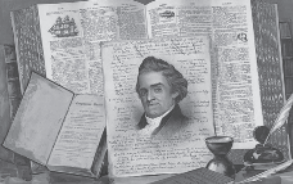


INSIDE



It's broccoli-cious, P4



History this week, P7

AMITe poll

Do you think there's an urgent need to address the issue of refugee protection in India and put in place appropriate legal and institutional measures for the same?

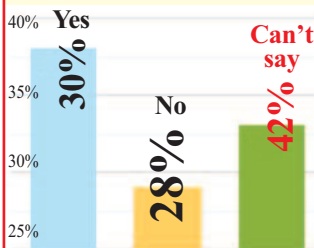
a) Yes b) No c) Can't say

To vote, log on to
www.theglobaltimes.in

POLL RESULT

for GT issue April 12, 2021

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



Results as on April 17, 2021

Coming Next

Prompt box

ZERO THE HERO!

Aiming For That Zilch To Reach The Zenith As Quickly As Possible

Riddhi Rastogi, XII D &
Siddharth Kishore, XII A, AIS Gur 43

As around 20 million Americans took to the streets on the very first Earth Day celebrated in the world on April 22, 1970, nobody could have imagined it to hold the kind of significance that it does in the current day scenario. As another Earth Day strikes the calendar, countless ideas to save the planet are being exchanged. However, one that finds reiteration every now and then is a 'zero waste' planet. With scientists claiming that the planet is just one step away from irrevocable damage, a 'zero waste' world seems to be the need of the hour. But most of the time what stops us from doing so are the efforts, compromises, and sacrifices we will have to endure in the process. Well, what if we were to tell you that not only will zero waste save our planet but also humankind? Here's a glimpse of the changed world we can create!

Zero waste = Protecting the planet

The main threat to waste management systems all over the world, including India, has always been the process of disposal of waste.

80% of the collected waste in India makes its way to the landfills only for it to go untreated, and ends up toxifying air, water and soil. But what if we were to treat the problem at its root, and simply cut down on waste? The simple act of reducing, reusing and recycling, can save a lot of energy. Sample this: it takes 20 times less energy to make an aluminum can from recycled materials than from raw resources. The conclusion is simple - aiming for zero waste will save both effort and resources, along

with minimising pollution. This becomes even more relevant in the case of harmful wastage like e-waste, which leads to the seeping of harmful substances such as lead, arsenic, etc., into the water table. Aiming for zero waste in the e-waste segment can be a big plus for India that is currently being able to collect a mere 8% of the total e-waste generated (2018). The aquatic lives that suffer from at least 8 million metric tonnes of plastic being

dumped into oceans yearly will also see a drastic drop. Further more, zero waste also holds the potential to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by more than 400 million metric tonnes CO₂ per year. With proper planning for recycling and disposal of waste, perils of climate change can come to a stage where they are practically non-existent.

Zero waste = Generating employment + Saving economy

To achieve the status of zero waste, the world will need to put in efforts and maintain them too, or we will be back to square one in no time. But this pain comes with a lot of gain in the form of numerous job opportunities that come with this maintenance. Social scientists envision that in the upcoming two decades, jobs like recycler and waste manager will be commonly-heard professions. This will be possible because a serious commitment to recycling will create around 70 times as many jobs instead of simply using landfills and incinerators, and even 30% incline will be seen because of remanufacturing where currently an estimated 15-20 million waste pickers earn a living from scavenging discards. As 58 countries recently announced net-zero emission targets, it is predicted that a strong set of climate actions across multiple sectors can generate as many as 24 million jobs in just 15 years, which will not only save our planet but also our economy.

Continued on page 6...



Media independence

Prof Biswajit Das On The Role Of Media In The Present Scenario

Divyanshi Chamoli, AIS Noida, X

With almost three decades of teaching and research experience in the field of theory and history of communication in India, Biswajit Das, Professor and Founding Director of Centre for Culture, Media and Governance, Jamia Millia Islamia, is a name known to many. He has been a visiting professor at York University and fellow at the Universities of Windsor, Canada and Hawaii, USA. Besides his teaching and research career, he has been involved with various civil society initiatives in the country in Media Advocacy programme and Development communication projects. As a key note speaker at ICEMP 2020 held at AUUP, he indulged in an exclusive conversation with GT. Here are some excerpts of the same.

What was your inspiration for choosing media studies as your field of studies?

When I was a student, working on black poetry or for defence was in



In conversation with GT reporter

vogue. I was enamoured by these fields until somebody introduced me to communication studies which was yet to be an area of inquiry or discipline in India then. I never thought that media could be a field of study. Moreover, I was from a social studies background so, media was nowhere in the scene for me, initially. But somehow, our paths collided and here I am!

What according to you is the role of media in nation building, shaping the public opinion and the building of the government in a country?

When media came up in the early 50s and 60s, the time and state were dif-

ferent. It must have served a larger purpose then. In the present scenario, it plays a different role where it does impact lives as it has a larger political understanding of the structures, but it only shapes public opinion; it leads one to something but it does not really define one or build something. One should not drag it in these antiquated notions of a nation state. Media is independent and has a different role altogether.

What are your thoughts on media and communication studies in the country?

To be honest, it's appalling. I feel media is yet to emerge as a discipline

in India. It still remains as a kind of demand-supply model. There's still a long way for it to establish its complete stronghold. But once it does, there's no looking back. And I am surely looking forward to it.

What, according to you, is substantially new in the media milieu as we see it today?

I don't reckon there's anything new as such but there have been a lot many technological advancements off late. Humans are ever evolving and so is technology. Even though one cannot term technology as the fundamental basis of any field in particular but it definitely shakes the field of study or enquiry for better, as is the case with media and journalism.

What is your message for Amitians?

To all the young students, I would like to say that I'm actually quite delighted to see such a large scale conference event in India. It is a great opportunity for all of us present here, especially you all and the ones wanting to establish a career in the field of media and journalism. So, make the best out of it! 🇮🇳



Biswajit Das, Professor, Jamia Millia Islamia

Around The WORLD

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



UK

Unique Roman stately home discovered

In a first, remnants of an elite-status Roman villa and bath house have been unearthed under a building site near Scarborough, North Yorkshire, where archaeological excavations were in progress. During the quarrying, a huge complex of buildings, including a central room branched out into different rooms, along with a bath house were revealed. Archaeologists believe that this one of a kind discovery is likely to give them a better insight into Roman Britain dating back to 100 AD.



GREECE

Country to deploy anti-missile system to Saudi

It has been reported that the country's defence minister Nikos Panagiotopoulos and foreign minister Nikos Dendias will travel to Saudi Arabia next month to sign an agreement, post which, a patriot anti-missile system will be dispatched to the Middle Eastern country. As per officials, the US made anti-aircraft system will protect critical energy facilities of kingdom of Saudi Arabia, which is under threat of drone and missile attacks led by Yemen's Iran-aligned Houthi rebels.



IRAN

Uranium enrichment level to reach its highest ever

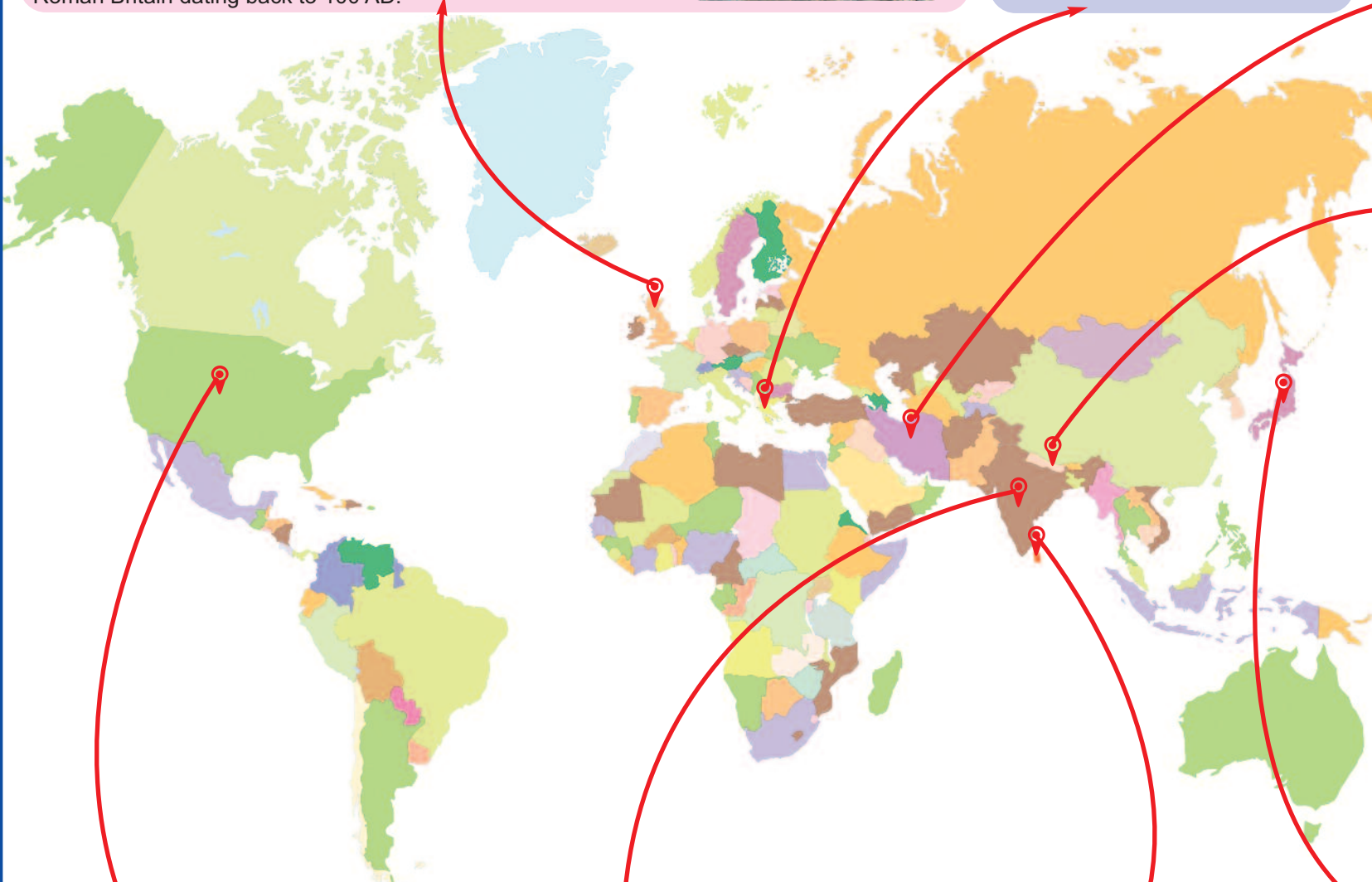
In retaliation to an alleged Israeli attack on a nuclear site, Natanz, which caused damage to thousands of Uranium centrifuges, the country has now decided to produce 60% enriched uranium, which is its highest level so far. Countries like Germany, France and UK have strongly criticised this pronouncement, expressing that the move is unnecessary. Iranian President Hassan Rouhani, however, has assured that the nuclear activities were "exclusively peaceful".



