

INSIDE



Khel khel mein, P3



Shores of artistic glory, P7

AMITe poll

Do you think IPL 2020 will be a much needed relief amidst all the negative news in terms of entertainment?

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

To vote, log on to www.theglobaltimes.in

POLL RESULT
for GT issue September 14, 2020

With 558 mammal species said to be extinct by 2100, do you think it's high time we entirely reform environmental laws?



Results as on September 19, 2020

Coming Next
AIS Gur 43 Contest Edition

The everlasting plastic

A Helpful Friend In Disguise Or A Plain Foe, Are We Ever To Know?

Anushka Ramesh, AIS Mayur Vihar, XI F

It is here, it is there, it is but everywhere. Having sustained its hazardous stance since the very beginning, it has arguably managed to be indispensable to humans at the same time. And this time again, when the whole world is still struggling to get through a virulent pandemic, we are here again, talking about an even bigger, established and inevitable pandemic- plastic. However, this time, plastic is not in our radar just as a peril, but as a protector that swung into action as a last resort or maybe not.

The old narrative

Plastic: a cause of pollution

Plastic, completely justifying its name, has been sticking with us through thick and thin whether we want it to or not. From something as minute as a straw to a cup and to bags, plastic finds its use in almost everything we do. Well, the result- according to UN Environment Org, 8 million plastic waste gets dumped into oceans annually, where a total of ten rivers carry nearly 90% of this waste affecting about 700 aquatic species. If this wasn't enough, nearly 300 million tonnes of plastic waste is produced annually. And these staggering numbers increase with each passing day, in fact 1 million single use plastic drinking bottles are purchased every minute. Going by these alarming figures of human beings drowning the planet under plastic waste, a realisation did strike the human minds and the global governments took judicious efforts to curb the crisis by promoting the use of biodegradable alternatives such as bamboo, jute etc in everyday life as well as an emphasis on proper recycling methods came to the front. As awareness increased, around 187 countries signed UN Plastic Waste Protocol in 2019, with an aim to limit plastic pollution. Multitude of promising bans, promotion of shift to biodegradable alternatives lit a ray of hope that gradually the menace that plastic has created can be controlled and once again, our oceans will be crystal blue with no plastic choking the lives of aquatic animals.

The new narrative

Plastic: the only solution

Just when people were getting used to the paper straw, the biggest pandemic struck mankind aka Coronavirus.

Plastic, till now, a major source of pollution became the only solution to maintain hygiene and safety. The spurring demand of single use plastic for making insulin pens, IV tubes, syringes or other personal protection equipment added fuel to the fire of plastic pollution. Don't believe, read this -The world needs 89 million medical masks, 76 million examination gloves and 1.6 million protective goggles for the COVID-19 medical response. Moreover, with the constant hike in take-outs and

grocery shopping, restaurants and stores have resorted to use single use plastic owing to its light weight, durability and strength, for better packaging. So much so, that it is estimated that the global plastic packaging market will grow to USD 1012.6 billion by 2021 as compared to USD 909.2 billion in 2019 to, all thanks to the demand of single use plastic during the pandemic. The plastic lobbyists who had been going down the hill due to the proliferating ban on the use of plastic in many areas can now be seen touting everywhere claiming how their products have been the knight in shining armour during the whole pandemic.

Are we saying that plastic is not a menace, after all? On the bright side, it has aided us substantially in the wake of a pandemic. Well, with a 30% surge in the amount of plastic waste as compared to the year 2019, let's think again.

The future narrative

Plastic: the repercussions?

Well, the world will see a twofold increase in plastic debris by 2030. The use of single use masks and PPE due to COVID-19 crisis will further aggravate this. According to the Thailand Environment Institute, "Thailand, which had banned disposable plastic bags at major stores in January, now expects to see it rise by as much as 30%. Bangkok alone consumed 62% more plastic in April than it did 12 months earlier — most of it being contaminated food packaging that aren't easily recycled." There's more, Bangladesh during the first month of lockdown has produced whopping 16,000 tons of hazardous plastic waste; Singapore has seen a spike of 1,470 tons of plastic waste owing to packaging and food delivery alone. However, the pandemic also called for an unabated spur of plastic consumption for several reasons- for its durability and affordability. Albeit it might be said that plastic assumed the role of a saviour, it still poses a gargantuan challenge that we all can see ourselves grappling with after we've dealt with this pandemic.

Debatably, plastic has rendered our lives ominously expedient. Notwithstanding, this comes at a cost that we are not ready to pay. Perhaps, the need to protect humanity took a toll on environment because we did not have a choice. But then, did we ever leave ourselves with a choice? 🇮🇳



Illustration: Ravinder Gusain, GT Network

An unbiased take...

...Is What Dr Aashish Joshi, Chief Executive, Lok Sabha TV Advocates

Shivalika Singh, AUUP, ASCO
B.A. Mass Communication (Sem III)

Of the people, for the people and by the people- this is what our constitution believes and also what Dr Aashish Joshi, Editor-in-chief cum Chief Executive of Lok Sabha TV, has entrenched in his mind. Having a vast media experience of working with news channels like Aaj Tak, IBN 7, DD News and Zee News, Dr Joshi is known for his creativity and quality of pro-

grammes showcased on channels. During his visit to Amity University, Noida as a speaker on the occasion of International Conference For Emerging Media Paradigms (ICEMP) 2020, GT reporter engaged in an insightful conversation with the eminent journalist. Here are a few excerpts...

Unfiltered and unbiased

The true meaning of journalism is to present everything to the audience as it is. And that's what we at Lok Sabha TV

strive to do. With around ten cameras planted inside the chamber, our channel telecasts every minute details of the discussion uninterrupted. The reason being every citizen has the right to know about the government in its truest form because that is what the constitution entitles them to. This is the only way we can get the public to trust us in a time when there is a wildfire spread of speculations.

Thorough and transparent

The sole purpose of running a parliamentary channel is to help the masses gain insight into the issues concerning the society and how their elected representative is planning to tackle the said issue, what role s/he is playing towards a productive resolution. And as mentioned earlier, this is how we gain the public's confidence, because the public itself is the basis of the government. The aim is not to give them inconsequential gossip, but relevant information.

Impassioned and intuitive

Journalism is sometimes challenging but it also evokes responsibility. I have reported in various parts of the country. Apart from this, I have also worked as a

professor in the same field, which allowed me to have a widened understanding of this domain. Being a permanent member of the press gallery, I have covered assemblies, political debates in different ministries and even in the Prime Minister office. By the end of it, I realised that journalism is my passion and I must do it with complete responsibility.

Perceptive and proactive

In a way, all of us are journalists, and every journalist must be aware and abreast with the social happenings. Knowledge has no substitute and to gain it, one must be well-versed and should have a habit of avid reading. Indulge in a range of activities, absorb your surrounding and get a first-hand experience of how the society actually works. Journalism is a play of perception; it's about experience which sharpens with time. Read a lot, work hard, be alert and unbiased. 🇮🇳



Dr Aashish Joshi with GT Reporter



Dr Aashish Joshi



India This Week

Nandini Medhi, GT Network

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



Post COVID recovery guidelines issued

News: As coronavirus cases continue to surge in the country, the Union Health Ministry has issued a management protocol for follow up care of patients recovering from COVID-19. The ministry has advised recovered patients to incorporate mild exercises such as yogasanas, pranayama and a healthy diet along with seeking social support or counselling in their everyday life. A number of home remedies along with Ayush medicines have also been recommended.

Views: The fear of COVID-19 is being fuelled even though the recovery rate has improved greatly. Keeping this in mind, the guidelines issued by the health ministry couldn't have come at a better time. The protocol given by the government will not only help in post COVID recuperation but in general day-to-day life as well. A well-balanced diet, exercise, meditation with ample rest are the building blocks of a healthy life, and during a pandemic, it becomes even more imperative to integrate the same in our lives.

Vanshita Bhandari, AIS Vasundhara 1, XI A



DRDO to develop Directed Energy Weapons

News: The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) is planning to develop a national level programme on Directed Energy Weapons (DEWS) which will include high-energy lasers and high-powered microwaves engineered to take down enemy drones without making physical contact. DEWS, which are essentially beams of concentrated magnetic energy, will be developed in different variants which will go up to 100-kilowatt power.

Views: DEWS are more than just weapons; they have the potential to end wars even before they begin. Although India as a country has been fostering the notion of non-violence, it is necessary to keep our defences up and not allow the world to disparage our potential and take us for granted. Countries such as USA, Russia, China, Germany etc have already developed this technology and now, it's our turn. Hope to see such a magnificent plan become operational reality in the near future.

Eshita Rai, AIS Gurugram 43, XI A



NEET special trains return empty

News: The Indian Railways deployed several 'exam special' trains catering specifically for NEET aspirants across cities in the country. As many as 15.87 lakh students had registered for the National Eligibility cum Entrance Test (NEET) which took place on Sunday, September 13, 2020 with the same number of students actually appearing for the exam. However, the special trains for them registered a much lower attendance than anticipated earlier. Some of these ran with as low as only 5 passengers.

Views: Special trains for NEET aspirants was an excellent gesture on the part of the Indian Railways. However, due to the current pandemic situation, most of the applicants did not really avail this service. Though, the railways had sanitised the trains properly and medical staff was being deployed at the various concerned railways stations, yet the students preferred to travel by personal transportation as compared to trains. Moreover, these special trains were announced almost a month after the date for the entrance exam was announced and by then, most of the applicants had already made their own arrangements for transportation, leading to such low attendance for these special trains.

