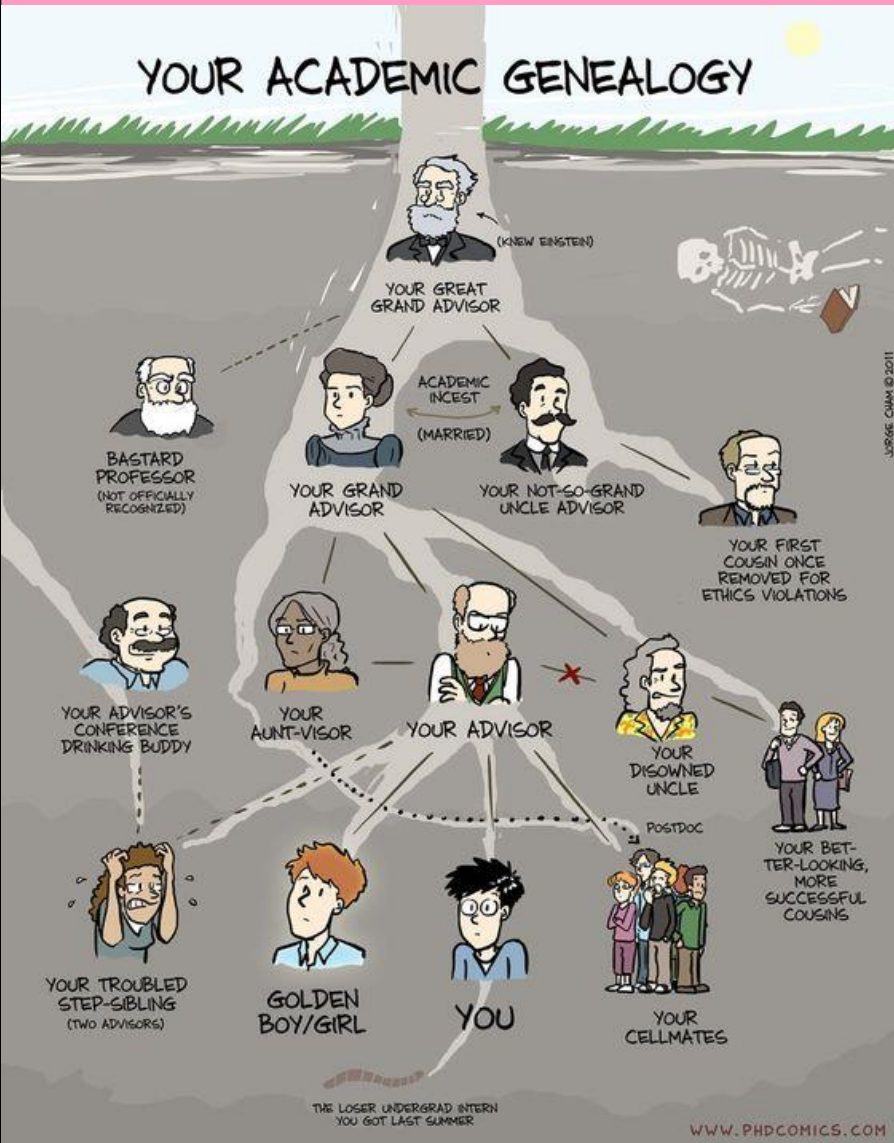
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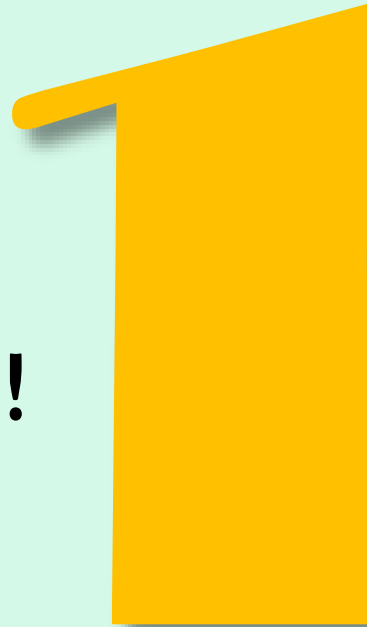


Starting line



Go!

It's your first day!
Your supervisor is
not there to
welcom you ...
No worries, your
research team is there !
Move forward
3 squares ...

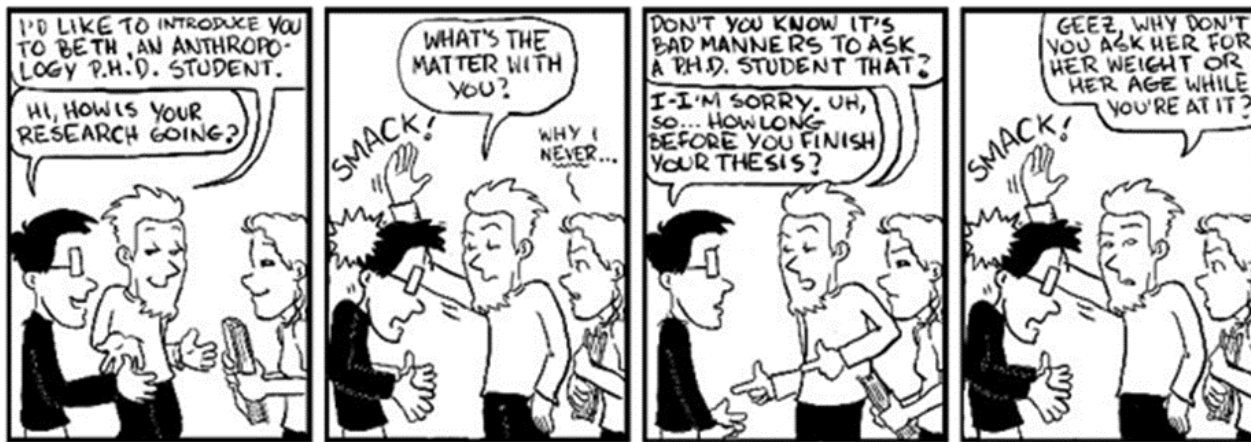


ACADEMIA



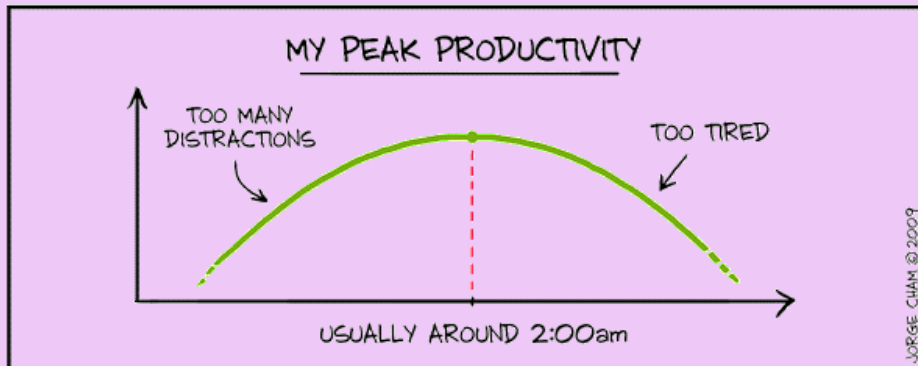
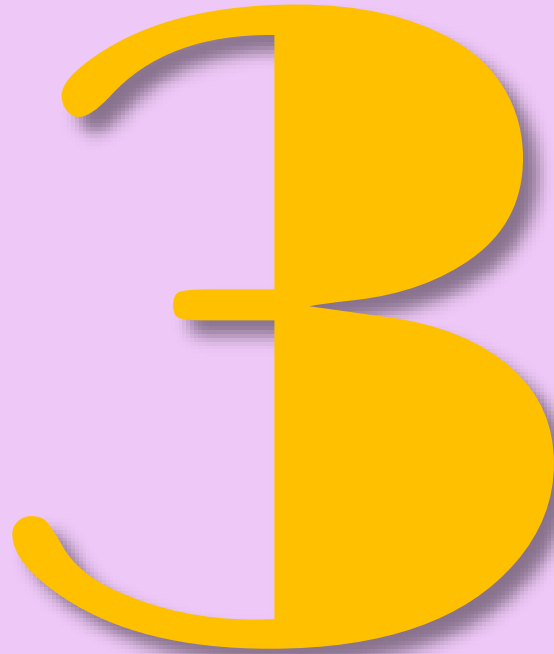
2

In 10 seconds, tell us about the field of your research team.



