



THE TIMES OF INDIA

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TODAY'S EDITION

➤ Principals, teachers and students, share their views on environment
PAGE 2



➤ We are back with your favourite page: Wizard's Corner- A complete activity page filled with DIY, quiz, puzzles, riddles, and much more!!!
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➤ Not going to be easy at Tokyo Olympics: PV Sindhu
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STUDENT EDITION

FRIDAY, JUNE 4, 2021


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

Why is the Arctic warming faster than other parts of the world?

WHAT The Arctic region has warmed by about 2 degree Celsius— twice as fast in recent times. This warming differential between the poles and the tropics is known as Arctic (or polar) amplification.

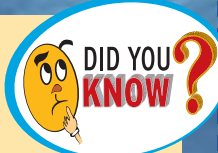
WHY It occurs: Whenever there is any change in the net radiation balance of the Earth, it produces a larger change in temperature near the poles than the global average. It is typically measured as the ratio of polar warming to tropical warming.

HOW is climate change driving Arctic amplification? This amplification is primarily caused by melting ice — a process that is increasing in the Arctic at a rate of 13% per decade. Ice is more reflective and less absorbent of sunlight than land or the surface of an ocean. When ice melts, it reveals the darker areas of land or sea, and this results in increased sunlight absorption and warming.



■ Polar amplification is much stronger in the Arctic than in Antarctica. This difference is because the Arctic is an ocean covered by sea ice, while Antarctica is an elevated continent covered in more permanent ice and snow
■ In fact, the Antarctic continent has not warmed in the past seven decades, despite a steady

increase in the atmospheric concentrations of greenhouse gases
■ The exception is the Antarctic peninsula, which juts out further north into the Southern Ocean, and has been warming faster than any other terrestrial environment in the southern hemisphere during the latter half of the 20th century
■ Satellite data also show that between 2002 and 2020, Antarctica lost an average of 149 billion metric tons of ice per year, partly because the oceans around the continent are warming



EFFECTS OF ARCTIC WARMING

1 One of the most significant effects of Arctic amplification is the weakening of west-to-east jet streams in the northern hemisphere. As the Arctic warms at a faster rate than the tropics, this results in a weaker atmospheric pressure gradient and hence lower wind speeds

2 The links between Arctic amplification, slowing (or meandering) jet streams, blocking highs and extreme weather events in the mid to high latitudes of the northern hemisphere is controversial. One view is that the link is strong and the major driver behind the recent severe summer heat waves and winter cold waves. But more recent research questions the validity of these links for the mid latitudes

3 The Arctic is warming much faster than the rest of the planet and the loss of reflect-



tive ice contributes somewhere between 30-50% of the Earth's global heating. This rapid loss of ice affects the polar jet stream, a concentrated pathway of air in the upper atmosphere, which drives the weather patterns across the northern hemisphere

4 The weakened jet stream meanders and brings the polar vortex further south, which results in extreme weather events in North America, Europe and Asia

WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY SPECIAL



"We do not inherit the earth from our ancestors, we borrow it from our children."
Native American Proverb

With children coming to the forefront of environment activism and debate, this WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY (June 5), we have a SPECIAL EDITION for you that is all green — in spirit at least. You get plenty of greenspiration from students doing their bit, books, movies and documentaries, trivia, eco warriors, reasons to be hopeful, and how you too can make a difference. **Get ready to go green.**

I TOO AM AN ECO WARRIOR
Students tell you their little green deeds that can make a big difference

HOLD ON TO HOPE
Even as the news cycle doesn't bode well for Mother Earth, we tell you news that gives you reason to be positive

HERE COME THE PLANETEERS
Famous eco warriors — past and present. Read up to get inspired HOW CAN I HELP
Online campaigns, petitions, initiatives, channels to follow that can help you do your bit for the world, even while sitting at home

MY GREEN READS
You recco, we read. Share your green reads with us...
Also want to green your reading routine, we tell you how...
Green sports personalities, inspiring celebs, lots of trivia and MORE

GET READY TO GO GREEN

Greta Thunberg aims TO CHANGE HOW FOOD IS PRODUCED

Swedish climate activist Greta Thunberg has now set her sights on changing how the world produces and consumes food in order to counteract a trio of threats: carbon emissions, disease outbreaks and animal suffering. In a video posted on Twitter, Thunberg said the environmental impact of farming as well as disease outbreaks such as Covid-19, believed to have originated from animals, would be reduced by changing how food was produced. "Our relationship with nature is broken. But relationships can change," Thunberg said in the video. The spillover of diseases from animals to humans was caused by farming methods, she said, adding that a move to a plant-based diet could save up to 8 billion tons of CO2 each year.

