



This special edition has been brought to you by AIS Mayur Vihar as a part of the GT Making A Newspaper Contest. The inter-Amity newspaper making competition witnesses each branch of Amity across Delhi/NCR churning out its own 'Contest Edition'. The eight special editions are pitted against one another at the end of the year, which decides the winner at GT Awards. So, here's presenting the seventh edition of 'GT Making A Newspaper Contest 2019-20'.

INSIDE

Just got paid, P3

Indians on road, P5

AMITEpoll

As tensions between Armenia and Azerbaijan increase, do you think we are gradually moving towards World War III?

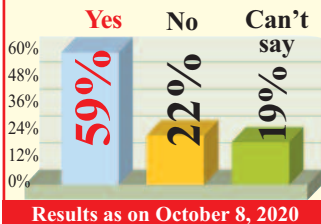
a) Yes b) No c) Can't say

To vote, log on to www.theglobaltimes.in

POLL RESULT

for GT issue October 5, 2020

Do you think the govt's decision to waive off interest rates for loans up to Rs 20 Cr for MSMEs will help the struggling businesses?



Coming Next

Heritage Series Part VII

THE GLOBAL TIMES

MONDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2020

www.theglobaltimes.in

Cars, Bikes, Trucks Everywhere, Every Little Space Filled To The Brink

Hannah Mubarak, AIS MV, XI G

Traffic – the word once again made headlines as the nation went into lockdown 4.0, with several parts of the national capital meeting its muse – traffic congestion. Traffic has become our staple, resulting in no more than mere delays, some thing which we may despise, but have come to terms with. Or maybe the damage goes beyond “sorry I am late, was stuck in traffic.” A little probing, and a cover story later, you will find the countless issues it ‘signals’.

RED: Danger ahead

According to 2019 TomTom Traffic Index - Mumbai, Bengaluru, Pune and New Delhi are among the 10 most congested cities in the world. So, it shouldn't really come as a surprise that traffic congestion in these four cities alone, costs India a whopping INR 1.5 lakh crore every year. One could seek some sadistic solace in the fact that India isn't the only one on currency fire, with traffic congestion costing the Australian economy 8.3 billion dollar and US \$87 billion in 2019. Adding to it, the traffic black hole sucks in countless man hours, burdening an economy's most valuable asset – manpower. Sample this: an average Mumbai resident wastes 11 days a year in traffic. The figures for Delhi and Bengaluru are 7 and 10 days respectively. In terms of lost hours, the three worst cities in the US for motorists are Boston (6.8 days), Chicago (5.5 days) and Washington DC (6.4 days). If those driving the economy are stuck in traffic, then it takes no



Considering, Delhi stands at 8th spot amongst the worst crammed cities in the world with 56% congestion, where would the number of fatalities and arising medical health issues stand? Food for thought.

GREEN: Or not so green

If traffic beats humans several times over, one can only imagine what it does to the environment. According to a 2016 study by IIT-Kanpur, it was found that vehicular emissions contribute to around 9% of PM 10 load and around 20% of PM 2.5 load in Delhi. Increasing traffic congestion around the world has been known to accelerate environmental degradation — for example, gridlocked traffic is one of the contributors to the gradual sinking of Jakarta, Indonesia. Wait! There's more. INR 60,000 crore – that was the cost of fuel wasted due to vehicles stuck in traffic in 2017. We all know wasted fuel means further burden on our natural resources.

Traffic has signalled enough. But are we taking cue? Think before you drive on.

YELLOW: Caution to the wind

While the frustration of drivers amidst the honking is palpable, the aftermath is often overlooked. A private study in 2019 has stated that 6 in 10 professional cab drivers have hypertension issues. Hypertension leads to another array of problems like depression, anxiety, cardiac arrest, anger...and the list is long. Additionally, air and noise pollution - two phenomena someone stuck in traffic is all too familiar with - brings along a complete spectrum of health issues; high blood pressure, heart attacks, anxiety, hor-

monal and digestive imbalance being some of them. Another global survey also links the two to depression and suicide. But here's the cherry on top - Air pollution from traffic congestion in 83 of the nation's largest urban areas contributes to more than 2,200 premature deaths annually. Further on, traffic congestion has been linked to road rage, fatalities and even domestic violence. A study of two highways in Los Angeles revealed that extreme traffic on the said routes led to an increase of domestic violence at night by 6%. Closer home, the lockdown between March 24 and May 31 led to a dip by 62% in road deaths. During this period, India reported 8,976 less fatalities, 25,000 fewer crashes and 26,000 less injuries as compared to corresponding period in 2019.



Illustration: Kuhu Saha, AIS Mayur Vihar, XI G

Wrestling his way up

Meet Two-Times Olympic Medalist Vinod Kumar And Get Inspired



Olympic coach Vinod Kumar

Shubhangi Saxena
AIS Mayur Vihar, XII A

A good coach can change a game. A great coach can change a life. Vinod Kumar bears testimony. Known as one of the most successful Indian coaches across various disciplines in Olympics, his mentorship has led Indian wrestlers to two medals at the London Olympic Games. A former Olympian who has represented India in Asian Games, he is presently the deputy coach of Indian wrestling team. GT reporters caught up with him for an exclusive interview. Here are excerpts.

Wrestling and responsibility

Both my father and uncle were wrestlers and wanted me to follow in their footsteps. So, I guess, sub-consciously I always felt the responsibility to excel in the sport. At the age of seven, I met my guru Rehman, who groomed me and helped

me realise my passion for wrestling. But it was in 1980, when I won my first international gold, that my love for the sport reached its pinnacle. Seeing the tricolour going up with national anthem playing in the background was a surreal feeling. And since then, responsibilities have only increased.

Wrestling and challenges

Whether it was winter or summer, I would wake up at 4 am and go through a gruelling practice session. Moreover, there were no special facilities then that could aid us in practice. We didn't have any mats or any sort of protective gear. I remember our knees would get bruised severely from the rough field all the time. But nothing could deter us from wrestling. And thankfully we had support in the form of friends and family. My wrestler friends Sudesh Kumar and Satpal Singh always kept me going and helped me in the growth of my career.

Wrestling and girl power

Female athletes usually don't garner much support from the society. We are still mis-

guided by stereotypes that say women belong to the kitchen. So, when I decided to coach a women's team, I had to face resistance from several orthodox quarters. I always tell my female athletes to take inspiration from women like Kalpana Chawla, Kiran Bedi and Indira Gandhi, who have succeeded in their respective fields. Today, wrestlers like Sakshi Malik and Phogat sisters, have proven that gender does not play a role in winning accolades for the country.

Wrestling and life mantra

As it is in any field, both mental as well as physical health are imperative to succeed in wrestling too. While the sport is about brawn, it is also about strategy, which is why we incorporate yoga in our training. But there is a staple routine that each one of us should follow- wake up early, exercise, eat nutritious and healthy food, and drink lots of water. As for the youth, learn and study hard. Nobody can achieve their goals without discipline; treat your parents, teachers, friends/peers with utmost reverence and nobody can stop you!

“Magic, madness, heaven, words; I could show you incredible stories.”

Shubhangi Saxena, AIS Mayur Vihar, XII A
Page Editor



Pics: Karthik Pruthi, AIS MV, XI F

Tera tujhko arpan

'Recycle Aastha' As It Recycles The Holy Waste, By You, For You!



Women workers at work



The Recycle Aastha worksite



Segregation of the offerings in process



Religious offerings in the making



GT reporters at the Recycle Aastha worksite

Ground reporting

Shubhangi Saxena

AIS Mayur Vihar, XII A

As she joined her hands in prayer, closed her eyes in worship and offered flowers to the revered waters, Ganga let out an exasperated sigh. It was another set of holy waste. But this wasn't the fate of Ganga alone, for every river in their country had to go through a similar ordeal. But 'Recycle Aastha' wasn't one to let their cries go unheard. An autonomous initiative, it recycles holy waste as flowers, incense sticks, etc. to create eco-friendly products used in worship; thereby living their motto 'Tera tujhko arpan'.

To recalling the past

With an initiative like this, one would come to expect a story behind it all. But there isn't one. At its core is a simple man, with the simple intent of reducing the waste we generate. Meet Rajiv Bansal, the one man behind 'Recycle Aastha'. "There was no one particular moment when we decided to do this," he says. For years he had seen flowers from temples and home *pooja* go to waste. So, when the opportunity presented itself and he found people who were willing to help him in this cause, they set out to make a small difference in the world. While the desire to change may not have seen a precise moment, there was a definitive time when the desire was shaped into action. "We were in Shirdi when



Rajeev Bansal with the GT reporters

we thought of it," he says when asked how they came up with the name 'Recycle Aastha'.

To living the present

"With a mission to preserve one's faith in the environment and religious offerings, we create products from used sacred floral offerings, so that they can be used again at religious places," says the mission statement on

their website. Their modus operandi is simple – they collect sacred offerings like incense sticks, flowers, idols, earthen pots, diyas; and recycle them into handcrafted and charcoal free aromatic products. All products manufactured are herbal and organic in contrast to the charcoal based products available in the market. One of the recycled offerings – the incense sticks

generate 50% to 60% less smoke in comparison to the ones available in the market.

"Our biggest challenge was to decipher the science behind creating products that were herbal and organic. There were many hit and trial sessions to arrive at the perfect result, but once we figured that out, the path ahead could be chalked out," he shares.

Since this process entails tasks that do not require technical expertise as segregating the waste, plucking the petals from flowers and drying them in the sun; employing women in need became the next obvious step.

Today, Recycle Aastha has about 1,700 door-to-door subscribers, along with tie-ups with several temples, from where waste is collected on a routine basis.

To protecting the future

Religious sentiments in India are strong and binding. Penetrating through such strong beliefs was not easy, even if it was for a useful cause such as waste management. "It took a lot of time to make people understand the need for recycling religious waste as a lot of them don't even realise the gravity of the cause," he shares. In fact, he himself did not inform his family about this new business venture, afraid that they would call his efforts irreverent. He also talks about working with an NGO named Prabhas to spread awareness about this initiative. "The aim is to treat with respect, both the flowers we offer to our Gods and the sentiments of the people offering it," says Bansal signing off. 🇮🇳



Beating the block, Editor-in-chief @ work



Flying with fancy, Our illustrator



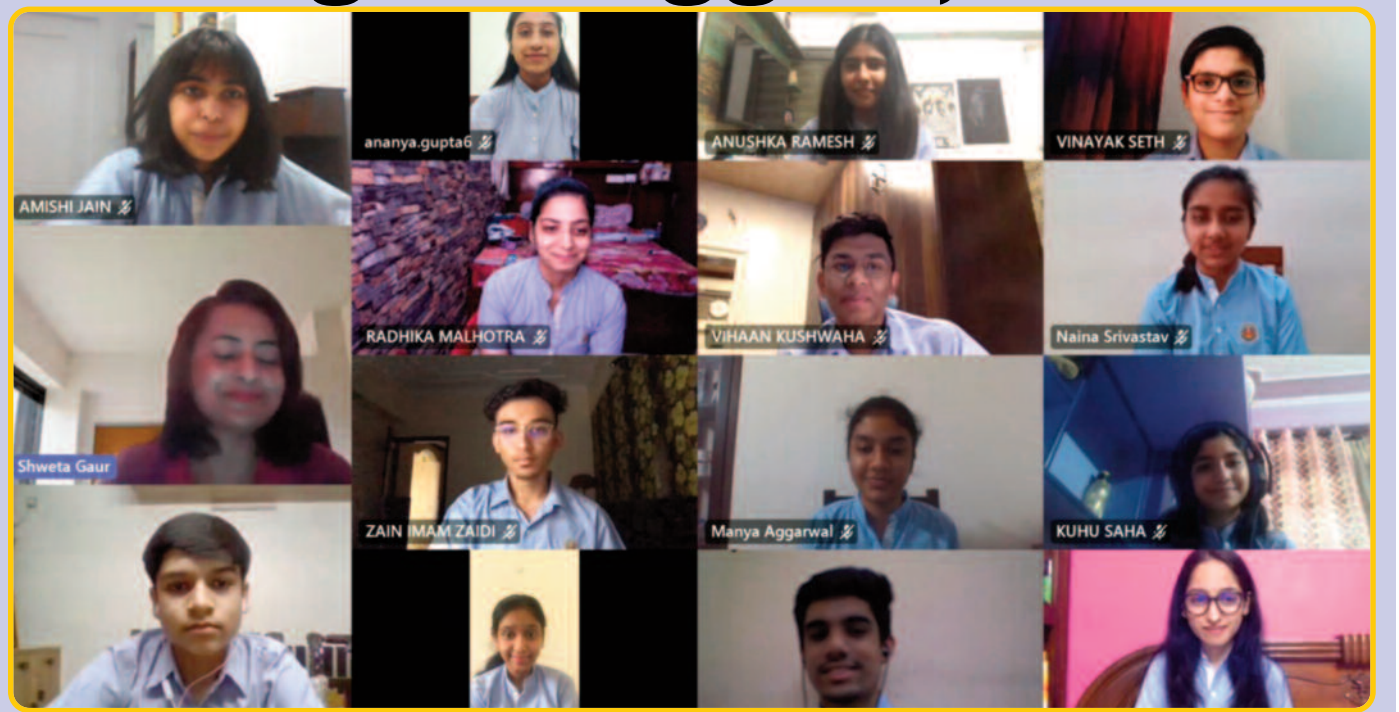
Peeking for perfection, Our photographer



Obliterating the obstacles, Our graphic designer



Through struggles, to stars



Pics: Zain Imam Zaidi, AIS MV, XI F



JUST GOT PAID

Boring Or Not, But There Are Some Jobs That Will Pay Your Bills. So, Are You Up For It?

