

Iss ilaage mein naye aaye ho, sahib? Varna humaare article ko kaun nahi jaanta?

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Model: Laksh Verma, XI D; Saksham Manaktala, XI A;
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Pic: Rounak Jha, XI D | Graphic: Saksham Manaktala, XI A; AIS Gur 43

Give me some space

A Co-Working Space Is What You're Looking For

Manvi Jain, AIS Gur 43, XII C

Finding a workplace for your start-up can be exhausting. Ask Naveen, who wants to establish a start-up. He is ready for all the responsibilities that come with it; but what he is not ready for is shelling out 65k a month as rent for work space. Unless of course, his rich great uncle dies, leaving behind the money to Naveen. Until that happens, he decides to look for alternatives, and that's when he came across the idea of co-working spaces. Soon he realises that co-working spaces cost half as much. He then decides to weigh the other factors related to co-working spaces.

Will he have to rent it out annually?

Naveen is uncertain about a lot of things; whether he'll have enough funds to pay the rent is one of them. So, he does not want to go for annual rent agreements. To his surprise, he realises that he can rent these co-working spaces not only on monthly basis, but also for weeks or if he wants even days. *For example's sake:* The Bengaluru Coworking Hub provides a monthly pass at INR 3800/month, a part time membership pass at INR 1500/month and a daily pass at INR 250/day.

Will he have enough space?

Considering the fact that these spaces have a lot of people working at the same time

(they are called co-working spaces, after all) the problem of limited space might arise. But as every problem has a solution, this one does too. Co-working spaces allow him to rent a cubicle, cabin and even a team room as per his requirements. *For example's sake:* 91springboard boasts of 20,000 sq ft. area, providing ample space replete with cubicles, cabins and team rooms. Go, pick one!

Will he have to make his own coffee?

Thankfully, the answer is no! Many co-working spaces come with induction cooktops and coffee machines to ensure that the basic needs (see: coffee) of the employees are taken care of. The 24*7,

open-to-all pantry is the cherry on top. These spaces are fully furnished and provide all facilities ranging from printers to sleeping pods.

For example's sake: Base Station in Shahpur Jat, Delhi has a fully equipped area with a microwave, electric kettle, induction cooktop, stocked pantry, laser-printer, scanner, and copy machine.

Will he get enough privacy?

Naveen's work is at the starting stage which requires him to frequently interact with people. An open floor plan or paper thin walls of co-working spaces might risk his calls being overheard by others, which risks his business. The provision of a private phone booth will facilitate smooth interactions and lockers will keep files safe. *For example's sake:* Awfis, a co-working solution in South Ex, Delhi, provides phone booths for private conversations.

Where will he conduct meetings?

Establishing a start-up requires Naveen to conduct frequent meetings with clients. Ergo, the need for proper meeting rooms. Many of the co-working spaces offer repositories of third party meeting rooms in hotel brands so that Naveen doesn't need to go through the hassle of arranging it himself. For smaller meetings, some even offer meeting pods for two person within the property to ensure complete client satisfaction.

For example's sake: Awfis offers a repository of third-party meeting rooms in hotel brands like Lemon Tree Hotels, Hyatt, and Trident, amongst others across India.

After looking at all the pros and cons, Naveen decided to go with co-working spaces. They provide him with all the mentioned benefits at approximately half the price. Now, that is a real bargain. Co-working spaces also give Naveen the opportunity to network with like-minded people and maybe find his yoda of the business world. 🇮🇳

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'Stream'ing Life

Flowing From One Stream To Another

Shambhavi Sharma, AIS Gur 43, XII D

Chaos is the middle name of XIth grade. Anxiety kicks in even before you choose your subjects. Everyone from your mom's *rishtedaars* to your dad's colleagues have tips for this '*mushkil ghadi*'. Even the neighbourhood aunty has a thing or two to tell you because Gupta Ji's son did the same and is 'settled' now. In a week or two, the ordeal is over and XIth grade begins. You are getting used to your new self - the one that doesn't know when to stop studying because there is just so much. Assignments keep pouring in at regular intervals. In short - life just gets harder for you as the amount of work you get quadruples but your day continues to be of 24 hours (tragic). And then one fine day, you sit down to introspect, seeking answers to questions like - Is this making me happy? Can I do something like this for the rest of my life? It hits you, like an iceberg in the calm sea. Your head starts spinning as you weigh your options and realise what you should be doing instead.

You break it to your parents as gravely as possible. A silence follows. Mum is the first one to speak up. The first one to support you. Dad is still thinking. He finally speaks up and asks you if you're sure about it. You nod. There's a calmness on his face you cannot interpret. But then you catch him smile. A smile that has an understanding to it. Discussion goes on till 1 that night. But the roller coaster ride has just begun. Then comes the tiring part of the process, talking to every person in the Admin. office, literally. Teachers understand and wish you luck. God finally decides to have mercy on you and in a week or two, your stream gets changed everywhere from the school records to CBSE.

