



# THE TIMES OF INDIA

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STUDENT EDITION



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WEB EDITION

## NEWS IN BRIEF

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### CELEB TALK

#### Hope literally sustains life: Anupam Kher

Actor Anupam Kher is confident that the world will survive the deadly coronavirus pandemic, and says all one needs to get through it is hope. The actor shared eight black and white pictures from 1918—the year when the world was battling the deadly Spanish Flu, also known as the 1918 flu pandemic. The 102-year-old pictures show men and women wearing face masks, face shields, and even gas masks, while in public places. Some are seen greeting each other, while maintaining social distancing. "Everything is the same, including the people, minus the wifi. But the world survived. So, this too shall pass. Hope literally sustains life," he added.



### TECH BUZZ

#### Scrolling through Facebook at night to get simpler



After rolling out dark mode for its desktop website, Facebook has confirmed that it is testing dark mode for mobile. The feature has been made available to a small group of users globally.

■ The mobile version will cut down on glare, particularly, in low-light settings. This will be helpful for users staring at their screens well past midnight, scroll through the news feed as they struggle to fall asleep. Facebook did not mention a timeline for when it will roll out dark mode for all its users ■ The benefits of dark mode are two-fold. By letting users change the background colour of an app to black, it becomes easier to view and more aesthetically pleasing. Secondly, dark mode means that a large number of pixels on the screen will be off at any given point in time, thereby helping to preserve battery life

### ENTERTAINMENT

#### Charles Randolph to make directorial debut with movie on Covid-19 pandemic

Oscar-winning scribe Charles Randolph is set to write, direct and produce a feature on the early stages of the coronavirus pandemic in China's Wuhan city. According to reports, SK Global will finance and produce the project. The film will examine "the dramatic weeks in China as the heroic medical community confronts a mysterious virus, soon to become a global pandemic." The writer, who penned Fox News drama, 'Bombshell', and won an Academy Award with Adam McKay for adapted screenplay for 'The Big Short', will be making his directorial debut with the yet-untitled Covid-19 movie. The project will be filmed in China, and other international locations with local crews.



### SPORTS

#### English County C'ship to begin from Aug 1



The England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) has given its approval for the professional men's county cricket season to begin from August 1. The ECB release said formats to be played during the delayed men's county season are due to be agreed by the 18 first-class counties in early July, with a new fixture schedule to be published thereafter. A commitment to play women's domestic cricket in 2020 has also been made but may differ from the planned rollout of the new women's elite domestic structure.

## MICROPLASTICS are contaminating the FRUIT and VEGETABLES we eat

DID YOU KNOW?

The presence of microplastics are no longer confined to oceans, they have been discovered in apples, carrots, pears, broccoli and lettuce, claims a new study. According to scientists, root vegetables, including radishes, turnips and parsnips could also be contaminated with the man-made waste, prompting fears over the health impact. Microplastics have previously been identified in meats including, chicken, canned fish and shellfish.

Approximately 330 million tons of plastic were produced across the globe in 2015 alone, with large amounts likely ending up in the oceans and the world's water systems



### HOW DO THEY CONTAMINATE FRUITS & VEGGIES

- 1 Scientists believe that the tiny pollutants get sucked into plants' roots with water, and then travel up the stem into the leaves and fruits
- 2 Apples are the most contaminated fruits with microplastics, while carrots top as the most contaminated vegetable
- 3 Most microplastics are emitted either directly or via degradation of plastics to the terrestrial environment and accumulate in large amounts in soils, thus representing a potential threat to terrestrial ecosystems, the researchers said

## X-PLAINED BLACKLISTING



**What** The apex court on Monday heard the pleas of foreigners, who were 'blacklisted' for attending a religious congregation at Delhi's Nizamuddin area.

**Why** A blacklist is a compilation of the names of all the Indian and foreign citizens against whom there's a 'look out circular' (LOC). Issued by the ministry of home affairs (MHA), the list is prepared by the foreigners division of the MHA, and is shared with all the Indian diplomatic missions as also with all the immigration check-points within India. It is done to stop the exit or entry of certain individuals, which could either be in their personal capacity or because they are associated with an organisation.

