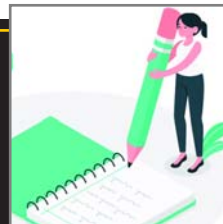




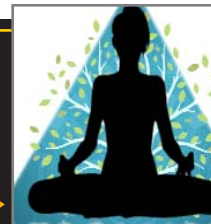
THE TIMES OF INDIA

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TODAY'S EDITION

► Learn why it is important to scale up your writing skills

PAGE 2


► Yoga is beneficial not only for your body but also for your mental health, assert experts

PAGE 3


► Naomi faces penalties over media boycott at French Open

PAGE 4

STUDENT EDITION

TUESDAY, JUNE 1, 2021


WEB EDITION
CLICK HERE: PAGE 1 AND 2

CBSE may give XIIth marks based on results of past 3 years

If reports are to go by, among the options being weighed in case the class XII Board exams are scrapped, is a proposal to assess students on the results of classes IX, X and XI. An announcement is expected by Tuesday, as stated by the education minister in his post on May 23.

Though most states have backed CBSE's option for a truncated exam, few states disagreed, and some demanded vaccination of candidates and staff before holding the exams

Interestingly, a notification of CISCE (which conducts the ICSE and ISC exams) – meant for schools – called for submission of candidate marks in previous classes and got posted on social media, only to be deleted in minutes.

The SC on Monday told the Centre to give reasons if the government is departing from the decision taken last year, amid Covid, in connection with the class XII Board exams



OTHERS MAY FOLLOW

■ Even as major parts of the country are still in lockdown or partial lockdown, hectic last-minute parleys are on regarding a final call to be taken on the fate of the class XII Boards, especially those to be conducted by the CBSE

■ "Although states/ UTs have made their suggestions, everyone would look at the CBSE way as the guiding principle. Therefore, whatever decision the Centre is likely to take by June 1 will be important not only for the forthcoming entrance tests, but also for the states in conducting their own Board exams," said a senior official in the ministry of education

WHAT ABOUT CISCE

► Interestingly, a document, dated May 27, on the letterhead of the Council for the Indian School Certificate Examinations stated that the Board has begun the data collection exercise by asking schools to collate data about average marks of subjects scored by students in class XI as well as in various examinations and internal tests conducted during the session in class XII. While a CISCE official didn't confirm or deny sending the "strictly confidential" letter, schools confirmed having received the same. ► The Board has instructed that the papers or subjects must be the same for which candidates have been registered and confirmed for class XII exams. This led to the speculation that CISCE too is working towards cancelling the exams

STUDENTS' TAKE

► It will be a good move by the CBSE, for given the current situation, this is the best option we have. The continuous delay and waiting for the exams has taken a mental toll on students. The future seems so uncertain. It is time to put an end to our misery and move forward.

Jerusha R, class XII, St. Mary's Matric Hr Sec School, Chennai



► This system of assessment will not be fair, as often the academic performance of a student varies, with the focus and seriousness being greater in the Xth grade, compared to IXth and XIth grade. It also dispels the effort and hardwork put in by the students in this past year in preparation for their Boards.

Samyukta Sivakumar class XII, Ryan International School, Kandivali, Mumbai



► This will be an apt decision, and will be fair and safe for the students. The CBSE should also consider rating us on projects that we made from time to time, and best of all the internal examinations. Any day, it is better to consider these things than an offline examination, in these pandemic times.

Nupur Vaishnav, class XII, Shanti Asiatic School, Ahmedabad



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



PETA wants Amul to switch to vegan milk

People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) India has asked Amul to make a decision to switch to producing vegan milk. In a letter to the Amul Managing Director R S Sodhi, PETA said, the dairy cooperative society should get benefited from the booming vegan food and milk market. Amul is an Indian dairy cooperative society managed by the Gujarat Co-operative Milk Marketing Federation Ltd.

AMUL'S REPLY

■ Amul has countered PETA's suggestion to 'switch to plant-based dairy', questioning how employment to crores of people could be provided, if that were to be the case. Amul's MD Rodhi said, "These products are nothing but genetically-

modified lab foods that are made out of chemicals and synthetic materials by big corporates with the only objective of profit making and not livelihood," he added ■ He further said, "foreign-funded NGOs are running campaigns to tarnish the Indian dairy industry"

World may breach 1.50-celsius warming in five years

The world may temporarily breach the 1.50-Celsius warming mark within the next five years, according to an updated assessment of global climate trends. The World Meteorological Organisation and Britain's Met Office said, there was a 40% chance of the annual average global temperature surpassing 1.50 C above pre-industrial temperatures – the aspirational warming limit of the Paris climate accord.

