



THE TIMES OF INDIA

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**TODAY'S
EDITION**

➤ Want to know what sets apart the great TED speakers from others? Figure it out on 'Language Lab'

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➤ A student shares the joy and satisfaction of spending a few hours at an old age home, and how it changed her outlook towards life

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➤ Gujarat, Lucknow aim for winning start as IPL gets underway

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STUDENT EDITION

MONDAY, MARCH 28, 2022



The Ukrainian forces have reportedly recaptured key strategic locations of Trostyanets in Sumy Oblast, Poltavka and Malynivka villages in Zaporizhzhia Oblast from the invading Russian forces

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

PARIKSHA PE CHARCHA 2022

PM Modi to interact with students on April 1

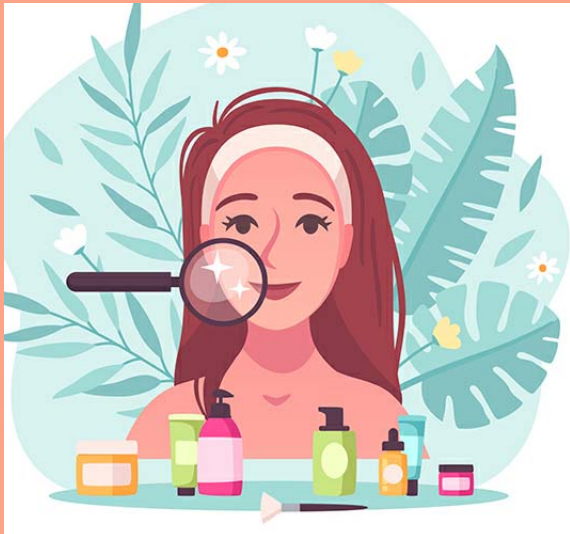


Prime Minister Narendra Modi will give tips to students to beat exam stress at the fifth edition of the 'Pariksha Pe Charcha' to be held on April 1 at the Talkatora Stadium in New Delhi, Union education minister Dharmendra Pradhan said on Friday.

■ A total of 12.12 lakh students, 2.71 lakh teachers and 90,000 parents have registered themselves for the event. This programme will focus on some of the key questions on examination

■ The themes for students, teachers, and parents are different this year. For students, the themes are exam stress management strategies during Covid-19, Azadi ka amrit mahotsav, self-reliant school for self-reliant India, clean India, green India, digital collaboration in classrooms, environmental conservation, and climate change resilience

Study reveals presence of microbeads in cosmetic products in India

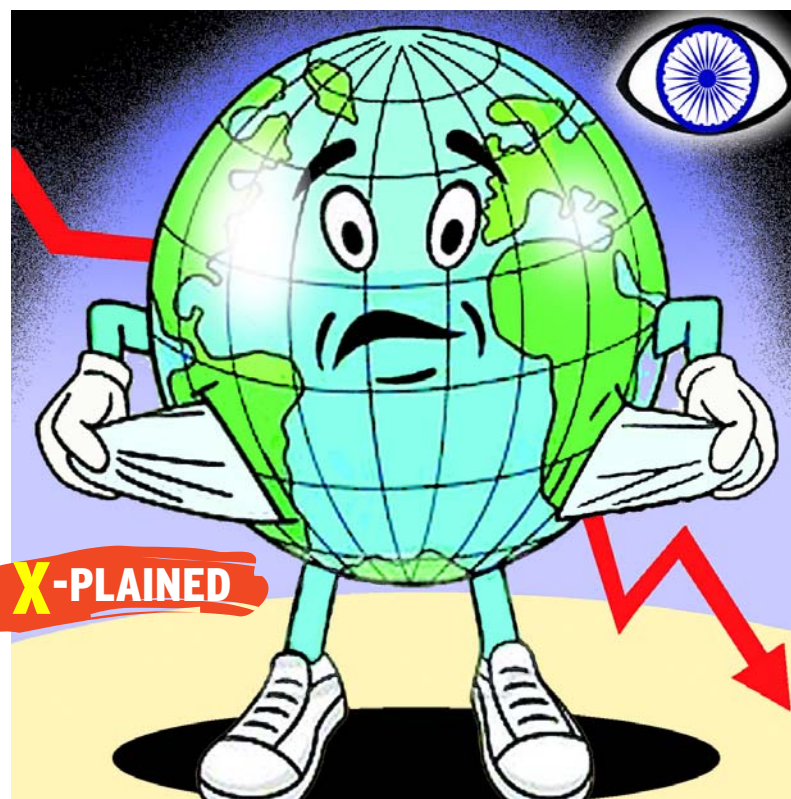


A large number of personal care cosmetic products (PCCPs) in India contain harmful micro-plastics, and the micro-beads released from items of daily use, pose a serious threat to the environment, particularly the marine ecosystem, a new study said. A total of 70 per cent of scrubs, 55 per cent of body washes and 21 per cent of face washes were found to have micro-beads.

Micro-beads are solid primary microplastics with a diameter of less than 5 mm that are used in cosmetics products as 'rinse-off' or 'leave-on' for skin exfoliation, decorative purpose, cleansing, opacity and viscosity control, and so on

Micro-plastic pollution is one of the most-crucial environmental issues in recent times. The size of micro-beads detected in the products, tested in the study, was in the range of 32.55-130.92 micron. They are flushed down the drain after use and end up in Wastewater Treatment Plants (WWTPs), where they can escape into bodies of water

How Russia's war in Ukraine rocked the global economy



MARKETS RATTLED

Stock markets had started off in 2022 on a good note as economies recovered from the Covid-19 pandemic and companies posted healthy results. But the war has brought volatility to the markets, while Moscow's stock exchange closed for three weeks and only partially reopened recently. The western sanctions have paralysed the Russian banking sector and financial system, while the ruble has collapsed. The measures include efforts to freeze \$300 billion of Russia's foreign currency reserves held abroad. Russia now faces the risk of defaulting on debt for the first time in decades. Moscow paid interest on two dollar-denominated bonds last week, giving the government some breathing room until the next debt payments in the coming weeks.

