



THE TIMES OF INDIA

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TODAY'S EDITION

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STUDENT EDITION

MONDAY, JANUARY 25, 2021



WEB EDITION

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US REJOINS PARIS CLIMATE AGREEMENT; BIDEN TO CONVENE WORLD LEADERS TALK ON CLIMATE CHANGE

WILL IT USHER IN A NEW COMMITMENT TOWARDS CLIMATE CHANGE?

WHY CLIMATE CHANGE SHOULD BE TAKEN SERIOUSLY?

The Biden administration is planning to host the world leaders in a climate summit on the Earth Day, according to people familiar with the matter—a sign of the new President's commitment to not just rejoin the Paris carbon-cutting accord but also strengthen it. The US-hosted meeting on April 22 could be virtual, one of the people said, similar to a United Nation's climate summit in December, which featured six

hours of remarks from the world leaders. However, they only offered incremental steps to combat climate change. The US-organised event, which could be announced next week as part of a package of climate-related policies, is likely to focus on major world emitters of greenhouse gases. Biden has made climate change one of his main priorities, and has set a goal of achieving a zero-emission energy grid by 2035, and carbon neutrality by 2050.

The Paris Agreement, a legally-binding international treaty on climate change, adopted in 2015, aims at limiting global warming to well below 2, preferably to 1.5 degrees Celsius, compared to the pre-industrial levels. India is one of the few countries, which is on track to meet the 2009 goal of limiting the global average temperature increase to not more than 2 degrees Celsius above the pre-industrial level



1 RISING TEMPERATURES: The year 2020 was one of the three-warmest years on record and rivaled 2016 for the top spot, indicating the pace of the 'human-induced' climate change, which is now as powerful as the force of nature, the UN weather agency has said. All the five datasets surveyed by the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) concur that 2011-2020 was the warmest-decade on record, in a persistent long-term climate change trend. The warmest-six years have all been since 2015, with 2016, 2019 and 2020, being the top three

2 THE ARCTIC IS MELTING FASTER THAN THE REST OF THE WORLD: According to environmentalists, the Arctic sea ice is melting at an alarming rate, especially during the boreal or the northern hemisphere summer. The trend, which started in the 1980s, is continuing to increase at an alarming rate. The temperatures in the Arctic have warmed twice as fast as the global average. Scientists have warned that it is likely that the Arctic summer sea ice could disappear as early as 2035

3 CO2 LEVELS CONTINUE TO RISE: According to the WMO, despite lockdown-related fall in emissions, the global greenhouse emissions increased in 2020. In May 2020, the CO2 levels hit 417ppm, highest in human history

4 LOSS OF FORESTS: Since 1990, the world has lost 178 million hectares of forest. In 2020, the deforestation of the Amazon rainforest surged to a 12-year high



Photo: Getty Images

Spotlight

TWO LEVELS OF ENGLISH AND SANSKRIT FROM 2021-22 SESSION: CBSE

For the academic year 2021-22, the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE), is all set to introduce English and Sanskrit language papers in two levels. Presently, the Board offers Maths and Hindi at two levels to reduce the stress levels of students. In addition, beginning next academic year, the Board will introduce improvement tests as part of NEP's implementation of the national education policy.



Competency-based questions have already been included in the Board exams for classes X and XII. The Board has decided to increase the number of questions by 10 per cent every year

Ladakh to make debut in Republic Day parade on Rajpath



There is a palpable excitement among the members of the Ladakh contingent for the Republic Day Parade, as the young union territory is all set to make its debut in the extravaganza on Rajpath with a beautiful tableau, depicting the iconic Thikse monastery and its cultural heritage. The tableau prominently depicts the historic Thikse monastery located on the top of a hill in Thikse in Leh district, and is one of the most-visited tourist sites in the region.

➤ The Union Territory of Ladakh was created in 2019, after the central government bifurcated the state of Jammu and Kashmir into UTs

➤ A total of 17 states and UTs will be represented on the Rajpath in this year's parade through their vibrant tableaux, besides that of various ministries and the three Armed Forces.



DISCOVERED

A NEW SPECIES OF ORANGE AND BLACK BAT

A new species of orange and black bat from the Nimba mountains in West Africa has been discovered by scientists from the American Museum of Natural History in New York. The finding of the orange bat was described as striking, as the species is believed to be critically-endangered.

Bats play critical ecological roles in West Africa, dispersing seeds, pollinating plants and keeping insect species in check. Yet, they are persecuted throughout the region because of superstitions, and these ideas have been compounded by the animals' association, with Ebola and other diseases, say experts. Like many other species, they are also threatened by habitat loss

Social influence may induce people to follow Covid rules

People are more likely to follow Covid-19 restrictions based on what their friends do, rather than their own principles, a new study suggests. The findings indicated that the best predictor of people's compliance to the rules was how much their close circle complied with the rules, which had an even stronger effect than people's own approval of the rules.