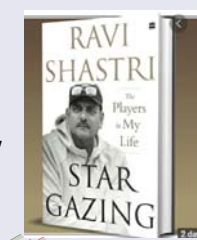
Environment

According to the Met Office's updated global 10-year climate prediction, there is a 90% chance of at least one year between 2021-2025 being the hottest on record. The annual average global temperature over the next five years is likely to be at least 10C warmer than the pre-industrial levels, within a range of 0.90 C-1.80 C warmer, it said



Cricket legend Ravi Shastri's book 'Stargazing' to release this year

Commentator and one of Team India's most-successful coaches, Ravi Shastri has penned a book. Titled 'Stargazing: The Players in My Life', the book will hit the shelves soon, according to publisher HarperCollins India.



BOOK

■ In 'Stargazing: The Players in My Life', Shastri writes about some 60 extraordinary talents he has met from across the world, who have inspired him

■ The book is co-authored by Shastri and Ayaz Memon

FRENCH BAGUETTE MAY GET UNESCO HERITAGE STATUS

French bakers might be elated in the near future, as the baguette could find itself in the UNESCO's list of cultural treasures. The very popular French craft loaf has been a part-and-parcel of French dining culture for a long time. Made of wheat flour, yeast, salt and water, a traditional baguette takes time

to bake. French bakers have submitted an application that should result in the baguette becoming part of UNESCO's intangible treasures.

The tradition of buying a freshly-baked loaf of baguette from the market is as old as time in France, and that is the first thing people do in the morning.

WHAT ABOUT OTHER BREADS?

As far as breads are concerned, the UNESCO has flat breads in Iran and Kazakhstan covered in its intangible heritage list. So the baguette has a real-world chance of getting this prestige. UNESCO will announce the decision in late 2022.



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



WHAT IS VEGAN MILK?

Plant-based milk, the new rising trend in millennials, and those who are lactose intolerant, are milk made out from almond and rice milk to soy to coconut beverages. Options for non-dairy based milk is becoming a trend across the world, and also making minor inroads in India, as more companies offer soy-based or lactose-free milk

Share your views at toinie175@gmail.com

Scale up your Writing skills

The short composition writing for class XII English Core (CBSE) includes two questions having two choices each, out of which you are required to do any one. It is of 3+3=6 marks in all. With little practice this section can be perfected and you can get full marks. Concentrate on tips given, format, content and words limit.

WRITING SKILLS (SECTION B)

Question 1 includes four major short compositions of 50 words, being restricted to word limit. They need to be precise and properly formatted. Draft them in a box to give them a smart look.

The syllabus for 2020-21 examination includes **Notice Drafting, Newspaper Advertisements, Formal and Informal Invitations** and their replies:

Important points to be remembered:

1 NOTICE WRITING

Includes information to be given to the students regarding events, programmes or happenings taking place in the school.

- | | |
|---|-----------------|
| a. Box with inner thin margin drawn in pencil | f. Event |
| b. Name of the institution | g. Organiser |
| c. Heading | h. Day and Date |
| d. Date of issue | i. Time |
| e. Addressee | j. Venue |

EXAMPLE: Imagine yourself to be the In-charge of the infirmary of St Anne's Intermediate School, Roorkee. Draft a notice for the students of class XII that the institution will arrange a special medical camp for guiding about the precautions, distribution of free Covid kits, check up, etc. Give all the details about the schedule. (50 words) Marks 3

Medical camp

St. Anne's Intermediate School, Roorkee
(Covid Medical Camp)

30th May, 2021

This is for the information of the students of class XII that the school is organising a free Covid Medical Camp for an interactive session on precautions to be taken, free check up, distribution of the medical kits. The camp will be conducted under completely safe and hygienic conditions on Sunday, 30th May, 2021 from 9:00 am 2:00 pm in the school infirmary.

Dr. Jones Brown (Camp In-charge)

SUBJECT: ENGLISH
CLASS XII-CBSE

2

NEWSPAPER ADS

The newspaper advertisements are of two types: (a) Classifieds (b) Display (More or less like posters but used for commercial purpose mainly). Things to be remembered:

- | | |
|---|---|
| a. Box | no, day and date if required. |
| b. Heading (one word) | d. Divide information with commanever use full sentence |
| c. Content including requirement, contact, location, mobile | |

EXAMPLE:

Imagine you are the head of the hiring department of Delhi Public School, Lucknow who wants to advertise the vacancy for the teachers for the coming session. Draft a classified advertisement to be published in the local news paper. Give complete requisites and details. (50 words)



Classified Advertisement?