Ayana Sahay, AIS Vasundhara 6, XI B

No Question Hour in Parliament

News: The monsoon session of the Parliament began with Zero Hour being cut down to half its duration and Question Hour being scrapped off completely. Instead of the Question Hour session, question and answers in the written form were allowed, a move that has upset the opposition members greatly.

Views: Citing overcrowding as a reason, the government's decision to scrap off the liveliest session 'Question Hour' has come as a shock to many. This parliamentary device has been successfully used by MPs to shed light on the functioning of the ruling government and ask questions. But, it is a necessary move because post lockdown the first session of the parliament saw over 25 MPs and 50 staffers being COVID positive. Although, the Question Hour is imperative to a parliamentary session, safety must also be held equally important.

Ayush Soni, AGS Gurugram, X B



Around The WORLD

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



USA

Hurricane Sally wreaks havoc

Over 500,000 homes have been left without power as Hurricane Sally lashed through the US Gulf coast, causing extreme flooding across the Alabama-Florida coast. Hurricane Sally, classified as a Category 2 storm, weakened after landfall but still managed to cause considerable damage to homes and properties.

TURKEY

Test of indigenous flying car

Cezeri, Turkey's first flying car, successfully completed its first test flight as announced by its manufacturer Baykar. Weighing 230 kgs, Cezeri flew up to 32.8 ft during its test flight in Istanbul. Designed entirely by Turkish experts, the flying car has been named after Ismail al-Jazari, a renowned 12th-century engineer.



JAPAN

New PM appointed

Japan appointed Yoshihide Suga as its new Prime Minister following the resignation of Shinzo Abe, who has cited ill health as his reason for stepping down from the position. The appointment of the new PM marks an end of the Shinzo Abe era who successfully held the position of Japan's PM consistently for 8 years.



INDIA

Indigenous signalling system for Delhi Metro

The Delhi Metro Rail Corporation has launched 'i-ATS', an important sub-system of CBTC (Communications-based train control) based on signalling technology, under the government's 'Make in India' initiative. ATS is a computer-based system to manage high density train operations which will reduce technical dependency of Indian metros on foreign manufacturers and will also be relatively cheaper.



BARBADOS

New Head of State in 2021

In an attempt to move ahead from their colonial past, Barbados has announced intentions to elect a Head of State of Barbadian nationality in 2021. Although the Caribbean island nation achieved independence in 1966, its ties to monarchy remains intact with Queen Elizabeth in place as the official Head of State.



RUSSIA

Remnants of Ice Age era bear found

Preserved remains of a cave bear from the Ice Age era have been discovered in the Russian arctic. The cave bear, found by reindeer herders in the Lyakhovsky Islands, had all its organs in place, with its teeth and nose intact. According to preliminary analysis, the bear is between 22,000 and 39,500 years old and belongs to the prehistoric species which became extinct 15,000 years ago.



Good nutritious diet involves avoiding certain types of food, especially food items with added sugar and excess salt.

A meal to heal

Spreading Love And Joy Through Food And Service

AUUP

Medha Srivastav, AUUP, AIB
B.Tech Biotech (Sem VII)

To integrate the importance of service amongst the youth, Amity Centre of Happiness, in collaboration with HCVO Bhumi Club, organised Sandwich Seva i.e, Meal to Heal, an online event on September 12, 2020 with an aim to make sandwiches during the live event. These sandwiches were then distributed to the underprivileged and marginalised communities and frontline workers facing hardships during the lockdown. Medha Srivastav, Coordinator, HVCO Bhumi Club, began the session by highlighting the importance of 'seva' or service in the society and how the youth should never refrain from helping the marginalised ones around them. She further elucidated upon the subject and accorded doing 'seva' as equal to worshipping God.

The virtual event was graced by Dr Shweta Sethi from Bahrain, Dr Navita Mahajan and Dr Seema Garg, associate Professor, AIBS and Dr Neena Arora, a medical practitioner from Delhi, who encouraged the audience to serve the society by contributing their bit.

The event saw enthusiastic participation from all age groups. Two young participants- 9-year-old Naini Mahajan and 6-year-old Abhiraj Sethi actively made sandwiches along with other participants. Anubhav Verma, one of the participant along with his friends from Lucknow distributed homemade sandwiches to the underprivileged people.



The videos and pictures of distribution of sandwiches were posted on social media platforms using hashtags such as #SEVA_SANDWICH #SEVA_HI_SUKH #WIPE_OUT_HUNGER #FEED_THE_NEEDY_FEED_THE_SOUL,

etc., for further engagement with the public. The online footprint for this unique event was massive and ranged from faculty members, students to alumni and even traversed the Amity universe. [G](#) [U](#)



Trash In Its Right Place

AUUP

To shed light on the neglected issue of waste management, the young minds of Amity Centre of Happiness and HVCO Bhumi Club collaborated together to create an online four-day waste segregation campaign titled Garburator. The event, organised from September 3-6, 2020, aimed to shed light on the problems that arise from mixing all types of waste together, be it organic, dry, wet, medicinal, hazardous, chemical, non-biodegradable, etc. The campaign was headed by Medha Srivastav, a student pursuing BTech Biotechnology.

To spread awareness, the participants were asked to segregate waste and were also apprised of the benefits of doing so. The campaign started with a webinar conducted by Medha Srivastav, Priyal Bhargava and Parisha Garg, students of AUUP, who explained the importance of waste segregation and how waste

management and zero waste are an integral part of the process. Short clips on the topics were showcased and a demonstration of the correct way to segregate waste was also done. The session ended with an interactive quiz. With the use of technology, people from remote parts of India also joined the campaign. Everyone was motivated to share their efforts as photographs and videos were shared using the hashtag #WASTEWARRIORS #DUMPSITER #JAGRUK_BHARAT_SWACCH_BHARAT #PARIVARTAN, etc., to further engage the public. The campaign also witnessed a workshop on 'How to make a spill-proof pot using plastic waste' conducted by Dr Alka Maurya, professor, AIBS. Guest of honour, Suresh Iyer, global management and academic consultant praised the work done by everyone. The campaign truly took Amity one step forward in creating an environment which is greener, for a better tomorrow!

Khel khel mein

Earth May Rotate From West To East But Some Classroom Games Will Never Get Old

Aparajita Lahiri, Alumna & Navya Nayer, XI, AIS Pushp Vihar

Though millennials like to 'invest' their time in gadgets and technology, yet there are certain games that remain constant in every student's life. Nah, I'm not talking of *aao milo shilo shalo*, but something more. Read on to find out:

Stone-paper-scissor

No. of players- Two

Here two kids are battling against each other as if it were the battle of Panipat, trying to cut the other player out of the game. It includes minute analysis of the opponent's game patterns, hoping that their next 'scissor' move aligns with the opponent's 'paper' move.

Odd-even(n)

No. of players- Two or more

This is the game which puts your mental math ability to the real test. Making numbers from hand gestures, quickly adding them in a milli second to create

a grand score and getting the utmost satisfaction when you finally get that person to be 'out'. This is the ultimate finger cricket game.

Tic-tac-toe

No. of players- Two

It is yet another lecture, so, you turn to the last page of your notebook making a 3x3 grid and slyly push it to your partner. The rules are unsaid. You begin the careful placing of 'noughts' and 'crosses' trying to implement the 'double trick' curated from the years of meticulous analysis. Hoping that the opponent doesn't decipher your precious tactic, the game is ultimately drawn for it is just a time pass.

Charades

No. of players- More than two, sometimes the entire class

It is that time when the teacher decides to give a free lecture and the entire class herds up dividing themselves into two groups where the Kauravas and Pandvas fight the battle of Mahab-



harata, acting and guessing names of the movies. From giving outrageous movie titles to finding novel ways to act it out, this game has seen it all.

If there is even a single game that you cannot relate to, then I cannot help but feel sorry for you. But, having said that, it's not too late my folks! Gather

around, leave those gadgets away and rekindle these fun games that will create the best memories for you in your school life. [G](#) [U](#)



W-holesome space

Welcome To The Fascinating World Of Space Holes

Aditya Pathak, XII B &
Tanush Guha, XI J, AIS Gur 46

The boundless, unexplored space has been a subject of investigation for us humans for decades now and even then, we know so little about it. Looking up at the sky and into the universe and the great unknown, the vastness of it all may be overwhelming. It's not just stars, planets, comets and asteroids, but a continuous, infinite, never ending fabric that contains everything we know. A part of this great cosmos are the holes of space, first put forward by Einstein in the Theory of General Relativity, which gives us a new perspective into space. Here, take a look.

Black holes

One of primary predictions of Einstein's Theory of General Relativity was the existence of black holes. Defined as inward flowing, inescapable regions in spacetime, all black holes seem to be concerned with is engulfing matter. The force of gravity in a black hole is so great that not even light can escape, thus, making them invisible aberrations in space. When a star dies in a supernova explosion, a black hole is formed where the event horizon

acts as the outermost boundary of a black hole and is the ultimate 'point of no return'. The event horizon has been named so because if any event occurs within the boundary of the event horizon, no information can reach outside observers, making it impossible to know if any event has actually occurred or not.

What will happen if you fall into a black hole?

Despite inheriting massive forces of gravity from its parent stars and contrary to popular belief and portrayal in day to day life, black holes don't suck in the universe. Rather, only matter in its proximity is ingested. Even then, it's neither vaporised nor eviscerated. Instead, it just elongates matter like a noodle. There's a very real and very apt term for this too- spaghettification.