**Who's** Well that's the interesting part—the blacklist is not in the public domain, so until and unless a person tries to enter or leave the country, he/she will not know if he/she is in the blacklist. Currently, there are about 30,000 people in the MHA blacklist, down from 38,000 in 2016.

**How** IS IT ISSUED: To place a person or an organisation in the blacklist, an LOC needs to be issued. This can be done only through a written request by the investigating officer or an agency addressed to an officer notified by the MHA, such as the deputy secretary or the above rank in the Centre, joint secretary or the above rank at the state level and other equivalent ranks in law enforcement and intelligence agencies. An LOC can only be issued against offences under the Indian Penal Code (IPC). There's no fixed period to determine the length of the blacklist period.

## GENDER STEREOTYPES

### Women under-represented in school textbooks: UNESCO

Women and girls are under-represented in school textbooks or when included are depicted in traditional roles in many countries across the globe, according to the Global Education Monitoring Report by the UNESCO. The report provides an in-depth analysis of key factors for exclusion of learners in education systems worldwide, including background, identity and ability, gender, age, location, poverty, disability, ethnicity, indigeneity, language, religion, migration or displacement status, sexual orientation or gender identity expression, incarceration, beliefs and attitudes.

- 1 The annual report points out that not only the number of images of female characters included in the textbooks is very less in comparison to images of males, women are also represented in "less prestigious" occupations, and as introverts and passive
- 2 Showing men as doctors and women as nurses; portraying women in subjects pertaining to food, fashion or entertainment; featuring women in voluntary roles and men in paid jobs, are among the gender stereotypes pointed out in the report. The report also takes note of attempts by few countries to revise the textbook images to reflect more gender balance.



## SCIENTISTS SPOT RARE NEPTUNE-LIKE PLANET

Scientists have discovered a planet about as large as Neptune that circles a nearby star, which is still surrounded by a disk of debris left over from its formation. Using data from NASA's Transiting Exoplanet Survey Satellite (TESS) and retired Spitzer Space Telescope, the discovery makes the system a touchstone for understanding how stars and planets form and evolve.

- Known as AU Mic for short, the planet is a cool red dwarf star with an age estimated at 20 million to 30 million years, making it a stellar infant compared to our sun, which is at least 150 times older
- The star is so young that it primarily shines from the heat generated, as its own gravity pulls it



inward and compresses it. ■ Less than 10 per cent of the star's energy comes from the fusion of hydrogen into helium in its core, the process that powers stars like our sun. ■ The system is located 31.9 light years away in the southern constellation Microscopium

## A SOLAR WATCH UNVEILED

NEW LAUNCH

American fashion brand Fossil has launched a new breed of eco-friendly sustainable watch called Solar Watch. The Solar Watch is globally available in a limited edition of 1,754 pieces. The watch will be priced at ₹9,995. The all-new watch will be available for purchase on Fossil.in and at select Fossil retail stores.

- The outer ring of the watch case acts as a solar panel, capturing light and converting it to energy, using a solar cell beneath the dial. It then stores the energy in a rechargeable battery that powers the movement of the watch



- Once fully-charged, the Solar Watch is expected to run for around four months, before a user will need to charge it again
- In addition to opting for a more sustainable, solar-powered movement, the Solar Watch comes equipped with five pull-through straps, which are made with yarn spun from approximately 16 plastic bottles—that is 16 fewer bottles in a landfill, or an ocean or a national park, and one step closer to a greener future

## A BOOK FOR EVERY MOOD

AN AWARD WINNING ONE

**Art is a verb**  
This art book for children recently won the bronze medal in the 'Interactive Children's Book Category' at the 2020 IPPY awards. The book aims to redefine visual art education in India through a combination of art and language-based activities to engage young readers



A TRENDING ONE

**The Ballad of Songbirds and Snakes** by Suzanne Collins  
This dystopian action-adventure novel is a prequel to 'The Hunger Games' trilogy. The novel focuses on the adventures of a teenage, Coriolanus Snow, who would become the dictatorial president of Panem by the events of the original trilogy



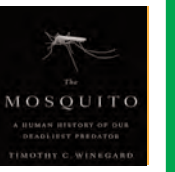
AN NYT BEST SELLER ONE

**CIRCE** by Madeline Miller  
In this book, Zeus, the protagonist, banishes Helios' daughter to an island, where she must choose between living with gods or mortals.



