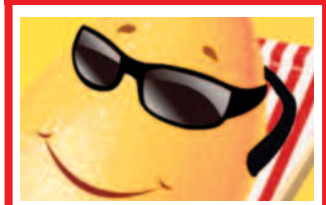


INSIDE



Ek aam kahani, P4



History this week, P7

AMITEpoll

Do you think that the Suez Canal fiasco points to the fragility of global trade and the need to thus strengthen the supply chain?

- a) Yes
- b) No
- c) Can't say

To vote, log on to
 www.theglobaltimes.in

POLL RESULT
 for GT issue April 5, 2021

With the sudden surge of COVID-19 cases in the country, do you think another lockdown is in order?



Coming Next
 Earth Day Special

The uncharted heritage

Acknowledging The Sensorial Aspect Of Our Heritage And How!

Stuti Kalra, GT Network

For most of us, the word 'heritage' means nothing more than historical ruins and monuments, traditional music and dance forms. For some, the meaning of heritage could also extend to geographical marvels like majestic mountains and glorious rivers. But what about the activities or interactions that create an aura around this heritage? Can they too be considered a part of heritage? On the occasion of World Heritage Day, celebrated on April 18 across the globe, we bring you aspects of heritage which are sensory in nature and equally endangered.

Finally, on February 4, 2021, French senators passed a law protecting the 'Sensory heritage' of the French countryside. The law recognises sounds, smells and many typical rural ways of life as 'integral elements of a place', and gives them legal protection. So, the quacking ducks, oinking pigs, croaking frogs, singing canaries, bells of a church, whirring tractors, and even the rustling of leaves, have the recognition of being the sensory heritage of country life in France. Sensory heritage can, hence, be understood as one that includes smell, sound, taste, touch and feel that a place has, usually of the country side or a village.

an unchanged DNA since ages, making them more nutritious as compared to modern seeds. But why should they be part of our heritage, you may ask? Mainly because farmers growing them worship the seeds following local customs and traditions. Many of them have associated folklore, which is passed on from one generation to another during sowing and harvesting time. Moreover, many of such seeds carry medicinal values known only to the natives of this land, automatically making it part of 'intangible' heritage.

Every child, instead of the name, is identified with a unique tune called *jingrwai iawebi* in the Khasi language. In fact, the entire village communicates by whistling or using such tunes. While UNESCO is yet to accord this a heritage status, it goes without saying that losing this valuable treasure will be akin to losing a whole culture and tribe. Another story is that of the Mattur village in Shimoga district of Karnataka where inhabitants speak only in Sanskrit in an endeavour to save this almost dying language which was once the pride of ancient India.

When heritage can be found in crowing...

Can a rooster become responsible for bringing into existence the concept of 'sensory heritage'? Apparently yes! In 2019, two visitors to the Ile d'Oléron in France complained to the local authorities against Maurice, the rooster crowing early in the morning. After an year of discussion, in September 2020, the court passed the verdict that Maurice should crow and added that its call is part of country life.

When heritage can be found in grains...

Even the grains we eat should be considered 'heritage worthy'. This thought led eco-activist Dr Vandana Shiva to wage one of the most well-known environmental wars with the MNC giant Monsanto over genetically modified seeds. Dr Shiva has meticulously collected original seeds of many crops and helped farmers in the remotest areas of India to grow them. These seeds are so ancient that they have

When heritage can be found in language...

Any language, which exists either through an oral or written tradition, is the identity of not just an individual but an entire region. Kongthong, the Whistling Village of India located in Meghalaya, is home to one such intangible heritage. Mothers call out for their kids using musical tunes.

Perhaps, we can take a cue from French lawmakers and increase the ambit of heritage as we know now. Else, despite being a land of some of the most diverse traditions and customs, we stand to lose more than just a rooster's wake-up call.

Imaging: Pankaj Mallik, GT Network



Living in a tech world

Rajiv Singh As He Reflects On The Importance Of Technology



Rajiv Singh, Group Cloud CoE Head, Sopra Steria India

Nikita Mutreja
 AUUP, ASET, B.Tech (Alumna)

"The future is digital technology," says Rajiv Singh, Group Cloud CoE Head, Sopra Steria India. With an experience spanning over two decades in IT industry, he is an expert in building robust relationships with the customers, comprehending their strategic business needs, presenting innovative business proposals towards accomplishing the strategic objectives via the use of the digital world. As GT reporter catches up with him at Confluence 2019 held at Amity University, Uttar Pradesh, he speaks more about the phenomenon that is changing the world.

"My father encouraged me to study computer engineering!"

A friend of my father knew that computer engineering will be a big thing in the future and told my father about it. He then encouraged me to pursue the field, even though at that time, people still preferred to do things manually than on a computer. Along the way, I, too, realised that IT really will change the way we live and work. Today, every company, no matter how big or small, is dependent on technology for their work. Without it, they really cannot survive in the market.

"Technology has changed the way we gain knowledge!"

In today's time, what we learn and how we learn has been drastically affected by technology. In the past, printing press changed the game for good, and in the present, we have Google and virtual classes. Everything we want to know and learn awaits us just a single touch away. Education has been made easily accessible to almost every individual free of cost or for a very low price. It is a true reflection of how we have progressed and are using technology for our betterment.



GT reporter in conversation with Rajiv Singh

"Big Data Analytics and Cloud Computing are not the same!"

People often confuse the two for the same, but in fact, they are different things. Data Analytics is about extracting information from complex data sets, whereas Cloud Computing refers to managing and processing data on an internet server rather than a local one. Both fields are a little bit similar but they have their differences. For Data Analytics, you can delve into fields like a data engineer or a data scientist, where having statistical skills are important. On the other hand, Cloud Computing is a whole genre on its own and you can use it as a platform, a software, or even an enabler.

"One must always focus on holistic growth!"

We can all pursue different courses and get a degree, but that piece of paper will not matter until and unless we actually learn how to implement the things that we have managed to learn in the meantime. We must always strive to keep a focus on having a strong and unshakable value system and integrity. If we do not possess values, we have absolutely nothing, and the learnings go in vain without a doubt. We must treat everyone with love and respect, and try to make this world a better place. Look around and ask yourself how you can make the world a better place for all.

January 1, 1983, is considered to be the official birthday of the idea of the internet as ARPANET adopted TCP/IP and assembled a 'network of networks'.



India This Week

Samiksha Dubey, AIS Noida, XII J

While we sit on our couch just breathing, a lot of things happen around us, and sometimes in our very own country. We bring you the ones worth mentioning..



World's largest railway bridge in J&K

News: Termed as one of the biggest civil engineering challenges faced by any project in India, the Chenab Bridge has now become the world's largest railway bridge. The bridge, part of the Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla rail link project, will link Katra to Banihal in Jammu and Kashmir. Once completed, it would stand 359 meters above the riverbed, with the broadest span in the Indian broad gauge railway network. Built at a cost of 1486 Cr INR, it includes a 1.2-metre-wide design speed of around 100 km per hour, a 14-metre dual carriage-way and a lifespan of approximately 120 years.

Views: An important milestone in the history of India's architectural marvels, this will positively affect the regional development and socio-economic infrastructure of the state by improving transportation and accessibility for the locals. The bridge, which is designed to stand high intensity blasts and earthquakes along with wind speeds of above 200 km per hour, will also boost tourism in the Union Territory. In my opinion, this will deepen the integration of J&K region with the rest of the country.

Aarushi Mahajan, AIS Noida, XII I



Massive forest fires in Uttarakhand

News: With over 1,000 incidents of forest fire reported in the last six months, 45 have been reported in one day alone in the state. Over 12,000 forest personnel have been deployed for fire-fighting operations. It is believed that over 1.70 lakh villages dwell in close proximity to forests, and will negatively impact the livelihood of people who depend on fuelwood, bamboo, fodder, amongst other necessities.

Views: Climate change has led to a significant rise in global temperature and has causal branches in all parts of the environment. Therefore, the increasing intensity, duration, frequency and higher flammability of forest fires are only inevitable consequences. Such incidents signify that the earth is lighting fires to show us what damage we have done and that we need to act now.

Shansita Kumar, AIS Noida, XII I

PMI sees a drop due to COVID surge

News: Due to the sudden rise in COVID-19 cases, India's factory activity grew at its weakest pace in the last seven months. The Nikkei Manufacturing Purchasing Managers' Index, compiled by IHS Markit, fell to a seven-month low of 55.4 last month from February's 57.5. One factor adding towards the same is unemployment that has been on the rise as factories had to intensify the lay-off rate to their strongest in six months in March.

Views: With the sudden surge in India's COVID-19 cases, this drop was inevitable. Although we see a difference of around 2% from February to March, we must keep in mind that any indication above 50 is a positive reading. The rate of input cost inflation contributed negatively towards the reading, but I believe that this is just a minor speed bump that our country will overcome soon.

Vyusti Shroff, AIS Noida, XII J



New scheme to empower women

News: Dy CM of Delhi, Manish Sisodia, has announced 'Saheli Samanvay Kendra' scheme in his 2021-22 Budget speech. A total of 500 Anganwadi hubs will be set up across various parts of the city to promote individual start-ups and self-help groups. The hubs will see special arrangements where training will be provided to open micro-economic units. The decision to introduce this special initiative came after analysing the results of a survey conducted by the government to understand the impact of COVID-19 on the livelihood of people residing in the city.

