



THE TIMES OF INDIA

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TODAY'S EDITION

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► Indian comic books that are still popular

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STUDENT EDITION

MONDAY, JANUARY 11, 2021


WEB EDITION
CLICK HERE: PAGE 1 AND 2

EARTH IS SPINNING FASTER THAN IT HAS IN THE PAST 50 YEARS

2021 IS SET TO FLY BY!



Yes, you heard it right. The Earth is speeding up, prompting suggestions to shorten the minute by a second.

2021 is slated to be about 19 milliseconds short of a typical year, with an average daily deficit of 0.5 milliseconds

1 According to data shared by TimeAndDate.com, the 24-hour daily rotation is decreasing incrementally, making the day marginally shorter

2 Though the planet's rotation rate speed up or slow down slightly day to day due to the natural terrestrial and celestial alterations, astronomical calendar trends indicate that recent years have become shorter, overall

3 According to experts, while the addition of a so-called 'negative leap second' has never been done before, a total of 27 'leap seconds' have been added since the 1970s, in order to keep the atomic time in line with the solar time. This is because, for decades, the Earth has taken slightly longer than 24 hours to complete a rotation. However, since last year, it has been taking slightly less time to complete a rotation

WHY IT IS SIGNIFICANT

► Though this diminutive loss of time is only detectable at the atomic level, it has wide-reaching implications, say experts ► Satellites and communications equipment rely on the true time aligning with the solar time, which is determined by the positions of the stars, Moon and the sun

► In fact, some of the web's most-popular sites were laid low on July 1, 2012, after the world's timekeepers added an extra second to the day. Sites including Reddit, FourSquare, Yelp, LinkedIn, Gawker and StumbleUpon crashed, after the extra second played havoc with their servers and source code

THE TIMELINE

Since the 1960s, the atomic clocks have been keeping ultra-precise records of the day's length and found that for the past 50 years, the Earth has taken a fraction less than 24 hours (86,400 seconds) to complete one rotation. However, in the middle of 2020, this long-standing trend was reversed, and days are now regularly shorter than 86,400 seconds

On July 19, 2020, the day was 1.4602 milliseconds shorter than the full 24 hours – the shortest day since the records began

Prior to 2020, the shortest day occurred in 2005, but this record has been shattered a staggering 28 times in the last 12 months

On an average, the days are now passing 0.5 seconds shy of 24 full hours

The next possible date for a leap second is June 30, 2021, as leap seconds are always added on the last day of June or Dec



DID YOU KNOW? The world timekeepers are debating whether to delete a second from time – called a negative leap second – to account for the change, and bring the time passage back into line with the rotation of the Earth

Spotlight

TWITTER SUSPENDS TRUMP'S ACCOUNT PERMANENTLY

Twitter has permanently suspended US President Donald Trump's account. "After a close review of the recent Tweets from the @realDonaldTrump account and the context around them, we have permanently suspended the account due to the risk of further incitement of violence, following the mob attack on Capitol," the company said in a tweet.



► The suspension of Trump's account, which had more than 88 million followers, silences his primary megaphone, days before the end of his term, and follows years of debate about how social media companies should moderate the accounts of powerful global leaders ► It is the first time that Twitter has banned a head of state, the company confirmed

KANGANA RANAUT SHARES HER LIFE MANTRA

Actress Kangana Ranaut recently shared her life mantra—never compromise on your health, stay away from unhealthy habits and pessimistic people—with a motivational workout video, where she is seen doing pilates on Twitter.

CELEB MANTRA

"Early morning fitness routine— Remember one thing in life, 'jo fit hai woh hit hai', never compromise on your health, stay away from unhealthy habits and pessimistic people. Stay in the company of great beings, if you don't find them physically, find their books or teachings," she wrote along with the video



BUZZ



A RINGTONE MADE FROM DATA ON MARS' WEATHER PATTERNS

Out-of-this-world' ringtones, made through a musical interpretation of the weather patterns found on Mars, was released by NASA recently. According to a Daily Mail report, researchers used the **Pleiades supercomputer** at the space agency's Ames Research Centre in California to turn predicted Martian cloud movements into sound. Once this 'data sonification' process was complete, flautists and musicologists brought the piece to life.

► From the rendition, snippets were sampled to produce ringtones, which can be downloaded from the NASA website.

► Researchers used an imaging tracking system to study the movement of cloud formations predicted by the supercomputer, from which patterns were filtered out and mapped onto musical intervals, producing a piece for playing



DID YOU KNOW? Pleiades – one of the most-powerful supercomputers in the world – is used by NASA to forecast the weather on Mars. Mars has the largest dust storms in the entire solar system, which can last for several months and cover the entire planet

13-YEAR-OLD SETS RECORD PLAYING KEYBOARD WITH A BLINDFOLD

A 13-year-old boy has set a new record by playing 20 songs in 30 minutes on a keyboard with a blindfold. **AS Hariharan Naidu** achieved the feat to enter the 'Wonder Book of Records'. A student of class VIII at the Gitanjali Devshala in Hyderabad, Naidu recently set the record by staging the performance in the presence of judges from the Wonder Book of Records (WBR). "He played 20 songs in 30 minutes and that too with a blindfold. It's a record. In fact, he completed this in 29 minutes, 19 seconds," said G. Swarna Sree, South India Chief Coordinator, Wonder Book of Records.

