



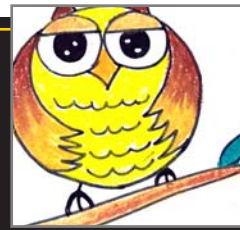
THE TIMES OF INDIA

www.toistudent.com
**TODAY'S
EDITION**

➤ School is not only a hub of learning but is also about many fun moments, say students
PAGE 2



➤ Check out your favourite activity corner – From quiz to English grammar, you have it all
PAGE 3



➤ Euro20: A SWOT analysis of the quarter finals, as England emerges as a strong contender
PAGE 4


STUDENT EDITION

FRIDAY, JULY 2, 2021


**Quote
unquote**


The judiciary cannot be controlled directly or indirectly by the legislature or the executive, or else the 'Rule of Law' would become illusory. At the same time, judges should not be swayed by the emotional pitch of public opinion either, which is getting amplified through social media platforms. Judges have to be mindful of the fact that the noise thus amplified is not necessarily reflective of what is right and what the majority believes in. The new media tools that have enormous amplifying ability are incapable of distinguishing between right and wrong, good and bad, and the real and fake. Media trials cannot be a guiding factor in deciding cases extremely vital to function independently and withstand all external aids and pressures. While there is a lot of discussion about the pressure from the executive, it is also imperative to start a discourse as to how social media trends can affect the institutions. For the judiciary to apply checks on governmental power and action, it has to have complete freedom

NV Ramana, Chief Justice of India, addressing lawyers at the 17th Justice PD Desai memorial lecture on 'Rule of Law'


CLICK HERE: PAGE 1 AND 2

CBSE introduces financial literacy booklet for students



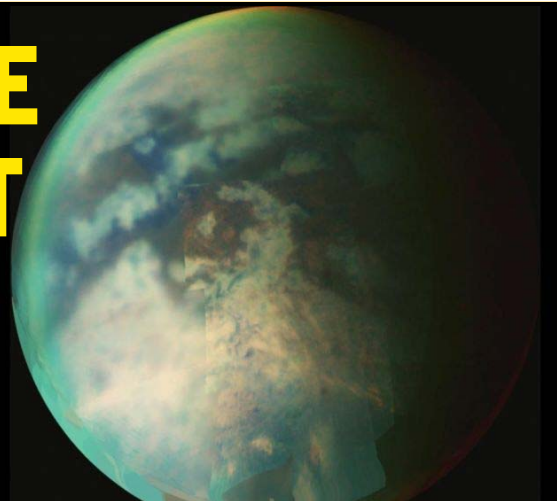
The National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) and the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) have joined hands to introduce a financial literacy curriculum for students of class VI. Launched as part of the new elective 'financial literacy' subject, which will enable students to have an understanding of basic financial concepts at a preliminary stage of their education, the textbook covers crucial topics on financial awareness.


Education

- From core concepts like currency, banking, savings, and investments to advanced concepts like IMPS, UPI, USSD, NACH, PoS, mPoS, QR codes, and ATMs, this book covers all that a child might find very useful in a later stage in their life. Building upon the context of modes of digital payments, the book elaborates the role of UIDAI and the importance of Aadhaar, and Aadhaar Enabled Payment System (AePS)
- It also entails the origin of banking, the transition from coins to paper money, types of banks and major operations and services carried out by banks
- The textbook also elucidates the significant role of RBI and GOI in providing an impetus to the digital payments movement
- Complete with activities, illustrations, and practice exercises, the textbook can be accessed online on the CBSE website. NPCI has also been working for course content development with the CBSE for class VII and VIII

FORGET MARS, TIME TO LOOK BEYOND IT

With China, UAE and US closely monitoring the Red planet with various explorations, mission Mars appears to be the flavour of the moment. According to scientists, the Red Planet, with its Earth-like temperatures and atmosphere, is the most realistic extra-terrestrial world, ripe for human colonisation. But this isn't to say that the solar system isn't teeming with other cosmic objects that deserve exploration. Check them out...