In a month of conflict in Ukraine, global oil prices have soared, foreign companies have exited Russia and Moscow faces the spectre of default. Here is a look at the economic fallout from Russia's February 24 invasion of its neighbour...

COMMODITIES SOAR

Oil and gas prices have surged over supply fears, as Russia is one of the world's biggest producers and exporters of the fossil fuels. Brent North Sea crude, the international benchmark, stood at around \$90 in February. On March 7, it jumped to \$139.13, close to a 14-year high and prices remain highly volatile. Prices have risen at the pump too, prompting governments to take measures to ease the financial pain for consumers. Other commodities massively produced in Russia have soared, including nickel and aluminium. Auto industry supply chains face disruptions, as key parts come from Ukraine.

FOOD THREAT

UN chief Antonio Guterres has warned that the conflict could reverberate far beyond Ukraine, causing a "hurricane of hunger and a meltdown of the global food system". Russia and Ukraine are breadbaskets for the world, accounting together for 30 per cent of the global wheat exports. Prices of cereals and cooking oils have risen. The UN's Food and Agriculture Organisation says the number of undernourished people could increase by eight to 13 million people over the course of this year and next.



Ships are not leaving Ukraine, and there are concerns about the upcoming sowing season in the country. The United States, India and Europe could cover wheat shortages. But it could be more complicated to replace sunflower oil and corn, of which Ukraine is the world's number one and number four exporter, respectively.

FIRMS FLEE

Hundreds of western firms have closed shops and offices in Russia since the war started due to the sanctions, political pressure or public opinion. The list includes famous names such as Ikea, Coca-Cola and McDonald's. Russian President Vladimir Putin has raised the threat of nationalising foreign-owned companies. Some companies have chosen to stay in Russia, citing their social responsibility to not abandon their local employees and deprive the population of essential goods.

SLOWER GROWTH

The war threatens to be a drag on the global economic recovery from the Covid pandemic. The OECD has warned that the conflict could inflict a one-percentage-point hit on global growth. The IMF is expected to lower its growth forecast, which currently stands at 4.4 per cent for 2022. With inflation soaring, analysts fear economies could face a period of stagflation, a toxic mix of rising prices and weak growth.

Ocean surface temperature, heatwave incidents up in Indian Ocean



If you thought heatwaves are something to do with increased temperatures on the land in summer months, it is time for a rethink! Not only are there heatwaves in the ocean, which is heating too, but they are increasing too over the decades. The western Indian Ocean had a total of 66 Marine HeatWave (MHW) events, while the Bay of Bengal had 94 events during 1982-2018, a recent investigation of marine heatwaves by the scientists at the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM), an autonomous institute under the ministry of earth sciences, found out.

■ In recent decades, the tropical Indian Ocean has experienced a rapid increase in ocean warming, with an average rise in sea surface temperature (SST) of about one degree Celsius over the period of 1951-2015 at a rate of 0.15 degrees Celsius/decade

■ In 2021, there were six marine heatwaves recorded in the western Indian Ocean over

a period of 52 days. In the north Bay of Bengal, there were four marine heatwaves over a period of 32 days

■ The monsoon forecast models used by the India Meteorological Department (IMD) considers the ocean surface temperatures as input data. These forecasts can be used for advance planning and disaster management

This Marilyn Monroe portrait is tipped to be the most

EXPENSIVE 20TH CENTURY ARTWORK SOLD



Andy Warhol's iconic sage-blue background portrait of Marilyn Monroe is tipped to sell for a record-breaking \$200 million at an auction in the spring, Christie's has announced. The auction house said, it expects Warhol's 1964 'Shot Sage Blue Marilyn' to become the most-expensive 20th century artwork when it goes under the hammer in New York in May.

■ The silk-screen work is part of a group of Andy Warhol portraits of Marilyn Monroe that came to be known as the 'Shot' series after a visitor to his Manhattan studio, known as 'The Factory', apparently fired a gun at them

■ In a statement, Christie's described the 40 inch by 40 inch portrait as "one of the rarest and most-transcendent images in existence"

➤ Warhol began creating silkscreens of Monroe, following the actor's death from a drug overdose aged just 36 in August 1962

➤ The pop artist produced five portraits of Monroe, all equal in size with different coloured backgrounds, in 1964

➤ The 'Shot Sage Blue Marilyn' portrait portrays her with a pink face, red lips, yellow hair and blue eye shadow, set against a sage-blue backdrop

➤ It was based on a promotional photograph of her for the 1953 movie 'Niagara' directed by Henry Hathaway

The portrait stood alongside Sandro Botticelli's 'Birth of Venus', Leonardo Da Vinci's 'Mona Lisa' and Pablo Picasso's 'Les Femmes d'Alger' as "categorically one of the greatest paintings of all time." The most expensive 20th century artwork sold at an auction is Picasso's 'Women of Algiers', which fetched \$179.4 million in 2015. The auction record for a Warhol is the \$104.5 million paid for 'Silver Car Crash' (Double Disaster) in 2013

GOOD TO KNOW



HOW TO PICK A LANGUAGE TO LEARN?

