



THE TIMES OF INDIA

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TODAY'S EDITION

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STUDENT EDITION
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 28, 2021

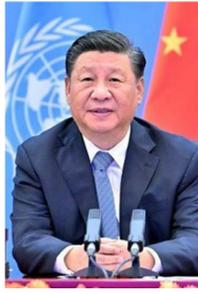
Covid-19 vaccine booster dose may be given nine months to a year after second shot

CLICK HERE: PAGE 1 AND 2



2021 UNITED STATES CAPITOL ATTACK

Supporters of Donald Trump stormed the US Capitol, firing shots inside the building as the legislature was preparing to seal the election of Joe Biden as the next President and Kamala Harris as the Vice President. The mob waving Trump flags, "Stop the Steal!" signs rampaged through the Capitol, entering the Senate floor and breaking into offices of Congress members. The attack took place after Trump declared that he would "never concede" his defeat to Biden.



CHINA: CCP RESOLUTION CEMENTS PRESIDENT XI JINPING'S STATURE, LEGACY AND FUTURE

Hailing Xi Jinping as the creator of a body of "theories and thoughts", the Chinese Communist Party passed a historic resolution this November putting him on par with Mao Zedong and Deng Xiaoping. The third resolution was adopted at the Central Committee's 6th plenum paving the way for a third term for the President starting next year.

GERMANY: END OF MERKEL ERA

Germany's centre-left Social Democratic Party (SPD) led by incumbent Vice-Chancellor Olaf Scholz, won the general election with 25.7 per cent of the vote in September, beating the conservative union CDU/CSU and bringing an end to the Angela Merkel era. The conservatives led by Merkel had dominated Germany's Bundestag or the lower house of Parliament for over a decade. With the retirement of Merkel, Germany and, to some extent, the European Union will enter a new era with unclear prospects.

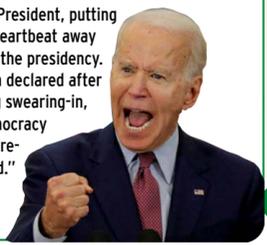


EVENTS THAT MARKED A TUMULTUOUS YEAR 2021

2021 has been an unusual year. It has been a roller coaster ride full of ups and downs that nobody saw coming. From Donald Trump conceding defeat in the US elections, fall of Kabul, and arrival of Taliban 2.0, the year would also be remembered as the year when countries like Germany and Israel got new leadership...

US: JOE BIDEN TAKES OFFICE

Joe Biden was sworn in as the President and Kamala Harris as the Vice President on January 20. The daughter of Shyamala Gopalan became the first Indian-American, the first woman, and the first African-American to be sworn in as the Vice President, putting her heartbeat away from the presidency. Biden declared after being swearing-in, "Democracy has prevailed."



MYANMAR: MILITARY BACK IN CONTROL

A coup in Myanmar began in February when democratically-elected members of the National League for Democracy (NLD) were deposed by the military, with acting president Myint Swe proclaiming a year-long state of emergency and transferring power to Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Min Aung Hlaing. The military-backed opposition Union Solidarity and Development Party (USDP) had disputed the results of the general elections held on November 8, 2020 after which the army issued a warning saying that it will take action if the complaints about "election fraud" were not addressed.



ISRAEL: NETANYAHU OUSTED

Naftali Bennett, leader of the right-wing Yamina (United Right) party, was sworn in as the new Israeli prime minister in June ending Benjamin Netanyahu's record 12-year rule. Israel's longest-serving leader, Netanyahu won a record four elections and held office five times. His ouster came after Israeli opposition leader Yair Lapid announced that he has reached a deal with a small pro-settler party and others to form a coalition government to cast Netanyahu out.



AFGHANISTAN: RISE OF TALIBAN 2.0

The Taliban declared the war in Afghanistan over after its fighters swept the capital Kabul and President Ashraf Ghani fled the country in August. The swift advance of the Taliban fighters in the provincial capitals of Afghanistan took everyone by surprise and the swiftness with which cities like Herat and Kandahar were captured stunned the world.



