

Vasant Valley TODAY

BIRTHRIGHT CITIZENSHIP, A DEBATE

The United States has long been the land of dreams and the land to seek asylum. As such, many people from all across the globe have immigrated to the US over the centuries: some in pursuit of a more prosperous life; some in search of protection from religious, ethnic or political persecution, and some even brought against their will. Despite containing such an ethnically diverse population, USA has always grappled with the concept of being a "nation of immigrants". Many people have accepted and celebrated this diversity, while others wish to forget this varied origin of America and ban the inflow of immigrants altogether.

President Donald Trump claims that he wishes to ban birthright citizenship via an executive order. What is birthright citizenship? Birthright Citizenship in the USA is acquired by virtue of the circumstances of birth. In 1868, the 14th Amendment to the American constitution declared that all people born in the country and subject to the American jurisdiction were US citizens. The American Supreme Court has since ruled that this applies even to the children of people illegally present in the country. Naysayers argue that this right was limited to granting citizenship only to slaves and their descendants and the Supreme Court has since applied it to the children of illegal immigrants as well.

It is perhaps right to say that the 14th Amendment was initially meant to confer citizenship to slaves, but should that be the laws only function today? Laws can become stagnant, they too must be changed with time. The question that begs to be answered, then, is whether children should be punished for their parents' perceived transgressions. Will banning the birthright citizenship **help** or **harm** the American economy?

NO, IT IS COMPLETELY UNJUST!

Banning birthright citizenship would go against the spirit of America itself. American history has largely constituted of expanding the community of people regarded as 'Americans', from native-born whites and Native Americans to freed slaves and naturalized citizens of all races and ethnicities. This expansive view of who an 'American' is has been crucial to the successful assimilation of millions of newcomers and banning such an important historical law would lead to the proud nation losing its own identity.

The main cost of birthright citizenship is, perhaps, the potential fiscal burden posed by the US-born children of unauthorized immigrants. Unauthorized immigrants are ineligible for virtually all transfer programs, but their US born children are eligible for welfare benefits. However, such children are less likely to apply for benefits because their families fear that such interaction with the government will lead to the parents' deportation. Eliminating birthright citizenship may not, therefore, save as much money as proponents might believe.

SCHOOL WATCH

Inter House Mathematics Quiz for Classes 11 and 12

Winner- Yellow House, Team Members: Jayati Gupta, Zubin Soomar, Rithwik Sapra and Rohil Bahl

Results of Sanskrit Shabd Gyan Pratiyogita

Class 7

1st: Sumaya Beri, Vivasvat Rastogi, Shashvat Rastogi and Ritwick Sapra
2nd: Soumya Garg, Siddharth Chandra Sharma and Vir Dang

Class 8

1st: Inayaa Gulati
2nd: Arjun Shringi and Gaurang Deka
3rd: Devanshi Sawhney and Viraj Puri

Poetry Writing Competition for Class 4

1st: Zoya Trehan Sahni, Ayaan Adeb and Nysa Bedi
2nd: Reyaansh Poddar and Gayatri Malik
3rd: Shirin Sultana Shaw, Aamna Singh Jhingan and Sanjana



Unauthorized immigrants do not have children in the US for their children to be eligible for welfare benefits or be capable of sponsoring their parents for green cards. They have children in the US because they want them to be Americans. The US born children of unauthorized immigrants symbolise their parents' American dreams- working hard so their children are not victims of circumstance like they were. The US has been a beacon of hope and prosperity to the rest of the world for over two centuries; the land of the lost, the weary, the persecuted and the dreamers. Banning birthright citizenship would lead to worse socioeconomic outcomes for the immigrant children and their parents and it would go against the very foundations that the USA was built upon.

OF COURSE IT WILL HELP!

Banning birthright citizenship and its many benefits proves to be in fact, more advantageous to the future of America's social and economic welfare. It revolves around the principle that any child born on US soil automatically has access to birthright citizenship, regardless of the immigration status of her/his parents.