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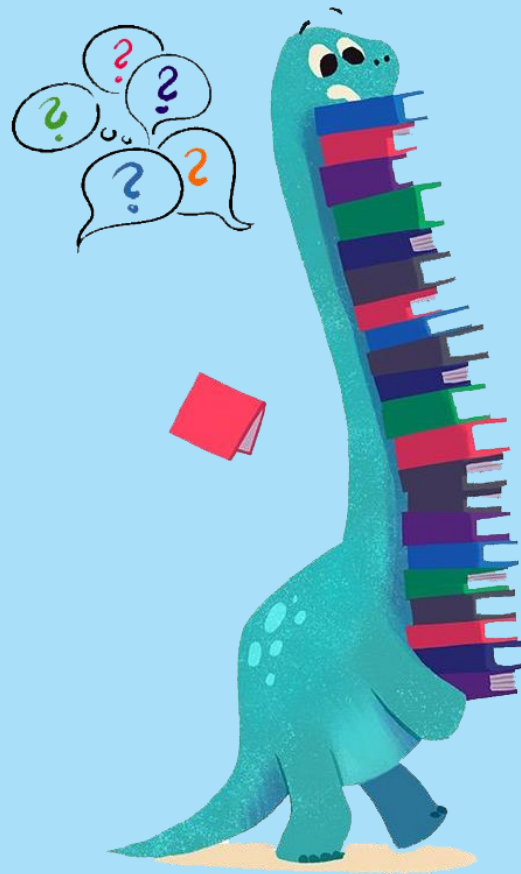
You are finally
set up and
ready to work.
Move forward
2 squares



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Focus on the administrative formalities you'll need to complete your PhD!

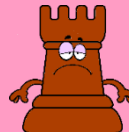
Who can help you?



**Don't forget to
accumulate ECTS for
your doctoral
training...Take the
time to gather as
much information as
you can!**



**Skip
1 turn**





To progress, you'll to
have to learn how to
"work" with your
supervisor.
Tell us how you
organize yourself!

How to read a Professor's door



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You deserve a break ... See you at 10.30 am at the coffee corner! Move back 3 squares if you prefer to stay in your office!



YOUR SHRINKING SENSE OF HUMOR FROM CHEEKY TO GEEKY IN JUST SEVEN YEARS

BEFORE GRAD SCHOOL:
...then he says, "to get to the other side!"
haha!
haha!

nerd content of jokes you find funny

% of world population capable of understanding joke

years in grad school

AFTER GRAD SCHOOL:
"...that's not normal, that's a Lévy skew alpha distribution!"
heh heh snort.
sob!

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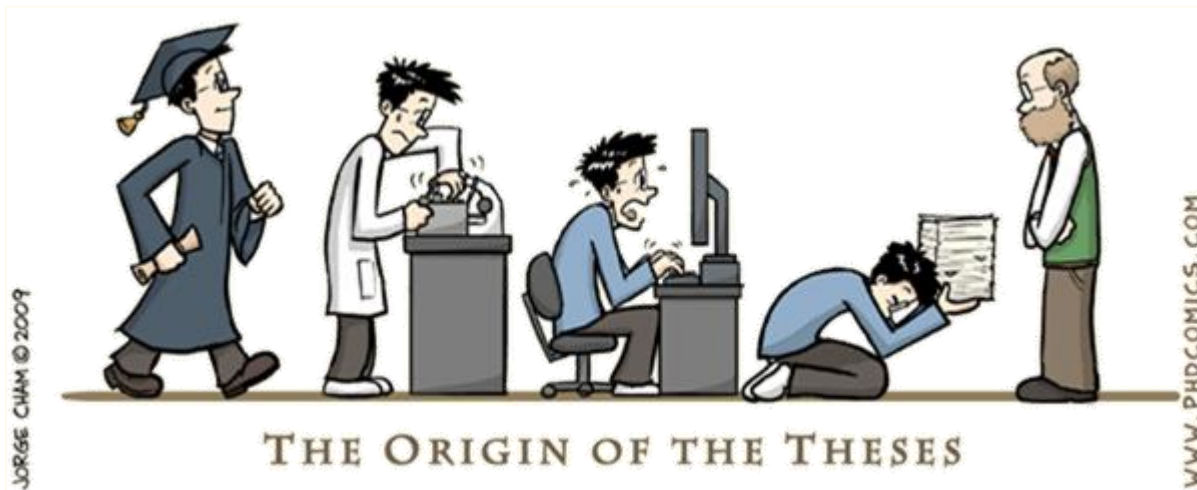
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Tomorrow you'll be giving
your first class...
How did you get through your
night of anxiety?



You don't know
where to start
your research!
Any advice on
how to get
started? Who
can help you?

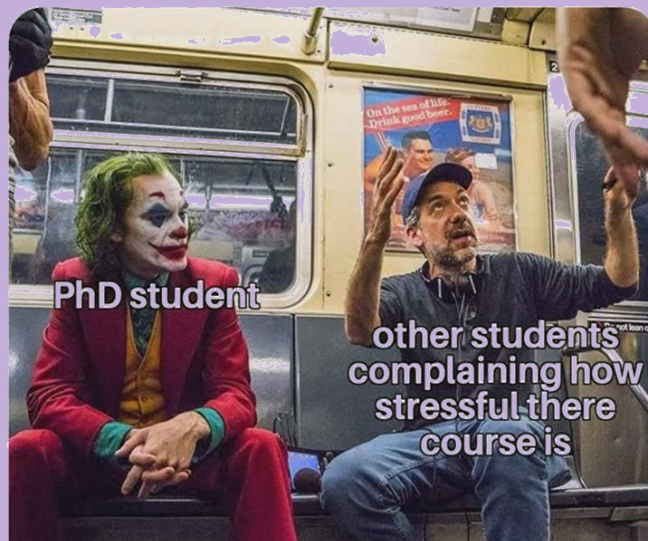


It's your time!

