

Diamond was used for the first time ever in an engagement ring in the year 1477.



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

“With summer vacations around the corner, what's your happiest summer vacation memory and why?”

The prompt BOX

“My happiest summer vacation memory is from a few years ago. I remember waking up at five in the morning and hearing the pitter-patter of rain bleeding into the ominous silence inside my grandparents' house. My cousin and I stepped outside with low footsteps, to not wake anyone up. “Don't bathe in the first rain of the summer,” they would have said, but in that moment, as the first drops of water brushed my fingertips, everything else was forgotten. The downpour began a few minutes after that. I don't remember how long it lasted, or how much time it took our parents to drag us back inside the house, because, when I close my eyes and replay that memory, I can only hear our laughter, and only remember looking at the sky, collecting water in the palm of our hands to throw at each other.”

Asmi Aggarwal, AIS Noida, XII C

“My favourite summer vacation was in the year of 2018 when I was 11, and I, along with my entire family, including my cousins, uncle and aunt, went to Nainital. What made our trip special was a series of near disasters that happened. The train tickets were booked for my birthday's evening, and we all nearly missed the train, but as soon as I got in, I was surprised to see my favourite uncles and aunts there. We covered half of the way via train and half via tempo traveller. We spent our entire journey singing, laughing, and enjoying our time as a family. I will cherish that summer vacation forever.”

Rajbir Singh, AIS Gurugram 43, X D

“Summer vacations bring loads of happiness and opportunities for us children to create new experiences. And fortunately for me, last year, I got the chance to spend that time with my grandparents during the pandemic. Those days not only brought me closer to my grandparents, but also made me realise how with the support of elders one can sail through the toughest of times. For all the sweet moments that we crafted together were the ones that gave me the strength I needed and helped me weather the storm that loomed large over and around the world.”

Deval Mishra, AIS VKC Lko, X B

“One of my favourite memories of summer vacation is the summer theatre workshop organised by the school when I was in Class V. While joining, I didn't know this workshop would end up giving me lifelong lessons. It taught me so much about stage presence and confidence. It helped me a lot to improve my oratory skills. When we were supposed to put up the final performance, I was nervous, but because of my training, the end result was much better than what I was expecting. I am grateful to the school for organising this camp and giving me such great memories!”

Jayati Jain, AIS Gurugram 46, X H

“Every moment spent with my family during the summer vacation is a beautiful memory, but the one close to my heart is when we all sat together after dinner to eat mangoes. Right from the first to the last one, every mango was eaten devoutly. The light banter over the biggest piece was the one that I waited for the most. Mangoes were not only our sweet dish but also our daily dose of laughter. Unlike others, my summer vacation was an ‘Aam’ vacation.”

Yuvika Mahajan, AIS PV, XII B

“My memories of summer are all meshed into yellow vagueness, but there is a recurring theme- my grandmother's house. My cousins and I always met there for our holidays. We would often dirty ourselves making sculptures out of soil in the garden until we were forcibly dragged to lunch. After the agonising ordeal, we would run away to leap through terraces and delight in the thrill of doing something you really know you shouldn't. When the night would fall, we would lay there smothering our laughter at lame jokes, all afraid to fall asleep because we had to make midnight trips to the kitchen and watch the sunrise. They were days of childhood refuge. When I think of them, lost somewhere in the heat of summer, I cannot help but smile and that is why I love them.”

Jia Rajput, AIS Vas 1, IX A

“One of my most memorable summer vacation memories is from the Ladakh expedition that I undertook with my family. It was when we, along with some of our Ladakhi friends, took off from Leh by road to reach our destination Pangong Tso, the pristine turquoise 160-km lake that holds the record for the highest saltwater lake in the world. As I rode along the lake with my father, the enchanting shades of blue and green looked sublime and stunning in contrast to the arid desert around. At night too, the star-filled sky blanketing the lake was a sight to behold. Even though I suffered blackouts due to exertion as I couldn't fully acclimatise to the harsh weather, I still consider it as a life-changing experience.”