This existing amendment has been exploited in the past by immigrants who have taken advantage of this loophole in immigration laws in order to attain illegal citizenship rights, attracted by its many benefits ranging from social welfare like housing and dole to subsidized medical facilities.

This malpractice is unfair to the American taxpayer whose hard-earned dollars created America's social welfare schemes that get exploited by immigrants who indulge in illegal practices to gain entry into the country and enjoy the same benefits. In fact, one of the reasons why American social welfare schemes are shrinking is because of this incessant flow of illegal immigrants.

Many of these said immigrants and people seeking to reap the benefits of American citizenship use methods termed as 'Birth Tourism' and 'Anchor Babies' through which parents intentionally give birth to their children within the United States for the purpose of gaining citizenship.

The existence of the 14th amendment only provides people with an incentive to take advantage of citizenship by geographical advantage and has become an attraction for illegal crossings into the United States of America.

Darinee Chandok, Harnoor Singh, 11

IN MEMORIAM: STAN LEE

"My theory about why people like superheroes is that when we were kids, we all loved to read fairy tales. Fairy tales are all about things bigger than life: giants, witches, trolls, dinosaurs and dragons and all sorts of imaginative things. Then you get a little bit older and you stop reading fairy tales, but you don't ever outgrow your love of them." – Stan Lee

Revolutionary Marvel co-creator Stan Lee has died at the age of 95. TMZ reported that the writer was rushed to the hospital early Monday morning where he passed away. The cause of death is said to be pneumonia.

Lieber had always dreamt of going down in history as a great American novelist, the author of various upstanding short stories, books, essays, plays. His career went off to a start when he was hired as an office boy in what was then the Timely Comics in 1939. Two years later, he was named editor. Shortly after, he enlisted in the US army at the mere age of nineteen. Lee spent time at the Army Training Division in Queens and worked as a lineman in the Signal Corps, before he was assigned the job of a technical writer. When he returned from his service, he continued to work as an editor and further strived to gain his own position in comic writing.

In the early 1960s, he was asked to conjure a team of superheroes to compete against DC's Justice League. With the help of his brother, Larry Lieber, and artists like Steve Ditko and Jack Kirby, he established some of the greatest heroes in history, though he didn't know it would amount to that at the time. Marvel kick-started the comic business by humanising a chain of superheroes and depicting their not so perfect lives outside of heroism as well. A few characters were based in New York City, and struggled with daily life issues like overdue rent or being unemployed. In 1962 alone, they managed to create legendary heroes like Thor, The Hulk, Ant-Man and Spider-Man.

Spider-Man in particular became Marvel's signature hero. Lee said he got the idea for the character when he was searching for inspiration and saw a fly crawling on a wall. He thought it would be bizarre if he invented a superhero that could do the same thing. Tossing around names like Fly-Man and Insect-Man, he eventually came to Spider-Man, and invented the relatable worldwide icon that Peter Parker is today.

He became the company's editorial director and publisher in 1972 and secured cameos in almost every film involving their characters. He never truly achieved his dream to become a great American novelist. In fact, he once said that he used to feel embarrassed because he was "just a comic-book writer", while he saw others around him building bridges or working with medicine. I hope he had a chance to grasp the depth of connection he had with millions of fans around the world, whose lives he profoundly impacted with the beloved characters he created and inspired. He essentially shaped the foundations of the childhoods of several readers and gave them a safe haven to escape to when they felt down. It's hard to imagine Marvel without him, but the legacy he left upon us will never burn out. Godspeed, Stan. Excelsior!

Sources: <https://nypost.com/2018/11/12/stan-lee-life-story-is-better-than-any-comic-book/>
<http://www.thedrive.com/the-war-zone/24869/stan-lee-fought-the-nazis-as-a-us-army-playwright-during-wwii>



Simran Shina Kumar, 10

A Change of Colours

If the tectonic plates of the footballing world could ever shift, they did so on the 10th of July. After much speculation, it was announced that 5 time Ballon D'or winner, Cristiano Ronaldo, would be joining Juventus from Real Madrid in a transfer fee rising to approximately €112 Million. The move changed the power structure in European football as Los Blancos, the Champions of Europe for the last 3 consecutive years lost their talisman and all-time top scorer.

