

SPEAK OUT

EXPRESS YOURSELF

Feel strongly about what you read? Please send us your views and opinions along with your pics at toinie175@gmail.com. To post comments/articles/photos online, register at www.toistudent.com and start a debate.

Q Should the captain of the Indian cricket team have a say in the selection of the head coach?

KEEP CAPTAIN IN LOOP



If you give the captain a say in the selection of Team India's head coach, he may be tempted to indulge in malpractices that can lead to the selection of an incompetent head coach. He may select a coach who is more compatible with him instead of being good for the team. The captain can be consulted and kept in the loop during the selection process, instead of letting him have a say.

KATHIT VASAVADA, class XI, HB Kapadia New High School, Ahmedabad

MAKE THE BEST TEAM

It would be great if the captain had a say in the selection process as he's the person who leads the team and knows about his team's weaknesses which can then be rectified by the coach. If both the captain and the coach have a good understanding it will make the team strong.



ABRAHAM CAVIN, class XII, Bethel Matric Higher Secondary School, Chennai

SHOULD BE TEAM EFFORT



Virat Kohli should have a say in the selection process of the new head coach. In fact, all the team members should be involved in the selection process as different views and opinions go towards the selection of a good coach. Also, understanding other's choices will get Team India a better head coach.

MOKSH ROY, class VI, St Angel's Sr Sec School, New Delhi

BOTH ARE TEAM LEADERS

The captain and the coach are the two leaders who are instrumental in the team's progress. They lead the team together and hence a good bonding and understanding between them is necessary. Even Sourav Ganguly and Kapil Dev have supported Virat and allowed him to express his views. Not just the captain, but all other experienced players should have their say.



KRISH KOTECHEA, class IX, Delhi Public School, Rajkot

KUDOS TO WOMAN POWER



Making Lashana Lynch the first female black Bond 007 on the silver screen is a great move that had been creeping its way through Hollywood. Look at Captain Marvel and the new Men in Black. Gone are the days when women were helpless characters who needed to be protected. Women are paving their own path now. Go girls!

JIYA JINDAL, class X, GD Salwan Public School, New Delhi



ONE WORLD, DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVES

Explore diversity in vision and figure out how the same topic may be viewed differently by different folks. This is a mirror to society and life

READ FULL STORIES ON TOI WEBSITE



India successfully thwarted a move by Pakistan to censure our country on Kashmir at the UN Security Council (UNSC). What does the UNSC do?



WHAT IS SECURITY COUNCIL?

The United Nations Charter established six main organs of the United Nations, including the Security Council. It gives primary responsibility for maintaining international peace and security to the Security Council, which may meet whenever peace is threatened. According to the Charter, the United Nations has four purposes:

- to maintain international peace and security;
- to develop friendly relations among nations;
- to cooperate in solving international problems and in promoting respect for human rights;
- and to be a centre for harmonising the actions of nations.

While other organs of the United Nations make recommendations to



UN peacekeeping forces in Mali. Today, India is the largest contributor of troops to UN's peacekeeping operations

member states, only the Security Council has the power to make decisions that member states are then obligated to implement under the Charter.

The Security Council has 15 members

- There are five permanent members: the United States, Russian Federation, France, China and the United Kingdom.
- Ten temporary members are elected by the General Assembly for two-year terms.

History

The Security Council held its first session on January 17, 1946 at Church House, Westminster, London. Since its first meeting, the Security Council has taken permanent residence at the United Nations Headquarters in New York City.

Photo: AFP

UN SECURITY COUNCIL VOTING

To be approved, a Council resolution must have nine "YES" votes out of 15 and no "NO" votes from any of the five permanent members.

Each Council member has one vote.

A "NO" vote from one of the five permanent members kills the resolution.

There is no such thing as a "VETO" vote in formal UN rules, though a "NO" vote from a permanent member has the effect of vetoing a resolution.

If a member "ABSTAINS" from voting, it does not count as either a "YES" or "NO" vote.

Members raise their hands to vote, and sit at a horseshoe-shaped table.

Each of the five Permanent Members has gone to war or invaded a country without Security Council approval.

Functions

- The Security Council has unique responsibility and decision making powers.
- When faced with a potential conflict, the first response of the Council

is to recommend to the parties that they reach an agreement through peaceful means. The Council may appoint, or ask the UN Secretary General to appoint special representatives to assist and guide efforts towards conflict resolution.

➤ In cases where conflict is occurring, the Council may issue ceasefire directives, send in UN peacekeeping forces or use enforcement actions, such as sanctions.

➤ With or without agreement of national governments, the Council can take steps to protect civilians caught in the conflict – for example by allowing access across national borders for humanitarian organisations. The Council can direct Governments to limit stockpiling of certain weapons or disarm, for example, by nuclear non-proliferation and destruction of chemical weapons.

➤ The Council's day-to-day functions include the review of UN peacekeeping operations, consultations on specific country situations and monitoring the implementation of UN sanctions through the work of its sanctions committees.

UNSC reform

UN membership has expanded dramatically since 1945, from 51 to 193 nations, and the global economy has experienced tectonic shifts, especially in the past 30 years. In 1989, the seven largest Western economies – three of which have permanent seats on the council – accounted for 51 per cent of global economic output. Today they account for only 30 per cent. Many voices insist that the council must expand to retain its legitimacy and effectiveness.