Whatever may be your dream, speaking a new tongue can open the door to new possibilities as we advance. What is best for you may not be suitable for others since everyone has a different purpose. Likewise, there's no better or best language to study. The best one depends on your goal. To ensure that you know what you expect the language to be, start off by asking yourself a few questions regarding the potential languages you have in mind:

1 What's your motive? What are your goals with learning a foreign language? If you're trying to finish a general education requirement, your choice of language

might differ vastly from someone who plans to move to another country or choose a career working overseas. On the other hand, if passing a class is most important to you, choose a language with similar structures to English.

2 How difficult is it? Mastering a foreign language is not something that happens overnight. Achieving higher proficiency in any language requires time, dedication, enthusiasm, motivation, and persistence. It is a tedious process and demands much practice. If you really enjoy a challenge and want to try something

different, try Mandarin or Japanese—these languages that use a completely different alphabet. Languages like Spanish and French, while

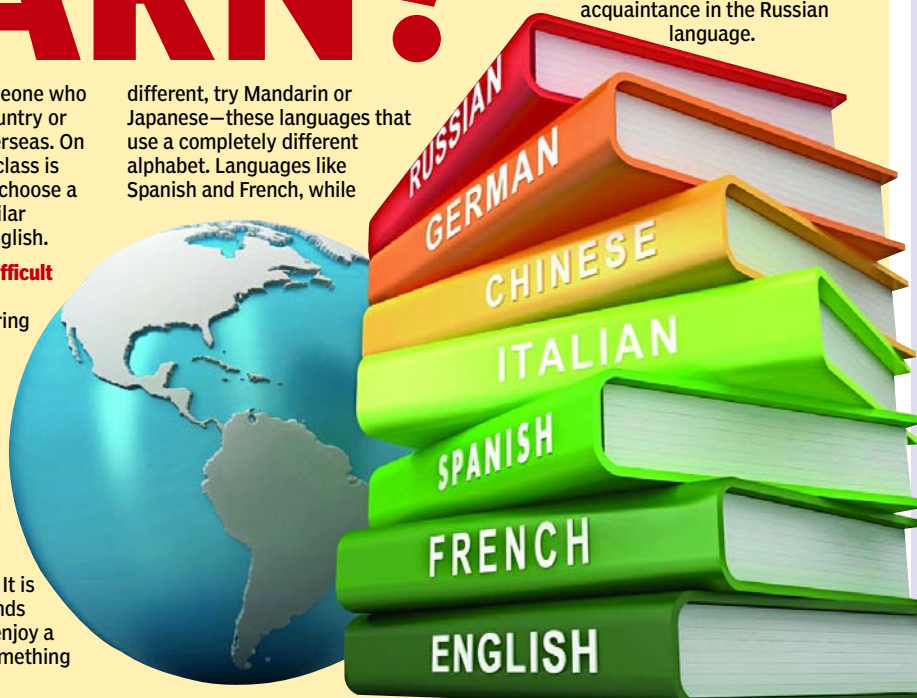
still challenging to learn, are likely more familiar to you.

3 Does it fascinate you? When picking up a language, you learn a lot about the cultural background. You have more chances of meeting people who speak the language, visiting places that the language is widely spoken. Making sure that the language intrigues you always helps. If you are into European culture, you might want to choose Indo-European languages, like German, Portuguese, Italian...

4 Is it a common language? Some languages are more widely used which enlarge the chances of you using the language on a regular basis. If you are looking for a language that's useful for you regardless of personal preference, you might want to go for Mandarin, Spanish or Arabic, since they are the most-spoken languages in the world.

5 Are there enough resources available? Is there any tutor or language school in your city? Can you most easily find books and resources right now? Are you ready to shell out some extra money for expensive classes? The availability of supports like audio lessons, books, instructors, speakers, language school, and video tutorial plays a vital role in the pursuit of language learning. If you're learning popular ones, such as German, French, Spanish, Japanese, or Chinese, you'll discover an abundance of study materials everywhere.

6 Does it help in your studies and work prospects? Pick a language that gives you advantages in your future plan. Determine the fields you are eager to work in. The in-demand languages by employers vary among fields. If your dream company is looking to expand its market in China, you might want to learn Mandarin. Who knows, tomorrow, you might receive an assignment in Moscow. To get that, you need to have an elementary-level acquaintance in the Russian language.



WORD GETS AROUND



DIVE SPEAK

PLANNING A BEACH VACATION? BRUSH UP YOUR UNDERWATER DIVING TERMINOLOGY

Ascent: Rising to the surface when diving; typically, at the end of a dive.

Bootie: Scuba gear divers wear with open-heel fins. Booties can range from thin (1 mm or less) to thick (7 mm) neoprene and protect your feet from the cold as well as sharp rocks and other hazardous things you could step on when shore diving.

Buddy: The person you dive with; this is the person you discuss a dive plan with and you are both responsible for keeping each other safe.

Cave Diving: Entering a water-filled cave system either on scuba or freediving. Cave diving can extend thousands of feet into a cave system for people who are properly trained.

DCS/Decompression Sickness: When bubbles of gas (often nitrogen) get trapped inside of the body. There are varying

levels of severity, and can be caused by swimming to the surface too quickly.

Buoyancy: (Positive, Negative, Neutral) Buoyancy refers to your position in the water. Things that sink are negatively buoyant; things that float are positively buoyant; scuba divers should be neutrally buoyant (floating in the middle).

Dive Table: Tool that helps determine how long you can safely stay underwater at different depths. Developed by the military to keep divers safe from decompression sickness.

Divemaster: A professional-level scuba diver who has logged at least 60 dives and who is trained to assist instructors on dive boats and during certification courses.

Giant Stride: A method of getting in the water where you take a large step off the boat or dock.

Liveboard:

A cruise ship, yacht or other overnight boat that is tailored to scuba divers. Most often, this will have accommodations including beds, bathrooms, gear rentals, tanks and include meals.



