



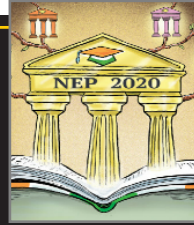
THE TIMES OF INDIA

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TODAY'S EDITION

➤ Did you know movies have the power to improve your English? Learn more in 'Language Lab'

PAGE 2


➤ An educator tells us how NEP 2020 is the road map for a happy futuristic learning

PAGE 3


➤ Liverpool beat Chelsea to clinch FA cup glory

PAGE 4

STUDENT EDITION
MONDAY, MAY 16, 2022

INDIA WIN FIRST Thomas Cup crown


India's team members pose with the national flag after winning the Thomas Cup title in Bangkok, Thailand, on Sunday.

➤ More on page 4

[CLICK HERE: PAGE 1 AND 2](#)

One-week break from social media improves overall well-being

TIME FOR A DIGITAL DETOX?



Taking a break from social media for as little as a week can reduce depression and anxiety, claims a new research.

People who took a break from platforms such as TikTok, Instagram, Twitter and Facebook for seven days reported an increased sense of wellbeing, a study by the University of Bath found. The research findings support previous research in both the US and UK linking regular social media use with higher rates of depression and anxiety...

However, it is not established whether social media use leads to mental health problems, the report said, or whether pre-existing feelings of low self-worth drives people online as a means of validation

1 In future, researchers hope to study the impact of pausing social media use on specific segments of the population, such as younger people and those

with physical and mental health conditions
2 They also hope to follow up with people beyond one week to see if the benefits of the social media break have a

lasting effect
3 Social media breaks could become one of the package of clinical recommendations to help people manage their mental health, they said

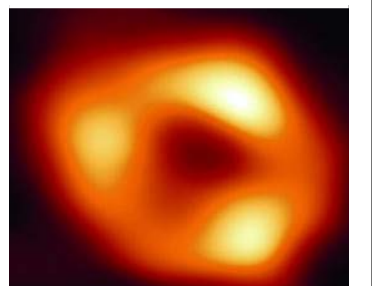
FOR THE RECORD

- Feeling 'low' and losing pleasure are core characteristics of depression, whereas anxiety is characterised by excessive and out of control worry. Well-being refers to an individual's level of positive affect, life satisfaction and sense of purpose
- According to experts, one in six of us experience a common mental health problem like anxiety and depression in any given week

HOW CAN YOU SPEND LESS TIME ONLINE?

➤ Being 'on' all the time can have a serious effect on our mind and our bodies. According to experts, social media and our mobile phones are to some extent responsible for it. Though they have the potential to bring global communities together and provide a ceaseless source of inspiration at their best, they can be a constant nuisance, a constant distraction and stop you living in the present, warn experts. ➤ Therefore, some experts have suggested going for an app called Freedom to block your Instagram, Facebook and Twitter apps for as long as you need - or can bear. The app allows to choose how long you want to block certain apps, which means you can slowly coax yourself into blocking them for longer
➤ Similarly, a few have recommended to 'log out'. 'Creating that extra step between you and your 'feed' will help you resist the lure of mindless scrolling when your resolve is wearing thin, they add
➤ Experts are also of the view to live in the real, rather than virtual world

First image of 'gentle giant' black hole at Milky Way's centre unveiled



Scientists have provided the first look at what they called the "gentle giant" lurking at the centre of our Milky Way galaxy, unveiling an image of a supermassive black hole that devours any matter wandering within its gargantuan gravitational pull. The black hole, called Sagittarius A*, or Sgr A*, is only the second one ever to be imaged. The feat was accomplished by the same Event Horizon Telescope (EHT) international collaboration that in 2019 unveiled the first-ever photo of the one residing at the heart of a different galaxy.

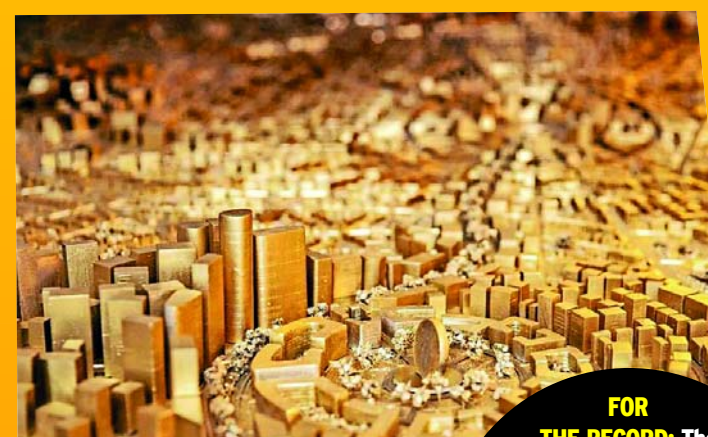
Sagittarius A* (pronounced Sagittarius 'A' star) possesses 4 mn times the mass of our sun, and is located about 26,000 light-years - the distance light travels in a year, 9.5 tn km - from Earth