CARBON FOOTPRINT Decoded

A carbon footprint is a measure of the environmental impact of an organisation, event, person or product. It measures the total greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions of a given activity or group of activities to provide a measure of the extent to which these activities produce harmful emissions and therefore contribute to global warming.

How is it calculated?

When calculating a carbon footprint, a lot of factors are taken into consideration. For example, driving to the grocery store burns a certain amount of fuel, and fossil fuels are the primary sources of greenhouse gases. But that grocery store is powered by electricity, and its employees probably drove to work, so the store has its own carbon footprint too. In addition, the products that the store sells were all shipped to its warehouse, so that must be factored into the total carbon footprint. Also, the fruits, vegetables, and meats that the store sells were all grown or raised on farms, a process that produces methane,

Terms like greenhouse effect, carbon neutrality and carbon offset are bandied about these days. What bearing do they have on the environment?



Photo: Getty Images

which has a greenhouse effect 25 times greater than CO₂. All those elements must be combined to understand the full carbon footprint of a given activity.

CARBON FOOTPRINT ON PRODUCTS

Some companies have started including footprints on their labelling. Carbon labels appeal to consumers who understand and monitor their own carbon footprints and want to support products that do the same. The labels estimate the emissions created by producing, packaging, transporting and disposing of a product.

action to remove as much carbon dioxide from the atmosphere as has put in to it. The overall goal of carbon neutrality is to achieve a zero carbon footprint. For example, a business may plant trees in different places around the world to offset the electricity the business uses. This practice is often called carbon offset or offsetting.

What's carbon neutral?

Carbon neutral, also called carbon neutrality, is a term used to describe the action of organisations, businesses and individuals taking

One solution to this ONE-BANANA problem

There's no point in going bananas about the blight (a plant disease); switch to a better banana



Photo: Getty Images

When Robert Vadra called India a 'banana republic' in 2012, there was an uproar. On a lighter note, was he referring to the fact that it accounts for a third of the total production of the fruit?

China is the world's second-largest producer of bananas and its official name claims it's a republic. Ecuador grows less but exports the most bananas, and has been a republic for the last 40 years. But as the world is going bananas about the spread of the fungus named Tropical Race 4 (TR4) particularly in South America over the last few years, the positions of all three banana republics are clearly in danger.

If recent reports are to be believed, actor Rahul Bose being charged ₹442.50 last month for a couple of bananas may become the norm if the incurable blight is not contained. The world's earlier top banana Gros Michel was topped by Cavendish (both named by an accident of history) as the largest cultivar under production also due to the former's susceptibility to TR4. As over half of India's bananas are Cavendish or its local clones, and considering the world apparently got hooked on to bananas after Alexander the Great fell for (not on) the fruit in India, this one-banana problem's solution should also emerge from here.

Q Actor Sidharth Malhotra says criticism and failure should be taken as a motivation to become successful in life. Do you agree?

FAILURE MOTIVATES



It is rightly said that failure is not the opposite of success, it's a part of success. It is very easy to criticise someone, but to accept one's failure is tough.

Only people who have experienced bitter failure can relish sweet success. Life is not about making sure one doesn't fail, but on aiming for success. And as the word impossible can mean, 'I'm possible, why can't we do the same and get motivated by both criticism and failure?

CHAITANYA JOSHI, class VIII, City Montessori School Aliganj 1, Lucknow

POSITIVE CRITICISM

Sidharth Malhotra is right. Criticism can help us work towards testing our limits and breaking others' perspective. However, it can have adverse consequences, so one should always take it in the best way possible and work towards bettering one's own self.



AMREEN RASHEED, class IX, Lake Montfort School, Bengaluru

LEARNING LESSONS

I fully agree with Sidharth Malhotra's views. As a person, all our failures and the criticisms in our life must be taken as a motivation to go ahead in life. We shouldn't feel bad

that we failed or were criticised, rather we must learn from them and come back stronger, tougher and better.

ANKITH S, class VIII, Janak Academy, Bengaluru

CRITICISM BEGETS SUCCESS

I completely agree with Sidharth's views as I feel that criticism has the power to create a sense of a dissatisfaction among those whose efforts are criticised. This dissatisfaction propels one to work harder and improve the quality of the task done, eventually leading to success. Thus, failure is the catalyst to a will to achieve victory.



SUKRITI CHAWLA, class IX, Cambridge School, New Delhi

CRITICISM IS MOTIVATING

Criticism and failure are two different things. What connects with failure is retrospection and correction. Criticism can be perceived in many ways.

The nature and motive behind criticism is what should be considered. Of course it should be taken as a fuel and motivation for success.

GOURI AJAYAKUMAR, class X, Somerville School, Greater Noida

MOTIVATING TO SUCCEED

Anyone who is successful today has faced criticism or experienced failure in some way or the other. When taken in the right way, criticism and failure can motivate us to become successful. They help by making us aware of our strengths and weak points.



KYUBA KARKERA, class IX, DAV Girls Senior Secondary School, Chennai