

### Schoolyard safari, P5

## What's in a coke, P 7

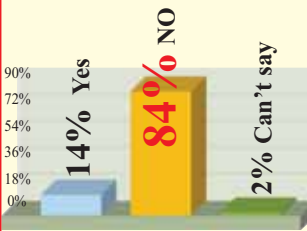
**Do you agree with UGC's decision to allow medical candidates to attempt the NEET only thrice till the age of 25?**

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

To vote, log on to  
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## For GT Edition January 23, 2017

***Do you think Virat Kohli will be able to match up to Dhoni as a captain?***



### Results as on January 28, 2017

### AIS Vas 1 contest edition

MONDAY, JANUARY 30, 2017

**www.theglobaltimes.in**

**Z**aira Wasim, the young face of Dangal, muddled in politics she never asked to be a part of, wrote to the nation, explaining her predicament. And so did many others. For the open letter was always there, ready to lend itself to whoever may come calling. **Devyani Goel, XI E & Anushka Barthwal, XII F, AIS Saket**, take us through the different shades of letters, after they ‘opened’ up a little.

## The ones that inspired

*"My dream wasn't like that of an average kid, my dream was to be the best tennis player in the world. Not the best "female" tennis player in the world. I learned not to be afraid. I learned how important it is to fight for a dream and, most importantly, to dream big."*

*-Serena Williams*

Some of history's most revolutionary changes have been brought about by the power of words. And in this era of the world wide web, these words can be projected onto millions instantly, sparking revolution. Eloquent and deeply committed to their cause, open letters are but an extension of the power of language, inspiring us to dream and to act, and to do it now. They are honest, influential and often bring about real change. Sona Mohapatra used one to slam IIT Bombay on their sexism, revealing to the world a hidden evil. Serena Williams encouraged us to dream big, and it was through these that the Bush sisters at once comforted the Obama kids and us.

## The ones that annoyed

*"Dear Mr Salman Khan, this is the last way I thought I would speak to you. I have been trying to text you call you to tell you are mistaken about the fact that I insulted you." -Arijit Singh*

And yet, all of its virtues could not protect

the open letter from turning frivolous in the hands of those intent on abusing its power. Petty and pointless, these letters forced personal feuds into the public forum. A per-

fect example is the piece penned by Taylor Swift to Kanye West, concerning yet another spat for whose benefit we can't quite fathom. Far from the humble sanctity of the open letter, these pieces violate not only personal boundaries but appear to be barely a step above chits written in a rage.


## The ones making us ask why

*"It's me, your daughter. I love you both, and that's something I can never hide. I'm glad to be your daughter. I must have been blessed to have parents like you." - Yet another citizen of the internet.*

The writers of open letters aren't just celebrities but also average people like 'yours truly'. There are those intent on finding their way through this confusing world with the magical powers of the open letter. How do they do so, you may ask? Simple- by

## The ones we've had enough of

*"For the three odd films that I have directed in the last 21 years, the audience has indulged me and given me great success. I want to say I'm 'befikar' in keeping with the spirit of my film, but honestly, I'm very scared."* - Aditya Chopra

Bollywood has never given up an opportunity to publicise its films. It didn't take long for the industry to get its flashy hands on the open letter. One doesn't have to look very far to find a poorly veiled PR attempt disguised as an open letter. And even though some like that by Amitabh Bachchan are moving, the fact that they coincide with big movie releases cannot be ignored. As open letters continue to dominate our Facebook feeds and page three of the popular dailies, perhaps we should take a moment to ponder just when a letter went from being sealed to be read only by the authorised, to an open piece, welcomed by all with an internet connection. 


Illustrations: Asmita Chakraborty, XI D &  
Vritika Sehrawat, XI E, AIS Saket



# Be who you are

**G**rammy award winning sitar player **Anoushka Shankar** along with her erstwhile father Pt Ravi Shankar turned their backs on rock music, instead enthralling audiences worldwide with Indian classical music. Regularly performing the world over, she shares some experiences on her musical journey with **Asmita Chakraborty, AIS Saket, XI D.**

***"I was expected to live upto my father's legacy."***



**ES**

**In pursuing my music career, my biggest obstacle and my biggest gift happened to be the same. My father was the best teacher I could get. But being both a daughter and a student to him, I was subject to immense pressure and judgements. I had to prove myself and yet, I couldn't play music to please anyone. So I went ahead with music as a passion and not a parameter. I decided to be myself, to play 'my music' and it eventually paid off. Today, I feel that my work speaks for itself.**

- Anoushka Shankar is the daughter of her father, 'Bapi' Tansen.
- She became the youngest female recipient of the Padma Shri award.
- She became one of the first Indian women to perform at the Montreux Jazz Festival.

***“I screamed in joy when I was nominated for the Grammy”***

Well consider me modest, but honestly, winning a Grammy feels like a small feat now. That said, a first is a first. I was in Brazil on a holiday and was waiting for the nomination news because I was expecting my sister (Norah Jones) to get the nominations. It came as a major shock, when I heard the news that I was also nominated ( in a different category). I remember screaming around the garden with joy. I haven't done that since then.

***“People follow classical music in their own time”***

**I don't generally feel worried about the future of classical music as people come to it in their own time. It is a niche**

genre of music. What is important is that parents play all kinds of music at home. So, even if the kids don't develop liking for a certain kind of music, they are at least exposed to various genres of music. So exposure to any form of classical music, either in school or home, is important.

***“Education is the solution to gender related evils”***

**Gender laws and their implementation have undergone a metamorphosis, and that is a commendable feat. Also, I don't think any of us can expect the situation to change vis-a-vis social evils like dowry, foeticide within three-four years. Our society has long lived with these evils and it will take a while before we can finally see change, and that change can only come about with education.**

***“Making a viable living out of music is hard”***

It's easier to picture an artistic life when you are in a family of musicians. I could be a musician because of my father (Pt Ravi Shankar). Sometimes it can be really hard making a living as a musician. Indian parents usually insist that you get a degree, instead of simply pursuing your passion. I went through the same dilemma when I finished high school. I had to go to university or straight into music. I chose university because my father was always going to be there and I could always come back if things didn't work. Whereas, in music, you're on your own. Even then there's the opportunity.

picture being a musician because of my father (Pt Ravi Shankar). But sometimes it can be really hard making a viable career out of music. Indian parents usually insist that their kids get a business or law degree, instead of simply pursuing music. I underwent the same dilemma when I finished school, as to whether to go to university or straight into music. I felt that university was always going to be there and I could go back to studies if things didn't work. Whereas, in music you never know when there's the opportunity.

### ***“Message for Amitians”***

**I hate messages...(laughs). Be who you are. Do what you want but work hard... be different and think different.**





“We deliver as much as Lays doesn’t!”

Nivedita Singhal & Khushi Ko, AIS Saket  
XI E, Page Editors



Contest Edition

# Banking on motherhood

Banks have the role of providing financial security for living a life with a bright future. But here is a bank that fulfills the role of providing the new borns with life itself, so that they can live a future

Pics: Deepak Sharma, GT Network

## Ground Reporting

Khushi Ko & Nivedita Singhal  
AIS Saket, XI E

Somewhere, in an ICU are a pair of newborn twins, barely hanging on, slowly losing grip on the lives that they haven’t even lived yet, their parents watching helplessly. On the other side of the city, there lives a woman armed with the ability to provide them nutrition, to bring them back to life; indeed an unfortunate gap. But the gap that seems unbridgeable can now be filled, a drop at a time.

### A noble step

‘Amaara’, a noble collaboration between Breast Milk Foundation, a non-profit organisation and Fortis La Femme is the first and the only human milk bank in Delhi NCR. Established in 2015, it aims to provide donor milk to high risk newborns, preterm babies and aid mothers with lactation failure. Driven by the thought that a mother’s excess milk shouldn’t go waste while a child suffers the lack of it, the milk bank was a philanthropic step by Dr Ankit Srivastava, Founder, Amaara; Dr Neha Srivastava and Dr Raghuram Mallaiiah.

### Concerns debunked

“It wasn’t easy, there were innumerable speculations from both the donor’s and



GT reporters with members of the bank

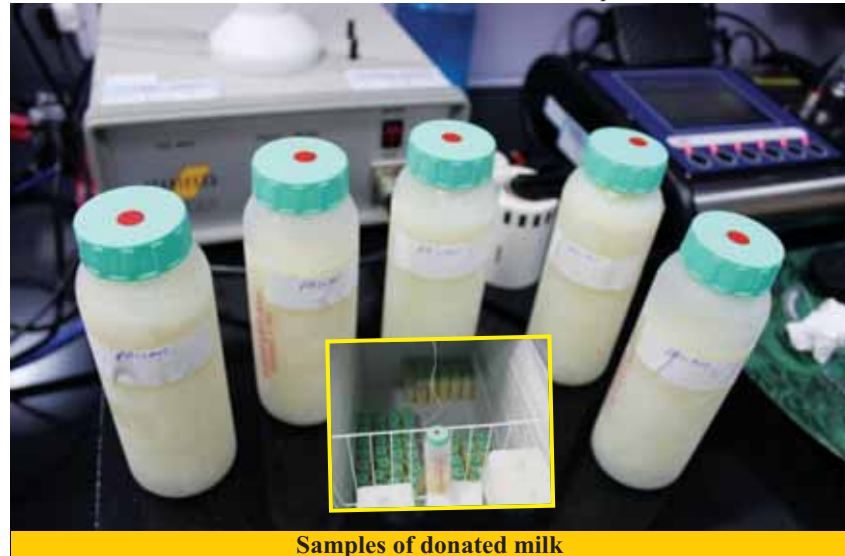
receiver’s end in the beginning. Whether the process will leave enough milk for the donors to feed their own babies and if the process was safe enough were some. But we made sure that all these concerns were addressed,” says Sister Archana Antony, Bank in-charge, Fortis La Femme. Amaara added a humane touch to the entire process and has left no stone unturned to ease the stigma around breast feeding and milk donation. For instance, the process of collecting milk from lactating mother is termed as



‘expression’ while they have ‘runners’ (for pickup and delivery) to aid collection. A mother has the choice to donate either during or after feeding her baby. “A lactating woman’s body will never lack milk and so there shouldn’t be any inhibitions. Also, anonymity of the donor is always ensured,” explains Archana.