Black holes are extraordinarily dense objects with gravity so strong that not even light can escape, making viewing them extremely challenging. A black hole's event horizon is the point of no return beyond which anything - stars, planets, gas, dust and all forms of electromagnetic radiation - gets dragged into oblivion. Project scientists have looked for a ring of light - super-heated disrupted matter and radiation circling at tremendous speed at the edge of the event horizon - around a region of darkness representing the actual black hole, known as the black hole's shadow or silhouette

DID YOU KNOW? The Milky Way is a spiral galaxy that contains at least 100 billion stars. Viewed from above or below, it resembles a spinning pinwheel, with our sun situated on one of the spiral arms and Sagittarius A* located at the centre

El Salvador unveils bitcoin city plans

In September 2021, El Salvador became the world's first nation to officially adopt bitcoin as a legal tender. About two months later, its President Nayib Bukele had announced plans to create the world's first 'Bitcoin City' during his speech at the Latin Bitcoin conference (LaBitConf) in November 2021. And now, the President has taken another big step forward and shared the first glimpses of the 'golden bitcoin city' by tweeting about it. But no, the city won't be made up of golden metal, that is just the architect's choice of colour for the scale model.



FOR THE RECORD: The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has warned that adopting bitcoin as legal tender "entails large risks for financial and market integrity, financial stability, and consumer protection"

The city, which will be located along the Gulf of Fonseca near a volcano, will be mostly green (trees) and blue (sea), the President tweeted. It will be laid out in a circle (like a coin) and in the city centre will be a plaza that will be host to a huge bitcoin symbol, according to a report. There will be no property, income or municipal taxes, nor will it produce any carbon dioxide emissions, with some enthusiasts describing it as a 'crypto utopia'. The city will be built near the Conchagua volcano to take advantage of the country's geothermal energy - to power both the city and cryptocurrency mining - an energy consuming process of solving complex mathematical calculations day and night to verify and add crypto coins to the Blockchain network. Further, there would be residential areas, malls, restaurants and a port in the Bitcoin city

DID YOU KNOW? Bitcoin is a decentralised digital currency that can be transferred on the peer-to-peer bitcoin network. Its transactions are verified by network nodes through cryptography and recorded in a public distributed ledger called a blockchain

'Star Wars' spacecraft, Thor's hammer & Elvis suit headed for auction, likely to raise \$9 mn

From a 'Star Wars' X-Wing spacecraft model to a 'Thor' hammer, a treasure trove of entertainment memorabilia from much-loved movies is going up for an auction in Hollywood next month. More than 1,800 items are being offered at the June 21-24 auction, which film and TV memorabilia company Propstore estimates will raise more than \$9 million...



Other items for sale include an animatronic Gizmo from 'Gremlins 2: The New Batch' with a price tag of \$80,000 - \$120,000, Thor's hammer from the original 'Thor' movie, with an estimate of \$100,000 - \$150,000, and a six-foot model of a jet used in the original 'Top Gun', which could fetch \$30,000 - \$50,000. There are also lots from Will Smith films, including shorts he wore to portray Muhammad Ali in biopic 'Ali', with an estimate of \$1,500 - \$2,500, and an insert hand prop worn by Johnny Depp in 'Edward Scissorhands', seen fetching \$30,000 - \$50,000. Other auction items include Elvis Presley's suit from 'It Happened at the World Fair' (\$20,000 - \$30,000), Samuel L Jackson's wallet from 'Pulp Fiction' (\$30,000 - \$50,000) and Uma Thurman's sword from 'Kill Bill Vol.1' (\$20,000 - \$30,000)

EU directs chat apps to scan private messages for child abuse

The European Commission has proposed a new legislation to prevent and combat child sexual abuse on social media platforms. The proposed rules will oblige providers to detect, report and remove child sexual abuse material on their services, the Commission said in a statement. "Providers will need to assess and mitigate the risk of misuse of their services and the measures taken must be proportionate to that risk and subject to robust conditions and safeguards," it added.

1 The Commission also deputed an independent EU Centre on Child Sexual Abuse (EU Centre), which will help service providers with reliable information on identified material
2 It will also receive and analyse reports from providers to identify erroneous reports and prevent them from reaching law enforcement, swiftly forwarding relevant reports for law enforcement action and by providing support to victims

FOR THE RECORD
With 85 mn pictures and videos depicting child sexual abuse reported worldwide in 2021 alone, and many more going unreported, child sexual abuse is pervasive. The pandemic has exacerbated the issue, with reports noting a 64% increase in reports of confirmed child sexual abuse in 2021 compared to the previous year

3 The new rules will help rescue children from further abuse, prevent material from reappearing online, and bring offenders to justice, the Commission said



LEARNING LANGUAGE *With Movies*

From immersing yourself in 19th Century Britain to experiencing life in suburban California, movies give you a chance to live the language as it's spoken in real life.

