

## Travelling to a T



### Modern Day Tadka To The Traditional Recipe Of Vacationing

**Mariam Fatma, XII A & Varada Kachroo, Alumna AIS VKC Lucknow**

In the quest to aid international understanding and economic advancement, the tourism industry has broadened its horizons like never before. Valued at 10.5 trillion USD, even after being battered by the pandemic, it has become a gateway to unique experiences. How? Let's see.

#### Online > traditional agencies

**"148.3 million travel bookings are completed online every year."**

Gone are the days when people spent hours in a travel agency trying to plan the best trip ever. With the advent of online booking agencies, everything now is a click away, even better options we never had before. Besides, unlike direct bookings where one has to prepay the entire cost, online agencies even provide the option of paying later. They also don't let the customer shoulder the burden of last-minute changes alone. Zero cancellation charges, anyone? Supplementing it further is the concurrent increase in online travel information, all thanks to social media. Planning never looked this easy, or did it?

#### Experimental travel > leisure travel

**"60% of global travellers value experiences more highly than material possessions."**

The modern travel style where the journey is clear but the destination isn't intrigues

many, for it involves elements of serendipity and helps one further their development through unique experiences. Aerotourism, alphetourism, voluntourism etc., are some of the sundry forms it can take. But to say

that's all one travels for wouldn't be entirely fair. Because from babymoos, destination weddings, and pilgrimages, to cruising, wellness holidays, staycations etc., people are travelling for all sorts of purposes now.

#### Stay in style > whatever's offered

**"There are AirBnB listings in 220 countries around the world."**

Ten years ago, the accommodation choices available to us were limited; travellers either had to stay at hotels (which were scarce and expensive) or make do with holiday rentals that required a minimum booking of a week. Howbeit, the emergence of homestays or AirBnB has changed the tide for good. A house, a single room, penthouse, treehouse, trailer, or even a boat, this commercialisation offers a host of short-term homestays to travellers at a reasonable price. What else would anyone away from home desire more?

#### Budget friendly > paying fixed prices

**"Low-cost airline market is expected to grow at a CAGR of 9.8% and will cross 302 billion USD by the year 2030."**

Occasional recessions, market crashes, COVID-19 notwithstanding, life has improved steadily in the recent decades. Products and services which were once for the rich have become accessible to everyone. Airlines exemplify this democratisation of services, with low-cost carriers such as AirAsia, IndiGo, SpiceJet etc., being at the fore-

front of the movement. Besides, paying cheap fares for no-frills air travel with fewer comforts is a bargain accepted by the majority of travellers – a move that has not only benefitted them but also the tourism sector as a whole by pushing prices down. With planes getting bigger and their ranges improving withal, all thanks to technological development, flying non-stop has become viable as well, something that would've seemed impossible, say, 10 years ago.

#### Well-equipped > letting fate decide

**"The global travel technologies market is valued at six billion USD in 2023, and is set to hit 13 billion USD by 2033."**

From the way we choose a destination to the activities we indulge in there, travel tech forms an indispensable part of our journey, and by virtue of that, of the modern tourism industry. And that's exactly why we have a gadget for every situation we might come across. Selfie sticks, DSLRs, power bank, bluetooth, smartwatch, noise-cancelling headphones, GoPro – you name it! We even get suitcases with a built-in USB charger and GPS tracker now. Besides, there's now an app for almost everything. Got lost? Google Maps at your service. Cannot comprehend the road signs? Photo translator here to help. Want to convert currencies? My Currency Converter & Rates got your back.

As new travel trends, thus, crop up with each passing day, it is safe to say that the travel sector has only onwards and upwards to look forward to. **GT**



### THE GT POLL

**Do you think Elon Musk's radical rebranding of Twitter's iconic bird logo with 'X' would bring a decline in the platform's user traffic?**

- A) Yes
- B) No
- C) Can't say

To vote, checkout our Instagram page @the\_global\_times

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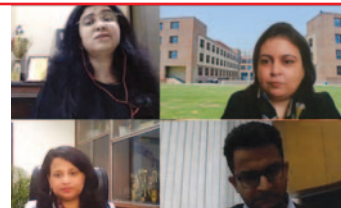
### What's inside



**Click click boom!**  
Travel through the picturesque journey of the DSLR camera, invented by Steven J. Sasson, and enjoy its colourful adventures.  
**...more on page 4**



**Wonders of linen**  
Made from the fibers of the flax plant, linen is the most versatile and popular fabric of all. Read on to know the journey of this celebrated fabric.  
**...more on page 7**

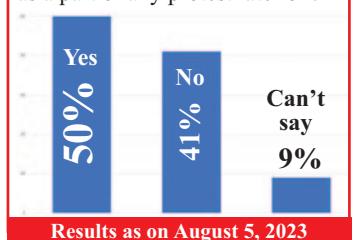


**Health and hygiene**  
An insight into a host of opinions shared by experts on 'Hand Hygiene', the cause chosen by the YP team of AIS Vasundhara 1 (2021-22).  
**...more on page 10**

### POLL RESULT

for GT Edition July 31, 2023

Do you agree with the recent recommendations by a parliamentary panel asking award recipients to sign an undertaking pledging not to return their award as a part of any protest later on?





# Around The WORLD

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

## RUSSIA

### Launched e-visas

In a bid to bolster bilateral ties and boost tourism, the nation's Ministry of Public Security has started issuing e-visas for citizens of around 52 countries, including India, from August 1. Done to help people get travel approval faster, the e-visa will be processed in a period of four days max, for which, a 40 USD consular fee will be charged. Valid for 60 days on a single entry, these can be used just like any other regular visa.



## CHINA

### Rains wreak havoc

As storm Doksuri swept across the nation in the wee hours of July 29, 2023, capital city Beijing got battered by some of the worst rains and floods ever recorded in the nation in over 140 years. The storm, having forced over 50,000 people to flee, has claimed the lives of 20 so far, with over 27 missing still. With its roads now transformed into a fast flowing river, the country is bracing for the arrival of typhoon Khanun, the sixth such storm of the year. President Xi Jinping has called for "every effort" to rescue those "trapped" by the rains.

## USA

### Voyager 2 back at play

NASA's spacecraft Voyager 2, that stopped receiving or transmitting data post getting a wrong command on July 21, showed signs of life once again, confirming that it is still broadcasting and is in "good health". Launched in 1977 with an aim to convey the story of our world to extraterrestrials, the spacecraft is currently over 19.9 billion km away from earth and is the first and so far only spacecraft to have visited the outer planets Uranus and Neptune.



## CANADA

### No more Meta news

The government, on July 27, 2023, gave assent to the Online News Act, expected to come into effect by the end of this year. As per the bill, tech giants must pay local news outlets for posting their stories/pictures on their platforms. In response to the bill, Meta, viewing the decision as one "based on the incorrect premise that Meta benefits unfairly from news content shared on" it, has planned to ban news availability on Facebook and Instagram.



## NIGERIA

### Coup leaders warned

On July 30, leaders of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) organised an emergency summit to discuss President Bazoum's removal from power in a military coup that took place on July 26. The summit saw leaders call for order to be restored, giving one week ultimatum to Niger's coup leaders to free the president and reinstate him in his position. The 15-nation regional bloc has also threatened to use force if the demands aren't met.



## INDIA

### PM Modi honoured

Prime Minister Modi, on August 1, 2023, was conferred with the Lokmanya Tilak National Award, constituted by Tilak Smarak Mandir Trust in 1983. "This is a memorable moment for me," he said upon receiving the honour. The prestigious award acknowledges those with exceptional contribution towards development of the nation. Honouring the legacy of freedom fighter Bal Gangadhar Tilak, it is presented every year on his death anniversary on August 1.



## AUSTRALIA

### Reef off danger

The nation's conservational efforts to preserve the Great Barrier Reef bore fruit, as the world's biggest coral reef ecosystem managed to evade UNESCO's danger list for good. Though the scientific organisation suggested for it to be put on the said list after frequent coral bleaching events, the same did not get implemented. However, the reef still remains under "serious threat", a progress report for which has to be submitted to the UN by February 2024.