VACANCY

For Language, Science and Maths TGT teachers for classes IX and XI (CBSE), experienced, fluent in communicating in English, hard working and student friendly, salary as per school norms with allowances. Interested candidates may apply latest by 30th June, 2021 with complete CV to: Principal, Delhi Public School, Sector-25, Indira Nagar, Lucknow or apply online at:

dpslko.indiranagar@gmail.com

Geeta Saini, Ex-NIE Coordinator,
HAL School, Lucknow

3

INVITATION (FORMAL)

The best way to learn the invitation drafting is to copy exactly the ones we get to attend an event such as birthday, marriage, parties for various occasions or the formal events held by institutions etc. Things to be remembered:

- | | |
|-------------------|--|
| a. Box | g. Time |
| b. Heading | h. Venue |
| c. Guest /invitee | i. Don't use personal tone (I, we & you) |
| d. Host | j. No signature |
| e. Event | |
| f. Day and date | |

EXAMPLE: Draft a formal invitation to invite relatives and friends for attending 25th wedding anniversary celebration. Give all necessary details. (50 words)

INVITATION

Mrs and Mr. R.K Rathore seek the pleasure of all the relatives and friends to join them for the Cocktail party followed by Dinner on the happy occasion of the celebration of their 25th Wedding Anniversary on Saturday, 29th May, 2021 at 7:30 pm at Hyatt Regency, Faizabad Road, Lucknow.
RSVP, (Mobile no)

The replies include refusal or acceptance of the invitation.

ACCEPTANCE

Mrs and Mr Satish Kumar thank Mrs. and Mr. R. K. Rathore for their warm invitation for Cocktail and Dinner to celebrate their 25th Wedding Anniversary. It would be their pleasure to attend and be the part of their happy moments.

REFUSAL

Mrs. and Mr. Satish Kumar thank Mrs. and Mr. R. K. Rathore for their warm invitation for the Cocktail and Dinner to celebrate the happy occasion of their 25th Wedding Anniversary but at the same time extend their heartfelt apologies for their inability to attend the same as they are flying to Delhi the same evening to attend the graduation ceremony of their son Rahul.

4

INVITATION (INFORMAL)

Informal invitations and replies are written with a personal touch using I, We and You.

EXAMPLE: Draft an informal invitation to invite close relatives and friends to attend the farewell party organised by your family for your elder brother who is shifting abroad. (50 words)

INVITATION

25th May, 2021

Dear friend Rohan,
It gives me immense pleasure in inviting you with your family to the Farewell Party organised by our family for my brother Rahul on Sunday, 29th May, 2021 from 7:00 pm at 147, Dawn Housing Society, Lucknow. He is shifting to Milan (Italy) with his family. Your presence is keenly looked forward to.
See you, Divyansh

ACCEPTANCE

26th May, 2021

Dear Divyansh
Thank you friend for extending the warm invitation for attending the Farewell Party organised for Rahul. It would give me and my family immense pleasure to join you all to share your happy moments.
With love, Rohan

REFUSAL

26th May, 2021

Dear Divyansh
Thank you so much for your warm invitation to attend the Farewell Party organised for your brother Rahul. I am extremely sorry for not being able to come as all my family is going to Agra to attend my cousin's marriage on the same date. My entire family extends wishes and blessings.
See you soon , Rohan

QUICK REVISION

1 Look at the given image and state what the symbol of 'stupa' stand for?



2 Whom did Ashoka appoint to spread the message of dhamma?

3 Differentiate between 'Nayaks' and the 'Amara-nayakas'

4 The two artists, Mir Saiyyad Ali and Abdus Samad, were brought from Iran to the Mughal court by Emperor _____

SUBJECT: HISTORY
CLASS XII-CBSE

5 Show how the powers of jotedars were more effective than that of zamindars.

6 Mention the context in which the statement below is connected: "Many Kushana rulers also adopted the title 'devaputra' or 'son of God'."

7 Kalibangan, a Harappan site, is situated in which state of India?

8 "The life has gone out of our lives." What is the statement referring to?

TAKING ONE DAY AT A TIME

How do I plan to prepare for the year ahead? Well, while I do plan for the following day or the coming weekend at the most, planning for the year ahead is tough and I learnt it the hard way.