Textbooks are great for learning vocabulary or grammar, but nothing is better than listening to real native English. By watching British and American films, you can listen to native English actors speaking the language in a natural way. Not only will watching movies get you familiar with different accents, you'll also get an incredible insight into English-speaking culture from around the world. In this article, we focus on how watching British English

movies can hone your language speaking and writing skills.

Listening and comprehension skills: The visual element of film makes it easier for language learners to comprehend dialogue and follow the action. You may feel as if you're sitting back, relaxing, and watching a film, but the whole time your brain is soaking up the new sounds of the English language.

ish language.

Authentic accents: British films present you with a wide range of accents and British dialects. A London accent is very different to a Scottish accent, a Welsh accent, Birmingham, Liverpool, Newcastle, Glasgow – all have their own sounds and pronunciations.

Live Context: When you learn a word, it can be difficult to remember

what it means or how to use it. In films, words are used as part of a story and this context helps you to learn and remember them more effectively.

Pronunciation: Playing back films allows you to quickly and easily compare your own pronunciation with that of native English speakers.

Explore Culture: You can learn about the culture behind the language when you watch movies in English. Language and culture are closely connected. Why not study both at the same time?

A London accent is very different to a Scottish accent, a Welsh accent. Birmingham, Liverpool, Newcastle, Glasgow – all have their own sounds and pronunciations

5 MOVIES THAT CAN IMPROVE YOUR ENGLISH



1. THE KING'S SPEECH

Colin Firth stars in this period drama as King George who must battle to overcome his speech impediment in order to deliver a rousing speech that inspires his people to unite in battle. Because this film focuses specifically on speech you get a masterclass in pronunciation.

2. DEAD POETS SOCIETY

For a taste of the many forms of the written word, immerse yourself in the world of poetry in *Dead Poets Society*. This 1989 movie tells the tale of an English teacher who sparks joy in his students through poetry. Aiming to make their lives extraordinary, they live their life through the Latin expression *carpe diem* – seize the day.

3. HARRY POTTER

The movies are about Harry Potter, a wizard, and all of his magical adventures. The Harry Potter films are a must-see if you are learning English! All of the main characters go to a magic school called Hogwarts. The wizarding world of Harry Potter has its own animals and history, and it uses language from basic English to magical words made up by author

J.K. Rowling. Some of these nonsense words are even used by fans! For example, 'muggle', which is an insult meaning 'someone who cannot perform magic'.

4. THEORY OF EVERYTHING

One reason why *The Theory of Everything* is a good film to help you learn English is that its characters have very clear British accents. Parts of the movie are set at Cambridge University, one of the most well-known academic institutions in England. Many of the characters speak 'the Queen's'. This means upper-class or "posh" English, which is clear and correct.



5. THE QUEEN

The best way to learn 'the Queen's English' is to listen to the Queen. Here played by Helen Mirren, this film is a historical drama documenting the British Royal family's response to the death of Princess Diana. It not only gives a fascinating insight into how the royal establishment works, but the language spoken is incredibly clear and easy to comprehend.



FUN WITH WORDS

The TAUTOLOGY TRAP

Tautology is nothing but repeated use of words or phrases that have a similar meaning. Simply put, it is saying the same thing twice. The Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary defines Tautology as: "A

statement in which you say the same thing twice in different words." In other words, tautology is unnecessary repetition. Occasionally, tautology can help to add emphasis or clarity or introduce intentional ambiguity. But, in most cases, it's best to choose just one way to state your meaning and eliminate the extra verbiage.

The key to a good writing style that avoids redundant expressions is to develop your knowledge of what words really mean, checking in a dictionary whenever you aren't completely sure.

to be or not to be?

Some tautology examples, spoken or used by us in our everyday lives:

- Are these supplies adequate enough?
- In my opinion, I think that...
- To reiterate again
- Close proximity
- Forward planning
- I made it with my own hands for you
- The plumber fixed our hot water heater

LANGUAGE ETIQUETTE

POLITE WORDS AND PHRASES

DO YOU MIND? (Phrase)

Used for getting someone's permission to do something. This can either be polite, impolite, or humorous. If someone says it in a loud way, they are showing that they are angry or annoyed

Politeness is an inexpensive way of making friends.
—William Feather

have done something without their permission but you hope that they approve of this

EXCUSE ME (phrase)

Used for politely getting someone's attention

SORRY TO BOTHER YOU... (phrase)

Can be used as a polite way of interrupting someone when you'd like their attention.

