



Working with GT is an indescribable experience. This experience will always be very close to my heart.
Shubhangi Kumari, AIS Gur 46, X E, Page Editor

The Indian sun under the English hat

Hands surrender to forks & knives; still prevails Fair and Lovely and its white lies; jeans invade, kurtas evade. Welcome to modern India sans the Indian-ness!

Shubhangi Kumari, AIS Gur 46, X E

The modern Indian dresses up in jeans, runs fast in the fast food world and cheers for the English football clubs. As a result, the *salwar-kameez* wearing, *dal-roti* -loving, hockey adoring and Hindi-speaking native

feels out of place in his or her own country. Oh the irony! India is becoming a hub of *sahibs* and madams who reign supreme with their novel accent. Retracing the journey to becoming a more westernised country...

From cotton to fairness creams: Right when you thought that British rule over our industries was over, you encounter the *gori memsahibs* ghost-chairing Fair and Lovely and other such endorsements. We have come a long way from 'Kaale hain toh kya hua, dilwale hain' to 'Gore gore mukhde pe kaala kaala chashma'. Ironic matrimonial ads where the so-called educated advocate their preference, 'Wanted- A fair, edu-

cated bride for a groom settled in the UK' still breathe.

Handing traditions or maybe forks & knives: Eating with forks and knives is no longer symbolic of a different culture, it is now a norm. Awkward glares hover over the ones using their hands to eat. The poor *roti* struggles to compete with the bread under the butter-knife and the humble *daal* tries to climb up the length of the straw or rather the obstacles modernity has set for us.

If I had a British accent, I'd never shut up: Tattered bits of American and British English are plucked from 'Sherlock' or 'How I Met Your Mother', simply to make a style statement. Accent is a crown, and one we endeavour to wear desperately. Again, it isn't a different accent, it's a norm. The transition is as deadly as 'Manmeet' sounding, 'Manmeat'. Credits to our accent!

What's your national sport? I think it's cricket! It's so popular! No, genius, it's hockey. Media attention, celebrity-like stardom and the glitz and glamour of cricket sounds much more happening than hockey, *kabbadi* or other national games. The stick has been turned into a bat and the field of tradition carefully mowed for the pitch.

Wide brimmed hats, Levi's, Rolex, DC shoes, Apple's iPhone, its seems that the flaunting NRI is much better off without the 'R', turning 'Non-Indian'.



Pic: Lakshit Chawla, AIS Gur 46, X C
 Model: Akshat Babbar, AIS Gur 46, XI G

The starter's guide to art

Good art reveals more about the buyer than the artist himself. So, if you are starting out on the scary quest of buying art, you might need a little help. Vasundhra Kaul, AIS Gur 46, XII, brings you five steps that should get you a decent art piece. Read on if you are as blank as a canvas.

Illustration: Anahita Garg, AIS Gur 46, XI C



Figure what the zeitgeist is

Exactly how contemporary is contemporary art? Constantly changing, it's impossible to find that out. If you want to play safe, Mondrian's squares are always welcome. Instantly recognisable, Mondrian-inspired paintings stink of money and MS Paint. That big, white painting that has a single white circle in the centre and a crowd of admirers in front? Buy it.

Big is better

A larger piece will impress friends and intimidate enemies faster. You could take cues from Damien Hirst's famous art piece - The Physical Impossibility of Death in the Mind of Someone Living - a 4.3m long tiger shark encased in formaldehyde. Remember, nothing says 'I'm richer than you' like a giant tiger shark in your bedroom.

Be prepared to spend

Art is not cheap. In fact, to one-up your friends, you'll need to dig a little deep into your pocket to impress. Tracey Emin's 'My Bed' was recently sold for 2.2 million dollars. 'My Bed' is literally Emin's bed, from another time in her life. In fact, a guard watching over the exhibit tried to remove it, suspecting it of having being vandalised.

It's all in the name

Do your research. Do you want a Kandinsky or an Ono? Keep up with the latest big shots in the art world, and hire someone to find art pieces for you. Do not enter a gallery or an auction without doing your homework or you could walk away deeply embarrassed.

Avoid art students

You've zeroed in on a couple of pieces, and are going to speak with the exhibition manager. You can feel thickly coated eyes on you and partially covered by oversized berets. They silently judge, constantly try to catch up with you so they can tell you just what they think of your choice. They are the art students. Do not let them catch up with you. 'Is that a Malcolm Hill piece?' 'Um, yeah, it is.' 'We thought so.' Contemptuous sniggers. So, what are you waiting for? Get set go to buying your first art piece. Well, well, you can thank us later. 🇮🇳

Illustration: Jessica Jakoinao, AIS Gur 46, XII



When laughing became too costly to afford

Tanvi Goyal, AIS Gur 46, X F

It's a brand new year ahead of us and looks like we are already bidding farewell to the priceless gift we call 'sense of humour'. A look at the currently 'hurt sentiments' scenario and it looks like a world war is on, with the sole objective to replace humour with the curious modern disease of being terminally offended. The question is: 'Why criticise when we can laugh?'

Alien to this alien

Aamir Khan, who played an innocent, curious alien, asking valid questions in PK earned the ire of religious groups. Well, honestly, we wish such an adorable alien could visit our land too, raise thought-provoking questions in a funny-punny way that aren't taken otherwise.

Come, let's fall in pretense

Our favourite YouTube channel, Pretentious Movie Reviews, received many

objections for defying the notions of the box office. A cup of entertainment becomes tough to gulp down for the directors. Limitations are expressed for pretense thoughts.

Radha's temple, not the dance floor "Radha on the dance floor" was one song which not only became the dancing rhythm of our generation, but also a subject of various controversies. *Babas* raised objections because Radha, the 'Goddess' cannot be swaying on the dance floor, ignoring the notifications of her *mandir* accounts.

God blessed us all with that funny bone but seems that the theory of 'lose it if you do not use it' aptly aimed this bone! Yes, freedom of expression is our birthright. Having said that, it is important to understand the thin *lakshman rekha* between humour and defamation. Let's use entertainment first-hand, keep calm and rock on! 🇮🇳

With inputs from **Mokshi Jain, AIS Gur 46, X F**