



THE TIMES OF INDIA

www.toistudent.com
**TODAY'S
EDITION**

► You can easily replace a situation in life with an idiom. Ever tried it? If not, visit Wizard's Corner

PAGE 2


Imagine your life as a cycle of a young girl called Lizzy. Figure out how interesting it can be from NIE reporter's perspective

PAGE 3


► Barcelona Crash Out, Benfica Advance in Champions League

PAGE 4

STUDENT EDITION

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2021


CLICK HERE: PAGE 1 AND 2

LEARNING SCIENCE WITH NIE

THE CORONAVIRUS IN A TINY DROP



HOW VIRUS SURVIVES IN OPEN AIR

To create the model, the researchers needed one of the world's biggest supercomputers to assemble 1.3 billion atoms and track all their movements down to less than a millionth of a second. This computational tour de force is offering an unprecedented glimpse at how the virus survives in the open air as it spreads to a new host.

KEY OBSERVATIONS

Many scientists championed the traditional view that most of the virus's transmission was made possible by larger drops, often produced in coughs and sneezes, which usually travel only a few feet before dropping to the floor.

► **CAN BE INFECTIOUS EVEN AT DISTANCE:** But epidemiological studies showed that people with Covid-19 could infect others at a much greater distance: Just talking in a poorly-ventilated space like a restaurant, library or classroom was enough to spread the virus.

► **THIS IS DUE TO AEROSOLS:** Those findings pointed to much smaller drops called aerosols as important vehicles of infection. Scientists define droplets as having a diameter greater than 100 micrometres, or about four-thousandths of an inch.

► **AEROSOLS ARE SMALLER:** In some cases they are so small that only a single virus can fit inside them. And thanks to their minuscule size, aerosols can drift in the air for hours. **NYT**

To better understand the coronavirus's journey from one person to another, a team of 50 scientists has for the first time created an atomic simulation of the virus nestled in a tiny airborne drop of water

SIMULATING VIRUS-TRAPPED AEROSOL

1 Using 1 billion atoms, they created a virtual aerosol measuring a quarter of a micrometre in diameter, less than a hundredth the width of a strand of human hair.

2 Experts had to take over the Summit Supercomputer at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory in Tennessee, to simulate how the virus is transmitted in a droplet to the lungs.

3 They got clues about how viruses survive inside aerosols. The mucins, secreted on mucosal surfaces and saliva, did not just wander idly

around the aerosol. The negatively-charged mucins were attracted to virus's positively-charged spike proteins.

4 Experts found that if the virus trapped in the aerosol moves closer to its surface, the mucins get attracted to them and push back into the body. When an aerosol breaks free from the fluid in our lungs, it brings along a stew of molecules from our bodies. It includes mucins: long, sugar-studded proteins from a lung's lining.

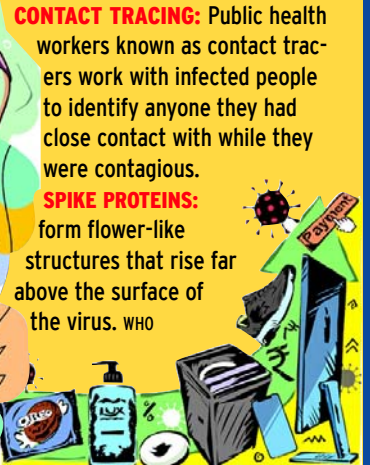
5 Delta's spike proteins have excess positive charge than other variants. So, mucins huddle more closely around them. Next, Omicron is being studied by the team. **NYT**



KNOW THE TERMS

AEROSOL: A tiny particle or droplet that's suspended in the air.
ANTIBODY: A protein your immune system makes in response to an infection. If you have antibodies for the coronavirus in your blood, it means you have been infected with this virus at some point (even if you never had any symptoms).
ANTIBODY TEST: Also called a serology test, this checks to see if you have antibodies in your blood that show that you were previously infected with the virus.
ANTIGEN TEST: A type of diagnostic test that checks to see if you're currently infected. The test looks for proteins (antigens) in a sample taken from nose or throat. Antigen tests are faster than PCR tests, but they have a higher risk of false positives.
CONTACT TRACING: Public health workers known as contact tracers work with infected people to identify anyone they had close contact with while they were contagious.

SPIKE PROTEINS: form flower-like structures that rise far above the surface of the virus. **WHO**



NEWSMAKERS OF THE DAY

BCCI cracks whip, opts for proven leader in Rohit

It was waiting to happen after India's unceremonious World Cup exit and on Wednesday, the BCCI ended Virat Kohli's run as India's white-ball captain with a rather matter-of-fact statement, handing the reins to Rohit Sharma "going forward".

The BCCI, it is learnt, waited for the last 48 hours for Kohli, who has already relinquished T20 captaincy, to voluntarily step down from ODI leadership as well but he did not. By the 49th hour, losing the position to Rohit Sharma was simply 'fait accompli'. Infact, Kohli's sacking was not even addressed by the BCCI statement, which merely stated that the selection committee has decided to name Rohit captain of the ODI and T20I teams going forward. Kohli lost his captaincy. Just like that.