White holes

White holes are worlds apart from their destructive counterpart. These outward flowing regions of spacetime are the exact reverse of black holes but, they are also hypothetical. Unlike the black hole's event horizon, which acts as a boundary, the white hole's event horizon is more of a wall, guarding it and not allowing anything to enter it. In

2014, Italian physicist and writer Carlo Rovelli suggested that there might be a connection between the black hole and the white hole. According to him, white holes are created when a black hole dies.

What will happen if you fall into a white hole?

White holes are paradoxical i.e. they attract, but at the same time, they are also un-enterable. Hence, matter cannot actually fall into a white hole as it cannot even reach the event horizon of the white hole. Objects inside a white hole can escape but since nothing can enter it, the inside of a white hole is completely cut off from the universe.

Wormholes

Of the trio of the space time deformations, wormholes are the most fascinating and the most popular in science fiction. First theorised in 1916, wormholes are consistent with the Theory of General Relativity given by Einstein, but their existence is yet to be proven. Worm holes have been theorised as the conduit between 2 separate points in spacetime, which enable teleportation between 2 points in space, or even time. Unlike black holes and white holes, which form on their

own, worm holes can be artificially created. The only thing holding us back is the requirement for a type of matter that creates anti-gravity; as wormholes are highly volatile and collapse under immense gravitational loads.

What will happen if you fall into a wormhole?

Wormholes are supposed to be highly unstable. Entry of any foreign object into a wormhole would cause it to collapse completely. To put things in perspective, entering

wormholes can kill you. To add to that, it may be possible that a wormhole can connect two different spacetimes in different time periods of history. It is also possible that wormholes could connect different universes altogether.

The mysteries of infinite space make us wonder what is beyond what we already know and hopefully, with advancing technology and more and more space missions, we will discover more about the entangled cosmos sooner or later.



Extra-ordinarily-terrestrial

An Eye Opening Conversation Between An Alien From Space And A Human On Earth

Yusra Raihan
AGS Gurugram, X

It is a sordid, cold, dusty and smoggy day on Earth. The sky is covered with white and black fumes as a result of waste-burning and factories. The trees seem to be nowhere in sight, only some dead branches and trunks stand bare at a distance from the newsroom in one corner of the world.



The entire world sits transfixed to their television screens; a huge sensation had caught the attention of the breathing-masks clad humans.

Emma: Search for the existence of extraterrestrial species and aliens has taken humankind over 50 years of extensive research. For all those anticipated and anxious minds, make sure you are clutching your seats tightly, because ladies and gentlemen, for the first time in news history; the next few minutes will revolutionise human existence on this planet. With bated breaths and racing hearts, please welcome the ultimate answer to the world's most puzzling enigma.

It was rather an odd, cadaverous figure with bark, slimy and transparent skin; when it rippled it looked like a frosted pane; from its head and limbs, it emanated a bioluminescent glow; its black eyes with a slight blue hue, stood out against the background.

Emma: Hi, can you understand our language? Can you introduce yourself?
Xenolien: Yes, I have been rigorously trained to communicate in English before our operation. My name is Xenolien, I hail from the alien colony, Zoho,

on Mars.

Emma: How does it feel to be a gazillion kilometers away from home, coming to another planet? Are you nervous?

Xenolien: It always feels great to discover new things, ever since we discovered planet Earth and the existence of 'Homo-sapiens', we were always very anxious to interact with them. Yes, there are obvious fears in being away from our planet for a long time; we had to wear nitrogen masks throughout the trip; security is one of our greatest fears and we are trying our best to overcome that. We noticed an engine roaring on the surface of our planet, what do you call it?

Emma: The Mars Rover?

Xenolien: That! Our team noticed that the sun was slightly dimmer, so there had to be something blocking a tiny fraction of sunlight, during its orbit. Further research proved our hypothesis of the existence of another planet right. Your rover on our planet seemed curious. We did an extensive research, sent our UFOs and found about existence of Earth and humans.

Emma: Recently, you met Greta Thunberg in a talk show; how was the rapport between the two of you?

Xenolien: Well, I had heard a lot about her and everyone in Zoho admires her. We mostly spoke about environmental issues faced by planet Earth.

Emma: So, do you think with the proliferation in nuclear arsenals, climate

change, mass extinction, pollution and deforestation— is humankind gradually going through an apocalyptic environmental crisis?

Xenolien: Human beings are running out of time to address climate change. Being the most intelligent species of all, they are still extinguishing their green life, blue life with plastic and ozone with harmful fumes.

Emma: You mean – plants, water bodies and environment. We agree with you. Do you think your clan would collaborate with us to save Earth?

Xenolien: Certainly, but only if you promise to take your eyes off Mars. I believe it's rather ironic, that humans are thoughtlessly destroying their planet and failing to take care of it, yet they are on a futile mission to colonise our Mars.

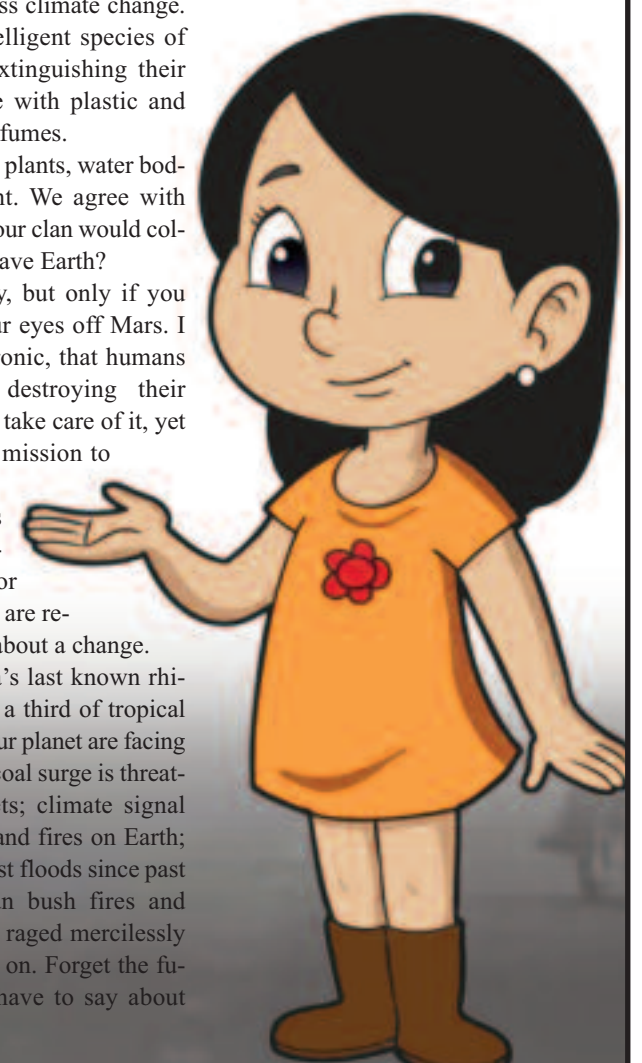
Emma: Some of us are working to prevent a bad future for humans. Some of us are really trying to bring about a change.

Xenolien: Malaysia's last known rhinoceros died today; a third of tropical African plants on your planet are facing extinction; China's coal surge is threatening climate targets; climate signal links global floods and fires on Earth; Venice has seen worst floods since past 50 years, Australian bush fires and Amazon forest fires raged mercilessly and I can go on and on. Forget the future, what do you have to say about

your present?

Emma: You have been reading too much on BBC Environment.

Xenolien: You have been reading too much Elon Musk lately! (Silence)





Water is an important component of nutrition. Adequate hydration means drinking 8-10 glasses of water every day.

An old friend

Let's Hear It Straight From The Great Thesaurus' (Meaning Dictionary) Mouth

Sanskriti Dev

AIS Gurugram 43, XII B

Heya! I have been wondering, well that is what I really do all day, and came to the conclusion that I have been cold lately, as in, unfriendly, bitter, inhospitable, frigid... I think you get the gist. I am a Thesaurus, and this is me being aloof from the world. Wait, are you also wondering what's going on with me lately? Well it's about Grace, a fifteen-year-old damsel (meaning girl) who also happens to be my inconsiderate owner. Right now she is hastily searching for substitutes for hefty terms like lugubrious, scuffle, severe, radical, disown, dispose, et cetera. I think I can postulate it. She has been furiously typing away on her phone, as if it is some kind of text-war. Pretty vexed (meaning angry), I can tell from her facial expression. It's quite an exuberant (meaning happy) feeling to see her like this. I know you must be looking at me with those knitted eyebrows and baffled eyes. What is so happy about it? If I tell you that she abandoned me a year ago, will it be vindicative (meaning justified) enough? Will it be coherent (logical) enough? Hold on, Grace is coming.

Few hours later...

Sniff, sniff. No, I am not actually crying, it's just an expression of how dejected my pages feel. Oh, how rich in vocabulary yet deprived of attention! Just a jiffy ago, Grace dumped me in her cupboard again. *Cough* Why doesn't she clean this space? At least she could be this solicitous (meaning gra-



acious) to me. Anyway, I knew this was going to happen someday, just didn't pre-empt (meaning expect) it too happen so soon. There was hope that Grace would finally realise my worth over that pretentious, all-assuming Google. Look at me now- I am tattered and threadbare now. Oh, threadbare meaning worn out, in case you didn't know! Shh...here she comes again...

The next day...

Hello again! I am currently at Sophie's place. Sophie is Grace's best friend. I often overhear her talking about Sophie. She is a very scholarly and zealous girl. And I can see that too. Sophie always employs (meaning uses) me when she needs help. She rarely ever refers to her phone. She borrowed me from Grace for a week. The former had lost her

dictionary in the library the other day, and she desperately needed one. Grace didn't hesitate in lending her dictionary, because why not! When was I ever useful to her? Honestly, I could be with Sophie for the totality (meaning whole) of my life. Such a well-managed, prudent and devout young lady she is!