Anushka Ramesh
 AIS Mayur Vihar, X A

The last time we faced a global crisis, children were sent to war. This time, when we were in a similar soup, we were asked to sit on our couches. But, for some, acclimatising to quarantine wasn't as hard because years in a boring job had made them fit for it. So, here are jobs that you might find as boring as the *dal-chawal* you had this afternoon.

Tour guide operator

It's boring: This person does the same tour, at the same time, everyday often having to please both, over enthusiastic parents and their tantrum throwing teens. However, there's money for putting up with those tantrums. And one never knows, a tiger could pass the same spot, at the same time. It's called being hopeful.

Yawns: 2 per hour

Sausage flipper

It's boring: A sausage flipper has to turn sausages on the production line because no one really likes overdone sausages. On the flipside (pun intended), in a world full of 'grab a snickers when hungry', one can sneakily flip that sausage directly into their mouths.

Yawns: 4-5 per hour

Pie filler

It's boring: This job brings with it the most strenuous task of filling pies with one jelly at a time, so as to rein-

Illustration: Radhika Malhotra, AIS MV, XI G



force the 'handmade' label. However, working amidst the aroma of pies, it feels like Christmas every day.

Yawns: 3.14 per hour

But,
for some, acclimatising to quarantine wasn't as hard because years in a boring job had made them fit for it.

Lift operator

It's boring: Ever heard the influential strata of the society flaunting their ability to push some buttons and getting work done faster? Well, lift operators might not be the highest earners but pushing buttons takes you places, errr... floors. But we have to agree there can be no bad day at work in this one.

Yawns: 7-8 per hour

Drying paint watcher

It's boring: Ideal job for that student who gears up to study but ends up staring at the wall for one whole hour without even realising it. Paint manufacturers hire people to sit and observe newly painted walls so as to note the colour changes under a microscope. But, considering the fact that this job can be done just as perfectly sitting on the floor, there are lesser chances of you falling off a chair. *Wink wink*

Yawns: 987427 per hour 🇮🇳

When All Doors Are Closed, Always Look For A Window Of Opportunity Inside You

Naina Srivastav & Amishi Jain, AIS MV, IX A

Roughly, 10% of the world's population suffers from a learning disorder, like dyslexia, autism, etc. Albert Einstein faced problems while communicating and often delivered confusing lectures. Former US president, George Washington, had dreadful grammar and poor reading and writing skills. Joining the likes are Agatha Christie, a celebrated author; Michael Phelps, Olympic swimmer and many more. Each one of them went on to prove that this problem was indeed not a problem after all! With much inspiration, here we are with a basic rundown of occupations that involve individuals with different learning disorders.

PROBLEM

Dyslexia: Dyslexia is a learning disorder that involves difficulty in reading due to problems in identifying speech sounds and learning how they relate to letters and words (decoding).

NO PROBLEM

Machinist: Dyslexics are more proficient in terms of visual thinking rather than expressing through words. A machinist could be a good career option because dyslexics have a knack for understanding the mechanics of anything.

Landscape Architect: The job of an architect requires a visual understanding of an outdoor space. This is an area where dyslexics can flourish, because of their exceptional visual acumen, being able to judge 'how would this look there'.

PROBLEM

Dyscalculia: Dyscalculia is a learning disorder that causes difficulty in learning arithmetic and problem in understanding key concepts.

NO PROBLEM

Sales & Marketing: This profession involves more of interacting and connecting with people, and less of calculations and logistics- perfect for individuals with the learning disorder.

Hospitality and Social work: They can be chefs, cabin crew, relationship managers etc. Also, since social service requires empathy more than any arithmetic skills, they fit in social work arena too.

Not a PROBLEM!

PROBLEM

Auditory Processing disorder (APD):

Auditory processing disorder is a hearing disability that affects about 5% of school-aged children, who are unable to process what they hear in the

same way other kids do.

NO PROBLEM

Editor: Editors review written materials and rectify errors in punctuation, grammar, etc. This job is ideal for a person with APD as it requires

command over the language, not auditory system!

Writing: Content writing for various media sources including magazines, newspapers, television and books is an optimal career choice, as they often work from home and hence, in a quieter environment than that of a busy office.

PROBLEM

Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD): Attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder is a chronic condition which includes a combination of persistent problems, such as difficulty sustaining attention, hyperactivity and impulsive behaviour.

NO PROBLEM

Culinary Arts: Those with ADHD thrive in the culinary arts because this work demands creativity, variety and immediate focus on the task at hand. Since cooking does not involve much long-range planning or lots of working memory, it is perfect for someone with ADHD.

Search and Rescue Operators: Police officers and fire-fighters must work well under duress and take decisions in the blink of an eye. Such adrenaline-pumping excitement allows them to focus their minds well and while others start panicking in chaos, the ADHD brain works immensely well.

PROBLEM

Autism (ASD): Autism, also called autism spectrum disorder, is a condition that includes problems with communication and behaviour.

NO PROBLEM

Software Developer: The logic-based world of computer programming offers interesting and high-paying jobs for people with ASD, who have good analytical and problem-solving abilities.

Music Producer: Autistic people are known to have a flair for music. The task of a music producer requires one to use their musical skills, and produce a sound that connects with the audience.

The world of careers requires different skill sets. Dyslexia or no dyslexia: this big, big world accommodates everyone!



Illustration: Manya Agarwal, AIS MV, IX B

"Its only words, and words are all I have, to take your heart away."

Amritha Nair, AIS Mayur Vihar, XI G
Page Editor



Contest Edition

The curse of superpowers!

They May Look Fancy At First, But They Are Actually Unpleasant And Burdensome

Virinda Sethi

AIS Mayur Vihar, X A

As we comfortably sit in the cinema halls, munch on the butter popcorns, sip the chilled cola, and dream of being as extraordinary as the superheroes we see on the big screen, reality brings us back to our ordinary sub-par human capabilities. Well, not anymore, aspiring Avengers! Turns out there are some 'diseases' that make you as exceptional as your favourite heroes, but nothing comes without a price.

The power you gain: Super memory

'Hyperthymesia', a disease that causes you to possess a superior autobiographical memory, is extremely unique, so much so that there are only 61 people in the world who suffer from it. It causes you to remember and recall a vast majority of experiences and

events that have happened in your life. This will surely give you an upper hand in the exams. Lucky you!

The price you pay:

Remembering everything could sure be quite exhausting and not to forget the unbearable headaches it comes with.

The power you gain: Insensitivity to pain

Oh, the number of times you have fallen off your bicycle and longed for the superpower of being immune to pain. Well, apparently, you have been wishing for 'Congenital analgesia' as it is the condition where the person cannot or has never felt any physical pain. That has got to come in handy whilst fighting supervillains, right?

The price you pay:

The inability to feel pain also comes with the inability to protect yourself from danger, so if someone stabs you in the back or you are on fire, you might never realise it.

The power you gain: No fears

As you try your best to sleep after watching a horror movie, praying that there is no ghost in the house to haunt you, you wish you hadn't watched that

movie. Or that you were not such a scaredy-pants. Cue 'Urbach-Wiethe' disease, which destroys both the amygdala of the brain, because of which the human knows no fear.

The price you pay:

There are some situations that require you to be scared and run for your life, like when you are facing a lion that wants to eat you alive.

The power you gain: Extra limbs

'Polymelia' is a birth defect where an individual is born with more than the usual number of limbs. For humans and other land-dwelling animals, this means having 5 or more limbs to take care of. That surely has to come in handy for a piano player or a footballer, right?

The price you pay:

Most often than not, the extra limb is

shrunk or deformed.

The power you gain: Be a werewolf

With all the obsession over werewolves and vampires in thriller novels and shows, we know a part of you always wanted to be one, and 'Hypertrichosis' can get you close to that dream. Well...at least in

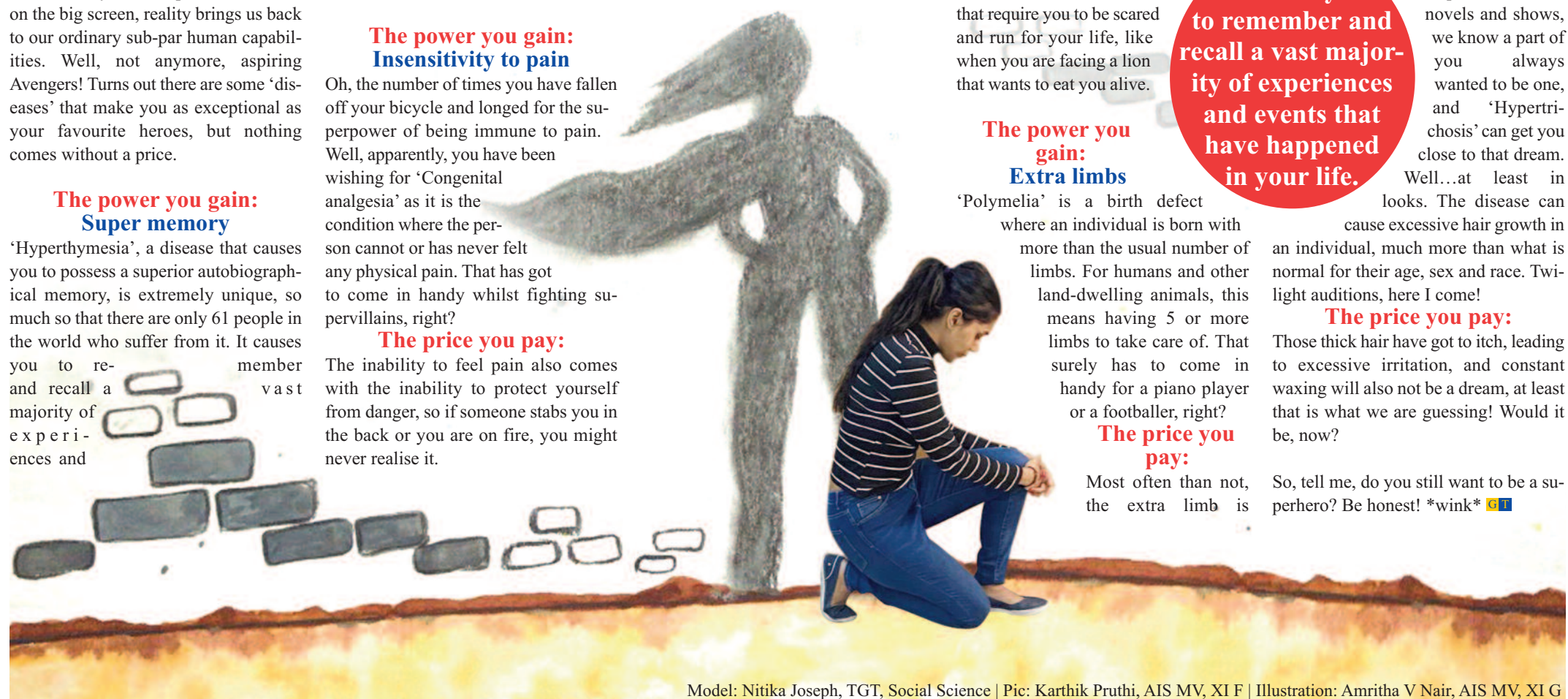
looks. The disease can cause excessive hair growth in an individual, much more than what is normal for their age, sex and race. Twilight auditions, here I come!

