



THE TIMES OF INDIA

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Who is WHO's biggest funder?

Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF)

After US President Donald Trump terminated its relationship with the World Health Organisation (WHO), BMGF is set to become the biggest funder of the organisation. A private foundation becoming the biggest funder, and hence the biggest influence, on a United Nations agency would be a first.



Interestingly, among the top 10 donors to the organisation, only four are member countries and one is the European Commission. The rest are all non-state actors or philanthropies. When the WHO was constituted, its constitution stipulated that it should primarily be financed through regular contributions from member countries, called "assessed contributions", relative to the country's wealth and population. However, the reluctance of member countries to increase the assessed annual contributions has made it dependent on voluntary contributions from countries and non-state actors, weakening its autonomy.

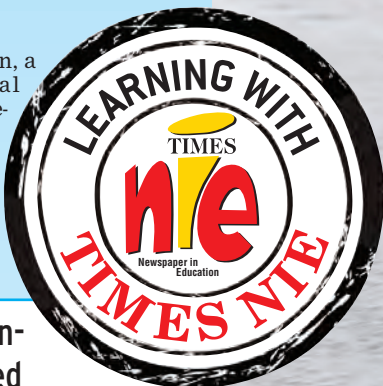
SOUTHWEST MONSOON

WHAT: The southwest monsoon made an onset over Kerala on June 1, marking the commencement of the four-month long rainfall season, the India Meteorological Department said.

WHEN: The four-month monsoon season from June to September accounts for 75 per cent of rainfall in the country.

WHERE: Monsoon, a seasonal change in the direction of the prevailing or strongest winds of a region, causes wet and dry seasons throughout much of the tropics. Monsoon is often associated with the Indian Ocean, and always blows from cold to warm regions.

DID YOU KNOW? The word 'monsoon' is derived from the Arabic word, *mausim*, meaning season.



ITS SIGNIFICANCE

- Nearly half of India's farmland, without any irrigation cover, depends on the annual monsoon to grow crops, such as rice, corn, tea, cane, cotton and soyabean.
- Industries are also reliant on monsoon as a great deal of electricity in the region is produced by hydroelectric power plants, driven by



ALERT: Meanwhile, the Met dept has also issued a warning for cyclone 'Nisarga', brewing in the Arabian Sea.

- Lack of rainfall during the monsoon season, or heavy rainfall cause great damage to the economy.

STUDENT EDITION

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 3, 2020



WEB EDITION

IRECOMMEND

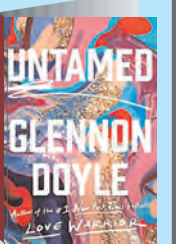
EMMA WATSON APPROVED BOOKS TO EXPLORE DURING THE LOCKDOWN

nitya.shukla@timesgroup.com

In her latest post on Instagram, the Harry Potter actress shared 'completely unmissable essentials from quarantine reading' list. Take a look...

UNTAMED BY GLENNON DOYLE

In this amazing part-memoir, the author explores what it means to live a life that doesn't comply with society's expectations. Read this if you have ever felt self-conscious about being yourself. Learn to love your true self.



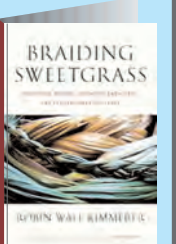
THIS IS GOING TO HURT BY ADAM KAY

Written as a series of diary entries, this book presents the insights of a junior doctor during his medical training from 2004 to 2010. A rib tickling funny read.



BRAIDING SWEETGRASS BY ROBIN WALL KIMMERER

Read it if you feel caring for your plants is important. The author, a botanist and a native American, writes a non-fiction book in which she asks many pertinent questions about botany.



BLACK ON BOTH SIDES: A RACIAL HISTORY OF TRANS IDENTITY BY C RILEY SNORTON

Set in the post-war era, this book looks at the erasure of mid-century trans narratives.



OPEN BOOK EXAMINATION



X PLAINED

WHAT: Delhi University is all set to conduct the final year examinations from July 1, 2020. The exam would be held as open book examination mode. DU had asked its teachers to prepare two sets of papers — one for online open book examination and another for the pen-paper examination. Those who have internet and computer or laptop will appear in online open examination in July; rest will appear in pen-paper exam for which time is not specified.

HOW: Under the open book examination, students will be able to refer books, notes and other study materials to answer the questions. Sitting at their homes, they can download question papers for their respective course from the portal. They are required to upload their answers in two hours.

PROS

It saves paper. Saving paper means saving trees. **Secure:** Each student gets a random set of questions. So, chances of cheating is minimal. Besides, questions can't be shared with others.

CONS

Time-consuming: Sometimes, students take a lot of time finding out some topics. Also, they look for books rather than using their own knowledge and skills.

