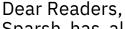


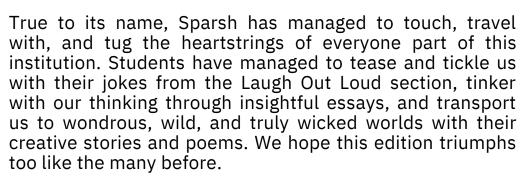
OCTOBER | 2017



STUDENT EDITORIAL



Sparsh has always endeavoured to display the charisma and showcase the diacritic craft every individual at Manthan possesses. We believe it is the unique, unconventional, and unparalleled perspectives presented every year in our magazine that has made it so special and integral to the Manthan community.





This year, we have put a special emphasis on the importance of reading. Like our feature article states, reading is a sort of experience that awakens the imagination. It is a sort of experience that can preserve cultures, provoke evolving minds, and paint wonderfully memorable pictures. Reading is the very essence of one's knowledge, perspective, and understanding of the world; it is undeniably the unsung instrument in shaping our society.

STUDENT EDITORIAL

As Katherine Patterson once said, "It is not enough to simply teach children to read; we have to give them something worth reading. Something that will stretch their imaginations—something that will help them make sense of their own lives and encourage them to reach out toward people whose lives are quite different from their own.", giving our children the gift to read is one of the greatest contributions we make can make it creating a brighter, bigger, and more beautiful future.

Reading is like the ink in the pen from which we write. It is the initial spark of the fire inside us that compels us to write. Reading is not just entertainment; it is a wilful teacher of syntax, skill, and linguistic fluency. It is a teacher fertilized from the fibers of the past; cultivated from the filaments of the present; and harvested from the feathers of future.

In this edition, we throw a spotlight on how effective reading is moulding one's technique when it comes to expressing their thoughts and emotions through writing.

In the words of Strickland Gillian, "You may have tangible wealth untold; caskets of jewels and coffers of gold. Richer than I you can never be. I had a mother who read to me." This edition in this festive season, let us come together in giving children the wealth of finding themselves by getting lost in worlds of wonder, wilderness, and whimsicality. On that note, we welcome you to the vibrant universe conjured by Manthan's writers; we welcome you to Sparsh.

Happy Reading! Chief Editors Mahathi, Suhas, & Valli

SPOTLIGHT

KNOWING BETTER - Ramanjaneyulu

Head of Security

For eight hours a day, five days a week, we are entrusted to the safety of our school. However, how well do we know the relentless force that vouches for our security as we study away in our classrooms? We have figured the answer to that question is, not well enough. So, we have brought it upon ourselves to head down to the gates of our school, and have a chat with our very own head of security, Ramanjaneyulu.

Suhas: We have seen you deployed at the gates and wondered what your job includes?

Ramanjaneyulu: My main duty is to supervise the guard staff and the drivers, while also checking the water in the tanks ever so often. Keeping track of the visitors and locking the classrooms at the end of the day remain as a part of my job too.

Suhas: What do you believe are the vital responsibilities of a guard? **Ramanjaneyulu:** The safety of the students is of utmost priority. I also believe that treating the parents with respect, and maintaining a decorum of politeness is very important as one of our responsibilities.

Suhas: Are there any crazy situations you had to encounter while on duty?

Ramanjaneyulu: Crazy situations? Well, I must say, crazy situations arise every day if one is not careful. However, when such events do occur, it is essential to react quickly, and inform officials as soon as possible. It is always important for a guard to stay in his toes.

Suhas: Do students listen to you? If not, what do you do to make them? **Ramanjaneyulu:** The older kids are normally on their best behaviour, and do not pose many problems. The younger children are a bit trickier to handle, but are normally accompanied by their parents. There really is no point in getting angry; if a child does not listen, it is just a matter of reiterating it more clearly, yet in a gentle tone.

Suhas: Thank you so much for taking time out of your busy schedule for this interview!

Ramanjaneyulu: Pleasure is all mine!

By Suhas -Grade 10A

TELUGU

నాకు నచ్చిన విహార యాత్ర

నేను నా సెలవుల్లో కాష్మీర్ వెళ్ళాను. ముందు మేము శ్రీనగర్ కి తరువాత గుల్ మార్ కి వెళ్ళాము. అక్కడ మంచుతో ఆడాము. తరువాత పెహల్గమ్ కి వెళ్ళి అక్కడ గుర్రం నడిపాను. గుర్రాలతో ఒక పెద్ద కొండ ఎక్కాము. కొండ ఎక్కాక అక్కడ ఒక బాల్ వుంది. నాకు మా తమ్ముడికి అది ఎక్కాలనిపిచ్చింది, ఎక్కాము. కొంచం భయం కూడా వేసింది. తరువాత శ్రీనగర్ కి వచ్చి అక్కడ ఒక పడవలాంటి ఇంట్లో వున్నాము. అది చాలా బాగుంది. తర్వాత ఇంటికి వచ్చేశాము. నాకు కాష్మీర్ చాలా నచ్చింది. నా సెలవులను చాలా బాగా గడిపాను.

దీక్ష 5D

నేను నా సెలవుల్లో తమిలనాడు వెళ్ళాను. మాతో మా కుటుంబ స్నేహితులు వచ్చారు. మేము అందరం తమిలనాడుకి వెళ్ళే లోపల రాత్రి కూడ అయిపోయింది. అందుకని మేము వెంటనే స్వార్సా అనే కస్తార్ హోటల్ కి వెళ్ళాము. తరువాత రోజు ఉదయాన్నె లేచి గుడికి వెళ్ళాము ఆ గుడి పేరు అన్నామలయార్. తిరిగి వచ్చి హోర్స్ల హిల్సకి వెళ్ళాము. అక్కడ మేము ఆడుకున్నాము. ఆడుకున్నాక అందరం ఇంటికి వెళ్ళిపోయాము.

వివేక్ 5 B

यदि मैं प्रधानमंत्री होती

तनुशा अचरा, कक्षा - 5 C

अगर मैं प्रधानमंत्री होती तो मैं अपने देश के लिए बहुत कुछ करती | मैं अपने देश को अनोखा बनाऊँगी ,गरीब लोग के बच्चों के लिए पाठशाला बनवती जिसमें उनको कोई पैसा न देना पड़े | मैं हर गरीब को साल के पच्चीस हजार रुपए देती ,तो मुझे बहुत अच्छा लगता कि में गरीबो के लिए कुछ कर रही हूँ |

मैं अपने लोगो के लिए सुन्दर हरियाली उगाऊँगीं | मैं बहुत अविष्कार करूँगी और अपने देश को 'वर्ल्ड ट्रेड सेंटर' बनाती | प्रदूषण को दूर करने के बारे में लोगो को बताती | अगर हमारे देश में दूसरे देश के राष्ट्रपति आए और हर जगह गंदगी को देखकर वह देश के बारे में क्या सोंचेगे | मैं अपने देश का ख्याल रखूँगी और उसे खूबसूरत, अनोखा बनाने की कोशिश करूँगी | धन्यवाद

यदि मैं प्रधानमंत्री होता

सिद्धांत भटनागर कक्षा- 5c

यदि मैं प्रधानमंत्री होता तो मैं गरीबी हटाता और समाज की मदद करता | मैं गरीबों के लिए घर बनता मैं G.S.T लागु करता क्योंकि जो चीज़ आप खरीदते हैं उसकी कीमत ज्यादा होती है और G.S.T की मदद से उसकी कीमत कम हो जाती है | मैं गरीबों की शिक्षा पर ज्यादा ध्यान देता और उनकी उन्नति पर ध्यान देता तािक वे अपनी रोज़ी-रोटी का ध्यान रख सकें | यदि मैं प्रधानमंत्री होता तो मैंयह नियम बनता की किसान को घर मिले, उस घर में T.V होता, A.C होता और उनका घर बिजली से रौशन हो | जिन लोगों के पास बहुत पैसा है वो गरीबों और किसानों की मदद करें | हर एक नागरिक जो सबकी मदद करे वही सच्चा हिन्दुस्तानी है |