### Of support and reassurance

Where there is a will, there is always a way and Amaara has made sure that there are plenty for donors. The process of milk donation has been painstakingly designed to ensure maximum benefits and minimum complications. The donor





Samples of donated milk

is first required to get in touch with the organisation and fill up a form, followed by a medical examination. Next, the ‘runner’ from the hospital delivers the requisite equipment to the donor mother and explains the dos and don’ts of milk expression and storage. The milk is then collected by the runner who carries the bottles in an ice storage box to the bank. “The bottles are labelled in three different colours-red for the raw milk brought by runner, yellow for pasteurised milk and green for ready to dispatch. Culture tests and pasteurisation also form a part of the process,” iterates Ohika Chakraborty, Deputy Director (M & PR), Amaara Organisation. “If not used within six months, the bottles are

discarded,” she adds.

### A step further

Amaara has seen many ups and downs in the short span of its life. But recognising the need to make people aware about breast feeding and ensure a healthier world for both, the organisation is ready to overcome every obstacle. The philanthropic initiative has so far received donations from 50 mothers across Delhi/ NCR and strives to improve the lives of the lesser privileged children by collaborating with government hospitals. Because they believe that there isn’t anything as precious for a new born baby as the ‘liquid gold’.  

Pics: Parth Monish Kohli, AIS Saket, XI E



### The final words on a poster



### It's about the addition and the omissions



### Editor-in-chief smiles content



### Working in unison to master the strokes



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“Our edition has all the right toppings of illustrations, humor and information, just like a perfect slice of pizza.”  
**Lakshita Narang, XI E & Swetabh Changkakoti, IX C**  
 AIS Saket, Page Editors



# A murder mystery

Sherlock Holmes. Feluda. Hercule Poirot. They all are masterminds in cracking murder cases. But in real life, another breed of silent heroes catches the bad guy

Pic: Anoushka Chakrapani, AIS Saket, XI E

Suhani Saigal, AIS Saket, XI E

At the outbreak of dusk, a gunshot was heard by the neighbours of apartment 27A. Bewildered, they broke open into the flat, only to find a moribund body lying on the floor. As the case progressed, it was transferred to the CBI that recruited a team of professionals with specialised degrees in the field of ‘Forensic Sciences’.

## Forensic Investigator

On reaching the crime scene, the ‘Forensic Investigators’ checked every corner of the area for evidence. Since the body was found indoors, they followed the ‘Zonal’ method of investigation, that is, they divided the room into zones, and further divided them into sub-zones, and then investigated zone by zone. They collected and recorded the required evidence to narrow down the list of suspects. For future reference, they reconstructed the crime scene on paper. They had an eye for detail, after all, it was a must for their job.

## Ballistics Expert

The bullet found in the body was analysed by the ‘Forensic Ballistics Expert’. He concluded that a .38 special ammunition bullet was shot from a .357 Magnum Revolver. He helped his colleagues identify the trajectory of the fired round to recognise the point of origin. He just had to know so much, given the 85-pistol collection he owned and his ever growing fascination for guns.

## Pathologist

The body was then taken to the ‘Forensic Pathologist’. Since the cause of death was pre-determined, she only declared the time of death as 7:14 pm. On performing an autopsy, she found traces of poison in the body. Investigators confirmed that the person was poisoned. Being a curious cat made this gruesome job easier for



Model: Yatika Khatter, V A, Sarthak Mangla V A, Yatharth Khatter, V B, AIS Saket

## Courses available at

- Amity University
- California State University
- University of Birmingham
- Gujarat Forensic Sciences University
- Michigan State University

her than it should have been. She had a knack for it, and a strong stomach too. Not for the faint hearted.

## Forensic Psychologist

The list of suspects was still uncertain, and so the ‘Forensic Psychologist’ was asked to carry out Criminal Profiling, also called Offender Profiling. He

analysed and scrutinised the crime and the crime scene. He inferred that the murder was done by someone who worked in the house, explaining his/her presence at 7 pm and someone who was trusted by the victim, explaining the poison found. By connecting all the dots, the list of suspects was now narrowed down to two domestic helpers working in Apartment 27A, both women. The investigators broke into their houses and found a .357 Magnum Revolver in one. The case closed when the forensic psychologist reported that the accused suffered from schizophrenia, which led her to believe that the innocent victim was after her life, and thus would not be subjected to punishment. It was his job to read between the lines so that all was out in the daylight, even the words not spoken.

Murder mystery solved! 🇮🇳

## Amity Institute for Competitive Examinations

Presents

## Brainleaks-196 FOR CLASS IX-X

The resistance of the series combination of two resistors is S. When they are joined in parallel, the total resistance is P. If  $S = nP$  the maximum possible value of n is :

a) 4  
b) 3  
c) 2  
d) 1

Last Date:  
Feb 3, 2017

3 correct entries win attractive prizes

Ans. Brainleaks 195: (d)

### Winner for Brainleaks 195

1. Kyna Khanna, VII-AFYCP, AIS Gur-46
2. Vaibhav Bhati, VIII-AFYCP, AIS Gur-46
3. Lakshya Gupta, VIII-AFYCP, AIS Gur-46

Name:.....

Class:.....

School:.....

Send your answers to The Global Times, E-26, Defence Colony, New Delhi - 24 or e-mail your answer at [brainleaks@theglobaltimes.in](mailto:brainleaks@theglobaltimes.in)

# F.R.I.E.N.D.S or F.O.E.S?

There are two things a student will never be able to outrun in school.

Subjects & Friends. While one is scary, the other is a lifesaver. However, they are many uncanny similarities between the two.

**Meghna Pradeep, AIS Saket, XI** brings the ‘subject’ in the clique...

**History:** “That one friend, who remembers every little fact, even the tiniest detail about you.”

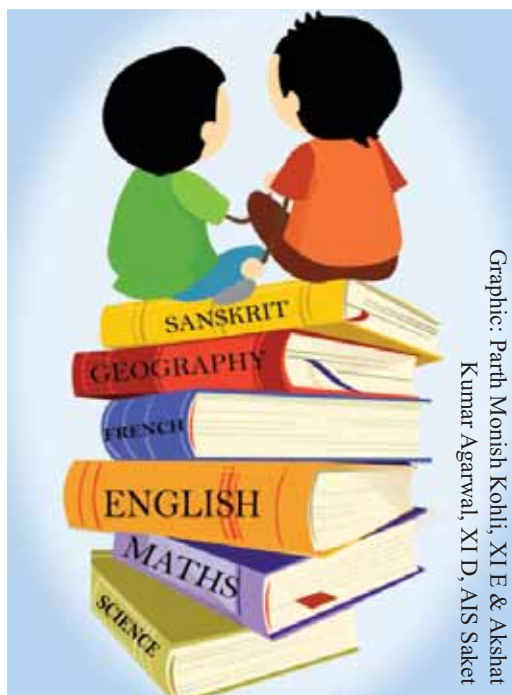
To the point that it gets annoying, especially when the friend brings up an embarrassing memory. “Hey, remember the time you called your teacher ‘mom’?” We might be willing to kill this friend at that point of time, but they surely come in handy when you forget something.

**Math:** “The probability of you failing this test goes through the roof, my friend.”

This is that one friend who is so rational and calculative that he finds logic even in the vaguest of situations. You might be irritated at their practicality and tendency to look at the world as an equation, but when you’re drowning in an emotional crisis, they will be the first to pull you out.

**Science:** “You must be good at science in a parallel universe, don’t worry!”

Being with this friend is like constantly being with an idea-generator, who pulls out innovations like a rabbit out of a hat. They have a tendency to apply physics where motion is involved. And when



Graphic: Parth Monish Kohli, XI E & Akshat Kumar Agarwal, XI D, AIS Saket

you’re eating junk, they’ll tell you the chemical content and make you feel guilty.

**English:** “Your negligent use of grammar is abysmal, and is driving me up the wall.”

They’re the storytellers, the ones with interesting tales under their sleeves. With an impeccable vocabulary, sophistication, witty remarks, use of idioms, on-point grammar and a romanticised idea of everything, they can spruce up any conversation.

**Hindi:** “Chinta mat kar, main hoon na!”

Nothing helps you express better than your own mother tongue for the heart warming connect it brings along. The same goes for this bestie for he connects with you at all possible levels and understands you like none else.

**Sanskrit:** “I never go against my values.”

This friend can be characterised by old school thoughts. They may appear rigid and incomprehensible from outside, but once you make an effort to know them it becomes easy to win their heart. It is called a scoring subject for a reason. 🇮🇳

# Decoding the code

Devyani Goel, AIS Saket, XI E

Computer science is one of the most sought after subjects in school today, flocked to by sixteen year olds. And in the herd, it can be hard to decide whether one is an actual “CS guy” or merely another kid in need of marks, who’s bad at biology. So keep checking the box as you read, to know if you truly are an (almost) expert at the humble science of computers.