NEPAL

One-horned rhinos increase in number

What is being called one of the greatest conservation success stories in Asia, the rhino population in Nepal has seen a rise from 645 in 2015 to 752 this year. This population increase has improved the status of the species from endangered to vulnerable. Nepal is one of the only few countries that is sanctuary to one-horned rhinos. Officials says that the ongoing pandemic has also played a momentous role in helping animals and their habitats due to restriction of human activity.



USA

American troops to be withdrawn from Afghanistan

President Biden stated his decision to pull out the US combat forces from Afghanistan by September 11, 2021, i.e., on the 20th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks. This move is intended to end the prolonged war between the two countries. However, it has been purported that the former president Trump assured the Taliban that the troops would be evacuated by May 1 this year, which, if not followed through, will result in attacks by the latter on US and NATO.



INDIA

Sputnik V vaccine to enter the country soon

The COVID-19 vaccine Sputnik V, developed by Russia's Gamaleya Research Institute, has become the third inoculation to gain approval in the country. The Russian Direct Investment Fund (RDIF) has tied up with Dr Reddy's Laboratories to begin the supply in India. While the initial batches will be imported from the native country, the eventual doses will be produced domestically, precisely 850 million doses annually, which the RDIF says will be enough to vaccinate 425 million people worldwide.



SRI LANKA

Government bans eleven extremist groups

Ahead of the second anniversary of Easter Sunday suicide bombings that shook the country, the government banned 11 Muslim extremist groups including Al-Qaeda and ISIS. The other nine groups are also religious and social establishments. As per the move, taken as part of Prevention of Terrorism Act, President Gotabaya Rajapaksa stated in a gazette notification that anyone linked to these groups will face a jail sentence for up to 20 years.



JAPAN

Contaminated Fukushima water to be released into sea

The Japanese government has announced its plan to discharge over one million tonnes of contaminated water from the ruined Fukushima nuclear power station into the sea. The water, which is comparable to about 5000 Olympic-sized swimming pools, has been treated but will be filtered once again in order to remove hazardous isotopes. Several countries including China and South Korea have condemned this decision due to its toxicity and the detrimental impact on marine life.





A ‘boom’ing career

Sounds Good, Doesn't It? Well, Here's All About Your Career As A Boom Operator

Anushka Ramesh, AIS MV, XII E

Script. Check. Mic. Check. Sound. Double Check. If you think you can swiftly handle these three, then my friend all you need to do is read this article and know everything about an interesting career option ‘Boom Operator’. Does it sound bizarre to you? Please be rest assured, this one's a really good option, read on...

What is the role of a Boom Operator?

Boom operators or First Assistant Sound are the core members of the sound department during film production. Boom Operators mostly work on a freelance basis and report directly to production sound mixers in production sound departments. The motility of actors requires manoeuvring of mics in such a way that the mics don't end up in the camera frame. For this, the mics are usually attached to boom poles (or fish poles) and carefully held and placed to acquire optimal sound effects.

How did it all start?

The first and initial boom mic was invented in 1929 and was nothing but a mic attached to a fishing rod. During the production of ‘Beggars for life’ in 1928, the movement of two actors posed a problem for the sound crew since the



microphone was static behind the flower vase. The short temper of the director blocked all the arguments and coerced the orders for a motile mic which he moved himself. This gave birth to what we now refer to as boom mics.

What are the qualifications required?

A certificate of sound engineering is considered useful for getting the job of a boom operator, even though there are no set educational qualifications. Senior

level knowledge of subjects such as math or physics comes handy, too. A diploma in creative and media industries and certification from film and TV training institutes in areas of sound mixing and sound design are added advantages.

What are the skills required?

More than qualification, what is more important is that one understands the skill sets associated with this job. Boom operators are expected to move along with the actors which means that they have to be thorough with the script. Knowledge of various types of microphones and their applications, camera lenses and overall technical understanding of all the varied equipment that modern sound departments use is necessary. They also need to have good people skills along with good level of physical fitness, strength and stamina.

How do you climb the ladder?

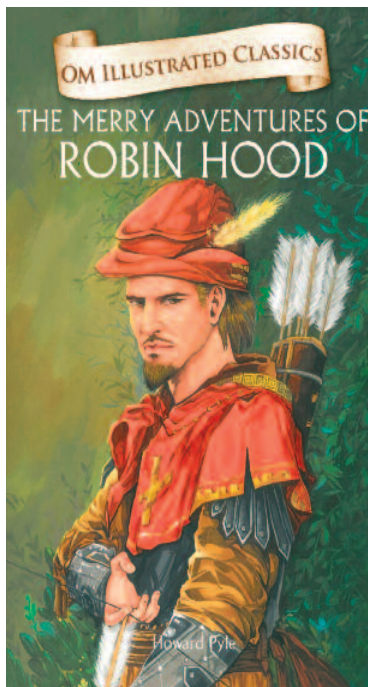
Boom operator is an entry-level job on most sound teams, so you don't need to have work experience in order to be considered, though some experience as a production assistant or sound trainee wouldn't hurt. An entry level microphone boom operator (1-3 years of experience) earns an average salary of 5,14,628 INR per annum. On the other end, a senior level microphone boom operator (8+ years of experience) earns an average salary of 8,89,970 INR per annum. Once you find work as a boom operator, you can use the experience to work your way up to the level of production sound mixer. There are chances of becoming the sound editor, sound designer or studio manager, too. 🇮🇳



Book Review

Rake in that review

Book: The Merry Adventures of Robin Hood
Author: Howard Pyle
Published in: 1883
Genre: Children's Literature, Historical Fiction



Synopsis: Set in the 12th century during King Richard's reign, this British folklore begins with King Richard's brother King John and the Sheriff of Nottingham taxing people unjustly and harshly in the true king's absence who is off to fight in a war. The protagonist of the story is a young man named Robin whose family suffers one such injustice. The plot follows Robin as he becomes an outlaw through his many adventures and run-ins with the law. Each chapter tells a different tale of Robin as he recruits ‘Merry Men’, namely Little John, Will Scarlet, Allan a Dale and Friar Truck, who resist the authorities and help the poor and needy in every possible way.

Why is it worth reading: The character of Robin Hood symbolises the spirit of the common man and is also a symbol of hope for those weak and downtrodden. Moreover, this immortal tale of fighting injustice and tyranny to create a fairer world has inspired

writers, artists and filmmakers throughout the later centuries. One of them being the world famous artist Vincent van Gogh, who in a letter to his brother talks about how “[Pyle's work] struck me dumb with admiration.”

Iconic Quote: “Act with a conscience and be prepared to help those in difficulty or less fortunate than ourselves.”

Rating: ★★★★★

Review by: Arnav Kukreja
AIS Gurugram 46, V H

No shortcut to success

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 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 was studying in Class X in a boarding school in Ooty when I began to think of pursuing the science stream. I began to research different options and found that engineering interested me the most. My aim then became to get into one of the top engineering institutes and so, I started my preparations for the same.

How did you prepare for IIT-JEE?

I joined the Synchro programme that had been launched by Amity at that time. That, according to me, acted as a huge contributor to my overall competitive exam preparation.

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

There were two things in which AICE helped me. One was access to subject matter experts and highly experienced faculty members. They helped me at every step and explained the concepts in a crystal-clear manner. The second was access to resources, i.e., past year question papers, modules, questions with varying levels of difficulty and solutions, as well as knowledge nuggets that used to come as part of the package material.

