Sometimes it's the journey that teaches you a lot about your destination.
Vidyashala is a knowledge sharing portal run by a group of students of Amity Business School. Our aim is to consolidate all the resources into a centralized platform. Started as an IT Project, now it has grown into a useful resource sharing platform.

**Our Services include:**

- Class Notes
- Discussion Forums
- Videos
- Blogs
- Counselling

We act as an enabler to get quality class notes, presentations, reports, research papers, blogs & videos for reference.

We welcome everyone to share their content, academic as well as non academics, through our platform.

We intend to extend this initiative to different schools and universities.

Help student community!!!

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admin@vidyashala.in
content@vidyashala.in

@teamvidyashala /vidyashala.in
AMITY UNIVERSITY

VISION
Building a nation and the society through providing total, integrated and transcultural quality education and be the global front runner in value education and nurturing the talent in which modernity blends with tradition.

MISSION
To provide education at all levels in all disciplines of modern times and the futuristic and emerging frontier areas of knowledge, and research and to develop the overall personality of students by making them not only excellent professionals but also good individuals, with understanding and regards for human values, pride in their heritage and culture, a sense of right and wrong and yearning for perfection and imbibe attributes of courage of conviction and action.
Taking the Vision of Amity Business School forward under the guidance of

“Success doesn't mean the absence of failures... it means the attainment of ultimate objectives. It means winning the war, not every battle. Winning is an event; Being a winner is a spirit”

Dr. Ashok K. Chauhan
Founder President
Heartiest Gratitude for Supporting & Trusting
Our Efforts

Shri Atul Chauhan
President RBEF & Chancellor, Amity University Uttar Pradesh
Dear Readers,

‘Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world’

- Nelson Mandela

The aforementioned words of late Nelson Mandela inspire us to introduce new changes in the education system for continuous improvement.

Amity being forerunners in education has always been an early adopter of revolutionary ideas like ‘Choice Based Credit System’ or ‘Outcome Based Education’. Outcome-based education will change the focus of curriculum from the content to the student, as all students can learn and succeed, but not on the same day or in the same way. Through these learner centric initiatives, the perception of what it means to be truly educated will change.

This issue of Anukriti focuses on changes in various fields around the world taking you on an enlightening journey of learning, Odyssey, which will equip you to conquer success in any field of life you choose to be.

‘The roots of education are bitter, but the fruit is sweet.’

-Aristotle

Best Wishes,
Dr. Sanjeev Bansal
Meaning: “For the soul there is never birth nor death. Nor, having once been, does he ever cease to be. Soul is unborn, eternal, ever-existing and primeval. Soul is not slain when the body is slain.”

What Sri Krishna said in Bhagavat Gita reminds us that the saying ‘dust thou art, and to dust shalt thou return’ was only spoken of the body and not the soul enlightening us that while we may not be able to do anything about our materialistic body yet we can still make our lives eternal like our souls by doing our ‘karma’ - with an altruistic mind and God in our hearts.

‘Karma’ can lead us to ultimate success, as what we get served in our life is not in our hand, but what we make out of it is! Every action we take in life needs to manifest

Keeping this in mind, we present to you this year’s Anukriti focused on success and overall development, so that you may also – like all great men – leave behind your footprints in the sands of time.

Happy Reading!

Dr. Anupama Rajesh
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WASC Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC) visited AUUP from January 12-14, 2016 in connection with its accreditation and wherein the faculty members of ABS under the leadership of Dean FMS & Director ABS were actively involved in the preparation and overall coordination of the site visit.

The student interaction session with WASC was held on January 14, 2016 wherein 375 students from various institutes of Amity University including 150 students from ABS participated.

**MILITARY TRAINING CAMP**

To give the students an exposure to outdoor life in a natural habitat and to inculcate an essence of camaraderie and brotherhood amongst the students of different Amity Institutions, Military Training Camp was conducted for students of MBA Programme from January 17-22, 2016 at Manesar. It gave the participants an opportunity to understand the work ethos, and the broader details about the Armed Forces and the essentials of physical well-being and fitness. On completion of the camp, students were awarded a certificate of having attended the camp successfully.
Global Leadership Research Conference (GLRC) was organized by ABS on January 22 and 23, 2016 on the theme “Leadership, Governance and Public Policy” at Amity University, Noida. The conference theme evoked diverse narratives from researchers and corporates alike and gave them an opportunity to gain strategic advantage. The conference brought a large number of academicians, practitioners, researchers and experts from all across India.

FDP ON PLAGIARISM AND REFERENCE MANAGEMENT

ABS conducted a one day Faculty Development Programme on Plagiarism And Reference Management for all faculty members and research scholars on February 23, 2016. Dr. R C Gaur (University librarian Jawahar Lal Nehru University, New Delhi, a Fulbright scholar and PhD in Library and Information Science), Mr. Sanjeev K. Sunny and Mr. Daulat Jotwani (Director- Library Services, Amity university) were the resource persons for the FDP.