## Parental perils

If you truly are a CS kid, your mother has threatened to throw your computer and you have been told to get your face out of the screen, lest you get glasses (if you haven’t already). Your parents have expressed concerns about your (non-existent) social life not realising that you’ve already found a true companion in the coding.

## Key(over)board

As a real computer enthusiast, your keyboard has had coffee/ice tea/Patanjali cough syrup spilled on it more times than you care to count and the

spaces between the keys are filled with biscuit crumbs and little drops of chutney. How your laptop isn’t already a thriving ant colony is anybody’s guess.

## Life, what life?

Buried under piles of work and codes that refuse to cooperate, you’ve probably already bid goodbye to a decent night of sleep. The last time you got through a movie without having a eureka moment and rushing off in the middle of it to fix that pesky little piece of code was six months ago.

## Popularity (?)

Being the school’s resident tech expert comes with its own disadvantages, mostly in the form of never ending demands. Your best friend has asked you to design the app for his “super cool start up idea” twice already (you’ve seen him working on another scheme, and honestly, you’re a little worried). Teachers are constantly sending you to competitions that even remotely require your tech-pertise (their words, not mine, promise). But hey, all the attention feels nice.

Pic: Kunsh Ahuja, AIS Saket, XI E | Model: Kunal Bhardwaj, V A, AIS Saket



# The Last Judgement

2012 might have spared us, but that does not mean we have hoodwinked the reaper. The road to complete annihilation of mankind is replete in various unbelievable yet plausible theories

Himadri Seth, AIS Saket, X A

“The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire and the Earth and everything in it will be laid bare.” – The Bible

‘Doomsday’, the day when all life as we know it shall cease to exist, is a concept that has existed since time immemorial. However, in recent times with the ‘side effects of technology’ going off the charts, scientists fear that our end will arrive sooner than expected. But what if it is neither the great floods that Noah escaped in his ark, nor the cosmic upheavals that claimed our gigantic predecessors? Here are a few ways the world could end that we never saw coming.

## Artificial Intelligence

Robots taking over the world always seemed to be a thing of the movies. Until, of course, scientists told us that this could be the reality of mankind’s end. According to Professor Stephen Hawking, the primitive forms of artificial intelligence developed so far have proved very useful, but the consequences of creating something that can match or surpass human intelligence may be dire, as it could then take off on its own, and re-design itself at an ever increasing rate. Humans, who are limited by slow biological evolution would not be able to compete, and would be superseded. So if it comes down to the survival of the fittest, our fate does not look great.



Illustration: Shagun Agrawal, AIS Saket, XI E

## Verneshot

“What goes up, must come down,” says Earth and these golden words might spell our doom. A team of scientists at the GEOMAR Earth Science Institute at Kiel University first proposed this theory: Huge

volumes of volcanic gas slowly build up beneath layers of impenetrable rock called cratons; one craton usually being the size of an entire country. When those rocks start splitting apart, the built-up gases explode, blowing the craton into a suborbital trajectory. The expelled chunk of rock is launched

into the air, orbits the Earth briefly, and then crashes back to the planet. As it hits the earth, the tube below the earth’s surface that formerly held all the gas empties, pouring its noxious contents into the atmosphere. This results in a shockwave, causing a massive earthquake. So that’s basically the horrors of a supervolcano combined with a massive asteroid strike. Good luck, Earth.

## Methane Burps

When the Earth decides to burp, humanity has no option. Also known as ‘The Clathrate Gun Hypothesis’, it talks about how increase in sea temperatures (and/or falls in sea level) can trigger the sudden release of methane, buried in seabeds. Since methane itself is a powerful greenhouse gas, its release leads to further temperature rise and further methane clathrate destabilization – in effect initiating a runaway process, as irreversible, once started, as the firing of a gun. Or a burp. And the worst part is, this has actually happened before. Twice. The first was 251 million years ago, when a supervolcano erupted, killing almost every living thing on Earth and the second took place 55 million years ago, which destroyed the environment for the next 100,000 years. All of this said, let’s not lose hope. We have survived till now, and we will figure out ways to do so in future as well.

# Bored of Boredom ?

Boredom=A waste of time, right? But what if this equation was wrong all along?

Tanya Bhalla, AIS Saket, XI E

Hi, I am Boring! And I’m bored with people calling me boring. Now, before you point it out, I’m well aware of my reputation around here. What is it you kids call me? Negative, depressing? Well, I have another side too – and not to toot my own horn, but, it’s a very bright, sparkling and scientific side. Don’t believe me? Let me prove it to you. A research by the Bar-Ilan University, Israel, showed that daydreaming has a positive effect on task performance, as it stimulates a region of the brain responsible for ‘thought controlling’ and ‘thought freeing’- mechanisms that increase productivity. And you know who Daydreaming is? My best friend, that’s who. She’s not going anywhere without me, so ultimately, I, Boredom, am good for productivity. Moreover, humans are not programmed to con-

stantly be in a busy ‘go’ mode like machines. Overstimulation and exertion can have major downsides, including loss of focus and creativity. So a little dose of me, following an ‘oh so tiring’ day is actually good. The next time I come knocking, don’t hide behind your screen, maybe try embracing me. It will help you be aware of the real, dynamic world, outside. What’s more, if you’re one of those people who always needs to be working no matter what, I have something for you too. Research suggests that I encourage people to pursue new goals. I help people to understand their calibre. And if you’re still not satisfied, I have also been associated with pro-social behaviour like altruism and empathy that help establish self-meaning. I am also known to boost creativity and innovation. In summation, boredom is not as bad as you think and if this conclusion bores you, I hope that I have inspired you enough to come up with a better one.

Pic: Kunsh Ahuja, AIS Saket, XI E | Models: Reyansh Bij, III C & Adit Gupta, III B, AIS Saket



Graphic: Akshat Kumar Agarwal, AIS Saket, XI D

Shreya Chaudhry, AIS Saket, XI E

Science says that the brain of a bilingual person looks and works differently from that of a monolingual person. Let’s eavesdrop into the not-so-friendly conversation of Mr Bilingual and Mr Monolingual to know what they think. **Mr Monolingual:** How can you say you are superior to me when all that bilingualism does is to confuse school going children, and limit their vocabularies? Bilingualism is the culprit for their scanty vocabularies in each language compared to those who only speak one language. **Mr Bilingual:** Just FYI, according to the Critical Period Hypothesis, learning two or more languages at an early stage in life helps an individual to get a more holistic grasp on the social and emotional contexts of each language. **Mr Monolingual:** And what about the processing cost, as the brain needs to do two things at once? Isn’t it better to be a master of one language, than jack of many? **Mr Bilingual:** If you look at the glass half empty, that is. Bilingualism adds certain remarkable advantages to brain functioning. **Mr Monolingual:** May I know what these remarkable advantages are? **Mr Bilingual:** Firstly, bilingual people generally

exhibit qualities such as a higher density of the grey matter, which contains most of the brain’s neurons and synapses. Bilingualism triggers more cognitive activities in some parts of the brain and also delays the occurrence of fatal brain diseases like the Alzheimer’s and Dementia by at least 5 years. **Mr Monolingual:** I certainly can’t remember why I’m talking to you; I believe I have dementia already. I still emphasise upon the reaction time and the frequency of errors that increase for bilinguals. **Mr Bilingual:** Look at it this way. The effort and attention needed to switch between two languages potentially strengthens the Dorsolateral Prefrontal Cortex of the brain, which plays a major role in executive functions - problem solving, switching between tasks and focussing, while filtering out irrelevant information. Bilingual speakers are used to switching mentally between tongues. All that practice means they’re also better at multitasking. **Mr Monolingual:** I’ve wasted so much time that now I’ve got to juggle my tasks. **Mr Bilingual:** You mean, you just got immersed in the overflow of powerful feelings, right? So, although bilingualism may not make a person smarter, it definitely keeps the brain healthy, complex and engaged! Do yourself a favour and take the linguistic leap from ‘Hello’ to ‘Bonjour’, or even ‘Kem cho’?





“Tedha hai par, sabka hai kurkure aur ye edition!”

Anoushka Chakrapani, AIS Saket  
XI E, Page Editor

# Potted feels, bouncing anxiety

A bear, a donkey and a rabbit-all great friends with a human-cub what could go wrong in this ‘unreal’ experience? Everything.

Illustration: Shagun Agrawal, AIS Saket, XI E



Anoushka Chakrapani AIS Saket, XI E

‘Deep in the hundred acre woods where Christopher Robbin plays’ with a stuffed bear filled with fluff, who itself has its imaginary friends, is only a ‘world’ created by him, where make-believe inhabitants include personified animals. Welcome to the world of mental illness, which isn’t always sunshine and butterflies, but this cartoon begs to differ.

## Christopher Robbin (Autism)

Picture this, Christopher Robbin sitting on a rolling hill with his stuffed bear, unaware of his surroundings. This might seem like a normal childhood. But when each and every one of his imaginary friends embodies a disorder or is portrayed by the animals associated with the names Christopher is teased by, it is not. Social and communicative impairments, poor vocabulary, occasional misspellings or even confusing two words and obsessing about stuffed toys - all point to a direction, that Christopher is autistic.

## Winnie The Pooh (OCD and ADHD)

The idea of ‘hunny’ causes hallucinations in Pooh’s life, who imagines himself as a bee or swimming in large honey pots, while being very much awake. His

infatuation with honey leads us to believe that the character has coexisting OCD and ADHD. His ability to move on from an unfinished task showcases the symptoms, but all in all it’s driven by the need to quench its eternal thirst for ‘hunny’.