## News Flash

► **Lebanon:** Clashes with Islamist groups leaves 11 people dead, with 2000 forced to flee the Palestinian refugee camp ► **Brazil:** José Paulino Gomes, believed to be world's oldest man, passes away at the age of 127 ► **Spain:** Country's women football team becomes one of the first to qualify for Women's World Cup





Marc Cerdan, general secretary  
Fondation des Alliances Françaises

# Culture is paramount

## Marc Cerdan On Creating A More Culturally Aware World

organised under the aegis of Amity Educational Resource Centre (AERC), as a chief guest, GT reporters took the opportunity to interact with him. Here are a few excerpts worth mentioning...

### Towards a cultural path

I have always been interested in learning more about humans. This curiosity in me to know anything and everything about others belonging to my species is what inspired me to choose this profession. It is through my work that I have come to see how rich the cultural diversity of the world really is. For cultural diversity, to me, is as important as biodiversity. It is vital for humanity to thrive and flourish.

### To fix up a cultural dialogue

The world today is both globalised and unstable at the same time, making it difficult for us to distance ourselves from worldly issues that require a collective response and therefore, a dialogue between various people. Couple it with the ever-growing demands of our society, in terms of justice,

To make the world a place where cultural differences are seen as a strength and not a tool to separate humans from one another, we need more culturally sensitive people like Marc Cerdan, general secretary, Fondation des Alliances Françaises. A committed citizen of the world, he has over three decades worth of experience in promoting French and managing cultural institutions across the world. As he attended the AIMUN'22 conference, or-

## INTERVIEW

equality, access to resources, etc., and the challenges magnify. One must understand, that to overcome these, cultural dialogue amongst nations is necessary.

### With help from educational bodies

In order to promote cultural interaction amongst nations, it is necessary to give access to education to all children, which is sadly not the case now. Educational institutions across the globe also need to encourage the children to think critically, which is only possible through a thorough training in arts. In fact, the education provided by parents and the child's social environment is also decisive in allowing young people access to tools that will help them understand the world better, highlighting how education of any sort is of utmost significance.

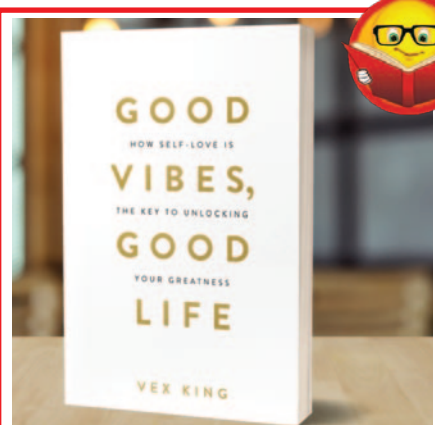
### With help from Alliance Française

Alliance Française works towards promot-

ing French language and culture across the world. All our educational and cultural activities as such aim to contribute to intercultural dialogue, and strengthening of friendship between people. We are currently preparing for the 140th anniversary of the foundation, which will be held at the UNESCO headquarters in Paris. Not only will this ceremony bring together the whole network of Alliance Française from more than 130 countries, but it will also put emphasis on how humanism can be embodied at present and in the times to come.

### With help from India

India is a country of culture, refinement, and spirituality galore. Home to numerous communities, the country is exceptionally diverse, making it one of a kind and a cultural paragon for the world. Besides, as a vegetarian myself, I admire a country where a large portion of the population is vegetarian, a thing of rarity when compared to the rest of the globe. So, India has a lot of learning to offer to a world that has a lot of knowledge to secure.



**Book:** Good Vibes Good Life  
**Author:** Vex King  
**Published on:** December 4, 2018  
**Genre:** Self-help book

**Synopsis:** A self-help book, Good Vibes Good Life discusses, in great detail, the various methods one can adopt to make their life happier and meaningful. Divided into seven parts, with each one of them dealing with varied topics such as – positive lifestyle habits, manifesting goals, etc., it helps one unlock their greatness and to find a purpose in life. The book, using author's real-life situations and several inspirational quotes, also describes the innumerable benefits one can avail by practicing self-love. For, as per the author, simple virtues like self-love, gratitude, compassion, etc., can help us build the life

## Book Review

# An ode to life



of our dreams.

**Why is it worth reading:** Through this book, the author encourages people to change the way they think, feel, speak, and act in order to change the world around them. With due emphasis on several mantras and laws, such as the two laws of attraction and the law of vibration, he teaches us how to push through all the difficult situations in life. The readers of the book, thus, would get a fair chance at changing their situation in life if they read the book thoroughly and vow to inculcate the values it imparts in their life. So, go grab your copy now and transform your life completely.

**Iconic quote:** "True self-love is when you appreciate where you are and who you are, regardless of any transformation you aspire to."

**Rating:** 5/5

**Review by:** Sarah Hasan  
AIS VKC Lko, XI B

### AMITY CAREER COUNSELLING & GUIDANCE CELL

REGISTRATIONS OPEN FOR

**DIGITAL PSAT 8/9**  
**DIGITAL PSAT/NMSQT**

#### ABOUT PSAT & ITS BENEFITS

- The PSAT assessments offer an important step in helping students prepare for university. Administered by the College Board, the makers of the SAT.
- PSAT is a Practice test for SAT and is in a similar format as SAT.
- PSAT is a cost-effective way to practice for the SAT.
- PSAT exam is administered digitally, on the students device using Bluebook app.
- PSAT also enables students to recognize their skill set to help them in other similar standardized/competitive exams held in India & abroad, even if students do not plan to take the SAT.

**Test Centre :** Amity International School, Pushp Vihar, New Delhi

Exam	Class	Exam Date
PSAT 8/9	Grade 8 & 9	Saturday 14 October 2023
PSAT/NMSQT	Grade 10 & 11	

**Registration End Date**

**Wednesday, August 30th, 2023 (5:00pm IST).**

For more information & registration, please visit <https://amity.edu/ais/psat/>

EMAIL ID: psatcoordinator@aispv.amity.edu  
CONTACT NO: +91 9205888525



# Click click boom!

From the crack of dawn, technology stirs us with its reliable alarms, and caresses us with the cooling breeze of our ACs as we drift off to sleep, weaving its wonders into our everyday lives. GT pays homage to this silent saviour that simplifies and enhances our existence with a brand new series, unwrapping A to Z of iconic tech pieces, one letter at a time. Here's presenting the **D** in this series that changed human life as we know and live it.

**Viraaj Lall, AIS Pushp Vihar, VI C**

**The tech:** DSLR (Digital Single Lens Reflex Camera)

**The inventor:** Steven J. Sasson

#### How was it invented?

Steven J. Sasson, an engineer at Eastman Kodak, is credited with building the first digital camera prototype, laying the founda-

tion for DSLRs. In 1975, Sasson created this prototype using a movie camera lens, various Motorola components, 16 nickel-cadmium batteries, and newly invented electronic sensors called CCDs (Charge-Coupled Devices). The prototype captured black-and-white images at a resolution of 0.01 megapixels (10,000 pixels), storing them on a cassette tape.

#### When did we get to know it first?

In 1991, Kodak launched Kodak DCS-100, which was the world's first fully digital SLR aimed at the consumer market. However, it was first shown at Photokina in 1990. Consisting of a modified Nikon F3 SLR body and drive unit, as well as an external storage unit connected via an interconnect cable, the camera had the ability to transmit images immediately back to the newsroom. It also featured a 1.3 megapixel KAF-1300 image sensor and a tiny LCD screen to view stored images, along with a keyboard to name photo files and write captions.

#### Why do we use it?

DSLR cameras are used for their superior image quality, interchangeable lenses, man-



**Fun fact:** Most first-rate DSLR cameras today come with a built-in 3G capability that enables them to establish an internet connection without a password.

