

Vasant Valley TODAY

SCHOOL WATCH

Sulkeh Pratiyogita for Class 5

1st : Ayesha Chandra Thakur and Shrishti
2nd : Devangana Jain, Asmara Dang and Meher Khanna
3rd : Miheeka Bagla and Aaryaveer Khoda

Marketing Strategy Competition (11-12)

1st: Nakul Tuli, Rishabh Gurwara, Rishabh Suri and Uday Sahni
2nd: Ishita Chadha, Pranavi Ahuja, Kanishk Ali Khanna and Ipsha Raj
3rd: Ragini Jain, Sannah Malhotra, Ananya Dalmia and Aaliya Paul Lakhanpal

Inter-house Football Tournament

Girls : Red house won the tournament
Boys : Green house won the thournament

Sociology Essay Writing Competition (12)

1st: Zoya S. Hassan
2nd: Isheta Chabra
3rd: Ahana Kaura

A TALK BY MS. SINDUSHREE KHULLAR

On 24th July, this year, the students of class 11 and 12 got the chance to listen to a talk by Ms. Sindushree Khullar on the Millennium Development Goals and Sustainable Development Goals. Ms. Khullar is the first CEO of the NITI Ayog. Prior to this, she has also remained Secretary of the erstwhile Planning Commission and Chairperson, New Delhi Municipal Council, Government of National Capital Territory (NCT) of Delhi.

During her talk, Ms. Khullar brought clarity in our minds on the subject of Developmental Goals and their essence. She spoke about the economic and political setting post World War II and explained the necessity of having certain landmarks to achieve in order for the world to develop and grow. The Millennium Development Goals were a set of eight goals, which were laid out by the UNDP in 2000 and aimed at providing an impetus to world economic growth. Each country adopted its own strategy in order to meet these targets. By 2015, the number of poor in the world had reduced from 2 billion to about 85 million. Thus, these goals were beneficial, but not in all spheres. Hence, to boost development even further, the Sustainable Development Goals came into being, which focused not just on development, but "sustainable growth". This led to attention being directed towards sustenance and providing a healthy, stable environment for future generations. The 17 SDGs have a deadline of 2030.

This talk left us inspired and motivated to help create a change in the world in the years to come. Ms. Khullar spoke to us about the importance of being aware of these goals, what they really mean and how and why they came in to being. This was an extremely enriching and educational experience and helped all of us gain an insight into the Sustainable Development Goals as well as the Millennium Development Goals.

Rabiya Gupta, 10

WATCHING THE WORLD SPIN AWAY

Over the past few years there has been a stark deterioration in the environment through depletion of resources and its impact is felt in the quality of our life, be it the air we breathe,



diminishing water resources, unpredictability with expected weather patterns- floods, landslides, droughts, heat waves, wildfires and many others extremes. A major reason for concern is the polluted air we breathe, leading to a rise in the number of people suffering from asthma and other ailments. Never before have we had to wear air masks to protect ourselves or stop our children from playing sports in the open- it was a liberty always taken for granted. Ozone depletion is largely responsible for the sharp rise in the number of skin cancer patients. Another recent occurrence was the trillion-ton piece of ice just breaking off from the Larsen-C ice shelf on the Antarctic peninsula. Although considered a natural event, experts caution that this puts the ice shelf in a very vulnerable position and is worrisome.

These undesirable changes are posing a major threat to the survival of not only the human race but all living beings that are part of the finely fabricated eco system thus creating an irreversible imbalance. The factors that put our environment in jeopardy are largely self generated: Land Pollution caused by degradation of earth's surface due to human activity, deforestation, human behaviour and over consumption have further burdened the resources. Poverty forces people to utilise natural resources for their livelihood and stress the ecosystem further. Water pollution degrades the quality of water that we use for drinking purposes. Access to clean water remains a distant dream for many today in villages and even urban areas. Just as war victims and war tactics have changed in recent times, so has the scale of environmental destruction from war. Even if all nuclear weapons were dismantled tomorrow, the radioactivity of waste from mining, manufacturing, and testing will endure for millennia. Over population has taken a huge toll on depleting our natural resources. As the mortality rate is on the decline and with life expectancy on the rise, the number of people dependent on these resources has exponentially increased.

