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Brinjal it on, P4



History this week, P7

AMITEpoll

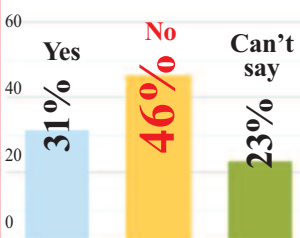
Do you think that the government should prohibit tourist travels, now that tourist spots are overcrowded in India?

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

To vote, log on to
 www.theglobaltimes.in

POLL RESULT
 for GT issue July 5, 2021

With Canada facing its highest ever temperature of 49.5 degree Celsius, are we drifting away from the hope of saving our planet?



Results as on July 10, 2021

Coming Next
 GT Author's Desk

A tale of two viruses

A Gap Of A Century; A Gape At History; A Gasp At Our Journey So Far

Jaya Jha, AIS Gurugram 46, XII J

As Covid-19 pandemic wreaked havoc across the world, it brought back memories of its 20th century counterpart - the Spanish Influenza. Both the respiratory viruses gave humanity a tough fight for survival. Comparisons, thus, were inevitable. GT analyses the roadmap of these two pandemics, outlining the similarities and differences.

The origin

The first known case of Spanish Flu was found in the armed forces of Fort Riley, Kansas, US, in early March 1918, as opposed to the misbelief that it originated in Spain. Eventually, the virus began to spread as the US troops travelled during the war, especially to European countries such as England, France, Spain and Italy. By summer, the infection had spread to different parts of Asia, Africa, Russia and New Zealand. On the other hand, Covid-19 virus began with reports of several cases of pneumonia in Wuhan, China, in December 2019. The first case of the virus outside China was recorded in Thailand on January 13. Soon, as people flew in and out of countries, the virus began to spread across the world. Covid-19 was characterised as a pandemic in March 2020.

The spread

The Spanish Flu had three waves, with the first wave starting in early March 1918. Patients had usual flu symptoms such as fever and uneasiness. Infections spread fast in the first wave owing to the movement during the world war. The second wave was deadlier, for the virus mutated during the summer and infections started to surge in

August-September 1918. Infected people suffered severe pneumonia, nasal hemorrhaging, lung damage, and the number of fatalities jumped. As per the Journal of Clinical Virology, 2009, "Two-thirds of all the deaths from Spanish influenza occurred during the months from October through December 1918." The third wave started to

wards the end of December 1918-January 1919, and raged till March-April 1919, but it was less virulent than the second. Besides, the absence of the war curtailed the infection spread. There was also a fourth bout of Spanish Flu in the first three months of 1920. An estimated 500 million people were infected with the Spanish flu world-

wide and more than 50 million people died. We have probably seen two waves of the Covid-19 so far. Initially, the mortality was restricted to people above the age of 65 with co-morbidities, but later it spread to all age groups. The first wave infections peaked in early January 2020 - with more than eight lakh cases daily - and began to fall soon after. But a second wave hit in end-February 2021, and peaked at nine lakh daily infections by the end of April 2021. Over 172 million people have been infected as of June 4. As of now, the death toll in Covid-19 is lower than the Spanish flu with around 3 million fatalities globally, accounting for 0.05 % of the current world population.

The containment

During the Spanish Flu, poor economic circumstances caused crowding in winter months, poor ventilation and congregation - all of which increased its spread. Containment measures did not have much of an impact and the peak was reached much before preventive measures were put in place. Also, standards of hygiene were lower 100 years ago. Awareness levels too were lower back then owing to lack of mass media. Cut to the present day scenario, where we have been able to do far better in terms of prevention. Stringent lockdowns, travel restrictions, ban on public gatherings, etc., have helped in curtailing the virus to a great extent. The media too has played a significant role in spreading information about the virus, urging people to take necessary precautions, thereby controlling the spread. Further on, the Spanish Flu did not have a vaccine until the mid-40s, while we now have eight vaccines by different companies being used all over the world and many more are in the pipeline.

Continued on page 6...



Imaging: Deepak Sharma, GT Network

Awaaz toh suni hogi

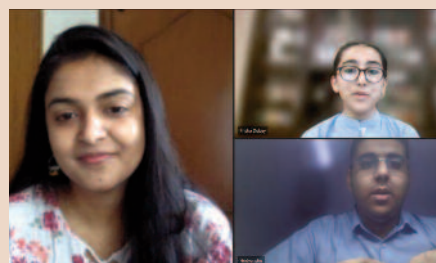
An Exclusive Tête-À-Tête With The Voiceover Artist

Hridyanshu, XI D &
 Prisha Dubey, X A, AIS Saket

Doraemon, Chota Bheem, Pikachu, Arya Stark, etc., are just some characters immortalised with the iconic dubbing done by Sonal Kaushal. A voiceover artist and YouTuber, she has carved her own name in the industry and in a million hearts with her amazing talent. An alumna of Amity University, Uttar Pradesh, she has worked with All India Radio, NDTV Good Times, Hungama, Fox Traveller, National Geographic, etc. Reflecting on the journey that she has covered and her future goals, Sonal gets candid with GT reporters about her life, career and much more!

The calling of the field

I started out young in the industry. At that time, I had never even thought of ending up in this profession. I was eight when I was working for All India Radio and 13 when I auditioned for Doraemon. In the beginning, I used to feel sad watching other kids play outside, attend tuitions and have fun after school, while I had to go for dubbing sessions, but gradually, I started



Sonal Kaushal in talks with GT reporters

enjoying it. In 2013, I shifted to Mumbai to pursue the field full-time. I haven't looked back ever since.

The playback of passion

As an outsider, it is very tough to get into the entertainment industry and establish your legacy. You need to give your all to every new character you pick up; I always observe the characters beforehand and try to match my voice and expressions to get them right. I work on a lot of movies, animated shows, etc. Sometimes I work from 10 in the morning to 10 at night, but I always ensure that I am giving my best every single time, because whenever I see people, especially kids, telling me that they love my work, it gives me a new boost to keep going on and do the best.

The echoes of challenges

Dubbing is not an easy art; you are watching a video, reading the script and voicing the character at the same time. You have to modulate your voice a lot, and keep your

nerves in check in front of the mic. It takes a lot of work and time to perfect a role. In my career, one of the biggest challenges I have faced was when I was voicing a character named Johnny who shouted a lot and spoke in high pitch most of the time. This resulted in my vocal cords getting swollen, and my doctor told me that I could not work for around two weeks because I could lose my voice permanently. It was a very tough time for me. I took a break a to take care of my voice because that was the need of the hour. You need to know how much you can push yourself and when you must stop.

The sound of new avenues

In today's world, social media plays a very huge role in our lives, so good content is important. As a YouTuber, I have nearly 1.32 mn subscribers, where some of my videos have more likes and views than others. My videos being on The Kapil Sharma Show and meeting other voiceover artists of Oggy and the Cockroaches, and Shinchan have over 70 mn views combined, but my video interviewing honourable Shammii Narang, the voice behind DMRC announcements, has 253K+ views. In the world of YouTube, you never know what will go viral. You have to learn from your experience to know what people like and dislike. If you want to leave your mark in the heart of audiences, be consistent, explore new avenues, know your audience, and be hardworking and passionate when it comes to your work.



Sonal Kaushal, voiceover artist

The real intent behind constructing the Great Wall of China was to prevent people and militaries from crossing the northern border of China.



India This Week

Anshita Kumar, AGS Gurugram, XI

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



Non-compliance of e-waste management

News: The Delhi Pollution Control Committee has found 72 out of 83 e-waste collection centers violating the e-waste management rules. DPCC has urged the Central Pollution Control Board to take strict action against them because the degree of non-compliance of the rules was 'very high'. The committee has also mentioned that the location of e-waste handlers in non-conforming areas of Delhi and the inadequate awareness among stakeholders have caused negligence in implementing the rules.

Views: Over the years, e-waste production has increased because technology has become more prominent every day. If such rules continue to be ignored, this could lead to catastrophic results as some e-waste constituents like cadmium and lead adversely affect health, if not disposed properly. Therefore, there is a need for adequate awareness about the issue amongst the people responsible for collection and disposal, proper implementation of the rules, and frequent checks in every area.

Kasak Jain, AGS Gurugram, XI



Delhi chief minister seeks Bharat Ratna for medical fraternity

News: As a gesture of honouring the Indian medical fraternity's role as frontline warriors against the pandemic, CM Arvind Kejriwal has requested a consideration of awarding the Bharat Ratna collectively to India's healthcare professionals. As per Indian Medical Association, over 1500 doctors lost their lives fighting COVID-19.

Views: Bharat Ratna is India's highest civilian award that is conferred every year to individuals in recognition of their exceptional service or performance. The request to honour our gallant health care professionals with this award for their unconditional sacrifice during the pandemic should be effectuated because this will boost their morale while also showcasing the nation's undying gratitude for their courageous service.

Shubhangi Lakhanpal, AGS Gurugram, XI

Heatwaves claimed over 17,000 lives

News: According to a recent study, the country has lost over 17,000 lives due to heatwaves since 1971, accounting for 12% of the 141,308 deaths caused by extreme weather events. 706 of these heatwave incidents occurred from 1971 to 2019, with Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and Odisha being the worst hit states in terms of number of deaths.

Views: Heatwaves simply point towards the significant rise in temperature due to global warming and greenhouse gases. Every year, the instances of heatwaves are on the rise. For instance, India recorded 18 instances of heatwave in 2018 and saw a remarkable increase in 2019 with 26 instances. The entire world is currently at a vulnerable position and all we can do is give our best to meet the targets to counter global warming and climate change.

Riya Kharyal, AGS Gurugram, XI



Excess Indus water to irrigate land

News: According to Jal Shakti minister Gajendra Singh, India is planning to stop excess Ujh water from flowing to Pakistan, and divert it to irrigate its own lands, under the rights granted by the Indus Waters Treaty of 1960. Ujh is one of the main tributaries of the Ravi river that flows into Pakistan and India. Singh added that the water from Ujh is 'our absolute right', so using it for irrigation projects cannot be questioned by the neighbouring country, Pakistan.