The price you pay:

Those thick hair have got to itch, leading to excessive irritation, and constant waxing will also not be a dream, at least that is what we are guessing! Would it be, now?

So, tell me, do you still want to be a superhero? Be honest! *wink* 🙄

It causes you to remember and recall a vast majority of experiences and events that have happened in your life.



Model: Nitika Joseph, TGT, Social Science | Pic: Karthik Pruthi, AIS MV, XI F | Illustration: Amritha V Nair, AIS MV, XI G

A day of new(ron) lessons

Voluntary Or Involuntary, All Our Actions Are Facilitated By A Micro Organ- Neuron

Aarushi Aggrwal

AIS Mayur Vihar, X C

Ada had a funny habit. She talked to herself. Winning arguments with herself in the shower and talking herself in or out of things; that's what she did. The little voice in her head was her companion. But one fine day, the voice suddenly sounded somewhat intellectual. "I am a neuron from your head." "What? You're new here?" "No! I am a neuron. Is that abstruse for you?" "I don't understand." "A neuron is a nerve cell and the very basic building block of the nervous system. Neurons constitute the brain, the spinal cord, nerves, and reflexes. On an average, there are 100 billion neurons in the brain. There's a chapter on me in class 10. Chapter 7, Science." "How do you know that?" Ada was red. "Subconsciously, you know everything that you have ever heard. So, I help you think. Our diameter is as tiny as 4 to 100 microns, but still our size does not define the work we do. We are crucial to the body, because we transmit information everywhere. For example, when you touch a pin, thousands of us transmit the pain to the brain, and the brain then instructs us to carry another message to the muscles of your arm. Then you take your arm away and seek antiseptics. You see, this reflex action of yours depends on me!" "Wow, you people are quite fast. This takes

me not even a millisecond! Thank you for the reflexes. So, why are you here now?" "I bring forward a concern of my fellow neurons." The voice suddenly became a bit heavy. "Your brain is... exhausted. Your neurons haven't been exercising well. Keeping your neurons going is crucial. Alzheimer's, dementia and similar neurological disorders are

caused because of inactivity or poor maintenance of neurons. The worse part is, neurons, like every other cell, get tired and old." "But, you guys must be getting replaced by new cells all the time, isn't it?" "Neurons are exceptional, remember? Neurons never die. You are born with one set of neurons, and that's all you've got to live with."

your non-dominant hand. Take up a creative hobby. Meditation is an excellent practice to calm your brain. Do a task the harder way. Games like Sudoku, word search, memory games, etc., are also evergreen brain gyms. These activities are hard at first but train your brain..." Ada felt inspired. Here's what her diary read that day: "Staying healthy is vital in a world of robots doing our chores and phones solving our problems. Without the body, futile is all that money you worked for. That's why, keeping yourself healthy, is the one thing that you shouldn't forget. Not now, not ever!"

Illustration: Radhika Malhotra, XI G & Ananya Vardhan, X C, AIS MV

"Neurons never die. You are born with one set of neurons, and that is all you have got to live with."

Ada fidgeted for her phone. She hurriedly searched, "Do neurons die?" on Google. This was what the first result was: "...brain cells are never replaced throughout life... Ada was horrified. "What do I do now?" "There's something you can do to keep your neurons smiling- brain exercise. Brain games are beneficial and improve concentration and memory. Search on the internet for such games. Fun fact: some of us neurons can stretch up to 3m." "That's really cool! Thank you for the help. I'll be better!" Ada once again grabbed her phone. "...try using





"It is a truth universally acknowledged, that every Amitian in possession of a desire to read and write must be in the need of a paper like GT"
Hannah Mubarak, AIS MV, XI G, Page Editor

Indians on road

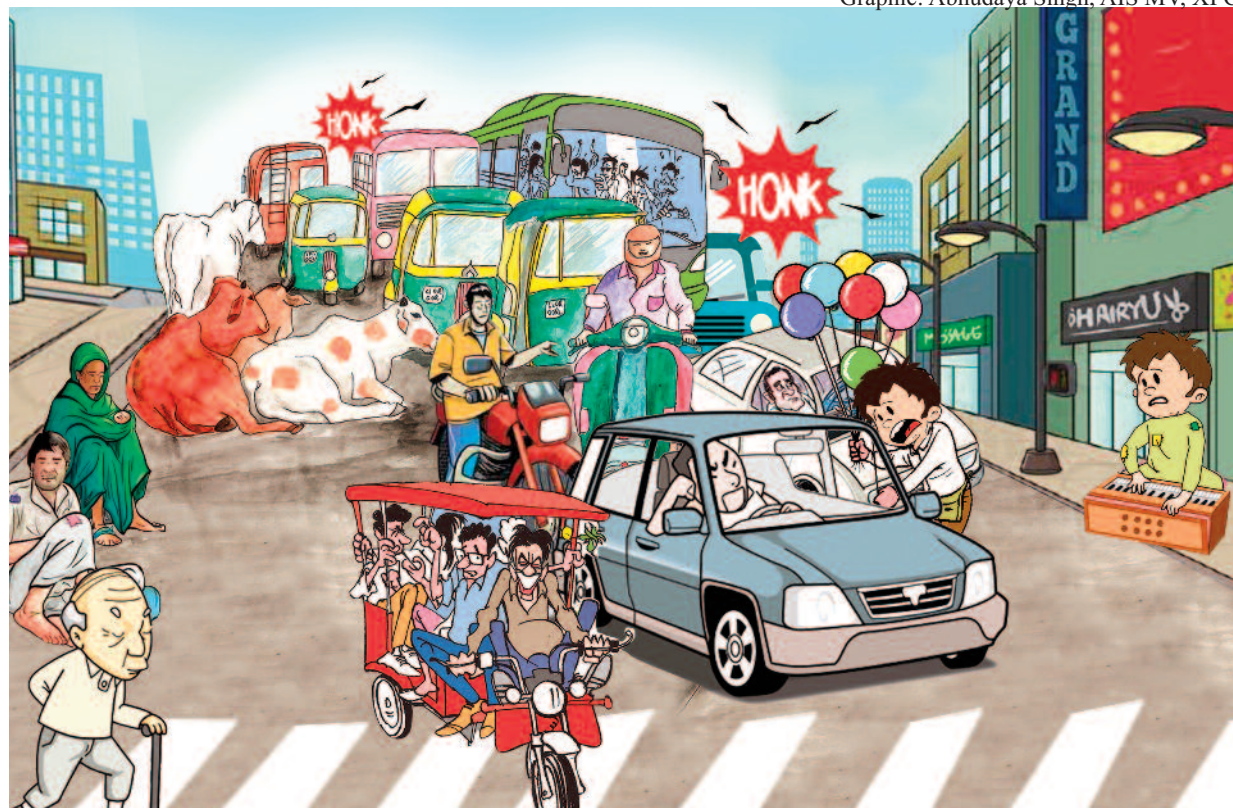
You Want To Know What True Mayhem Looks Like? We Ask You To Venture Out

Hannah Mubarak, AIS MV, XI G

Running late for tuition, I swiftly made my way downtown, only to see the roads filled with heavy traffic. "Wait, what! Is that a whole market on the road?" I mumbled to myself. Now, this wasn't really unusual, for Indian roads have always been quite a spectacle. Awash with rule breakers, the daredevils, the YOLO breed, et al; they truly are the incubation centre for India's Got Talent.

Oh, come on! You sure have brushed shoulders with the Schumachers, found aplenty on Indian roads (race tracks are for novices!). They all go by the maxim - 'to slow is to falter, to brake is to fail, to stop is defeat.' After all, it'd be so uncool to let someone else reach home or to work before us, right? All they need is a good horn, good brakes and a dollop of good luck to leave behind (pun intended) everyone and everything.

And then there are the change-makers redefining 'mah life, mah



Graphic: Abhudaya Singh, AIS MV, XI C

on the footpaths and zebra whatever. It is these *khatro ke khiladi* that make Indian roads the breeding ground for daredevilry. And you were wondering where Rohit Shetty gets his ideas from.

No, no, no, the procreation abilities of Indian roads don't just end at stuntmen, for there are musicians being nurtured on the way too. Why should the world be deprived of the blessings known as Honey Singh and Raftaar? And let the world say about honking what they want to, for them music-stricken souls find in honking a rhythm divine.

From people being literal litterers to them being peddlers in the middle of heavy traffic, Indian streets have it all, folks! And it does not just end here. We even dry our clothes, sunbathe acres of red chillies, milk our cows, in fact even spit on and sleep on roads. All just because we believe in living openly! Nothing else!

At last, ending my internal monologue, I rushed towards my destination, being obstructed by a herd of sheep. So, here we go again!



rules' to 'mah roads, mah rules'. Rules like not littering are for the naïve! Not the ones to let such silly rules come in their way, they treat the public streets as their own and lit-

ter boundless, beautifying them in our own desi way! Just step out of your homes for instant proof.

Speaking of beautifying roads, ever spotted this pretty pattern on the road?

Apparently, it's called 'zebra crossing'.

Be assured that Indians have no inkling as to what it means so, they just jaywalk to their heart's desire! As pedestrians, they are free to walk everywhere except



The royal rulebook

Rules To Rule Or Be Ruled By?

Naina Srivastav, AIS MV, IX A

Royal- the word itself sounds mesmerising. It automatically paints pictures of some la-la land, with a huge palace, lovely lawns, and extravagant events. But, is being a royal as winning as it sounds? Refer to the Royal Family of Britain and their Rule Book: Part Deux, and find out yourself.

- The Royal Protocol doesn't allow 2 heirs of the throne to travel together. Meant to protect the line-of-succession, the rule has its impractical implications. For eg, a father and son can never travel together.
- Princes below the age of 8 are to only wear tailored shorts because a pair of trousers or pants on a young boy are considered quite 'bourgeoisie'. Say what?
- The royal ladies must attend every formal event wearing fancy hats; not to forget that they aren't allowed to wear fur.

Well, atleast something makes sense!

- Royal ladies must always paint their nails in pale colours, while the Queen only puts on a specific natural-looking shade of nail paint, custom made for her back in the 1980s. One shade forever? How boring!
- Royals are barred from eating shellfish, which probably causes food poisoning. Starch and garlic are banned from the royal kitchenette as the Queen does not much prefer eating them. Equally strict rules apply to the consumption of spuds, rice and pasta. Life's unfair, I tell you!
- If you stay with the Queen, you sleep only after she sleeps, you stop eating as soon as she stops eating...you can breathe at your own pace, though. Phew!
- At dinner parties, the Queen begins the conversation by speaking to a person on the right. The course changes, as she speaks to the person on the left. Huh?
- And worst of all, the family isn't allowed to take selfies. *eye roll*

To my ex-colleagues...

...A Heartfelt Letter From A Grateful Intern

Amishi Jain, AIS MV, IX A

Dear colleagues,

It was a bright sunny day. With my hair tucked into a neat bun, my best clothes on, and a takeaway coffee cup in my hand, I arrived at the front gates of your office – our office, I mean. I was ready to create breathtaking PPTs and vow the clients, to swoop in and solve a world-saving problem!

Today, on my last day in this office, as you all get me a cake for my farewell (my name spelt incorrectly on it, by the way!), I see you telling me that the office wouldn't be the same without me. And I wonder how.

I know I probably had too high an expectation when I dreamt of me walking down the corridor and handing high clearance files, but I did not envision that the only time I would be handed a document was when you guys would need a photocopy. Might I remind you that I was the intern, not the peon? I mean I could have done better than fetching things from one table to another. No, Sharma sir, I am not going to climb 2 floors up again because you left your glasses in the conference room. And I

think it is extremely funny that you are supposed to be the 'boss' here when you cannot even print a single document. It is literally just two buttons, sir– Control and P. What exactly makes you not understand that?

I feel like the only reason you hired me was because you needed someone to carry all your files to the office, order lunches from Swiggy because you don't know how to, and to zoom the screens on your computer for you because for some reason, you always seem to forget how to do it. And even after running around all day for things none of you want to do, if I managed

to sit on my chair for even one minute, all you boomers would berate me with "aaj kal ke bachho mein toh koi jaan hi nahi hai. Hum toh apne time mein...". If you think my generation is so unworthy and talentless, why am I the one you go to when your projector stops working or when your PPT won't move to the next slide?

