

INSIDE



I'll do it tomorrow, P5



The Macaw princess, P9

AMITe poll

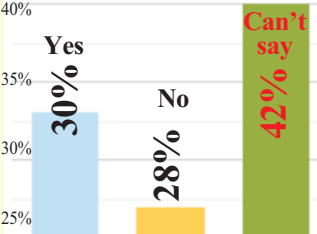
Do you think that the Myanmar generals should heed the public's demands, end the coup and respect the election results to restore law and order in the country?

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

To vote, log on to
 www.theglobaltimes.in

POLL RESULT
 for GT issue March 22, 2021

Do you agree with Delhi government's decision to introduce patriotism sessions in schools to make students staunch patriots?



Results as on March 26, 2021

Coming Next
 History This Week

The viridescence ventures

An Exploration Of The Productive Potential Of The Plantae Paradise

Anupriya Bhatnagar, AIS Vas 1, XII C

Agriculture is the backbone of human existence. And when we take it closer to home, Indian agriculture plays an even more significant role, employing approximately 42% of the labour force. However, it only contributes to a mere 16% of the GDP. While the gap maybe wide, it can be combatted with the right blend of knowledge and efforts, a fact that has already been proven by several Indian states as they experiment with novel cultivation methods, tapping the potential of lesser cultivated vegetables, plants, flowers et al. Even though these efforts are not short of their own challenges, the results sure are rewarding!

Shiitake mushrooms

Scientific name: Lentinula edodes
 It is an edible mushroom that is native to Japan and China, and is often cultivated as a part of traditional dishes. It grows as fungi in the decaying wood of deciduous trees such as oak, chestnut and alder.
The catch: Growing shiitake mushrooms can prove to be tricky for many reasons. The mycelium of this plant is not as aggressive and requires a longer incubation period. In addition, it requires a warm and moist climate to grow, which is rarely available naturally. Simulating such an atmosphere is also very expensive.
The rewards: Several Indian entrepreneurs and researchers brainstormed methods to cultivate this fungus plant naturally in hilly areas. In the year 2019, an entrepreneur from Nagaland successfully realised this potential and encouraged farmers and government agencies to turn this once-a-year cultivation into a perennial activity. Mushroom spawn laboratories

were set up and approximately 500 farmers were engaged. With a production of 150,00,00 mushroom spawns within a year, it was understood that with minimal labour, shiitake mushroom fetches a good price in the market; costing about 500-5000 INR per kg. Add to that an impressive shelf-life, making its cultivation profitable.

Orchids

Scientific name: Orchidaceae
 Known to be amongst the most aesthetically pleasing flowers, orchid is among the largest families of flowering plants and has more than 25000 species.
The catch: Deforestation, forest fire, overgrazing and urbanisation is causing this species to lose its grip over the Indian soil. Due to its mycorrhizal specificity, sparse distribution and high vulnerability to habitat disturbance, the seeds require 4-5 years or more to achieve the blooming stage, with the germination rate only about 0.3%.
The rewards: Back in 2017, the Tripura Forest Department kick-started an orchid cultivation-cum-training centre on the borders of Agartala under the Sadar forest range. The aim was multi-fold, ie to promote orchid cultivation throughout the state and also promote skill development in rural areas. The department provided free pesticides, plant materials and fertilisers to the locals and saw that the plants flourished under apt moisture, fertile soil and agro-climatic condition. Moreover, liaising with commercial orchid traders from other states gave the locals some insight into market linkages. As a result, the farmers are now switching to orchid cultivation from traditional crop harvesting. Today,

Tripura is home to 10 new species of orchids native to 8 genera.

Asafoetida

Scientific name: Ferula assa-foetida
 Also known as Heeng, asafoetida is one of the most commonly used spices in the Indian kitchens. It is also reputed for its medicinal properties.
The catch: Heeng can only thrive in extremely cold, geo-climatic regions and is not cultivated largely in the country. As a result, India imports about 1,200 tonnes of raw asafoetida from countries such as Afghanistan, Iran and Uzbekistan on an annual basis, and shells out approximately INR 600 crore per year for the same.
The rewards: India consumes about 40% of the world's total asafoetida production. This simply implies why there is a great scope for the production of this condiment in the country itself. In 2017, a collaborative research at Council of Scientific and Industrial Research Institute of Himalayan Bioresource Technology (CSIR-IHBT) discovered that the plant can flourish in cold and dry conditions and requires about five years for the yielding of the oleo-gum resin in its roots, hence narrowing down to the Indian Himalayan regions as its resort. They also procured seeds for the same from Iran. Although owing to their prolonged dormant phase, the germination rate has been low; however, if proven productive, the spice cultivation will cover 300 hectares of land over the next five years.

Continued on Page 6...



Rediscovering Sanskrit...

...With An Erudite Educator of the Oldest Language of The World

Ashmi Jain, XII, AIS Noida & Kumkum Kumari, Amitasha Noida, X

There are millions of educators in the world and then there are those who are so dedicated towards their calling that at times, it becomes difficult to actually separate the two; Vinay Kumar Vidyalkar belongs to the latter lot. Teaching in one of the most prestigious col-

leges in Uttarakhand, M.B.P.G college, Sanskrit has a place close to his heart. Thus, to put in words, his love for the language would be an injustice to his proficiency and commitment to it. However, as he arrived as a guest at the Convocation ceremony held at AUUP, GT reporters could not help but take the opportunity to know more about Sanskrit, the oldest language of world. Here are a few excerpts.

On the philosophy of Sanskrit

Sanskrit divulges for us the philosophy of life, i.e., how we should cope with all the challenging situations that life throws at us and learn to live with limited means. It further educates us on how our happiness shouldn't be based on materialism, but instead should emerge from within. It lays emphasis on the significance of human soul. For there's no truth truer than the truth of your soul. Follow it and you will reach your destination or goal in life, a hundred percent.

On studying Sanskrit

While in school, I was a science student with no particular interest in Sanskrit. But as I went for higher studies, something moti-



Posing with GT reporters

vated me to learn more about this language. It felt like a calling, as if I was born for this purpose. And so, I went along with it. Today, I preside over speeches in the world just because of Sanskrit. In fact, there are so many career options associated with it. You can become a professor of Sanskrit, can apply for civil services examination, can become a translator and what not. But do accompany it with some other foreign language for better prospects.

On his favorite Sanskrit texts


There's this book, namely 'Niti Shatakam', that I believe everyone should read. As the name suggests, it is basically a guidebook on how one can excel in what one does in life; that if you are a student, how to be a dutiful one or if you are looking out for friends, how to go about it exactly. For behavioural science thus, this book would be very helpful. Vedic 'Sukti Sangraha' is an-

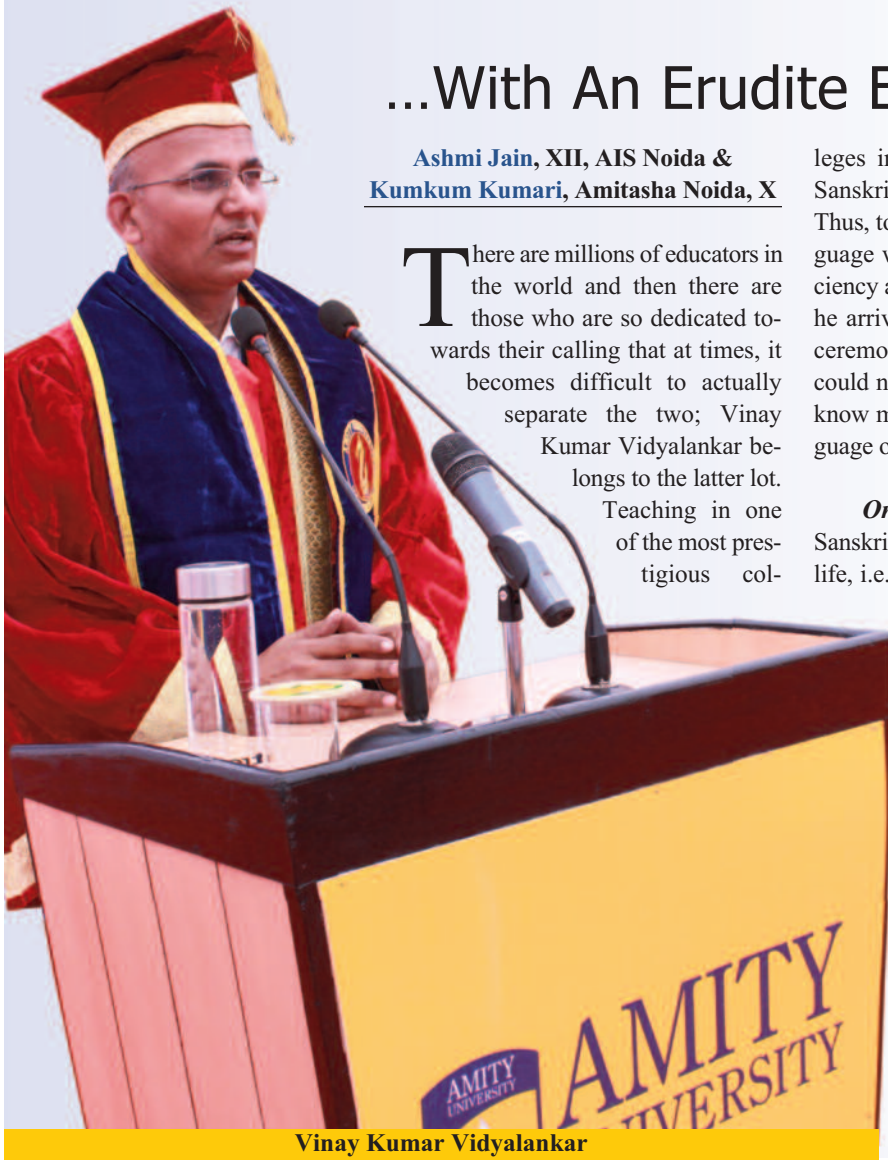
other such book that I'll recommend. In fact, every Sanskrit text for that matter is filled with invaluable insights that compel the readers to sit back and ponder over the ways of the world.

On the journey of Sanskrit

For thousands of years, Sanskrit was only bound to books and the verbal recitation of shlokas; that is how people perceived it for a long time and some still do. As a result, we never truly attached it with life, thus, leading to its decline. However, things are now taking a new turn; more and more people are getting aware of Sanskrit, not just as a language but also as a branch of literature in itself. It is now being used in NASA too. They see it as the friendliest language for computer science because its grammar is rule-bound, which makes it highly appropriate to write algorithms.

Message to Amitians

The fact that you study in Amity is a huge achievement in itself. For with its vision of 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam', Amity is not only nurturing students towards responsible global citizenship, but it is also creating a better world for them, a world where wealth and wisdom, values and progress, all go hand in hand. So, consider yourself lucky and gain from this opportunity. 