I TOOK THE LIBERTY OF DOING SOMETHING (phrase)

Used for telling someone that you

careful or polite and less direct way

RESPECTFULLY (adverb)

Used for showing that you are being polite

PERHAPS (adverb)

Used as a polite reply to someone when you do not completely agree with what they have said

I'd/we'd be delighted (phrase)
Used for politely accepting an invitation, or agreeing or offering to do something

NO DISRESPECT (to) (phrase)

Used before you say something that might offend someone, to show that you do not intend to offend them

We all know that if we want things to be done whether in our personal or professional lives, it pays to be polite. One doesn't get far by being rude or impolite. Different cultures have different ways of tackling politeness. There are a few polite expressions that are frequently used in the English Language and it is important for learners to know how to use them correctly and in the right context.

HOPE (verb)

Used in polite statements

SEEM (verb)

Used when you want to say something in a more



Queries relating to language skills

Do you find grammar confusing? Do you get stuck with words when writing a letter, an essay or a blog? Do you have a fear of public speaking? Or do you simply want to improve your communication skills? Times NIE is here to help you to master the intricacies of the English language. Just shoot us your queries on toiniet175@gmail.com



Exciting new words you should know

WORDSCAPE



ANGLOSPHERE

English-speaking countries considered collectively (the United Kingdom, the United States, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand, and Ireland).

AWEDDE

Overcome with anger, madness, or distress; insane, mentally disturbed.

HIR

Used as a gender-neutral possessive adjective (his/her/hir watch). In later use often corresponding to the subjective pronoun ze (he/she/ze wears a watch).

BIGSIE

Having an exaggerated sense of one's own importance; arrogant, pretentious, conceited.

CONTACT TRACING

The practice of identifying and monitoring individuals who may have had contact with an infectious person.

MENTIONITIS

A tendency towards

repeatedly or habitually mentioning something (esp. the name of a person one is infatuated with), regardless of its relevance to the topic of conversation.

SLOW-WALK

To delay or prevent the progress of (something) by acting in a deliberately slow manner.

PUGGLE

A dog cross-bred from a pug and a beagle; such dogs considered collectively as a breed.



HONING STUDENTS' SKILLS AT SUMMER CAMP

Akshara Vaagdevi
International School
Hyderabad

Akshara Vaagdevi International School in collaboration with PGOS designed a summer camp to provide a naturalistic setting in which children's behaviour and peer interactions could be observed in an ecologically valid context.

Summer camp, held under the guidance of Principal Vanaja, proved to be a unique venue for growth, allowing kids to become independent and self-confident, while socialising and making new friends, and even learning new skills.

The two-week programme for all students from classes PP1 to X



practice from across the fields of contemporary art and design.

Art activities include ice cream stick painting, hand printing, coconut shell painting, jute bag painting, fabric painting and vegetable block painting. These activities help them enhance their concentration, creative and imaginative skills. A special course taught by Sowjanya includes basic

stitching and embroidery skills, concentration, eye n hand coordination. The students are being given a platform to unleash their dreams, skills, creativity and aid to explore their potential in the field of science and technology through Robotics.

The Summer Camp enriched the students substantially. The school's mission to make our learning fun!

in different categories is being held by leading curators including Charan for recreation and outdoor games like badminton and basketball, Varun, an expert in skating, Srikanth for dramatic concerts, like acting, Sreelath for shloka chanting and Saroja for storytelling. Cultural practitioners Madhavi offer stimulating

opportunities to engage with the very latest developments which provide students to engage in art and craft to allow them to explore ideas and concepts through art.

Art and craft activities consist of moving fingers and hands and helping in developing fine motor skills; and debates in curatorial thinking and



Express YOURSELF

Exciting days at NCC camp

I attended an NCC camp conducted at Bison Polo Grounds, Secunderabad. It was an Annual Training Camp (ATC) lasting for about 10 days. There was a time-table that we had to strictly follow.

Our daily schedule included health run, drill practice, theory classes, three meals a day, snacks, cultural programme and dance.

We were taught about punctuality, self discipline, cleanliness, hygiene, etc. We had theory classes about fire extinguisher, basic first aid, CPR process, range firing (point 22 Mark 4 rifle). We were also taken on an educational trip where we saw different aeromod- els. It was an Air Field located in

Hakimpet. The passion of Captain Randhawa led to the establishment of the field. He created around 300 aeromodels. It is a working miniature of an actual fighter plane and is controlled by a remote.

My experience of range firing with actual ammunition was very exciting and a fascinating one. The firing was done at AP&T directorate.

We were taken care of by our school seniors and CTOs. I would like to thank the school management, our principal Raghav Charyulu and CTO A Saritha for giving us the opportunity to participate in the camp.

Srikruti Chanda, Sree Narayana Vidya Bhavan



Stop soil exploitation

Soil is the habitat upon which zillions of lives thrive. Because of that thriving life, everything grows. We eat food, other animals grow, and everything happens because the soil is rich with nutrients that support life.

Once there is no richness in soil, then you have forsaken the planet in many ways. There is a misunderstanding in the world, there is a campaign to project civic issues as environmental issues. Right now if plastic bags are floating around in New York City or in the Ganges, it is not an ecological issue, it is a civic issue. If our rivers are polluted, this can be fixed in one or two years if you set up the necessary purification plants and enforce the law. But the real issue is soil.