Oh no, why is Grace here again? It's not even a week yet.

After three days...

I'm back home. Let me fill you in on what happened. Grace approached Sophie and asked her to return her dictionary (me, of course). When she asked why, Grace said that her phone was under repair and she needed me for some work. Grace is now looking at me with euphoric eyes. I am very observant, that is why I noticed, that she held her phone in her hand. But she was still referring to me. I was befuddled (meaning confused) at first, but now I know. It's weird that my observant eyes couldn't notice the change that had taken place in her - she looked sleep-deprived, had spectacles on, and even that health certificate on her table, what is that for?

Ha! Her parents decided to finally confiscate (meaning seize) her phone away for a while. Well, well, the tables have turned! But, really, I'm glad she's begun to use me regularly. Grace has also started reading encyclopedias (instead of Wikipedia), novels and comics (instead of eBooks and eComics). This is prodigious (meaning great). Grace has changed, for good this time...or at least till her exams are over! 🇮🇳



The true warriors

Teacher Or Rather- A North Star



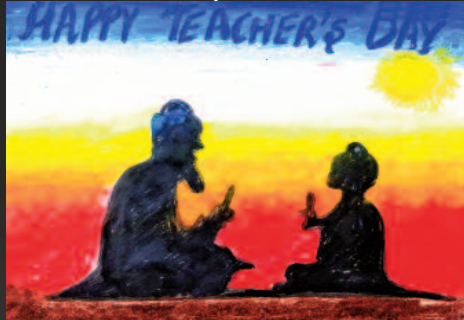
Shreya Saxena

AIS Noida, XII N

Teachers hold the reins of influence in our lives; they are the true warriors. They have the real power- the power to shape minds that leads to the construction of a sensible society. The way a teacher imparts knowledge is entrenched in our minds till eternity. Unquestionably, it is a teacher who has the key to the future. Just like Ironman, who mentored and guided another superhero like Spiderman in the making, an educator has the ability to kindle pas-

sion and true ambition in a student. For them every indestructible challenge is doable, if they are appreciated or not, the times are tough or not, in all of adversity they take up the problem with a smile. In simple terms, they take all the pains to keep us protected. In their own little ways, as much as possible, through every low, every drop, every failure, they continue to believe in us, regardless of anything. So this Teacher's day, let us pay gratitude to our wonderful teachers and celebrate them as the humans who make school a second home.

Illustration: Pradnya Arora, AIS Noida, I F



Anvay Arora, AIS Vasundhara 1, X C

A disciple - a book to design
A student - a puzzle to define
Mentors - nourish our fresh minds
Teachers - reason we turn out fine

A teacher is another great artist
And every student a work of art
As extraordinary compositions
From class, we finally depart

Every class is a charted puzzle
With characters on each side
Some bookish, some artistic

Tarini Seth, AIS Saket, III D

I used to get up at 6 am everyday
To go to school; study and play
To reach on time and never delay
And greet everyone on my way

I used to wish schools didn't exist
Little did I know, Lord would assist
And shut schools, leaving me in a fix
And the world in a major conflict

Now, I get up by 8 am at my own pace
Dearly missing the pretty face

Who is a teacher?

But all swimming in time's tide

To see the child's true potential
A mentor sees into his mind
Teacher, your heart is a camera
Photographing what's left behind

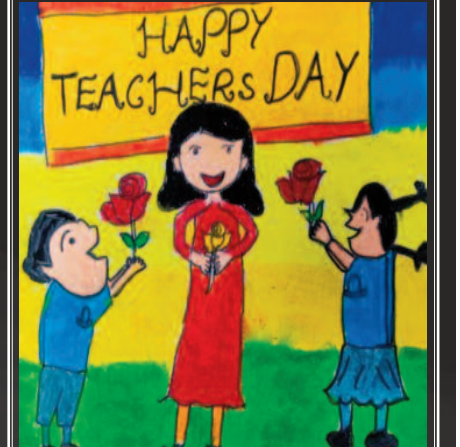
Your heart has a golden core
A direction to a versatile door
You teach me love and respect
And perseverance to know more

You form new ideas in one look
Teaching me more than the book
To my learnings, you are loyal
You are no less than a royal

You make all the ends meet
You nurture without strife
You make myself concrete
You are the apple of my eye!

Poems

Illustration: Shaurya Kansal, AIS Noida, I F



Our guide, our star

Avyaan Talwar, AIS Gur 46, IV F

Teacher, you're caring and kind
You know what's in our minds

The cheerleader for our success
Showing us the way to progress

You make us want to learn more
Thank you for helping us soar

Shaping minds with your affection
You truly are our inspiration

You motivate us at every step
And make our sorrows ebb

We excel in whatever we do
And it is all because of you

Thanks, teacher, for your love
You make us reach the stars above!



Physical and recreational activities reduce stress and anxiety and help keep our body alert and healthy.



Engineering way of life



Dr. Amita Chauhan
Chairperson

Recently our nation celebrated Vishwakarma Pooja and Engineer's Day - one dedicated to the divine architect who empowered divinity itself, the other celebrated a visionary innovator who transformed the nation with

engineering innovations. Bharat Ratna awardee Shri M Visveshwaraiah was a pioneer of re-designing the resources to maximise the benefits for the common man, and let me add that he graduated in arts and went on to become an engineer. Our engineers make our life easy by their design thinking and inner quest to innovate. Look around yourself and not even a single thing will you find which doesn't have an engineering brain behind it. Be it the simple safety pin or the electric SUV cars, the world and life moves around great engineering ideas and minds.

When pandemic hit, India produced only 1000-1500 PPE kits in a day, but our engineers brought up the production to 30000 kits in a day and in 6 months India became an exporter of PPE kits. I urge all my Amitians who dream of becoming an engineer one day to keep their visions far and wide, beyond just coding or making bridges. Take inspiration from the world around you; explore an engineering marvel for the betterment of society and nation. To all my young engineers of tomorrow, let's pledge to stand true to the virtue of being an engineer by heart, mind and soul and engineer the new happy world. 🇮🇳

The plastic pandemic



Vira Sharma
Managing Editor

Youth Power just got over and you all would remember the teams of AIS Gurugram 43 and AIS Mayur Vihar who advocated banning the use of plastic and waste management respectively.

While I support their cause, the recent situation has also shown me the other side of the coin, wherein the same plastic (Read top story) we curse as a monster turned out to be the real saviour. PPE kits are nothing but all plastic, even the sanitizer comes in plastic bottles. Durable, strong, flexible, plastic- the colossal monster, comes with these strengths which we cannot ignore. But being indestructible also means that it is a havoc on earth. In fact, as I write this, my heart skips a beat to think of the plastic pandemic the world will be staring at in coming years. Disposing off such huge amounts of plastic durables is going to be a real journey uphill. The question arises - what should we do? Stop making PPE? No, not a solution. Scientists need to, and, in fact, they have made man-made biodegradable plastic in labs that are eco-friendly. They are sustainable for environment, but are expensive, so we need to bring down their costs. As we learn to live with pandemic, we now also need to create plastic which can protect us from pandemic and sustain with us as a friend in need and in deed. 🇮🇳

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 17 ■ 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 September 21- 27, 2020

Know your Banyan tree

The Lesser Known & Interesting Things About The Tree Of Life

Jyoti Malik, AIMC Manesar
PGT (English)

Visit a Hindu temple and look around, there you'll find one Banyan tree for sure. Known as Vat or Bargad and one of the most venerated trees in India, Banyan tree is often considered as a symbol of life and sacred knowledge. It is one such species of the plant kingdom that endures centuries of seasons,



only to stand tall and strong but never to perish. Here are some reasons for us to delve more into why the tree is significant, so much so that it is the national tree of India.

Rooted to the past

One of the most revered trees in the country, the Banyan tree is considered immortal and imperishable. It has been gifted with the ability to persevere even the worst of adversi-

ties. It can survive and grow for centuries. It is believed that in 326 BCE, Alexander the Great along with his army was the first European to encounter Banyan tree during his visit to India. When British invaded India, the Banyan tree transformed into a dark corner as hundreds of rebels were executed by the colonisers and were hung on the branches of these trees. The many tales associated with this tree impels us to stay connected with our heritage and cultural past.

Rooted to science

Science and culture go hand in hand when it comes to the facts related to this unique tree. Known as Ficus benghalensis in the world of science, this tree is native to the Indian sub-continent. It is called an ecological linchpin as it produces variety of crops of figs to sustain different species of birds, bats, primates, etc, which in turn disperse the seeds of hundreds of other plant species. It never allows even a single blade of grass to take birth under it. The reason- its dense foliage that doesn't

allow any ray of sunlight to permeate through it. It is also referred to as 'walking tree' because it moves one step forward with every new trunk that protrudes from it.

Rooted to divinity

According to Hindu mythology, the tree symbolises the holy trinity of Lord Vishnu, who is believed to be the bark, Lord Brahma - the roots, and Lord Shiva - the branches. It is a symbol of fertility in Agni Purana. The Banyan tree situated in Kurukshetra is considered the place where Lord Krishna narrated the Bhagavad Gita around 5000 years ago. What adds to the sanctity of the tree is that Lord Buddha is believed to have attained enlightenment under a Banyan tree. With so many mythological tales associated with it, the tree is also believed to fulfill wishes and provide material gains to those who worship it.

More than providing oxygen, trees like Banyan stand for strength, wisdom and perseverance. 🇮🇳

The world of inequality

How Far And Long Will It Guide Our Actions?