NEW MEDIUM

The upside of STUDENT BLOGGING

Blogging is a huge opportunity for students to show what they're thinking about and learning, give and receive peer feedback, and make connections with other students around the world

A blog can also be used as evidence of student learning over time, whether or not you set out to capture this. It's like a digital filing cabinet! You can keep your blog going year after year. In that way, it's a great way to keep track of your thoughts, your creations, and your learning. Here are some reasons why educational blogging is great:

ENGINEERS CREATIVITY

Blogging lets you express yourself visually through custom themes, headers, photography, layouts, and designs. There's an art to that...and it's fun! Remember that a blog is just a blank canvas, you can innovate and mould it into anything you like!

IT IS COLLABORATIVE Creating a blog requires teamwork and collaboration. Students and teachers learn and share together. The world suddenly opens up to you. Students can also use public writing platforms for collaborative writing projects, research journals, student portfolios and more. Your field of vision widens, and your work broadens to reveal new ways of seeing.

NAVIGATING NEW LITERACIES

All teachers know that the meaning of being literate

has changed. There are so many new literacies and skills that are essential to master to successfully navigate 21st century life. These new literacies include things like digital citizenship, curation, critical evaluation, visual literacies and so on. And then there are essential skills like problem solving, critical thinking, and cultural awareness. Reading and writing online is different. It's not linear. It's hyperlinked and requires you to put the pieces of the puzzle together and connect the dots.

SPACE FOR SELF-REFLECTION

Constantly consuming information isn't an ideal way to learn and grow. We need space to be able to process information and reflect. Blogging can be a great way to incorporate regular reflection into the classroom programme.

INVITES FEEDBACK

As students unleash their passions, they must learn to respond to and learn from readers in the form of comments. Testing our ideas on others is an important part of our growth. The greater number of genuine readers students reach, the more they feel accountable for their content and for the quality of their writing.



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 toinie175@gmail.com



PUBLIC SPEAKING

5 TED TALK SPEAKERS ON HOW THEY STEAL THE SHOW

Think about it. What the truly great TED speakers do differently from the rest can be found in the first few minutes of their presentation. It's during the opening remarks that the audience sits up and pays attention...or reaches for their iPhones. How do they ace it?

Sir Ken Robinson

BRITISH AUTHOR, SPEAKER AND INTERNATIONAL ADVISOR ON EDUCATION IN THE ARTS

Robinson doesn't have a dynamic physical presence and that usually labels him as a dull academician who is likely to deliver a boring lecture. He therefore opens by poking a little fun at himself and at educators in general. In the midst of his humor, Robinson relates his personal experience at the conference to that of the attendees. This further humanizes him and brings him into the community of the audience.

Tip: He shows you how puncturing your own balloon can make everyone feel more comfortable and tuned in

Brown is a storyteller, and thus she begins (and continues throughout) by telling stories. Stories have power because human beings are genetically programmed to arrange thoughts into narratives. This is the exact opposite of the old (bad) advice that you should start your presentation with a joke.

Kristi Hedges

LEADERSHIP COACH AND AUTHOR.

To best engage listeners, build your speech from an emotional place rather than from the content. Rattling off facts and figures and talking at the audience isn't effective if they aren't interested in what you are saying. Hedges believes in being clear about what she wants the audience to walk away with when they leave.

Tip: Emphasize connection over content.

Cassandra Brené Brown

AN AMERICAN RESEARCH PROFESSOR, LECTURER, AUTHOR, AND PODCAST HOST.



and use that intent as a structure to frame her talk. Your passion for a topic can draw people in, she says.

Chris Anderson

TED TALKS CURATOR

At TED, our number-one advice to speakers on the day of their talk is to make regular eye contact with members of the audience," writes Anderson. Speakers must build trust if they hope to make a connection with their audience. The best tool at a speaker's disposal is one they're wearing—a natural smile.

Tip: Make eye contact, right from the start

Simon Sinek

BRITISH-AMERICAN AUTHOR AND INSPIRATIONAL SPEAKER.

Dismiss the people frowning their brows, crossing their arms or shaking their heads "no." Instead, focus only on your supporters—the people who are visibly engaged, enjoying your presentation and nodding "yes." If you find the audience members who are positively interacting with you, you'll be much more confident and relaxed than if you try to convince the naysayers.

Tip: Ignore the naysayers



TACKLING CHALLENGES OF ONLINE PED CLASSES

When all schools shut down in India March 2020 due to Covid 19, the pandemic hit teachers in the private sector quite hard. Many, especially physical education teachers, lost their jobs. However, The Shri Ram Universal School Hyderabad trusted us and gave the Physical Education teachers a chance to work despite the challenges.

We faced multiple challenges like new technology, unavailability of gadgets and, to top it all, limited space. Undaunted, we persevered. We started researching and deployed YouTube, Kahoot and Twinkl app to name a few in our classes.

Before going to teach the children, we started teaching our friends online and found some solutions while taking classes on Zoom. Soon we felt better equipped and when we started classes, our students were delighted to see us online and started asking questions about how we were going to teach without any equipment. We improvised along the way, used things available at home such as water bottles, paper balls and cloth balls, bowls and dustbins. We were motivated by the happy faces of our children.



DAMARAJU ANIL KUMAR, HOD
Physical Education Dept, The Shri Ram Universal School, Hyderabad

We started with warm-ups and different types of workouts. We added new ideas and strategies and peppy music to make children happy.

There were games and challenges so that children didn't feel bored. We created multiple rounds of challenges and gave away virtual prizes to motivate the students. We added march-past and drills and children shared videos of how they were executing it at home.