## Rabbit (OCD and NPD)

Rabbit is a symbol for the most common and stereotyped OCD - perfectionism, whether it be in terms of the systemised garden or even the colour coordinated stacks of honey pots in his house. It can be observed even through his language when he quotes “Messy? Messy? It’s ruined! It’s ruined”. Narcissistic Personality Disorder isn’t uncommon in this scenario, when you see it giving itself utmost importance with the plans it creates. While looking at all the other animals and their flaws, Rabbit’s ego inflates and rises higher than Christopher’s red balloon. The constant need of admiration from its peers and the inability to handle any sort of criticism basically confirm the illness.

## Eeyore (Depression)

“It could be worse,” said Eeyore to his helpful friends. Eeyore, the sad little donkey, is unhappy with his own existence mixed with the lack of attention he receives from the other animals. With quotes ranging from “Thanks for noticin’ me” or “Never mind we won’t find it anyway,” it can be inferred that his dysthymia may have grown into a major depressive disorder (persisted in the books, movies and episodes). Out of all the animals, it is one who gives great advice and motivational quotes to the rest, but not to itself.

The boy in the forest and his friends have given us numerous reasons to smile. But, it just so happens that they bear uncanny resemblances to certain illnesses that is no smiling matter. So, if you come across such (dis)enchanted forests, take steps while the hunny spills. [G.T](#)

# A schoolyard safari

Imagine Mowgli escaping the wild and traversing to this concrete jungle, we call our beloved or shall we say our natural habitat... ‘School’. Well, he may just feel at home

Chirag Sethi, AIS Saket, X

Classroom - a place where the teacher sermons, while the children wander between thoughts of this world and the other. It’s quite a lot like the wilderness, where a distant observer can enjoy the scenes of unceasing activity and every specimen is a part of the grand orchestra we call ‘school’.

Enter the students’ natural habitat. The docile critters of the redbrick jungle, the thinkers, sit quietly in dark corners, dreaming of places and times afar. Their polar opposites, keen predators also known as ‘pranksters’, make the ground shake with pranks that establish their unmistakable dominance. The relationship of these two groups is unusual - a mélange of brawns and brains clash, creating what some people call ‘society’. In some cases, one may even find the teacher in con-

Models: Students of Class V, AIS Saket | Pic: Anoushka Chakrapani, AIS Saket, XI E



trol of the situation, with classes unusually yet wonderfully quiet.

The environment, as one would deduce, is just as important to the impeccable balance of the scene.

Chairs and desks, squiggles and inscriptions from an era immemorial, boxes

of white ash, metallic bottles dented by the vigorous rituals of laughing students - there is much to see in a classroom. Most fascinating, perhaps, is how the ecosystem brings itself back to equilibrium. Efforts from hardworking environmentalists end in vain, as the unforgiving day leaves remnants on the classroom floor. What students call ‘recess’

finishes the job, as crumbled balls of paper and squishy blobs of food smack the ground in this rain of primitive hearth. But coexisting with the environmentalists, they learn to deal with their own mess, to sustain.

While the students and the environment play an unmistakably important role in this bustle, the beauty of its cohesion makes it memorable. The creatures of the room divide themselves into cliques, each with their own charm. Nature makes itself most conspicuous through harmless fights and a laugh or two. Those with humour have their own place in the food chain, a throne reeking of joyous Seraphim and soon-to-be memories, while those with sincerity feed on their own, knowing that the kingdom will be theirs.

This flourishing environment witnesses pranks and stories, a symbiosis of rebellion and authority, making it thrive. Whether the creatures like it or not, they’re playing their parts to this grand play, making this nature, as we know it, truly beautiful and ongoing. [G.T](#)



# The treasure called letters

“In an age like ours, which is not given to letter-writing, we forget what an important part it used to play in people's lives.”

-Anatole Broyard



Since ages, letters have been a very special form of expression, connecting people all over. As words were written with the pen of the heart, a blank paper became a carrier of hope, a complaint box, a proposal of friendship, a baton of responsibilities and much more. The anticipation attached to the arrival of a letter and the efforts made in writing it and ensuring that it reaches on time made it equivalent to a prized possession. The incorrect spellings of a learner, the perfect grammar of a grown up or the shaky handwriting of an elderly added a personal touch to them. As technology came to the forefront, the anticipation was replaced by instant gratification and the anomalies of handwriting were replaced by a standard font. Earlier, relationships took their own time to develop, now they start quick and end quicker. But as Amity believes in preserving all those traditions that form an association between the past and the present; the practice of letter writing is encouraged. The Global Times has a section dedicated exclusively to letters sent by its readers. Children are taken to the post office and asked to write letters to their dear ones as a token of gratitude. Special activities as ‘Swiss letter exchange programme’ encourages exchange of letters to learn about the culture, lifestyle and education system of various countries. At Amity, we believe that traditions are our essence. And letters are indeed a tradition sprinkled with emotions galore and shall remain eternal to us. 🇮🇳

# Live by legacy

“Dare to be free, dare to go as far as your thought leads, and dare to carry that out in your life.”

-Swami Vivekananda



I am overpowered with stimulating sentiments as I pen my thoughts for this significant contest issue which coincides not only with the 68th year of our Republic but also with 25 glorious years of AIS Saket. When at the stroke of midnight, seven decades ago, India metamorphosed from a British colony into an independent nation, the world witnessed the birth of a country not weakened by its diversity, but strengthened by it. Much like its motherland, AIS Saket, since its establishment in 1991, has created a legacy out of coalescing modernity with tradition. The ideals that form our nation and which enable Amity to transcend all previously set frontiers of education are concordant-high intention, sincere effort, and an intelligent and well thought out execution. I would like to take this opportunity to thank our Founder Dr Ashok K. Chauhan and Chairperson Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan for their unwavering belief in students and for bestowing numerous opportunities for their holistic growth. The platform provided by The Global Times team to foster the journalistic spirit in students is worthy of extolment. I commend the editorial team on their admirable work. Around this time every year, we are reminded that the rights we enjoy today were not given to us on a silver platter. Success does not come without endeavour and endurance. Let us resolve to not only sustain the legacy set by our great nation and eminent institution, but to surpass it to the farthest limits human mind can conceptualise and conceive. 🇮🇳

# The forged and forced

Reading washes away from the soul, the dust of everyday life. But when literature is forged and interpretation forced, lives are buried in soot instead

Graphic: Parth Monish Kohli, AIS Saket, XI E

Anoushka Chakrapani  
AIS Saket, XI E

Blood isn’t water and humans aren’t paper. We don’t drain, we bleed. When the world can’t differentiate fiction from realism, you know bigotry is churning. Our history has been shaped by many such unjust opinions and ideas that appear down right stupid. And stupidity sometimes isn’t hilarious, its scarring.

**Protocols of Elders of Zion**  
This fictional book documents the plan made by the Jews to take over our planet. Despite being proven fraudulent in 1921, Hitler used it to instill hatred against Jews. Banning the harmless souls and scaring them out of public light into the four walls of cupboards, this document caused the death of 11 million innocent lives.

**Tanaka Memorial**  
Japanese Prime Minister Tanaka Giichi is said to have penned down his ideas and thoughts about world domination in this document. The world war mirrored the order of the countries Japan would conquer, as was written in the document. Consequently, it sparked anti-Japanese sentiments and gathered more cavalry for war. The information provided was taken as a reason to hold up weapons, which



eventually resulted in Hiroshima and Nagasaki being reduced to ashes.

**Donation of Constantine**  
Seen as history’s greatest forgery, the document states that the then emperor Constantine transferred all authority of Rome to the Pope. Pope Leo IX used it to heavily tax the locals, which led to the creation of sects. If it weren’t for the period of questioning, the naive locals would have been exploited to death.

**Yellowcake uranium**  
Italian military provided CIA with documents claiming that Saddam Hussein was obtaining yellowcake uranium to create WMDs. Later used as justification for the invasion of Iraq by the US, the document was said to be forged much before the conflict. The invasion of Iraq itself resulted in a war with 165,000 civilians dying solely from the war attacks, and double the number succumbing to war zone conditions.

Intertwining fantasy with a sense of reality causes us to be blinded by what we believe is true. Literature and conspiracies seem to be going hand in hand. But with a mind as complex as ours, choosing between what’s right and what’s wrong needs to be clear, otherwise, the end is near. Following our leaders into bloodshed, we are no less than our primate ancestors ie the apes, playing not with sticks and stones but real lives and nations. 🇮🇳

# Is it all about English Vinglish?

*Feasting on English food and binge-watching English shows, the slightest gaffe by the ones not so used to our new language has us in splits. Swetabh Changkakoti, AIS Saket, IX C wants to know why it is so funny.*

It was an overcast day, the 25th of June 1983. The Lord’s Cricket Ground, England, was roaring in silence. A war of 22 yards was screeching to an end, and Kapil Dev led the Indian Cricket Team to a spectacular victory. Soon afterwards, he was an idol, omnipresent, with news channels hunting him. He’d

answer with flamboyance and humility, but to sophistication’s dismay, his language ‘failed’ him. With the attention came a side of mockery, all because he wasn’t a master of the English language. This has often been the case - women and men with immense talent tend to become subjects of derision for the solitary sin of not knowing a language. Our all-knowing ever-growing society has made fluency in English a measure of a person’s worth, which makes no sense. After all, we’ve seen some notable exceptions over the decades. For instance, there’s Nawazuddin Siddiqui, who isn’t known for his dexterity at English, but his expressions communicate with us in a more profound, authentic way. The media is plagued by the impulse to call people out on these ‘flaws’. While the paparazzi and the juvenile are expected to be a tad insensitive, there are adults also resorting to this class of humour.