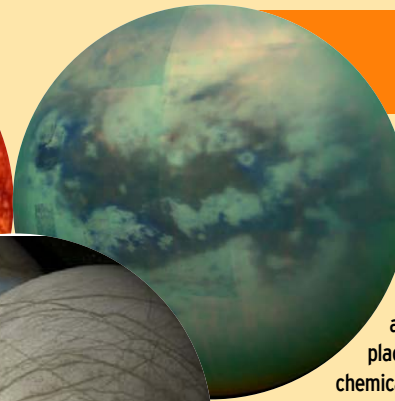
VENUS

The enigmatic planet, similar in size, geological composition and mass to our own Blue Dot, have signs that it still has active volcanoes. However, its ultra-dense atmosphere, composed mostly of carbon dioxide, surface pressures equivalent to being thousands of feet underwater, and ground-level temperatures, make it inhospitable. But further study of the planet could provide insight into how Earth itself may evolve, given that there is evidence to indicate that Venus may have once had livable conditions. The news of NASA greenlighting two missions – an orbiter called VERITAS and an atmospheric probe called DAVINCI+ – to Venus in the coming years is more than welcome.



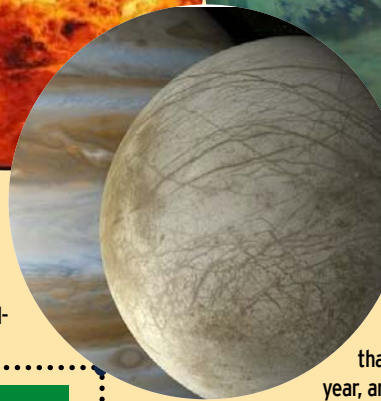
JUPITER AND EUROPA

The Juno probe, launched in 2011, arrived at Jupiter in 2016, and has, since, paved the way for numerous discoveries that aid in understanding the king of the planets. It gave us the first glimpse of the giant planet's poles and the devastating cyclones that take place there. It also offered clues into the chemical composition of the planet, along with its complex magnetic fields. But Europa, Jupiter's fourth-largest moon deserves equal attention. Scientists theorise that it may have a subsurface ocean of warm, liquid water, and despite extreme conditions, may be able to host life in underground hydrothermal vents. Minerals associated with organic life have also been found on Europa. The hope is that the ESA's Jupiter Icy Moon Explorer, expected to launch next year, and NASA's Europa Clipper scheduled for launch in 2024, will shed more light on whether Europa harbours extra-terrestrial life.



TITAN

When it comes to hospitability, Titan, Saturn's largest moon, is another contender. With a nitrogen-rich atmosphere, it is the only cosmic body in our solar system with clear evidence of surface lakes. However, these lakes aren't filled with water but methane. Still, scientists believe that some primitive life may be able to exist in these lakes. But there is still a great deal to learn about the planet's atmosphere. NASA's Dragonfly rotorcraft drone is set to launch in 2026.



CERES

Last year, Japanese Space Agency (JAXA) accomplished a remarkable feat when it not only landed a spacecraft on an asteroid but managed to gather samples, and then slingshot back to Earth. The Hayabusa2, which was launched with asteroid 162173 Ryugu in 2018, has paved way for other such missions. Ceres, the largest asteroid in our solar system, may be worth a visit. Ceres, which may have an icy crust, a salty underground ocean, and ice volcanoes, may have once been habitable.



Indian-American Abhimanyu Mishra Becomes youngest GM in chess history



Indian-American prodigy Abhimanyu Mishra just became the youngest-ever chess Grandmaster after he scored his third GM norm in Budapest, Hungary, according to a report. The 12-year-old from New Jersey in United States became a GM from International Master, having crossed the required 2500 Elo rating barrier, chess.com website said.

**YOUNG
ACHIEVER**

- Mishra broke GM Sergey Karjakin's record that has stood for 19 years. On August 12, 2002, Karjakin, a world championship challenger in 2016, secured the Grandmaster title at the age of 12 years and seven months.
- Mishra, born on February 5, 2009, took 12 years, four months, and 25 days to obtain the highest title in chess, the website said. Mishra spent several months in Budapest, playing back-to-back tournaments, chasing the title and the record.