I planned to spend the summer of 2021 with my grandparents and cousins in Mussoorie after finishing my pre-boards, but all that went for a toss. It happened not only this year but the previous one as well i.e. 2020. The pandemic that came out of the blue made us realise that plans aren't meant to always work out. They can come apart easily and what follows is disappointment.

Having learnt a lesson, I for once have decided to take one day at a time. Sit peacefully and jot down points I would like to finish in a single day i.e. 24 hours, maybe a week at the most. This way I find it easier to set daily goals and accomplish them without disappointments enroute. Planning provides direction and reduces the risk of uncertainties but when things don't go as planned, it can lead to heartbreak, gloom and a feeling of let-down, which we can do without.

Nilanjana Singh Roy,
class X-E, Delhi Public School, Hyderabad



A PLAN TO EASE THE PRESSURE

STARTING EARLY

We've all been advised by teachers to start early every year. Now, it's the time to implement it earnestly. It helps us get the required sleep, and time to revise.

MAKE A TIMETABLE FOR EACH SUBJECT

Allotting a specific time for each subject helps us organise and manage the time wisely. It also ensures that we divide time equally to all subjects.



BE REALISTIC

We often love to revel in our endeavours and make intense timetables. But we tend to forget that we are still humans and need to have a little fun too. Instead of studying for hours upon hours, give yourself time to relax. This year, I decided not to go too hard on myself and give myself time to enjoy with my loved ones too.

FOCUS ON MENTAL HEALTH

It doesn't take much time to fall down the deep end. With the excess pressure, many students don't find time for self-care. But our mental health is just as important as any exam that we face. Take time to be around your friends and family. Make yourself happy and don't beat yourself up.

IT'S OK TO TAKE BREAKS

Breaking the norms that we are commonly told, it's totally ok to take breaks as it gives us time to reflect all the things that we learnt. I usually tend to take a quick power nap or eat a snack. Take 5-10 minutes off and have fun.

Manjari Paruchuri
class X, Delhi School
of Excellence-Attapur,
Hyderabad



International Family Day

The students of N.L. Dalmia High School celebrated the 'International Family Day' on 15th May 2021, to appreciate and perceive the value of family in their lives.

The students sent their beautiful family photos in a very creative manner displaying their love for each other. There were other activities too which were lined up for the students along with their family members.

The family members were given an opportunity to create their own advertisement with fun and frolic. The family members also presented their wonderful dance moves.

The family members also unveiled their musical talent by singing some joyful songs together.

This helped in creating a special emotional feeling in the students about their family.

The plethora of activities exhibited the bond each child has with their families.

This celebration revived and rekindled the importance of love and affection among each student and their family members. It was indeed a memorable day for all.



SELF ACCEPTANCE IS THE KEY TO HAPPINESS

You are, as you were meant to be, so accept yourself. Accept yourself for who you are because, self-acceptance, is one of the key determinants of happiness and can have an effect on every aspect of life. Always remember these very important lines of Robert Holden. "Happiness and self-acceptance go hand in hand. In fact, your level of self-acceptance determines your level of happiness. The more self-acceptance you have, the more happiness you'll allow yourself to accept, receive and enjoy. In other words, you enjoy as much happiness as you believe you're worthy



of." "If you will live in a denial about who you are, then this will only promote a lack of confidence and self-esteem within your

conscious and subconscious mind. Neither of which is healthy nor a behavior that could lead to a healthy, happy, and productive lifespan.

Don't you think that this life is too short to allow yourself to deny who and what you are, even if others around you are pressuring you to accept something else? Be who you are. You are worthy enough. It is your life. You decide for yourself. Accept who and what you are and live your life in peace.

Angelina Pandey, class IX, NES High School



In Sanskrit, 'Makara' means "sea dragon". Makarasana is one of the best restorative postures

Makarasana

Crocodile pose

BENEFITS

- Improves oxygenation and lung function.
- Reduces stress, anxiety and calms down the mind.

INSTRUCTIONS

- Lie down on your belly with the legs stretched out towards the back. Keep the feet slightly more than shoulder width apart. Point the toes to the side and bring the heels facing one another.
- Extend the arms forward and then cross the arms taking the palms towards the opposite armpit. Rest the chin or the forehead on the center point where your forearms cross each other.

- Close your eyes and let your whole body collapse into the floor. Stay in the pose for a few minutes. Breathe slowly and deeply.
- With each inhalation expand the chest, abdomen and the back muscles as much as you can and with each exhalation allow your body to sink deeper towards the floor.

- To release, uncross the hands. Join the legs together. Point the feet towards the back again. Take the support of your hands to come up to a seated position.