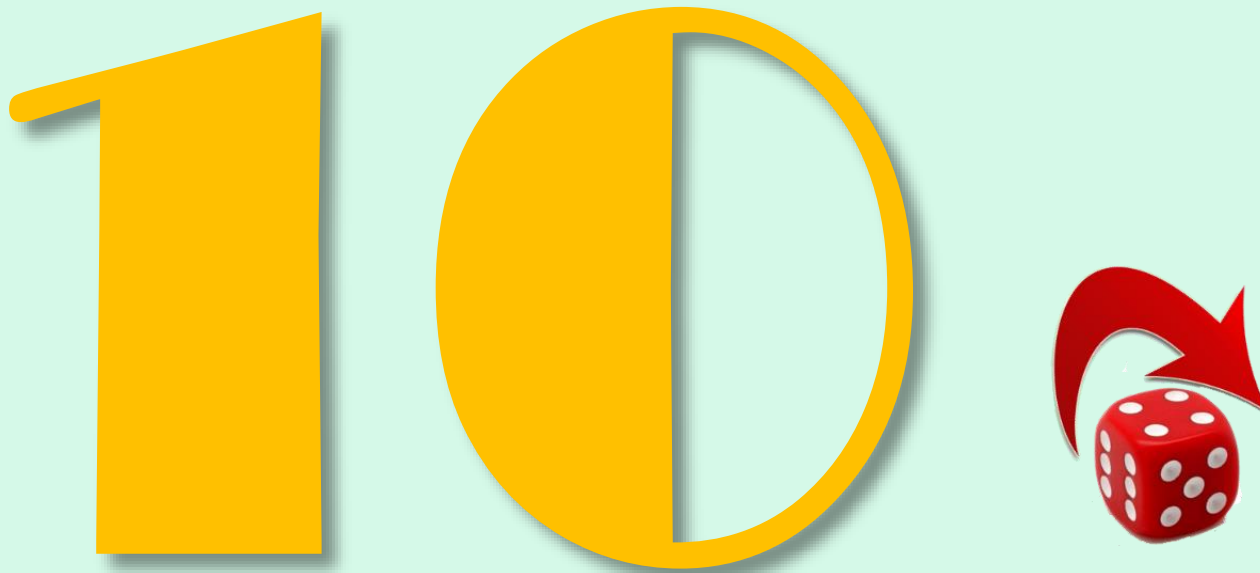
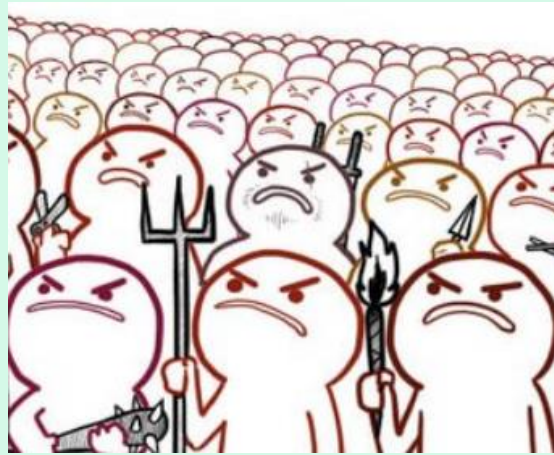
Any question, worry, annoyance?

Anything else? See you at the
doctoral students' lunch!

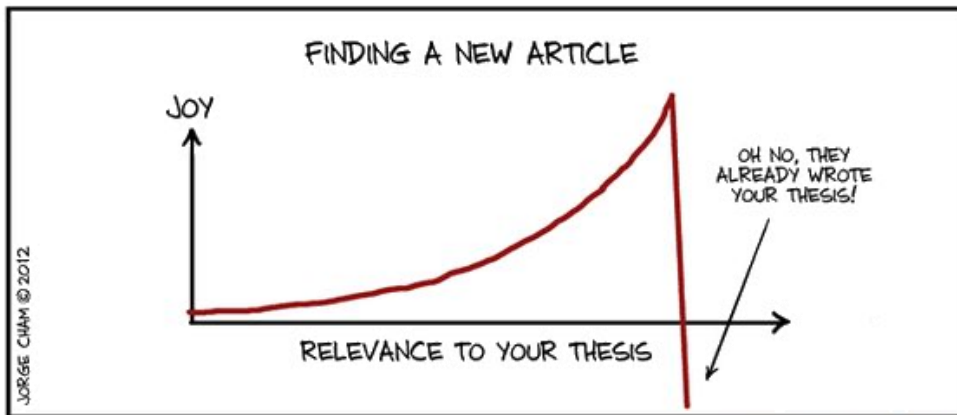
JOKER



**You receive an
unsatisfied
student... Roll the
dice again!**



You defined your first thesis goal with your supervisor.
How do you do it ?



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12

In addition to your research, there are service tasks. How to get involved?

PhD life

@labduck33

What people think



- Work
- Social
- Sleep

The reality



- Lab
- Reading
- Writing
- Analysis
- Teaching
- "that's broken"
- Planning
- Worrying
- "More reading"
- "shit that didn't work"
- crying
- deciding to quit
- deciding not to quit
- fear
- "I'll use Dr. on my mail"

First paper
rejection?
Tell us and
move back
2 squares

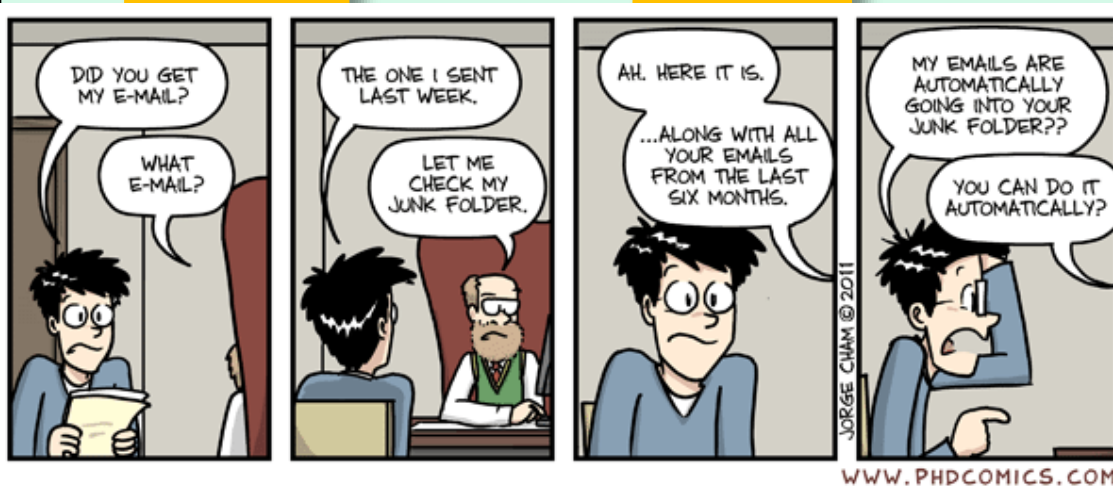
...

13

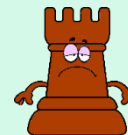


You urgently need your supervisor and he can't be reached.