The government is considering a gap of 9-12 months between the second Covid-19 shot and the precautionary dose to be administered to healthcare and frontline workers and senior citizens with comorbidities starting January 10. The CoWIN platform is being modified to offer vaccination slots to the 15-18 age group from January 3. After Prime Minister Narendra Modi's announcement on precautionary doses and lowering of vaccination age to 15 years, the ministry of health and family welfare is working out the protocols for implementing the changes in India's vaccination policy. According to sources, Covaxin will be the government's mainstay for vaccinating the 15-18 age group. The government is likely to allow their inoculation at the same Covid vaccination centres but open separate sub-centres.

CBSE, ICSE, ISC exam dates may be announced soon

The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE), which this month conducted the term 1 papers of class X and class XII, may announce the schedule of term 2 papers for the same very soon. The second term examinations for class X and class XII CBSE and CISCE will be conducted in March-April, 2022.

The CBSE as well as CISCE will not be announcing pass or fail status for the term 1 examination. CBSE will announce the final results post term 2 exams

1 Questions in the second term examinations will be case-based, situation-based, open-ended short answer and long answer-type questions which will be conducted over two hours

2 For CBSE, the class X & XII term 2 exams will be conducted based on 50% of the syllabus, which has been mentioned on the official website. The first term will contribute to a minimum of 50% of the weightage in the overall result and it is expected that the exact ratio will be shared soon

3 There will not be averaging of marks for the students if for some reason they fail to appear for either term examination



Education

4 The reduced syllabus for ICSE (class X) and ISC (class XII) for the current academic year has been divided into two portions, and the units/subunits to be covered in each semester have been specified clearly

5 Both the Boards have divided the syllabus into two semesters, with 50% syllabus only

World gets its first billion dollar pandemic-era movie



Spider-Man: No Way Home' became the first movie in the Covid-19 pandemic era to gross over a billion dollars at the box office, with its Christmas weekend box office collections powering it to a record collection of \$1.05 billion – taking it past the Chinese blockbuster movie 'The Battle of Lake Changjin', which has grossed \$904.9 million since its release in November.

■ The last movie to earn over a billion dollars from cinema ticket sales was the 2019 flick, 'Star Wars: The Rise of Skywalker', which ended up grossing over \$1.07 billion. As with most global blockbusters, the latest Spiderman movie has earned more overseas – \$600 million – than its US earnings, which stood at a little over \$405 million

■ The fictional superhero movie has also had a good outing in India, earning around ₹ 165 crore to become the fourth-highest Hollywood grosser in India and may even touch the ₹ 200 crore mark – this despite losing 50% of its screens to the latest Hindi movie, '83', released on Friday

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ONLINE TOI STUDENT EDITION

NEW YEAR, NEW DAWN
Welcome 2022 with a dollop of hope

WHAT TO EXPECT

- STUDENTS AND TEACHERS SHARE WHAT THEY ARE HOPEFUL FOR
- LESSONS OF 2021 FOR '22
- CALENDAR OF EVENTS
- MOST-ANTICIPATED MOVIES
- BOOKS BUZZ FOR 2022
- MUSIC NEWS
- THE BIG TRENDS IN HEALTH, LIFESTYLE, TRAVEL, ENVIRONMENT AND MORE
- TRIVIA

Happy New Year 2022

Don't miss the 'Exciting Festive Edition' on this special occasion

MARK YOUR DATE **JANUARY 1, 2022**

COLLECTOR'S EDITION

EXTRACTS, PASSAGES NEED UNDIVIDED ATTENTION



PAPER SET BY MALA BHATIA AND MILANPREET KAUR, UDGAM SCHOOL FOR CHILDREN, AHMEDABAD

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

- The question paper is MCQ based only.
 - Each MCQ carries 1 mark.
 - Students must attempt all 40 questions. Time provided is 90 minutes.
- PART A: Reading Skill - 10 Marks**
PART B: Writing Skills and Grammar - 10 Marks
PART C: Literature - 20 Marks

PART-A (READING-10 Marks)

Read the passage carefully and answer the following questions: [1x5=5]

Learning the Corona Lessons

The other day, I had a very different experience in class. With the classes moving from online to offline mode nearly after a year, I asked my students what lessons they had drawn from the crisis.