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

There was no major distinction between the two. I used to think of prep-



Name: Gautam Shah
AICE Batch: 2009 - 2011
AICE Programme: SYNCHRO
Currently pursuing: MBA
College/University: IIM Lucknow

ping for competitive exams as an extension of preparing for CBSE. Creating, managing and sticking to a schedule is something very important. I also used to take some time out every day to just relax or do something I liked.

Which field of engineering did you choose and why?

I chose electrical and electronics engineering primarily because of my fascination with iPhone. Steve Jobs was one of my role models at that time and I even used to imagine my-

self designing an iPhone.

Are there some preparation strategies to crack IIT-JEE?

First, get your fundamentals right; spend enough time in exploring the depth of any concept. Second, persevere, because there is no shortcut to success. Third, practice as much as you can. The exam papers evolve and over the years, different patterns have been experimented with. So, attempt mock tests, analyse your performance and get your timing right.

According to you, when should an aspirant start preparing for competitive exams?

The apt time to start is in Class XI-XII when students are mature enough to understand all aspects of their future path and goals. Starting too early can be detrimental to their overall personality development.

Rapid fire

One word to describe...

Your alma mater: Heart-warming

The motto of your life: Give your best and don't regret

Your passion: Technology for social impact

Yourself: Proactive

Exploring the universe

An Extraordinary Anecdote Of A Rover Narrating Its Extraterrestrial Journey

Yashasvi Jain, AIS Pushp Vihar, VIII B

Hey Earthlings!

When it comes to extraterrestrial explorations, the advancements our world has achieved are truly out of this world (pun intended), and it is only because of these advancements that I, Perseverance rover, am able to explore the crater Jezero on Mars as a part of the NASA's Mars 2020 mission. But my journey to reach here wasn't easy. Mars, the red planet as some call it, was my destination, and the only goal I had in my mind was to be more successful than my elder brother Curiosity rover because I knew that NASA and all the other space agencies in the world were working very hard to know more and more about my destination planet. NASA manufactured me with the help of Jet Propulsion Laboratory and it was on July 30, 2020, that I was finally launched into the world to spread my wings and fulfill my mission. I knew I had a long journey to cover, and I was extremely nervous, but I think the only people

more nervous than me were the scientists and engineers who worked so hard on bringing me to life, and their hard work finally reaped beautiful fruits on February 18, 2021, when the news of my successful landing on Mars was sent over after nearly seven months. As of April 8, 2021, I have spent 48 sols on Mars, i.e., 49 Earth days since my landing here, and it was only after my arrival that my landing site was named Octavia E Butler Landing. Cool, right?

Throughout my life, there were a lot of people who compared me to Curiosity rover, attributing my success to him being my predecessor and the fact that we had a similar design. Some even stated that I was simply an upgrade, but I am a rover

of my own and have my own achievements. Even though we might have a similar body plan, landing system, cruise stage and power system, my design was improved in various ways. I have more robust aluminium wheels which are thicker and can handle greater damage. My arms are also longer and stronger, and have an elaborate rock-coring and sampling mechanism. I even carry seven primary payload instruments, nineteen cameras, and two microphones to do my job properly. Not just so, I also have a mini-helicopter as a part of my crew that is named Ingenuity, or Ginny, as I like to call it, which is an experimental aircraft and technology showcase that aims to attempt the first powered flight on another planet. Isn't that cool? And

it has helped us so much! My goal since the very start has been to identify ancient Martian environments capable of supporting life, seeking out evidence of former microbial life existing in those environments, collecting rock and soil samples that are on the surface of Mars, and testing oxygen production from that atmosphere so that the future crewed missions can prepare better.

Even though planning and making my entire project cost NASA roughly 2.75 billion USD in over 11 years, including 2.2 billion USD for the development and building of the hardware, and 243 million USD for the launch services, nobody can point a finger at me and say that I wasn't worth it. But my mission is not yet complete; I am still writing here from Mars just to tell you that all these hardships that went into creating me will lead to great results as I continue to access my environment and feed Earth data on Mars.

Yours truly,
Perseverance rover

It's broccoli-cious!

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 impact, proving how they are, in fact, essential commodities to attain 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 one fruit or vegetable, highlighting why it is important to preserve these gifts of nature.

Avishi Agarwal
AIS VKC Lko, VIII

Hey! My name is: Broccoli

I am also known as: Brassica oleracea var. italica

About me

- My name is derived from an Italian word broccoli which means "the flowering top of a cabbage".
- I have been around for more than 2000 years and I am native to the Mediterranean area and Asia Minor.
- I have been a very important and prized vegetables for the Italians since the Roman Empire, even called the Italian asparagus.
- I am mostly hand harvested due to the rarity of machines that enhance my cultivation procedure. But new ideas are being deliberated upon.
- John and Mary Evans produced my heaviest form, approximately 15.87 kg, in the year 1993 in USA.

What I offer

I am called the 'crown jewel of nutrition' because I carry the following nutrients:

- Calories: 31
- Protein: 2.5 grams
- Carbohydrates: 6 grams
- Dietary fibre: 2.4 grams
- Water: 89%
- Fat: 0.4 grams
- Vitamins (A, B1, B6, etc.)
- Minerals (calcium, iron, phosphorus, zinc, etc.)

I can help you with

- Improved diabetic control
- Strengthened immune response
- Improved dental and oral health
- Prevention of birth defects

Where can you find me

I require cold weather for my cultivation, hence my production takes place all throughout the winter season in India, especially in areas with less rainfall. In the rural areas, my cultivation is a huge financial help because many prefer me in their diet throughout the world. Across the borders, China is known to be my biggest producer (39.56%), followed by India (33.78%) and then the USA (4.64%), when we look at the total world production. Al-

though you can find me everywhere, my main abodes in India are Odisha, Gujarat, West Bengal, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Haryana and Jharkhand.

My different avatars

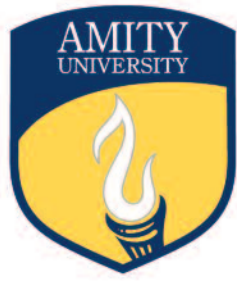
- Broccoli raab
- Belstar
- Purple sprouting
- Romanesco
- Sun king
- Di Cicco
- Waltham 29

Why I fear climate change

As intimated earlier, I thrive in cold climate. Since I am a cool-season crop, along with other green leafy vegetables, climate change is really spelling a darkness on my otherwise bright future. The heat stress, a result of global warming, is really hazardous to my production. Due to this, farmers are apprehensive of my cultivation and will be soon contemplating changes in my sowing routines in order to keep my species up and running. I just hope that climate change does not completely wipe off my existence in the times to come.



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Life & exams



Dr Amita Chauhan
Chairperson

CBSE's decision to cancel Class 10 exams and postpone the one for Class 12, has evoked a mixed response in the student fraternity. This is the second year in a row when uncertainty about higher education and prospective careers, looms at

large. However, I wish to convey to all Amitians that instead of being anxious about things that you cannot control, learn important life lessons from these unprecedented situations.

Firstly, these decisions, however tough they may be, have been taken keeping in mind the larger good and well-being of society. As Amitians, you are already aware of the importance of 'service before self', and this is the time to prove this. Reacting to CBSE decision by either wallowing in despair or by being over-joyous is not how a balanced Amitian will respond. This is the time to spread the message of being sensible and smart, to all those you interact with.

Secondly, even though the Board examinations is a vital part of our education system, it is not the only measure of your growth and success as a student. You are all achievers, having overcome the challenge of learning online for more than a year now. Moreover, your achievements, at national and international programmes, prove your dedication towards your ambition.

Most importantly, remember that life is, perhaps, the most difficult exam one can take. This situation has given you the opportunity to overcome your fears and anxiety and build your inner strength, courage and willpower. And any moment you feel distressed, remember BHAAG, the formula of holistic development provided by our Founder President Dr Ashok K. Chauhan. Here, as we know, G stands for God. So, no matter what comes your way, have faith in God.

Wait! Do not waste!



Vira Sharma
Managing Editor

Sometimes the most unexpected event can teach you what no classroom lesson can. I remember a friend's son telling me about his school trip undertaken to educate rural children about 'zero waste'. When his group began to explain the concept,

some of these village kids, much to the surprise of the visitors, responded by saying, "Oh, we do this daily in our village. Come, we'll show you." Everyone was led to the nearby sugarcane factory where these city kids were shown and explained the process of making sugar from sugarcane without wasting even a bit of the crop. They were shown how sugarcane was harvested, its juice taken out and made into jaggery and sugar, and how finally, the waste or the residual molasses were used as fuel and in fermentation process. That was not all. The residual crop was threshed and made into fibres which were then used in industrial processes and also to make thatched roofs. The idea was to eliminate waste than just to manage it.

And this is just one example of how 'zero waste' is a way of life in our villages. Whether it is the grain husk that is being ploughed back into the soil or making paper bags from waste paper; whether it is about processing wet waste and converting it into manure or just segregating waste properly, many Indian villages are showing the way forward when it comes to the zero waste ideals of recycling and reusing. And while the move towards a 'zero waste' society is gathering momentum across the world, with Sweden leading the way, it is time for all of us in the cities of India to clean up our act as well.