Vinay Kumar Vidyalkar

Chamicruo, now a dormant language, was once spoken by people living in the Pampa Hermosa region in Peru.



Rejoicing in colours...

...But In A Heedful Manner This Year!

Induja Tyagi, GT Network

It is that time of the year when we Indians resonate with the delightful hues of the spring season with an equally colourful festival called Holi. However, things are not as they used to be, and so goes for the vibrant revelry and roistering that Holi used to bring with it. Another year into the pandemic which refuses to subside, several states such as Delhi, Mumbai, Haryana, Odisha, Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh, etc., under the guidance of central government have drawn boundaries around Holi celebrations this time, with measures such as ban on large gatherings, public celebration, and heavy fine to be imposed on violators. Though this does mean that it won't be raining colours this time, the question is what do young Amitians have to say and how have they planned to make the most of the festivities, keeping in mind these restrictions. The answers are right at your disposal.

"Festivals come every year and our enthusiasm only rises each time. However, given that

COVID-19 is looming over us still, it would be only thoughtful if we adhere to the restrictions posed by the government ahead of Holi. Since, it is a festival that celebrates the win of good over evil, going a little low-key this year would not make the festival any less joyous, because this way, we will be celebrating the win of safety over the dangerous pandemic. Instead of going out in large gatherings, I, along with my family, will revel in the homemade *gujiyas* and sweets and play Holi within the safe boundaries of my home."

Aarav Sharma
AIS MV, VI D

"Holi brings memories of splashes of colour, playing with water balloons and running to just about anyone's home to fill our water guns with colourful water. The thought is indeed precious. But sadly because of COVID-19, nothing remains the same. Due to the gravity of the situation, the government has devised so many rules that we won't be able to play Holi like we used to. Although our well-being should be our priority, but what's the fun of Holi without

colours, friends and extended family? My mind knows that the rules are warranted, but my heart yearns for Holi just like the old times!"

Uvika Banerji
AIS Noida, VI E

"We are no strangers to the substantial changes the pandemic has imposed on every aspect of our lives. We live in a nation where celebrations are an essential part of all festivals, and not being able to share the festive joy and happiness with our beloved family and friends is something we all are disconsolate about. With heavy restrictions, we can't enjoy this beautiful and lively festival the same way we used to. Nonetheless, I will video conference with my friends and celebrate digital Holi this year. Despite all the challenges, I am going to enjoy myself whilst also following all the restrictions."

Soham Roy
AIS Vas 6, VI C

"Holi is a festival celebrated with glee every year during this time, but it is of utmost importance to keep everyone safe from the scourge that coronavirus is unleashing on us. This is where the measures taken by the government play a huge role. We sure miss the fun we used to gain from visiting our friends and family, and smearing an array of colours on each other, but the good old times will make a comeback. Till

then, let us all focus on being safe and healthy. Life is important after all! On the bright side, imagine the amount of water that we shall be saving this way!"

Samarth Tyagi
AIS Vas 1, VI C

"I believe that Holi is more about people celebrating the festival rather than how it is being celebrated. Although this is one of the most exciting times of the

year, several precautions must be taken to ensure the safety of the people. And while the focus is on safety here, I think there is no time better than this to re-think the way we play Holi, especially when it comes to the quality of colours. Let's go organic and make the celebrations even more mindful. At least, this is how I will be celebrating the festival this year!"

Safalya Das
AIS Gur 46, V H

Vichar Junction



Imaging: Dinesh Kumar, GT Network

Around The WORLD

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



ITALY

Salary cut for cardinals

In an attempt to save employees' jobs in the Vatican as the pandemic hit the Holy See's revenues, Pope Francis ordered a salary cut of about 10% for all the cardinals and clerics in what is believed to be the first pay cut move undertaken by a Pope ever. The cuts, all set to be rolled out from April 1, won't affect the lower-level lay employees, but only those who earn 4000-5000 or more euros a month.

KENYA

Closure of refugee camps

Authorities in Nairobi, on March 24, ordered a complete shutdown of two refugee camps in Northern Kenya, namely Dadaab and Kakuma, that together accommodate over 410,000 Somali refugees, citing national security concerns. Interior Minister, Fred Matiang'i, asked the UNHCR to plan out a way to accomplish this in just two weeks.

UAE

World's largest painting sold

World's largest painting on canvas 'The Journey of Humanity', a work by British artist Sacha Jafri, has been sold for a whopping 62 million USD on March 23 in an auction in Dubai. The painting spread over an area of about 1596 sq metres and split in 70 segments, was bought by Andre Abdoune, a French national living in Dubai.

SRI LANKA

Currency swap deal with China

A 1.5 billion USD (about 10 billion yuan) currency swap deal has been signed between the Central Bank of Sri Lanka and People's Bank of China, on March 22, 2021 for a period of three years. The deal is an attempt to promulgate bilateral trade and direct investment between the two countries. China is Sri Lanka's largest source of imports, with 3.6 billion imports taking place between the two in the year 2020 alone.

NORWAY

World's first ship tunnel to be built

The country finally received the go-ahead to build the world's first ship tunnel; this mile-long tunnel, about 188 feet wide, is designed to help vessels navigate the dangerous Stadhavet sea, and would cost the country around 2.8 billion Norwegian Kroner to be built. The construction for the same would begin in 2022, and would take about 3-4 years to conclude.



BANGLADESH

Fire at Rohingya Camp

A massive fire broke out at a refugee camp in Cox's Bazaar, near the border of Myanmar, in Rohingya on March 22, leaving 15 dead and over 400 missing. The fire that left tens of thousands of people homeless and destroyed at least 17,000 shelters, was majorly fuelled by strong winds and other cooking gas cylinders that exploded in its wake, razing to ground about 250 acres of land.





Dumi is one of the rarest and the least spoken Kiranti languages, native to Khotang district, Nepal.

The prep levels

Let's Take An Earnest Look At The Exam Prep Cycle And All That Follows Next

Anupriya, AIS Saket, X

Exams may come, exams may go but the preparation time is something that every student experiences and remembers till the very end. After all, all the hard work done during this time is reflected in the report card. So, here's a reflection on the different levels of worrying that come along as soon as exams approach.

A month to go

It is that time of the year, when exam seems near but is still far enough for you to really take it seriously. Let's be honest, you just sit down with books because your mom nagged you to, or even worse, you don't really know what else to do. So, why not pick up a book and pretend to study!

A week to go

Anxiety - it starts to set in the atmosphere. You want to study, but 'how' is the real question? As you struggle to find the right methodology, a major chunk of time goes into getting in touch with classmates, you've never even spoken to. You literally beg them to share all the important questions shared by teachers during revision classes, and ask for the notes that you never felt like jotting down during the classes. The struggle is real and now, you know it!

One day to go

The real cramming session begins. Water bottle, nuts, chips, etc., become your only companions while studying. Morning soon becomes evening, but the huge syllabus doesn't seem to reduce. It feels as if whatever has been stored in

the brain has been lost and in that fear you again pick up the same book to revise all over again. Now, you understand why the syllabus isn't moving!

Three hours to go

At this point, stress comes and sits next

to you. You try to take a nap but all that you've read (we mean crammed) keeps going in your mind. To relax yourself, you even think "Mike Ross toh hain nahin hum, jo Bharat ka samvidhaan 2 minute me ratt lein," but the very next moment regret finally hits hard and you

make that solemn, traditional vow that you make every single year, "Next year, only studies. I will top the class for sure." Now, we all know how this one pans out.

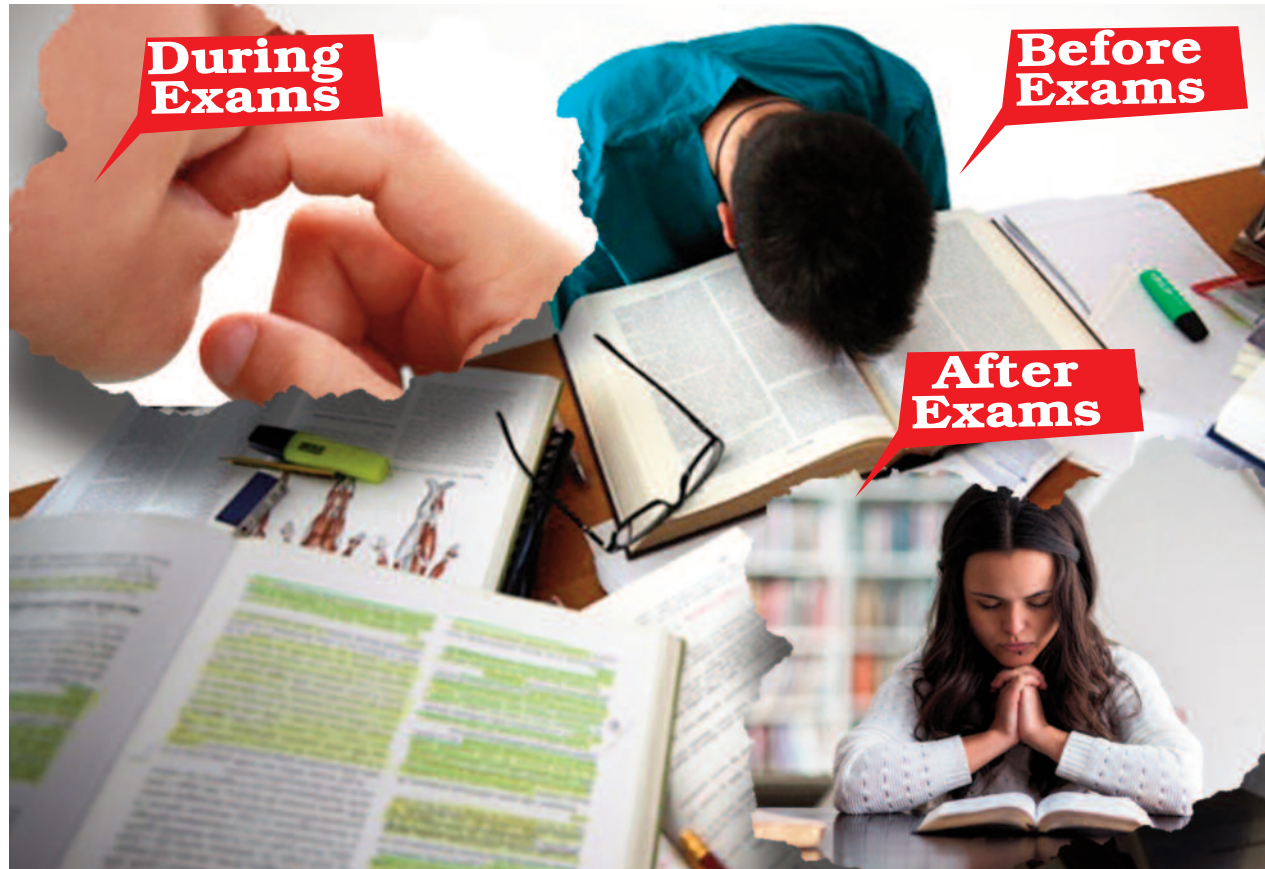
During the exam

"Question 1 looks familiar; question 2, I do recall something like this; question 3 is out of syllabus," is what you think while reading the question paper. All that you've read seems to fall short. Still mustering up all the courage you have, you hold the pen to write the answer but somehow your hands don't move and you pray to God to save you this time. Well, as if next year would be any different, but let's not talk about it now!