The BCCI and its national selection committee sacked the decorated Kohli, who perhaps harboured the ambition of leading India at home in the 2023 ODI World Cup.



The moment India were ousted from the T20 World Cup at the group league stage, Kohli's leadership epitaph was written but the BCCI mandarins wanted to give the captain of last four-and-a-half years an honourable exit route.

In the end, it seems Kohli dared the BCCI to sack him, the parent body went ahead and did exactly that and the once all-powerful skipper had no other option but to accept it. **PTI**

Malala plays messenger for Afghan schoolgirl

Pakistani activist and Nobel Peace Prize winner Malala Yousafzai has delivered a message from Sotooda Forotan, an Afghan schoolgirl, to US Secretary of State Antony Blinken, seeking the help of the Biden administration for girls in the strife-torn country gain access to education. Forotan, who is 15 years old, was recently listed as one of the "25 most-influential women of 2021" by the UK's 'Financial Times.' The teenager was named on the list after she took a stand against the Taliban government's decision to ban girls from schools in classes 7-12 after the hardline Islamists seized power in Kabul in mid-August.



Watch, Pen and Learn: Teens, spiritual coaches discuss life, relationship matters

As we move towards a new year in the hope that we will usher in positivity and mindfulness, and get over with the stress that Covid has thrown at us, here's an opportunity for you to learn from 'life conversations' between schoolchildren and spiritual masters.

In a bid to usher in positive mindset, The Bennett University presents Times Masterclass, a tete-a-tete between school students and spiritual masters on how to achieve the mind-body-soul balance.

Students from some of the



top schools of India engaged with renowned spiritual gurus and life coaches – Sister BK Shivani, Yog Guru Dr. Surakshit Goswami and

Aryavan McSweeney – and received valuable life lessons. Students from The Doon School, Shiv Nadar, Tagor Int'l, Bombay Scottish, Springdales, Silver Oaks Int'l, St Columba's School were among some who took part in the fun-filled meaningful talk with the masters.

To register for the sessions, please visit www.timesmasterclass.com

- The six-part sessions can be viewed between **DECEMBER 11, 2021** and **JANUARY 23, 2022**
- Each session is packaged in 2 parts (20-30 mins each) in a sequence, which a student can attend by registering on www.timesmasterclass.com
- Students registering and attending the session will be given a 'Certificate of Participation'
- Once you have attended a session, share your learnings with us by participating in the 'PEN YOUR LEARNINGS' Contest.
- The best entries at city and national level will be uploaded on NIE and TOI online platforms and rewarded by The Times of India

FACTOID ₹20,353 CRORE

The government has detected total undisclosed credits amounting to above sum with respect to over 900 India-linked entities in the Panama and Paradise Paper leaks, Parliament was told by Minister of State for Finance Pankaj Chaudhary. As many as 52 cases of Panama and Paradise Paper Leaks, criminal prosecution complaints have been filed, he said.

Study finds 5 species of flying squirrels in Uttarakhand

Dehradun (Uttarakhand) [India], December 8 (ANI): A study conducted by the Research Wing of Uttarakhand Forest Department has recorded the existence of five different species of flying squirrel in the state of Uttarakhand. The five species are namely the Red Giant flying squirrel, White Bellied flying squirrel, Indian Giant flying squirrel, Wolly filing squirrel and Kashmir flying squirrel.



B'TOWN WEDDING: GROOM VICKY TO RIDE A HORSE-DRAWN CHARIOT

After sangeet and haldi ceremonies of actors Vicky Kaushal and Katrina Kaif, sources have said that Kaushal will arrive in style at the wedding venue, riding a seven horse-drawn chariot. On the request of the couple, the

700-year-old Six Senses hotel fort Barwara situated in Sawai Madhopur district, has been decorated with a heritage look as the couple sought such a decor. Sources said Kaushal would be riding a white-coloured chariot driven by seven horses.



WELLNESS
 Go for a festive cleanse ahead of the party season as with non-stop celebrations planned all the way up till New Years, it is important to give your body a mid-festive detox

ETIQUETTE
 Know your party etiquette
PLUS: Etiquette quiz; Checklist of manners

FILMS, BOOKS
 Celebrating Human Rights Day (Dec 10) with films that showcase kindness
PLUS: Book adaptations you can't miss