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Published for the period April 19-25, 2021

The loud distress signal

Let's Pay Heed To The Roaring Call By Mother Earth, Shall We?

Yusra Raihan, AGS Gurugram, X

'Mayday! Mayday! Mayday! My lifeline is sinking! With hope plunging down steadily in the murky clouds of gloom, my existence is under severe crisis... please save me, this is your Mother Earth.'

Who are we? The culprits. For we have seen our skies get darkened by the clouds of global warming and climate change; we have heard the desperate pleas and agonies of our endangered wildlife; we have sensed the alarming impacts of proliferating carbon emissions, yet we choose to turn a blind eye to the consequences of our decisions, yet we continue to obliterate the natural world. Culprits, after all. But, it's high time, we realise our fault and indulge in critical introspection to emerge out of this black hole. It's high time we prevent a dystopian future by stepping in and towards a greener economy. One of the most significant

challenges in this respect is to transform our unsustainable agricultural and fishing practices into ones producing food while conserving the biodiversity. Sustainable agro-ecological activities, for instance, organic farming that eliminates the usage of chemicals, pesticides, plant growth regulators, and other genetically-modified organisms (GMOs), can greatly contribute towards realising this goal. Moreover, several scientific reports over the years have indicated that organic farming produces more biodiversity than other farming systems; depending on altitude, organic farms have about 46-72% more semi-natural habitats that host a whopping 30% more species and over 50% more individuals than

other non-organic farms.

In addition to that, there's a dire need for us to channelise ourselves away from the restrictive prototype of economic growth that prioritises GDP over everything else. Instead, we need to raise emphasis on sustainable energy and non-polluting green industries, especially renewable energy resources, as the true measure of our economic strength. Thus, International finance organisations, such as the World Bank, need to steer their investments to ensure that natural capital, such as the Amazon rainforest in Bolivia, is conserved rather than being exploited for oil exploration or other human gains.

Furthermore, as cars contribute to 72% of carbon dioxide emissions, the

concept of electric cars, currently booming, is another such development that can help mitigate our carbon footprint. For they release the stored chemical energy without combustion and also reduce our dependence on fossil fuels a great deal. Another step that can be taken in this regard is to rapidly retire the old passenger jets before cheap oil prices encourage budget airlines to run services almost empty, exacerbating emissions even if passenger numbers stay less. In addition, passengers should be provided with information about the carbon costs of their flights, enabling them to support efficient airlines. Along with that, redesigning existing buildings will also add an edge to the green movement. For green buildings have lesser negative environmental impacts than standard buildings. Their interior spaces save natural resources by using alternative materials; with natural lighting, efficient ventilating systems and rooftop gardens, they offer a premium indoor air quality, too. That said, the goal is to decarbonise energy system by the middle of this century, or earlier if possible, in order to reach net zero emissions by 2070. As only then would we get a chance to keep average global temperatures from rising above 2 degrees centigrade as set in the Paris Climate Agreement.

So, today as we teeter on the edge of total chaos, let's vow to keep ourselves in check before the world, as we know it, comes to a terrible end.



Imaging: Dinesh Kumar, GT Network

Zero the hero!

Continued from page 1...

Zero waste = Filling empty stomachs

World hunger - an issue that is becoming increasingly rampant in the modern society. According to WFP and FAO, more than 815 million people struggle with it, 3 billion people do not eat healthily, and another 2 billion are expected to join this category by 2050. But the problem here isn't the lack of food, but the access to it. About 31 billion USD worth of food is wasted annually worldwide, which loosely translates to 1/3 of the total food produced every year, but this wastage can easily be avoided. According to WFP, if a fair distribution of the 4-5 billion tonnes of food pro-

duced every year is achieved, the world will have enough for the 9.7 billion people who will live on Earth by 2050. Not just so, but a goal of zero food wastage will save the world of the increased food production rate that is bound to touch 120% by 2050, which will mean at least 3 billion tonnes of additional food that the world doesn't actually need. It will also safely secure the requirements needed for extra crop production like water, land and high amounts of labour. The governments too can employ the saved resources in securing production, storage, and processing that will decrease food loss, the figures of which stand at 630 million for low-income countries annually and 670 million

tonnes for high-income countries. With little initiatives to reach the goal, humanity can not only turn the amount of waste to zero but also the number of people who largely suffer due to starvation.

Only 9% of the world's waste is recycled, as per the UN, and it is high time we change that into 90% and more. They say charity begins at home and so does the implementation of noble ideas like zero waste - A concept that can only be achieved through a ground-level unified effort. So, let's step up and save mother Earth, if not for the sake of this planet then for ourselves, as it is the only home we have.



Issue: Page 12, April 12, 2021

Dear Editor,

This is in reference to the article 'The laziness syndrome' on page 12 published in the GT edition dated April 12, 2021. The article ponders on the need for humans to efficiently use the sets of legs and hands that they have been blessed with, instead of being a couch potato and giving in to the spiral of lethargy. For with gaming consoles replacing the evergreen game of *pithhoo*, and Alexa switching on the lights of your room, we have let technology get the worst of us. And with the lockdown now acting as a huge excuse for this torpor, there is an urgent need to mend the broken strings while we still can. May the Gatorade (or any other energy drink that you prefer) be always in your favour!

Anushka Ramesh
AIS MV, XII E



On Earth Day 2011, 28 million trees were planted in Afghanistan by the Earth Day Network.

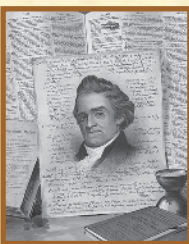
HISTORY this WEEK

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 19-25** that played their role in shaping our society.

The world of inventions

APR
21
1828

Lexicographer Noah Webster published the first American Dictionary of the English Language in 2 volumes. He began working on the dictionary in 1807 and completed it in the year 1825, citing Bible as its chief source. Embodying a new standard of lexicography, the dictionary with its 70,000 entries was believed by many to have surpassed Samuel Johnson's 1755 British masterpiece not just in scope but in authority as well. The rights for the same were sold to the Merriam brothers, George and Charles, after Webster's death in 1843, which ultimately led to the formation of Merriam-Webster.



The world of celebration

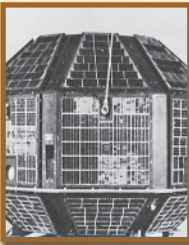
APR
22
1970

The first Earth Day was observed in United States, wherein some 20 million Americans took part in protests and rallies, organised by the national coordinator Denis Hayes, to fight against wanton environmental degradation. A brainchild of the staunch environmentalist Senator Gaylord Nelson of Wisconsin, the Day was originally designed to raise ecological awareness throughout the nation; the idea for which came to him in 1969 post surveying a Californian oil spill. It was only in 1990 that Earth Day went global, calling to action some 200 million people in about 141 countries.

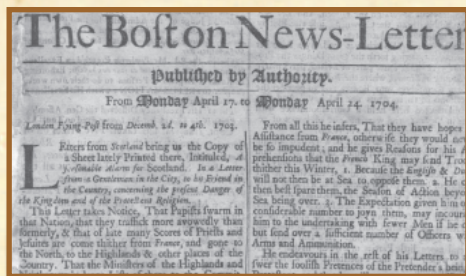


APR
19
1975

India's first satellite Aryabhata spacecraft was launched in the orbit from Kapustin Yar, Russia. Built by ISRO, the satellite was named after the famous Indian astronomer, and was launched using a Russian-made Kosmos-3M launch vehicle. Whilst instrumental in exploring conditions in Earth's ionosphere, it had to abruptly halt all its experiments after four days and 60 orbits, owing to a power failure, as a result of which all the signals to it were lost. Nonetheless, important information was collected. The satellite, having underwent orbital decay, entered Earth's atmosphere on February 11, 1992.



The world of entertainment



APR
24
1704

The first continuously published weekly newspaper in British colonial America, namely The Boston News-Letter, was founded. Heavily subsidised by the British government then, it required the Royal governor's approval for publication. In its initial years, issued as a half sheet, the newsletter was primarily filled with news from London journals describing the English political scene and the details of the European wars. Later on, it was enlarged to four pages, covering news from throughout the colonies. With the British withdrawal in 1776, the newsletter ceased to exist.



APR
23
2005

The first ever YouTube video titled 'Me at the Zoo' was published by the site's co-founder Jawed Karim. Recorded by his high school friend Yakov Lapitsky at the San Diego Zoo, featuring Karim in front of several elephants in their old exhibit in Elephant Mesa, the 19-second video was uploaded onto a channel with the username 'jawed' which was created on the same day. The said video played a prominent role in altering how people consumed media then and currently has over 150 million views.



APR
17
1977

The musical Annie made its Broadway debut at the Alvin Theatre (now the Neil Simon Theatre), New York, with Andrea McArdle in the lead role. Based on the popular Harold Gray comic strip Little Orphan Annie, this Charles Strouse composition ran for about six years, setting a record at the theatre. It spawned numerous productions in many countries, and won seven Tony Awards, including one for being the best musical. 'Tomorrow' and 'Hard knock life' are among its most recognised musical numbers.

