



THE TIMES OF INDIA

www.toistudent.com
TODAY'S EDITION

➤ Revise your syllabus by solving mock papers, exclusively prepared by your teachers

PAGE 2


➤ Should there be Instagram for children under 13 years of age, aka Gen Z and Alpha? Students debate

PAGE 3


➤ Indian women set to play maiden pink ball Test

PAGE 4

STUDENT EDITION

FRIDAY, MAY 21, 2021

THE TIMES
nfe
 Newsmagazine for Students

WEB EDITION
CLICK HERE: PAGE 1 AND 2

TIMES NIE

Answers Your Query

Pranay Upadhyay,
 class X, MVN School,
 Sec-17, Faridabad



ASK THE EXPERT

A SHOT OF HOPE

To ask queries regarding Covid-19 and vaccination from our experts,

▶ **'CLICK HERE'**

OR VISIT

<https://bit.ly/331RxDn>

Q Is it normal for kids to experience anxiety about Covid affecting their families and friends?

It is normal to feel anxious when you find out that your family member has contracted Covid. ■ Acknowledge these emotions. ■ Give yourself time to work on stress management strategies, including exercise and meditation. ■ Talking with your friends and family members, and reassuring yourself with the progress they are making daily, will help you manage your stress levels.



Naomi Dewicka,
 class XII, DPS,
 RK Puram, New Delhi

Q How soon can one exercise and get into daily routines post Covid recovery?

Fatigue is a known aftereffect of Covid 19. Hence, it is advisable to take it slow as your capacity to exert your body and exercise would have decreased considerably in the post-recovery period. However, you may be able to take upon the daily activities gradually. So rest up, till you are back to your usual energy level before taking up heavy jobs.

EXPERT ADVICE GIVEN BY

Dr Meha Sharma. Consultant Rheumatologist - specialist of Immune disorders. Cedar Superspecialty Centre, Dwarka, Delhi



AR RAHMAN'S '99 SONGS' TO HAVE DIGITAL PREMIERE ON MAY 21

Composer AR Rahman's debut project as film producer, '99 Songs', will have its digital premiere on May 21. The Oscar-winning composer tweeted the news on Wednesday evening.



■ The musical romantic drama '99 Songs', which stars newcomers Ehan Bhat and Edilys Vargas, is directed by debutant Vishwesh Krishnamoorthy, who is also a musician with the Mumbai-based hardcore experimental band Scribe

■ The film had released theatrically on April 16 but did not see much business owing to the ongoing pandemic, which kept the audience away from theatres during the unlock phase

■ '99 Songs' will stream in Hindi, Tamil, and Telugu on Netflix

World's largest iceberg breaks off Antarctic ice shelf, it's nearly three times the size of Delhi

An enormous iceberg, measuring 4,320 sq km, has broken off the coast of Antarctica. Measurements taken from satellites and planes have confirmed it as the world's largest, according to reports.



■ The iceberg A-76 calved from the western side of the Ronne Ice Shelf in Antarctica. It is now floating on the Weddell Sea, the

European Space Agency said

■ The slab of ice is bigger than the Spanish Island of Majorca, and nearly three times the

size of Delhi. It measures around 170 kilometres-long and 25 kilometres-wide

■ The iceberg was spotted in recent satellite images captured by the Copernicus Sentinel-1 mission, the European Space Agency said in a

statement. They also posted a photo of the iceberg on their website

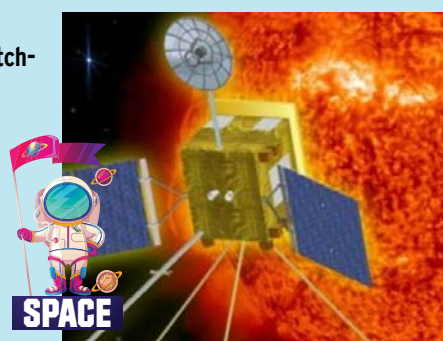
■ The A-76 iceberg was first detected by British Antarctic Survey and confirmed by the Maryland-based US. National Ice Center

A-76 is now the largest iceberg on the planet, surpassing the now second-place A-23A, which is about 3,380 square km in size, floating in the Weddell Sea



NASA-ESA SUN-WATCHING SPACECRAFT CAPTURES FIRST SOLAR ERUPTION

NASA and the European Space Agency's sun-watching spacecraft has captured the first solar eruption. On February 12, the Solar Orbiter caught sight of the coronal mass ejection (CME), NASA said. The CME was captured by a NASA instrument, the Solar Orbiter Heliospheric Imager (SoloHI) onboard the spacecraft. SoloHI watches the solar wind, dust, and cosmic rays that fill the space between the sun and the planets. The view captured is brief and grainy, but shows a sudden blast of particles, the CME, escaping the sun.



SPACE

➤ The Solar Orbiter was launched in February 2020

➤ The spacecraft has already taken the closest picture of the sun to date

➤ Its official mission begins in November, when SoloHI and the rest of the remote-sensing instruments will be switched on in full science mode

Google announces new privacy settings, AI TOOLS AND ANDROID 12 BETA



Google has announced a slew of new features, including new privacy settings, AI tools and release of the first beta of Android 12 that will become part of its products over the course of the year. Kicking off Google I/O 2021 in a virtual format from the Mountain View campus, Google CEO Sundar Pichai also announced additions to Google Workspace that will enable richer collaboration, especially in view of the pandemic that has driven enterprises across the globe to embrace remote working solutions.

1 Pichai and other Google executives laid out the roadmap for tools and features that will be rolled out through the year across products like Search, Lens, Photos, Maps and Shopping, among others.

India, China, South Africa fared 'relatively better' than other major economies in Q1 of 2021: UN

India, China and South Africa have fared "relatively better" than other major economies in imports and exports in the first quarter of this year, according to the latest UNCTAD data, which said that global trade recovery from the Covid-19 crisis hit a record high during in the same period. The Global Trade Update by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) has said that in Q1 2021, the value of global trade in goods and services grew by about 4 per cent quarter-over-quarter, and by about 10 per cent year-over-year.

