

Making a Newspaper Contest  
AIS PV  
2016-17

This special edition has been brought to you by AIS PV as a part of the GT Making A Newspaper Contest. The inter-Amity newspaper making competition entails each branch of Amity across Delhi/NCR churning out its own 'Contest Edition'. The eight special editions are pitted against one another at the end of the year, which decides the winner at GT Awards.

**INSIDE**

Topper wars, P3

Demonetisation story, P 7

**AMITEpoll**

ICSE has introduced Harry Potter, Feluda, Asterix, Tintin and other children's fiction in their school syllabus. Should CBSE follow?

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

To vote, log on to [www.theglobaltimes.in](http://www.theglobaltimes.in)

**POLL RESULT**  
for GT Edition November 21, 2016

Do you think the banning of 500 and 1000 rupee notes promises economic stability for India?

80%  
64%  
48%  
32%  
16%  
0%

76% Yes  
22% No  
2% Can't say

Results as on November 26, 2016

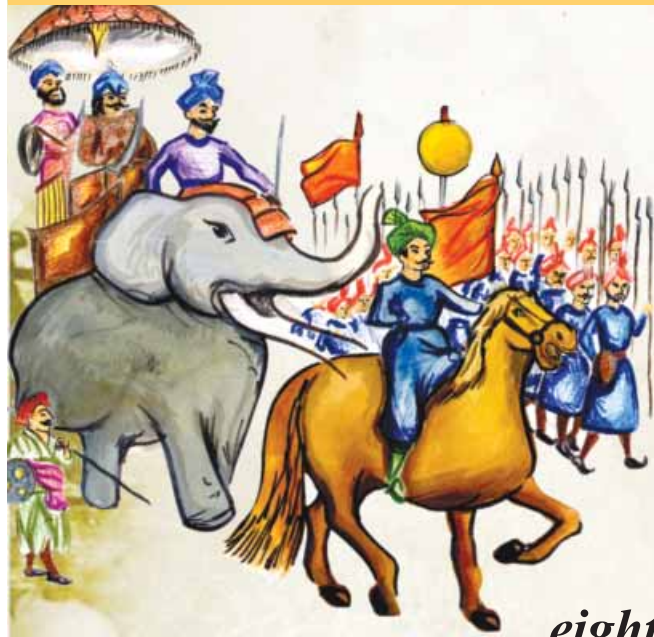
**Coming Next**

Bridezilla

# THE GLOBAL TIMES

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2016

[www.theglobaltimes.in](http://www.theglobaltimes.in)



Sidhaant Verma, AIS PV, XI B

## World Why 3

*After the First World War ended, we were sure another would not take place. Ninety-eight years and one world war later, are we sure that a third wouldn't?*

**W**ars are a gamble; their magnitude remains a guess until the aftermath. The world has so far witnessed two wars which involved the key players of the world who had a lot at stake. Losing was not an option. And so alliances were formed world over, treaties signed and violated, organisations established to prevent another such occurring. If 'doomsday' in the form of a third world war was to arrive again, the stakes will be higher, and the damage, greater. We certainly aren't oblivious to some sparks that can lead to the wildfire.

**The war:** India and Pakistan are not best buddies. Three wars, several border conflicts and numerous ceasefire violations later, a war between the countries wouldn't be a wild bet. Orchestrated by whichever of the two, more attacks would undoubtedly head us into another Kargil.

**The world:** The countries have had bilateral ties with other countries since they fought their last war. China has agreed to invest 46 billion dollars in Pakistan and builds nuclear reactors for their Asian counterparts. Meanwhile, US-India relations are better than ever. If India and Pakistan go to war, US and China would unquestionably intervene which can mean the dawn of another July 14, 1914.

*Will the two daughters establish peace, or have the entire world warring?*

**The war:** Threat of cyber warfare comes with technological advancements, owing to the non-state actors involved. A hacktivist group, 'Anonymous' has already declared war on ISIS by 'silencing several Twitter accounts linked to ISIS' and seeks to prevent their operations through more cyber-attacks.

**The world:** ISIS could respond by recruiting their own hackers, given the amount of support they attract. They could leak countries' information and empty individuals' bank accounts, hack machines and thus create unforeseen pandemonium. And with that, European countries would turn to the Americans; Russia to China and India to Pakistan.

*Using chaos, will terrorists capitalise on these fears leading to another war?*

**The war:** China and Japan have been claiming the Senkaku/Diaoyu islands as a part of their territory, deploying military forces nearby. Quarrels have continued for the past two years, and it'll only be a matter of time until one loses patience.

**The world:** US is bound by treaty to aid Japan in its conflicts. China could respond

to that unkindly, given its recent obsession with removing US as the world superpower. The formation of these two alliances would involve more countries, with major European countries like Germany and France siding with the US-Japan alliance.

*And the world would be drowning in a 'sea' of wars.*

**The war:** The quarrel over natural resources aggravates each day. As the world resources deplete by the second, every country has a shortage of one kind of fuel or the other. While some countries dig for oil in Midwestern countries (Read:US) the others face drought, famine and hunger (Read: Africa). Fighting over these resources in the form of organised violence can culminate in a peculiar war.

**The world:** Today, countries are diverting their rivers so that only they benefit from supplies. Desperate for basics- food, land and water- a few countries with their upper hands might twist their arms to have it their way. Let's not forget that colonialism started with certain countries 'requesting' to 'utilise' other countries' resources.

**War for the hungry, or hungry for war?** Albert Einstein said "I know not with what weapons WWII will be fought, but WWII will be fought with sticks and stones." Perhaps he was right. Perhaps, that's what will be left of mankind thereafter. Meanwhile, the sparks continue, awaiting their destiny. Either fuel or water. **GT**



Illustration: Dhimant Badan, VIII B & Vanshika Chaudhary, VIII C, AIS PV



## The best of both games

Pic: Neal Gupta, AIS PV, XI E

**A** captain who led from the front, a politician who leads with his people by the side - Mohammad Azharuddin is a name that echoes through the country as the man with the best wrists in the game. A prodigy to sportsmanship, he has rowed his boat through high and low tides. In an interview with **Rishita Paruthi, X C & Sanya Kanwar, IX A, AIS PV**, he spells out qualities that he believe are indispensable.

### Hard work

Hard work, I believe is a way of life, inevitable at every stage. As a kid, my focus was twofold, ensuring a balance between studies and cricket. A loose end at either was not an option. And so I chose to work hard. My days began as early as four in the morning and I made sure that I slept by eight. When it was time to play, I played with passion and when I studied, I studied with dedication.

### Humility

Fame can be tricky. With all the attention, it seemed like a fairy tale at first. Nevertheless, I got my head around it, knowing that humility will be my key through the journey. It is important to respect people. You become a star because of the love of the peo-

ple and so you owe them a lot. People will remember you for your humility.

### Patience

I have seen the best and the worst. The years 1992-1993 were harsh because I wasn't being able to perform well. Being the captain, my abilities were under contention as my underperformance was adding to the pressure on the team. But I kept my calm, worked harder and was able to get back to my form gradually. Any problem, irrespective of its magnitude, must be dealt with patience.

### Balance

Balance is what keeps us from falling when we are stepping toward success. And it is this trait that helped me take up politics which was very different from my former career. My balanced personality helped me fare

well through the challenges of both the careers. I often come across parents who want their kids to focus only on studies. For holistic development, we must let children pursue their passions. Whatever their interests are, they should always be given the opportunity to perform to be the best of their ability.

### Education

Education is the essence of development. It isn't just knowledge that comes with education, but the understanding of things. A sportsperson, being the representative of a country, must be exemplary of good spirit and etiquettes. These qualities get enhanced with education. Only a well-educated person can judge himself and take criticism constructively, both of which are vital to development. **GT**

(With inputs from Sidhaant Verma, AIS PV, XI B)



GT reporters with Mohd. Azharuddin



“Winter is coming, and so is our contest edition.”

Dhairya Chaudhary, X C & Nandini Sharma, XI F, AIS PV



# Currency trumps weddings?

‘The big fat Indian wedding’ is under transformation. While some are feeling the blues, others can see the ‘black’ from white. A grey move that it is, is demonetisation welcome at the ceremony?

**Dhairya Chaudhary, AIS PV, X C**

Each year with the onset of November, wedding bells reverberate through the air. In a country where people spend almost three quarters of their life savings on weddings, the season means a boon for the 100,000 crore wedding industry. This year, however, the ringing of the bells was bleak, the boon went missing. The demonetisation of 500 and 1000 rupee notes has people neither spending like a sailor, nor earning a king’s ransom. While the pros and cons of the move are still under scrutiny, the effects on this particular industry is out in the light.

### From the horse’s mouth

The demonetisation move meant a major cut in the income of Shiv Mohan Band, for a large share came in the form of high denomination notes showered by the groom’s relatives and friends as *neg*. Their leader laments over the loss and the good old days, “I wish this had not happened. We received a good amount of money as *neg* when people merrily danced to our tunes.” With the notes of 1000 and 500 being replaced by 10s and 20s, it is them dancing to the new tunes, albeit for peanuts.

### The best laid plans of mice and men

While every other time Sana Varma from weddingz.in would have to

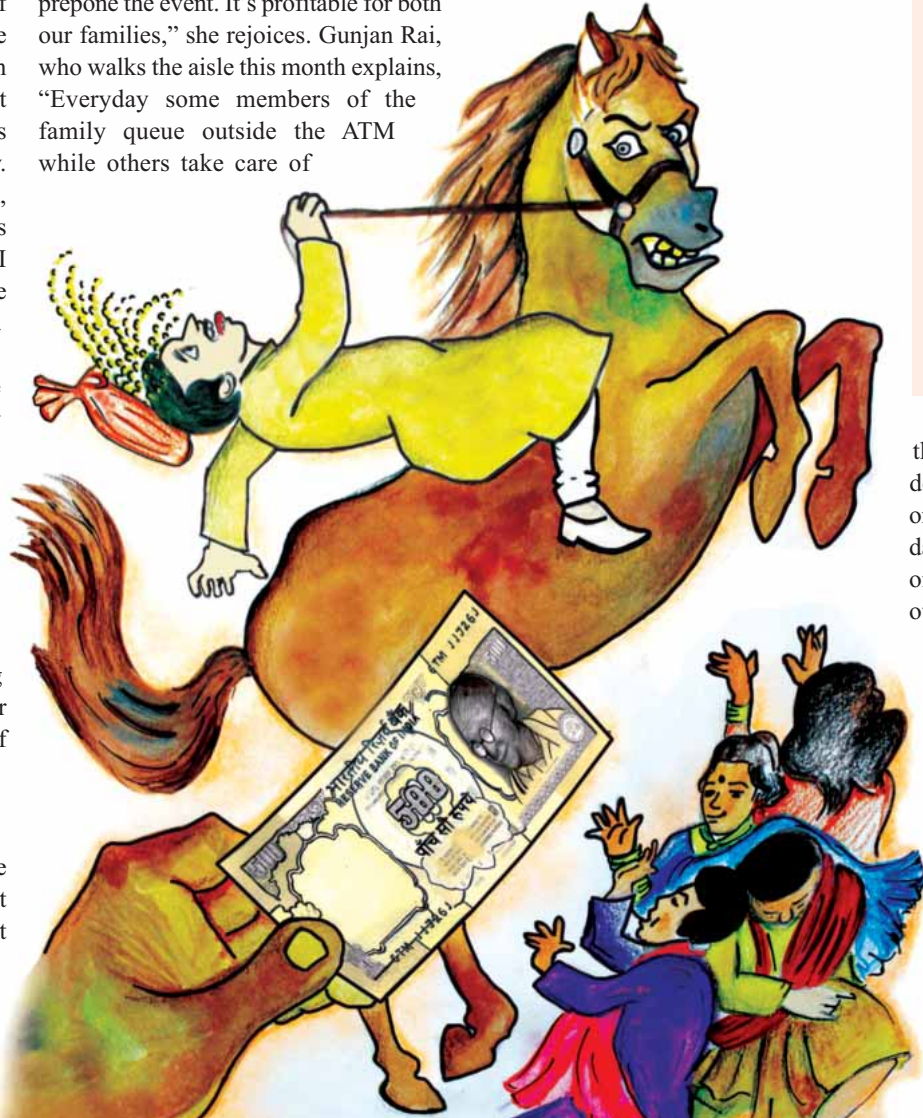
negotiate for each penny, the tables have turned this year, and yet she finds herself stuck in a limbo. “People want to take our best packages, without bargaining in fact! Their only condition, the one that keeps me from accepting these offers is that they want to pay in the old currency. As much as I would love to help them, there isn’t much I can do. My problems are the same as theirs, how can I possibly accept banned currency?” she says. Harish Ahuja, the owner of Ahuja Garments, is on the same boat as her. “Each customer turns up with the same demand of having their old currency accepted. It’s the wedding season that serves us maximum profits but given the status quo, we’re even considering shutting down for a few days,” he says. The caterers too, do not have much on their plate this time. “The business has witnessed a dip of almost 25% -30%. People have started opting for cheaper packages, paying Rs 800 or less per plate,” says Kanishka Kaur of Aristocrat Caterers.

