

GIVE IT A THOUGHT!

THE LOSS OF THE LIP

By Mitail Kumar

COVID-19 has brought along with it an entire array of problems and crises. I will not use this platform to throw light on all of them as enough has been said already. My concern here is rather more literary and very close to my heart. As an English teacher, I feel that the disease has, mercilessly, snatched away an entire chunk of expression from the English Language. Let me be a little more explicit.

COVID-19 has, inadvertently, caused the loss of the 'lip' in the field of English expression. It is not only the disease but its tool of protection which is causing me such agony. Yes, your guess is right. By

the word tool, I mean the glorious MASK which has become the sole means of our existence and survival today. It adorns our faces and we sport it like armour, our shield against the virus. This mask has



'wiped away the smile' from our lips and hidden it for good.

Courtesy of COVID-19, now we will never get to see a 'lopsided grin' or a 'sneering lip'. Students

will never know the use of the expression 'trembling lip' and the plethora of emotions that it can convey because of the simple reason that they will never get to see it! After all, you cannot relate to something which you have not seen. 'Reading the lip' will become a thing of the past and a 'stiff upper lip' will make no sense. A heart-throbbing 'rakish smile', which could set hearts on fire, will never be seen again. I am sure that when Shakespeare had written 'Teach not thy lip such scorn, for it was made for kissing lady, not for such contempt', he had never in his wildest imagination thought that such a plight could befall the human race!

COVID-19 has ensured that now children grow up with the mask. Sadly, they will never really

understand the significance of a 'heartwarming smile'. Lips will forever be hidden behind the mask and the smile will be dead and buried forever. Humanity is fighting the present pandemic with grit and determination but I just wonder...

Will our resilience bear fruit? Will the Mona Lisa ever smile again?



Want to boost your general knowledge? Take this exciting test. Rest assured, it will really test you!

Q1: Which one of the following is not needed in a nuclear fission reactor?

- A: Moderator
B: Coolant
C: Accelerator
D: Control device

- B: heating above 100°C
C: passing an electric current
D: just keeping it for 10 min

- electrons from outside
C: it has lost some of its electrons
D: None of the above

SCIENCE

Theme: Chemistry

Q2: When items or jewellery made of metals such as copper or nickel are placed in a solution having a salt of gold, a thin film of gold is deposited by

- A: cooling to below 0°C

Q3: A body is charged negatively. It implies that

- A: it has lost some of its protons

- B: it has acquired some

Q4: Contact lenses

are made from

- A: polyvinyl chloride

- B: polystyrene

- C: Lucite

- D: Teflon

ANSWERS:

1. C, 2. C,
3. B, 4. C

Winner: Collaborative Writing Part 2

Bringing out the best in us!



"Be strong now, because things will get better. It might be stormy now but it can't rain forever."

Hello! We are Radhya and Mishka. We know this lockdown is a hard time but it is only to protect us from COVID-19. We also think that this lockdown is bringing out the best in us as we can spend more time with our parents. Now, our parents are working from home and so are we! We spend time with our parents by playing indoor games like chess, carrom, watching mythological tales like Ramayana, Mahabharata and become more knowledgeable by reading books.

We can see the interesting constellations by recognising them. We are becoming more thoughtful about nature and

know more about how to care for stray animals. We can also enjoy some interesting movies with our parents. We are becoming more aware of what's happening in the world by watching news. We have also become more creative by sketching and colouring.

In short this lockdown has ensured that we enjoy - "the air we never breathed, the chirping of birds we never heard, the sky we never saw and above of all our family whom we missed."

But it also makes us a little sad that we can't meet our teachers and friends, we are unable to go to the park to play and have to stay indoors. We pray and hope that the lockdown gets over soon and we can get back to our normal lives. Also hope COVID-19 is defeated world over through a vaccine. Stay home stay safe.

By: Mishka and Radhya, class 4, Nirmal Bhartia School, Delhi

Quiz time

GENERAL KNOWLEDGE

Q.1) Which actor is playing Kapil Dev in the upcoming sports film '83'?

- A. Ranbir Kapoor
B. Ranveer Singh
C. Hrithik Roshan
D. Salman Khan

- C. Hiriyur
D. Hosadurga

Q.3) Who was the chief guest at India's Republic Day celebrations 2020?

- A. Pakistan PM Imran Khan
B. Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro
C. US President Donald Trump
D. Former US President Barack Obama

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B. Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro
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- A. Challakere
B. Channagiri

ANSWERS

1. B) Ranveer Singh 2. A) Challakere
3. B) Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro

CHECK YOUR APTITUDE

- 1) A cycle is bought for ₹900 and sold for ₹1080, find the gain percent?
A. 16 2/3%, B. 20%
C. 18%, D. 25%

- 2) An article is bought for ₹675 and sold for ₹900, find the gain percent?

- sold for ₹900, find the gain percent?
A. 16 2/3%
B. 30%
C. 33 1/3%
D. 33 1/6%

- 4) The cost price of a radio is ₹1500 and it was sold for ₹1230, find the loss %?
A. 18%, B. 9%
C. 15%, D. 6%

ANSWER: 1. 20%, 2. 33 1/3%, 3. 16 2/3%, 4. 18%

COMMONLY MISPRONOUNCED WORD

ENGLISH VINGLISH



Mispronunciation

How you pronounce it: mis-pro-nun-see-ay-shun

How it's really pronounced: mis-pro-noun-see-ay-shun

Wikipedia

How you pronounce it: Wick-i-pee-dee-a

How it's really pronounced: Wee-key-pee-dee-a

Forte

How you pronounce it: For-tay

How it's really pronounced: Fort



How it's really pronounced: pre-rog-a-tive

Larvae

How you pronounce it: lar-vee

How it's really pronounced: not lar-vey

Alumnae

How you pronounce it: a-lum-nee

How it's really pronounced: a-lum-nay

Disastrous

How you pronounce it: di-zas-ter-es

How it's really pronounced: di-zas-ter-es



EDIFICE

KNOWLEDGE BANK

Delaware Aqueduct

This aqueduct in the New York City water supply system is 13.5-ft

wide and 137-km-long. It takes water from the Rondout, Cannonsville, Neversink, and Pepacton reservoirs on river Hudson's west bank through the Chelsea pump station into the West Branch, Kensico, and Hillview reservoirs on the east bank, ending at Hillview in Yonkers, New York. Constructed between 1939 and 1945, it carries approximately half of New York City's water supply of 1.3 billion US gallons per day.