But then it would be a stretch to say that I learnt nothing here. I sure did learn how each one of you likes your coffee, how to make peace with long hours at work as I saw you work into late hours of the night, or the best way of diplomatically putting your views when you didn't agree with a colleague. You taught me things in office must be learnt from ground-up as you made me run from the IT guy to the pantry boy to the photocopier. And above all, you taught me how to stay calm when colleagues are getting on your nerves. So, thanks a lot.

It was umm...nice-ish to know you all. 🙏

Yours truly,
The Ex-Intern

P.S. Stop making fun of me for how I dress, especially when most of you tend to wear socks with sandals!



"Writing stories is easy. It was like riding a bike, except I don't know how to ride a bike."

Ananya Gupta, AIS Mayur Vihar, XI G
Page Editor



Small things, big matters



Dr. Amita Chauhan
Chairperson

Amity recently concluded its first ever virtual Dhananjay Mohan Science Symposium. This event that started 16 years ago is very close to my heart as it nurtures the scientific temperament of youth.

Recent times have proven how integral science and technology are to our lives in the 21st century. By this I am not just talking about big discoveries but even small things as breathing masks or sanitiser dispensers that have been our saviours during lockdown. The theme for the symposium 'Scientific innovations that have transformed our world' saw children share several ideas to make small changes in the design of the things around us to make daily life easy. Right from ball pen to the garden sprinklers, these seemingly small things are but the result of critical observations and innate scientific acumen of people who created them. That's why kindling the spirit of innovation and research in young minds is imperative because they are the changemakers of tomorrow. We have amongst us a young change maker Dhruvi Gupta of Class IX from AIS Vasundhara 6, who won the innovation award held by CSIR for creating a biodegradable and eco-friendly 'Easy brush'. Think of it, a simple toothbrush we use in daily life, this young scientist could think about the impact plastic brushes have on our health and environment. She endeavoured for sustainable development beginning with the smallest change with biggest impact. Science is the power to bring about the change in the world around us. I urge my Amityans to think of the world as their laboratory and make experimentation and innovation a way of life for it's the small things that matter big. 🇮🇳

Refusing to cease is all!



Meenu Kanwar
Principal, AIS MV

"It is under the greatest adversity that there exists the greatest potential for doing good, both for oneself and others."

- Dalai Lama

As nations across the world are struggling to combat the pandemic, what has truly remained unchanged is the indomitable will of human beings to overcome challenges and triumph against all odds. So, as educators, it gives us great pride to see that even though school buildings are closed, learning continues seamlessly. And all this has been undeniably made possible through the tireless efforts of our honourable Founder President sir and respected Chairperson ma'am and their endeavour to devise innovative strategies and new initiatives to create a harmonious online environment for students of Amity across the globe.

We at Amity have left no stone unturned to ensure that students engage productively and spend their time at home meaningfully. Although they have been suddenly cut off from the world outside, it is for us to make sure that they do not lose out on precious time spent in school where they pick up skills and a robust value system. For children have the ability to adapt far more easily than adults while coping with change, and their industrious spirit can be clearly seen in this edition of The Global Times. Even during a pandemic, the editorial board of AIS Mayur Vihar has pulled out all stops to make sure their contest edition goes out without a hitch. Let us salute their spirit and unwavering positivity in these unusual times! 🇮🇳

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 12, Issue 20 ■ RNI No. DELENG / 2009 / 30258. Both for free distribution and annual subscription of ₹ 900.

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 October 12-18, 2020

Rating the ratings

To See If Ratings Are Actually Worth The Weightage They Claim

Illustration: Yashvita Dhaundiyal, AIS MV, IX B

Pranjal Jain, AIS MV, XII E

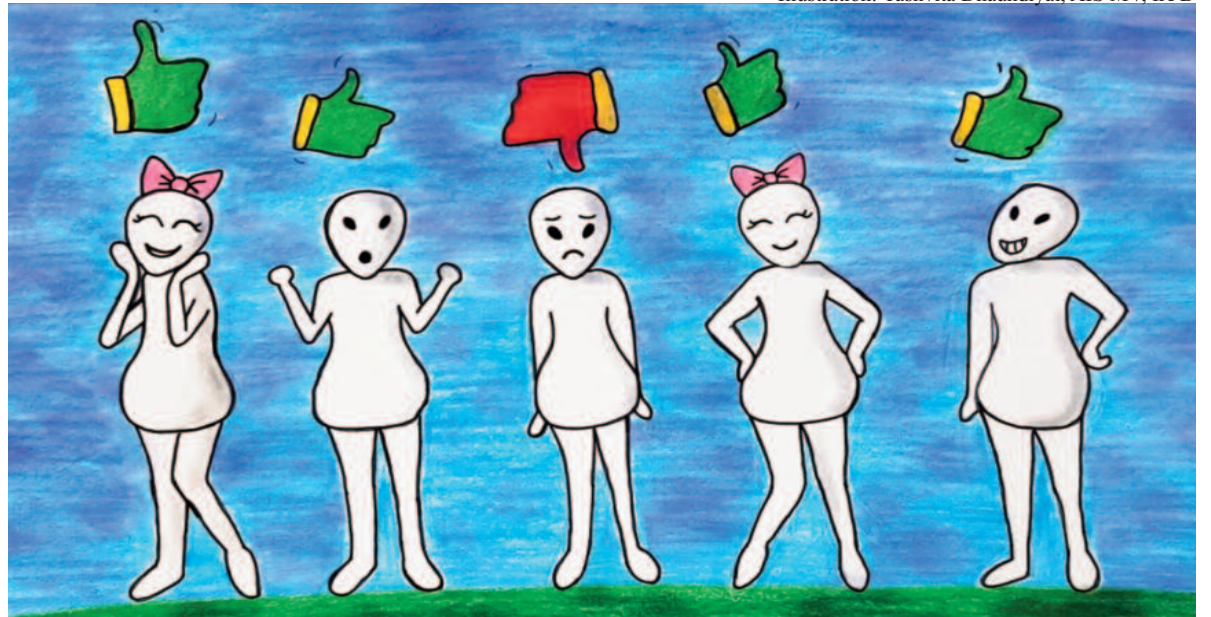
Imagine a world where you are rated just like you rate the Uber driver. Would you still skip homework, miss your class or not finish your glass of milk?

Subtle existence

Enter a salon and as soon as you are done with your service, a salesman would greet you with the widest smile possible and hand over a feedback form to you...just when you are about to get off the cab, the driver would promptly say 'madam ji rating de dena'. Surely, one does not have to ponder much to know that ratings have become an inevitable part of our lives, so much so that our hand straight away goes to the 'reviews' tab even before we try to make a choice. From how likely are you to recommend our products to a friend to students' end of term report cards, different scales of ratings have come into existence for almost everything and have gradually crept into our lives to occupy a space that often goes unseen.

Upping the game

Our world, slave to a habit of attaching a lot of importance to ordinals and cardinals, has come to a point where it would be fair to say, that we are literally under a numerical domination now. Per reports, China has taken the system of ratings a little too far (or is it?) by developing a social credit sys-



tem wherein all its citizens will be ranked on the basis of their social credit which can be moved up and down depending on one's behaviour. If you have a lower credit score due to bad driving, posting fake news online, buying too many video games, etc., you can be banned from flying or getting the train, your internet speeds can be throttled, you can be forbidden from best schools or best jobs, your dog can be taken away (ouch, that's harsh) or you can be publicly named as a bad citizen. What say? Yay or nay?

As good as 4 stars

But the question is if this rating system is actually of any good? Imagine a world where rating behaviour system

is actually implemented; anybody would be able to rate you on the basis of your 'social score'. Would this lead to a positive change in people's behaviour? Of course, the reason why so many service providers go out of their way to appease you and focus on quality is only because of their fear of losing out on good reviews. So, ratings do put a pressure on people to act in an acceptable manner. To put it in a more relatable way, would you even sit in exams had it not been for report cards?

Biz makers or breakers

Consider the reason why the restaurants are extra careful of their food and service? Simply because they don't want to risk it. As much as it does

good, ratings decide the future of the business and have become an ultimate threat for it too. Even when the company does its best, a consumer might just rate it average; no questions asked, no explanation given. Not just this, many customers demand freebies in lieu of a good review. Well, each review matters, and in this digital age, each of these constitutes the word of mouth, so might as well give in to the demands of the reviewer, especially if he is one with a 'following'.

A parameter of quality or a means to threaten – ratings, just like everything else in this world, come with their own pros and cons. Speaking of ratings, how would you rate this article. 🇮🇳

My dear Barbie

An Open Letter To My Childhood Pal Cum Hero

Rhea Suri, AIS MV, XII B

Dear Barbie,
Hello. It's been a while. I think I was 8 when I first got you, packaged in a baby pink box. I remember holding you so gently, cradling you in my arms, afraid to keep you on the ground lest your white frock became dirty. I played with you all day long. You became a constant source of enjoyment; my only friend. I spent hours dressing you up and braiding your hair. In a way, I grew up with you. Although I did have other dolls, there was something about you that made you my favourite. Your out-of-the-world good looks, flawless skin and your perfect body made me believe that that's what beauty stood for - everything you were and everything I wasn't. I remember this one time I scrubbed my face raw just to become as fair as you. I even stole hair gel from my father's drawers, to flatten my unruly frizzy hair into straight locks like yours. I spent hours looking through Google images of the gorgeous dresses you wore compared to the knickers my mother bought for me from the Friday markets. You know Barbie, almost 40% of children around the world are dissatisfied with their body and I was one of them. I used to see all these girls with seemingly

perfect bodies, and I was constantly reminded of you. I secretly wished for a body like that. When I finally became a teenager and my body started changing, I realised it wasn't what I wanted it to look like. I changed my style, my diet, everything. Day by day, my confidence dropped, and I began disliking every aspect of who I was, my face was too dull, my neck too short, my hands were not dainty. I hated my lack of beauty; I hated my body. I started dressing in clothes that were too big for me. I hid myself underneath the layers.

Now that I'm almost an adult, I've thought a lot, experienced a little but all in all realised something extremely important, something I should have realised sooner; we are all beautiful people. I have embraced myself, my body and have actually started to like it. Recently, I came across an article about you which said that if you were

a real, flesh and blood woman, your organs wouldn't fit inside you, your neck wouldn't support you and you wouldn't be able to walk. How hilariously weird is that? I idolised something in you which wasn't real at all. You have grown too, and I'm proud of you. I'm happy to see how diverse you are now, different ethnicities and skin tones and body types. The coming generations would grow up to see themselves in you and feel included. You did well, Barbie. I hope you do even better, touching more and more lives with your little magic of 'you can be anything'.



Graphic: Ananya Jain, AIS MV, IX A

We did it!

"Man never made any material as resilient as the human spirit."

- Bernard Williams



Shweta Gaur
GT Coordinator
AIS Mayur Vihar

In the matter of a few months, the coronavirus outbreak has had a profound impact on every aspect of our life, not least education.

Students and teachers across the globe have been affected by the closure of schools. However, nothing could deflate the indomitable spirit of the young scribes of AIS Mayur Vihar, who worked day in, day out to bring their contest edition 2019-2020 to fruition. What amazed me the most was their unbridled enthusiasm to write for GT, and their adaptability to provide alternate solutions against all odds posed by the pandemic.

Frantic phone calls, messages, e-mails, chats punctuated with online teaching - all marked the making of this issue. And, I enjoyed every opportunity to spur these young minds and to refine their written expression, add vibrance to their illustrations and to perk up their graphics through and through. For, learning anything requires commitment and the ability to constantly push your boundaries, and working for this contest issue of GT has been exactly that for us all! Hope the beauty wreathed into its 12 pages exhilarates your soul. Hope the hard work put in by the team leaves your mind blown! Here's to the successful completion of another contest issue. Happy reading all! 🇮🇳



“Looking back at it, the screaming at the computer screen when out of ideas was worth it.”
Radhika Malhotra, AIS Mayur Vihar, XI G
 Page Editor

Dying slowly

Time To Save Art Forms That Seem To Stand On The Edge Of The Cliff

Rogan Art

What is it? A cloth printing art form

Where are its roots?

Around 1700s in Kutch region of Gujarat

What is its speciality? The paints for the craft are made by boiling castor oil for two days and then adding vegetable pigments as a binding agent. Using a metal block, the paint is carved down on the fabric, and floral motifs, animals, and local folk art are produced freehand by trailing thread-like strands of paint. Often, the design is only painted on one side of the fabric and then folded in half, transferring a mirror-like image to the other side.