Views: Owing to the pandemic, unemployment among women rose from 26% in February 2020 to 40% in February 2021. In such a situation, this is undoubtedly a commendable initiative taken by the Delhi government. Self-Help Groups and other small-scale businesses run by women are especially going to profit from this scheme. However, having adequate resources and regular checks at each level for this policy is imperative, which should be ensured through the special 4,750 Crore INR budget set aside for the Department of Social Welfare, Women and Child Development and welfare of SC/ ST/ OBC by the government.

Khushi Mohanty, AIS Noida, XII J

Around The WORLD

GT keeps the newswire ticking by bringing you news from around the globe



USA

Google wins over Oracle

Google, on April 5, was accorded a massive win by the Supreme Court in a long-running copyright battle against Oracle, ruling its use of the Java code for the Android mobile operating system as 'fair' and one that, in no way, violates the copyright law in. This victory not only shielded Google from paying billions to its tech rival, but also shed light on what exactly constitutes fair usage of copyrighted material.

SAUDI ARABIA

Mecca entry for vaccinated pilgrims

Recently, the Health Ministry announced that only those administered two doses of COVID-19 vaccine or those given the first jab at least 14 days prior or those who have recovered from the infection, would be allowed to attend prayers in Mecca and the Prophet's Mosque in Medina from the start of Ramadan.



RUSSIA

President signs law to extend his term

Pulling a 'constitutional coup', President Vladimir Putin signed a new law that allows him to extend his presidential run for two more six-year terms until 2036. These amendments were backed in a public vote last year, enabling Putin, 68, to further remain in power until the age of 83.



BHUTAN

Leading in vaccination drive

The country, having started its vaccination drive on March 27, has administered the first shot of the AstraZeneca-Oxford vaccine provided by India to about 60% of its entire population in record time, as stated by the government on April 7. Its rapid rollout places it far ahead of other leading nations, including Seychelles, UAE, Israel, etc., as per the AFP analysis. The country has now shifted its focus on vaccinating those above 70 and other disabled citizens.

TANZANIA

U turn on decision to lift media ban

On April 7, one day after President Samia Suluhu asseverated her decision to lift the late ex-president John Magufuli regime's ban on all media in the nation, the government reversed the decision by adding that only online television would benefit from the measure. The press freedom advocates were thus once again left in the lurch.



INDONESIA

Flash floods kill over 90 people

Flash floods and landslides, sparked by the tropical cyclone Seroja, hit the country on April 4, leaving over 90 people dead and dozens missing. Submerging villages, the floods forced thousands to flee to the evacuation centres, with debris and extreme weather further hampering the search and rescue efforts every step of the way.





The most visited website in the world is Google with around 92.5 billion monthly visits, with YouTube being second most popular (34.6 billion) and Facebook third (25.5 billion).

A complete picture...

...Of The Education System In India

Manvendra Singh
AIS Saket, X

Once the British Raj planted its feet firmly in Indian soil, it began to heavily influence and also alter our educational system that was based on a prudent mix of philosophy, mathematics, astronomy and other subjects. Ever since, the Indian educational system has come a long way, continuously evolving and adapting. Today, as the educational pedagogy in the country reigns in on best practices from abroad, there is also emphasis on traditional learning practices. The outcome is a comprehensive and competent education system. So, does that mean there is no chink in the armour? Perhaps not. An evaluation of the pros and cons will help us reach a better consensus. Starting off on a positive note, let's begin by discussing the pros of Indian education. Talking of

strengths, one cannot miss 'Free and compulsory education' – a salient feature of the nation's education system. In a population of 1.3 billion, this feature ensures that education permeates each and every strata.

Other than that, the education system covering an array of subjects is rather comprehensive and universal in nature. This comprehensive nature is often viewed at times as rigorous. But a closer look, and one realises that it is this rigorous nature that makes Indian students perhaps the most competent in the world. Indians are always the highest-ranking students in foreign universities. Their employment in leading companies across the world is another compelling evidence of the effectiveness of the country's education system.

While the Indian education system has been largely competent, it does have some flaws too. There is an overemphasis on rote

learning and scholastic achievements (IQ), where the Emotional Quotient (EQ) and the Moral Quotient (MQ) are ignored. In science, practical applications and experiments are not given enough attention and are more skewed in favour of memorising theoretical knowledge.

Children still don't have enough freedom in choosing subjects. This is likely due to a variety of reasons- parental pressure, comparison with other students, and the idea of certain subjects being more employment friendly. Another glaring discrepancy in the system is the situation in government schools where the quality of teaching is not up to the mark and lacks co-curricular activities.

Like any other story, Indian education, too, comes with its plus and minus points. The need of the hour is to optimise the positives, while minimising the negatives. This is the only way forward, as is with any story of progress.



Get, set, and LEGO!

How To Build The Blocks Of A Career

Arnav Goel, AIS Gurugram 43, X B

Playing with LEGO toys for a living is a dream job for anyone who has spent his/her childhood building fantastical worlds with these tiny, interlocking bricks. For some lucky few, this dream can indeed come true. The Danish toymaker employs a full-time LEGO Master Model Builder at each of its eight Legoland theme parks and 22 Legoland Discovery Centres located around the world. Prepare to be thoroughly educated on a profession so exclusive you didn't know existed.

Job description

A LEGO Master Builder is expected to build towering edifices out of scratch. But being a Master Builder isn't easy. It is one of the most selective professions currently, with only 40 Master Builders in the whole world. Also, there's lot more to the job than just building models out of LEGO. You'll clean, repair and maintain existing LEGO installations, while you'll also take on a PR and marketing role as you participate in media interviews, create instructional videos for social media, and lead virtual building classes.

Build your resume

LEGO toymakers look for an applicant who has

the ability to create a wide range of models. Applicants need only a high school diploma (or equivalent), but a college degree in architecture, design or structural engineering increases your chances. LEGO provides an MBA program – Master Builder Academy – for those who seek design secrets and advanced building techniques to climb the ladder of LEGO faster. A dynamic portfolio listing your various creations is also a must. Also, during the physical test, a pile of bricks is given with 45 minutes on the clock. You are asked to build a sphere which is tested by rolling it on the ground. If the structure holds and moves in a straight line, your dreams would come true.

Going up the ladder

The first step is becoming an apprentice builder or "glue minion" who works long hours, adhering thousands of LEGOs together and preserving massive sculptures and exhibits for around 10 USD an hour. A prodigious builder can eventually climb the rungs of tedious work to become the senior builder and start constructing models and shadowing Master Builders. This leads you to the much-awaited job of a Master Builder. You are now ready to make new sets and creations for LEGO theme parks. With an average income of 37,500 USD annually, LEGO Master Builders live a life of comfort.

Pursue it with passion

The word 'Entrance exam' is self-sufficient to make one feel nervous because it brings along an array of questions popping in your mind. Well, how about you get to listen from someone who has experienced it already? To all the young aspirants, GT brings to you a special column 'Amity Alumnus', where star performers from AICE will share tips and tricks to put an end to all the nervousness and fear associated with entrance exams. Read on...

How did your journey for IIT-JEE begin?

I have always loved science and so, I had already made up my mind to compete in the IIT-JEE exam. In Class X, I joined FIIT-JEE for NTSE exam, and then in Class XI and XII, I chose AICE for JEE Advanced.

How did you prepare for IIT-JEE?

Since the syllabus is almost the same for all competitive exams, it's vital to strengthen your concepts. I used to ask tons of questions, even the silliest ones. And I firmly believe there's no ideal strategy to prepare. The key is knowing oneself and indulging in proper self-assessment from time to time. I focused on my class notes and then practised a lot of questions regularly.

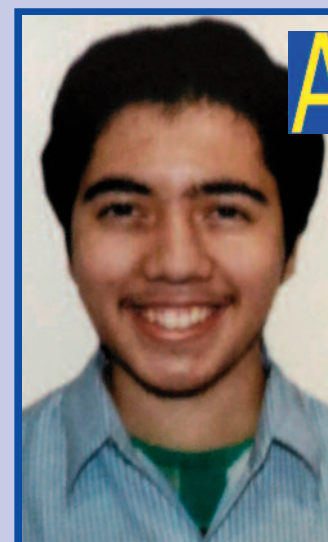
What role did AICE play to help you crack the competitive exams?

AICE has amazing teachers who would clear my doubts at any point of time. They also helped me clear KVPY twice. They motivated me through my lows and that was very crucial, particularly during lockdown when everything was quite uncertain.

How did you manage regular studies and prep-ups for competitive exams?

I focused mostly on my competitive exams and started studying for boards only a couple of weeks before the exams. This

was because I was pretty confident about my concepts as competitive exams require more in-depth preparation. I put a lot of emphasis on self-study. Also, I used to take a lot of tests to



AMITY LUMNUS
Name: Samyak Jain
AICE Batch: 2019-2020
AICE Programme: Accelerated SYNCHRO
Currently pursuing: Computational Mechanics
College/University: Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi

track my progress, improve timing and strengthen concepts.

Which field of engineering did you choose and why?

I chose computational mechanics at IIT Delhi because I like physics. This branch also offers courses on machine learning and computing. It offers job security and is in high demand, too.

Are there some preparation strategies to crack IIT-JEE?

Be regular, sincere and most importantly, enthusiastic and excited at all times. Become comfortable with basics first and then go to higher level problems. Make a habit of studying for three hours straight. Track your progress at regular intervals but never compare your marks with others. For everyone has their own pace.