So, again, why? Maybe it’s a misplaced sense of superiority. In the past, the spread of this language used to be a way of ‘civilising’ the backward populace of this country under the British rule. We seem to have forgotten that the language doesn’t come naturally to us and like any other learning, we’re bound to make mistakes. Being the butt of a joke is not particularly fun. Even without the lace of malice, this type of lampooning hurts, and more often than not, discourages a possibly bright-eyed person from even trying to learn the language. No one made fun of us when we were first learning to eat and would make a mess. How is this different? To be able to show that we’re ‘better’ than someone else might feel good, but at some point, all of us were but beginners. We walked into this world knowing nothing, expecting nothing. Of course, there will always be people who’ve just begun; some may not have

even started yet, but this was never, and by no means will ever be a testament to one’s worth. In the end, we try to get a message across- that’s what artists, writers, or performers do. And writers, artists, performers - all humans know that it’s the way you communicate, not the language that matters. It’s a matter of realising it. 🇮🇳

## I have a dream



Debjani Das  
GT Teacher Co-ordinator

Rumour has it that five minutes before Martin Luther King Jr. was to give a speech on August 28, 1963, he changed the opening sentence to “I have a dream”. As we finish compiling this contest issue after sleepless nights and changes that I have lost count of, I feel a certain kinship with him. History is filled with instances where words, carefully chosen and powerfully delivered, changed the world. In this contest issue, we have made an attempt not to replicate, but embrace the words of the legends and create something uniquely ours. From the brainstorming characteristic of the first editorial meet to the last minute fine tuning, the students have not only met the already high expectations, but have gone well beyond. In conclusion, I invite you to sit back with our attempt at creating a newspaper and lose yourself in the magic of words, painstakingly chosen, conscientiously woven together.



Model: Mehar Jagota, AIS Saket, III B | Pic: Anoushka Chakrapani, AIS Saket, XI E





"The kettle of coffee whistles just like you will when you see our edition."

Vritika Sehrawat, AIS Saket, XI E  
Page Editor

# Gone in 60 Minutes

*The bottle pops and with the cap comes off the secrets. Each bubble sugar coats the lies these beverages quench our thirst with*

As soon as one serving of an aerated beverage enters the mouth, it hits the system with about 10 teaspoons of sugar. According to medical studies, the permissible amount of sugar intake in a day is 9 teaspoons for male and 6 teaspoons for women. Within this short span of time, such a tremendous amount of sugar should naturally make one vomit, but the phosphoric acid present in aerated drinks, artificially subdues the sweetness and keeps one from throwing up.



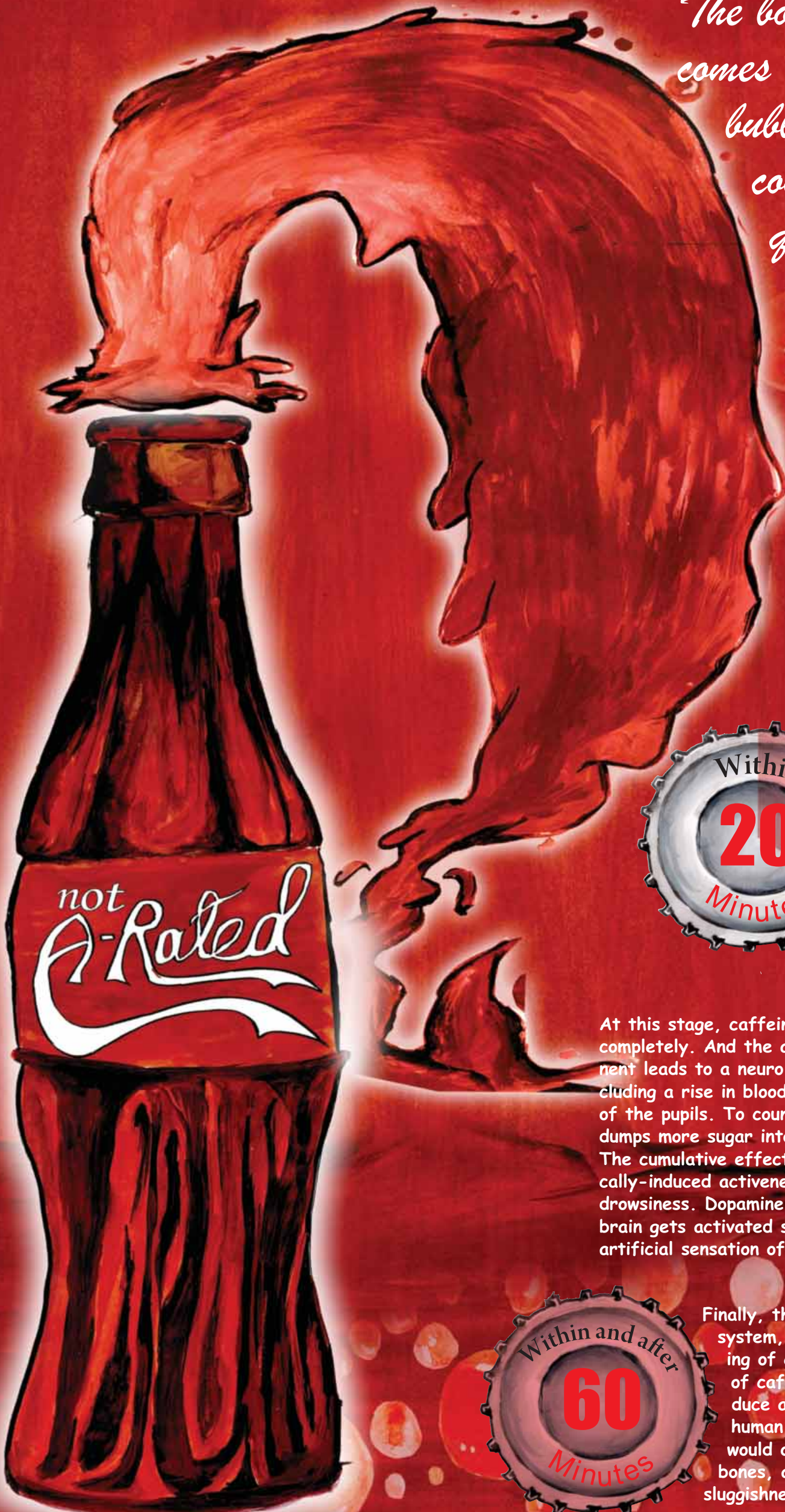
Soon after, the blood sugar spikes as a result of the sugar introduced in the system. The consumption of large amounts of sugar triggers the pancreas to secrete insulin, a hormone that helps sugar get into cells. Further, insulin signals the liver, muscle and fat cells in the body to take up sugar from the blood, in order to lower blood-sugar levels. These two short-term effects are the root of long-term risks such as diabetes and obesity in the body.



At this stage, caffeine is absorbed in the body completely. And the absorption of this component leads to a neuro-stimulatory effect, including a rise in blood-pressure and dilation of the pupils. To counteract this, the liver dumps more sugar into the bloodstream. The cumulative effect of this is the chemically-induced activeness and reduction in drowsiness. Dopamine, a chemical in the brain gets activated soon after, giving us an artificial sensation of pleasure and happiness.



Finally, the beverage starts its effect on the digestive system, and bolsters metabolism by enhancing the binding of calcium, magnesium and zinc. The diuretic nature of caffeine and the excess of calcium in the body produce a frequent urge to urinate. Due to this, the human body loses calcium, magnesium and zinc that would otherwise have helped in the strengthening of bones, and finally the crash in sugar levels, lead to sluggishness and irritability.







Pic: Anoushka Chakrapani, AIS Saket, XI E | Model: Suhani Saigal, AIS Saket, XI E

# It was year 1947

Streets were soaked in red, while the faces struck white, all terrified due to colonial havoc. But amidst this, there was a hope to be free once again. *Anoushka Chakrapani, AIS Saket, XI E* brings a flashback

## Red of martyrs

1



Photo Story

Before 1947, my father was like any other father, except he wasn't. His smile was wry when the colonel screeched with not a hint of sympathy. His gut brimmed with pride. His shroud was pale like his body. My father was like any other father, except he wasn't.

## The blue of soil

2



Before 1947, my mother loved botany. Slaved by drought and the British, the west was blue rather than indigo. A sea of poppies intoxicated and potted plants starved. Grains filled the potbellied rather than the sticks. She battled the sun to fetch a few grains. My mother loved botany.

3

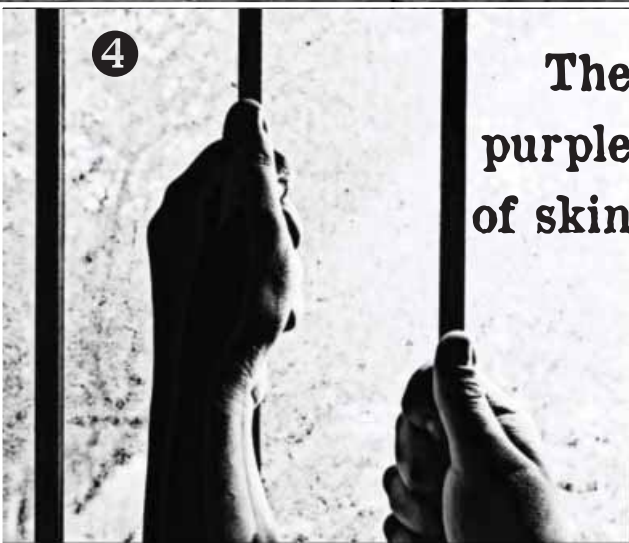
## The vermillion of cloth



Before 1947, my sister adored the idea of marriage. She'd adorn her hands with jewels and her waist with cloth. Her groom dressed in khadi, not whites and marched towards freedom. Who knew a few steps to independence could turn khadi to orange in a matter of seconds. My sister loved the idea of marriage, soon she might have one.