#### How has it helped our lives?

DSLRs gained significant popularity in the early 2000s, marking a digital revolution in the photography industry, with photographers across the world readily embracing the benefits they offered such as instant feedback, cost-effective shooting, and the ability to shoot in various light conditions with an adjustable ISO. DSLRs have enabled us to document precious moments, express our creativity, and explore the world of photography. Additionally, they have facilitated the growth of various industries where visuals play a crucial role. DSLRs are also popular amongst astro photographers for their ability to capture long exposure shots of stars, galaxies, and celestial phenomena. 📷



# A ball and a feather

## Understanding The Phenomenon Of Air Resistance

**Saara Mathur, AIS Noida, Alumna**

*"All truths are easy to understand once they are discovered; the point is to discover them."*

*- Galileo*

One fine day, two friends, Rohan and Aman, decided to conduct an experiment by dropping a ball and a feather from their windows at the same time to see which one would hit the ground first. As they did, undoubtedly, the ball came down first, while the lone feather wandered off into the unknown. This left them puzzled, and they opened their science book looking for an answer...

"When dropped from a certain height, objects like feather tend to fall slower

due to air resistance," Aman read out loud.

"What is air resistance?" Rohan asked. "Air resistance is the force with which air pushes against a moving object. It is what caused the feather to fall slower than the ball," Aman explained. "So, if there was no air resistance, would the ball and the feather hit the ground at the same time?" Rohan questioned. This left Aman speechless. They were both asking the same question that had left scientists puzzled hundreds of years ago. Until came a man, who brought with him the answer to all these questions. He was called Galileo. A scientist by profession, Galileo stated that if two objects of different weights were dropped from a certain height in a vacuum, they would hit the ground at the same time. However, he didn't have the means to properly conduct this experi-

ment. Aman and Rohan went to their computers and found that another scientist Brian Cox had conducted the experiment that Galileo couldn't complete.

Brian Cox added a bowling ball and a few feathers in a chamber and sucked air out of it. This created a vacuum. In this vacuum chamber, he dropped a bowling ball and a few feathers at the same time and proved that Galileo was right. Both the objects hit the ground at the same time as without air there was no resistance, and thus, it seemed as if both the ball and the feathers had no weight. This left both Aman and Rohan astonished. The video had tickled their intellectual fancy and so, having opened their heart and soul to the glorious world of science, they both rushed out of their tent to gather as many objects as they could find. The experiments had just begun for them!

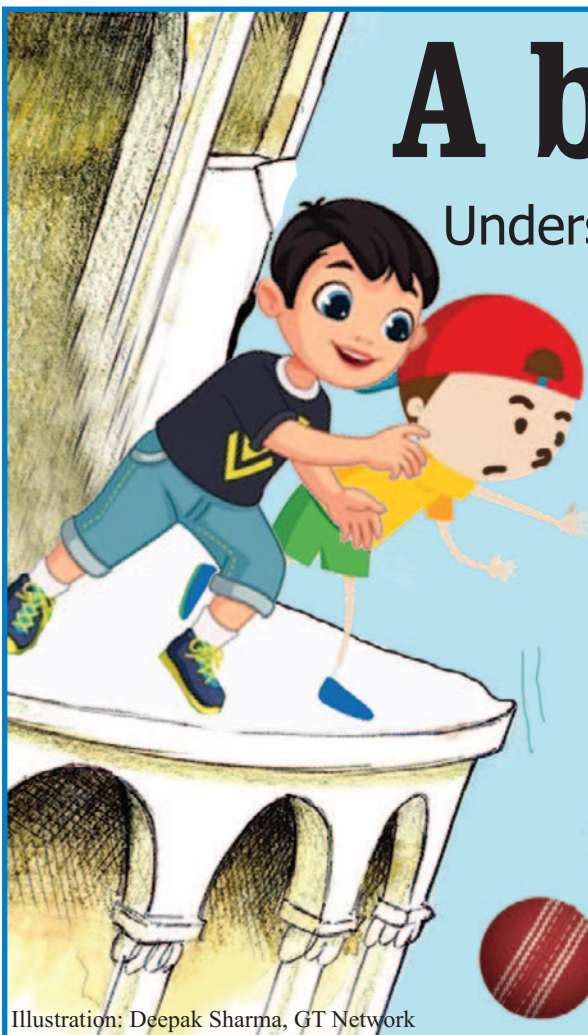


Illustration: Deepak Sharma, GT Network



# Look who's talking!

Let TED, The Ultimate Stage, Walk Us Through Its Great Adventures



Pranavi Mendiratta

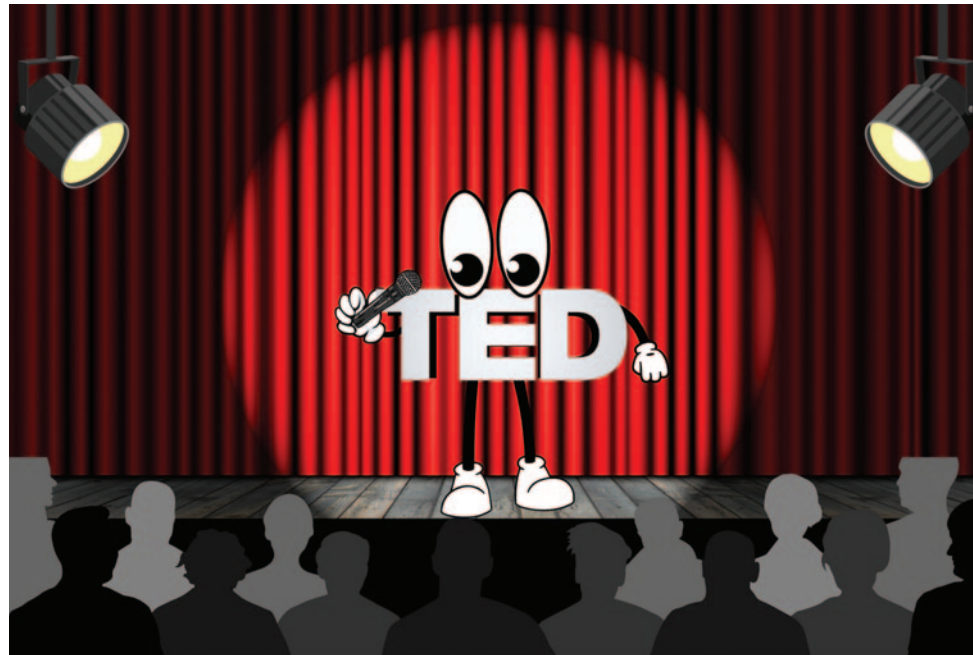
AIS Pushp Vihar, XI B

“Everyone kindly settle down. It’s an earnest request to switch off all the electronic devices you are carrying,” a voice boomed across the auditorium. A curious 7-year-old asked his mother, “Maa, why is the code of conduct so strict here? We aren’t at the White House, or are we?”

Well, how do I tell this little chap that I am no less than that. I am the ultimate platform of honour, TED; *naam toh suna hi hoga!* Be it SRK, who spoke eloquently about the parallels of humanity and an aging movie star, or Susan Cain, who shed light on the need to celebrate introverts, I have, over the years, given my stage to all - some popular, some lesser-known and some absolutely ordinary names - to share ‘ideas worth spreading’.

But I am not quite sure if that’s what my founding fathers, Harry Marks and Richard Saul Wurman, had in mind when they started out with me. Wurman wanted to come up with the ‘ultimate dinner party’. His aim was to create an ‘anti-conference’ that came sans PowerPoint or one-hour lectures.

