

The Doon School WEEKLY

"I sketch your world exactly as it goes." -Arthur Foot
May 8, 2021 | Issue No. 2606



CLARIFIED

The EU lawsuit against Apple, explained

Page 4

HINDI DECLAMATION

A recapitulation of the Hindi Declamation Competition.

Page 5

PROBLEM OF THE WEEK

Can you decode these movie titles?

Page 6

Time Begets Opportunity

Vivaan Sood *reflects on spending time during the Pandemic*

We have the privilege of choosing how to lose our time by wasting it, and that makes us the lucky ones. Most people are never going to lose time because they never have the time to begin with. Their time is not truly theirs. Our time here is the culmination of billions of others' time, and that time translates into the potential for us, the blessed few, to do incredible things with. Unfortunately, when other apparently more attractive options present themselves and impede the utilisation of that potential, we lose out on so many things. Time begets opportunities. If we lose even a shred of it, we have no idea of how many opportunities we have lost along with it.

Around this time a year back: As I stared at the pale screen, my friends' faces seemed like a familiar relief. Despite the tedium of School life and the detachment of online classes, I remained resilient and tried to pay attention. That was hard. Paying attention, especially through a computer screen, was particularly hard. The teacher had constraints here. All of her pleas to turn on our cameras or submit assignments were to little avail. It was so easy to just switch tabs and watch a show. I assume that that is why our tests and exams were often erratic in their timing, and somewhat easier.

The monotony of class after

class as we remain planted in a seat for hours on end was exasperating. The strict rigour of routine left no time for other activities. At a certain point, all classes seemed to blend into one another, creating a leaden day that seemed to go on

—
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—

forever. For some obscure reason, I felt like the lion's share of my time was spent doing something I was largely apathetic about.

My teacher struggled to get through to her students. It was visible they were taking notes, though they remained largely unresponsive. Online classes offered us more time to do other things while at home, time that could be spent studying or improving ourselves, and yet I still chose to spend it gaming or fooling around on the piano or

doing all the things I could not do at School such as watching sitcoms till 12 AM and eating to my heart's content.

I immediately reached for my phone, thinking I could scroll through my social media feed until the teacher was done explaining the work. Even there however, the feed was dominated by accounts of students worldwide talking about online school, expressing themselves through memes, news articles and interviews. Only then did the exact enormity of this pandemic strike me. Almost eight billion people, including me, were trapped at home, with no idea of what to do next. When would this end? What was I supposed to do for the next two months? The next six months? The next year? I had spent so much time focusing on what I could do, that I forgot what I could not do, and more importantly, what I should do.

I had so many goals. While half of them went down the drain the second we were made to go home, I now had time to focus on the other half. There were people halfway across the world who were struggling to cope with this situation, their problems only exacerbated by the worsening state of the world, and here I was scrolling through Reddit without the foggiest clue as to what my homework was.

(Continued on Page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

As I sit here, one year later: In hindsight, I know that I could have done better. Online classes do not seem to have an end in sight and that is okay because I know that I will have more time to improve myself and use my time better. While the spell of online class monotony does not seem to have broken, I hope I spend what time I have beyond my class hours productively.

Unfortunately, I have not yet understood what I should do - there is no one telling me what I should do, and what I should not. Nobody has told me how I should spend my time. In those moments, I realize

the time we use is time that belongs to us and us only, and what we chose to do with it is our choice. We only have ourselves to check in on us.

One year later, I know now that there are a number of things I could have done differently. I have been rethinking my plans and expectations for the future. All this extra time has been the biggest motivator to me. This long year has taken away a lot of things and has reminded all of us that there is an asterisk on the future. However, even in that uncertainty, I have confidence that we can still do everything we want to do because we are gaining the time to lose.

खेला होबे!

माधवन गुप्ता

अगर यह कोई आम चुनाव होता तो इन नतीजों को भाजपा के लिए अच्छा माना जाता। असम में जीत बहुत अच्छे संकेत प्रस्तुत करती है, पुडुचेरी भी एक नया दक्षिण का इलाका है जो भाजपा को प्राप्त हुआ, और बंगाल में ३ से ७७ जाकर मुख्य विपक्ष की भूमिका को जीताया परन्तु यह कोई आम चुनाव नहीं थे। २०१६ में भाजपा का नारा था, '२०१६ में हाफ, २०२१ में साफ' जहाँ २०१६ में यह नारा काम कर गया मगर २०२१ में भाजपा साफ हो गयी। मोदी और शाह के अश्वमेध यज्ञ के घोड़े को बंगाल में रोक दिया गया है और उसी के साथ विपक्ष ममता बनर्जी में एक नया चेहरा देख रहा है। भाजपा का बंगाल जीतने का सपना चूर-चूर हो गया परन्तु यह भाजपा के दुःख का मुख्य कारण नहीं है। तृणमूल की इस जीत से विपक्ष को फिर से नई जान मिल गई है और यह दिख गया कि मोदी-शाह को हराया भी जा सकता है।