At critical crossroads in our world, We are the first generation on our planet to truly understand the far-reaching impacts that human actions are having on our environment, and yet, we are the last generation that can truly make the biggest impact in solving these challenges. Global leaders have committed to confront the catastrophe staring us in our faces. President of the United States, Donald Trump received enough flak for abandoning participation in the Paris meet on Climate Change, at a juncture where important decisions need to be taken and implemented. Environmental disasters do not recognise man-made borders, and threaten the legacy left to future generations of a clean and supportive environment.

Passing the buck and shuddering the responsibility, which each one of us must shoulder is going to impact not just a handful but the entire human race. We cannot live under the false fallacy that rich nations or the privileged are going to be exempt from its astounding repercussions. We ALL can contribute in small ways to collectively make a big difference. Vasant valley strongly encourages car pools, using public transportation, switching off lights when exiting rooms, using solar panels, rain water harvesting, advocating no fire crackers during Diwali, boycotting plastics as means of protecting our environment. Lets instead recycle and reuse, conserve water, not litter in inappropriate places and spread awareness. The Universe has endowed Mother Earth with a bounty of natural resources... lets preserve it and preserve life on this beautiful planet!

Tanvi Bahl, 10

SAILBOATS

I christened my sailboat
 With a bottle of red wine
 That tasted like cracked glass
 And something more intangible.
 Perhaps the tartness of
 Over-ripe grapes
 In a vineyard in Italy
 In a golden October
 That grew out of
 My china cup.



I set sail my paper boat
 And let it traipse lazily in my teacup
 As it swum circles
 Around my eyes and in my head
 Before bobbing up and down
 In the very centre,
 Like curdled milk



That sat sour and unbecoming.
 I watched and watched as seasons ran by,
 And as monsoon cried,
 Leaving puddles for sailboats to swim in,
 I drank my sorrows away
 In a teacup
 Made of winter sun forged in alcoholism –
 A mixture
 Of alcohol, rainwater, Earl Grey
 And soggy paper.

Zoya Hassan, 12



ECCOMMERCE TAKES OVER INDIA'S ECONOMY

2017 was the year that India shifted to the era of digital currency and this change was largely brought about by demonetisation. However, 2017 was also the year that the Bitcoin made its return and crossed the \$1000 dollar mark. But what is a Bitcoin?

Bitcoin is a digital currency that is not tied to a bank or government and allows users to spend money anonymously. It has a high value and currently a Bitcoin is worth more than an ounce of gold.

Deemed the currency of the future, it has the ability to replace plastic money and digital transactions through e-wallets. Bitcoins protect your identity and money as it uses an anonymous Bitcoin address that changes with every transaction.

Since it has no affiliation to any country or banks, payments can be sent and received at a very low cost or none at all, and it doesn't require an exchange fee for international payments.

However, the problem with Bitcoins is that there is no liability. The transactions are irreversible and can only be refunded by the person receiving the funds. Thus if the money goes to the wrong person or gets hacked there's nothing you can do about it.

Thus while it is ideal to invest in Bitcoin one should ensure they have adequate assets and money in bank accounts. The volatile nature of the Bitcoin price also proves to be a concern since the price fluctuates immensely. Thus one shouldn't put all their eggs in the Bitcoin basket.

Asees Kaur, 12

TENNIS HISTORY - FEDERER DOES IT AGAIN

Roger Federer has been an idol for many including me and has been known as one of the greatest tennis players of all time. On July 16, 2017, he created history once again and showed his finesse in the sport that seems like art form when he plays.

In the hours of the final match for the coveted title at Wimbledon, the Swiss champion defeated rival Marin Cilic 6-3, 6-1, 6-4 and in doing so, took home his 19th major title and became the first person to win 8 Wimbledon titles, just a few days shy of his 36th birthday. Fans and media erupted with joy while many declared Federer as the "Greatest of All Time".

Federer had his share of defeats during his carrier and after losing a match in 2013, he said; "I hope I'm a better player today than I was (in 2007),"... "I feel like I'm a more complete player today. Although my game hasn't changed much, my experience would allow me fewer mistakes and t h e ability to deal with challenges a little bit easier." In his early years, he says, he didn't know how to handle defeats and that probably also made him the hardest working tennis player of all time. Federer has learnt from both is failures and victories, and we can learn a lot from his grit and determination.