A POP-SCIENCE ONE

**THE MOSQUITO: A Human History of Our Deadliest Predator** by Timothy C Winegard  
One of those "eye-opening books that permanently shift your worldview", said Times reviewer Sam Kean about this book. It talks about how mosquitoes have "upended" history, including their "decisive" role in winning the American independence by decimating non-immune European troops



A CREATIVE ONE

**Steal Like an Artist: 10 Things Nobody Told You About Being Creative** by Austin Kleon  
The book has tons of interesting activities to get your creative juices going



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QUIZ



MIND TEASERS



FUN WITH RIDDLES



JUMBLD WORDS...

Find out who tops the chart every day! It could be YOU!!!!



KNOWLEDGE BANK

**Stadia:** Stadia, a cloud gaming service operated by Google, is said to be capable of streaming video games up to 4K resolution at 60 frames per second with support for high-dynamic-range, to players via the company's numerous data centres. This is provided they are using a sufficiently high-speed Internet connection. It will be accessible through the Google Chrome web browser on desktop computers, or through smartphones, tablets, smart televisions, digital media players and Chromecast.



Word Wise

**True:** In accordance with fact or reality.

Synonymous words: **Genuine, reliable, factual, accurate, precise, correct, valid, real, exact, reality, devoted, actual, bonafide, sincere, loyal**  
Examples:

- The film is based on a **true** story.
- These pearls are **genuine**.
- Subir Sen is a **reliable** man.
- There was **factual** incorrectness in his statement.
- His work was done in an **accurate** way.
- She is prim and **precise** in her manner.
- **Correct** a child when she/he is disobedient.



CHECK YOUR APTITUDE

- Q.1) What is the number of square units that covers a shape or figure.**  
A. Perimeter  
B. Volume  
C. Area  
D. Circumference
- Q.2) What is a constant that multiplies a variable?**  
A. Factor  
B. Coefficient  
C. Multiple  
D. Numerical

- Q.3) What is the sum of the lengths of the sides of a polygon?**  
A. Area B. Volume C. Circumference D. Perimeter
- Q.4) This is a mathematical statement that says that two expressions have the same value; any number sentence with an equal sign. Name it.**  
A. Inequation  
B. Equation C. Addition  
D. Riders

**ANSWER:**  
1. Area 2. Coefficient 3. Perimeter 4. Equation

Quiz time MIXED BAG

- Q.1) The Reserve Bank of India has its headquarters in?**  
A. New Delhi  
B. Mumbai  
C. Chennai  
D. Kolkata
- Q.2) The Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre is located in?**  
A. Hyderabad B. Pune  
C. Thiruvananthapuram  
D. Bengaluru

- Q.3) Bagh, a village in Gwalior is famous for:**  
A. Cave Paintings  
B. Architecture  
C. Sculptures  
D. None of the Above
- Q.4) Brihadeshwara Temple is dedicated to:**  
A. The Sun  
B. Gautam Buddha  
C. Shiva  
D. Vishnu