Views: The move is indeed a welcoming one. Due to the ongoing climate crisis, many villages are deprived of water in rural India, especially Punjab. The water table is depleting all across India and floodwater or any such excesses of water could be a potential solution for the desertification of fields. However, the treaty must be adhered to in all cases and the priority must be to not violate it, or take more water than that outlined by the said treaty. The information here should be transparent since the two nations have always coexisted on a thin line of war.

Viwaswan Jha, AGS Gurugram, XI



Around The WORLD

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



HAITI

President assassinated overnight at residence

Jovenel Moïse, the 58th president of the country, was assassinated by a group of unidentified gun-wielding men at his own residence. This event has pushed Haiti, the poorest nation of Western Hemisphere, into a devastating crisis. Moïse had dissolved the Parliament in January 2020, and this attack has come amid huge political disruption and violence that has battered the rule of law under his reign.

UK

A breakthrough entry into Euro Final 2020

For the first time in 55 years, England has entered the UEFA European Football Championship finals, after surpassing Denmark (2-1) in the much-anticipated semi-finals at Wembley. 60,000 fans witnessed the historic victory at the stadium, while 20.9 million cheered on from their television screens.



RUSSIA

First movie to be filmed in space

Russia has now geared to shoot the first ever movie at the International Space Station. The film is supposed to be directed by Klim Shipenko and 36-year-old Russian actress Yulia Peresild has been roped in for the same. The crew of the film will take off from Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan.



IRAN

Production of enriched uranium metal in progress

The International Atomic Energy Agency revealed that the country has commenced preparing enriched uranium metal, which could develop a nuclear weapon. This step has drawn flak from several countries such as US, Germany, France and Britain, as it violated the 2015 nuclear deal known as Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA).

DENMARK

World's tallest sandcastle built

A sandcastle, over 20m high and comprising approximately 5000 tonnes of sand, has entered the Guinness Book of Records for being the tallest ever built. Created by Dutch creator Wilfred Stijger, along with 30 of the world's best creators, it has a coronavirus crown at the top, representing how COVID-19 has gripped the entire world since its dawn.



ITALY

Farmers grow the biggest ever cherry

Italian farmers Alberto and Giuseppe Rosso have grabbed the spotlight for growing the biggest and heaviest carmen cherry which weighs around 33 kg. Despite unfavourable climate conditions, the Russo family, who have been into cherry production for over a century, managed to break the previous record of a 26.45 kg cherry grown by another Italian family in the past.





Grenzgipfel is the highest point of the Swiss border situated at a height of 4,618 metres. It is located on the border between Italy and Switzerland.

It's tough at the 'TOP'

When People's Expectations From You Are Too High

Sohini Srivastava, AIS VKC Lko, X

Everyone thinks that for a student, becoming the 'class topper' should be the utmost priority. However, only a few will understand that once you do reach the coveted position of being a topper, it's not really easy being one. So, let's take a look at the other side of the picture and try to appreciate the day-to-day struggles of a topper.

The world of expectations

A topper is always at the receiving end of unending expectations from parents, teachers and even neighbours. They have to continuously set high standards of achievement for themselves and ensure that they never slip up. They just can't afford to score less than the best in any exam, lest they end up creating a bad impression. All this obviously leads to high levels of stress. Not so appealing to be a topper, right?

The easy-peasy targets

The moment toppers receive their answer sheets, all eyes turn towards them, and if by mistake, they score half a mark less than the total, they become victims of mockery and teasing. The entire universe (read: fellow classmates) comes together and makes snide remarks like, "You must have started sleeping in the night, right? Or have you taken an OTT subscription?" against them. No, it's not at all nice to be trolled like that.

The unfriendly souls

Arrogant and unfriendly are two words that are often used to describe the nature of toppers. The reason being, unlike other students, they are selective while making friends because all they want is to be in the company of people who actually help and motivate each other to be productive at every point. They refrain from getting along with those who stick around for their notes, or are just trying to bask in reflected glory. Bottom line - They too, have friends they like to hang out and go out for picnics with; friends they love being around!

The 'know it all' clan

The common notion that a topper must have answers for all the questions existing within the textbook is quite unfair, too. Bombarded with annoying questions by their fellow classmates as a result, toppers feel the pressure to read and know everything beforehand because they cannot afford to skip even a single question.

So, whether you are a topper yourself, or someone aspiring to be one, remember we are all human beings and that our identity lies in much more than just the marks we score in an exam.



Book Review

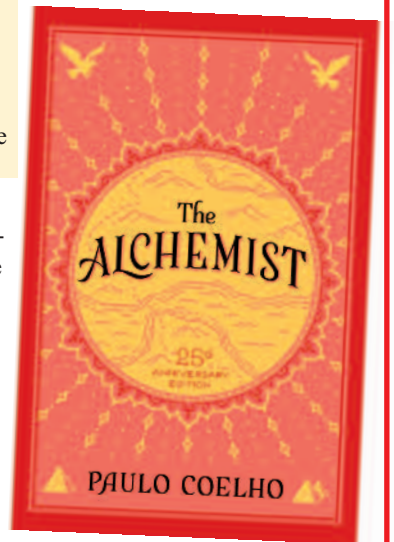
Rake in that review

Book: The Alchemist

Author: Paulo Coelho

Published in: 1988

Genre: Fantasy, Adventure



Synopsis: The Alchemist is about the journey of an Andalusian shepherd boy named Santiago who has a recurring dream which he believes to be a prophecy. A gypsy fortune teller interprets the dream for him and tells him that he must go to Egypt where he will find a treasure at the Egyptian pyramids. So, his journey starts - filled with adventure and heartbreak. Throughout the journey, Santiago meets many new people and encounters a lot of difficulties which ultimately help him learn and grow in the best way possible.

Why is it worth reading: The story is not just about Santiago's physical journey from Spain to Africa but also his spiritual journey where he realises the purpose of his life. The book is an inspirational read as it is all about finding our destiny and following it. Also, the book establishes that

the journey to your destiny is as important as the destiny itself. The choice of words is impeccable, full of wisdom and philosophy. The story is a great combination of magical realism and adventure and keeps the readers on their toes the whole time. The narrative has been brilliantly established by the author and can be enjoyed by people of all ages.

Iconic quote: "And when you want something, all the universe conspires in helping you achieve it."

Rating: 5/5

Review by: Farhan Siddiqui
AIS Gurugram 46, XI

Animation, the art of illusion

Everything You Need To Know About Animation As A Promising Professional Field

Saanvi Goyal, AIS Gurugram 43, X B

Animation or giving life to inert objects is an artistic impulse that has long dominated the movie, TV and gaming industry. From blockbuster movies ranging from The Chronicles of Narnia, Ice Age, Monsters vs Aliens to Kung Fu Panda, Wall E and more, animation is a field that creates miracle by not only bringing life to characters but also keeping the entertainment factor at an all-time high. Coming in a package of boundless opportunities thus, it is a fulfilling career option for those who love nothing else but to create magic.

Stop Motion Animators

How they do it: Stop motion animators combine the art of photography, narrative skill, and the ability to manipulate lighting and calculate angles to create stop motion animation without digitally manipulating it. The animator takes photographs of objects, characters or scenes that show them in various positions. When the pictures run together, it appears that the object is moving on its own. This creates one of the most unique forms of animation, which is neither cartoon-like nor similar to computer-generated animation. You see stop motion animation all the time - in commercials, music videos, TV shows and feature films - even if you don't realise it.

Educational requirements: You can do BA, BFA or BS in Animation, Digital Arts, Media Arts, Computer Graphics, or Fine Arts.

Average salary: 2,00,000-7,00,000 INR per month

Claymation Animators

How they do it: In this technique, each animated piece, including characters and the background, is



constructed out of a malleable substance, which is typically plasticine clay. Each frame is recorded on film and then played back in quick succession to give the appearance of movement. The plasticine is generally wrapped around a wire skeleton, known as an armature. Compared to other types of animation, claymation movies are actually quite recent. This also requires a lot of work as not only does

every character, animal and building have to be created, often resulting in hundreds of models, but then those figures have to be meticulously moved ever so slightly while each individual frame is captured.

Educational requirements: While there are no specific degrees for Claymation, an A.S. in Advanced 3D animation or an A.A. in Animation and Visual Effect works just fine.

Average salary: 1,80,000-5,00,000 INR per month

Cutout Animators

How they do it: Cutout animation is an absolute favourite for children's storytelling shows. It is one of the oldest and simplest animation techniques and has many forms and variations. This technique involves making characters out of paper, card or fabric, and moving them under a detailed camera lens. This can be done by attaching sticks or strings to move the characters manually (similar to puppetry), or by moving the individual segments in small steps while taking pictures for each step to create an illusion of movement.

Educational requirements: You would require a bachelor's degree in Animation or Fine Arts to get the job.

Average salary: 1,50,000-5,00,000 INR per month

Typography Animators

How they do it: Since an animated movie requires every single thing to be animated, we have another branch of animation- typography. This method involves the animation of various types of text to display various fonts and motion patterns in a given time. It is often used while displaying titles or credits of movies, television shows, videos, etc.

Educational requirements: A bachelor's degree in Motion Graphics or Digital Media can certainly get you a decent job in this field.

Average salary: 2,50,000-4,00,000 INR per month

So, animation as a career option is actually a fun job where there is never a dull moment. It surely requires hard work, but it will all be worth the effort when you see your creations come to life. 🎬

Eurode is a binational city with German Herzogenrath on one side and Dutch Kerkrade on the other. A metal strip on the floor of the Eurode Business Centre marks the border for both the Netherlands and Germany.



The power of sound

Realising The Hidden Potency Of Music In Healing Our Mind, Body And Soul

Lavanya Jain, AIS MV, XII D



“Sound is the vocabulary of nature,” said French composer, Pierre Schaeffer. It transits in nature, disguised as vibrations, via water and air. But what are these vibrations or sounds communicating? How are these vibrations then contributing to the mankind at large? Well, sound is an omnipotent force that is in a way capable of regulating human beings since human body is in itself a medium for it to travel. The body is nothing but water, well at least 65% of it definitely is, thereby, rendering sound with the power to make us both love and hate, build and annihilate. In fact, every sentient being is sensitive to sound, giving it a great potential to heal and cure anything and everything.