It was February 28, 1984, when I saw daylight for the first time. Back then, I was an invitation-only affair. On my first day, I was blessed by mathematician, Benoit Mandelbrot. A show



Graphic: Dhruv Gupta, AIS PV, XII B

which turned out to be a financial flop is still the best show for me. For the next six years, the only audience I had was dust settled all over. Thank God for my godfathers who did not give up on me, and gave me my big break in 1990. I admit that I have a knack for being in the public eye, but I guess that’s why I was launched. Not to toot my own horn, but I have never been camera shy and I just love fame! How else do you explain 13,000 TED events conducted across 150 countries in over 100 languages? Not to forget the 80 million views I fetched. Over time, many have come and stepped upon me. Some of these orators even wore badges of

honour because they once stood upon me, and many a times it was me who was honoured to be in their presence. The politicians talk about equality, but I am the one who puts it into action. I provide everyone with a fair chance. There’s no minimum age limit, qualification requirement, or gender bias to give a ted talk; everyone is welcome. From scientists to holocaust survivors, from declamations about the path to success to technologies, I have seen or rather heard it all. So, it’s sad to see people trying to replicate me. Platforms like GoogleTalk, Big Think, etc., are all good, but then it’s hard to replace the original masterpiece, isn’t it? 🇺🇸🇩🇪

## Fact file

### I am poem

Samriddhi Chauhan

AIS Gwalior, X B

- The earliest forms of poetry predate written language. They were sung or recited to help people remember genealogy, laws, and oral history.
- The oldest surviving epic poem is the Epic of Gilgamesh that dates back to the 3rd millennium BC.
- The longest poem in the world is the Mahabharata. An Indian epic poem dating from the 4th century BC or earlier, the poem has about 1.8 million words and can be read in about 8 hours and 4 minutes.
- The world’s shortest poem is a one-letter poem by Aram Saroyan, comprising a four-legged version of letter “m”.
- Haiku is a Japanese poetic form that consists of three lines, with five syllables in the first line, seven in the second, and five in the third.
- The oldest poem in English is “Beowulf”. It was written in the 8th century.
- Free verse is an open form of poetry, which arose from the French *vers libre* form. It does not use consistent meter patterns, rhyme, or any musical pattern.

## ALBUM REVIEW



## A timeless art

**Album:** Indigo

**Artist:** RM

**Release date:** December 2, 2022

**Genre:** Hip-hop, rap, pop

**Synopsis:** The debut studio album of the rapper, in the artist’s own words, is “the last archive of (his) twenties.” Comprising ten tracks with notable features, the album captures life, its bittersweet struggles and achievements alike. Its packaging claims that it serves best when used while ‘taking a walk, drive’ etc., and that, in itself, reiterates how the album can act as a soundtrack to everyday life, mirroring it and making every moment significant. A follow-up compilation of RM’s first two mixtapes, Indigo presents a

concoction of both, which somehow transcends the topics and emotions touched by either. From a pensive call-back to the times gone by to an optimistic glance at what is yet to come, from an understandable grumble for companionship to disclosing the betrayals witnessed, RM raps every message unedited and straight from the heart. The album, holding a mirror to artist and admirer alike, is a record of life that is constantly in flux, yet thriving in the unpredictability of it.

**Why is it worth listening:** From being the highest charting album by a Korean soloist on Billboard in 2022 to being double platinum, Indigo proves why RM is one of the best lyricists in the industry. Not letting any genre constrict

his creativity, he presents the album as an honest insight, one that not only juxtaposes the life one assumes him to have as a member of BTS, but also as one that provides something relatable to every listener. Artists like him and albums like this – one that stays with you not for a day or year, but for as long as you are alive – are a rare gem. He has created art that moves above the current trend, and it is not too early to say that this one will be remembered as a timeless classic. One might be hesitant of approaching this album because of it being mostly in Korean, yet know that the beauty of music and companionship of human existence, especially one shared with RM, stands above and beyond simple factors like languages.

**Favourite song:** Lonely & Closer

**Rating:** 5/5

**Review by:** Mrinal Verma

GT Network



# Nurturing global citizens



Dr Amita Chauhan  
Chairperson

Imparting a 'holistic' education implies that children should develop a world view which allows them to accept and adapt to diverse cultures from around the world. It is this vision of 'Vasudhaiv Kutumbakam', or 'the whole world is one family', that forms the basis of Amity's unique and pioneering endeavour, Amity Educational Resource Centre (AERC).

Established in 2002, with an aim to bring the world to Amity and take Amity to rest

of the world, AERC has evolved as a chalice of global values and knowledge. It carries out extensive research, conceptualises, designs, organises, coordinates and launches new innovative projects in India and abroad through collaboration and partnerships with various international bodies. Amity International Model United Nations conference (AIMUN) is the flagship program where students across the world congregate at Amity Campus to deliberate on global issues. AERC has educational partnerships with almost 30 countries and fosters global citizenship and leadership through plethora of programmes like school exchanges and workshops, Oxford Global MUN, Wharton Global High School Investment Competition, Talk with a diplomat, Nurturing Leadership programs, etc. I am convinced that all Amitians, empowered with the global perspectives facilitated by AERC, will be the future changemakers the world needs.

## It's Time To Say Hip Hip Hurray!

Our ace archer Aishwarya Sharma, from AIS Vasundhara 1, has won a gold and a bronze medal in the team events of World Archery Championship held in Limerick, Ireland. She also bagged the ranking of World Number 6. She has truly inspired all Amitians to make a mark at the global level. 🇮🇳

# Time to act



Vira Sharma  
Managing Editor

Last week, GT reporters got an opportunity to hear and also interview scientist Dr N Kalaiselvi at Amity University (page 11), and this meeting turned out to be an eye-opener for all of us. When Dr Kalaiselvi spoke on topics like fuel consumption and energy management, I realised how little we know about our day-to-day actions which increase our carbon footprint and negatively impact the planet. What struck me was her reference to the phrase coined by Dr Chetan Sol-

anki, known as India's solar man, which tells us about the idea of AMG to OMG. Here, A denotes 'Avoid' using energy, M stands for "Minimise" your energy consumption, and G refers to 'Generate', so that you give back to earth what you take from it. In absence of the above, humans will have to face a massive energy crisis and they will be forced to say OMG (Oh My God)! Undoubtedly, we are all responsible for this dire situation. From the time we wake up till the time we sleep, every activity contributes to our carbon footprint. This includes factors like how much electricity we use, where our food is sourced from, as well as what kind of transport we choose. In fact, all the gadgets we use are major energy guzzlers. Simple measures like buying energy-efficient appliances, using less water, turning off lights, etc., can go a long way in making a difference. As responsible citizens, it's time to adopt better energy management in our lives. It's now or never! 🇮🇳

# Athletic metrics

## Debating The Usability Of Sports Performance Mapping

Prithish Bhattacharya

AIS VKC Lko, Alumnus

The methodology we deploy to analyse performance in sports today has seen a drastic transformation of late. For, with the incorporation of advanced statistical modelling, what used to be a result of watching a player or team for hours on end has now been reduced to a series of spreadsheets full of formulae. This method - derided in sports like basketball (APBRmetrics), oft-used in others like baseball (SABRmetrics) - has, howbeit, become a subject of endless debate.

### Game on!

First developed in 1964 by a group of "baseball nerds", most notably Earnshaw Cook and Bill James (the inventor of the term SABRmetrics), advanced statistics compare and evaluate the overall athleticism of an athlete. Making note of their current athletic readiness and predicting their future athletic success, they are thus considered crucial to the athletic development of a sportsman/team. So, it's barely any surprise that, with its introduction in sports, the game plans have changed, giving sports a much richer output and analysts the ability to produce better quality sportsmen. The field has now come to a form whereby, with the help of a wearable tech, a real-time analysis of a player is possible, too, allowing coaches to alter gameplay strategy on the fly. For, using multiple comprehensive analysis software, analysts can now obtain neuromuscular data that can



help them predict and prevent sports injuries if need be. The Sports Data Analytics market, as a result, is expected to reach upwards of 4.5 billion USD by 2025.