HEAT DOME GRIPS US



The western United States is currently under the influence of an epic heat dome, an expansive region of high atmospheric pressure characterised by heat, drought and heightened fire danger. A heat dome is a weather phenomenon in which high-pressure atmospheric conditions trap air coming in from the Pacific Ocean, heating the air column while compressing it down like a lid on a saucepan

You ask,
We answer

Are you facing issues related to your academics, mental health, etc? Do you want to share your problem, but shy to reveal it to your near ones? Never mind, our expert, CBSE helpline counsellor, JAYDEB KAR, will answer queries from students, parents and educators. Your identity will be strictly protected...

Q As academics have gone virtual now, most of my time is spent glued to the laptop screen. But my parents do not trust me and frequently keep a check on me. What should I do, as I don't like this attitude?

■ No doubt, the pandemic has taken education to the virtual world, and mobile and computers are necessary for the children. In this scenario, you need to identify what act of yours hurt them and they lost trust in you. Gradually, work on gaining their trust back with your actions and communication. There is no harm in keeping your room door open and letting them check

a few times. They will trust you, once they are satisfied.

Q I am a student of class X. I along with my parents will be shifting from our present city to our native place. Will it be possible for me to get admission to a CBSE school during the lockdown period?

■ CBSE has a provision of direct admission in class X for CBSE Schools for reasons like relocating of family, job transfers, etc. Kindly contact the school you are aiming for admission at your native place. The school will process your application as per the SOP issued by the board.

(MAIL US YOUR QUERIES AT TOINIE175@GMAIL.COM)

BOOKER PRIZE-WINNER NOVEL 'SACRED HUNGER' TO GET SERIES ADAPTATION

Author Barry Unsworth's Booker Prize-winning novel 'Sacred Hunger' will be adapted into a series. According to 'Deadline', executive producer Chris Bongirne and his company Smokestack Films has joined hands with financier Stephen Leist to buy the rights to the 1992 book.

Entertainment

- The story follows the journey of a struggling young English doctor aboard 18th century slave ship – the Liverpool Merchant
- In 1992, 'Sacred Hunger' shared the Booker Prize with Michael Ondaatje's, 'The English Patient'

THE TIMES OF INDIA

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STUDENT EDITION

SATURDAY, JULY 3, 2021

RETHINK
Heard of Mottainai – the Japanese eco-friendly philosophy?

CELEBRATE THE MONSOONS
From self-care, to health to countering monsoon moods, welcome the rains with us

ENVIRONMENT
Are you signing up for Plastic Free July? We look at the history of the movement and how you can be part of it

FILMS, BOOKS
Books to fight pandemic procrastination. PLUS: The best laugh riots from the world of cinema

SPORTS
All you need to know about the sport of cycling

Your Weekender

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Making the school a happy and safe place for children

Return to school is crucial for the students' future. All schools are awaiting eagerly to take them into their fold by adopting additional measures to maintain their safety along with the teachers and sub staff.

All our staff and sub staff are completely vaccinated. We have implemented myriad steps in this direction. To maintain social distancing, stickers are pasted on the corridors and there is a separate entry and exit. The students will be entering the disinfectant tunnel and their temperatures will be checked and recorded by a qualified nurse before entering their respective classes. An infirmary with oxygen concentrators is established to deal with emergency cases. Apart from that we have also collaborat-

B Jivitesh Reddy,
Principal, Niraj
Public School
Ameerpet



ed with an e m i n e n t hospital to take care of the isolated students.

Our spacious and well-ventilated classrooms will be disinfected by using UV lights. There will be reduction in the number of children seated in each class and in the school buses. Extreme care is taken to place the desks in the classroom at 1 m gap and barriers erected between the students and the teacher in the classroom.

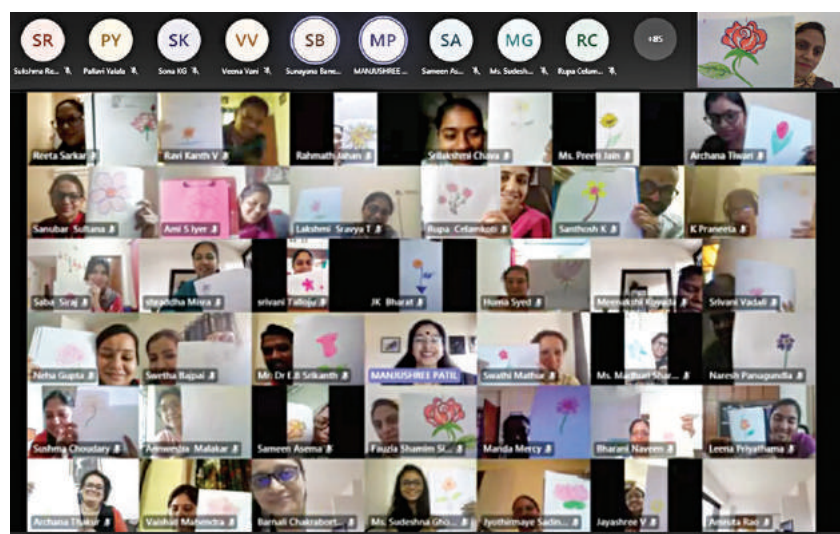
Immense effort is taken to install touchless sanitizing machines in corridors and rest-