PRECAUTIONS

- Avoid this practice in case of frozen shoulder.
- If you have pre-existing conditions related to the spine, neck, heart or stomach, check with your doctor to see if this posture is safe for you.

SUDHARSAN V J,
Yoga Teacher & Alumna,
S.B.O.A Matriculation
& HSS, Coimbatore.

Yoga should be practiced under the supervision of Yoga Guru. The views expressed in the above article are those of the author and the newspaper takes no responsibility for it.

THE GRAY MELODY!

Im stumbling through these red woods
Running without an end in sight
The paths are painted by shadows
But I refuse to give up without a fight
My colours unreflected in the mirror
Hidden by a smile
Time takes me back again
Erased footprints trace back a mile
I huddle from the rain of

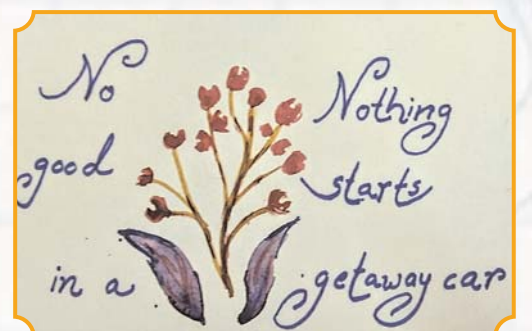
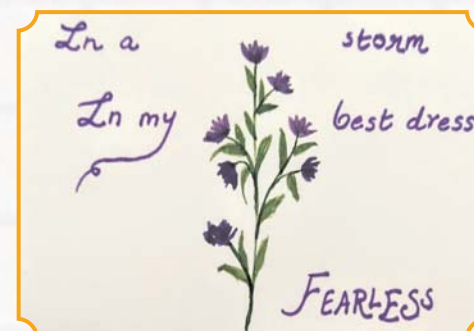
fate's arrows
I face the border inside of me
I catch myself laughing again
The dark, is all I see
Im floating in this blatant sea
The lights flickering on the brink
Everything seems so beautiful but I ask
Ask, how long before I sink
So many people running by today

But this melody lingers on, unsung
This ground feels so heavier
I hear the music again, the day is young
I huddle from the rain of fate's arrows
I face the border inside of me
I catch myself laughing again
The dark, is all I see
Im flying in this gray sky
No one told me it would be so cold

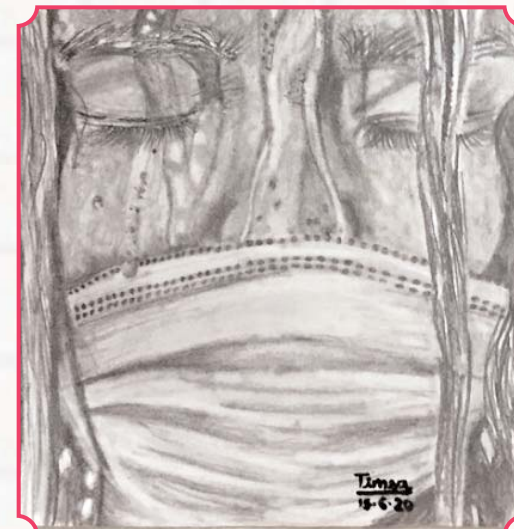
The moon goes to hide
I keep soaring without a hold
Is this a dream?
Did I make up to the sky's height
I open my eyes now
Everything is blue under the moonlight
The rain stops into the fragrant scent of
Scents of my memories
The borders bleed away and I
I sing louder into this lonely breeze

KRITIKA AGRAWAL, class X, Ryan International School, Kandivali

Painters' Gallery



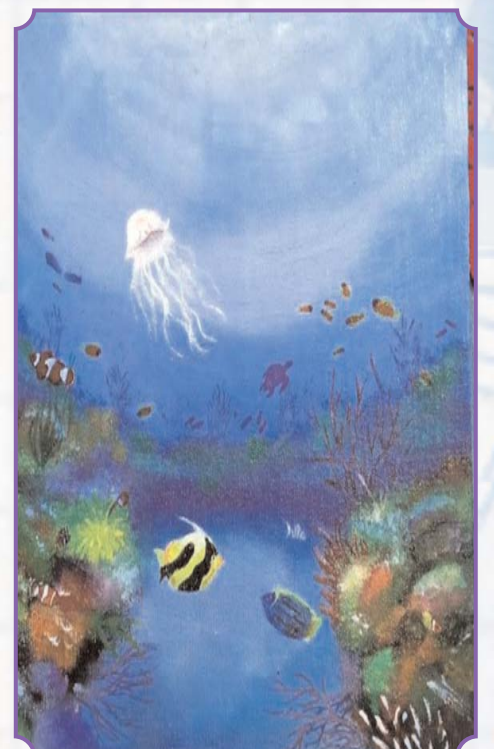
AARYA BHANUSHALI, class X, S.V.D.D. English Medium High School