Jigisha Pawa, AGS Gurugram, XI

When you Google 'inequality', the first definition that pops up is 'difference in size, degree, circumstances, etc.; lack of equality'. Upon delving deeper, I found another definition by the Cambridge dictionary - 'the unfair situation in society when some people have more opportunities, etc. than other people'. I searched through a few more websites, listening to a few more people who seemed to know what inequality truly was in a palpable sense, yet the term still remained hazy, like a foggy cloud sheathing a clear, bright sky which is full of stars.

There's social inequality, racial inequality, economic inequality, gender inequality, a mathematical inequality, or an inequality as simple as when a child gets two more cookies than another - just to give a few examples. The constant that exists throughout every inequality though is that an imbalance will always occur. A disparity wherein one benefits and the other bears a loss. Like a balance scale, heavy on a particular side while the other side remains weightless and suspended in thin air. On May 25, 2020, a 46-year-old black man was brutally suffocated to his death for allegedly using a counterfeit bill. In 2016, Senator Tim Scott talked about how he had been repeatedly pulled over by police officers who seemed to be suspicious of a black man driving a nice car. It is terrifying to hear that each and



every member of the black community has at least one such story to share. It is disheartening to know that only 6 countries provide women with equal legal work rights as men.

Women in rural parts of Africa spend 40 billion hours a year collecting water and it will take us almost 108 years to close the gender gap. The five richest men in the world have a combined income of 573 billion USD, which is enough to cure the global food crisis, build 3 million wells which can provide water to 800 million people around the globe, educate 65 million children around the world, end homelessness in the US, provide lifesaving aid to 92.8 million people and still have

more than 80% of their wealth remaining untouched.

Inequalities are inevitable; maintaining a completely proportionate ecosystem can be labeled a godly task, implausible for humans to achieve, so how do we play our part? How do we try to close the gap? How do we narrow the bridge between these inequalities? The answer to these questions, too, remains unascertained and variable like the concept of inequality itself, but the core value still remains the same - advocacy. To act and speak on behalf of individuals, objects and places whose voices themselves are unheard, to recognise your privilege and use it to amplify others, to identify your role as an active



Dear Editor,

This is in reference to the article 'Newton, who?' on page 12, published in the September 14, 2020 edition. While we all enjoy the occasional Tollywood movie, it goes without saying that these movies do not adhere to the basic rules of science. The article covered this casual lack of regard for science quite humorously. Tollywood films often include absurd action sequences that can even make Newton turn in his grave but, it's also true that such deviations from reality are enjoyed thoroughly by us. Maybe in a world so bent on being serious and proper all the time, these films, with their hilarious car chases and gun fights, are a breath of fresh air.

Aanya Narula

AIS Vasundhara 1, IX A



Issue: Page 12, September 14, 2020

citizen of the society, to be aware and make others aware so that the benefiting entities are discerned of their advantage and the ones at a loss are uplifted and given the resources to narrow that bridge. And only then will the equilibrium in society be restored once again and only then will the balance scale finally equalise. 🇮🇳



Shores of artistic glory

Welcome To Mahabalipuram, The Land Of Timeless Architectural Excellence!

India is a land abounding with wonderful UNESCO heritage sites to feast one's eyes on. Some of them being natural wonders to some being exquisite architectural marvels to many being a reflection of magnificent history and some even a sanctuary for biodiversity to flourish. Here's presenting Part V of the Heritage Series, giving an insight into Mahabalipuram, which was declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1984.

Ananya Kshirsagar, AIS Gur 46, X B

Carved along the shores of Coromandel Coast lie a place with an abounding history unknown to many, an abode of historic structures displaying the majesty of ancient architecture. The state of Tamil Nadu stands out for its magnificent temples and monuments and one such epitome of grandeur is a cluster of sanctuaries at Mahabalipuram, a city founded by the Pallava king Narasimhavarman I in 7th century AD. In the year 1984, this group of monuments was added to the list of World Heritage Sites by UNESCO, gaining worldwide prominence for its glorious rathas, mandapas, giant open-air reliefs and thousands of sculptures to the glory of Shiva. Read on to know more about the Dravidian architecture whose significance reverberates through our culture even today.

Charioting back into history- The Rathas
Chiseled in the form of chariots, the rathas are also known as 'pancha rathas' which translates as five chariots. The five rathas, namely Dharmaraja Ratha, Bhima Ratha, Arjuna Ratha, Nakula Sahadeva Ratha, and Draupadi Ratha, named after the Pandavas of the Mahabharata, act as a bridge between the earlier culture of rock-carved structures and the latter tradition of independent stone structures. The rathas, often erroneously referred to as temples as they had never been consecrated, have been carved out of a single pink granite rock, making them monolithic structures. A surprising fact about the rathas is that the designs and detailing of the edifices remain the same as they were a 1000 years ago. However, in actuality, none of these temples have any connection to the Pandavas, as their symbolism and categorisa-

tion have led them to look like. These were designed and built as a dedication to deities in the Hindu mythology.

The caves full of mystery- The Mandapas
The mandapas of the Mahabalipuram group of monuments are said to be the ones that have stood the test of time. These magnificent structures resemble Buddhist rock cut shrines and consist of verandahs or 'mandapas' as they were called in that particular period. The intricacies of each mandapa, which depict incidents tracing back to the 7th and 8th centuries, are a sight to behold. The carvings on the Varaha Mandapa depict the tale of the reincarnation of Lord Vishnu in the form of a boar. Likewise, the Mahishamardini Mandapa, Trimurti Mandapa and Krishna Mandapa, are all testimonies to the different episodes of Hindu mythology that historians and archeologists from all over the world have come to discover.

**When science goes jittery
Krishna's Butter Ball**

Gravitational pull means nothing to this huge boulder that sits balanced and still on a steep hill in Mahabalipuram. The story of this immovable rock, standing 20 feet

high and 5 meters wide on a less than 4 feet base, is enigmatic and oblivious to researchers. Known as Krishna's Butter Ball, this is the only site in the group of monuments at Mahabalipuram that does not bear any sign of sculpting or carvings on it. While scientists claim this to be a natural occurrence, myth has it that this giant rock was placed in its current position by Gods who wanted to prove their power. According to hearsays and popular myths, the Pallava king Narasimha ordered the sculptors of his kingdom to never touch this 'heavenly rock' also known as 'Vaan Irai Kal' which translates into 'Stone of the Sky God'.

Tales of victory- The Shore Temple
The artistic flair showcased through the carvings of the Shore temple is sure to bewilder you. The lack of machines and technology was no bar for these skilled artisans as they went on to chisel out beautiful sculptures, each one bearing significance. Legend has it that the Shore temple is one part of seven pagodas submerged under the sea after being ravaged by a flood in 10000-13000 BC. Mystery remained that apart from the Shore temple, there were six other temples that were part of the temple complex and all were submerged

under the sea in the great flood. But it didn't sound credible to many researchers for the longest of times. Then came the deadly Tsunami in the year 2004 and along with it came a revelation. The flood caused the erosion of many layers of the sand and hence some ancient sculptures were uncovered. This was what led the researchers and historians from around the world to believe that the myth might hold true.

An ensemble of divinity- Arjuna's Penance
A visit to Mahabalipuram is incomplete without seeing the largest relief sculpture in the world. The beautifully detailed carvings on this rock, which ranges from a hundred figures of Gods to saints to renditions of animals, have managed to astound many historians. Needless to say, the structure has invited many interpretations from different schools of thoughts. One such popular understanding is that Arjuna, one of the mighty Pandavas, underwent strict rituals or penance, in order to attain a weapon possessed by Lord Shiva, thus the subsequent name. The relief also showcases widespread tales from the Pan-chatantra. Whatsoever the different explanations might be, this unique sculpture is remarkable for its intricate engravings and mythological significance.

These architectural marvels are just one of the many reasons why one should visit Southern India. Mahabalipuram truly captures the quintessence of a country filled to the brim with culture and a rich history, justly earning the title of 'Incredible India'!



The beautifully detailed carvings on this rock, which ranges from a hundred figures of Gods to saints to renditions of animals, have managed to astound many historians.





A blind faith



Storywala

Ananta Taneja, AIS Vasundhara 1, XI

Something's wrong. I'm not supposed to see them. Oh God, no! My name is Martha Jenkins. I was born blind. My parents always worry that someday I'm going to trip on my school bag and kill myself. Rest assured, I'm used to this darkness but four years ago, I discovered something that should actually be the cause of worry for them - one random fine day, I suddenly 'saw' Gramma; I did not just sense her, but actually saw her with my own eyes. You'd say, "Congratulations! That's a miracle!" But what's actually weird here is that she wasn't even there. She lived in another state, so how could I see her then?

The whole day I saw her; her cold, wrinkled face smiling down on me, giving me consolations that I didn't need. I shook it all off as hallucinations. But the shock came at midnight when my aunt called. Gramma had passed away that morning. I was legit scared. It was as if the ground slipped from under my feet. But that is not something that worries me now. As I woke up today, on Gramma's death anniversary, my sister Jenna came into my room to run some errands. I knew that not because I sensed or heard her, but because I saw her. As I looked at Jenna closely, I could see she was very beautiful. I was not sure how to react, but a singsong voice at the back of my head was telling me, "Spend the day with her, you never

As I woke up today, on Gramma's death anniversary, my sister Jenna came into my room to run some errands.

know." But I ignored it and acted normally. At least I tried to.