SPORTS
 Cricketers who have scored Test century on debut

TRIVIA TIME
 Dec 11 is International

STUDENT EDITION
 SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2021

Mountain Day created to raise awareness about the threat they face

Your Weekender

FITNESS
 Five post-pandemic fitness trends that are here to stay

TREND ALERT
 Tips to plan a green Christmas



PURVA PATEL
Art Educator
Bodakdev School For
Children, Ahmedabad

LEVEL-1

Draw the easy way



Step-1



Step-2



Step-3



Step-4



Step-5



Step-6



EPELPO

- a. Person b. People
c. Parrot d. Penguin

URATLB

- a. Bottle b. Biscuit
c. Brutal d. Bend

OHPSTAIL

- a. Hospital b. Harassed
c. Honey d. Heart

SIUTBRD

- a. Dinner b. Dinning
c. Disturb d. Dongles

Answers: 1) b, 2) c, 3) a, 4) c

Riding with the Riddle

ANANYA S K, class V,
NPS YSR, Bengaluru

I am a most essential in the current situation, but was hardly used a few years back. I come in a liquid, gel or foam state but quickly evaporate or dry when used. I have different scents, and am useful in killing some germs. I am highly inflammable and must not be used while dealing with fire. I am most preferred during long trips.

Answer: Hand Sanitizer

PRIZE DAY

SURYAKUMARI DENNISON, teacher, Aavishkar Academy, Bengaluru



3 Regrettably, not a recipient of the Peace Prize was

- A) Henri Dunant
B) Mahatma Gandhi
C) Nelson Mandela
D) Albert Schweitzer

4 Awarded the Peace Prize long after his presidency was

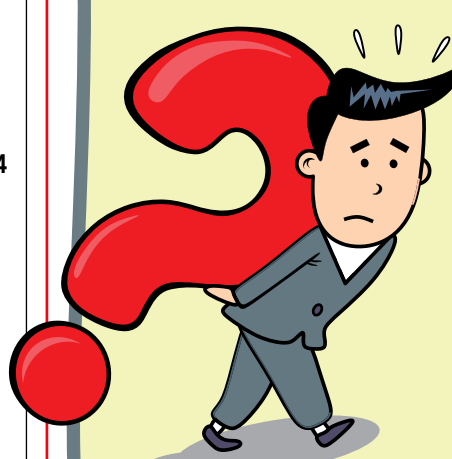
- A) Theodore Roosevelt
B) Woodrow Wilson
C) Jimmy Carter
D) Barack Obama



5 Peace Prize 2021 goes to Dmitri Muratov of Russia and Maria Ressa of

A) Philippines B) Paraguay
C) Peru D) Poland

Quiz TIME



The Nobel Prizes are annually presented on December 10. Complete these statements on the Peace Prize. Choose correctly!

1 The Peace Prize was instituted decades before the one for

- A) Chemistry B) Economics
C) Medicine D) Physics

2 Only the Peace Prize is presented in

- A) Amsterdam B) London
C) Helsinki D) Oslo

Answers: 1) B, Economics 2) D, Oslo 3) B, Mahatma Gandhi 4) C, Jimmy Carter 5) A, Philippines

LEVEL-2

Idiom-etrics

SURYAKUMARI DENNISON, teacher, Aavishkar Academy, Bengaluru

(Choose the idiom that best suits the situation)

Ashwini was planning a midnight feast. "All we have to do is set an alarm for 11.55," she told her brother. "Then we creep out and eat in the garden. Of course, we should not forget to collect our food from the kitchen." Her brother remarked: "Just one problem. Grandfather sits reading in the hall till after 12. How do we get past him without being seen?"

- A. Fly on the wall B. Flea in one's ear
C. Fly in the ointment



Ranjit declared that he was leaving home. "Please do," said his parents, certain that he would not go.

- A. Call someone's bluff
B. Follow suit
C. Pass the buck



TRIVIA

In a game of poker, a player pretends to hold excellent cards and bets accordingly. An opponent either 'folds' (surrenders, without seeing the supposedly good hand) or 'calls' (matches the wager). If the latter, all must show their cards, and the truth is revealed. 'To call someone's bluff' means to challenge a person to carry out a threat because one is quite sure that he/she will not act on it.

EDITOR IN THE MAKING

WEAVE A STORY WITH HEADLINES

Include some of these headlines to make a story and give it a title. Mail the story to us at toinie175@gmail.com. The interesting one will be published in the edition. Watch out for this space!!!

The headlines:

- 1) White blanket
- 2) 'You students are in a place where you can give back'
- 3) Cut down on processed foods to save the Earth: Study
- 4) Prince William opens up on family time



And the winner is...

DHWANI GULATI,
class VII, Sacred Heart
Sr Sec School, Chandigarh

COVID FEAR IS BACK!

Riya haven't these words become so exasperating for all of us now. But still, do you know that Merriam Webster chooses 'Vaccine' as the '2021 word of the year'. Really? Yes, and also the Omicron variant. Wait! What? Omicron variant? Oh! you really don't know anything about the news. It is the new variant of Covid-19. Omicron has forced the government to review existing regulations and bring back curbs. Anyways, moving further, I just overheard the conversation of my friend who is really excited about Dhanush winning an award...Yes, Dhanush won the best actor award for Asuran at BRICS Film Festival. Oops! I almost forgot to tell you about the space junk. What about it?