After the exam

"Mirror mirror on the wall! I'll do my best next year," the soliloquy you give in front of the mirror; you promise yourself that you will escape the endless whirlpool of procrastination and that change will happen. And this time, you mean it. Because there's only so long you can go on with all the regret and fret about exams each year.

Writer's note: Finally, best of luck to all those who are still taking their exam, and to those who will have them in near future. You've got this as an eye opener and even if you didn't, keep trying!



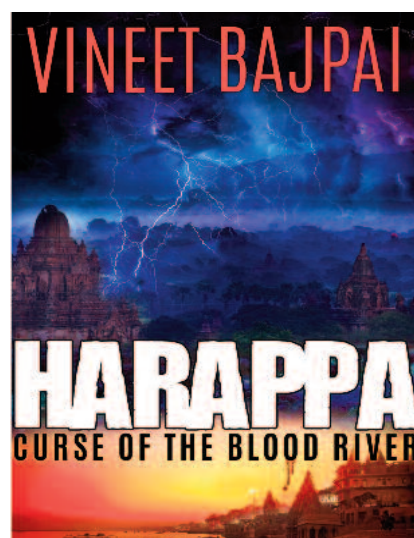
Book Review

Rake in that review

Name of the book: Harappa: Curse of the Blood River
Author: Vineet Bajpai
Published on: June 9, 2017
Genre: Historical Fiction

Synopsis: A thriller with a fast-moving story and never-slowing pace, this is a conspiracy set in modern times with multiple references to historical events. The plotline predominantly revolves around two characters, Vidyut, a Delhi based entrepreneur, and Vivasvan Pujari, a Harappan priest, separated by three millennia but still connected through blood. A distinction of two mindsets based on what used to be pious then (1700 BC) and now (21st Century), both protagonists are considered and worshipped as half-human and half-god. When Vidyut is summoned home in Banaras where a frightening family secret, an ancient bloodline curse, awaits him, the world's most merciless killer in Paris is tasked with the annihilation of the last 'devta' alive simultaneously. Now, how do the events in Banaras, ancient India and Paris connect? What is the blood curse? Who is the last 'Devta'? Read the book and find out.

Why is it worth reading: The story draws its narrative from sources as varied as history and mythology to the paranormal and religion. It frequently jumps across timelines and continents in order to tease the readers and keep the mystery alive. Moreover, people drawn from an-



cient times are seamlessly interspersed with modern-day characters, all of which are well developed and will surely leave a lasting impression on all. Overall, it is a great book for everyone, especially for people interested in the trend of mythological/historical fiction prevalent after the success of the Shiva Trilogy.

Iconic quote: "There is a hidden streak God grants women, which has the power to change the world. Whether that is for the better or for the worse, depends on the woman who yields that influence. It is a woman that is the progenitor of entire creation. Yet it is often a woman that has led to the bloodiest of wars. Man is but a conduit for the will of the woman."

Rating: ★★★★★

Review by: Varada Kachroo
AIS VKC Lko, X

Never feel demotivated

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

How did your journey for IIT-JEE begin?

Math and science were the subjects I studied with interest. So, I decided to pursue a career in the field of engineering where I could always have these subjects in the curriculum. For the same, I opted for science stream in Class XI and simultaneously prepared for JEE by enrolling myself in coaching classes.

How did you prepare for IIT-JEE?

I spent a lot of time practising questions and giving tests. Initially, the focus was not on how fast I could solve the questions but whether I could solve them or not. Later, I began focusing on my speed as well. Once my fundamentals were clear, speed came naturally.

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

The test series and doubt clearing sessions by AICE were amazing. Even during the lockdown, I was able to freely approach the teachers for any doubts that I had at any time. All this helped me immensely during my preparation.

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

I attended both the coaching classes and the school classes regularly and tried to learn most of the theory at school/coaching itself. By following

this technique, I got ample time for self-study and to practise questions of various concepts.

understanding of concepts. Learn how to remain calm under pressure and manage your time well.



Name: Vaibhav Agarwal
AICE Batch: 2019 - 2020
AICE Programme: Test Series and Doubt clearing
Currently pursuing: Computer Science and Engineering, Dual Degree
College/University: IIT Delhi

Which field of engineering did you choose and why?

I chose Computer Science as I was always curious about computers. I enjoyed Computer Science as my fifth subject in Class XI and XII.

Are there some preparation strategies to crack IIT-JEE?

What I would recommend is to focus on the fundamentals and basic

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

One should start preparing whenever they feel like. For instance, some start as early as Class IX and some begin at Class XI or XII. Yet, I would suggest that 2-3 years of preparation is required to crack the entrance exam.

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

Never feel demotivated if you score bad in a couple of tests, or if you are unable to solve questions that your peers find 'easy'. Try and see where you did not understand the question well or what were the mistakes that you could have avoided. Above all, don't ignore your hobbies during this time because that will help you sail through the journey.

Rapid fire

One word to describe...

Your alma mater: Memorable

The motto of your life: Perseverance

Your passion: Art

Yourself: Hardworking



Chocolate's rich rewards

For A Chocolate Once In A While Is Really Worth The While!

Tavishi Parashar, AIS Gurugram 43, X

Chocolate, indubitably the most sought-after confection of all times, is more than just a guilty pleasure, isn't it? Responsible for the collective sugar rushes of people all over the world, irrespective of age, this sweetmeat would never not be a source of delectation for those who savour it whole. Feeling blue? Eat chocolate. Happy? How about a chocolate? However, sadly enough, its reputation precedes it every time; hypertension, weight gain, cholesterol, diabetes, acne, etc., have all been associated with its consumption over the years. Not anymore! More recent research has proven that it is not all bad news. So, as you nibble on that chocolate bar, take note!

Controls cholesterol

A study published in 'The Journal of Nutrition' advocates that the consumption of chocolate can support cardiovascular health by lowering down oxidised low-density lipoprotein (LDL) cholesterol levels, also known as the bad cholesterol, and reducing platelet clumping. Stemming from the cacao plant, chocolate is

extraordinarily rich in plant sterols (PS) and cocoa flavanols (CF), both of which combined contain the right amount of fatty acids and have a huge antioxidant potential. As these enter into our bloodstream, these prevent the free radicals in our body from causing any oxidative damage, and increase our HDL or good cholesterol levels. Thus, lowering the risk of death by heart attack by as much as 57% in some cases. You just have to make sure that you choose a good quality dark chocolate with at least 70% cocoa.

Protects against the sun

Chocolate contains bioactive compounds such as flavonoids, etc., that are great for the skin. As per a study conducted by the National Cancer Institute, USA, if consumed regularly, dark chocolate can improve the flow of blood to the skin and slow down our overall ageing process. It can also effectively eliminate certain cancerous cells at the same time. Over and above that, dark chocolate disarms DNA-damaging molecules that are formed when the harmful UV rays penetrate our skin due to excessive exposure to the sun. In another such study conducted by the Institute for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology at Heinrich Heine University, Germany, it was suggested that those who consume a high-oxidant chocolate product are not as sensitive to UV damage as those who do not.

Helps in fighting diabetes

Against the popular belief that a diabetic person should not indulge in sweets, dark chocolate with its low glycemic index, in fact, offers itself as a

great alternative. A study published in Endocrine Abstracts regarding the same found out that daily consumption of dark chocolate positively impacts our blood sugar, and re-trains our body to use the insulin effectively. With polyphenols as an active ingredient, it lowers insulin resistance (a risk factor for diabetes) and prevents Type 2 diabetes. In another such study published in Abstracts, it was detailed that people who eat dark chocolate at least once a week are 17% less likely to be at a risk of diabetes than those who don't.

Boosts the brain

Chocolate lovers, the good news isn't over yet! For as per a team of scientists at Harvard Medical School, dark chocolate improves blood and oxygen flow to the brain, and due to its cocoa extract, namely flavanol, helps in preventing the early death of brain cells. This further lessens the risk of developing diseases like dementia or Alzheimer's disease. In addition to this, due to the prevalence of stimulants such as theobromine and caffeine, dark chocolate improves brain function in the short term, making one more alert and awake (Northumbria University research). It also benefits the elderly by enhancing their cognitive skills as per some studies.

A word of caution - while dark chocolate has several health benefits, a polyphenol-rich dark chocolate that contains a good amount of antioxidants and has a higher percentage of cocoa is what is highly recommended and advisable. Milk chocolates that are high in sugar are obviously a big no! So, make the right choice!



Space debris


Dangers Of Our Outer World Adventures

Shivanshi Sharma, AIS Mayur Vihar, X B

Just as the Sword of Damocles was hanging by a thread, ready to fall down any minute and showcase its true danger, the future of humanity's space travel seems to be on the same track where it can also collapse that easily and change the world as we know it forever. The reason, you ask? Space junk! The launch of Sputnik 1 created a lot of new records for mankind and opened gigantic gates that could not have been imagined before, but with the same, came a wish from every country and every project to send something to space. The result - the debris in our space is accumulating at a huge pace, so much so that the number of useless satellites are outnumbering the operational ones in the orbit. But what is space debris? Well, it is an artificial or man-made material that is orbiting the Earth in the Lower Earth Orbit (LEO), and which is not functional and is not helping in transmission of information. So, why should we be worried about useless objects floating in space? These small particles of space debris are quite dangerous as they can trigger the Kessler Syndrome wherein when a small piece of space debris travelling at a high speed can hit another satellite and cause not only severe damage to it, but also destroy it completely, creating even more space junk that will further hurt and damage others.

Usually space junk should not be larger than 10 cm but according to the United States Space Surveillance Network, there are now around 14,000 pieces of space debris that are larger than 10 cm. A report by European Space Agency claims that even though some steps might have been taken to deal with this issue, it still is

not enough to actually curb it. Due to this space debris, many accidents have caught us off guard. In 1996, the first collision between an operational satellite and a piece of space debris ensued when a fragment from a European Ariane rocket collided with Cerise. The worst space debris-related accident happened when the Chinese military destroyed their Fengyun-1C weather satellite in a test of an anti-satellite system, creating more than 4,000 fragments and resulting in the waste of this satellite forming 22% of the total space debris. What will happen if we keep ignoring it? Well, if the practice continues at this rate, soon the LEO will be so crowded that not only will sending a satellite to space become an impossible task, it will also end up tampering with the functions that already existing satellites perform. That means no signals for our telephones, wifi, television, etc. Moreover, travelling would become very difficult as global positioning and all timing services will be rendered useless.