### Breathe in, breathe out

And on the other hand are people like bride – to – be Akansha Tomar, who isn’t getting jittery and is taking rather smart steps to make the best of what’s available. “The wedding was to take place a few months later but we spotted a drop in the market prices. Since the planners agreed to accept



all payments via card, we decided to prepone the event. It’s profitable for both our families,” she rejoices. Gunjan Rai, who walks the aisle this month explains, “Everyday some members of the family queue outside the ATM while others take care of

Illustration: Keshav Gupta, AIS PV, VIII E



**“We have decided to cut down costs and are doing only what is absolutely necessary. These days are almost like a plan of action, one person running to the ATM, others haggling with vendors.”**

the rest of the arrangements. We have decided to cut down costs and are doing only what is absolutely necessary. These days are more like a plan of action, with one person running to the ATM and others haggling with the vendors. We know that it is for a greater good,” she believes.

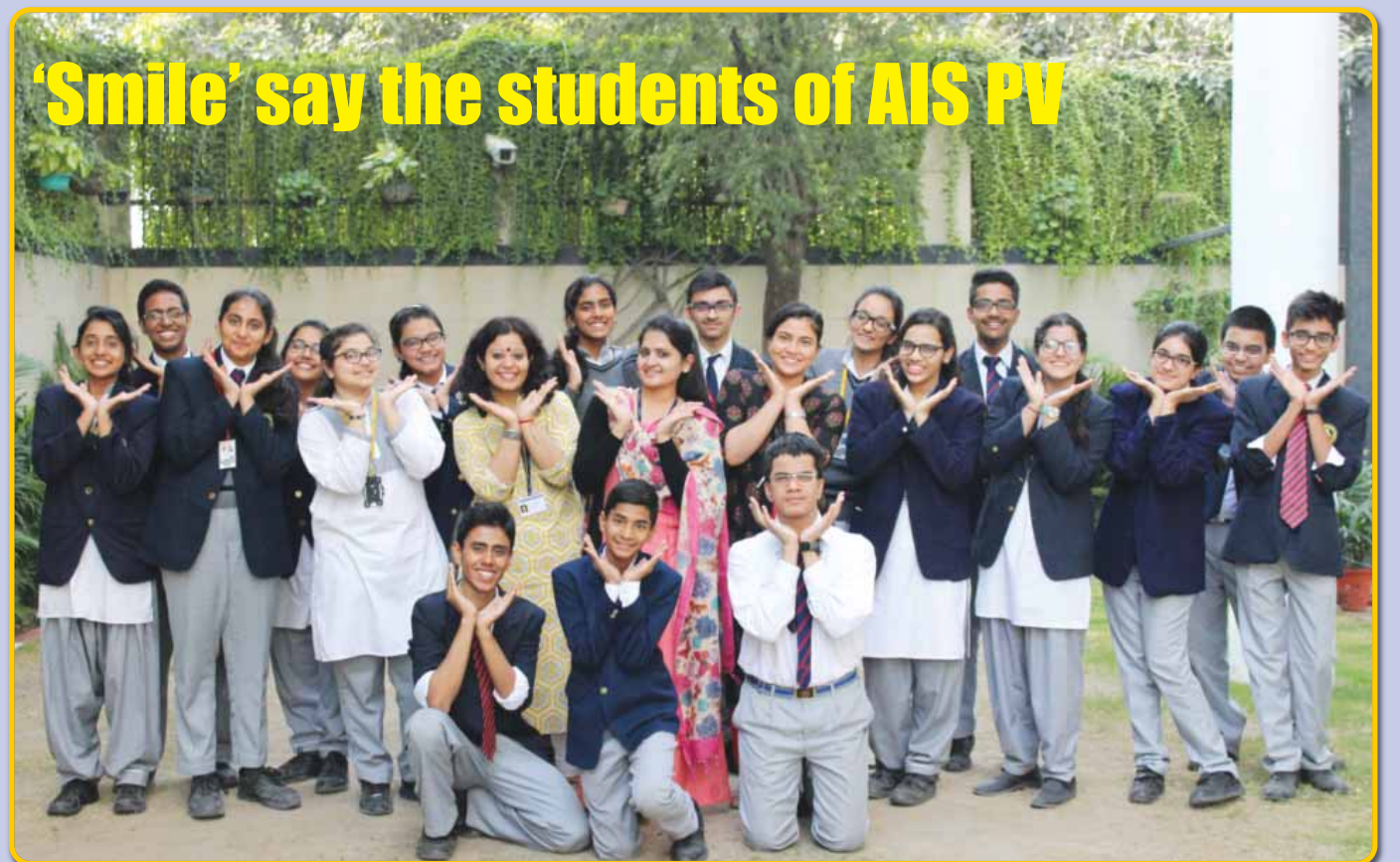
The wedding industry is perhaps on a downhill journey. While the income and employment securities of its tenants remain the bone of contention, there is certainly some respite from overboard wedding plans and mammoth expenditures. With some have already started to enjoy the eccentric season, Indian weddings might witness a shift, for the better - trumping the lavishness with simplicity and the joys of togetherness.  

## News Room Hulchul 2016-17

Posing for one last time



## ‘Smile’ say the students of AIS PV



Reading every word



Editor-in-chief writing the best lines



Illustrators mastering the strokes





"An editor needs GT, just as a sword needs whetstone."

Yashika Thappar, X D & Sarthak Sehgal  
XI F, AIS PV, Page Editors



Illustrations: Sia Sindhwani, IX & Kanika Sharma, X D, AIS

## Letter to Education Minister

Aditi Suresh, AIS PV, X B

To  
The Hon'ble Education Minister  
The Government of India

Subject: **Letter of gratitude**

*Respected Sir,*  
A big hello all the way from **Stanford University, California!** It's been a month since I've enrolled here & needless to say, the atmosphere is quite tense and competitive. I really feel that this is the right time to pen a few words to you.

Today, I look back at those **high school days** and reminisce how back-breaking it used to be and how I used to curse the rote learning that our education system mandated. I recall the endless hours I toiled for the vast syllabus, which never seemed to end. Well, I now fathom that it gave me the edge. In retrospect, I laugh at those times when I criticised all of this, not knowing that they made me a more confident student. It is in the past few days, that I have seen the immense value of the times I kept pace

with the demands of the curriculum by the sweat of my brow, the times I spent understanding differential calculus or organic chemistry again and again and giving numerous tests weekly.

In this drive for the edge, extra-curriculars were my only breathers. And the difference they have made to me is now in the daylight, for all to see.

It is quite disheartening to see my new friend Ben, an American, **struggling to keep up with all the burdensome assignments and lecture notes.** While for me, it's déjà vu all over again, only with a little more expertise. He struggles through the night to finish those essays. Blaming his rather flexible school curriculum is his only respite on certain days. And me, well I'm just duly thankful.

Due to the strong curriculum back in the country and the rigorous student training, it is not surprising that Indian student enrollment into American universities has reached up to 25% with a contribution of **\$3.3 billion** to the US economy.

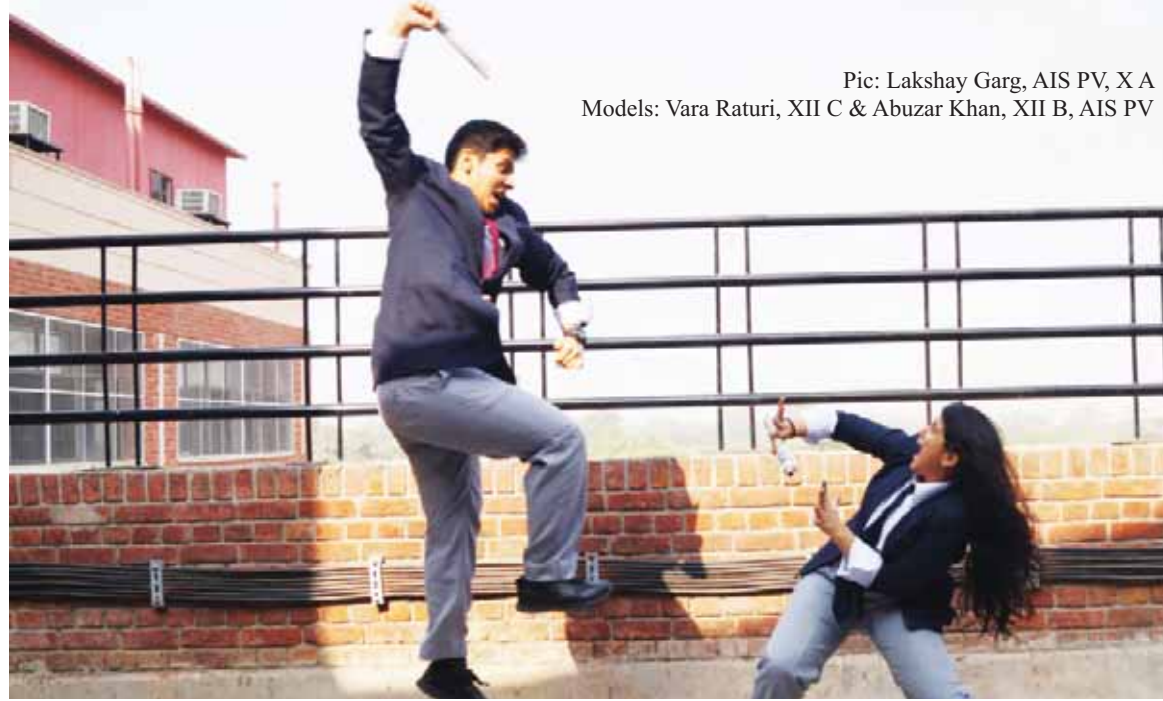
Today, as I stand up with my roots, strong like never before and accept the not-so-harsh realities as they come by, I thank the Indian education system for making me so robust. It'll be tough in college, they said. It's a cakewalk for me, I say.