The real problem is soil extinction because, in the last thir-

ty years, 80% of the biomass insects have disappeared from the planet. So, in 45 years or 50 years, there will be a serious food crisis on the planet, it's inevitable.

If you go into a rainforest, the organic content in the soil will be over 70%. In normal agricultural soil the minimum organic content that has to be there to call soil, "soil," is 3 to 6%. Today, for example in India, 62% of India's soil, the organic content is 0.5% or below that. So literally we are on the verge of desertification. We must also understand, that soil is a very significant carbon sink, and soil is the largest water soak on the planet, and soil is the basis of all life. Let's create a conscious planet. Let us make it happen!

M PRANAVI, Class IX,
Rajputana Rifles, Silver Oaks International School, Mighty Oaks Campus, Hyderabad

A GROWING UP PHASE

Puberty is natural, a phase every boy and girl goes through. It starts between the ages 8 yrs to 16 yrs.

Don't get worried about it. Yes, it's kind of new changes starting in your body. If we get too worried, it will be tough to manage it. Remember, puberty is a journey from childhood to adulthood and you need safe people around you and also the ones you trust the most. You need to know about safety and hygiene, so speak to people you trust. If you feel uncomfortable, tell your parents or sibling about it and trust in God. Never hide anything about puberty, it's not something to be ashamed of.

N PRERNA GRACE, class V-B, Gitanjali Devshala School, Hyderabad



THE EDUCATIONIST

ETCHED MEMORIES

Growing up with Grandma

It's funny, the things you remember about people. Sometimes a memory can leave you breathless and when it comes and goes like a flash, you are amazed that it registered so strongly and that you never even realised its impact at that time.

I remember a lot of things about my dad's mother, or, as we called her, *nanamma*. She had 10 kids and very nearly two dozen grandkids! I remember her frail personality and her sweet festival songs. I remember that she broke one of her teeth when two of my cousins fell on her from the cupboard as she sat on her bed. They were both enacting a scene from Ramayan, a very popular television series which inspired all of us to buy *gadads* and strut about like monkey warriors. Having climbed to the top of her almirah, they jumped on to the bed, with the reverberating war cry, *Jai Shri Ram*.

They landed in a heap on my poor granny, complete with big golden *gadads* in their hands and long artificial tails stuck to their behinds. The ensuing trip to the dentist is a different story altogether.

One particular summer, my mom went away to her hometown to recuperate after a surgery. Nanamma came over to our house to help my dad manage. She was a big fan of daily soap operas and all the popular ones were on her watchlist.

She would sit in front of the television late into the night, the varied emotions of the characters perfectly mirroring on her expressive face in the television's glow.

One day when I was getting ready for bed, Nanamma said, "Thalli, can you get me a glass of water?" It was about 10 pm and Zee Horror Show was about to start, her favourite. To understand what happened next, you have to know that I am terrified of ghosts. I don't watch horror movies if I can help it.

So there I was, a glass of water in my hands, my eyes glued to the TV where the show had just started. There was a woman lying on her bed in the dead of night, her eyes closed in deep sleep. Suddenly there was a loud insistent knocking on the door and she opened her eyes, frightened. That was it. My eyes bulged out of their sockets. My heart was hammering wildly and my legs turned to jelly. Then the eerie music of the title song started and my knees started shaking madly. The glass fell from my hands and I ran out of the room scared witless.

As I mentioned before, it was summer. It was too hot to sleep inside and I had arranged a cot and table fan for myself in the backyard garden. I tried hard to fall asleep. It was impossible. The mango tree swaying in the breeze

looked like a towering demon. The bushes were like goblins and the house itself looked menacing.

To add to my woes, the neighbourhood strays decided it was a good time to howl. My grandma had finished watching her shows and had gone to bed. While dad and my brother slept, I was wide awake listening for sinister knocks on the flimsy garden door. Surely it wouldn't hold against a ghost, would it?

Sometime during the agony of fear, I fell into an uneasy sleep. There was a loud ringing in my ears and I woke up, confused. What was that sound? Fearfully I looked around. The sound was coming from the car shed. The car horn was blaring. I looked at the bedside clock. It was 3 am. I was so scared I couldn't move. There was no one in the car. Or in the car shed. The empty seats couldn't be more monstrous if they were real ghosts. The car stood dark and silent while the horn blared into the night. What was happening? Fear had glued my tongue and sewn my lips.

A few seconds later, I found my voice and screamed. By now everyone was awake. Dad, my brother, the neighbours. Dad came running into the courtyard. "Dad, G...ghost!" I cried. My father went towards the car while my brother opened the

back door to let the neighbours in. What was dad doing? He couldn't fight a ghost, could he? I got up and stood behind my brother. Upon close inspection, my dad and the neighbours found that the horn was blaring due to faulty wiring, the result of a messed up car service the previous evening.

