


## Creativity in crisis



**Dr. Amita Chauhan**  
Chairperson

My dear Amityans, as we bring to you the last edition of 'Quarantine special' editions of your favorite newspaper, I must congratulate all of you

for the exemplary inner strength you all have shown in these times. These 12 weeks have been an amazing experience for me as I saw you all manifest the virtues of compassion, strong will and courage to steer towards positivity and progress.

With some of you participating in World Teenage Reporting Project and reaching out to your peers in the other parts of the country to pen down their endeavours to be the change, you have shown how passionate, inclusive and responsible you all are as young journalists. I feel immensely proud of each one of you for having soulfully imbibed what your teachers and mentors have taught you over all these years. These are very peculiar times but remember that you can and will always win because you are a human being, the one with infinite ability to transform as your favourite newspaper will continue to be your boulevard of creativity. 



## Is this the new normal? The Shift In Educational Landscape

**Aanya Bhargava**

Gurugram 46, XII I

**C** OVID-19 forced most governments to temporarily close educational institutions. According to UNICEF monitoring, 134 countries are currently implementing nationwide closures and 38 are implementing school closures in certain locations, impacting about 98.5 percent of the world's student population. In India, this closure affected about 300 million students, out of which 150 million students are economically weak. Many schools began conducting classes via Zoom or MS Teams but the lack of access to technology hinders education for students from disadvantaged families. For this, UNESCO recommended distance learning programmes and open educational applica-

tions that schools could use to reach learners and keep the academic year in motion.


The lack of limitations and exceptions to copyright has had an impact on the access to study materials and textbooks for students around the world. To limit disruption, the international council for open and distance education issued a special website to provide webinars, tips and resources for online teaching and learning for the students.

The disadvantages are dispro-

portionate for less-privileged students without enough learning opportunities, beyond school. Parents have been asked to facilitate the learning of children at home but they may be unable to do so due to limited education and rationed resources.

New Zealand appears to have taken the most effective measures to try and limit the potential damages of Covid-19 on learners. The ruling government has provided more than 6000 routers to learners without internet access, and approximately 20,000 devices

have been made available to those who did not have access to computers, among several other measures.

Education is one of the most basic yet important rights that everyone in this country is entitled to. So, let's cooperate and do our bit to help the ones in need. 



# The year of **ruin**

## The Havoc That This Year Has Been Wreaking On Us

**Tanush Guha**

**AIS Gurugram 46, XI J**

The year 2020 has been nothing short of bizarre; it's as if someone stuffed the entire human populace in a doomsday game. Every month that we have witnessed has been a new challenge that we still haven't recovered from, so let's take a month by month look at all the problems 2020 has thrown our way till now.

### **January: Barbecue Down Under + WW3?**

The dawn of the new year is supposed to be peaceful, with people pretending to be serious about their resolutions, laughter and prosperity occupying the air. USA and Iran obviously didn't get the memo, and almost sparked World War 3, with the unfortunate shooting down of a passenger plane. If that wasn't enough of a fiery payload, Australia had wildfires spreading across the nation.

### **February: Brexit + Corona + Early Monsoon**

Spring, we love you, but why did you invite cousin Monsoon to wreak havoc on us during the rare 29 days of February? As Britain enjoyed the hangover of its divorce from EU, incessant rainfall blanketed India. Of

course, the cherry on top of the biggest ever-humble pie was the spread of a new Coronavirus, with the disease gaining the COVID-19 tag and spreading globally. Worse was yet to come as WHO confirmed human-to-human transmission of this virus.

### **March: Lockdown**

With cases ballooning and panic spreading, WHO declared

COVID-19 a global pandemic and governments across the globe started implementing lockdowns. Elsewhere, for sporting bugs, the Summer Olympics were postponed to 2021.

### **April: "Houston, we have a problem"**

4/20 will make anyone consider whether this year was just an April's Fool joke or not. If all we

had suffered till now wasn't enough, the Pentagon inadvertently confirmed the presence of UFOs by quietly releasing video footage while new mummies were found in Egypt.

### **May: Earth heals**

May was a whirlwind, yet at the same time, enough for all of us to start reflecting and witnessing the Earth healing. With the humankind locked up in their houses, nature could finally breathe. Earth was slowly recovering. Delhi's air was rated 'Good' on the AQI. Of course, Yin has to be balanced with Yang; and, Donald Trump did give his very much needed 'health advisory' on drinking sanitiser & injecting bleach (don't try this at home).