Roger place is firmly cemented in sporting history. There's plenty to learn from Federer's determination, persistence and attitude towards winning. Be it in tennis, or any field of life we find ourselves aiming to hold Federer's racket of philosophy as we go out into the world as developed individuals.

"Winning never grows old." and I am proud to learn from his motto and want to do all I can to achieve it.



Namit Makhija, 12

THE GREAT RED SPOT

Since the dawn of time, mankind has always looked at the stars with wonder, excitement and fear. We've wondered what secrets the galaxy holds in store for us and have been excited to unravel them, yet feared what they could be. The Great Red Spot is one of these secrets.

As you probably know, Jupiter is by far the largest planet in the solar system, with a circumference of over 155,000 kilometres. Just for reference, the circumference of the Earth is barely over 40,000 kilometres. Apart from its massive size, Jupiter is also characterised by its majestic image, with colourful bands and a clouded, picturesque surface. Yet even amongst these extraordinary characteristics, The Great Red Spot of Jupiter remains Jupiter's most remarkable feature.

The Great Red Spot is exactly what it sounds like – a great red spot. For hundreds of years, scientists have been studying Jupiter's surface and trying to figure out what this massive blip on the planet really is.

Thought to be a massive storm, The Great Red Spot contains winds exceeding 400 mph, and could engulf the Earth twice! However, the mystery of The Great Red Spot is not confined to just a visual anomaly – it is a scientific anomaly as well. Many scientists now believe that this gigantic storm has been producing two kinds of energy that have been colliding with one another and heating up the planet's upper atmosphere for centuries.



Curious as to what answers they could find, NASA has been trying to understand more about The Great Red Spot for years, and recently it has completed a mission that was launched in 2011 which sent a spacecraft to take images and conduct tests closer to the planet's surface than ever before. Armed with the newly attained images and test results, NASA hopes to uncover some of the mysteries that The Great Red Spot most likely contains.

Sahil Armaan Kumar, 11

INDIAN MUSICALS - THE NEW RAGE



A musical is a play or a film where song and dance are woven through the narrative and advance the plot & develop the film's characters. Musicals were hugely popular in the West in the 20th century. Over time, the musical as an art form has deteriorated. An exception to the decline of the musical film is Indian cinema, where the majority of films have been and still are musicals.

We in India love our musical movies. Even though gritty, hard-hitting cinema (with a pronounced lack of song numbers) has started taking hold in the industry, the musical format can't totally be done away with. The appeal of Indian musicals is not restricted to Indians only. In the 2000s, Bollywood musicals played an instrumental role in the revival of the musical films in the Western world, Baz Luhrmann said that his successful musical film *Moulin Rouge!* (2001) was directly inspired by Bollywood musicals.

That is not all. Bollywood musicals' popularity is growing in the West. Bollywood is in serious globe-trotting mode, popping up in previously unexplored places, The movie *Goliyon Ki Raasleela Ram-leela* travelled to Switzerland, France and Germany. Taiwan has seen *Peepli (Live)* and *Dhobi Ghat*, and Hong Kong, *Delhi Belly*.

"Julia Wessel, a German woman who quit studying cultural anthropology to edit *Ishq*, a slick German-language Bollywood magazine, says Bollywood is in demand in Germany, with women in particular seeming to be attracted to Hindi movies and songs." Over the last decade, our films and energetic dances have found young new fans.

As the world becomes a global village, the Indian film industry has reached out to international audiences. What is it that attracts foreign viewers to Indian musical cinema? Is it the glitz and glamour, the slick song and dance sequences, or the escapist narrative? Whatever it might be, the lure of the Indian musical on 35 mm is definitely here to stay.