हैदराबाद के लिए मेट्रो अपरिहार्य क्यों है ? कुशाल कुनापुनेनी कक्षा 6B

मुझे लगता है कि हैदराबाद के लिए मेट्रो की जरूरत है क्योंकि यहाँ बहुत लोग बसों से सफ़र करते है |अगर ज्यादा लोग तो रास्तों में बहुत भीड़ हो जाएगी, अगर लोग मेट्रो में जाएंगे तो रास्तों में भीड़ नहीं रहेगी और लोग जहाँ जाना चाहते है वहाँ जल्दी पहुंचेंगे | मेट्रो में बहुत सुविधाएँ हैं ,यह महँगी भी नहीं है | जब मेट्रो बन जाएगी तो सबको हैदराबाद में घूमने में आसानी होगी इसलिए मैं सोचता हूँ यहाँ मेट्रो होना चाहिए |

अपने शब्दों में आपके मन से मुलाक़ात। श्रीकरी (9 B)

पहाड के अँधकार से बचकर, नीले गगन की ओर देखा, तो सृष्टि की मादकता मुझे आकर्षित करने लगी। उसकी मनोहरता और शोभायमान हर्कते ही मेरी मन की मनोरंजना बनी। इक वृक्ष की छाँव में बैठकर मैं संसार की सौष्ठव और उसके पीछे छिपे विधाता के सृजनशीलता के बारे मे जानने के लिए हितबद्ध थी।

सूर्य अपने धवल और शीत किरणों के उत्पादन से विश्र्व को पुन: जगाते हुए, पशु-पक्षी स्नेह और आमोद से अपने रहन का आनंद उठाते हुए, और समुद्र के लहर की शीतल हवा मेरे शरीर को पवित्र करते हुई, मैं अनुभव कर रही थी। वहाँ पर स्थित नारियल पेड़ों से ताज़ी सुगंध तो मेरी सोच के बाहर थी। उस माटी का हर अंश भूमि की रक्षा के लिए निर्धारित, और उसका उद्येश्य - सृष्टि के अस्तित्व को बनाए रखना।

झाडियों को सजाने वाली विभिन्न तरह के फूलों की बात आई, तो निर्माता ने कुदरत के अलंकरण में कोई कमी नहीं छोड़ी। इसकी छवी तो असीमित है। शत्रु भी इसे दुःख पहुँचाने के बारे में हाथ न उठाएँगे।

प्रतिदिन एक नए जीवन की शुरुआत होती है। प्रकृति का हर अंश एक नवीन गीत के रूप में ,अपने माता को, सच्चे दिल से धन्यवाद और सम्मान करते हुए स्वयं का प्रदर्शन कर रहा था। इस पूरे दृष्य मे एक थी, जो मेरी नज़र के सामने से बिल्कुल नहीं हटना चाह रही थी।

मैं अकेले बैठी, घास के पत्तियों की संगित में । कुछ देर के लिए विश्राम करना चाह रही थी, अकस्मात मुझे ऐसा लगा कि किसी ने मुझे झट से पकड लिया हो। मैं भयभीत हो गई । पीछे मुड़कर देखा, तो राहत की दृष्य थी। एक नन्ही सी गिलहरी अपनी प्यारी सी ऊँगलियों से मुझे इशारे दिखाने का प्रयत्न कर रही थी। परंतु ,समझने में, मैं असमर्थ रही। उसके आँखे कुछ बताना चाह रहीं थीं, उसकी भावनाएं यह संकेत दे रहे थे, कि वह मुझे अपनी रक्षक बनाना चाह रहीं थीं, मेरे पास शरण लेते हुए। उसे इस बाधा से बचाने वाला कोई चाहिए था, अगर कोई मिल जाता तो वह प्रसन्नता से उछलने को सिद्ध् हो जाती । इसके आँखों को ध्यानपूर्वक और गौर से देखा, तो, भूरे और पानी से भरे हुए नेत्रगोल्कों के परे मुझे एक गहा सा ब्रम्हांड दिखाई दिया।

यह मनुष्य तो नहीं थी, इसकी बोल भी शुद्ध नहीं थी, लेकिन स्वयं के भावों को प्रस्तुत करने के तरीके को तो इसने संपूर्ण कर दिया। उसकी अभिव्यक्ति कहीं पर भी नहीं चूकी। इसकी शक्ति मनुष्यों से भी बढ़कर थी। जब भी इसको याद करती हूँ तब उसकी परछाई मेरे मन के दीवारों पर बह जाती है।

तो यह थी दोस्तों, अपने शब्दों में आपके मन से मुलाक़ात।

विद्यालय में अनुशासन

आरोही सिंह -कक्षा- 5B

हम जानते ही हैं कि हमें विद्यालय में कैसे रहना चाहिए | पर हमें यह भी पता रहना चाहिए कि हमें शिक्षक के पढ़ाने पर सुनना चाहिए या कब बातें करनी चाहिए | आज मैं आपको बताने वाली हूँ कि हमें स्कूल में कैसे पेश आना चाहिए |

पहले हमें यह कोशिश करनी चाहिए कि हम कभी स्कूल देर से न आएँ | अगर हम लेट से आएँ तो जो भी क्लास चल रही है वह थोड़ी बहुत यदि छूट गई है तो बाद में उस कम को पूरा कर लें | आपको अपने स्कूल की पोशाक पहनना जरुरी है |जब अध्यापिका पढ़ा रही हों तो किसी से बात नहीं करनी चाहिए | अगर आपने किसी को देख लिया कि वो बात कर रहा हो तो उन्हें भी चुप रहने के लिए बोलकर अध्यापिका की बात ध्यानपूर्वक सुनने के लिए बोलें |

शिक्षक के आने से पहले पानी पीना, बोतल भरना और शौचालय जाना, ये सभी कम हो जाने चाहिए | कोई भी कचड़ा दिखे तो उसे कूड़ेदान में डाल देना चाहिए | जब शिक्षक पढ़ा रही हो तो हमें बीच में नहीं बोलना चाहिए | अगर कुछ बोलना भी है तो हाथ उठाना चाहिए |

मेरी पाठशाला

रोमिर 2C

मेरी पाठशाला बहुत बड़ी है। मुझे अपनी पाठशाला में जाना बहुत अच्छा लगता है। मैं अपनी पाठशाला में बहुत मजे करता हूँ। मैं अपनी पाठशाला में बहुत सारे नए दोस्त बनाता हूँ। मेरी पाठशाला में बहुत सारी चीज़े सीखता हूँ। मुझे अपनी पाठशाला पसंद है क्योंकि मेरी पाठशाला बहुत अच्छी है।



मेरे दोस्त काव्या 2C

मेरे दोस्त बहुत अच्छे और चतुर है। वे मेरे साथ खेलते है और मस्ती करते है। वे मेरी मदद करते है। एक दिन, जब मैं मॉल गई थी, मेरे दोस्त मिले थे। हम साथ में बहुत बातें करे। मेरे दोस्त मेरे साथ खेलते है और बातें करते है, इसलिए मुझे मेरे दोस्त अच्छे लगते है।



साँप गन्ना क्यों नहीं खाता?