Ronaldo has had a long history of love-hate with the top brass in Madrid, as well as their brutally unforgiving and unpredictable fans. The glorious 9 run spell included 450 goals and 13 trophies, although the famed number 7 had on numerous occasions expressed dissatisfaction at his treatment by the club management and supporters.

Ronaldo was famously applauded by Juventus fans for his spectacular bicycle kick goal against them in the month of April and it seems that the appreciative gesture by the Bianconeri faithful had resonated with the Portuguese, as he highlighted it as one of the reasons behind him choosing the Italian club in furtherance of his career.



With the addition of one of the best players in the world, Juventus have solidified themselves as strong contenders for the crown of 'The Kings of Europe' and a treble for the club no longer appears to be a distant fantasy. They currently lead the Italian Serie A by 6 points and have one foot in the door for the knockout stage of the Champions League. On the other hand, life without CR7 has been tumultuous for the Spanish giants, who languish in 6th place of the La Liga standings at the time of writing this article. They suffered a humiliating 5-1 loss to rivals Barcelona in the much anticipated El Clasico.

Will Real Madrid pick themselves up after the loss of their pivotal forward, or will the loss prove to be too much for them to handle? Will Ronaldo be able to play his prime game without the support of his former teammates? Such questions sit at the forefront of us football fanatics' minds as we eagerly watch to see what the future has in store for both of these teams.

Advait Sinha, 12

बाल दिवस

सन् १९५९ से लेकर आज तक, हर वर्ष भारत में बाल दिवस का उत्सव मनाया जाता है। भारत के प्रथम प्रधान मंत्री, पंडित जवाहरलाल नेहरू मानते थे कि बच्चों को नन्ही कलियों के समान, अत्यंत प्रेम के साथ पालना चाहिए, क्योंकि वे न केवल कल के नागरिक बनेंगे परंतु हमारे देश का भविष्य हैं। सन् १९६४ में उनकी मृत्यु के बाद सर्वसम्मति से निर्णय लिया गया कि बाल दिवस को २० नवंबर पर नहीं बल्कि उनके जन्मदिन १४ नवंबर को मनाया जाएगा। बच्चों की शिक्षा, देखभाल एवं अधिकारों के प्रति जागरूकता बढ़ाने के लिए यह उत्सव मनाया जाता है। चाचा नेहरू ने बड़ी ही लगन से बच्चों के कल्याण, शिक्षा एवं विकास के लिए काम किया। देश की युवा पीढ़ी और उनके विकास को उन्होंने प्राथमिकता दी और इसी कारण उन्होंने विभिन्न शिक्षण संस्थाएँ खड़े किए जैसे कि "ए.आई.आई.एम.एस.", "आई.आई.टी." और "आई.आई.एम."।



ग्रामीण, वंचितों एवं गरीब बच्चों की मुफ्त शिक्षा, जो केवल एक सपना था, उनके शासनवाधि में उन्होंने साकार किया। इसी कारण से इस दिवस की इतनी महत्ता है क्योंकि यह हमें न केवल बच्चों के कल्याण की ओर काम करने को प्रेरित करती है परंतु बच्चों को भी याद दिलाया जाता है कि वह देश का भविष्य है और देश के विकास के लिए काम करना उनका कर्तव्य है।

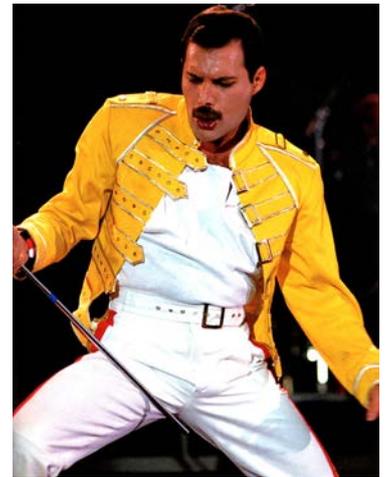
सहेज कौर, ११

THE SHOW MUST GO ON...