TIMSA BAJPAI, class XI, Singapore International School



MANASVIN POKALE, class X, Diamond Jubilee High School, Mazgaon



ROHAK SONKAMBALE, class X, Diamond Jubilee High School, Mazgaon

RISE AGAINST ALL ODDS



Margaret aka Peggy Carter is arguably one of the most iconic characters in the MCU and Hayley Atwell did a marvelous job of bringing Peggy to life on the screen. More than just a pretty face and/or a simple love interest, Peggy Carter is one of the founders of S.H.I.E.L.D! Working as a young intelligence officer in the field during World War II (against all the odds), we see her rise above and helm the mantle of director of S.H.I.E.L.D.

Peggy was always looked

down upon by her male counterparts but that did not faze her in the least. She is a strong and independent woman in 1950s US. She kicks the butts of the bad guys all while wearing the perfect shade of red lipstick and high heels.

Peggy teaches us that it's okay to embrace your identity as a woman and still doing all that men do. Her story represents the story of all working women hoping to build an identity of their own. She is a symbol of resilience and courage to every woman. I am pretty glad that my generation has someone like her to look up to.

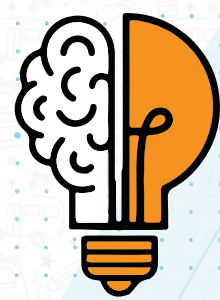
Aarya Bhanushali, class X, S.V.D. D. English Medium Secondary High School



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Amrut Jadhav

FOUNDER OF BRAIN INFINITE
AUTHOR OF YOU CAN HAVE A JUMBO MEMORY
INTERNATIONAL MEMORY ATHLETE & COACH

OSAKA FACES THREAT OF DISQUALIFICATION



Naomi Osaka

Photos: AFP

Fined over media boycott; calls it mental health issue

Japanese superstar Naomi Osaka was on Sunday threatened with disqualification from the French Open if she persists with her controversial media boycott, officials said. "We have advised Naomi Osaka that should she continue to ignore her media obligations, she would be exposing herself to possible further code of conduct infringement consequences," said a statement from the four Grand Slam tournaments after the world number two was fined \$15,000. "Repeat violations attract tougher sanctions including default from the tournament and the trigger of a major offence investigation that could lead to more substantial fines and future Grand Slam suspensions."

Osaka, a four-time Grand Slam title winner and the sport's highest-earning female athlete, was sanctioned for refusing to hold a press conference after her opening 6-4, 7-6 (7/4) victory over Romanian world number 63 Patricia Maria Tig.

Mental health issue

The 23-year-old had said on the eve of the tournament that she would not carry out any media obligations, claiming news conferences are detrimental to her mental health. She likened traditional post-match inquiries to "kicking people when they're down". French Tennis Federation president Gilles Moretton had described Osaka's vow of silence as "a phenomenal error". The four Grand Slam events – Wimbledon, the French, Australian and US Opens – said they had written to Osaka "to check on her well-being and offer support".

THIEM CRASHES IN FIRST ROUND

The opening day of the 2021 French Open saw two-time runner-up Dominic Thiem crash at the first hurdle. Fourth seed and US Open champion Thiem, who had never been beaten in the first round in seven previous visits, squandered a two-set lead to lose 4-6, 5-7, 6-3, 6-4, 6-4 to 35-year-old Pablo Andujar of Spain. "Losing after being two sets to zero up, it's very strange to me, and I have to think about what's wrong at the moment," said Thiem. Andujar said his recent win over Roger Federer in Geneva ranked higher. "For me, he is like a myth."

World number five Stefanos Tsitsipas rounded off the day with a 7-6 (8/6), 6-3, 6-1 over Jeremy Chardy. The Greek is widely tipped as a potential champion should 13-time winner Rafael Nadal or world number one Novak Djokovic falter. However, there was nobody inside the cavernous Chatrier Court to assess his credentials as the match started just before a 9pm Covid-19 curfew came into effect. Germany's Alexander Zverev, seeded sixth, battled back from two sets down to beat compatriot Oscar Otte 3-6, 3-6, 6-2, 6-2, 6-0. It was Zverev's seventh win from as many five-set matches at Roland Garros.

