



THE TIMES OF INDIA

www.toistudent.com

TODAY'S EDITION

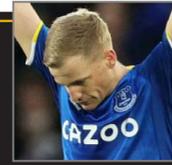
Do you know the difference between enunciation and pronunciation? Check it out in 'Language Lab' **PAGE 2**



An educationist tells us why is it important to inculcate values among children during such an uncertain period **PAGE 3**



Premier League: Everton beat Leeds 3-0, moves away from relegation zone **PAGE 4**



STUDENT EDITION
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2022

ALSO IN THE FRAY

1 Prior to McDonald's, American Bakery company Panera Bread's filed for 'Panerverse' on Feb 3. The company aims to trademark its downloadable, virtual food and beverage items "for use in virtual worlds"

2 Social media giant, Facebook, now known as Meta, has already come up with its metaverse world, Horizon Worlds. Microsoft too aims to open up a metaverse version of its Teams app in the near future

3 A Metaverse Studio has been established by Nike, which has also filed patents for virtual assets. Other forward-looking brands, including Walmart, Crocs, Microsoft and Gucci, which have also plans to be present in this new digital world

CLICK HERE: PAGE 1 AND 2

Which are the most smartphone-addicted countries?

China, Saudi Arabia and Malaysia

Yes, you read it right. A new study has shown that these are the nations with the highest rates of smartphone addiction. Researchers at the McGill University, who used data on smartphone use between 2014 and 2020 from nearly 34,000 participants in 24 countries around the world, found that China, Saudi Arabia, and Malaysia had the highest rates of smartphone use. Germany and France had the lowest. Interestingly, India ranks far below at the 17th position.



Overall, the results showed that problematic smartphone use is increasing across the world, which could have 'psychological consequences'

HOW SEVERE IS SMARTPHONE ADDICTION?

- 1** A study by Korean University suggests that the dependence on smartphone could be affecting teens' brains
- 2** The findings reveal that teenagers who are addicted to their smartphones are more likely to suffer from mental disorders, including depression and anxiety
- 3** Similar studies have shown that people are so dependent on their smartphone that they happily break social etiquette to use them
- 4** In fact, a research from mobile connectivity firm iPass suggests that nearly two-thirds of people feel anxious when not connected to the Wi-Fi, with many saying that they'd give up a range of items and activities in exchange for a connection (Daily Mail)



McDonald's is headed TO THE METAVERSE!

After virtual weddings, receptions, stadia, the metaverse is set to get a McDonald's with its virtual restaurant. It is also looking to trademark "online actual and virtual concerts" and other entertainment services within its planned virtual McCafe. "You are hanging out in the metaverse and get hungry. You don't have to put down your headset. You walk into a McD and place an order. It arrives at your door," lawyer Josh Gerben, tweeted.



McDonald's filed 10 trademarks at the US Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) on February 4. 'Land' in the metaverse is a digital piece of real estate that companies or individuals can buy, and then populate with games or other assets

WHAT WILL THE VIRTUAL FOOD SPACE SERVE?

The virtual restaurant will deliver food in person and digitally online

The fast-food chain is also planning to introduce virtual food and beverage as downloadable multimedia files that will have artwork, text, audio, videos, and non-fungible tokens (NFTs)

Though, there is no clarity on the physical delivery feature, what the firm claims is if people order food in metaverse, McD will deliver it to their doorstep, just as it does with the app.

Now, three-point seat belts mandatory for all front-facing passengers in car

The government has made it mandatory for automakers to provide three-point seat belts for all the front-facing passengers in a car. The norm will also be applicable for the middle seat in the rear row of a car, Union minister Nitin Gadkari said. He did not mention the date from which the new requirement will come into force. Last month, the ministry said it will make it mandatory for carmakers to provide a minimum of six airbags in motor vehicles that can carry up to eight passengers for enhanced safety of occupants from October this year.

Presently, only the front seats and two rear seats in most cars produced in the country have three-point seat belts. However, the centre or middle rear seat in these cars come equipped with only a two-point or lap seat belt, similar to the ones provided in aircraft seats

VIEWPOINT



OTHER SAFETY MEASURES IN THE FRAY

According to Gadkari, a system is being proposed for star rating of vehicles based on the standards and protocol to improve safety

- Electronic Stability Control, Advanced Emergency Braking Systems, ease of mobility for Divyang, Driver Drowsiness Attention Warning System (DDAWS), Blind Spot Information System, Advanced Driver Assistance system and Lane Departure Warning System, are among the safety initiatives being implemented, he said

As many as 1.5 lakh people die every year in 5 lakh road accidents in the country

Q IS IT A GOOD MOVE? How can we create awareness on road safety? Share your views at toinie175@gmail.com. Post your comments at toistudent.com

Parliament takes a break to study the Budget



The first part of the Budget Session of Parliament concluded on Friday after debates on the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address and the Budget. The session, which began on January 31, will have a month-long recess for members to study the Budget proposals of the government. Parliamentary standing committees will examine the budgetary allocations for various ministries and departments and prepare reports during this time.