You may know him as the lead vocalist of the rock band Queen or the writer and singer of globally renowned, loved and celebrated songs like Bohemian Rhapsody and We Are the Champions, or even as one of the finest voices in the history of popular music. However, you may not know him as Farrokh Bulsara, a man of Parsi descent born and brought up in Zanzibar and India before embarking upon his journey to becoming one of the most legendary artists of all time.

Freddie Mercury led a life that was dynamic and zestful, a reflection of his own persona. His passion for music emerged when he was just a schoolboy in the town of Panchgani, where he was the lead singer and pianist of a band known as the Hectics. After acquiring an education at the collegiate level he delved into his musical career.

The year was 1970. Mercury joined guitarist Brian May and drummer Roger Taylor, later followed by bassist John Deacon and gave their troop the name 'Queen' admiring the regality, strength and universality that strung along with it. While the group was known for its worldwide commercial success, Freddie Mercury on his own was highly admired and looked up to for his technique and astonishing four octave vocal range. So much, that his voice was the subject of a study in 2016 in which researchers tried to understand what made it so unique and appealing. He also put out two solo albums and a few singles.



"The best virtuoso rock 'n' roll singer of all time. He could sing anything in any style. He could change his style from line to line and, God, that's an art. And he was brilliant at it." - Roger Daltrey (lead singer of The Who) on Freddie Mercury.

Although a rock star that was able to light up the cosmos with his astonishing abilities, Mercury believed in making an opera out of each and every performance. He was infamous for the theatrics and drama that he brought onto the stage that gave his performances edge as he shocked and amazed his audience with his grandeur and majesty, doing complete and total justice to the name of their band. His command over the stage stood second to none. One performance in particular that changed the course of history was his performance at Live Aid – a charitable event for the benefit of the victims of the ongoing Ethiopian Famine- his band mates and he stole the show.

In spite of his Asian roots, Mercury was able to excel in the music industry even when racism was at its peak. He made sure he lived his life to the fullest- though the chalice would overflow more often than not- but like any other, it had its fair share of obstacles. Mercury, being Asian and a bisexual on a global platform, faced the brutality of racists and homophobes, especially in the United States of America. In fact, a shocking instance took place during the live performance of their album 'The Game' where members of the audience threw razors onto the stage in an apparent attempt to get Mercury to shave off his moustache to "look less gay". Bassist John Deacon himself claimed that Mercury's appearance was isolating their audience in the United States because of widespread anger against homosexuals. Mercury developed long-term relationships with both men and women. When he came out to his fiancée as bisexual he was instead told he was gay, highlighting the big misconception of bisexuality then.

In 1991 Freddie Mercury passed away after struggling with his diagnosis of HIV/AIDS; one of the first few rock stars to die at the hands of that disease that was almost like an epidemic back then. After his demise, his band members founded 'The Mercury Phoenix Trust' and organized 'The Freddie Mercury Tribute Concert for AIDS Awareness' to raise money for AIDS research which had not been widely medically examined.

Instances from Mercury's personal life lay emphasis on the difficult and stigmatized times back then and shed light upon the long way we have come. While Queen still remains an active band, Freddie Mercury's legacy still stands strong- his musical talent and powerful persona celebrated globally by different generations even decades later.

"An extraordinary rock star who rushed across our cultural landscape like a comet shooting across the sky." - Elizabeth Taylor on Mercury.

Harnoor Singh, 11

दिल्ली की बढ़ती प्रदूषण

गत २/३ सालों से प्रदूषण ने दिल्लीवासियों के लिए घातक समस्या का एक दैत्य रूप ले लिया है। इससे दिल्ली के निवासियों की नाक में दम हो गया है। डबल्यू. एच. ओ. की २०१८ में प्रकाशित हुई रिपोर्ट के अनुसार दिल्ली विश्व के सर्वाधिक सात अति-प्रदूषित शहरों में से एक है। इस प्रदूषण का मुख्य कारण क्या है: गाड़ियाँ, पटाखे या पंजाब व हरियाणा में कृषि डंठल का प्रज्वलन?