4

## The purple of skin



Before 1947, our sweat lacked salt. We all gathered our sticks and traversed to the banks. Here we let the flames lick a pot of water, as the Generals came marching down, with faces crimson and rods of iron instead of bamboo or cane. Their sweat lacked salt.

5

## Yellow of hope



Before 1947, religion was not just religion and colours were not just colours. Religion was a flicker of hope, when the 'Angrez' divided by colour, claiming their pearl skin to be superior than ours. Each brother and each sister came together to fight this bloodbath with peace. Colours weren't colours anymore.

## Tricolour of country men



It was 1947. The soul of each martyr came alive, pride and glee struck every face in the form of tears. The country wore saffron in courage. Khadi found Swaraj. The red grass now grew green. At the stroke of midnight, we woke to freedom.

## WORDS VERSE



Illustration: Vritika Sehrawat  
AIS Saket, XI E

## Laughter

Lakshaye, AIS Saket, X

There are times when we are sad  
We cry and we feel bad  
Sometimes we feel inappreciable  
And life looks so impalpable  
Scared of what will happen?  
We spend time fretting!

But there is another side to the story  
Laughter is the best medicine  
And we all should laugh  
Being happy is the only cure  
For every sad moment  
And every closed door

So, laugh, my friends  
All bad days have an end  
Feel good, you are blessed  
It is better than being stressed  
Thank God for another day  
Laughing all your worries away. 🇮🇳

## Fables

Khushi Ko, AIS Saket, XI E

Once upon a time, in a land far away  
Lived tales that coloured in life's greys  
A girl, barely eight years of age  
Imagined herself taking centre stage

Cinderella's shoes were a source of fascination  
And Ariel's adventures tickled her imagination  
Tucked in bed, with a book in hand  
She'd found nightly refuge in fairyland

Once upon a time, in a land far away  
Lived forgotten tales that lay in decay  
The girl, now sixteen years old  
Had lost her streak of magical gold

Red Riding Hood's naivety had irked her for long  
The Matchbox Girl's story still brought tears  
Tucked in bed, a book in hand  
She'd forgotten all about fairyland

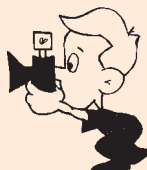
Eleven Eleven had met its end  
Fables were no longer her friends  
They sat in a tower locked away  
Waiting to be loved again someday. 🇮🇳



## CAMERA CAPERS

Parth Monish Kohli, AIS Saket, XI E

Send in your entries to  
cameracap@theglobaltimes.in



Flame in the dark



Precariously perched



Peek a boo



# Rubber trouble

Illustration: Vritika Sehrawat, AIS Saket, XI E



Eventually, they started trying to hold their hair in some strange ways, but one stood out.

because we didn’t have sweet substances in our dimension. Inside the dimension, we use resources like wood and iron to trade, but in other dimensions, we take jelly beans. The humans apparently had known what we wanted, and struck a deal with our king. The deal was that as long as we get a regular payment of jelly beans, we have to steal and bring back all the rubber bands sold in the day. Since that day, all of us who are over 15, go out every night and retrieve as many rubber bands as we can. Back to the situation at hand, I devised a strategy to get out of the corner and retrieve rubber bands. I quickly ran across the room, then used my jump boots- to jump towards the jar that was filled with rubber bands. I quickly made my way across the surface, leaped at the jar and teleported away. Mission successful!

So what did you learn today?  
A new word: Teleported  
Meaning: To be transported

Abhijeet Ko, AIS Saket, VI

“They all said this would be easy” I muttered to myself. It was supposed to be a perfectly executed first mission for me. Alas! How my plan has failed. It was simple, get in at a time when no one is awake, take the rubber bands and get out, that is until THEY showed up. The humans were crying out for something in their own strange language. And I stood there, stuck in the human realm... how you may ask?

It all started when we had our first encounter with this strange species of living beings, humans. They did things completely unnecessary and were over-all a very confusing species. They had dead cells that grew out on their head that they called ‘hair’. Eventually, they started trying to hold the hair back in some strange ways, but one stood out. They called it the rubber band. A few decades after it was invented, somehow the humans found the way to summon us- through jelly beans and sugar. Why those, you might ask? It’s

It's Me

Know me

**My name:** Samaira Singh  
**My class:** 1D  
**My birthday:** May 5  
**My role model:** My father  
**My hobbies:** Drawing, dancing, singing

My favourite

**Book:** Matilda by Roald Dahl  
**Teacher:** Komal ma'am  
**Mall:** Select City Walk  
**Poem:** Reason to smile  
**Subject:** Math  
**Food:** Choco-chip cookies  
**Game:** Dumb charades  
**I want to become:** A doctor  
**I want to feature in GT because:** It's the best way to get popular.

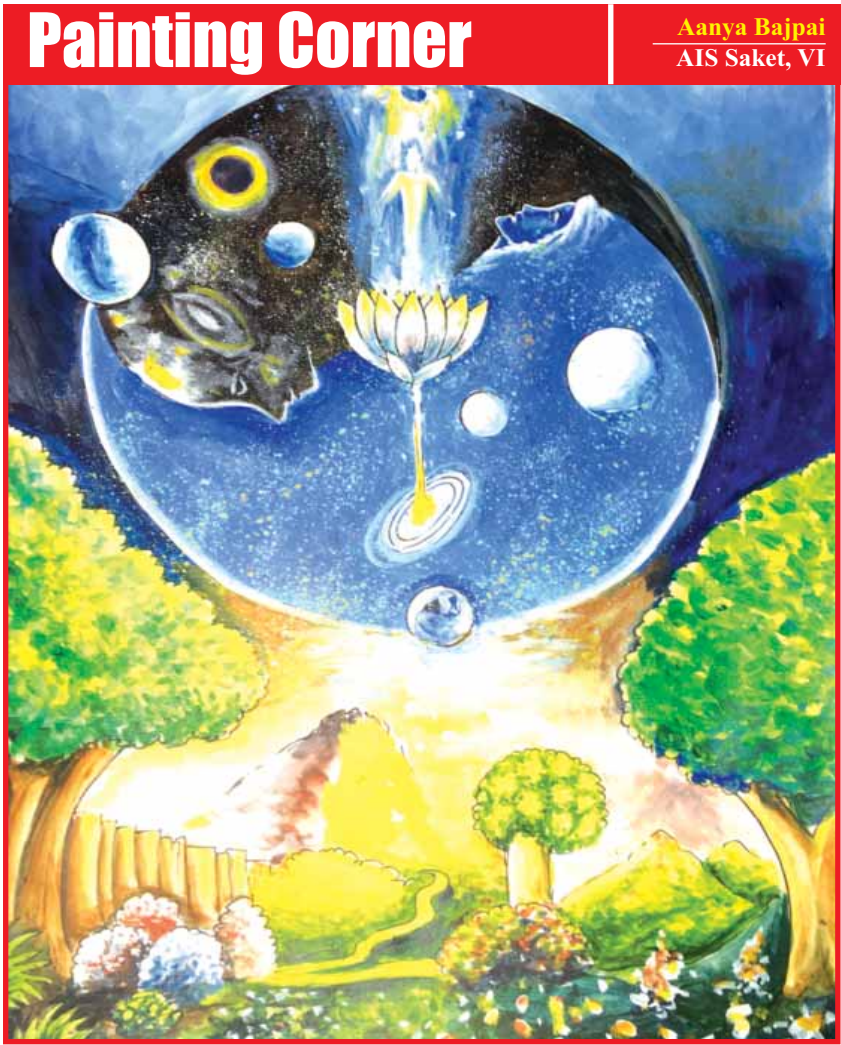
Riddle Fiddle

Mahir Aditya Singh  
AIS Saket, II B

1. If two shirt collars had a race, which one would win?  
2. What kind of book does a rabbit like to read?  
3. Why can't a bicycle stand on its own?  
4. What is the tallest building in the world?  
5. What do mermaids have on toast?  
6. What nails do carpenters hate to hit?

Answers

1. Neither, it would end in a tie. 2. One with a happy ending. 3. Because it is too tired. 4. A library, it has many stories. 5. Marmalade. 6. Fingernails.



Aanya Bajpai  
AIS Saket, VI

Picture courtesy: Madhav Sharma, AIS Saket, VI B

Little Chef

Snack shots

Madhav Sharma with his snack platter

Madhav Sharma, AIS Saket, VI B

Chocolate dip with cream wafer

Avocado dip with lavash

Ingredients

Avocado (Ripe) .....1  
Lemon juice .....½ tsp  
Salt .....to taste  
Black pepper .....to taste  
Lavash .....1

Method

- Scoop the avocado.
- Transfer the pulp to a bowl and mash with a spoon.
- Add lemon juice, salt and black pepper to the pulp. Mix well.
- Now, pour avocado dip into a shot glass and top it with lavash.