Casual approach: Students may become casual while approaching the exam, as they may feel they can take the help of books while attempting questions.

ARE OPEN BOOK EXAMS DIFFICULT?

Though open books help with facts and description, it cannot help in conceptual and application-based questions as you need a basic conceptual knowledge to attempt such ques-

tions. It requires thorough preparations as you need to know the exact pages where you will find your answers.

NEWS IN BRIEF

CLICK HERE FOR MORE

GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE LEADING TO SHORTER, YOUNGER TREES: STUDY

Ongoing environmental changes are transforming forests worldwide, resulting in shorter and younger trees with broad impacts on global ecosystems, warn researchers. A global study showed how rising temperatures, carbon dioxide have been altering the world's forests, caused by severity of disturbances, such as wildfire, drought, wind damage and other natural enemies, researchers said.

ENVIRONMENT



- The globally-averaged tree size has declined over the last century. It is likely to decline further due to continuing environmental changes.
- The findings showed that high levels of tree loss lead to an imbalance in three important characteristics of a diverse and thriving forest: recruitment, which is the addition of new seedlings to a community; growth, the net increase in biomass or carbon; and mortality, the death of forest trees.

TECH BUZZ

FACEBOOK LAUNCHES NEW APP TO MAKE LIVE EVENTS MORE SOCIAL

Facebook has rolled out a new app for iOS and Android called 'Venue', which aims to provide an interactive second-screen experience for live events. The digital companion app, developed by Facebook's New Product Experimentation (NPE) team, is the third app in the last few weeks.



- FB will first test Venue with The National Association for Stock Car Auto Racing's Food City, presenting the Supermarket Heroes 500 race on May 31. The service has been compared to Twitter's live event streaming capabilities, offering fans a place to gather and respond to events in real time.

SPACEX LAUNCH A KEY STEP TO REACH MOON, MARS: NASA



SPACE

- Known as NASA's SpaceX Demo-2, the mission is an end-to-end test flight to validate the SpaceX crew transportation system, including launch, in-orbit, docking and landing operations.

This is SpaceX's second spaceflight test of its Crew Dragon, and its first test with astronauts aboard. It will pave the way for its certification for regular crew flights to the station.

GET INSPIRED

ONE-ARMED TEENAGE BASKETBALL PLAYER IS AN ONLINE SENSATION IN CHINA

Despite losing one arm, Zhang Jiacheng hopes to never lose his love for basketball or willingness to improve his skills on the court. The 13-year-old recently gained wide attention from netizens in China, when a video of his excellent dribbling skills in a one-on-one situation was posted online.

In the video, Zhang displayed his dribbling abilities in front of a defence made up of several professional basketball players. It received a loud cheer from people watching online.

Born in southern Chinese province of Guangdong, Zhang lost his right arm in an accident when he was five years old. Zhang, however, decided to face the hardship, and not let fate reign over his life. His dream is to become a basketball player.



WEAR AND CARE FOR YOUR MASK

It is the first line of defence in the fight against coronavirus. Follow these tips to ensure you are wearing your mask properly

How to wear it

- The mask should cover your nose and mouth; don't wear it around the forehead like a bandana; never hang it around the neck like a scarf.
- Under no circumstances, should you share your mask with anyone.
- To put your mask, first wash your hands. Then, holding the mask by its strings, fit it snugly over your mouth, nose and chin, and fasten it in place.
- Ensure that the mask fits correctly; one that doesn't fit right may slip or be uncomfortable, tempting you to keep adjusting it constantly.



HOW TO CLEAN IT: If it's not a single-use mask, wash it after each use. Use a mild detergent, then dry it. Storing the mask in freezers isn't recommended. Check the mask for signs of wear as the material degrades after washing.

HOW TO STORE IT

Single-use masks can be worn for a few hours before they get replaced. So, if you are going to be outdoors for longer, carry several masks with you. If the mask gets torn, damaged or wet, discard immediately. While taking off the mask, first wash your hands. Then remove the mask without touching the potentially contaminated front section. Discard it in a closed bin.

Build your own Lamborghini

The Italian car manufacturer has partnered with Danish toy maker LEGO to create a model version of one of their cars. LEGO has created, in partnership with the car-maker, a 3,696 piece, 1:8 scale model of the Lamborghini Sian FKP 37.



SIAN FKP 37

- A hybrid model, showcased at the 2019 Frankfurt Auto Show, Sian is the most powerful car, the Italian manufacturer has produced so far.
- The scale model also has a replica of the V12 engine; a moveable rear spoiler; front and

rear suspension; and steering powered by a wheel complete with the Automobili Lamborghini badge. LEGO's hyper-realistic scale model also has scissor doors, which reveal the intricately recreated cockpit, with a fully-functioning eight-speed sequential gearbox controlled by a movable paddle gear shift.