Engaging older children was difficult but we took their support and gave tasks which had been designed based on their inputs. The students helped us create presentations and quizzes and we improvised learning every minute from each other and from our children. We added musical



chairs, number games, hide and seek, move and freeze and memory game to our virtual repertoire.

And, finally, we organized sports day in the virtual mode and children with different types of competitions like Tap the ball, balancing game with music and movements and blind fold chase.

Thanks to pandemic we learned technology and are now skilled to handle offline, online and hybrid classes.

Thank you TSUSH for your support!

THE EDUCATIONIST

BUILD SELF-CONFIDENCE IN STUDENTS

We often come across students who have specific learning difficulties, like

- Motor skills
- Physical impairments and most commonly, lack of experience of confidence in the classroom.

This happens when learning differences go unrecognized at an early stage. The impact can be quite serious. Most of times, students are likely to be labelled as lazy and non-cooperative.

Here are five ways to improve the confidence level of students...

- Focus on small achievements.
- Set manageable goals for them.
- Help them practice self-acceptance.
- Encourage your child to examine his or her strength and weaknesses.
- Consider a reward system by their work.

Due to innate learning difficulties, students may seem to be constantly in trouble with their teachers and are labelled as troublemakers in class.

Hence, students must be taught to think about themselves as positive individuals, their self-esteem should be nurtured. Parents can start nurturing their feeling of autonomy and self-worth by offering the child choices.

Show respect to them and help them to build self-confidence as they successfully articulate their needs and wants. They must be taught to think for themselves.

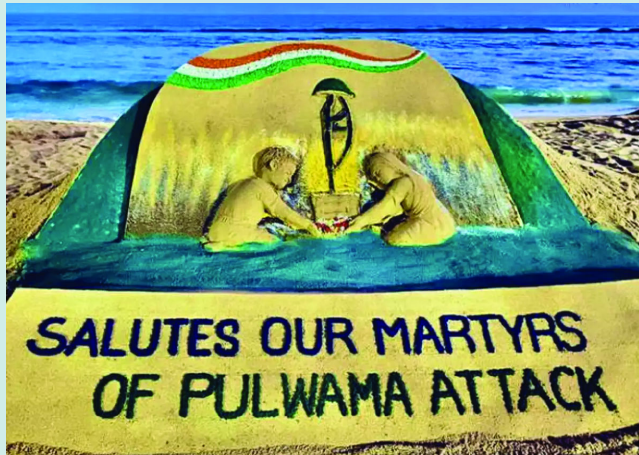
Early literacy skills are fundamental for toddlers, which will help them in the long run.

M SANGEETHA GUPTA
(Social Educator), Gautami Vidya Kshetra, Hyderabad



Express YOURSELF

Salute to martyrs of Pulwama attack



The Pulwama attack occurred on 14 February, 2019 - a terror attack carried out in Pulwama in Jammu & Kashmir by a suicide bomber which resulted in the death of 40 CRPF personnel. On 14th February, a convoy of 78 vehicles was transporting more than 2500 CRPF personnel from Jammu to Srinagar. The suicide bomber, identified as Jaish-e-Mohammad's Adil Ahmed Dor, rammed his vehicle into a bus with CRPF convoy. Twelve days after the attack, Indian Air force Jaya bombed the Jem camp in Balakot.

We should salute the nation's brave soldiers who were martyred in the Pulwama attack. The entire country will remain indebted to them for their courage and sacrifice.

Our country's real heroes are our brave soldiers who leave their families to protect our land. They know that they are going to be living a tough life on the borders of our country, near enemy territory, despite that they remain brave and protect us and render their undeterred service with their constant vigil and diligence.

Let us again and again salute and show our deepest respect to the soldiers for their assiduity and their willingness to sacrifice their lives for the country.

V PRAKEERTHI, Asst. Student Editor & Asst. Head Girl, class IX, Sri Gurudatta High School, Hyderabad

LIFE CYCLE OF STARS

Hey readers!
I am back with an interesting topic again!
This time it's about the life cycle of stars!

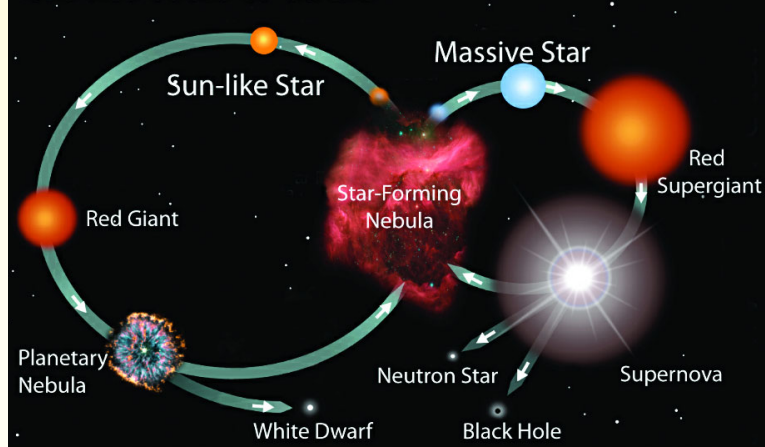
Massive stars transform into supernovae, neutron stars and black holes while average stars, like the sun, end life as a white dwarf surrounded by a planetary nebula. All stars, irrespective of their size, follow the same main 7 stage cycle; they start as a gas cloud and end as a star remnant, that is, the leftover of the star.

A star originates from a large cloud of gas and dust known as Nebula. When the gas particles in the nebula run into each other, heat energy is produced. This results in a warm clump of molecules referred to as a Protostar. Several Protostars can be formed in one interstellar gas cloud (Nebula), depending on the size of the nebula.