कांग्रेस

केरल जहाँ हर पांच साल सत्ता परिवर्तन होता है वहाँ १९८७ के बाद पहली बार ऐसा हुआ है कि एक सरकार लगातार दूसरी बार जीती हो। यह वही केरल है जहाँ राहुल गाँधी ने सबसे ज्यादा समय लगाया था, नृत्य-गान किया, पानी में डुबकी लगाई और यहाँ तक कि पुश-अप की एक प्रतियोगिता भी की थी फिर न जाने जीत मिली क्यों नहीं। असम में बदरुद्दीन अजमल से जुड़ने की वजह से कांग्रेस ने हिन्दू वोटों को भाजपा को उपहार की तरह दे दिया और वहाँ से भी सफाया करवा लिया। बंगाल में कांग्रेस खाता भी नहीं खोल पाई और पुडुचेरी में तो वह दिखाई ही नहीं दी। तमिलनाडु में कांग्रेस की खुद से कोई पहचान नहीं है उसकी जीत असल में डीएमके की जीत है, कांग्रेस वहाँ पर असंगत है। बंगाल में वाम मोर्चा से दोस्ती से केरल में उनसे लड़ाई, कांग्रेस हर तरीके से एक बहुत बड़ी उलझन में है, अपनी नीति से लेकर अपनी विचारधारा तक, और कल के नतीजों ने यह बता दिया की कांग्रेस अगर अपने तरीके नहीं बदलती तो यह देश सच में कांग्रेस मुक्त हो जायगा जो कि लोकतंत्र की दृष्टि

से शायद अच्छा नहीं होगा। इतनी बड़ी पार्टी का सिरे से गायब हो जाना निरंकुशता के लिए रास्ता खोल सकता है जो कि भारत जैसे देश के लिए अच्छा न होगा।

हारा हुआ विजेता

वाम मोर्चे ने केरल में इतिहास रच दिया, १९८७ के बाद पहली बार ऐसा हुआ है कि एक ही सरकार लगातार दूसरी बार आई हो परन्तु बंगाल में वाम का खाता भी नहीं खुल पाया, वह बंगाल जिसने 'लाल सलाम' को ४५ साल के लिए अपनाया था! इसने एक बात को साफ कर दिया कि वाम अब एक क्षेत्रीय शक्ति रह गई है। पर केरल में जीत वाम की नहीं बल्कि पिनाराई विजयन की थी, केरल में पिनाराई विजयन वाम से बड़े हो गए हैं और वाम के पास बाहर निकलने का कोई रास्ता नहीं है।

भारतीय राजनीति पर असर

ममता बनर्जी इन नतीजों के बाद विपक्ष का मुख्य चेहरा बनकर उभरी हैं। शिवसेना, आआप और एनसीपी ने उनको बधाई दी और टी एम् सी का साथ भी दिया था, इनमे से काफी कांग्रेस के सहयोगी दल है। इन नतीजों के बाद तीसरे मोर्चे के बारे में विचार किया जा रहा है परन्तु कांग्रेस के बिना बी जे पी को हराना संभव नहीं है। क्योंकि कांग्रेस का वोट शयर अभी भी २० प्रतिशत है, यह वोट भाजपा को हराने के लिए जरूरी है किसी भी मोर्चे को कांग्रेस कि आवश्यकता है। परन्तु, कांग्रेस एक गैर-गाँधी चेहरे को अपनाएगी नहीं और भारत की जनता का मूड तो साफ ही है।

बी जे पी के लिए यह नतीजें उम्मीद से विपरीत थे परन्तु असम और पुडुचेरी में जीत और बंगाल में 'प्रिंसिपल चैलेंजर' बनकर उभरना छोटी बात नहीं है।

अंत में मैं यह कहूँगा विपक्ष को कुछ साँस लेने की जगह मिली है सवाल यह है की वह उसका कितना फायदा उठा पाएगी। अभी के लिए 'खेला होबे' ने 'खेला शेष' के ऊपर जीत हासिल कर ली है।

APPOINTMENTS

The following are the appointments for the year 2021-22.