While Indian cinema makes a bang on the global forum, we see a new art slipping into our own culture. That of musical theatre. As only Indians could we take it to the next level. With the rise of Zangoor and Jhumroo a few years ago and the Westernized musical of *Beauty and The Beast* hitting Delhi in 2015 -2016 we saw an increasing interest in live musicals. There is talk of the famous stage show of *Mughal e Azaam* coming to life and hitting the frontiers of the NCR. Rich with culture, history and political intrigue the music seems a fantastic addition to this particular piece of theatre taking hold of the city. After all, if it's once thing we love as Indians, it would be dance, drama and song all in one and with live theatre, the protagonists of *Mughal - e - Azaam*, *Anarkali* and *Salim* provide us another piece of this in their worldwind of dramatic romance and music



Darinee Chandok, 10

From Russia With Love

Never has a US President been impeached. Nixon resigned and left with what little respect the American people had left for him. And the current one is on track and desperately trying to expedite the process.

The Trump administration is under grave danger. With all the talk about their ties with Russia and pressure surmounting on Trump Jr. he was forced to release the June 2016 email thread in which Donald Trump Jr. was offered Russian government help for the Trump campaign, and it is utterly damning.

In the thread, publicist Rob Goldstone writes clear that a prosecutor in Russia met a client of his, and offered to give the Trump campaign incriminating information on Hillary Clinton "as part of Russia and its government's support for Mr. Trump." "If it's what you say I love it especially later in the summer," Trump Jr. responded.

The email makes it clear as day that the Trump campaign was working in tandem with the Russian government and that Trump Jr. was aware and willing to accept this support. The email chain also ties Manafort and Kushner to the scandal proving ties that were earlier only speculative.

Trump Jr. has claimed in a statement that he was given no useful information at the meeting and that the matter went no further. But the base has already been laid with the removal of Comey, the leak of these email chains and vast amounts of informations that leads us to believe that Trump was in fact colluding with Russia. Russian Intelligence has also broken into the Hillary campaign four times to obtain information that greatly benefitted and was crucial for Trump's victory. Trump also claimed that he had no connection with Putin, but as journalists kept digging deeper he actively change earlier statements and has now arrived to the conclusion that he has only had a few brief conversation with Putin but has met him several times.

Beyond the political connections, three of Trump's top advisors and numerous investors all have extensive financial and business ties to Russian financiers.

The Watergate Scandal came as a surprise to most. Nixon was in power with popular support from the people for his many favourable policies hence most journalists thought the story to be nothing more than a conspiracy and his Presidency was before the age of the investigative tools we have now. Donald on the other hand has an approval rating of 36% which could only go any lower if he wiped his mouth with the confederate flag and his lies and half truths are under the media's scrutiny and being exposed as the days pass.

If the allegations hold any truth, Mr. Trump should be counting his days.

Aryan Sadb, 11



Ooops, never mind. Nothing to see here now. -Chad



'धर्म जनता की अफीम है'

'धर्म जनता की अफीम है'- यह कार्ल मार्क्स के एक प्रसिद्ध उदाहरण का अनुवादित संस्करण है। कार्ल मार्क्स एक जर्मन क्रांतिकारी समाजवादी था, जो पूंजवादी शासन का विरोध करता था।

मेरी राय में, □ धर्म जनता की अफीम है □ क्योंकि दोनों हमें अस्थायी समाधान देते हैं। अफीम एक मादक पदार्थ है, जैसे-जैसे उसका प्रभाव काम होता है, हमारा अल्पकालिक उत्साह धीरे धीरे काम हो जाता है। इसी तरह हम अपनी समस्याओं का उन्मूलन करने के लिए, अपना वक्त धर्म में निवेश करते हैं। धर्म के साथ, हम अपनी समस्याओं को ट्यक्त कर सकते हैं। दुनिया की ८४% आबादी धार्मिक है और जनता के लिए, धर्म और अफीम एक ही उद्देश्य की पूर्ति करते हैं।

इसके आगे, धर्म और अफीम के बीच एक और समानता साबित होती है; दोनों हमारी इन्द्रियों को धीमा करते हैं, और मन नियंत्रित। अफीम के दुरुपयोग के प्रभाव हैं तन्द्रा, भटकाव और संज्ञानात्मक बाधिरता। क्या यह धर्म के प्रभाव नहीं हैं? वे हैं और हम इसे आई.एस.आई.एस. के उदाहरण के साथ देख सकते हैं। आय.एस.आय.एस. दुनियाभर से सदस्य बन गया। 'जैक' के एक दोस्त ने उसके बारे में कहा कि □ उसका सम्मोहित किया गया है □ और यह सच है।