- The Lok Sabha will take up Demands for Grants, Appropriation Bills and Finance Bill, along with other bills, during the second part of the Budget Session, which starts on March 14, and is scheduled to conclude on April 8
- The revenue and expenditure proposals are debated in Parliament. The Members of Parliament actively participate in the debate before it is passed
- Grant requests are presented to Parliament at the same time as the Budget. These grant requests demonstrate that the estimates of expenditure for several ministries must be voted on by Parliament

WhatsApp reportedly working on 'Community' feature

Meta-owned messaging platform WhatsApp is reportedly working towards releasing the 'Community' feature in a future update. According to WhatsApp beta tracker WABetaInfo, Community is a private place where group admins will have more control over some groups on WhatsApp. The report said that WhatsApp Community is like a group chat and group admins are able to link other groups in the Community.

WhatsApp Community has a name and a description, exactly like a common group chat. After typing the name and the community description, the user will be able to choose to link up to 10 groups in the community

This feature is currently not available on WhatsApp beta for iOS and WhatsApp beta for Android because it is under development



\$1 Trillion

FACTOID

That's the estimate of the internet economy of India by 2030, according to RedSeer. The growth will be fuelled by growing internet penetration and consumption of digital content, it added. The Indian digital economy is expanding at more than 50% every year, led by high-speed internet access and increased online shopping, the management consultant said in a report



Scientists discover new planet around star closest to sun

Astronomers have found evidence for a new planet circling Proxima Centauri, the nearest star to the sun. The alien world is only a quarter of the mass of the Earth and orbits extremely close to its parent star, at one tenth of the distance between the sun and Mercury, the solar system's innermost planet.

Observations taken with the European Southern Observatory's Very Large Telescope (VLT) in Chile suggest the planet completes a full orbit of the star every five days

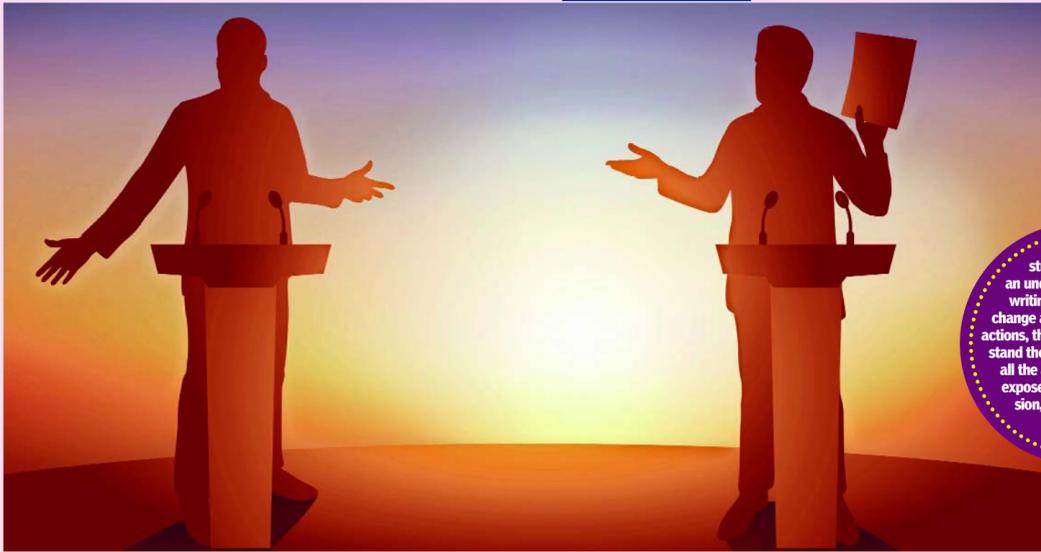


Scientists believe the planet orbits about 4 million-km from Proxima Centauri, meaning it is closer to the star than its habitable zone where the temperature range is just right for water to run freely

Named Proxima d, the planet is the third - and the lightest - to be spotted around Proxima Centauri, which at four light years away is the closest star to the solar system. It joins Proxima b, a planet with a mass comparable to that of Earth, which completes an orbit every 11 days, and Proxima c, which is believed to take about five years to circle the star

(SOURCE: THE GUARDIAN)