14



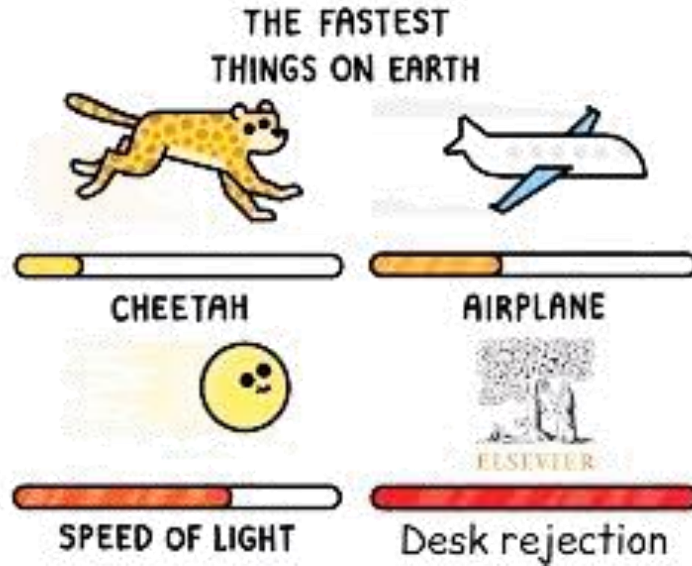
Skip 1 turn



You realize that your research is not for you. You change the subject or look for other opportunities.



Jail



106

Wait for your release or make a SIX on your next turn



You're taking part in your first conf', and it's great fun! Tell us about it then roll the dice again.

17



$$\text{Seminar Appeal} = \frac{\text{Relevance} \times \text{Food}}{(\text{Distance})^2}$$



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**Google Scholar?
PURE? Research
Gate, ...? Name
and explain all
the tools you
know.**



18

19

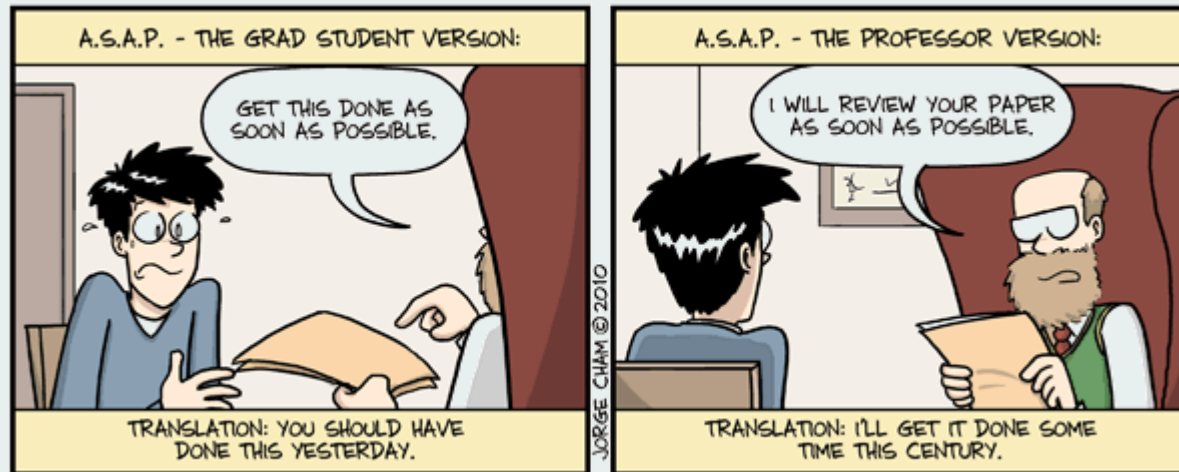
Would you like to
change
your thesis
supervisor?
We won't tell him!



You're at the beginning of your thesis and haven't yet had a paper accepted!

20

Is it a problem?



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**It's September and you
still haven't re-
registered!
Without it,
no renewal ...
Take a trip to jail!**



21



Square

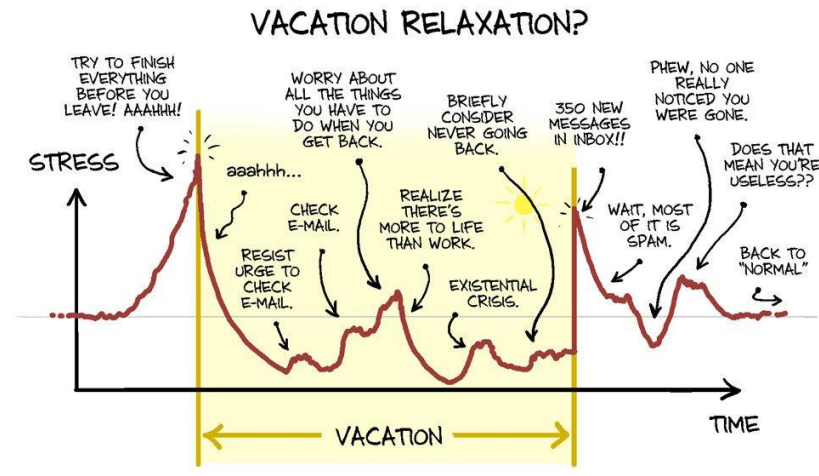
16



Congrats
you
survived
your 1st
thesis year!
We're
celebrating!

22

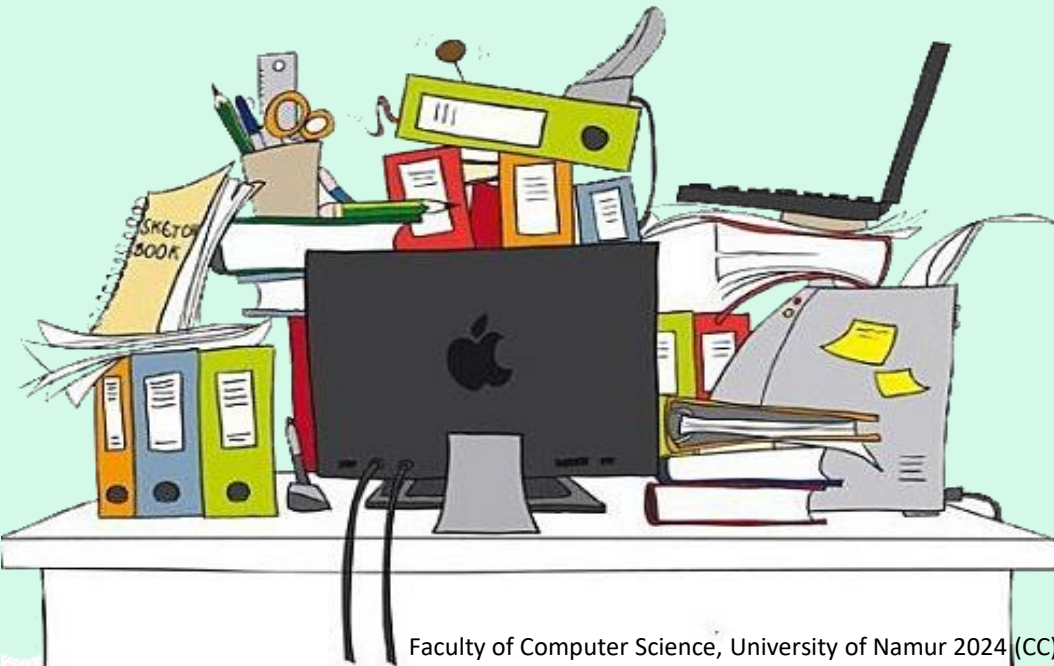
Let's toast
and free the
prisoners!



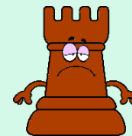
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After the initial enthusiasm,
you start to feel
discouraged
by the task.