साँपी साँप एक गाँव में रहता था। एक दिन साँपी गन्ने के खेत में गया। वह एक गन्ने पर चढ़ गया और गन्ने को काटा। तभी कुछ मीठा द्रव्य उसके मुँह में आ गया। साँपी को बहुत अच्छा लगा। तब से वह हर दिन खेत में जाना शुरू कर दिया और रोज मीठे द्रव्य को पीता रहा। पर एक दिन जब वह खेत में गया, एक नेवले ने उसका पीछा किया। साँपी झट से खेत से भाग गया। उस घटना के बाद, कोई साँप गन्ना कभी नहीं खाया।



होली आदिश **2A**

होली फागुन के महीने में आती है। बच्चे होली में पिचकारी से खेलते हैं। होली मेरा प्रिय त्योहार है। होली में सब एक-दूसरे पर रंग फेकते हैं। यह त्योहार में हम मज़ा करते हैं। हम शाम में गुलाल फेकते हैं। हम रात में होली की पार्टी करते हैं। यह त्योहार सबका प्रिय त्योहार है।



बारिश गायत्री - कक्षा 3B

बारिश-बारिश, बरसती बारिश, मस्त बूंदें, बारिश-बारिश। पानी तुम बरसाती हो,

पानी को और बढ़ाती हो। पौधों को पानी देती हो, टप-टप-टप गाती हो। काले बादल आने पर, अचानक तुम ही आती हो।



बरसात कृतिक **3B**

बारिश है एक अच्छा मौसम। वह हमें पानी देती, क्योंकि पौधों के लिए पानी ज़रूरी है,

और हमारे लिए भी पानी ज़रूरी है। पानी सबको चाहिए। बरसात इंद्रधनुष बनाती है। हम प्रार्थना करते है कि बरसात वापस आ जाए।

चिड़िया उड़ती है जानवी 2C

देखो, देखो आई चिड़िया, उड़ते-उड़ते थक गई चिड़िया। मीठे-मीठे फल तोड़ती है चिड़िया,

छोटे-छोटे बच्चों को देती है चिड़िया। मेहनत करती है, घोंसला बनाती है। छोटे-छोटे बच्चें अंडों में चुप जाते है। नन्हें-नन्हें पंछी है, सूरज की तरफ उड़ते रहते है। देखो, देखो आई चिड़िया, उडते-उडते थक गई चिडिया।



रंग-बिरंगी मोर आद्या 3A

रंग-बिरंगी पंखों वाले, नाच-नाचके दूर उड़ जाते, लगते सुहाने, बड़े प्यारे,

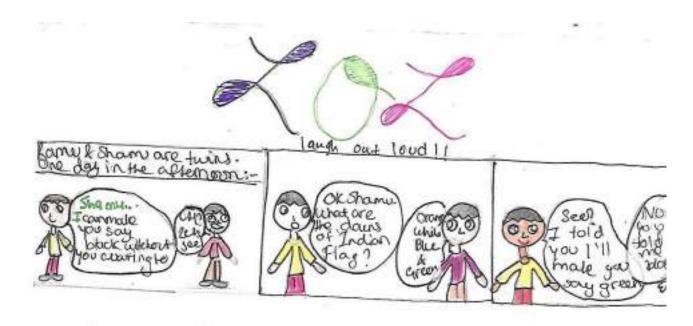
काले बादल देख खूब नाचते। नाच-नाचकर थक नहीं जाते। कैसे लगते इतने प्यारे? कुछ तो कारण होगा, तुम्हारे सुहानेपन का, रंग-बिरंगी पंखों वाले।

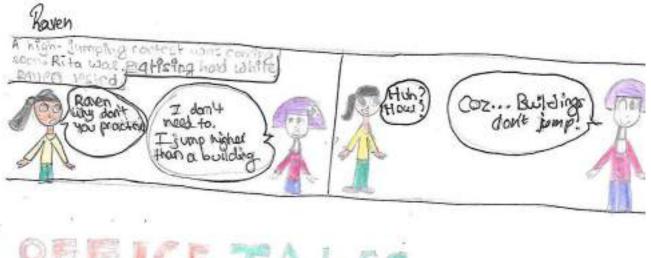


LAUGH ALOUD



Gayathri, Rishi. A, Meesha, Madhuleka and Chetna of 7A







LAUGH ALOUD



Tarun, Syed, Madhav and Priya of grade 7A





LAUGH ALOUD



Juhi, Riya, Hannah and Aishika







The Magical Rock

Spandan

One day, a boy went to the jungle to see nature, and there he saw a rock. The boy left and came back and saw that the rock turned into a tiger and he ran back to his home. When he went to the jungle again, he saw that it turned into a lion. The rock was not a normal rock, but a magical one. The boy ran back home and never went to the rock again.

After some time, another boy came to the rock. After some time, the rock became a towel. The boy laughed, and cleaned his face with it. He cleaned his body with it. After cleaning with it, it turned into an elephant. The boy understood that it was a magical rock and he was not supposed to play with it. He gave it to his mother and she put the rock inside a cover.

The rock couldn't change into anything because of the cover. After that, the boy lived happily ever after.

The Fox Man Sathvik Reddy, 2B

Once, there lived a fox who liked to steal money. Nearby, there was a village. One day, the fox came to steal money from the villagers. Then the villagers heard a noise and saw the fox. They tried to kill the fox.

Every day the fox came and tried to steal some money, and the villagers tried to kill the fox. One day the fox prayed to god and asked god to make him a man. Then, god told him, "You can be a man for thirty minutes." Then god made him a man. The fox ran very fast until he got to the village. Suddenly, a net fell on him, and the villagers killed him.

Sonic and Eggmen's fight Nikhil, 2C

One day, Sonic was searching for his key. Suddenly, he saw Eggmen. Sonic locked his hands and said, "What competition are going to do now, Eggmen?" Eggmen replied, "A fighting competition."

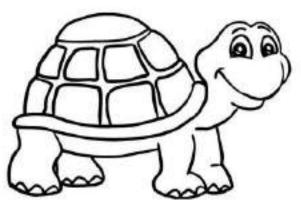
Sonic and Eggmen started fighting. Suddenly knuckles smashed through Sonic's house. He said, "What are you doing, Sonic?" Sonic didn't listen. He fought Eggmen until he was dead, and everyone lived happily forever.

The Talkative Tortoise

Once upon a time there lived three friends and they were very sweet to each other. There were two birds and one tortoise who was very talkative. The birds lived on the tree and the tortoise in the nearby lake.

Together they had lot of fun, but one day the river dried up and the tortoise had no home. So the birds asked him to hold one end of the stick in his mouth

and they held the other and flew. They warned him not to open his mouth but when the tortoise saw the children clapping at the sight the tortoise opened his mouth and fell on to the ground and died.



The Boy Who Failed his Exam

Aadya, 2B

Once there was a boy named Hashan. He lived with his parents. One afternoon Hashan went and played with his cousin Sharan.One day Hashan went to school. But after coming from school, he saw that his father had died. He and his mother lived alone. His mother did not prepare him for his exams; he failed in his every exam. Now he

knew that preparing is important.



The Dolphin and the Elephant Sahiti, Grade 1

Once upon a time there lived a dolphin in the in the huge sea. It was cute and was of blue colour.

One day while the dolphin was swimming in the waves, it heard a loud thumping noise. It was coming nearer and nearer to the sea shore. It was a huge grey creature which scared the dolphin.

It said, "Please don't be scared. I am an elephant, the biggest animal of the jungle. I have no friends and I have come here to find food.

"I have heard that there are lots of coconut and banana trees here."

The dolphin replied, "Oh! you are actually really kind. I should not have been scared of you. I

really never saw such an animal."
"It is okay," said the elephant. " I know all about the jungle and can show you around," he continued.
"I wish I could come along and see."

Then the elephant exclaimed, "I have a great idea. each Time I come to this sea I will tell you whatever I saw." "wow! That's a great idea" said the dolphin.

After that the elephant kept coming to the sea. He called for the dolphin and then the waves whispered "She has gone to another sea"

Hearing this he started crying. He stopped coming to the sea.

Many weeks passed and the elephant returned and saw the dolphin. He was overjoyed. The dolphin said, "You are a very good friend." The dolphin and the elephant were friends forever!

A Kitten with a Mitten Siddhartha. 2A

Once upon a time, there lived a kitten. The kitten went to a forest and there she found a mitten. It looked very scary and magical. The kitten said to herself, "It looks scary and magical, but I will still take it!" Then she laughed like a devil very loudly. Her laugh became as big as the universe. Everybody heard it, even the astronauts who were in space. The kitten never stopped shouting. The astronauts said, "There is a devil on the earth. We have to set fire on the devil." The astronauts came and saw who was laughing. The kitten ran suddenly, and appeared. The astronauts rushed to the kitten.