This grand realisation has now made music therapies possible, where different types of sounds are used to realise beneficial physiological response. Researchers in neuroscience have shown that the kind of music we listen to in our day to day lives affects and activates different parts of our psyche, underplaying one and hyping the other to finally bring us to a healthier emotional state. Music, thus, is no more just an aesthetic part of our life but has now a key role to play in many biological issues of the human body. It is known to have cured many comatose patients with its ability to retrain the brain, never refraining from amazing us in ways, mysterious and unknown. Now, we all know Dr Mitchell Gaynor, don't we? An oncologist who advised his cancer patients to supplement their medication with soothing music and meditation to relax themselves and decrease their stress, letting the immune system work more efficiently. Not just music, but chanting mantras like 'Om' is healing too. It provides one with a sense of oneness with the universe, whose sound reverberates through our body, and fills it with en-

ergy and tranquility. It gets rid of the stress inside us and builds self control, improving our overall concentration power and vitality. The yogis of ancient India had an inkling of the hidden inherent power of the 'Om mantra' and chanted it to coalesce with their soul. Now, this digraph of a word, 'Om', would have the power to connect and join all things together, throughout the universe, is something a little incomprehensible but a lot truer when it comes to soothing ourselves with. Apart from its healing powers, sound promotes growth and development in plant life too. Although it is not so much about the sound of music, but the vibrations that it creates. The plant cells undergo several motional changes due to these vibrations, stimulating the production of nutrients in plants and increasing their growth manifold. Thus, sound is not just an outcome of any action on our end but it is a significant part of what constitutes life and human being on this planet. If earth proclaims to have music for the many who listen, music in return has an entire world for those who live and want to sustain better with a 'sound' mind, body and soul.

Brinjal it on!

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.

Sakshi Chopra
AIS Vasundhara 1, IV

Hey! My name is: Brinjal
I am also known as: Solanum melongena, eggplant and aubergine

About me

- It is in Australia, New Zealand, and anglophone Canada that they call me Eggplant. In UK, Ireland, Quebec and Western Europe, I take on the name of Aubergine; in South Asia, Singapore, Malaysia and South Africa, I become Brinjal.
- I am a plant species in the nightshade family of Solanaceae.
- A lot of people think of me as a vegetable, but I am actually a fruit. I am usually eaten as a cooked vegetable, so maybe that is why people are so confused about my origin. Some even consider me a berry because of my botanical definition.
- I am usually purple in colour, egg-shaped, glossy, and I am spongy. Sometimes you can find me in green as well!
- As a member of the genus Solanum, I am related to tomato, chili pepper and potato.

What I offer

- Kilocalories - 33.6
- Carbohydrates - 8.29 g
- Fiber - 2.4 g
- Magnesium - 10.6 mg
- Phosphorus - 14.4 mg
- Potassium - 117 mg
- Folate - 13.4
- Choline - 8.93 mg
- Beta carotene - 21.1 mcg

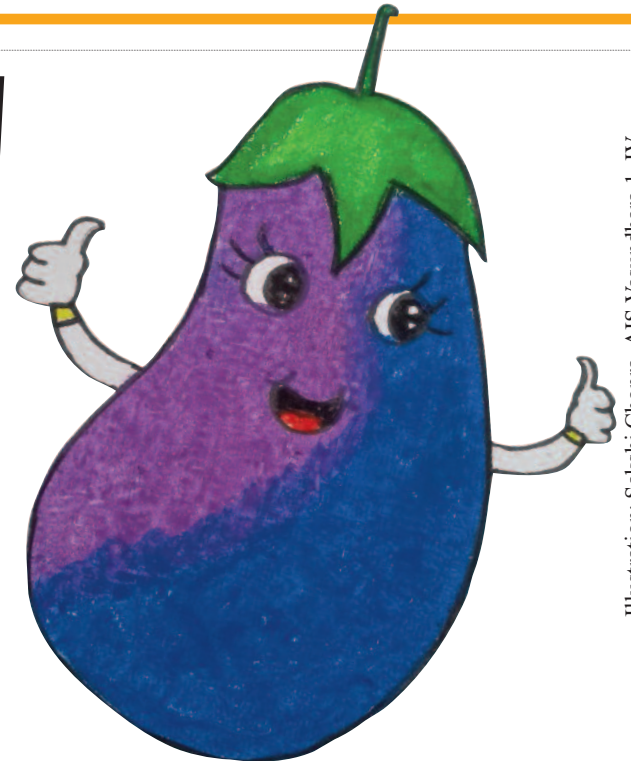


Illustration: Sakshi Chopra, AIS Vasundhara 1, IV

I can help you with

- Digestion
- Heart health
- Bone health
- Prevent cancer
- Prevent anemia
- Increase brain function

Where you can find me

- I was originally domesticated from the wild nightshade species of bitter apple in South Asia and East Asia.
- China and India are my biggest fans, and in 2018, they both accounted for 87% of my worldwide production.
- Even though nobody can say for sure where I come from, a lot of people describe India as my homeland. Some even say Africa or South Asia in general.
- The first ever written record of me is found in Qimin Yaoshu, an ancient Chinese agricultural treatise completed in 544 CE.
- I have also been a part of a number of ancient Arabic, Greek and Roman legends. In addition, some Italian folklore extensively spread rumours about me as to

how I could cause insanity in the 13th century.

My different avatars

- Chinese
- Fairy tale
- American
- Graffiti/zebra/silican
- Indian
- Little green
- Rosa bianca
- White

Why I fear climate change

The fluctuating climate seems to be bad news for me as my production depends heavily on thermal conditions. I am very sensitive to low temperatures and a temperature below 16 degrees constrains the growth of my young plants. Even extremely high temperatures, like what climate change is going to give us, will be very harsh for me because I thrive better on an average air temperature with evenly distributed water. A lot of projects like Crop Wild Relatives Initiative are working on the utilisation of artificial materials for my pre-breeding to make me adaptive of climate change. 🌱





The winding border, which divides Pakistan and India is lit by security lights. It is one of the only few places on Earth where an international boundary can be seen at night.

Reducing stubble trouble

Solving The Socio-Economic Issue Of Stubble Burning

The Global Times is pleased to be a part of the The World Teenage Reporting Project on Climate Champions. An initiative of Youth & News Media Prize, the project showcases noteworthy stories by teenage reporters from around the world focusing on what their cohorts and other adults have been doing to save the planet. Presenting the story 'Reducing stubble trouble' by GT reporter, Anushka Ramesh. Last year, The Global Times took part in the project that showcased stories by teenage reporters from around the world about what their cohorts were doing to help during the COVID-19 pandemic.

To know more about the The World Teenage Reporting Project visit - <https://www.globalyouthandnewsmediaprize.net/>



Raghav Pardasani with recycled stubble to make carry bags, along with security guard Pramod (left) who taught him to make ropes for the bags

Stubble or crop residue has become one of the biggest challenges for India. As scores of farmers burn this residue after every harvest, the pollution levels in the country, especially in the northern areas hit an all time high. The repercussions are manifold - from smog in neighbouring regions to increased temperatures. This of course, is a problem. And like every problem this too has a solution, one creatively outlined by **Raghav Pardasani**, a young student at **Amity International School, Pushp Vihar**, New Delhi, India. Just 18-years-old, this boy has managed to find an answer to the problem by translating this crop residue into bags. But this is to put things very simply, for this simple approach has translated into multiple benefits. Read on to know more.



Anushka Ramesh

Meet Anushka Ramesh, a Class XII student at **Amity International School, Mayur Vihar**, a leading school in India's capital New Delhi. A passionate teenager, Anushka has been associated with her school newspaper, The Global Times, since middle school and is currently the editor-in-chief of the newspaper for her respective school. Her journalistic journey started in Class IX when she first became a part of the global press in AIMUN. She is presently the International Press head of her school's MUN society and has also been a class representative of her school's writing society in the junior years.

About the Author

How do you come up with such creative names like Carryubble, Stubble Trouble, Resinew?

We wanted names that were catchy and quirky, so that they could capture attention. I must give the credit for Carryubble to my teammate Tanya. Carryubble is a play between carry-able and stubble, while Resinew brings together 'residue' (crop) and 'new' ways to use the same.

How do you plan to increase the environmental and social impact of your initiative vis-à-vis the issue of climate change?

The only way we can make an impact is by scaling the initiative. We have partnered with only one organisation right now, but I would like to increase this number much more in the future. Resinew is another way through which we have tried reaching our environmental goals because it helps us connect with a wider farmer population across states like Punjab and Haryana.

Your initiative has been recognized with the Pramerica award. How does it feel to be recognised at a global level, at such a young age?

I feel a great deal of pride and humility. Such a recognition really helps with the outreach as well. It reinforces a sense of credibility and encourages you to further pursue that venture because it shows that people have faith in your idea.

How has Carryubble helped you evolve as a person, a student and a researcher?

Working with the security guard, Pramod, changed my outlook of life. Earlier, I used to take failure personally and let it impact my self-worth. In the process of making the bag several times till I reached the final prototype, I learnt something profound. Pramod taught me that unless you change the method you are working with right now, you won't be able to reach the desirable outcome. He taught me that one had to unlearn certain things in order to learn successful techniques. That's when I realised that failure is so important in the journey to success.

What is your message for people across the world to save earth?

Your actions matter. Earlier, I used to wonder if an individual, that too a teenager like me, could ever make a difference. Climate change is such a huge and nuanced issue, after all. But soon I realised that if you decide to take the first step, a single action can inspire several other people. So, my message is, each one of us can and is capable of initiating a positive chain reaction to save the planet.

was created called Stubble Trouble, through which we dispel false impressions and spread awareness about stubble burning.

Where do you source your raw material from and how do you process it to create the final product?

In the beginning, one of the helpers at the school got us stubble. When lockdown was imposed, my father happened to visit a region close to Haryana and he got us the material. Now, we have collaborated with an organisation in Punjab to procure the raw material directly from them. For the bags, we make the base first and then a square interface with ropes which is then stitched to the base.

Is your young age a hindrance at all in what you want to achieve?

More than age, it is time management that really matters. When all this started, I was also preparing for SAT to be able to apply to universities abroad. So, I planned accordingly, whilst devoting a few hours to Carryubble every day. I did set tangible goals and this process of scheduling my day became an important tool to achieve my goals.

How did the collaboration with the women's group, Shakti Shalini, come about?