### **June: Locusts + Magnetism + Cyclones**

June has us impressed with its 'display of destruction'. A predicted locust swarm is currently destroying crops globally, while cyclones on both Indian coasts have resulted in further devastation. To add to the misery, weakening of the Earth's magnetic field has sounded the alarm for satellites falling out of the sky (adieu TV & Netflix). \*sigh\* This year just keeps on giving.

And this has only been half of the year. What waits for us in the upcoming months, we don't know, but we can extrapolate that it won't be something great. **GI**



Graphics: Amish Mamtani AIS Gurugram 46, X G





# The lucid conceit

## Peculiar Dreams That We All Experience During COVID

Sayantani Dubey, AIS Gur 46, XI I

Well, hello there, fellow quarantiners! Have you been having weirdly specific and unusually vivid dreams ever since the lockdown began? If yes, don't worry. It is a yet another side effect of the looming threat of coronavirus, and there is an explanation to it. Scientists and Oneirologists (dream experts) have been studying the various types of lockdown specific dreams, and finally, they have answers. But first, why do we actually dream? Dreams occur during the REM (rapid eye movement) stage of sleep. This is when our eyes move around, our brain is awake, and our body is relaxed. It is also the stage when most dreams are recalled. Since, now we are less dependent on alarm clocks to wake us up and are woken up naturally, our REM sleep cycles run smoothly and completely. Consequently, we are dreaming more and can clearly recall what we dream. Turns out, coronavirus has affected

the nature of the dreams we have too. Our quarantine dreams too have their genres. Some idyllic and rosy, some evil. Others, mundane and merged into real life. Here is the analysis of a few.

**Dream:** Being late to classes, your dog eating up your assignment, missing trains and traffic jams, or anything that gives you a taste of the daily drudgery and anxieties that we often experienced earlier.

**Analysis:** You, dear friend, are missing what life used to be before coronavirus but then, aren't we all? With the lockdown detaching us from our 'pre-apocalypse' routine, these dreams are a way of giving our mind a simulated opportunity to rehearse through everyday anxiety situations.

**Dream:** Tormenting nightmares about being chased by swarms of bugs, catching the virus, or a close friend or relative catching it.

**Analysis:** Nightmares have a strong correlation with daytime tension. The whole world is distressed by the current situation, which

in turn has a raw psychological effect on us. Dreams like such are normal responses for times like these and help us overcome our fear.

**Dream:** Triumphant dreams about early childhood memories and reminiscent dreams of fun times with friends and family. Sunny and happy dreams, about sun shining in technicolor, and savouring dishes at the top of a waterfall.

**Analysis:** About half the function of sleep is to rejuvenate our mind, and get us ready for the next day. Childhood comfort makes us feel safe and having a dream about it lifts a great deal of stress off of us.

Well, that's about it. Just know that there are many more of these to come and all of them will hold a different significance in your life. And remember, what you dream is a figment of your subconscious. What you think, you dream about. So don't forget to day-dream about your life gaining the same momentum like before! [GT](#)

# Look book 2020

## To All The Fashionistas Out There, This Is The Time!

**Mahi Modgil, AIS Gur 46, X A**

“Fashion is the armour to survive the reality of everyday life.”

The day Ms Corona waltzed into our lives with her head held high, marked a very enlightening epiphany for many. This entire predicament has made us realise how mundane life sitting at home can be. Time goes on painstakingly slow and mostly comprises of us envisioning what our lives would be like once all of this is over. One thing is absolutely certain- There will be major reforms in fashion under the influence of Ms Corona herself. But you, dear reader, have no need to fret for we present to you Look book 2020: Quarantine Edition! It encompasses all the new trends you need to catch up on along with in-style accessories.

### Mask-uerade your way through the streets

Wearing masks is so in-style nowadays, it's an absolute must-have to make your outfit look chic and also acceptable by law! It's the perfect item to give your look that final touch of mystique it needs and applies to all kind of styles ranging from boring Monday to

still-boring Sunday. It is an anti-discriminatory product that is suitable for all shapes and sizes. Don't let the fashion police catch you without one, or the actual one for that matter.

### Fits like a glove

Gloves have made their reappearance alongside the very ostentatious Ms Corona Virus and of course, the true fashionistas know that they never should have gone out of style in the first place. Make sure to keep a pair of gloves on hand, quite literally, when going outside and channel your inner Audrey Hepburn every single time. It has received lots of g(love) from critics and adds a certain flair of sophistication to your outfit.