Are the effects just limited to entertainment and travel? No! All machines like heating and cooling systems, and assembly lines rely on almost flawless satellite based timing systems. All synchronised traffic signals, too. Thus, the risk of them all going haywire is real. But the most catastrophic impact would be that the world economy would shut down. Satellite based time-stampers keep a track of everything, from credit card purchases to stock exchanges, so if space debris were to take over the world, all electronic transactions would become impossible. If this happens, our civilisation will be set back by at least a few decades, which is why it is high time we start worrying about it before it is too late. 





Liki, also referred to as Moar, is spoken on a select few islands off the coast of Indonesia.

I'll do it tomorrow

Poring Over The Art Of Procrastination And The Ways To Productively Unlearn It

Ishika Sharma, AIS Saket, XII

Day 1: I'll just do my work tomorrow. There's plenty of time and I can't miss the new season of XYZ. I am already behind!

Day 2: Just five episodes remain of XYZ. Once I finish this, I can entirely focus on my work. Tomorrow it is!

Day 3: Oh, I think I've had too much of screen time. It will be wise to take rest today before I sit for the assignment. It has to be quality work. Tomorrow it is!

The D-day: There's no need of putting in important time and effort for this thing anyway since there is so less time. Let me just quickly finish this assignment so that I can start a new series.

That must have resonated with you, hasn't it? We know that you very well know what to call it. Yes, the word that has correctly been prefixed with a pro. You are getting there- procrastination-that's correct! Like every other word in the dictionary, the word procrastination is a Latin gift, which means 'to forward tomorrow'. But this tomorrow, as you can see, never arrives quite on time. Tomorrow is just another imaginary fair-land which everyone believes to be their right time and place to start. To put it more precisely, we keep pushing this to-

morrow till there is actually no tomorrow left.

But is procrastination really a result of our laziness? Maybe not, because there are many reasons why we put things off for later. When you already know that the

overwhelmingly huge task assigned to you is time taking and important for you to score well, laziness just cannot be a factor. Now, the question is not 'how to do things timely?' but 'how to not procrastinate?'

because let's admit we all are in the same boat. Let's break it down- procrastination happens when you are averting tasks that seem unpleasant to you.

It's not as if you procrastinate watching that XYZ series, do you? So the first step is to acknowledge the term itself, to understand the reason behind your lack of interest in doing a task. Some other important reasons are that you think the said goal is not as rewarding when you are putting in so much efforts into it or that you think

you won't succeed in doing the task, so why do it at all? In a UK-based study, about 84% of the respondents admitted that they kept their important tasks for later. Basically, it is a widespread concept, so you and I can breathe without guilt. Now that you realise that this habit of deferring tasks might not be a smart idea after all, how do you overcome it? Well, rest assured, the answers are not scary. The first step is to break the huge task into smaller



or easier tasks. This way, you can get the task started and work on it gradually throughout the day while other tasks don't take backseat. Next, replace the thought 'can do it later' with 'have to do it now'. Remember, conscience is your biggest monitor and it will push you to sit through the task till completion. Do it just once, and this thought will stay with you for the rest of your life! The third alternative is to take the task as it comes whether or not you want to do it. This will not allow you to pile up the work for the much awaited 'tomorrow'.

Forthrightly, while penning this article, even I procrastinated and I am not proud of it. But that's how we learn, right? 📚

The REMIXperiment

The Precious Secret Of Making A Hit Bollywood Remix Song Is Finally Revealed

Anika Joshi

AIS Vasundhara 1, XII

Aim

To create a hit Bollywood remix song

Theory

What is a remix? Well, it is defined as 'a piece of media which is altered from its original format either by removing or changing pieces of the media'. With the craze amongst the fans increasing about Bollywood remix songs with each passing day, we couldn't find a better way but perform a 'Remixperiment' to see what all goes behind the making of a trendy remix. Try it for sure! You might create a masterpiece to rock the stage.

Prerequisites

- ♪ A hit old number that just connects with you at first go
- ♪ A 'catchy' tune which is exactly like every other song the audience has ever heard
- ♪ An EDM mix, because, of course!
- ♪ A rap featuring someone who wears oversized t-shirt with dog tags and funky shoes
- ♪ If you are feeling too experimental, you can also add some foreign or regional tunes but only a pinch of it!

Procedure

- ♪ Start by listening to popular old songs like that of Kishore Kumar, Mohammad Rafi or Burman Da of 70-80s and select one of them for a remake.
- ♪ If you think this is too much effort, you can even jump to songs from the 90s or even 00s. Who even cares! Because anything that came out more than six months ago is now considered ancient.
- ♪ Think of a catchy tune and insert it in the

song at every place possible. It doesn't even matter if the tune is not original, because you can add so many effects and auto tune in it that nobody will ever know. Trust us!

♪ Next, listen to different EDM mixes and try to blend various beats with the song to make it more 'upbeat'. Mix Marshmello, Avicii, David Guetta, Calvin Harris, Steve Aoki, and Martin Garrix all together, and if we have missed out on any name, feel free to ask them to join in, too!

♪ Now, look for a rapper and instruct him to include words like party, fun, etc., in his rap. This is bound to make your new song cooler, and if, by any case, the old song has any meaningful lyrics that will move the audience, this new rap is bound to cancel it out.

♪ Next, shoot the video at a pool side with famous actors who can pull off 'party' steps.

♪ Finally, promote the song as if it was made from scratch. Take two-three words from the old title and add two three words to form a new title and voila! Your own masterpiece that will claim to defeat all musical world records is done.

Observation

If, at any step, you find your song actually making sense, we suggest you scrap it altogether and start afresh. Don't let this setback

hold you down. Try again!

Precaution

Try to throw in a few 'useful' English words just to make it catchy. Nobody will care what the remix means if it is catchy enough.

Inference

Making a hit Bollywood remix song is not a difficult task. A little smartness and a little tweaking here and there can create a 'brand new' song in the name of 'remake' or 'reboot' or 'remix' or whatever.



At the brink of extinction, Tanema language is spoken on the island of Vanikoro in the Solomon Islands.



Rarest lingos

A year since



Dr. Amita Chauhan
Chairperson

As the anniversary of the janta curfew came by recently, it occurred to me that it had been an entire year since our lives changed. Looking back one realises how far we've come. From being thrown

off track to developing a vaccine in a short period of time; we've come a long way. Even on the academic front, as schools were shut down, a new system of online schooling was developed within a brief time span. In fact, Amity was one of the first schools to take learning to the virtual realm. Many would think online learning would mean carrying on with the basic imparting of lessons, but not when you are at Amity. We at Amity not just conducted the regular classes but also an array of extra curriculars and unique programmes, which became even more crucial at this juncture to keep the students engaged in lockdown.

Our students not just participated in these programmes but also fetched accolades. One such win was at the national level of recently concluded Indian Science and Engineering Fair, where our students fetched gold and silver. From creating unique social distancing system to using robotics in healthcare to developing smart poles for promoting efficient agriculture, our students created unique scientific models, in this prestigious science fair. Amityans have always proved their mettle at INSEF and other scientific platforms. This year too despite the challenges brought by the pandemic, they continued to do so, showing their determination to win.

It has been a year since the pandemic, and a year since we made forward strides. With this column onwards, I aspire to share with you the stories of our achievements in the year since; stories that drive home the message that nothing can triumph over the human will to succeed. 🇮🇳

Embracing the change



Vira Sharma
Managing Editor

Just the other day a 'thought for the day' written on a board somewhere caught my attention- *Zindagi ki pa-reeksha kitni wafadar hai, uska paper kabhi leak nahi hota*, roughly meaning that life surprises us with several tests every step of the way

but never lets us know what to expect next. Enhancing this thought with our Chairperson ma'am's statement- *Koshish karne walon ki kabhi haar nahi hoti*, it indeed teaches us that whatever challenge life throws at us, we must keep adapting to change and continue to make the effort to become better. We did not know till last year that we would all become so dependent on a virtual world. We have all adapted to this transformation, and successfully so, but it did take time, effort and perseverance. Speaking of unexpected change and its role in making our lives better, my mind shifts to farmers back in my native village. There are many villages in our country where farmers show an innate resistance towards adopting new-age farming methods and techniques. Despite knowing the benefits of using technology in agriculture, farmers are still stuck to their traditional methods of sowing, irrigating and harvesting. The need of the hour is to understand the importance of flowing with the times. Just as a seed breaks out of its shell to transform itself into a full-grown plant, responding amicably to all the factors in its external environment, farmers, too, need to cast away their resistance and adapt to the new-age world of science and technology. That is the only way to pass the exam of (agricultural) change! 🇮🇳

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 10 ■ RNI No. DELENG / 2009 / 30258. Both for free distribution and annual subscription of ₹ 450.

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 March 29 - April 4, 2021

Art of destruction

A Slant On Whether Iconoclasm Makes Or Breaks The Society

Arpit Gupta, AIS Saket, Alumnus

Iconoclasm is a social belief which supports the destruction of prominent icons like images or monuments, representing a certain ideology, be it religious or political. It is one of the radical ways to express dissension with a certain ideology or belief system. But every coin has two sides, iconoclasm, too.

The Bad

The destruction of 430-year-old Islamic Babri Mosque in 1992 by the Hindu extremists shows that, throughout history, iconoclasm has been the path for many extremist groups and emperors. The bombing of 6th century Bamiyan Buddhas by the Taliban in 2001 is another such example. The recent renaming of cities and roads originating to the Muslim dynasty, such as that of Allahabad to Prayagraj, is also an example of political iconoclasm.

Though expressing a difference in

opinion, iconoclasm can often be merely irrational destruction. Destroying centuries-old artefacts simply to highlight a difference of opinion, an integral part of any democratic set-up, is silly, in the least, and autocratic in the worst.

The Good

There were instances where iconoclasm was used to propagate new ideas. Throughout the radical phase of the French Revolution, numerous monuments, religious works, and other

historically significant pieces, which represented the autocracy, were destroyed in an attempt to oppose the absolute rule. This spread the idea of a new form of governance — democracy. Thus, iconoclasm can be beneficial if used to challenge old, restrictive conventions. Moreover, the concept of iconoclasm is not restricted to physical destruction; it can also be a way of opposing ideas moderately, without destruction. In this sense, iconoclasm has been an effective way to eradicate social evils in the society. For example,

the then Governor-General Lord William Bentinck in 1829 abolished the regressive practice of Sati Pratha in India.