► Hariharan has started a YouTube channel 'Chill with Hariharan'. He has posted several videos of his performances, including a couple of songs as a tribute to actor Sushant Singh Rajput. ► The YouTube channel has already garnered over 3,000 subscribers

PM-HEADED MEET SETS JAN 16 FOR VACCINATION LAUNCH



India will launch its vaccination drive against Covid-19 on January 16 after the forthcoming festivals of Lohri, Makar Sankranti, Pongal and Magh Bihu, at a time when India's infections are low as compared to several nations witnessing fresh spikes. The decision on the roll-out date was taken at a high-level meeting, chaired by PM Modi on Saturday, to review the status of Covid-19 in the country and the preparedness of the states and UTs for the vaccination programme, which in its first phase targets 30 crore people.

V-DAY

► Initially, around three crore health-care and frontline workers will be inoculated, followed by those above 50 years of age and the under-50 population with co-morbidities, estimated at around 27 crore

► The vaccination programme might also be ramped up, depending on the status of the infection spread and supply of vaccine

QUEEN ELIZABETH AND PRINCE PHILIP GIVEN COVID-19 VACCINE



Britain's Queen Elizabeth II and her husband Prince Philip received Covid-19 vaccinations on Saturday, Buckingham Palace said, in a rare public comment on the private health matters of the long-serving monarch. "The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh have received Covid-19 vaccinations," a Buckingham Palace spokesman said. According to sources, the queen, 94, and Philip, 99, were given the injections by a royal household doctor at the Windsor Castle. No further details about the vaccinations were released.

More than 1.5 million people in Britain have so far received virus jabs, as the biggest immunisation programme in its history ramps up, with priority given to the elderly, their helps and health workers

FACTOID

\$210 BILLION

The amount of loss the world had to bear in 2020, courtesy, being the second-warmest year on record, claimed a report by Munich Re. The second-warmest year on record brought storms, fires and floods that killed at least 8,200 people, the report added.

► SIX OF THE MOST-EXPENSIVE DISASTERS HAPPENED IN THE US, INCLUDING A DESTRUCTIVE DERECHO IN THE MIDWEST, A RECORD NUMBER OF TROPICAL STORMS AND HURRICANES STRIKES, AND AN ALL-TIME HIGH ACREAGE BURN IN CALIFORNIA ► THE US DAMAGES TOTALLED AT LEAST \$95 BN, WITH \$67 BN OF THAT IN INSURED LOSSES, SAID MUNICH ► THE YEAR'S SINGLE-WORST DISASTER WAS FLOODING ACROSS CHINA DURING ITS MONSOON, WHICH AMOUNTED TO \$17 BILLION, OF WHICH ONLY ABOUT 2% WAS INSURED ► GLOBALLY, 60% OF 2020'S LOSSES WEREN'T INSURED. THE GROWING ASIAN ECONOMIES SAW THE LEAST NUMBER OF INSURED LOSSES

At \$188.5bn, Musk beats Bezos as WORLD'S RICHEST

RICHIE RICH

Elon Musk, the outspoken entrepreneur behind the Tesla Inc and SpaceX, is now the richest person on the planet. A 4.8% rally in the electric carmaker's share price recently, boosted Musk past Amazon.com Inc founder Jeff Bezos on the Bloomberg Billionaires Index, a ranking of the world's 500 wealthiest people.

1 The South Africa-born engineer's net worth was \$188.5 billion, \$1.5 billion more than Bezos (at the time of reporting). Musk, who has held the top spot since October 2017, is also a rival to Bezos, owner of the Blue Origin LLC in the private space race

2 The milestone caps an extraordinary 12 months for Musk. Over the past year, his net worth soared by more than \$150 billion in possibly the fastest bout of wealth creation in history. Fuelling his rise was an unprecedented rally in Tesla's share price, which surged 743% last year on the back of consistent profits



DID YOU KNOW? The world's 500 richest people added a record \$1.8 tn to their combined net worth last year, equivalent to a 31% increase. The gains were disproportionately at the top, where five individuals hold fortunes in excess of \$100 bn



ACTOR NOMA DUMEZWENI JOINS DISNEY'S 'THE LITTLE MERMAID'

The 'Undoing' breakout Noma Dumezweni has come aboard Disney's live-action remake of 'The Little Mermaid'. The film, to be directed by Rob Marshall, will feature singer-actor Halle Bailey as Ariel and Melissa McCarthy as her evil aunt, Ursula. The cast also includes Oscar winner Javier Bardem as King Triton, while British actor Jonah Hauer-King will take on the role of Prince Eric.

