

Irresponsible advertising

Crafting Creativity With Responsibility While Balancing Ethics And Influence

Anushree Khandelwal &
Palak Chopra
AGS Gur, XI (IBDP)

Advertising wields immense power in shaping consumer perceptions. In the pursuit of attention and creativity, brands often blur ethical boundaries, misleading, offending, or manipulating audiences. Whether through false claims, insensitive messaging, or psychological trickery, irresponsible advertising undermines trust and raises ethical concerns. Here's how some brands have crossed the line - and the lessons to learn from them.

Misleading advertising: When truth takes a backseat

False claims and deceptive marketing tactics can significantly mislead consumers. In 2019, Kellogg's settled a 31 million USD lawsuit for falsely advertising its sugar-loaded cereals as 'healthy' and 'nutritious'. Similarly, Red Bull's slogan, 'Red Bull gives you wings', led to a 13 million USD settlement after consumers sued, arguing the drink did not enhance performance as advertised. Another common tactic is 'bait and switch'

- hiding crucial details in fine print. Many mobile plans promise 'Unlimited Data', only for users to discover their speed drops drastically after reaching a cap. A 2022 survey by the Better Business Bureau found that 80% of consumers feel misled by promotional offers that conceal key terms in fine print.

Insensitive advertising: When creativity turns offensive

Some brands, in an attempt to stand out, end up alienating their audience. Dove faced backlash for an ad where a black woman transformed into a white woman, inadvertently reinforcing racial stereotypes. Pepsi's 2017 ad fea-

turing Kendall Jenner was pulled for trivialising social justice movements, equating handing a soda to a police officer with solving systemic issues. In India, Tanishq withdrew an ad featuring an inter-faith couple after public outrage, showing how brands must navigate cultural sensitivities carefully. With social media amplifying reactions, an insensitive campaign can lead to immediate reputational damage and financial losses.

ing notions of speed and precision. Fast-food chains strategically use colour psychology - red and yellow, which stimulate hunger - to encourage impulsive eating. As per a 2021 study in the Journal of Consumer Research, 85% of people buy a product based on colour alone. Such tactics, while not outright unethical, demonstrate how ads exploit subconscious triggers to drive sales.

Case for responsible advertising

Advertising should be about persuasion, not deception. Ethical marketing boosts brand loyalty and ensures long-term success. L'Oréal, for instance, commits to responsible advertising by avoiding excessive retouching in beauty campaigns and promoting inclusivity. Regulatory bodies like the Advertising Standards Authority (ASA) and the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) impose fines and bans on misleading ads, but self-regulation remains crucial. Transparency and accountability are the cornerstones of ethical advertising. In an era where every brand claims to be 'the best', the real differentiator is simply being truthful.

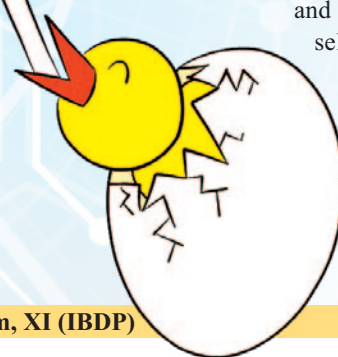
"ENERGY DRINKS
give you wings"

Illustration: Saanvi Lamba &
Sanvi Chauhan, AGS Gur, XI (IBDP)



Manipulative advertising: When psychological warfare is used

Psychological influence is a powerful tool, but when used irresponsibly, they manipulate consumer behaviour. Many brands leverage figure-ground ambiguity, as seen in FedEx's hidden arrow between 'E' and 'X', subtly reinforcing



Page editors: Anushree Khandelwal & Palak Chopra, Amity Global School, Gurugram, XI (IBDP)

THE GT POLL

Do you think that AI generated Studio Ghibli images are a threat to traditional artists?

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

Poll question by: Yoshita Chug,
AIS Vas 1, XI C

To vote, check out our
Instagram page @the_global_times

Coming next

CE AIS VKC Lucknow



This special edition has been brought to you by Amity Global School, Gurugram as a part of the 'GT Making A Newspaper Contest'. Each page of this unique edition carries a special story handcrafted by the school's editorial team as a part of the competition. The inter-Amity newspaper making competition witnesses different branches of Amity schools across India churn out their own 'Contest Edition' which are pitted against one another at the end of the year, culminating with GT Awards. So, here's presenting the **eleventh edition** of 'GT Making A Newspaper Contest 2024-25'.

What's inside

Art of storytelling, P3

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Legacy of predators, P7

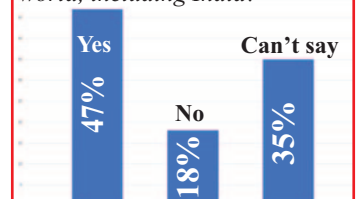
Chronicles of the wizards, P8

A haven for paw friends, P10

POLL RESULT

for GT Edition February 17, 2025

As Trump administration imposes tariffs on Canada, Mexico, and China, do you think this tariff war will further weaken markets around the world, including India?



Results as on April 5, 2025

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Art of storytelling

Vinay Pathak's Take On Craft, Cinema, And Conviction

Shaurya Balabh, X (IGCSE) &
Ansh Deb Barma, VIII (CLS)
AGS Gurugram

Vinay Pathak is a renowned theatre and film actor known for his versatility and emotional depth. In a career spanning almost three decades, he has been part of diverse genres and played each role with equal panache. He speaks to GT about the craft of effective storytelling.

The road less travelled

While studying in the US, I attended a play that sparked my initial interest in theatre. I discovered how integral theatre was to the education system and soon realised that I wanted to pursue theatre. My father was shocked, but I was happy with my choice. Today, I see that children are pursuing their passion early in life, and convincing their parents to support them. This is a change from my time.