A focus on agriculture and linking the climate crisis to health pandemics is a new angle for Thunberg, who has typically focused her ire on policymakers and carbon emissions from fossil fuels

➤ The World Health Organisation has said that the coronavirus was probably transmitted from bats to humans through another animal, while scientists say 60% of the infectious human diseases that emerged between 1990 and 2004 came from animals

➤ Meanwhile, the demand for alternatives to regular meat is surging worldwide due to concerns about health, animal welfare and the environment

➤ More than two dozen firms are testing lab-grown fish, beef and

chicken, hoping to break into an unproven segment of the alternative meat market, which Barclays estimates could be worth \$140 billion by 2029
➤ The Global Center on Adaptation, which works to accelerate climate resilience said, climate change could depress global food production by up to 30%, while rising seas and more intense storms could force hundreds of millions of people in coastal cities out of their homes



NASA's Mars Curiosity Rover Captures Earth-like Clouds Shining on the Red Planet

NASA's Mars Curiosity rover has captured shining clouds on Mars, which arrived earlier and formed higher than expected. The atmosphere on Mars is thin, dry, and cloudy days are rare. The clouds are typically found at the planet's equator in the coldest time of year, when Mars is the farthest from the sun in its oval-shaped orbit. But the scientists noticed clouds forming over Curiosity rover earlier than expected, one full Martian year ago — two Earth years.


SPACE

1 In late January this year, the team started documenting these "early" clouds. The images show wispy puffs filled with ice crystals that scattered light from the setting sun, some of them shimmering with colour

2 The rover's Mast Camera, or Mastcam snapped colour images and the iridescent, or "mother of pearl" clouds on March 5, 2021, the 3,048th Martian day

3 Further, the Curiosity team also discovered that the early-arrival clouds are actually at higher altitudes than is typical. Most Martian clouds hover no more than about 60 kilometres in the sky, and are composed of water ice. But the clouds



Curiosity has imaged are at a higher altitude, where it's very cold, indicating that they are likely made of frozen carbon dioxide, or dry ice

4 Curiosity, which landed on Mars in 2012, was designed to assess whether Mars ever had an environment able to support small life forms called microbes

Oscars delayed, as pandemic rules continue

The Oscars have been postponed for a second consecutive year, and the relaxed eligibility rules allowing films to skip movie theatres will be kept in place due to the pandemic, the Academy said. After the ratings nosedived for this year's unusual pandemic-affected Oscars, which were held at a Los Angeles train station, the postponement avoids potentially-costly clashes with the Super Bowl and Winter Olympics.

■ The 94th Academy Awards will now take place on March 27, 2022, exactly a month later than originally planned, and are set to return to their traditional venue at Hollywood's Dolby Theatre
■ The Academy's decision to delay could cause other major Hollywood award ceremonies to follow suit in a domino effect


Entertainment


RE imagine, create, store

Covid-19 Pandemic situation has pushed us to rethink our responsibilities towards the environment and our well-being with an urgency. As the world celebrates World Environment Day 2021 with the mantra, 'Reimagine, Recreate and Restore,' we invite you to click here and bring a change with Toistudent.com

ReImagine

'Reimagine 2030 with The Use Of Clean Energy'. Write, Paint or Make a video. Log onto the Your Corner and Hall Of Fame section of the website and send in your entries

ReStore

Take the reins in your hand and restore the ecosystem of your choice.
PICK ONE FROM
■ Forests ■ Rivers and lakes
■ Oceans and coasts ■ Towns and cities ■ Mountains
Share your ideas on how would you want to restore the balance

ReCreate

Recreating from waste has been a big theme during the pandemic. Tell us how have you been reusing from the waste— whether it's making plant pots from plastic bottles or compost for your terrace garden

SEND IN YOUR ENTRIES BY JUNE 4 AT TOINIE175@GMAIL.COM AND TIMESNIE175@GMAIL.COM WITH YOUR NAME, CLASS, AND SCHOOL



REALISE, ACT, PRESERVE

The World Environment Day reminds us of our responsibility towards making Earth a better place to live. The battle against the climate crisis can only be won with collective effort. So, this year let us take a pledge to be compassionate towards our planet

STUDENTS SAY...