► The original film, which released in 1989, narrated the story of Ariel, a teenage mermaid, who dreams of living on the surface world and marrying Prince Eric ► Her fortunes change when a sea witch named Ursula offers to send Ariel to the human world in exchange for her beautiful voice



ENTERTAINMENT

7 CLASSIC

Indian comic BOOKS

from our childhood

Remember those childhood days when life was nothing more than running around with friends, being fed by our parents' hands and reading end number of comic books? Undoubtedly, that was the best phase of our lives. Also, reading comic books used to be the most enjoyable as they acted as the gateway to new lands and universes (with superheroes and more) for us. Comic books give us the space to imagine and dream beyond the normal and the usual. Here is a look at 7 classic Indian comic books.



TINKLE

There would be few people in India, who would not have read Tinkle while growing up. A fortnightly magazine first issued in 1980, it's one of the most popular Indian comic books. The various characters like Suppandi, Shikari Shambhu are memorable.

CHACHA CHAUDHURY

An absolute favourite of many of us, the short, red-turbaned Chacha Chaudhary along with Chachi, Rocket (dog) and Sabu, his tall assistant from Jupiter were a great fun combination. In the comic, Chacha's mind worked faster than the computer!

AMAR CHITRA KATHA

Aimed to teach children about Indian culture and social heritage, the format and style of the comics made children fall in love with them. Today, it is available in 20 languages in India and enjoys a steady readership with millions of copies sold.

TENALI RAMA

Loved by the kids for his remarkable wit and wisdom - Tenali Raman was a famous scholar during the regime of the Vijayanagara Empire in the 16th century. He had a solution to every complicated problem that emerged in Krishnadevaraya's kingdom.

BAHADUR

'Bahadur (The Brave One)' is the first Indian comic book Super Hero created by Aabid Surti in the year 1976. Incidentally, Bahadur appeared on the scene when dacoit menace was at its worst in north India. Thus, the comic series focused a lot on dacoits.

CHANDAMAMA

Famous for its illustrations, Chandamama published long-running mythological and magical stories that ran for years. Its unique story-telling format taught moral values without being too preachy.

AKBAR BIRBAL

Akbar-Birbal was humorous and full of knowledge at the same time. Birbal's ability to outwit the other ministers in the court of Akbar made us laugh out loud.

METHODS FOR IMPROVING YOUR MEMORY



AVOID CRAMMING

Studying materials over a number of sessions gives you the time you need to adequately process information. Research has continuously shown that students who study regularly remember the material far better than those who do all of their studying in one marathon session.

STRUCTURE AND ORGANISE

Researchers have found that information is organised in memory in related clusters. You can take advantage of this by structuring and organising the materials you're studying. Try grouping similar concepts and terms together, or make an outline of your notes and textbook readings to help group related concepts.

VISUALISE CONCEPTS

Many people benefit greatly from visualising the information they study. Pay attention to the photographs, charts, and other graphics in your textbooks. If you don't have visual cues to help, try creating your own. Draw charts or figures in the margins of your notes or use highlighters or pens in different colours to group-related ideas in your written study materials.

RELATE NEW INFORMATION TO THINGS YOU ALREADY KNOW

When you're studying unfamiliar material, take the time to think about how this information relates to what you already know. By establishing relationships between new ideas and previously existing memories, you can dramatically increase the likelihood of recalling the recently learned information.

FOCUS YOUR ATTENTION

Attention is one of the major components of memory. In order for information to move from your short-term memory into your long-term memory, you need to actively attend to this information. Try to study in a place free of distractions such as television, music, and other diversions. Getting rid of distractions might be a challenge, especially if you are surrounded by boisterous roommates or noisy children.

UTILISE MNEMONIC DEVICES

Mnemonic devices are a technique often used by students to aid in recall. A mnemonic is simply a way to remember information.

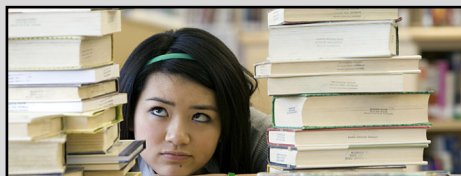
For example, you might associate a term you need to remember with a common item that you are very familiar with. The best mnemonics are those that utilise positive imagery, humour or novelty.

READ OUT LOUD

Research published in 2017 suggests that reading material out loud significantly improves your memory. Educators and psychologists have also discovered that having students actually teach new concepts to others enhances understanding and recall.

VARY YOUR STUDY ROUTINE

Another great way to increase your recall is to occasionally change your study routine. If you're accustomed to studying in one specific location, try moving to a different spot during your next study session. If you study in the evening, try spending a few minutes each morning reviewing the information you studied the previous night.



5 STYLE HACKS NO ONE TOLD YOU ABOUT

Haven't we all had fashion fails? A cloth fading, getting stained but that's not a reason to get disheartened. Here are five smart clothing hacks no one told you about but you wish you'd know! Read on and don't fret the next time you're in a fashion emergency. You can thank us later



Remove make-up marks from clothes

While wearing or changing your clothes, you can easily stain your clothes with your make-up. For this situation, you can obviously use make-up remover to get rid of the make-up smudges. But for tougher foundation and lip colours, you can use a shaving cream. Spray a little bit of it on the spot and let it stay for 5-10 minutes. This way the stain will dissolve easily and you can wash it off with cold water.