rooms. Posters are stuck all around the school highlighting the precautions that students should adopt for their safety like washing hands frequently, constantly wearing a mask and shield, avoiding groups and maintaining social distancing.

To overcome a student's stress due to the pandemic we have appointed additional counsellors and health experts to boost their confidence. Teachers are also prepared to conduct accelerated learning classes to help children recall and get back to the rhythm of learning.

In a nutshell we are prepared to make our school caring, loving, safe, and a happy place for our children.

An insightful session



Birla Open Minds International School
Kollur, Hyderabad

An interactive workshop was conducted by Manjushree Patil, the founder director of Aatman Academy, Mumbai, a unique school on inclusive education.

Patil is also the country director of Samanta Education India, which is the first global education initiative on social emotional learning, endorsed by the UN Human Rights Office and monitored and evaluated by the Yale University.

The workshop was conducted on a few important features of Inclusion and Diversity Education. The insightful session gave an understanding to the teachers on the importance of learning diversities

among children and the need for inclusive teaching. Patil, with the help of slides and activities, made teachers realize that the variations, diversities and uniqueness that are seen in classrooms should be accepted and appreciated. A discussion on different types of diversities referring to the Diversity Wheel was also held. She urged the teachers to collectively initiate a paradigm shift in their approach towards Inclusion and Diversities in Education.

PAYING TRIBUTES TO DOCTORS

Delhi World School
Chintal



National Doctors' Day is celebrated every year all across India on July 1 to honour to legendary physician as well as the second chief minister of West Bengal, Dr Bidhan Chandra Roy. The day reinstates the need of doctors and physicians in the lives of everyone. The celebration helps the common public to get aware about the roles and importance of doctors. The day was celebrated with much jubilation by the students of pre-primary wing of the Delhi World School, Chintal virtually. Many activities were organised for the children to create awareness on the importance and dedication of the medical profession.

Gitanjali Devshala



"Medicines cure diseases but only doctors can cure patients" - Carl Jung

When the going is tough, the tough get going. Doctors all over the world have been risking their lives to save others by working non-stop and proving to mankind that 'nothing is impossible.' They are our true magicians who, with their magical wand, heal everyone's pain with love and care. The students of pre-primary wing of Gitanjali Devshala celebrated the day with much jubilation. They paid tribute to the doctor parents and grandparents of the class by holding placards, singing poems and presenting a video appreciating the noble work of doctors.



IF I WERE a 'book'

I wish to be something that will help to make our future better. I wish to be a book. By turning the pages of a book, we can improve and go closer to our goals. People use books to write, learn and practice. I want to be the reason of our development and an astonishing future.

Many of us think that books are boring but remember, don't judge a book by its cover. Studies begin with a book, which takes us to our destination by making our dreams come true. We all use our education as strength and book as the source, we

all use it to build our future and dream.

As the river is a source of water, so is a book a source of education and future. In our present situation, the whole world is fighting the pandemic and it is not safe for us to venture outside, but we have not stopped our studies and are still writing and practicing and learning new concepts every day.

ZAINA NIHAD, class VIII A,
Delhi School of Excellence, Attapur



CHAPTER ON REPTILES COMES TO LIFE!

One fine day I was sitting in my science class. I was in class IV at that time and the teacher was teaching something related to reptiles. Suddenly, two girls sitting on the first bench screamed aloud and told the



teacher that there was a snake near the bench. The teacher panicked, shouted and left the book and ran out of the class. Everyone was standing on their benches until a boy from class IX came forward to deal with the 'snake.' He picked it up and started laughing at us. Everyone was surprised. That's when he revealed that it was an artificial green stalk of the flower used in SUPW project, which moved a bit with the wind. Everyone was relieved and laughed heartily.