दिल्ली में अक्टूबर - नवंबर में अचानक वर्धित वायु प्रदूषण दिल्ली से नहीं अपितु दिल्ली के बाहर से आती है। मैंने अपनी परिकल्पना को साबित करने के लिये दिल्ली की 'एअर क्वालिटी इंडेक्स' से रीडिंग दिवाली के एक दिन पहले और एक दिन बाद में ली। इन अंकों के अनुसार प्रदूषण दिवाली के कारण करीब २०% ऊपर जाता है पर डंठल जलाने के समय प्रदूषण करीब ८००% बढ़ता है। अक्टूबर के 'एअर क्वालिटी इंडेक्स' से हमें यह पता चलता है कि प्रदूषण अगस्त से करीब १०००% बढ़ गया है। इससे यह साबित होता है कि बढ़ते 'पी एम २.५' का मुख्य योगदायक डंठलो का जलना है।



दिल्ली एक छोटा सा शहर है जो चारों तरफ से कृषि प्रधान राज्यों से घिरा हुआ है। ये राज्य अक्टूबर - नवंबर के समय दिल्ली की तरफ प्रदूषित हवा भेजते हैं। 'एन सी आर' में बहुत ऊँची इमारतें हैं जो इस हवा को फँसा लेती हैं। यह हवा अपने-आप में तो जहरीली है ही, साथ ही साथ यहाँ फँसकर और नुकसानदायक भी हो जाती है। अतः दिल्ली की हवा हर मिनट और असहनीय हो रही है। दिल्ली के निवासियों के लिए यह बुरी किस्मत की बात है कि दीपावली भी अक्टूबर - नवंबर में आती है। ना तो दिवाली दिल्ली में प्रदूषण लाती है और ना ही गाड़ियाँ। डंठल का जलना ही प्रदूषण का मुख्य कारण है।

कारण जो भी हो, प्रदूषण चूटकी बजाने से तो जाने नहीं वाला। हम निम्नलिखित सावधानियाँ बरतने से स्वयं नुकसान से बच सकते हैं। हानिकारक 'एअर क्वालिटी इंडेक्स' के समय भाग-दौड़ नहीं करनी चाहिए। इसके आलवा, अगर हम पेड़ लगाएँ तो वे प्रदूषण को कम करने में मदद करेंगे। हमें अपने पड़ोसियों, घरवालों, व आस-पास के सारे लोगों को प्रदूषण रोकने के तरीके बताने चाहिए व भारत के हर कोने संदेश पहुँचाना चाहिए कि प्रदूषण बंद हो सके।

The Dragon Stone "This is it," mumbled Leena. "The final obstacle course to The Dragon Stone. This will be tough and will be intense but I am going to rule the world." The Dragon Stone was an ancient object of the Vikings and found by Barnabe Ragnuk and if used for bad deeds, the world could be under jeopardy. As soon as Leena entered the obstacles, there were tiles with animals drawn on them. Leena stepped on all the correct tiles, passed the monkey bars without falling in the fire, made a tangram cat and figured out which bottle contained poison. As she opened a door which she didn't remember seeing, she realised she was at the final obstacle. The Sphinx Riddle. There was a giant Sphinx which started questioning, "What is easy to lose but hard to find?" asked the Sphinx. Leena thought for a while and then looked at her nails and replied, "A good manicure." "That is wrong!" rumbled the Sphinx as he pushed a lever. The ground under Leena suddenly disappeared. She screamed as she fell and the next minute she found herself on some rocks and saw that her right shoe was missing. She also saw a chest lying nearby. She hurriedly opened up the chest and saw with disappointment that it was a trunk of shoes with no matching ones. She chose a shoe but when she put it on she realised it was a chest of left shoes and went home saying to herself, "Going home with two left shoes is definitely better than going home bare foot." **Amyra Pasricha V - B**