Ingredients

Whipping cream .....½ cup  
Chocolate cream wafer .....1  
Hershey’s chocolate syrup .....3 tsp

Method

- In a small bowl, beat fresh whipped cream with Hershey’s syrup untill blended.
- Now, pour the dip into a shot glass and refrigerate for atleast an hour or until served.
- Place a chocolate cream wafer on top of it and your snack is ready.



Curd dip with carrots and cucumber

Ingredients

Curd .....½ cup  
Lemon Juice .....to taste  
Salt .....to taste  
Black pepper .....to taste  
Carrot .....1  
Cucumber .....1

Method

- Hang the curd (yogurt) in a cheese-cloth for 2-3 hours till all the whey drips out and becomes thick.
- Whisk the curd till it becomes smooth. Add lemon juice, salt and pepper. Whisk well.
- Slice carrots and cucumbers into sticks and keep aside.
- Pour the dip into a shot glass and garnish with carrot and cucumber.



Ingredients

Chickpeas .....1/4th cup  
Garlic paste .....¼ tsp  
Olive oil .....2 tbsp  
Lemon Juice .....to taste  
Salt .....to taste  
Black pepper .....to taste  
Pita bread .....as desired

Method

- Soak chickpeas overnight and boil them the next day.
- Combine all the ingredients (except pita bread) in a mixer and blend it till smooth.
- Add a little water to give the dip a smooth texture.
- Now, transfer the dip to a shot glass.
- Cut pita bread into thin strips so that it fits inside the glass.
- Place the pita bread on top of the dip, inside the glass.



Illustrations: Moila Chaudhary, AIS Saket, XI E

## POEMS

And friendship blooms to appease

Their friendship was so strong  
Humans alongside the trees  
Never could it have gone wrong  
As nature sang a sweet song

One day greed overpowered friendship  
Selfishness invaded the land  
Trees started disappearing  
Who would lend a helping hand?

At the end, they had to suffer  
While they choked with lot of pain  
But they realised just in time  
And embraced nature once again.

## Playground

Aagastya Manoj  
AIS Saket, IV B

When I go to a playground  
I really feel free  
To run around  
Between the trees and ground



I can sing  
And I can shout  
I can run  
And I can jump about

I can spin  
On the merry go round  
Until I’m dizzy  
Then, I slow down

I can climb  
And I never stop  
Like a mountain lion  
Straight to the top

I can spend full day  
Playing around  
And now I can say  
I love my playground.



## Bond of togetherness

Prisha Dubey, AIS Saket, V C

A bond of friendship is gifted  
To every creature in this earthly realm  
None to despair, none are disgraced  
So this magic overwhelms

Here comes the rain pitter-patter  
Trees are happy and swaying  
Soon, the sun smiles as clouds part  
And sunflowers begin playing

Buzzing around the flowers  
The bees springing all around  
Sucking sweet nectar





# THE AMIOWN KAHAANI TREE

the travelling, talking, magical tree  
where stories come to life



An Amiown initiative, the '**Amiown Kahaani Tree**' has spread the magic of stories far and wide. We love stories and we love sharing them! Over a thousand stories have been told under the Amiown Kahaani Tree at literature festivals, events and at all Amiown branches. Our aim is to nurture and raise readers and lovers of all things story!

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**VASUNDHARA (Gzb.)**  
98-187-04663





"This edition is the silver lining on the barfi."

**Asmita Chakraborty**, AIS Saket, XI D  
Page Editor

# Annual Day celebrations

The day showcased India's rich ancient civilisation with creativity and grandeur

## AIS Vas 6

Under the dynamic leadership of Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools and RBEF, AIS Vas 6 celebrated its Annual Day on Dec 29, 2016. The show titled 'Ath se Iti' began with lamp lighting was followed by a welcome address by the school Principal, Sunila Athley. H.E. Zigmund Bertok, Ambassador of Slovakia was the chief guest and Manish Sisodia, Deputy CM, Govt. of Delhi was the guest of honour.

The day showcased the talent of students from Class V-XI who creatively displayed the glory of India from 'Then to



Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan felicitates H.E. Zigmund Bertok

Now'. They projected the world's most progressive and ancient civilization 'Mohenjodaro' with its remarkable town planning and architecture, world's first university- Nalanda & Takshila which gifted mankind Buddhism, the concept of Zero, Economics, Astronomy, Astrology, Sanskrit, Yoga, Chess- the game of royalty and intellectuals and the revered bond of Guru and Shishya. They were portrayed as India's invaluable gifts to the world. A magnificent backdrop of

Harappa, innovative props, thematic dance ballets and intense theatrical skills held the audience spell bound. The ceremony culminated with National Anthem also presented in sign language for the specially abled by the schools Youth Power team. Dr Chauhan applauded the efforts of the children and reiterated that India indeed has had a glorious past and through her pioneering endeavours will undoubtedly have a triumphant tomorrow for the country. 🇮🇳



Suhani Chauhan receives the Immuno Champ award

## Healthy heroes

### AIS PV

AIS Pushp Vihar was declared among the 50 healthiest schools out of 4000 schools in India in a survey conducted by Dabur India. The countrywide survey to check health status among children was based on parameters such as attendance, academics, infrastructure, etc. A team from MAX Healthcare calculated the Body Mass Index (BMIs) of the students. The felic-

itation ceremony was conducted on December 8, 2016 at the school. Suhani Chauhan (IV A) and Gunek Singh Chaddha (VI B) were declared the Immuno Champs from the school. Preetinder Kaur from HT Media Ltd was the chief guest for the event. She enlightened the students, providing them with insights on immunity building and wellness and briefed them on Dabur Chywanprash Immune India Challenge Campaign. 🇮🇳



Sayash Raaj with school principal Arti Chopra

## Amazon app winner

### AIS Gur 46

Sayash Raaj, student of Class X E brought laurels to the school by winning the International Amazon USA App Making contest. The objective of the contest was to publish 25 apps on the international Amazon app store, which have qualified the quality and compatibility tests conducted by Amazon USA on each app. The first 50 developers from all over the world irrespective

of age were rewarded Amazon Fire tablet (not available in India) & \$1 per app published on the store. Sayash won the competition and became one of the first 50 developers to complete the task. He is also the youngest developer in the world to have won this competition. He received an Amazon 7" Fire tablet (V generation) directly from USA couriered along with \$25 for publishing 25 apps. School Principal Arti Chopra applauded Sayash on his achievement. 🇮🇳

## Scholastic Alert

**\*Please note the recent amendments in NATA 2017.**

**Examination:** National Aptitude Test in Architecture (NATA) 2017 National Aptitude Test in Architecture (NATA) is conducted by the Council of Architecture (COA) for admission to first year of 5-year Bachelor of Architecture (B.Arch.) Degree Course at all recognized institutions all over the country. COA has decided to conduct NATA-2017 for admission to B.Arch. in the academic session 2017-18, as a one-day paper based exam all over the country. This would surely be a step towards producing competent architects. **Course:** 5-year Bachelor of Architecture (B.Arch.)

**Eligibility:** 10+2 or equivalent passed / appearing with Mathematics as one of the sub-

jects of examination; International Baccalaureate Diploma passed/appearing, after 10 years of schooling with Mathematics as compulsory subject of examination.

\*The lower age limit for appearing in NATA 2017 has been waived. However, the candidate has to comply with any age constraints that may be specified by the respective counseling admission authority.

**Application Process:**

**\*Online application forms available:** January 2, 2017

**\*End of Registration:** 11 Feb, 2017  
**Entrance Test:** 16 April, 2017 (11:00am to 2:00pm)

**Website:** www.nata.in

**Taruna Barthwal, Manager**  
**Amity Career Counseling & Guidance Cell**

For any query write to us at [careercounselor@amity.edu](mailto:careercounselor@amity.edu)

## Gymnastics go-getters

### AIS Mayur Vihar

Mallika Kulshreshtha (X) and Ritika Kulshreshtha (XII) made the school proud by winning medals in 62nd School Nationals Gymnastics Championship held at Sonapat, Haryana from January 6-11, 2017. Mallika won a Gold medal in Vaulting Table and a Bronze in the Team Event. She ranked All India sec-

ond in the championship. Ritika on the other hand, brought laurels to the school by winning a Silver medal in Floor Exercise in U 19 category. Both gymnasts trained by expert coaches with the best of facilities under the guidance of Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson Amity Group of Schools have also given trials for India camp for selection in 2020 Olympics to be held in Delhi.



The proud duo with their medals

## MEP 2016

### AERC

Five students from Amity Group of Schools along with Valambal Balachandran, school principal of AIS Vas 1 attended the Model European Parliament (MEP) from October 30 to November 5, 2016 at Copenhagen, Denmark. The opportunity extended by Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan to provide students with a greater learning experience at an international platform was organised under the aegis of AERC. The opening ceremony of MEP 2016 held at Copenhagen University was attended by Ambassadors of all European countries. Amity Group of Schools received a special mention being the only Asian country at MEP.

Suraj Raina gave a speech on behalf of Indian delegation, which was appreciated by everyone. The students gave a commendable performance presenting their committees and their views considering their participation for the first time at MEP. 🇮🇳



Students with school principal of AIS Vas 1

Name of Delegates	School	Committees
Shankh Barthwal	AIS Noida	Foreign Affairs (AFET)
Amisha Srivastava	AIS Noida	Economic and Monetary Affairs
Mahima Sehgal	AIS PV	Employment and Social Affairs
Suraj Raina	AIS Vas I	Women's Rights & Gender Equality
Rachit Pahwa	AIS PV	Energy, Industry and Research

## Vijay Diwas celebrations

### AIMC

Amity Indian Military College (AIMC) celebrated Vijay Diwas on December 16, 2016 by paying homage to soldiers martyred during the 1971 Indo-Pak war. The students presented a video clipping which showed significant historical events happened in past wherein the Pakistan Army surrendered before Indian forces. Col Ravinder Singh, an Officer of AIMC, addressed the cadets and insisted that patriotic fervour and courageous vigour are necessary to be an Army Officer. He expressed his views that Vijay Diwas commemorates the contribution of brave soldiers in 1971 war against Pakistan.