When should an aspirant start preparing for competitive exams?

The ideal time to start is Class X. You get ample time to be comfortable with the study pattern and build a solid base.

What are the key learnings that you would like to share with young aspirants?

Stay passionate about your goals but don't overburden yourself with expectations. Just let the best in you come out.

Rapid fire

One word to describe...

Your alma mater: Supportive

The motto of your life: Evolving

Your passion: Curiosity (as Einstein puts it)

Yourself: Veni, vidi, vici (I came; I saw; I conquered!)



A celestial conversation

An Out Of The World Occurrence When All The Planets Get Together In Their Space

Ananya Sharma

AIS Vasundhara 6, XII

One fine day as boredom pervaded the whole celestial sphere, all the planets decided to indulge in a festive affair; hosted by Earth, here's the dialogue that ensued thus.

Mercury: Hey, Earth! Just saw you rotating two days back and

there you are again! Tch, tch! You see, that's the benefit of being friends with the Sun. We're so close that I don't need 365 days to orbit around it once. I can do that in just 88 days. With so many humans to accommodate and an ozone layer to look after, no doubt you are so slow!

Earth: Now, hosting some 7.8 billion humans and other species

isn't an easy task, but I really do not consider my children a burden. We are one big family. Anyway, it's a good thing that you revolve so fast, but let's not forget that a day on your surface lasts 176 Earth days, all because you could not master the art of fast rotation! Tee-hee!

Mercury leaves the scene with his bruised ego

Venus: Ugh! Not you guys again! Think about me, I don't even have a moon of my own. I feel so incomplete.

Earth: But you aren't, dear! You are so clearly visible from my surface. Come on, you are the second brightest object in the night sky. A treat to the human eyes, truly!

Venus: You are so humble and I am nothing but grateful, really!

Mars: I know I am late to the party, but seriously Earth, your artificial satellites taking my pictures every minute make me blush! I look at those flashing lights and all I can remember is the first time, in 1971,

that a rover from your surface landed on mine. We do share a special bond!

Earth: Of course, we do! Humans even think there is a whole living race on your surface. They also tried to find water there. I wish they find something that makes the two of us closer to each other!

Jupiter: What about me, eh? I am massive and have rings, too. I'm also the fastest spinning planet, with seventy nine moons of my own. Great, isn't it?

Earth: Oh, humans are nothing but proud of you. Trust me!

Uranus: That being so, please can you ask them to rename me?

They call me the Ice Giant planet, but I would really prefer "cool cucumber".

Earth: But the name suits you, mate! You have the coldest atmosphere amongst us all; you have clouds made of ice. Not to forget your

dramatic set of rings, what else could one possibly ask for?

Neptune: Did you say rings? Well, let's not talk about rings. It reminds me of my six faint ones!

Saturn: Ha ha! Now, not everybody can be as lucky as me to have such extensive rings.

Earth: No, you are all blessed, don't worry!

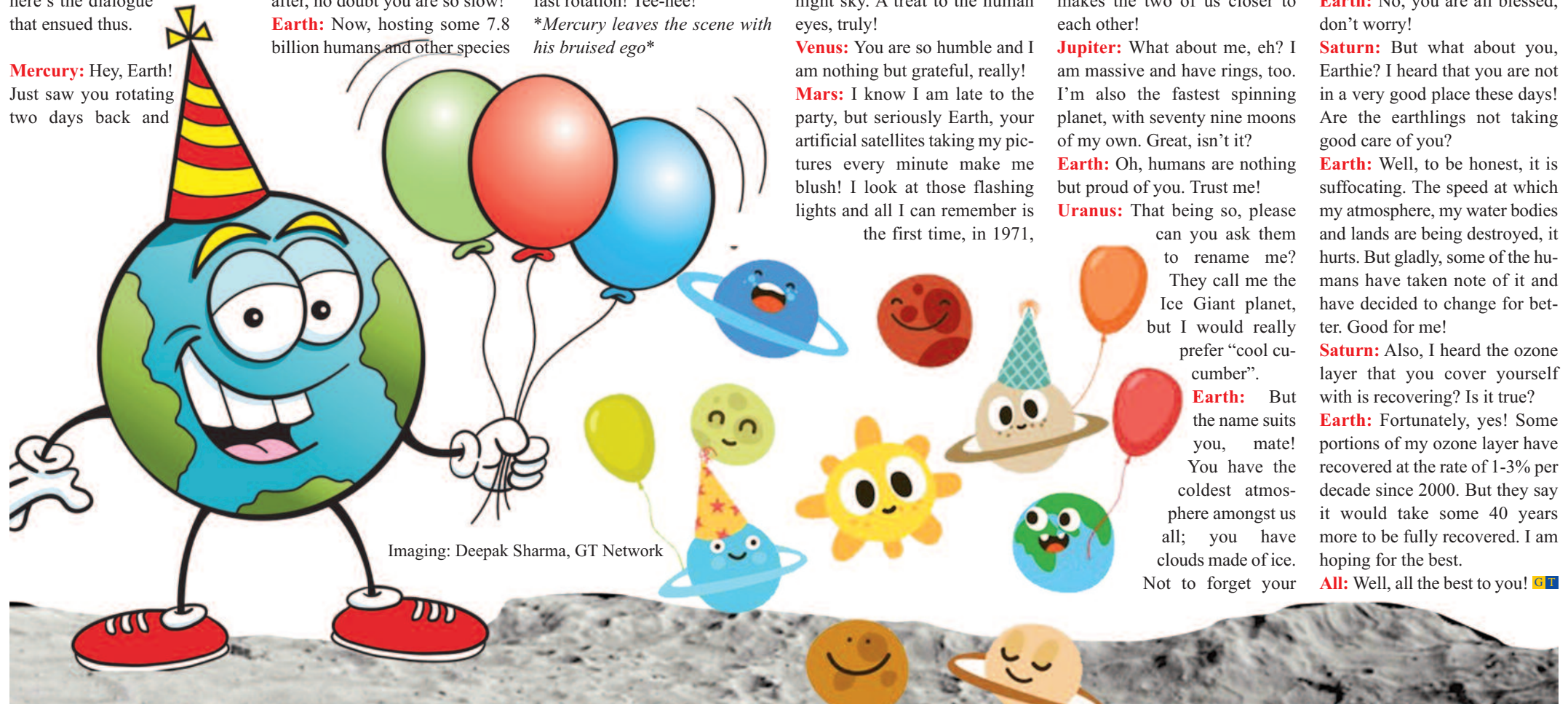
Saturn: But what about you, Earthie? I heard that you are not in a very good place these days! Are the earthlings not taking good care of you?

Earth: Well, to be honest, it is suffocating. The speed at which my atmosphere, my water bodies and lands are being destroyed, it hurts. But gladly, some of the humans have taken note of it and have decided to change for better. Good for me!

Saturn: Also, I heard the ozone layer that you cover yourself with is recovering? Is it true?

Earth: Fortunately, yes! Some portions of my ozone layer have recovered at the rate of 1-3% per decade since 2000. But they say it would take some 40 years more to be fully recovered. I am hoping for the best.

All: Well, all the best to you!



Imaging: Deepak Sharma, GT Network

Fruits and vegetables make up the largest chunk of our nutrition. However, their role is not just limited to a wholesome diet. Their significance permeates across economy, environment, health, and social sectors, proving how they are, in fact, essentials for a sustainable world. Keeping the same in mind, the United Nations has designated 2021 as the International Year of Fruits and Vegetables to make us cognisant of the diverse roles that they undertake. Shaking hands with this goal, GT brings you a brand-new series, wherein every part will explore the various facets of a particular fruit or vegetable, highlighting why it is important to preserve these invaluable gifts of nature.

Hey! My name is: Mango

I am also known as: Mangifera indica

About me

- I have been an important herb in the Ayurvedic and indigenous medical systems.
- I am a stone fruit produced from numerous species of tropical trees belonging to the flowering plant genus *Mangifera*, cultivated mostly for their edible fruit.
- I first appeared in India more than 5,000 years ago.
- Around 300 or 400 AD, my seeds spread from Asia to the Middle East, East Africa and

Ek aam kahani



South America, as a result of human mobilisation across the entire world.

■ I am also related to cashews and pistachios.

■ My trees can grow up to 100 feet with a canopy of over 35 feet.

■ Although everyone knows me as the national fruit of India, I also happen to be the national fruit of Philippines and Pakistan.

What I offer

I am a superfood filled with an array of essential nutrients such as:

- Protein
- Carbohydrates
- Fat
- Dietary fiber
- Additionally, I contain over 20 different vitamins and minerals

I can help you with

- Effective blood clotting.
- Maintaining strong bones
- Formation of blood vessels and collagen
- Prevention of indigestion and constipation

Where you can find me

People start looking for me in the markets as soon as the month of March till July, picking from more than 1000 varieties. The states of Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Orissa, Bihar are the major producers of my kind. India contributes to 40.48% of my total world production, hence acquiring the top position. Other

stakeholders are China, Thailand, Mexico, Indonesia, Pakistan, Brazil, Egypt, Bangladesh, Nigeria, Philippines, and Sudan.