A demanding journey

Theatre is far more physically and emotionally demanding medium for an actor than films. Cinema, on the other hand, is a director's medium where you're supposed to follow the vision of one person. Also, cinema offers you the luxury of multiple takes, unlike theatre where you are guided by instinct and on-the-spot interaction with the audience. But I love both mediums. And, that's why I do both.

Tripping on the story

I am attracted to a good story, before any-



GT reporters with Vinay Pathak

thing else. If the story is strong, it doesn't matter if my role is big or small, if it is the lead or a supporting role. A good story will always have a good conflict point which gets resolved in the end. This is why it is not very easy to find or write an original good story. A great storyteller will retain the audience interest from the beginning till the end. Like Premchand or R K Narayan. Of course, as an actor, you need to improvise at times. One must be spontaneous, while adhering to the rules of the craft. And, this can only be achieved through experience.

Memorable milestones

Dasvidaniya holds a special place in my heart, not just as an actor but also because I turned producer with that film. Everyone involved with the film – singer Kailash Kher, cinematographer Arun Verma, writer Arshad Syed, and director Shashank Shah – are all my buddies, so it

was a fulfilling experience. Also, the role I played taught me that we can transform every day - if we observe what's happening around us, and if we have compassion in our hearts. Yet, I have to admit that every role I have done remains close to my heart, just like this classic tragedy I am currently performing in. It's a clown's interpretation of a classic. We workshopped it for months, and have performed it over twelve years, but it remains as challenging. The live experience of theatre makes every show unique in itself. No recording on social media can replicate this feeling. That's why I always urge people to experience live performances.

Evolving along the way

Mainstream Bollywood was largely about song-and-dance routines, though it has changed over the years. New-wave filmmakers are finding more compelling narratives. But regional cinema has always had a lot of authenticity and depth in its storytelling. Films like The Disciple and Ande Kode Dadaan are examples of pure art. When films deal with subjects that mirror the reality of our times, they can become archival material for future reference. Actors, just like other celebrities in sports, music, or fashion, impact the younger generation. So, as actors, I believe we must always con-

INTERVIEW

duct ourselves responsibly.

Message for Amitians

Honesty is the most important ingredient in this craft. If you are honest in expressing your emotions, only then the audience will feel it.



Vinay Pathak, actor, producer



Dr Aseem Chauhan, Chancellor with esteemed dignitaries

AUM

Amity University, Mumbai, held convocation ceremony for the Class of 2024 on February 18, 2025, to celebrate the achievements of 1,505 graduates, 178 medal winners and 32 PhD recipients. The ceremony

also included the presentation of various prestigious awards including the Best All-Round Student Trophies, Shri Baljit Shastri Award and Dr Ashok K. Chauhan Scholarship, to recognise the dedication of students who have not only excelled in academics but also contributed to the community.

Excellence honoured

Celebration Of The Graduating Class Of 2024

The ceremony began with a warm welcome address by Prof (Dr) A W Santhosh Kumar, vice chancellor, followed by a speech by Dr Aseem Chauhan, Chancellor, who highlighted the university's dedication to shaping future leaders who are not only academically proficient but also socially responsible. The event also saw honorary degrees being conferred to three outstanding industry leaders namely Nand

Khemka, chairman, SUN Group; Romal Shetty, CEO, Deloitte; and Yann Leroy, architect. Nand Khemka delivered a keynote address where he urged the audience to embrace challenges and pursue their dreams with unwavering determination. Romal Shetty, in his speech encouraged students to embrace discomfort, uphold integrity, and continue learning throughout their careers. Yann Leroy

focused on the transformative power of innovation and urged graduates to make meaningful contributions to society.

The ceremony celebrated students for exceptional entrepreneurial ventures and volunteer work. Degrees were conferred across multiple disciplines, with students being awarded top honours. They were also acknowledged for their significant community engagement.

Text: Krishiv Sharma, XI & Vidhi Swami, IX | Graphic: Ishita Jain, XI | Pic: Anwesha Sinha, XI | Model: Valeska Rajput, IX, AGS Gurugram



Beethoven Within Minutes

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you note by note

Your symphony starts now!

DISCLAIMER: Real scientific principles. Fictional ideas with a potential future.

Wassup

School Lounge

AIS Vasundhara 6

Amity has done it yet again in Intellectual Property domain, and this time the pioneer is AIS Vasundhara 6, which received a Special Citation in ATL category at the National Intellectual Property Award Function 2024, organised by the Controller General of Patents, Designs, and Trademarks (CGPDTM) to celebrate innovators, institutions, and enterprises which have contributed to advanced intellectual property creation and commercialisation in India. Dr (Mrs) Amita Chauhan, Chairperson, Amity Group of Schools and RBEF and Dr Atul Chauhan, Chancellor, Amity University Noida, received the prestigious award from Piyush Goyal, Minister of Commerce and Industry, at the grand award ceremony held at Bharat Mandapam on March 26, 2025. This award also brings back the memories of October 16, 2023 when AIS Mayur Vihar created history by bagging this award as a school for the first time in the history of National Intellectual Property Awards. The award has been conferred upon AIS Va-

The grand IP award



Chairperson and the Chancellor receive the award from Piyush Goyal

sundhara 6 after rigorous scrutiny by the Office of the Controller General of Patents, Design and Trademarks in appreciation of providing continuous guidance to students through ideation sessions led by mentors and teachers, and actively fostering a culture

of innovation in the school. Endeavours like regular follow up on the novel ideas of young innovators and facilitating intellectual property protection for their developed prototypes were deeply appreciated by the jury. It is notable that ten years ago, AIS Vasund-

hara 6 became one of the first 200 recipient schools, to setup the ATL (Atal Tinkering Lab) under the mentorship and assistance of NITI Aayog. Ever since then, projects, ideations, research papers, prototypes, and paper presentations in STEM by its students have won accolades at the international, national, state and CBSE level. This also includes the patents and copyrights received by the young innovators of the school.