Scientists say that Earth will have Saturn-like rings of space junk. That's quite interesting. Let me tell my friends also.



Learn a NEW LANGUAGE GERMAN

- 1) Montag Meaning: Monday
- 2) Dienstag Meaning: Tuesday
- 3) Mittwoch Meaning: Wednesday
- 4) Donnerstag Meaning: Thursday
- 5) Freitag Meaning: Friday
- 6) Samstag Meaning: Saturday
- 6) Sonntag Meaning: Sunday

Answers:
1) Montag Morgen
2) Donnerstag Abend
3) Sonntag Nachmittag
4) Freitag oder Samstag

Work sheet

Q:1 How will you say it is Monday morning

Q:2 How will you say it is Thursday evening?

Q:3 How will you say Sunday afternoon?

Q:4 How will Friday or Saturday?



NUMBER SERIES

1 What is the sum of first two prime numbers?

- A) 2 B) 3 C) 4 D) 5

Answer: D

2 What is the difference between the largest three digit number and the smallest four digit number?

- A) 1 B) 2 C) 3 D) 4

Answer: A

3 What is the smallest odd prime number?

- A) 1 B) 2 C) 3 D) 4

Answer: C

4 What is the largest three digit even number?

- A) 376 B) 745 C) 890 D) 998

Answer: D

5 How many prime numbers are there between 1 and 10?

- A) 5 B) 4 C) 3 D) 2

Answer: B

6 What is the place value of 7 in 417,532?

- A) 6000 B) 7000
C) 8000 D) 9000

Answer: B

TO IMPROVE IS TO CHANGE; TO BE PERFECT IS TO CHANGE OFTEN

St Angel's School, Rohini educators evolved through a workshop on 'Hybrid Learning 3.0 - A New Model for Future of Learning' orchestrated on November 25. Delivering a hybrid course can be a very different experience. Facilitating learning through a student-centred perspective requires new strategies and skills.

The workshop highlighted how the imparting of education has undergone a sea change. In

ancient times, Gurukul's predominated the education system. Then came the lecture-based system followed by activity-based learning, an engaging learning process whereby students learn by doing. 2020 turned out to be unfortunate due to the pandemic which resulted in schools shutting down. Learning was affected with computer screens replacing classrooms. Resulting in tutees and tutors quickly adapting



themselves to the new normal.

Therefore the session accentuated the importance of evolving and changing with time and focused on the hybrid learning setup in schools. Hybrid learning or the new way of learning is an integrated online instruction with traditional face-to-face class activities in a planned, pedagogically valuable manner.

The workshop highlighted the usage of Mi-

crosoft teams and how it can be a central hub for connecting several tools and applications for class activities and assessments. Applications and tools like Flipgrid, Padlet, virtual field trips, one drive, immersive reader, Kahoot and many more were also showcased.

The session proved to be an illuminating one that emphasised experiential learning. The instructors learnt that this learning fluidly combines the best of in-school and online learning with digital engagement and allow the educators to connect with students.

Cambridge International celebrates English Week

Cambridge International DAVPS celebrated English week from October 25 to 28. Learners of class PS-VIII enthusiastically participated in a bouquet of engaging and interesting activities like 'Character Carnival', 'Dress Up Sentence', 'What Happened Next?', 'Poetry Slam', 'Collocation Pelmanism', 'Sentence Auction', 'Typhoon', 'Big Ears' and many more.

Students were given an opportunity to showcase their oratory skills by taking part in 'Character Carnival', 'Eloquent Elocution', 'Dialogue Substitution' and such activities. In Poetry Slam, they

showed their love for poetry by reciting poems based on different figures of speech. A session on descriptive writing and poem composition was organised along with hands on activity 'Dress up Sentence' that taught students how to write a variety of sentences to bring about rhythm and flow in their writing skills. Group Activities like 'Sneak Peak', 'Six Thinking Hats' and 'Email Relay Race' had students divided into groups and then to find out the hidden/missing words or answer questions based on different thinking hats. It also trained them to focus on detailing and thinking critically.

National Constitution day at DAV

National Constitution Day was celebrated at DAV Public School, Sreshtha Vihar, Delhi on November 26 to commemorate the adoption of the constitution.

It is also known as 'Samvidhan Divas'. As a part of the celebrations, various activities were conducted to highlight and reiterate the values and principles enshrined in the constitution. Students actively participated in activities such as painting, a virtual quiz and a debate on fundamental rights and duties, as well as reciting the Preamble to reaf-



firm our commitment to uphold it. The day served as a reminder to live by and promote these timeless values in our communities.

School Principal Suhasini K Nath really appreciated the efforts done by the students.