The Foot Monster It was a nice and cool day. Neither was it too hot, nor too cold, just the right weather for a leisurely Sunday stroll in the park. The house was more or less silent, except the staircase was pounding under the rushed footsteps. The boy was on the move, sprinting to his room to wear his sneakers. But they just weren't there! He searched every nook and cranny of his room, but to his horror, they just weren't there! "Probably that irritating sister of mine must have kept them somewhere," Jack thought. By this time you may have guessed that the boy rushing up the steps is called Jack. "I will just take a quick peek into her room," he thought again. It was six in the morning, and if Jack was caught opening his sister's closet without her permission, he would be grounded for a week, and that doesn't sound good at all, does it? He anxiously tip-toed into his sister's room. There he found brand new military sneakers! "They seem totally my size, I think I could borrow them for an hour or so," he thought. Exhilarated to try those sneakers, he carried the shoes, one each in his hand. But when he began to try them, he discovered in part dismay part horror, that they were both left foot sneakers! "I'll just go bare foot," he thought. When he went out, he noticed that dew on the grass shone like an emerald. He felt nice and cool. So far he was grateful to be walking in the garden barefoot, not knowing what was coming ahead. As he walked further and deeper into the park, he saw towering before him a humongous creature with two horns that he smelt of rotten eggs! He was wearing socks which looked about a hundred years old. His feet were the size of a fully grown elephant, and his stomach was as big as a country cottage. "Who are you?" Jack asked him. The creature replied, "I am the Foot Monster. I eat children who walk barefeet!" Jack felt bonechilling fear, and sprinted back to his room and locked the door. Jack managed to escape from the monster, but the stench of that filthy creature gave him a headache. He thought to himself that "Leaving home with two left sneakers was definitely better than going barefoot!"

Information Report - Submarines

Submarines are vessels that can operate underwater. Some are part of a nation's Navy. In warfare they attack enemy ships and submarines. Submarines used for attacking ships and other submarines are called hunter-killers. Special submarines called ballistic missile submarines are propelled by nuclear power and equipped with nuclear missiles each powerful enough to destroy a city. Some submarines are used to repair cables and some to explore the sea bed. Usually they are called submersibles. Boats intend to operate under water were first designed some 400 years ago. But it was not until 1776 that a submarine was made which was a one man craft called 'The Turtle'. In 1819, an American inventor, John P. Hollander designed a submarine that ran on a petrol engine on the surface and electric batteries under water. The largest submarines have a crew of more than 150. The centre of activity in a submarine is the control room. From here, the commander gives orders, the submarine is steered and its weapons fired. He looks through a periscope in the control room. Red lighting is used at night to give the crew a sense of night and day. Submarines use many kinds of weapons, all of which are fired from underwater. Torpedoes travel to their target under water. Missiles are usually fired through torpedo tubes in containers which break open at surface. **Adhiraj Jaswal III - B**



Everyone deserves to get educated,
 Doctors, teachers, scientists all need to learn,
 Universities and schools help provide education,
 Compared to anything else education is at the top,
 Any career or daily task needs education,
 To make any country progress and develop,
 It is surely the backbone of any country,
 Outstanding effort was put by Maulana Azad,
 Nothing can beat the wealth of education. **Arika Agarwal IV - A**

Kabir Gupta V - B

दिवाली



आओ आओ!
 दिवाली की
 कथा सुनाऊंगा,
 आओ आओ!
 बुद्धि भी
 बाँटकर जाऊंगा।
 पहले जलते थे घी के दिए,
 रोशनी और खुशियाँ फैलाने
 के लिए।
 अब जलता है मोम का दिया,
 जो बढ़ाता है प्रदूषण और
 धुआँ।
 पहले जनता थी कम, पटाखे
 भी थे कम,
 प्रदूषण था कम, आँखें नहीं
 थी नम।
 बढ़ी जनता, बढ़ा प्रदूषण और
 बढ़ी गंध,
 अंत में सरकार ने पटाखों को
 कर दिया बंद।
 अकेले नहीं समूह में पटाखे
 जलाओ,
 प्रदूषण घटाओ और खूब पेड़
 पौधे उगाओ।

विवान मून्दरा ४ - ए

WORLD TODAY

the easiest way for you to ace a GK Quiz

More than 200 people are still missing and over 48 were found dead in California's deadliest wildfire on record.

