"Every flower is a soul blossoming in nature."
GÉRARD DE NERVAL, FRENCH WRITER AND POET

ACTIVITY

ACTIVITY OF THE DAY

History Mystery

The Painting

1 This painting is depicted in Tarikh-i-Bada'uni, written by Abd al-Qadir Bada'uni. It is said that in the battle of Haldighati, Maharana Pratap sliced Behlol Khan along with his horse into two, as depicted in the painting.

What is king Maharana Pratap being remembered for?
Ans: His valour, indomitable courage and iron-willed determination.

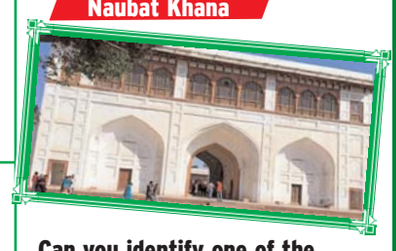
2 Standing in the Pink City of Jaipur, Hawa Mahal has 953 windows, called Jharokhas. Its architecture has a mix of Rajput architectural style, the domed canopies (dome-shaped sheds), fluted pillars, and the Islamic Mughal architectural style, which has the filigree work (interwoven patterns) and the arches.

Why do think it is called Hawa Mahal?
Ans: The open windows in the criss-cross pattern allowed cool air to flow into the palace, hence maintaining a pleasant environment inside.

Hawa Mahal:

3 Also known as Naqqar Khana, this stands at the entrance of Red Fort, Delhi. In its days of glory, musicians from Naubat Khana announced the arrival of the emperor or other prominent dignitaries at the court of the public audience. Most royal places of India have the Naubat Khana at the entrance.

Naubat Khana



Can you identify one of the instruments that were being played at Naubat Khana?
Naqqara (as the name suggests) – Drums (or Nagada).

Content and pics by 'History Diaries'. Co-founded by IIT-Delhi alumni, it is an initiative to make history interesting, engaging and relevant, transforming the way it is being taught in schools

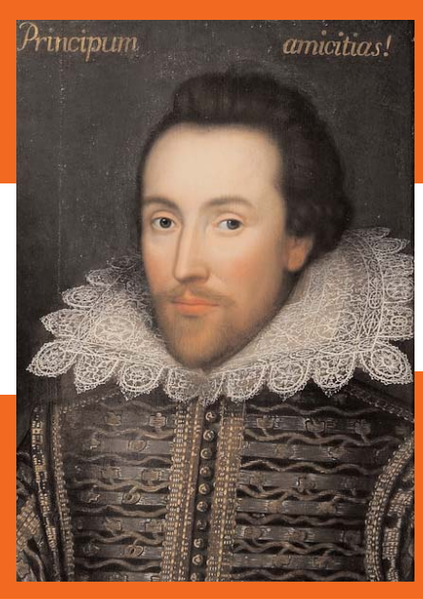
SOME WORK AND ALL 'PLAY'-5

Answer each of these questions on Shakespeare's 'The Merchant of Venice'—Act V, by choosing correctly from the four options.

1 What does 'a good deed in a naughty world' shine like?
A. torch B. lamp
C. fire D. candle

2 Who announces that Portia is approaching Belmont?
A. Balthazar B. Stephano
C. Nerissa D. Jessica

3 Which of these birds find no mention in Act V?
A. crow B. hawk
C. lark D. wren



4 What has 'sweet power' to effect transformation?
A. magic B. memory
C. marriage D. music

5 Who calls himself 'the unhappy subject of these quarrels'?
A. Antonio B Bassanio
C. Gratiano D. Lorenzo

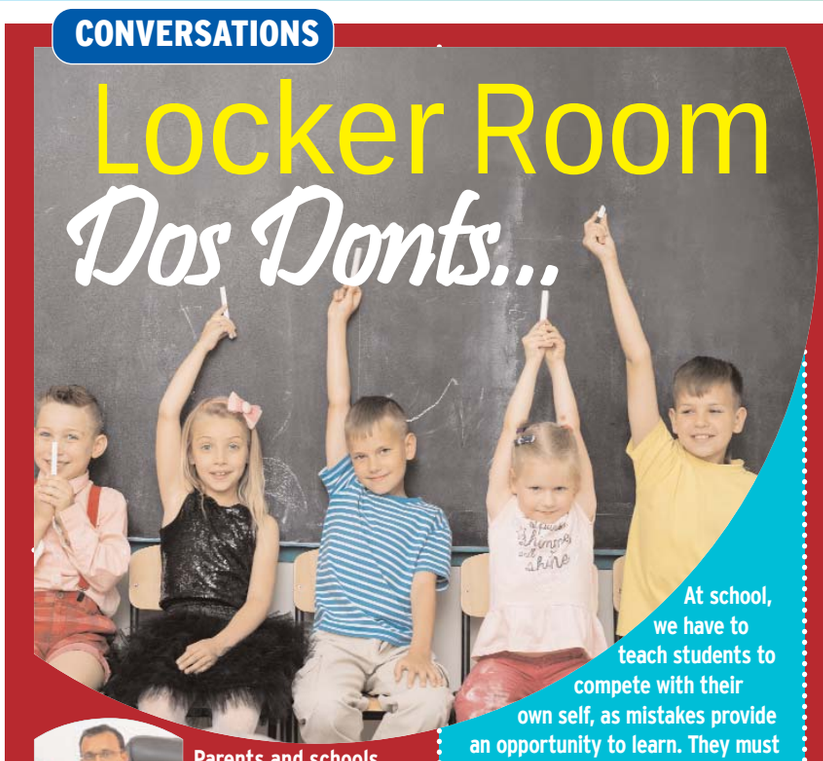
6 Which of these is the last word of the play?
A. ducat B. letter
C. ring D. casket