The world of sports

APR
22
1876



The first game in the history of the National League of Professional Baseball Clubs, also known as National League, was played at the Jefferson Street Grounds in Philadelphia. Played between the Boston Red Caps and Philadelphia Athletics, the match was won by the former with a score of 6-5, with Joe Borden, Philadelphia Athletics pitcher, becoming the winning pitcher, and Jim O'Rourke, Boston Red caps outfielder, collecting the league's first base hit.

APR
23
1927



Football Association Challenge Cup Final was played between Cardiff City and Arsenal at Wembley Stadium, London, wherein the former won the match 1-0. It was the only time that an FA Cup match was won by a team based outside England, thus earning it the title of the 'Singing Final'. Post the match, Cardiff City's goalkeeper Tom Farquharson acquired the match ball and donated it to the Church. The ball is now stored at the Welsh Sports Hall of Fame at St Fagan's National Museum of History.

The world of politics



APR
22
1969

The Communist Party of India (Marxist-Leninist), as an advocate of armed revolution over electoral processes, was founded by the All India Coordination Committee of Communist Revolutionaries (AICCCR). Its formation was announced by Kanu Sanyal, one of its founding leaders, at a mass rally in Calcutta on the same day, which also marked Vladimir Lenin's 99th birth anniversary. The party however, owing to several internal discords and conflicts, dissolved on July 31, 1972, and further split into various minor Naxal/Maoist groups.



APR
19
1975

The American Revolutionary War, also known as the American War of Independence, fought between the Kingdom of Great Britain and the thirteen colonies of British North America, was initiated. Beginning with the battles of Lexington and Concord, and further fought within the towns of Lincoln, Menotomy (present-day Arlington), Cambridge, etc., the war finally ended after a little over 8 years on September 3, 1783, with the Treaty of Paris and ultimately led to the independence of the United States.



APR
23
1990

Namibia became the 160th member of the United Nations and the 50th member of the Commonwealth of Nations after being ruled by South Africa under its mandate of South West Africa for 75 years. From the mid-20th century, leaders in the country campaigned for the UN to end South African rule, but these campaigning attempts were largely met by violent resistance and suppression from the South African authorities. In 1966, however, the UN finally called for South African withdrawal and renamed South West Africa to Namibia. The country though was granted independence much later in 1990.

A magical tale

Imaging: Pankaj Mallik, GT Network

Storywala



Dalaisha Aggarwal
AIS Noida, XII

School life was getting hectic. So, Jasmine and Ali decided to go for a beach picnic. When they reached the picnic spot, all excited and raring to go, they spotted a child all alone and weeping. A kind girl, Jasmine wanted to help the little boy who seemed to have gotten lost. She asked, "What's wrong, child? Why are you crying? What's your name?"

The boy replied, "My name is Raj and you should stay away from me before I hurt you too." The voice was so low, it was almost a whisper and only Jasmine

and Ali could hear him. "I'm not normal like other kids. I see things, superficial things. They come to me late at night and stay with me till dawn. Would you want to see them? They're in my cottage." Jasmine and Ali wanted to laugh their hearts out at this bizarre speech but could not bear to break Raj's heart. So, they replied, "Of course!"

They were soon on their way to Raj's cottage, which was located far away from the beach, in the middle of a jungle. It took them almost three hours to reach there but once they did, it was truly worth the effort. There were tiny pixies, fairies, goblins, elves and many other magical creatures

swarming the cottage. They were majestic and had a hypnotic aura that left Jasmine and Ali overawed. Raj said, "Welcome to my cottage. Meet these unearthly creatures and please save them." Jasmine and Ali were too perplexed to react, but managed to blurt out a few words, "Save them? But from what?" "From their rivals in heaven. You see, they belong to heaven but have been thrown out because they are weaker than the other creatures there." Jasmine and Ali couldn't believe what they were hearing, but they had promised to help. They decided to train these creatures in warfare, and after weeks of intense struggle and sweat, the

There were tiny pixies, fairies, goblins, elves, and many other magical creatures swarming the cottage.

creatures were finally ready. The Gods descended to Earth, with the bigger creatures by their side, and on the opposite side stood Jasmine and Ali with their army of these small magical creatures. The fight commenced and raged for a few hours, but soon it was evident that the balance was tilted in favour of the bigger creatures. Jasmine and Ali had to come up with a strategy quickly and they decided that the only way to win was to kill the mother of all demons - Lilith. Both Jasmine and Ali attacked Lilith, flanking her from opposite sides and just as Jasmine was about to kill her, Lilith turned around and cried out in a vicious voice, "You will die!"

Jasmine could hear some announcer speaking loudly, "Thank you for trying out our VR New 100. We hope you enjoyed it." "Oh, it was a virtual reality game," thought Jasmine with relief as she got up to leave. Wait, was that a tiny penguin with wings lurking behind the monitor and winking at her? [GT](#)



Shreya Saurabh

Watermelon Petha

Shreya Saurabh, AIS Saket, XII C

Ingredients

Watermelon rind	15
Water	4 cup
Sugar	1¼ cup
Food colouring (orange and green)	2-3 drops each
Milk.....	¼ cup
Milk powder.....	½ cup
Dry fruits (chopped)	1 bowl
Dried rose petals	15
Edible silver foil.....	for garnishing
Tutti Frutti cherry	for garnishing
Clove.....	15

Procedure

For covering

■ Take watermelon rind and extract its inner white layer by removing the outer green shell.
■ Now, cut the white rind slices into a triangular shape.
■ In a saucepan, add water and bring it to a boil on high flame.
■ Now add rind slices in the boiling water and let them boil for a good 7-8 minutes. They will become a little transparent in the process.
■ Once boiled, drain them out and keep aside.
■ Now, in another saucepan, add 1 cup of water, half cup of sugar and 2-3 drops of orange food colouring. Boil until the sugar granules melt completely.
■ Repeat the same with the green food colouring in another saucepan.
■ Now, add the boiled rind slices in these syrups, a few slices in the orange syrup and a few in green, and boil them on

medium flame for about 7-8 minutes. Take them out and keep aside.

For stuffing

■ In a saucepan, add milk powder, milk and ¼ cup of sugar. Mix them well and cook on low flame for 2 minutes.
■ Transfer this mixture in a bowl and add dry rose petals and chopped dry fruits in it to enhance the overall flavour.
■ Now take the rind slices and place a little amount of this mix on each of them in the centre.
■ Fold the corners and lock the ends of the rind slices at the centre using a clove.
■ Lastly, decorate them with edible silver foil and cherries.
■ Once done, store them in the refrigerator.
■ Your watermelon petha is ready! Tune into Harry Styles' 'Watermelon Sugar' and savour the sweetmeat whole!

WORDS VERSE

The greatest treasure



Aarushi Raina, AIS Noida, XII

Through struggles and pains
You brought me in this world
Your heart's my first gift
And your love my support

Your trust and your faith
The steadfast love you give
Taught me to enjoy little things
And fly as if I have wings

You are the writer of my story
Filling it with all the glory
Oh, I am blessed to have you, angel
You are my treasure, my mother. [GT](#)



Samudi Ranawake
AGS Gurugram, XII

They called her a foolish little girl
As she sought good in everything
When all truly believed otherwise
They called her naïve for smiling
Trusting when no one else dared to
They called her oblivious for seeing
When everyone else was blinded
By a darkness so abhorrent, so evil
They called her gullible as well

For being kind, and radiating love
They alleged she expects too much
Such distasteful words to describe
The honest act of being hopeful!

Well, it is hope that keeps her going
It's hope that one day she will shine
When the stars in her eyes will gleam
Even brighter than the brightest star
And her innocent smile will beam
Like the galaxies clustered together
And her soul will then shimmer, too

Like she's entirely made of starlight
She will glow like that full moon
That always speaks bliss to her heart
But they say it's wishful thinking
They crush her with words of despair
"Why seek the non-existent heaven?"

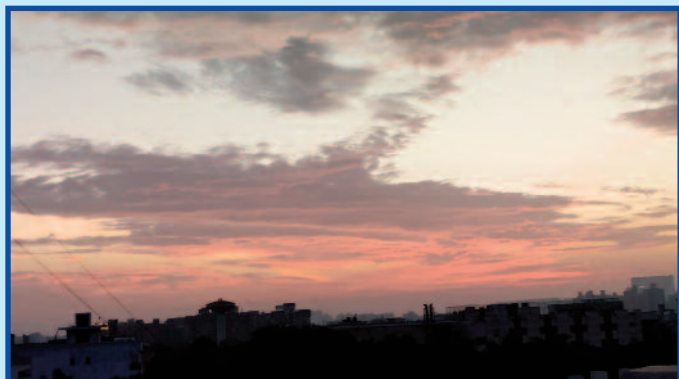
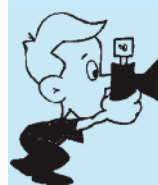
But hope is a sunflower blooming
In the confines of a neglected heart
Until it has made a permanent oasis

To be ignited by the fuel of vexation
And set ablaze by catalysts of deceit
Until all that is left is a pile of ashes
Only to be swept off by them winds
She thus learnt hope is mercurial
A dwindling flame, frail and fragile
But despite them crushing her hopes
She will keep rising from the dead
Each time more strong and fierce
For hope may be fading, not she [GT](#)

CAMERA CAPERS

Kriti Wadhwa, AIS Gurugram 43, XII C

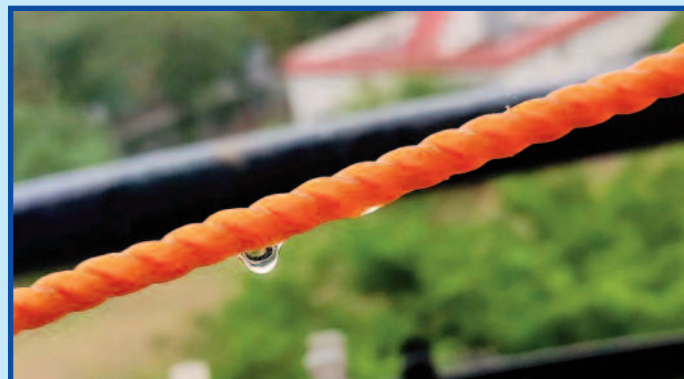
Send in your entries to
cameracapers@theglobaltimes.in



When the colours of twilight and sunset merge



When the puffy white clouds dot the clear blue sky



When we cling tight to that last drop of hope



The date for Earth Day was specifically selected to mobilise college students as the date falls right between their spring break and final exams in the US.