धर्म हमें एक में डाल देता है और हमारे मन के अंदर घुसकर हेरफेर करता है। इस लिए, हम कह सकते हैं कि कार्ल मार्क्स सही था, जब उन्होंने कहा कि, □ धर्म जनता की अफीम है।

-अनूपका क्लेस

Artistic Representation of Parts Of A Tree

Sanaa Goenka 2C



Devanshi Jindal 2A

THE EARLY BIRD CATCHES THE WORM

The annual school play was to be held in December. I was really keen to participate in it. In fact, I was very keen to get a speaking part. The auditions were on and slowly all the speaking parts went to all my friends. The teachers decided to select someone for the lead role early next morning. There were six of us who wanted to audition for that one role. Mrs. Roy asked us to come early the next morning around 7 am as school began at 7.20 am. Oh no! I was almost always late to school! I was so keen on that role that I didn't sleep all night. The next morning I was ready at the crack of dawn and reached school at 6.45 am. Mrs. Roy was so impressed that she gave me the part without even auditioning me. It is correctly said, 'The early bird does catch the worm!'

Meher Khanna, 5

आज है नानी का जन्मदिन,
 नहीं रहेंगे उनकी हँसी के बिन!
 आज सब पर मस्ती है चढ़ा,
 खुशी का दिन है ये बहुत बड़ा!
 Happy Birthday सारे बोले,
 चलो ज़िन्दगी में एक नया पृष्ठ
 खोले!



आज साथ है सारा परिवार,
 ऐसा मौका नहीं आता बार-बार...
 आचार उनकी होती है बहुत मस्त,
 पर उसे बनाने में हो जाती हैं बहुत व्यस्त।
 मेरी नानी है बहुत सुहानी,
 सुनाती खूब मज़ेदार कहानी!
 कभी नहीं भूलती बाँधना लम्बी चोटी,
 साथ रखती अपनी हमेशा पूजा की पोथी!
 जब गए हम ऋषिकेश बोली हाय राम!
 अब क्या होगा ? लगा ये कितना
 लम्बा जाम!



आदत है उनकी करना tension
 But she is too sweet I must mention!
 बार्ते बताती रहती हमें पुरानी,
 Wishing health and happiness to नानी!!

Miheeka Bagla 5

MY ROOM

My room is my favourite place in my house and probably in the world. It has brilliant bright blue walls with stars painted on it. I have a little bookshelf which is as scattered as the homework and pencils on my desk. In the middle of the room is my bed. It is queen sized with a mattress as soft as a feather. Right in front of my bed is my milky white carpet which is as fluffy as the fur of a rabbit. Next to the carpet is my neatly organized shoe shelf with my music box, a picture of me and my bottles of cream and powder. The other side of my carpet is my clothes cupboard. It is a total mess. Half my clothes are folded, other are stuffed in and some are hanging from the rod on top. My room resounds with music videos playing on my ipad, gentle music playing out of my music box, the fan and air conditioner and birds chirping outside. There is always the aromatic fragrance of fresh flowers, puffs of perfume and a slight smell of socks. Speaking of snacks, I can taste the chocolate I stuffed between my clothes and toffees I hid behind my shoes. I can feel the cool, gentle wind blowing through my window, the flower petals falling from the flower and landing anywhere because of the wind, and if I decide to spray some room freshener in my room, I can feel it spread through the room as slow as a tortoise. I adore my room. It may be a little messy, but I eventually clean it up. My room is the best. It's perfect because it's just the way I like it, plain and comfortable, not fancy and uncomfortable.

Inika Gour Tirath, 4

BACK TO SCHOOL

School was starting soon and I went to the school store and bought new stationery. I bought a new large sized uniform. I felt very excited to return to school and to meet my friends and teachers again and live the normal life I lived the last term. I was excited for the coming festive season.

Gayatri Malik III – A

I woke up and wondered what day it was, then I remembered it is the first day of school after long summer vacations. I got dressed and felt excited. I walked to my bus stop and went to school. Even though my uniform and my bag were the same I still felt new.