In order to increase production, we would need more workers. This thought led to one of our most meaningful collaborations ever. Shakti Shalini works with survivors of sexual assault and empowers them to become financially and emotionally independent. We will train women at Shakti Shalini in making stubble bags. All the earnings from selling those bags will be given to them.

How has the journey been so far?

The journey started out well. We were able to gather the required raw material. However, most of this is still unutilised because of the lockdown.



, we would create around 8 bags from 40 kgs of stubble, and though the bags are not out in the market yet, I have given them to my neighbours and family members and the response is great. I am very excited to release these bags for sale on a big scale. I am hoping that by October we will have a good supply of handmade stubble bags in the market.

So, the lockdown affected you adversely as well.

Well, we may not have been able to produce as many bags as we should have, but still this time has been a great learning experience. Our petition to the Indian government, for instance, received 3,500 signatures because of the Stubble Trouble outreach. We were able to mobilise a team of more than 40 classmates for this initiative.

Your other initiative, Resinew, is also working in a similar direction. Tell us something about it.

Tonnes of stubble are produced every year in Punjab. This made me realise that I need the support of other like-minded organisations to put an end to stubble burning. There are several start-ups that are making cutlery or even producing energy using stubble. Resinew will help connect such start-ups in urban area with farmers to facilitate the sale of stubble. We are in the process of curating a large database so that we can execute this.

What has been your biggest challenge during the project and how did you overcome that?

One of the main challenges was making the bag itself. It took me two to three months, to arrive at the final prototype. It had to be aesthetic in design or people would not use it. My mom helped me in stitching the bags. Another important person in this journey was my residential society's security guard, Pramod, who helped me make the ropes (bag straps) in an artistic manner. But my greatest learning during this process was that I shed a lot of my previous misconceptions about farmers. They are not irresponsible as I thought, but are forced to indulge in stubble burning due to several socio-economic factors like lack of loans and subsidies. This is why a new section of Carryubble



Rewarding excellence



Dr. Amita Chauhan
Chairperson

Being rewarded for meritorious work is a huge motivator in every realm of life. Such recognition is an inspiration to achieve one's dreams, especially for the children who are on the threshold of adulthood. I am sure similar sentiments are also shared by 16 Amitians of Class IX, who have been selected for the prestigious Mukhyamantri Vigyan Pratibha Pariksha – 2021, previously known as JSTSE (Junior Science Talent Search Examinations). This achievement follows Amity's previous success in the same competition, with three Amitians winning the scholarship in 2020 and five in 2019. This year, therefore, is a hat-trick for our talented students, proving that excellence is a way of life at Amity. The scholarship will stimulate their minds further and continue to encourage their scientific temperament as they pursue academic brilliance. Equally laudable is the perseverance and passion of the experts at Amity Institute of Competitive Examination (AICE) who have mentored these winners with their meticulously designed practice tests and 24x7 guidance.

In the process of education, we need to encourage students constantly so that they push all the challenging boundaries and achieve their full potential. The scholarship will go a long way in instilling confidence in learners to explore new vistas. After all, scholarships are well-deserved rewards earned by putting in hours of hard work, discipline and diligence. It would have taken endless hours of practising and taking multiple number of tests to beat thousands of other students in such an exam. Therefore, my heartiest congratulations to the winners, their mentors and parents. I urge every Amitian to get inspired and also aspire to follow in the footsteps of these bright stars in the Amitian galaxy. [GT](#)

Choose happiness, not pleasure



Vira Sharma
Managing Editor

While reading my daily newspaper, what recently caught my attention was an image that showed hundreds of tourists thronging the hill station of Manali. The distressing bit was that none of the tourists showed any concern to wear a mask

or maintain physical distance. The corresponding news went on to label it as 'revenge travel'. But there are so many people who are still grieving over the loss of some of their loved ones in the second wave of the pandemic. Have we not learnt our lessons yet? It is disheartening to see how, for the sake of momentary fun, people are letting down their guard. We need to realise that this pandemic is an ongoing grave reality and only our Covid appropriate behaviour can save us and others around.

In fact, every time Corona raises its head, there is an economic fall out as well. The government is forced to impose frequent lockdowns to stop over crowding of public spaces. Then, there are medical personnels who face most of the brunt when infections rise. They, too, need a break from the stress they have been braving since months. Our reckless actions can destroy a family, devastate a livelihood and disrupt the nation's efforts to restore normalcy. Our promise to become more conscientious citizens should not just become social media posts. It is now about choosing between a break for a few pleasure-filled days or a permanent break from anguish and loss. Choose responsibly. [GT](#)

Published and Printed by Mr R.R. Aiyar on behalf of Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan from E-26, Defence Colony, New Delhi 110024 and printed from HT Media Ltd, B-2, Sec 63, Noida (UP), Editor Ms Vira Sharma.

■ Edition: Vol 13, Issue 18 ■ RNI No. DELENG / 2009 / 30258.

Opinions expressed in GT articles are of the writers and do not necessarily reflect those of the editors or publishers. While the editors do their utmost to verify information published, they do not accept responsibility for its absolute accuracy.

Published for the period July 12 - 18, 2021

An ode to silence

Capturing The Hidden Feelings And Emotions Often Untold

Saanvi Wadhwa, AIS Vas 6, XII F

Perceive what the waves convey, rising and falling on the beach. Waves carry myths as old as time, and stories of people and places unknown. Watch them form, fall and recede, taking away all the stories back to the depths of the ocean where they will stay safe. The silence of the sea carries with it untold tales of the past where the

weight of the silence crushes down every other sound, if only you carefully listen to it.

Look at the stars, where each tries to tell its own tale. The Hunter with his bow stretched and his eyes speaks nothing but still starts a conversation in your mind, if only you let the silence of the sky embrace your heart. Observe your classroom in silence and communicate with your friend by looking him in the eye. Listen to

the waves of thoughts passing from one like mind to another in the form of telepathy, if only you let silence carry those thoughts.

Hence, every atom in this multiverse has a tale, if only you let it speak. But since not all are bestowed with speech, be patient enough to absorb all of their silence. Isn't it weird though, the phenomenon of silence? How it encompasses every word left unspoken and makes it explicit?

And how ironic is it when we listen to silence? So here's a toast to 'silence', the common language of all beings, living or not, for saying things that we didn't have the courage to; for being nothing at all, and everything at once; for telling us stories no one else can; for keeping all our secrets and being older than time itself; and for conveying everything we thought had already been lost in translation.



A balanced story

Khushi Daryani & Tanisha Chawla

AIS Saket, Alumnae

Once upon a time, there was a wise old man
He believed that the art of balancing life
Indeed, is the most difficult task one can try
Unaware of the wise saying by the wise man
Little Paul tried to balance a situation in his daily life
However, it added to the puzzlement of poor boy

Seeing a new packet of candies in the kitchen shelf
He gobbled a handful of them at an unmatched pace
His mother shouted, "Candies are bad for health
They are too sugary, too sweet and cause tooth decay"
The poor boy decided to find another way to earn praise
And got himself an unexpected and unimaginable treat

This time, a complete big bowl of crystal clear salt
Just to balance out the excess sugar on his tongue
Or so he proudly claimed to his mother with big wide eyes
"Oh dear! Have you gone mad? What are you doing?"
Try and understand, body is not a mathematical equation"
The mother clearly explained in a voice not so gentle

Irrked by his mother, Paul exclaimed, "But you do the same"
And still continued with a big frown on his face
Papa 'works from home' to spend time with me
But doesn't even look at me when I have no one to play with
On the other hand, you go to the gym an hour a day



But then take lift instead of stairs whenever you feel dull

Then why little Paul was at fault? Where did he go wrong?
All he did was to walk on the path shown by his dearest pals
Sometimes by filling the gaps or overcompensating
He observed the reactions and analysed the behaviour of all
Yet, he failed at the art of balancing situations in life
And learnt that 'Creating balance is the toughest of all.' [GT](#)

A tale of two viruses

Continued from page 1...

The road ahead

While the Spanish Flu cast a larger toll on lives, the economical revival was faster. Unemployment rose only a little, industrial production was quite on track well into 1919. The recession that hit in 1920-21 - resulting more from World War I demobilisation than from the virus itself - was quickly reversed, turning into what is known as the roaring 20s.

So, what has been different now? The economy seems to be far worse hit this time. Economists says that an important factor is the difference in the structure of the economy. A century ago, less than half of all workers were

employed in service industries as compared to 86% today. Also, the world today is far richer than that of 1918. Much of what we go out to buy consists of non-essentials such as restaurant meals, fancy haircuts or new electronics. All that has been impacted a great deal, too.

The lessons learnt

We now know in hindsight that the Spanish Flu never went away. People did gain immunity from it over a period of time, but it has continued to exist in the form of seasonal flu and at times, merged with other types of flu like bird flu, swine flu, etc. We have had several outbreaks since then - in 1957 (H2N2 virus, Asian flu),

1968 (H3N2 virus, Hong Kong flu), and 2009 (H1N1, Swine flu); these were all contributed in part by the Spanish Flu virus.

With Covid-19, we are pinning our hopes on vaccines that will hopefully soon stabilise the world order and bring back normalcy. However, whether these vaccines will also be effective against the newer mutants and variants is something that remains to be seen. Hence, there is a possibility that Covid-19, too, lingers around along with the seasonal flu. The lessons learnt are obvious. Therefore, be extra vigilant even with vaccination and be prepared for a few more waves, before all of this becomes another distant memory.



Issue: P6,
July 7, 2021

Dear Editor,

This is in reference to the article

'Connecting the unconnected' on page 6 of the GT edition dated July 5, 2021.

The article is an insightful piece on how absence of creativity can make our lives dull. But since the time we were cavemen, till today, we have always been creating; by painting the cave walls then or say, inventing an easier method to fold our clothes now. For creativity is not only about the big things, but also the way in which we deal with the minute details of our daily lives. The art of innovation is not restricted, it can be used anywhere and by anyone. Thank you, GT, for apprising us about the significance of creativity and about the power that lies within ourselves once we bring out the 'visionary' in us. [GT](#)

Mansha Rapria
AIS Gurugram 43, X B



Guadiana International Bridge situated at the Portugal-Spain border is one of the oldest borders in the world.