School Music Captain: Vedant Gattani

School Dance Captain: Advay Sapra

School Orchestra Leader: Aradhya Jain

Choir Leader: Pratham Gupta

Percussion Leader: Harveer Singh Kochar

Popular Band Leaders: Iman Chatterjee and Imaad Moonis

Art Secretary: Soham Agarwal

Design and Technology: Shrivar Kanudia

English Dramatics: Lorcan Thomas Conlon

Hindi Dramatics: Soham Agarwal

Astronomical Society: Arnav Pratap Chaudhary

'Bharat Vani' Society: Aditya Saraff & Keshav Tiwari

Film Society: Firas Khullar

Model United Nations

President: Arya Vardhan Gupta

Secretary General: Varyam Gupta

Deputy Secretary General: Rajveer Singh Dhingra

Director General: Jahaan Sahgal

Under Secretary Generals: Archit Oberai and Ribhav Bansal

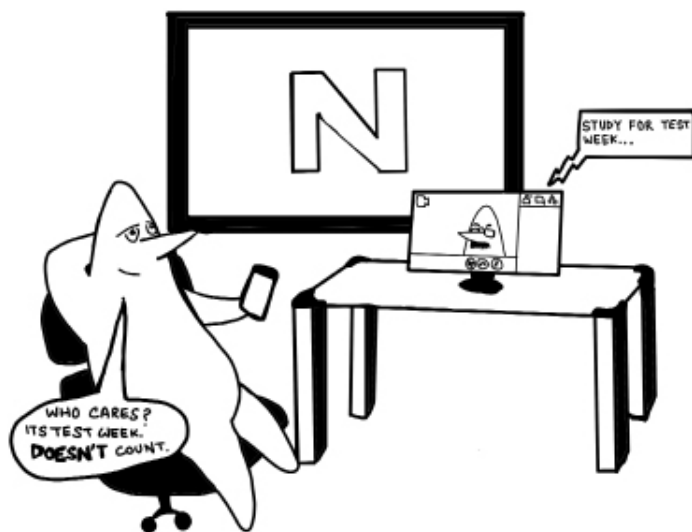
We wish them all fruitful tenures!

“

To survive, you must tell stories

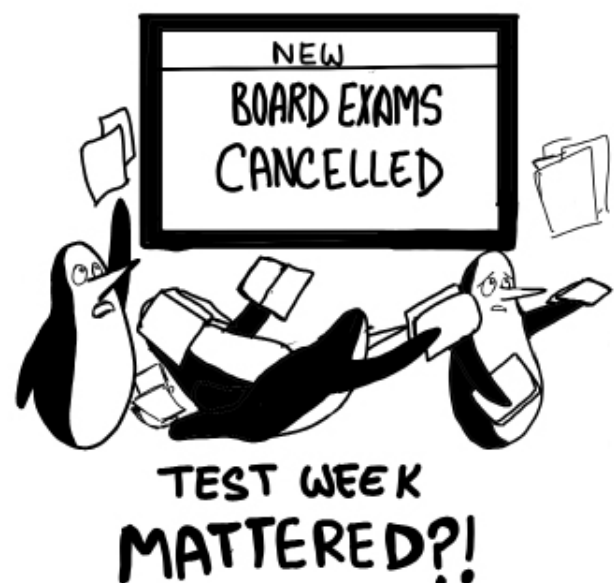
—
Umberto Eco

Dooco Doodle



Sign of the Times

Roban Taneja

**APPOINTMENTS**

Junior English Debating

Secretary: Vivaan Sood

Recording Secretary: Arjun Prakash

School Social Service Secretary: Nishant Pradhhan

PUBLICATIONS

Echo

Editor-in-Chief: Mayank Agarwal

Chief Designer: Shrivar Kanudia

Grand Slam

Editor-in-Chief: Rajveer Singh Dhingra

Chief-of-Production: Ribhav Bansal

Infinity

Editor-in-Chief: Varyam Gupta

Chief-of-Production: Soham Agarwal

Yuv Arpan

Editor-in-Chief: Keshav Tiwari

Congratulations!

Around the World in 80 Words

A train crash caused by the collapse of a subway in Mexico City killed 23 people. German authorities closed down a dark web child pornography site with over 400,000 members. Former US President Donald Trump launched a new “communications” platform after his social media ban earlier this year. The Indian Premier League Governing Council (IPL GC) and Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) in an emergency meeting unanimously decided to postpone the IPL 2021 season.

CLARIFIED



Apple's Antitrust Violations

The European Commission is charging Apple with antitrust violations with regard to its App Store policies which the EU has found to be anticompetitive. Following a complaint from the music streaming app Spotify in 2019, the EU investigated App Store policy and discovered that it broke a number of EU competition laws. The Commission pointed out that Apple enjoyed the “dominant position in the market for the distribution of music streaming apps through its App Store.”