About National Intellectual Property (IP) Awards

These awards are conferred annually to recognise and reward individuals, organisations, and enterprises for their contributions to IP creation and commercialisation. These awards are vital for strengthening the IP ecosystem in India and fostering innovation. They encourage effective IP portfolio management and significantly impact innovation across various industry sectors.



Crustader

Confessions Of A Sandwich Sleuth



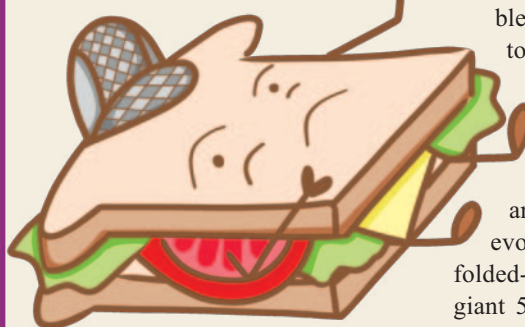
Eashaan Yadav

AGS Gurugram, XI (IBDP)

Hey there, hungry reader! Now, you might just see me as a sandwich, but I'm so much more than that. I'm the slayer of the Lunchbox, the master of the Picnic, and the saviour of Snack Time. But today, I'm donning a new hat - that of a detective. Greetings, I am the Sandwich Sleuth - Whitney in the real world - ready to solve all mysteries one sandwich at a time. Trust me; it's not all fun and mayo. Here's my life revolved with bread, cheese...and justice.

The case of missing pickles

All began in 1914 at a New York



deli. The air was filled with the aroma of fresh bread, sizzling bacon, and dreams. My first big case was the Pickle Heist. There had been a theft; our dozen deli sandwich was missing its famous signature pickle. But don't worry - I solved the case. As it turns out, it was due to a pigeon with an unusual penchant for pickles.

A revolutionary invention

Now, you've probably heard the old tale of John Montagu, the 4th Earl of Sandwich, who ordered meat between two slices of bread, so that he could eat with one hand while playing cards with the other in 1762. Boom - humble sandwich hit history books and forever changed the world of consumption. Fast-forward to today, and sandwiches have evolved - from fancy folded-over parterres to giant 5000 pound record-

breakers in Iran. Legendary, right?

Sandwiches: Fancy or fast?

People are taking pictures and citing me in their interviews as if I



walked around for a minute or two and lived a whole life. The next? I am a posh folded-over parterre of prosciutto, arugula, truffle, and mayo in a café where people drool over \$5 lattes. And this is just the US. The world celebrates me in many forms, like Croque Monsieur in France, Panini in Italy, and Vada Pav in India. In any case, I am in the picture. Flexible. Delicious. Ready for action. By the way, Elvis Presley went as far as Den-

ver to eat what he called Fool's Gold Loaf. What's in it? A loaf of bread cut from the centre and filled with peanut butter, jelly, and a pound of bacon. Others may consider it to be lavish; I prefer to term it as being an inspiration.

Are burritos sandwiches?

Now, it's important to set the record straight. Burritos, tacos, and quesadillas are not sandwiches. In Massachusetts, a court declared that a sandwich must come with two pieces of bread. I

mean, I get it. They are delicious, but just like relatives that bring themselves over to all the family gathering every single time. I find them interesting as a topic, but in this particular club, they don't belong.

So, next time you unwrap a sandwich, remember: It's not just two pieces of bread that identifies me. I'm history. I'm adventure. I'm... delicious. Now go out there, take a bite and be alert - you never know when a sandwich may come in handy. Bon appétit!

Autobiography

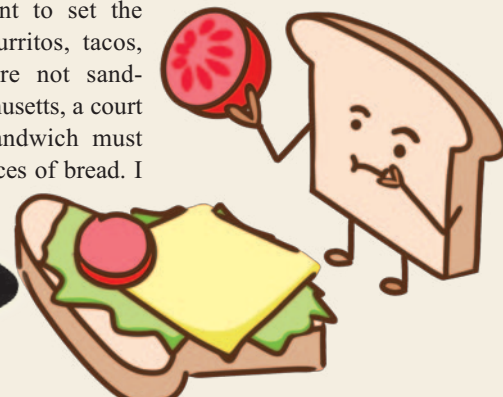


Illustration: Ishita Jain, AGS Gurugram, XI (IBDP)

Visual vocabulary

Decoding Your Classroom With Classic Emojis

Bulbul Verma

AIS Gur 46, Alumna

Welcome to the most expressive classroom from this side of the digital divide. This isn't an average classroom filled with blank stares and rustling of papers, but a vibrant, pulsating ecosystem of digital emotion. Well, you've guessed it right! In this classroom each student is encapsulated by a singular carefully chosen emoji. A spiral-eyed chaotic emoji face displays the most probable reaction to this scenario! So, forget roll calls, attendance can be taken by emojis, now!



The teacher pleaser: Butter could be the best emoji for this fellow student. Perhaps, gifting him a loaf of bread could be the best decision of your life! A 24x7 smiling face with a crow's feet eyes is a fool-proof alert!



The night owl: This is the perfect emoji for that one guy who's constantly yawning or sleepy. His favourite leisure spots are usually the infirmary or the washroom.



Back benchers: Heads hidden behind thick books, desks loaded with potato chips, and ears that long to hear the bell ring -

this emoji perfectly describe these hovering students.



Disguised topper: Remember the one mate who's always cribbing about how unprepared he is for the test? Red flag people! Other than acing all tests, he's a great histrion too!



Substitution announcer: The one to throw a party for getting two substitutions a day! This fellow is an apparent substitution monitor who also has a flair for public speaking!