Farming, my passion

SCHOOL IS COOL

Let's applaud our little heroes!



Ojas makes a pit for composting banana leaves



Ojas with his banana plant

I have been passionate about becoming a farmer since my early childhood. When I was very small, we used to live at the Defence Institute of Advanced Technology (DIAT), where we had a huge backyard. There, I used to grow vegetables, ornamental plants, and medicinal plants in my garden along with my parents. We never felt the need to buy the vegetables as our garden provided us with ample supply to manage our daily needs.

I enjoyed learning about the soil texture, moisture content, water intake and nutritional requirement of different plants. But eventually, we

had to shift in an apartment due to my parent's job. In the apartment system, space was a big constraint for growing different plants. Plants are like my family members; so I cannot stay without them. Hence, I decided to grow them in my balcony.

STUDENT'S PEN

One day, I bought a new baby banana plant and potted it. I used to take proper care of it. But soon, I observed that the plant is not growing properly. I analysed that the stunted growth was a result of less nutrition, soil,

and space constraint. Therefore, I thought to plant it in my school.

I spoke to my principal Vandana Joshi about planting the banana plant in the school and she happily agreed. Now, there was another big problem - How to transfer the plant from the pot to school? But our school gardener, Dange kaka helped me in this and I was able to plant it in our school. After that, we recorded all the milestones of its growth.

My science teacher, Smita Gore informed me of the scientific classification of the banana plant i.e. Kingdom: Planate, Order: Zingiberales,

Family: Musaceae and Genus: Musa. The bunch of bananas was very heavy - about 45 kg in weight, so we supported it with bamboos. Then after two months, we separated that bunch of bananas from the plant and kept it in a wooden box for ripening. We cherished the bananas with the school staff, students, and my friends and family members. This is just a beginning. Now, I have a new member in my family; and that is a baby coconut plant!

- Ojas Kale, class V, Vidya Pratishthan's Nanded City Public School

Behind the parents stands the school, and behind the teacher the home

-Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam

Dear Parents,

A parent is a teacher at home, a teacher is a parent at school and our children are the centre of our universe. We, teachers and parents are mentors of our students, for we have the responsibility of raising them well-balanced and well-adjusted and making their situation ready.

In this present situation, people are appreciating our health workers, police department, someone doing the social service of providing basic necessities to the needy. But we all are



EDUCATOR'S PEN

forgetting to appreciate our children! They are the ones who have been staying home for more than they have ever known in their lives. Their whole world has been turned upside down because

of the unplanned lockdown. They cannot do their favourite activities of playing in open spaces or grounds with their friends.

They cannot enjoy their friends' birthday parties. Schools are restricted places for them - something they wouldn't have imagined in their wildest dreams. Still every day, they get up and carry on. This is commendable and requires to be applauded. They are the real heroes, today, tomorrow and always.

CM International School, Balewadi too started the academic year 2020-21 with online classes because education can never be put under any lockdown. The students acquainted well to this new mode of learning in no time; and because of

their adaptability and enthusiasm, teachers could take up the challenge and deliver successful classes.

Parents, as schools are now breaking for summer vacation, children are going to spend the whole day with you - try to make the most out of this time. Fix a routine; give them a fixed meal-time and bedtime. Do not forget to involve them in physical activities. Teach them household chores like making their beds and cleaning up their rooms. Take it as a golden opportunity to teach them life skills.

Let's be partners in the most noble act of mankind - raising our children.

- Iqbal Kaur Rana, Principal, CM International School, Pune

Thanking the Covid Warriors

The pre-primary students of The HDFC School made 'Thank you' cards and presented it to the Covid warriors as a gesture to appreciate their unflinching work in these challenging times.

The students recently presented these cards to their society's housekeeping staff, thanking them for their service.



Pre-primary students make and present 'Thank you' cards to the Covid warriors

Enjoying Study and Play from Home

PDEA's English Medium Primary School, Kharadi started online classes for students of Nursery to class VII. Teachers have worked incredibly hard in order to prepare all the study material and homework under the guidance of vice president Rajendra Ghadge, secretary Sandeep Kadam, Advocate Mohanrao Deshmukh, treasurer; L. M. Pawar, assistant secretary; A. M. Jadhav, joint assistant secretary (Admin) and principal Aruna Gulunjar.

The students reported to their online classrooms on time and efficiently learned to navigate the systems with smiles on their faces. The students' enthusiasm to learn online and try their best was commendable, and even more so, their parents' willingness to sit with younger students



Making of yummy lassi

and help them to adapt.

Fun activities are a great stress reliever. They encourage one to take a break, offer new challenges and experience, allowing one to explore oneself and talents. Apart from studies, the principal decided every day to give some activities to children so they can spend quality time with their parents, and also, learn some new skills.

Activities like draw a card, planting seeds, making lassi etc. have helped students to enjoy while building their self confidence.