\$100 MN

A LOOK AT THE SPANISH ARTIST'S FIVE MOST-EXPENSIVE WORKS EVER SOLD AT AUCTION



THE WOMEN OF ALGIERS

Picasso painted 'The Women of Algiers' (Version 'O') in 1955, and was sold for \$179.3 million at Christie's auction in 2015. This painting held the world record for the highest-ever price paid at an auction until it was taken over by Leonardo da Vinci's Salvator Mundi

\$179.3 MN

YOUNG GIRL WITH A FLOWER BASKET

Picasso's 'Young Girl With a Flower Basket' was painted in 1905, and it was reportedly one of the stars of the 2018 auction of the works collected by the late US banker David Rockefeller and his wife Peggy. The work represents a young girl nude holding a basket of flowers. The painting also surpassed the \$100 million mark and was sold for \$115 million, including fees and was placed in David Rockefeller's Manhattan townhouse for decades

\$115 MN

WOMAN SITTING NEAR A WINDOW

The painting was sold to an online bidder in California for \$103.4 million. 'Woman Sitting Near a Window' was also reportedly inspired by Marie-Therese's youthfulness and statuesque beauty, and was made by Picasso on October 30, 1932. It is the first work since May 2019 to surpass the \$100 million mark

\$103.4 MN



\$104.2 MN

'NUDE, GREEN LEAVES AND BUST'

Painted in 1932, it was sold for \$106.5 million, and is currently on loan at the Tate Modern art gallery in London

\$106.5 MN

'BOY WITH A PIPE'

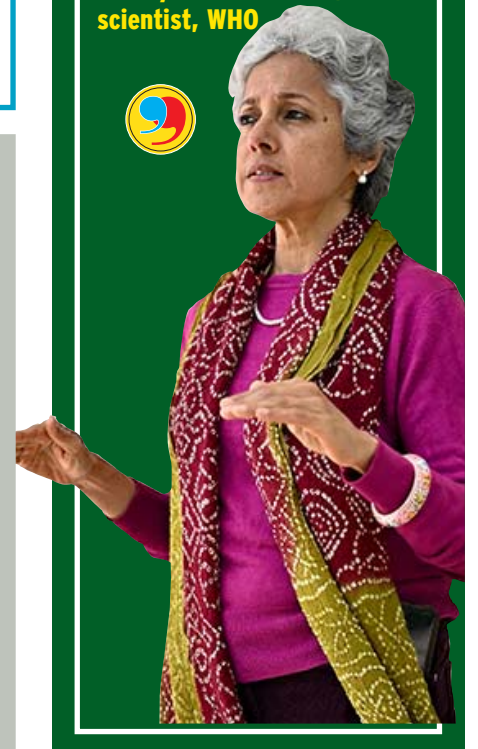
This painting is another one from Picasso's Rose Period in 1905 and was painted reportedly shortly after he was moved to Paris and settled in Montmartre. Becoming a record holder, 'Boy with a Pipe' was sold for \$104.2 million in New York in 2004

That's the price of an oil painting by Pablo Picasso that was sold at Christie's auction in New York, smashing its pre-sale estimate of \$55 million. The portrait of Picasso's French lover Marie-Therese, 'Femme assise près d'une fenêtre (Marie-Thérèse)', or 'Woman sitting near a window,' led the '20th Century Evening Sale'...

Quote unquote

We haven't always gotten it right the first time. Unfortunately, when you are dealing with a new virus and a new epidemic, you don't know everything on day one. But that's the way science evolves. To date, only 0.3 per cent of Covid vaccine doses have been administered in the world's poorest countries, which are home to nearly 10 per cent of the global population. That is very difficult to witness, and it is morally and ethically wrong. We need to ensure equal access to life-saving vaccines and drugs. We need to address this. The world is clearly not doing enough

Soumya Swaminathan, chief scientist, WHO



2 For enhanced privacy, Google is introducing a new "quick delete" option that will help delete the last 15 minutes of Search history with a single tap from the Google Account Menu. It is also introducing Location History reminders in Maps Timeline

3 Locked Folder is a new passcode-protection feature in Google Photos, where select photos can be saved separately and these photos won't show up as users scroll through their grid or in shared albums. The feature will be introduced to Google Pixel phones first, and more Android devices throughout the year

GET ECONOMICS ON TRACK
WITH RIGHT STIMULUS

PAPER SET BY JAANVI HARJANI, PGT ECONOMICS, UDGAM SCHOOL FOR CHILDREN, AHMEDABAD

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

- Question No 1-10 and 18-27 are very short answer questions carrying 1 mark each. They are required to be answered in one word or one sentence each.
- Question No 11-12 and 28-29 are short answer questions carrying 3 marks each. Answer to them should not normally exceed 60-80 words each
- Question No 13-15 and 30-32 are also short answer questions carrying 4 marks each. Answer to them should not normally exceed 80-100 words each .
- Question No 16-17 and 33-34 are long answer questions carrying 6marks each. Answer to them should not normally exceed 100-150 words each.

SECTION-A

(MACRO ECONOMICS)

Q1. The problem of double counting in calculating national income is
(A) to calculate national income by two different methods
(B) to calculate national income by double counting Method
(C) to calculate the value of goods and services more than once
(D) to estimate National Income at current prices and factor prices both

Q2. Liquid assets of the commercial banks which they are required to maintain as a minimum percentage of their total deposits refer to (Cash Reserve Ratio/ Statutory Liquidity Ratio)

Q3. Which of the following is a commonly accepted definition of money?
(A) Any good which is commonly used as a store of value.
(B) Any good which is exchanged for gold at a fixed rate
(C) Any good which is acceptable to a bank.
(D) Any good which is commonly accepted as a medium of exchange.