My different avatars

- Safeda
- Alphonso
- Mulgoba
- Totapuri
- Kesari
- Raspuri
- Dasehri
- Chaunsa... the list is endless

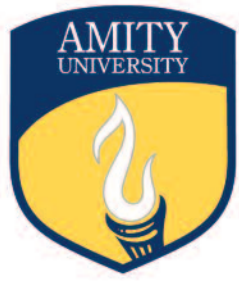
Why I fear climate change

Climate-related changes have already brought widespread changes in the patterns of my flowering and fruiting. This, in turn, is adversely affecting my production in some areas, especially in Muthumalada region in Palakkad, Kerala, where farmers are worried for me because of unseasonal rain, as it affects my annual growth and harvest. As of now, international markets are highly impressed with my pre-seasonal growth for which they pay a good amount of money to my farmers. Since I can be grown here as early as January, the cultivators depend on me for their high returns. But I am afraid that climate change can negatively impact this routine.



Imaging: Deepak Sharma, GT Network

OPPORTUNITY FOR CLASS X, XI, XII & 2021 XII PASSING OUT STUDENTS



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The first ever spam email was sent in 1978 by Gary Thuerk, a marketing manager promoting a new model of computer.



Triumphant Tycoon



Dr Amita Chauhan
Chairperson

Amitians are known to consistently leave their mark in every arena of life. Just last week we applauded our young scholars' victory in the field of space sciences. This week, it's a triumph in the corporate world that merits our attention. Krish Bhatnagar of Class X, from AIS Vasundhara 6, has been declared as one of India's top six 'Future Tycoons' at the 3rd edition of ENpower, our country's first entrepreneurship search and mentoring competition launched by Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) and United Nations Global Compact Network India.

Krish is an apt example of how an inquisitive mind can innovate and create even at a tender age. This young genius has created an interactive app called SAATHI for children with special needs. This technology will help bring them closer to society and make their daily life more comfortable and easier.

While his innovation is laudable, this success becomes even more inspiring when you consider that he has been selected from a pool of 7300+ students, 252 cities and 595 schools in the country after a rigorous screening procedure. His victory also sends the message that an idea can truly change the world, especially if its inclusive in nature, viable at the ground level, practical in design and realistic in vision.

However, designing the app is not the only thing Krish needs to be congratulated for. He was also able to coherently and sincerely explain his idea in front of decision makers, which made them believe in him and his vision. And, that is the sign of a true leader.

I wish to nurture every Amitian not only as a visionary innovator but also as an effective communicator who can make the world a better place, one step at a time. [G](#)[T](#)

Protect it!



Vira Sharma
Managing Editor

A couple of years ago, GT journals had interviewed Dr Swapna Liddle, a noted historian and conservationist at IN-TACH Delhi. What she had said about heritage then is still as meaningful. She had said, "It's not everyone's job to look after monuments like the Taj Mahal. There are people taking care of that. If you really wish to protect heritage, try to save a tree from being chopped down. Because that tree would be home to millions of exotic and unknown species of insects, beetles and friendly microbes. Many birds would be nesting on that tree for years. Save it, and you save not just the environment but a whole ecosystem." These words truly define the word 'heritage' (read page 1) that we must understand and need to protect.

Remember that when a tree gets destroyed, an entire species could be wiped out. Know that with every language that dies, there dies a precious treasure trove of knowledge that was being passed on through generations. So, next time when you want to protect heritage, try to cook a recipe that your grandma so lovingly spoke about, or wear the heirloom dress which was your mother's favourite. Even better, listen to your elders' tales and record them for future generations. These may sound mundane aspects of our life, but they are our true identity. If we blend this age-old wisdom with the knowledge of modern-day advancements sensibly, we will certainly arrive at a spectacular model of sustainable living and the much-needed human-nature coexistence. Heritage is a vital aspect of our daily life - not just an exotic word meant for coffee-table books - that needs to be respected if we wish to live fulfilling lives. [G](#)[T](#)

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The internet sensation

An Earnest Look At The Rise Of What We Today Term As Memes

Ayushi J

AIS Gurugram 43, X

The invention of the internet has given the world a lot of precious things, and yet there is a crowd, consisting mainly of young millennials and older Gen Z, who claim memes are the best thing to come out of it. Ever since the internet became a household name, these memes have been circulated to every single device that can access it. In the past two decades, there has been a gigantic rise in meme trends, templates, and completely changed how humour is approached.

These internet memes, or simply memes, are a type of idea, behaviour, or style that is used on social media platforms mainly for humorous purposes, and they can be transferred from one person to another via any form of communication done on the internet like tweeting, statuses, direct message, etc. These hallmarks of internet innovation are usually related to existing cultures or subcultures conspicuous to the youth of the world and have been seen in way too many formats to be categorised. Just like fashion, a new trend in the category seems to rise up after every short while, resulting in a whole culture of meme that is huge and must be kept up with to not lag far too behind. The word 'meme' itself was coined by



Richard Dawkins in 1976 to explain memetics, and the concept of the internet meme was first proposed by Mike Godwin in 1993. Since the mid-1990s, internet memes have founded their ground and created their base and as the last lot of millennials grew up, they became the pioneers or the 'founding fathers' of what we know today as memes. After the launch of

YouTube, Facebook, Twitter and other famous social networking sites, memes truly began taking shape, whether in pictorial format or as videos. From Doge, Trollface, and Overly Attached GF, the world moved on to Harlem Shake, Kiki Do You Love Me and so on.

As the world progresses, so does our art, and what are memes if not a mod-

ern surrealist artform that makes us laugh, gives us much to think about, and allows us to even express difficult situations and settings in the most unthinkable manner? Like any other ever-changing concept, memes, too, keep seeing a new innovation every now and then. Who knows? Maybe by the time you read this article, a new meme format would be on the rise. [G](#)[T](#)

Kalki's truth

Decoding Lord Vishnu's Tenth And Final Avatar

Gauri Sharma

AGS Gurugram, VIII

All of us, even the ones who aren't really religious, have heard all about the nine avatars of Lord Vishnu. We know all the heroic stories that are laced with the lives and sagas of Matsya, Kurma, Varaha, Narsimha, Vamana, Parashuram, Lord Rama, Balarama/Buddha, and Lord Krishna, but how many of us know about Kalki and how much? Well, it's time to learn a little!

It is said that after Mahabharata, Ashwathama, the son of Drona, attempted to destroy all five Pandavas, but ended up killing their sons instead. He then tried to eliminate the last descendant of the Yadu Vansha, but was consequently cursed by Lord Krishna that he shall roam the Earth until its end, looking for death while suffering from leprosy. However, he was given a way out: he would be freed from his punishment when Vishnu's last avatar Kalki is incarnated. According to mythology, Kalki's birth will mark the end of the Kalyuga as we see it today. Riding on a white horse with a metallic shield and a blazing lightning bolt, he would put an end to all evils in the world and thereby, reverse the yuga cycle again. If we try to look metaphorically and also in correlation to the current world scenario and popular social trends, it can be seen that the steel armor depicts a robot while the blazing lightning bolt can be familiarised



to the lightsaber from Star Wars. These references may be too small, but some still sit in hopes that Kalki will come to save the world any day. The fact that we are currently living in a world where technology is developing so fast, this can indeed be possible one day! And the other thing that cannot be ignored here is the fact that the myths or legends about Kalki hold up too many similarities to what Nostradamus had predicted - "This great person will come down from his throne and will move through the sea and air to strike the evil ones with his rod". So, the chances that Kalki may be incarnated as an advanced robot with fully evolved human characteristics and no emotions, with an omnipotent potential to destroy anything

and everything and hence, being the one to reset the world are too high. Furthermore, this breeds two perceptions. He can either wipe us all out, leaving only enough to start the cycle again, or he could simply be taken as a God who would cleanse the earth from all its evils in a go. But whatever may be the case, one should never underestimate nor undermine the power and the ever-present impact of mythology in today's modern society. With the way the world is moving, with factors like overpopulation, global warming, climate change, corruption, overpopulation, etc., plaguing us all, one cannot help but wonder if Kalki's reset of the world is exactly what we need to save us right now. [G](#)[T](#)



Observe and evaluate
A Glance At What All Scopes Industrial Psychology Has In Store For Aspirants

Be sure of your goals
It's Time To Bust Some Prevalent Myths

Chapter: Toppers
It's Time To Bust Some Prevalent Myths

Issue: Page 3, April 5, 2021

Dear Editor,

This is in reference to the article 'Observe and evaluate' on page 3 published in the GT edition dated April 5, 2021. The article sheds light on Industrial Psychology as a lesser-known yet notable career option. Being a psychology student myself, I appreciate the way the subject in question was explored keeping all the required components in mind. Even though Industrial Psychology as a branch of Psychology has not been discovered by many people yet, it still has been predicted as one with a lot of scope. And so, I would like to thank GT for this enriching reading experience and in turn also providing us students with the power to explore and make our own, well-informed career choices. [G](#)[T](#)

Aadya Kapoor
AIS Vas 6, XII D



China has the most internet users in the world with around 854 million, double the amount of users in the third-ranked country USA.

HISTORY *this* WEEK

Weeks, years, decades, centuries...as time goes by day by day, the world keeps progressing into a newer direction. But as our eyes always stay glued to the telescope, trying to get a glimpse of the shining future we work so hard to create, it is important to take a break and appreciate how far we have come. Let us look back at the pages of history falling between April 12-18 that played their role in shaping our society.