To celebrate this year's environment day, we must ensure that whatever masks we use, be it a simple cloth mask, or a N95 mask, we must all remove the elastic when disposing. Because of the pandemic, a lot of masks are in use and disposing them off without removing elastic is a big threat to the environment and all the birds and fishes. And practising this habit not just for the world environment day but for the rest of the year will help the environment be clean and safe for all.



RADHIKA CHOPRA, class X, Fr. Agnel Multipurpose School, Vashi

Nature is the most beautiful gift bestowed upon by the universe. But there is a dire need to save the environment, as we humans tend to take it for granted. I minimise my use of plastics, cautiously separate my wastes, and try to spread awareness about saving the environment.



PIA OZA, class X, Sri Sri Ravishankar Vidya Mandir, Borivali East

It is due time that we become more responsible of our actions that lead to the degradation of the Earth. We humans generate unbelievable amounts of waste that pollute everything from water to air. I believe if this World Environment Day we pledge to generate the least amount of waste as possible we can conserve the precious elements of nature. Even small steps such as this, if done by all of us together can unknowingly make a great deal of difference.



AVANI PANDIT, class X, Apeejay School, Nerul

No human is as powerful as the environment itself. We call the 'Earth' our Mother, and just exploit it, but it's high time we undo our misdoings, or at least start the process. I not only plant trees on a regular basis but also take care of them. We cannot stop benefitting from the environment, but we should try giving back the utmost, if not for ourselves, then for our coming generations.



GARVIT AGARWAL, class X, NL Dalmia High School

'Human actions need to be checked'

With respect to the environment, our world is witnessing drastic effects of man made actions that have been going on centuries in an unregulated manner: Rising sea levels, ozone depletion, deforestation, acid rain, ocean acidification, air pollution etc. are some of the major environmental problems that exist. The current state of the environment is in a very unpredictable and dangerous scenario and thus actions to curb the problems any further need to be implemented as soon as possible.



1. Funding renewable sources of energy, phase out the use of fossil fuels
2. Using the model of 5 R's - learn the 5 R's: refuse, reduce, reuse, rot, recycle: Going towards zero waste is a great step towards combating climate change
3. Bike more and drive less
4. Conserve water and protect our waterways
5. Eat seasonally, locally, and plant more trees

Swachh Bharat Mission, Clean Ganga Mission, National Air Quality Index (NAQI), Toilets Before Temples, Mount Everest Ascent, Water Conservation, et al. The government has introduced many missions but public awareness and strict implementation has to be practiced.

If we fail to take care of the environment in the coming ten years we are going to face scarcity of water and food, poor air quality, in addition to many other problems. It will be difficult to survive. Therefore it is high time we correct the situation.

SUNANDA NAIR, teacher, St Therese Convent, Dombivli

'Preserve environment for a better future'

Environmental conservation is the need of the hour, it is affected by our behavior towards it and if we don't contribute towards conservation, then we can't expect it from others. For instance while traveling to work, observe ways in which we all are burdening the environment - walk wherever possible or use a bicycle. Electric vehicles are being introduced, learn to use them. Use more CNG vehicles which are considered greener. Follow a four-point solution that is reuse, recycle, reduce and replace to tackle your carbon footprint. Indian government should



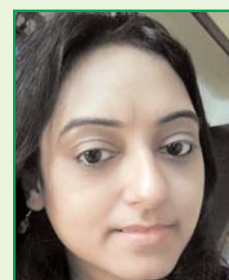
give basic directives to organisations throughout the nation and insist on creating a collective travel service by institutions and companies can help lower pollution. We as individuals must contribute to conservation in our own ways. Everyone must take adequate steps to conserve nature and natural resources - it is bound to lead to a better future.

ANITA SHARMA, from HFS Powai
As told to Samyukta Siva Kumar, Former Star Correspondent

'Take charge of the situation'

According to me, the global environment has declined with respect to all parameters. This is not new to discuss. Because of this pandemic situation we have been sitting at home for over a year. Due to this, the animals have flourished. There is minimum human interaction and it is like a paradox. This will not be the case once the lockdowns are lifted and again it will be reverted. World environment has therefore degraded over the past decade.