L ADITHI,
class IX,
Sri Guru Datta
High School

RECITING WITH GREAT FLAIR!



Kavya Sudha, an inter-house online Hindi recitation competition, was recently held at Gitanjali Devashray, where the students of class III enthralled the audience with their recitation skills and the command over the language.

The school has a curriculum which is a blend of both synchronous and asynchronous activities. Under the able guidance of the school management, various activities are con-

Gitanjali Devashray
Hyderabad

ducted regularly.

A wide variety of verses by famous poets were recited by the students with great confidence and elan which held the audience in rapt attention.



CELEBRATING A SPECIAL BOND ON FATHER'S DAY

Delhi Public School
Mahendra Hills

Delhi Public School, Mahendra Hills celebrated Father's Day with lots of enthusiasm and love. Children were delighted to participate with their fathers on the special occasion.

Every father is a hero and would do anything to make his child happy. The school arranged various competitions at different levels like - Daddy and Me dance competition, Father and Child drawing competition, Father and Child sing-along competition, Daddy and Me Live Hacks competition, and many more.

The parents were happy to showcase their talents along with their children on one stage.

They were all praises about the event as they now have memories for a lifetime to cherish.



Maninder Kaur, Academic In-charge Pre Primary & Pratyusha, Pre Primary teacher, Pallavi Model School
Alwal, Hyderabad

The pre-primary wing of Pallavi Model School, Alwal, celebrated Father's Day with the colour code for the day being blue. The celebration started with a prayer followed by a valuable message by principal Sunir Nagi. Children prepared beautiful videos to wish their fathers on the occasion.

It was a delight to watch the tiny tots singing poems, sharing their thoughts on how their fathers help them every day. Diya and Eshika from UKG wished their fathers through dazzling dance performances. Fun filled games followed, like making a Pyramid with paper tea cups, blowing balloons within a minute and a tongue twister for all the super cool Dads. We asked all the fathers to share a collage of their memories on this beautiful journey from being a child to becoming a father. The collages were showcased and it was a memorable moment for the young ones to see their fathers as a child. The little ones also made goggles, hats and moustaches with colour paper and gifted those to their dads.



Gitanjali Primary School
Hyderabad

"Dads are most ordinary men turned by love into heroes, adventurers, storytellers and singers of song." - Pam Brown

The students of class I of Gitanjali Primary School celebrated Father's Day and were excited to make their fathers feel special as they spent their day with them. They surprised their fathers by baking cakes for them at home, presenting handmade greeting cards, decorating their house for a surprise party and spent lot of quality time with their super heroes. The fathers were overwhelmed by the sweet gestures of children and expressed their love for the little ones.



Delhi Public School, Nadergul organised several activities to mark Father's Day. Children from primary wing to class X, all came forward to express their love and gratitude towards their fathers through several activities and made this day a memorable one.

It all started with 'Tie and Dye T-shirt painting' by the tiny tots. They also made attractive cards with their little fingers expressing their love. This was followed by a special Zumba dance. The students of class II celebrated this selfless love of their fathers by making greeting cards with lovely messages like 'Daddy you are my superhero'.

To make the event more special, children dressed like their fathers and

Delhi Public School
Nadergul

drew moustaches to click pictures with their superhero.

The students of class III expressed their love through handmade paper roll cards and presented it to their fathers while the budding artists from classes IV to VI designed their own photo frame with a picture of themselves with their dad.

The students from classes VII to VIII expressed their love towards their fathers through words of emotion.

The shutterbugs of classes IX and X captured candid moments of their father and made a collage to gift them.