A T-Tauri star begins when materials stop falling into the Protostar and release tremendous amounts of energy. The mean temperature of the Tauri star isn't enough to support nuclear fusion at its core. The T-Tauri star lasts for about 100 million years, following which it enters the most extended phase of development - the Main sequence phase.

In this phase, the core temperature reaches the point for the fusion to commence. In this process, the protons

THE LIFE CYCLE OF STARS



of hydrogen are converted into atoms of helium. This process gives off more heat than it requires and so the core of a main-sequence star releases a tremendous amount of energy.

A star converts hydrogen atoms into helium over its course of life at its core. Eventually, the hydrogen fuel runs out, and the internal reaction stops. Without the reactions occurring at the core, a star contracts inward through gravity causing it to expand.

As it expands, the star first becomes a subgiant star and then a red giant. Red giants have cooler surfaces than the main-sequence star, and because of this, they appear red than yellow.

Helium molecules fuse at the core, as the star expands. The energy of this reaction prevents the core from col-

lapsing. The core shrinks and begins fusing carbon, once the helium fusion ends. This process repeats until iron appears at the core. The iron fusion reaction absorbs energy, which causes the core to collapse. This implosion transforms massive stars into a supernova while smaller stars like the sun contract into white dwarfs.

Most of the star material is blasted away into space, but the core implodes into a neutron star or a singularity known as the black hole. Less massive stars don't explode, their cores contract instead into a tiny, hot star known as the white dwarf while the outer material drifts away.

SRINIDHI CHAVALI, class VI, The Global Edge School, Madhapur, Hyderabad



BEING FIT IN MIND IS KEY TO HAPPY LIFE

In today's world, mental wellbeing is essential. It involves having a balanced diet, smiling always, having a sound sleep, exercising and playing games.

As a group too, we can together enhance ours as well as others' mental well-being. For instance, teamwork, fighting against discrimination and inequality, advancing towards environmentally suitable conditions on Earth, all help us achieve a kind of inner peace and good mental health. We become healthier and wise! Mental health is important to general wellness, it is important that everyone takes care of it.



PIYUSHA BASUTHKAR, class XI, Mahar Regiment, Silver Oaks International School, Mighty Oaks Campus, Hyderabad

Stay fit, keep your spirits high



1 MORNING WALKS: Regular morning walks help us to feel better, reduces stroke, diabetes and certain types of cancer.

2 EXERCISE: Doing exercises every day reduces the amount of harmful cholesterol and fats in a person's blood. It relieves stress, enhances mood, improves memory and concentration.



3 YOGA: Yoga improves strength, balance and flexibility and eases aches and pains. Prevents cartilage and joint breakdown.



G V S VINDHYA, class VII-B, Delhi School Of Excellence, Manikonda

4 MEDITATION: Benefits of meditation are many. We can gain a new perspective on stressful situations, manage stress and it increases self-awareness and reduces negative emotions.

5 HAVING VEGETARIAN FOOD: Vegetarian diet is said to reduce the risk of cardiovascular disease and various types of cancer. We should focus on a variety of fruits, vegetables, and whole grains.



FREE LIVE WEBINAR on

SUPER MEMORY POWER

HELP YOUR CHILD TO DEVELOP SUPER MEMORY

Sunday, 3rd April

Morning :- 11am to 1pm
Evening :- 5pm to 7 pm

Age Group 8 Years & Above
(Full Family Program)

Webinar will be on zoom



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INDIA CRASH OUT OF WC

PROTEAS SEND INDIA PACKING WITH NERVE-WRACKING LAST-BALL WIN

Harmanpreet Kaur



An inconsistent India crashed out of the Women's World Cup after suffering a heart-breaking three-wicket defeat against South Africa in a must-win league-stage game that went down to the wire, on Sunday. Smriti Mandhana (71), Shafali Verma (53) and skipper Mithali Raj (68) struck half-centuries, setting the platform for India to reach a competitive 274 for seven at the Hagley Oval. Despite India's average bowling and fielding, the match lasted full distance with off-spinner Deepti Sharma needing to defend seven runs in the final over.

UNFORTUNATE TURN OF EVENTS

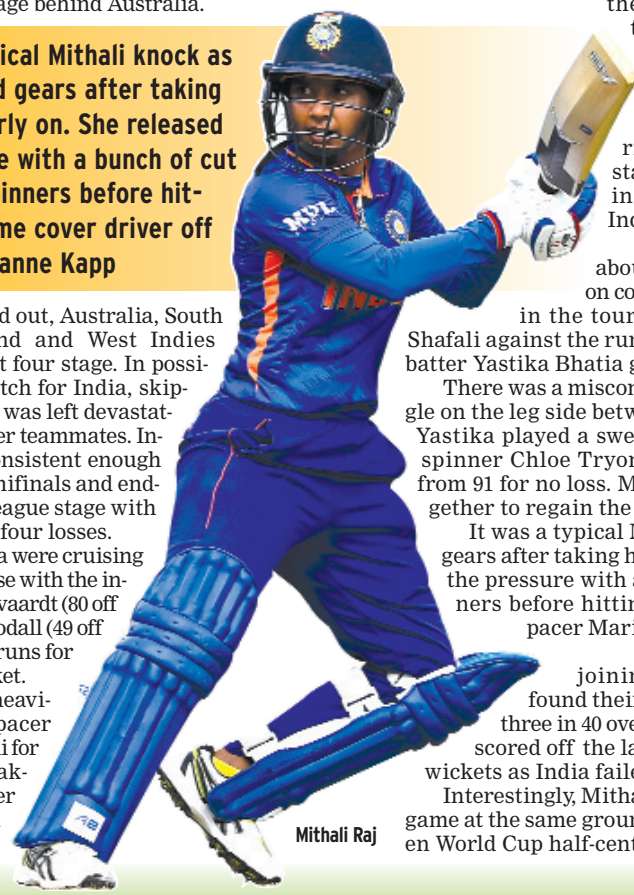
A well-set Mignon du Preez was caught in the deep off the penultimate ball, raising hopes of a memorable win for India. The Proteas now needed three runs off the final ball. However, moments later the umpires ruled that Deepti had overstepped, turning India's ecstasy into agony in a matter of seconds. Du Preez eventually hit the winning runs off the final ball and remained unbeaten on 52 to see her team through and finish second in the league stage behind Australia.