ANSWERS

1. B) Mumbai, 2. C) Thiruvananthapuram, 3. A) Cave Paintings, 4. C) Shiva 5. B) Chennai 6. A) Pune



Mind teasers

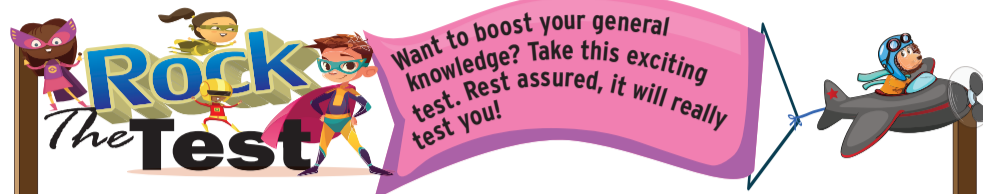
MATHS QUIZ

ANSWERS

- Q.1) A, B and C can do a piece of work in 20, 30 and 60 days respectively. In how many days can A do the work if he is assisted by B and C on every third day?**  
A. 16 days B. 15 days C. 18 days D. 36 days
- Q.2) A is thrice as good as a workman as B and therefore is able to finish a job in 60 days less than B. Working together, they can do it in:**  
A. 22.5 days B. 25.5 days C. 22 days D. 12.5 days
- Q.3) A alone can do a piece of work in 6 days and B alone in 8 days. A and B undertook to do it for Rs. 3200. With the help of C, they completed the work in 3 days. How much is to be paid to C?**  
A. Rs. 100 B. Rs. 200 C. Rs. 400 D. Rs. 600
- Q.4) If 6 men and 8 boys can do a piece of work in 10 days while 26 men and 48 boys can do the same in 2 days, the time taken by 15 men and 20 boys in doing the same type of work will be:**  
A. 10 days B. 14 days C. 2 days D. 4 days
- Q.5) A can do a piece of work in 4 hours; B and C together can do it in 3 hours, while A and C together can do it in 2 hours. How long will B alone take to do it?**  
A. 12 hours B. 9 hours C. 5 hours D. 15 hours

**ANSWERS (1) B) 15 days (2) A) 22.5 days (3) C) Rs. 400 (4) D) 4 days (5) A) 12 hours**

FUN-ZONE



- Q1: The symbol Sb stands for stibnum or stibnite. What is the modern name of this element?**  
A: Arsenic  
B: Tin  
C: Seaborgium  
D: Antimony

- modern periodic table?**  
A: Dmitri Mendeleev  
B: Antoine Lavoisier  
C: Gregor Mendel  
D: Alfred Nobel

- A: Brain  
B: Skin  
C: Bones  
D: Blood

CHEMISTRY

- Q2: Water-based can be described as acidic, neutral, or basic, with respect to pH. Which of these describes milk?**  
A: Slightly acidic  
B: Neutral pH  
C: Milk doesn't have pH  
D: Slightly basic



- Q5: Organic chemistry is the study of compounds that make up living organisms. All organic molecules contain:**  
A: Carbon only  
B: Carbon and Nitrogen  
C: Carbon and Hydrogen  
D: Carbon, Nitrogen and Oxygen

- Q7: What do you call an atom that has more protons than electrons?**  
A: Molecule  
B: Isotope  
C: Anion  
D: Cation

- Q8: A drop of food colouring spreading out in a cup of water is an example of which transport process?**  
A: Diffusion  
B: Osmosis  
C: Vapour pressure  
D: Effusion

- Q9: If you fill a glass to the brim with ice water and the ice melts, what will happen?**  
A: The glass will overflow as the ice turns to water.  
B: The level of water in the glass will remain unchanged as the ice melts.  
C: The water level will drop slightly as the ice melts.  
D: Mercury

**ANSWERS: 1. D, 2. A, 3. C, 4. A, 5. C, 6. D, 7. C, 8. A, 9. B**

COMMON GRAMMATICAL MISTAKES

1. BARE/BEAR

THE RULES:

- "Bare" means without covering or clothing.
- "Bear" is to carry something. It is also an animal.

HOW NOT TO DO IT:

- In our textbooks, there are photos of physicians a century ago performing autopsies with their bear hands.

HOW TO DO IT PROPERLY:

- In our textbooks, there are photos of physicians a century ago performing autopsies with their bare hands.