The theft

Short Story



Ananya Agarwal

AIS Gurugram 46, V G

It was Sunday morning and I was playing with my human buddy, Eve. I was so glad that she had been able to convince her parents into adopting me. Initially, they were planning on getting a dog instead, but Eve had held her ground and finally got me here. It was more than a month since I had come into this home but it was only Eve who truly cared about me. Though I really liked Eve, her love for ‘chase-the-laser dot’ game rather annoyed me. You

know, it was a nice game, but sometimes a rather too much. One fine day, I was busy running after the laser dot when I heard Eve’s mom calling out to her loudly. My sharp ears picked up the distress in mom’s voice and I meowed to Eve about that. “Is something wrong, Skittles?” she asked. I meowed a yes, and she said, “Ok, thanks for the warning. Kibble time!” I ran to my bowl and waited for food. She poured the food into my bowl along with an extra treat. When she came back from her mom’s room, I could sense that something was wrong. She sat

down on the floor and began to cry. After calming down a bit, she began telling me what her mom had said. Apparently, someone had stolen from them. What did ‘stolen’ mean? Oh, yes, it meant that someone had taken their things without asking or paying for it! That was mean! I meowed my sadness and anger on her behalf, and she said, “They took mom’s ring, but I am sad because they also took my pen! My special pen!” She began weeping again. I was so angry that her pen had been taken. It was something that had great value for her as it had been gifted

I was busy running after the laser dot when I heard Eve’s mom calling out to her loudly.

by her parents when she had turned 10. I could see why someone would rob it. The pen had a big blue crystal on its cap that looked like a real diamond. Eve was subdued for the entire day but got back to normal by the evening. Both of us were playing in the garden when I felt a bump on the ground. I am not too fond of digging up muck, but I am intelligent enough to know that a bump in an otherwise perfect garden is not normal. I began to dig and after a while, found a small pouch. I meowed to Eve to come and see, who then took the bag to her mother. Soon, the entire family gathered, hugging and kissing me and pampering me with treats. Apparently, the thief, in order to run away quickly from the scene, had hidden the bag with the ring and the pen in the garden, hoping to come back in the night to retrieve it. His failure to do so, however, made me everyone’s favourite in a few minutes. Well, a dog may be a man’s best friend, but cats do give them a tough competition, don’t they? [GT](#)

So, what did you learn today?

A new word: Weeping

Meaning: To express deep sorrow by crying



Desk organiser

Aarav Goel, AIS Mayur Vihar, V

Material required

- Rectangular shoe box with lid-1
- A pair of scissors
- A4 sheets-2
- Hot glue
- Paint colours
- Paintbrush
- Bold marker (any)
- Newspaper

Procedure

- Firstly, take a shoe box and remove the lid from the top.
- Using an adhesive, cover the outer surface of the box with a newspaper as per the measurements of the box.
- Now, using any colour of your choice, paint the outer surface thoroughly. Keep the box upright for the rest of the procedure.
- Coming to the inner hollow side of the box, cover it with an A4 size sheet.
- Next, cut two square pieces of dimension 6x6 cm from the shoe box lid. Paint them as per the colour of your choice.
- Paste these 2 pieces in an inverted right-angle order at the bottom left corner of the box to make a square section. This will form a separate section to store minute objects like pins.
- Then, cut out two rectangles from the remaining shoe box lid as per the width of the inner surface of the main box. Paint them as per the colour of your choice.
- Using glue, fit them inside the main box one above the other with enough space in between. This will give it a rack-like appearance. Here you can store relatively larger objects like sheets, pencil pouches or pencil stands. Refer to the picture.
- Your desk organiser is ready. Bring on all the stationery!

POEMS

R for respect

Yagya Dogra, AIS Gur 43, VI

Respect is a lesson
Everyone should learn
Respect must be given
Before an expected return

Respect is something
That is given for free
But respect is all about
Us and never about me

Respect is that on which
Relationships are founded

Respect is the anchor that
Keeps a person well grounded

Respect builds the character
And defines who we are
Respect sets the standard
And raises the world’s bar

Respect is magnanimous
And truly helps to fulfil
Respect is the partner
That sits with goodwill

Respect is like honey



So sweet it is perceived
Respect is a taste to savour
When it is truly received. [GT](#)

Night sky

Zainab Danish Kazmi

AIS Saket, VI

Look at the sky at night
You can see a glowing moon
The larks sing a beautiful tune
Fairies dance across the sky
Sprinkle fairy dust as they fly
This is the magic that I love
All the stars twinkle above
Such is the night sky you see
Shiny stars suspended free
Shooting stars do amaze
I could just stare and gaze. [GT](#)

It's Me

Know me

Name: Pranati Dhyani
School: Amity International School, Noida
Class: IV B
Birthday: April 29

About me

I like: Playing with my sister
I dislike: Violence
I like: Painting
My best friends: Navya and Nikita

My favourites

Book: Grandma’s bag of stories
Game: Hide and seek
Mall: Pacific Mall
Food: White sauce pasta
Teachers: Rachna ma’am and Poonam ma’am
Poem: Two little dicky birds
Subject: English

My dreams and goals

I want to be: A teacher
My role model: My mother
I want to be featured in the GT because:
It is my favourite newspaper and it will be nice to see my name in it.



Riddle fiddle

Atharva Pandey

AIS Noida, VII

1. What can you buy but never actually eat?
2. What goes up and down but never moves?
3. What can you serve but never eat?
4. What goes down but never goes up?
5. What has four legs but cannot walk?

Answers: 1. Plate 2. Stairs
3. Tennis Ball 4. Rain drops
5. Table

PAINTING CORNER

Prakhar Sharma
AIS Noida, II F





Weighing Both The Sides Of An Omnipresent Pandemic Called COVID-19

Farhan Siddiqui

AIS Gurugram 46, X E

For as long as humanity has existed, we have had our differences with each other. From the formation of different groups based on likes and dislikes, approval or disapproval, dos and don'ts, the world will always see two sections of people on any given topic, and this pandemic, too, brought us face to face with these two groups on a myriad of topics.

The Michelin chefs vs appetite builders:

Even when the Coronavirus pandemic caused so much chaos in this world, one of its silver lining was definitely the birth of new chefs. As food deliveries and restaurants were shut under a lock, the task of making one's food befell on them. Open up your Instagram page, and one can find photos of these people experimenting with Dalgona coffee, baking breads and creating exquisite dishes. But on the other hand, there was another group that suffered the same ill-fate, but instead of taking matters into their own hands, they decided to wait out their agony. Their curses of the pandemic ended up with declaration of their waiting period, saying they will wait for their ever-favourite momos *wale bhaiya!* They are the ones who depended on packaged and ready-to-eat food they hoarded at home because who wants to go through the strenuous trouble of cooking!

The workout freaks vs the lazy heads:

The gyms were closed but there were workout freaks who didn't care

about anything else but their six pack abs. As people were stuck inside their homes and the pandemic affected everyone's health, they decided it was high time to take their health seriously and get in shape. They thought the lockdown to be the best time to kick start their dream of posting working out pictures on social media. But on the other hand, the lazy heads still found reasons to ignore it all. They are the same ones who made a new year revolution to get in shape but "gyms band hai toh mein kya kar sakta hoon?"

The syllabus freaks vs the procrastinators:

As schools were all shifted online with no idea of when we would be going back to the campus, some studious students took their extra time to cover their syllabus and get extra practice under their belt. They revised their subjects at least 10 times and the little thing called 'surprise test' didn't scare them at all. But some of their classmates took this extra time for what it really was - 'extra'. Staying true to their



name, these procrastinators did nothing to utilise their free time but were still the first one to complain about the huge syllabus that they will probably have to touch one day, but that won't be today!

Netflix vs DD: When most of the people in the world were sad that they were stuck at their houses, there were some who were very happy, aka the binge-watchers. They finally had all the time in the world to pay attention to their real love - streaming services. From Netflix to Amazon to Hotstar, their time had finally

come to shine bright, just like their screens. One season after the other, if streaming was a sport, they'd surely win. But on the other hand, we had the classic 'old is gold' crowd who believed that instead of getting caught up in this new age world, it was time to go back to Doordarshan classical epics like Ramayana and Mahabharata.