23

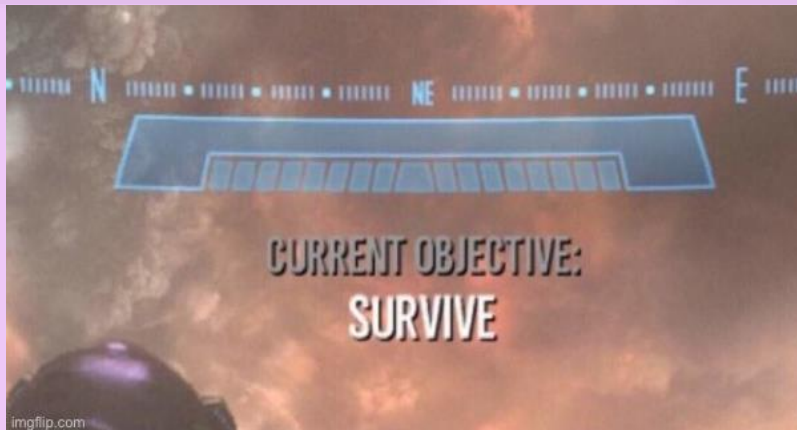


Skip
1 turn



You're in your second year, what
are your goals?

24



**Zoom in on
the already
acquired
ECTS in
your
doctoral
training.**

25

**Explain your
experience
at this
stage.**



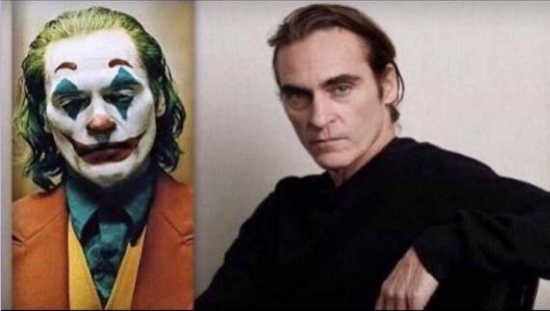
It's your time!

Any question, worry, annoyance?

**Anything else? See you at the
doctoral students' lunch!**

JOKER

Did you know...



In order to play the role of an insane and mentally depressed person in the movie "Joker", Joaquin Phoenix completed a self-funded PhD

Another paper
rejected! Are
you really the
problem?
Zoom in on
reviewers'
"types"! Move
back 2 squares

...



20



Your poster won 1st prize, and you
break out the champagne... 🍾
Cheers! Move forward 3 squares!

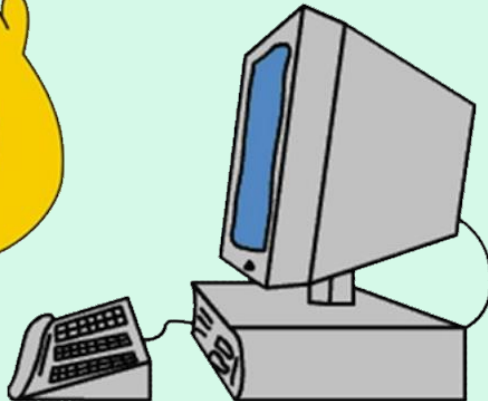
27



You forgot to take part in the scientific college.. Go to jail!

28

#!\$@*!!



Case 16



29

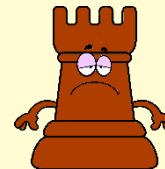
You're overwhelmed by student corrections and can't make any headway on your thesis.

GRADER TYPES



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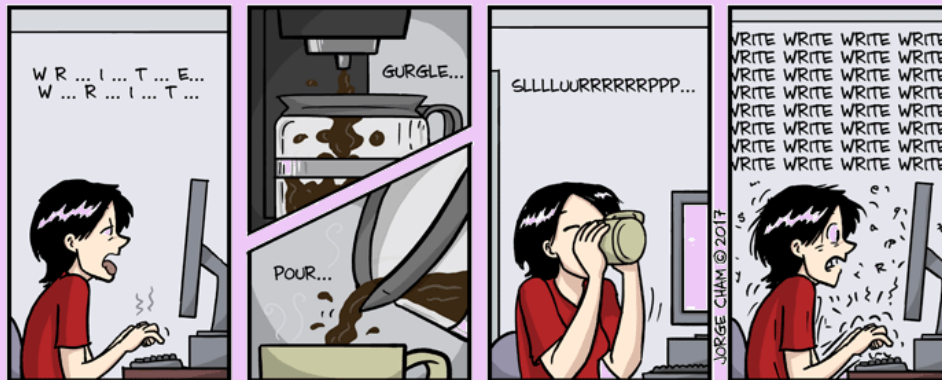
Skip
1 turn



Time flies! Check your agenda:
there's a deadline for your mid-
term evaluation!

Free the
prisoners,
they also
must
move on!

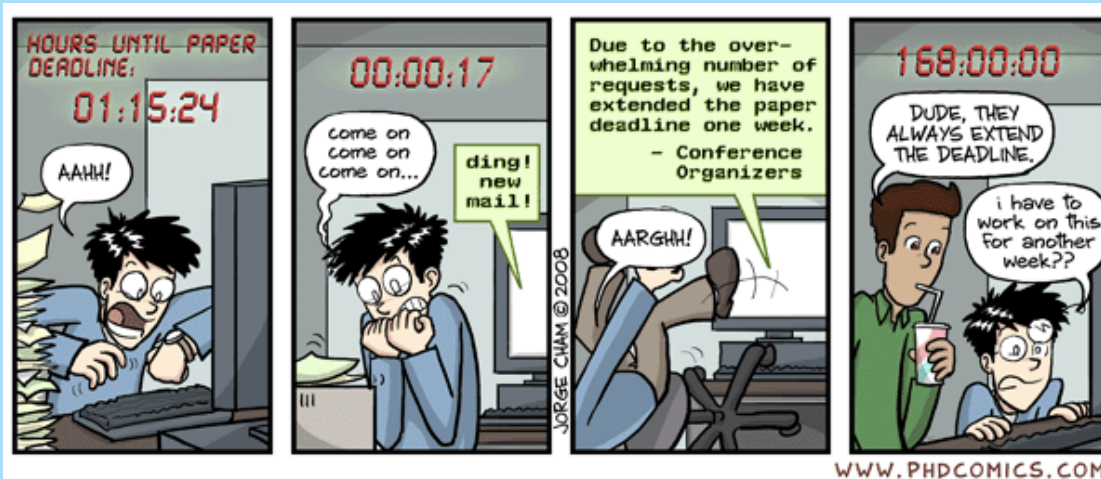
30



WRITING: JUST ADD COFFEE.

The deadline for THE conference
you must attend ends in 2 days...
Don't you sleep to submit
something or
Will it be for
next year?

31



**You realize
that your
former
classmates
earn 3 times
more than
you! Yet you
persevere...
Roll the dice
again!**

32



Zoom in on your steering committee! What exactly is its role?

33

YOUR THESIS COMMITTEE

Also known as: an impossibly difficult group to get together in one room but who nevertheless hold your future in their hands depending on their ability to reach a civilized consensus.

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Your Professor

Simultaneously your biggest ally and your worst enemy. Will be the first to suggest you do more work.



The Guru

Only here for the free cookies. Don't forget to suggest.



The Adversary

Has bitter rivalry with your Professor and will argue the exact opposite view. Work this to your advantage.



The Strawman/woman

Nice guy. No opinions.