Rubani Singh Tyagi, AIS Saket, VIII A

“My best vacation was staying with my grandparents in Lucknow, which seemed more of a punishment at first but became the happiest vacation ever. From badminton, *chorplice* to even UNO cards, there was no dearth of games we played. I got pampered with stories, treats and the yummiest of food by my grandma. My grandpa used to bring boxes of mangoes from the market, and every evening after dinner, we would sit down with our whole family to gobble them. I had a great time during that vacation and I will always cherish it.”

Adite Sharma, AIS Vas 6, X D

“Though I have taken many trips during my summer vacations and have, as a result, made a lot of happy memories, my most favourite one would definitely be our 15 days long family trip to the mountains some three years back. As part of our trip, in an effort to cover as many places as possible, we first made a pit stop at Amritsar's Wagah border. Dalhousie was our next destination, and owing to its beauty and quietude, it was definitely my favourite place throughout the trip. After that, we went to Dharamshala and then finally Manali where I got to see snow for the first time. I loved the trip so much that if given a chance to take it again, I won't hesitate a bit.”

Aarnavi Singh, AIS VVC Lko, IX B

“My family and I went to Pondicherry where we had enrolled in an open water scuba diving course. We were taught theory on the first day that included learning how to handle the equipment. On the following day, we moved to a bigger pool to test our stamina in the depths. We proceeded with our written and fitness exams on the third day and passed! Finally, on the fourth day, we ventured into the ocean, and the entire experience was so enthralling! My first dive was 8.3m deep, and I spent 32 minutes underwater amongst the corals. On the fifth day, I took my second and third dives with depths of 6m and 18m. After that, I returned home to find an email with my diver's license in it. It was an inexplicable feeling, and that truly is my most memorable summer vacation memory!”

Sucheer Menon, AGS Gurugram, X

“Summer vacations give children immense pleasure and loads of happy memories to cherish forever. Personally for me, my favourite memory was my trip to Goa four years back. The beaches, the everlasting waters, the churches, the historic monuments, the spice vegetations - everything that adds to the beauty of the town is still fresh in my memory. And since it was the first time I visited Goa, playing barefoot on the beach with my sister, collecting sea shells, and making sand castles felt amazing too. It was a soul touching trip and I enjoyed every single moment of it.”

Gavisha Gupta, AIS MV, VII D

“The summer of 2017 when I got the chance to visit my father, an army officer on a UN mission to Lebanon, is easily my favourite summer vacation ever. I still remember how excited I was to go since it was my first ever international trip. For the same, my mother and I boarded a flight from Delhi to Kuwait and then to Beirut, Lebanon. It was a long flight but I was very happy to see my dad at the airport, who then took us to the United Nations Interim Force headquarters in Naqoura. We also visited the National Beirut Museum, Old Souk, and Mohammad-Al-Amin Mosque and did a lot of shopping at the malls and bought a variety dry fruits and hand-made perfumes. I even got the chance to meet my dad's colleagues and their family members who all belonged to countries like Indonesia, China, France and Pakistan. It was an amazing experience to meet people from all across the globe and I am never going to forget it.”

Mohammad Mubeen Khan, AIS Gwalior, VIII A

“The most memorable summer vacation for me was the 2020 summer break that I spent with my lovely family. Though I had never imagined that I would be stuck inside the four walls of my house for so long, this time actually gave me the opportunity to rekindle my relationship with my family. With the fast-paced lives that we were living, we could hardly sit together as a family and chat. This COVID summer vacation as such helped us revisit the good old days when family time was the most important part of the day for us. Besides, I also got the chance to spend more time on my hobbies, which is always a good thing.”

Saumya Soni, AIS Jagdishpur, XII

Who prompts someone during the summers? Not us. Let's take a break!