What is its condition today? The craft nearly died out in the late 20th century but saw a revival, to some extent, after one family, the Khatriis of Rirona, Gujarat, still continued it and even won various state and national awards for their work. It gained further attention when PM Modi gifted Barack Obama two Rogan paintings on his visit to the US in 2014.



Pattachitra

What is it? A traditional cloth-based scroll painting

Where are its roots? Odisha of 5th century BC

What is its speciality? The paintings usually depict Hindu mythology, religious stories, or folklores. The painting is done on small strips of cotton cloth which are prepared with a mixture of chalk and tamarind seed paste and rubbed by two different stones until it is dried. The painter doesn't use pencil or charcoal, but directly draws using light red or yellow colours, and the final coating of lacquer is done as the painting is held over a fireplace.

What is its condition today? The art form has been showcased in special exhibitions at CSMEVS Mumbai and American Museum of Natural History, Raghurajpur, known to be the hub of Pattachitra, was chosen in 2000 by JRYACH to be developed as the state's first heritage village to protect the artform. Other than that, there are 6 villages in Odisha that still practice the art.



Dhokra

What is it? A process of creating metal figures from copper and bronze

Where are its roots? In Harappans, inhabitants of the Indus Valley in 3300 BC

What is its speciality? Implying the low-wax technique, Dhokra is the oldest and most advanced metallurgical art.

Using the annealing method, the metal is heated to a specific temperature and then allowed to cool down slowly, and repetition of this softens the metal, allowing it to be cut and shaped easily. A model of the art object is prepared out of wax first and so is the mould with clay baked in sunlight. It is then heated at high temperature which causes the wax to spill out and is replaced with the molten metal. Once cooled, the clay cast is broken to remove the final metal object, making the artwork unique as every model is handmade and only one of its kind.

What is its condition today? With the demand for the artwork being

nowhere near the time, energy, and skill required to make it, the art form has seen a sharp decline over the past couple of years. Even though tribal families of Sadeibareni and people of Bastar District of Chhattisgarh work in this field, cheaper and less intense showpieces have arrived in the market, which is making this age-old art lose its customer base.



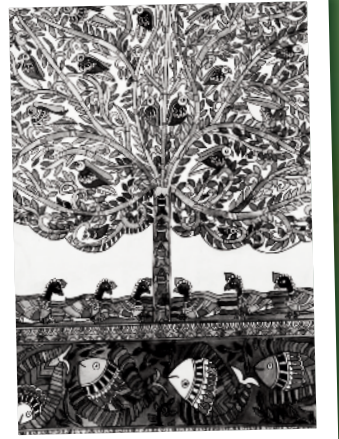
Madhubani art

What is it? A style of Indian painting characterised by its eye-catching geometrical patterns

Where are its roots? Mithila region of Bihar in 1934

What is its speciality? The painting is done using natural dyes and colours and tools like twigs, brushes, pens, etc. Traditionally, these were only done on freshly plastered mud walls but with time, these began to be carried out on cloth, paper, and canvas made from the paste of powdered rice, using colours derived from plants. Depicting people and their association with nature and deities from epics, no space in the painting is generally left empty and the gaps are filled with flowers, animals, birds or even geometric designs.

What is its condition today? The art form is still practiced in the Mithila region of Bihar where Kalakriti in Darbhanga, Vaidehi and Benipatti in Madhubani and Gram Vikas Parishad in Ranti have kept this ancient art form alive. With various artists winning accolades for the same (Sita Devi receiving Padma Shri in 1981 and Mahasundari Devi receiving it in 2011), the art form might thrive in the future too.



Sanchipat

What is it? A type of manuscript

Where are its roots? In Assam long before 7th Century AD

What is its speciality? The manuscript is written on the bark of a tree which are 6-18 feet long and 3-27 inches wide. The strips are sun dried, polished to create a smoother surface, exposed to dew, cut into convenient sizes, submerged in cold water, rubbed with burnt brick pieces, and covered in matimah (local pulse) paste.

What is its condition today? A dying art-form, it is now only seen in the private collections of old families of Majuli, Nalbari, and Barpeta, or in public museums. Over the period of time, various artefacts have also been destroyed due to lack of proper conservation efforts and awareness. Various locals reminisce of instances where hundreds of manuscripts were dunked into rivers in different parts of Assam.

Rational Mission for Manuscripts, an initiative started by the Ministry of Culture, has taken up the task of protecting and restoring the manuscripts as much as possible.





Pic courtesy: Tavish Koul, AIS MV, VIII B

The petrichor of life

Storywala

Aarushi Aggarwal, AIS Mayur Vihar, X C

Dear diary,

It was Diwali today. As I have already told you, Diwali is my favourite festival, a festival that I look forward to every year. This is the day when all my friends and family come together. And how can I forget the fairy lights – those joyous things! Mom and dad got me a lovely blue dress this time. I wore it as I wanted to look my best. But as I looked into the mirror, I noticed a dull blue tint under my eyes. It kind of matched my dress though, so let's call it a win-win.

I heard Ram Leela playing at a distance and ran to the balcony. After visiting the play every year without fail, it felt weird to not be sitting in the audience this year. I wish, I had not cribbed about the dirty seats last year. Not

like I can do anything about that now! I made a rangoli in that time though. My hands did tremble as I filled in the colours, but I managed to make a beautiful pattern somehow.

I was so lost in the tranquillity of the burning

After visiting the play every year without fail, it felt weird to not be sitting in the audience this year.



Illustration: Amritha V Nair, AIS MV, XI G

candles, that my heart started beating erratically from shock when the deafening cracker exploded in the sky. Mom ran to me with my medicines. Well, I used to enjoy bursting them too, but I learnt my lesson the hard way. I hope they don't have to. My train of thought was disrupted by the bitter tasting medicines. How

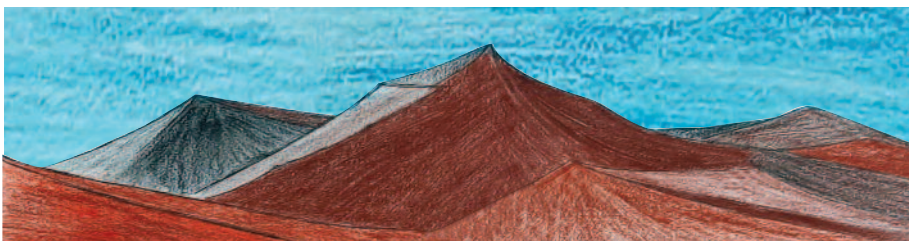
don't really know is. But, I wanted to savour every moment of the day and I did too. Not just because it was another Diwali, but because this could well possibly be my last one.

Yours truly,
Nadia 🇮🇳

can anyone develop a taste for bitterness? That too 5-7 tablets in a row! Well, that's how it has been for me for the past few months. Even though, my lung cancer has reached stage III and the doctors have already given up on me, it gives some sort of satisfaction to my mom. So, I have made peace with it. I

what this feeling

WORDS VERSE



Aiming for the high stars

Tarushi Tewari

AIS Mayur Vihar, XI G

I trudged along the mountain trail
My confidence and courage frail
I had a feeling, I would fail

Then a voice inside me said
"Don't let your strength break
In your stride, things you take"

I then summoned all my might
And wiped away all my tears



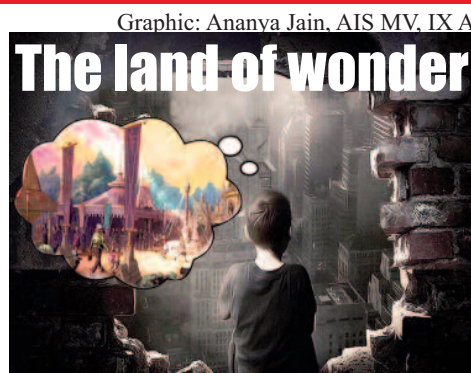
Illustration: Yashaswita Dhaundiyaal, AIS MV, IX B

Marched on, forgetting my fears

With all my doubts and fears gone
I kept treading on the rugged track
To never stop, till I reached the top

I finally got the reward I sought
Trillions of stars covered the skies
A splendid feast indeed, for my eyes

I knew I had battled all my fears
Not giving up to the struggles of life
I stood strong, refusing to die.



Graphic: Ananya Jain, AIS MV, IX A



Mudit Tiwari, AIS Mayur Vihar, IX D

Once, oh once, there was a land of wonder
With blue lakes and naïve branches tender
There was no crime, terrorism or murder
And enough food for everyone in the larder
Once, oh once, there was a land of wonder
But the beautiful fabric was torn asunder
By the only son, committed a damning sin
Pledging his life towards, destroying his kin
Once, oh once, there was a land of wonder
To err is to human, but we made a blunder
Building smoke pillars that herald our gloom
Our creator helplessly watched our doom. 🇮🇳



Crunchy cornflake butter cookies

Tavish Koul, AIS Mayur Vihar, VIII B

Ingredients

Crushed cornflakes	1/2 cup
Butter (at room temperature)	1/2 cup
Castor sugar	1/2 cup
Plain flour	1 cup
Baking powder	1/2 tsp
Lemon juice	1tbsp
Vanilla essence	1/2 tsp

Procedure



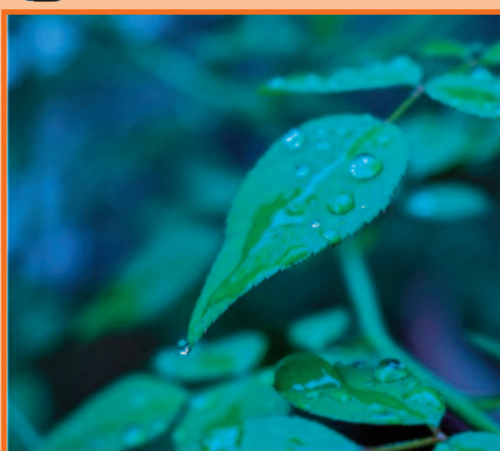
Tavish Koul with his dish

- Pre-heat the oven at 180°C (360°F).
- Take a deep bowl and pour butter in it. Beat with a wooden spoon till the texture turns smooth and creamy.
- Now, add castor sugar to the bowl and blend the mixture well.
- Add plain flour, baking powder, lemon juice and vanilla essence, to the mixture. Using your hands, knead the mixture into a soft dough.
- Divide the dough into 15 equal portions and roll each portion into a flat round cookie.
- Dab each cookie with crushed cornflakes and press it well, ensuring that the cookies are coated well with cornflakes on both sides.
- Take a baking tray and arrange the cookies in a row on it. Bake for 20 minutes.
- Once baked, remove the cookies from the oven and keep them aside to cool.
- Serve or store them in an air-tight container. Your crunchy cornflake cookies are ready to be devoured!



CAMERA CAPERS

Karthik Pruthi, AIS Mayur Vihar, XI F

Send in your entries to
cameracapers@theglobaltimes.in

Every drop is a pearl



Every leaf is a flower



Every touch is a miracle



Every curve is an art



“Baar baar draft bhejne ki mehnat tum kya jaano Ramesh Babu.”

Naina Srivastav & Amishi Jain
IX A, AIS Mayur Vihar, Page Editors



Pic courtesy: Zain Imam Zaidi, AIS Mayur Vihar, XI F

The man at the door

Pic: Vihaan Kushwaha, XI G | Models: Subhav Chandra, VIII A & Shantanu Chandra, Alumnus; AIS MV

Short Story



Pehel Sharma, AIS MV, VII C

“Oh, what a bright, sunny day!” exclaimed John as he drew open the curtains. It was a Sunday morning and John was feeling lethargic. His parents were out to run an errand, which means he could laze around all day without getting any scolding. “Cornflakes, not again!” John whined, wanting to eat something greasy instead. Nonetheless, he picked up his bowl and sat down on the sofa. After a long quest of finding the remote, he finally switched the TV on. The headline “Beware of kidnapper disguised as salesman” immediately flashed in bold red

colour. John scoffed, “These news channels feel more like crime patrol these days.” Looking for some entertainment on a Sunday morning, he switched the channel. To his delight, Tom and Jerry stood there grinning. No matter how old he got, this never gets old. Suddenly, the doorbell rang. Looked like his parents were back, which meant end of entertainment for the day. He opened the door...