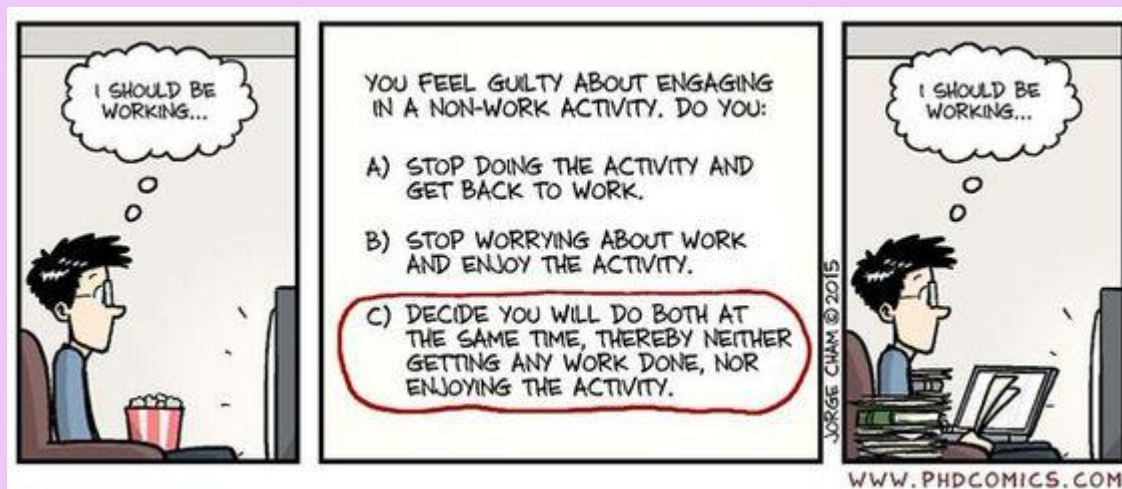
The Assistant Professor

Still doesn't believe just a few months ago they were on the other side just like you. Pretends to be an adult.

NONE OF THEM WILL ACTUALLY READ YOUR ENTIRE THESIS.

34

Your mid-term evaluation is approaching! Get ready and discuss it with your supervisor.



Jail



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35

Wait your release
or make a SIX on
your next turn



It's your time!

Any question, worry, annoyance?

**Anything else? See you at the
doctoral students' lunch!**

JOKER

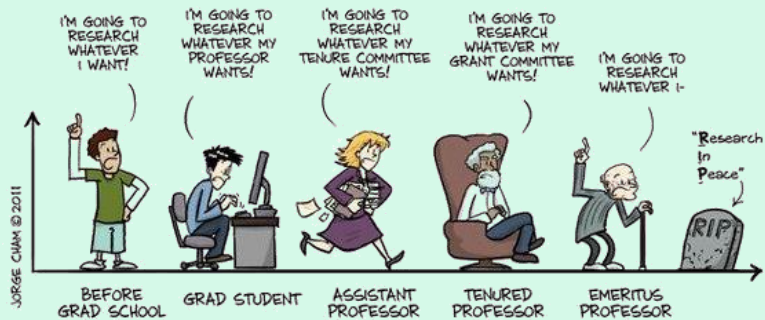
**WHEN YOU ASK A PHD STUDENT, WHEN
THEY'RE SUBMITTING THEIR THESIS**



You forgot to mention the name of your supervisor on your latest paper...
Sacrilege!
Go to jail!

36

THE EVOLUTION OF INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM



Square

35



Your research is not advancing as fast as you'd like! Take a break!

37



It's University Day! Go and have fun with your colleagues.

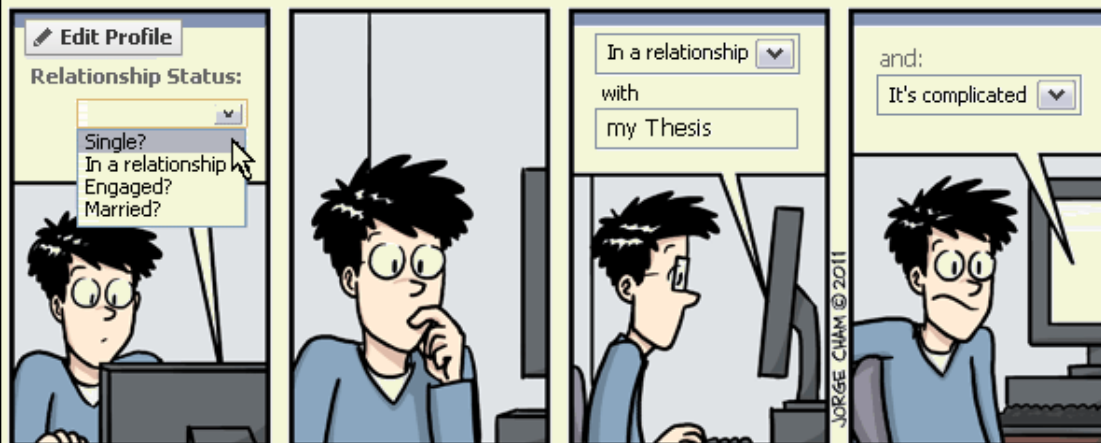
38

The common relationship between PhDs and alcohol



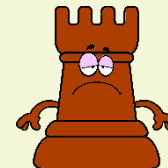
Wondering why
you wanted to
do a thesis?
Remember your
initial
motivations ...

39

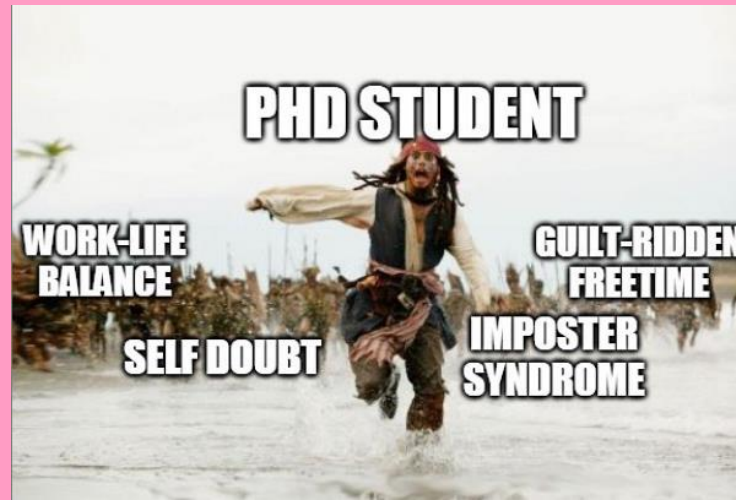


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Skip
1 turn



The Scientific Secretary
is there for you!
How can he
help you?
Go to jail
if you don't
know it...



40



Square

35



You've just spent a year without publishing... Is it really a problem?

41



Congrats! You've passed
your mid-term evaluation...

Tell us all about it!

Move forward

2 squares!

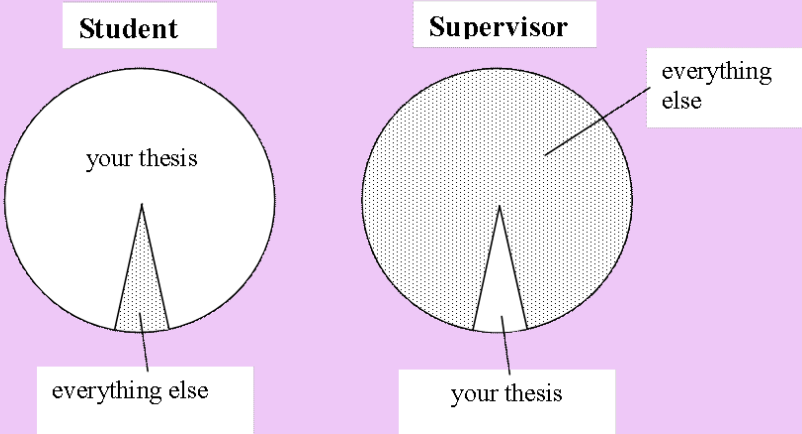
42

RESEARCH PROGRESS



You are confirmed, take stock of your service tasks too.