Don't let your denim fade

No one likes it when their favourite jeans or luxe denim jacket fades. To avoid

this, wash your denim pieces inside-out in cold water. And, just in case you want to fade your denim pieces, just wash them in hot water.

How to clean suede

When it comes to suede, cleaning this tricky fabric is not that easy. To clean off



the dirt, just use a crust of a bread and allow it to become stale. Now use this and rub it on

the stains to get rid of them. You can also use a nail filer or an eraser to do the same.

Remove oil stains

Don't you just hate big oily stains on your favourite clothes? Just put some baby powder on the stain and let it stay overnight. Now, check in the morning if the stain is still there. If it is, repeat the process until it goes off.

Don't have an iron available?

If you have a fashion emergency and need to fix your wrinkled clothes, you can use a blow dryer. Sprinkle some water on your clothes and use a blow dryer to get rid of the creases.

QUIZ TIME (INDIA)

SHREYA RAVI, class IX, The Brigade School, Malleswaram, B'luuru

Q.1) To which kingdom did the Mughal ruler Babur belong?

- A. Ferghana
B. Samarkand
C. Persia
D. East Asia

Q.2) Who were the first traders to land in India?

- A. Portuguese
B. Dutch
C. English
D. Italians

Q.3) To which dynasty did the Vijayanagar ruler Krishnadevaraya belong?

- A. Tuluva
B. Sangama
C. Saluva
D. Atharva

Q.4) Which Mughal ruler was also known as the Zinda Pir because of his simplicity?

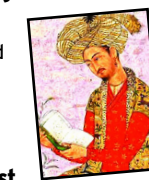
- A. Shah Jahan
B. Aurangzeb
C. Jahangir
D. Akbar

Q.5) Who was the first explorer to reach Indian shores?

- A. Christopher Columbus
B. Amerigo Vespucci
C. Ferdinand Magellan
D. Vasco da Gama

Q.6) Who finished building the Qutub Minar?

- A. Iltutmish
B. Qutb-ud-din-Aibak
C. Raziya Sultan
D. Ala-ud-din-Khilji



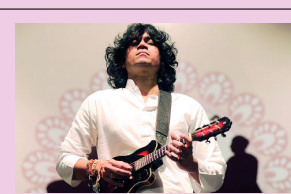
ANSWERS

1. A) Ferghana 2. B) Dutch 3. A) Tuluva 4. B) Aurangzeb 5. D) Vasco da Gama 6. A) Iltutmish

KNOWLEDGE BANK (MUSIC)

Mandolin

A small stringed instrument related to the lute (plucked string instrument with



a neck), it evolved in Italy in the 17th century. It has a pear shaped body with four pairs of steel strings played with a plectrum. It usually has four doubled metal strings (8 strings), although five (10 strings) and six (12 strings) versions also exist. There are many kinds - the round-backed mandolin, the carved-top mandolin and the flat-backed mandolin.

SCHOOL IS COOL

MONDAY, JANUARY 11, 2021

It's not just a place where you get to learn Einstein's Theory of Relativity. It's also a place where you can think beyond the classroom. Hence we say, **SCHOOL IS COOL!**

03

THE EDUCATIONIST

LEARN WITH A PURPOSE

With the lines between home and school blurred, young people's sense of self is likely shaken. Finding purpose requires knowing your whole self, not just who you are in the hallways of a school. The level of introspection can be accomplished by making self-reflection a part of every lesson, helping students make the resources and different topics taught relevant to their own lives and our new realities. We need to imbue everything we do with a sense of why (this goes for everyone, not



just students). Without one, school becomes a hoop to jump through. Getting to the why underlying each student means giving them a voice in the (online) classroom and a say in what and how they learn. It also leads to student-driven and purposeful learning, where they work hard not because they have to but because of their interest and passion.

FATHIMA AFROZE, Academic Coordinator, Springfields International School, Bandlaguda, Hyderabad



AN INSIGHTFUL SESSION

Vedhika Chadha, class VII, The Shri Ram Universal School Hyderabad

The session with Radhika Lata Gupta was a delight to attend. Her ability to answer questions with aplomb was commendable. It was inspiring to note that a sportswoman had come to talk to us about her passion for women's sports.

The conversation about sports instead of day-day to study routine was a refreshing change. I loved the story she narrated about when she slipped while playing against rivals in a match which her team lost on their campus but in the next match they beat them with a score of 4 to 1. She truly motivated us to take up sports in our lives.



MAPPING SKILLS

Geography helps to understand basic physical systems that affect everyday life. To enhance the map skills in students, Atlas Scavenger Hunt activity was conducted during activity hour for students of class VI. It was an individual activity where they got an opportunity to explore and orient themselves with the global map.

It was delightful to see the competitive spirit of the students and the interest they exhibited. It was evident that this highly energised session helped students in understanding the importance of mapping as they are used for a number of applications, from camping, hunting, fishing and hiking to urban planning, resource management and surveying.