Two rules in particular seem to be the points of contention: the mandatory use of Apple's in-app purchase system (for which Apple charges a 30 percent cut), and a rule forbidding app developers from informing users of other purchasing options outside of their apps. The EU claims that the 30 percent commission fee, or “Apple tax”, forces developers to raise prices for consumers which, in turn, reduces demand for the apps themselves and gives Apple's own apps an unfair advantage.

Companies like Netflix and Spotify have long opposed this so-called Apple tax, but the tech giant has maintained that this revenue contributes toward the costs of maintaining the App Store and enforcing its various content, privacy, and security policies. According to the Commission, “Most streaming providers passed this fee on to end-users by raising prices”, and “Apple's rules distort competition in the market for music streaming services by raising the costs of competing music streaming app developers, which, in turn, “leads to higher prices for consumers for their in-app music subscriptions on IOS devices.”

These charges, to which Apple will have to respond within 12 weeks, are only the initial rounds of antitrust proceedings against the company. Beyond Apple's App Store policies related solely to music streaming, the Commission plans on pursuing additional cases against Apple's eBook policies, as well as the App Store in general. At a press conference, Margrethe Vestager, the European commissioner stated, “This is not the last case we will have when it comes to the App Store” in a press conference.”

If found guilty, Apple may face fines up to 10 percent of its annual revenue, which, based on Apple's annual revenue of \$274.5 billion in 2020, amounts to \$27 billion. Not only this, but Apple may even have to change its business model and App Store policies which will hurt the company far more in the long term.

Over the past year, Apple has made certain concessions in response to the pushback against its policies. For instance, the company now lets some video streaming apps bypass the Apple Store cut. Further, it has reduced its App Store commission rate to 15% for any developer that earns less than \$1 million in annual revenue.

Platforms like Apple host thousands of other businesses. These are called gatekeeper businesses. They have been under the special scrutiny of the EU since they provide services essential to the functioning of millions of businesses, impacting billions of people around the world.

Like Apple, Amazon too has been under the EU scanner – last November, the company was charged with unfairly competing against merchants using its retail site.

As part of its efforts to regulate the functioning of such companies, the EU has proposed a bill that imposes new laws on gatekeeper businesses, one that could open the door to many other regulations which would go a long way in ensuring fair competition.

Sources

- 1 <https://www.theverge.com/2021/4/30/22407376/apple-european-union-antitrust-charges-app-store-music-competition-commission-margrethe-vestager>
- 2 <https://www.wsj.com/articles/apple-faces-eu-antitrust-charges-over-app-store-payments-in-spotify-case-11619777595>

New Beginnings

Abhishek Shukla *recounts his first 15 days as a Dosco*

I have waited to become a Dosco for seven years. Over the past two weeks as a Dosco, I have had a lot of cheerful and exciting moments with my new teachers and friends, even though everything is online. After the first day, we were offered an amazing opportunity to participate in a 'make a short film' workshop organized by Daly College. As soon as I heard about this workshop, I knew I just had to be a part of it because both filmmaking and photography interest me. So I joined in and was greeted by the perfect team for it. As I worked on this project, I went through the initial stages of being a student at Chandbagh, which were amazing. What I did not know, however, was that it was not at all easy to be a student here. As the third day rolled in, we were

loaded with assignments. Though it was difficult to do them, the supportive teachers and friends helped us with these assignments. Despite this, my anxieties were only compounded when, after a week and some days, our filmmaking team was done with our short film and had to submit it, all the while wondering if the judges would consider our film for the various prizes the competition offered. Honestly, my team and I did not think our film was too bad! Still, it was a surprise when our film was accepted by the judges and they replied telling us that it was a brilliant film. These past 15 days have been the best days of my life and I am looking forward to spending not just the whole year, but also the next six years of my School life as a Dosco.

Spectacular Speeches

Aditya Agrawal *recounts the recently held inter-house Hindi Declamation competition.*

Declamation competitions are always very entertaining and when it comes to events as competitive as Inter-House competitions, Doscos sit on the edges of their seats. This year, School conducted the Inter-House Hindi Declamation on Tuesday, April 20. It was heartening to see participants not only recite the writings by famous authors such as Munshi Premchand, but also displayed the courage to present their own speeches in front of the judges. The audience witnessed an impressive display of talent covering various topics such as 'Experience' (*Anubhav*), 'Lessons of Life' and 'A Bus Journey'.