43



You're off to the other side of the world for a conference. Write about your trip in the faculty magazine!



44

The end of the thesis
is close and you
still have new
ideas ...

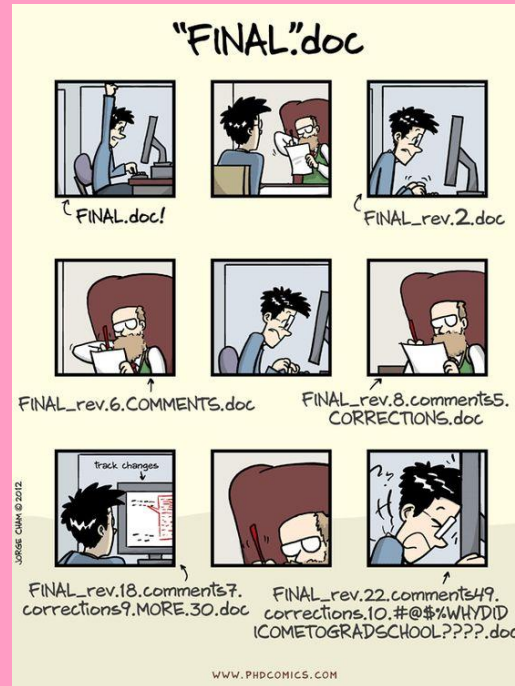
You hesitate:
stop or continue?

45



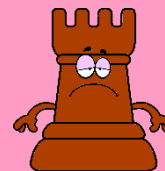
You're wondering
whether you'll finish
on time ...

You would like
to have a
teaching relief!

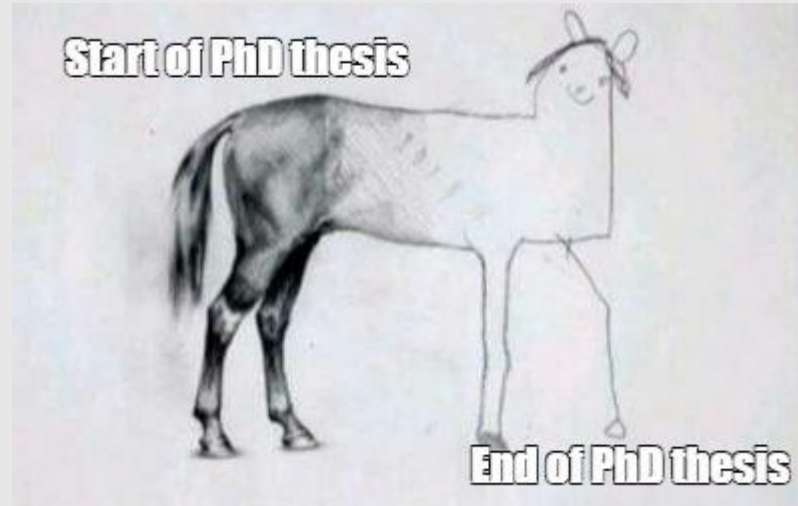


46

Skip
1 turn



"It's not complete enough,
it's not well structured,
I need more
data, ..."



RELAX!
The perfect
thesis does
NOT exist !

47

You realize you've
only got a few
months left...

48

Big panic !

Do you go to the naturopath or do
you prefer to go for a drink?



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First draft
validated !

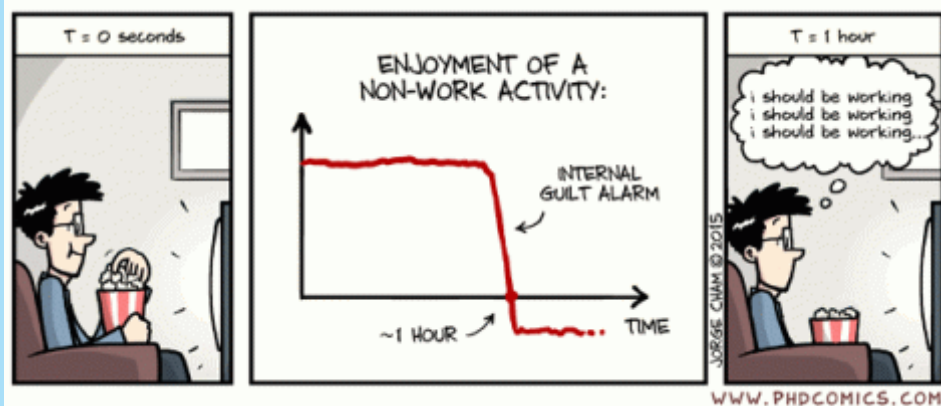
49

Move forward
2 squares !

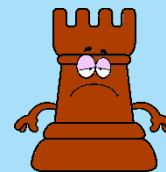


You procrastinate.
Skip 1 turn.

50



Skip
1 turn



**You're slowly thinking about your
defense!**

**More pub-potato chips or
reception and puff pastries ?**

When you finally got
your PhD but you forgot
how to celebrate



51

It's your time!

Any question, worry, annoyance?

Anything else? See you at the
doctoral students' lunch!

JOKER



The home stretch!

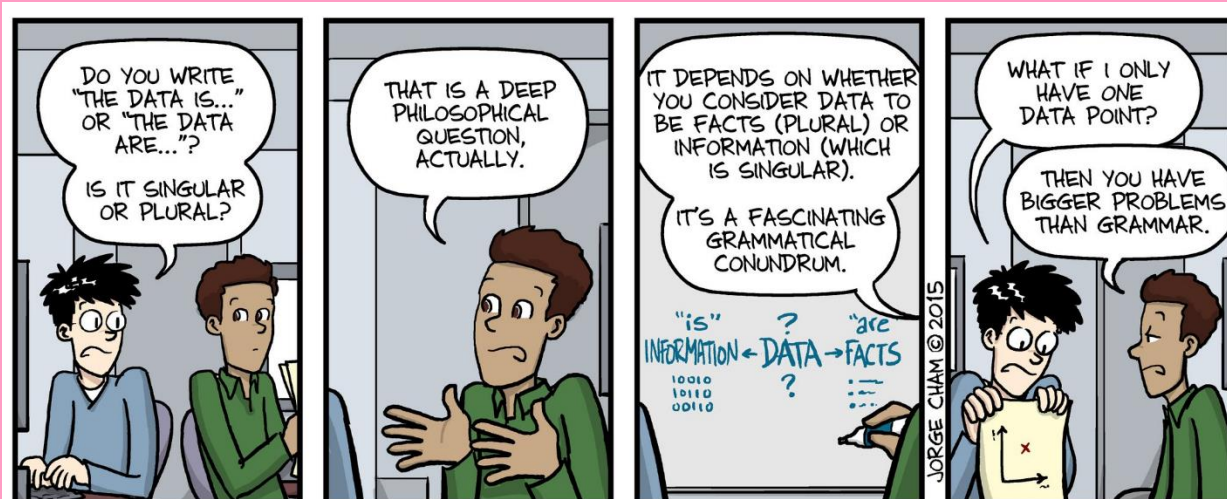
On the agenda :

layout,

acknowledgement,
corrections, etc.

