



# THE TIMES OF INDIA

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TODAY'S EDITION

➤ An educator tells how and why aesthetic learning such as art, music, dance, etc., is important in developing a child's personality  
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➤ Know more about the power of positive vocabulary— how words have the strength to make or break situations, in 'Language Lab'  
**PAGE 3**



➤ IPL 2022: Bottom-placed Mumbai Indians have nose ahead against Kolkata Knight Riders  
**PAGE 4**



STUDENT EDITION

MONDAY, MAY 9, 2022



**UN SUMMIT TO ADDRESS CRISES LINKED TO LAND DEGRADATION**

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## Meet Priyanka Mohite, the first Indian woman to climb five 8,000 m above peaks

**P**riyanka Mohite, 30, from Satara district in Maharashtra, has made India proud by becoming the first Indian woman to climb five peaks above 8000 m. She achieved the feat after ascending Mount Kanchenjunga on Thursday. Priyanka is also the recipient of Tenzing Norgay Adventure Award 2020. She finished her expedition to Mount Kanchenjunga, which is 8,586 m above sea level and also the third-highest mountain on the planet, on Thursday.



➤ Priyanka had climbed Mt Annapurna, which is 8091 m above sea level and also the 10th highest mountain peak in the world in April 2021. By doing so, she became the first Indian woman to do so  
➤ Before this, Priyanka had scaled Mt Everest, the highest peak in the world standing at a height of 8,849 m in 2013. Later in 2018, she climbed Mt Lhotse (8,516 m), which is also the fourth-highest mountain, Mt Makalu (8,485 m), and Mt Kilimanjaro (5,895 m) in 2016  
➤ In 2015, she went all the way climbing Mt Mentosha, which is 6,443 m above sea level, and also the second-highest peak in the Lahaul and Spiti  
➤ It's her childhood passion for mountaineering that helped her to accomplish her dreams. She started climbing mountains as a teen in the Sahyadri range of Maharashtra

### Quiz

- 1 Name the highest mountain of the world
- 2 Who was the first Indian to scale Mount Everest?
- 3 Who was the first Indian woman to reach the summit of Mount Everest?

1. Mount Everest
2. Aitar Singh Cheema was the first Indian man and sixteenth person in the world to climb Mount Everest in 1965
3. Bachendri Pal was the first Indian woman to scale Mount Everest in 1984

The 15th Conference of Parties (COP15) to the UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) opens today in Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire, on the southern coast of West Africa, amid presence of more than a dozen heads of state and government, ministers, and 2,000 delegates from 196 countries along with the European Union (EU)...

## DESERTIFICATION

**WHAT IS DESERTIFICATION:** Desertification is the process by which vegetation in drylands i.e. arid and semi-arid lands, such as grasslands or shrublands, decreases and eventually disappears. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) defines desertification as land degradation in arid, semi-arid, and dry sub-humid areas resulting from many factors, including climatic variations and human activities. In short, desertification is the permanent degradation of land that was once arable.

**WHAT ARE ITS CAUSES:** Land degradation is caused by direct or indirect human-induced processes, including man-made climate change. The causes of degradation include urban sprawl, mining, farming, and agriculture because of the clearing of trees and other vegetation, while crops deplete nutrients in the soil. The increased risk of drought brought about by climate change also adds to the issue.

**WHERE IS IT HAPPENING?** The IPCC says the extent of desertification on a global scale is difficult

- While land degradation can be a natural process, the pace of desertification has accelerated rapidly to reach 30 to 35 times the historical rate, according to the UN
- As per the UN, more than 24 billion tons of fertile soil disappear every year. In fact, today two-thirds of the Earth is undergoing a process of desertification and, if no action is taken, 1.5 mn km<sup>2</sup> of agricultural land, will be lost by 2050

to estimate, but the regional data is alarming. It is estimated that 46 of the 54 countries in Africa are vulnerable to desertification, and desertification is currently affecting 38 of 48 countries in Asia.