After some time, everybody became witches. Then, a hero came and saved everybody.

The Bat and the Frog Tanush Mishra, 1A

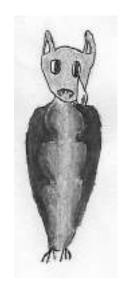
One day, a Bat lost his Mom. The Frog said he would help the bat to find his Mom.

First, he went to the Snake. The Bat said, "This is not my mother. She doesn't crawl and and she doesn't coil around trees."

Next, they went to the Elephant. The Bat said, "This is not my mother. She doesn't have a long trunk."

Then, they went to the forest and found the Bat's Dad. "This is my Dad," the baby Bat said.

And the Bat's Dad took him to his Mom.





A MYSTERY TO SOLVE

Abir 3C

One fine summer morning, Jack, Albert and Connor were playing football in close proximity to the woods. They lived in the town of Piddlehinton, where nothing ever happened, until now...

During the game, Albert gathers all his strength and kicks the ball so that it sails over the well-kept grass and into the backyard of an abandoned house. "Guys, I think we've got a mystery to solve!" exclaimed Jack.

Jack and his friends strolled up to the seemingly abandoned house. They couldn't see inside due to the dust and cobwebs on the windows. They decided to see if the door was locked. They tried the knob and it turned. The door creaked open as if it had not opened in years.

What they saw was unlike anything they had ever seen before: A floorless house. The furniture was all on the ceiling. The house was stiller than sound, motionless, like a cheetah about to pounce.

A riddle drops from the ceiling, revealing to them that a floor does exist, it's just pained black. Jack bravely stepped forward and jabbed the riddle to the group. He then read it out loud: 'For those who want to, do what you have to do, so discard what you lack, and proceed to the back.'

Jack pondered over this, and suddenly went to the back of the room and pressed a button hidden in the darkness.

The furniture rights itself and Connor mumbles "Why don't we investigate?" So they do. After some time, Albert unknowingly presses a button and they watch as the room fades away into the mist.







THE MYSTERY OF THE SECRET TRAP DOOR

Navya, 3D

Jack was very bored even though he had many toys. He went into the backyard and saw his friends cycling. They went cycling by the roadside, when a car zoomed past them. They wondered why the man was in such a hurry.

Jack said, "Let's follow that car."

They cycled quickly, and caught up. The car lead to a seemingly abandoned house. The man went inside and came out in no time. When the car left, the children went inside. There was an old mirror, a glass window, and a closed room door. They didn't find anything, so they left the house.

However, Jack felt something fishy in the house. He went to bed thinking. The next morning, he called his friends, Lucy and George, to go to the house again. Lucy and George wondered what was going on in his mind, but they went to the house again.

Lucy asked, "Why have you called us to the house?"

Jack said, "I felt something fishy about this house. So, I thought we should explore it a bit further."

They went into the house. This time when they went, the window broke, and jack got a scratched his arm. Then, the door opened without anyone touching it. Next, a trap door opened beneath the three friends' feet! They fell with a "thud". The area under the trapdoor was very dark. There was something shiny on the ground. Lucy and George wanted to see it, but told Jack to stay back. Jack refused, and came along with them.

It was a key, which lead to a passage! There was a box which opened using the key. There was gold in it. They got out and took it to the police station, they were awarded with many gifts. They were happy.







THE CREEPY COTTAGE

Lasya 3A

One day, a twenty year old girl named Lily was going on a vacation with her two very best friends, Sally and Jane. After a few hours, they reached her reached her

aunt's place.

They find Lily's aunt's house and knock. "That must be Lily," thought her aunt opening the door with a smile. She lets them in and gives them each a cookie. Lily introduces, "Aunty, these are my best friends Sally and Jane," Lily's aunt answered," Hello, nice to meet you!" shaking her hands.

Shem gave them dinner and said, "You can go exploring in the morning, good night!" That night they

slept comfortably.

Next morning, they woke up, got dressed, had their

breakfast and went out exploring.

While walking they stumbled upon a crooked, ruined and creepy looking cottage with a sign on the top with the words 'HAUNTED HOUSE! DO NOT ENTER!' painted on it. Curious about the, house they entered. Inside they found a treasure chest. When they slowly tried to open the chest they heard a strange noise. They turned around and saw a ghost! Lily and her friends ran and hid. After a while, the ghost flew further into the house.

Immediately, the girls got up and ran out, slamming

the door behind them.

After reaching home, they talked to Lily's aunt about

everything.

After having lunch, they sat in their cozy, warm bedroom and thought about the house. Suddenly, Lily remembered she noticed there. Thrilled, she said, "Girls! I remember seeing boot tips at the bottom of the ghost!" Hearing this Sally, also feeling

happy, said, "Great! Let's visit the house

again!

Then they asked Lily's aunt if they could go outside and went.

They bravely ran into the house. Again, they saw a ghost. Sally went near the ghost and pulled its white body. Down it came and in front of them stood a tall, skinny man. They asked him who he was and he told them he was a thief who was hiding his theft in the house. The girls called the police and told them everything. The police thanked them and took the thief away.

The girls had a very nice vacation from that day and won the policeman's friendship.





Ryan Bhathija 4a

12-7.....

"I will crown my son Titus and retire on 14-7," said emperor Vespesian, who was almost bald and had wrinkles all over face. He was at the colosseum, a place made of sand and soil mixture and had lot of windows. Emperor Vespesian was at a meeting that only emperors could attend, but Vespesian's minister, Pareonoman, overheard the meeting.

Pareonoman was a tall, handsome but cruel.

Pareonoman wanted the throne and its riches, so he made a plan to claim the throne. He said to himself, "I will go into Emperor Vespesian's chamber tomorrow night (13-7...) and kill him. The next day I will claim that Titus killed his own father by stabbing the sword in his heart." So, thinking that he will claim the throne soon, he didn't notice Titus standing right behind the Paronoman's chamber door.

The next night (13-7...) Titus told his father, "Father you need to sleep with me your life is in danger". Emperor Vespesian agreed to his son's request. Titus went to Vespesian chamber and put pillows on the bed and covered them with a blanket. Now it looked as if Emperor Vespesian was sleeping on his bed. That night, Pareonoman went to Vespesian's chamber and pierced his sword into the pillows. But he did not notice that there were pillows, he thought Emperor Vespesian was sleeping.

Next day (14-7...) when Titus showed the sword to Emperor Vespesian, he told Titus that he will be more careful. The same day when Pareonoman saw Emperor Vespesian was alive, he was shocked and thought it was miracle. So he made a new plan in his chamber and said to himself, "Today after Titus is crowned, I will kill him in Colosseum, where the big assembly is conducted. After everybody goes, I will challenge Titus in a gladiatorial match and once he is defeated, I will take the throne. Vespesian will not be able to do anything as he would have retired."

In the assembly, Emperor Vespesian made an announcement that he is retiring and crowned his son Titus. After everybody went, Pareonoman challenged Emperor Titus in a gladiatorial match. Titus won the battle and killed Pareonoman.

Emperor Titus, was not able to find a minister to replace Pareonoman. Fortunately, Pareonoman's twin brother Pareocaro was roaming in the colosseum. Titus told Pareocaro to change his name to Pareonoman. He agreed and became the new minister. Titus thereon ruled his Flavian dynasty happily.





THE CURE

Sampurna 4C

"Father, I cannot bear it anymore!" wailed Lysandra II, who had a face as pale as a dried rose. The Pharaoh's cruel face turned into the face of a helpless father. "Don't worry my child, I'm calling doctor Imhotep!" cried Aegyptus.

Aegyptus was a successful king who had ruled the Black Land for fourteen years. But his subjects had to suffer his cruel, ruthless and merciless behaviour. Lysandra used to cry for them, as she was his opposite. She had a heart of gold.

After some time, the door opened and in came a tall man who was wearing a long white skirt made of linen and had a strong black body which gleamed with confidence. Imhotep was the best and most intelligent doctor at that time.