When innocence won me over

'If you don't learn to laugh at trouble, you won't have anything to laugh at when you're old.'
-Edgar Watson Howe

We as teachers are all familiar with our routine of each day, beginning with the morning alarm clock and ending with planning for the lesson to be taught the next day. Though we are upset sometimes with the monotony of work, our students leave no stone

turned to fill our bland lives with fun and vigour. I recall one such incident in my class a few years back that still tickles me whenever I walk down memory lane. I was teaching a poem in grade four comprising forty chil-

dren. All of them were listening attentively. One among them had a few interesting questions to ask that impressed me. I could also see him taking notes while I was explaining the poem. It was an engaging class and the children and I had an open discussion about the topic after I finished explaining. I took my seat after assigning the children a task and continued doing my work. Soon I found the same boy who

had won my heart that day by actively participating in the discussion standing next to me. At first, I was



baffled. Then I thought he perhaps has more questions to ask. Before I could utter a word, he took out a paper from his pocket and held it up for me to see. All along I had thought he was keenly listening to me but the paper in his hand disclosed what he had

been up to. He had drawn a sketch of me during my period. I did not understand how to react to this. He looked at me with anticipation, eagerly waiting for me to appreciate his work. I wanted to reprimand him, but at the same time his innocence mellowed me down.

'The best way of removing negativity is to laugh and be joyous.' - David Icke

Soumi Mukhopadhyay, teacher, DPS ECity, Bengaluru

A much-adored pet with round feet

I was my full physical size as soon as I was manufactured in the factory, mentally I was still a baby! I have two round feet and a pivot joint around my neck and shoulders! Who am I? I am a bicycle!

My first home was a retail shop. One day, a sweet little girl was trying to find a cycle for herself, and I really liked her. I prayed really hard that she chooses me, and she did! I'm painted pink and turned out that it was her favourite colour too. I went to my new home with Lizzy.

Lizzy simply adores me. She keeps me squeaky clean and talks to me. When Lizzy rode me for the first time she fell down. But that's ok - anybody who rides a cycle for the first time, falls down. I

felt sad for her because she got hurt. For a moment I thought, "What if Lizzy's parents return me to the shop?" Thank



God, they didn't and instead Lizzy was told to keep peddling, steering and looking straight. When one falls, trying harder is the only way to succeed. The day she succeeded was a joyous day for me! I feel I'm Lizzy's 'pet'. I'm parked in my own little space in the house. When my wheels get muddy I am always given a bath. When my wheels get punctured, they take me to the repair shop, which is actually like a hospital for cycles. Do you know what the best thing about being a cycle is? That I do not need to eat! I can just lick the extra candy Lizzy always sticks into my bell, when she buys one for herself.

Life is good being a cycle. But I do think once in a while, if being a normal human being would be even better.

Friends, what do you think?

Nyja Basu, class VI, DPS-East, Bengaluru

DPSGPV lifts U-14 cricket cup

The Under 14 Cricket Tournament, for District Gurugram Schools, was held in Skylark ground Dwarka expressway in which 16 schools participated. Team from DPSG Palam Vihar defeated The Shri Ram Aravali in the quarter finals where they had a clean sweep by defeating the opposition by 10 runs.

In the semi-finals the pace-makers stumped the opponents DAV sector-14 by registering an impeccable win by 9 wickets. It was a clean sweep for the talent-



ed cricketers of Team DPSGPV as they nailed their victory defeating The Shri Ram School, Mousari, by 22 runs in the thrilling final match.

We are proud of this stellar achievement of our young crick-

eters who have upheld the vision of their institution which believes in holistic development of students creating opportunities of Teamwork, Sportsmanship, and Cooperation encouraging various Team Sports.

SNEHA MAKES DAV PROUD

It gives us immense pleasure to announce another great achievement by Sneha Sharma (class X-B) a student of Eco Club of DAV Public School Jasola Vihar whose essay got selected by Petroleum Conservation Research Association (PCRA), a well-known agency who works for promoting fuel conservation and energy efficiency in various sectors of the economy.

Out of many other events organised simultaneously by PCRA, Sneha participated in 'SAKSHAM' National Essay Competition-2021 on the subject of oil and gas conservation where she was given a tough competition at the school level and then at the state level. PCRA found her essay very thought provoking and has awarded her a cash prize of ₹ 2000 and a certificate of appreciation for the same. Principal Dr V K Barthwal congratulated Sneha for her hard work and dedication.



Celebrating the Constitution of India

To commemorate the adoption of the Constitution of India and to apprise the students of the importance, the unique quality and flexibility of the Indian Constitution, Ramjas School, Pusa Road celebrated the Constitution Day on November 26.