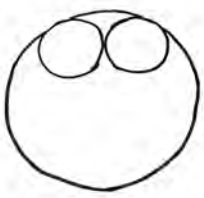


LEVEL-1



SEJAL ANJARIA
Art Educator,
Zebar School for
Children, Ahmedabad

Draw the easy way



Step-1



Step-2



Step-3



Step-4



Step-5



Step-6



EGRULANTIO

A: regulation B: ergonomics
C: economics D: regale

EARLYLIT

A: early B: yearly
C: reality D: kitten

ISCDUSNSIO

A: discussion
B: iceberg
C: curative
D: dunes

Answers: 1) A, 2) C, 3) A

Riding with the Riddle

It is the home of a number of medium-to-large-sized creatures. It has a high spire and a noticeable siphonal canal. It is attractive, and is used as a decorative piece in many homes. It is an essential part of prayers in many parts of India

Answer: Conch

RINGS AND THINGS

SURYAKUMARI DENNISON, teacher, Aavishkar Academy, Bengaluru

2 Morocco describes the figure of an angel on a

- a) Coach
b) Coffin
c) Coin
d) Column



3 Jessica gives Launcelot a

- a) Lamp b) Letter
c) Loaf d) Liquid



4 Shylock is ready in court with a

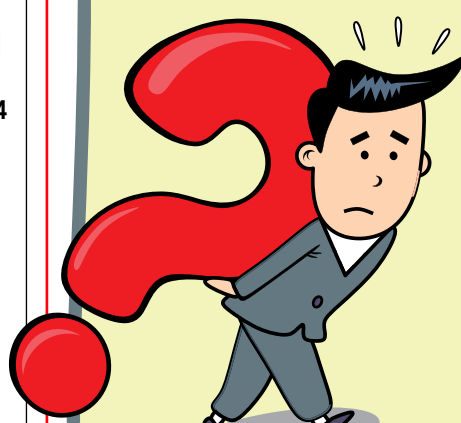
- a) Balance b) Bible
c) Box d) Bell



5 Something costing 2000 ducats is a

- a) Turquoise b) Sapphire
c) Ruby d) Diamond

Quiz TIME



In Shakespeare's 'The Merchant of Venice', Jessica exchanges a ring for a monkey. Rings are also given by Portia and Nerissa to Bassanio and Gratiano. Complete these statements on other things that feature or are mentioned in the play. Choose correctly!

1 Jessica and Lorenzo are seen in a

- a) Canoe b) Ferry
c) Gondola d) Kayak

Answers: 1) c. Gondola, 2) c. Coin, 3) b. Letter, 4) a. Balance, 5) d. Diamond

LEVEL-2

Idiom-etrics

SURYAKUMARI DENNISON, teacher, Aavishkar Academy, Bengaluru

(Choose the idiom that best suits the situation)

Sameer and Sunil were good friends. Both of them were bright students. But, while Sameer did well in all the subjects, Sunil had a problem recalling facts in history. 'Text me this answer,' he urged Sameer, during an online test, having forgotten the date of the Battle of Plassey. 'Sorry, that would not be right,' was the reply. Sameer believed that it was wrong to score marks by dishonest means, although he and Sunil agreed on most other matters.

- A) Turn a blind eye B) Keep an eye on
C) See eye to eye



Answer: C

Anita played tennis well, but she refused to play against a better rival, as she did not want to endure the humiliation of defeat.

- A) Lose heart
B) Lose face
C) Lose touch



Answer: B

TRIVIA

An interesting expression comes to us from Sir Robert Hart, a British diplomat in China, who made that country his home. In a book published in 1876, he translated the Mandarin expression 'tiu lien' into English, while writing about those who had forfeited public respect. They had 'lost face' (lost reputation). 'Save face', meaning the opposite, entered the English language over 20 years later. That has nothing to do with China!

EDITOR IN THE MAKING

Weave a story with headlines

Include some of these headlines to make a story and give it a title. Mail the story to us at toinie175@gmail.com. The interesting one will be published in the edition. Watch out for this space!!!

The headlines:

- 1) What keeps me moving
- 2) Laugh your way to good skin
- 3) Draw your experience
- 4) A manner manual for the online world
- 5) Wisdom on your fingertips
- 6) Aiming for the gold
- 7) Centre proposes ban on mis-selling, fraudulent flash sales on e-commerce platforms



NUMBER SERIES

- 1 The sum of three number is 120. The ratio of the first to the second is 3/5, and the ratio of the second to the third is 5/7. Find the second number ?
A. 35 B. 40
C. 45 D. 55

Answer: B

- 2 Find out the wrong number in this series.
30, 42, 56, 72, 91, 121, 132, 156
A. 30 B. 72
C. 91 D. 132

Answer: C

- 3 Find the sum of first 17 ? multiples of 9 ?
A. 960 B. 1227
C. 1341 D. 1377

Answer: C

- 4 Find the sum of first 36 natural numbers
A. 666 B. 566
C. 546 D. 656

Answer: A



Learn a NEW LANGUAGE

FRENCH

1) Pourriez-vous prendre ma photo/notre photo?