We should control the amount of carbon in the environment by using the 5R's. Reuse, reduce, recycle, are the most important. We should reuse the sources we have, reduce the amount of waste and recycle the waste. The other 2R's are refuse and rot.



Government should be productive in the sustainable development. And they should create awareness about how to reuse the resources and sustainable development. Also, before any major developmental projects like construction of railways, bridges, et al should get an approval from the EIA. (Environmental Impact Assessments).

The future of the planet ten years from now is obviously worrisome. Because environmental factors like biodiversity loss, cause environmental threats. We never know how much biodiversity will remain because of the way they are interfering with the wild life. And the pollution level should be checked or else it can increase global warming and the condition can simply worsen.

AVISHIKTA MUKHERJEE, teacher, Fr. Agnel Multipurpose School, Vashi

As told to Radhika Chopra, class X, Fr. Agnel Multipurpose School, Vashi
Vashi, Navi Mumbai

'Say no to plastic bags'

If we want a better future, clean air and clean water, we need to start taking action. This world environment day, I hope everyone understands the importance of sustainability! I had long ago convinced my family into using only paper/cloth bags, we try and save as much water as possible, we reuse old/used papers by giving them a new purpose, we try to use public transport very often. We're trying our best to help save the environment, hoping everyone does the same!



TWISHA KARRA, class X, Fr. Agnel Multipurpose School and Jr College, Ambarnath West

'Every small step will pave the path in the right direction'

The planet earth needs to be saved and we all need to do the best we can to save it from the evils of: excessive pollution, industrialization, encroaching upon forest land et al. Every step must be taken to stop ravaging Mother Nature. It is time every individual vows to keep the environment safe and sound. Forest land needs to be preserved and human settlement on that land should be strictly prohibited. We have a long way to go, but every small step will pave the path in the right direction.

The need for protection and conservation of environment and sustainable use of natural resources is reflected in the constitutional framework of India and also in the international commitments of India. The Constitution under Part IVA (Art 51A-Funda-



mental Duties) casts a duty on every citizen of India to protect and improve the natural environment including forests, lakes, rivers and wildlife, and to have compassion for living creatures. Further, the Constitution of India under Part IV (Art 48A-Directive Principles of State Policies) stipulates that the State shall endeavour to protect and improve the environment and to safeguard the forests and wildlife of the country.

Several environment protection legislations existed even before Independence of India. However, the true emphasis for putting in force a well-developed framework came only after the UN Conference on the Human Environment (Stockholm, 1972). **DR SOBHANA NAIR**, Sr. Coordinator for Jr College, Guardian High School, Dombivli

'Reduce, reuse and recycle'

Currently, the human race is affected badly by the pandemic. Natural disasters have led to environmental degradation, which has affected both flora and fauna. Resource depletion is also peaking up.

One must switch to renewable sources of energy. Moreover, we should try moving away from printed documents wherever possible, to reduce usage of paper. In workplaces, people should opt for digital media. Lastly, we can also change our diet, by attempting to re-



duce dairy and meat consumption. There should be a strict implementation of all laws pertaining to wildlife and environment. Everyone should promote the 3 R Mantra - Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle.

I believe that if these steps are not implemented, the world after 10 years would be more hostile and less fertile, more crowded and less diverse.

MADHUNANDAN POOJARY, science teacher, SSPM's Sri Sri Ravishankar Vidya Mandir, Borivali East

As told to Pia Oza, class X, SSPM's Sri Sri Ravishankar Vidya Mandir

'Consciously work towards leading an eco-friendly lifestyle'

Personally, I try as much as possible to not take a polythene bag from vendors. We all know the effects of unregulated plastic waste. Another deed that I am sticking to is to walk as much as possible to places where I can. Instead of going separately for evening walks, one can walk to nearby places. I always carry my litter with me and then, dispose it in a proper dustbin.