Clown of the class: This one is probably the most fun of all!



Brain-filled with dad jokes, dead puns, and broken humour, this one has the absolute right to interrupt the teacher and insert his one-liners every now and then!



Monitor of the class: A hun-

dred percent teachers' pet, but in spite of being a monitor, this person has no right to authority (the irony). A blue badge and a monitor tag are all that he owns. But let's talk about his so-called position another time! **GT**

Scientific brilliance



Dr Amita Chauhan
Chairperson

India has always been a land of scientific brilliance, having given the world pioneering discoveries like zero, Ayurveda, and many other breakthroughs in astronomy and mathematics. In contemporary times, we have admired in awe our scientists' remarkable achievements, whether it is the Mars Orbiter Mission (Mangalyaan), the invention of UPI, and most recently, the world's longest hyperloop testing facility developed by IIT Madras. In fact, India's GII (Global Innovation Index) ranking has improved significantly, from 81st in 2015 to 39th in 2024. Undoubtedly, such breakthroughs can be achieved only when young minds are nurtured with a spirit of innovation and invention from an early age. At Amity, we have always been at the forefront of this dynamic progress, and several platforms – like Vasudha, Bazinga, KAMP NASTA, ATL Marathon, National Science Exhibition – have been designed to nurture the spirit of scientific inquiry among students. And, Amitians have proven, time and again, that with the right guidance, sky is the limit. They have created patented inventions through ATL labs and innovation marathons. Under the mentorship of some of the best minds, they have transformed ideas into reality, proving that the future of our country will be shaped by its young innovators. I am also immensely proud that AIS Vas 6 has recently bagged the prestigious National Intellectual Property Award under the ATL initiative, following in the footsteps of AIS Mayur Vihar, which had won the same honour in 2023. Such achievements are a reflection of Amity's unwavering commitment to fostering a scientific temperament in the youth, shaping them into true nation builders of the future. **GT**

Nurturing growth



Arti Gupta
Principal, AGS
Gurugram

Thomas Edison once said, "The value of an idea lies in the using of it." Indeed, our respected Chairperson Ma'am's vision of launching The Global Times - the first school newspaper in India registered under the RNI act, resonates with the same ideology. I am truly grateful to our respected Chairperson Ma'am for providing this platform for our learners to share their voice, choice and agency while collaborating efficiently.

Our Editorial Team has been winning accolades for various categories at The Global Times Awards, which have motivated them further to curate another exceptional edition.

Through this special GT edition, our students have undergone a journey in social and emotional learning built up on the edification of self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, relationship skills and responsible decision making. Thus, students have learnt to communicate their thoughts effectively, empathise with others and resolve conflicts, helping in fostering positive relationships. Moreover, students became self-aware as they delved into their thoughts, feelings and emotions and by reflecting on their strengths and weaknesses, they transformed into balanced, reflective and empathetic learners.

It gives me immense pleasure to see the tapestry of fine creative writings produced by our enthusiastic and passionate Editorial board under the guidance of their mentor, Ms Priya Chhokra. **GT**

Perfect slice

Bite-sized Reminders Of The Old Days

Ishita Jain & Mehr Batra,
AGS Gurugram, XI (IBDP)

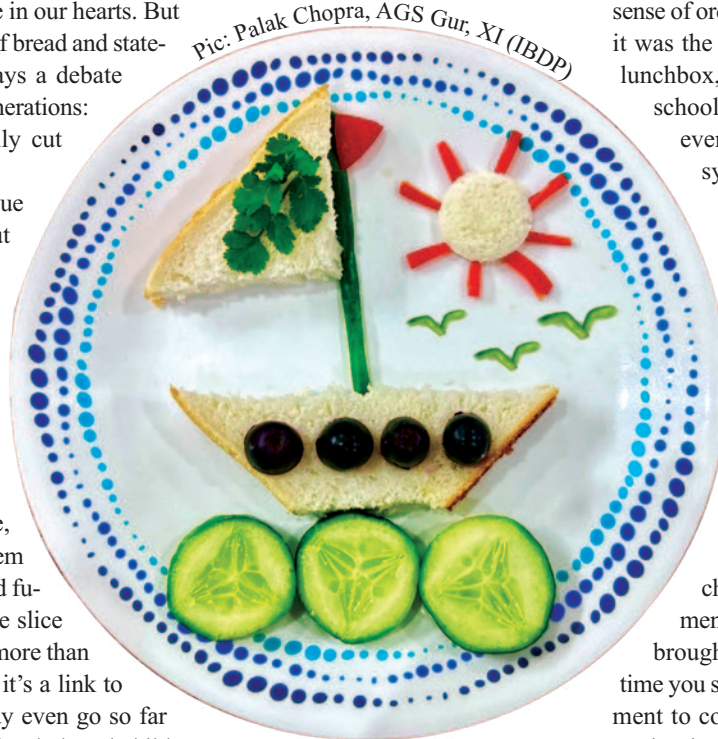
There are a few things in life, even if they seem trivial, that are universally cherished – one of them being the glorious sandwich. Whether it's a simple peanut butter and jelly, a classic grilled cheese, or an elaborate gourmet creation filled with avocados, feta cheese, and, jalapenos, sandwiches hold a special place in our hearts. But beyond the layers of bread and state-of-the-art filling lays a debate that has divided generations: how do you actually cut your sandwich? Some virtuosos argue that a diagonal cut enhances the experience, offering the illusion of a fuller bite, while other brilliant minds believe a vertical cut brings a sense of symmetry. At first glance, this debate may seem inconsequential and futile, but the way we slice our sandwiches is more than just a preference – it's a link to our past. Some may even go so far as to call it a portal to beloved childhood memories.