Nature takes its course and you get familiar with everything all over again. You actually look forward to going to school now. Nobody said this new path would be easy, but at least you know you'll enjoy the journey. Completely changing the map in the middle of a journey might be scary, but less scary than leading a lifetime journey that you don't enjoy.

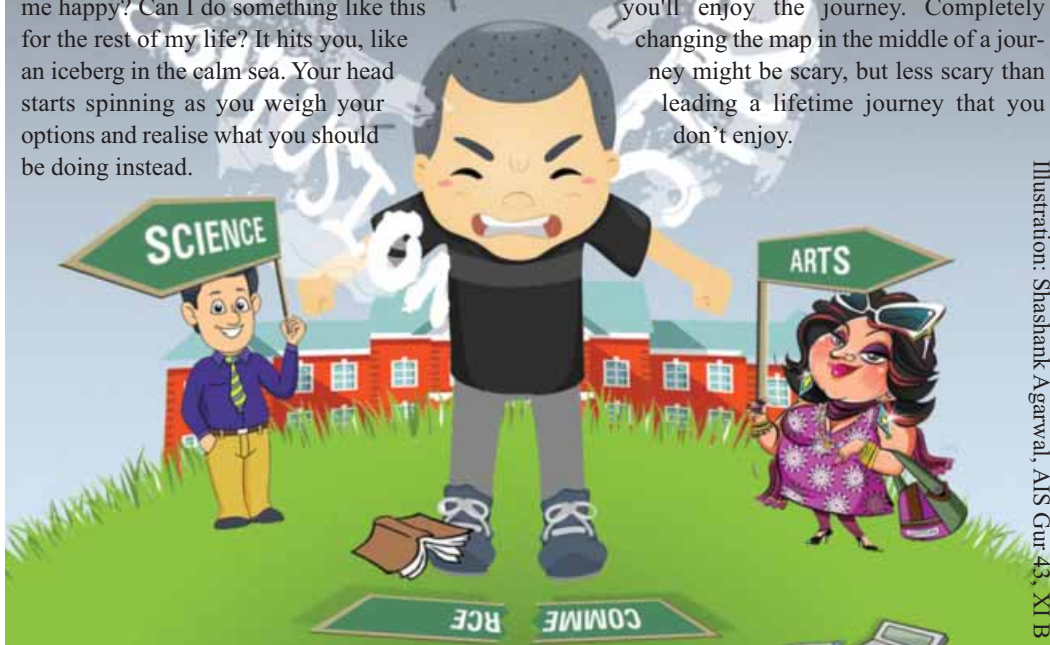


Illustration: Shashank Agarwal, AIS Gur 43, XI B



Illustration: Yana Bhanot, AIS Gur 43, VIII A

...In Careerland, There Was A Storyteller

**Aradhana Sai
AIS Gur 43, XII C**

Mrs Andrews sat down with her five year old to read her a story when little Mila shouted, "Mom, I want to read the story this time." Mrs Andrews laughed and said, "You're going to write and read your own story one day." Her mother's words stuck by Mila. She grew up realising that everything around her was a tale, the world, the library, and even experience, a new chapter. Perhaps that's when she knew that she wanted to be a storyteller.

There was a girl... People like Mila exist in every corner of the world, framing and embellishing even their most random experiences into stories that separate their experiences from everyone else's. And when they go on to narrate these experi-

ences, replete with anecdotes, they have the audiences hooked. Storytelling is a career meant for them. But, there's more to storytelling than writing; think producing, marketing et al.

She wrote her own story...

Writing your own story may not be that easy, but thankfully there are courses in storytelling both online and physical. Kathalaya, Bangalore is an organisation which offers beginner level and diploma courses. International school of storytelling and PlusAcumen also provide a range of courses taught by professionals. Pixar, the famous American film studio along with the online learning site Khan Academy has introduced an online course in storytelling. These organisations also conduct workshops and storytelling events where aspiring storytellers can both present their work and learn from their peers.

Her story came true... Along with performing at storytelling fests, storytellers also have the lucrative option of starting their own YouTube channel. This is a more viable option, in countries like India where storytelling as a profession is just picking up. One can also self-produce and present their own storytelling shows.

And the story continued...

Storytelling, is already an established career abroad where storytellers earn around \$150 per show and \$30,000 annually. In India too, storytelling has a bright future with sprouting of organizations like The Indian Storytelling Network. They are working towards making it a career choice for anyone who is a firm believer in the power of stories to engage, enchant, awaken, heal, and empower. Such is the power of a story; such is the magic of storytelling. 🇮🇳