### Game off?

Howbeit, casual sports fans, conversely, have been equally vocal about their contempt for analytics. As per them, the analytics movement is about stat geeks who have never played the game and believe that math trumps everything. "Is that true?" You ask. Sometimes, yes, but mostly, a big no. For forward-thinking coaches have always explored new ways to analyse and attack the game, to test their hypotheses against

any available data. One example of this is that of the professional basketball team Dallas Mavericks that used advanced stats to make a key lineup change in the 2011 NBA Finals and by virtue of that, won the game. Howbeit, one can also not deny the fact that the analysis of a game or player can sometimes hinge on the tactics employed by the opposing team and thus, can backfire. There is also the question about the safety of sportsmen's personal data; analytics can be leveraged to compromise their security. For experienced bettors use data analysis to track public money, betting trends, projected win probabilities and more.

Technology is becoming more and more pervasive regardless, and the industry is only expected to grow as more accurate analytical tools become available. What greater impact will it have on the future of sports, only time will tell. 🇮🇳



Dear Editor,

This is in reference to the article 'Haunting memories' published on page 8 of the GT edition dated July 31, 2023. Through its simple yet intriguing writing style, the story depicts the petrifying traumatic response that a teen, in his fragile age, is vulnerable to show upon losing their beloved. It further enhances the reader's fortune by creating a sinister yet serene aura that keeps one hooked to the storyline till the very end. I



Issue: July 31, 2023, Page 8

find it a great pleasure to have read such an unprecedented piece of literature. In fact, according to me, it should be considered a 'Must read' for those who are up for bittersweet endings and for those who mostly like it simple yet perplexing. Thank you, GT, for providing students with a wonderful platform to openly share with all such incredibly meaningful fictional tales and also, their views and opinions on the matters of the world as we know it in general.

Riddhima Shrivastava  
AIS Gwalior, IX A



# Wonders of linen

**M**ade from the fibers of the flax plant, linen is considered to be the most versatile fabric of all. Synonymous with clothing and household items alike, this fabric has been popular since its discovery some 36,000 years ago, finding its mentions even in ancient civilisations like Mesopotamia and ancient Egypt. To this day, in fact, we probably have dozens of linen items, like gloves, towels, bedding, napkins, ribbons, sleepwear, et al, lying in our closets. Read on as *Shriya Pasricha, AIS Gurugram 43, IX B*, guides us through the evolutionary journey of this celebrated fabric...

## Linen origin story

The process of carbon-dating has proven that the usage of linen dates back to 8,000 BC, Egypt. Referred to as a symbol of light, purity, and wealth then, it was used for mummification and burial shrouds, and even as currency in some cases. There are also studies that suggest the presence of linen in ancient Switzerland's prehistoric dwellings. It was also produced in ancient Mesopotamia, but since the fabric is obtained by subjecting plant stalks to a series of operations, it has always been a costly item and thus, reserved for higher classes.



## How is it procured?

**Planting:** Since flax is an annual plant, it is harvested after roughly 100 days in a single growing season. Due to its fragility, this plant cannot withstand extreme heat. The weeds must be removed often and the soil must be well-tilled in order for it to grow.

**Harvesting:** When the plant achieves maturity, with its leaves turning yellow and the seeds brown, it becomes eligible to be harvested. It is then transported for the process of fiber separation.

**Retting:** In this stage, the fibers are separated, removing the leaves and the seeds of the harvested plants from the stalk.

**Breaking:** The decomposing stalks are then broken up, separating the useful parts of the plant from their waste counterparts.

**Combing:** At this point, the usable inner fiber of the plant is combed thoroughly into thin strands to ready them for spinning.

**Spinning:** With the help of spreaders, the long line fiber of the plant is then converted into roving(s) that are ready to be spun.

**Reeling:** Post spinning, the yarn is reeled onto a bobbin. Once the reel is ready, it can be dyed and sent for final weaving.

## What are its various types?



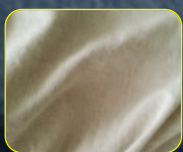
**Damask** – This variety of linen is made with a combination of plain and satin weave, giving it a smooth texture and reversible design.

**Plain-woven** - It has a loose weave that makes it absorbent, and a great fit for reusable napkins.



**Loosely woven** – Produced using hand-twisted yarns, this linen is highly absorbent and smooth to touch.

**Cambric** - It is the thinnest and finest variety of linen fabric, getting its name from Cambria, France, where it was first produced.



**Sheeting** - This linen is a heavy fabric and is usually made wider. It is used to manufacture bedding and apparel.

**Holland** – Holland linen is treated with a mixture of starch and oil until it becomes opaque to be used for window shades and lampshades.



### • Linen Store •

## What are its uses?

- Apparel and fashion clothing
- Home textile for making curtains, towels, bedsheets, etc.
- Industrial textile to make car seat covers, painting canvases, etc.
- Non-woven geotextiles used in draining water, separating different types of soils from each other, and reinforcing soil on highways, railways, dams, and buildings, etc.



## What kinds of blends can it form?

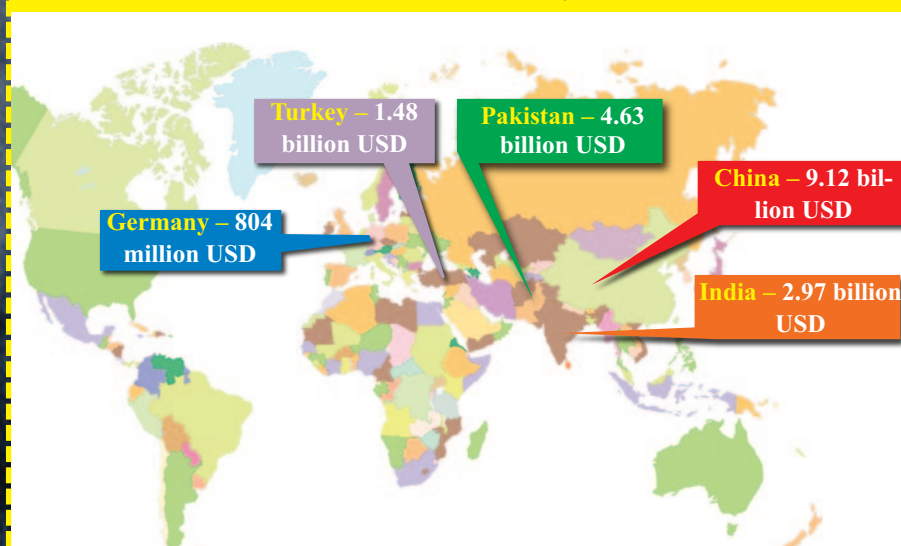
**Rayon:** When linen is blended with rayon, its stiffness goes away, making the whole fabric soft with an added sheen to it.

**Cotton:** Linen, when blended with cotton, becomes much softer and shows resistance to wrinkles and shrinkage.

**Polyester:** When blended with polyester, it gains colour-fastness and stays wrinkle-free.



## Which nations are its largest producers?





# A dutiful janitor



Storywala

Saanvi Aggrwal

AIS Mayur Vihar, Alumna

The work days at office always started off on a positive note. Though all my colleagues were warm and generous, the person I adored the most was John. He wasn't my boss or a colleague. Yet, he was the most crucial part of our office. "John, the Janitor" that's how everyone addressed him. One could describe him as a person who possessed a good sense of humour, is always keen on helping others, and devoted to his work. In fact, he was always the first one to reach office and make sure that everything was in place.

One morning, Mr Doris arrived a little too early and was surprised to

see John cleaning his table. "Good morning, Mr Doris," said John in his usual affable tone, before bringing him his favourite tea. "Didn't expect to see you this early," Mr Doris said, sipping the hot brew. John responded with nothing but a smile. Mr Doris found this a bit odd as John was a chatty fellow. But having important meetings to attend, he decided to let it slide.

Hours later, having wrapped up his meetings, Mr Doris headed out of his office and accidentally bumped into Mr Fitz, another colleague.

"I am so sorry, sir. I didn't see you there," Mr Fitz apologised. "It's fine, David. No worries!"