AARYA BHANUSHALI, class X, S.V.D.D. English Medium Secondary School

'Use your mind and heart to preserve Nature'

"He who plants a tree, plants a friend of sun and sky and plants cool and tender rain," aptly scripted by the renowned poet-Sir Henry Cyler Burner in his poem 'The Heart of the Tree'. The 'World Environment Day' is an initiative taken by the United Nations towards a resourceful yet sustainable life on earth. This day is celebrated on 5th June

every year. On this day, the organisers and the foundations promote the masses to pledge to take care of the environment and plant saplings. But, is this enough? Mother Earth has provided us with various resources which stand as strong pillars for the human race. Unfortunately, these days due to man's greed, these pillars are no longer durable and are now turning pliable. We should take care of Mother earth not only once but on daily basis. We can reduce the pollution by using eco-friendly products and by planting saplings once a week. Mother Earth has given us bountiful gifts, it's time we return it in the right way. We as the most evolved species have to act in a sensible manner and have to act in a compassionate manner, using MIND and HEART to Creation and its Creator.



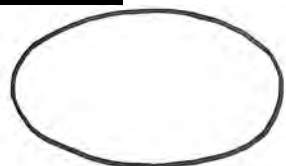
SHREYA MANIAR, class IX, Universal High School, Malad

LEVEL-1

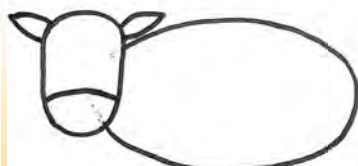


SEJAL ANJARIA
Art Educator-
Zebar School for
Children, Ahmed

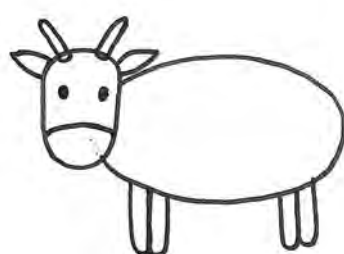
Draw the easy way



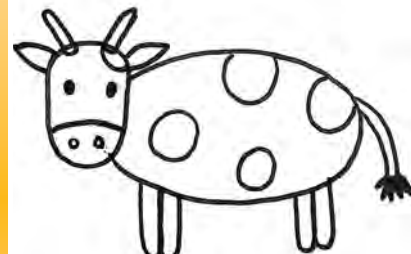
Step-1



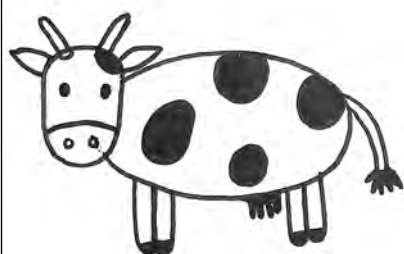
Step-2



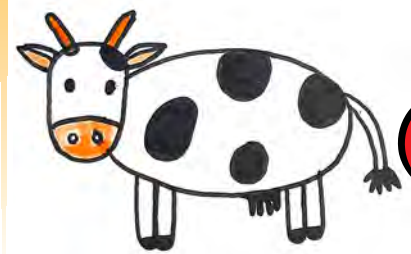
Step-3



Step-4



Step-5



Step-6



ISTRTDIC

- A: island B: silly
C: diction D: district

ERVVASIE

- A: persuade B: vases
C: pervasive D: vast

ESTRWHEEL

- A: while
B: establish
C: stable
D: erstwhile

Answers: 1) D 2) C 3) D

Riding with the Riddle

I am a symbol of love and the pride of India.

I am one of the seven wonders on the world.

You can find me on the banks of a river.

I am facing a threat due to pollution.

Answers: Taj Mahal

Quiz TIME



1 The following pollutant is not contained in the vehicular exhaust emissions:

- a) Lead
b) Ammonia
c) Carbon monoxide
d) Particulate matter

2 Environmental friendliness of a vehicle could be measured by the amount of pollutants it emits per passenger per kilometre travelled. Rate the environmental friendliness (1=best & 4=worst) of the following vehicles

as per this criterion:

Car : scooter : bus : bicycle

- a) 4:3:2:1 b) 2:3:4:1 c) 3:2:4:1
d) 4:2:3:1

3 Diesel exhaust is the main source of three highly toxic pollutants that have a widespread impact on the urban air quality and human health. Name them

- a) SPM, Sulphur dioxide and Nitrogen oxides (NOx)
b) Suspended particulate matter (SPM), benzene
c) Sulphur dioxide, Ammonia, Benzene
d) Lead, NOx, CO₂

4 Earlier, leaded petrol used to be the most widespread, though easily preventable, source of urban air pollution in the world. According to WHO (World Health Organization), 15-18 million children in the developing countries are already suffering from permanent brain damage due to lead poisoning. Why is tetraethyl lead added to petrol?