As children, we all had someone who made the perfect sandwich for us, one

that felt custom-tailored to our tastes. Maybe it was a parent, a grandparent, or even a sibling who knew exactly

how much peanut butter to spread, how long to melt the cheese, or how to layer the crunchiest lettuce. But it wasn't just about the ingredients; it was the care and intention behind it that made these sandwiches special. And the final touch – the way the sandwich was cut – sealed

Pic: Palak Chopra, AGS Gur, XI (IBDP)



that love into each bite.

For some, the diagonal cut is forever tied to nostalgia. Those perfect trian-

gular slices weren't just food; they were tiny wedges of comfort, packed with memories. Maybe it was a rainy afternoon, cartoons playing in the background, as you nibbled at the corners while crumbs tumbled onto your lap. The diagonal cut made each bite feel just right, no matter where you started, almost as if it held a quiet reassurance: no matter where or how you begin, things will work out.

For others, the vertical cut carries its own kind of sentimentality. Those neat, evenly sliced halves created a sense of order and familiarity. Perhaps it was the sandwich waiting in your lunchbox, carefully packed for school, offering the same taste every time. The vertical slice symbolised stability in an ever-changing world.

Looking back, those simple moments of routine provided a quiet security you didn't even realize you needed.

In the end, whether you're team diagonal or team vertical, the debate isn't really about the sandwich. It's about the simple joys that made childhood special, the moments that, even for a second, brought us comfort. So the next time you slice a sandwich, take a moment to consider what you're really cutting into – a small but significant piece of nostalgia, a bite-sized reminder of the best moments and experiences of your past. **GT**

Celebrating creativity

As the AGS Gur coordinator of The Global Times, it's my pleasure to invite you to explore and appreciate the diverse range of articles that our talented students have contributed. This issue is a true reflection of their creativity, passion, and the many voices that have found a platform in GT, under the guiding light of our chairperson ma'am and support of our principal ma'am.

Let us praise our students' hard work and dedication by delving in this vibrant newspaper, which will

offer a captivating autobiography, alongside insightful interviews and students' unique perspectives. The imaginative narratives will transport you into worlds both familiar and fantastical. Our budding poets have also graced us with rhythmic verses that evoke emotion and provoke thought, while pieces of humour will surely bring a smile to your face. This edition truly showcases the

wide range of talents our students possess. Please read with an open mind and appreciate the effort that went into crafting these masterpieces. I hope you find something in these pages that resonates with you, makes you laugh, or perhaps even inspire you.

Happy reading, and let us continue to celebrate our talented bunch of students in their creative endeavours!



Priya Chhokra
GT Coordinator





LEGACY OF PREDATORS

For millions of years, apex predators have dominated the planet, influencing ecosystems from ancient landscapes to the modern oceans. Join **Anwesha Sinha, AGS Gurugram, XI (IBDP)** to explore fierce hunters sitting atop the food chain.

Smilodon

Era: Pleistocene epoch

(2.6 million–11,700 years ago)

Appearance: The largest species of Saber tooth tigers, weighing up to 400kg.

Habitat: Grassland, North America, Europe.

Interesting traits: Strong limbs and canine teeth, measuring up to 14cm, they were able to open their mouth up to 130 degrees wide.

Art of hunting: Grabbed prey with powerful front legs and killed them with teeth, serrated along the front and back edges.

Diet: Large herbivores like bison and camels.

Postosuchus

Era: Triassic period (252–201 million years ago)

Appearance: A crocodile-like predator on long legs.

Habitat: Tropical regions, near Texas USA.

Interesting traits: Powerful legs and sharp teeth, making it fast and lethal. It had osteoderms (bony plates) embedded in its skin, providing protection against threats.

Art of hunting: Sharp, serrated teeth along with sharp claws were used for seizing food. An ambush predator, it relied on its stealth and surprise to capture prey.

Diet: Smaller reptiles and early dinosaurs.

Tyrannosaurus Rex

Era: Cretaceous period (145–66 million years ago)

Appearance: Largest land predators, famous for its massive size and strength.

Habitat: Forest areas, near Montana USA.

Interesting traits: Strongest bites of any land animal and large teeth. They had great vision—able to see UV light along with excellent sense of smells.

Art of hunting: It had shards of rotten, bacteria-infested meat lodged in its tightly packed teeth which gave it a 'septic bite' that infected and eventually killed its wounded prey.

Diet: Large herbivores.



Anomalocaris

Era: Cambrian period (541–485 million years ago)

Appearance: Largest predators of its time, reaching up to 1 meter in length.

Habitat: Pacific Ocean.

Interesting traits: A circular mouth with hardened plates with a characteristic vision due to its large, stalked compound eyes.

Art of hunting: Unique spiked appendages to grab prey and a square, tooth-laden mouth delivered the final bite.

Diet: Fed on early marine life, including trilobites.

Dunkleosteus

Era: Devonian period (419–359 million years ago)

Appearance: A giant, heavily armoured fish up to 10 meters.

Habitat: Pacific Ocean near USA.

Interesting traits: Sharp jaws capable of slicing through bone and had an extremely powerful bite, able to generate forces over 8000 psi.

Art of hunting: A razor-sharp mouth plates and an interior muscle design created a unique suction effect that would bring its victims closer.

Diet: Other fish, including smaller sharks.