My friend's father got the pliers and cut the culprit wire off. There was a blessed silence for a minute or two. Then someone laughed. We all turned around. Nanamma stood in the doorway, a huge smile plastered on her toothless face. "Eh, you thought the TV ghost came to kidnap you, huh?" She said gleefully. I looked daggers at her. "It's your fault! Why do you watch those stupid shows, anyway?" I huffed.

"Ok, I won't watch horror shows when you are around, ok?" she said. Next day I found her glued to the television again. "What are you watching now, nanamma?" I asked her. She said, "I am watching Byomkesh Bakshi. He is a detective who solves crimes. Come, watch with me!" "Why don't you watch those devotional shows like everyone else your age, huh?" I asked.

She said, "Then I will be like everyone else, won't I?" Her face lit up with that toothless smile again and she said, "Some- day you will tell stories about your childhood and then you will talk about your nanamma. You will have a whole story on me, you just see, darling!"



SUDHA YADAVALLI, Teacher, Gitanjali school, Begumpet, Hyderabad

Senior students all set to embark on a new journey



Delhi Public School Nacharam

Rest and nostalgia were both palpable in the air as IGCSE class X students (academic year 2021-2022) of DPS Nacharam celebrated 'Dixieme IGC Milestone' rightly called the 'Rendezvous of Stars' at the school auditorium.

The harmonious voices of fusion rhythm accompanied with the lighting of the lamp rendered an auspicious commencement to the celebration. Principal Sunitha Rao addressed the gathering and M F Shanti Anthony (Vice Principal, Cambridge International)

inspired the students to look back at their exceptional journey at DPS Nacharam, Cambridge wing and to always cherish the moments spent at the alma mater.

The current batch of IG X students danced on a foot tapping song which regaled the audience. Then with much aplomb, the IGCSE teachers initiated an impressive 'Down the Memory Lane' appreciation scroll which manifested in teachers citing the wistful moments that they shared with the students and also congratulated them on the successful completion of the IGCSE X milestone.

'Gen 21 personalities' was another feather in the

cap which celebrated the qualities of the individual students as they were ascribed a moniker using adjectives.

Malka Komairaiiah, Pro Vice Chairman of Delhi Public Schools, congratulated the batch. In all, the celebration marked a new beginning for the students because as they truly say, "Nothing is ever really lost to us as long as we remember it." Thus the event encompassed and celebrated the prodigious moments spent by the students at DPS Nacharam and a sense of great pride to see the first batch of IGCSE take off to achieve noteworthy feats in their future.

ALONE, IN A ZOMBIE WORLD!

I live in a zombie-infested world. Two years ago, a dreadful virus leaked out of a lab from some part of the world, taking the lives of millions or even billions. As far as I can see, I only see the "walking dead", the zombies. It has been two years living in an underground bunker. Time hurried on. It is 2045. I have just a few guns and weapons to defend myself from the zombies.

The world lies in ruins. My connection with the outer world is lost to an extent. Once a week, I creep

out of my bunker, get in a heavily armoured car, and make my way to the store for supplies.

I generally get non-perishable food to my bunker as I cannot cook. Sometimes I feel alone in this apocalyptic situation if somebody was there with me to keep the candle of hope in my heart alive. However, there is loneliness and gloominess in my heart, a

tinge of hope in me keeps me happy.

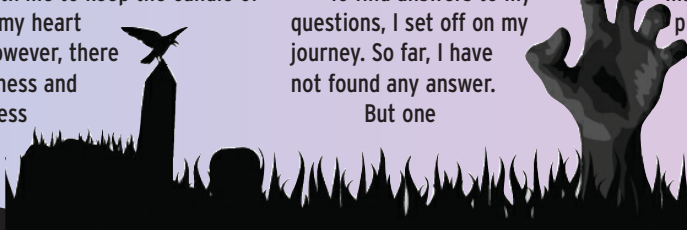
I hope that there is someone out there just like me looking for people who are alive. But questions come up in my mind like "Is there anyone left on earth? Is this the beginning of the end?"

To find answers to my questions, I set off on my journey. So far, I have not found any answer.

But one

important question remains, "Will I survive this apocalypse?" I don't have any answer to this. But as everything has pros and cons, this too has. Though the number of cons are more here, there is one pro that I understand, that people are what makes this planet a world, not the planet. So to my find my answers, I resume my journey.

Som Mukherjee, class VIII, Tulip, Sister Nivedita School, Hyderabad



LIVERPOOL BEAT CHELSEA

TO CLINCH FA CUP

KLOPP'S SIDE FINISH 6-5 IN PENALTIES AFTER GOALLESS REGULATION TIME



Kostas Tsimikas scored the winning penalty as Liverpool completed a domestic cup double with a 6-5 shootout victory against Chelsea in the FA Cup Final on Saturday.