Iranian Trader, Called "Sultan Of Coins", Executed For Gold Trafficking.

Florida gives voting rights to felons after they've completed their sentence.

Heavy rains and floods kill 12 people in Jordan.

During California shooting, gunman took to Instagram to post about his mental state.

Delhi Asked To Consider Ban On All Vehicles Except CNG To Curb Pollution.

Cengiz a PhD candidate at the University Of Istanbul. It has been suspected that Khashoggi was murdered and then his body dismembered before being disposed of. For more than a fortnight, the Saudi crown prince denied all claims regarding the journalist's death. In an interview with Bloomberg news, Mohammed Bin Salman said that Khashoggi had left the consulate "after a few minutes or one hour". He added saying "we have nothing to hide". The Saudi Arabian Ambassador to the United States, Prince Khaled bin Salman said that all claims were completely "false and baseless".

On October 20, Saudi Arabian state television announced that the former editor of Al - Watan newspaper had been killed in a fight inside the consulate. Two days later, Foreign Minister Adel al-Jubeir described the killing as "murder", telling Fox News "a tremendous mistake" had been made. He denied that the crown prince had ordered the killing. On October 25, the Attorney General of Saudi Arabia said that the murder was "premeditated".

Many theories have arisen regarding what was done with the body of the journalist, from dismembering of the body or disposing of the remains in the Belgrad Forest near Istanbul to the disintegration of the body in acids. At first, it was rumoured that the murder was recorded on Khashoggi's Apple Watch. It is also believed that Saudi Arabia has sent a team to take care of this problem including a specialist in toxicology and chemistry.

This story is multifaceted- denial, publicity, murder, and most importantly skepticism, comparable to any show that wins the Emmy in the Drama Category, this is "The Khashoggi Chronicles".

Udhay Aman Chopra, 8

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION

In 1978, a Supreme Court ruling first allowed universities to consider race as one of many factors in admissions- but forbade quotas. Recently, Harvard University has been accused of effectively setting a restrictive quota for the number of Asian-American applicants it accepts, a claim it entirely denies. The spotlighted case asserts that the university's admissions process amounts to an illegal quota system, in which approximately the same percentage of Asian-Americans, African-Americans, Hispanics as well as white students have been admitted every year, despite variations in application rates and qualifications.

In November of 2014, Edward Blum, a white conservative filed a federal lawsuit against Harvard University suggesting that affirmative action, a mechanism intended to help minorities such as Asian-Americans, is in fact being used to harm them. His goal is for a college-admissions process in which there would be no race or ethnicity boxes to check, and students would be evaluated more or less anonymously. With this agenda, he formed Students for Fair Admissions, a membership organization which sued the university on behalf of its members.

The plaintiffs allege that Harvard holds Asian-American applicants to a higher standard than those of other races and resorts to racial balancing to shape its incoming classes, in violation of the civil rights law. The university claims to not racially discriminate against any applicants whatsoever, and defended its "holistic" admissions policy, which considers race as one factor among many and has been held up as a model by the Supreme Court. The university doesn't hide its desire of a diverse class each year, but denies using racial quotas to achieve it.

Edward Blum might be fighting for the rights of minorities on paper, but according to lawyers and other activists, the Asian-American community is being used as a pawn in a chess game, around limited resources in elite sectors of American society. Blum's real target is to discontinue the consideration of race in any decision by a university or a government. His lawsuit is truly aimed towards less power and influence for groups that are disproportionately affected by the disadvantages of poverty and low incomes, but is just camouflaged with fake solidarity with Asian-Americans.

Sumona Sarin, 11

THE KHASHOGGI CHRONICLES



On Tuesday, October 2, Jamal Khashoggi entered the Saudi Arabian Consulate in Istanbul. He never left.