"Let me see. Open your mouth, your majesty," Imhotep requested. He poured in a green and peculiar medicine which stank of rotten egg and had a pungent taste. As soon as he gave her the medicine, she vomited it out.

"I'm afraid that her majesty won't survive anymore," uttered Imhotep miserably.

"What do you mean?" gasped the queen and Aegyptus.

"Some evil spirits, which may never leave, have entered her body. The only way to save her is to go to the Oracle," he explained.

So, the next day, they went to the Oracle. She lived in an ancient stone temple. There were statues of the Sphinx outside. Inside, it was dark as midnight. Soon, their eyes adjusted to the darkness. There, inside the temple, sat a murmuring old lady with her eyes shut.

"What's the matter your majesty?" She queried.

"My daughter is ill and the doctor says there is no cure!" explained Aegyptus.

The Oracle closed her eyes, and when she opened them, they seemed to be looking somewhere far beyond. Then the bittersweet voice of the oracle echoed, "The cure is to cure you. In the dungeon a foreign rose is trapped. It can cure you and her majesty."

The king was now hopeless. "First the doctor said there is no cure and now the Oracle is a fool!" He thought. "I'm not ill! Only Lysandra is!" he shouted with fury.

THE CURE

The Oracle just smiled and looked at Aegyptus with dark penetrating eyes which delved deep into his heart. The helpless face of Isis, the Greek princess, flashed before his eyes. "Please let me go back to my country" She had pleaded. The ruthless had Pharaoh locked Isis in the dungeon. "Show mercy O king, because if you do, God will show mercy to you!" alerted and sobbed Isis. Aegyptus had ignored her words and just cackled. Aegyptus rushed back down home on his palanquin. He entered the belly of the palace, the dungeon, and unlocked the door behind which Isis was held.

"I'm really sorry for what I've done. You're free!" cried Aegyptus. He sat down on the floor and started to cry.

"What's the matter, your majesty?" asked Isis.

"I know it's for my sins my daughter is ill, and you are the only one who can cure her." Pleaded Aegyptus. Isis agreed. She ordered some herbs and sat down to mix them using the knowledge she had acquired from the Greek King.

Lysandra soon got cured and so did Aegyptus. He was now a kind hearted king. Lysandra II, the Egyptian princess, became friends with Isis, the Greek princess. Isis went back to Greece and spread news that Aegyptus is a really nice king. Later, the Black Land was named after Aegyptus, Egypt.







IMMORTAL ADVENTURERS

Kavin Chengalpatu from 9B

The year was 2006, the exact location of the island 'Capiabura', meaning secret in ancient Swahili, could not be interpreted, so our eyes were the only navigators at hand. We were hovering in a helicopter, a little over 50 feet above the Pacific. The mist had cleared and a huge mass of land had come into picture.

The pilot spoke surely, "There it is!"

My head turned simultaneously with the guide, a dark and middle aged man who wore a wrinkled and wise face. The island was green and highlighted a vast wildlife. We picked up what we would need for the trip and soon disappeared into the thick vegetation.

We had traveled for an approximate of three quarters of the day; however we still had a lot of energy left in us. We called for the night in an unusual clearing in the jungle. This clearing had been at least two acres in size. Doubt slowly crept into my mind. The night was quiet, only the sound of content crickets filled the nightly atmosphere and soon the natural symphonies made everything go black.

The next day, we had begun the day by eating some of our protein bars and moved further into the forest, as we traversed deeper into the green, we saw a sight that was uncalled for.

The pilot, a man who shared typical Nordic features: blue eyes and blonde hair, was found putting his head through a blanket of leaves, "OH MY..., " he was interrupted by the distinct drilling sound and the hammering of metal.

The sight had bewildered me, 500 visible people were found working around huge metal cylinders that seemed to be the modern icons of war, nuclear weaponry and other weapons of mass destruction.

My eyes widened, this was the last thing I would've expected to see in an uninhabited 'Capiabura'. I turned to the pilot in shock, his expression was mutual and the expression of the guide was quite like ours.

I took a couple of steps back and exclaimed "the army must know about this, this is mass terrorism!". The symbols on the weapons depicted skulls on their shiny metal surfaces.

Vague thoughts began to creep into my head, "Escape, heroism or death?"

Soon we had heard a couple of footsteps marching towards us. Before I could think of something, I heard the sound of metal clicking. A gun!

IMMORTAL ADVENTURERS

An hour later, we had been locked in a bunker with our hands tied using plaster. We were found by men who were part of the huge projects. Fear embraced my body; my heart was pounding at an unbelievable pace. I tried standing up using the walls support and then I slowly moved towards the metal grill in the bunker and noticed a guard holding a gun. He seemed to be a native. I gestured to the pilot and guide to stand up and get ready.

"Tch, Tch. Hey, thirsty, thirsty. Water!" I spoke with a dare. To my surprise, he took the bait and got a bottle of water into the bunker. All it took was a right uppercut and a left hook and the guard fell unconscious. We were free. I soon ran, followed by the pilot, holding a gun and the guide. The guide took the lead; he had understood that we would be shot down if we tried to escape, so we thought of foiling the plans of utilizing the mass destruction weaponry. The pilot and I followed the guide and soon found our way around with the help of the guide's knowledge.

With an array of stealthy moves, we slowly entered the terrorist base. The pilot pointed out a system a couple of hundred meters away and breathed a sigh of relief. We walked into the warehouse where the pilot signaled us to move. What stood in front of us was a huge "Radio Transmitter', sometimes used to send messages. I sat down on the seat, showing my experiences with these devices and started tapping familiar buttons. To my shock we had been sighted, again! The pilot pointed the gun towards the man who had seen us, but then put it down knowing the sound will only attract more men. The pilot began sprinting and caught up with the escaping man and pinned him down. "Yes, now we need only wait for the navy, they will be here in approximately ten minutes" said I contentedly.

The navy arrived, arrested the guilty and appreciated us for our valor. The pilot, guide and I were huddled together and were talking. Soon I heard a couple of men talking, "These men are truly the 'Immortal Adventurers'."

'Indeed' I thought with a slight smile!





THE SPACE WAY

Raaghav, 2A

The stars form a pattern and they look your way,

Very few people hear what they say.
They always form a letter's shape,
And they were about to get a scrape.
They always told the sun, "You are the biggest star."

The sun told them, "You are small stars." When the planets heard them they said, "He is very big."

Then when the sun saw the planets he called them icky pigs.

The planets walked away in a huff, But suddenly they all heard a huge puff.

It was the sun, he was as round as a ball,

All the stars began to fall.

He began to become very small,

Then all the planets began to make a food stall.

All the stars were so sad,

They began to become a little mad.

All the planets ate and ate,

Then all the stars stole plates.

So all the planets went to bed,

And all the stars sat under the space

shed.





THE UNDESIRED PRESENT

Srikari

As the flickering beams of light soared in the radiant morning sky,

The petrichor's enhancement in the surroundings, No longer decided to sustain.

The thin blades of grass murmured to the parched earth, Yet the voices were disregarded mercilessly.

The contented butterflies no more danced at the merry tunes,

Instead, held battles with the innocent grasshoppers.

All were enraged with this untimely gift of nature,

And pleaded for their lives to remain and esteem.

The course of the incensed river furiously chased the sea,

As if it were to swallow it whole.

The thirst to take revenge upon this indomitable spirit was seen in the shadows,

Thus, they prepared with perfect clenched fists.

The hostile beasts on the other side,

Begin to march up in hope of victory,

Dancing together in the menacing fires.

As the red eyed devil mounted up the dreary cliff,

Overseeing its enemy, who were eager to quarrel,

He instantly let himself down, and was rather guilty for his cold hearted conduct.

Unable to bear the misery, after causing harm to the unimpeachable,

He regretted, causing distress

Thus, he declared himself as inferior,

Walking back solemnly into the land that welcomed only "grievers".