As part of the celebrations a wide range of activities, aimed at highlighting and reiterating the values and principles enshrined in the Constitution, were organised. The students read the Preamble to the Constitution and reaffirmed their commitment to uphold its ideology. The students of class VI - VII



for students of class VIII to test their knowledge of the Constitution of India and e-posters were designed on enlightening issues like 'My rights and duties', 'Vote for a better India', which saw an active participation of students. An online pledge was taken by the students of classes VI to IX to reaffirm their faith in the Constitution.

were engaged in role play and delivering speeches of famous Indian leaders such as Sarojini Naidu, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, Dr Rajendra Prasad, Dr B R Ambedkar who helped to build the Indian Constitution. An online quiz was held

ADVENTURE ISLAND
Metro Walk

SPECIAL OFFER

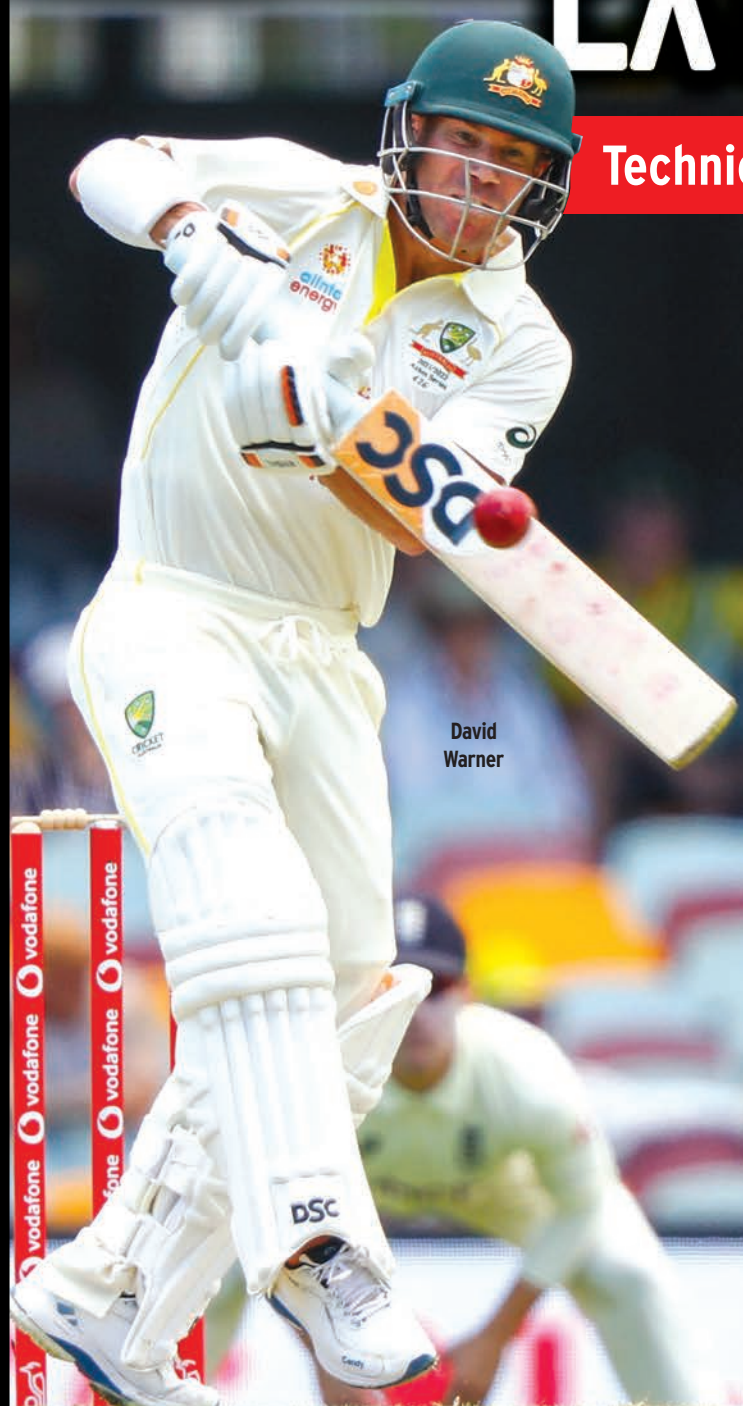
Rs. 350/-*
only

PARK TIMING: 11:00 A.M TO 6:00 P.M

ADVENTURE ISLAND-METRO WALK
Opp. Rithala Metro Station, Sector 10, Rohini, New Delhi 110 085 | T +91 11 4704 1111 / 22
www.adventureisland.in | f funatadventureisland | adventureislandrohini

HEAD, WARNER HELP AUS EXTEND LEAD TO 196

Technical glitches, rapid-fire century put paid to England hopes



David Warner

Travis Head blasted a rapid-fire century to crush England hopes on the second day of the opening Ashes Test at the Gabba on Thursday. At the close of play Australia were 343-7, a lead of 196 on England's dismal first-innings total of 147. Head was on 112 from only 95 balls, alongside Mitchell Starc, who was not out 10. England had threatened a comeback after tea when Ollie Robinson took two wickets in consecutive balls, but Head's aggressive innings put paid to any hopes of a miracle recovery.