Thus, the COVID-19 pandemic might have extinguished many differences but it proved yet again that no matter what, there always will be two sides to a coin.



A new way of living

An Account Of Life During Pandemic



Sejal Suri, AIS Vas 1, VII

A drowsy morning began with a glass of milk. I was in front of the computer staring at a bunch of other students appearing just as dozy as me. A glass of milk by my side, I stretched my arms and yawned wide. The school scenario had taken a drastic turn in just one year and how! However, when the teacher asked a question, there was pin-drop silence. Some things never change. Finally, the classes ended. I sprang up from my chair, looking to pass time. I went to check on my father who was too busy with his conference. But was he really? He was impeccable with his neatly ironed shirt, but complemented it with a baggy pajama and slippers. As soon as the conference ended, he resumed his Netflix series right away.

What a legend, my dad!

Then I proceeded to nag my mom. She was cooking a unique chowmein recipe and was recording it side by side. Oh, my mom is also a YouTuber now. You go, mom! When I realised that I had spent enough time strolling around the house, I thought of sitting with my homework. I was in front of the laptop again, and I didn't even know when I dozed off again halfway through the homework. When I woke up, my eyes were painning sharply. I must wear my spectacles regularly from now on. Sure, so much of exposure to gadgets was making me tech savvy, or sick! I literally dragged my body which was on the bed continuously to have lunch but everyone at home looked occupied with something or the other. We quickly gobbled the yummy noo-

dles after mom was done with her chef maneuvering.

In the evening, I went for a walk. Masks and gloves on, sanitiser in the pocket, I set out for the garden. Again, everyone around me looked identical, except that some were tiny children, some were adults. Barely 30 minutes passed and I heard my mother from the balcony, "Come up!" After reaching home, I rushed through my homework. By the time I finished my work, it was time for dinner. Dad came to my room and called for dinner. So excited, I ran to the dining table, expecting Intercontinental, Mughlai, Italian, etc. But, the table was adorned with plates filled with peas and carrot vegetable, healthy diet. Hmm, at least that'll help my immunity. Afterwards, we sat together to watch movies. All thanks to work from home and schooling from home; no one was worried about going to bed early any more. We played games, laughed and had fun. It's well said that a good laugh at the end of the day makes the day fabulous. Even though all of us had a long day with the online classes, homework, conferences and cooking experiments, our time together made up for it all. True, pandemic has changed life as it was, but this life is what we are getting used to. Although, we don't want it to be the new normal, but, with no other option in sight, all we can do is make the most of what we have! 🇮🇳



Shreejeet Gautam Jha, AIS Noida, VIII

Corona, you came into our life
Like a destructive swinging vine
Took our heart across the line
But victory over you, we shall find

When you came into existence
I didn't take you seriously at times

But you destroyed everything
You ruined all of mankind

Humans are battling in pain
Only to wonder if it's in vain
We know you've a mission here
Which is to make all feel fear

Poor, rich, powerful or weak
All must work to make you fleet
But we know it in our heart
That we will tear your apart!

Artistic Expression



Nayonika Mavuri, AIS Gurugram 46, XII S



The official Earth Day song called Earth Anthem was written in the year 2013 by the Indian poet Abhay Kumar. It has been recorded in all UN languages.

IRIS 2020-21

Young Scientists Showcase Their Innovative Prowess



Shivam Mukherjee, AIS PV



Aditya Chugh, AIS PV



Vrinda Anand, AIS Vas 1



Simone Nayyar, AIS Noida

ACSF

Eight projects from 5 branches of Amity Group of Schools in Delhi/NCR were selected amongst top 100 from across the country. These projects were showcased in the nationals of Virtual IRIS National Fair 2020-21 held from January 23-24, 2021. AIS Gurugram 46, AIS Saket and AIS Pushp Vihar showcased two projects each, while AIS Noida and AIS Vasundhara 1 showcased one project each.

The opportunity to display their innovative prowess at the prestigious platform was provided under the visionary guidance of Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools



Daksh Kalra, AIS Gur 46



Suhani Gupta, AIS Gur 46

and RBEF. The event was coordinated by Amity's Childrens' Science Foundation (ACSF).

The projects which made it to the nationals were: Sludge-knight: A sewer cleaning Robot by Shivam Mukherjee (IX), and Cost effective ECGs with vibrating light sources by Aditya Chugh (XII)

from AIS Pushp Vihar. AIS Gurugram presented Natural adhesive and Social distancing smart mask by Daksh Kalra (X) and Suhani Gupta (VI) respectively. From AIS Saket, it were Futureal by Arnab Gupta (XI) & Ananya Gupta (IX), and Veranut- osadhivanaspati relief dur-

ing COVID by Niharika Roy (X) and Yajika Dagar (X). AIS Noida showcased Hilarity against sufferings of AML by Simone Nayyar (X), and finally, AIS Vas 1 showcased ROBOVID 20 - A robotic arm for frontline workers at banks and healthcare facilities, etc., to avoid human touch while at work by Vrinda Anand (XI).

Participants attended live sessions on diverse topics by individuals from national and international organisations. They visited the showcase zone featuring 100 innovative, research-based STEM projects from 19 states and 49 cities, covering 21 subject categories. They also explored scholarship options within India and overseas. [G](#) [I](#)



Niharika Roy, AIS Saket



Arnav Gupta, AIS Saket



Ananya Gupta, AIS Saket



Yajika Dagar, AIS Saket



Components of a salad labeled as constituents of a cell

Science from salad

AIS VKC Lucknow

An interesting online science activity was held for Class VIII students on April 8, 2021, wherein they learnt the basics of plant and animal cells through salad. The young minds decorated various types of salads in the form of cell and cell organelles, and la-

belled them accordingly. It was a learning with fun activity as they used carrots, tomatoes, radish, lettuce leaves, etc., to explain various types of cells and their structures such as contractile vacuole, mitochondria, plastids and cell wall.

To sum up, the activity enabled students to learn, while exploring their creative side. [G](#) [I](#)

Painting on the wall



The young artist paints her heartfelt message for her city

AIS Gurugram 43

A young artist Nitya Malhotra from Class X deployed her passion for art to put across her message for her city Gurugram as a participant in the Wall Art Painting held on March 23, 2021, by Udaan NGO. She painted a giant wall titled 'We Love Gurugram' along with eminent artists from Delhi/NCR. Based on themes 'Covid heroes' and 'Making city clean', the event was aimed at spreading awareness about pandemic and importance of sanitation and sanitisation. The painting wall



Nitya Malhotra

also featured Amity's logo in recognition of the contribution of Amity Group of Schools towards learning and development and further in facilitating social causes in the city of Gurugram. [G](#) [I](#)



Kenken champion Luvya with his medal

Unpuzzling math

A Genius And A Kenken

AIS Vasundhara 6

Math wizard Luvya Gupta from Class V won gold medal in the national round of Online Kenken International Championship* 2020 in the Delta category (for Class III-V) held on February 21, 2021. He won the prestigious medal by competing against thousands of children from 15 countries world over and has been felicitated with a gold medal and a certificate.

*Kenken is one of the world's largest Math Puzzle champi-



onship for school students designed to enhance and evaluate their numeracy skills, mental math operations skills, memory and concentration in fun way.

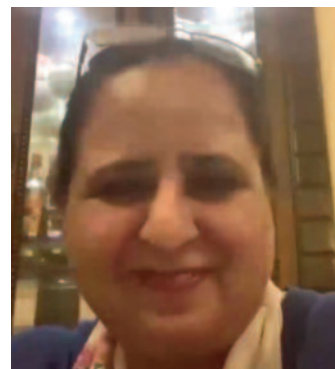
Training the teachers

Taming Time And Words

AIS Mayur Vihar

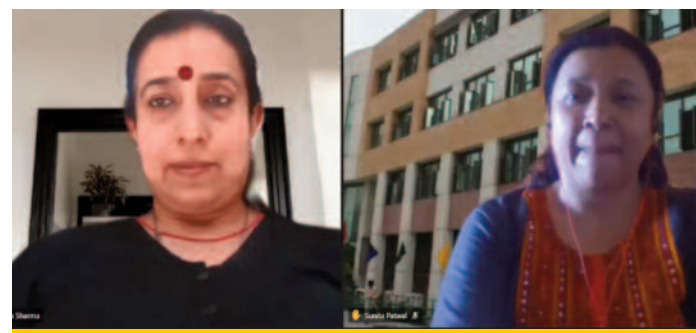
The school organised two online workshops for the teachers of primary wing to enrich teaching methods with soft skills in changed times. The first workshop held on February 23, 2021, titled 'Time management is life management' and was conducted by Meghna Chindalia, PRT. It focused on helping teachers develop efficient methods to prioritise, determine dependencies, overcome procrastination and value precious time as an invaluable investment. Participants were engaged in hands-on online activities to develop time management skills and apply them both in classroom and real life.