The Balance

"It is a mark of every icon that it should be open to iconoclasm." Old and conservative ideals need to be challenged in a society and that is what prevents it from being stagnated. As the 'smartest' beings on the planet, it is our job to find the right balance. Iconoclasm, when practiced for the emergence of a new outlook, can be a boon for the society. However, if the goal is to gain control or establish supremacy, reckless destruction of ancient symbols is but an invitation to anarchy. 🇮🇳



The viridescient ventures

Continued from page 1...

Cherry

Scientific name: Prunus avium

Being prehistoric fruits, cherries are known to have originated across the Western and Northern parts of Africa and also certain regions of Turkey. It came to India in the Mughal period, and is now a cash crop of Kashmir.

The catch: Cherries are cultivated all over the world, with Turkey, US and Iran being the top cultivators respectively. India produces a mere 0.6 percent of the world output of cherries. This fruit species requires high altitudes and colder climates to grow, thus finding its home in Kashmir which dedicates most of its land to cherry cultivation. However, the recent fluctuation in climate has been posing a

threat to this yield and the planters are worried that the production may drop by 30% in the year.

The rewards: Himachal Pradesh, which is known for its abundant apple production, has taken to cherry cultivation over the past four years. For the local cultivators, this has proven to be a cost-effective method as an alternative to their traditional apple cultivation which involves the use of chemicals. With more farmers wanting in, the state produced over 500 tonnes of cherries by the year 2019 and put it in the market for a value of INR 250 per kg, and the numbers are only seeing a rise. The local producers testify that cherries do not bring with it a protracted harvest period, and is quite easy to grow given the right environment. Adding to this is the state's reputation as a sight-seeing hub, which, coupled with organic cherry production, will help largely in the development of the region in terms of economy and tourism.

Now, these are just some of the many efforts that are being taken to preserve and enhance the quality of agronomy in India, meaning that apart from focusing on large scale investments, small and localised improvements can result in overall betterment of agriculture. In the words of M S Swaminathan, the Father of India's Green Revolution, "If agriculture fails, everything else will fail."



GT M@il

THE GLOBAL TIMES

When Error Erases The Ecosystem, Efforts Revive It

Reviving the ANIMAL KINGDOM



Issue: P1, March 22, 2021

Dear Editor,

This is in reference to the article 'Reviving the Animal Kingdom' on page 1 published in the GT edition dated March 22, 2021. The article is thoroughly an eye-opening read, which makes the readers understand the significance of preserving the flora and fauna around them because maintaining balance in nature is key to ensuring collective growth. It enlists the conservation efforts and purposeful actions of fellow human beings in this quest and through it, provides all with the quintessential perspective needed to reconsider our priorities. I would like to thank The Global Times for educating us on this pivotal subject, all while providing us the encouragement to contribute wholeheartedly to the ongoing environmental conservation efforts in making the Mother Earth habitable for all. 🇮🇳

Tanya Ganguly
AIS Saket, X B



Chemehuevi, traditionally spoken in the Mojave Desert, is today a Colorado River Numic language.

HISTORY *this* WEEK

W eeks, years, decades, centuries...as time goes by day by day, the world keeps progressing in 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 **March 29-April 4** that played their role in shaping our society.

The world of sports

MAR
31
1985

The first WrestleMania was held at Madison Square Garden in New York City, USA. Produced by the then World Wrestling Federation, the professional wrestling pay-per-view event saw the attendance of 19,121 people. With over a million viewers watching it on television, it was the largest pay-per-view show of a wrestling event in the US at that time. Hulk Hogan came out as the WWF Men's Champion whereas Wendi Richter won the Women's Championship. Nikolai Volkoff and The Iron Sheik won the Tag Team Championship.



The world of celebration

MAR
30
1853

One of the most famous and influential figures in the history of Western art, Vincent Willem van Gogh was born in the Netherlands. Even though he was not famous in his lifetime, his 2,100 artworks gained him posthumous popularity due to his bold colours and dramatic, impulsive and expressive brushwork. Today his legacy is honoured at the Van Gogh Museum in Amsterdam, which holds the largest collection of his art.



APR
2
1805

Hans Christian Anderson was born in Denmark. He went on to write plays, travelogues, novels and poems, and is best remembered for his fairy tales that have given birth to various famous children movies and shows. His fairy tales, consisting of 156 stories across nine volumes, have been translated to over 125 languages, and are readily accessible to children as lessons of virtue and resilience. His famous works include The Emperor's New Clothes, The Little Mermaid, etc.



The world of science & technology



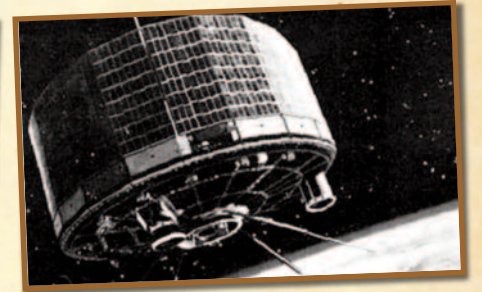
MAR
29
1886

John Pemberton brewed the very first batch of a concoction that he created as a temperance drink and was meant to have medicinal properties but went on to become Coca-Cola, as the world knows it today. The name of the drink comes from two of its original ingredients: coca leaves and kola nuts. After it was bought by Asa Griggs Candler, the drink created dominance in the soft-drink market and was even named amongst the most valuable brands in the world.



MAR
30
240 BCE

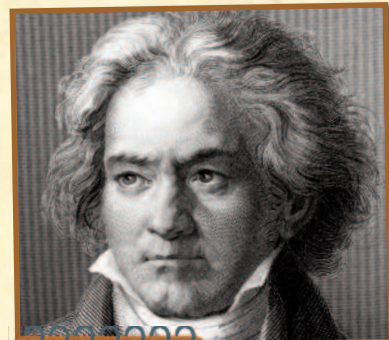
The very first sighting of the Halley's Comet was observed by a group of Chinese astronomers who described it as a "broom-shaped star in the sky," later officially discovered by the British astronomer Edmond Halley. Halley's Comet, officially designated 1P/Halley, is a short-period comet visible from Earth every 75-76 years, and is the only known short-period comet that is regularly visible to the naked eye. It is also the only naked-eye comet that can appear twice in a human's lifetime.



APR
1
1960

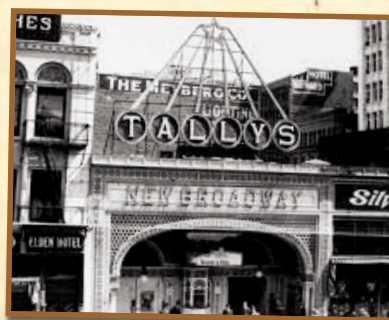
The world's first ever weather satellite TIROS-1 (Television Infrared Observation Satellite) was launched into space by NASA. Developed in the 1950s, it orbited 450 miles above Earth and communicated with two command and data acquisition stations which recorded its images on 35-mm film for making prints. The main function of TIROS-1 was to provide information about cloud formations around the globe, and during its 78 days of function, it collected more than 19,000 usable pictures.

The world of entertainment



APR
2
1800

The German composer and pianist Ludwig van Beethoven staged his first ever public benefit concert in which he was also the financial beneficiary. Marked as his first prominent feature, it premiered Beethoven's Septet for Winds and Strings, Opus 20, Opus 21 and his Symphony No 1. His works span across the classical period to the romantic era in music. Till date, he remains one of the most admired composers in the history of music.



APR
2
1902

Tally's Electric Theatre in Los Angeles opened its hall for the common masses, making it the first permanent movie theatre in the world designed specifically for the exhibition of films. The theatre was the brainchild of Thomas Lincoln Tally and it not only ignited a revolution in how the world watched movies, but also laid the foundation in constructing Hollywood in Los Angeles and making it the movie capital of the entire world. All the shows at the theatre were regularly noticed to be sold out. The theatre was also the first one to show a coloured film in 1912.

The world of politics



MAR
31
1889

In a ceremony presided over by Gustav Eiffel, the then French Prime Minister, Pierre Tirard, other guests, and 200 construction workers, the famous French Eiffel Tower first opened its gate to the public. The monument was built with an aim to honour the centenary of the French Revolution, and out of more than a hundred designs, Eiffel's plan of an open-lattice wrought-iron tower that would reach almost 1,000 feet above Paris was chosen.



APR
4
1968

The African-American reverend and civil rights leader, Martin Luther King Jr, was assassinated at the Lorraine Motel in Memphis, Tennessee, USA, by James Earl Ray. A prominent leader of the civil rights movement and a Nobel Peace Prize laureate who was known for promoting nonviolence and civil disobedience, he was shot at 6:01 pm and was rushed to St Joseph's Hospital where he died at 7:05 pm. The murderer was pleaded guilty and sentenced to 99 years in the Tennessee State Penitentiary where he died in 1998.





Dreams of paper

Storywala



Imaging: Dinesh Kumar, GT Network

Aditi Jha, AIS Saket, X A

No matter how hard she tried, she couldn't run. It was one of those dreams where doom was ineluctable and she knew it already. The long strands of her hair stuck to her face due to perspiration. She writhed in her bed, her mind urging her to wake up. Suddenly then a thundering crash woke her out of her nightmare. Chloe woke up panting and distressed. She glanced at the jug beside her bed, shattered

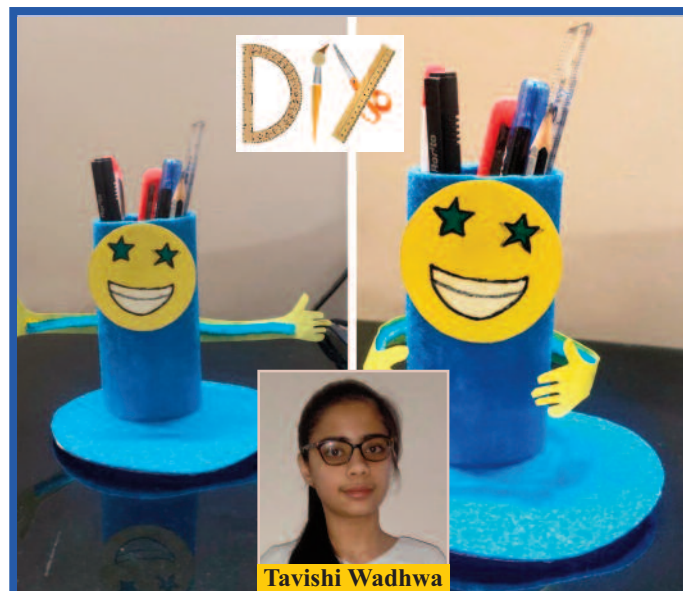
into a thousand fragments. "I must've knocked it down in my sleep," she murmured, trying to calm her fast-paced heart. Wiping sweat off her forehead, she tried to go back to sleep but to no avail. Throughout the next day, all she could think about was her dream. The panic and fear she felt while she ran, helpless as the rugged man in the shadows chased her. It was the most vivid and chilling dream she'd ever had. She couldn't see the end for she'd knocked the jug down, the crashing sound of

which had woken her up. Every time she tried to remember what happened next, a fog overtook her memory and a shiver ran down her spine. Trying to forget about the whole incident, she went on with her day. As night approached once more, Chloe went to bed dreading the nightmare she had yesterday and wishing not to have another one. But alas, she had the same dream again, and this time she could see further. The alleys twisted and curved in the dark, but instinctively she knew which one to

Suddenly a thundering crash woke her out of her nightmare. Chloe woke up panting and distressed.

take. Gloomy dark clouds blanketed the sky, and it drizzled. Chloe halted in her tracks, startled by what she saw. The man chasing her now stood in a dimly lit intersection right in front of her. The wind picked up, and the rain became intense. With frightened eyes, she saw the silhouette change shape. It seemed as if he was melting. The light grew brighter and brighter until she could see the man clearly. His face was gruesomely deformed, his skin falling apart in the rain, as if made of paper. She stood petrified as the rain reduced the man to nothing more than pulped paper on the ground.