I actually wonder, dear Minister, if you designed this structure so as to make me firm against all the winds that blow. Like you knew about the challenges I would have to face. **'Thank you'**, is my only reciprocation for now with a promise that all the hard work will be put to good use. And yet as clichéd as it may sound, I'll never be able to give back what I once received from this system.

Regards,  
An alumni of the  
Indian education system.



# This means war



Pic: Lakshay Garg, AIS PV, X A  
Models: Vara Raturi, XII C & Abuzar Khan, XII B, AIS PV

The only thing that endangers a topper is... another topper. And this means war - cold, hot and noisy

Aastha Gupta, AIS PV, XI F

The battle horns are sounded. The armour is polished and the swords are sharpened. Yes, quite as-certainly, the new 'Academic Session' has commenced and it means another year of tougher studies, and the worst of all, tougher competition. Toppers are perennially on the battle-field with 'The Other Topper'. Below are few battle strategies so tactically exercised by these Straight-A students:-

**The "Keep thy friends close and thy enemies closer" Strategy:** Toppers tend to associate solely with toppers and they have a crafty purpose to serve through this - to stay updated with the progress and study habits of their 'topper-friends'. The objective is to always be a step ahead. Well, the problem is that the 'friend' is doing the exact same thing. ISIS much?

**The "Liar Liar" Strategy:** Whenever a classmate asks a topper for the reason behind their unachievable success, the now exhausted reply is, "I do not study at all, only the night before the examination." (Yes, right. Marks are just falling out of the sky? Where can we get

some?) They believe in war by deception and seek bliss in their opponent's ignorance.

**The "Missing Notebook" Strategy:** Toppers always turn to their kindred for assistance in times of dire need. When posed with the cry for missed-out work, the other topper's sempiternal response is, "My notebook is lost. Again." Let us guess. Did the innocent boy who sits at the window steal it? Again?

**The "Super-Fast Submission" Strategy:** The first rule of war - always beat your opponent to the battle ground. Toppers always ensure that their work is complete a day before the submission date, with underlined sentences and coloured headings, not to mention the updated index and impeccable handwriting. The final race is submitting it before your best friend. Sorry, not sorry.

**The "Extra-Curricular Advantage" Strategy:** Not only academics, 'The Alpha Topper' maintains an edge by being involved in a variance of activities like theatre and art. The competition is heating up.

Still, there is no plea for surrender. A new day means a new fight which means more hope to win. Release the Dogs of War. Let the battle of the brains begin. 🇮🇳

# Secret to RAW

This job starts even before you have the job. For knowing how to get there is an assignment indeed

Tanushree Dutta, AIS PV, XII E

**"D**harmon rakshati rakshataha," meaning the law protects when protected, reads the resolute motto of the otherwise obscure Research & Analysis Wing of India. Being adherent followers of James Bond and The Bourne series, many of us have aspired for the adrenaline pumping occupation of an R&AW agent. However, there is little information about the procedure involved. We, through our own espionage, have tried to elucidate, what it takes to become an R&AW officer.

**Prepare yourself...**

...most of all for a reality check - the life you are going to lead will be nothing like 007. Being an intelligence agent isn't a 9 to 5 job but it often, additionally requires you to have one as a cover up. Physical fitness is paramount to this profession and so a high level of the same must be ensured. Having a clean legal record is quintessential. Most importantly, learn a foreign language - preferably an

obscure one, to minimise competition - as this often clinches the deal.

**Apply...**

...which is everything but simple as 'applying' and is the trickiest step. With the absence of an official website, there is no clear information regarding the R&AW's recruitment process. However, it is widely believed that intelligence agents are recruited through the Civil Services and the Armed Forces. One can either apply to the IB, resign from a post and join intelligence services or can be approached by the R&AW to work for them. Apart from the Civil Services, one may also give the National Aptitude Test for Intelligence (NATI). Often recruitment is carried out through advertisements for jobs for Government of India, Cabinet Secretariat etc. Of lately, they have also started picking students directly from universities and so not slumbering away through lectures is another task at hand. Intelligence agencies often hire in four broad capacities - linguistic experts, computer engineers, code interpreters/decrypts and logistics and hence

a degree in any of the aforementioned will be a cherry on top.

**Vetting and Referral...**

...or the 'raw deal' striker. Vetting is a fancy term for extensive background checks done on you by the organisation in order to ensure that in no position would you be vulnerable to blackmail and extortion from third-party forces. These checks require you to provide overt evidence regarding your family/social background, finances, health, affiliations etc. The powers with the agency regarding confirmation of these are boundless. Referees are substantial people in your life who confirm the information you provide to the intelligence agency. They are interrogated about your life, and thus they must be aware of all the minute details of your life lest they jeopardise your chances of landing the job.

**And the rest is as secretive as the job. Happy spying!**

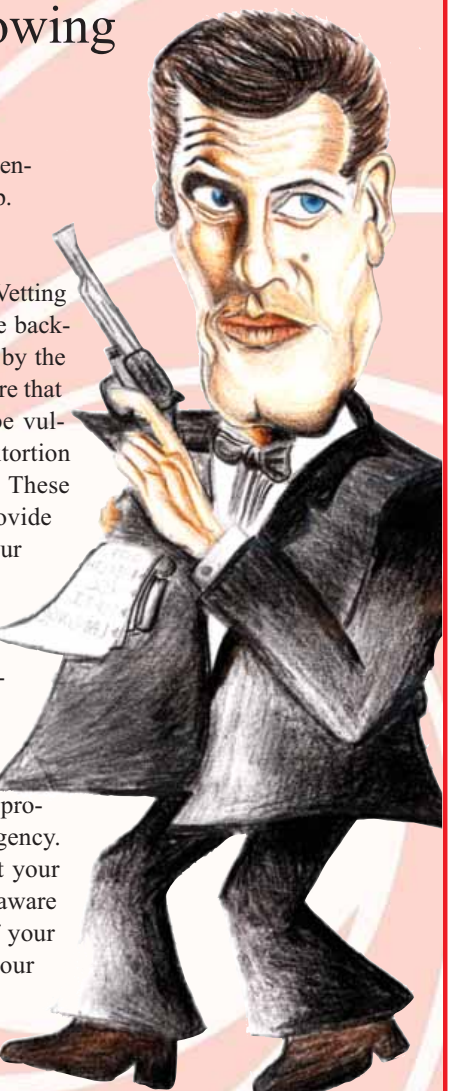


Illustration: Shraddha Talwar, AIS PV, X D.

Amity Institute  
for Competitive  
Examinations

Presents



Brainleaks-189

FOR CLASS VI-VIII

The time period of a pendulum depends upon the

- Material of the bob
- Mass of the bob
- Length of the pendulum
- Angle through which the pendulum swings

Last Date:  
Dec 1, 2016

3 correct entries win attractive prizes

Ans. Brainleaks 188: (a) A

Winner for Brainleaks 188

- Eshita Vani, VII-AFYCP, AIS Gur 46
- Nikita Kochhar, X-AFYCP, AIS Gur 46
- Khushi Saini, IX H, 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)

# Sheldon - new Siri's

"The flow of ions between the anode and cathode has stopped." "What?" "Low battery, I mean."

Sneha Mehra, X D & Zain Kazimi, X B  
AIS Pushp Vihar

When in October 2011, Apple Inc. introduced Siri in their latest iPhone 4s, we had to ourselves an A.I. based virtual assistant. Ever since, we have loved Siri not only for its intelligence but the witty human-like replies. Almost every iOS user has had at least a laugh or two, asking it to answer their often absurd queries. Now imagine if this A.I. would reach a stage in development where we could have, not just a few pre-set dialogues, but an entire human personality talking to us through our smartphone. And what if Sheldon Cooper from The Big Bang Theory was to be this personality? A human gives different responses to questions based on various stimuli, emotions and intuitions. A human like Sheldon Cooper will ensure that the 'laughs or two' are replaced with guffaws. One can only imagine the witty and knowledgeable responses.

## On not so sunny days

"Sheldon, what's the weather report for today?"

"The temperature could go anywhere from 15 degrees to 40, however, as the local weatherman is a complete idiot, there is a possibility of a downdraft. The barometric pressure will remain between 1013mbar to 1022.23mbar. According to the hy-

grometer, there will be high moisture and humidity. Basically, it's likely to rain today and ruin your whole day. Although, if you do need an umbrella, don't go to the man across the street. He's selling polished plastic, not the steel ones. You don't want to be around those."

## The unchangeable dates

"Any good Chinese restaurants nearby?"

"There are quite a few Chinese restaurants nearby: Oberoi's, China Gardens, House of Mings and Mainland China. But then according to the Sheldonian calendar it's Thursday, and Thursday nights are pizza nights. Now that we have decided that you'd be having pizza instead, which number do you want: Dominos or Pizza Hut? Or maybe even Slice of Italy (but who really goes to Slice of Italy)?"

## On not so pun-ny days

"Hey Sheldon, do you know what emotions are? Do you have emotions?"

"Of course I know what emotions are. I'm a prodigy (says in a monotone voice) that comes along once or twice in a century. Emotion is any relatively brief conscious experience characterised by intense mental activity and a high degree of pleasure or displeasure. Scientific discourse has drifted to other meanings and there is no consensus on a definition.



Graphic: Aditya Nath Tripathi,  
X B & Puranjay Sharma, XI B,  
AIS PV

The physiology of emotion is closely linked to arousal of the nervous system. According to other theories, emotions are not causal forces but simply syndromes of components, which might include motivation, feeling, behaviour and physiological changes. And just in case you're wondering, I do have emotions: excitement, concern and a little fear. All the things that I feel in line at the Space Mountain. I am pretty sure of that. And we do count sarcasm as emotion, don't we?"

## Sarcasm 24x7

"Hey Sheldon, tell me a good joke."

Sheldon: \*switches on the front camera\*  
"Hah, BAZINGA!"

Even with the eccentricity that would come into our lives, there's no doubt that having a brilliant, egocentric, obsessive character to carry around all day in the back pocket would not only be helpful, but also hilariously insane... Or maybe not. His mother got him tested, right? 🇺🇸

"Inky - pinky - ponky" and she chose the red dress over the blue one. But was this a coincidence? Does she like red velvet cakes more than the blueberry ones? Just guessing...

Graphic: Aditya Nath Tripathi, AIS PV, X B



# Science behind choices

Saanya Kanwar, IX A & Adil, XI B, AIS PV

"What do I wear to tuition today?" "Lays or Uncle Chips?" "Am I for the motion or against it?" Through the journey of life, we have all experienced the crossroads, taunting our ability to make a decision. So how do we choose? Scientifically, it seems.