In a result that matches their EFL Cup Final victory over the same opponents three months ago, Liverpool held their nerve to beat the Blues in a shootout after a goalless match to keep their quadruple hopes alive.

Sadio Mane had a chance to win it for Liverpool with their fifth penalty but his effort was saved by Edouard Mendy, sending the shootout to sudden death.

Cesar Azpilicueta had earlier missed with the Blues' second spot-kick and Liverpool's Alisson then made the decisive save from Mason Mount from Chelsea's seventh, allowing Tsimikas to clinch it.

GAME OF CHANCES

It was the first penalty shootout in an FA Cup Final for 16 years - when Liverpool beat West Ham in Cardiff - and,



Liverpool's Kostas Tsimikas scores the winning penalty in the shoot-out that saw the reds win 6-5

though this game finished goalless, it was packed with chances. Andy Robertson was guilty of missing the best of them and it seemed easier to score than miss for the Liverpool full-back when he was unmarked three yards out. Instead,

he cannoned the post.

Man of the match Luis Diaz was the driving force behind Liverpool and he also hit the frame of the goal, while Marcos Alonso went closest for Chelsea with a free-kick that hit the bar. **ANI**

Liverpool's Jordan Henderson lifts the trophy after winning the English FA Cup final soccer match between Chelsea and Liverpool, at Wembley stadium, in London, Saturday. Liverpool won 6-5 on penalties after the game ended in a goalless draw.

“When we arrived at the penalty shootout we tried to do the best we can. We were ready for it. Unfortunately this time it didn't happen again
CESAR AZPILICUETA, Chelsea captain

ESPANYOL HELD BY VALENCIA 1-1

Espanyol was held by Valencia to 1-1 at home, a day after the club fired its coach and sports director with two games remaining in the Spanish league. The result was somewhat meaningless to both sides, who are destined to finish near the middle of the table and out of both the relegation battle and the berths for European competition. Espanyol striker Raúl de Tomás equalized in first-half injury time after the opener from Maxi Gómez. De Tomás took his league tally to 17 goals.

Espanyol fired coach Vicente Moreno and sports director Francisco “Rufete” Pérez on Friday with its fans angry about the team's poor finish to the season. Reserve team coach Luis Blanco

took over as caretaker. “Given the strange situation we faced after the change of coach and sports director, I think the team responded well,” Espanyol midfielder David López said.

López teared up in the post-match interview when asked about his future, which is in doubt along with other veteran players such as 40-year-old goalkeeper Diego López. “The most important thing is to give it your all,” he said after regaining his composure. Valencia remained in 10th and Espanyol in 13th. The match was the only game of the second-to-last round not to be played on Sunday at 7:30 p.m. local time, when several teams will try to avoid relegation. **AP**

DC, PBKS FIGHT FOR MUST-WIN GAME

BOTH TEAMS ATTEMPT TO KEEP PLAY-OFFS HOPES ALIVE

Two teams struggling for consistency, Delhi Capitals and Punjab Kings, will aim to outdo each other in a bid to keep their play-offs hopes alive in the Indian Premier League on Monday. Both teams are yet to string back-to-back wins this season but neither side can afford another defeat in their remaining league games. Punjab are seventh on the points table with 12 points and a Net Run Rate of +0.023. Capitals also have a dozen points and are fifth thanks to a healthy NRR of +0.210, which will benefit them if two or more teams end on same number of points.

CLOSE TO PERFECT GAME

The Capitals head to the fixture high on confidence after an eight wicket-win over Rajasthan Royals while Punjab pummeled RCB in their previous game. In Delhi skipper Rishabh Pant's words “it was close to a perfect game”. While opener David Warner continues to enjoy his purple patch, the second opening slot remains a cause of concern with Man-deep Singh and Srikanth Bharat failing miserably in Prithvi Shaw's absence, who has also

not fared well this season.

To DC's relief Mitchell Marsh finally joined the party. The big-hitting all-rounder shook off the rust to star with the bat and ball against RR. His and Warner's role will be crucial. A lot will also rest on how Pant performs. The skipper looked in his element during his unconquered short 4-ball stay against RR as he whacked two sixes but hasn't played the match-winning innings he is capable of.

Prithvi Shaw, who was down with typhoid, has been discharged from the hospital, it is to be seen if the youngster is fit enough to play the crucial game on Monday



ble of yet. They will have to navigate through a bowling attack led by Rabada, who is the highest wicket taker among pacers.

DO-OR-DIE GAME

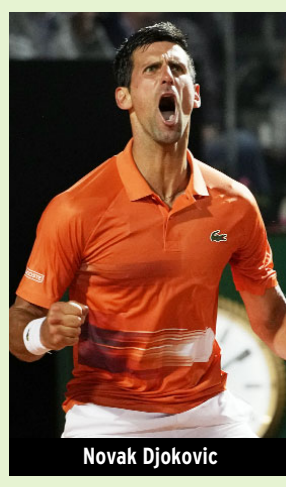
The DC bowling department, on the other hand, was right on the mark against RR. Young Chetan Sakaria bowled brilliantly in the absence of Khaleel Ahmed, who injured his hamstring, while pace spearhead Anrich Nortje is also finding his rhythm.