Dear diary,
HI! I AM GERONIMO STILTON

Today is the tenth day of lockdown. The Rodent's Gazette closed and having no work to do, I decided to lie in bed and snooze. But then, my cousin Trap called, and screamed in fear. "My neighbour has caught coronavirus!" he said. I called my friend who is a doctor to check symptoms. After half an hour, it was clear that Trap's neighbour was down with only a flu. It was a relief and Trap apologised to everyone. I went back to bed and was about to sleep, when the phone rang again. It was my nephew, who called to ask about my health. The call ended soon. I noticed that it was already dinner time! What a day!

SUYASH NAIK, class VIII,
Pratibha International school,
Pune

SPIDERMAN AT HOME

Dear diary,
IT'S ME, SPIDERMAN!

A world pandemic has been caused by COVID-19, so it is now our new villain. It is so scary that it has made all the superheroes cower and stay at home. But not the cops, who are out there with the doctors at the hospitals and volunteer workers... risking their life to protect us. They have become the true warriors. But I also think there is a hero in all of us. As long as we take our responsibilities seriously, we will be fine, because remember Uncle Ben had said, "With great power, comes great responsibility?" So we must all stay home to stay safe and also to flatten the Covid-19 curve!

HERTHA VANI, class X A, Delhi school of Excellence, Attapur, Hyderabad





tiny Tales Entries
PART 1

ON THE RUN!!

One morning, Shikari Shambu was reading newspaper when he got a call. The man on the phone said that there was a virus attacking the city. He heard a loud noise and noticed that a crowd was coming towards his house. They were following Coronavirus! Straight away, the Coronavirus entered Shambu's house to escape the crowd. Being very frightened, Shambu started running around the table. Suddenly, he slipped and fell. A sanitiser bottle which had been left opened (on the table) flipped and fell on Coronavirus's head, ending its life. People were happy and congratulated Shambu for killing Corona.

IVAN SEJUSH, class I, The Global Edge School, Kokapet



RUBY AND GARNET GET PROACTIVE

Ruby and Garnet, the famous twin sisters, who had lead roles in the famous TV serial 'Ruby Red' had arrived in Dubai (UAE) with their crew to film an episode. Unfortunately, it was around March when the lockdown was enforced, and the team got stuck in a villa. Ruby and Garnet were worried about the growing cases of Covid-19 around the world and decided to help people. Ruby uploaded many useful videos on her Facebook and Instagram pages to alert people on the risk factors; do's and don'ts; and requested her audience to stay at home to stay safe. Garnet decided to donate masks, gloves to hospitals; and began conducting many webinars; and shot many DIY art and craft videos too. Both sisters thought that they must do all they can to engage their audience as they were staying at home and getting bored.

THANMAYA MANOJ, class V-C, school details not provided



Have You Sent Your Story? If Not, Write In To Us at timesnie175@gmail.com

BFG- THE WONDER GIANT

The Big Friendly Giant was taking a nap when the buzzing sound of a mosquito woke him up. He was irritated about this. As soon as he woke up, the giant was reminded about the present state of affairs. He was in lockdown due to the coronavirus. He called Sophie and they decided to do something about it. He took his magic trumpet, a long tube and a big jar with him. It was full moon night and he started to blow his trumpet. As soon as he blew the trumpet the coronavirus started screaming. They couldn't bear the sound of trumpet and became senseless. Then BFG with the help of the long tube sucked the air and collected the virus. He put them in a jar and closed the lid tightly. Hence he helped us get rid of the corona!

SOUJANYA SIKDAR, class- VI B, Delhi Public School, Sector 45 Gurugram, Haryana



Quarantine HOBBY

With all the stress of the world at the moment, finding a relaxing hobby seems like a sensible idea. It can give you some calm amidst the storm, and even help with your mental well-being.

WRITING

You may have heard that Shakespeare wrote 'King Lear' during quarantine in the plague years. So, no better time to start penning your ideas down, right? Need a primer, check out courses on writing fiction.

YOGA

Yoga is good for both your physical and mental well-being. It can help with strength, flexibility and balance, and just about anyone can get started.

KNITTING

Knitting is a timeless and useful craft. It's incredibly chill and also a practical pastime that can yield many things, like scarves.

LISTENING TO MUSIC

Of course, you probably already listen to music on a regular basis. However, there's never a wrong time to start discovering new bands and artists that you like. Try a new genre this week.

Find a new hobby for relaxation

READING

Reading is to the mind what exercise is to the body. It can be a form of learning in helping you discover new worlds!