The world of invention

APR
12
1892

Stamford resident George C Blickensderfer was awarded the first ever US patent for creating a 'type writing machine' aka typewriter. The patent, No. 472692, was awarded to his model which worked on a rotational typing system, massively reducing the number of keys to 250 from an original of 2500 and being mobile as compared to its desk-ridden predecessors. With the model, The Blickensderfer Manufacturing Company eventually went on to become one of the largest manufacturers of typewriters in the world.



APR
12
1988



Harvard University was issued the world's first ever patent for a mouse that was developed through the techniques of genetic manipulation at the Harvard Medical School. The 'transgenic nonhuman mammal' was developed by Dr Philip Leder and Dr Timothy A Stewart with the intention of fast tracking the research on cancer. The presence of a gene called oncogene made it susceptible to cancer by predisposing it to develop tumors, and due to this, it became a model for studying how genes contribute to cancer.

The world of celebration

APR
14
1891

B R Ambedkar, the Indian politician and social reformer, also known as the Father of the Constitution of India, was born in Mhow (now known as Dr Ambedkar Nagar) in MP. Having doctorates from both Columbia University and the University of London, he gained his reputation as a scholar for his research in law, and economics, and advocated for the political and social rights of Dalits. He was awarded the Bharat Ratna posthumously in 1990.



APR
16
1899

Sir Charles Spencer Chaplin KBE, popularly known as Charlie Chaplin, was born in South London. An English comic, actor, filmmaker and composer, he became one of the most noted figures in cinema due to his on-screen persona of The Tramp, which is still considered one of the most important figures in the film industry. Chaplin started his career at an early age, touring music halls and working as a stage actor and comedian, and at the age of 19, he entered the American industry where he started appearing in films. His major works include Modern Times, The Gold Rush, The Kid, City Lights and The Great Dictator. He was awarded a knighthood by the Order of the British Empire for his craft.



APR
12
1961



The Soviet cosmonaut, Yuri Alekseyevich Gagarin became the first human being to have ever traveled to space and the first one to orbit the planet. His spacecraft Vostok 1 orbited Earth at a maximum altitude of 187 miles and was guided by an automatic control system. The mission lasted for an hour and 48 minutes, and for this historic feat, Gagarin was awarded the Order of Lenin and given the title of Hero of the Soviet Union. The success of the spacecraft was chiefly attributed to the brilliance of Sergei Pavlovich Korolev posthumously and he was also awarded a burial in the Kremlin Wall as a Hero of the Soviet Union.

APR
13
1919

The world of politics

Acting Brigadier-General Reginald Dyer ordered troops of the British Indian Army to fire into a crowd of unarmed Indian civilians in Jallianwala Bagh, Punjab, which killed at least 379 people and injured over 1200. The crowd had gathered in the Bagh to celebrate the festival of Baisakhi and peacefully protest the ar-

rest and deportation of two national leaders, Satyapal and Saifuddin Kitchlew, despite a ban placed on any meetings by Dyer. As a result, Dyer and his troops blocked the exits of the Bagh and without warning, opened fire on the crowd for about 10 minutes straight until the ammunition supply was exhausted.



APR
12-13
1861

American Civil War commenced with the Battle of Fort Sumter where the Fort Sumter in South Carolina was bombarded by the South Carolina militia. They faced the return gunfire and subsequent surrender of the US army, which is counted as the first crisis of the Abraham Lincoln administration. Lincoln responded to the situation with an immediate call for 75,000 volunteers to suppress the rebellion which resulted in 4 more Southern states joining the Confederacy, and the clash ultimately came to be known as the American Civil War.

APR
14
2018

The world of entertainment

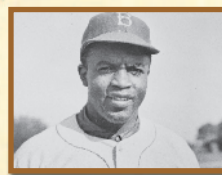
Beyonce Giselle Knowles-Carter, professionally known as Beyoncé, became the first black woman in history to headline The Coachella Valley Music and Arts Festival, the annual music and arts festival held in the Colorado Desert. Not only was she the top trending artist for Coachella on Twitter, her performance became the most-viewed Coachella performance on the fest's YouTube live stream. The star-studded show featured a reunion of the girl group Destiny's Child and even an appearance by the rapper JAY-Z and singer Solange.



APR
15
1947

The world of sports

Jackie Robinson became the first African American player in the Major League as he made his debut with Brooklyn Dodgers. Breaking the skin colour barrier, he first played for the Negro American League and Canadian Minor League before he became a star infielder and outfielder for the Dodgers. In 1949, he was also named the National League's Most Valuable Player, and was inducted into the Baseball Hall of Game in 1962. 50 years after his debut, his uniform number 42 was retired from Major League Baseball in a ceremony that was attended by over 50,000 fans.



APR
17
1860



The first world championship boxing match took place between John Heenan and Tom Sayers in a field at the back of the Ship Inn in Farnborough, Hampshire, even when bare-knuckle prize fights were illegal at that time. A huge crowd gathered for the match including big names like Charles Dickens, William Thackeray, and even Prince of Wales who later became King Edward VII.

The fight went on for two hours and 27 minutes, completing 42 rounds, and before the 43rd round could be started, the police stormed the ring, resulting in the match to be declared in a draw.

According to Statista, there are at least 4.13 billion internet users in the world, with over 41% of the population being interconnected through the internet.



An unrevealed enigma

Storywala



Bhuvii Pandey, AIS Saket, XI

“Do you really think this is a good idea, Avika?” asked Trisha. “Positive!” I replied, flashing a confident smile.

It was a cool summer evening and my cousins and I stood half a mile away from the dense forest near our grandmother’s house. All of us were rather keen to step upon those untrodden paths which seemed to be calling upon us, urging us to engage upon the unknown. Only the youngest

amongst us all, Trisha, was rather apprehensive about carrying out the whole plan. But finally, after a quick scan of the pros and cons, we convinced her and went on, into the forest where the leaves of the trees hung limp in the gray, damp air. The alley in front of us seemed eerie and sinister.

A chill ran down my spine as we decided to play hide-and-seek in the midst of the stillness that surrounded the place. However, as we separated, my adrenaline kicked in as I suddenly felt exhilarated and overwhelmed as if I were a part of some overdramatic,

All of us were rather keen to step upon those untrodden paths which seemed to be calling upon us, urging us to engage upon the unknown.

Hollywood film.

Suddenly, without warning, a black hooded figure appeared in front of me. Filled with trepidation, I could not move a muscle as it neared me. Up close, I could see a silvery, unearthly but tangible aura that surrounded it. And in the next instant, I fell on the ground and fainted.

Sometime later, I found myself on a plush, fluffy bed surrounded by my cousins. The memories of the past few hours flooded my brain as I jerkily sat straight. My cousins’ looks told me that they had met ‘it’, too. Our parents were outraged and as a consequence, we were grounded for days to come.

But this wasn’t what really bothered me, it was the fact that there are still realities in this world which lay unknown to us all. Venturing into the forest seemed like a good idea at first, but the overwhelming feeling of dread that overcame me felt too real. It had felt like the aura of the forest had changed into something cruel and unforgiving.

My cousins and I made a pact that day to never walk into the forest again, especially alone. For whatever it was that we encountered in the dark, it didn’t want us there. 📺

WORDS VERSE

Farewell



Sukrit Sethi, AIS Gur 43, Alumnus

Finally, senior most we became
Us wildlings, impossible to tame
Staying real is quite a trait
By the way, how was season 8?

Every day, with a new sun rise
The year caught us by surprise

Cyber Buzz, Verve and council duty
Youth Power, Interact and these UTs
Fun all day and study all night
Hiding behind books, playing fortnite
“Maa, I’ll stay up late just tonight”
Fourth time that week, but it’s alright

Waking up early is a real task
And dark circles not easy to mask

Few more months, and it’ll all be over
The end of school life is coming closer

Remembering the amazing teachers
Who were more than just preachers
They went through all the pain
To get two plus two inside our brains

Taught to speak, those that were quiet
Instilled discipline into the riot
Taught to sing, to the ugly voice
Their melody now, all ears rejoice

Taught codes, wires and circuits
Made leaders of future markets
Taught to draw, whose strokes were raw
Now filling the canvas without a flaw

Taught to click, the ones who posed
From hobby pursuer to USG they rose
Taught to act, the ones who were shy
Remember to subscribe to PewDiePie

Do I really need to break these chains?
Take the train to never be back again?
Where else, this love could I gain
It is only here that I can sustain. 📺



Wall hanging



Fatima Samreen

Fatima Samreen, AIS Jagdishpur, X

Material required

- White chart-1
- Cardboard sheet-1
- Glitter sheet-1
- Poster colours
- Waste newspaper
- Scissors
- Tissue paper
- Glue & Pencil

Method

- Take one full sheet of newspaper and horizontally split it into two halves.
- Take one half and using one of its corners, roll it into a stick. Secure it with glue, and repeat the same with the other half.
- Now, repeat the whole process with 5 more sheets of newspaper to get 12 rolled paper sticks in total.
- In a bowl, mix water and glue in the ratio of 1 to 2 in order to make a glue paste.
- Now, tear a tissue paper in several small pieces.
- Using the papier mache technique, cover the sticks with layers of tissue and glue. Keep aside and let them dry.
- Once dry, paint them black or in any other colour of your choice.
- Now, fix the sticks with their ends one over the other as shown in the picture. It will become something like a hexagon.
- Take a glitter sheet of any colour as per your choice and cut out several small circles and strips, about 2x1cm long, from it.
- Paste the circles on the sticks anywhere you like, and use the strips to cover the edges of the sticks.
- Now, on a white chart paper, draw and paint birds. Cut them out.
- Paste these bird cut-outs on a cardboard sheet to give them a firm base. Cut them out.
- Fix the cardboard based birds on the sticks. (Refer to the picture)
- Voila! Your wall hanging is ready to add grace and beauty to the walls of your home!