1 The researchers found that people didn't simply follow the rules, if they felt vulnerable or were personally convinced. Most-diligent followers of the guidelines were those whose friends and family also followed the rules. Close circle's compliance had an even stronger effect than people's own approval of the rules, the researchers said

2 This discovery applied to all the age groups, genders, countries, and was independent of the severity of the pandemic

3 The study also revealed that people, who were particularly-bonded to their country were more likely to stick to the lockdown rules – the country was like a family, someone for whom, one is willing to stick their neck out

4 The findings also suggested that including experts in human and social behaviour is crucial when planning the next stages of the pandemic response, such as how to ensure that people comply with extended lockdowns or vaccination recommendations

VIEWPOINT



FACIAL RECOGNITION TECH DEPLOYED IN UP TO HELP WOMEN IN DISTRESS

The Lucknow police have deployed facial recognition technology backed by security cameras that will read expressions of women in distress and alert their nearest police station.

➤ The technology will use artificial intelligence (AI) to read the facial expressions of women

➤ The new project is being helmed under the 'Mission Shakti' programme that was launched in October 2020. It is projected to help reduce cases of harassment of women, who are subjected to stalking and threat in the city

➤ The facial recognition technology is touted to alert the nearest police station even before the victims dial the police helpline. It will activate the cameras upon detecting facial expressions of women, and trigger the system to notify the police

Q Is it a good move? Should other cities follow suit?

Share your views at toinie175@gmail.com You can also post your comments at [toistudent.com](http://www.toistudent.com)

TOUCH ID COULD RETURN WITH IPHONE 13

If reports are to go by, Apple could be bringing back its touch ID technology in its 2021 iPhone, in the form of an on-screen fingerprint reader to help users unlock their smart-

phones without having to remove their masks. Rather than being a replacement for face ID, the touch ID would be an additional method of unlocking the iPhone, according to the report.

➤ The report, by Bloomberg, indicates that changes to this year's iPhone will be minor

➤ However, one of the biggest changes is expected to be the addition of an on-screen fingerprint reader, which would be offered alongside the current face ID and passcode options

➤ According to Bloomberg, instead of reintroducing a home button, the touch ID technology would be embedded within the new iPhone screen



Apple first introduced Touch ID in 2013, in the form of a fingerprint reader integrated into the iPhone's home button



NEWS IN CLUES

Which Indian politician authored the books 'An Era of Darkness', 'Show Business' and 'Riot'?

CLUE 1: He also served as the minister of state for external affairs (2009-10) and HRD minister (2012-14) in the UPA government

CLUE 2: In 2006, he lost to South Korea's Ban Ki-moon for the UN secretary general post

CLUE 3: He was India's most-followed politician on Twitter, until he was overtaken by PM Narendra Modi in 2013

ANSWER: SHASHI THAROOR. At a meeting of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Information and Technology, headed by the Congress leader, Facebook, which owns WhatsApp, clarified that it had not "functionally-changed" the privacy policy, and that it was the same as what it had been in existence, since 2016

Meet 14-yr-old bestselling author and her adventures in writing

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Ashna Dua published her book 'Joe Saves Florida and Other Adventures', which became a bestseller on OTT the very first day. She is a student of Symbiosis International School, Pune and is in IG1. Dua talks to Times Nie on skills, dreams and focus that one needs while penning a book and charting your life story.

What do you think made your book a best-seller? Share with us some experiences of yours while building the plot/creating the novel:

I'm so amazed that my book became a bestseller on Amazon on the first day itself! I think that the reason my book achieved this title is because of the amount of overwhelming support from people all around the world. My family and I had shared the release date of the book beforehand, and people from around the world started sending me encouraging messages. I am very grateful to everyone.