X-PLAINED

### WHAT ARE ITS CONSEQUENCES

- 1 Drylands, heavily visible among the world's poorest countries, cause loss of biodiversity by worsening the living conditions of many species, food insecurity due to crop failure or reduced yields, and loss of vegetation and food
- 2 It is also responsible for increased risk of zoonotic diseases, such as Covid-19, as animals migrate, thereby transmitting to new animals and human being in course of time
- 3 It also results in loss of forest cover, with a corresponding shortage of wood resources
- 4 Importantly, desertification results in decrease in drinking water reserves due to the loss of aquifers

### DID YOU KNOW?

6,000 years ago, the Sahara desert, now the largest desert in the world, was grassland covered with vegetation. The oscillations of the Earth's axis turned this area of the planet from an orchard to a sandy area where almost nothing can grow

### HOW TO AVOID Desertification

- One way of mitigating land degradation is by improving land-use planning, including the management of water resources, livestock, and agricultural activities
- No-till (also called zero tillage) technologies could minimise soil disturbance, reduce the combustion of fossil fuels and increase soil organic matter
- Vegetation plays a key role in protecting the soil from wind and water erosion, by building barriers and stabilising dunes. Preserving it would stem the tide of desertification
- Similarly, organic farming and sustainable practices, such as rotational crops and combining trees with farming (known as agroforestry), which prevent soil erosion and drought, is a way forward
- Reforestation can stop desertification by regenerating vegetation cover and generating biodiversity
- Rotational grazing, which limits pressure to a particular area while others regenerate, through co-existence with crops that allow more efficient nutrient cycling, can also prevent land degradation

The Independent

## IMD: Brace for another spell of heatwave

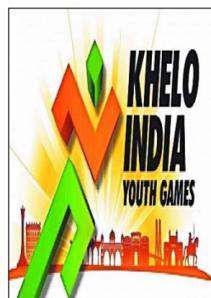


**T**he India Meteorological Department (IMD) has predicted a fresh spell of heatwave conditions over parts of northwest and central India for three days, beginning Sunday. Maximum temperature in many parts of the region is expected to be over 42-44 degree celsius. On Saturday, the highest maximum temperature of 45 degree celsius was recorded at Barmer in west Rajasthan. According to the IMD forecast, heatwave conditions are likely to prevail over Vidarbha region till May 11, over west Rajasthan during May 8-11, over south Haryana and east Rajasthan during May 9-11, over west Madhya Pradesh on May 8-9, and over south Punjab and Jammu division on May 10-11.

Issuing its forecast on Saturday, the India Meteorological Department said a rise in maximum temperatures by 2-4 degree celsius (roughly over 40-42 degree celsius) is very likely in the region during the next three days. The remaining parts of the country may, however, not see any significant change in the maximum temperature during this period

## Over 8,000 to participate in Khelo India Youth Games

**M**ore than 8,000 athletes will participate in the fourth season of Khelo India Youth Games to be held from June 4 to 13. The mascot, logo, jersey and theme song of Khelo India Youth Games (KIYG) was launched at the inaugural event in Panchkula on Saturday in the presence of Haryana chief minister Manohar Lal Khattar and Union sports minister Anurag Thakur. The event will feature 25 sports, including five traditional games – Gatka, Kalaripayattu, Thang-Ta, Mallakhamba and Yogasana. The games will be held in Panchkula, Ambala, Shahabad, Chandigarh and New Delhi.



## WhatsApp rolls out emoji reactions, bigger groups

**W**ith an aim to make the messaging platform more user friendly, Meta-owned WhatsApp has announced that it is rolling out new features, including emoji reactions, bigger files and groups. The company said that it is slowly rolling out the ability to add up to 512 people to a group,



which, till now, allowed to add only up to 256. WhatsApp said it recommends using WiFi for larger files, and it will display a counter while uploading or downloading to let users know how long your transfer will take. A recent report said that WhatsApp is likely working on the ability to view status updates right within the chats list in a future update of the app.

## 'KGF: Chapter 2' Hindi version beats 'RRR', crosses ₹ 400 cr mark

**T**he epic-action film 'KGF: Chapter 2' continues its gold run at the box office. The film has successfully demolished all box-office records. The film, which was released on April 14, 2022, has collected over ₹ 1,100 crore at the box-office, and has emerged as a massive success among the pan-Indian audience.

The Yash-starrer was released in Kannada, Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam and Hindi across a whopping 10,000 screens worldwide. 'KGF: Chapter 2' has garnered both commercial success and overwhelming love from fans in all languages



1 Interestingly, 'KGF: Chapter 2' has already beaten 'RRR' among the Hindi audience. The Yash-starrer has crossed ₹ 400 crore, while the lifetime box-office collection of the 'RRR' Hindi version is ₹ 261.63 crore

2 'RRR' was made on a whopping budget of ₹ 550 crore and went on to earn ₹ 1,127 crore at the box-office, while 'KGF: Chapter 2' was made on a budget of

₹ 100 crore. The action movie from the Kannada film industry has not only overshadowed 'RRR' but has also emerged as a highly profitable film