Delhi Public School Secunderabad



ALL ABOUT MATH WIZARDRY

Delhi Public School Nadargul

Ganit Week celebrations were held in Delhi Public School, Nadargul with an objective to boost the mathematical confidence of students. Various activities and competitions were held in which students from classes I to X actively participated.

A storytelling contest "Weave it to Win it" was conducted for classes I to V where children narrated stories on concepts like Basic mathematical operations, Fractions, Angles and importance of numbers.

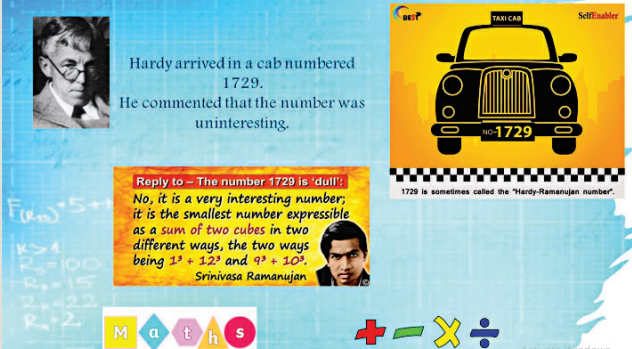
A quiz on mathematics was organised for students from classes III to X. An SLC (Student Led Conference) was also organised. The budding mathematicians showcased their knowledge of concepts, thinking, analytical and application skills by presenting the con-



ceptual knowledge in the form of power point presentations and working models.

In the assemblies, students enacted the roles of mathematicians and highlighted their contributions. Tricks and riddles also formed part of the Ganit Week.

On the final day, celebrations included display of working models, best performances from various competitions and math SLC activities.



It started on December 22, 1887, when a mathematician named Srinivasa Ramanujan was born to a poor couple in Tamil Nadu. He lived just for 32 years but during this short span he produced such theorems and formulae which even today remain profound in the present age of supercomputers.

To honour his contribution in the field, December 22 has been declared as the National Mathematics Day. A special assembly was conducted in our

Mary Saroja, Math HOD, Middle School, Johnson Grammar School, ICSE Habsiguda

school by Sravika where interesting facts about his work were displayed: The Hardy Ramanujan number - 1729, most famous magic square which sums up to 139, his quotes on mathematics: "An equation means nothing to me unless it expresses a thought of God," and many more.

Remembering Louis Braille

Pallavi Model School Bowenpally

"The human spirit is one of ability, perseverance and courage that no disability can steal away" This quote was aptly read out by one of the students of class VIII, as Pallavi Model School, Bowenpally, observed the International Day of the Blind on January 4.

The date marks the birth anniversary of Louis Braille, who at the age of 15, invented the tactile system for reading and writing, for use by people who are visually impaired.

Students prepared and presented a power point presentation

on Braille's life and work. They also pointed out that Braille, a tactile representation of alphabetic and numerical symbols using six raised dots to represent each letter, number, musical, mathematical and scientific symbols, is used by the visually impaired to read books, journals and any text formats that provide information.

The pandemic too, has revealed how critically important it is to produce essential information in accessible formats.

As new variations are added to the existing format, as technology is annexed to the original Braille Code, to keep up pace with the times, let us pause for a moment, and bring about the attitude of gratitude and cherish all that we possess.

FESTIVE FERVOUR

Gitanjali Devshala

Hyderabad



The students of class V C at Gitanjali Devshala learnt about the different ways the world celebrates Christmas, in a classroom activity Globe-trotters. Through a reading session, students were made aware that Santa Claus comes in varied forms and names. What fasci-

inated children was the local customs and practices associated with the celebrations. To make the occasion memorable, children had a gala time with handmade photobooth props, while some made interesting drawings to ring in the spirit of Christmas.



Express YOURSELF

Education holds the key to life



Education is the first step for us to gain knowledge, critical thinking and skills to make this world a better place. It helps us to lead a good and healthy life. Education is important for us to defend ourselves and our country.

Our first teachers are our parents. They teach us how to speak and identify things around us. A teacher plays an equally important

role. All our great leaders of this world are esteemed educated people who shaped this modern world as we see it today. Education is a social process. Education is growth. Education is not a preparation for life, it is life itself.

PRAGNYAN G, class VI A, Unicent School, Nagole

MOTHER NATURE

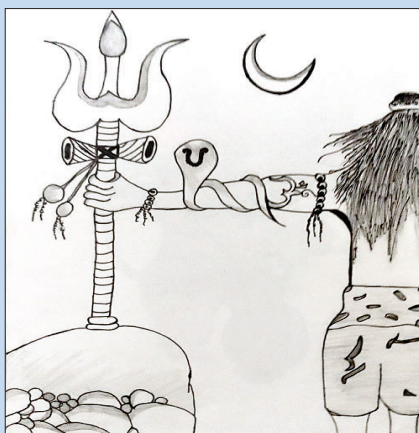
Oh sweet Mother Nature,
you have forever held me in rapture!
With your bounty of fruits, and curing roots
I dwell happily, with my loving family.
The water you provide, helps me survive
the fiercest heat that the summers repeat.
It is my duty to keep you in good state,
Before it is too late.
Holding your lush green boughs,
I call upon mankind to take a vow
To keep you protected forever, And let you down never!