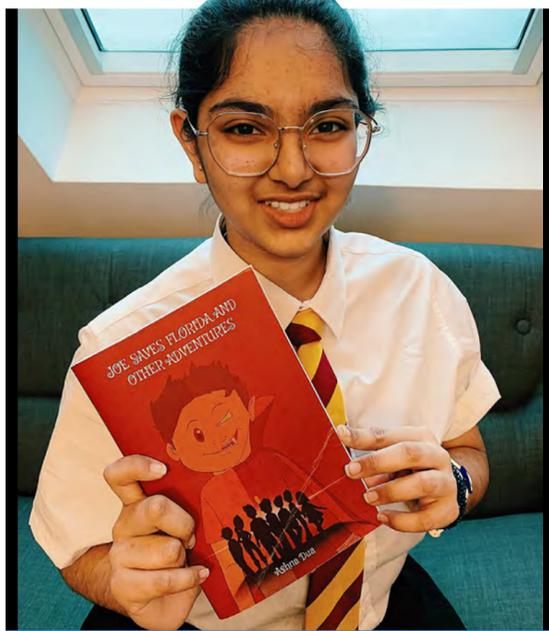
Your journey of writing:

My journey has been quite interesting. There were a lot of times that I rewrote scenes that I really liked but didn't fit in with the plot well. I also deleted a few characters and multiple adventures that weren't written right.

On one such occasion, I had been editing a chapter into which I had put in a lot of effort. And when I say, 'a lot of effort', I mean this chapter was one of the most edited, most time-consuming chapters I'd written. It was a fun, light-hearted chapter with a small amusement park mystery, a different sort from my usual. Joe and one of his friends had to discover who was sabotaging an amusement park and why? Unfortunately, when I went over the book one more time, I realised that this story didn't really fit in. It stuck out like a sore thumb and eventually, I chose to delete it.

Amid your studies, how did you take out time for your book and how many hours did you put into it?

At the time when I was writing the book, I was in a much lower grade, so I didn't have a lot of homework. This gave me time to write. I was too young for a phone,



WRITING INVOLVES MORE THAN LANGUAGE SKILLS. DO YOU AGREE? ACCORDING TO YOU, WHAT QUALITIES ARE NECESSARY TO BE A GOOD AUTHOR?

I agree that writing involves more than language skills. What those skills are, however, depends on what you intend to write. For example, if you are writing a biography, you need to know about the person's life. If you are writing an encyclopedia or any other non-fiction book, you need factual knowledge about the topic at hand. For a book like mine, or any other fictional book, skills you require other than good language, are, first and foremost, creativity. You need to have the ability to think beyond the regular plots and think of something that interests you as well as the reader. Besides that, I think you need to know how to communicate through your writing and need to be able to see things open-mindedly, from different perspectives. You also need to be dedicated to your writing and have to adapt easily to various situations (This could come in handy when writing about different cultures, eras, problems.)

so there were no technological distractions. I found it rather easy to make time in my schedule to write. This was also just a hobby for me back then and I didn't expect to get it published.

'Joe Saves Florida and Other Adventures' took months of work just to write. I think it went up to a year in total. After that, once I decided to get it published, it took another eight months. It was edited several times. This book was a very long project.

Every writer faces a block. What did you do when you faced such a situation?

Writer's blocks are normal. What matters is that you don't give up on your hard work because of this.

There was a point while I was writing my book, I was stuck on what to write about and completely lost interest in the book. When this happened, I took a break from writing the book. I wrote other things when possible to make sure that I was still practising my writing skills and did not get rusty. I also took this time to read books. This gave me ideas on what would interest readers.

Who is your favourite author and why?

I read a lot so it's very tough for me to choose one author who is my favourite. I also read a great variety of fictional

books. (eg. Adventure, Fairytale retellings, Mystery, Horror, etc.)

However, I like a few of these authors very much:

➤ **JK Rowling** (I love 'Harry Potter' and her other books are really good too)

➤ **Melanie Cellier** (Fairytale retellings are some of my favourite types of books to read and Ms Cellier's books – all of them – are amazing reads)

➤ **Enid Blyton** (A childhood favourite, her books still make me smile whenever I read them)

➤ **Carolyn Keene** (The 'Nancy Drew' Series are very well known and the mystery in them is very intriguing and keeps

INTERVIEW

you interested till the end) KM Shea (Again, like Ms Cellier, her books – Fairytale retellings or otherwise – are sweet and heartwarming)

➤ **Robert Thier** (His 'Storm and Silence' series and 'Warning! Fairy tales' are hilarious. His other books are also some of the best stories ever)

One of my favourite books also happens to be 'In 27 Days' by Allison Gervais.

What do you plan to pursue in life?

I'm not sure which career I want to pur-

sue when I grow up. For now, my plan is to keep all my options open so I can decide what exactly I'm interested in becoming. In the meantime, I will continue writing!

If you were to describe yourself just in one line ...

Fourteen-year-old bestselling author, who likes to read, dream and explore the world.

What other hobbies do you have besides writing?

I adore listening to music and you'll always find me listening to some song or another. I play the guitar, love to read and skate in my free time. I also like learning new languages or playing with my younger siblings. I have recently started a blog on my website ashnadua.com.