He was born in the holy city of Medina and grew up very close to the Al Saud family. Jamal Khashoggi was a prominent Saudi Journalist who was the editor of Al - Watan, the Saudi state newspaper, but was removed from his post when he allowed a columnist to criticise Saudi scholar Ibn Taymiyyah. In 2007, he was reinstated as the editor of Al - Watan but was dismissed again. For decades, he was close to the Saudi royal family and also served as an adviser to the government. In June 2017, Khashoggi fled Saudi Arabia and relocated to the United States. He was a frequent writer for the 'Global Opinion' column of the Washington Post and often criticised Crown Prince Mohammed Bin Salman.

At 01:14 pm Turkish Standard Time on October 2 2018, Jamal Khashoggi was seen entering the Saudi Arabian Consulate in Istanbul. There was no CCTV footage that recorded him exiting the consulate. A few days before, he went to the consulate to sign documents regarding his marriage to Hatice



WHAT 'CHILLING ADVENTURES OF SABRINA' CHARACTER ARE YOU?

1. If you were asked to sign the book of the beast (promptly handing over your soul to the dark lord) and gain magical powers in return would you do it?

- I need to think about it.
- Of course. It is my destiny.
- No way.
- I'm not quite sure to be honest.

2. Choose a form of magic to master

- Transfiguration
- Necromancy
- Conjuration
- Does being a superhero count?



3. What nightmares do you usually have?

- About my future
- I don't have nightmares. And if I did, I wouldn't tell you.
- Disappointing people I love
- Small dark spaces and weird creatures.

4. If you had to describe yourself in one word what would it be?

- Witty
- Clever
- Brave
- Compassionate

If You Got... Mostly A's you are Ambrose Spellman



You are funny and witty and always up for fun, but are also the voice of reason amongst your friends. You could be the life of any party (if it wasn't for that house arrest thing) You enjoy some adventure but know when to draw the line. You are fiercely loyal.

If You Got... Mostly B's you are Prudence Night

You are smart and cunning and sure know how to intimidate people when the need arises. You carry yourself with grace and dignity but usually hide your feelings from others. You always protect those you love – as long as they remember to do the same for you.



If You Got... Mostly C's you are Sabrina Spellman



You are smart and outgoing but are torn between two worlds and are desperately trying to create balance in your life. No matter, you stay loyal to your family and friends and stand up for what you believe in, even when it gets tough. You have a bit of a rebellious streak and a knack for attracting trouble, but you just can't seem to help it!

If You Got... Mostly D's you are Harvey Kinkle

You've been through a lot, but it's made you loving and kind. You are charming and inherently a good person. You are always ready to be there for your friends even if it means facing your darkest fears. You can be quite naïve. But basically, you have no idea what's going on. At all. Ever.



Sanah Kapur, 11

दीवाली शब्द खोज

ध	र	ना	उ	त	न	गी	अ
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स	र	म	व	त	रं	गो	ली
श्रुं	न	ची	आ	इ	स	की	म
दि	या	ण्डी	ल	स्सी	र	इ	त
त्य	ष	उ	त्स	व	प	ता	शे

लक्ष्मी, रंगोली, दिया, उत्सव, धनतेरस, अयोध्या, मिठाई, तोरन, पताशे

US MIDTERMS WEAKEN TRUMP

Democrats gained a majority the House of Representatives while the Republicans kept the Senate in the US mid-term elections, changing the balance of power between President Trump and the Democrats. The Democrat takeover of the House marks the end of Trump's control over all three branches of the



government. The American people have woken up and rebelled. The elections' results are a warning to authoritarian leaders around the world that using fear and division will not work forever.

Now that Trump has lost the House he can no longer pass any law he wants, although he continues to control the executive and the judiciary. With their new majority in the House the Democrats can now investigate Trump and force him to testify before Congress. They can also pass their own bills.

The American people have rejected Trump's white extremist ideology. They voted in the first two Muslim women in the congress, the first openly gay governor and the first two Native American congresswomen.

This is a lesson to all the strong men out there, like India's Narendra Modi and Brazil's Jair Bolsonaro: Fear and polarization will eventually generate a backlash. One day the people will challenge you.

Tara Jing Gopinath, 9

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