52

What tools can help you?



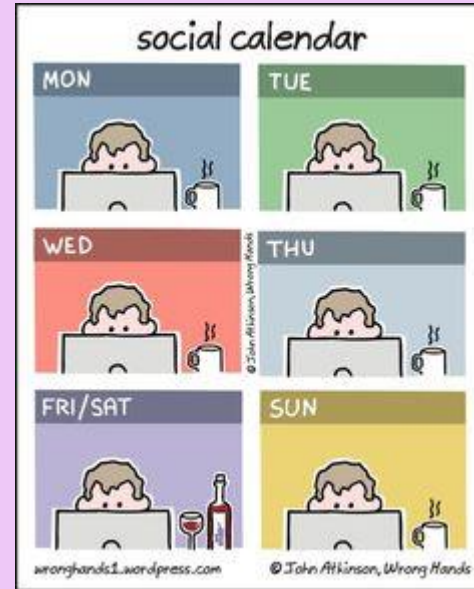
**It's your last
conference
as a PhD
student !
Make the
most of it !**

53



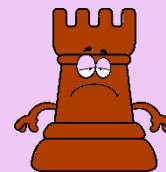
Is your life a monologue with your thesis?

The people around
you don't even
listen to you
anymore !
Change of scenery ...



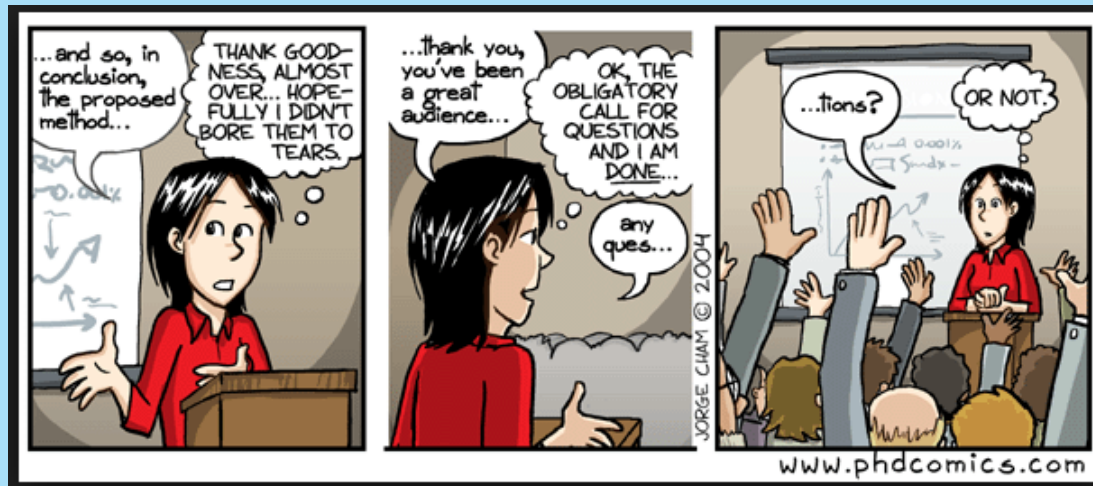
54

Skip
1 turn



Your private
defense is coming
up... You have a
thousand of
questions!
Who can reassure
you?

55



You passed your private defense,
congratulations !

506

Don't forget to
take all
feedback
into account...



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Sarah Whelan Curtis

@sarahwcurtis

Yes, I did a photo shoot with my thesis.
Longest labor ever. #phdlife

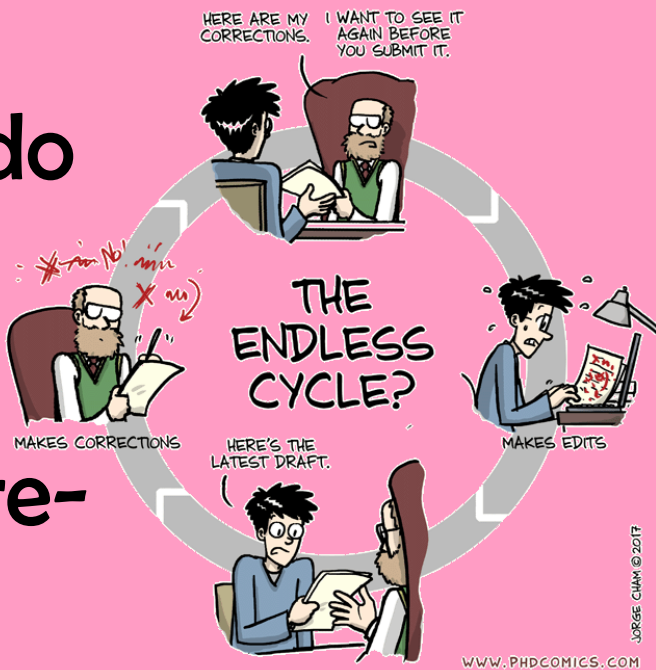


Thesis
submission
coming soon !
How is it
going?

57

Your defense is coming up... How do you prepare for it?

Think about the pre-defense !



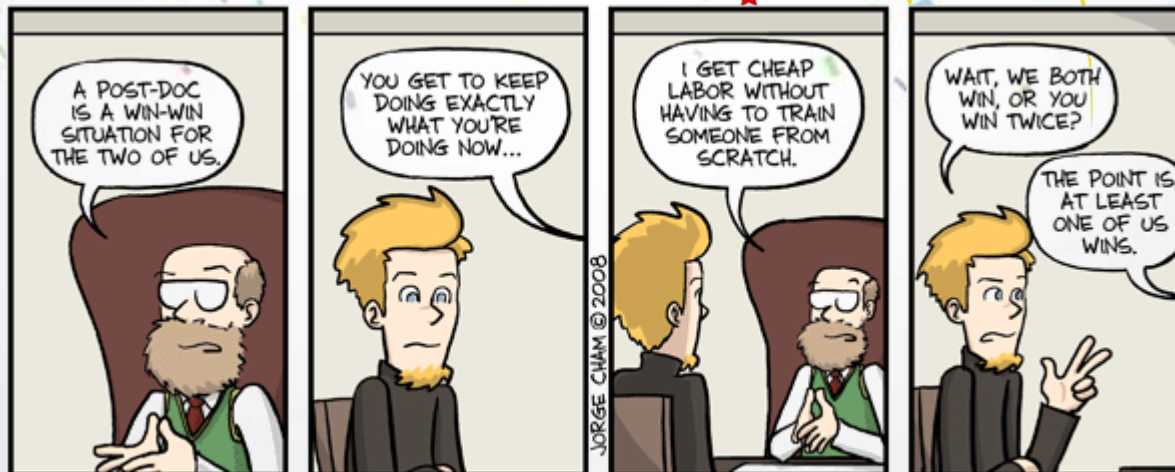
58

Your public
defense is
tomorrow...
How are you
feeling ?



59

YES ! You have won...
You've defended your thesis!
And now, what do you do?



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PhD Game



Fanny Boraita

Maxime Gobert

Boris Cherry

Maxime André

Faculty of Computer Science

University of Namur

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