ISHIKA PADHY, class IV C, Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan's Public School, Jubilee Hills

Painters' Gallery



FLY AWAY: KUSHI DHEEKSHITH A, class VII B, The Global Edge School (Kokapet)



MAHADEVA: R THIRUPURA NITHYAA, class IX, Pearson School, Kompally



NATURE'S BOUNTY: YOSHITA UPADHYA, class X D, Delhi Public School, Secunderabad

FOREST

Walking through a lush forest;
I find much of silence and peace.
No war, no conflicts.
No one is praised, all equal,
All happy and content.
Everyone benefiting each other;
Exchanging their essentials.
No one complaining about their conditions.
Even when trees are being cut by big axe;
Or animals hunted and shot by guns or bow and arrow.
They keep quiet.

But where have we been?
Don't we possess all these qualities?
Have we dropped it?

SHAZIA ANAM RAZA, class X B, Literary Secretary, Madina High School, Himayathnagar

THE NEW WORLD

The months are rolling by, the tenth,
the eleventh and now the twelfth,
And normalcy has become a myth
I want to walk amidst a crowd,
I want this deadly virus to be controlled.
My energy is out of whack,
I want my normal routine back,
I miss going to the school,
My music, karate and abacus classes were so cool.
The playtime in the break,
Sharing lunch with friends has come to a brake.
In spite of this pandemic
up came the academics
In my new e-classrooms, Called zoom and webex
This Covid cannot stop my zeal,
To learn and excel,
All this is because of the craving, I have for learning.
Cos, nothing can stop me from learning.

PRANSHI SINGH, class IV G, Bhavans Sriramakrishna Vidyalaya, Sainikpuri

IS PUJARA'S POOR STRIKE RATE A CONCERN FOR TEAM INDIA?

Cheteshwar Pujara was the batting mainstay when the two sides locked horns Down Under in 2018-19, but in the ongoing series, the right-handed batsman has been struggling against Australia's pace battery. Pujara has been dismissed four times by Cummins. Former Australia captain Ricky Ponting even went on to say that Pujara's slow batting created an unwanted pressure on the non-striker who had to compensate for his slow approach. But, is the criticism justified?

PUJARA WAS SCARED TO PLAY SHOT, PLAYED TO SURVIVE

He (Pujara) is almost scared to play a shot, isn't he? He is playing to survive rather than looking to score. He's not had quite the same impact this series in that he's taken so long to score his runs, it's like he's stagnated at the crease and it has had a bit of a ripple effect through the Indian batting. They can't seem to get on top of Australia's bowling.

Credit where credit is due, the bowling has been very good and Australia haven't allowed them to get away. That's half the battle as well, the guy's been hard to get out but if the scoreboard is not moving, eventually you get your rewards.

Allan Border, former Australia skipper

UNFAIR TO ASK HIM TO PLAY AGGRESSIVE CRICKET

I don't think Pujara is the culprit in this case at all. Generally in his career he has played his brand of cricket and it would be unfair for the team to be asking him to be playing something which is totally out of his natural style.

I will put it down to Rahane and Vihari, who came in and scored 4 off 38 balls (in the first innings). To me, both players need to get the game moving, understanding the role that Pujara has done not only in this series but every other series that he has played Test cricket in for India.

Tom Moody, former Australian all-rounder

PUJARA CAN HURT TEAMS EVEN WITH A LOW STRIKE RATE

As you know Australians love to drink coffee, and we have decided to go on a little campaign to make sure we have plenty of caffeine when it comes to watching Pujara bat. But, you know what the reality is, he hurt us badly (in 2018-19).

We are of a generation now where we are admiring people for their strike play, we are admiring people for their strike rate. Well, he is one of the few guys in Test cricket that have a strike rate of sub 45 and he can hurt you.

Matthew Hayden, former Australia opener

Pujara made his slowest fifty in Test cricket before being dismissed for 50 off 176 balls, a strike-rate of 28.41 in the first innings

THAT IS HOW HE PLAYS AND IT'S EFFECTIVE

That is how he plays. We won the series (2018-19) with Pujara scoring three hundreds. So, we can't accuse him of playing slowly because that is his way of batting. You cannot accuse him of not winning matches for India, because he has done that in the past. Both in Australia and on the sub-continent wickets.