Just as he was about to leave, Mr Fitz noticed that Mr Doris seemed to be looking for something. "Do

"One could describe him as a person who possessed a good sense of humour, is always keen on helping others, and devoted to his work."

you need something, sir?" Fitz asked. "Yes, I am looking for John. My head hurts and only his special tea can help." "You didn't hear?", Fitz asked. "Hear what?" The sadness on Mr Fitz's face confused Mr Doris, but what he said next left him dumbfounded.

"John met with an accident on his way to work this morning. He passed away even before the ambulance could reach the hospital," said Mr. Fitz with grief.

How could it be possible? Doris saw John in the morning. They talked and he served him tea. He expressed this to Fitz, but he looked as if Doris had grown two heads in just a matter of minutes.

"Surely, you're mistaken, sir. It must be someone else," said Fitz, looking bewildered. "Maybe you're right." Doris didn't believe that for a second, but there was no other rational explanation. Like most people, he didn't believe in the paranormal. Even when incidents like seeing John wandering around or smelling his special tea brewing in the cafeteria happened at the office, no one said it out loud. But the truth was right in front of their eyes. John may be gone, but he was still there for all the people he cared about. [GT](#)



Dhwani

## Merry pudding!

Dhwani Huria, AIS Noida, IX M

### Ingredients

Heavy cream .....	250ml	Milk (cold) .....	½ cup
Cocoa powder .....	1¼ tbsp	Marie biscuits.....	10
Powdered sugar .....	½ tbsp	Chocolate gems .....	1 pack
Condensed milk .....	1 tsp	Milk chocolate .....	1

### Cooking directions

- In a bowl, whip heavy cream, cocoa powder, condensed milk and powdered sugar together using a whisk. Keep some of this mix aside in another bowl.
- Now, take a biscuit and dip it in cold milk to soften it. Having done so, quickly place it in a bowl. Repeat the process to form a base of biscuits.
- Once done, evenly spread some cream mix on top of the biscuit base.
- Repeat the process and keep forming layers of biscuit and cream, one on top of the other.
- Now, take the cream mix you kept aside and pour it on top of the final base, covering it whole.
- Garnish it with chocolate gems and pieces of milk chocolate.
- Refrigerate it for 4-5 hours until the pudding is set.
- Your delicious biscuit pudding is ready. Savour it, one scoop at a time!

## Read Play and Win 28

Reading your favourite GT can fetch you a prize too. Complete all the boxes below. Click a picture and send it to [editor@theglobaltimes.in](mailto:editor@theglobaltimes.in) or submit your responses by visiting The Global Times website (<http://theglobaltimes.in/readplaywin/>). Three lucky winners will win a prize every week!



Q.1 Which country has launched e-visas?	Q.2 Who is the author of the article 'Divorcing the right one'?	Q.3 Name the student who won gold and bronze medal at World Archery Championship?
Q.4 Name any two characters mentioned in the story 'A dutiful janitor'?	Q.5 What is the genre of the book 'Good Vibes Good Life'?	Q.6 What is the full-form of DSLR?
Q.7 What was the topic of the Panel Discussion on Page 10?	Q.8 Mention the types of linen fabrics available in the market.	Q.9 What is the headline of the article written by Pranavi Mendiratta, AIS PV, XI B?

Name:.....Class:.....School:.....

Results of Read Play & Win-27: **Saanvi Joshi**, AIS Noida, VI F; **Nandika Sobti**, AIS Vas 1, XI E; **Shrey Mishra**, AIS Saket, IV D

## WORDS VERSE

# Universe's memorabilia

Geetaali Malhotra

AIS Gurugram 43, Alumna

The breeze lapped all over  
The lambent shafts of the sun  
Atop the valleys that ran wide  
In plain sight, just like poetry

A sapient algorithm variable  
A drop in the cobalt blue sea  
A gaze in the voluble crowd  
A speck of yellow in the bees

Black stones that look like tar  
Are pointing towards the street  
Where gravel pavements meet  
The creased, worn-out concrete



A blow of a herculean storm  
A sound of the harp's melody

A cloud in the clear blue sky  
A passionately crying baby

The world's chorus persisted  
On its unfiltered reflections  
Of my vivid, lucid desires at  
Every precise rhythmic stride

A second of the millennium  
A vein of an inordinate tree  
A whisper in silent monotony  
A life, a soul and all its entity

We are like little fragments  
Of a much brighter paradise  
Quintessential souls enveloped  
In the everchanging blue sky. [GT](#)



# The treasure trove

Imaging: Deepak Sharma, GT Network

## Short story



Mannat Suri, AIS PV, X C

Once upon a time in a village, there lived two sisters, Tina and Vicky. Tina, the eldest, was tasked with the responsibility of looking after Vicky who was a little mischievous. One fine day as Tina got up early to prepare some breakfast for the two of them, she found out that Vicky wasn't there in her room. Frantic, she went looking for her in the forest area nearby. After hours of searching, Tina heard a voice. "Tina, come here," it said. It was Vicky calling her. Tina let out a huge sigh of relief, having found her sister. She, however, failed to notice the huge golden key Vicky had in her hand. "Look, Tina, I have found a mys-

terious key," said Vicky. "I have been searching for you everywhere. I was worried," Tina retorted furiously. "I am sorry. But I was looking for its door," stated Vicky. Tina asked Vicky to stop messing around. But Vicky didn't listen, and started to remove all the creepers behind her and found a huge door, the key to which she claimed to have. As they opened the door, it led them to a dark dingy cave filled with cobwebs. Tina was hesitant to go in, but soon gave in on Vicky's insistence. A strange looking man with a big exclamation mark on his head was waiting inside. The girls were shocked and taken aback to see him. "I'm Exclammy," the man exclaimed! "I shall help you uncover the secrets of this cave." Tina and

A strange looking man with a big exclamation mark on his head was waiting inside. The girls were shocked and taken aback to see him.

Vicky had no other option but to follow him. The cave became darker and darker as they moved in, making it hard for them to see. As a result, Tina stumbled and fell. Mr Exclammy, to the girls' surprise, lit up the cave magically. Before the sisters could react to what just transpired, they found themselves in a huge pile of gold. They couldn't believe what they were seeing. Overjoyed, the sisters decided to thank Mr Exclammy. But as they turned to do so, they saw him vanish into thin air. The duo couldn't make sense of what was happening and decided to return to the village. "Something isn't right. We will have nothing of it. Let's go," said Tina and her sister followed. On their way back, they heard the villagers talk about a man who stole from a secret cave and got his soul trapped in it for eternity. "Thank God," said Tina, as a pearl fell out of Vicky's pocket. 🧡🧡

**A new word: Dingy**  
**Meaning: Something that is dirty and shabby**



## Hand drums

Varnit Jain, AIS Gurugram 46, IV D



Varnit Jain

### Material required

- Dry coconut shell - 1
- White rubber bands - 4
- Newspaper pages - 2
- White A4 sheet - 1
- Red satin ribbon
- Cello tape
- Brown watercolour
- Paint brush
- Black crayon
- Cutter

### How to make it

- Take the coconut shell and using a cutter, cut it into two equal parts.
- Now, apply some brown watercolour on the two shells and keep them aside to dry.
- Then, cut out two circles from the white A4 sheet, the diameter of which should be the same as that of the coconut shell.
- On both these paper circles, draw a thick black outline and a little circle in the centre using a black crayon.
- When the coconut shells are completely dried up, wrap white rubber bands across them (two bands on each shell) as shown in the picture.
- Now, using glue, stick the paper circles on the top of the shells (one circle on each shell).
- Take the newspaper page and crumple it in the shape of a small bangle. Secure it with glue and tape.
- Wrap the red ribbon over and around this bangle. This will act as the base ring for one of our hand drums.
- Repeat the same with the other newspaper page to make a second base ring.
- Finally, place the drums on the rings and *dhinak dhin dha* your way out of everything!