## Personal bias

The urge to choose something without proper reasoning is bias. We all have natural biases but seldom are we aware of them. Mahzarin Banaji, a psychology professor at Yale University, suggests that every choice of ours is affected by biased views resulting from past experiences. The psychological term for this process is called priming, where some past memory or experience unconsciously affects our current decisions. And so you tend to pick a familiar author's book more often.

## Abundance of choice

Our brain, though extremely powerful, has its limitations. Whenever offered a choice with more than five options, the human cognitive ability is quickly overwhelmed by its decreased odds of making the right decision. The natural tendency then, is to consider the first few options and then stop. People are inherently attracted to having lots of choices, but when faced with them, they tend to act over-

whelmed, which is termed as decision fatigue by scientists. And that's the major reason behind you getting baffled while shopping online.

## Presentation of the option

Another contributing factor is the way a choice is presented to us. According to UC Berkeley Haas School of Business, any option if presented in a form that appeals to our specific psyche has a much higher chance of being selected. Approval of a choice from a number of people also reinforces its reliability. Now you know why the salesman's flattery actually works on you. So, with all the multiple factors affecting our choices, how do we take our final decision?

## Gut feeling

Yes, that little voice in your head which tells you what you should do is almost always right. Remember, as a kid, that voice telling you to not touch the flame or eat dirt? But curiosity got the best of you, giving you a burn scar and food poisoning in the process. The question is, why should we trust it? A study by University of California says that the brain keeps accumulating data from all the senses from time to time and through experiences, storing them sub-consciously. When faced with a situation or problem, the brain makes a suggestion based on all that data in the form of intuition. So trust your choices, they're scientific after all. 🇺🇸

# Immortality morality

"And they lived happily forever". But does "forever" really come with "happily"?

Kabir Arora, AIS PV, XI C

Immortality. It's that one thing that every king in old tales and every villain in modern fictional cinema tries their best to obtain. It is supposed to be the best thing that could happen to us, providing a status of power to whoever wields it, a prospect of witnessing civilizations and evolution firsthand. But is it, and does it? What would really happen if you could replace your meek mortal shell with an immortal one? Perhaps, it wouldn't be as amazing as you would think. In fact, there are plenty of reconsiderations before the forever plunge.

Firstly, **Time**. If you're immortal, you'll have a lot of it, rather too much of it. For a two year old, a year is half his life. For a hundred year old, it's a tiny 1%. As we get older, it gets harder to remember important events in life simply because there are too many of them. And so, if you live for a million years, you'd eventually either have no more place for new memories, since our brain is only so large, or you'd have no recollection about most of your existence, since your brain would discard old memories to make place for new ones.

Along with this comes the potential depression from knowing that everyone you've ever loved or known will die, and you'll have to continue to live on without them.

Then there's **Evolution**. We're different from the apes that Homo sapiens used to be a million years ago. If you were immortal, everyone around you would go on evolving, while you would stay as humans are in the 21st century. If one of our ape ancestors would exist today, would you interact with them? No, you'd cage it up and put it in the zoo, or museum. A million years down the line, you'll look very different from the other human beings who would have evolved into something new. They might just want to cage you up too!

Lastly, **Scars**. Look at your body. You probably have one or two scars. Average humans gets at least four permanent scars throughout their life. After living for a million years, your body will be covered with scars. Immortality might mean you'll live forever, but it doesn't mean that you can't be damaged. Let's expand on that. The number of people who lose their limbs through accidents are low as a part of the total population, but that's because our lives are short. If you lived forever, what are the chances that you'll still have all four limbs? You'll probably look like a zombie if you stay alive for a million years. Also, where would we all fit? Earth is almost saturated and if we stopped dying, we'd have to colonize Mars pretty soon. Also, Yamraj, for the first time in his life would have to redo his resume.

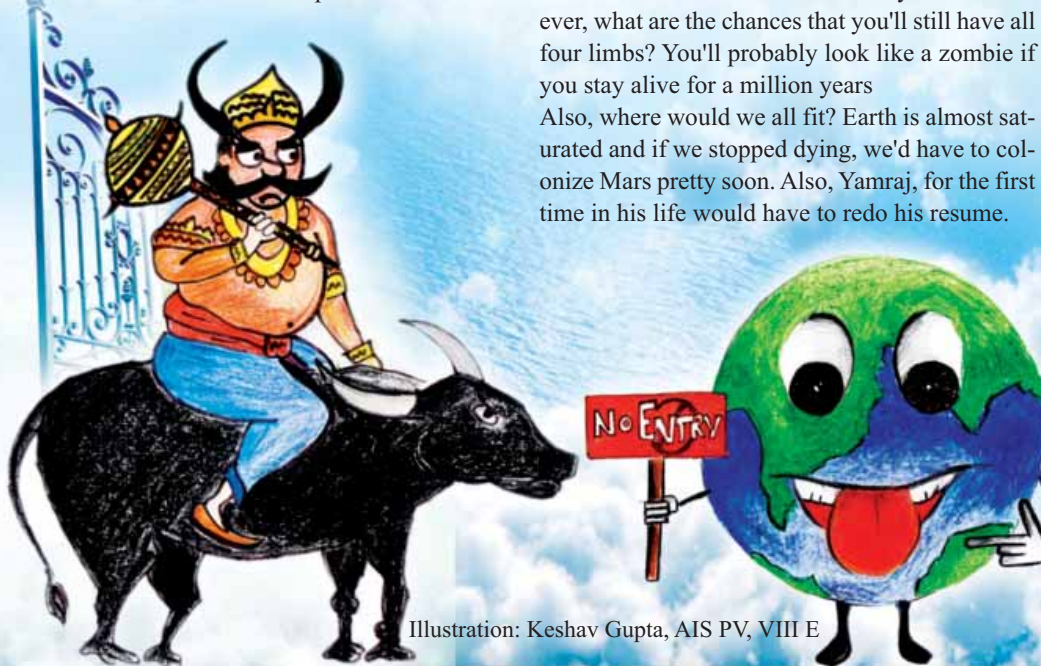


Illustration: Keshav Gupta, AIS PV, VIII E



# A day without headphones

To lose one's headphones, some say, is losing a limb. I believe, it means extra ears and eyes. Only if you 'listen' to me, without the barriers

Namrata Bhattacharjee, AIS PV, XII C

Today, I had the wind knocked out of me. Today, I was thrown out into the real world with no warning or explanation and forced to be a part of a terrifying reality.

Today, I forgot to carry my headphones. To call the day 'unusual' would truly be an understatement for the kind of things I heard and listened that made me think, "Which world was I living in?" The walk from my front door to the main road was still promising. A day that would normally start with Coldplay, today, began with a "Good morning madam" from my colony's guard in a singsong voice. I could hear all the things my aural barriers would usually keep from me. I heard the birds chirp, the laughter of people coming back from the morning yoga class and I'm pretty sure that I even heard the hissing of leaves.

As soon as I was smiling to the idea of today not being as difficult as anticipated, I heard it all - the car horns, the screaming, the chatter, the fighting and the loud talking of people telling other people "Usne mujhe ye bola" and asking for "500 ya 1000 ka change." Vendors trying to sell, people trying to get an auto and the non-stop (completely unwanted) auditory assault of strangers talking about strange things in their strangely booming voices, eventually, got to me.

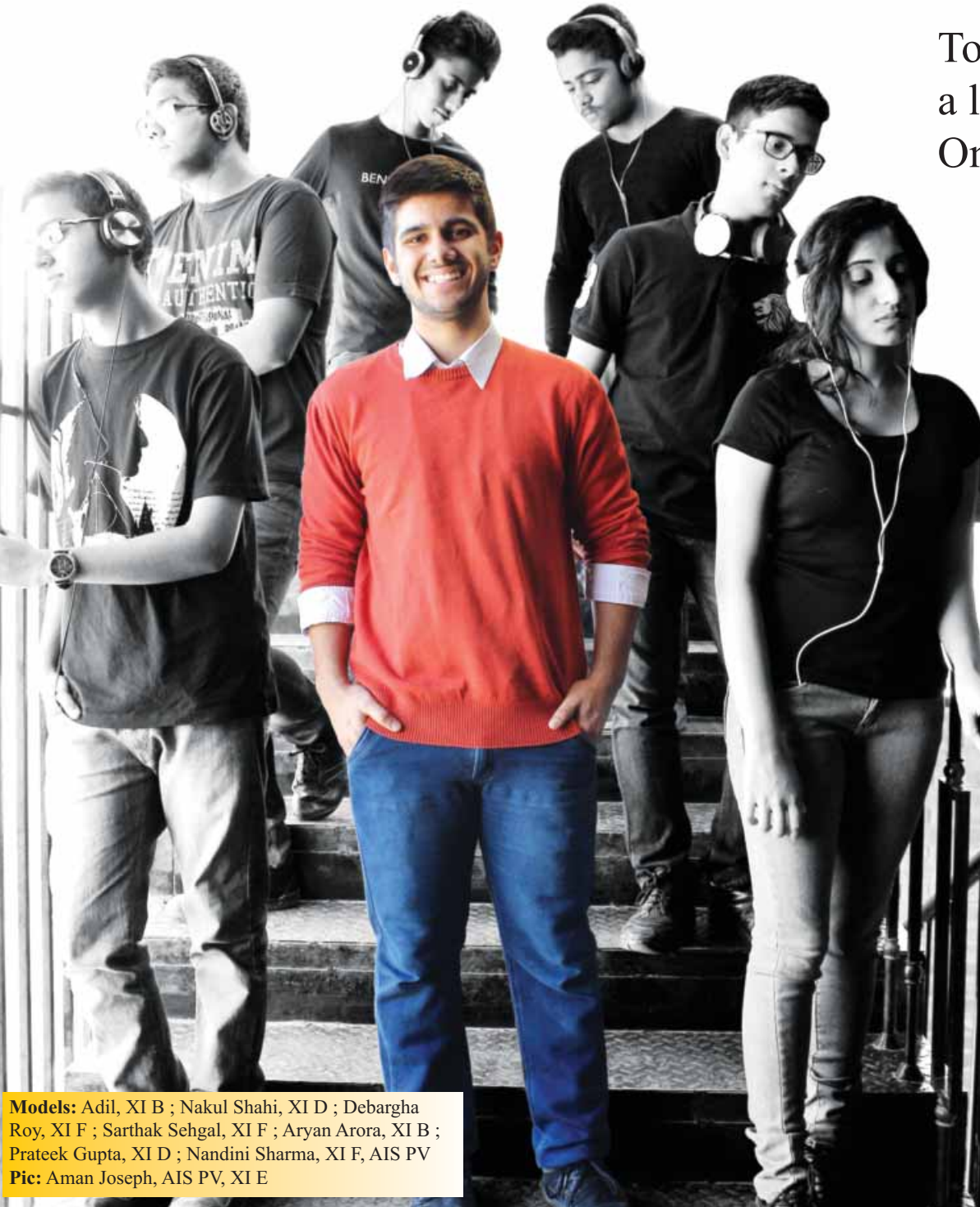
While I was cursing myself for forgetting my headphones and trying to get over the overwhelmedness of my ears, I

picked up one or two important pieces of information, which I would have missed otherwise owing to my lack of newspaper-reading skills and abundance of getting-lost-in-my-own-world skills. "So much's happening around!" was not-so-bad a realisation.