RACULA'S NIGHTMARE

Rohinish 6C

On the night of horrors, I was being chased by two of the most hideous monsters mankind has ever seen, both of whom were humans turned vampires. One of them leaped on me, drawing me to the ground and I thought this is it. Then I saw my life flash before my eyes. I saw myself for the first time

in my life, when I was born. I saw myself getting named Steve. I saw myself writing the MIT entrance exam. I saw myself getting selected for a robotics engineer. I saw myself getting fired. But most of all I saw the events that led to this

moment.

It was a cheerful morning when I was in the fields of Kentucky, seeing the paddy and crops being harvested from out of the window. My striking blue eyes, red hair, and bored lips were all staring. At that time I, being an computer geek, was surfing through the net when I saw a funny poster. It read 'Haunted mansion: whoever goes in gets a cash price of \$500'. I wasn't much interested in the mansion part, but the last part had caught my eye. I called up Sam, my friend, for company. He said okay in a sleepy mood, but I was never able to figure out why he was sleeping in the

morning.

We met at the bottom of the huge cliff upon which the house was situated. Sam had changed a lot from when I met him last time. His glasses were replaced by the glint of contact lenses resting in his eyes, and his neatly combed hair was now shining with gel. "Hey man I said in a friendly manner.

"What's up," he replied colloquially. It did not look like that but it was clear that he was a changed man.

We slowly started the trek which lasted at least half an hour. after the trek was over we slowly relaxed and took a glance towards the house but it looked more like a castle which was abandoned over a century ago. The door was standing ajar, its hinges almost broken, we took a step inside the magnificent house. The chandelier was still there and there was at least a million windows, all of them shattered. There was a single landing on which there were countless doors and another corridor towards the right. The floor had a slight creak when we moved. But there was another creak coming from somewhere. A heavy and loud creak and there stood a dark figure which took a step towards them coming into the light. She was a small girl of about 6 years. She had long hair, striking green eyes and kind eyes. She wore a white gown.
We slowly started moving towards the door when she said "they will not open until 12:00pm on the

12th of December'

We did not believe her and tried the door but it was locked. We took a few steps back gathering as much force as possible. We ran to the door hitting it with the triangular point on our shoulder. With it's loose hinges it should have been broken like a wrapper but it remained unshaken as if there was some magic. We followed the girl's words what other choice did we have. We thought it would be better to have a companion while stayed for the one day so I said "I am

Steve and this is Sam. Who are you?"

She replied with a different voice this time "I am Sophie. Hello Steve and Sam"

After we all met, each of us had taken a bedroom. Sam chose Room No. 12 and I chose Room No.13 but Sophie took a right and went into another room. I slowly went to bed and slept.

I was awoken in the middle of the night by some footsteps. The same heavy ones which I heard before and it stopped right in front of the door. I, knowing not how, slept amidst all the tension.

I again woke up to see a pair of red eyes glaring down at me. Suddenly the clock struck 12 and the chimes began. On the first chime the eyes grew smaller and on the second they grew even smaller and this continued until the twelfth chime where there were no eyes there.

I woke up and met Sam along the stairs. I told him about the pair of red eyes and he was terrified. I even told the girl, Sophie, but she looked strangely disappointed instead of terrified or even surprised.

I asked her, "Hey Sophie, if you know when to leave, why haven't you?"
She replied changing her expression to an innocent one, "I forgot the date"
Seeing the tension build up between us Sam told, "Let's take a tour of the house

Sophie said, "not interested" and with that she went back inside the room and we started our tour.

There were many rooms in the huge house but 2 rooms were the most interesting. The first one was an artefact room where there were things from the Southern part of Peru to the Indus Valley civilization. Every single scientific documentation too, but

something in the room caught my eye.

A silver gleam...

The second room was an art room. I saw a beautiful meadow in one painting and the other paintings showed sad things such as vampires and monsters. While I was scrolling through the paintings, I suddenly had a vision. There was a vampire who was biting the head of a female vampire and then he bit a girl who looked just like Sophie. Then I was yanked back into reality by Sam.

DRACULA'S NIGHTMARE

After a few hours, I began taking some notes because I got bored.. Sam came in and said "Nice handwriting, man"

This freaked me out as Sam completely hated my handwriting. His eyes were now green just like Sophie's instead of the hazel colour.

I replied "thank you"

The rest of the day passed in a flurry of events and it was 11:00 pm soon. Then we saw Sophie

waking up from a deep sleep of some sorts.

Sam called Sophie down by saying "Come on, Sophie let's go"
Sophie defiantly said "No!"
Sam asked "Why?"

Then it hit me like a truck.
I replied "because, she is Dracula's daughter".
The girl in my vision wasn't like Sophie. It was Sophie.

Sophie, finally glad to see somebody catch up, was caught in a whirlpool of black. She emerged anew. The girl had turned into a monster with red eyes and fangs out. Sam's eyes suddenly turned green and he began walking towards Sophie as if under some trance. I tried to stop him but he pushed me away.

Sophie opened her mouth wide and bit Sam on the neck. I shouted helplessly "no", but it didn't change anything. Sam had turned into a monster. The only way to kill the vampire was with a silver stake, but where would I find one? Then I remembered the silver gleam from the artefact room. While Sophie was turning Sam into a vampire, I ran up to the room and waited for her.

Then she came. She sent china crashing to the ground, burning pages, destroying all the racks and through it she came. I saw the shadow and threw the stake with rage but she dodged it, still scraping her shoulder. It unfortunately struck Sam in the shoulder. I had become a murderer. I killed my own

friend. While I was lost in thought she took advantage of it and pounced on me.

I saw my life flash before my eyes. I saw myself being born, for the first time in my life. I saw myself getting named Steve. I saw myself writing the MIT entrance exam. I saw myself getting selected for a robotics engineer. I saw myself getting fired. But then with a will of steel I mustered all of my courage and pushed her off. I quickly formulated a plan.

She said "ha, ha, ha dare you fight me human?"

I replied "if it means baying a chance of defeating you the yes"

I replied "if it means having a chance of defeating you the, yes"

We kept on talking until she found out what I was doing. She came running towards me, but it was too late. I picked up the stake and threw it through her heart, but it went straight through and she still had enough power left to kill me. Out of nowhere, a hand caught the blade and pushed it through her heart. She disintegrated behind her was Sam.

I asked him "is that you?" He said "Wadala"

He was still a vampire, so I got scared; then he said "hocus-pocus"
"That was genius" I said.
He then replied "thanks, the blade hit me right above the heart. It immediately paralyzed the vampire. Though it made a wound, the vampire part of me healed it.

We slowly walked away from the house shaken by the horrors of the night.

Epilogue

After a few months, I suddenly got a phone call that Sam had died. I confusedly woke up in sadness and despair to wear my best suit for his funeral. I opened the wardrobe trying to find my suits but all I could find were a pair of furious, blazing angry red eyes...





THE TREASURED HOUSE

Adi 3A

There was a boy named Jack. He had a pet dog, and his name was Blob. One day, Jack and Blob were running around. Suddenly, thick fog spread all over, Jack and Blob started

walking back and tried to find their house. Even after an hour, they couldn't find their house.

Suddenly, a shadow started walking towards them. It was a boy. Jack asked, "Who are you? We are lost."

"I am Tracey and I am also lost. My parents died in a fire," the boy said.

Jack and Tracey became friends. The group walked and walked, until they found a house.

"It looks like it is abandoned," said Tracey.

"Let us go inside," Jack said.

They went inside the house. "Oooooo!" came a voice.

"Hey, did you hear that voice?!" Jack said.

A figure started heading towards them. It looked like a very scary ghost.

"AAAAARGHH!" exclaimed Jack and Tracey together.

They ran upstairs with Blob. Five minutes later, the figure came back. Suddenly, a strong wind blew. The cloth over the figure flew. There, stood right in front of them was a man.

"Hello, my name is Zomboo. Will you help me find the treasure of this house?" said the man.

Just then Jack understood everything. He heard that the police wanted to arrest him one week back, because he was a thief. No one wanted to steal this treasure from the house. Jack whispered this in Tracey's ear.



THE TREASURED HOUSE

Together they shouted, "You are a thief!"