Q4. From the set of statements given in Column I and Column II. Choose the correct pair of statements:

Column 1	Column 2
(A) Export of software to China	(i) Debit side of current account
(B) Import of Machinery from France	(ii) Capital account of Balance of payments
(C) Remittances to relative staying abroad	(iii) Debit side of Current Account of Balance of Payment.
(D) Investment by Apple phones firm in India	(iv) Credit side of Current Account of Balance of Payments

Q5. Suppose the Rupee-Dollar exchange rate is 70/\$. Indian Investors believe that USD is going to appreciate by the end of the month and will be worth ₹75. The investors think if they gave the dealer ₹70000 and bought 1000 dollars at the end of the month, they would be able to exchange the dollars for ₹75000, thus making a profit of ₹5000.

What will be the likely effect of this speculation on the exchange rate in the present?

- (A) The exchange rate will increase
(B) The exchange rate will decrease
(C) The exchange rate will remain unchanged
(D) None of the above

Q6. Import of Machinery is included in account. (Current /Capital)
Read the following news report and answer Questions 7-10 on the basis of the same:
"COVID-19 TO HAVE SIGNIFICANT DEFLATIONARY IMPACT DUE TO

DEMAND EVAPORATION'

Ruling out any impact of stimulus on the price situation, Chief Economic Advisor K.V. Subramanian on Thursday said the COVID-19 pandemic has severely dented the demand for non-essential or discretionary goods, creating deflationary conditions. He also said that a good part of the ₹ 20 lakh crore stimulus package is designed in a manner that the fiscal deficit remains under control. "COVID has a significant deflationary impact because demand especially for non-essential or discretionary goods and services will go down significantly. Therefore, it is unlikely that there would be too much inflationary impact through fiscal deficit or stimulus package," Subramanian told in an interview.

The proposed stimulus package will generate demand by infusing liquidity into the system and thus perk up the economy, the CEA said.

The Economic Times; May 15th, 2020

Q7. Deficiency of demand creates (deflationary gap/inflationary gap) in the economy (Choose the correct alternative)

Q8. Demand for goods has gone significantly down during Covid period. (Choose the correct alternative)
(A) Non-essential (B) Essential
(C) both (A) and (B)
(D) None of these

Q9. The proposed stimulus package has tried to create (more/less) demand in the economy. (Choose the correct alternative)

Q10. Inflationary gap: (Choose the correct alternative)
(A) Raises the level of output
(B) Does not change the level of output
(C) Raises the general price level
(D) Both (B) and (C)

Q11. "Higher Gross Domestic Product (GDP) means greater per capita availability of goods in the economy". Do you agree with the given statement? Give valid reason in support of your answer.

Q12. Define "Trade Surplus". How is it different from "Current Account Surplus"?

Q13. Government of India has launched 'Jan-Dhan Yojana' aimed at every household in the country to have at least one bank account. Explain how deposits made under the plan are going to affect National income of the country.

Q14. In an economy 75 percent of the increase in the income is spent on consumption. Investment is increased by ₹ 1000 crore. Calculate
(i) Total increase in income
(ii) Total increase in consumption expenditure

Q15. "CRR cut will improve bottom line, says Karnataka Bank CEO"
Private lender Karnataka Bank MD and CEO Mahabaleshwara MS on Friday said the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) slashing the Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR) by 100 basis points (BPS) from 4% to 3% will improve the bottom line of banks.

"The three months repayment moratorium on all loans without down gradation of assets will mitigate debt servicing burden and go a long way in overcoming the financial stress caused by Covid-19," he said in a statement.

The Economic Times, 27th March, 2020
Discuss how the above-mentioned monetary instrument in news report is helpful in correcting the situation of excess demand and deficient demand.



Q16. (A) Calculate the Gross National Product at Market Price

Particulars	₹ (Crores)
1. Compensation of employees	2500
2. Profits	700
3. Mixed income of self-employed	7500
4. Government final consumption expenditure	3000
5. Rent	400
6. Interest	350
7. Net factor income from abroad	50
8. Net current transfers to abroad	100
9. Net indirect taxes	150
10. Depreciation	70
11. Net exports	40

(B) Will the following be included in the national income of India? Give reasons for your answer.

- Financial assistance to flood victims.
- Profits earned by the branches of a foreign bank in India.
- Salaries of Indians working in the American Embassy in India.

Q17. (A) The government under Ujjwala Yojana, is providing free LPG kitchen gas connections to the families below the poverty line. What objective is the government trying to fulfil through the government budget and how? Explain
(B) Classify the following items as Revenue Expenditure or Capital Expenditure and give reason for your answer
1. Construction of Bridge
2. Subsidies 3. Pensions

SECTION-B

(INDIAN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT)

Q18. Since 1991, there has been a continuous reduction in income tax rates because:

- (A) It is felt that high rates of income tax were an important reason for tax evasion.
(B) It is widely accepted that modern rates of income tax encourage savings and voluntary disclosure of income.
(C) Both (A) and (B)
(D) Proceeds of Corporation tax and indirect taxes are very high.

Q19. Gender-bias in the society on eve of independence was indicated by :
(A) mortality rate (B) life expectancy
(C) death rate (D) literacy rate

Q20. Read the following statements Assertion (A) and Reason (R). Choose one of the correct alternatives given below.
Assertion (A) India could not develop a sound industrial base under the colonial rule.

Reason (R) The colonial government reduced India to the status of a mere exporter of important raw materials for the upcoming modern industries in Britain.

Alternatives:
(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R)

are true, and Reason(R) is the correct explanation of Assertion (A).

- (B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true, and Reason(R) is not the correct explanation of Assertion (A).
(C) Assertion(A) is true, but Reason (R) is false
(D) Assertion (A) is false, but Reason (R) is true.

Q21. Read the following statements Assertion (A) and Reason (R). Choose one of the correct alternatives given below.
Assertion (A) Five year plans gave a big push to the basic and capital goods industries.

Reason (R) Indian economy is now ranked as the eleventh largest industrial economy in the world.

- Alternatives:**
(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true, and Reason(R) is the correct explanation of Assertion (A).
(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true, and Reason(R) is not the correct explanation of Assertion (A).
(C) Assertion(A) is true, but Reason (R) is false
(D) Assertion (A) is false, but Reason (R) is true.