- a) It prevents engine knocking
b) Reduces vehicular emissions
c) Increases life of motor tyres
d) None of the above

Answers: 1) b, 2) a, 3) b, 4) a

SOURCE: TERI

LEVEL-2

Idiom-etrics

(Choose the idiom that best suits the situation)

Vinay has signed up for a competition, which has a prize money of ₹ 50,000. He clears the preliminary online test with high scores and is now sure that he will win the final of the competition that will be held next week. In fact he is so confident of winning that he went shopping online and ordered a horde of goodies for himself. Alas, when the results were announced, Vinay realized he had spent the money before he had won it.

- A) Beat around the bush
B) Better late than never
C) Don't count your chickens before they hatch



Answer: C

Lucy studied hard for her Board exams. She was focussed in her studies. And her hard work paid off, as she topped the Board



- a) Can't make heads or tails of
b) Burn the midnight oil
c) Two heads are better than one

Answer: B

TRIVIA

In 1635, this phrase was used by Francis Quarles in literary work, which was a synonym to the word 'elucidate'. It literally meant to work by the side of a candle. To burn the midnight oil was the English way of saying that someone was working hard through the night because candles were used in the olden times to provide light at night. The word 'elucidate' was defined in 1623 as doing things by the candlelight

SOURCE: THEIDIOMS.COM

EDITOR IN THE MAKING

Weave a story with headlines

Read the news and give a catchy headline that can go with your news at toinie175@gmail.com. The best three entries will be published in the edition. Watch out for this space!!!

News

Japanese tennis superstar Naomi Osaka withdrew herself from the French Open late on Monday. Osaka, who is the highest earning female athlete on the planet, posted on social media about her withdrawal. She had earlier announced she wouldn't be addressing press conferences at Roland Garros. The 23-year-old said she had suffered long bouts of depression after the 2018 US Open.



Learn a NEW LANGUAGE FRENCH

1) Bonjour!
Meaning: Good morning, hello

2) Bienvenue
Meaning: Welcome

3) Parlez-vous anglais?
Meaning: Do you speak English?

4) Je ne parle pas français
MEANING: I do not speak French

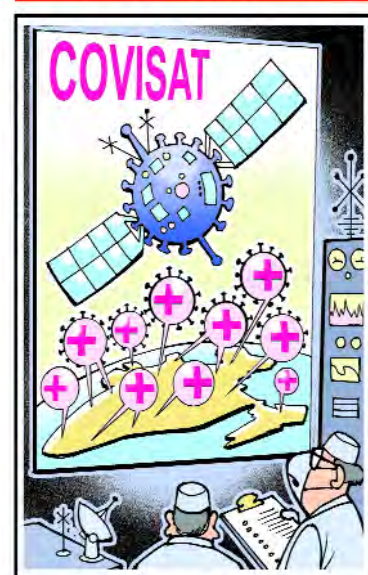
5) Excusez-moi
MEANING: Excuse me

Work sheet

- How will you greet someone before starting a conversation?
- What will you say, if u want to ask a stranger if he can speak English ..
- What will you say if someone stops you on the road and says something in French?
- How will you respond, if a cop stops you and starts asking questions?

Answer: 1) Bonjour, 2) Excusez-moi, 3) Parlez-vous anglais?, 4) Je ne parle pas français, 5) Je ne parle pas français.

JUST LIKE THAT AJIT NINAN



For '+ve' news



MATH MAGIC

WHAT NUMBER SHOULD REPLACE THE QUESTION MARK?

Q 12 x 12 = 9
23 x 23 = 16
34 x 34 = ?

If 34x34 = 1156, then 1 + 1 + 5 + 6 = 13

Answer: 13

Q 1, 3, 4, 7, 11, 18, 29, ?

Answer: 47
Each number is the sum of the previous two numbers, ie 18 + 29 = 47

Q 70 91 120
14 13 24
5 7 ?