3 The film directed by Prashanth Neel has been noted for its spectacular cinematography, action sequences, and Yash's charismatic screen presence. Besides, Yash, the film also stars Srinidhi Shetty, Raveena Tandon, and Sanjay Dutt in key roles

# MUM'S THE WORLD

This woman is the greatest influencer in our life, helping us in any situation, who believes in us more than we believe in ourselves, who does more for us than they do for themselves, who worries about us more than we realize, who prays for us more than we will ever know, who value us more than anything else in the world, who give us more than anything they can afford and love us more than anyone else can, it's non-other than our mum

My mother has taught me to try my best always, to treat everyone equally, to not give up when things get hard. She tells me to be honest because in the end, lies always hurt more. She instills in me the importance of family and of doing well in school. When I make decisions, even if she does not agree with them, she makes sure that she is a pillar of support for me because she wants me to be happy. She has taught me right from wrong and the significance of self-respect. She is not

## A BIG PILLAR OF LOVE AND SUPPORT

only my mother she is also my best friend and my sister. Every night she tells me stories. On my 16th birthday, I wanted 16 gifts and she gave them to me. She has been my backbone.

I still remember those days when my mum went for her evaluation duty in Ernakulam, I was in class VI and I used to cry when she left, I used to take her shawl and roam around hugging it. One day, my tuition teacher noticed that my bag was bulky and was happy that I had taken all the books to class, but when I didn't take out the book, she checked my bag and it was full of my mother's dupattas and she was puzzled.

I used to make clay model of my mom and hug her when I went to sleep.

When I was in class I, my mother went for higher studies and I missed her so much. After so many years, she is still the same, she plays with

me, dances with me and we have fights too still plays with me dances with me and we also fight or lonely. She is always there for me doing anything I want even if she doesn't like doing it.

Dear mother, it's not easy for a woman to raise a child and there is no way I can pay you back. I just want you know you are appreciated.

It doesn't matter how far I go in life I will always be your little girl

And you will always be my loving mother.

Mom, I can't think of a day without you. You have treasured our time and cherished my soul. Your smile brightens my day and your hug makes everything perfect for me and your legacy is filled with the most precious and beautiful memories of us. I love you mom.

It's a special bond that spans



the years  
Through laughter, worry,  
Smile and tears  
A sense of trust that can't  
be  
broken,  
A depth of love sometimes  
unspoken,  
A lifelong friendship  
built on  
Sharing,  
Hugs and kisses, warmth and  
Caring  
Mother & daughter their  
heart as one-  
A bond that can never be undone

Lakshmi Nanda, class XI, class XI, Carmel School, Peyad, Thiruvananthapuram



## THE EDUCATIONIST

### Impart aesthetic education; develop children's sensitivity, personality

Schools should not only strive for the development of professional knowledge and skills based on intellectual actions but also develop an aesthetic sense, that is actively constructed by the individual's inner heart to perceive the existence of beautiful things and develop a sense of genuine humanity. Aesthetic education can instil children's curiosity and positive concern for nature, social awareness and cultural identity. Unfortunately, least importance is given to the child's aesthetic development in our educational process. Art, music, dance, theatre classes in the curriculum are most often used for academic subjects. Aesthetic education is very important in developing a child's sensitivity and personality (cognitive, emotional, social, and psychomotor). It can develop aesthetic perception and help build relationship with nature and interpersonal relationships. Each child should be given the chance to develop his/her abilities to observe, experience, evaluate and create that which is beautiful.

#### TEACHERS COULD:

- Give specific work to all students during the organi-



Muraleedharan Nair,  
Academic Director,  
MGM Group of  
Schools,  
Thiruvananthapuram

sation of different activities in the classroom.

- Focus on drawing, painting, dance, acting, music, story writing, storytelling, recitation, essay writing skills of children
- Use pictorial aids in the classroom to inculcate art values in children.
- Blend art and aesthetic values with general subjects to boost creativity.
- Visit museums, art galleries, and painting exhibitions.
- Invite renowned artists to school.
- Conduct competitions to encourage art and aesthetic values among students.

- Encourage community participation through planting trees, watering plants, cleaning the surroundings, and charity activities to foster aesthetic appreciation.
- Encourage them to make the best out of waste, floral arrangements, vegetable carving, origami etc.
- Let children reconstruct their life experiences through imagination.
- Practice perceptive teaching in aesthetic education. Aesthetic education is not about shaping children into artists but shaping children into good human beings who can value emotions, relationships, love and goodness.

## Express YOURSELF

### Learn swimming, remain fit

Sports and exercise help us remain fit. Without sports, fat accumulates in our body making us overweight and even obese. There are different sports that help us to remain fit.