Q22. Write the correct sequence of alternatives given in Column II by matching them with respective terms in Column I:

Column 1	Column 2
A. Introduction of Economic reforms in China	(i) 1949
B. Establishment of People's Republic of China	(ii) 1953
C. China announced its first five year plan	(iii) 1958
D. The Great Leap Forward campaign initiated in China	(iv) 1978

Q23. Growth rate of population is highest in which of the following country?
(A) India (B) China
(C) Pakistan (D) Sri Lanka

Read the following hypothetical case study carefully and answer the questions numbers 24-27 on the basis of the same.

Diversification includes two aspects - one relates to change in cropping pattern and the other relates to a shift of workforce from agriculture to other allied activities like livestock, poultry, fisheries etc. and non-agriculture sector. The need for diversification arises from the fact that there is greater risk in depending exclusively on farming for livelihood. Diversification towards new areas is necessary not only to reduce the risk from agriculture sector but also to provide productive sustainable livelihood options to rural people. Much of the agricultural employment activities are concentrated in

the Kharif season. But during the Rabi season, in areas where there are inadequate irrigation facilities, it becomes difficult to find gainful employment. Therefore, expansion into other sectors is essential to provide supplementary gainful employment and in realizing higher levels of income for rural people to overcome poverty and other tribulations. Hence, there is a need to focus on allied activities, non-farm employment and other emerging alternatives of livelihood, though there are many other options available for providing sustainable livelihoods in rural areas.

Q24. It is difficult to find gainful employment in season, in areas where there are inadequate irrigation facilities. (Kharif/Rabi)

Q25. Diversification provides options to rural people. (livelihood/irrigation)

Q26. Livestock comes under the category of activities. (allied/diversification)

Q27. relates to a shift of workforce from agriculture to other allied activities (Monocropping/Diversification)

Q28. "In any country as the income rises, the composition of infrastructure requirement changes significantly". Discuss the given statement.

Q29. "Information technology (IT) plays a very significant role in achieving sustainable development and food security". Do you agree with the given statement?

Give valid reasons, in support of your answer.

Q30. Explain the four arguments against New Economic Policy.

Q31. Large scale industry is not a substitute of small scale industry in the Indian economy, how do you view this statement? Comment.

Q32. "In China, the lack of political freedom and its implications for the human rights are major concerns; yet, in the last three decades, it has succeeded in raising the level of growth with alleviation of poverty. China is moving ahead of India and Pakistan in terms of many human development indicators". Defend or refute the above statement.

Q33. (A) "The threat to India's environment poses a dichotomy - threat of poverty induced environmental degradation and at the same time, threat of pollution from affluence and a rapidly growing industrial sector". Defend or Refute the given statement.
(B) "Challenge of poverty must be given prior importance than environmental degradation." Discuss the rationale of the given statement with valid reasons.

Q34. State giving the valid reason whether the following statements are true or false
(A) Higher percentage of workforce in rural areas suggests a higher contribution of the rural economy to Gross Domestic product.
(B) Workforce is the difference between total population and number of persons not working.
(C) Lack of warehousing causes loss of revenue to the farmers.

These questions are meant for practice purpose only. Students are advised to check format, syllabus and marks for Board test papers with their teachers. Questions have been given by teachers and NIE is not responsible for them.

READ THE FOLLOWING AND ANSWER THE QUESTIONS GIVEN BELOW:

ECOLOGICAL INDICATORS

The presence of dragonflies can reveal changes in the water ecosystems more quickly than studying other animals or plants. In fact, from the nymph to the adult stage, the dragonfly has a significant, positive ecological impact. Dragonfly eggs are laid and hatched in or near water, so their lives impact both water and land ecosystems. Once hatched, dragonfly nymphs can breathe underwater which enables them to eat mosquito larvae, other aquatic insects and worms, and even small aquatic vertebrates like tadpoles and small fish and in the air. Adult dragonflies capture and eat adult mosquitoes. Community wide mosquito control programmes that spray insecticides to kill

QUICK REVISION

adult mosquitoes also kill dragonflies.

(i) The approach to biological control includes (choose the correct option):
a. Import and release of an insect pest to a new area to provide hosts for natural enemies
b. Import and release of natural enemies from the native home of an alien insect pest that has invaded a new area
c. Preservation of natural enemies (predators & parasitoids) that are already established in an area
d. Use of insecticides to reduce alien insect pests to establish new equilibrium position.

(iii) Dragonflies indicate positive ecological impact as
a. The presence of dragonflies indicates polluted water.
b. Dragonfly nymphs selectively eat mosquito larvae.
c. They help to decrease the probability of diseases spread by vectors.
d. Dragonfly do not cause any harm to beneficial species.

(iv) The most effective stages in the life cycle of dragonfly that eradicate mosquitoes are
a. Larvae and Adult

are ____
a. Yellow fever and amoebic dysentery
b. Malaria and Yellow fever
c. Anthrax and typhoid
d. Cholera and typhoid

(v) ASSERTION: Releasing dragonflies in areas where there is an outbreak of malarial diseases can be an environment friendly method of control.
REASON: Dragon flies are dominant species and will not allow mosquitoes to reproduce
a. Both assertion and reason are true, and the reason is the correct explanation of the assertion.
b. Both assertion and reason are true, but the reason is not the correct explanation of the assertion.
c. Assertion is true but reason is false.
d. Both assertion and reason are false

BIOLOGY
CASE BASED QUESTION
CLASS XII, CBSE

- b. Caterpillar and Adult
c. Nymph and Adult
d. Pupa and Adult

(v) ASSERTION: Releasing dragonflies in areas where there is an outbreak of malarial diseases can be an environment friendly method of control.
REASON: Dragon flies are dominant species and will not allow mosquitoes to reproduce

- a. Both assertion and reason are true, and the reason is the correct explanation of the assertion.
b. Both assertion and reason are true, but the reason is not the correct explanation of the assertion.
c. Assertion is true but reason is false.
d. Both assertion and reason are false

(SOURCED FROM [HTTP://CBSEACADEMIC.NIC.IN](http://cbseacademic.nic.in))



TIMES NIE EDITORIAL POWERED BY STUDENTS

Despite the unprecedented threats, natural resilience is shining through

Why we need to pay attention to mental health during these critical times

Stress, fear and worry are normal responses to perceived or real threats, and at times when we are faced with uncertainty or the unknown. So it is normal and understandable that people are experiencing fear in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Faced with new realities of working from home, online teaching of children, and lack of physical contact with other family members, friends and colleagues, it is important that we look after our mental, as well as our physical health.