The metro ride, however, is a completely different story. Today, I entered the train, not grooving but trying my best to give way to anyone asking to be 'excused' (on other days, I was naturally excused with my headphones on). The deafening cry of a 2 year-old child, the struggle of a mother to keep her 5 year-old from dancing around the pole and the new set of noises piercing through every time the doors opened - all this in a 30 minute ride. Amongst the multiple station announcements and conversations that I so desperately tried to ignore (and failed) was one which explained why the sulking aunty in the red sweater always looked so claustrophobic.

What happened once I reached my station, was something I was not prepared for. Metro rides with headphones mean that I can shut myself to the world outside, watching the 'wars of the 7 kingdoms'. Metro rides without headphones just led to the war waiting at Rajiv Chowk. Suddenly, the world became a lot more populated than it was a minute ago.

And yet when I recall my unusual day, a sense of content engulfs me. On a normal day, my headphones would keep me from interacting, acknowledging or even considering the existence of a universe outside my personal bubble. Today, I smiled, conversed and essentially spent my day not being isolated from everything else. Perhaps forgetting headphones isn't such a bad thing. I might forget them more often. **GI**



Models: Adil, XI B ; Nakul Shahi, XI D ; Debargha Roy, XI F ; Sarthak Sehgal, XI F ; Aryan Arora, XI B ; Prateek Gupta, XI D ; Nandini Sharma, XI F, AIS PV  
Pic: Aman Joseph, AIS PV, XI E

## Bagception: bag or black hole?

The astronomical world talks of a 'singularity', an object that contains an infinite amount of mass in a microscopic amount of space. A theory that best defines a woman's handbag

Vara Raturi, AIS PV, XII C

When little Lord Krishna was caught eating mud by mother Yashoda, she asked him to open his mouth and display what he was eating. Unflinchingly, he did and what his mother saw was quite a spectacle - the entire universe, with galaxies and planets twirling, lay there in the infant's mouth. The curious case of women and their handbags run along similar lines. Here's presenting a take from both the genders, as we stroll through the craters of Mars and the valleys of Venus (both of which, I'm sure, could readily fit into a tote).

### Taking on Venus

Here at Venus, safety comes first. So the women must carry their self-defense in their handbag at all times. But what comes earlier is style, it seems. We found that clutches go with short dresses, tote bags with shorts, hobo bags with jeans and a sling bag with literally everything. On further investigation of the insides, we found pepper spray, a knife, a gun and a grenade.

Some were considerate enough to use deodorant as an alternative for pepper spray, hence killing two birds with one stone - foul body odour and the eyes of whoever dares to attack them. It made the bags lighter, they say. Enter makeup - the other kind of emergency. Within the bag was another makeup bag that contains lipstick, mascara, kajal, face wash and what not, all in the name of touchup. The heels they trot on can be a real pain in the toes and so of course they carry flats wrapped in yet another bag. However, despite all these bags within a bag, the women couldn't easily scourge out their kajal stick in less than 10 minutes, and hence their argument stands redundant.

### Taking on Mars

Meanwhile on Mars, the first inhabitant we came across was waiting in line to receive the 10 rupee note he was promised thirty minutes ago, from a woman digging deep within her bag. Indulging in conversation, we discovered a theory that was way too accurate and pleasing to our potterhead hearts - an undetectable extension charm in all the bags

women carry, quite like the one Hermione used. Now, these men have many questions when it comes to bags, but the first one is - why are there so many? Acclimatised to retaining just one black shoulder bag with white stripes their entire lives, the immensity of variety leaves them nonplussed. Next, we meet a ten year old son who claims the need to use a torch-light every time his mother asks him to take something out of her purse. Frustrated male friends hated clutches, for they had to carry the cell phones anyway, and a scary sensation seemed to have gripped the planet, as many inhabitants simply said "Never touch a woman's handbag" stutteringly, when asked about the same. None of them knew why the saying was so. On compiling the results, we came to the conclusion - Krishna's mouth or an undetectable extension charm, the fact that a woman's handbag contains galaxies, has now become the universal truth.

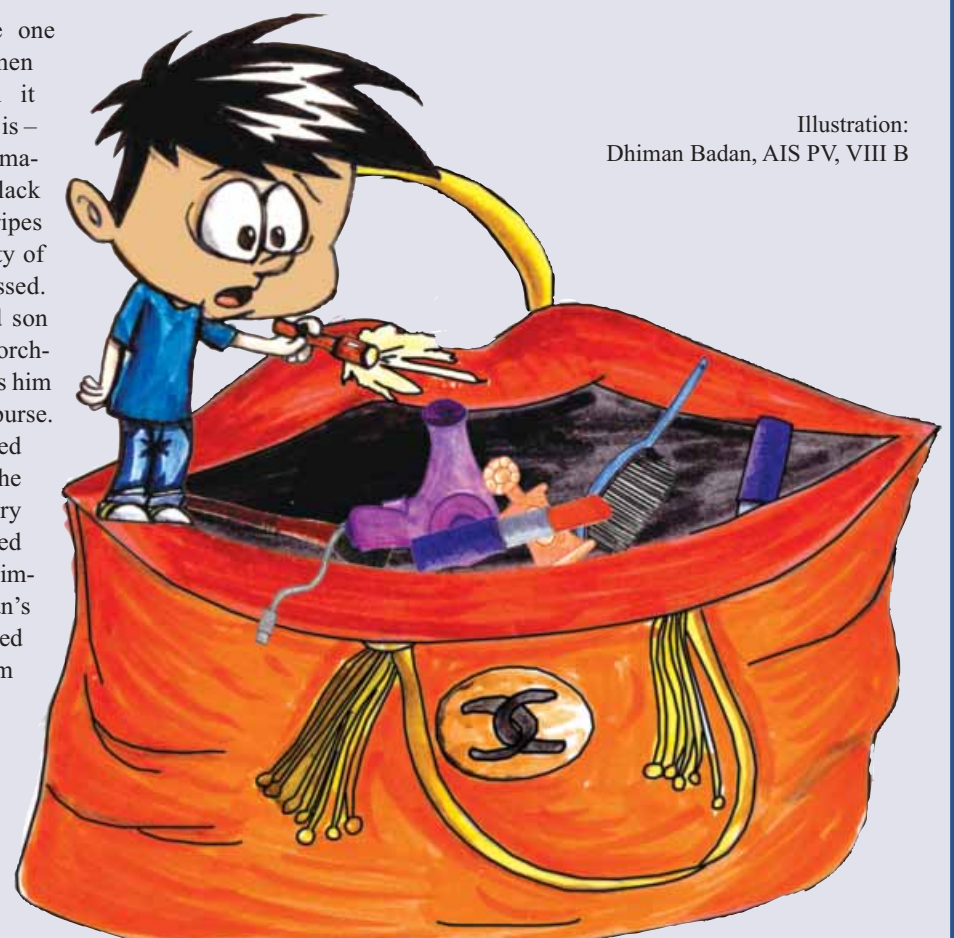


Illustration:  
Dhiman Badan, AIS PV, VIII B



“When we play the game of GT, we edit or get rejected.”

Shradha Talwar, X D & Debargha Roy  
XI F, AIS PV, Page Editors



## Money wise

“A wise man should have money in his head, but not in his heart.”

Jonathan Swift



Dr. Amita Chauhan  
Chairperson

There has been a huge hue and cry about the current monetary upheaval – demonetization. Some have welcomed it, some have resented the move; but all have had to undergo some degree of discomfort. But then, there is no gain without pain. For once, the common man has been able to partake in the war against corruption. For once, the common man has been able to participate in nation building, through one pertinent step to cleanse the system.

The biggest wars in the world have been caused due to money. The worst of corrupt practices have revolved around money. It is wise to remember that though money is important to lead a healthy and happy life, it is not the be all and end all of life. The moment you let it become the overriding factor of your life, and you can't help but focus on that...it slowly makes a monster out of you. It makes you hungry for power; it makes you hungry for more.

The top story (p 1) of AIS Pushp Vihar's contest edition weaves together the varying causes that may lead to a third world war, and whether it is land, autocracy, the greed for resources or anything else - everything directly or indirectly points to money.

At Amity, our prime focus is on grooming all round individuals who are conscientious global citizens, capable of making a mark on the global horizon. And yes, walking on that path requires monetary investment. But the fact remains, that though money is an important tool to lead a happy life, you should not let it be the sole purpose of your life. 📱

## Mantra of success

“If you do not sacrifice for what you want, what you want becomes the sacrifice.”

Anonymous



Amita Mohan  
Principal, AIS PV

Success is a destination that we reach not through aimless wandering but through the determination of being a perseverant traveler. We must chart out a course to follow intrinsically throughout the duration of our journey, steeling our mind against all obstacles. And the contest edition itself is a journey that needs determination and concentration. The effort of students at every step was remarkable as they encountered many obstacles but finally succeeded. We must learn to prioritise, as success comes with clearly demarcated goals.

Founder President, Dr Ashok K. Chauhan often says that success has to be so powerful that it becomes a compulsive behaviour which gets strengthened by determination and changes our mind and soul. It is the realisation of the individual self that will construct the base to achieve success. However, one must also acknowledge one's weaknesses and limitations. The acceptance of one's shortcomings is not an indication of frailty, but instead, it is the appreciation of one's strengths.

If we can balance ourselves in terms of our strengths and weaknesses, we can generate the preparatory stage for success. It was my Amity's constant determination that made them churn out a fruitful edition. So, success would come naturally by not aiming for it but if you have that will and determination. 📱

Published and Printed by Mr R.R. Aiyar on behalf of Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan from E-26, Defence Colony, New Delhi 110024 and printed from HT Media Ltd, B-2, Sec 63, Noida (UP). Editor: Ms Vira Sharma.

■ Edition: Vol 8, Issue 34 ■ RNI No. DELENG / 2009 / 30258. Both for free distribution and annual subscription of ₹ 900.

Opinions expressed in GT articles are of the writers and do not necessarily reflect those of the editors or publishers. While the editors do their utmost to verify information published, they do not accept responsibility for its absolute accuracy.

Published for the period November 28- December 4, 2016

# No, it's not okay

We throw words around unthinkingly, ebb away the significance they carry. Spare a thought to the perspective of those who live their meanings

Graphic: Puranjay Sharma, AIS PV, XI B

Kirti Wadhwa, AIS PV, XII E

Ever since evolution took off, the human race has resorted to a stringent mantra of dealing with every challenge it has faced. The circle of order of reactions ranges from first, denial, which approaches towards avoidance of all possible conversations, and finally, the most treasured one of human race, combating with the support of inappropriate and ignorant humour. This scenario is the worst in the case of mental health problems. Each one of us has successfully contributed in turning a blind eye to the intensity of the issue. How, you ask?

### Let's take a look:

**Friend:** “Sorry I am late, I was cleaning up. I am quite OCD about my cleaning habits, haha!”

**Said nobody ever:** “Nobody is ‘a bit’ OCD about their habits and if you were, you would spend eight straight hours repeatedly cleaning an absolutely shiny glass floor. No, you wouldn't just be a running replica of your behaviour but will rack your brains out, while you lay in the bed at night, wondering if that tiny stain still mars your abode.”