Peter woke up to his alarm and headed to the bathroom to freshen up. Although, he was already tired from work last night, he had no option but to go today too. “Who works on a Sunday?” he thought to himself. “Me,

that’s who,” he replied to himself almost angrily. After having bread jam for breakfast, he set out of his dingy abode for work. On the floor outside his house was lying today’s newspaper, with the news of a kidnapper posed as a salesman on the top. He started walking in the sun, beads of sweat rolling down his forehead. But being a salesman, he was bound to go from door to door carrying his black bag stuffed with samples. Today his target was to sell blankets. He rang the doorbell of every house on his way. Most of the people were adults, not gullible enough to fall for his speech. He had to find a youngster soon. Hopefully, they’ll buy whatever he

says and he can be done for the day. He rang the doorbell to the next house. The door opened...

John and Peter came face to face. “Yes?”, John asked looking at the older man in front of him. He wondered if this was another one of those salesmen who would bother him until he bought something. His mother would always scold him for falling for their techniques. Peter’s eyes reflected happiness on seeing the young man at the door. He had finally found his potential customer.

So, what did you learn today?
A new word: Gullible
Meaning: Easily persuaded to believe something



Hanging holder

Saanvi Batra, AIS Mayur Vihar, VII B



■ Take a 11 x 11 cm cardboard piece and paint it with any colour of your choice.
■ Now, take the ice cream sticks and paint them with different colours of your choice.
■ Take 2 of these coloured ice cream sticks and paste them on any two sides of the cardboard piece, one on each side, in a way that they are parallel to each other.
■ Similarly, take another 2 such sticks and paste them on the remaining two sides, adjacent to and overlapping the ones pasted before.
■ Keep stacking the ice cream sticks in the same way till it is 10 levels high.
■ Decorate the topmost stack with shells and small mirrors.
■ Now, take a string and firmly tie it to the holder on any 2 opposite ends so that it can be hung. Make sure the string is strong enough to bear the weight of the holder.
■ Your quirky hanging holder is ready for use!

Pic courtesy: Armaan Haque, AIS MV, IX A

It's Me

Hey!
My name: Ibrahim Iqram
My Class: I A
My school: AIS Mayur Vihar
My birthday: March 20
I like: Reading books
I dislike: When someone teases me
I want to be: A football player

My favourites!
Book: Sleeping Beauty
Games: Cricket and Football
Mall: DLF Mall of India
Food: French fries
Poem: Twinkle Twinkle
Subject: Maths
Movie: Avengers Endgame
Place: England
Cartoon: Oggy and the Cockroaches
Fictional character: Iron Man

Meet my!
Role model: My papa
Best friend: Agrim Aggarwal
Favourite teacher: Suja ma'am

I am here!
Because: I want everybody to know me

POEMS

Dancing like the wind

Priyamvada Rao
AIS MV, VI A

When I see golden leaves fall
From the trees short and tall
My heart dances like the wind

When I am with the trees
With hives full of honeybees
My heart dances like the wind

When I get books to read
Of amazing tales that please
My heart dances like the wind

When I get a chance to sketch
Or to think of stories to etch
My heart dances like the wind

When I stand under the drizzle
And I see others doing a twizzle
My heart dances like the wind

Pic: Vihaan Kushwaha, AIS Mayur Vihar, XI G



A believer

Kashika Jain, AIS MV, VII C

I come here smiling
But you hunt me down
You say things unkind
Making me frown

Words which are mean
But I still stand tight
Words that leave me sore
Every single day and night

Maybe you think I am weak
But I certainly won't tremble
And when you are spiteful
I won't take a tumble

Tears may fill up my eyes
But they don't mean fear
And I won't even shiver
Because I am a believer

Riddle Fiddle

Adhiraj
AIS Mayur Vihar, III A

1. I use a long track
I transport heavy loads
Many tourists use me
Latecomers run after me
I show you a beautiful scenery.
Who am I?

2. Please blow air in me
I come in many colours
I'm a symbol of celebration
I could last only a day or two
Don't prick me
Who am I?

3. Kids love playing with me!
I am not useful indoors

Don't you tangle my long string
Look up and watch me dance
Run if you want me to go faster
Who am I?

4. Spring is my season
I love to hop in the grass
I play in your vegetable garden
My teeth are long and sharp
I am soft to touch
Who am I?

Answers: 1. Train 2. Balloon 3. Kite 4. Rabbit

The virus that causes COVID-19 is in a family of viruses called Coronaviridae. Antibiotics do not work against viruses.

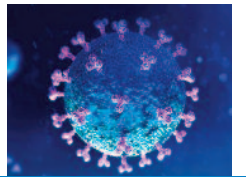
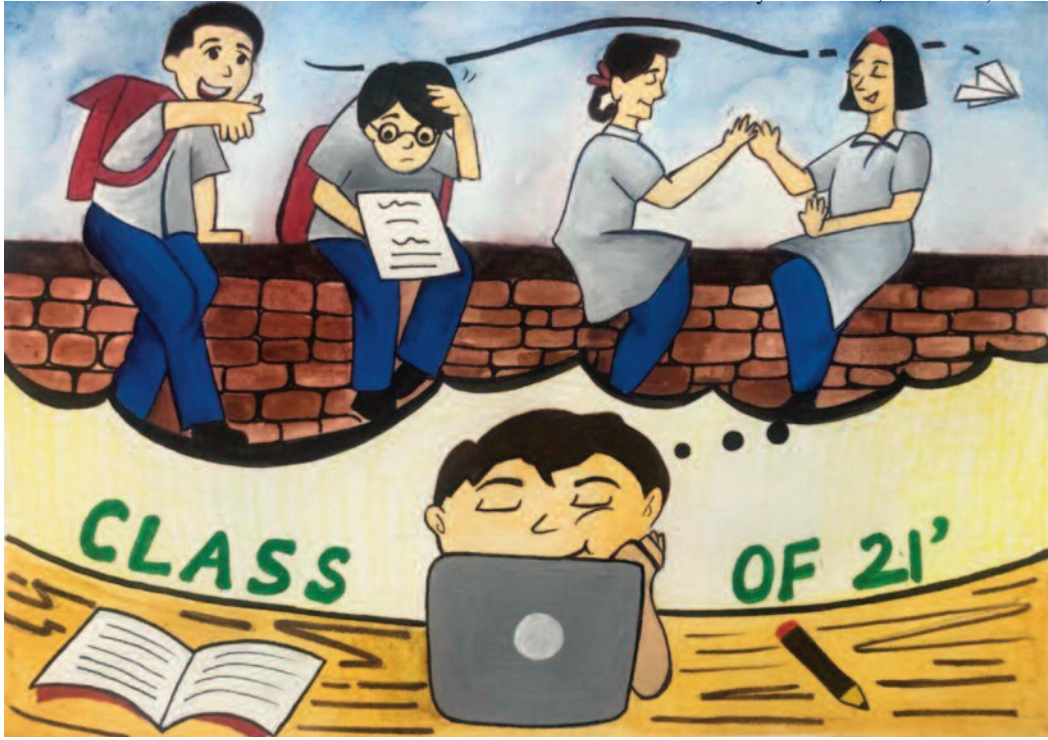


Illustration: Tanya Sachdeva, AIS Saket, XII F



One last time

I Wish To Walk, Talk, Swot In My School

Tanishi Adhikari
AIS Saket, XII

In an attempt to halt the Coronavirus pandemic, we humans have brought our lives to a near standstill where returning to our old schedules seems quite ridiculous and far-fetched, especially when you are a student; a student in the final grade? Much worse. Now that I look back to the time when we could physically be anywhere, classroom in my case, I feel I could have invested more of myself then. Well, at least I wouldn't have to crib about it in this article then. But alas, I am left with no options now other than spending the last year of my school life off memories. While it was definitely disheartening for the batch that recently graduated to not receive a proper farewell, I do believe that it is much worse for us considering that we only got to spend a week

in the school before the outbreak. Oh! How I miss all the fun! Au contraire, everything seems monotonous and tiring now. The entire concept of submissions has become dull too. Earlier, more than half of the class would forget about the submission and right in the morning, one diligent student would be discovered drawing finishing lines and wrapping up their work. That was when the rest of us would almost have a panic attack and feel the urge to complete it, well, copying the entire thing under the desk while pretending to be attentive in the class, to be precise. But classes now are more about waking up a couple of minutes before the meeting and attending them while struggling to keep our eyes open. Online classes and the conventional classroom teaching are two completely different experiences, with the latter one being way more interesting. Could have realised it sooner,

you may say? Well, *coughs* *subah ka bhoola agar shaam ko laut aaye toh use bhoola nahi kehte*. Trust me though, the presence of teachers and classmates lightens up everything, and the competitive nature of the classroom arouses interest and the will to actually study. But now when I graduate out of the school, the memories that I would have of my last year here would include recordings of lectures, class notes in mail, constant whining over slow internet connection, and also occasional scolding by the teachers for being absent, mentally or digitally. The only fun ones out of which would be where the students are asked to switch their cameras on, with their dishevelled selves sitting in their homes. Well, if you ask me, at this point, I can honestly do nothing but just hope for the schools to reopen so that I get to be inside my school building as a student, one last time! 🇮🇳

My quirky quarantine

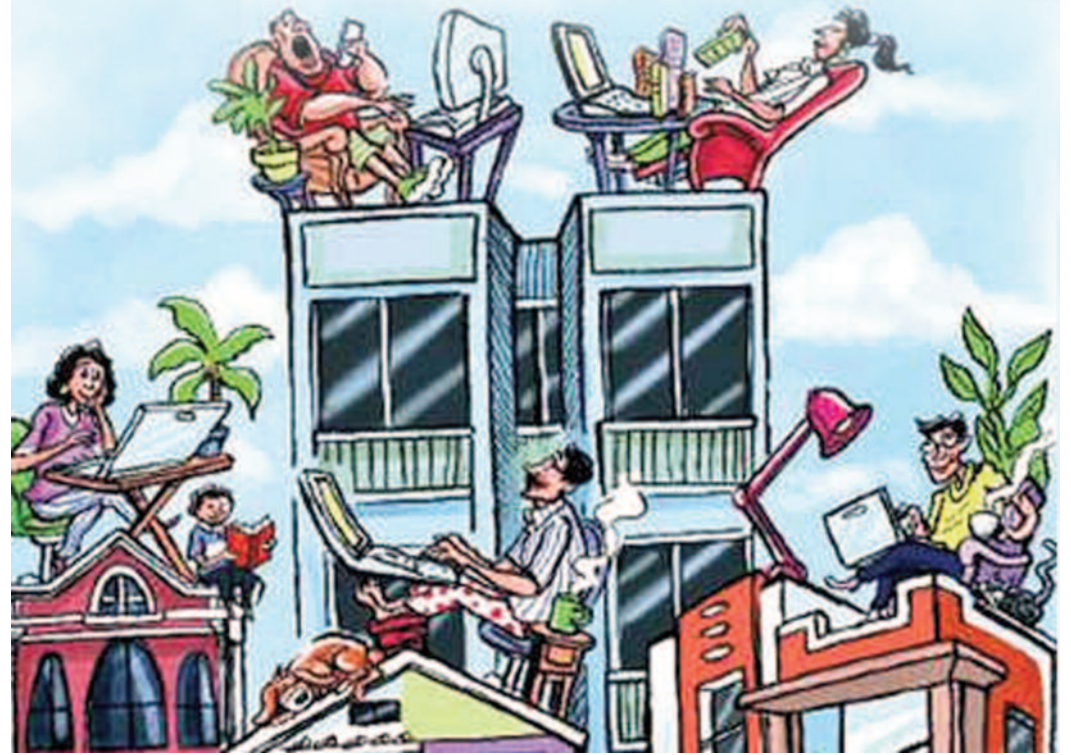
Getting The Best Out Of The Lockdown

Avikshit Sahil Upadhyay
AGS Gurugram, IX

COVID-19 - It is hard to remember a world where this disease wasn't everywhere, living around us. Not only physically, but digitally too, can one no longer do anything without Coronavirus affecting how we do something, if we even decide to do it. Despite the devastating effects of this infamous disease, not all things to come out of this situation need to be bad, and that is exactly the lesson I learnt in the times of lockdown. Instead of fighting it or crying about it, I decided to look at quarantine differently and bring about a few changes in my life. The first change was definitely embracing quarantine as my own. This really is the key to forgetting your troubles and increasing what little positivity you have in this period. Instead

of crying over not being able to go out, meet your friends, or carry on with the 'normal' life, take control of the situation and accept itself to be the reality, with all its pros and cons. It is only after you acknowledge it for what it is that you can try to maximize the happiness you get out of it. The second change was realising all the positives that came along accepting quarantine. Quarantine allows you to do things you could never do normally. Don't want to dress up and make yourself presentable? You don't have to! Want to eat, sleep, repeat? Go for it! You can sit at home and you can actually realise that you have been finally given a 'break', a 'break' where you can do anything you want in the comfort of your house, so go crazy! The third change I brought about in my routine was utilising the free time I suddenly had.