Mental health should be a major concern

The impact of this pandemic on one's mental health has not been thoroughly investigated since all efforts have been directed towards understanding the epidemiology. There has been little concern expressed about the impact on one's mental wellbeing. It's imperative to note here that the magnitude, spread, disease flow, and consequences of the pandemic can all be influenced by people's behaviour. One must pay attention to this aspect to truly understand the extent of the disaster.

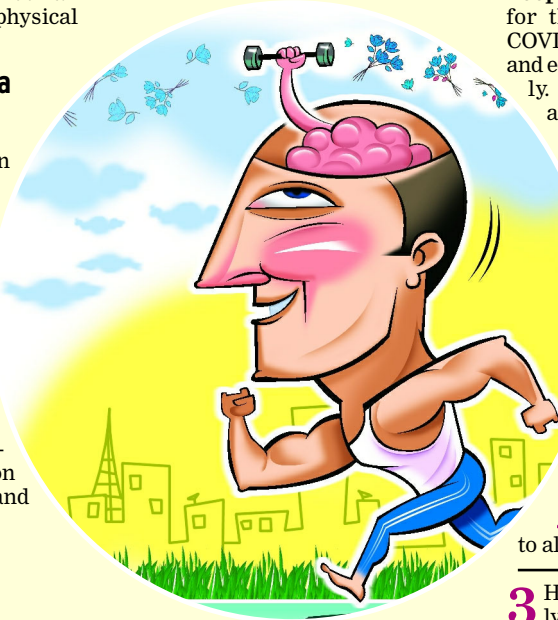
Anxiety needs to be monitored

Self-isolation is likely to have a detrimental effect on one's mental health. Separation from loved ones, lack of independence, boredom and confusion may all contribute to a decline in a person's mental health. Those with existing poor mental health are facing risks including increased episodes of mental ill health and disruption to treatment and medications. Studies have shown that COVID-19 is likely to exacerbate ex-



By HERRAH BHATIA,
Class: XII-A (Arts)
School: Mayo College
Girls School, Ajmer

isting mental health symptoms or trigger relapse among people with pre-existing mental health illness.



We are fighting it together

The student fraternity: Closure of schools and colleges has reduced opportunity for children to connect and access learning opportunities, all of which have a negative impact on their mental health. Stress and social alienation are expected to have an impact on brain health and growth, with young

children at risk of experiencing lifetime problems as a result of extended exposure to toxic stress and neglect of diet, stimulation, and health services, both of which may have an impact on brain health and development.

Frontline workers: Are playing a crucial role in fighting the outbreak and saving lives. But they are under exceptional stress and while deaths of health workers are rising, the mental ill health rates are rising faster still.

People at large: Across societies, even for those not directly impacted by COVID-19, the effects of social isolation and economic fallout are being felt widely. Large sections of populations around the world are experiencing increased anxiety, depression, stress and loneliness as a result of the COVID-19 outbreak. These are risk factors not only for the short term, but also longer-term mental health problems.

What should we do?

1 People should communicate with friends and family members on a regular basis and begin thinking positively.

2 When anxiety appears, aim to share your concern with others to alleviate it.

3 Having enough sleep, exercising daily, and using various calming strategies is efficient.

To conclude

Despite the unprecedented threats, natural resilience is shining through – something that would be critical to ensuring economies will survive and people will heal from the pandemic's effects. The experience of COVID-19 can bring us together and make us kinder to one another.

The Pandemic and Education

Last year's sudden lockdown threw the world of education into uncertainty. We were introduced to an alien concept: online school. We would be given links and would be expected to join classes on a device. But in a country where education itself is a privilege, online education becomes a luxury. Starting with the obvious: devices and connectivity. Online schooling requires both of these. But, in India only five per cent of households with members aged 5-24 have computers and the internet. In urban areas, only 27 per cent of households have a member with internet access and in rural areas, it is only five per cent. To complicate matters, it is not necessary that the device or connection is easily available with the children and usually parents have a device for their professional and personal needs. So, how would households with many children attend online classes with a single device?



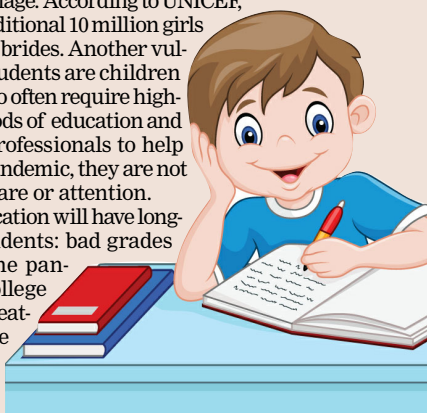
By DURGA BASU,
Class: X,
Vasant Valley
School, New Delhi

The pandemic has negatively impacted the education of the girl child in India: according to UNICEF, around 10 million girls are at risk of becoming child brides

This is the classic divide between the haves and have-nots. The poor are also more likely to have smaller homes. This poses a problem for students, as distractions make studying difficult. Upper class children also tend to go to better schools with more trained teachers, which gives them a distinct advantage. Often, poorer families experience more domestic violence, which greatly impacts a child's mental health. For such children, school was a safe space, which they can no longer turn to.

How did parents ensure that all the children got adequate schooling? They didn't. The access to education has hit girls the hardest. It is no secret that in our country, the education of the girl child is valued less. So, parents are far more likely to pull the plug on their daughter's education and instead engage them in housework, or more disturbingly: child marriage. The lack to quality education during this crisis will indeed lead to an increase in child marriage. According to UNICEF, Covid has put an additional 10 million girls at risk of becoming brides. Another vulnerable group of students are children with disabilities who often require highly specialised methods of education and specially trained professionals to help them. During the pandemic, they are not receiving enough care or attention.