Sanjay Jagdale, former BCCI selector

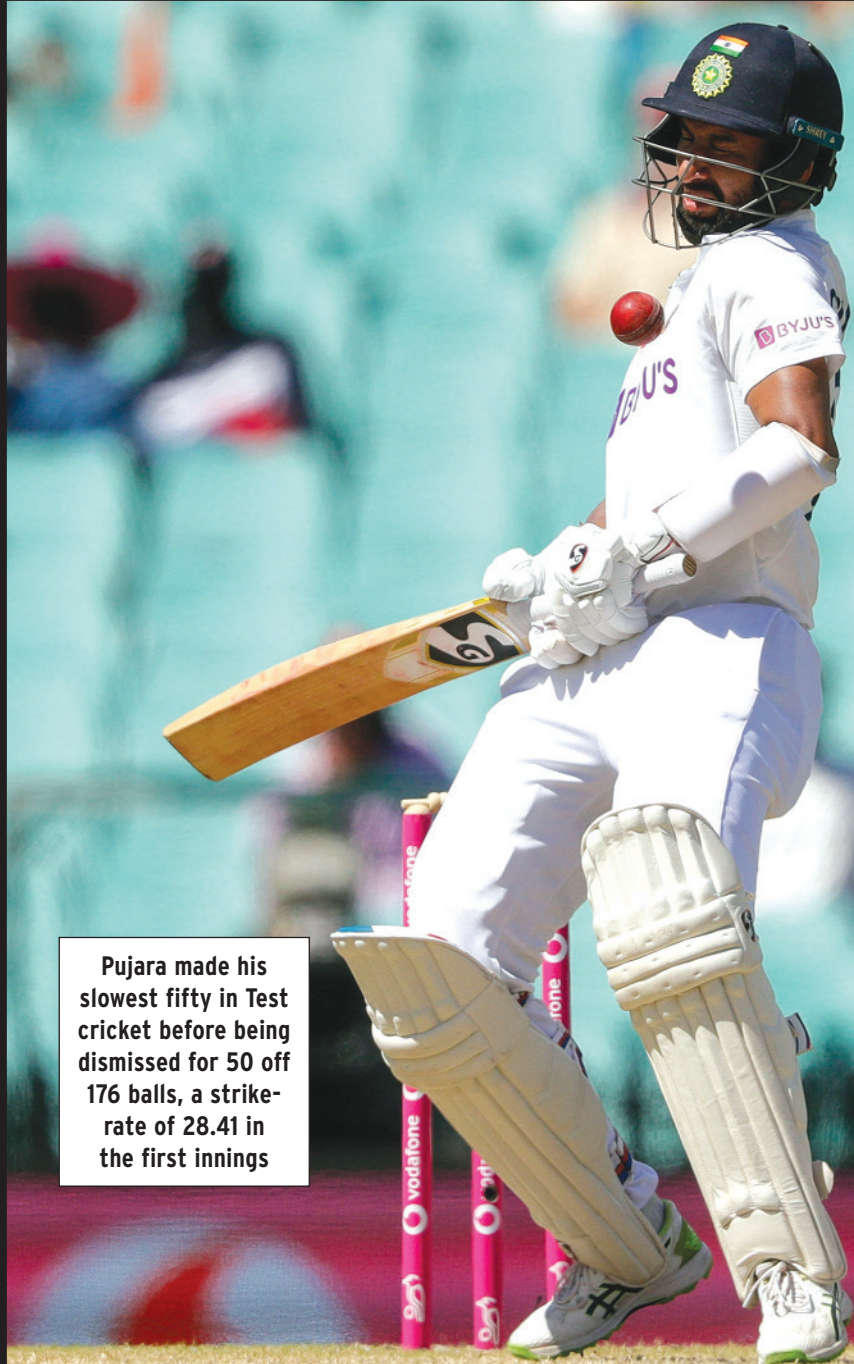


Photo: AP

Indian cricketers subjected to abuse again

Mohammed Siraj complained of racial abuse from the crowd



Photo: GETTY IMAGES

Cricket Australia said it condemned "in the strongest terms possible all discriminatory behaviour" after sections of the crowd in Sydney allegedly racially abused Jasprit Bumrah and Mohammed Siraj

Team India lodged an official complaint with the match officials at the end of Day 3's play in Sydney. To the shock of many the vile behaviour of the fans continued on Sunday, Day 4 of the Sydney Test as Siraj was targeted once again while fielding at the boundary rope. The play had to be halted for ten minutes after Siraj alerted his teammates and captain Ajinkya Rahane took up the matter

with the on-field umpires.

The umpires then had a chat with security officials at the ground, following which six Australian supporters were asked to leave after being identified as the perpetrators. Reacting to the racial abuse of the visiting players, Cricket Australia said it condemned the behaviour of the fans, who will be banned from the SCG once found guilty.

THERE IS NO PLACE FOR THIS RUBBISH

Tum karo toh Sarcasm, aur koi Kare toh Racism. Very unfortunate with what some of the Australian crowd has been doing at the SCG and spoiling the vibes of a good test series. **Virender Sehwag**

I personally have heard many things on the field while playing in Australia about Me, My religion, My colour and much more. This isn't the first time the crowd is doing this nonsense...

