

Column: London

It's the least wonderful time of the year...

People are grumpy, no one comes out of their rooms anymore (I have almost forgotten what London looks like except for the road to Sainsbury's), the only time I see my roommates lately is when I go into the kitchen late at night or early in the morning to get some coffee to stay awake while they are doing the same thing. The recycling bin is no longer filled with Foster's and Carling cans because they have been replaced by empty Red Bull cans. This can only mean one thing: it's exam time!

This is the time when everyone is asking themselves why they decided to go to university and not just take up an easy job somewhere in a pub or supermarket where you have no worries about deadlines for essays and dissertations and no all-nighters to study for that important exam you have the next day at ten in the morning.

The only reason I am writing this now is because I just don't want to think about subordination, coordination, illocutionary forces and what not anymore.

Two more days, and it's all over! That is what keeps me going. I can hardly believe my year at UCL is over already. It feels like yesterday that I walked onto the main squad surrounded by people that I had never seen in my life, but were to become some of my closest friends.

It has been an amazing year and I cannot imagine not living here in London. I have not once felt home sick; except for when I came

back to Rotterdam for the first time and I longed to go back to London. I almost feel more like a Londoner than a "Rotterdammer". I even get to vote for the new mayor on 1 May! I have no clue who to vote for, but just the fact that I can makes me feel accepted as a citizen of London.

So, no more thinking about exams after this week, but then the next concern will be:

What the hell am I going to do with the rest of my life!? Even though we all complain about how hard our lives as students are, it is really not that bad. You do your course work, do a few exams every now and then, enjoy nights out with your friends, you get your money from the IB Groep every month, sounds pretty good to me! After you do your exams all you can think about is sweet freedom! Well, think again! The next thing I will be doing is looking for a job and a house I can afford in expensive London. Maybe someday I will do another

degree and enjoy another year of procrastination and living off other people's money. But before that I will enjoy some time off in the summer! Oh and in between enjoying picnics in the park, trips to Wales and just doing absolutely nothing I also have a dissertation to write...

Good luck on all your upcoming exams, just think about the moment you will finish your last one!

Love,
Lesley