This gap in education will have long-term effects on students: bad grades received during the pandemic will affect college applications and cheating during online tests will impede their learning.



We don't need no Insta-nation!

Should there be Instagram for children under 13 years of age, aka Gen Z and Alpha? Facebook thinks so. But students don't. Let's hear from them

An explosive news has engulfed the world since March 2021 – that Facebook was developing an Instagram service for kids. Currently, the photo-sharing social media app does not allow under-13 age group to be part of it even though over the years, reports have emerged that many lie about it. Now, Facebook wants to create a version of Instagram for children under 13 years aka Gen Z and Alpha, that they can use legally. The news, first reported by BuzzFeed, said that the head of Instagram – Adam Mosseri confirmed to them that a version of the app for chil-



dren under 13 is in the works.

The problem: Batting for commercial-free childhood

To ensure an ad-free childhood, two different groups have written protest letters to Facebook. A global list of prominent public health and child advocacy experts were the first to send a co-signed letter to Facebook expressing their concern. According to 'nbcnews.com', a coalition of 35 organisations and 64 individual experts, coordinated by the Campaign for a Commercial Free Childhood – a Boston-based nonprofit – raised concerns about privacy, screen time, mental health, self-esteem, and commercial pressure in a letter to Facebook CEO Mark

Zuckerberg.

The next salvo came from US lawmakers, when 40 attorney generals sent a protest letter to Facebook calling on the company to 'abandon its plans' for an Instagram for kids under the age of 13. They said it was 'harmful for myriad reasons' as it sparks concerns about cyberbullying, predatory adults, mental well-being, keeping in mind Facebook's missteps on data protection and privacy. After launching Messenger Kids in 2017 so that children could chat with their family members and friends, Facebook discovered that a technical error in it allowed children to enter group chats with strangers.

— nitya.shukla@timesgroup.com
Student inputs (below) by Team NIE

IS THERE A 'RIGHT' ANSWER TO THIS QUESTION?

A social media with parental controls in place or no social media before one turns 13 years old? We asked TOI Student Youth reporters to share their views...

They must be protected from online negativity.

Even if social media helps you link up with people all over the world and helps hone networking skills, exchange ideas, I personally urge Facebook to not launch Instagram for children as it may lead to social media addiction, which may manifest in myriad ways. Besides, children may be exposed to abusive messages, body shaming, hatred, negativity, and cyberbullying. Time and again, it has been proved that even adults have failed in handling complexes that social media creates. Why put innocent children through a similar ordeal?

Nimisha Soni, class IX, Zebur School For Children, Ahmedabad



NO WAY

YES... BRING IT ON

Why not? They will surely feel a sense of independence.

Allowing the younger generation to become familiarised with the workings of a popular social media platform, which is tailored specifically for them. It can also encourage children to learn how to stay safe online while being exposed to information from across the world. They will feel a sense of independence and parents can feel secure about the content their children are consuming.

Amrutha Varshini Thota, class XII, FIITJEE, Hyderabad



May foster a 'likes'-based self worth

The reason users prefer to be on social media of any kind is for the temporary boost of dopamine that they experience on receiving likes or well-worded comments. Younger children, wouldn't be able to fathom this superficiality of social media and would develop inferiority complex of all sorts.

Sai Krishna Priya, Class X, GTAVM, Chennai



More negatives than positives

Instances of cyberbullying, declining mental health and excessive screen time are high risks of this app. In such a case, no matter how many parental control measures are added, an Instagram for under-13 will end up having a more negative impact than positive.

Shirisha Varma, class IX, St Xavier's College, Mumbai



May prevent growth

There's a reason why Instagram is for people over 13 years. If it's created, there's no doubt children will spend most of their time on mobiles, which would eventually harm their mental health. It may also prevent the development of social skills and direct communication skills.

Bhoomika Chawla, class XI, Bhavan Vidyalaya, Chandigarh

WARNING!

Current Instagram policy forbids children under the age of 13 from using the service. Facebook, Instagram's parent company, owns a whole host of products which are used by 3.3 billion people every month



We're studying online, so why not mingle online

In one year we went from 'No phones! No computer!' to full-fledged online classes. Access to Instagram and other social media, with parental control is a natural next step. If we can replace studying in school with online classes, we may be allowed to mingle, as in school, through social media.

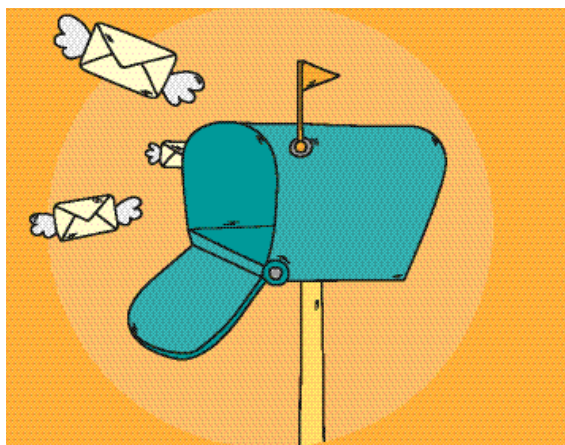
Devayani Unnikrishnan, class VII, Rajagiri Public School, Kalamassery, Ernakulam



Within reason and with strict monitoring, it's not a bad idea

I love the idea of Instagram for children under the age of 13, but if not monitored, it could spell disaster. I feel parents should have access to these accounts. Plus strict rules or dos and don'ts will help make social handles a perfect platform to share interesting bits that are kids-appropriate infotainment.

Niharika Bakshi, class VI, Wynberg Allen School, Mussoorie



WRITE TO US

SEND YOUR REPLIES, CONTRIBUTIONS AND LETTERS TO THE EDITOR ON

TIMESNIE175@GMAIL.COM

TOINIE175@GMAIL.COM

You can also post your articles, paintings, sketches, debates, concerns and feedback on WWW.TOISTUDENT.COM

WE ARE WAITING

An adventure in sustainability

Tanay Jain, 15, started the Katran Foundation to clothe underprivileged children after seeing heaps of fabric wasted at his father's factory. Know his story

Q What suddenly made you feel the need to make clothes for young children?