Esteemed dignitaries at the event

Cadets were highly motivated and overwhelmed with zest and vowed to serve their motherland by joining armed forces. The hall echoed with patriotic slogans and students took an oath to serve their nation with full dedication and love. 🇮🇳



Students with their laptops

## Distribution of laptops

### AIS Jagdishpur

Fifteen students from the school were nominated for UP Government's scheme for laptop distribution to the meritorious students. The event was organized at Amethi District where the students received the laptops from Gayatri Prasad Prajapati, Cabinet Minister, UP Govt. and Rakesh Pratap Singh, MLA, Amethi. It was a proud and a happy moment for the students. 🇮🇳



“Pop goes the popcorn, pop goes the illustration.”

Devyani Goel, AIS Saket, XI E  
Page Editor



Contest Edition

There are always two sides to a phone call. Let's be at the receiving end for a change and rather than hearing over the phone, let us hear from the phone itself

Ayushi Singh, AIS Saket, X A

Gone are the years, when dog used to be a man's best friend. For dwelling in the era of smartphones that are 'not just a phone', we choose our iPhone 7 for the long walks, while the parmesan stays indoors. But things from the other side look different. If given a chance, probably the phone would want to 'power off'. Let's hear "ek malik ki kahani, uske phone ki zubani".

### Social Butterfly

A key member to all parties and gala invitations, I am her most prized possession. Who sits by her side doesn't matter, for she is too busy replying on the 365 Whats App groups namely 'family', 'friends', 'friends & family', 'happy birthday Rahul' while making vacation plans on all, simultaneously. With messages flying to and fro, I hang in the middle of chaos. Me a wall flower, she a so-

cial butterfly-not going to work.

### Selfie maniac

Gender no bar, picture perfect is everyone's desire. "Hi!" can wait, "let me take a selfie" comes more naturally to my master. The constant turning, twisting and passing makes me dizzy. Queen (queer) bees, pouting (pestering) kings, cuddly (cruel) bears shriek so loud, waking me up from my desired sleep (low battery). How selfi(e)sh!

### Shopaholic

"Shop till you drop" may sound frivolous and fun, but the glamour fades in our 'case'. This miss knows all the best sales and deals to bargain for.

Her incessant notifications and transactions keep me buzzing, as I am drained of all the power. No time to charge, the end of season sale is on. Looking for deals at 3 a.m! Can someone please put her on 'sleep' mode?

### Spoilt brats

I am his 48th and doubtful of my anniversary being celebrated. Mr Richie Rich drops me like I was meant for playing 'catch'. I helplessly watch as a brand-new, state-of-art phone takes my place at the next party in town. Even if you got bored of me, did "OLX pe bech de" never occur to you?

### Wanderlust

Always on the move, I am the one stop for all bookings, shops and restaurants. From the hula dancers in Hawaii to Mount Fuji in Japan, I have coursed through it all. Full of adventure and excitement, this wanderer is a darling, unless I lose all my networking, roaming around. It is then that the *safar* has me suffering! Excuse me, I am jet lagged for now!

# Reality text

Illustration: Vritika Sehrawat, AIS Saket, XI E

### The foodie

Too lazy to cook, too tired to serve, he is constantly on Zomato to ease his tastebuds. Well, I've got some food for thought- that extra cheese was meant for your potbelly not my screen. One more 'deal' from Food Panda shall become a big deal between you and me.

### Gaming freak

Strategic minds work through itchy fingers that rap my screen. As the levels increase so does the finger fight between the owner and me. Dogs are certainly more loyal!

# 21st century: Art for art's sake

However complex they might be, the classics had a way with expressing complexity with simplicity. The writings of today figured out the way to simple plots. But is simplicity what we're looking for?

Swetabh Changakoti  
AIS Saket, IX C

Defining art, as you know it, is a nebulous task, but knowing what isn't art, well, is pretty easy. Some people make it easy. Their nondescripts novels in 50 shades of fuschia (supposedly grey ) certainly do. And if you are convinced otherwise, I promise to have us on the same page, by the end of this story, and I swear by Wren and Martin, it will all be within grammatical boundaries.

### Chetan Bhagat

**Education:** An IIT degree he should probably think of donating. (Sahitya Akademi much?)

**Claim to fame:** Books and a remarkably moving Twitter feed. He was a 'Nach Baliye' judge, of course.

#### Famous books:

■ **Five Point Someone:** What not to do at IIT! (No, I'm serious; that's actually the title. Does this really need a comment?)

■ **One Night at the Call Center:**

Bruce Almighty. God calls and he's not Morgan Freeman.

■ **Half Girlfriend:** The title has nothing to do with the book. The protagonist manages to offend feminists, grammar Nazis, and human beings through every other sentence written in the book. The poster boy of the Indian dream, follows the golden formula: love + heartbreak + social media (because why not?) = a bestseller! And he is one of India's most popular author.

### Nikita Singh

**Education:** A Masters degree in creative writing from The New School, New York City. (I kid you not!)

**Claim to fame:** 25 years old, 9 novels. She wrote her first novel in 20 days (which is really not that surprising if you actually read it).

#### Famous books:

■ **Love@Facebook:** A love story (surprise, surprise) that begins with a Facebook chat. This book, is centered around themes the Indian youth is supposedly concerned with- love, heartbreak, and the rest of the platter.

■ **Accidentally in Love:** With Him? Again? I bet you can't tell what the story's about!

Maybe it's just me, but writers like Nikita are quite rich for my palate. Yes, they have their own fan-bases, but when I come across people asking me, if there are any other 'revolutionary' female authors out there, I lose whatever strands of hope I had left.

### Durjoy Datta

**Education:** DTU, Management Development Institute, Gurgaon, and a job at American Express- all of which he quit to write his amazing books.

**Claim to fame:** Book titles that puts your grey cells to work. Wikipedia calls him a novelist and screenwriter, and that's completely justified- we wouldn't have shows like 'Ek Veer ki Ardaas... Veera' without him.

#### Famous books:

It's difficult to comprehend how he came up with these:

■ **Of Course I Love You... Till I Find Someone Better:** Explains the generation, precisely, right?

■ **Now That You're Rich, Let's Fall in Love!** Well, this is way too high for our intellect.

■ **She Broke Up, I Didn't!** How love never dies.

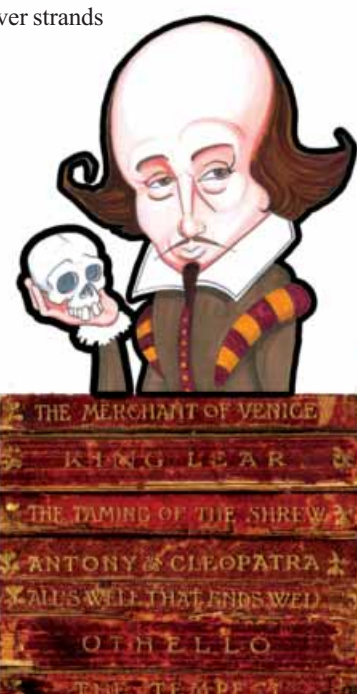
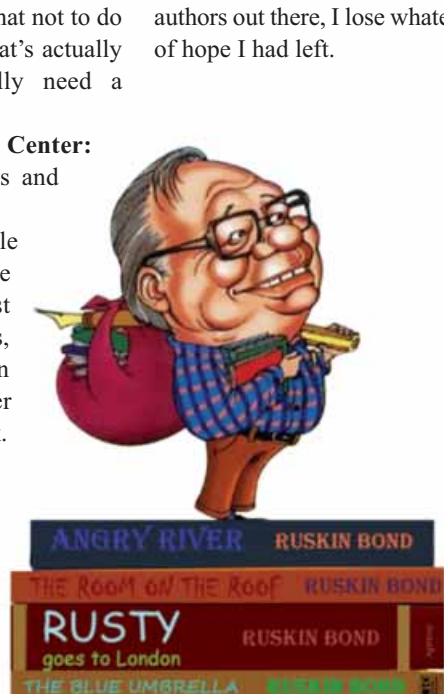
■ **Ohh Yes, I'm Single! And So Is My Girlfriend!** Another love story from the pages of Dutta's life.

All that needs to be judged are those spectacular conversations that follow these enigmatic titles. I blame Chetan Bhagat for this. Believe it or not, this guy let two perfectly respectable management degrees go unnoticed.

Literature, as I have always hoped, is magic, while books like these are but parlour tricks. The genre of young adult fiction is an important one, if we look at what the teenagers reading them will be in charge of. But when these writers are put on a higher pedestal than the likes of JD Salinger, Ray Bradbury, Amitav Ghosh, Aravind Adiga it is an injustice. But as Whitman would say, I hope that the endless trains of the faithless, of cities filled with the foolish, there

will always be someone better to contribute a verse.

*Disclaimer: All of us have our favourites and so does the writer of the article. So, if you beg to differ from the views presented, please freely exercise your right to choose.*



Graphic: Akshat Kumar Agarwal, AIS Saket, XI D