The removal of travel time and class breaks allowed me to take on many other activities: I got a job as a dog walker! Dog walking is a constructive activity that allowed me to gain work ethic, meet a cute dog, and even get paid! At 13 years of age, I would never have imagined anything close to my current living situation to be the 'reality'. Even when we acknowledge the horrible things that brought about this quarantine, there is little control we have over the situation. All we can do is sit at home and prevent ourselves and others from catching this virus. But who says we have to be idle? Even from the comforts of our home, we can change our life drastically and transform it to be better. You won't know what you are really capable of until you try to achieve it, so use this time to bring changes into your life, even if they are small.



Philosophical me

Attaining Wisdom With Time And With Experience

Tannya Pasricha, AIS Gur 43, X D

The coronavirus pandemic has changed the lives of all the people present on the Earth and the lockdown has changed the thoughts of many. But during the lockdown, there is not much of a difference in the work, the main difference is in the place we are working in. For example, we used to study in school buildings, but now, we are studying in our own homes. We used to celebrate our birthdays in restaurants and adventure parks, but now, the birthdays are all spent like the normal days at home. But if we think about this situation philosophically, then it might be a good time for us to slow down and reflect on the human condition. One way to think about

this pandemic is in terms of humanity coming together to fight the virus. It is inspiring to see how we are all similarly vulnerable, similarly worried, and that we need concerted action across the globe to address this disease, brings some hope. This is the time to introspect and to improve. Speaking of which, during the lockdown, everybody developed some or the other talent present inside them. We are now an artist in terms of music, cooking and what not. Secondly, on a light note, we have become experts in mopping the floors, dusting the shelves and washing clothes, washing the utensils, etcetera etcetera. But while doing these things, we have also realised the amount of hard work these day to day activities require; work which is otherwise done by the house-helpers and our mothers all alone.

It's my earnest hope that isolation and lockdown becomes an occasion for reflection and change. This lockdown may have changed our way of living but not our way to survive. Opportunities are still knocking the doors of the hardworking people; opportunities which we should never miss regardless of how small it is or how much time we have for the moment. The more opportunities we accept, the closer we get towards our life's destination. After all, our birth was at a small station, but our life is a train which takes us to different stations, aka opportunities. If we get out of the train to view the station, it means that we accept the opportunity. This gives the train more power to run at a faster pace towards the destination. This is the 'story of life' which we should all understand, because we are the only ones to write our 'life's story' and make up for it!



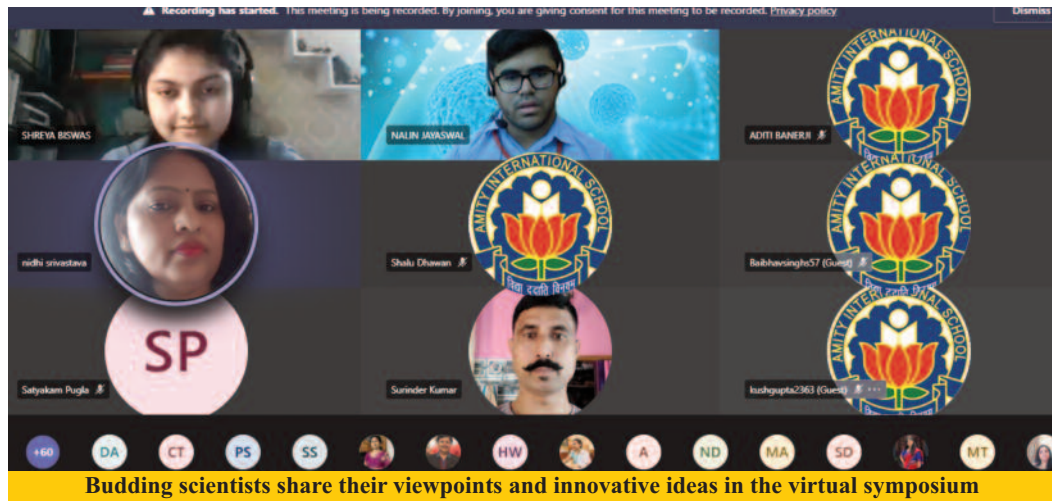


"But soft! What light through yonder window breaks? It is the east, and GT is the sun."

Kuhu Saha, AIS Mayur Vihar, XI G
Page Editor

Dhananjay Mohan SCIENCE SYMPOSIUM

The Legacy Of Nurturing Scientists



Budding scientists share their viewpoints and innovative ideas in the virtual symposium

AIS Noida

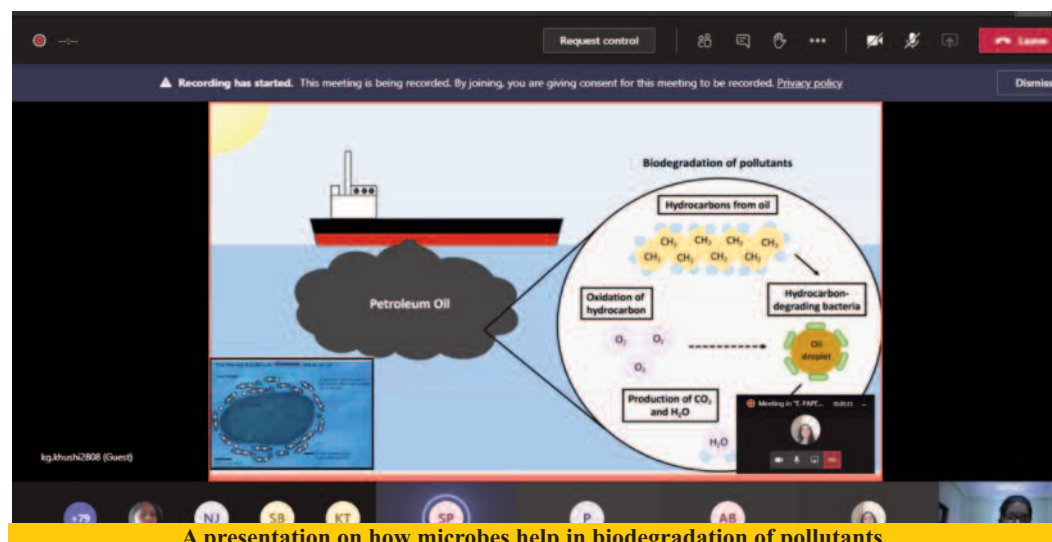
The 16th and first ever online Dhananjay Mohan inter-school science symposium - 2020 based on theme 'Scientific breakthroughs that have transformed our world', was held on September 19, 2020. The annual event has been envisioned by Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools and RBEF, as a platform to foster the innate curiosity and scientific temperament of the young minds. The symposium began with virtual lighting of the lamp and chanting of Gayatri mantra. School principal Renu Singh accorded a virtual welcome to everyone and expressed her heartfelt thanks to Dr Ashok K. Chauhan, Founder President, Amity Universe, and Chairperson for providing world

class opportunities to students for kindling their innate scientific spirits.

A total of 17 eminent schools from Delhi / NCR participated in the event comprising two competitions namely, E-Paper Presentation and App Designing. In E-Paper Presentation, 17 teams presented papers on topics like 'Microbes: power of healing', 'Immunization: Challenges and future prospects' and 'Artificial Intelligence and expert system'. Eleven teams participated in App Designing based on the theme *Aarogyam*. Amityans registered stellar victories, with AIS Noida winning first prize in E-Paper Presentation followed by AIS Mayur Vihar and AIS Gur 46 bagging second and third positions respectively. In App Designing, AIS PV won the first prize and

AIS Noida bagged third prize. Overall rolling trophy was won by AIS Noida but being the host school, it was handed over to the first runners up, Ryan Intl School Noida. AIS PV was the second runners up.

The jury comprised eminent professors and academicians from AUUP namely Dr Deepak Ganjewala from Center of Plant and Environmental Biotechnology; Dr Abhishek Sengupta from Center of Computational Biology and Bioinformatics; Dr Nidhi Srivastava, from Center of Medical Biotechnology; Dr Smedha Mohan from Center of Plant and Environmental Biotechnology and Satyam Pugla from the Center of Computational Biology and Bioinformatics. The symposium concluded with the rendition of the school song. 🇮🇳

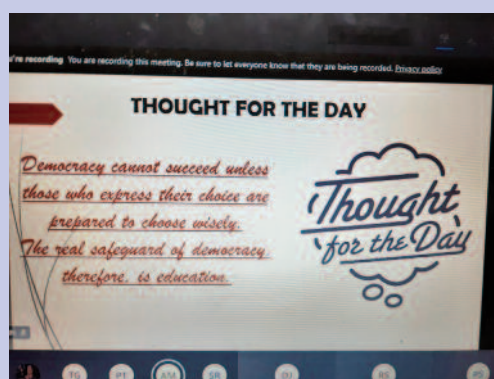


A presentation on how microbes help in biodegradation of pollutants

Understanding world

AIS Mayur Vihar

Class XI held an online assembly to observe International Day of Democracy on September 17, 2020. The assembly, anchored by Pavani Sharma and Samridhi Rawat, commenced with Gayatri mantra recitation by Rosni Srivastava. Ananta Mittal shared the thought of the day and Aryan Sethi explained the word of the day. The cultural programme presentation included a beautiful dance performance by Vaishnavi Singh on the theme of democracy, and a violin & piano recital with an English song singing by Joy Chatterjee. Ansh Singhal and Shagun Moharkar shared amazing facts on democracy, while Divisha Jain, Laavanya Tiwari and Megha Rani presented the news. Tanirika Ghosh recited a Hindi poem *Bheem ne ek samvidhan likha* and Kritika Aggarwal recited a self-composed English poem



A thought on democracy being shared

'We are one'. Dhruv Aditya presented Dr Rajendra Prasad's quotation on democracy while Rosni Srivastava, Jivanshu Singh, Shrey Chandra, Vaishnavi Verma and Aakriti Pandey shared their thoughts on democracy.



Amityans meet online to imprint the everlasting memories of times gone by in their hearts

Bidding adieu

AIS Pushp Vihar

The school held its first ever virtual farewell for Class XII batch of 2019-20 on September 19, 2020. Due to the unprecedented crisis, the formal farewell couldn't take place at stipulated time this year. However, continuing with Amity's tradition of forging an

everlasting bond of love with its Amityans, an online ceremony was held which was graced by Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools and RBEF. She blessed the students with her words of wisdom and heartfelt wishes for stellar success in life. The event was based on the theme 'Punjabi Amity's tradition of forging an

and was filled with liveliness and gusto. From melodious renditions of popular songs, to dances that made everyone sway to the beats, even the online bidding adieu resonated the same zeal and joy. The present Class of 2021 also bestowed upon the outgoing batch several titles. It indeed turned out to be a memory for the lifetime. 🇮🇳

The rulers of space

Amityans Bag Wins At ISRO Cyberspace

AIS Vasundhara 6

Twelve young space enthusiasts of the school hauled up a cache of prizes at ISRO Cyberspace competitions - 2020. Results of the competitions held on different dates were declared on September 25, 2020 to mark the centenary programme of Dr Vikram Sarabhai, Father of the Indian space programme. Around 2,04,631 entries were submitted from all over India, and after rigorous evaluation, a merit list of top 500 students in each category was declared.

Vikhyat Aggarwal (II B) won the drawing competition for his painting based on the topic 'Viewing earth from space'. Armaan Shrivastav and Eva Jain (VI) won the model making competition. In Hindi essay writing competition, Charu Anuraj, Shailja Agarwal, Dhruv Mimani, Rhythm Mathur and Shubham Anand (IX) won the national prize for their essay based on the topic *Antriksh paryavaran aur uski chunautiyaan*. Ayana Sahay, Somansh Dhillan (XI) and Radhika Kapoor & Chavvi Sharma (XII) won the national prize in English essay writing competition based on topic 'Few obstructions we might face while going forward with space innovations'. Anusha Chandra (IX) also made it to top 500 in English



Winning painting by Vikhyat Aggarwal

essay writing competition.

The event held by ISRO for the students of Class I-XII comprised four online competitions, all of which were held in 12 categories. Main objective of the event was to enhance the knowledge of young minds about the latest space science and technology and also prime them into space research.