## It's Me



### KNOW ME

**My name:** Mishika Singh  
**My Class:** KG  
**My school:** AIS VYC Lucknow  
**My birthday:** February 1

### MY FAVOURITES

**Teacher:** Mini Handa ma'am  
**Subject:** Music  
**Friend:** Rubani  
**Game:** Musical chairs  
**Cartoon:** Woolfy  
**Mall:** Pallassio Mall, Lucknow  
**Book:** All story books

### MY DREAMS AND GOALS

**My hobby:** Singing  
**I like:** Solving puzzles  
**I dislike:** Nothing  
**My role model:** My mom  
**I want to become:** A pilot  
**I want to feature in GT because:** I am very interactive and active in school; the entire Amity universe needs to know this!

COLOURING FUN

Click a high resolution picture (1 MB or more) of the entry and mail the same to: [editor@theglobaltimes.in](mailto:editor@theglobaltimes.in). The best entries will be published in GT.



# Health and hygiene

When A Fair Amount Of Soap And Water Go Hand In Hand, The World Seems Grand

**Y**outh Power is an annual social leadership programme organised by The Global Times, where different teams from Amity schools engage in varied social causes in several stages. One of them is 'Panel Discussion' where experts from different walks of life discuss several aspects of the chosen social cause. Here's presenting **Part V** of this exclusive series, based on the panel discussions organised by YP teams in 2021-22, and a host of opinions as experts debate on 'Hand Hygiene', the cause chosen by the YP team of AIS Vasundhara 1.



## Awareness in a right way

**Panellist: Dr Sreya Chattopadhyay**  
 Founder director, BizInnovation Pvt Ltd. & founder, Advance Healthcare Foundation

"COVID-19 pandemic has proven the old proverb 'Health is wealth' correct yet again, showcasing how maintaining good hygiene is vital for one to have a strong immune system and lead a healthy life. So, every aspect of hygiene, be it personal hygiene like washing our hands or bathing, or food hygiene like washing the vegetables we consume or ordering food from eateries that follow strict hygiene protocols, etc., should all be religiously adhered to. Other than this, menstrual hygiene is a matter of great concern too. The harsh reality of this era is that women residing in semi-urban and rural areas still



use pieces of cloth for menstrual protection instead of sanitary products due to lack of hygiene awareness. Even though it is true that a lot is already being done in this regard by the government and other organisations, still the vision to witness a complete hygienic society will take a long time."

## Better health over brand

**Panellist: Dr Rwitika Ghosh**  
 Medical officer, Bellevue Clinic, Kolkata

"As doctors, we are taught about the various kinds of hygiene, such as personal hygiene, group hygiene, community hygiene, and situational and professional hygiene, at various levels. We impart the same knowledge to our patients and everybody else around us as well. To follow it or not, however, is completely their call. But one should always remember that being hygienic isn't an onerous task; one can attain it even at the most basic level with something as minimal as soap and water. You aren't required to use a particular brand or a certain expensive sanitiser to be clean. All the harmful



bacteria and viruses can simply be eliminated with a little quantity of soap and if the hands are washed for a fair amount of time. So, what we actually need to promote is the process of doing it rather than focussing on the types of materials required to do it."

## Cleanliness is an attitude

**Panellist: Kartik Singh**  
 Brand manager - Health Care, Dabur India Ltd.

"Hygiene is not only about cleanliness. It is an attitude a person carries; it is the way one leads their life. A quick example of this would be the unintentional usage of 'have to' when talking about the need to wash hands. To say that 'I have to wash my hands' means that you are doing it compulsorily. But it should instead be something that comes to you naturally. In



fact, doing anything related to sanitation has to be at the top of your mind and priority list at all times. Hygiene amounts to almost two third of your health. Accordingly, thus, it should be a part of your attitude even if it comes through a third-party stimulus like going to a crowded marketplace, sitting amongst your friends, or in any other form. My experience so far as a working professional indicates that hygiene is something that will take you ahead in terms of health and life as well."

## Participation is key

**Panellist: Debaleena Saha Ghatak**  
 Programme officer, Department for International Development (DFID), New Delhi

"When talking about hygiene, mentioning the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan launched by PM Narendra Modi in order to promote cleanliness across the nation is a must. The mission, aimed at reducing open defecation and creating awareness about the basic health and hygiene of the



human body, is one-of-its-kind and an absolute necessity in today's time. Not contributing enough to it at an individual level would not help us in any way. So, partake in as many cleanliness initiatives as you can and help spread the word. Moreover, we, as a nation, need to work on developing a community managed sanitation system, as even today a huge number of houses in India still can't afford basic sanitation facilities. Let us all try and walk in the footsteps of Indore that has been adjudged as the cleanest city in India time and again."

Part V



Expert Speak



# Claim to big aim

## Amity's Archer Becomes World Number Six



Ace archer Aishwarya Sharma with Chairperson ma'am and her mentors

### AIS Vasundhara 1

Aishwarya Sharma, an exceptional archer from the school, bagged one gold and one bronze medal in the team events at World Archery Championship held in Limerick, Ireland, from July 3-9, 2023. With this win, she also bagged the individual world ranking of number six in cadet compound girls archery category.

The event was organised by World Archery and saw the participation of 350 archers from 47 countries. Aishwarya was one of the only top three archers selected amongst 400 archers nationwide by Sports Authority of India to represent the country.

Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools & RBEF, blessed the young archer and commended her Arjuna-like

dedication and hard work with immense delight and pride. She also lauded her coach for his outstanding guidance and support in shaping talented individuals and fostering a culture of excellence in sports at Amity. Aishwarya Sharma's remarkable success at the Championship is a testament to Amity's dedication for nurturing talent and fostering holistic development among its students. [G T](#)



On a mission to save earth

## The climate warriors

### AIS Vasundhara 6

Students of Class V participated in 'The Climate Warriors' activity on July 24, 2023. The activity was conducted to spread awareness about saving energy sources on earth. Students discussed issues like climate change and importance of achieving UN Sustainable Development Goals, and also presented creative solutions like producing ethanol from bamboo, different ways to create solar forests, measures to solve the problem of stubble burning etc., to make energy sources clean, renewable and sustainable. [G T](#)

### ACSF/ASTIC

Around 32 science enthusiasts and CSIR awardees from different branches of Amity Group of Schools attended an interactive talk on Energy Management - An Indian Perspective by Dr N Kalaiselvi, director general, CSIR, on July 28, 2023, at AUUP. The event was graced by Dr Ashok K Chauhan, Founder President, Amity Universe; Dr Atul Chauhan, Chancellor, AUUP; Abhay Chauhan, Senior Vice President, RBEF; Amol Chauhan, Executive Director, Founder President's Office; Dr Balvinder Shukla, vice chancellor, AUUP; Dr Gurinder Singh, group vice chancellor, Amity Universities, and other eminent dignitaries.

Dr Kalaiselvi spoke comprehensively on CSIR technology spectrum which ignited the spirit of innovation in young minds of



Amity students pose with Founder President, Dr N Kalaiselvi, and other eminent dignitaries

India. She also shed light on various key fellowship schemes and initiatives by CSIR for school students like JIGYASA. With her passionate oration on energy management, she impactfully drove home key points like the need for positive change in the energy sector, urgency to address the energy challenges, and the im-

portance of clean, green, and sustainable energy for all. She highlighted the future of energy management through sodium ion batteries and hydrogen. Amity students were also extended an exclusive opportunity, wherein they got a chance to share their innovations and sought her expert opinion on improving the same.