Fresh from her first career clay court title in Madrid, Belarusian third seed Aryna Sabalenka eased past Croatian qualifier Ana Konjuh 6-4, 6-3. German 26th seed Angelique Kerber, a three-time major winner, was the day's biggest loser in the women's draw, going down to 6-2, 6-4 Ukrainian qualifier Anhelina Kalinina.

Reminded of obligations

"She was also reminded of her obligations, the consequences of not meeting them and that rules should equally apply to all players. "Naomi Osaka today chose not to honour her contractual media obligations. The Roland Garros referee has therefore issued her a \$15,000 fine." Later on Sunday Osaka's position became more entrenched when she tweeted in response to her fine: "Anger is a lack of understanding. Change makes people uncomfortable."

Work in progress

After her match, Osaka agreed only to a cursory on-court TV interview. "For me, playing on clay is a work in progress," said the reigning US and Australian Open champion on a sun-kissed Court Philippe Chatrier. "Hopefully the more I play, the better I will become." And that was that from a player who has now strung together 15 successive Grand Slam match wins.

The Grand Slam Board said Osaka's refusal to take part in media duties put opponents at a disadvantage. "There is nothing more important than ensuring no player has an unfair advantage over another, which unfortunately is the case in this situation if one player refuses to dedicate time to participate in media commitments while the others all honour their commitments."

If Osaka was to be disqualified, it would be as sensational as Novak Djokovic's default at last year's US Open where the world number one was booted out for hitting a line judge with a ball. "I was always trying to follow the rules and be fair not only on the court but off the court as well. Now it's up to them to decide what's going to be," said former two-time Wimbledon winner Petra Kvitová after her opening win. Osaka's compatriot Kei Nishikori added: "It's not good but I understand her situation. So it's good and bad." AFP

INDIAN WOMEN BOXERS PUNCH IT RIGHT

Despite limited training, ensure medals in all 10 weight categories at Asian Championship

It was a 10 on 10 for Indian women boxers as far as clinching medals at the Asian Championship was concerned but national head coach Mohammed Ali Qamar believes the gold count could have been higher than one if their training had not been disrupted by COVID-19. The Indian women's boxing team will be returning with one gold, three silver and six bronze medals from the event in Dubai, ensuring that all 10 weight categories featured an Indian medalist. Seven of these medals were secured on the day of draws thanks to the small size of competition. "I am very satisfied with the performance overall. Yes, we could have got more



Pooja Rani and National head coach Mohammed Ali Qamar

gold medals but given that we hardly got to train before the championships, I cannot complain," Qamar said.

"All the silver-winners lost very close bouts and gave it their best. As a coach there is nothing more I can ask for," he added. Qamar was referring to the 2-3 losses of Olympic-bound M C Mary Kom (51kg), and tournament debutants Lalbuatsaihi (64kg) and Anupama (81+kg). All three fought draining contests and fell short only marginally. Olympic-bound defending champion Pooja Rani (75kg) was the lone Indian to clinch a gold. Interestingly the championship bout was her first and only outing of the competition as she got a bye into the semifinals and a

walkover into the finals.

The tournament might not have been all that taxing but the boxers had a tough time preparing for the event, which was shifted to Dubai. The national camp in Delhi was halted with Ali Qamar and high performance director Rafaelle Bergamasco testing positive. Training was subsequently organised in Pune's Army Sports Institute a couple of weeks before the team's departure. "Mary had a very good tournament. She lost in the final but in my view the final round was won by her but that's sport," said Ali Qamar, who also became a 3 star coach, completing his course during the tournament. PH



Olympic-bound defending champion Pooja Rani

Photos: PTI

QUIT REAL MADRID DUE TO LACK OF FAITH: ZIDANE

Zinedine Zidane resigned as Real Madrid manager because he felt the Spanish club no longer had any confidence in him, he wrote in an open letter on Monday. "I'm leaving because I feel the club no longer has the faith in me I need, and doesn't offer me the support to build something in the medium or long term," the Frenchman wrote in the letter published in the sports daily AS. "I am a born winner and I was here to win trophies, but beyond this there are human beings, emotions, life and these things have not been valued, it has not been understood that this is also how the dynamic of a great club is maintained," he said.