Chloe turned to her side and faced the warm sunlight coming through the window. She couldn't make sense of the dream, but were dreams even supposed to make sense? Chloe made her way to the bathroom. She turned on the tap, filled some water in her cupped hands and proceeded to wash her face. As she looked in the mirror, her scream was caught in her throat. She saw her pale skin, and hair as red as flames falling apart, as if made of paper. 🇮🇳



Emoji stand

Tavishi Wadhwa, AIS Gurugram 46, X

Material required

- Felt sheets (blue and yellow)
- Scissors
- Cardboard
- Compass
- Empty toilet paper roll
- Hot glue gun
- Coloured pastel sheet
- Pipe cleaner

Procedure

- Take an empty toilet paper roll and, using a hot glue gun, wrap it in a blue felt sheet. Make sure you cut the extra sheet out.
- Now, take a cardboard and draw a circle on it with a radius of about 6-7 cm. Cut it out.
- Draw another circle of the same size on the blue felt sheet and cut it out.
- Paste the felt sheet circle over the cardboard circle. This will act as the base of your emoji stand.
- Stick the wrapped toilet paper roll on this base.
- Now, on a coloured pastel sheet, draw your favorite emoji. Cut it out.
- Paste the emoji cut-out on the roll. (Refer to the picture)
- On the same pastel sheet, draw a pair of arms and hands. Cut it out.
- Stick the arms on either side of the roll.
- Now, take a pipe cleaner and trim it to the length of the arm. Make two such strings.
- Paste one pipe cleaner string on each arm on its inner side. This step will help you in adjusting the arms in whichever way you prefer.
- Your Emoji stand is ready! Fill in all your stationery and place it on the study table.

At last we finished
Both our assignments
Oh, such freedom
And real excitement

Next day, in class
We sat in peace
Expecting Mrs Turner
To be pleased

She entered the room
With a pleasant smile
To believe it was real
It took us all a while

Then it was my turn
My poem she read
It was that one moment
I would always dread

Then she next read
My friend's rhyme

But didn't realise my poem
Was also about summer climes

I looked at my friend
And he looked at me
By the time she finished
Our confidence was diminished

We then crept up
To the teacher's table
And began to tell her
Our humbling fable

When we had finished
We awaited her reaction
Calmly we paused
Without any action

It was only laughter
With which she greeted us
And that was the conclusion
Of this absolute fuss. 🇮🇳

WORDS VERSE

A poetic trouble

Anupriya Bhatnagar
AIS Vas 1, XII C

My friend, a daydreamer
With a vivid imagination
Whose stories were funny
And full of information

His stories were engaging
But never seemed sudden
His creations, to any of us
Never became a burden

The teachers praised him
For his writing ability
Yet he always retained
His honesty and humility

In last Friday's English class
When Mrs Turner walked in
She had a calm expression
But a fearsome grin

What was going on
In her curious mind?
What mountainous work

Were we to be assigned?

My friend was grinning
From ear to ear
This was one class
He never feared

Mrs Turner's voice
Boomed in the class
"This job must be done
In order for you to pass"

"You must write a poem
And submit it on time
It must be qualitative
And slightly sublime"

The look of horror
Crept on his face
Upon then which
I happened to gaze

I shall remember
Throughout my life
For it was full of pain
And absolute strife



He had never written
Any poetry before
Resulting in that look
That was mentioned afore

In the evening at home
I sat with my work behind
The English assignment
Was stuck in my mind

Suddenly someone
Knocked on my door
I was happy to get away
From the eyesore

My friend was there
To seek my help
Seeing him there
I almost gave out a yelp

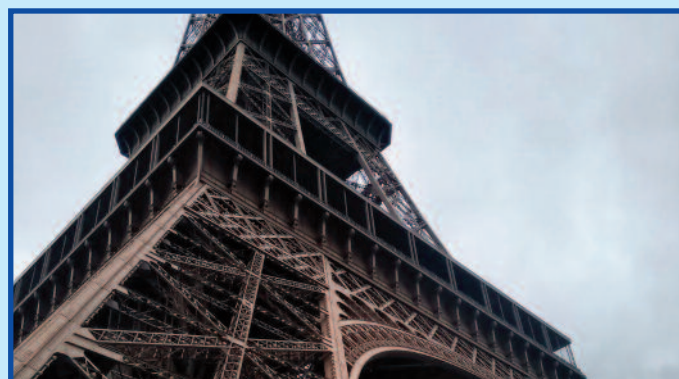
We shared and debated
Our opinions and thoughts
Quite a few good ideas
That he had brought

At last we decided
The work finally began
The engines of our minds
Now finally ran

CAMERA CAPERS

Ishita Sharma, AIS Pushp Vihar, XII E

Send in your entries to
cameracapers@theglobaltimes.in



Height of magnificence



Warmth of fire



Strings of melody



Lemerig is an Oceanic language spoken on the small island of Vanua Lava in Vanuatu.

The Macaw Princess

Short Story



Shriya Pasricha

AIS Gurugram 43, VII

Long time ago in a magnificent castle of Catellocks, lived a happy family. One fine day, the king and queen went for a cruise tour with their baby daughter on her third birthday. Everything was sailing smooth until there occurred a sudden change in weather which caused the cruise to capsize. Unfortunately, the king and queen drowned in the reckless sea. The baby was, however, saved by some dolphins that were swimming alongside the ship and brought to the nearest island. The island was inhabited by animals of all kinds. At the sight of a new creature on their land, all the animals quickly surrounded her and stared at her in awe. Her glistening eyes and innocent face astounded them. Aware of the

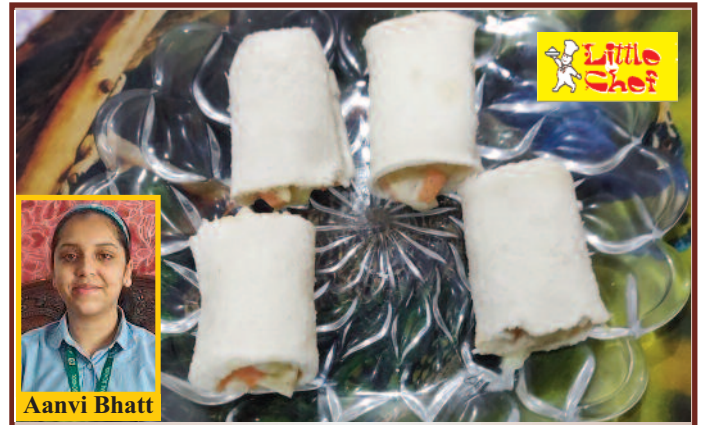
shipwreck, they made her a part of their clan and promised to never mention the tragic incident to her when she grows up. And thus, this baby girl was named 'Tanaria', meaning 'the most beautiful element on Earth'. Years passed and Tanaria became familiar with the environment of the wild island. She understood their language, too. Coco, a macaw, became her best pal on the island. One day, a charming prince named Arthur, of one of the wealthiest kingdoms, visited the island in the midst of his cruise tour. As he entered the jungle, he was attacked by some poisonous snakes who were protecting the Island Kingdom. Luckily, princess Tanaria arrived in no time and saved the prince from danger. He was very grateful to her for saving his life. So, he offered her a visit to his palace as a

token of gratitude and she agreed. After a few days post arriving at the kingdom, Tanaria and Arthur became really good friends and explored the palace together. On one such tour, a butler ran to Arthur telling him that the King's majestic crown had been stolen. Tanaria realised that this was not the right time for the palace tour and decided to help the royals in finding the crown. The thief was none other than the royal magician Cassandra. She was jealous of how Arthur and Tanaria were bonding, and wanted to create a ruckus in the kingdom. Thus, using her powers, she stole the precious crown. Arthur's investigation led them to the forbidden forest. Behind the tall trees was a secret door. As they opened the mysterious door, a big trap net fell on them, which was thrown due to Cassandra's magic spell in a bid to lure

On one such tour, a butler ran to Arthur telling him that the King's majestic crown has been stolen.

Arthur. However, in no time, Tanaria summoned Coco using a peculiar voice that the animals had taught her. The clever macaw flew from nowhere and snatched Cassandra's magic wand and broke it with its beak. Together, they recovered the King's crown. Yet again, Arthur felt indebted to Tanaria for all her help. In return, he decided to hold a grand event for her. On the day of the event, everyone urged Tanaria to sing a song. The song she chose was one which only the royals knew. One of the guests was the new queen of Catellocks, Tanaria's aunt, who was surprised to hear the song. Soon, she realised that it was none other than her own niece! Everyone was elated at this news and Tanaria was told the whole tragic tale. She was also offered the queen's throne that she was always entitled to. However, Tanaria politely declined the offer as her home was the Macaw Island. And so, after the grand event, she headed back to Macaw, her real home. **GT**

So, what did you learn today?
A new word: **Astounded**
Meaning: To be surprised or shocked by something



Aanvi Bhatt

Salad wraps

Aanvi Bhatt, AIS VKC Lucknow, VIII

Ingredients

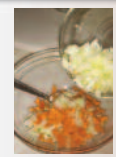
Bread slices2
Saltto taste
Black pepper1 tsp
Mayonnaise2 tbsp
Tomato (chopped)1/3 cup
Carrot (chopped)1/3 cup
Lettuce (chopped)1/3 cup
Cabbage (chopped)1/3 cup



Procedure



Step 1: Take a small glass bowl and a spoon.



Step 2: Add all the chopped veggies in the bowl.



Step 3: Now, add salt and black pepper in the bowl.



Step 4: With the spoon, mix all the ingredients well.