Answer: 5 (70/14 = 5; 91/13 = 7; 120/24 = 5)

WON'T BE EASY IN TOKYO: SINDHU

SAYS ALL TOP WOMEN PLAYERS ARE VERY GOOD AND WILL HAVE TO KEEP FOCUS, BUT INSISTS LIFE COMES FIRST

Spain star Carolina Marin might have been ruled out of the Tokyo Olympics but ace Indian shuttler PV Sindhu knows that she still cannot take it easy considering the stiff competition she has to face in the upcoming Games. Rio 2016 Olympic badminton champion Marin on Tuesday announced that she has sustained an injury and will be undergoing surgery later this week. Sindhu had tasted defeat in a classic encounter against Marin in the 2016 Olympics and in the Swiss Open final in March.

Can't take it easy

"Well I don't think so because you know in the women's circuit, top 1 to 10 are of the same standards. You can't take it easy if one player is out due to injury," said Sindhu during a virtual interaction organised by SAI.

"If you see there are a couple of really really good play-

ers. So you can't take it easy, you can't say that since one player is not there it might be easy because everybody would be preparing for the Olympics and everybody will be in full form," she added. Players like

The Indian shuttler said she has to keep on working hard and be focused to give her best in the Tokyo Olympics. "So I think from my side, I have to keep working hard, I can't relax and take it easy and for me, it is one step at a time. I need to be just focused and give my best," said Sindhu. Ratchanok Intanon, Nozomi Okuhara, Tai Tzu-ying, Akane Yamaguchi and An Se-young will be looking to give their 100%. I will need to be in top form. I will be taking one match at a time.

Can't control the situation

Saina Nehwal and Kidambi Srikanth's slim chances of qualifying for the Tokyo Olympics ended last week after Badminton World Federation (BWF) confirmed that no further tournaments will be played inside the qualifying window. Sindhu said she felt sad after knowing that Saina and Srikanth have to miss out on Olympics this year. "We

are in a situation that you never know what's going to happen, like when are the tournaments going to get cancelled and when are they going to happen. It's not only for us, it's for every player across the globe," said Sindhu.

"So we can't think that if we would have played a particular tournament we would have qualified because I'm sure they might be having their own personal rankings and the tournaments they wanted to play. But in these times we cannot do anything about that. Obviously if they would have been selected it would have been good for our Indian contingent. I'm sad that they are not selected," she added.

Life comes first

The Indian shuttler pointed out that life comes first and

hence for the safety and benefit of the athletes the tournaments got cancelled. "These are tough times, but for me life comes first. We need to take care of ourselves. It's important to stay safe. During the lockdown... well, that was the first in a very long time that I was spending quality time with my parents. Before that, it was about coming back from tournaments, training at home and again off to events."

"We didn't know we would be in such a situation when COVID started. We got into lockdown and tournaments got cancelled. Even the organisers... the Badminton Association and BWF are really trying hard to make it happen," said Sindhu.

She insists being in the bio-bubble is important. "When I travelled this year for tournaments, we were put in a bio-bub-

ble where we would stay put in our hotel, go for training and matches, even have our food delivered to our rooms. We were not allowed to mix for the safety of all athletes. We were getting tested thrice a week. I felt safe inside the bio-bubble. I hope there will be no Covid cases among athletes at the Games Village and during the Olympics.

According to BWF, while the qualification period officially closes on June 15, as per the Revised Tokyo 2020 qualification system, the current Race To Tokyo rankings list will not change.

Playing without spectators

On playing without spectators she said it will definitely be a different atmosphere. "I am getting used to practicing at the Gachibowli stadium. It's the new normal for everyone. Even in tournaments I played in Thailand, England and Switzerland, there were no spectators. I would have definitely loved to have people cheering for India in Tokyo, but it's not a big issue for me. I hope everyone will be sitting in front of their TV sets cheering for us!" AGENCIES

Sindhu will face strong contenders during the Olympics in Tokyo

Photo: AFP

INDIA, NEW ZEALAND ON EQUAL FOOTING: KOHLI

Being in final is result of accumulation of years of hard work, says the India captain

India captain Virat Kohli has said that India and New Zealand would contest the inaugural World Test Championship (WTC) final as equals, despite expectations that playing conditions would better suit his opponents. The limited preparation time available to India before the final, which begins on June 18 at the Ageas Bowl in Southampton, would not impact the team's chances due to their previous experience of playing in England, Kohli added.