Your favourite character from any book and why?

My favourite character would probably be Hermione Granger from 'Harry Potter', or Lillian Linton from 'Storm and Silence'. These two girls fight for themselves and don't let anyone walk over them. They're some of the best female characters I have read about in any books.



YOUR TIPS TO YOUNG AUTHORS ON HOW THE PUBLISHING INDUSTRY WORKS AND HOW TO PEN A BOOK?

The first thing about writing a book is to jot down your thought before you forget it. This could be a story idea, an idea for a plot twist, an idea for an ending, just one scene in particular or even just a character you want to write about. You then elaborate and base your story around that. The story eventually comes together as you keep writing it. Once you are done, you can always go back and edit your writing, so you don't need to have everything planned out before starting out. When publishing your story, make sure people know about your book and when it will be released. It's important to build an interest for the reader. Tell your friends and family to spread the word about your book and make sure that you enjoyed writing your story as much as the readers will enjoy reading it.

Fashion and beyond

BRAND NEW COLOURS TO DAZZLE SPRING SUMMER 2021

Every season throws some interesting colours that bring freshness to the world of fashion and creativity through clothes. Check out the colours that are ready to take this year by storm



Photo: GETTY IMAGES

Trend Color Spring/Summer 2021

GOOD GRAY
Labelled as the counterbalance colour, it is about minimalism and balance. Good Gray also has a sustainable outlook, illustrating the raw hue of recycled materials combined. With subtle blue tint, it is grounding and calming.

Good Gray
122 - 66 - 02

Trend Color Spring/Summer 2021

Lemon Sherbet
040 - 85 - 28

LEMON SHERBET
This colour is all about the feel-good factor of the sun, yet calming and not too loud. Lemon Sherbet will have broad appeal across genders and product categories.

Trend Color Spring/Summer 2021

Quiet Wave
072 - 69 - 24

QUIET WAVE
Greens have been gaining ground for several seasons – and in a broader range of hues – the freshest tones will gravitate towards cooler levels. Quiet Wave has an optimistic and futuristic quality, making it a perfect mood-setter for the start of a new decade.

COLOR OF THE YEAR 2021

A.I. Aqua
098 - 59 - 30



tumn colour palette has kickstarted the season, but it seems to go on to a lighter shade of brown for spring-summer, depicting chocolate milkshake and cake tones.

OXY FIRE

The extrovert colour for the season – a fiery, saturated hue is guaranteed to spark reactions. It builds on the commercial success of red and orange, with a complexity that fuses elements of both. It energises and enlivens products and collections. Many brands are working on this colour.

Trend Color Spring/Summer 2021

Oxy Fire
015 - 50 - 36

BREAD BROWN
The pandemic inspired many of us to dabble in baking bread and use our cooking skills in the kitchen for unwinding our passions. The au-

TRENDSETTING

Fermented foods set to rule 2021

With the focus on healthy and immunity-boosting food this year, fermented food is topping the list of 2021 culinary trends. 'Tis the year of sourdough bread, yoghurt, apple cider, kimchi salad, and kefir, global polls have stated, due to the many nutritious benefits, these foods offer, including being rich sources of probiotics. Check out the list of fermented foods you can make at home:

Sauerkraut

A cousin of kimchi, sauerkraut is easy to make. Chopped cabbage, salt and caraway seeds are added to a jar and fermented for 3 to 10 days.



Kefir

Add milk kefir grains to a bowl/jar of milk. You can either boil it on a gas stove or heat it in a microwave. Wait till the milk is cultured and its texture changes. Once done, remove the grains and refrigerate the kefir.

Kimchi salad

In a bowl, add salt to chopped cabbage, then add water. Cover it and leave for 1-2 hours. Drain the water and add grated garlic, peeled and chopped ginger, granulated sugar, red pepper flakes, chopped radish. Mix well and store it in a jar for 1-5 days.



Lassi

Take plain yoghurt, crushed ice, water, sugar and salt. Blend all the ingredients in a blender and serve in a tall glass.

Pickled veggies

Thinly slice cucumbers, summer squash, ginger, cut red onion, peeled carrots. Boil vinegar and water and add salt. For flavours, you can add herbs like dill, oregano, whole spices, etc. Put all the veggies in a jar, add boiled vinegar and seal them.

Yoghurt

Heat some milk for a prolonged time. Remove from the stove and add some yoghurt maker or leftover yoghurt. Cover it and keep it in a warm place overnight.



Apple Cider

Smash ripened apples within a big container, using a rolling pin. Filter the juice from pulp using a fine cloth. Add dry and liquid brewing yeasts to the juice for it to ferment.