Confused but confident, the students gave vent to their feelings and shared their observations. Man is a speck on this planet and should not brag about his achievements, was the observation of a student. All the wealth that man would gather by fair and foul means failed to save him. But the irony was that he believed that he had unlimited powers and could do anything. A tiny virus ravaged the most developed nations in the world and brought them to their knees, depriving them of victuals, drinks, liberty and social connectivity, he added to corroborate his statement.

Another student brought the virtue versus sin theory to explain why the coronavirus had visited us! The statement had a spiritual ring to it, but it also attracted censure. The debate was about to degenerate into an unnecessary controversy when a student rose to put things in a scientific perspective. Since mankind had ravaged the ecosystem for its insatiable greed, the pandemic was direct consequence of it, he explained. Further, if it did not stop, humans would soon face an existential threat.

The whole class threw its weight behind the statement of its classmate and also pledged to protect nature for itself and for posterity.

Another student hailed health and frontline workers. Elaborating her point, she said the brave community of frontline workers had risen above the petty considerations of caste, colour, creed and religion to nip the virus. They put their lives at risk to save the lives of others. Together we could take on any challenge was her observation.

Another student talked about how humanity had risen to the occasion to provide succour to those who were rendered penniless during the pandemic; how the privileged took care of the underprivileged and how the blessed offered help to the unfortunate.

What she tried to convey and convince her classmates was that the brotherhood of mankind could strengthen if the rich would open their purse for the poor.

Human spirit was indomitable and could surmount every crisis, was the observation of another student. No virus could beat and defeat man if he was determined to achieve victory against it. Human resilience could help overcome the stiffest challenges, he said.

Listening to my young students, I had to be convinced that the coronavirus had indeed taught us invaluable lessons. We need to imbibe them better in our lives!

On the basis of your understanding of the passage, answer the questions that follow.

Q1. Choose the correct option that lists the observations of corona period shared by the students.

- The man has unlimited power.
- Only wealth can save man.
- Man is a speck on this planet.
- Man can brag about his achievements.
- Man should not brag about his achievements.
- Man's benevolence brought the corona disease.

(a) i and ii (b) iv and vi
(c) iii and v (d) ii and iv

Q2. During the painful period of the pandemic, the human spirit was _____. Choose the correct set of options.

- submissive
- weak
- unbeatable
- indomitable
- recovering
- negative

(a) i and iv (b) i and ii
(c) iii and iv (d) v and vi

Q3. Choose the option that best captures the central idea of the passage from the given quotes.

- "Health is like money. We never have a true idea of its value until we lose it" — Josh Billings
- "Happiness is the highest form of health." — Dalai Lama
- "Covid -19 does not see race, religion, before striking colour caste creed, language or border before striking. Our response and conduct, therefore, should attach primacy to unity and brotherhood." —

Narendra Modi

(4) "Health is not valued till sickness comes." — Thomas Fuller

(a) Option (1) (b) Option (2)

(c) Option (3) (d) Option (4)

Q4. The extract uses the word 'hailed'. Which of the following expressions is incorrect with respect to the word 'hailed' used in the passage?

- the coronavirus
- doctors
- the health workers
- the police

(a) Option i (b) Option ii

(c) Option iii (d) Option iv

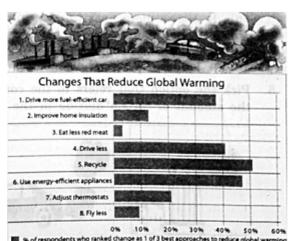
Q5. The brotherhood of mankind can strengthen if _____.