ONLINE TEACHING learning process

In the month of March 2020, while the student community was busy preparing for their annual examination and the teachers were all on the road to the completion of their curriculum, all of a sudden the most colossal lockdown in global history was announced which was unanimously expected, being aware that we are all in the clutches of the pandemic of Covid 19. At Shri Shakuntala K I Jain High School, the principal of the institution, Roma Das and her team of teachers, decided to connect online with the students immediately after the country-wide lockdown was imposed through Telegram app, providing the students eager to get in touch with their teachers, assignments and projects to keep them constructively busy. In this time of global crisis, it was necessary to provide comfort to the students rather than merely focussing on academics. In the latter part of the Month of April, the teachers of our school began preparing and uploading videos of the curricular lessons and thus commenced online teaching of academic subjects through Telegram app and Zoom app. There are certain pre requisites for online sessions to be successful which our teachers strictly adhered to, while preparing their respective videos. They ensured that the digital classrooms are 'smart-classrooms' well equipped with several digital learning aids. Our teachers imparted lessons to the students across multiple locations in a bidirectional mode with the students being able to address their questions to the teachers and clarify their doubts over the app. The teaching was also based on course material accessible over the web, or through DVDs on a wide variety of subjects. With full high-definition technology, using advanced cell phones and laptops the teachers interacted with the students successfully. The latency or time lag in both video and audio was made so low by our advanced computer staff that one was left to wonder if the teachers and students were really interacting with each other from truly so far. It surely gave the experience of speaking and interacting with students across the table. Online teaching learning process is being successfully carried out in our school and the students are acquiring sufficient learning and enjoying each and every session as well.



SCHOOL IS COOL

MUSIC CHANGES PERCEPTIONS

RICHA KAMATH, CLASS IX, B.K.BIRLA PUBLIC SCHOOL, KALYAN

In the modern era, there are different varieties of people with different views of the world. Some tend to find it as a world where you can do anything and your wishes will come true and see the world as it could be. On the other hand, some see the world as a cruel and indifferent place. Such people are realists and often see the world as it is and face the true reality. There is actually a reason as to why these opinions differ. It may be due to the songs we hear. The type of music you listen to affects the way you perceive the world. A study conducted at the University of Groningen in Netherlands indicates that music cannot only affect your mood and present state of mind, but the songs you listen to can also change your personality and the way you perceive emotions and the world around you. We all know that music impacts our mood during the day. For example, listening to upbeat music can get you into an energetic mood or listening to sad music can make you depressed. Even if there is nothing to see, people sometimes see happy faces when they are listening to happy music and sad faces when they are listening to sad music. It also changes the way we act. If we are sad ourselves we generally don't want people to feel the same, therefore we tend to make others happy. Even comedians and funny people are actually more depressed than others. In this way, music is a way to change the world around you. Music is a small thing that moves you and others towards happiness.

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Feminism

ASHU MAMOTRA, CLASS X, CHANDRESH LODHA MEMORIAL SCHOOL, DOMBIVLI

Feminism is a controversial topic these days. How do men and women differ? Do they actually differ? Though both the sexes are different they have got equal rights. Feminism is that women should have equal rights to that of men. Feminist movement fights for equal rights and equal opportunities for women. Feminist movement campaign works for reforms on issues such as reproductive rights, violence maternity



leave, equal pay for both men and women, women's suffrage, sexual harassment and sexual violence. Even in 21st century across the globe men and women do not enjoy equal privileges. Also women are exploited on capitalism. Certainly, women have contributed significantly to the welfare of the society and country subsequently. Women are indeed making the world turn heads towards them. The participation of women is the most effective way to lift communities, companies and countries. In addition the participation of women's make peace agreements stronger, societies more strong and economies more dynamic.

Relevance of the greatest Indian epic 'Ramayan' in today's times

SURABHI RAUT, CLASS IX, NES NATIONAL PUBLIC SCHOOL, MUMBAI

Today, in this restless world, we have forgotten our roots. The world is filled with greed, arrogance and hatred. Our Indian epic Ramayan has given us many moral lessons that have great relevance with today's times. In Ramayana, after the tyrant Ravana starts oppressing people all over, Lord Vishnu takes the form of Ram, his 7th incarnation who is destined to restore peace once again. Lord Ram conquishes Raavana later.

Today, a Raavana lies within everyone, present in the form of hate and dishonesty. But like the epic, there is a Lord Ram for every Raavan out there. Raavana was arrogant and power-hungry while Lord Ram was an obedient, honest, and humble person. The bad qualities of Raavana ultimately led to his end.

Similarly, we have both good and bad qualities in us. The one we feed will grow and suppress the other quality. It is up to us to choose the path that we want depending on the quality that we select.