The event, organised by Amity Science, Technology, and Innovation Foundation (ASTIF) and facilitated by Amity's Children Science Foundation (ACSF), witnessed a gathering of the HOIs of Amity, distinguished experts, scientists, and scholars from the energy sector, academics, and government organisations. [G T](#)



The young singers sing their way to victory

## Musical raaga

### AIS Gurugram 46

The seventh edition of Rhythmic Raaga, an inter-school music and dance fest, was organised on July 18, 2023. Envisioned by Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools & RBEF, to enrich rhythmic intelligence of students, the event saw 25 schools from Delhi-NCR participate in different musical competitions. The competitions were conducted in two rounds; participants sent in video entries for the first round and the short-listed schools then participated in the final offline competition. With great zeal, Amity students bagged several awards. AIS Gur 46 and AIS PV won the first and second

position respectively in Ensemble (western vocal) and Dhvani (Indian instrumental). In Brahma Naad (Indian vocal), the first, second, and third positions were bagged by AIS Saket, AIS Noida, and AIS Gur 46 respectively. Taal Atulya (Indian dance) had AIS Gur 43 at first position, AIS Saket at second position, and AIS Gur 46 at third position, whereas Taal Tarang (percussion instrument) had AIS Gur 46 at third position. Rhythm (guitar) had AIS Noida at first position and AIS Gur 46 at third position; Rhythm (piano/keyboard) had AIS Gur 46 secure second and AIS Gur 43 secure the third position. AIS Gur 46 and AIS MV won the first and second prize respectively in Rhythm (drums).

Pic: Deepak Sharma, GT Network



# Divorcing the right one

## The Tangled Play On The Lesser-Known Love Story Of A Shoe Lace And Its Aglet

Vasudha Sharma &  
Nityam Verma  
AIS Noida, Alumni

It is Monday morning. Three people sit inside a meeting hall on the first floor of Velcro Law Group's office block. There's tension in the air as the lawyer sits at the head of the table, and the remaining two on the seats next to him on either side. They sit facing each other, yet refuse to look each other in the eye.

**Lawyer Velcro:** Just sign the papers, and you will both be free to go your own way.

**Mrs Lace de Shoes:** Why aren't you reaching forward to sign it first? You always love going in first, don't you?

**Mr Aglet de Shoes:** Oh, here we go again! How many times do I have to explain it to you? I have to go through the holes first so I can make space for you, but you have never appreciated my efforts. Not once!

**Lawyer Velcro:** Guys, let's not argue. Just sign the papers.

**Mrs Lace de Shoes [ignoring the lawyer]:** Everything is always about you! What about me, huh? What about my needs and me being appreciated? I am the reason this whole family, de Shoes, is even functional. Without me, you would be nothing.

**Mr Aglet de Shoes:** Like you would be anywhere without me! If I were not there, you would begin to fray so much that you would not be able to get the job done. How would you like your look then?

**Lawyer Velcro:** Guys, please. Just sign the divorce papers...[whispering to himself] so that my kind can reign.

**Mrs Lace de Shoes:** Really, says the guy whose existence is barely

known to the world. Tell me, how many people even know your name? Zero or zero?

*Deafening silence follows as tears simmer in Mr Aglet's eyes.*

**Mrs Lace de Shoes [realising she had committed a grave error]:** I...mmm...I... am sorry...I did not meant to... You know I... I really value you for protecting

me, ensuring that I pass comfortably each time... and I am so grateful for that.

**Mr Aglet de Shoes [sad]:** This is the first time you have ever acknowledged all that I do for you.

**Mrs Lace de Shoes [on the verge of crying]:** How can you even think that? You know I have always appreciated all that you do for me.

**Mr Aglet de Shoes:** How would I know? You have never said it out loud.

**Mrs Lace de Shoes [after a few seconds of silence]:** I am sorry for not telling you that before.

**Mr Aglet de Shoes:** And I am sorry for not taking better care of you. [sobbing] If you give me another chance...

**Lawyer Velcro:** Let's not stray from the topic. Just sign the papers and you won't need each other ever again.

**Mrs Lace de Shoes:** I'll give you another chance if you are willing to give me one.

**Mr Aglet de Shoes:** Of course! An Aglet literally has no use without his Lace.

**Mrs Lace de Shoes:** And a Lace is incomplete without her Aglet. *Mr and Mrs de Shoes happily walk out of the building, hand in hand, glancing at each other with newfound love.*

**Lawyer Velcro:** B...but what about me?

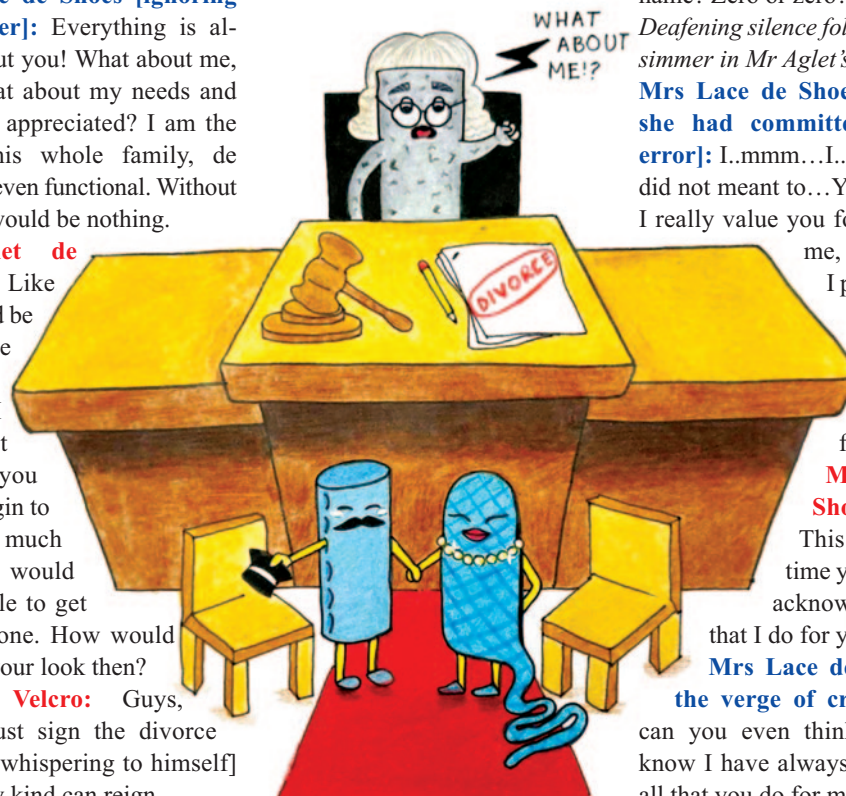


Illustration: Ashmita Gupta, AIS Noida, XI E

# Dear procrastination...

## ...I Want To Write You A Letter, But I'll Do It Later

Swati Negi, GT Network

I still remember the first time I met you. It was the day before my final thesis submission, and you were one smooth talker. It took you a second to persuade me to take a short nap. You

sat on my shoulder, like an angel, assuring me, "You can finish it tomorrow. Take a nap!" You said I deserved it, and I believed you; I was naive. When I woke up from the 'short nap', it was already the next day. The rush of hormones I felt as the deadline neared compared to nothing I felt before, except for you. And we grew closer each day. Our humble abode was a mix of bean bags, empty pizza boxes, and missed deadlines. I had never lived so stress-free before. With your support, I felt I would become a better version of myself tomorrow. That was your favourite

word after all. "Let's go out tomorrow." "Can we start gyming tomorrow?" Every tomorrow turned into another promise of tomorrow. But alas, that tomorrow never came. Eventually, I saw you for who you are. You were a devil in disguise. No wonder you convinced me to taste the forbidden fruit. You turned me into Sisyphus with a boulder of never-ending tasks.

And now, I want to move on from you, leaving you to be a thing of the past. You are an uninvited guest who took over my life, and I request you to kindly take your leave. Procrastination, my enemy, my ally, set me free and let me be my own person again. I would like to go back to completing my work way before the deadlines.

*Not yours sincerely,  
A pro procrastinator*



## GT Travels to New Delhi



Vandita Sharma, AIS Saket, IX B, poses with her copy of The Global Times in front of National Museum, New Delhi. One of the largest museums in India, it functions under the Ministry of Culture, Government of India, and houses over 2,00,000 works of exquisite art, both of Indian and foreign origin.

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