The objective of this workshop was to develop a comprehensive and holistic understanding of the thought of plagiarism and reference management in today’s dynamic world of academia and corporate.
TAIWAN DELEGATION VISIT

A delegation from Taiwan headed by Dr. Arthur Chen, Dean, College of Management, National Yunlin University of Science and Technology (YunTech) along with 18 students visited ABS during January 18-19, 2016. During the visit, a forum on “India-Taiwan Economic Development and Education Cooperation” was conducted. The topics of the various sessions were Understanding India and Taiwan, India-Taiwan Economic Cooperation and Introduction to Taiwan Education Centre.

PROUD MOMENT FOR ABS

Amity Business School is ranked in top ten Business schools in India (9th Position) including IIMs for the third time in succession as per Times B-School rankings published in Times of India dated February 29, 2016. In addition, ABS is also ranked 4th in top 50 private B-schools in India and 3rd in top twenty north B-Schools.

In the words of Dean FMS & Director ABS Dr. Sanjeev Bansal “These superior accreditations and recognitions are steps to realise Amity’s vision of global knowledge supremacy.”
INBUSH ERA WORLD SUMMIT

INBUSH Asia’s Largest International Business Summit & Research Conference was held in Amity University from February 3-5, 2016. It witnessed the participation of around 500 dignitaries including CEOs; Vice Chancellors; 800 research papers; 3 book releases; 3 International Journals; 80 Amity Excellence awards and Agreements with Industry and leading foreign universities. The highlights of this event were: Think India Crusade; Amity NRI Networking Conclave; Amity Alumni Ball; Outlook Amity Panel Discussion; Footloose; Aistra. Dr. Anupama R. from ABS was selected for the ADMAA Research Award and it was given by Prof. Nick Petford, Vice Chancellor, North Hampton University and Dr. Gurinder Singh during the valedictory function of Inbush 2016. It was a proud moment for ABS.
The three day knowledge cum entertainment extravaganza “Amity Youth Festival 2016” started with unbridled joy, frolic and exuberance at Amity University, Noida, on February 18, 2016. During the inauguration ceremony, international artists from Korea and Tibet presented elegant and vibrant dance performances.

For the first time in AYF, seven expositions including Social Responsibility NGO Expo; Start-up & Stand up India Expo; Education & Technology Expo; Corporate Expo; Real Estate Expo; Fashion Expo and Auto Expo were also organized.
ABS embraced the new year with activities of Amity Human Value Quarter on January 29, 2016 with its first event “A Hand to the Needy” inaugurated by Dean FMS & Director ABS. It was a week long event from January 29, 2016 to February 5, 2016 where the donation cartons were kept in F-3 block, ABS for one week and all the students, faculty and staff members were invited to contribute for this noble cause. The clothes and blankets collected in that week were distributed to needy people living roadside and also given in Goonj, NGO.
LET’S PLAY HOLI!

On March 18, 2016 ABS organized “Let’s Play Holii!” at Cheshire Homes, Okhla with disabled children and adults. Around 30 Students of ABS went there to celebrate holi with colors and distributed refreshments. It indeed brought out the purpose of holi where students forgot the barriers of society and enjoyed themselves with the special children of Cheshire Homes.

NATIONAL WORKSHOP ON CASE DEVELOPMENT AND ANALYSIS

Amity Business School, the first and flagship Institute of Higher Education Of Amity Group, winner of prestigious Palmer award organized a National Workshop on “Case Development and Analysis” on 22 August, 2015.

Illuminating opening words by our very own esteemed Director, Prof.(Dr.) Sanjeev Bansal was followed by Lighting of Lamp. The Director’s words in essence set the path for upcoming discussions by guests from Industry. Prof.(Dr.) Sanjeev Bansal’s sharing of ideas on Indian history of research and Vedas intrigued and inspired many from the audience.

Subsequently there was a very knowledgeable talk on research guidance and direction for case study writing by chairperson Prof.(Dr.) J.K Sharma.
The workshop was attended by eminent personalities, who also presented their ideas. To name a few:

- **Mr. N M Raja**, retired. Senior Vice President Axis Bank, with 35 years of Banking experience.
- **Mr. D.K Valecha** retired Chief Manager with 35 years of banking experience, B Com honors, CAIIB, IIBF- NIBM Certified bank trainer.
- **Dr. Narinder Kumar Bhasin** (currently a Ph.D Scholar at ABS) with 30 years of Banking experience, a Ph.D already with degrees, PGDFM, DTIRM, Certified IIBF NIBM Bank trainer.
- **Mr. Ramesh Wahi** 39 years of Banking Experience ANZ Grindlays Bank and Standard Chartered bank.
- **Manohar Krishna Asthana** Additional General Manager (quality assurance and inspection) NTPC Ltd.
- **Mr. Amandeep Dhingara**, Founder-Transformation Quotient, 8+ years of experience in field Marketing.