In the first round of self-written pieces, participants from Oberoi House and Hyderabad House spoke about their experiences and expressed thought-provoking insights while also providing fantastic and very relatable examples about the various aspects of people's lives. For instance, Kashmir House employed an interesting format to express their thoughts: a speech written in the format of a letter to a father. The letter recounted a fictional bus journey that made the audience laugh but also urged them to ponder over important topics such as the purpose of war, animal cruelty, and pollution.

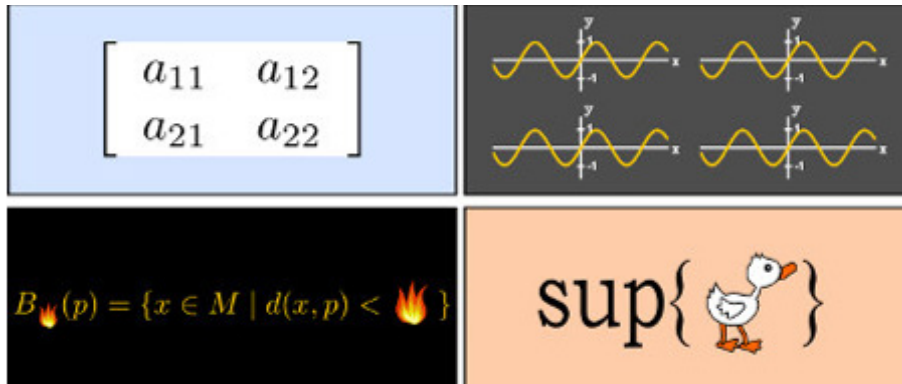
In the second round, which consisted of the recitation of pre-written pieces, the Hyderabad House contestant spoke about the perks of falling sick and how he, being a healthy person, wished

to fall sick so that he would become the centre of the world when it came to his friends and family. Meanwhile, the Tata House speaker presented an intriguing topic which looked at dogs from a societal perspective. The speaker, while talking about a middle-class dog, started identifying features of class inequalities that exist within human societies, things that can be viewed by observing dogs. Oberoi House recited a beautiful write up by Dr. Arvindanabha Shuka which transported the audience back to the days of Mr. John Martyn. Jaipur House also put up a brilliant show as the participant recited the famous "*Bade Bhai Sabib*" by Premchand, driving the audience not only to laughter in moments of irony, but also to reflect on topics such as the faults within the education system.

After the competition, words of admiration and encouragement were spoken by the Headmaster, who also announced the individual and House positions. This being my first declamation competition, I was awestruck by the level of participation and excitement that the Inter House Hindi Declamation Competition generated. The participants had a sense of confidence in the way they carried themselves and boldly recited their pieces, something that is unusual for students of their age. All in all, the event was a resounding success, and I am already looking forward to the one next year!

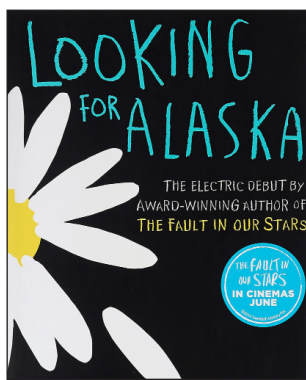
Problem of the Week

Which movies do these signs depict?



- Answers**
1. The Matrix
 2. Signs
 3. The Fireball
 4. Duck Soup

What Have You Been Reading During The Lockdown



Looking for Alaska (13 +)
Author: John Green

Looking For Alaska follows the life of Miles Halter as he decides to leave his uneventful life in Florida to “seek a Great Perhaps” at Culver Creek, a boarding school in Alabama where he meets Takumi, Alaska Young and the poverty-soaked genius ‘The Colonel’. Their year at Culver Creek is studded with pranks with ‘The Colonel’ as the military styled planner and Alaska as the larger-than-life creative force. Life seems quite normal until eventually, tragedy strikes. A book of mystery, depth, love and the sense of living on the edge, it is immensely captivating and a must-read for all!

-Anshul Khakhar

What Have You Been Watching During The Lockdown



Brooklyn 99 (14 +)
Director: Claire Scanlon

Brooklyn 99 is a Netflix series which revolves around detective Jake Peralta and his lovable squad working at the 99th police precinct in Brooklyn. Things change as the squad gets the new, no-nonsense, stern commanding officer Capt. Raymond Holt, forcing the entire precinct to mature. The audience also sees a dramatic change in the relationships between squad members and how they stand with each other through thick and thin and at the end of the day, call themselves a family.

-Aditya Agrawal

The views expressed in articles printed are their authors' own and do not necessarily reflect those of the Weekly or its editorial policy.

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