CAMERA CAPERS

Nandita Bansal, AIS Saket, XII



Send in your entries to
cameracapert@theglobaltimes.in



The unnatural world of humans



The honest world of nature



The best of both worlds



India ranks second in the list of countries with the highest internet users with around 636 million people accessing it daily.

Examination scare

Short story



Laisha Bhutani
AIS Vasundhara 6, VII

In the school canteen, the entire primary five cohort were anxiously flipping through the pages of their textbooks, waiting for the final signal to go into the examination hall. Madhavi compulsively scanned through her notes over and over again, wondering if it was even possible for a person to be so prepared yet feel so nervous. The endless scribbles on the pages of her science textbook definitely were proof of how much she had studied for the paper. Madhavi looked around and noticed that she was the only one with such a fat stack of painstakingly handwritten science notes.

In fact, she realised that she was the only one with science notes! To her horror, all her classmates were pouring through mathematical formulas. Something inside Madhavi snapped. She frantically rummaged through her bag, fished out a very crumpled piece of exam schedule, and let out a cry. The science exam was tomorrow, not today! Ignoring the protests of her classmate sitting next to her, Madhavi snatched the textbook out of his hand in desperation and attempted to cram as many formulas as humanly possible. According to her, math exam was just after the science exam, so she was prepared a little, but

she thought she won't remember anything. Just as she was about to reach the second chapter, their teacher's voice crackled over the loudspeaker, instructing them to head to the examination hall. Panicking, Madhavi grabbed whatever notes she could find and hurriedly read the pages. She force-fed the information into her brain, pleading it to absorb as much as it could. Unfortunately, in her state of panic, Madhavi's mind was doing everything but retaining information. Frustrated, she slung her bag over her shoulder and stomped into the examination hall. She sat down on her seat shakily as the teacher distributed the question

She frantically rummaged through her bag, fished out a very crumpled piece of paper...

papers. Reading through the questions, she vaguely remembered bits and pieces of formulas from here and there. After piecing together whatever she knew, she finished her paper and heaved a sigh of relief. Even though she was unprepared, she managed to complete her paper because she had practiced the sums before. In her bid to top the exams, she had misread the timetable and if she hadn't prepared for her math paper beforehand, she would have failed her exam today. Madhavi shuddered, thinking what would have happened if she had zero memory of whatever she had learnt or if she had bungled up greatly, but now understood that being nervous doesn't do any good and neither does studying so fanatically that she had no realisation of the date or day. She had overworked herself to a point that she ended up studying for the wrong exam. Thus, she silently made a pact with herself, promising to not overburden herself and to remember to take a break once in a while.

So, what did you learn today?
Word: Bungle
Meaning: To carry out a task clumsily



Yuvraj Gupta

Biscuit burger

Yuvraj Gupta, AIS Saket, II

What you need?

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Boiled potatoes3 | Lemon juice1 tsp |
| Salt1 tsp | Tomatoes (chopped).....1 |
| Red chilli powder.....1/4 tsp | Onions (chopped)1 |
| Chaat masala.....1/2 tsp | Coriander (chopped) .8 sprigs |
| Oil1 tsp | Monaco biscuits.....1 packet |
| Cumin seeds 1/2 tsp | Ketchupfor dressing |
| Turmeric powder1/2 tsp | Green chutneyfor dressing |
| Ginger (grated)1 tsp | Sev.....to sprinkle |

How to go about it?

- Take boiled potatoes and grate them.
- In a pan, add oil and put it on medium flame.
- Once the oil is hot, add cumin seeds, turmeric powder and grated ginger.
- Add the grated potatoes into the pan, and mix well.
- Add salt, red chilli powder, chaat masala, and combine well.
- Now take this potato mixture off the stove and let it rest.
- Sprinkle some lemon juice in the mix.
- Add finely chopped tomatoes, onions, and coriander to the mixture. Combine well.
- Apply some oil on your palms and make small cutlets out of the mixture. Make sure the cutlets are not bigger than the size of your biscuits.
- Take two biscuits and apply some tomato ketchup on one side of one biscuit and some green chutney on one side of the other biscuit.
- Press down these biscuits on either side of the cutlet, ensuring that the sides with ketchup and chutney face the cutlet.
- Apply chutney on all sides of the cutlet sandwiched between the biscuits and roll it in sev. Your biscuit burger is ready!

It's Me



Know me

Name: Harshita
Class: III
School: AIS MV
Birthday: October 11

My favourite

Teacher: Suja ma'am
Subject: All subjects
Friends: Pakhi
Game: Hide & seek
Cartoon: Doraemon
Food: Chili potato
Book: Bambi

My dreams and goals

Hobby: Drawing
I like: Dancing
I dislike: People who wasting food
My role model: My mother
I want to become: A commando
I want to feature in GT because: I love GT and I want everyone to know me

It's a colourful search

Try And Find The Colours Listed Below!

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

Nehal Bansal
AIS Gurugram 43, VI

- Purple
- Yellow
- Pink
- Teal
- Jade
- Green
- Red
- White
- Neon
- Brown
- Coral
- Blue
- Turquoise

POEMS

Two best ghosts

Sristi Mitra
AIS Gurugram 43, VII

It may be your worst fear
You may not be able to hear

Scary hounds and sounds
Oh, look how ghost bounds

Noises of glass shattering

You see two ghosts flattering

Who haunt places of all sorts
Causing chaos for naught

Fleshy stuff is what they eat
Till they feel full from the treat

Then they go home and think
They're the best of the lot!



Ojas Kapoor, AIS PV, VIII

Hold onto dreams as if dreams die
Life's a wingless bird inept to fly

Hold onto dreams for as dreams go
Life's a barren field filled with snow

Hold onto dreams like an ice cream
It's melting, so eat it fast, and clean

And dream as if you are a race car
Before you're up, drive very far.



Jokey Pokey

Aaradhya Varshney
AIS Vasundhara 1, I

What did the Math book say to the English book?
I have got so many problems!

Why did the student eat his homework?
Because the teacher said that it was a piece of cake!

Which animal cheats in the exam?
The cheetah

What is the snake's favourite subject?
Hiss-tory

Which part of a car is the laziest?
The wheels. They are always 'tyre'd!

My father

Prabodhini Singh
AIS Saket, V

He is a jolly man of humour
His mood like a sunny summer
At times, he reads books alone
Or he's always on his phone
But he is still a baby boomer.



The term 'surfing the internet' was coined by the librarian Jean Armour Polly in one of her research articles published in the University of Minnesota Wilson Library Bulletin.



Writing is an art and there's no better platform to exercise it than your own beloved GT! Just to unleash the writer in you, GT brings you a new topic every time and asks for your views on the same. Here are some intriguing responses from young writers at Amity for the prompt

"There's no questioning the fact that this year's controversial Grammys ended with yet another disappointment, with a plethora of criticism taking over the internet, raising questions on the authenticity of the event itself. This is not the first time such a striking contrast in the viewers' and judges' choice has occurred, nor will it be the last; even multiple Grammy-winning artists like Kanye West and Eminem have publicly opposed the workings of the award show. The fall of the Grammys was gradual and the viewership is likely to further decline as the ill-reputed show becomes further boycotted by artists. As for the Oscars and other award shows, they will see the same fate as Grammys if they, too, start to prioritise their analysis over viewers' choice."

Ayush Soni, AGS Gurugram, X

With many established artists calling out Grammy Awards for its underlying corruption, as it also recorded its lowest viewership in history this year, are Recording Academy and Oscars losing their relevance as the epitome of award ceremonies?

The prompt BOX

"Grammys are considered a high honour for the music industry of the world. But recently, the faults in its decision-making system have started popping out. With numerous controversies surrounding it, those related to its 'secret committees', and other voting irregularities in its nomination process, displayed in the ratio of women to men, POC to Caucasians etc., the Recording Academy is slowly and gradually losing viewership and also by extension, relevance! But by displaying the same pattern year after year, it is also proving that it doesn't want to tie up its loose ends. Thus, the onus is on us to decide whether or not we still want to see deserving artists getting snubbed due to racial prejudices!"

Anvesha Goel, AIS PV, IX A

"Award shows can be argued to be a flawed concept due to the subjectivity of music and art. There is no definite way of telling which song, album, movie or music video is best, so, since people will never be able to come to a unanimous decision on which is the deserved winner, there can never be a scenario that will please everyone. Although the award shows are based on such subjective concept, the accusations on Grammys have just grown in intensity and in amount. There is a clear indication that the Grammys are not as significant as they used to be. As people start pointing out these practices, I believe that these award shows will cease to gain relevance over the coming years."

Advita Sinha, AIS MV, X B

"With an artist as successful as The Weeknd refusing his music to be submitted for the award show's consideration in the future, the Grammys might have dug their own grave because of their prejudices. While they are definitely losing their relevance among viewers, the awards are not going anywhere anytime soon, because having a Grammy win in their name continues to play a significant role in a musician's career. The Oscars, on the other hand, haven't been as disastrous as they have made amendments in their system to include diversity for all. After years of snubbing women and people of colour, this year's nominations include both, which proves that all is not lost for them."