Meaning: Will you be able to take my photo/our photo?

2) Où sommes-nous?

Meaning: Where are we?

3) Je cherche l'hôtel/l'hôpital/la banque

Meaning: I am searching for the hotel/hospital/bank

4) Où est le guichet?

Meaning: Where is the ticket window?

5) Je voudrais acheter un billet aller simple/aller-retour pour Paris
Meaning: I would like to purchase a one-way ticket/a round-trip ticket

Work sheet

Q:1 What will you ask, if you wish to know your location?

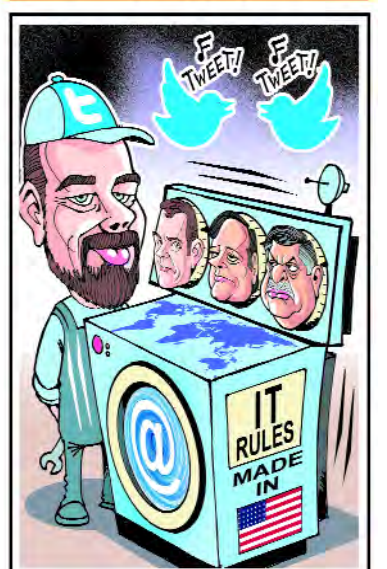
Q:2 How will you communicate that you want a one-way ticket

Q:3 How will you ask a lady for the ticket window

Q:4 How will you ask for the nearest hospital

1) Où sommes-nous? 2) Je voudrais acheter un billet aller simple pour Paris. 3) Bonjour! Mademoiselle, où est le guichet? 4) Monsieur, je cherche l'hôpital

JUST LIKE THAT AJIT NINAN



On Twist mode

IS ENGLAND THE NEW FAVOURITES?

Euro 2020 last-16 stage threw up a bagful of surprises. The quarterfinals may not be any different. TOI gives a lowdown of what's in store

SWITZERLAND

STRENGTH: Seferovic's goal scoring prowess and Zuber's creativity on the left. The team focuses on playing direct football.

WEAKNESS: A leaky defence has conceded in every game.

OPPORTUNITY: Shaqiri seemed lost in their famous win against France. He needs to regain his form quickly.

THREAT: Weariness will be a factor because the Swiss are the most travelled team in the tournament.



Photo: GETTY IMAGES



Photo: AFP

CZECH REPUBLIC

STRENGTH: Patrik Schick's ability to shore up goals. Organised team which plays direct football.

WEAKNESS: A wobbly backline that often struggles against aerial balls.

OPPORTUNITY: Need for other forwards and midfielders to step up and support Schick.

THREAT: If the opposition could use their wings and the width of the pitch effectively, the Czech defence might be in danger.

VS

SPAIN

STRENGTH: Patient build-up play from the deep with a focus on creating space for wingers.

WEAKNESS: Need to shore up the defence. Players also need to be switched on till the final whistle.

OPPORTUNITY: In the absence of another traditional No. 9, Morata needs to find more consistency.

THREAT: An organised opponent defence could negate the threat of Spain's possession-based football.



Photo: AP

DENMARK

STRENGTH: Brave and compact team game with a focus on organised defence.

WEAKNESS: Midfield lacks ideas. Could go into a shell quickly under opposition pressure.

OPPORTUNITY: A bit more creativity up front could make a lot of difference.

THREAT: Lost to Belgium in the group stages. They are yet to face a big team since then.

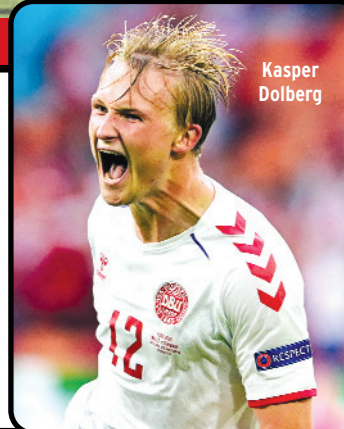


Photo: AFP

VS

BELGIUM

STRENGTH: Lukaku's scoring form. Dynamic and creative midfield. Experienced defence.