- the rich help the poor with money
- the mighty dominate the weak
- the rich rule the poor
- the mighty defeat the weak

Read the passage carefully and answer the following questions: [1x5=5]

Changes that Reduce Global Warming

- Global warming means an increase in the temperature of the earth's atmosphere. This increase can be caused by a variety of causes. But the main cause is an increase in the amount of carbon dioxide in the air.
- Carbon dioxide is added to the atmosphere by two main processes -- breathing and burning. All living things breathe out carbon dioxide into the atmosphere. The air breathed in contains only .03 per cent carbon dioxide, whereas the air breathed out contains 4 per cent. Thus, breathing leads to increasing the amount of carbon dioxide in the air. Also, large quantities of carbon dioxide are produced by the burning of wood, coal and oil.



3. A significant property of carbon dioxide is that, like glass, it allows more heat to pass into the earth's atmosphere than to pass out. If the amount of carbon dioxide in the air were to double, the temperature of the Earth would rise by 3 degree Celsius and the polar ice caps would start melting. The level of seas would rise and many an island would disappear under the surface of water.

4. Some alarming effects of global warming have already been noticed. Satellite pictures have indicated the disappearance of a tiny Maldivian island into the sea. The Maldives are a group of 1190 islands in the Indian Ocean, south-west of Sri Lanka. They are low lying, no higher than six feet above the sea level. Scientists think that the disappearance of the Maldivian island has been the result of global warming. The earth's mean temperature has risen by one degree Celsius, causing a rise in the sea level. Countries like Maldives and Bangladesh are considered most prone to flooding due to the greenhouse effect.

5. Thus it is the duty of each one of us to produce as little of carbon dioxide as we can. We should also take measures to minimize the exhaust fumes from our automobiles. By driving more fuel efficient, we can reduce global warming to about 38 per cent. By improving home insulation, it can be reduced to about 13 per cent. By driving less, it can be reduced to about 41 per cent and by recycling it can be reduced to about 51 per cent. We can reduce global warming to 48 per cent by using energy efficient appliances and to 21 per cent adjusting thermostat. The danger of global warming is real and needs to be attended to with all seriousness. Otherwise, it can bring a total doom for the world.

On the basis of your understanding of the above passage answer questions given below by choosing the most appropriate option:

Q6. Choose the option that lists the statement that is TRUE about carbon dioxide.

- It allows more heat to pass into Earth's atmosphere than pass out.
- It helps in freezing ice.
- It allows more heat to pass out from earth's atmosphere than to pass in.
- It helps to prevent global warming.

Q7. How is carbon dioxide generated?

- by breathing of plants
- by breathing of living things and burning
- by melting of ice and polar region
- both (a) and (b)

Q8. Pick the option that refers to the correct picture that shows the ways of reducing the amount of carbon dioxide in the air.



(a) Option (i) (b) option (ii)

(c) option (iii) (d) option (iv)

Q9. The alarming effects of global warming have been noticed with:

- emergence of Maldivian island from sea
- disappearance of sea near Maldives island
- disappearance of Maldives island into the sea
- all these three

Q10. The word 'doom' DOES NOT correspond to _____.

- destruction
- ruin
- construction
- extinction

PART-B

(Writing and Grammar - 10 Marks)

You are Mallika Das/ Mohit Das of 456, Raj Enclave, K. L. Marg, New Delhi-54. Last month, you purchased two electric guitars from Symphony Store. Of late, you have been experiencing trouble. Complete the complaint letter to the Sales Manager showing your disappointment towards their services. [1x4=4]

456, Raj Enclave
K. L. Marg
New Delhi-54 30 September, 2021

The Sales Manager
(1) _____ Store 27, Chandni Chowk
Delhi-6
Subject: Complaint about (12) _____ guitars

Sir
This is to bring to your notice that two Bargen electric guitars (13) _____ on 10 August 2021, vide cash memo no. 291/WS/467, have not been working properly.