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 **July 12-18** that played their role in shaping our society.

The world of sports

JULY
13
1930

The first FIFA World Cup commenced in Montevideo, Uruguay. However, owing to the difficulty of travelling to South America, only 13 European teams participated in it instead of the intended 16, making the first World Cup the only one without qualification. With a total of 18 matches played hence, the tournament resulted in the victory of Uruguay, which defeated Argentina (4-2) in the presence of about 68,346 spectators and became the first nation to win the World Cup.



The world of celebration

JULY
14
1789

Bastille Day is observed on this day every year in France and the former French colonies to commemorate the storming of the Bastille on July 14, 1789. Originally built as a fortress, the Bastille eventually came to be used as a state prison and so, its fall became a symbol of the end of Bourbon monarchy in France and signalled the beginning of French Revolution. As part of the celebrations thus, Europe's oldest and the largest military parade is held at the Champs-Élysées in Paris in presence of the French president and his esteemed guests.



JULY
12
1817

National Simplicity Day is observed on this day every year in the US to mark the birth anniversary of and to honour the life, work, and philosophies of one of America's most famous authors, Henry David Thoreau. A leading transcendentalist, born and raised in Concord, Massachusetts, Thoreau advocated living a simple life and wrote several books around the subject, including Walden, Walking Excursions, etc. Following in his footsteps, the day thus emphasises the importance of re-evaluating our needs and doing away with the unwanted clutter in our lives.



The world of entertainment



JULY
15
2016

Stranger Things, an American science fiction television series created by The Duffer Brothers, premiered on Netflix. Set in the 1980s in the fictional town of Hawkins, Indiana, the show focused on the various supernatural events occurring around the city, including the appearance of a girl with psychokinetic abilities, and the disappearance of young Will Byers. Featuring an ensemble cast including Charlie Heaton, David Harbour and Millie Bobby Brown, amongst many others, the show has garnered 39 Primetime Emmy Award nominations and 4 Golden Globe award nominations during its three-season run and was renewed for a fourth season in 2019.



JULY
13
1923

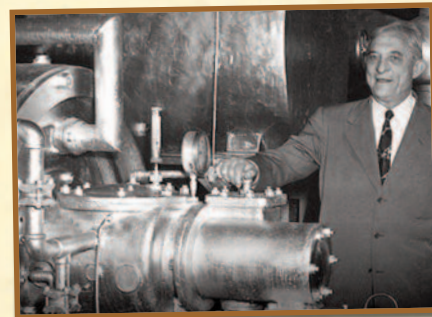
Hollywood, the most famed insignia of the movie industry, consisting of 50-foot-tall lettering, was officially unveiled over the Hollywood Hills on Mount Lee, Los Angeles, California. Originally created as an advertisement for a local real estate development, the sign was spelt as Hollywoodland and was only meant to stay up for a year. However, in 1949, the last four letters of the sign, L-A-N-D, were formally removed, making it a permanent landmark. Since then, it has made several appearances in film and popular culture such as the Shrek franchise, the Simpsons, The Rocketeer, San Andreas, The Day After Tomorrow, etc.



JULY
12
1962

British rock band, The Rolling Stones, performed for the first time at the Marquee Club, Oxford Street, London. At the time, the band consisted of Mick Jagger, Brian Jones, Dick Taylor, Ian Stewart, Tony Chapman and Keith Richards. They played 16 songs that night, an impressive collection of tracks by Jimmy Reed, Chuck Berry and Elmore James. Shortly after that, they began performing regularly at the club before signing a deal with Decca records. They have since won three Grammy Awards and a Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award amongst several others.

The world of invention



JULY
17
1902

The world's first electrical air conditioning unit was invented by the American engineer, Willis Haviland Carrier. As he experimented with the laws of humidity control to solve an application problem at a printing plant in Brooklyn, New York, he developed a system that replaced steam with cold water flowing through heating coils in an effort to remove moisture and control room humidity, thus laying the foundation for modern air conditioning. Later in 1915, Carrier formed The Carrier Air Conditioning Company of America, a company specialising in the production of heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems, which, in 2020, was valued at 18.6 billion USD.



JULY
14
1914

American engineer, inventor, and physicist, Robert Hutchings Goddard was granted the patent for liquid-fuelled rocket design on this day. Post his theoretical work on the physics of rocketry, Goddard began experimenting with different rocket engines and believed liquid propellants as the most promising ones. Twelve years later, on March 16, 1926, having worked on his model all along, he successfully launched the first liquid-fuelled rocket on a farm in Auburn, Massachusetts. His pioneering work allowed American scientists to build, test, and fly more advanced rockets at the dawn of the Space Age, deservedly earning him the moniker 'Father of American Rocketry'.

The world of politics

JULY
16
1945

As concerns about nuclear war dominated the Western political front, US conducted the world's first nuclear test, Trinity, at the US Air Force base in New Mexico. When the experimental bomb was set off at around 5:30 am, a ball of fire tore up into the sky, forming a giant mushroom cloud stretching some 40,000 feet across. With a power equivalent to about 21,000 tons of TNT, the bomb emitted heat three times the temperature of the sun's interior, and completely obliterated the plant and animal life within a mile.



JULY
16
1969

Apollo 11, the spaceflight that first landed humans on the Moon, was launched from the Kennedy Space Center at around 9:37 am, carrying Neil Armstrong, Michael Collins and Edwin Aldrin. The prime objective of the spacecraft was to complete a national goal - to perform a crewed lunar landing and return to Earth - set by the then president John F Kennedy on May 25, 1961. The event was politically important as it gave US an edge over the Soviet Union in space activities.



The Korean Demilitarised Zone is a strip of land separating North and South Korea. Created in 1953, it is deemed the most heavily guarded border in the world.



The lure of metropolis

Tanya Ganguly
AIS Saket, XI C

Rajan, a 20-year-old boy, sat at the edge of the railway line, waiting for the long-awaited arrival of the train. Since his early childhood days, one of his favourite pastimes included watching out for the loud rumbling steam engine. Every day at 5:00 in the evening, Rajan would run down to the station, sit back on the grass and watch the train come and go. He would inquisitively ask his father questions like where the train went, how far the place was, can he go there or not, etc. Rajan's father would lovingly caress his head every time and inform him that the train went to the big city 'Delhi', the city of dreams, and that he would only be able to reach there if he studied well. However, as Rajan grew up, he lost his interest in studies. He stopped going to the school and instead got involved in notorious activities. Soon, he became a nuisance for the entire village. He would never help his father in the farm work. He had completely changed except for one thing, his tantalising wish to go to Delhi and live there. With no money to buy the ticket, a crazy idea crossed his mind. Going ahead with the plan, he climbed onto the luggage car, settled himself into a niche between two heavy bags and dozed off to sleep. The shrill sound of the train's whistle jolted Rajan awake. It took him some time to recollect the fact that he had really run away and reached the big city. He got up and slowly slipped out of the compartment and onto the rail-



Storywala

way station. As he found his way out, he was greeted by a huge sign, 'Welcome to Delhi'. The sight of this sign gave him both excitement and fear. For once, he felt truly scared and insecure. Shaking off the feeling, he walked on ahead, into the masses of the big city. He looked all around, Delhi was exactly like he had imagined it to be. Tall buildings, bustling markets, wide roads brimming over with cars. You name it and Delhi had it all. Suddenly feeling hungry, he

went to a cart and asked for a *samosa*. The shopkeeper, Madan Lal gave him one, and asked Rajan where did he come from. Thinking about how considerate the Delhiites were, Rajan readily conversed with him. When Rajan enquired about available jobs and proudly presented his qualification, i.e. a school dropout, the shopkeeper started guffawing with laughter. He said, "Son, with that you will never get anything. Either go back or work for me in the evenings. This way you

He got up and slowly slipped out of the compartment and onto the railway station.

can study further in the mornings." Rajan refused to believe him and went away thinking that this was just a ploy to get easy labour out of him. He rudely declined his offer. Throughout the next month, Rajan went from door to door, looking for a decent job. He ate at Madan Lal's shop, promising to pay for everything once he had the money. He slept wherever he found place, from the pavements under metro stations to the roadsides near the dirtiest of gutters.

Alas, he got rejected everywhere. Yet he remained deaf to Madan Lal's advice. One day after a long day's search for jobs, Rajan reached Madan Lal's shop. Surprisingly, he found it to be closed. The nearby shopkeeper called Rajan and gave him a letter that read, "Raju, I am growing old and I have sold my shop, and decided to move to my hometown. I wish to God that you find your dream job." He was shocked by this. No job, no shelter and now no food, too. Dejectedly, he walked away, still hoping for a miracle. But there wasn't any. He realised that many people drift and lose themselves in the lure of the metropolis. He also realised the importance of studies and decided to come back again to try his luck after completing his studies. 🇮🇳



Nummy nankhatais

Aditi Jain, AIS Vasundhara 1, XII

Ingredients

Clarified butter/ghee	1/2 cup
Caster sugar.....	1/2 cup
Gram flour.....	1/2 cup
Wheat flour	1/2 cup
Semolina.....	1 tbsp
Baking soda.....	1 pinch
Cardamom (crushed).....	1 pinch
Almond (crushed).....	1 tsp

Procedure

- In a mixing bowl, add wheat flour followed by some gram flour.
- Add semolina to the above bowl and mix it well.
- Now, add crushed cardamom, almond along with baking soda in the above mixture. *Tip: Baking soda will act as leavening agent here.*
- Next, add caster sugar and mix all the ingredients well in the bowl.
- Slowly, add clarified butter in parts and mix alongside to make a fine dough. *Tip: Don't pour the clarified butter at once or it may ruin the process. Make sure that the butter is in the right amount to make a fine dough.*
- Knead the dough well, it should be well bound, without any sort of lumps, cracks or crumbles.
- Next, divide the dough into small portions equal to the size of a ping pong ball.
- Using a rolling pin, gently flatten these balls into fine small circles. *Tip: You can make indented designs using fork.*
- Preheat microwave on 180°C for 15 minutes.
- Once the dough circles are done, arrange these circles in a baking tray.
- Bake the circles for another 10 minutes and observe their colour turn to light golden.
- Once done, take them out in a serving dish.
- Your delicious nankhatais are now ready! Enjoy them with your family and friends!