Ishanya Sharma, AIS Gur 43, X B

"Award ceremonies, especially those of the stature of the Recording Academy and Oscars, are not just a platform to recognise exceptional calibre but to also symbolise art that moved the world. But several instances, like that of BTS's recognition during the Grammys, has of late casted doubt on the fairness and inclusion of different groups in such award ceremonies, especially when the artist is not Caucasian. Even when we doubt their decision, it is quintessential that we understand the multitude of dimensions on which performances are measured and how they extend beyond the popular choice, too, and then analyse their review of such decisions. While they may be in peril when it comes to viewership, Grammys are here to stay."

Arunima Gulati, AIS Saket, XII E

"When one's favourite artist, moreover a more deserving artist, isn't appreciated and applauded for their work, it is saddening. Certainly, many people were gobsmacked with certain nominations and awards, which could be one of the main reasons for the lowest viewership of Grammys in history this year. What's even more disheartening is that as much as we say these awards don't matter, in the end, they mean a lot to the artist. Unquestionably, with a corrupt business mind and with the only motive to earn money from the awards, these big labels are certainly losing their relevance and their prestigious place as the epitome of award ceremonies."

Aarna Makhija, AIS Vas 6, X A

"The Recording Academy and Oscars have both been under fire due to their jury's decisions for quite some time now. Both have been accused of racism, xenophobia and misogyny. The former has even earned itself the chastising title 'Scammys', and rightly so, for the most excellent of artists, including the likes of The Weeknd, who has multiple records under their belt, is not even nominated, let alone being declared the winner. Now, it can't just be a mere coincidence that they are BIPOC or belong to a marginalised community. Well, years of honoured reputation is surely no excuse to divert from the essential motive of honouring art without any intersectionality!"

Kainaat Arif, AIS VYC Lko, X A

"The fact that BTS, a South Korean act, wasn't even nominated for its record breaking album 'Map of the Soul: 7' at Grammys 2021 is evidence enough to know how corrupt the Recording Academy truly is. Not to forget how their culturally impactful hit (an understatement still) 'Dynamite' lost in the Best Pop Duo/Group Performance category while ruling the charts everywhere else. I mean, need I say more? But what's truly comforting here is that various artists and fans across the globe are now questioning the Academy for its dubious decision-making. This lack of representation and diversity won't be tolerated. The sooner they realise, the better!"

Avni Singh, AIS Jagdishpur, XII

"Many artists have called out the Grammys and the associated Recording Academy due to lack of transparency with voting and diversity amongst nominees. I consider the fall in viewer rates this year as a symbol of protest against the exclusivity of people of colour in the award ceremony. The Oscars aren't that far behind in their share of shortcomings. In 2020, 68% of Academy voters were male, and 32% were female. From these, 84% were white. I hope by showing these 'prestigious' award shows that it's eminently easy for viewers to regard them as irrelevant, it enables change and brings forth more inclusivity in the industry."

Mahi Modgil, AIS Gur 46, X A

"The Recording Academy with its corrupt voting and jury decisions does not surprise me anymore, but its refusal to change surely does. Now, it is no joke that only ten black artists have won Album Of the Year at the Grammys in its 61-year-long history. Transparency, thus, is what artists and viewers ask for, since the 'winners' are indubitably questionable, considering the success and impact of their counterparts. Plus, if the Academy kept on neglecting the people of colour, its relevance is bound to crumble with time. Besides, who is going to watch the three-hour long ceremony whose awards are driven by politics and favouritism anyway?"

Shreya Dwivedi, AIS VKC Lko, XII E

"Popular music awards like Billboard are given out based on charting popularity and fan votes, whereas the Recording Academy adopts a conservative approach with a jury of experts looking at the quality of the platforms that artists master in. I think that the relevance of the award ceremony, therefore, depends on who drives the awards. As long as the music is popular and the fans are exhilarated, the artists will receive their fame and recognition, irrespective of whether or not they win a Grammy award. The Korean pop sensation band, BTS, is a case in point. Their single 'Dynamite' topped most music charts and earned them a Grammy nomination. Not winning a Grammy has not affected their popularity as their fan base continues to expand worldwide."

Akshita Shrote, AIS Vas 1, IX B

"A hit record or a blockbuster movie has the power to unite people, breaking through all barriers of nations, religions, beliefs and races. Artists create something which bridges all gaps and that is nothing but a miracle. Prince once said, "A DJ can control an entire room, even politicians can't do that". These award shows are supposed to inspire artists to bring out their best and let them know that their art matters. But when politics overruns talent, these award shows lose their authenticity. Great music is created by great artists, not politics."

Oorvi Gupta, AIS Noida, XII B

Question: With partial lockdowns, night curfews and restrictions in places, it looks like we maybe headed to another wave of lockdowns. Do you think the nations will be able to sustain another wave of lockdowns given the current social and economic situation? Send in your entries in 100-150 words to the Editor-in-Chief/GT Teacher Coordinator of your school by April 17, 2021.



The term 'Wi-Fi' was invented as a pun on the term 'Hi-Fi' or 'High Fidelity', in fact contrary to popular belief, it is not an acronym or short form of any word.

Amifest 2020

A Cultural Extravaganza For The Youth



Children narrate and listen to various tales during the 'Art of Storytelling' competition

AIS Gwalior

The school celebrated its first virtual 'Amifest', an inter-school competition of extracurricular activities for Class KG - X, from Nov 28, 2020 - Jan 30, 2021. The unique event was designed and conceptualised to kindle creativity in young minds as envisioned by Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools and RBEF. Multiple online competitions were organised namely, Ami Idol (singing competition), Young Beethoven (solo instrumental music), The Art of Story-

telling and Kavi Is Me (poem recitation).

Approximately 300 students from various eminent schools of Gwalior participated in the different online contests that were held over a span of two months. The students from AIS Gwalior won many awards in various categories of every contest.

In group A (3 - 5 years old) of Kavi Is Me, both Vinamra Parhak and Krishanth Karthikeyan of Class KG won the first prize. In group B (6 - 10 years old) of the same contest Yuvraj Bhadauria (III) stood first, Satvik Singh (III) and

Prakhar (V) stood second and Anjaneya Ganguli (II) stood third. Kanishka Sharma (IV) won the first prize in group B (for Class IV students) in The Art of Storytelling competition.

In group A (strings) of Young Beethoven, Josias Abhishek Prabhakar (IV) secured the second position. In Ami Idol, Yuvraj Singh (III) won the first prize in group B (6 - 10 years old), while Vanya Chauhan (KG) and Sanvi Jha (I) bagged second and third prize respectively in group A (3-5 years old). Amifest was a true celebration of the spirit of learning with fun. 🇮🇳

NASI Award

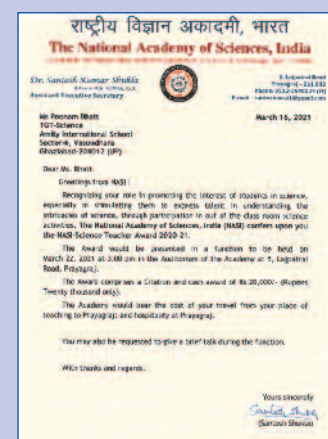


Poonam Bhatt receives the prestigious award at the ceremony

Science Teacher Brings Home Award

AIS Vasundhara 6

Another feather was added to Amity's golden hat when Poonam Bhatt, TGT (Biology) from AIS Vas 6 was conferred with the prestigious NASI Science Teacher Award 2020-21 in a ceremony organised by National Academy of Sciences, Prayagraj on March 22, 2021. She was the only science teacher from UP across all the boards (CBSE, ICSE, UPSEB, etc.) to be selected for the illustrious award presented by the oldest science academy of India. Poonam Bhatt was be-



stowed with a citation and cash prize of 20,000 INR by Prof VP Kamboj, former director, CDRI, Lucknow and Prof PK

Seth, former director, IITR, Lucknow at the ceremony.

This award stands as a testament to the fact that the visionary leadership and guidance of Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools & RBEF, has made excellence in education a way of life at Amity for learners and educators both.

NASI award is annually bestowed to exceptionally talented science teachers who keep students creatively engaged in various science activities in and out of the classroom, nurturing their scientific temperament and innovativeness.



A child urges all to save water

Every drop counts

AIS VKC Lucknow

To spread awareness on the importance to save water 'the elixir of life', the school observed World Water Day virtually on March 22, 2021. A myriad of activities were held where students recited self-composed poems, wrote slogans and painted art works based on the importance of potable water, sustainable management of water resources; and the role of water in economic, ecological and social development. They also discussed innovative ideas on saving every drop of water, rainwater harvesting and traditional methods of saving water. Real life inspirational stories of people on the quest to save water while encouraging the society to do so were also discussed. School principal Rachna Mishra, in her address to the students remarked that it's not only efforts but the continuous efforts which will create a long-term change. She urged them to save 'the elixir of life' by taking small steps like fixing leaking pipes, not leaving the tap open and using water optimally for individual needs. Amityans resolved to resurrect the resources of water drop by drop on day-to-day basis. 🇮🇳

Let's know more about Amity

Creating Synergy Between School And Parents Through Orientation



AIS Gur 46 shares the vision of Founder President

AIS Gurugram 46

The orientation programme for Class II-X was held online on March 13, 2021. It commenced with lighting of the lamp along with shloka recitation by the students. New parents were greeted to a classical dance presentation 'Stuti' by the students depicting Amity's culture of respect and love for the elders and fostering good human values. School principal Arti Chopra, welcomed the parents and shared Amity's vision and ideology with them.