You assured me of excellent sound quality but of late they have started giving me lot of trouble. They emit distorted sound and even the metallic finish has chipped off.

As the guitars are in the warranty period, I wish them to be (14) _____ with the new ones at your earliest.

Yours faithfully
Mohit Das

Enclosures: 1. Photocopy of cash memo

2. Photocopy of warranty card

Fill in the blanks with appropriate options to complete the letter.

Q11. (a) Sitar (b) Symphony
(c) Guitar (d) Musical

Q12. (a) electric (b) classical
(c) acoustic (d) bass

Q13. (a) brought (b) sold
(c) gifted (d) purchased

Q14. (a) renewed (b) resold
(c) replaced (d) resent

Read the conversation given below and complete the report. [1x4=4]



Q15. The teacher asked Akash _____.

- why he came to school the next day
- why he hadn't come to school the previous day
- why he hadn't come to school the previous day
- why he hasn't come to school the next day

Q16. Akash replied respectfully that _____.

- he had had a toothache
- he had a toothache
- he got a toothache
- he has had a toothache

Q17. When the teacher further asked _____.

- if the toothache has gone then
- if the toothache had went then
- if the toothache has gone now
- if the toothache had gone then

Q18. Akash replied he did not know as _____.

(a) he left the tooth with the dentist

(b) he had left the tooth with the dentist

(c) he has left the tooth with the dentist

(d) he did left the tooth with the dentist

Fill in the blanks. [1x2=2]

Q19. We found the tour of the city _____.

(a) fascinates (b) fascinating

(c) fascinated (d) fascination

Q20. Either Kairav or Advik _____ written this paragraph.

(a) are (b) have (c) were (d) has

PART-C

(LITERATURE - 20 Marks)

Q21. The house - the only one in the entire valley - sat on the crest of a low hill. From this height one could see the river and the field of ripe corn dotted with the flowers that always promised a good harvest. The only thing the earth needed was a downpour or at least a shower. Throughout the morning Lencho - who knew his fields intimately - had done nothing else but see the sky towards the north-east.

What is Lencho NOT likely to think while looking at his fields?

- are (b) have (c) were (d) has

(a) calculated (b) impetuous

(c) unavoidable (d) navigable

Q26. What convincing argument was made by Anne?

(a) She was talkative just like any other student in the class.

(b) She had a right to be talkative as it was a classroom and not a prison.

(c) She had inherited the trait from her mother, so couldn't stop being talkative.

(d) She found it impossible to be quiet like the others as she couldn't change herself.

Q27. But if it had to perish twice, I think I know enough of hate to say that for destruction ice is also great and would suffice.

Here the rhyme scheme used by the poet is _____.

(a) aa bb (b) abc, abc (c) ababa (d) abccb

Q28. Choose the option listing the most likely reason for the tiger to ignore visitors, according to the extract.

(a) He knows that none would help him out of captivity.

(b) He is scared of the constant stares.

(c) The visitors don't provide him with any food.

(d) The visitors don't speak to him kindly.

Q29. The two agents of nature, the hemlock tree and the crow are the signifiers of _____.

(a) sadness (b) gloom

(c) Both (a) and (b) (d) Neither (a) and (b)

Q30. The central idea of the poem 'The Ball Poem' is:

(a) Anger and regret can ruin one's day.

(b) We should be materialistic.

(c) We should learn to move on as loss is inevitable and universal.

(d) We cannot change our destiny.

Q31. The poet uses the ball as a symbol of the boy's:

(a) sense of adventure

(b) carefree childhood days

(c) ability to bounce back

(d) extended family

Q32. Peggy and Maddie made fun of Wanda because:

(a) Wanda also looked down upon Peggy and Maddie.

(b) what Wanda claimed was in contradiction to the fact.

(c) Wanda belonged to a poor family.