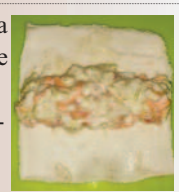


Step 5: Add a spoonful of mayonnaise in the veggies. Mix it all together!



Step 6: Cut the corners of a bread slice and, then, using a rolling pin, flatten it out as much as you can.

Step 7: Take a flattened piece of bread, and place the mixture neatly in the middle of the bread slice.



Step 8: Carefully pick up one corner of the bread and with light hands, roll it to cover the mix.



Step 9: Once rolled, with the help of a knife, cut it into two pieces or more if you want. Similarly, prepare the other bread slice.



Step 10: Your mini salad wraps are ready!

POEMS



This is my nation

Afreen Bano

AIS Jagdishpur, VIII

The freedom we have today
From British Raj as they say
It took us uncountable days
To guard India from being a prey

By sacrificing his life and blood

Bhagat Singh stood for his nation
So did Gandhiji and Sardar Patel
With efforts laborious and subtle

They left a free country for us
Let us be proud of it every day
And not create divisions further
For our nation is our mother. **GT**



My little brother

Tanmay Gupta

AIS Vas 6, VII

My baby bro's truly chubby
As any other baby can be
But he is the sweetest tot
That you will ever see

I count his hand dimples
A dozen times in a day
Often wondering as he coos
What he would want to say

I comb down his little head
But he hardly has any hair
It must be cold without it
Yet he never seems to care

It is nice to see him kick
With his tiny little feet
I pray he never falls sick
Our bond is that concrete. **GT**

It's Me

Know me
My name: Ansh Matta
My Class: III
My school: AIS Gwalior
Birthday: December 24

My favourites
Teacher: Prabha Verma ma'am
Subject: Hindi
Friend: Reet Arora
Games: Cricket, Ludo and swimming
Cartoons: Motu Patlu and Oye Golu
Food: Rajma and rice
Mall: DLF Mall of India
Book: The jungle book by Rudyard Kipling

My dreams and goals
Hobby: Writing stories
I like: Watching TV
I dislike: When my mother scolds me
My role model: My mother
I want to become: A neurosurgeon
I want to feature in GT because:
I would like to make a lot of friends

Riddle fiddle

Anoushka Chakraborty

AIS Pushp Vihar, IV

1. What is right in front of you, but you can't see it?
2. What comes once in a minute, twice in a moment and never in a thousand years?
3. Where can you find today coming before yesterday?
4. The moment you share it, you will lose it. What is it?
5. What has a thousand words, but never speaks?

Answers: 1. The future 2. Let-
ter 'M' 3. Dictionary 4. A secret
5. A book

PAINTING CORNER

Dhanishta Malhotra
AIS Vas 1, VI



Also known as Pinche, Taushiro language is native to Peru and is on its last legs with only one living speaker.



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

"Most of the artefacts that we marvel at in the museums must have been procured from other countries. In microcosmic terms, it is the same as breaking into someone's house, stealing their valuables, which are a massive part of their cultural beliefs, and putting it on display in your own home. However, simply showcasing a dying culture would do nothing to revive it. Every nation is entitled to their own symbols of heritage and culture."

Shivanshi Sharma, AIS MV, IX C

"The question of whether stolen colonial era artefacts should be returned is a simple one that the Netherlands has already correctly answered. Repatriation of artefacts is the easiest way to right historical wrongs and honour the cultural links between the place and the artefact. This not only strengthens diplomatic ties between countries, but also enriches the culture by giving context to the artefact's creation, how it is tied to its location and what events brought about its theft."

**Avikshit Upadhyay
AGS Gurugram, IX**

"The decision of the government of Netherlands to return colonial era artefacts is a progressive move. However, I do not think that all other countries will follow suit. While there have been instances of returning stolen artefacts in the past, such as Norway and Italy, other countries, like the UK have continued to withhold stolen goods in their possession. Even in the past, Greece has asked the UK to return their stolen sculptures, and yet those looted items still remain in the British Museum in London. We can only hope that at least a good number of coloniser countries reflect on their path and try to do the right thing."

Ishanya Sharma, AIS Gur 43, X B

"Creation of thoughts and cultural ethics, artefacts are the national identity of a country that should be preserved no matter what. With Netherlands deciding to return the colonial era artefacts to their places of origin, I believe other countries should emulate the same, too. For an artefact can truly be appreciated in its historical context, but when present in unfamiliar lands, these relics appear as mere disintegrated fragments detached from their prestige. So, it is time Britain returns the Rosetta stone, Elgin marbles, Kohinoor, Amravati marbles, Benin Bronzes, and many more such relics to their respective countries".

Varada Kachroo, AIS VKC Lko, X

"In January 2020, the Government of Netherlands returned 1500 artefacts to Indonesia, a formal Dutch colony. Keeping up with the same practice, they have now decided to "unconditionally" hand back each and every colonial era artefact that they ever stole. These consistent efforts by Netherlands make it a leader in this repatriation process. Also, morally it is the right and the most accurate thing to do. For artefacts belong to their country of origin; they bear testament to its existence and journey as a nation. Moreover, it is significant that local people and the upcoming generations of that particular place get the opportunity to see and appreciate their cultural relics."

Arpita Singh, AIS Jagdishpur, XII

"This decision should inevitably be followed up by other nations so that the countries get the much-deserved opportunity of preserving their cultural history in their own land. The artefacts are evidences of the countries' past and tradition to which many people are emotionally attached. Owing to coercive measures of colonial era, people had to part with these 'celebrated' symbols unjustifiably. Since the contemporary world seeks to protect 'rights' of every community, it's essential for nations to get back what belongs to its people to bind them under a common umbrella of brotherhood."

Deepannita Mukherjee, AIS Gur 46, X J

With Netherlands deciding to return colonial era artefacts to their places of origin, do you think other countries should follow suit?

The prompt

BOX

"The step taken by the Dutch government to return stolen artefacts to their origins is morally correct. It's a necessity to replenish the cultural aspects of a country, one which has been delayed for far too long. I feel like this step would certainly help improve the alliances that countries share. This could also increase the moral compensation of a country and help them become better leaders for their people and better citizens of the world. Netherlands has become a role model for other countries and presents an opportunity for others to follow in its footsteps and right their wrongs."

Endri Agrawal, AIS Saket, X C

"Several museums all across the globe display ancient artefacts that were plundered from their places of origin during colonial expansion, wherein no heed was paid to the consent of the owners, and the sanctity of every cultural norm was ruthlessly violated. Thus, this decision by the government of Netherlands to restore the dignity of some of these relics ceremoniously is worthy of applause. Netherlands has indeed paved way for the nations to unanimously benefit each other. And I feel that some artefacts, if not all, should be restored, especially if the artefacts in question symbolise or add on to the honour of a certain nation."

Janya Malkani, AIS PV, XI E

"Historical artefacts share a unique connection with the place where they were first produced and also form an essential part of the cultural or traditional history of that particular area. In fact, they are the ultimate carriers of that cultural legacy. So, it becomes imperative to honour that link and to return the artefacts to their places of origins. Not only do I appreciate Netherlands' decision to do the same but I would also like to urge other countries to chip in and return all that they acquired by theft during wars and other raiding attacks."

Pragya Singh, AIS VYC Lko, XII

"The Netherlands has decided the restitution of about 100,000 artefacts, which are under their ownership from colonial rule, to their countries of origin, and I think they have taken a huge step towards at least some semblance of justice for the past. It speaks a lot of the principles the country wants to build their future on, and I think that other countries should also learn something from them. What Netherlands has done is not only setting an example for other countries but will also improve the international relations and bonds between two countries. There are various nations that plundered and looted others during the colonial rule, and the least they can do for their wrongdoings is give them a chance to restore their culture and heritage."

Prisha Issar, AIS Gwalior, IX

"Apart from historical value, each artefact holds a sentimental value also, pertaining to the fact that they were snatched away from their true owners and future generations. Returning them would also mean paying respect because of the hostile ways of the colonial nations of the time and how they plundered other nations. These repatriation efforts have prevented global relations from crippling and show considerate behaviour not only towards our ancestors but also the present generations, for whom it is equivalent to receiving lost family belongings."

Yana Tewari, AIS Noida, XII F

"I am really impressed by the gesture shown by the Dutch Government. It will turn out to be a historical decision taken by a country and I feel that other countries withholding similar items should give it a serious thought. Today, the British museums shine, thanks to all the stolen artefacts from their colonies, including Indian artefacts like the Koh-I-Noor diamond. India has been a country ruled by dynasties, empires and kingdoms, each leaving their own mark. Although it will be appreciable if these artefacts are returned, the bigger question is whether the receiving countries are in a position to accept the artefacts. Will they continue to preserve and revere them?"

Samaira Sharma, AIS Vas 1, VI C

"History is recounted by various means and one such way is with an artefact. With such an extensive past, artefacts that belong to a particular country have been taken by 'visitors' from other countries as spoils of war or 'souvenirs'. Multiple famous relics are kept in nations that aren't their place of origin, such as the Koh-I-Noor diamond from India, the Rosetta Stone from Egypt and the Parthenon Marbles from Greece. Hopefully, these antiquities, among many others will find their way back to their respective countries of origin after watching the Netherlands take this step."

Ananya Mittal, AIS Vas 6, X B

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

Send in your entries in 100-150 words to the Editor-in-Chief/GT Teacher Coordinator of your school by April 4, 2021.

Hanti, primarily spoken in Western Siberia, is an Uralic language spoken by Khanty people in Russia.

Playing with numbers

Inter Amity Mental Math Quiz Fosters The Love For Math



Chairperson addresses the students



Young math wizards put their unique mathematical abilities to test

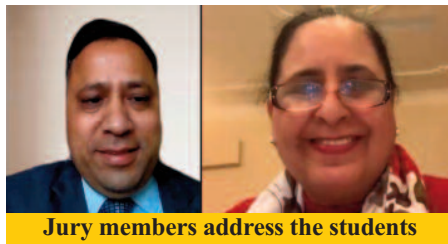
Amity Group of Schools

The 11th annual Inter Amity Mental Math Quiz series for Class I-X was organised virtually from January 19-20, 2021. It was held under the visionary leadership of Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools and RBEF, who believes in imparting holistic knowledge of mathematical concepts to young students in a fun and interactive way to foster the love for numbers in them. Each day different branches of Amity Group of Schools Delhi/NCR hosted these quizzes virtually for different classes. The event teed off with an opening ceremony hosted by AIS Gurugram 46 on January 19. The ceremony was virtually graced by Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, along with advisors, principals, teachers and students from all the branches of Amity Group of Schools. The inauguration began with the virtual lamp lighting ceremony amidst soulful chanting of vedic mantras. This was followed by an inspiring address by Chairperson, wherein she encouraged the students to give up their fear of math and understand the application of mathematical concepts in their daily life. She also urged them to imbibe BHAAG, the mantra for living a successful life propounded by Dr (Mr) Ashok K Chauhan, Founder President, Amity

The Winning Wizards Of Mathematics			
Class	First	Second	Third
I	AIS Saket	AIS PV	AIS Gur 43
II	AIS Gur 46	AIS Noida & AIS Gur 43	AIS Vas 6
III	AIS Gur 43	AIS Noida	AIS Saket & AIS PV
IV	AIS Gur 46	AIS Noida	AIS Gur 43
V	AIS Noida	AIS Gur 46	AIS PV
VI	AIS Noida & AIS PV	AIS Gur 46	AIS MV
VII	AIS Gur 46 & AIS Gur 43	AIS Vas 6	AIS Noida
VIII	AIS Gur 46 & AIS MV	AIS Vas I	AIS Vas 6
IX	AIS Saket & AIS Vas I	AIS Noida	AIS Gur 43
X	AIS Saket & AIS PV	AIS Noida	AIS Gur 46

Universe.