**Friend:** “I was way too depressed in the morning, so I went out with my friends to cheer myself up!”

**Said nobody ever:** “I am sure that English language possesses a multitude of words to choose from to express sadness and morose (see, two right there). But, the only adjective which seems beguiling enough to blurt out is ‘depression’. A person who is ‘way too depressed’ doesn't switch to ‘Party Rock Anthem’ from ‘Everybody hurts’ in a few hours. They regret



their existence, feeling devoid of love, experiencing pain that doesn't arise from a particular body part.

**Friend:** “I feel dizzy, like I'm having hallucinations.”

**Said nobody ever:** “Illusions. You mean illusions. Hallucinations mean a person firmly believes ‘voices’ to be around, ‘voices’ that linger. They mean catching sight of non-existent scenes, incessant cringing feelings of crocodiles crawling in their stomachs. But, if we use two divergent words in place of the other, why not interchangeably use black for white?”

**Friend:** “I'm feeling schizo. Maybe it's just a phase.”

**Said nobody ever:** Let me burst the fancy little candy world you've adopted to live in and talk of this thing we pretend to know, called reality. Have you ever thought, that the person who just spent 12 straight hours crying about nothing or the old woman who feels a shadow following and observing her every second of her life, might not just be having mere mood swings? Moreover, have you ever thought that it might just be real? ”

Stop your delusional thinking and realise a truth we've perhaps failed to recognise so far. 📱

Pic: Aayush Raj, AIS PV, XI E



A stone that is ravaged by the skulls of many, traveled through trauma. A stone that had a heart for a heart, not a stone

Alan Antony, AIS PV, XI A

**I'm a stone, they said. A round, grey-speckled pebble.**

Apparently, I was shaped by several gut-wrenching, scientific processes in the Himalayas, where my ancestors remain till date. My mistake was falling into the Indus, they said. Abandoned by the river, I was picked up at some place surrounded by miles of barbed wire, by a stick wielding, ferocious bearded fellow (luck was not on my side; at least, that's what they said). I was bundled in for battle. The nineteenth week of curfew was on, and there was no sight of relenting. ‘Demonstrators’ took to the streets, fighting and yelling with absolute disregard to my inconvenience. I was hurled at a khaki-laden police officer and managed to scrape a part of his

shield that read, ‘Anti-Riot Police’. Fellows raising a green coloured piece of cloth on a stick were beaten up by the police, while a tricolour flew freely. Funny, how the mere arrangement of a varying spectrum of colours can change everything in the hopelessly idiotic world of the humans. I was tossed again (by the police, this time) using a weird contraption called a catapult, where I hit a teenaged boy smack in the middle of his head. Both of us blacked out. He died, I was scared. Bloodstains of Late Master Adil Hussain are still faintly visible on my speckled body, one of the scars that I will have to live with.

After I was revived (I was out for three weeks, they said), I found myself being tossed by kids, who were playing some game to kill their time as their lives hung on the mercy of the

curfew. The innocence and gaiety on their face were barely hiding the pain and uncertainty within their frail hearts. Two rebellious boys decided to go close to Line of some Control thing, where they left me to die close to the scary barbed wires.

I was awakened at midnight by the sound of hastened footsteps and a group of men armed to the teeth. As they cut through the barbed wire and made their way inside India, every ounce of me screamed danger. Several men took aim at the army barracks with their loaded guns. One fellow, possibly the leader, threw a round thing that I later would come to know as a grenade.

**At me.**

**That was the last thing I remember.** Pardon my Alzheimer's and coma. I was shattered by the explosion, just

## Tripple charm



Barima Dhingra  
Teacher, AIS PV

Yet another year passes by and yet another fabulous edition is released; complete with the best ingredients of a commendable contest issue - everything done at

the last minute, all final drafts finished at midnight, all illustrations completed only a day before the final edit meet and everything compiled and completed with a huge and earth-shaking sigh of relief. Having said that, I would like to convey my admiration for the tireless work put in by my team. They never hesitated to write a few extra articles, never ceased to run around the school co-ordinating stories and never came short of giving their absolute best in everything and anything they undertook.

It is marvellous to see that students, so tender in their age, can spin out such creative and excellently composed articles. That the little minds can weave such evolved stories with their paint brushes. Their dexterity and passion is beyond compare and is sure to win many accolades and hearts in the future.

The Global Times offers a wonderful platform for today's generation, to create a well-informed and refined youth of tomorrow. Here's signing off like every time, believing this is the best edition so far. And like every time, I have my fingers crossed.

like how both nations are shattered every time hate permeates the love in this volatile space.

I am flints and pieces and so will we be, unless we terminate this irrationality and unless they piece together for something more harmonious. 📱



"It's hard to put a leash on an article when you have put a title on its head."

Vanshika Chaudhary, AIS PV, VIII C  
Page Editor

# The demonetisation story

Demonetisation isn't a new fad but an old horse. Here's a story of the notes that were once worth something and also of a new star that has the entire nation standing in queues for a glance

## The Osmania Sikka

1918-1959



Possibly the earliest note (sikka), it was issued by the Hyderabad State and was circulating even after independence.

## Five Hundred Rupee

Oct 1987~Nov 2016



It was demonetised to counterfeit the current bank notes allegedly used for funding terrorism and as a crackdown on black money.

## Ten Thousand Rupee

1949~1978



This one was the highest denomination ever printed by the RBI and was demonetised later. However, the move did not create a problem for the population due to its limited circulation owing to its extremely high monetary value.

## Five Thousand Rupee

1938~1946~1978~2016



This denomination has been introduced and demonetised thrice between 1938 to 2016.

## One Thousand Rupee



It was demonetised due to the lack of circulation and the ongoing inflation crisis of the Indian economy.

## New Two Thousand note



Tada! Here we have the new star, launched on the midnight of November 8, 2016. With its new features and design, it has become the talk of the town, rather the country. People are standing in queues for just one glance. So what makes this new note so special?

1 Even though the national animal of India is the Tiger, one can find the Elephant along with other national motifs. Is this a possible error by RBI?

2 Color: Magenta

3 Size: 66mm x 166mm

4 There is a motif of the

Mangalyaan on the reverse side of the note.

5 Growing from small to big on the top left side and bottom right side of the note.

6 The Ashoka Pillar emblem has been used for the very first time on an Indian note.

7 Swachh Bharat logo with slogan.

8 For the visually impaired, Intaglio (raised printing) of Mahatma Gandhi's portrait and Ashoka Pillar emblem

bleed lines and identity marks.

9 Multilingual error: The Konkani and Marathi translations of 'Two Thousand Rupees' are the same.

10 The note is waterproof but the colour bleeds when in contact with water.

11 The '2000' numeral changes colour when viewed from different angles.

**Voilà!** Something we noticed while de-signing this note: The random white spots may not be random. The spots appear in groups of 9, 11 and 16 forming the date November 9, 2016. The day the note became legal! Although not verified, it does make the new note even more intriguing!

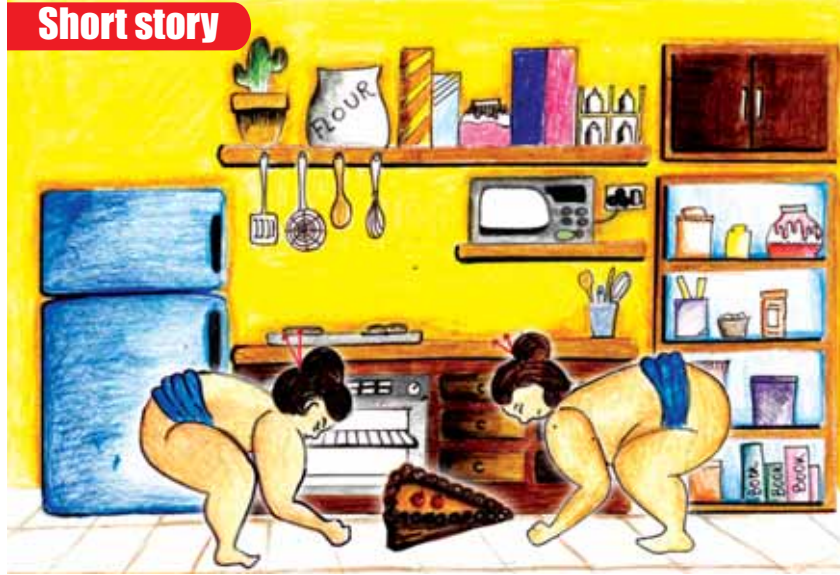


Pic courtesy: Yamini Rai, AIS PV, VIII E

# The cold war

Illustration: Keshav Gupta, VIII E & Pawani Arora, VIII D, AIS PV

## Short story



Adil, AIS PV, XI B

The clock struck 12 am and Aarav lay drooling in front of an open textbook craving attention, while his stomach grumbled and mind wandered. His eyes continued to make round trips from the clock to the door leading to the kitchen within which lay his beloved bliss. But his mission was not so easy, for he knew his elder brother Manav was in competition, evenly matching him in all fields. His passion to complete his objective caused him to make the first move and

decide on a primary course of action, “I think I’ll go to the washroom.” “Didn’t you just go two minutes ago? Anyway, I think mom is in there and she’s going to take time,” the enemy defended elegantly. A few minutes later, he tried again, “I feel thirsty; I’m going to get something to drink.” “I feel thirsty too, I’ll go get a bottle.” “Oh, look, I didn’t notice, there’s already a bottle here. There you go.” They continued to parry and deflect. Neither succeeding, the stalemate continued for another half an hour. Seeing no way out and knowing brute force has to be relied on some-

His eyes continued to make round trips from the clock to the door leading out to the kitchen within which lay his loved bliss.

times, he approached Manav, gave him a quick shove, and cursing again at the cruelties of war, ran out of the door as fast as he could, bolting it from outside. A creak of the door made Manav look up, to see his brother entering, head hung. Before he could let loose his rage, Aarav stopped him by raising his palm and handed him an empty plate. He looked down to see a note taped to it, “Haha. I Knew you’d be after it. Gotcha!” “Dad got the last piece of that truffle cake”, said Aarav. They both sunk together on the bed, both sides defeated, the prize of their victory already lost. But as Manav bent to put the plate down, he noticed a smudge of chocolate on Aarav’s pyjamas, where he had probably wiped his hand. A sudden realisation dawned upon him. His enemy had fooled him. Next day, somehow, Aarav’s phone went missing and a really embarrassing picture had been uploaded online. One battle ended. Another began. The war was yet to be concluded.

## WORDS VERSE

### Stuck in labyrinth

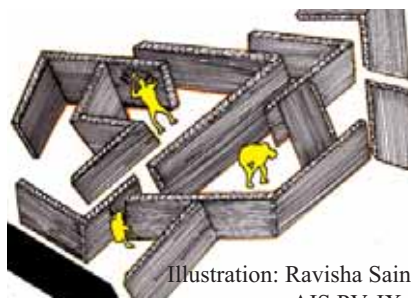


Illustration: Ravisha Saini, AIS PV, IX A

Aditi Suresh, AIS PV, X B

Are we just a mere piece  
Of small matter?  
Of trillions of atoms  
Intricately arranged together

Trying to rescue ourselves  
From the dreaded oppressor  
But craving for that  
Mere satisfaction of a successor

And not condemning  
This exquisite life  
Beyond the tasks  
We are meant to rife

For which we are

Constantly tethered in this labyrinth  
And trying to please the world  
With a beautiful jacinth

There is no end  
To this fleeting reputation we earn  
And getting nothing  
Enduring in return

Was this for  
Which we were born?  
To live in this perpetual universe  
Completely torn

But that is how  
This universe has been knit for us  
To perform our duties  
In our regular perfunctory fuss.