My aunt and I went to our in-house factory called Onaya Fashions, where we got to know about the problem of the fabric getting wasted. Then we both came up with the idea of upcycling the fabric and turning them into beautiful garments for little children in need of clothes.

Q How did this awareness for better waste management develop?

This awareness developed by seeing the amount of clothes getting wasted and the idea that this was only one factory out of the thousands in Kolkata itself. The magnitude of waste in all the factories astonished both my aunt and I and that is how the feeling of utilising it developed.

Q What logistical challenges did you face when you started this project?

Logistically, we did this in-house, among our relatives on their birthdays, anniversaries, Holi, Diwali etc. On such occasions, we upcycled the cloth and donated to orphanages and institutions for the better part of a year. Then we decided to expand it to open this idea to other people as well and that is when we started with our social media. We also employed underprivileged *karigars* from around the suburbs in Kolkata who actually upcycle this cloth and turn them into garments. We expanded the idea of Katran in January 2021, where we introduced our social media page. I involved a few of my friends, Raunak Sekaria, Pratham Madhogaria and Raunak Sarawgi, who have played an essential role in helping us expand our idea in the past few months. Like me, all of them are also students of St James School, class X, and have done a stellar job so far.

Q Was there opposition or encouragement from the family?

There was a lot of encouragement from my family, especially my aunt, uncle and my siblings, Sahil and Yashi Jain. My uncle and father who own Onaya Fashions have been super supportive regarding this initiative without whom we would not have been able to help 2500 children so far. My brother and sister also assist me and advice me and so does my aunt.

Q How difficult is it to manage studies when you are a final year student?

In the beginning, we would spend about 4-5 hours a day – meeting, thinking and creating. At that time the pressure of studies was not that much and frankly speaking, we were quite excited about this project. Now with exams coming up, we have to devote a bit less time to this, but we had already foreseen that and had done the work beforehand so that we could manage our studies well.

Q How do you plan to scale up your idea? What's the future for Katran?

The future plan for this organisation is very simple. We plan to scale this throughout the country, involving waste fabric from more factories apart from Onaya – since the amount of waste generated in the fashion industry is massive – and this can bring a sustainable change. On the other hand we also want to help as many children as possible collaborating with as many orphanages, children homes, etc. So, in the next few years with the correct exposure, marketing, and awareness, we can scale this up to a different level involving schools in this cause, as well.



LIVERPOOL BACK IN TOP 4 FOR PL

APPEAR SET TO CLINCH BERTH FOR CL

There was no need for a goalscoring goalkeeper this time. Liverpool's latest win in the Premier League, 3-0 at Burnley on Wednesday, was far more routine than the one secured by goalkeeper Alisson's sensational stoppage-time header at the weekend. It was no less vital, though.

Liverpool will head into Sunday's final round back in the top four, if only on goal difference, as last season's runaway champions look to clinch qualification for the Champions League, a possibility that looked so unlikely a month ago. With two qualifying spots up for grabs to join Manchester City and Manchester United, Chelsea is in third place on 67 points, one more than both Liverpool and fifth-place Leicester. Liverpool has a superior goal difference to Leicester of four, so any kind of victory over Crystal Palace should be enough for Jurgen Klopp's team to finish in the top four. Leicester closes the season at home to Tottenham and will need to pile up the goals if Chelsea and Liverpool win.

Straight wins on the go

■ Since a 1-1 home draw with Newcastle on April 24 that left Klopp fearing the worst, Liverpool has won four straight games, against Southampton, Manchester United, West Bromwich Albion and now Burnley, to reel in Leicester. Three days after Alisson's winner at West Brom, it was another Brazil international, Roberto Firmino, who put Liverpool ahead at Turf Moor by converting a cross from Andrew Robertson in the 43rd minute. Nat Phillips, the reserve center back filling in so admirably amid a glut of injuries in that position, scored the second goal with a header from Sadio Mane's cross in the 52nd. Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain added a third in the 88th.

■ The other thing to be decided on the final day of the season will be which teams qualify for UEFA's minor European competitions, the Europa League and the newly created Europa Conference League. West Ham is in a good position to finish sixth and qualify for the Europa League after beating West Brom 3-1. Seventh-place Tottenham lost 2-1 to Aston Villa, in what could be Harry Kane's final home game for the club, and is now tied on points with Everton, which beat Wolverhampton 1-0 at home thanks to Richarlison's header. Arsenal is a point further back in ninth after a 3-1 win at Crystal Palace. Newcastle won 1-0 at home to Sheffield United in Wednesday's other game.

It was like a semi-final. We had to win the semi-final and we did. Nothing is decided yet but we improved our position and we have the final. That's what we needed. It's what we deserve because this was a top performance. You can't give any chance away against Burnley because of the way they play. They wanted to go for our centre-halves but our boys did outstandingly well. We knew before the game it would be incredibly tough - they had about 3,500 people, not on our side. The atmosphere in football is massive. I thought the boys dealt really well with that. They didn't get distracted - they tried to use it because the noise is nice. We played a lot of good football stuff. You can't go to Burnley and hope to win 3-0. It's usually incredibly tight. We have to make sure we recover quickly. We have a thin squad in some positions. We have to wrap them in cotton wool. I can't wait for the 10,00 fans at Anfield. Nothing is decided, Palace are strong.

JURGEN KLOPP, Liverpool manager



Liverpool's goalkeeper Alisson, right, saves from Burnley's Chris Wood, left, during the English Premier League soccer match between Burnley and Liverpool

Photos: GETTY IMAGES

INDIAN WOMEN TO PLAY MAIDEN PINK BALL TEST

TEST AGAINST ENGLAND TO BE FOLLOWED BY DAY-NIGHT MATCH IN AUS

The Indian women's cricket team will compete in its maiden day-night Test from September 30 to October 3 when it tours Australia this year. The match will be played in Perth, which hasn't hosted a day-night game as yet, Cricket Australia said after BCCI secretary Jay Shah made the initial announcement. "Taking forward our commitment towards women's cricket, I am extremely pleased to announce that Team India @BCCIwomen will play in their first ever pink ball day-night Test later this year in Australia," Shah tweeted.