HEAD ON ATTACK MODE

Head came to the crease with Australia 189-3 after Steve Smith edged Mark Wood to keeper Jos Buttler just before tea. He then watched David Warner (94) and Cameron Green depart to Robinson's accurate seamers after the break, with Australia still only 89 runs ahead. But the 27-year-old Head attacked from the outset and was particularly harsh on spinners Jack Leach and Joe Root. He smashed two sixes and 12 boundaries in his century, his third overall and his first since the Boxing Day Test against New Zealand in 2019.

Leach, 1-95 from 11 overs, failed to assert any control and with Ben Stokes also struggling for fitness, skipper Root had to rely heavily on his three-man seam attack.

WARNER RIDES ON LUCK

Earlier, Warner rode his luck in the first two sessions. The gritty opener was bowled by a no-ball by Stokes before

lunch, then dropped by Rory Burns in the first over after the break, before Haseeb Hameed bungled a simple run-out when Warner was on 60. Warner's good fortune began in the opening session when Stokes bowled him when he was on 17, but the all-rounder had overstepped to give the Australian opening batsman a reprieve. It later transpired that technology issues were at the centre of the no-ball drama.

THE ASHES



Television replays showed that Stokes had also overstepped on the first three balls of his over, but nothing was called. That led to suggestions that had he been called earlier by the umpires, he would have adjusted his run-up and

EQUIPMENT MALFUNCTION WOES

The no-ball call that denied England's Ben Stokes a wicket in his first over of the opening Ashes test on Thursday led to the revelation that the third umpire was unable to check the front foot on every delivery. Cricket Australia said a technology problem at the Gabba meant that the third umpire, Paul Wilson, couldn't review TV replays of every delivery. Broadcasters later reported that the equipment had broken down and the officials had reverted to the protocols used before the technology existed. Under International Cricket Council (ICC) regulations, the third umpire in World Test Championship matches is supposed to check every delivery for a no-ball.

Warner's prized wicket -- on Stokes's fourth delivery -- may have stood. Cricket Australia later said the technology that TV umpires use to help check no-balls was not working.

GOOD START FOR ENG

England needed to take all their chances to keep their hopes of salvaging anything from the first Test after their disastrous start on Wednesday, when they were bowled out in just 50.1 calamitous overs. They started well when Robinson claimed his first Ashes wicket, Marcus Harris, with the score on 10. England had gone into the Test without veteran seamers Jimmy Anderson and Stuart Broad, surprising many, including Australian captain Pat Cummins. But the seam attack of Robinson, Chris Woakes and the outright pace of Wood were able to keep the Australian batters pinned down early on with some tight and accurate bowling.

Robinson was particularly dangerous and made the breakthrough when he enticed Harris to play forward to a ball that left him slightly, the Australian opener edging to second slip, where David Malan took a good low catch.

Warner and Marnus Labuschagne consolidated but late in the second session Labuschagne sliced an attempted cut off Leach to Wood at backward point to fall for 74. Soon after Wood, who bowled with real pace all day, gave England some cheer when he removed the dangerous Smith -- so often England's tormentor -- in the penultimate over of the second session.

When Warner slapped a short Robinson ball to Stokes at short cover after tea and then Green shouldered arms and was bowled next ball, England must have had some belief.

But that was soon quashed by Head's swashbuckling innings. **AFP**



Travis Head

Photo: AFP

BARCELONA OUT OF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

Bayern Munich puts an end to 17-year winning streak in snow affected group stage

Barcelona's 17-year streak of advancing to the Champions League knockout rounds each season ended Wednesday with an exit from the group stage that failed to finish on time because of snow in Italy.

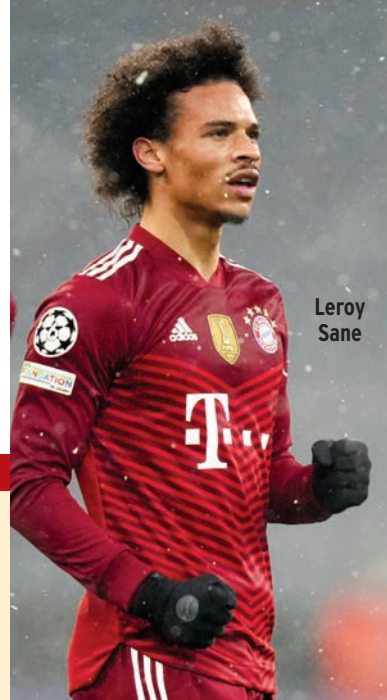
Barcelona fell to a 3-0 loss at Bayern Munich that dumped the five-time European champion into a dismal -- and deserved -- third place in Group E. "We start a new era, from zero, from here," Barcelona coach Xavi Hernandez, who rejoined the club in crisis last month, said.

Bayern's perfect six straight wins started with a 3-0 win at Camp Nou in September, and a repeat result at home

BAYERN SOARING

◆ Bayern won its group with a 22-goal tally that was more than twice as many as the other three teams combined.

◆ Goals from Thomas Muller, Leroy Sane and Jamal Musiala against Barcelona ensured Bayern matched Ajax and Liverpool who completed their six straight wins on Tuesday.