India lost 2-0 to New Zealand in their two-Test series last year; their only defeat in the WTC, which began in August 2019. "We are on equal terms," Kohli told a news conference. "The conditions are as potent for New Zealand as they are for us. Whichever team performs well session by session, hour by hour, is going to win that championship."

Familiar with conditions

"In the past, we've landed three days prior to the sched-

ule and had a great tour. It's not the first time we're touring England. We all know what the conditions are like. We don't have any issues even with just four practice sessions ahead of the final. We all want to make the most of the opportunity at hand," Kohli added that reaching the final was a testament to India's recent progress in the format and held a lot of value for the team.

"We take pride in playing Test cricket," he said. "The way we have progressed as a side is an example of what Test

cricket means to us. As a unit, those of us who have been part of the Test side for years, this is an accumulation of all our hard work. We are very happy to take the opportunity to play the finals." India will undergo 10 days of quarantine on arrival in Southampton while New Zealand are currently playing England at Lord's in the first of two Tests.

REUTERS



QUIZ TIME!

Q1: The Black Caps will play England at Lord's, and India at Southampton. Where is the other England test?

- a) The Oval ☐ b) Headingley ☐
c) Edgbaston ☐ d) Old Trafford ☐

Q2: Barcelona won their first Women's Champions League title by beating Chelsea by what score at the weekend?

- a) 4-0 ☐ b) 2-0 ☐ c) 3-0 ☐ d) 5-0 ☐

Q3: Which city is the frontrunner with the IOC

to host the 2032 Olympic Games?

- a) Johannesburg ☐ b) Brisbane ☐
c) Melbourne ☐ d) Cape Town ☐

Q4: Chris Wood bagged his 12th goal of the Premier League season in Burnley's 2-0 win over Fulham. How many times has the All Whites striker now scored for the Clarets in all competitions?

- a) 85 ☐ b) 45 ☐ c) 50 ☐ d) 49 ☐

Q5: Who is second behind BJ Watling on the list of most New Zealand test wicketkeeping dismissals?

- a) Ken Wadsworth ☐ b) Adam Parore ☐
c) Ian Smith ☐ d) Brendon McCullum ☐

Q6: How many Olympic medals has Lisa Carrington won?

- a) Two ☐ b) Four ☐ c) Five ☐ d) Three ☐



Photo: GETTY IMAGES

Q7: Sergey Bubka was a World Champion and gold medal winner in which sport?

- a) Pole Vault ☐ b) Long Jump ☐
c) Shot Put ☐ d) Swimming ☐

Q8: Peter Crouch played 225 goals for which club?

- a) Stoke City ☐ b) Watford F.C. ☐
c) Swansea City ☐ d) Reading F.C. ☐

Q9: Who is the first Indian rower to win a gold at the Asian Games in the year 2010?

- a) Sawarn Singh ☐ b) Bajrang Lal Takhar ☐
c) Dattu Baban Bhokanal ☐ d) Dushyant Chauhan ☐

Q10: Who became the first female to be appointed to the ICC International Panel of Match Referees in 2019?

- a) GS Lakshmi ☐ b) Diana Edulji ☐
c) Jhulan Goswami ☐ d) Sudha Shah ☐

Q11: Who was the first Indian to receive the International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) Blue Cross?

- a) Ronjan Sodhi ☐ b) Vijay Kumar ☐
c) Gagan Narang ☐ d) Abhinav Bindra ☐

ANSWERS: 1. c) Edgbaston 2. a) 4-0
3. b) Brisbane 4. c) 50 5. b) Adam Parore
6. d) Three 7. a) Pole Vault 8. a) Stoke City
9. b) Bajrang Lal Takhar 10. a) GS Lakshmi
11. d) Abhinav Bindra

Photo: GETTY IMAGES



WORLD NUMBER ONE ASHLEIGH BARTY RETIRES INJURED

Top seed Ashleigh Barty retired injured midway through the second set of her French Open second-round match against Poland's Magda Linette on Thursday.

The Australian, who won the title in 2019, left the court for medical treatment after losing the first set 6-1. She had struggled with a hip problem during her first-round win. The 25-year-old's withdrawal leaves the tournament without the world's top three-ranked women's players.

World number two Naomi Osaka has pulled out. Third-ranked Simona Halep withdrew before the event due to injury. It leaves world number four Aryna Sabalenka as the top remaining player in the draw. AFP