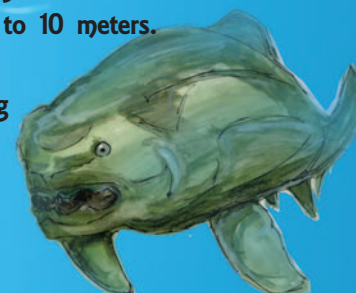


Illustration: Twisha Prakash, IX (IGCSE), Sanvi Chauhan & Ishita Jain, XI (IBDP), AGS Gur

Chronicles of the wizards

Anwesha Sinha, XI (IBDP) &
Anwita Sinha, VI (CLS)
AGS Gurugram

Standing atop the majestic Magic Tower, Elder Wizard Nigellus gazed out upon the city's panorama of steel and glass, where lush greenery had been ruthlessly sacrificed at the altar of technological progress. The urban sprawl stretched out like a metallic canvas, interspersed by towering skyscrapers that seemed to defy gravity. Superhumans, oblivious to the wizards living among them, had evolved with extraordinary abilities, their powers blazing in the firmament. Yet, while they were accepted, the wizards remained shrouded in secrecy, their uninterrupted evolving powers of threading spells and runes into the fabric of reality remained concealed for centuries. Nigellus wanted to believe that superhumans would see them as friends, not foes. But doubt clung to him like a shadow. The whispers of the past - the Salem Witch Trials - served as a haunting reminder of humanity's cruelty against wizards. The heavy wooden doors of the

Graphic: Anwesha Sinha, AGS Gur, XI (IBDP)



tower chamber creaked open as his advisors filled into the room. The air was thick with anticipation, their faces set with determination and eyes burning with a mix of urgency and longing. "It's time, Elder Nigellus. Reveal our presence to the world. We can no longer hide in the shadows, pretending to be lesser than we truly are." The words hung heavy with the weight of centuries of secrecy and silence. Kiana spoke up, "We

cannot hide forever, Elder Nigellus. The world is changing and moving on without us." Nigellus's eyes clouded. "You do not understand, Kiana," he whispered, his voice slightly trembling. Kiana's expression softened, but her voice remained resolute. "It is time to come to a decision. We will face that risk together, Elder Nigellus. We owe it to our heritage! For our future. For our existence."

Nigellus turned to face her, his piercing gaze intensified by the flickering candles. "And what about the consequences, Kiana?" he asked, his voice low and measured. "You say that, but what will happen when we reveal ourselves? Do you believe they'll welcome us with open arms?" The chamber fell silent, the weight of Nigellus's words hanging heavy in the air, until Viridian spoke, "Nigellus, the super-

Nigellus wanted to believe that superhumans would see them as friends, not foes. But doubt clung to him like a shadow.

humans aren't like other humans. They're different. Many of them are outcasts, just like us. If we unveil ourselves now, we can guide them and help them control their powers."

Nigellus's doubts began to fade as Kiana's words ignited a spark within him. "We will rise above the shadows, Elder Nigellus! We'll show humanity our strength, our resilience, and our hearts. It's time to be respected, not feared." Nigellus again stared at the city, its beauty and potential unfolding before him. "Yes, Viridian! Let's believe in a brighter future - one where wizards and humans unite!" The room slowly emptied, leaving Nigellus with a sense of purpose. Wizards had endured the darkness of Salem. Now, they would thrive in the light of freedom. It was time for them to live - truly live - in the light of day.

Read Play and Win 80

Reading your favourite GT can fetch you a prize too. Complete all the boxes below. Click a picture and send it to editor@theglobaltimes.in or submit your responses by visiting The Global Times website (<http://theglobaltimes.in/readplaywin/>). Three lucky winners will win a prize every week!



Q.1 What is the name of the elder wizard in the story on page 8?	Q.2 Which famous theatre and film actor has been interviewed on page 3?	Q.3 Kellogg's paid _____ USD million to settle a lawsuit for false advertising.
Q.4 Name the period in which Tyrannosaurus Rex existed as on page 7.	Q.5 What is the tagline for autobiography on page 5?	Q.6 What is the headline of the science advertisement on page 4?
Q.7 Project Nutrokids was showcased at _____.	Q.8 Who has conducted the ground reporting on page 10?	Q.9 Name the editor-in-chief of AGS Gurugram.

Name: Class: School:
Results of Read Play & Win-79: Anika Goyal, AIS Gurugram 46, VI A; Deeyanah Jangra, AIS Vasundhara 1, VII C; Aanya Kareer, AIS Mayur Vihar, VIII B

The adventures of a lost sock

Anwesha Sinha, AGS Gurugram, XI (IBDP)

It was once a pair, but now astray
It tumbled out and rolled away
From the dryer, it slipped one day
Lost and lonely, come what may

Sock went drifting down the hall
Beneath the bed, behind the wall
Through a vent, past a rubber ball
On a journey, so strange and small

It found a teddy with a missing ear
A forgotten scarf, so full of cheer
They formed a bond, far and near
All of them lost, but without fear

The sock thought it had no chance
It had holes and tears, a sorry glance
But it found a glove, as if by chance
And they just stitched themselves

Together they made something new

A mitten of sorts, warm and true
Lost and found, they made it through
A purpose now, with something to do

So if you ever find yourself alone
A little lost and a little unknown
Remember how the sock has grown
From a stray to something of its own.

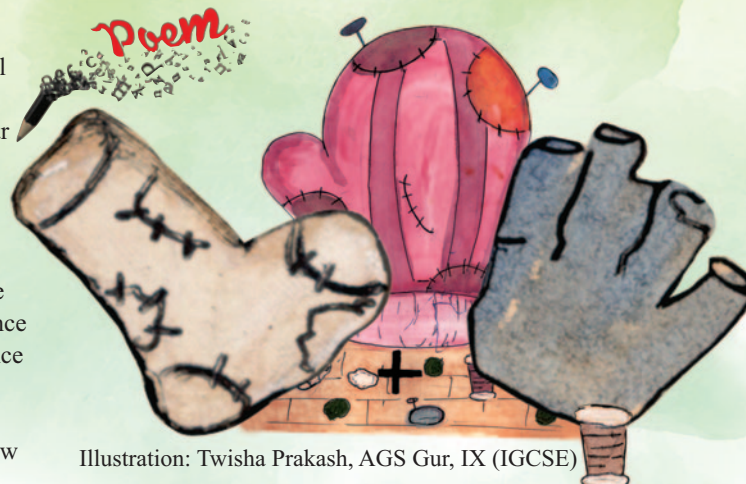


Illustration: Twisha Prakash, AGS Gur, IX (IGCSE)