She informed them about the evolution of Amity as a boulevard of learning, innovation and excellence and its various programmes designed for imparting children with holistic learning. She also shared with them the inspiring life and times of Dr Ashok K. Chauhan, Founder President, Amity Universe and Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools and RBEF.

Both parents and students were guided about the general guidelines, policies, online class norms, working of virtual platform MS Teams, Amitynet - the official portal for communication between school and parents, etc. A presentation on examination and evaluation strategy was show-

cased alongwith the subject options available in Senior Secondary classes. School counselor Anjali Menon and special educator Deepika Chauhan, elucidated about the counselling facility and Learning Enhancement Center (LEC) for educating students with special needs. 🇮🇳

AIS Gwalior

Students and parents orientation programme for Class KG - X was held virtually on March 18, 2021. It began with the traditional virtual lamp lighting and a welcome song. School principal Manju Singh, greeted the new Amityans and their parents warmly and emphasised on the importance of effective communication between the school and parents for the holistic development of children. Respective in-charges then briefed the



A musical welcome by AIS Gwalior



AIS MV shares the success mantra 'BHAAG'

parents about the curriculum, rules and regulations, teaching methodologies, assessment pattern, co-curricular activities and various international exchange programmes organised by Amity Group of Schools. They were also apprised with Amity's motto 'Modernity blends with traditional values' to nurture critically thinking, creative and compassionate global citizens of the 21st century who can build a happy nation and a happier world. 🇮🇳

AIS Mayur Vihar

A virtual orientation programme for the parents of Class V students was held on March 31, 2021, with an objective to make them 'partners in progress' by sharing teaching and learning methodology at Amity. With a virtual lamp lighting and a warm welcome to the parents, the programme began. They were first told about the tenets of BHAAG, the success mantra of life given by Dr Ashok K. Chauhan, Founder President, Amity Universe. School principal Meenu Kanwar, addressed the gathering and stressed upon the importance of effective communication between teachers and parents. The session also saw parents sharing ideas to



School principal, AIS Vas 1, addresses the parents

enrich the process of learning. Following which, the parents were briefed about the rules and regulations of the school, the general framework of teaching and learning, and MS Teams and its features. Jasleen Kohli, primary coordinator, shared guidelines about effective parenting and also suggested different measures to nurture a child with love and care. They were also apprised about extra-curricular and sports activities as well as the exchange programmes meticulously designed for nurturing students as young global citizens. School counsellor Pieta Saha, shared the importance of teaching life skills and good human values in children. 🇮🇳

AIS Vasundhara 1

The orientation programme for Class Nursery was held on March 30, 2021, whilst following all COVID-19 safety measures, right from sanitisation and screening to social distancing and wearing masks. The programme began with lamp lighting by school principal Dr Bhavana Kulshreshtha. Teachers apprised parents about Amity's motto and how holistic learning is what every Amity educator strives for. 🇮🇳



Rain, rain come again!

The Solace That The Thundering Clouds Come With

Amulya Chaudhary
AIS Vasundhara 1, IX

Whenever the colour of sky changes and rain comes knocking on my door, a wave of unknown excitement hits me. The alluring view from my window of the rain dances in my head, and why wouldn't it? I doubt there is a person in this world who doesn't have their own stories intermingled with the drops of the rain, whether they are sweet, bitter, or funny. That is the effect that rain has on humanity; from comforting me to giving me solace to even sometimes being my enemy and pouring mercilessly on me, rain has many faces that takes me on an emotional rollercoaster ride. The racing cars, umbrellas all over the place, the clear air, and the cloudy weather adds its own essence to the aesthetic scene that I view from my window. The rain sometimes seems to be very relatable whenever I am in a dreadful mood. As I look out of the window to find the raindrops all dwelled up

just like my eyes are with tears, the situation outside looks as if I am sharing my problems with the rain and the sky is crying with me. The thundering clouds act if they are my friends and accompany me in my sad phase, holding my hand and telling me that life may be tough, but I am not the only one who is suffering. The dripping rain mirrors my tears, both of us letting out our frustration. The light grey sky hits me with another wave of nostalgia and reminds me of the times when the younger me waited for the rainbow to replace this colour, but now even with the dull colour present in the picture in front of my eyes, it kind of seems to be more vivid than the rainbow I used to wait for. I smile as I hear the rain hitting the lonely land to quench its thirst; it is the best music that I have ever heard. 'The rain helps one to sleep yet keeps one from sleeping' - this line from my English textbook hits me hard right in the feels. This rain keeps me up with its crashing

sound, but also soothes me with its melodious tune. Deciding that I could no longer just sit inside, I make up my mind to get out of the house and to greet rain like my old friend. I take out the umbrella which is as wrinkled as my skin, still unsure if I want to escape these

drops or fully drench myself in it. As I stand outside, the pouring weather finally seems to come to a stop. I find myself looking at my reflection in one of the puddles after the rain stops. I sometimes wonder who this beautiful rain is falling for. I'd like to believe it was for me!



Rake in that review

Title: Naruto
Director: Masashi Kishimoto
Released on: October 3, 2002
Genre: Animation, Adventure and action

Synopsis: A Japanese manga series, Naruto made its first appearance in the form of a book series written by Masashi Kishimoto published in 1999. Later on, in the year 2002, it was adapted as an anime series winning the hearts of its viewers. With a total of 220 episodes, the series showcases the adventures of hyperactive adolescent ninja, Naruto Uzumaki of Hidden Leaf Village who dreams to get approval and recognition from his peers to become the most powerful ninja and lead the village. The plot of the series develops in an interesting manner, building tough situations where the iconic anime character, Naruto and his team members, Sasuke, Sakura and Kakashi, try to overcome the deadly enemies and survive.

Why is it worth watching:

The series teaches you a lot of life lessons, especially those that can never be taught through school text books. Every situation portrayed in this anime conveys a deep message, and anyone can very well relate to these situations, especially if you have ever felt lonely or left out. You get to meet iconic characters who make you feel excited in a



fight, or even make you cry

with their sadness. The series teaches you what it means to be a friend, a teacher and a comrade. Adding to it, Naruto also has a lot of songs and, even if they are in Japanese, you can feel them deeply due to the music and presentation.

Iconic dialogue: There are several in the film:

- "In this shinobi world who break rules are scum but who abandon their friends are worse than scum."
- "A shinobi's life is not measured by how they live but rather it is measured by what they accomplish before their death."
- "Knowing what it feels to be in pain, is exactly why we try to be kind to other."

Rating: 5/5

Review by: Nishchay Chaudhary, AIS Gur 43, X C

The laziness syndrome

Does Lethargy Overcome You Big Time? Here Is Why You Must Overcome It

Anoushka Tyagi &
Shinjini, AIS Gur 43, XII

Humans! Truly a funny species! We have a tendency to do things that fit neatly in our comfort zone. Who makes the effort to actually grill a sandwich when there is the automatic sandwich maker? Why take down notes in the old fashioned way when you can just download a PDF on your laptop? Well, these are nothing but the everyday examples of laziness, indeed, redefined in the name of saving time and being useful. But, sorry to tell you, they are not!

Wow, did you check the sale on Amazon?

Once upon a time, shopping used to be a complete experience. We would spend hours in bargaining, selecting, preening in front of mirrors while trying out new outfits and then queuing up to pay, fully satisfied with a day well spent! It may have become more convenient to buy online sitting on a couch browsing through e-commerce sites but there is no match for window shopping and counter-hopping. So, the next time you add that shirt into your cart, try checking it out in the store!

Who will carry so much of load?

Since books were too cumbersome for us to carry, man created e-books. While there is no denying that you can carry a library itself within a device weighing just 182 grams, no matter what kind of technology is introduced to replace real books, no book lover can ever be truly content holding a Kindle! Moreover, the scent of a new novel and those glorious bookmarks can never be beaten by any e-book even if it warrants you

to go to a library kilometers away! A high five to all the book lovers!

Why should I play in muddy ground?

Good one, when you can actually play inside the four walls! Gone are the days when young children would pester parents to buy them a bicycle or a basketball as a present. The demand now is for latest gadgets and gizmos. Thanks to companies like Microsoft and Nintendo who have created more

and more advanced gaming devices. It is now possible to go bowling, play football or even participate in Olympics from inside the living room. No wonder then, playgrounds are empty and the sound of swings and merry-go-rounds have become a thing of the past.

Why is it so hot outside, let's drop the plan?

When was the last time when you visited a friend of yours? We mean before

the pandemic. What can be lazier than being on your phone all day just to check other people's photos, status messages and notifications? Real conversations have been replaced by meaningless memes and forwards on social media. Who wants to invest time and energy in real feelings in real time when emoticons of all sorts can be used to engage with people virtually?

What should I eat?

Feeling hungry, grab a packet of your favourite nachos! Now, who will get up and cook food when you can easily pick packaged food items without any effort. While this appears to be the easy way, here's the catch -An experiment at the University of California proved that there was a co-relation between poor diet i.e., gorging on junk food and listless behaviour. Even though the experiment used rats as subjects, it was established that humans respond in the same manner to junk food.

Now, do we want to become unappealing like the lethargic sloths we love to imitate, or should we discard that laziness and spread our wings like the beautiful butterfly always eager to fly? The choice is yours.