Arhaan Babber III – C

आज की दुनिया

रामनाथ कोविंद, बिहार के पूर्व राज्यपाल और राज्य सभा के सदस्य ने, 25 जुलाई को भारत के 14 वें राष्ट्रपति के रूप में शपथ ग्रहण की।

फाइनल में इंग्लैंड की घरेलू टीम से हारने के बाद भारतीय महिला क्रिकेट टीम विश्व कप में दूसरे स्थान पर रही।

इजराइल ने विवादित मेटल डिटेक्टरों को हटा दिया, जिसने अल-अकसा मस्जिद / माउंट, यरूशलेम के मंदिर में प्रवेश किया था।

क्षेत्र में भारी बारिश के कारण पिछले कुछ दिनों में उत्तरी गुजरात के लोग फंसे हुए हैं, जिससे भारी बाढ़ आ गई है।

INDIA'S TRYST WITH TABLE TENNIS



The IPL was the first blockbuster in terms of creating a dedicated fan base. It also gave youngsters and virtual unknowns a platform to test their skills against the best. Soon, all sports started following this model. Hockey, football, badminton, even sports like kabaddi and wrestling had their own professional leagues. On July 13, 2017, table tennis rather belatedly entered the fray. Ultimate Table Tennis (UTT), a league promoted by 11Even Sports in association with Table Tennis Federation of India, was launched in Chennai.

In 2014, the then coach of the Indian team Peter Engel suggested a table tennis league. He said that if our players had to improve, they would have to play against quality opposition. Table tennis in the country was not enjoying the best of times during that period. The Indian teams did not perform well in the Asian and Commonwealth games, and Engel was shown the door.

This is the first Table Tennis League in India. The three-week long league will feature six franchises -Dabang Smashers TTC, RP-SG Mavericks, DHFL Maharashtra United, Falcons TTC, OilmaxStag Yoddhas and Shaze Challengers. Each franchise will comprise of a combination of overseas and Indian players -four men and four women, along with one Indian and one international coach each.

The first two legs are in Chennai (July 13-20) and Delhi (21-25) before it shifts base to Mumbai (26-30) for the finale. It has also been decided that there will be no long-drawn tiebreaker if a game is tied at 10 all. The 11th point will be a golden point and will decide the winner. The top four teams from the league table will qualify for the play-offs.

Vedika Bagla, 9

हिस्सा मुँह से काट कर बंदूक में डालनी होती थी। बंदूक के गोली के ऊपरी हिस्से में गाय के मास का 'ग्रीस' था। भगत सिंह एक कट्टर हिन्दू होने के कारण यह नहीं करना चाहते थे। फौज के दवाब डाले जाने पर भगत सिंह ने आक्रोश में एक ब्रिटिश अधिकारी की हत्या कर दी।

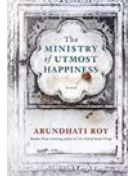
इस हत्याकाण के बाद भगत सिंह को मौत की सजा दी गई। जो भावना हजारों सेनानी लोगों के मन में जगा नहीं पाए, भारत सिंह ने अकेले जगा दिया। भारत में जगह-जगह लोग सड़को पर उतर आए और अंग्रेजों का विरोध करने लगे। अहिंसा का मार्ग छोड़के लोग हिंसा का मार्ग चलने लगे। ब्रिटिश अधिकारियों को मारा गया, उनके दफ्तर तोड़े गए और भारत की स्वतंत्रता आंदोलन एका क नई रौशनी में उभर आई। भगत सिंह की एक गोली ने वो कर दिखाया जो बहुत से अहिंसावादी न कर पाए। यह तो वही बात हो गई कि [सौ] सुनार की, एक लहर की।

READING THE BEST OF THE BEST

The summer reading list every year is a guide to what we at the Library Council feel you should be reading. But we also want you to know about the freshest and greatest of talents we couldn't include. That is why the library council brings to you this summer's three hottest picks. We hope you can pick them up and hope even more you find it hard to keep it down.