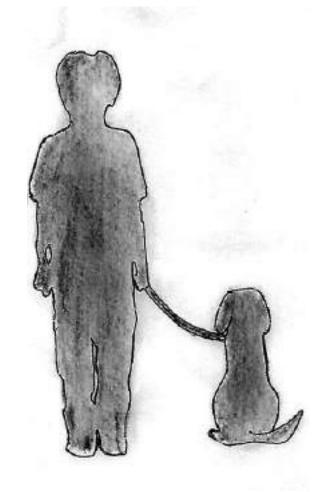
Jack threw a net and captured him. Tracey quickly ran and informed the police. The police came and arrested Zomboo. Jack, Tracey and Blob walked out of the house. "Well," Jack said to Tracey,

"if we find our house you can live with us."

Blob whined.

"Blob is sick," Tracey said. Jack asked, "How do you know?"

Tracey replied, "Because I know a lot about animals." They walked for two days until they found their house. Tracey was adopted bv Jack's parents and became a part of their family.



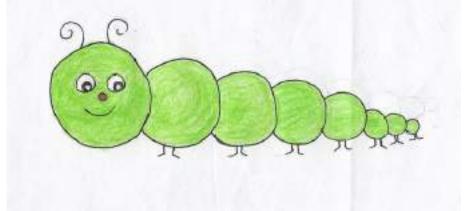




CATERPILLAR-CATERPILLAR

Naisha Sisodia

Caterpillar-Caterpillar what do you eat?
Nothing but juicy leaves indeed.
Caterpillar-Caterpillar where do you live?
Nowhere but on leaves indeed.
Caterpillar-Caterpillar where do you grow?
Nowhere but in a chrysalis indeed.
Caterpillar-Caterpillar what is your favorite meal?
Nothing but Blueberry leaves.



THE SLITHERING

Snehal Shenoy, 6B

Among the dry jungle leaves, Slithers among bushes and trees.

Stands among all the rest. Watch out for him in nice little nests,

As he might come and enjoy the eggs!

Deadly and yet a magician, For he creates his own weapon! Given a name by humans as poison!

Using the weapon he can kill a million!

Never judge him by his size, As he can kill you within a blink of an eye! Deadly and yet a magician, For he creates his own weapon!



Stars are the best,
They blink in the night sky.
Stars are beautiful,
They shine in the sky.
Stars are colorful.
Not all stars are planets,
but some are.
They are the best!



GRASS AND TREES

Mishka Sarda, 3D

Grass and trees give breeze,
To the lovely blue seas.
Trees dance in the air,
Which is hard to bear.
Grass flutters all over,
And your legs would be covered.



SCIENCE

Veda 3C

Round and round
You plant me in the ground.
I will set roots,
And start growing shoots.
I need lots of food,
To grow more shoots.
Soon I will become a plant,
A type of home for tiny ants.
Again and again repeating I do,
Did you know that I'm good to you?



DARKNESS AFTER LIGHT

Abhiram Vinjamuri 6.A

It was a frosty winter morning. The sky was tinted with the first rays of sunshine. Jason took a deep breath of the cold winter air. He lived opposite to the Big Ben. Across the street, he could see the tower chime for seven than morning.

"Jason, come downstairs," said his mother, "it's almost seven o'clock!"

"Yes mom, I'm coming!" Jason replied.

It was hard times for Jason as his father, Julius, had died in a car accident. Now, with their mother working as well, they could barely afford he and his sister, Sadie's education and there was more. Jason was almost fifteen, and about to complete his schooling. He had been offered a seat by Oxford, and even with a scholarship, he would have to earn £100 in three months. But there were happy things in life too, just a minute's walk away... "Hey Annabelle," Jason enquired, settling into his seat, "how's it going?"

"Never better..In fact, Oxford has offered me a seat!" she said, grinning

jubilantly.

"Really? Me too!"

Even if the two weren't described, they were complete opposites. Jason was blond, with a broad, but clumsy build — a pun on the saying 'with great power comes great responsibility' — while Annabelle was thin, with red, straight hair and there was their friend Carter, with raven hair, knobby knees, and a scar on his chin. Time flew by, and before Annabelle or Jason knew it, the bus screeched to a stop. The two rushed to class, after realizing they were late. By the time they ran to building B, and climbed up ten flights of stairs, they were panting hard. When they entered the class, they were greeted by complete silence. Annabelle and Jason could feel the glares on their back, but ignored them. "Do you have any idea how much time I waited for you?" a voice dripping with venom echoed from across the room.

The two students froze, realizing who was in the

"It wasn't our fault, the-"Annabelle trailed off, stopped by the fierce gaze she was treated with.

"I don't need any of your silly and illogical explanations!" he said, seething with anger, "Both of you will go to the old church and clean it tonight including the cemetery!"

After this particular incident, the whole day was a blur. The two were dreading the night, their thoughts clouded by what might happen.

It was dark. The moon casted an eerie glow over the Cleopatra Needle. It was a splendid sight, not doubt, but had foreboding feeling to it.

Annabelle and Jason found out Carter was accompanying them too, and were relieved at last. They all met up together, and started talking amongst themselves to calm their nerves. they dusted and mopped up the church, and went to explore the cemetery. It was covered in a seemingly dangerous and



DARKNESS AFTER LIGHT

impenetrable fence, which after looking at, Jason and Annabelle concluded that it was like looking for a needle in a haystack. Just then, Carter rushed to beside an arch, and started examining it. By the time the other two came, he was picking the lock.

"Don't you two see?" he said, "It's a roman door trick; they disguise the gate

as part of the fence.

"Oh ..." said Jason and Annabelle, clearly not understanding.

Carter opened the gate slowly. It creaked, and was in desperate need of oiling. As soon as it opened a crack, the spectres of the past rushed to their

home, craving vengeance. And a hoarse voice whispered —

"Populusque Romanus,

Radix malorum est cupiditas,

Memento, aut mori,

Loqcogito aurum potestas est,

Cavefacio, et acta non verba,

In crastinum, est finis."

It echoed through the air.

Jason and Annabelle looked at Carter, and

his expression was worrying them.

"Illuid non potestas esse", he whispered, "It can't be."

Then, in English, carter repeated it —

"People of Rome,

The root of all evil is desire,

Remember this, or die,

They think gold is power,

Beware, and act don't speak,

By over morrow, the end."

Just then, a phone started ringing, and Annabelle picked it up. She said, "Hello?"

"Oh! Thank the gods! It's you, There's something really weird going on here, I think you better come." Said a voice from the other end.

And so, Jason, Annabelle, and Carter hopped onto a plane to Amsterdam. When they reached there, they got past the security, and their friend took them to a mountainside café for croissant and coffee. Then, they realized how

hard it was going to be.

The sign said children under 18 should be accompanied by an adult. So, the trio had to sneak in through an old tunnel which opened into a wine cellar of the castle. It was pitch black, and they stumbled in the darkness, into the room of the ghosts. A candle flickered to life, and Carter's sight petrified him. They are surrounded by twenty-three ghosts, all holding a weapon of some sort, all desperate for revenge. The weapons Jason and Annabelle can see, coupled with the ghosts being envisioned by Carter, gave way to a dreadful scream ...





THE GREAT MAGICAL BERRY

Vivan, 2C

If you're very hairy, Gobble the magic berry. It will surely cure you, It'll make you go "choo-choo!"

If you have heard about it,
It'll make you fit.
If the berry is not tasty,
You don't have to be hasty.
If you don't know where it is,
Go near the river that goes "hiss".
If you think it's mad,
You'll surely become bad.
That's why you should not harm the berry,
Unless your name is Harry

PLANETS

Rishit

Planets are big, round, and thick, They can even play silly tricks. They can rotate round and round and can have massive rings

They can revolve around the sun,
And if they are alive, they might even have fun!
Planets might have life,
And people there might live in tribes,
And might have different sights.
They might even play with knights,
Or wear skinny tights.