The Duns

Nisha Ramesh
AIS Noida, XII

Crouching through the bushes, I spy
This gay swarm of flitting butterflies
Flower to flower with every moment

For me such pleasures would suffice

It always reminds me of the time
When in Duns, I first beheld a sunrise
As the sunbeams touched the earth
A million blades of green did shine

WORDS VERSE

The veils of morning blend with noon
Where dew beads of dawn lay strewn
That turned into vapours by midday
The sight shall leave you in a swoon

And so comes eve, moon climbs high
White crescent now lone source of light
Midnight, by the pearl white moonshine
On all occasions is a spellbinding sight. 🇮🇳

The tightrope

Deeksha Puri, AIS PV, Alumna

The tightrope you yearn to walk on
Is sharply coated, my love

With the tongues of critics
Searing to tear your limbs

The tightrope you yearn to walk on
Is painted with grease, my love
Slippery with sycophancy
Aiming to topple you over

The tightrope you yearn to walk on
Is lonely yet popular, my love
Isolationism in your craft
With spectators for all your moves

The tightrope you yearn to walk on
Is soul crushing, my love
Your dreams turn lucid
Only for those who are not you. 🇮🇳



CAMERA CAPERS

Ayushi Jain, AIS Gurugram 43, X

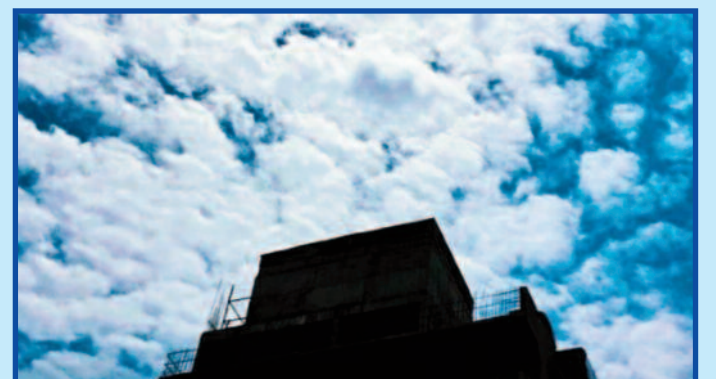
Send in your entries to
cameracapers@theglobaltimes.in



Sowing the sapling of ambition



Mounting the dome of memories



Transcending the skies of corporality



The highest border in the world is the one that divides China and Nepal. It crosses the peak of Mount Everest, which is 8,848 metres above the sea level.

Almost a superhero



Short Story

Ishaan Ghosh, AIS Vas 6, VII

Like every other child of his age, 7-year-old Ajay also dreamt of becoming a superhero. He was a big fan of Marvel and wanted to be like his favourite superheroes. Tales of Captain America, Doctor Strange and Thor always fascinated him and he would often go into a long session of day dreaming, imagining being one of them. One Sunday morning, he woke up and washed his face, brushed his teeth and went downstairs as usual. He warmly greeted his parents and moved forward to get his milk. But strangely, no one

greeted back.

He shrugged and took out some chocolate powder from the fridge, expecting his mother to scold him. But again, no one said anything and he successfully mixed some powder into his milk, making it tasty for once! After that, he switched on the TV, but again, his mother said nothing. He wondered if he had become invisible, just like Doctor Strange. Just to be sure, he dropped a glass of water on the floor; the glass shattered into a thousand pieces. His parents looked here and there as if trying to find the culprit but no one shouted at him. That proved he

was really invisible.

Feeling **elated**, he ran to the first place he wanted to attack, the kitchen! Raiding the fridge, he took out all the candy packets and started gobbling them, knowing he would not get the chance again. Then, he went to his room and made as much mess as he wanted to. Jumping on the bed and punching the pillows and even throwing clothes here and there. When he got bored with all these antics, he got a red coloured cloth and his mother's locket and started playing and enacting like Doctor Strange. He was a superhero now, after all. Suddenly, the sound of a camera

He shrugged and took out some chocolate powder from the fridge, expecting his mother to scold him.

shutter went off, surprising Ajay. He turned around to see his elder brother grinning at him. Ajay looked behind him to check if there was someone else, but there wasn't. "You can see me?" he asked his brother, wondering if he also had some super powers now. "Of course, I can see you. Everyone can see you!" he said laughing at Ajay. "But when I broke the glass, mom and dad didn't yell at me," said Ajay. "That is because it is 1st of April and we all made a fool of you. We made you believe that you're a superhero," his father said from behind him. Ajay huffed in annoyance. "Fine, you people fooled me, but you still let me have all the chocolates and candies I wanted. So, you are the fool, not me," said Ajay, sticking out his tongue at his parents and brother, before he ran off to his room. "You better clean up your room by the time I come to check," his mother shouted and Ajay just smiled, thinking it was still the best day of his life. 🇮🇳

So, what did you learn today?
A new word: **Elated**
Meaning: **Very happy**



Maanya Garg with her puppet

Paper bag puppet

Maanya Garg, AIS Mayur Vihar, V

SUPPLIES

- Scissors
- Glue
- Pencil
- Water colour (white)
- Plain paper bag-1
- Black sketch pen-1
- White card sheet-2
- Pink card sheet-2
- Yellow card sheet-2
- Lavender card sheet-2

STEPS

- With the help of a pet bottle cap, outline 20 circles on the lavender card sheet. Once done, cut out these circles.
- On the other lavender card sheet, draw the outline for two legs, two ears, one trunk and a tail (refer to the picture). Carefully, cut out all these shapes.
- Now, using pink card sheet, sketch outline for the inner coloured shapes, i.e., two ears, two legs and thin strips for the elephant's trunk (refer to the picture).
- For the elephant's tusk and stomach, use yellow card sheet. Draw the outlines for the same and cut the shapes.
- Using a black sketch pen, draw the shape of eyes on the white sheet and neatly cut out the shape.
- Now that you have all the shapes with you, take the paper bag.
- Press the bottom folding in such a way that it comes in the front. This will form the face of the elephant.
- Next, on the paper bag, make marks using a pencil to locate the parts of the elephant (refer to the picture).
- With the help of glue, paste all the small lavender circles freely on the bag.
- Then, one by one, paste the parts of the elephant as shown in the picture.
- Stick the eyes on the paper bag, and lastly, using white water colour, make small detailings on the elephant's legs, ears and trunk. Your paper bag elephant puppet is ready!

POEMS

Future and me

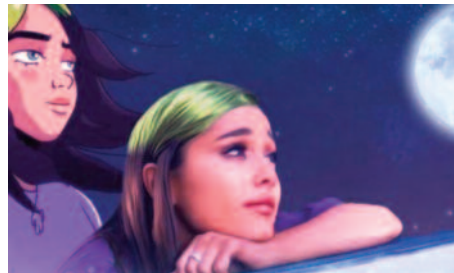
Ahaana Bhushan Srivastava
AIS Noida, VI E

My life will be bright as the sky
And meaningful as the deep sea

I'll make my dreams come true
Yes, that is the future I brew

I wonder what's in my future
Will I be a doctor or a teacher?

Will there be lions and spiders
Or perhaps ants, cats and tigers?



The future will be a surprise
For sure it will be my new prize

Will there be plants and trees
Or grasshoppers and little bees?

What awaits me in my cup of tea
I hope it is the same future I see! 🇮🇳

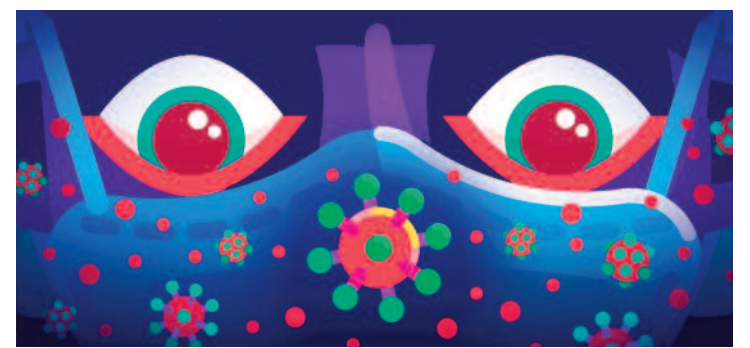
Go away, Corona!

Reet Nagpal
AIS Saket, V

I really dislike you, COVID
For jailing us in our abode
Why don't you leave us alone?

Neither can we go to school
Nor to the community park
To play with our dear pals

But now we have a vaccine
To make you run away so far
And end your abuse of power! 🇮🇳



It's Me

Know me

My name: Shambhavi Chauhan
My Class: I
My school: AIS PV
Born on: March 5

My favourites

Teacher: Divya ma'am
Subject: English
Friend: Inaaya
Game: Football
Cartoon: Ben and Holly
Food: Spaghetti
Book: Everywhere Bear by Julia Donaldson, and Corduroy by Don Freeman



My dreams

Hobby: Art and craft
I like: Playing in the rain and watering plants
I dislike: Spiders and lizards
My role model: My papa
I want to become: A scientist
I want to feature in GT because: GT is my favourite newspaper. I go through GT when my mama reads it for me.

Riddle fiddle

Riddhi Agarwal
AIS Vasundhara 6, III

1. What can you find common between Mercury, Earth, Mars and Jupiter, but not in Venus or Neptune?
2. What are the two things you can never eat for breakfast?
3. What has one head, one foot, but four legs?
4. Which odd number becomes even when you take away one letter?
5. What gets bigger the more you take away?
6. What do you have to break before you can use it?

Answers: 1. The letter 'R'.
2. Lunch and dinner 3. A bed
4. Seven 5. A hole 6. An egg

Art for a cause



Meet corona warrior cum artist, **Veer Bhalla**, a student of Class VII I, AIS Noida, who has come up with beautiful paintings for a cause, i.e., to raise funds for COVID affected families. You can reach out to him (veerbhalla007@gmail.com) and buy the paintings available on auction.

The longest continuous international border, i.e., the US/Canadian border is approximately 8900 km long. The entire length of the border has a strip of deforested land measuring 20 feet across.