WEAKNESS: An ageing defence could be caught out with the opposition's pace.

OPPORTUNITY: The Golden Generation lost to France at the 2018 World Cup semis. They want to win a major trophy.

THREAT: With Hazard and De Bruyne both nursing injuries, it could boost the opponent's confidence.



Photo: GETTY IMAGES



Photo: AP

UKRAINE

STRENGTH: An intelligent midfield that can make quick transitions from defence to attack.

WEAKNESS: Lack of experience at quarters could make them nervous.

OPPORTUNITY: The chance of making a maiden semifinal appearance at a major tournament should propel the squad.

THREAT: Zinchenko has been the engine for the team. If the opponent could put a lid on him, Ukraine might struggle.

ITALY

STRENGTH: Solid defence leading to serial goal-poaching. Full-backs and wing-play make them more aggressive.

WEAKNESS: Space behind full-backs, especially when Spinazzola goes on the overlap.

OPPORTUNITY: Forwards Immobile and Insigne are yet to stamp their authority. They will need to step up their game.

THREAT: An unbeaten run of 31 matches could make players complacent.



Photo: GETTY IMAGES

ENGLAND

STRENGTH: Wing-play and Sterling's ability to score goals.

WEAKNESS: Lack of creativity in the midfield.

OPPORTUNITY: Kane might have finally scored against Germany but he needs to find more goals if England wants to keep harbouring hopes.

THREAT: Despite attacking riches, England's defence-first approach could prove detrimental to the team's chances.



Photo: BETTY IMAGES

I TRAINED LIKE A MADMAN: SRIHARI NATARAJ

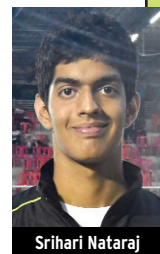
The 20-year-old Indian swimmer has qualified for the upcoming Tokyo Olympics after FINA approved his qualification time

On Sunday, as Srihari Nataraj took to the pool at the Foro Italico facility in Rome, it must have been a lonely 54 seconds. At the time trial, he swam alone with the single focus of booking his ticket to Tokyo. As soon as he realised he had breached the 'A' qualification mark, he let out a cry of triumph even as his fist thumped the air. Less than three days after the magical run in the 100m backstroke event where he timed 53.77, Srihari received the official nod from FINA, the world governing body for swimming.

Dream come true

It was a dream realised for the 20-year-old product of Dolphin Aquatics, who had missed the 'A' qualification mark of 53.85 seconds by five microseconds at the Sette Colli Trophy in Rome on Saturday. It was also a memorable moment for the country as the Bengalurean joined Sajan Prakash in an elite club of Indian swimmers to have made the 'A' cut. As the youngster prepares for his maiden Olympics journey, he believes it is the beginning of good times for Indian swimming.

"Two of us qualifying with 'A' times shows that we can do a lot more than what we have done. We just have to find ways to do it. It is in me. In my case, I trained like a madman over the past few months. I did not take a day off unless I was forced to like in the case of the lockdown. Other than that, I haven't taken a session off. I know the difference it has made to knock off half a second," the youngster pointed out.



Srihari Nataraj

Photos: TOI

File Photo: Srihari Nataraj during the finals of 200m Freestyle at the 72nd Senior National Swimming Championship

WILLIAMSON BACK ON TOP OF ICC TEST RANKINGS

New Zealand captain Kane Williamson has reclaimed the number one position in the ICC Test Rankings for batsmen after leading his side to the World Test Championship title in Southampton last week. The 30-year-old's knocks of 49 and 52 not out in the low-scoring final against India helped him move above the 900-point mark and he now enjoys a 10-point lead over Steve Smith (891 rating points). India skipper Virat Kohli remains in the fourth position while Rohit Sharma has moved up to the sixth spot. India's wicketkeeper-batsman Rishabh Pant is seventh. Williamson, who



Photo: AP

conceded the top spot to Smith two weeks ago, is back in the position he had first grabbed in November 2015 during a series against Australia. **PH**