### As I am today

Janhvi Singh, AIS PV, XI C

My skin you see  
It is but a mortal disguise  
To house coruscating seethe  
That makes home inside

This corporal flesh  
Under itself hides

Illustration: Sara Sindhwani, AIS PV, XI E



My nerves flowing with rubies  
Bones of diamond uncut

August as I am  
My fate is to choke  
Choke on the fumes of my own  
In my stellar brilliance and asphyxiate

But before I cease  
Before the flame burns out  
Before I merge with this earth  
Before it engulfs me as its own

If I fail to put  
My power to display  
For the skies to applaud  
For the winds to praise

I ask you to remember me  
For who I was, not what I could be  
Not a coward with a tragic fate  
But as a friend by your side.



## Desktop organiser

Can you never spot your eraser just when you need it? This organiser is just the right thing for you!

Yamini Rai, AIS PV, VIII E

### Materials required



Wooden board

Coloured paper

Spray paint



Cans

Scissors and glue

Marker

### Method

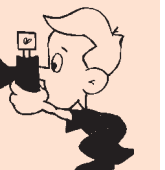
- Take a sheet of coloured paper and wrap it around an empty can using glue.
- Wrap all the cans in the same manner using different coloured sheets.
- Now paint the cans with spray paint in the colours of your choice.
- Keep the cans aside and let them dry.
- Using a marker, decorate the cans.
- Now take a wooden board, paint it with spray paint and allow it to dry.
- Arrange the cans on the wooden board; place it on your study table.
- Your desktop organiser is ready! So segregate your stationery, place them in the organisers and don't forget to put things back in their places.



## CAMERA CAPERS

Aryan Goenka, AIS Pushp Vihar, X D

Send in your entries to  
cameracap@theglobaltimes.in



Wise eyes



Observing the blues



Before I fly





Pic courtesy: Sanjana Chauhan, AIS PV, III D

# The Bubblegum gang

Illustration: Keshav Gupta, AIS PV, VIII E



## Short story

Saumya Chauhan, AIS PV, VIA



Betty, Becca and Bella, three sisters were standing in the courtyard of their house. All of them were looking at the sky. They were fascinated, looking at the birds flying so high. And soon, the thought of flying came to Betty and Bella. To distract themselves, they decided to try the special bubble gums their mom had given them, for the first time. As they began to chew the gums, big bubbles started to protrude from their mouths. Suddenly, their bodies started getting lighter, until they got as light as air and their feet were off the ground.

The sisters were enjoying their flight like birds and soon they landed on a staircase made of a substance that looked like cotton candies. The area was fenced with Kit-Kat and the door was made up of waffles. They were mesmerised with this distant kingdom, where the trees were made up of chocolates and Sour Punk hung from the branches. They were amazed at the sight of sumptuous candies and started collecting them in their pockets.

**They were amazed at the sight of sumptuous candies and started collecting them in their pockets.**

They were busy staring at the beautiful surroundings when they suddenly heard an evil laughter. As they turned around, they saw a ferocious and ugly, brown monster looking at them and laughing. “Hahaha, it’s been so long since I’ve seen a child. I’ll have so much fun eating all of you. I’ll call my friends too.” And then he roared loudly. Soon, they were surrounded by monsters from all sides. But instead of being scared, they felt a strange power inside them. Betty raised her hands and released some of her power and the other two followed. A gum started to protrude from their hands, trapping the gang of vicious monsters. Then the sisters began to beat them. This angered the monsters, who pounced upon the gang and called them

‘The Bubblegum gang’. Suddenly, the sisters realised that all the bubble gums were over and their powers were gone. They were terrified, and as the monsters approached them, they closed their eyes in fear. It was then that the sisters realised why their mother had not allowed them to have the gums before. They were asked to be careful with these bubblegums as these were not ordinary. There was a secret to these gums that they hadn’t been told.

And suddenly, everything went quiet. They slowly opened their eyes and saw all the monsters lying unconscious. As they looked around, they were shocked to see their mother standing there, blowing a big bubble balloon. Their mother turned around and said, “And this is why I had asked all of you to stay away from the bubblegum. But now that you know, I will teach you how to use your powers properly.” She picked them up in her arms, and flew them home.  

**So, what did you learn today?**  
A new word: **Vicious**  
Meaning: **Cruel or violent**

Pic: Aayush Raj, AIS PV, XI E

Samara Chauhan

Class: III C

Birthday: August 12

Best friend: Nurina

Role model: My mother

Hobby: Skating

Like: Playing with cousins

Dislike: Studying

Favourites

Food: Rajma Chawal

Teacher: Pooja Ma'am

Game: Snakes and ladders

Poem: Boat sails on the river

Book: The Gruffalo

I want to become:

A scientist

I want to feature in

GT because:

I love it

Samaya Chauhan

Class: III D

Birthday: August 12

Best friend: Yashvi Jain

Role model: Principal ma'am

Hobby: Reading

Like: Reading

Dislike: Being mean

Favourites

Food: Chole Bhature

Teacher: Anupriya Ma'am

Game: Football

Poem: Boat sails on the river

Book: Thea Stilton

I want to become:

An engineer

I want to feature in

GT because: I like it

**It's us!**



## POEMS

# My world of books

Suhani Chauhan, AIS PV, IV A

Books on my table  
Books on my bed  
Books up to the sky  
Look! My pile of books is so high

Dragons, monster, elves and fairies  
How they cast a magic spell  
On my immature mind  
Look! Books have so much to tell

So much information and so many tales



Illustration: Keshav Gupta, AIS PV, VIII E

So many styles and amazing names  
They are a source of enlightenment  
Look! Books are full of amazement

They are my best friend  
And take me to a different world  
That lives in my mind for many days  
Look! Books are mankind's best creation



They read to me  
Fathers, mothers, brothers and sisters too  
How happy it makes me  
Look! Books unite a family you see.  

Illustration: Suhani Chauhan, AIS PV, IV A



# If I had wings

Syonaa Malhotra, AIS PV, V C



If I had wings  
I'd love to sing  
If electricity isn't there  
I'd just fly in the air

I'd help all others  
And I'd dance in the merry weather  
I'd fly to the bird's nest  
And for an hour I would rest

On colourful flowers I would hop

I would enjoy and never stop  
I would fly above the clouds  
I would feel very proud

If only I could have wings  
Those lovely, fluttery things  
I would soar up in the sky  
Waving to everyone bye-bye

I would go everywhere  
To places others won't dare  
All my friends would envy me  
Oh, God! Please let it be.  



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



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98-187-04663

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



"It's not easy being an editor, if it were easy everyone would do it."

**Sidhaant Verma & Adil, XI B**  
AIS PV, Page Editors



# Celebrating achievements

A ceremony organised to felicitate international and national achievements of students in the field of Science



Chairperson with the achievers in the felicitation ceremony

## Children's Science Foundation

To inculcate scientific temper and logical thinking in the students, Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson Amity Group of Schools and RBEF launched Amity's 'Children Science Foundation' (CSF) in January 2011. The foundation organises many

activities like expert lectures, quizzes, exhibitions, etc while providing children with a platform to participate in various national and international competitions. To celebrate the achievements of the students, over 400 achievers from all Amity Intl Schools were felicitated at a special function held at Amity University, Noida campus on October 22, 2016.

The Awards were given in three categories namely: 'Innovators' (International winners of programmes like ISEF, ISWEEP and INESPO), 'Researchers' (who filed patents or who have won Gold, Silver and Bronze medals in international science fairs) and 'Creative Minds' (who won Gold medals or were Asia winners in creativity based activities like Designing Sustainable Settlements in Space, High Speed Formula 1 Cars and creativity based international programme 'Odyssey of The Mind' held in the US.

The chief guest for the event was Dr Arvind Mitra, Head, International Co-operation Bilateral Division of Department of Science & Tech, Ministry of Science & Technology. The ceremony was graced by Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan; eminent scientists, viz, Dr Selvamurthy, Dr RP Singh, Dr Sreedharan, Dr Anuj Sinha, Dr Neeraj Sharma and Dr Janardhan; heads of institutions, students, teachers and parents. [G](#) [T](#)



54 students were appointed as prefects

# Investiture ceremony

## AIS Noida

The primary school organised its Investiture Ceremony on October 26, 2016. The office bearers pledged to uphold the unique Amitian ethos and serve as perfect role models for the primary school student community. A total of 54 prefects were ap-

pointed after a rigorous selection procedure which included several rounds of interviews. School Principal Renu Singh congratulated the new appointees and urged them to don the mantle of responsibilities with dedication, sincerity and commitment, while highlighting some of the major achievements of the school in the ceremony. [G](#) [T](#)

# CBSE Chess champs

## AIS Vasundhara 1

Five teams of twenty students from the school participated in CBSE North Zone Chess Championship, from November 11 - 14, 2016. The school won Silver medals in both Under-11 Boys and Under-11 Girls category. Under-14 Girls secured joint third position and won Bronze medal. In addition,

two students Utkarsh Bhatnagar of Class V D and Viraj Pathariya of Class V A won Board prizes for best performance on Board 1 and Board 3. Three teams (Under-11 boys, Under-11 girls and Under-14 girls) got selected to represent CBSE North Zone in CBSE National Chess Championship 2016-17 which will be held at Varanasi from December 15 - 20, 2016. [G](#) [T](#)



Chess champs of the school showcase their trophies and certificates



Students learn at the workshop

# Gender sensitisation

## AIS VKC Lucknow

The school conducted a workshop on gender sensitisation and creating awareness on gender based violence by WISEN, an educational social initiative, for the students of Classes VI to X. The students were sensitised on different topics as gender inequalities, masculinity, patriarchy, gender violence and to stand up against violence through stories, discussions and videos during the workshop. [G](#) [T](#)

# National Sahodaya Conference by CBSE

## AIS Gur 46

School Principal Arti Chopra participated in the National Sahodaya Conference- an initiative of CBSE to bring together the best of brains for discussions on the direction and flow of skills and technology for the nation and the world in the next decade. Arti Chopra, presented a case study on how ICT (Information & Communication Technology) plays an eminent role in developing skills at the school. She thanked Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson Amity Group of Schools and RBEF for providing such a great exposure to listen, share and learn from thought leaders of the country and abroad. The conference, with the theme 'Skill Development in the Changing Scenario', was held at Raipur, Chattisgarh from October 21-23, 2016. The



School Principal being honoured

conference was inaugurated by Dr Raman Singh, Chief Minister Chattisgarh, and the speaker was RK Chaturvedi, CBSE Chairman. [G](#) [T](#)

# Recognition in skating



Anish Raj receives Certificate of Appreciation

## AIS Noida

Anish Raj, student of Class IV, received a Certificate of Appreciation from DM, Gautam Buddh Nagar, for his outstanding performances in skating for the last three years. He is the only child from UP to get this honour in the sub-junior group and the highest medal holder in his age group of Under-10 boys. He has earned 89 Gold, 9 Silver and 5 Bronze medals so far. Anish practices skating every day, managing studies with sports. He aims to represent India in international competitions and bring laurels to his school and country. [G](#) [T](#)



Students celebrate their victory



Amitians perform dance

# Amity Tarang

## AIS Saket

The school hosted its annual extravaganza-Amity Tarang which saw the participation of 24 prominent schools from Delhi and NCR who contested for Smt Leelavati Shastri Trophy. Held on November 4, 2016, Tarang was an amalgamation of various competitions including debate, art, maths, poetry and a psychology symposium. The English debate 'one man army- a war of wits' was a turnout with a truly innovative format of Block and Tackle. The poetry in motion, 'Unfurling a Verse' found students rigorously working on

their presentation of the topic that was given on the spot. The art competition 'Rang Tarang' saw the students creatively depicting the theme 'Happiness'. The Psychological Symposium 'Abhivayakti' comprised topics like 'Social media: making or breaking your relationships?' and 'Can morality be enforced by stringent laws?'