THE MINISTRY OF UTMOST HAPPINESS

The second book by the Indian legend, Arundhati Roy, *The Ministry of Utmost Happiness* focuses on dark untouchable stigmas and truths which won't let you sleep at night. The book seems complex in its style. Its plot is achronological and will throw you off the moment you let your attention deviate. Our protagonist, Anjum is a hijra who is vocational about her identity. From her we switch to Tilo, a successful woman who shouldn't be trifled with, and the three men who want her hand in marriage. Following these two tales of gender role questioning readers realise, that Roy's 20 year hiatus has finally paid off.



THE TRIALS OF APOLLO : THE DARK PROPHECY

With an all new prophecy, Rick Riordan is here to be your summer read of the year once again, doing what he does best: Greek Gods playing gladiator in New York. With arguably his most innovative character of all: Apollo in more trouble and a missing friend, Riordan's third spin off series is in full swing in this second book. Apollo swings through America in pursuit of an anonymous opponent who has captured his mortal master: Meg McCaffrey. Apollo (in the form of Lester Papadopoulos) along with Leo Valdez, Calypso and a metal dragon, fight to save the world (again Rick?)



BAAZ

If you ever have to question the idea of nationalism during war, arm yourself with humour. That way you minimise the offended and put forward what is perhaps one of the most creative pieces we read all summer. Baaz circles (pun not intended) around a pilot who proudly flies a Gnat plane in the 1971 war. The honour exceeds the excited young lad from Haryana's imagination. But that is till he runs into Tehmina, sister of a fallen brother and a lone warrior whose eyes weren't misled by nationalistic ideals about war. War is war, and dead people are dead. We couldn't have found a better way to actualise this truth than Baaz.



Vasant Valley Library Council

सन १९३० की बात है। सोने की चिड़िया, भारत पर कठोर अंग्रेज पिछले सत्तर साल कर रहे थे। भारत में कुछ लोगों के मन में क्रांति और विरोध की भावनाएँ उपजना शुरू हो गई थी। वह चाहते थे की यह भावना देश की संपूर्ण आबादी के मन में फैल जाये। अब भारतीय जन संख्या ब्रिटिश सैकर की नीतियों के खिलाफ विभिन्न तरीकों के माध्यम से विरोध करने को तैयार है। कई प्रयासों के बाद भी भारतीय जनसंख्या में कोई दिगज बदलाव नहीं आया था।

महात्मा गाँधी, मोती लाल नेहरू और रविंद्रनाथ टैगोर जैसे स्वतंत्रता सेनानी अहिंसा से देश के लिए स्वराज पाना चाहते थे। कुछ सेनानी ऐसे भी थे जो प्यार से या मार से देश को स्वतंत्रता दिलाना चाहते थे। इनमें से एक था भगत सिंह। श्री भगत सिंह एक कट्टर हिन्दू देशप्रेमी था। भारतीयों के ऊपर अंग्रेजी अत्याचार से वः अत्यंत क्रोधित था। महात्मा गाँधी तथा मोती लाल नेहरू जैसे क्रांतिकारियों के प्रयासों को नाकाम होता देख कर वह दुखी था। अगले छह महीनों में कुछ ऐसे हुआ कि भगत सिंह ने भारतीय स्वतंत्रता आंदोलन का रूब ही बदल गया। बुरी आर्थिक स्थिति होने के कारण भगत सिंह ब्रिटिश फौज का सिपाही था। ब्रिटिश फौज के द्वारा सिपाहियों को नई बंदूकें मिली। बंदूक इस्तेमाल करने के पहले सिपाहियों को गोली का ऊपरी

अद्वय गुलाटी, यश गुसा, विदुर जैन

WHICH HARRY POTTER CHARACTER ARE YOU?

1. Who is your favourite faculty member at Hogwarts?

- A. Barty Crouch Jr.
- B. Filius Flitwick
- C. Horace Slughorn
- D. Severus Snape

2. Which Hogwarts class would you like to attend?

- A. I hate school.
- B. Care of Magical Creatures
- C. Defence Against the Dark Arts
- D. Potions

3. When something bad happens to someone you care about, how do you react?

- A. You believe it was an honour
- B. Know that they are in a better place, and learn to get over the pain
- C. I feel nothing.
- D. Who cares? (A careless facade?)