Dhawan has been Punjab's leading-run getter with 400 plus and he will be expected to rise to the occasion in a do-or-die game. Bairstow has found his groove after being promoted to the top alongside Dhawan and that is a big positive for the team. Bhanuka Rajapaksa, who has impressed with his hitting ability, will need to do more than playing a flash in the pan sort of innings. Skipper Mayank Agarwal, who has moved himself down the order, has been far from his best with the bat this season. With the team seeking survival, there will be no better time for him to play a captain's knock-on Monday. **ANI**

DJOKOVIC BACK IN A BIG FINAL VS TSITSIPAS AT ITALIAN OPEN

This is just what Novak Djokovic needed a week before the French Open. The top-ranked Serb beat Casper Ruud 6-4, 6-3 at the Italian Open on Saturday to reach his biggest final of the year. Having missed a big portion of the season because he wasn't vaccinated against the coronavirus, Djokovic will attempt to extend his five-match winning streak over Stefanos Tsitsipas in Sunday's final. “I can expect a big battle,” Djokovic said. “But I'm ready for it.” Tsitsipas reached his first Rome final by rallying past Alexander Zverev 4-6, 6-3, 6-3. Djokovic is seeking his sixth title in the Italian capital.

Djokovic recorded the 1,000th win of his career, making him only the fifth man to reach that mark after Jimmy Connors (1,274 wins), Roger Federer (1,251), Ivan Lendl



Novak Djokovic

(1,088) and Rafael Nadal (1,051). After the match, Djokovic was presented with a cake with “1,000” written on it.

“I've looked back to those matches. I've analyzed them,” Tsitsipas said. **ANI**

IN A FIRST, INDIA WIN THOMAS CUP

SCRIPT HISTORY WITH STUNNING 3-0 VICTORY OVER POWERHOUSE INDONESIA

Indian badminton team created history on Sunday as they lifted the Thomas Cup trophy for the very first time. In what was India's first-ever appearance in the tournament finale, they defeated the record 14-time champions Indonesia in the Thomas Cup 2022 final at the Impact Arena in Bangkok, Thailand by 3-0 to lift the coveted trophy.

The Indian team, competing in their first final of the men's team championship, sealed the title when world number 11 Kidambi Srikanth defeated Jonatan Christie 21-15, 23-21. A devastated Indonesia, the tournament's most successful team having previously won it 14 times, could not keep pace with the fire brought by the Indian team - who joyfully

rushed the court following Srikanth's win.

India were already 2-0 up, with Lakshya Sen beating Anthony Ginting in the first singles match and then Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty defeating Mohammad Ahsan and Kevin Sukamuljo in the doubles.

BRILLIANT SHOW

No Indian team has previously reached the final of the Thomas and Uber Cup in its 70-plus year history. Indian men reached the Thomas Cup semi-finals in 1952, 1955 and 1979 while the women's team made it to the Uber Cup top-four in 2014 and 2016.

India finished second in Group C behind Chinese Taipei to qualify for the knockout stage, where they

came up on top against strong Malaysian and Danish teams in the quarter-finals and semifinals, respectively. Starting the tie, Lakshya Sen clinched the first point for India after defeating Anthony Ginting 8-21, 21-17, 21-16. Ginting looked fast, accurate and extremely dangerous in the opening stage, enjoying a twelve-point run, to claim the opening game 21-8 in just 17 minutes. But Lakshya Sen responded brilliantly in the second game to take the match to the decider, by winning it 21-17. Sen completed the comeback by winning the match 8-21, 21-17, 21-16.

ON GOOD ACCOUNT

In the second match of the tie, the Indonesian scratch pairing of Mo-

hammad Ahsan and Kevin Sanjaya Sukamuljo got off to the right start after winning their opening match 21-18. Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty then survived four match points to come back and snatch the win in the second game, 23-21. Indians won the deciding game to clinch the match 18-21, 23-21, 21-19. In the third match of the tie, India's Kidambi Srikanth took the opening game against Indonesia's Jonatan Christie 21-15 and clinched the match and final by winning the second game 23-21. The Indian team, featuring Lakshya Sen, Kidambi Srikanth, HS Prannoy, doubles pair Satwiksairaj Rankireddy-Chirag Shetty and others, have given a good account of themselves at this year's tournament. **AGENCIES**



India's Satwiksairaj Rankireddy (L) and Chirag Shetty (R) celebrate after defeating Indonesia's Mohammad Ahsan and Kevin Sanjaya Sukamuljo during the men's finals of the Thomas and Uber Cup badminton tournament in Bangkok on May 15, 2022.