A dignified goodbye

Legal Guidelines To Die With Dignity And Compassion

Lakshya Narula, AGS Gur, XI (IBDP)

The famous English actor, Sir Patrick Stewart, once said, “We have no control over how we arrive in the world, but at the end of life we should have control over how we leave it.” The idea of personal autonomy over choosing one’s final moment, especially in the face of immense suffering, is not a novel concept. Euthanasia has been the subject of global debates for long and is gaining momentum in contemporary times. Reflecting this evolving perspective, the Karnataka Health Department has implemented the Supreme Court’s right-to-dignity guidelines, allowing terminally ill patients to withdraw life support through a carefully regulated process. This policy, requiring a two-tier medical review and court approval, marks a pivotal shift in Indian healthcare.

First beneficiary

After 24 years of unwavering efforts, H B Karibasamma, a retired government school teacher, became the first to benefit from Karnataka’s implementation of the Supreme Court’s directive on a dignified death. Karibasamma’s struggle began after being diagnosed with a slipped disc that left her immobile. She not only fought against this debilitating condition but also against the legal system that denied her the right to end this suffering. Now, the right to die is granted exclusively to terminally ill patients with no hope of recovery or those in a per-

sistent vegetative state. Under this policy, patients on life support who are unresponsive to any treatment can opt for a dignified death within a legally protected framework.

‘Right to Die’ in India

The legal journey toward recognising the right to die with dignity in India has been a gradual process. The Supreme Court’s landmark 2018 ruling in the Common Cause vs. Union of India recognised the right to die with dignity as a fundamental right under Article 21 of the Constitution. This ruling permitted patients to refuse life-sustaining treatment, even if it could result in death. Further reinforcing this right, the Supreme Court in 2023 introduced guidelines for making living wills, allowing individuals over the age of 18 years to document their medical preferences, in case they lose their decision-making capacity in the future. The Court also simplified the execution of Advance Medical Directives, emphasising that the right to refuse medical treatment is intrinsic to an individual’s autonomy and bodily integrity.

Diverse perspectives

While euthanasia, the right to die, and assisted suicide are often conflated, they differ significantly in legal and ethical contexts. ‘Right to Die’ is a broad philosophical concept encompassing the refusal of life-sus-

taining treatment, the creation of living wills, and in some cases, euthanasia. Euthanasia itself is categorised into active or passive forms. Passive euthanasia - the withdrawal of the life support systems - is legal in India, but active euthanasia - the administering of lethal substances to hasten death - is considered a criminal offense. Assisted suicide, where an individual is helped to end their life, is also illegal due to its moral and ethical implications.

The approach to euthanasia also varies across countries and cultures. Countries like Luxembourg, Canada, Belgium, and Colombia have decriminalised euthanasia under stringent regulations, while the Netherlands, Switzerland, Australia, Portugal, and Spain permit active euthanasia. Belgium legalised euthanasia in 2002 and extended it to minors in 2014,

provided there is parental consent and the patient is in a hopeless medical situation. Similarly, in the Netherlands, Switzerland, and Australia, minor meeting specific criteria can request euthanasia.

Ethical & religious dilemmas

The right to die remains a deeply divisive issue, interwoven with moral, ethical, and religious debates. Some view euthanasia as an act of mercy that alleviates suffering, while others consider it a moral transgression. Religious perspectives on the right to die vary - many faiths view life as sacred and inviolable, while others emphasise

compassion and alleviating suffering. Hinduism itself has varying perspectives, and one approach sees euthanasia as an interference in the soul’s journey towards liberation (Moksha), advocating the acceptance of the suffering as karma. Similarly, Islam and Christianity oppose euthanasia, emphasising that life is a divine gift that only God can take away. Christianity, especially, upholds the intrinsic dignity of human life and rejects euthanasia as an act that devalues human existence.

Regulations & safeguards

Given the ethical and legal complexities, stringent regulations are essential to prevent the misuse of euthanasia laws. Safeguards must include thorough medical evaluations, legal oversight, and clear eligibility criteria to protect vulnerable individuals from coercion. For example, in India, passive euthanasia is permitted only for patients in a vegetative state or suffering from a terminal illness. A robust framework and strict regulations ensure that only those genuinely seeking a dignified death under irreversible medical conditions can access this right.

The ‘Right to Die’ still remains a complex issue at the intersection of law, morality, and societal values. Striking a balance between preserving the sanctity of life and relieving suffering requires legal frameworks rooted in humanity, empathy, and respect for personal choice. Ultimately, ensuring that dignity remains central to end-of-life decisions will define the future of this debate.

A haven for paw friends

IndieLove, Where Every Tail Tells A Compassionate Tale



Saanvi Lamba, XI (IBDP) &
Asmee Dewan, X (IGCSE)
AGS Gururam

Pics: Saanvi Lamba, XI (IBDP) & Asmee Dewan, X (IGCSE), AGS Gururam



GT reporter interacts with Sunil Kaushik



Sunil, founder, IndieLove

IndieLove, an NGO founded by Sunil Kaushik, provides a safe and caring shelter for stray and abandoned dogs, proving that love knows no pedigree. With over 100 dogs at their Gururam facility, the organisation also supports rescuers who work for the benefit of animals.

The beginning

IndieLove began in 2015, when Sunil Kaushik, an art director by profession, witnessed a stray puppy being teased at a dhaba. Learning it had been abandoned by its mother, he decided to take the puppy home despite having no experience in pet care. "That first puppy changed my life," he recalls. It was this empathy and compassion that set the foundation stone for what would soon become a haven for hundreds of dogs.