The second one held on February 26, 2021, was based on the 'Importance of effective communication skills' and was facilitated



A participant listens intently

by Hena Khan, PRT. Herein, the teachers were briefed about the importance of right communication and the best methods of effective communication while conducting classes. The workshop was interwoven with online games based on effective communication. In both the workshops, participants shared ideas and the best practices they deploy in the classrooms. [G](#) [I](#)



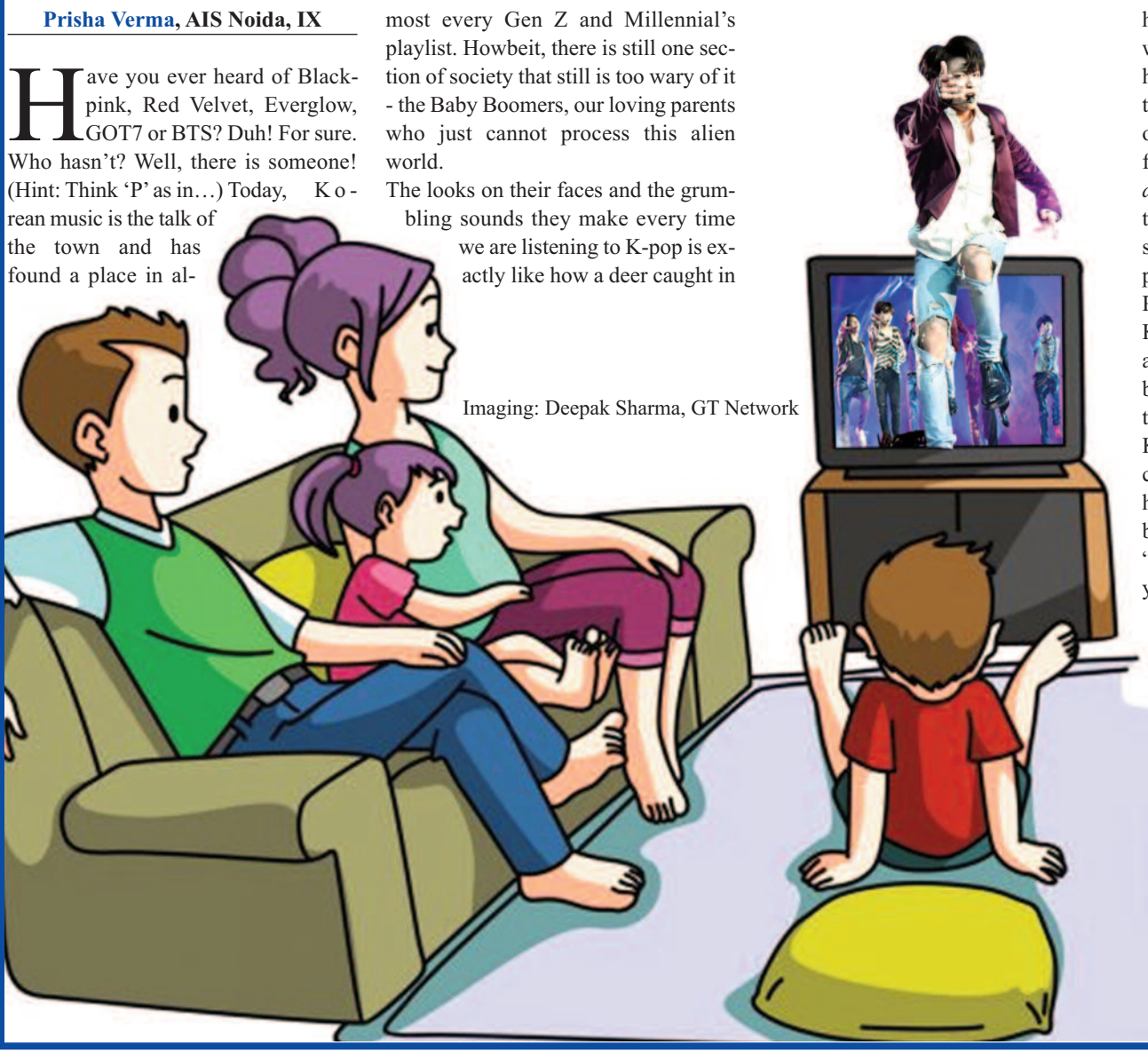
Participants share ideas and best practices during the workshop

K-pop vs parents

The Relentless Struggle Of Making Our Parents Understand Our Love For K-Pop

Prisha Verma, AIS Noida, IX

Have you ever heard of Blackpink, Red Velvet, Everglow, GOT7 or BTS? Duh! For sure. Who hasn't? Well, there is someone! (Hint: Think 'P' as in...) Today, Korean music is the talk of the town and has found a place in almost every Gen Z and Millennial's playlist. Howbeit, there is still one section of society that still is too wary of it - the Baby Boomers, our loving parents who just cannot process this alien world. The looks on their faces and the grumbling sounds they make every time we are listening to K-pop is exactly like how a deer caught in headlights reacts. You might think they would be used to it by now, considering how much the younger generation listens to it, but well... Every time we put on K-pop on the TV or speakers, the first question is always "Yeh kya laga diya? What are they saying?" And we'd think that the question was meant in a sincere form, so we finally have the opportunity to pull out our well-devised PPT filled with extensive knowledge of Korean culture and musical acts we adore. But not much of it is registered by our loving parents who seem to think we have started speaking fluent Korean as well and have become incomprehensible to them. They ask us how we can even understand what is being said. Sometimes, they even go "Why can't you just listen to songs in your own language? Do you even know what you are mumbling to in the name of chorus?" Of course, as parents, they want to ensure that we, as young impressionable minds, are listening to the right kind of music (simply put, the one they understand and maybe appreciate). As the tussle continues, our parents half-heartedly accept defeat, but that is not to be mistaken as giving up. They don't miss any chance in pulling our leg, asking us to sing along to the "song that is your favourite" and giggling at watching us struggle with our broken or non-existent Korean speaking skills. But all this is done in good nature, because after multiple attempts, we finally manage to sit them down and explain some translated lyrics to them. We make them watch music videos, most of which carry English translations of the lyrics in captions, and they finally see that maybe the language spoken is different, but the feeling that these songs carry is just the same because human experience is universal. Maybe they also understand that as young adults, it is important for us to listen to meaningful lyrics, like the ones BTS speaks of in their discography, to not only find our own path in this world, but also to develop our EQ that is more accepting and understanding of others who are different from us. Maybe our parents don't understand or want to understand K-pop on the same level as we do, but it cannot be ignored that they are still trying their best to accept it (or ignore it), even though we might run into some hiccups every now and then. Maybe they will finally be more lenient when Jung Kook and V sing Sonu Nigam songs or when Lisa dances to famous Bollywood numbers, but until that happens, all we can say is thank you to our parents for at least trying to understand an entirely new alien concept only for the sake of their children. *Gamsahamnida, bumonim* (Korean for 'Thank you, parents')!



Imaging: Deepak Sharma, GT Network

A pawrspective

So What If They Cannot Articulate Their Love For Us? We Know It In Our Hearts!

Diya Arora, AIS Saket, IX B

Why isn't she up yet? Maybe I should woof. But no, she was working till late last night. She must be so stressed these days. I think I should let her sleep. Even mom is letting her rest today. But what should I be doing then? Never mind, I'll just chew on her slipper till then. Okay, now, enough of the sleep. I'll climb onto the bed and pat at her head. In a moment, she scrunches her face as I lick her nose. She realises that it's another day and that she shouldn't be wasting her time anymore in slumber. At least, that's what I think. She gets up and hugs me (I must say she almost squeezed me). Today being a weekend, I hope that she has planned her whole day keeping me in her mind. I hope that she would spend the day with me. Still in her bed, she talks to me in a baby-ish voice. She loves me and treasures me, I know, but what are you even saying, Annie? I act like I understand because she cares so much for me. I've been with Annie since forever. She's my best friend. "Come on, let's go for a walk!" she says. I scurry behind her before she puts me in my favourite leash. I usually get startled and freak out when I am outside. There's this huge white puffy cat. He appears innocent but he is not so innocent. He lives at the end of the street and makes a grumpy face whenever he sees me. I figure he hasn't taken a bath since forever. Even I don't like taking baths, but Annie gives me cooked chicken treats after every shower. I wouldn't miss that, now would I? I want her to take me to the new community pet park but as I drag myself to the left, she pulls me back. I think it's because she's talking to her boss. Annie's tone seems stressed, and she has these lines on her face. She hangs up and starts to walk back towards the house. I haven't even finished pooping but she pulls me back. We reach home and she rushes to the washroom to get ready. But where's she going anyway on a Sunday? We'd barely been spending any time together. She comes out of the washroom and rushes towards the door. I don't want her to leave so I will do what I'm best at. I clasp her legs with my paws. She looks at me and pauses for a moment but her phone chimes relentlessly. "Now don't give me those puppy eyes, Bruno. I will see you in the evening. I wuv you soo much!" Annie says to me in a mollycoddling voice while she strokes my head. And then, she pulls herself out of my paws and slams the door on my face. There goes another day. I climb onto the bed and lie there, thinking of how life was when it was just me and my best friend. She is now 26 years old, my Annie. When she was young and did not have to look after so many things in the world, we would go for long walks, meet new friends and cuddle all day in bed but, these days, it's just me. Wait, I can hear someone's footsteps. I run towards the door waiting for her to burst it open. It was Annie! She puts her arms around me and kisses me on the head, "Wuv you, Bruno." she said. "I love you, too!" I yapped. That puppy face did work, after all!