After bathing and getting dressed, I went downstairs. I could not see anyone else. Not that I expected to! I went in the kitchen. Breakfast had been laid down for me, but no one else was there. My sister, whom I could still see, came in and told me we had a visitor. He had come before I woke up. Mom and dad were in the living room with him, which had been converted into a temporary memorial for Gramma. I ate my breakfast quickly and went to the living room. My parents were there with the visitors, talking quietly. I cannot see them, I thought. Thank God.

As soon as my mom saw me standing there, she introduced me to the visitor. He apparently knew my Gramma from 'Chinese Mahjong' club. She was a remarkable person, my Gramma. We all sat down and had some tea. The other guests had started to come in too. I talked to a few of them and then sat back down. Bored by the typical awkward small talk, I decided to go outside. The sight I saw when I came back 15 minutes later knocked the breath out of me.

First Jenna, now mom and dad too. Something is wrong. I am NOT supposed to see them. Oh God, no. I could see everyone in the house except the visitor. [G U](#)

WORDS VERSE

She is a girl

Jai Anshul Monga
AGS Noida, XII

She is just a girl
Lost and alone in her world
Developing into a woman
She has to go through troubles
Her restrictions and constraints
Bar her from her many gains

She musters up the courage
To face challenges every day
Her family doesn't support
Her being happy and gay
But she stands up for herself
To be as diverse as a bookshelf

It's been quite a few years
She has learnt to hide her tears

Illustration: Janya Gupta, AIS Noida, XI G



Matured and smart enough
She has found a partner
And decided to tie a knot
Hoping for better future without stop

Time just took a huge flight
The young woman is now mother
She has a young daughter
Who is as smart and bright
"Live your dream," she taught her

"Or you'll be up for slaughter"

In coming years, she cared and nurtured
And ardently believed in equality
The proud mother adopted
A son and passed on this quality
Learning to speak and to listen
It's time for everyone to glisten

Now, it has been long
She is ultimately on her death bed
And done proud to the children she fed
And knows it isn't over her head
They all have grown up to be smart
Ahead they look with a happy heart

Passing the teaching to generations
Times are better in celebration
For the women have finally
Been provided resources and rights
And no longer will men and women
Have any gender associated fights. [G U](#)



Pen holder

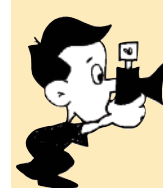
Manya Goel, AIS Saket, VIII A

Material required

- Origami square sheets (20cm x 20cm) - 2
- Hardpaper - 1
- Pencil
- Ruler
- Glue
- Scissors
- Quilling strips

Method

- Take an origami square sheet and fold it into two halves horizontally. Press the fold to form a crease in the centre.
- Open the fold and repeat the same vertically.
- Now, open the fold again and you'll get 4 equal creased squares on your sheet.
- Fold the top right square diagonally to form a triangle. Repeat the same from the square on left.
- You'll now get a big triangle and a huge rectangle on your origami sheet.
- Overlap this triangle on the rectangular part following the crease formed in the first step.
- Now, with the vertical crease formed in the second step, fold this shape into half.
- Repeat the same with another origami square sheet. You will get two square pockets.
- Now, insert the open ends of one pocket into the flaps of the other to join them together. This would include joining the bases of the both the triangular flaps together.
- Insert your thumbs in this structure and open it in such a way that the opposite edges meet.
- Press this new form and open to get a cuboid.
- Now, take a hardpaper and cut out a 7cm x 7cm square from it
- Draw lines on it about 1 cm above from all the sides.
- Cut out the common/overlapping portion on all the four corners of the paper.
- Now, fold and open the paper along the pencil lines drawn earlier in order to get a walled base.
- Insert it into the 3D box and stick it with glue. This will act as the base of your pen holder.
- Decorate the pen holder with petals/flowers made from quilling strips. You can decorate it however you like.
- Your origami pen holder is ready!



CAMERA CAPERS

Dhruv Arora, AIS Noida, XII

Send in your entries to
cameracapert@theglobaltimes.in



It takes two to tango



Surprised to see me, eh?



Cock-A-Doodle-Do



Fruits and vegetables contain magnesium, zinc, phosphorous, folic acid, vitamins A, C, E etc., that are good for health.

The sun's fury



Wisdom Tale

Saransh Joshi

AIS Vasundhara 6, VIII

The Sun was breathing fire across the world as it moved angrily over the plains, into the hills, burning up the forests and barrens alike. "What did the humans do this time to annoy the God of Sun?" asked Zeus. "Neglecting their fellow species or maybe polluting their environment," responded Persephone as the other Gods tried to fathom what transpired and stimulated such an extreme reaction. Likewise, on earth, every individual had their own notion of what could have driven Helios to anger, but one thing that was

amply limpid to both men and Gods alike was that it was the brainchild of those inconsiderate, selfish humans.

As the days passed, his wrath intensified. People started feeling sick; dehydration, nausea and disease engulfed all but Helios didn't stop. Humans wished and prayed for things to get back to normal. From *havans* to sacrificial ceremonies, they left no stones unturned to appease him. They even prayed to the other Gods, especially Zeus, the omnipotent God of rain. But no one, not even Zeus dared to oppose the fury of Sun, the towering temper of Helios. "Where did we go wrong? Mercy! Mercy! Oh, son of Andromeda!

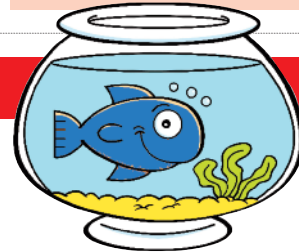
Please forgive us," chanted humans everywhere from the very core of their being.

Looking at how the earthlings suffered, a group of Gods finally gathered some courage and decided to confront Helios. As he sat in his abode, with his fury raging more than ever, the Gods sneaked in. "Oh, son of Perseus! Why are thou so angry? At least let them mere mortals know," asked one. "Please Helios, this is now going too far. Open your eyes and see," added another. Disturbed by this commotion, Helios stopped and gathered a moment to respond. "Too far? What would you all do if they forget to worship you someday? I await my festival of

Humans wished and prayed for things to get back to normal. From *havans* to sacrificial ceremonies, they left no stones unturned to appease him.

Gods' ceremonial offerings to this day. They dishonoured me and now they shall all suffer," roared Helios, blinded with rage, but loud enough for all the mortals on earth to hear and comprehend. Too late, but as humans realised what had happened, they hastened to rectify their mistake. They offered many sacrifices and prayed to him for a long, long time but to no use. He continued storming across the Earth, slowly turning it into a wasteland, until one day when he could feel the exhaustion getting to him. As he grasped a moment to rest, he could finally hear the shrieks and cries of the millions of mortals awaiting his forgiveness. In that very moment, he came to a halt. He realised what he had done and as he looked back at the charred and burned Earth, he experienced a sharp pang of guilt. As he decided to accept their apology, he also felt the need to request for one. And from that day onwards, as humans never forget to worship the Sun God, Helios too, remembers to cherish them, no matter what. **GT**

So, what did you learn today?
Anger and pride destroys everything.



The blue fish

Saket Garg, AIS Gur 43, IV

Oh my dearest fish
You are my wish fulfilled
I got you on my birthday
Which was, for me, a great day

My sister named you Cutie
Because you are truly a beauty
At times you are a bit impish
For you are my nymph-fish

And with that sky blue skin
You are also my favourite kin
Oh my dearest dearest fish
You are my wish fulfilled. **GT**

Banana oats pancake



Shresth Sharma, AIS Mayur Vihar, III B

Ingredients

Ripe banana	1
Oats powder	1 cup
Cinnamon powder.....	1 tsp
Milk.....	1 cup
Sugar.....	1 tsp
Honey.....	for dressing
Butter.....	as required

Procedure



- In a blender, add ripe banana, oats powder, cinnamon powder, milk and sugar. Blend the items well until a smooth consistency is achieved.
- Heat a pan on low flame and spread the butter.
- Slowly pour one ladle full of batter over the pan.
- Cook for 2 to 3 minutes on medium flame till you see bubbles forming on the surface.
- When the base turns golden brown flip the pancake and let the other side cook for another 2-3 minutes.
- Once, the other side also becomes golden and crisp, remove the pancake from the pan.
- Coat the pancake with a dash of honey. You can also use chocolate syrup to do the same.
- Your delicious banana oats pancake is ready!



A couple of couplets

Kabir Singh Negi
AGS Gurugram, II

A four-line poem is called a quatrain.
A three-line poem is called a tercet.
Guess what is a two line poem called?
It's a couplet. So, here in this segment,
we bring to you a list of fun couplets:

Do not hit,
Look at the pit!



Give me mustard,
Take back custard.

Dingry-Dangry-Do
Who are you?



Can I borrow your ball?
Oh, you are very tall!

I am from Amity Global School,
I love swimming in a pool.

Let's check the garbage dump,
We might find our pump.

I am mighty,
My room is tidy.



I am asking you,
What should I do?

I will shut the door,
If you ask for more.

I am drinking milk,
Whose colour is pink.

Guess what?
It is a nut!



There is so much noise,
Can I play with your toys?

Can you try to guess?
Yes, Kabir is the best!