It was a typical Mithali knock as she changed gears after taking her time early on. She released the pressure with a bunch of cut shots off spinners before hitting a sublime cover driver off pacer Marizanne Kapp

As it panned out, Australia, South Africa, England and West Indies reached the last four stage. In possibly her last match for India, skipper Mithali Raj was left devastated along with her teammates. India were not consistent enough to make the semifinals and ended fifth in the league stage with three wins and four losses.

South Africa were cruising in their run chase with the in-form Laura Wolvaardt (80 off 79) and Lara Goodall (49 off 69) sharing 125 runs for the second wicket.

India rely heavily on veteran pacer Jhulan Goswami for early breakthroughs and her absence due to a side strain



Mithali Raj

Photo: GETTY IMAGES

made the task easier for the South Africans. Harmanpreet Kaur, who made 48 with the bat, got rid of opener Lizelle Lee (6) with a brilliant direct hit before Wolvaardt and Goodall got together and took the game away from the opposition.

Wolvaardt continued her sensational run of form with her fifth fifty-plus score in seven innings. It took a double strike from Harmanpreet to bring India back in the game as she found the stumps of Wolvaardt and trapped Sune Luus (22) with her probing off-spin.

SLOPPY FIELDING

The Indian fielding once again was sloppy and late evening dew made the job tougher for them. However, individual brilliance of Harmanpreet helped India take the game deep with South Africa needing 45 off the last 30 balls.

Du Preez, who was dropped by Smriti in the 45th over, and Chloe Tryon (17) were up for the challenge and took their team to the cusp of victory. Tryon got three boundaries in the 47th over bowled by Gayakwad to reduce the equation to 20 off 18 balls.

Earlier, India chose to put runs on the board in the high-pressure game while their opponents took the field in their last league game having already qualified for the semifinals.

Shafali (53 off 46) and Smriti (71 off 84) shared a 91-run stand off 90 balls for the opening wicket to provide the start India were looking for. With the way the openers were going about their business, India looked on course for 300 for the second time in the tournament. However, they lost Shafali against the run of play before number three batter Yastika Bhatia got out in a bizarre fashion.

There was a miscommunication over a quick single on the leg side between Shafali and Smriti while Yastika played a sweep shot on to her stumps off spinner Chloe Tryon, leaving India at 96 for two from 91 for no loss. Mithali and Smriti then got together to regain the lost momentum.

It was a typical Mithali knock as she changed gears after taking her time early on. She released the pressure with a bunch of cut shots off spinners before hitting a sublime cover driver off pacer Marizanne Kapp. With Mithali going strong and Harmanpreet joining her in the middle, India found their rhythm back to reach 223 for three in 40 overs. However, only 51 runs were scored off the last 60 balls for the loss of four wickets as India failed to get the final flourish.

Interestingly, Mithali scored her fifty in a crucial game at the same ground where she scored her maiden World Cup half-century 22 years ago. **m**



Smriti Mandhana

Photo: AFP

MAIDEN WC FIFTY

■ Shafali scored bulk of the runs in the partnership with Smriti and looked at her fluent best en route her maiden World Cup fifty. She put South Africa's best bowler, pacer Shabnim Ismail under the pump by attacking her from the word go. Shafali collected three boundaries off Shabnim's second over including an audacious walk across the off-stump to whip the South African bowler over short-fine leg. The 18-year-old completed her first fifty of the competition with a boundary over mid-on off pacer Masabata Klaas.

GUJARAT, LUCKNOW AIM FOR WINNING START

Hardik Pandya to take more responsibility with batting order

Armed with hard-hitting all-rounders, new entrants Gujarat Titans and Lucknow Super Giants would aim to start their IPL campaign on a winning note when they square off on Monday.

Gujarat could most likely open with young Shubman Gill and Afghanistan batter Rahmanullah Gurbaz, who is also a wicket-keeper. The duo can take any opposition attack to task but would need to be wary of the bounce at the Wankhede stadium.

Gujarat would heavily bank on the performance of their skipper Hardik Pandya, who has loads of experience playing at the Wankhede with Mumbai Indians.

Six-hitting prowess

Known for his six-hitting prowess, Hardik this season will have to take more responsibility with the bat and also bat higher up the order. And ditto for Rahul Tewatia, who would need to shed his one match IPL wonder tag. Tewatia has already said that he would need to take more responsibility with the willow.

Another key all-rounder for them is Vijay

Shankar and his four overs with his medium pace could also make the difference. The three on their day can single-handedly win the game and they would hope that come Monday; they can fire in unison.

Someone like Karnataka's Abhinav Manohar would need to shoulder responsibility in the middle order along with David Miller.

Bowling attack

Key pacer Mohammed Shami will lead the bowling attack and would be looking for a successful run to make a strong case for selection in the India squad for the World Cup

in Australia later this year.