Eng Test after seven years

The Indian women's team, which will play its first Test in seven years from June 16 in England, will compete in another one during the tour of Australia. The team will also play three ODIs (from Sep-

tember 19 to 24) and as many T20 International matches (from October 7 to 11) Down Under. India last played a Test against Australia in 2006. The pink ball Test between India and Australia will be only the second such match to be held in the history of women's cricket. The only day-night women's game played so far was between Australia and England at Sydney in November 2017. The match ended in a draw.

Tough challenge ahead

Preparing for both the England and Australia Test will be a challenge since the women don't play with red ball even on the domestic circuit. "It will be a challenge for sure but the good thing is that

FIRST AUS-INDIA WOMEN'S TEST IN 15 YEARS

The September 30 - Oct. 3 match in Perth will be the first test between the Australian and Indian women's teams in 15 years. The series will also mark the first time the teams have met since the record-breaking Twenty20 World Cup final at the Melbourne Cricket Ground. In March 2020, Australia beat India by 85 runs to win its fifth Women's T20 World Cup title. A crowd of 86,174 spectators watched the match at the Melbourne Cricket Ground, just weeks before the coronavirus pandemic shut down most of world sport.

Cricket Australia on Thursday said the Australian women's team will play India in three one-day internationals at Sydney's North Sydney Oval on Sept. 19 and Melbourne's Junction Oval on Sept. 22 and Sept. 24. After the test match, India's tour will conclude with T20 matches at North Sydney Oval on Oct. 7, 9 and 11.

women are getting to play Tests," a former India player said. "The pink ball game in Australia will be a tougher challenge as the girls have never played with that ball but I am sure they will get to prepare well for it. A few practice games will also be needed," she added.

Welcome move

England and Australia are the only two teams which regularly play Test cricket, mainly against each other in the Women's Ashes. Going forward, India will also be seen playing the longest format against the two teams. "As players, we've said for a long time that we'd love to play more Test matches," Australia captain Meg Lanning said. "It's an exciting prospect and I know (India) are heading over to England to play a Test match pretty soon so it shows they're up for the challenge and really willing to play that format." ■

DRAVID TO BE HEAD COACH FOR INDIA'S SL TOUR

National Cricket Academy chief and former India captain Rahul Dravid is set to be the head coach of the Indian white-ball squad that will tour Sri Lanka in July. Dravid, who stopped travelling with the India A and U-19 teams after taking over as NCA head in Bengaluru, will be the head coach of the second-string side in the absence of Ravi Shastri, who will be busy with the Test side in England at the same time.

India are expected to play three ODIs and as many T20s in Sri Lanka. Hardik Pandya, Shikhar Dhawan and Shreyas Iyer are in the running for captaincy. It remains to be seen if Iyer recovers in time from his shoulder surgery for Sri Lanka. ■



Photo: GETTY IMAGES

QUIZ TIME!

Q1: Who won the ICC World Cup 2019?

- a) India ☐ b) England ☐
 c) New Zealand ☐ d) Australia ☐

Q2: In Tennis, the hard court is the type of court whose surface is made of -

- a) Concrete ☐ b) Clay ☐
 c) Grass ☐ d) Carpet ☐

Q3: Which one of the following is not a football tournament?

- a) I - league ☐ b) Irani Trophy ☐
 c) Bardoloi Trophy ☐ d) Durand Cup ☐

Q4: Who is the nine-time Wimbledon Champion of Women's Singles Match in Tennis?

- a) Serena Williams ☐ b) Steffi Graf ☐
 c) Martina Navratilova ☐ d) Chris Evert ☐

Q5: Ashes is the tournament played between which two cricket teams?

- a) India vs Pakistan ☐
 b) New Zealand vs South Africa ☐
 c) Sri Lanka vs West Indies ☐
 d) Australia vs England ☐

Q6: Who became India's second Grand Master in Chess after Vishwanathan Anand?

- a) Dibyendu Barua ☐ b) Abhijit Kunte ☐
 c) Pravin Thipsay ☐ d) None of the above ☐

Q7: Shafali Verma became the youngest to score a 50 in International Cricket. Whose 30-year-old record did she break?

- a) Rahul Dravid ☐ b) Sachin Tendulkar ☐
 c) Diana Edulji ☐ d) Yuvraj Singh ☐



Photo: GETTY IMAGES

Q8: Which country has won the maximum number of times which is 5?

- a) Argentina ☐ b) Germany ☐
 c) Brazil ☐ d) England ☐

Q9: The Frank Worrell Trophy is a test-match (cricket) series played between Australia and...?

- a) West Indies ☐ b) India ☐
 c) Pakistan ☐ d) Australia ☐

Q10: Who amongst the following has become the first in women's cricket, to have 20 years of international cricket experience?

- a) Harmanpreet Kaur ☐ b) Mithali Raj ☐
 c) Smriti Mandhana ☐ d) Jhulan Goswami ☐

Q11: How many of the 17 Grand Prix this season did Lewis Hamilton win?

- a) 9 ☐ b) 10 ☐ c) 11 ☐ d) 12 ☐

Q12: Novak Djokovic has defeated 7-5, 6-2, 6-2 to win his ninth Australian Open championship 2021 and 18th Grand Slam title.

- a) Roger Federer ☐ b) Rafael Nadal ☐
 c) Stefanos Tsitsipas ☐ d) Daniil Medvedev ☐

ANSWERS: 1. b. England 2. a. Concrete
 3. b. Irani Trophy 4. c. Martina Navratilova
 5. d. Australia vs England 6. a. Dibyendu Barua
 7. b. Sachin Tendulkar 8. c. Brazil
 9. a. West Indies 10. b. Mithali Raj
 11. c. 11 12. d. Daniil Medvedev