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

"Finland, ranked as the happiest country on earth, is currently facing an acute workforce shortage, with the old age dependency ratio on the rise. Therefore, workers are required to help finance the greying generation. In order to bridge the gap, immigration levels need to be doubled to fill an imminent pensions deficit. But Finland being a particularly homogenous society, has a lack of diversity which affects the willingness of the prospective employees to stay and find work. Apart from Finland's outrageous prices, notorious weather and complex language, anti-immigrant sentiment is also prevalent. To conquer these obstacles and guarantee that the country benefits from its endeavours in the long run, it should be more hospitable towards the foreigners, providing them with a comfortable environment and ensuring that the undertakings are of mutual gain by recognising the qualifications of non-Finnish applicants so as to not prejudice against them.

Aanya Moturu
AIS Gur 43, XI C

In an effort to overcome a low and ageing population crisis, do you think Finland's decision to invite skilled immigrant workers as well as double the intake of immigrant workers will help the country in long run?"

The prompt

BOX

"Despite scoring extremely high in international comparisons for quality of life, freedom and gender equality, lack of corruption, crime and pollution, Finland is also known for its high anti-immigrant sentiment. An unwillingness to welcome outsiders is also widespread in one of western Europe's most homogenous societies. Although labour shortages are pushing more companies to loosen their insistence on only hiring native Finnish workers, many foreigners complain of a broad reluctance to recognise overseas qualifications. So, all in all, it might not be a good situation for the immigrants after all!"

Shikhar Srivastava, AIS Gur 46, XI B

"Migration has a long-lasting impact on population growth and structure through the interaction between the number of migrants, their relatively young age structure and their higher fertility. But the real problem lies in attracting and sustaining the immigrant workforce. The reason being, there is a reluctance among recruiters to employ non-Finnish workers. Thus, the proportion of low-skilled immigrants in the total number of immigrants should not be higher than the proportion amongst natives which could otherwise lead to unemployment. Provided that there is sufficient employment, migrants can largely contribute to significant economic growth of the country."

Vasudha Sharma, AIS Noida, XI I

"In my opinion, Finland's approach towards their problem is well-deliberated and implemented, as it will be beneficial for the country in the upcoming years. It is predicted that by 2030, the Old age dependency ratio would boost up to 47%, which means more resident taxpayers would be required to balance the equation. It would also improve the demography of the nation, for it would promote multiplicity. So, the move is definitely a smart one."

Vrinda Sethi, AIS MV, XII A

"The fact that immigrants have provided a helping hand in the country's economy is evident. This agreement benefits both sides, the foreigners gain an abode and the country their benefits. Added labour, more tax-payers and what not. Sadly, many citizens of Finland don't appreciate this well enough to support it. They believe that integrating immigrants causes an increase in crime, ruins their solitude and harms their tradition. Keeping these points in mind, it is fairly obvious that the country should choose to double immigrants to evolve into a graciously functioning country with much more culture and diversity."

Sucheer Sajit Menon
AGS Gurugram, X

"Consistent ranking as the happiest country in the world and its stellar record on healthcare, human rights and welfare prima facie suggests that Finland's immigration efforts will be reciprocated and deliver proportionate rewards. However, the rubric of consideration neglects two crucial factors. Firstly, there is a well-proven causal relationship between Finland's credentials in global indices and its homogenous population. Immigration, especially from non-Scandinavian countries disrupts the same, rendering it an unfavourable destination to be opted for in the long run. Secondly, immigrant populations in the past have reverted their migration, as the challenges of adverse climate and linguistic obduracy prevail. Invitations, no matter how welcoming, will not suffice when there is an implausible praxis at play. Finland must tackle structural obstacles, such as the professional lingua franca and prejudicial sentiments, to render the workforce palatable for immigrants as opposed to the facile embellishment of public relations."

Sarthak Sahoo, AIS Saket, XII G

"Finland is now battling with a low and ageing population crisis and so, the government is taking every step necessary to overcome it; work-related immigration being one of them. Because without supply of labour in the longer run, employment rate in the country would fall significantly which will affect its overall economy a great deal. And why would any country want such a thing to happen? Moreover, it would ruin Finland's image of being a happy country because if the economy falls, it would affect the citizens and their standard of living in near future. Therefore, I believe that the government's decision must be appreciated."

Mahira Kapoor, AIS PV, X B

"The country's decision to invite immigrants to work is a wise one. It is not only beneficial for increasing the rapidly decreasing working population in the country, but will also facilitate in the diversification of its population in the coming times. This step will also create a better environment for people who earn on the lower end of the spectrum because the country is known for its notoriously high cost of living. As a nation, Finland will become more open-minded and may be forced to rethink its procedures for availing government services to make them easily accessible for everyone."

Sparsh Agarwal, AIS Vas 1, XI A

"The world knows that Finland has always striven to sustain and improve the quality of life of its citizens, and that's why their recent move to invite immigrants could help them overcome this challenge. Moreover, if this initiative impacts the state of population ratios to be better than ever over a temporary period, then it can positively influence the nation in the long run as it will not only help curb the population slump, but will also build amicable relations with different countries."

Maira Shadab, AIS Vas 6, VII D

"Although Finland's decision is one of the most efficient solutions to deal with the crisis the country is currently reeling under, it could also pose a threat to their nationality. For inviting a considerable amount of people from around the globe would lead to an increase in the number of working migrants, giving them an edge over the indigenous population. Or it can also lead to the formation of various internal factions as those migrating would belong to different communities. This can possibly create an atmosphere of insecurity amongst the natives, giving rise to unnecessary protests in the nation. Thus, the Finland government should reanalyse and contemplate the consequences of its decision before going ahead with the same."

Alisha Ojha, AIS VKC Lko, XI E

"While many western countries are battling with weak population growth, only a few are feeling the effects as sharply as Finland. For Finland has been, and still is to some extent, a culturally, ethnically and linguistically homogeneous country. The government though has included themes such as work-related immigration and social integration in their programme to curb the labour crisis, but only time will tell how things would pan out for the nation and its people. However, this should not in any way hinder the government from implementing the said programme because Finnish employers definitely need more young, skilled hands. How else would the nation grow and feed its population!?"

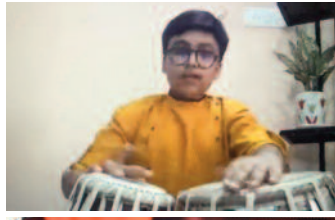
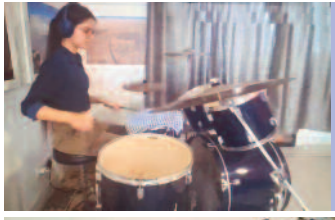
Gursimran Kaur, AIS VYC Lko, X



One of the most visited borders in the world is the entrance to St. Peter's Square which marks the border between the small city-state of Vatican City and Italy.

Of melody and rhythm

Rhythmic Raaga, A Saga Of Creativity In The Form Of Music



Participants of Rhythmic Raaga showcase their talent

Participants in one of the sessions

AIS Gurugram 46

The school organised its fifth and second virtual Rhythmic Raaga, an interschool fest of music and dance for Class IV-X from June 24-25, 2021. Envisioned by Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools and RBEF, as a boulevard to nurture rhythmic intelligence of young minds, the annual fest saw participation from 28 eminent schools of Delhi/NCR. The saga of melody and rhythm

comprised various creative competitions like Ensemble (western instrumental solo), Rhythm (western solo singing), Brahma Naad (Indian classical vocal music), Dhvani (Indian instrumental music solo) and Groove Trip (western dance). Students from Amity Group of Schools won numerous awards in various competitions and AIS Noida bagged the overall champions trophy. For Ensemble, AIS Gur 46 won first position in guitar, while AIS Saket bagged second position.

AIS Pushp Vihar and AIS Noida shared the third position. In drums, AIS Vasundhara 6 won first position and AIS Pushp Vihar won third position. AIS Saket won first position in Piano/Keyboard, while AIS Gur 46 and AIS Pushp Vihar bagged second and third position in the same respectively. For Rhythm, in the junior category, AIS Saket and AIS Gur 46 won first and third position respectively, while AIS Pushp Vihar, AIS Gur 46 and AIS Noida bagged first, second and third po-

sition respectively in the senior category. For Brahma Naad, AIS Noida and AIS Gur 46 won first and second position in flute respectively, while in sitar, both secured first and third position respectively. AIS Mayur Vihar got first position in tabla and second position in Dhvani. AIS Gurugram 46 won second position in flute and third position in Dhvani, sitar and tabla. AIS Gur 43 won first position in Groove Trip and second position in tabla. All the winners were awarded with e-certificates. 🏆

AICE will always be a MAGNET for commitment and dedication attracting the brightest and the best students.

Winners of Mukhyamantri Vigyan Pratibha Pariksha 2021

Science scholars

Excellence In The Spirit

AICE

SIXteen students of Class IX from various Amity Group of Schools have cleared the prestigious Mukhyamantri Vigyan Pratibha Pariksha 2021 held on March 28, 2021, by the Delhi Directorate of Education with results declared on May 5, 2021. The meritorious young minds have been awarded an annual scholarship of 5000 INR. A total of 20,199 students appeared for the scholarship exam instituted by Delhi cabinet to promote science education among students in secondary school. The winners were trained by the experts of Amity Institute of Competitive Examinations (AICE) to enhance their academic aptitude and analytical skills. It is notable that most of

the scholarship winners have scored above 80% marks to pass the exam earlier known as Junior Science Talent Search Examination (JSTSE). Amity students have proved their academic excellence and an aptitude for science at JSTSE for three years consecutively, with 5 students winning the scholarship in 2019 and 3 students winning it in 2020. GT enlists the champions of science in the year 2021:

AIS Saket: Bhavesh R Karthik, Pratul Gupta, Aathreya M. Doddi, Rohan Gautam, Anjika Gupta, Anirudh Mishra, Darsh Agarwal and Mimansa Kumar