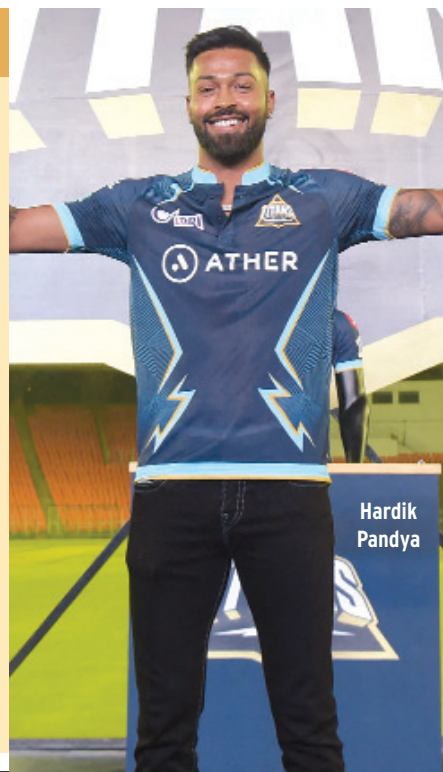
Another important cog in their wheel is leggie Rashid Khan, who could relish bowling on the Wankhede track. For Lucknow, a lot rests on their skipper KL Rahul, who could open the batting with South African Quinton De Kock. With wide range of shots at their disposal, the duo can pummel any attack to submission.

Seasoned campaigner

Lucknow too have an array of all-rounders in Deepak Hooda, Krunal Pandya and West Indian Jason Holder, and their role with the bat in the middle order along with Manish Pandey, a seasoned campaigner, is vital.

Another option for the team management is Evin Lewis, an explosive batter.

The bowlers led by Avesh Khan would need to bowl tightly to stop Gujarat batters and another important cog in their wheel is Ravi Bishnoi, who can deceive the batters with his googlies. It remains to be seen whether the team management play an extra pacer or a spinner and considering that the first game was a low-scoring affair and dew played a part, team winning the toss, would opt to bat first. **AGENCIES**



Hardik Pandya

Photo: AFP

SINDHU CLINCHES SWISS OPEN TITLE, PRANNOY LOSES

Ace Indian shuttler P V Sindhu clinched the women's singles title in the 2022 Swiss Open, beating Thailand's Busanan Onggramrungsan in the final at the St Jakobshalle arena, on Sunday. HS Prannoy lost to Indonesia's Jonatan Christie in the men's singles final.

Double Olympic medallist Sindhu registered a 21-16, 21-8 win over Onggramrungsan in 49 minutes to claim the Super 300 crown. This was her second title of the year after winning the Syed Modi International in January.

Ranked seventh in the badminton world rankings, Sindhu went into the final with a 15-1 head-to-head record over world No 11 Onggramrungsan. The match ebbed and flowed in the early exchanges, with both shuttlers fighting for every point. While the Indian ace relied on her big smashes, Busanan was effective with her perfectly



P V Sindhu

Photo: PTI

placed cross-court shots, especially near the net.

The first mid-game break saw Sindhu take a narrow two-point lead. She managed to break away late into the opening game after the Thai made a series of unforced errors.

However, the second game was in complete contrast to the first, with Sindhu racing to a big 11-2 lead. Busanan provided little resistance in the remainder of the game as Sindhu clinched the title with ease. **IMS**

QUIZ TIME!

Q1: How many players do on each side have in baseball?

a) 7 b) 9 c) 11 d) 6

Q2: Which of the following sports teams consists of both male and female players?

a) Baseball
b) Softball
c) Carfbal
d) Handball

Q3: Who introduced the game of Polo in India?

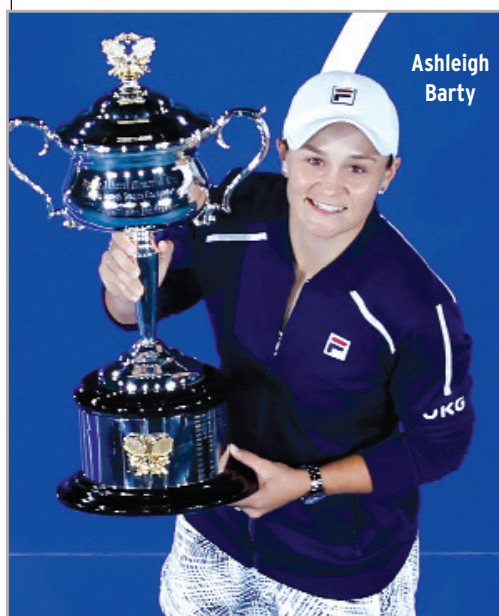
a) Turks
b) Portuguese
c) Greek
d) None of these

Q4: Which of these players was conferred the Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award in the year 2012?

a) Yogeshwar Dutt
b) Sushil Kumar
c) Vijay Kumar
d) Vijender Singh

Q5: Who was the first top 10-ranked opponent Ashleigh Barty defeated?

a) Jelena Ostapenko b) Venus Williams
c) Karolina Pliskova d) Simona Halep



Ashleigh Barty

Photo: GETTY IMAGES

Q6: When was the Arjuna Award instituted?

a) 198
b) 1899
c) 1961
d) 1997

Q7: Which country did swimmer Michael Phelps represent?

a) Australia
b) New Zealand
c) Switzerland
d) America

Q8: In which sport are players called pugilists?

a) Boxing
b) Football
c) Cricket
d) Swimming

Q9: In which Asiad did Lakshman Singh win individual gold in golf?

a) 2018
b) 1994
c) 1982
d) 2010

ANSWERS: 1. b) 9 2. c) Carfbal

3. a) Turk 4. a) Yogeshwar Dutt

5. b) Venus Williams 6. c) 1961

7. d) America 8. a) Boxing 9. c 1982