"Everything I built on a daily basis, what I brought to the relationship with players... has been forgotten. I'm leaving, but I'm not jumping ship and I'm not tired of coaching," he said. AFP

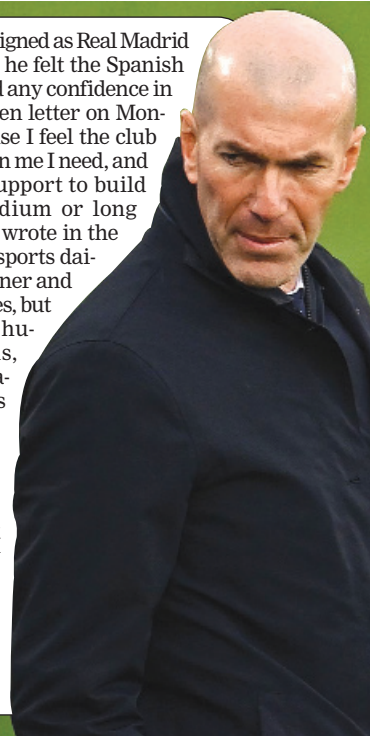


Photo: AFP

QUIZ TIME!

Q1: How many balls are placed on the table in the game of snooker?

- a) 20 ☐ b) 21 ☐ c) 22 ☐ d) 23 ☐

Q2: Which annual sporting event at France attracts the most live spectators?

- a) Tour de France ☐ b) The French Open ☐
c) Paris Marathon ☐
d) Six Nations Tournament 2022 ☐

Q3: Who was the first player to reach 100 Premier League assists?

- a) Wayne Rooney ☐ b) Ryan Giggs ☐
c) Rhodri Giggs ☐ d) Roy Keane ☐

Q4: Who was the first player to reach 100 Premier League goals?

- a) Alan Shearer ☐ b) Thierry Henry ☐
c) Frank Lampard ☐ d) Cristiano Ronaldo ☐

Q5: In which country did T20 cricket begin?

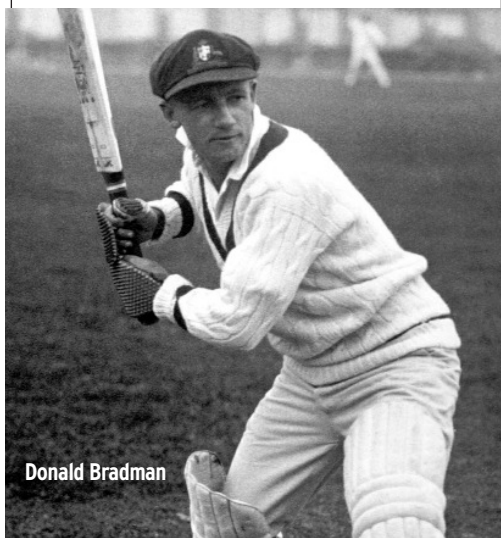
- a) India ☐ b) Australia ☐
c) England ☐ d) Sri Lanka ☐

Q6: What is the more commonly used name for the Brisbane Cricket Ground?

- a) The Oval ☐ b) Queen's Park ☐
c) Victoria Park ☐ d) The Gabba ☐

Q7: Who got Don Bradman out in his final innings?

- a) Godfrey Evans ☐ b) Eric Hollies ☐
c) John Dewes ☐ d) Norman Yardley ☐



Donald Bradman

Photo: GETTY IMAGES

Q8: Six time world champion Mary Kom won the silver medal at the Asian Boxing Championships. Who won the gold?

- a) Dariga Shakimova ☐ b) Furuza Sharipova ☐
c) Milana Safronova ☐ d) Nazym Kyzaibay ☐

Q9: Which top seeded tennis player was knocked out of the French Open's first round?

- a) Dominic Thiem ☐ b) Novak Djokovic ☐
c) Rafael Nadal ☐ d) Roger Federer ☐

Q10: Who won the Italian Moto GP 2021?

- a) Marc Márquez ☐ b) Francesco Bagnaia ☐
c) Fabio Quartararo ☐ d) Johann Zarco ☐

Q11: Who won the Giro d'Italia, his second grand tour victory?

- a) Nairo Quintana ☐ b) Tadej Pogačar ☐
c) Egan Bernal ☐ d) Chris Froome ☐

Q12: Which Australian cricketer is set to miss the remainder of IPL this year?

- a) Pat Cummins ☐ b) David Warner ☐
c) Steve Smith ☐ d) Glen Maxwell ☐

ANSWERS: 1. c) 22 2. a) Tour de France
3. b) Ryan Giggs 4. a) Alan Shearer
5. c) England 6. d) The Gabba
7. b) Eric Hollies 8. d) Nazym Kyzaibay
9. a) Dominic Thiem 10. c) Fabio Quartararo
11. c) Egan Bernal 12. a) Pat Cummins