Suryakumari Dennison, Teacher, Aavishkar Academy, Bengaluru

ANSWERS: 1) D. candle 2) B. Stephano 3) B. hawk 4) D. music 5) A. Antonio 6) C. ring

CONVERSATIONS

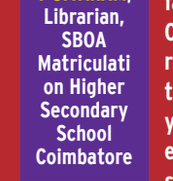
Locker Room Dos Donts...



In today's digital era, locker rooms have no physical boundaries and can span the globe. While public forums have moderators, private forums cannot be moderated unless one wishes for an Orwellian society. Herein lies the catch-22 with free will. The ancient words of wisdom speak a possible direction to take: "Train a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it." Parents and schools have to take the lead in this direction.

JEAN GEORGE, Principal, MG School for Excellence, Bengaluru

Before the fingers touch the QWERTY key board, children should be instilled with the basic quality or to take a Charles Babbage oath on how not to misuse technology. We are in a society where we should live in harmony and treat our fellow members as our family members. Children should be repeatedly reminded that treat others as you like to be treated. Be it at home or school they should be taught to use the technology wisely and only to spread positivity.



T SIVARAM, Librarian, SBOA Matriculation Higher Secondary School Coimbatore

Children these days are tech savvy and have access to all the gadgets. I personally feel that parents need to be more responsible. Wherever the parents are, be it home or elsewhere, they should have the access to monitor their kids' online activities and teach their kids to use technology in a healthy and responsible manner. As a teacher, I advise and educate kids to keep their private info safe and not to reveal their real identity. I suggest that schools also consult with some experts to take necessary steps in educating students on how to use internet responsibly if not done yet.

CHRISTY JOSEPH, Teacher, Nava Bharath National School

At school, we have to teach students to compete with their own self, as mistakes provide an opportunity to learn. They must be taught to respect resources and understand that other people can also be right. Schools must aid them in understanding areas to improve their learning and personal development. At home, they should be taught to become responsible citizens – It's not ME all the time and it should be US.

SAILAJA VITTALDEV, Principal, Silver Oaks International School, Sarjapur, Bengaluru

It is disheartening that even during this lockdown when parents have more time to spend with their kids; some children are still being neglected. Educational institutions and the parents together must make significant contributions to shift teen's attitudes and actions in building healthy relationships among boys and girls. Parents and schools must increase a child's knowledge and understanding about sexual abuse and laws; clarify his/her feelings and understanding about his/her own body; and give equal importance to sex education too.

K SATHYABAMA, Teacher, Githanjali Public School, Coimbatore

JUBY PAUL, Principal, Toc H Public School, Vyttila, Ernakulam

Parents and schools have a major role in shaping children's thoughts and behaviour. Parents should strengthen their bond with children, understand them and their friends circle. Win children's trust so that they can share and discuss any subject. They should guide children about the merits and flaws of social media, its etiquette.

MENTAL STRESS due to lockdown for parents and kids

NEHA CHATURVEDI, PGT Psychology, The Palace School, City Palace, Jaipur

During lockdown, parents and children might be feeling more unsettled than energetic and enthusiastic. That's why it is essential to have a coping strategy for all. Here are a few to start with...

1 UNDERSTAND STRESS: It is not just parents but also children who are likely to be feeling stressed in these tough times. Parents needs to be aware of their own stress responses and find ways to keep themselves calm through exercise, meditation, light music. This will put them in a stronger place to recognise stress of their kids.

2 COMMUNICATION IS THE KEY: It is good to communicate with family, friends and with other parents as it helps you deal with loneliness and also relieves some amount of stress.

3 BEING MINDFUL DURING LOCKDOWN: This is the time where we might shift the focus away from formal learning to expressive learning. In practice that might mean watching a fun educational movie, using educational puzzles, dressing up as a favourite character from a book, TV shows, historical figures, reading funny blog posts, watching a comedy show, finding light- hearted stories to read and the works. Remember we are all very creative and this lockdown allows us the possibility to use this creativity in a positive manner.