Leroy Sane

Photo: AP

let Benfica rise above Barcelona -- and into the round-of-16 draw on Monday -- by beating Dynamo Kyiv 2-0.

This is the fourth time that Barcelona has been knocked out from a Champions League group stage and this is the first one since 2000/01 when they played the UEFA Cup. Barcelona entered the contest against Bayern battling Benfica for the second qualifying spot in Group E, however, Bayern Munich had to break no sweat to defeat Barcelona.

BARCELONA SLUMP

Before Lionel Messi left for PSG, in all 17 years of his first-team career at Barcelona the club took its place among the elite in the round of 16 each February. They won four Champions League titles in that era.

In the club's first post-Messi season, the Europa League playoffs now beckon after a group-stage campaign that brought more 3-0 losses (three) than goals scored (two). The decline also extends at home and to the club's finances.

A current seventh place in La Liga is outside the European qualification spots. **AGENCIES**

BENFICA RETURN TO KNOCKOUTS

Win at Dynamo Kyiv, Barca loss help team make the cut

Benfica played its part, and that proved enough to secure a return to the knockout stages of the Champions League after four seasons. Benfica beat already-eliminated Dynamo Kyiv 2-0 on Wednesday, and got some vital help from already-qualified Bayern Munich, which defeated Barcelona 3-0. The combination of results saw Benfica finish second in Group E and advance for the first time since 2016-17.

Roman Yaremchuk and Gilberto scored first-half goals to give Benfica eight points, one more than Barcelona. Benfica entered the last round trailing Barcelona by two points but had the head-to-head advantage after beating the Catalan club 3-0 at home and securing a scoreless draw at the Camp Nou Stadium.

Benfica fans loudly celebrated at the Stadium of Light every time news arrived that Bayern had scored against Barcelona in Munich. "I'm really proud. It's amazing what we've achieved," Benfica's Joao Mario said. "We knew how difficult it was going to be."

The hosts eased off in the second half -- and even heard some jeers from home



Roman Yaremchuk

Photo: AP

fans -- but it was enough to clinch the spot in the next stage without any real scare. "It's normal, we knew the result of the other match," Joao Mario said.

Benfica arrived with high hopes as it faced a winless Dynamo team and could count on a Bayern side that had won its previous five games. They pressed forward from the start. The teams had played to a scoreless draw in Kyiv in their group opener. Benfica, a two-time European champion, had lost only twice in 16 European matches at home, including 4-0 to Bayern this season. Dynamo has won only twice in its last 15 European games on the road. **AP**

MAN-U, YOUNG BOYS DRAW 1-1

◆ Manchester United and Young Boys played out a 1-1 draw in Group F of the UEFA Champions League at Old Trafford. Mason Greenwood scored the goal for United in the 9th minute while Fabian Rieder registered the goal in the 42nd minute. With this result, United finished at the top of Group F and they will head to the knockout stages with some momentum behind their backs. **ANI**

QUIZ TIME!

Q1: Name the first-ever Indian athlete, nicknamed 'Dhing Express', to win a gold medal at the IAAF World U20 Championships?

- a) Dutee Chand
b) Anjali Devi
c) Hima Das
d) M R Poovamma

Q2: How many Olympic medals has Michael Phelps won?

- a) 22 b) 24 c) 26 d) 28

Q3: In which year was the first FIVB World Championship in volleyball held?

- a) 1949 b) 1950 c) 1951 d) 1952

Q4: At which Grand Slam tournament is the Musketeers' Trophy awarded to the winner of Men's Singles competition?

- a) Australian Open
b) US Open
c) French Open
d) Wimbledon

Q5: Which Indian state does the polo originate from?

- a) Goa b) Maharashtra
c) Manipur d) Kerala

Q6: With his 11th goal forward Mohamed Salah became the first player to score at least 20 goals for Liverpool since Ian Rush in the 1980s. Against whom did he score the goal?



Mohamed Salah

Photo: AFP

- a) Barcelona
b) Benfica
c) A C Milan
d) Manchester United

Q7: Who among the following boxer to go undefeated throughout his career?

- a) Frank Bruno
b) Gerry Cooney
c) Rocky Marciano
d) Joe Frazier

Q8: In the 1980 Moscow Olympics, India won a Gold in hockey. Who was the captain of the Indian team?

- a) Dhanraj Pillai
b) Dhyan Chand
c) Pargat Singh
d) Vasudevan Baskaran

Q9: Who was the first Indian gymnast to make it to the finals in individual vault in her debut Olympic Games?

- a) Aruna Reddy
b) Dipa Karmakar
c) Kalpana Debnath
d) Krupali Patel

ANSWERS: 1 c) Hima Das 2 d) 28
3 a) 1949 4 c) French Open 5 c) Manipur
6 c) A C Milan 7 c) Rocky Marciano
8 d) Vasudevan Baskaran
9 b) Dipa Karmakar