POEMS

My mother

Avishi Agarwal
AIS VKC Lko, VII

Mother! Oh my mother
You love me like no other
You always give me good advice
You're an epitome of sacrifice

The beautiful bond between us
Is just strong and unbreakable
Because you have warmth for me
And without it, my world is bleak

You laugh when you see me laugh
You cry when you see me cry
You live for my dreams to come true
So there's no hardship I go through

Though you're strict many times

And impose on me some of your rules
Which creates a conflict in our vicinity
But I love thee to square of infinity. **GT**



PAINTING CORNER

Yaashvi Shrivastava
AIS Vasundhara 1, IV



It's Me

MY FAVOURITES

Teacher: Manpreet ma'am
Subject: Computer and Math
Friend: Abeer
Game: Lego
Cartoon: Sponge Bob Square
Pants
Food: Rajma chawal
Book: Kung Fu Panda: The
Dragon Warrior

KNOW ME

My name: Arjun Arora
My Class: I B
My school: AIS Gurugram 46
I was born on: September 30
My hobby: Drawing
I like: Making machines and doing experiments
I dislike: Writing and cricket

MY DREAMS AND GOALS

My role model: Lionel Messi
I want to become: An engineer
I want to feature in GT because: I want to introduce myself to fellow Amitians.



One of the most common nutrient deficiencies in the world is iron deficiency, affecting more than 25% of people worldwide.



Our unsung heroes

Here's To The Undeterred Spirit Of Our Teachers In Crucial Times Like Pandemic



Aarushi Mahajan & Suhani Sirohi
AIS Noida, XI I

We never clapped from our balconies for them. We never lit candles as a sign of gratitude

for them. While we sat at home feeling sorry for ourselves over not being able to see our friends every day, we never even took a moment to thank the unsung heroes, our school teachers, who have stood like a rock next to us. The COVID-19 pandemic has heavily im-

pacted institutionalised teaching. It has forced schools to move to online platforms to carry out their typical school day.

But such adverse situations have not deterred the passion of our teachers even a bit but instead, have motivated them to uncover all that online teaching has to offer.

Every single morning, our teachers prepare for their lessons of the day even though they have their own houses to worry about and their own children to look after. They make sure to wish us a good morning and start the day with a positive and uplifting thought. They ask us to fold our hands in prayer, just the same way we would do if we were in school, and always end the class with a positive note.

The pandemic has posed a massive challenge to the teachers - to ease their students' minds from afar while also keeping them on track academically. And a task of such magnitude has been handled with the utmost care and efficiency by our teachers. With the onset of the pandemic, teachers were given very little time to shift to an entirely different mode of learning with no prior training. In many cases, they had very limited time to reinvent lessons for the existing curriculum, learn the ways of the ever-evolving technology, find creative

solutions to student learning, and figure out how to keep students engaged during a lesson virtually.

This sudden shift to e-learning may not be that abrupt for us students as we are accustomed to the ways of the virtual world but for the teachers, it is a different universe. Yet, they go out of their way to make sure that their students participate in an online class as they would in a regular class. Teachers are tailoring lesson plans for at-home learning, reaching out to students regularly over the phone and web, and exploring new technologies that don't just check boxes, they engage young learners in innovative, creative, and effective ways. Although the comfort of the classroom is being missed, the shenanigans, the banter, the pranks, the debates and the laughs, our online classes have brought us closer to each other in a way we never thought possible. Showing up every day on a virtual platform with our 'Good Mornings' and 'Good afternoons', there is a feeling of unity and camaraderie we share with our teachers and peers alike.

Online classes will never replace an actual classroom. However, when it comes to academic progress, our teachers have refused to allow the Coronavirus to stand in the way of preparing India's youth, her future leaders for a life filled with meaning, purpose and success. [G](#) [I](#)



The new convos

Staple Topics That Invade Our Chat In The Pandemic

Aayushi Bawa, AIS Noida, XI F

Long gone are the days of just watching Big Boss, pitying the people stuck inside and enjoying the freedom of going outside. With the lockdown in place, every home has already become their own version of the Big Boss House. As moms gave out the iconic 'Big Boss chahte hai' instructions, the kids of the family squandered to fulfill the wishes. But just as the inmates of the Big Boss get used to the monotony and get used to a routine, our conversations with our family members, too, have come to circle around the same things over and over again.

Did you hear the news today?

Ever since COVID-19 came to India, our television has found itself to be running 24x7. I mean, how else are we to keep track of what's happening? From the number of cases that come to light each day to 'expert' opinions about what should be done to curb the spread of the contagion, it all must be seen and analysed. And it has become a staple job of the fathers of the family- sit in front of the TV, watch the news and present his own commentary to go along with it.

Throw away your phone!

"Have you seen the dark circles on your face?" - These are just some common phrases that all teenagers have been hearing ever since they could remember and thanks to this pandemic and the close confinements in which our mothers notice us, these taunts have only increased in number. Irrespective of the fact, whether it's a regular day or a day



No matter what, this is probably the best time to learn how to manage a house.

during the lockdown, there would surely be conversations about your phone habits. Right from asking you to use your phones less to asking you to throw your phone away, our parents always find a way to bring up a conversation circling around our phone.

Step down from your bed!

For everyone thinking the quarantine period would bring a lot of relaxation, well, you were wrong. With Indian parents in the house, the minute they see you relaxing, an hour-long lecture on fitness will come your way. From asking you to get up early to assigning you household chores, they will try their level best to convince you to leave that couch/bed and move a muscle.

Oh! Are you the Master Chef?

This is the time when all those cooking shows that your mom used to watch pay off. With the quarantine period giving everyone a lot of free time at hand, trying out new recipes becomes another hobby. From checking out the old cook-books to browsing Youtube, moms will never get tired of feeding you and you will also always overestimate your culinary skills.

The house won't clean itself!

With household helps given an off, the onus of doing all the household chores comes on the family. Just like everyone else, you mom too might have sketched down a schedule for you and other family members which divides the household chores amongst all. No matter what, this is probably the best time to learn how to manage a house. And of course help your family along the way. [G](#) [I](#)



A wild ride

Is This A Beginning Or An End?

Amara Sood
AGS Gurugram, VIII

Winston Churchill had once rightfully said, "Now this is not the end. It is not even the beginning of the end. But it is, perhaps, the end of the beginning." Considering how our species is dealing with its existence, I reckon we indeed are at the beginning of the end. Global warming, deforestation, pollution - the list is long. There would be a point in time when humans would be the only bane of existence simply because of their impetuous actions. We have a tendency of blaming others, however, in this situation, there is no one else to blame but ourselves.

If COVID-19 pandemic is not how humans would go extinct, then there is a multitude other ways to reach the apocalypse. New science fiction novels are doing a remarkable job in cap-

turing our possible future. A number of things are happening more rapidly than ever and we don't even realise it. As a result, we tend to underestimate the impact of these events. Everyone at some point tends to acknowledge the environment and species which are endangered but no action takes place afterwards. It has simply become a shower thought. Scientists are discovering new planets. But shouldn't we try to think of how we can save the Earth instead? Just like every cloud has a silver lining, the current pandemic does too. Being in quarantine has led to the air pollution levels decreasing significantly. Think about life 100 years later. Would humans still be struggling with these things or would these events ultimately lead to our destruction? We are at the end of the beginning. Buckle up because for all we know, it's going to be a wild ride. [G](#) [I](#)



Three main nutrients used for energy are carbohydrates, protein and fats, with carbohydrates being the most important source.

The glorious educators

Felicitation Of Amity Educators At CBSE Teachers Award



Arti Chopra, principal, AIS Gur 46 with her award and citation



Poonam Bhatt with her award



excellence and quality education bestowed by Amity Group of Schools. Union education minister, Ramesh Pokhriyal, presented them a certificate and cash prize of 50,000 INR in a virtual ceremony held on September 9, 2020. Eminent dignitaries namely Sanjay Dhotre, minister of state for education; Anita Karwal, secretary, department of school education and literacy; Manoj Ahuja, chairman, CBSE, and Anurag Tripathi, secretary, CBSE, were also present at the ceremony. A total of 38 educators comprising primary and middle-level teachers, language teachers, science, social science, physical education, mathematics, economics, IT, fine arts teachers, school counsellors, vice-principals and principals were awarded.

AIS Gurugram 46

Arti Chopra, an innovative educationalist and school principal of AIS Gur 46, was one amongst the seven principals chosen for this award. She expressed her heartfelt gratitude to

Dr Ashok K. Chauhan, Founder President, Amity Universe and Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools and RBEF for their immense trust in her abilities and continuous support for innovating education methodologies for quality holistic learning. An advocate of blended learning, she was selected for this award in recognition of her introduction of collaborative practices, integrated learning, cooperative learning methods, content contribution to e-learning platforms of NIOS and Swayam portal, social outreach initiatives, effective use of resources and innovative pedagogies for experiential learning. She is also a Microsoft Innovative Education Expert (MIEE) and has been nominated as Microsoft Educator Expert Fellow at Microsoft in Education. In addition to mentoring a team of passionate educators and nurturing young minds aided by modern educational tools and pedagogies, she has also authored a book titled, 'MI Skills for Life: Applying Multiple In-

telligences to acquire Life Skills', based on scope for personality development encompassing multiple intelligences.

AIS Vasundhara 6

Science educator, Poonam Bhatt from AIS Vas 6 was also one of the proud 38 recipients of the prestigious award at the national level. She was selected for her immense contribution in inspiring and motivating her students to tinker their curiosity and create innovative scientific solutions to daily problems. An innovator at heart, she is also the recipient of Best Teacher Award from Centre for Education and Development and the Indian Research Scholar Award. She has published research papers and presented them at the Young Scientists Conference, IISF and NTSE. As an educator, she has been instrumental in mentoring students for various national and international platforms like INSEF, NCSC, IISF, IRIS, Indian Science Congress, IIT-Kanpur, INSPIRE, ATL-Niti Aayog, CBSE, IIT-Delhi, etc.