STAYING FIT

Workout at home

Don't know where to look for fitness inspiration in lockdown life? Read on...

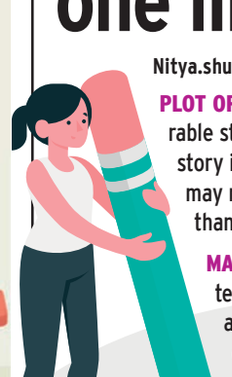
CHECK INSTAGRAM THAT IS AWASH WITH #HOMEWORKOUTS – where everyone from sports-stars to personal trainers share tips and workout videos. The videos are short and sharp and caters to all, from workout beginners to intense cardio workouts.

NO DUMBBELLS? Worry not. Grocery storage tins and other fairly heavy household items can be used as functional alternatives.

LEARN WITH TIMES NIE

How to write a one line story

Nitya.shukla@timesgroup.com



PLOT OR CHARACTER? Every memorable story has both, but writing a story in one sentence means you may need to focus on one more than the other.

MAKE A POINT: The best one-sentence stories skip the extra adjectives and descriptions and go for the point they want to make. For example, Earnest Hemingway's story 'For sale, baby shoes, never worn' delivers an image in six words without extra adjectives or descriptions.

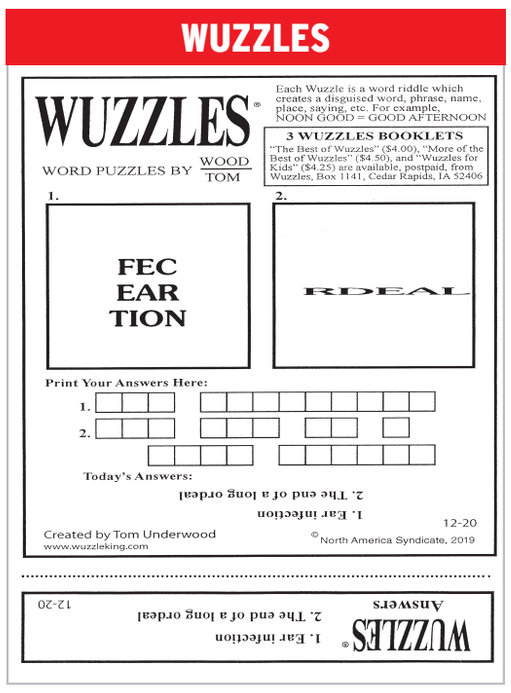
MAKE EVERY WORD COUNT: Another famous short one liner is by Dave Eggers who wrote 'Found true love. Married someone else.' If a word fails to add impact, delete it, and try again.

STRUCTURE IT WELL: Telling a story in tight word limit means you can take a call on whether you want to start from the beginning, middle, or end.

READ IT OUT LOUD: Want to write a dialogue as your one line story?. Take cue from Pulitzer Prize winner and Nobel laureate John Steinbeck who has said, "If you're using dialogue, say it aloud as you write it. Only then will it have the sound of speech."

MORE ACTIVITIES

WUZZLES



Quiz time

SCIENCE

Srinithya S, class IX, JVVP, Bengaluru

Q.1) Which gas evolves from paddy fields and marshes?
A. Carbon dioxide **B.** Methane
C. Oxygen **D.** Argon

Q.2) Which toxic element is present in automobile exhausts?
A. Lead **B.** Mercury **C.** Indium **D.** Cerium

Q.3) Which metal is used in making microchips?
A. Lead **B.** Iron **C.** Zinc **D.** Silicon

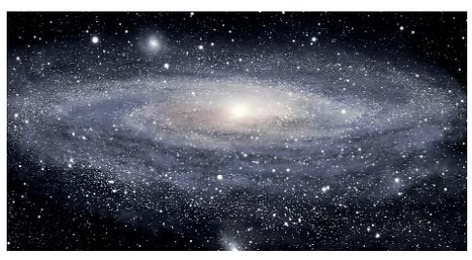
Q.4) Which element is a liquid at room temperature?
A. Argon **B.** Mercury **C.** Bromine **D.** Chlorine

Q.5) What is the shape of our Milky way galaxy?
A. Circular **B.** Elliptical
C. Spiral
D. None of these

Q.6) In which year was the theory of relativity proposed?
A. 1924 **B.** 1905
C. 1908 **D.** 1918

Q.7) Which wood vessels have the smallest diameter?
A. Capillaries **B.** Arteries
C. Venules **D.** Veins

Q.8) Which of the following is an air-borne disease?
A. Measles **B.** Typhoid
C. Pink-eye **D.** None



ANSWERS

1. B) Methane 2. A) Lead 3. D) Silicon 4. B) Mercury 5. C) Spiral 6. B) 1905 7. A) Capillaries 8. A) Measles

FAMILY CIRCUS

"Daddy, do you have any wood I can borrow?"