The unique math quiz focused on fast and oral complex calculations, and was conducted in two rounds. The first one comprised an elimination round, contested by eight students from different branches of Amity Group of Schools. Top four scorers from this round were then selected for the second and final round. The final round held



Jury members address the students

on MS Teams comprised interesting and engaging PPTs, and various categories of mathematical numericals like concept based problem sums, brain teasers, audio stories and a rapid-fire round.

Eminent mathematicians from various institutions also graced the competition virtually. Esteemed guests of the quiz in different classes were S N Chibber, mathematics expert; Dr Rajender Singh, professor, Department of Physics, IIT Delhi; Pradeep Kumar, assistant professor, Zakir Hussain College, Delhi University; Rajpal Singh, mathematics lecturer, Rajkiya Pratibha Vikas Vidhyalaya; Rahul Sofat, lecturer, Air Force Golden Jubilee Institute; Dr Anindita Bhattacharjee, assistant professor of mathematics, AUUP; Dr Subhra Das, professor and head, Solar Engineering Department, Amity University Manesar and Dr Vijayan K, assistant professor, DTE (NCERT).



Participants at the reunion meet as they greet each other

A reunion for revival

Let Us Rebuild The World

AERC

Fifteen students from Amity Group of Schools participated in the Rits Super Global Forum 2020 - Online Reunion Meeting held on February 6, 2021. The event organised by Ritsumeikan High School was facilitated by Amity Educational Resource Centre (AERC) under the visionary guidance of Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools and RBEF. Organised for the first time, the meet aimed at reuniting students from all over the world who had participated in Rits Super Global Forum 2020 held online from November 10-14, 2020. The young global thinkers discussed the progress of their mission, shared their experiences related to it and pledged to con-

tinue dealing with the current pandemic in a positive way. They also deliberated on how to tackle global issues, especially the ones related to pandemic and gave collaborative presentations for the same. During the first session, students were split into four small groups, where each group presented their action plans and discussed about enhancements and enrichments through suggestions and feedbacks from peer groups. The thoughts, action plans and suggestions presented by Amitians in every group through videos/blogs/podcasts were appreciated by all. The next session comprised fun activities aimed at fortifying the bonds of friendship formed in November. Students enjoyed the delightful time shared together and the reunion concluded on a happy note.



Director (AERC) and the participants interact at the event



Students dress as martyrs during the special assembly

An ode to martyrs

Remembering The Valiant

AIS Mayur Vihar

A special online assembly to observe Martyr's day was held by Class VIII on January 30, 2021, wherein they discussed the relevance of celebrating Martyr's Day and paid a soulful tribute to the Indian martyrs by offering a prayer to the Almighty. Students also shared word of the day and thought of the day based on martyrs and their martyrdom. After presenting the news, a skit based on the vision of great rev-

olutionaries of the Freedom Movement of India was presented. In another skit, life and times of Mahatma Gandhi was presented and the relevance of his ideals in present times was discussed. Students also narrated the story of the famous martyred soldier, Baba Harbhajan Singh, who laid down his life at Nathu La during 1962 Indo-China war. The special assembly ended with students singing a soulful song 'Sabarmati ke sant' in tandem, followed by national anthem.

Climate champion

Building A Better Tomorrow In Present

AIS Vasundhara 6



Climate warrior Vidhi Kasana

Vidhi Kasana of Class XI won second prize at the 2nd edition of Youth Climate Conclave held online on February 4, 2021. She bagged laurels in the category 13-18 years of the global competition wherein youth from pan India were invited to address issues of climate change through photography and blogging competitions. For the same, she will

soon be conferred with a blogger certificate which will be converted into a monograph. She won the award for her unique video depicting the ideologies of Gandhi and conveying the message that everyone has something unique in them which makes them beautiful from within. She depicted how Gandhi wanted people to treat the Harijans equally and that we should be thankful for what we have. Not only did he fight for their equality but also made everyone understand the importance of the work they did by keeping the surroundings clean. The event was held by the Indian Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, along with United Nations Framework Convention of Climate Change (UNFCCC), European Union, Federal Ministry of Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (Germany), TERI and EU Funded Strategic Partnerships for Implementation of the Paris Agreement (SPIPA).



A glimpse of the unique video made by Vidhi



Parenting session in progress

Nurturing the young

AIS Vasundhara 1

The school conducted a virtual parenting session for the parents of Class VI students on February 6, 2021. Experts like Archana Trilok, special educator, Abhilasha Mallick and Dr Neetu Kandhari, counselors, Amity Group of Schools, conducted the session. It was aimed at defining a unique parenting style and introducing parents to effective communication skills while they interact with their kids. The session also helped parents understand the vital role they play in enhancing their child's self esteem and confidence. Parents posed queries and appreciated the collaborative approach in nurturing kids.

Kaixana is a long-extinct Maipurean language native to Brazil.

All top quotes contributed by Avni Gupta, AIS PV, VII A



Jal hai toh kal hai

Says The Water Warrior, Anvesh Singh On A Mission To Prevent Wastage Of Water

It was a normal day in the life of **Anvesh Singh**, studying in IV C in **Amity International School, Saket**, when his mother saw him wasting water. Using this as an opportunity to instill her son with the right values, she decided to make him aware of the scarcity of water that the world faces. Anvesh learnt about the prediction that half of the world's population might not have access to potable water by 2030. He even saw the news of water crisis in Chennai in 2019 and how people still carelessly wasted water, and all of this information inspired Anvesh to start his 'Save water' campaign in his locality to do his part in spreading awareness and hopefully saving as much water as he can.

"My school and my parents made me conscious about the sustainable use of water, and seeing the wastage of water in our society caught my attention and got me thinking on the issue. As water is essential for life, I along with my friends started a campaign to preserve water. I wanted to make people in my society aware about various ways they can save water and use it to the fullest," elaborates Anvesh.

To turn his words into action, Anvesh created various posters

with the message 'Save water' and started pasting them on notice boards of the apartment complex. Seeing the hard work and the noble message he was spreading, other kids from his society also joined his campaign, and soon, from being a solo water warrior, Anvesh had created an entire team which he named 'Water Warriors'.

After some time, the team realised that just making posters wasn't enough, which is why they initiated the second phase

of their campaign - door to door rallying and sloganeering at nearby parks to grab the attention of a larger audience.

Because of their hard work and a will to make people environmentally responsible, changes in the area were soon to be seen. "After our talk and campaigning, people started becoming more careful with their use of

water. One of my neighbours even connected a pipe to the wastewater from the RO filter and collected it in a bucket to water plants with it. Some clicked photos of our posters and posted them on social media, spreading our message to a wider audience," Anvesh says; "I was very happy to see people around me supporting us be-

cause my family and other society members helped us with our campaign and even gave me more ideas on how to be better. They helped us in making, printing, and pasting our posters and boosted our morale with their kind words and some even gave

us chocolates!"

Anvesh knows that this is just the first step in his journey; after all, water pollution, scarcity and misuse is a global issue, which is why everyone needs to take inspiration from him and become the Anvesh of their society to save water.

"Even small steps like utilising wastewater from RO filters, closing taps when they are not in use, fixing water leakage, and being conscious when we're using water will lead to big results. All of us need to be made aware about the importance of the environment and its importance for our existence. And so, I urge and encourage every single Amitian to start this campaign in their locality because *jal hi jeevan hai!*" concludes Anvesh.



My satrangineighbourhood

A Blow-By-Blow Description Of The Universal, Never-Ending Saga Of Co-Existence

Koyal Das, AIS Gur 43, X

A wise human once propounded, "You can choose your friends but not your neighbours." Accept it or not, neighbours are that extended family who become an indispensable part of our lives eventually. They take up many roles- birthday party hosts, guests, part-time creche, etc. That said, we are taking you door to door, introducing the satrangi neighbourhood.

House no 301 Iyer's Abode

If you have ever scurried away at the sight of those huge pet dogs, then you would probably dread visiting this house. As always, Mr Iyer placidly says, "Arey, beta, yeh katega nahi." Only if he saw how the dog sees everyone, apart from his whole family, to be potential burglars. And if by chance you manage to get inside the house, you hear the daunting woofs of the dog.

House no 302 Yadav's Nest

They believe in give and take. Be it a bowl of sugar or a screwdriver, they will never hesitate to

come to you for help, sticking to the true saying of "love thy neighbour as thyself". However, they reciprocate this help by being at your service always, even if you don't ask for it. "Ita toh banta hai na?" they say.

House no 303 Das Villa

Das uncle is the society's favourite. He is the go-to for every problem emerging in the society, and that is exactly why he was elected president. He

never turns a blind eye or ear to anything and treats others problem as his own. Only that sometimes people take him for granted. "Koi tension ki baat nahi, mai hoon na?" poor Das uncle reassures us all.

House no 305 Aggarwal Nivas

Mrs Aggarwal is the social butterfly. All her conversations start with, "Pata hai?" She knows everything about you,

your past, present and even future. Not a single detail about you (and your family) goes amiss from this know-it-all. Well, who needs the newspaper every morning if you have these neighbours with you all day? Not to forget, she is the host of all the kitty parties.

House no 306 Gupta's House

This is Mr Gupta and he is one cranky person. He usually finds a problem with

everything he comes across. Call him a perfectionist because nothing in the world can ever satisfy his soul. Right from scolding kids playing cricket in the parking lot to the gardener not watering the plants enough, Mr Gupta can give anyone a hard time! *Bachke rehna!*

House no 307 Patel's Residence

Almost every society has one of these families in the neighbourhood. They

keep to themselves and don't like to divulge their personal lives to others. Only a few people know them well and imagine even Mrs Aggarwal finds it difficult, at times, to get in touch with them.

So, it would not be wrong to say that we live with them, laugh with them, fight with them and even cry with them, and it is this bittersweet relation that makes the whole padosi-bond unique and exceptional.