Affordable space

Despite facing financial and logistical con-

straints in the beginning, Kaushik was steadfast about making the system affordable. "We charge a minimal fee of 200 INR per day," he emphasises, "The moment I increase the price, I fail my purpose to help." This considerate and accessible approach has ensured that more and more stray dogs receive the love they deserve.

Groomed to perfection

IndieLove's daily routine ensures dogs receive care and security. They wake up early, play, eat healthy, and are regularly groomed. Special attention is given to those with dis-

abilities or medical issues. Temperament management is also a priority. Dogs are also leash-trained for potential adoption. "A dog's behaviour reflects the aura of its surroundings," says Kaushik. When selecting caregivers, Kaushik prioritises compassion over professional experience, believing skills can be taught, but kindness is innate. Hygiene and safety are paramount, with daily cleaning and an on-site medical facility for medical emergencies.

Sustaining the mission

Operating a shelter of this scale requires sig-

nificant resources. Kaushik funds it through a combination of freelance work, a small restaurant, boarding fees, and donations. He remains personally involved, monitoring every aspect of the shelter's operations. "Being here 24x7 gives me the satisfaction that my children are well cared for," he says, referring to the dogs as his family.

Tales of resilience

Each dog at IndieLove has a unique story to tell. There is Jugni, a paralysed dog who defied the odds to now run on three legs, and Jackie, a once-traumatised rescue, who is learning to trust again. These stories highlight the resilience in animals and the impact of dedicated care. "Faith sometimes works more than science," Kaushik reflects.

Message for pet owners

"Don't abandon your pets," Kaushik says. He shares the heartbreaking story of a 12-year-old labrador left at the shelter by its owners. "If you can't leave your aging parents, how can you leave a senior dog who has given you a lifetime of loyalty?" he asks. Kaushik urges people to view pets as life-long commitments, emphasising that adopting a pet is akin to raising a child. 🐾

Pics: Anwesha Sinha, AGS Gururam, XI (IBDP)



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Page editors: Saanvi Lamba, XI (IBDP), Asmee Dewan, X (IGCSE), Kiara Iyer, IX (IGCSE), Amity Global School, Gururam



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COLD STORAGE MESS



It Chills, It Stores, And It Keeps Our Huge Family Together Forever

Sanvi Chauhan & Khevna Pankaj
AGS Gurugram, XI (IBDP)

Hi, I'm the fridge. Yes, the unsung hero in the corner of your kitchen. You think your life is chaotic? Try being the one who's responsible for cooling everything from leftover *sabzi* to those half-cut lemons that nobody can remember cutting. I'm the keeper of all things cold... but honestly, maybe this time, I need protection. In an Indian household, I'm more than just a fridge, I'm an unpaid therapist, a food vault, and the family's most loyal secret keeper. So, let me take you through a day in my life, where the struggle is real, and the masala is extra spicy.

Morning mayhem

My day starts before the sun is even awake. Mummy storms in like she's on a mission to find the Kohinoor diamond, but all she really wants is milk. My door swings open, then - bam - slammed shut. Oh wait, false alarm! She forgot Papa drinks black tea. RIP, my door hinges.

Before I can recover from that assault, she's back - this time for coriander. And guess what? She'll never find it on the first try. Nope, she'll shuffle things around like she's on a treasure hunt, displacing *dahi*, shoving yesterday's *sabzi* into some random corner, and finally she'll spot the coriander that was right in front of her the whole time.

By then, I'm emotionally drained,

but the day has only begun.

Tupperware tetris

You think playing Tetris on your phone is hard? Try fitting 20 Tupperware boxes into my already overstuffed shelves. Mummy takes this challenge very seriously. There's *dal* in steel containers, forgotten aloo in plastic ones, and that one jar whose existence

even I have forgotten. The worst part? She always underestimates the space, "Arey, just shift this a little... bas bas... yeh bhi aa jayega!" And before I know it, I'm holding more food than a wedding buffet. One wrong move and - boom - avalanche of containers. And guess who gets blamed? Me.

Children's comings and goings

Enter: The children. Or, as I like to call

them, my biggest freeloaders. They come home from school, dump their bags, and march straight to me like I'm a wishing well. Open. Stare. Close. Open. Stare. Close. Excuse me, am I a fridge or a portal to another dimension? Chintu, I promise you, pizza isn't going to magically appear if you check 50 times. And no, *beta*, the leftover *Aloo Gobhi* from lunch hasn't disappeared - it's just buried under an Everest of chutneys and random dairy products.

The midnight shift

By 2 am, I should be resting, but guess what? Rinky is back. "Uff, I wasn't hungry earlier." Oh, really? Then why am I working overtime at this unholy hour?

She opens me up like she owns me (she doesn't), and rummages through leftovers like she's on MasterChef: Midnight Edition. Eventually, she settles on cold *parantha* and *dahi*, and I just know she'll leave the *dahi* lid half-open, making me smell questionable for the next two days.

Honestly, being a fridge in an Indian household is not an easy task, but as you all know I always keep my cool. (Pun fully intended.) So next time my dear admirers, whenever you yank open my door, maybe take some time to thank me for not short-circuiting from all the madness you show me. And before you go, please, for the love of all things refrigerated, shut my door properly. And while you're at it, maybe consider cleaning my shelves. Thanks. 🇮🇳



Illustration: Saanvi Lamba & Sanvi Chauhan, AGS Gur, XI (IBDP)

Pics: Anwesha Sinha, AGS Gur, XI (IBDP)

In Spotlight



Editor-in-chief, Palak Chopra (L) &
Co-editor in chief, Saanvi Lamba (R)



Serving wit, wisdom, and a dash of wordplay - the editorial board of AGS Gurugram