TEST YOUR WORD POWER

1. ANTIMONY

- a) A medicinal herb
b) A small mammal
c) A silvery metal

2. CALABRESE

- a) A breed of horse
b) A build-up of salts in the body
c) A sort of broccoli

3. DOTTEREL

- a) Another name for the aardvark
b) A metallic element
c) A shore bird

4. JACARANDA

- a) African antelope
b) Ornamental tree



c) South American bird

c) Species of albatross

6. MOA

- a) Extinct New Zealand bird
b) South African fruit
c) South American monkey

7. ORMOLU

- a) Decorative metal alloy
b) Form of cabbage
c) A songbird

8. RATEL

- a) Fierce animal
b) A metal
c) Small tree used in hedges

5. KOHLRABI

- a) Alkaline metal
b) Form of cabbage

Answers: 1 C; 2 C; 3 C; 4 B; 5 B; 6 A; 7 A; 8 A.

Idioms on hair

Idioms are effective in building your vocabulary. Here is a list of idioms derived from the word 'hair'

MAKE SOMEONE'S HAIR STAND ON END

Meaning: If you are absolutely terrified of something, it makes your hair stand on end.

Example: The horror film really made my hair stand on end.

HAIR-SPLITTING

Meaning: The act of scrutinising minute, irrelevant differences or details.
Example: We would get a lot done in meetings if everyone did less hair-splitting.

LET (ONE'S) HAIR DOWN

Meaning: To behave without formality.
Example: We need a place

where young folks can let their hair down.

NOT A HAIR OUT OF PLACE

Meaning: Appearance is tidy.
Example: She turned up with not a hair out of place.

BAD HAIR DAY

Meaning: A day where everything seems to go wrong.
Example: I'm having a bad hair day.



A SPOONFUL OF ACTIVITIES!

Hello, aspiring detectives! Do you have what it takes to join the Detective Society? Complete the activities below and join Daisy and Hazel in detecting crimes!



Create your own Detective Society Pledge!

Your pledge is a sort of promise. Here's part of Daisy and Hazel's to read it helps:

I never to be a big and clever member of the Detective Society, and to logically detect the crimes present in me using all the clues I have, and playing games on games, especially the puzzle.

Fit in the lines below with your own pledge!

Quiz time

GENERAL KNOWLEDGE

Q.1) The world's highest railway bridge will connect rest of India with which place?

- A. Odisha B. Kashmir
C. Bihar D. Gujarat

Q.2) 'Taal volcano' is located in which country?

- A. Philippines B. Japan
C. Vietnam D. Indonesia

Q.3) The famous Hormuz Peace Initiative was held in which country?

- A. Pakistan B. India
C. Japan D. North Korea

ANSWERS

1. B) Kashmir 2. A) Philippines 3. D) Iran 4. A) Pakistan

KNOWLEDGE BANK

Cairn Terrier

This is one of the oldest terrier breeds, originating in the Scottish Highlands, and recognised as one of Scotland's earliest working dogs. The breed was given the name Cairn because the breed's function was to hunt and chase quarry between the cairns in the Scottish highlands. The Cairn Terrier has a harsh weather-resistant outer coat that can be black, cream, beige or red.



5 MOVIES YOU MUST WATCH

MARY POPPINS (1964)

The sheer exuberance of Disney's adaptation of PL Travers' children's classic makes people happy. The film has its catalogue of memorable songs, battery of dance routines, and a strong supporting cast. As for the lead of the film, Julie Andrews portrayed an Academy Award-winning portrayal of the nanny!



STAR WARS (1977)

George Lucas' old-fashioned tale of outer-space adventure is a must watch for all age groups. Lucas, though, has readily admitted that he was trying to capture the thrill he had as a child watching Saturday-afternoon matinees, and that's the real target audience for this beloved pop-culture cult movie.

THE GOONIES (1985)

Mikey isn't giving up without a fight. Although his house is about to be taken away from his family, the determined tween has a plan to stay in Astoria. It's simple: All he and his pals have to do is find One-Eyed Willie's treasure. Simple right? Mikey, Chuck, Mouth and Data embark on an adventure to get the goods... Do watch!



THE LION KING (1994)

Equal parts endearing and heartbreaking, the Disney classic, which will most likely make you cry at some point, rotates around young lion Simba. The young Simba must rise to power after the loss of his father, Mufasa. Another reason you should watch this film - Remember: Hakuna Matata!

HARRY POTTER AND THE SORCERER'S STONE (2001)

The inaugural story in the 'Harry Potter' series catapults fans into a magical realm sprinkled with fantasy and excitement - and we haven't looked back since. In this debut story, we meet Harry, an orphan who lives with his aunt and uncle and is treated badly. Watch it to know more.