MANNER OF SPEAKING

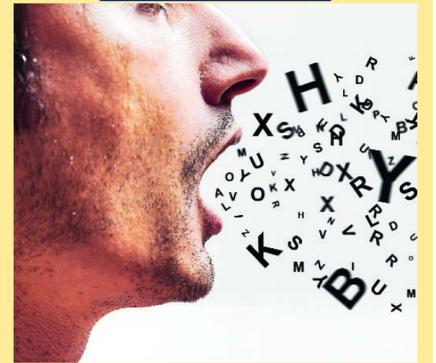


not only as being absolutely right, but as believing that you are absolutely right. Persuasive speeches can come in many forms, such as sales pitches, debates, and legal proceedings. Language is an area where debaters can improve their style winning them points with judges, and making it easier for them to win. For instance, never use words like "I guess" or "I think" in a debate. They sound unsure and flimsy. Instead use the following examples to make your point:

As students develop an understanding of how writing can influence or change another's thoughts or actions, they can begin to understand the persuasive nature of all the advertising they are exposed to through television, the Internet, and other media.

1. "Personally, I have found [this concept] to be true."
2. "I can tell you from personal experience that [this product] is of excellent quality."
3. "I have dealt with many people over the years, and never once have I heard them say that [your office's position] is best for them."
4. What needs to be done/what we need to do...

WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?



Enunciation AND Pronunciation

Enunciation and Pronunciation are two very important components in any language. These two elements deal with clarity and accuracy in the spoken language. It is not possible to master a language without proper enunciation and pronunciation, however excellent your grammatical or vocabulary skills may be.

Enunciation is the act of saying a word clearly or concisely. The word, enunciate is derived from the Latin *enuntiatus* meaning "announced clearly". It includes properly saying words and syllables, opening one's mouth appropriately (as opposed to mumbling) when speaking and monitoring the speed of speaking. Enunciation deals with areas like projection of syllables and the speed of speaking while saying a word. It certainly focuses on the clarity of words so that they could easily be understood by the listeners.

Pronunciation is the act of properly saying each group of letters to make the correct sounds. Pronunciation is what you hear when someone says the word. Each word in a language has a standard way of being spoken or sounded. When it is about English language, two accent or pronunciations are quiet famous, British and American. In many situations they are exactly opposite to each other so one needs to focus on accent and intonation to master the particular pronunciation out of them.

The Art of PERSUASIVE LANGUAGE

From the TV chef telling us to cook healthy meals, to a magazine article detailing why we need to exercise regularly - providing a point of view and backing it up with facts to persuade the audience, is a critical skill for children to learn

Persuasion is "the action or fact of persuading someone or of being persuaded to do or believe something." We've all been influenced at one point or another through persuasive communication techniques, whether it was to try something new, make a purchase, or challenge an opinion.

BACK TO ARISTOTLE

The craft of persuasive speech has interested scholars dating all the way back to the ancient Romans (such as Cicero in his text "De Oratore") and the Ancient Greeks (including Plato and,

most notably, Aristotle). Aristotle defined "rhetoric" as the art of persuasive speaking, writing, and communicating. Born around 350 B.C., he used rhetoric as a strategy to reach his audience. In his toolbox were three main elements: ethos, pathos and logos. Ethos relates directly to building trust. Being knowledgeable about what you are communicating, Pathos is the ability to stir up strong emotions in your audience/readers/listeners. Many point out that this is how Trump was able to get the presidency - despite his shortcomings. The last tool is Logos, logic and reasoning. Or in other words, choice of language or use of facts. Using arguments, facts, statistics to

back your content.

WIN A DEBATE

When you boil it down, persuasion is all about power. You are making someone change their mind about something, and that is no easy task. It will require you to present yourself confidently -



6 MOST PERSUASIVE WORDS IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE

WORDS HAVE POWER



■ **New:** This word is one of the easiest ways to increase your traffic and conversions significantly. It's "new". Humans love novelty. We love being on the cutting edge of things. We love new things and love hearing about things first. That's why this word works.

■ **Free:** It is one of the most intoxicatingly convincing words in the human language. In one experiment, Dan Ariely, researcher at Duke University surveyed 76

people in a lineup to get a free tattoo. It turns out that 68% of the people in that lineup wouldn't have even gotten a tattoo if it weren't free.

■ **You:** We are all obsessed with ourselves. Hearing your own name makes your brain activity light up like a Christmas tree. In short, it makes you pay attention. To persuade anyone to do anything (like buy your product), they have to pay attention.

■ **Health:** Your listeners gravitate toward self-preservation. See if you can make a connection to your topic.

■ **Love:** Don't overuse it. It's one of the most powerful words when you know what your listeners/readers love the most.