### 99.9% Approved

The hand sanitiser is a major scent that has topped the charts this month. This new refreshing scent is sure to leave you feeling ready for the day, not that you have much to do but it's the thought that counts. It has been recommended by major fashion icons like the WHO as well as

UNICEF, basically, the entire internet has been gushing over this product. It adds to your look a sense of responsibility and nothing is more fashionable than a person who prevents the widespread of a communicable disease, one pump of sanitiser at a time.

### Keep calm and wear a HAZMAT suit

For all the dedicated fashionistas out there, who aren't afraid to take risks, this product is sure to satisfy all your needs. The HAZMAT suit is an acquired taste which emanates uniqueness, I mean who wouldn't want to look like a beekeeper. It provides 100% protection from people so that you wouldn't have to undergo the torturous process of initiating conversation with someone you don't want to. This eccentric piece of apparel stands against body shaming as well as viruses.

Well there you have it, fellow fashion divas, a guide to catch up with all the latest trends. Style away! 🇬🇧



# Class of 2020

## A Little Of Corona Terms In Our Class

**Farhan Siddiqui, AIS Gurugram 46, X E**

The unfurling of Coronavirus has put everyone inside their nutshells, and has given us new friends, and as the graduating session has arrived, these new friends has become a part of our class. So, let's hear what role they play in the class fun!

**Lockdown:** Repeated jokes and messy hair are his niches. With promising performance in the midterm, he became everyone's favourite in no time, but eventually people lost the interest in him. His mother makes delicious food, and he is always late for school.

**Masks and Gloves:** A pair of inseparable friends, they always feel the need to go out for a stroll after every period and are a part of every friend circle. With integrity like that of concrete, they can always be relied on.

**Pandemic:** He's the talk of the town and has more enemies than friends. He has the most followers on Instagram, but isn't known for being a good influence. The class is peaceful when he's absent and teachers prefer him out of the class mostly.

**Sanitiser:** Turned out to be a hidden gem, and is now loved by everyone! She is the


teacher's pet, and no one seems to mind her presence. With a charming personality, she has proved herself time and again. Also, she smells amazing!

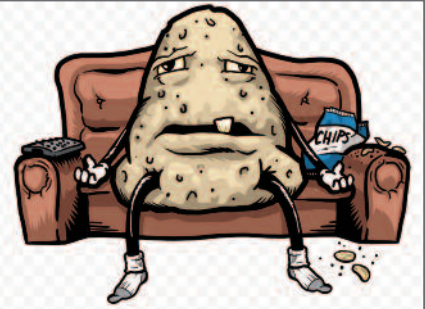
**Red Zone:** A bully on loose, he often arouses crisp trepidation in his classmates. No one likes to talk to him, let alone be around him. He is danger personified.

**Immunity:** The class tends to get dull without her ever-charming self. Everyone takes pride in calling themselves her friend, with her excellent note-making and competitive quirks. She hates Pandemic and Red Zone, and it only seems to get worse!

**Hydroxychloroquine:** Came in like a knight in shining armour, but hasn't been much help to his peers lately. Rose to popularity at first but his poor performance disappointed everyone and eventually, he went into the shadows.

**Vaccine:** The most hyped girl in the class. Hasn't been able to reach teacher's and parent's expectations as yet, but she doesn't seem to stop trying. She is determined to make a change and has everyone counting on her.

Not much of an idyllic class, right? Coronavirus, however, did turn out to be a great teacher. 



### WORDS VERSE

## Plight of a couch

**Angad Gautam**

**AIS Gurugram 46, VIII E**

You are boarding a very long flight  
So, fasten your seat belts, good lord  
And clutch in the armrest tight  
Your couch's waiting for you to board

I was once abandoned and cornered  
Wishing for someone to give me a hug  
Hoping and praying for just a little snug  
As people their school or office revered

It's been forever since you last embraced  
But thanks to China; their varied tastes  
Now humans are spread all over me  
Nowadays I am crashed on, all day

To my fright, neither the young nor old  
Now give me any moment of respite  
With all the jumping and binging on me  
Even the pets bark, looking at my plight

Elbow deep in couch-potato-syndrome  
They now groan at being woken up  
They call themselves arm-chair experts  
I see them as some free, idle converts

You would call it "COVID and couch"  
I beg you to make it "all day slouch"  
I have spoken a lot and tired myself out  
Find some other hotspot, I quit, I shout

But you know I am always here for you  
To welcome you without any hesitation  
Even if you are tired or welled up  
Do come sometimes, just not so often 