An ode to heritage

AIS Gurugram 46

Students from Class III-IV held an online class presentation titled '*Dhara-darpan* - from Heritage Diaries' on September 19, 2020. They showcased the heritage and cultural diversity of the states of Telangana, Haryana, Maharashtra, West Bengal, Tamil Nadu and Rajasthan. The programme began with the virtual lamp lighting ceremony. The students then presented scintillating folk dances like Kalbelia, Ghoomar, Lavani, Mayilattam and enacted role plays of famous personalities from these states. They also



Children dressed up in traditional attires of different states

shared information on the culture, cuisine and festivals of all the six states. The live melodious singing by students with harmo-

nium and guitar left the audience spell bound. Parents also witnessed the class presentations and lauded the performances. 🇮🇳



Villains reunited

Will The Supervillain Round Table Conference Be Successful In Destroying Humanity?

Anupreksha Jain, AIS MV, XII B

Dark was the night as the clouds overshadowed the moon. A sense of inevitable doom hung in the air as the greatest of all evils gathered in one tiny room, ready to end humanity once and for all.

Loki: Welcome, to the 10th annual meeting of the Doomsday Planning Committee. I am glad to see that even after so many failed attempts to crush humanity, most of you have not lost hope. Thank you for coming and, as always, do not forget to take your complimentary gift bags from the Evil Corporation & Private Limited on your way out. I heard they have put blood-scented candle in there. Fun!

Voldemort: [Clears throat]

Loki: Ahem, ahem, yes. Coming back to the topic at hand: world domination.

Abomination: Let's destroy everything in our way!

Hela: Woah, okay, green man, calm down. We have tried again and again to destroy everything, and how did that

plan work out for us? No, this time, we need to think of something smarter, something the humans will be ignorant of until it is too late.

Doctor Doom: You are right. Let's destroy something these puny humans cannot live without. With our combined forces, we can deprive man of water, and what will he be without it? They will go thirsty, their industries will collapse, and their land will be barren. And when they will fall to their knees, we will barge in and conquer them.

Voldemort: Hmm, interesting idea, but

do you really think we need to do all this work? According to my sources, one human wastes up to 45 litres of water every single day. At this rate, we won't have to lift a finger before their world faces a water scarcity.

Magneto: I think the best strategy to deploy here is divide and rule. We'll divide the humans and turn them against each other based on their differences.

Hela: Look around you! The humans have already divided themselves on based of their differences and keep fighting on who is superior. They have

had two world wars and trying to start the third one. They hate on each other over the colour of their skin? They are the dumbest species ever.

Thanos: This is exactly why I keep saying my plan of killing half of humanity randomly is the best.

Magneto: Dude, your plan failed miserably and COVID 19 was better at killing than you.

Abomination: When do we kill?

Doctor Doom: In a minute, brother. Why don't we attack their forests in-

stead? It will dismantle their ecosystem and they will finally meet their demise.

Voldemort: I don't think there is any need for us to attack their forests, because they themselves are tearing down their trees to build shopping malls and parking lots. Stupid muggles!

Doctor Doom: Ugh, how about heating up the Earth?

Hela: They are already doing it. Global warming, you know.

Doctor Doom: Polluting their oceans?

Loki: They have done that, too.
Doctor Doom: Filling their homes with non-biodegradable plastic so they have to live with the pollution they create?

Magneto: Nope, they are doing that themselves.

Hela: Now that I think of it, are we wasting our time making plans? Humans are already on the path of self-destruction.

Loki: Wow, it took us 10 whole years to realise this. So what now?

Hela: Let's toast to humans being their own villains.

All: Humans are their own villains!

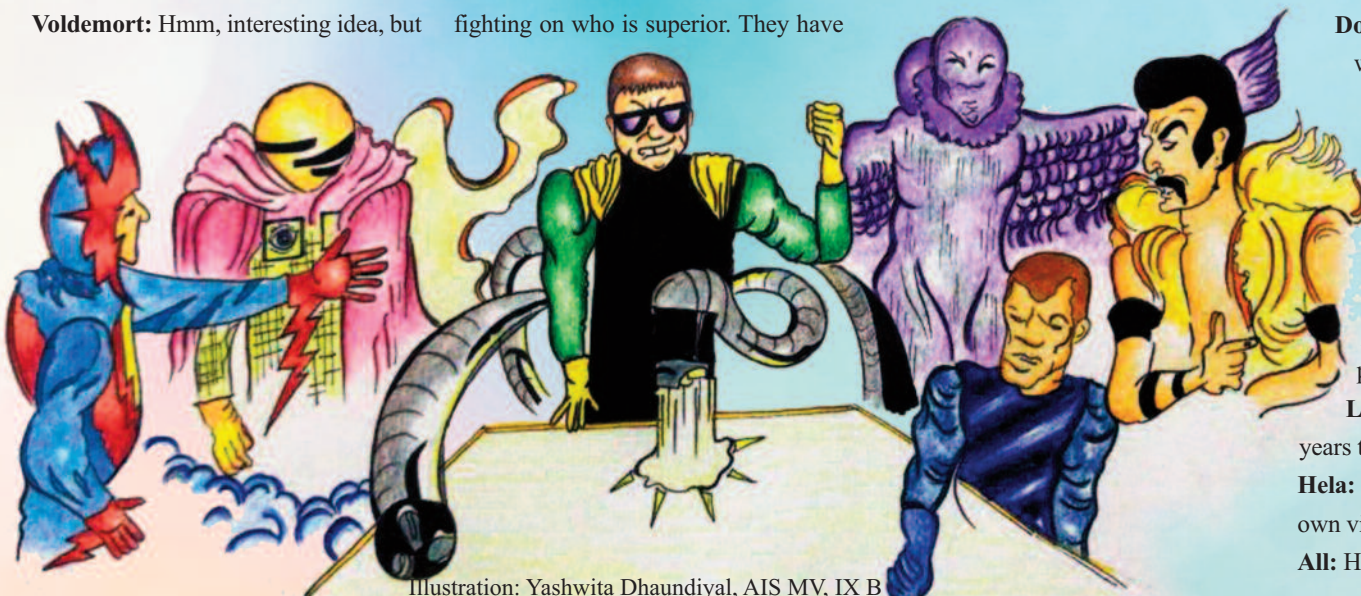


Illustration: Yashwita Dhaundiyal, AIS MV, IX B

A rich history

A Glimpse Into The Beginnings Of The Magnificent Indian Advertising Universe

Hannah Mubarak

AIS Mayur Vihar, XI G

Advertisements have always been the driving force behind the buying and selling routine. While the motive may have remained constant, the route taken to achieve the final destination has undergone a sea change. Indian advertising has come a long way from enumerating the benefits of the said product to probing the emotional chords of the audience. It has been a journey that saw its fair share of firsts, all of which 'ad' ded up to make this business a memorable one.

Of mascots

While mascots may not be a new thing in the advertising world today, the trend was steered by the iconic 'Maharaja', Air India's mascot. Clad in red and yellow, this icon of royalty served a precursor to the trend of Indian mascots in Indian advertising, which up until now had been feeding on western staples. What followed was popularity of Indian mascots

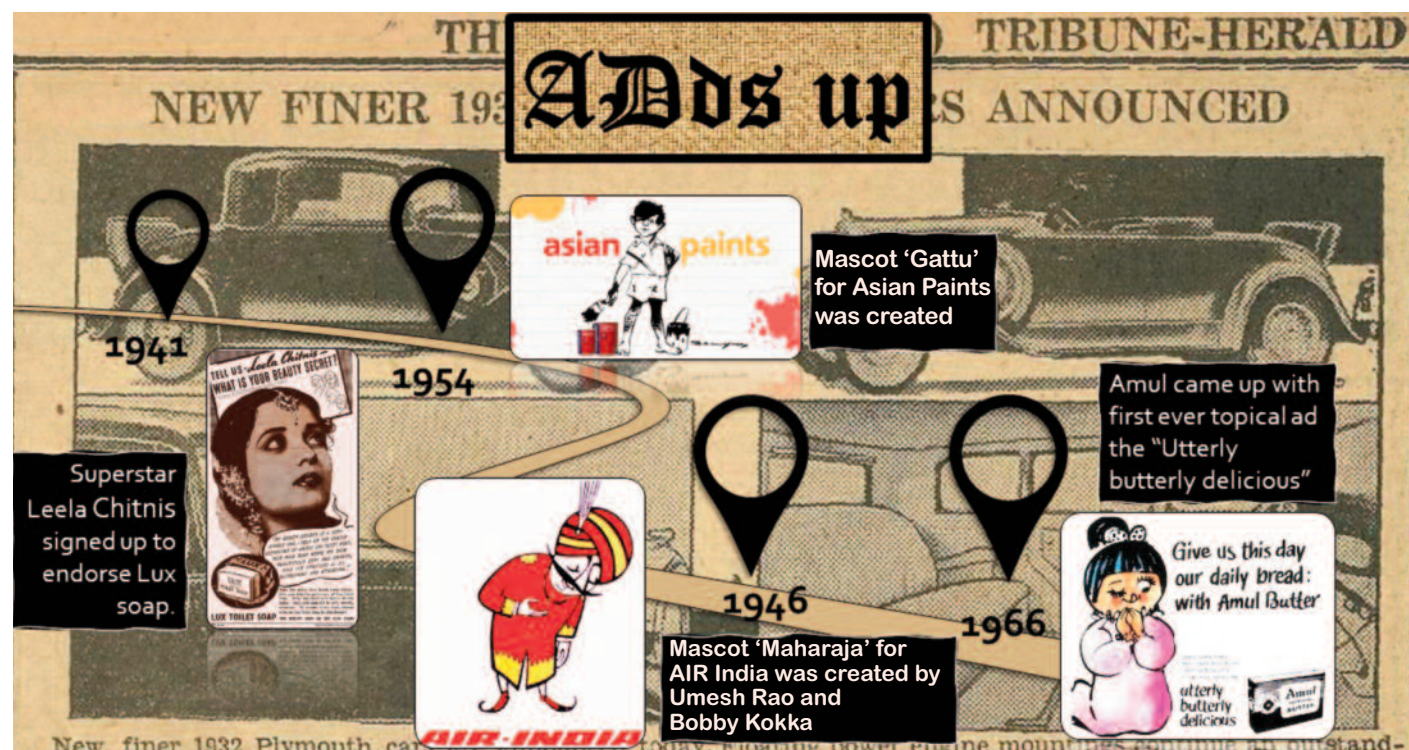
through the 1950s, such as Gattu for Asian Paints. The Maharaja created in 1946 by Bobby Kooka, commercial director, AIR India and Umesh Rao, an artist with J Walter Thompson Ltd, Mumbai,

advertising hit a new milestone as superstar Leela Chitnis signed up to endorse the soap Lux. This was the first time an Indian actor had signed up an endorsement, a job that was earlier restricted to

In that era, creative directors relied more on drawings than photographs, and one couldn't really be sure of the final product. So, a lot of times even best looking models ended up looking like

tertainment. Things changed in 1966, when Amul came up with the first ever topical ad. The 'Utterly butterly delicious' campaign took a topical route, taking up current topics. The first ever ad in

frilly polka dotted dress has poked its nose in various matters and at various celebs; our PM not excluded who the little girl congratulated with 'Acha din-ner aaya hai' in 2014.



Graphic: Ananya Jain, AIS MV, IX A

went on to become longest running Indian mascot for a brand.

Of celebrities

The year was 1941 and Indian

only western celebs. While there were several reasons for Indian stars staying away from advertising, the prime factor could be the lack of superior quality printing,

smashed cupcakes in the final ad.

Of social issues

Indian advertising in its primitive stages was more focused on en-

the series showed Amul girl riding a horse with the caption 'Thoroughbred', tapping the craze of horse racing back then. Since then, the Amul girl with its

Of money

Starting out with print ads, Indian advertising took quite some time before it moved on to the television realm. While there are many noteworthy TV ads, one that changed the game is a commercial by Pepsi. Made for a whopping 44 lakh, the ad was hailed as the most expensive Indian advertisement, for that kind of money was rarely pumped into advertisements back then. The commercial, that arrived during the onset of India's economic liberalisation, starred pop star Remo Fernandes, actor Juhi Chawla and was directed by acclaimed director Vidhu Vinod Chopra. It was also the longest running ad. With the tagline 'Yehi hai right choice, baby aha!', the commercial battled the re-entry of Coca Cola in the Indian market. 🇮🇳