AIS PV: Arnab De, Bhavya Goel, Rohan Kapoor, Angel Sharma and Nimay Rastogi

AIS MV: Ridhima Pant, Divyansh Goel and C Viswajeet Kumar

AIS Vasundhara 6

Read and learn



A tiny tot reads a clue



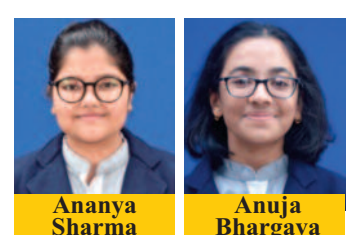
A student sequences a story

Reading week was celebrated virtually by the students of Class I from June 21-26, 2021. It was a tribute to the Father of the Library Movement, PN Panicker, whose birth anniversary is celebrated every year on June 19 as Reading Day. The tiny tots participated in various reading activities designed to develop their linguistic skills and instil in them the love for reading. From picture comprehension,

balloon pop, story sequencing, unjumble the sentences on word wall to reading comprehension, solving crosswords with clues, and word bank picture, were some of the activities organised for the students. Keeping in sync with the guidelines of NEP 2020 ie to promote literacy among children, reading week honed the reading ability of the young ones as well as enriched their overall linguistic skills. 🏆

Inquisitiveness wins

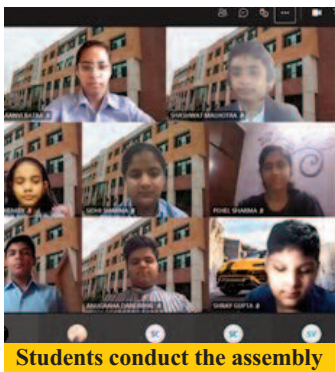
Two students of the school won top ranks at the national level in JIGYASA*, an online competition for poster making, cartoon creation and short essay writing, held on June 10, 2021. Anuja Bhargava and Ananya Sharma both students of Class XII won second rank in poster making competition and essay writing competition respectively. The competition was organised by CSIR to commemorate World Environment Day. 🏆



*JIGYASA, is a Student Scientist Connect programme designed to achieve scientific social responsibility. Aimed at school and college students, it kindles their innate inquisitiveness, scientific temperament and social awareness.

A eulogy to earth

Amitians Resolve To Restore The Planet



Students conduct the assembly

Power of positivity

AIS Mayur Vihar

Students of Class IX conducted a virtual assembly on 'The power of positive thinking'. The assembly commenced with the chanting of gayatri mantra and thought of the day. During the assembly, students discussed the importance of positive thinking for maintaining good physical, mental and emotional wellbeing. They also shared valuable ideas on how to remain positive during pandemic times. The highlight of the assembly was a skit through which students shared learnings from great personalities whom they idolise like Steve Jobs, Ramanujan, Stephen Hawking, Swami Vivekananda, etc. The assembly concluded with school song and the national anthem. 🏆



Students deliberate upon various issues that the planet faces

AIS Noida

Students of Classes VI-VIII celebrated Earth Day on the theme 'Restore Our Earth' from April 19-20, 2021, to sensitise them towards grave issues our planet is facing in the 21st century and ways to resolve them. As part of the celebration, students engaged into myriad activities like essay writing, poster making, seed germination, recycling art, etc., to spread awareness on saving the planet from further destruction and restore its glory. In essay writing activity, students took to the power of words and pen to express their passion to save the planet. During the poster making activity, they painted multiple expressions based on the theme. In seed germination activity, students shared their experiences and observations of different seeds they germinated at



One of the posters made by a student

home like beans, lentils, etc. They also dabbled in some hands-on activities like paper prototyping, creating toys and tinkering at home with recycled materials. The highlight of the two-day celebration were special talks organised by ATL lab community, which featured engaging conversations with R Ramanan, mission

director, AIM, NITI Aayog; Ayush Ranjan, winner of Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar 2021 in innovation, and Ranjit Singh Disale, winner, Global Teacher Prize 2020. The celebration motivated students to use natural resources judiciously because we only have one planet. 🏆



One of the learnings 'Wisdom'

Botswana and Zambia share a border that happens to be only 150 meters long.

All top quotes contributed by
Bhavik Gupta, AIS Vas 1, V D



Authors in the making!

Stepping Into The World Of Words Composed By Young Ones

Anika Bansal, X D &
Aadya Kapoor, XII D, AIS Vas 6

The little fictioneer

One may opine that weaving a choicest story is not a child's play. But wait until you read The Mysterious Ballet Slippers, authored by Swasti Sharma, a fourth grader from Amity International School, Vasundhara 6. When a child of her age might still strive to form full sentences, Swasti went on to write a five-thousand words long story. Her penchant for words, coupled with her imaginative adroitness, has indeed led the way for the young writer to accomplish a commendable feat at such a young age. Now, as fellow Amitians, it was impossible to not get more insights into her brilliant world of ingenuity. Here's the prodigy's journey.

When did you realise your passion for words?

I was six when I first started writing. I was surrounded by nursery rhymes and stories even at a young age, and it eventually inspired me to write something on my own. Apart from that, exploring the fictional worlds of Geronimo Stilton by Elisabetta Dami, and The Lost Temple by Sudha Murthy, made me realise the power of imagination and how it can teleport one into a totally different realm.

What is The Mysterious Ballet Slippers about?

The Mysterious Ballet Slippers is a story about a young girl Sonia who just loves ballet. Aware of her passion,

Sonia's mother gifts her a pair of ballet slippers for her seventh birthday. But as night falls, little Sonia realises that her slippers may not be as ordinary as they look.

She sees the pair walking around the room, and comprehends that she is in for an adventure of a lifetime. The rest is for all of you to read and discover! I believe that it would be exciting for children aged between five to ten. The book conveys that one should always believe in themselves, and never refrain from helping others!

How did you overcome any challenges that came your way?

The journey, from writing this book to getting it published, was full of challenges. Sometimes, I would feel stuck, insipid and I even wished to give up at some point. However, my elder sister came to my rescue; she supported me throughout the course of the book. She inspired me and motivated me to continue writing. And once I completed the book, it was tricky finding a publisher as we didn't really know anyone in that field. Eventually, my mother found Mithaas Publishers with the help



Title: The Mysterious Ballet Slippers
Author: Swasti Sharma
Price: 250 INR
Available on: Amazon, Kindle

of social media. Their team was amazing and helped us a lot in getting the book published.

How did your parents react upon your keenness to write?

I have always received so much of support from my family, especially my elder sister. She was the only one who knew about the story while it was still a work-in-progress. I thought that my sister had already intimated my parents about the book, so I rarely mentioned anything about it myself. However, when I showed the manuscript to them one day after dinner, they were taken by surprise. Overjoyed, they commenced the process for publication

without any further delay.

Can you tell us how well the book has been received by the masses?

So far, the book has received decent recognition. In a few days itself, it sold 25-30 copies. The paperback has gone out of stock, although it will be restocked in a few weeks. We also have the online version of the book in Kindle. After it got published, I visited the school and met Principal ma'am, who was extremely ecstatic at my work. I gave one copy to her and contributed another copy for the school library. I also received a great deal of compliments for my work.

What is your next plan of action?

I have already begun working on my next book with 18 chapters already written. Though I won't reveal the plot, it will be something very different from the current one. I want to continue writing and I want to be a full-fledged author when I grow up.

What is your advice for all the young aspiring writers?

Write whatever comes to your mind, do not stress about aspects which do not matter at the moment, and one day in the future, you might have a story on your hands. Good luck! 🍀



GT Author's Desk

The budding novelist

Neveca Gupta, AIS Gur 43, X B

The art of weaving stories belongs to the adults - this is what the world believes, but when have Amitians not shown them otherwise?

With a sparkling mind and the unparalleled passion of a kid, Kayaan Khaterpal, studying in VII, is not only a student of Amity International School Gurugram 43, but also a published author. With his debut novel, Tom Border and the City of Gold, he has proved that anything adults can do, kids can do better!

When did you realise your passion for words?

The pandemic and its lockdown were tough for all of us, including me. I lost my grandfather because of it. I was very close to him. He was the one who used to read me stories. I never thought I would ever write, but it was to honour his memory and the beautiful stories he used to tell me that I first picked up the pen and wrote a full page, which turned into chapters and soon into a full book.

What is Tom Border and the City of Gold about?

Tom Border and the City of Gold is the story of an 11-year-old monkey named Tom who lives in the zoo with his father

John. John had a secret which nobody knew, but when Tom came to know about it, his entire life changed and thus a great adventure began. If you want to know what the secret is and what happens after it, read the book! I am currently writing the second installment in the series so a lot of new adventures are yet to come.

How did you overcome any challenges that came your way?

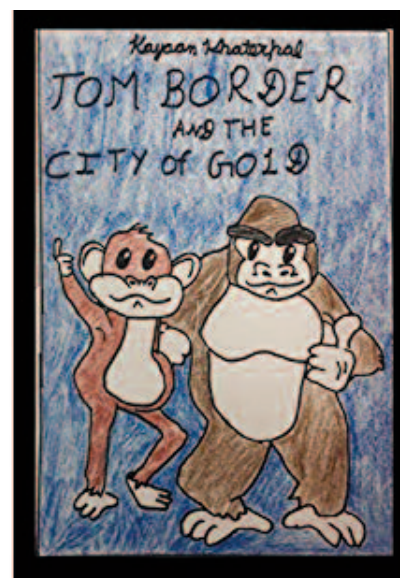
My journey was full of ups and downs but I never lost hope. My parents always supported me, even during the starting days which were the toughest. I faced writer's block numerous times, and whenever I hit that mental block, I would take a break and recharge myself with the company of my near and dear ones. Once the story was done, getting to an audience was also a hurdle to overcome, but it was not impossible to achieve.

How did you find a publisher for the book?

Finding a publisher was the most difficult part of the process. We struggled a lot, but in the end, we found Notion Press. When I was finalising the details for publishing, I decided to design the cover page of the book on my own to stay true to the story, and after everything was finalised, the book was published. Till date, 15 copies have been sold and I hope more people will read it in the future.

What support did you receive from your school and parents during the process?

Apart from my parents, Principal ma'am,



Dr Anshu Arora, and our beloved Chairperson ma'am, Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, are my biggest inspirations. I got inspired by all the brilliant videos our Principal ma'am posts on YouTube, and it is because of the resources that our Chairperson ma'am has provided us that I could pursue this hobby to the next level. The school gave my work a shout-out on their Facebook page which helped attract more readers. Even The Global Times covering my story has motivated me further to write more and better.

What is your advice for all the young aspiring writers?

A good idea can strike you anywhere anytime so always keep a diary or make a note of your ideas. You can modify them later accordingly. 🍀