The efforts of the participants were appreciated by the School Principal Divya Bhatia who reiterated the judges sentiments when they felt that selecting a winner had been a tough mandate to handle. The annual competition saw the convergence of talented performers from across the city. [G](#) [T](#)

# Visit to NBRI



Students enjoy at the Botanical Garden

## AIS VKC Lucknow

The school organised an educational trip for the students of Classes VI and VII to National Botanical Research Institute (NBRI) on November 17, 2016. The Botanical Garden situated in the heart of Lucknow was established by Nawab Saadat Ali Khan as a Royal Garden (1800). The plant wealth of the Botanical Garden is displayed in the arboretum, conservatory, cactus and succulent house, palm house, bonsai section, fern house and the new conservatory. The trip was educative, informative and a lot of fun. [G](#) [T](#)

"A man of the edit team lives his life for the realm."

Aastha Gupta, XI F & Aman Singh, IX B  
AIS PV, Page Editors

# Sorry not Sorry

"Sorry Mom, I won't do this again," said the son as he broke the third vase of the week. Sorry - perhaps the most used but the least meant emotion, is a bliss in disguise

Nandini Lal, XI E, Sakshi Rai, XI D  
Maanya Kumar, X C, AIS PV

"Ek chhote se sorry ki keemat, tum kya jaano? Angrezo ka ashirvaad hai yeh sorry." Although going by the dictionary one should feel regret and pertinence with its very utterance, we use 'sorry' as casually as 'hey'. And honestly, are we sorry about it? Nah! Because in times of utter helplessness (like a sudden burp or a slip of the tongue), a 'sorry' is the only one standing right behind us, fixing it all.

"I'm sorry, I did not mean it."

Uttered for: Tackling an awkward scenario

The mind exhausting math period just got over,

when your besties witness you let go of the frustration for the 'teacher's chamcha' who you hold guilty for an abrupt math test. And BAM! He is right there, staring at you in the eye. Or even worse, he had been there throughout the roasting session (Oh God no!). Your subconscious mind will prompt you to say "I'm so sorry, I did not mean anything that I just said", while deep within, you know that expressing your opinion was no crime.

"I'm sorry, I beg your pardon."

Uttered for: The wax in your ears

So you're at a party, or a food joint where the DJ is



Pic: Aman Joseph, XI E, AIS PV  
Models: Mira Arora VI B, Armaan Vij,  
VIA & Smaya Jain VI B, AIS PV

and oh god, you fail to catch up with them again. After uttering more sorry's in five minutes than you have in your entire lifetime, you smile, give a thumbs up and just let it go. You were really sorry, only for the DJ who was playing the music too loud!

"I'm sorry, for being so me."

Uttered for: Being human

You wake up in the morning and your oily face compliments your too frizzy hair. This time you do feel sorry, for yourself. Attending a gathering full of 'Miss Perfectos' on a bad hair day convinces you to go back to sleep. Yet, you somehow crash the party in your 6 inch stilettos. And 6 inches off the ground, you trip every now and then, "I'm so sorry, I am not used to it" being your only rescue. And then you hear someone say, "Anybody could have tripped over with those 6 inches. Why sorry?" Too bad he turned out to be smarter than you. Yes, we too are sorry for you.

"I'm sorry, is it too late now to say sorry."

Uttered for: Preventing heartbreaks

Once upon a time, you failed to cater to someone's expectations. If your 'not a tad guilty and meaningless' apology can successfully make your offended friend smile and thus, save the drowning friendship, then why not? A lot of times, you put on the sorry frown just for the sake of it, to clutch someone's dilapidating heart or to prevent the situation from going bad to worse. This brand of sorry is as fake as the Louis Vuitton and Michael Kors displayed at Lajpat. But who cares as long as people are 'buying it'?

And if you think that we've treated a human feeling rather too lightly, we are really SORRY! 🙄

Illustration: Yati Rai, X C & Kanika Sharma, X D, AIS PV



In a land far, far away when the princess of the kingdom was feeling all blue and grey, she read the prophecy which said, "Instagram and Retrica are the way, to keep those likes from getting away!"

## Insta-nt miracles

Shraddha Talwar, AIS PV, X D

"Mirror mirror on the wall, who's the fairest of them all?" princess Valencia asked the magical mirror. There came a voracious response in the form of a deep silence and the reflection of a post that had crossed over 200 likes on Instagram. The post, sadly, was unfamiliar. The princess drowned in desolation as her pictures were nowhere to be seen amidst the battling beauties. Day and night she prayed for a magic potion to become the most beautiful of all. She searched for it in the darkest of the lands and in the brightest of the days until she finally found something! From the lands of tech wizards and witches came a boon - the miraculous Instagram filters and effects. Her flaws were now hidden, her beauty polished and the party look she was struggling with for weeks, mastered effortlessly. The following day, she scrolled past her Instagram wall, while the mirror exclaimed, "Princess, you have finally become the fairest of all!" So that no princess in the world would match up her insta-nt beauty, she downloaded all the photo editing apps! Once bitten by the filter bug, it became a routine. She could relive the era of the archaic black and white photos of her mother's time, even in this century of

DSLRs, with the black and white filter. The princess who was bereft of her mother shortly after her birth couldn't thank it enough. There was an aesthetic glow to her face, something *dadi ma ke nuskhe* took cons to achieve. Princes of the most distant lands were now 'following' her.

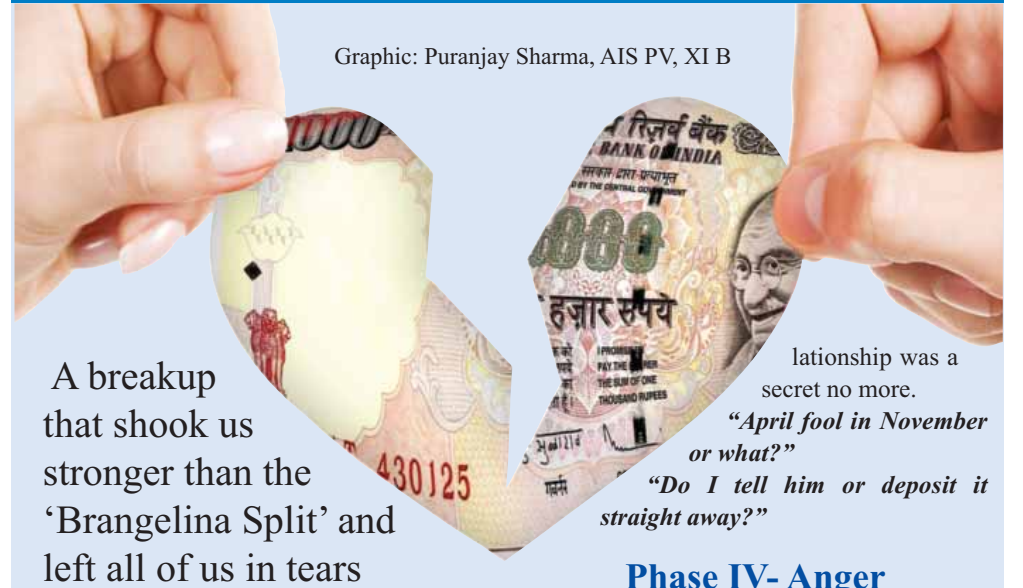
These filters succoured the modern day princess from the mayhem created by the step-motherly pimples and blemishes and the malicious sorcery of dark circles and blackheads. Her favourite filter was the namesake of her betrothed, Prince Hudson of the Riverlands. Hudson, the filter, just like the betrothal, brought a faint blush to her cheeks. Retrica and CandyCam played the role of the fairy godmother in this Cinderella story. She was thrilled when in her dearest fictional tale, even the mother of dragons could not resist from asking Ser Jorah to lend her the greyscale filter for the ravishing conqueror look.

The filters saved her pictures from drowning, quenching her perennial thirst for likes. Because, in the end it was all about the number of those very likes, the followers and the fame she had on Instagram. This, was her fairy tale and her reality.

And the magic mirror now could not see anyone else who could be the fairest of all! The princess made sure it wouldn't. 🙄

## Breakup of the year

Graphic: Puranjay Sharma, AIS PV, XI B



A breakup that shook us stronger than the 'Brangelina Split' and left all of us in tears

relationship was a secret no more. "April fool in November or what?" "Do I tell him or deposit it straight away?"

### Phase IV- Anger

When reasoning is not an option and you just want comfort by blaming and venting out... that happened too and the happier times- 'achhe din' were questioned like never before. "Mumma diner dedo." "Beta ATM jana padega."

### Phase V-Bargaining

While the mother rushed to hoard groceries and the father stood in the never ending queue for fuel, the little ones held onto their savings, not so safe anymore. Deals were struck, with the local vendor still accepting Rs 500 notes. "Bhaiya 500 le lo, roz sabzi le jayenge."

### Phase VI-Depression

They understood that perhaps they will never get over it. They started to give up now. Ex's were missed like never before, the 100 and 50 rupee notes that were anything but less valuable. Having got them exchanged for the bigger ones was regretted. "Maine 100 ki gaddi kyu de di?"

### Phase VII- Acceptance

But then they moved on, seeing the happier picture in the long run. Not everything was 'black' now. Nothing was as comforting as the jokes and memes that came in everyday. "Modi ne aisa Trump khela ki poori duniya Hillary hai."

Medha Mathur, AIS PV, XII E

Countries have fought wars together, elected governments together, but ours, faced a breakup together. A breakup that took the nation by storm. It was the time when noises of broken hearts and torn notes reverberated in every nook- our breakup with the 500 and 1000 rupee notes. As every breakup, it too had both highs and lows.

### Phase I - State of Shock

'Baffled' was the common state shared by all as the 'Breaking News' hit the TV screens. Some thought it was a prank but nevertheless switched on the TV and gaped at the "Modi ne diya India ko jhatka" headline flashing. "Ban matlab band ho gaye?" "Koi fake Whatsapp message hoga."

### Phase II- Denial & Isolation

Seeing the love of your life walk away, no matter how evil s/he was, is never easy. And so denial and isolation engulfed all. The man of the house wanted to be left alone either to make frantic calls to the only saviours of this 'relationship'; his CA or to just 'relive memories', counting the notes that would soon be trash. On the other side, someone was weeping behind the locked doors as her hidden secret re-