■ **Save:** Everyone loves to save money and time. It's a comforting word.

WORD GETS AROUND

5 WORD GAMES TO PLAY WHILE YOU WAIT FOR YOUR NEXT WORDLE

Wordle is surely addictive, but after you solve the daily puzzle or use up all your guesses, you have to wait until the next day to play again. This is what you could do in the meantime:

1. Absurdle

Absurdle calls itself the "adversarial version" of Wordle. While Wordle nudges you in the right direction with each guess, Absurdle actively misleads you. Absurdle doesn't pick a word at the beginning of the game for the player to guess. Instead it uses the player's guesses to narrow its list of words down in an effort to make the game go as long as possible.

2. Primel

This one is for all the maths lovers out there. Primel is almost exactly like Wordle - except that instead of a five-letter word, you have to guess a five-figure prime number. Primel draws from the pool of finite number of five-letter primes, and is quite challenging even for the kind of people who can rattle off prime numbers in their sleep.

3. Crosswordle

In this Wordle-inspired game, you have to figure out two words of varying lengths that intersect with each other like a crossword puzzle. The gray, yellow and green colour blocks are the same, and there's one puzzle a day. However, it looks like you can guess as many times as you want until you either get the words or give up.

4. Eldrow

Yes, you guessed it right! Eldrow is Wordle spelt backwards and is played backwards too. Developed by Indian software engineer J Krishnamurthi, Eldrow prompts the player to guess the previous word from the final answer. It has two words per puzzle, where one word is the clue and the other is the answer, and you get the right answer by working backwards from the clue. Eldrow releases five games per day, and has become quite popular of late.

5. Wordle Unlimited

This one is a safe pick for those of you who despite your best efforts just can't overcome the Wordle fever. No shame here, the game can be tricky! Thankfully, Wordle Unlimited does exactly what you'd assume, it allows you to tackle a classic game of Wordle with no guess limit.

Queries relating to language skills

Do you find grammar confusing? Do you get stuck with words when writing a letter, an essay or a blog? Do you have a fear of public speaking? Or do you simply want to improve your communication skills? Times NIE is here to help you to master the intricacies of the English language. Just shoot us your queries on toinie175@gmail.com



With its oldest texts dating back to around 1500 BCE, Sanskrit is probably the second oldest language in the world still being used today. Sanskrit is largely used in religious texts and ceremonies that persist today, with a place in Buddhism, Hinduism, and Jainism. However, Sanskrit words and phrases are also frequently

used by bureaucratic institutions - from missile names to school mottos - in India, Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Nepal, and other parts of South and Southeast Asia. Regardless of whether or not anyone's actually speaking Sanskrit at home, there are certainly people who speak and read it as a second language in India and beyond, with entire universities dedicated to the study of Sanskrit.

DID YOU KNOW?



WORDSMITH



SPRING terms to make your VOCAB BLOOM

The spring equinox means the day and night are of equal length (at around 12 hours each) but soon the days will be longer, spring is about to, well, spring into action - and we can officially wave goodbye to winter. Here is a selection of words and phrases all to do with spring, to help us welcome in the new season.

SEEDTIME

Spring is also "seedtime" - the season when seeds are sown. Without a generous seedtime, there will be an unflowering summer and an unproductive harvest.

VERNAL

Vernal is another word used to describe something of, in, or appropriate to spring. It comes from the Latin "ver-

SAKURA
The most symbolic flower of Japanese springtime is the sakura or cherry blossoms. They bloom all over Japan with a beautiful light pink colour

nus", which means "of the spring."

FLORAISON (FRENCH)

Translation: flowering/blossoming. If you were making a list of beautiful spring words, floraison would certainly come to the fore. After all, who doesn't love the sight of blooming flowers after a long cold winter?

PRIMAVERAL

If something is "primavera!" it's of, or relating to, early springtime. The word comes from the Latin "primus", meaning "first, earliest", and "ver", meaning "spring". The Italian word for spring is "primavera", and this is where the pasta dish, brimming with spring vegetables, gets its name.

FECUND

Fecund is a word often used to describe the natural world in springtime. It means "producing or capable of producing an abundance of offspring or new growth", or "highly fertile."

HOPE SPRINGS ETERNAL

This idiom expresses the hope and optimism that people hold dear, hoping that things will get better. It is of a person who (sometimes overly) optimistic beliefs about the future.

SPRING FEVER

This idiom is a way of describing that feeling of restlessness and eagerness to get on with things that often accompany the close of winter and the onset of spring.

I'M NO SPRING CHICKEN

A phrase used to indicate that one is old (or at least not young) and is thus less physically or mentally spry than they used to be.