How do u stop them?
Harbhajan Singh

Very unfortunate to see what's happening at SCG. There is no place for this rubbish. Never understood the need to yell abuse at players on a sporting field. If you're not here to watch the game and can't be respectful, then pls don't come and spoil the atmosphere. **VVS Laxman**

Unacceptable behaviour there is no place for racism, I hope this is dealt in the most severe way. **Tom Moody**

I hope the spectators evicted from the SCG today aren't allowed into a ground at anytime. They tarnish our sport and they tarnish the reputation of their society. **Harsha Bhogle**



Messi revival continues as Barcelona thrash Granada

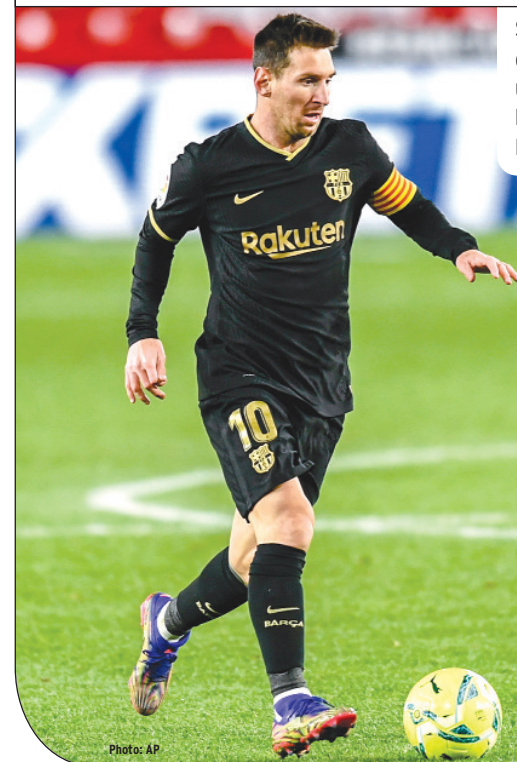


Photo: AP

Some had wondered if Messi would ever get back to his best following an underwhelming start to the season but his latest contribution makes him the league's top scorer on 11 goals

Lionel Messi is back in form and Barcelona are finding their feet after a 4-0 demolition of Granada put them within four points of the top of La Liga. Messi scored twice to make it four goals in three matches since the turn of the year and his resurgence has coincided with an upturn for the team too, this victory is Barca's third on the bounce. It puts them in sight of league leaders Atletico Madrid, even if Diego Simeone's side now have three games in hand. **AFP**

QUIZ TIME!

Q1: Which wicketkeeper has made the most dismissals in the Indian Premier League?

- a) Parthiv Patel ☐ b) Robin Uthappa ☐
c) Dinesh Karthik ☐ d) MS Dhoni ☐

Q2: The most FIFA World Cup finals goals were made by which of these football players?

- a) Miroslav Klose ☐ b) Lukas Podolski ☐
c) Mario Götze ☐ d) Giovanni Reyna ☐

Q3: In which year was the Archery World Cup instituted?

- a) 2004 ☐ b) 2002 ☐ c) 2006 ☐ d) 2008 ☐

Q4: Who is the first athlete to have won both the 200 m and 400 m events at the same Summer Olympic Games?

- a) Michael Johnson ☐ b) Wayde van Niekerk ☐
c) Justin Gatlin ☐ d) Usain Bolt ☐

Q5: Which bowler holds the record for most wickets taken in a series in the Indian Premier League?

- a) Kagiso Rabada ☐ b) Dwayne Bravo ☐
c) Lasith Malinga ☐ d) James Faulkner ☐

Q6: The most goals in a single FIFA World Cup were made by

- a) Marius Trésor ☐ b) Michel Platini ☐
c) Just Fontaine ☐ d) Gerd Müller ☐

Q7: Sara Lopez, who has won the Archery World Cup women's compound event five times, became champion of the first Lockdown Knockout 2020. Whom did she beat to win the title?



Photo: GETTY IMAGES

- a) Linda Ochoa Anderson ☐
b) Mike Schloesser ☐ c) Paige Pearce ☐
d) Anders Faugstad ☐

Q8: The most gold medals won by a nation in a single Winter Olympics is 14, achieved by three countries: Canada, Norway and

- a) China ☐ b) Germany ☐
c) South Korea ☐ d) Japan ☐

Q9: The fastest goal in a World Cup finals match came in 11 seconds. Which of the following players scored this goal?

- a) İlhan Mansiz ☐ b) Hakan Sükür ☐
c) Arif Erdem ☐ d) Bülent Korkmaz ☐

Q10: Which of these cricketers holds the record for the highest score in ICC Men's World Cup?

- a) Sourav Ganguly ☐ b) Chris Gayle ☐
c) Martin Gupthill ☐ d) Gary Kirsten ☐

Q11: Name this player who has made a total of 17 appearances at the season-ending ATP Finals.

- a) Novak Djokovic ☐ b) Ivan Lendl ☐
c) Andre Agassi ☐ d) Roger Federer ☐

ANSWERS: 1 d) MS Dhoni 2 a) Miroslav Klose
3 c) 2006 4 a) Michael Johnson
5 b) Dwayne Bravo 6 c) Just Fontaine
7 d) Anders Faugstad 8 b) Germany
9 b) Hakan Sükür 10 c) Martin Gupthill
11 d) Roger Federer