One such sport is swimming. In swimming, we move almost the whole body. It is easy to learn and we get a lot of energy and stamina from it. We need special swimming



clothes, goggles and caps. Initially, we learn to make bubbles in the water from our mouth and then the nose, to float in water and then to swim normally. We occasionally play with balls in the water. In the next level, we learn to jump from small and big heights and then into the water. This is called diving. Then, we learn to swim totally underwater.

There are different types of strokes in swimming. The four main strokes are: freestyle (the fastest), butterfly, breaststroke and backstroke. Swimming is a great sport but it is very sad to see that video games are more popular than swimming or any other sport. If everyone in the world learns and takes up at least one sport extra, then it is safe to say that the world is a fit one.

Adith Nair A R, class V, Loyola School



#### A QUEUE OF QUESTIONS LINGERS

As I enter the empty classroom  
A few questions towards me, loom...  
The blackboard asks me with gloom,  
"Where are the curious eyes that zoomed?"  
The chalk piece queries, "Where are those hands which waited for our scribbles?"  
The desks implore, "Where are those books and pens which gave us giggles?"  
The benches enquire, "Where are those little ones who used to give us giggles?"  
The display board questions, "Where are those sketches, poems and riddles?"



The tube lights complain, "It's been a long time since we have seen our young friends"  
The smartboard chips in, "We are desperate to brighten the world of our young friends!"  
I look into my Google classroom and quip, "Here they are, all online, your e-friends!"  
They will be back soon, your friends ...

As soon as the pandemic is out of touch

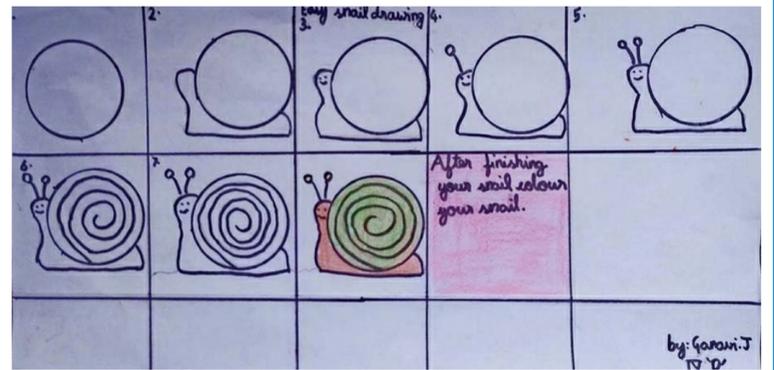
They also miss you as much ...

And I let all of them meet on screen ...

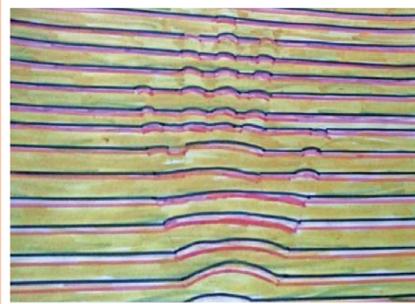
Nithya R Warriar, teacher, Kendriya Vidyalaya No 2, Naval Base, Ernakulam

## LEARN TO DRAW

If doodling and simple drawing fascinates you, here is an opportunity to learn how to draw a snail.



Ganavi J of class IV, NPS Kengeri shows you the simple steps to follow to draw a snail.



HAND ILLUSION: Ananya S K, class VI, National Public School Yeshwanthpur

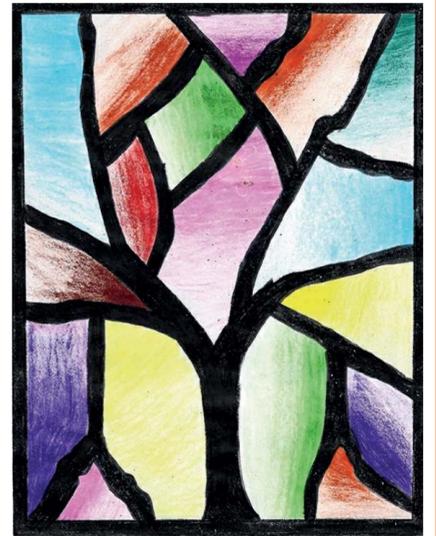


SUPER SAIYAN GOKU: Suraj Singh, class X, Air Force School Jalahalli East



TIME: Sharvani J, class X, DPS Whitefield

## Painters' Gallery



BANYAN TREE: Paridhi Ranjan, class VI, HAL Public School



WADDLING DUCK: Thanu Singhal, class X, Samved School