Mapping victory

Stellar Win For Solar Map

AIS Vasundhara 1

A young innovator Charvi Goyal of Class IX has been selected amongst top 25 students at 'Masti Se Mastisk Tak' national level science activity. She won this award for her interactive mind map on solar eclipse. The activity was a part of Vidyarthi Vigyan Manthan (VVM)* and students from all over the country were required to make a mind map on solar eclipse. The award stands testimony to the innate exploratory skills of Amitians and their aptitude for scientific solutions.

*About Vidyarthi Vigyan Manthan (VVM)

It is an initiative of Vijnana Bharati (VIBHA), in collaboration with Vigyan Prasara, under the Department of Science and Technology, and National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT). It is a national programme for popularising science amongst

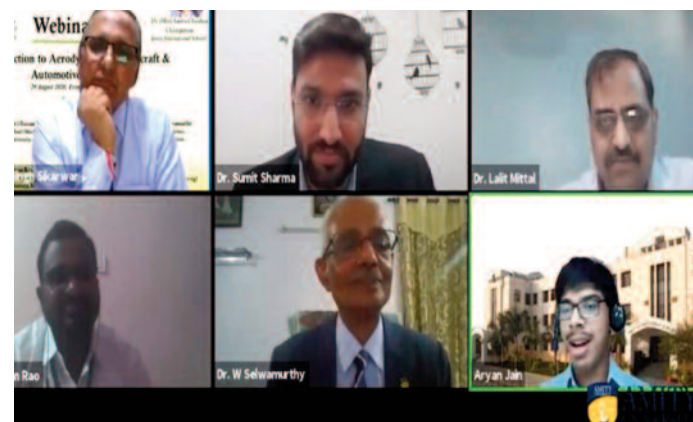


Charvi Goyal

school students of Classes VI to XI. It has been conceptualised to identify the bright minds with a scientific aptitude among the student community and hone their research aptitude.

Understanding the dynamics of flying

Webinar On Aerodynamics



One of the students ask questions from the eminent panelists

AUUP

Eshaan Bachchas, AIS Noida, X B & Aaryan Jain, AIS Gurugram 43, XI A

More than 100 students from different branches of Amity Group of Schools attended a webinar on 'Introduction to aerodynamics of aircraft and automotive vehicles' organised by Amity University Uttar Pradesh on August 29, 2020. Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools and RBEF graced the occasion, and in her address talked about the journey of Amity in the field of aerodynamics education and how FI in schools has evolved to be a stellar event at Amity. The sessions were designed for rekindling the interest of students in Physics and make them aware of how engineering marvels are designed and tested. Eminent engineering experts of the webinar comprised Prof (Dr) W Selvamurthy, president, Amity Science, Technology and Innovation Foundation; Prof (Dr) Basant

Singarwar, professor and head, mechanical engineering, Amity University, Noida; Dr H Jeevan Rao assistant professor, aerospace engineering, Amity University and Sumit Sharma, from the department of mechanical and automation engineering, Amity University Noida. They delivered practical lectures based on basic concepts like Bernoulli's theorem, fluidity, smart materials and their real-life applications and also apprised students about career options in aerospace engineering. Dr Basant Singh Singarwar gave the introduction to aerodynamics, discussed working of aircrafts, and explained the simulations available in Amity CFD lab. Dr H Jeevan Rao explained various concepts and components of aerodynamics used for aircraft designing. Sumit Sharma apprised about the use of aerodynamics in automobiles by explaining various designs of cars that we see in daily life. The webinar accorded a thorough knowledge of aerodynamics and its career options to tech experts of tomorrow.



School principal and students deliberate on solutions

Controlling air pollution

AIS Pushp Vihar

A virtual panel discussion on innovative farming solutions for controlling air pollution in Delhi was organised by Class XII students on August 31, 2020. The main objective was to find sustainable and eco-friendly solutions to the problem of pollution arising out of burning of crops in neighbouring states. The eminent panelists comprised Bharati Chaturvedi,

founder, NGO Chintan; Liakabir Singh, executive director, NGO Pahal and Tamseel Husain, founder, Pluc TV & Letmebreathe.in. Issues like machine-based farming, alternative solutions to scrap burning etc., were deliberated upon, followed by a Q&A session. Students, parents and teachers attended the insightful virtual discussion and gave valuable inputs to fight the problem of pollution in Delhi-NCR.

Coding champ

AIS VKC Lucknow

Another feather was added to Amity's hat of achievements when Kaivalyaa Agarwal of Class IV became a certified game developer. She was awarded a certificate for her exceptional skills and outcomes in game development with deep UI/UX interface, from White Hat Junior. She has successfully completed Night Sky Programme, level 2 and 3 organised by SDRO. Her achievement signifies Amitians' resolve to convert challenges into opportunities by developing skills which will help them become tech savvy 21st century global citizens.



Kaivalyaa Agarwal with her certificate of merit

Junk food items can be addictive; instead, snack on healthy foods like nuts, yogurt etc.

All top quotes contributed by Viraj Bhakuni, AIS Saket, IV D



The big biscuit story

Looking At The Delicious History Of The Crunchy Cookie We All Love To Devour

Jaya Jha

AIS Gurugram 46, XI

Think the word 'biscuit' and find your mind immediately being filled with GIFs of mouth-watering light fluffy circle of pure heaven and you cannot believe that there was a time when these oh-so-loved were less than marvellous (Say it ain't so!) A trip down the memory lane will make you realise the kind of experiments this delicacy had to go through to reach where it is today.

Tailored to comfort

Made solely for the purpose of convenience at first, biscuits' oldest predecessor goes by the name of Hardtack. Prepared with wheat flour, water and salt, these delicacies were not so delicate, specially made for soldiers and crew at sea. Also known as ship's biscuits, these were famous for their hard and dry exterior and durable nature, staying edible for years on end. They were baked as much as four times in order to take out the moisture and make them resilient for long travels. Soldiers would have to dip them

in liquids like tea, coffee and salt water to make them soft enough for consumption. In 1894, these biscuits were replaced by war bread made of starch, sugar, water, nitrogenous matter, ash and cellulose.

Tickle the taste buds

While the seas of middle ages were relishing in the tough love of hard-tacks, there was another version of biscuits, specially being made for the purpose of pleasure. The ancient civilisations of the Middle East were experimenting with the possibility of a sweet snack. These snacks were made with eggs, butter and cream and sweetened with fruit, honey and in the late Middle Ages, with sugar. The Persian Empire had been making different types of pastries and cakes even in the 7th Century AD. But with the Muslim invasion of



Spain and Crusades, the culinary skills of Arabia spread into Northern Europe, giving birth to cookies. Derived from the Dutch word 'koek', the word essentially meant 'small cake.' The 14th Century came and filled wafers were being sold on the streets of Paris; by 17th century, cookies were a household delight.

Tap the unknown

Industrial revolution in the 19th Century allowed an increase in the manufacturing of these sweet delicacies. Not just taste, people started focusing on their shapes as well. Animal crackers were first fashioned as Christmas tree ornaments, packed in a box bedecked like a circus train and became extremely famous. On the other hand, Ammonia cook-



ies were solely recognised by the ingredient 'Ammonium Bicarbonate', an ancient version of baking soda and baking powder. These cookies were mostly a part of the Scandinavian- American cooking culture.

Take over the world

When you trace the history of biscuits, it is clear that in different countries and different time periods, these delicacies were known by different names. Sometimes a cracker, or a scone or even a shortcake; these snacks have spread their roots everywhere. But even today the fact remains, that when it comes to choosing what to eat with a hot cup of tea, biscuit or cookie? Or maybe oatcakes? These tasty snacks are our first choice. 🇺🇸

Pseudo-intellectuals

Here's The Ultimate Guide To Spotting One In No Time!

Sudiksha Gupta, AIS MV, Alumna

We all have been blessed with that one person in our social circle who wears the guise of an intellectual, often posing as a profound thinker. Sometimes we generously let this friend throw his seemingly in-depth musings at us. And while they still continue to put everyone under the impression that their knowledge is far more than what meets the eye, here's a guide to quickly identifying a pseudo-intellectual when you see one.

The wobbling technique: We all know this person, their head moves at a rate faster than, somehow unknown to the whole of mankind, the speed of light. You're assured to find their heads bobbing along as the teacher goes on while you sit dumbfounded as to why you're even sitting there.

The formula shield: Gone are the days when superheroes had fire, or

water in control of their hands. Now is the age where we find pseudo-intellectuals throw random formulas around. $E=mc^2$ seems to be a fan favourite. Next time, maybe ask them to explain one of the many applications of this particular formula please.

The smart move: We all have seen this, when a pseudo-intellectual comes along, and just repeats the teacher's previous statement, but in the form of a question. Not only is this frustrating, but also really dumb. What is the point you're making? That you understand English? Or that you are the human counterpart of Google Assistant?

The stern stones: Every pseudo-intellectual knows that they can't ever back down on their statement. No matter what, they can never admit they are wrong. Finding yourself in an argument with one over a point you're clearly right in isn't

a new thing. Maybe next time, start throwing random facts at them. A pseudo-intellectual is always threatened when more than two heavy-worded sentences are thrown at them.

You're assured to find their heads bobbing along as the teacher goes on while you sit dumbfounded as to why you're even sitting there.

The know-it-all facade: The pseudo-intellectual is often found to strongly remember certain terms introduced by the teacher. Anyone in a 2m range can hear their overconfident 'Yeah, I read about this!' as soon as a word is chalked on the board by the teacher. But whenever questioned further about that particular topic, they seem to go all 'ghajini' over it.

So, did this remind you of the pseudo-intellectual in your life yet? Or did you just discover the pseudo-intellectual in you? Or maybe, this can be your guide to looking super smart in front of your friends at least, temporarily. 🇺🇸