SANTA GETS STUCK

Vedant Ramesh Yelisetty, Grade 6

People talk about Santa Claus, Who has an elf named Ross. It is a belief that he has reindeers But he actually held their fears. Up and down his sled would go, In flight he would be high and low, His Pegasus would fly for the night, And in the end they would cry "what a night!" But this Christmas they have danger ahead, A boy named Max and his brother Fred. These two little boys, They want more toys. They trap the Pegasus in a cage, Putting Santa in a rage. But suddenly their sister comes, And hits the boys on their tums. The girl lets Santa free, As the Pegasus cries in glee. The girl pulls her brothers' wrists, As now they are on the bad list.



HAVE YOU EVER SEEN A BAT WEARING A HAT?

Have you ever seen a bat? I know you did,

But have you seen it wearing a hat?

I know you've never seen it but...

It looks very funny.

Its feet are so tiny.

If you look into a night sky, with a crescent moon.

You might just see a bat wearing a hat!



POETIC MINDS

FROG-FROG

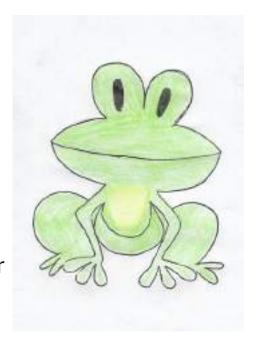
Avanu Joshi

Frog-Frog what is your first stage?

It is nothing but an egg mass indeed.

Frog-Frog what do you eat when you are out of the egg? It's tadpoles smaller than me. Frog-Frog when do you develop lungs? I develop lungs 11 weeks after birth.

Frog-Frog what do eat in your in your last stage? It's nothing but flies with my sticky tongue.





FROM MY GREY CUSHIONY HOME I FALL!

Siddhi

From my grey cushiony home I fall Glancing at little houses and buildings standing tall

Pittering, pattering falling on a rooftop I hear children screaming "hey look raindrops!"

Down I go like a grip less dot of paint Land on the rough but smooth nature and faint

The beauty, serenity and sense of amenity

Keeps my journey and I peppy Sailing through curvy paths Thinking of the voyage I hath Reach the ocean where belong my friends

But let me tell you this isn't where the journey ends

To say hello to the sun which was now millions of miles away

Slowly to the surface I sway

Up! Up! The accelerated air lifts me

With my friends back home I flee

Once again from my grey cushiony

home I fall

Glancing at little homes and buildings standing tall

Pittering Pattering falling on a rooftop I hear children cheering," hey! Look a raindrop!"





ESSAYS - STOP ENVIRONMENT POLLUTION! Abhimanyu 2A

Our Earth is natural, but there is something which is not natural. It is pollution which is not good for our Earth.

There are some steps we should follow to prevent pollution.

They are:

We should not throw garbage on the road (not burn garbage).

Do not dirty the rivers, lakes and oceans.

Do not pollute the soil.

By following these easy steps we can keep our Mother Earth clean and happy.

Sanjana Prabhu

What do we call our Respiratory organ?

The respiratory system helps to breathe in Oxygen and breathe out Carbon Dioxide. Humans use an organ to breathe called lungs.

How is the left lung smaller than the right one?

The left lung is smaller than your right lung. This is because your heart is placed there. Your heart is mainly on the left side. So, it is concluded that your heart needs more space. That's why your left lung is smaller than the right one.



I wish I could go to Lego Land. There are Legos and Lego models, and I could have my own room. I wish that I could stay in Lego Land for three months and have fun. After I go to Lego Land, I want to go to Hawaii, which is in the U.S.A. I would stay there for one month. After I go to Hawaii, I would go back home. Then, I would just relax at my house and watch television, play video games, and sleep in.

Then, on Saturdays and Sundays, I would go out with my parents and we could see a movie or eat out. On Sundays, I would just sleep in and play a game with my mother, called The Adventure Island. I would cover the floor with pillows and pretend that it is lava. After that I would do my activity book or my cursive book. I would make a card for my mother and father.



ESSAYS - BALANCE BETWEEN THE KINDS OF INVESTMENT

Valli, Grade 11A

In the winter of 1929, Paul faced huge losses in financial assets, after investing his life savings in shares of the company 'Wade Bales'. Due to the Great Depression, many companies faced plummeting sales and subsequent fall in share prices. Due to this, Paul was forced to put his house up on the market to repay his debts and sustain living for his family. This kind of situation could have tactfully been avoided had Paul split his investments between real and financial assets.

Many investors and businesses alike find themselves in this financial predicament. Due to the risky and volatile nature of financial assets and the limited liquidity of real assets, advisors recommend a balance in investment between the two. With a balance, losses tend to create less of a blow on investors and gains are more gradual and reliable.

Financial assets are those assets which are non – tangible and monetary in nature. These include shares, stocks, and bonds. One of the many benefits of financial assets is their liquidity. Liquidity is he ease with which any asset can be converted to cash. Financial assets have higher liquidity than real assets, as shares and stocks can easily be traded in the market with cash obtained very quickly, whereas trading of real assets like real estate have to be done over a long period of time. The same drawback applies to the value also. Shares and stocks are continuously being traded in the market, therefore there is always an absolute value for your assets. However, in the case of commodities like property and paintings, the value is often hard to determine and is inexact.

Other advantages of financial assets include an additional source of income, like dividends. One of the key characteristics of financial assets is their non – tangible nature, meaning they consume no physical space and no costs such as insurance or maintenance are charged.

Another factor to be considered in investment is the rate of returns. Rate of returns is how high or low the return earned is from the invested. In the case of financial assets, the rate of returns are known to be earned quicker, and can be extremely low or high. Though his sounds promising, it can be risky and real assets have a much more stable, predictable, and controllable rate of returns, though the amount received may not be as much.

As opposed to financial assets, real assets are said to be more reliable. Real assets are assets which are tangible, and are subject to physical changes over the course of time. The main benefit of real assets is the ability to predict gains and losses and act accordingly. A holder of a real asset also has greater ability to influence the value of their asset than a shareholder, like in the case of real estate. Due to the increased reliability and security in real assets, it is also easier to take and repay investment loans.

Overall, both financial and real assets have their benefits and drawbacks. The liquidity in financial assets and the reliability in real assets are equally important in investment, thus a balance should be maintained.



ESSAYS - CAR-JUMP-PARACHUTING Akshita Grade 11-A

Confused how to diversify the investment? This anecdote will help.

On one cold frosty winter, Paul sits on a park bench recollecting the bad decision that ruined his life. A few months before now, Paul invested his savings on a very large mansion, hoping that he could rent it out and make money. Paul appeared to be happy about his decision. However, some weeks after Paul buys the house, it is hit by a heavy storm and an earthquake that ends up destroying the place. Paul now has no saving and a broken house to mend. He sits on the park bench analysing how he could have avoided this situation.

Paul understood that he had invested all his savings on one asset--instead, he could have invested in diverse assets, both real and financial. Real assets are tangible assets and are less liquid in nature. A house or any property is an example of a real asset. These assets are generally invested in with large amounts of money and are good long-time investments. The value for real assets is more likely to increase in the future. For example, a house for fifty lakh rupees, ten years ago, may be worth more than two crore rupees now. To begin with, real assets are less liquid. This means that it would take longer time to exchange these assets for money. This can be difficult, especially if you end up needing money



in an emergency. Adding on, real assets also have maintenance or storage costs. This is not required for financial assets.

Financial assets are monetary assets that are not tangible. These assets have greater liquidity, which means that they can be easily turned into cash when required. Shares and bonds would be a good example of financial assets. They do not have any extra maintenance or storage costs as they are just monetary in nature. However, investing in these assets would require basic knowledge of the market to predict effects on them. Therefore, an investor is more likely to make more money if he or she invests in both financial and real assets, instead of exhausting all funds on one.

Paul could have bought a small house as well as invested in shares to avoid his situation. This way he could have made profit through the rent as well as the dividend he would earn. Even in the case of natural disaster, he could have easily liquified his financial assets to get quick cash and would have avoided landing in the state of financial bankruptcy, making him a smart investor.

So, next time try to distribute funds between real and financial assets.

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