4. How are you about your past?

- A. Pureblood, and only pureblood
- B. Read about my fantasies in the Quibbler
- C. Hidden. No one will ever know.
- D. No one knows your past but you and daddy

5. Choose a song.

- A. Gasoline - Halsey
- B. Crazy - Gnarls Barkley
- C. Potter Puppet Pals - The Mysterious ticking noise.
- D. Reflection - Mulan

1. Whats your least favourite mythical beast?

- A. Kneazle
- B. Nargles
- C. The Basilisk
- D. Weasleys

1. You're serving detention in the Forbidden Forest -what would you do?

- A. Kill anything I don't like
- B. Look for anything hidden
- C. Look for unicorns.
- D. Freak out. Faint. Wake up in the hospital wing

A's- You're Bellatrix Lestrange

You're daring, fearless and dependent on your master. You don't believe in rules because you like doing things your way. You crave attention and believe pain is the only way to have fun.

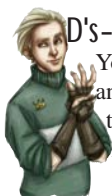


B's- You're Luna Lovegood

You care naught about what people say. You believe in yourself and your views and that is all that matters. You see the best in people always. Strange is different, strange is best.

C's- You're Tom Marvolo Riddle

Your extremely intelligent and well-read. Rules were meant to be broken. While love and respect isn't easy, look for remorse to save you. Anger issues and you go way back, just remember horcruxes will only mean an early death.

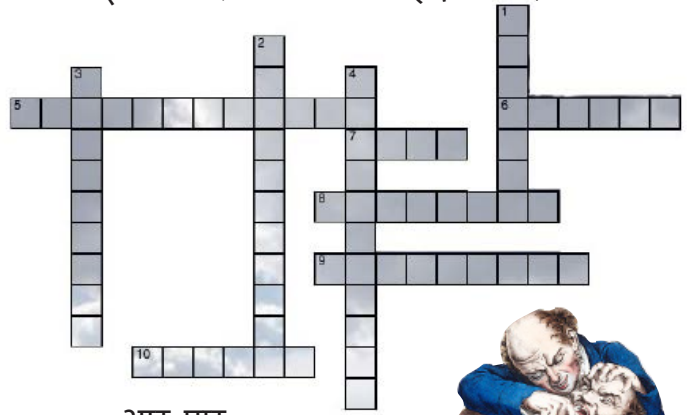


D's- You're Draco Malfoy

You're quite complicated. You can come across as cold and sarcastic, but deep down you're an extremely emotional person who will sacrifice a lot for the people you love. (Though we know it's apples all the way.)

Arushi Bhutani, 11

इन व्यवसायों के नाम हिंदी में बताएँ ...



आर-पार

- 5. Economist
- 6. Director
- 7. Lawyer
- 8. Painter
- 9. Air Hostess
- 10. Dancer

ऊपर-नीचे

- 1. Actor
- 2. Dentist
- 3. Judge
- 4. Biologist



YELLOW FEVER STRIKES THE MEDIA

In a world obsessed with sensationalism and hype, boring and dull headlines do not catch the attention of the masses that crave spicy and sizzling reportage to titillate their senses. The media, playing on this psychology of the masses, blows news out of proportion to attract more eyeballs, which in turn adds to their revenues and advertising demand.

Media cleverly manipulates even the most mundane bit of news with exaggerated claims, which may or may not be true. News, that is meant to inform and educate, takes a backseat when the media prioritizes delivery rather than substance. In fact, switching on news channels doesn't leave us feeling informed with facts or knowledge but instead as if we've just witnessed a soap opera - a consequence of presenters shouting and making theatrical deliveries with total disregard towards the lack of substance in their news; Take the case of Arnab Goswami, whose style of delivery is cultivated in such a way, it makes everything sound like breaking news.

Whether it's the government using media as a tool for publicity or in the world of fame where celebrities need larger than life personas of themselves causing them to lobby with the media to come up with headlines that are no match to reality, the masses are being deprived of the real and unamplified version of the story.

Sadly in this process the main purpose of media to enlighten its reader or viewer becomes less of a priority and instead the focus lies on seeking attention.

Harnoor Singh, 10

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