Three case studies were discussed in detail by speakers with lessons for efficient management solutions. A group of 7 students attended the workshop from Gyan Bharti Institute of Technology, Meerut also.

Vote of Thanks was given by Convener of Workshop – Dr. Anupama R who also took a session to guide the students with her presentation about crucial acronyms from research fraternity that can be boon to researcher’s identity and future growth.

The participants of this enlightening workshop left premises at 5.15 p.m. with a memento of Amity Business School journal and Case Study booklet.
12 Signs You Have an Entrepreneurial Mindset

If you were pressed to describe the stereotypical entrepreneur, which words would you use? Passionate? Dedicated? Optimistic? Sure, those apply.

But insecure and troublemaker are more accurate, according to ‘treps who know a success when they see one. Do the following traits, characteristics and quirks describe you? Well then, you might be an entrepreneur (at heart, if not yet in practice).

1. You take action.

Barbara Corcoran, founder of The Corcoran Group and co-star of TV’s Shark Tank, says people who have a concept but not necessarily a detailed strategy are more likely to have that entrepreneurial je ne sais quoi. “I hate entrepreneurs with beautiful business plans,” she says.

Corcoran’s recommendation? “Invent as [you] go,” rather than spending time writing a plan at your desk. In fact, she believes that those who study business may be prone to overanalyzing situations rather than taking action.

2. You’re scared.

“Many entrepreneurs judged as ambitious are really insecure underneath,” Corcoran says. When evaluating potential investments, she adds, “I want someone who is scared to death.” Those who are nervous about failing can become hyperfocused and willing to do whatever it takes to succeed. If you feel insecure, use that emotion to drive you to achieve your business goals.

3. You’re resourceful.

“One of my favorite TV shows growing up was MacGyver,” confides Tony Hsieh, lifelong entrepreneur and CEO of Las Vegas-based Zappos, “because he never had exactly the resources he needed but would somehow figure out how to make everything work out. Ultimately, I think that’s what being an entrepreneur is all about.” It’s not about having enough resources, he explains, but being resourceful with what you do have.

4. You obsess over cash flow.

Prior to founding Brainshark, a Waltham, Mass.-based provider of sales productivity software, Joe Gustafson bootstrapped a venture called Relational Courseware. “All I ever thought about was cash flow and liquidity,” he admits. “There were seven times in [the company’s] eight-year history when I was days or hours away from payroll and didn’t have enough cash to make it.”

How did he respond? “In the early days, you could step up and put expenses on your personal credit card, but that can only go so far,” he says. “You need cash.”

5. You don’t ask for permission.

Stephane Bourque, founder and CEO of Vancouver, British Columbia-based Incognito Software, says true entrepreneurial types are more likely to
ask for forgiveness than permission, forging ahead to address the opportunities or issues they recognize.

“Entrepreneurs are never satisfied with the status quo,” says Bourque, who discovered he was not destined for the corporate world when his new and better ways of doing things were interpreted as unwanted criticism by his bosses. Now, he says, “I wish my employees would get into more trouble,” because it shows they are on the lookout for opportunities to improve themselves or company operations.

6. You’re fearless.

Where most avoid risk, entrepreneurs see potential, says Robert Irvine, chef and host of Food Network’s Restaurant: Impossible. True ’treps are not afraid to leverage their houses and run up their credit card balances to amass the funds they need to create a new venture. In some ways, he says, they are the ultimate optimists, because they believe that their investments of time and money will eventually pay off.

7. You welcome change.

“If you have only one acceptable outcome in mind, your chances of making it are slim,” cautions Rosemary Camposano, president and CEO of Silicon Valley chain Halo Blow Dry Bars. She says that if you are willing to listen, your clients will show you which of your products or services provide the most value.

Her original vision for Halo was part blow-dry bar, part gift shop, “to help busy women multitask,” she explains. But she quickly learned that the gift shop was causing confusion about the nature of her business, so she took it out and replaced it with an extra blow-dry chair, and things took off. Smart entrepreneurs constantly evolve, tweaking their business concepts in response to market feedback.

8. You love a challenge.

When confronted by problems, many employees try to pass the buck. Entrepreneurs, on the other hand, rise to the occasion. “Challenges motivate them to work harder,” says Jeff Platt, CEO of the Sky Zone Indoor Trampoline Park franchise. “An entrepreneur doesn’t think anything is insurmountable … He looks adversity in the eye and keeps going.”

Candace Nelson, founder of Sprinkles Cupcakes, agrees. Despite naysayers who questioned her idea for a bakery in the midst of the carb-fearing early-2000s, she persevered and now has locations in eight states. In fact, she was one of the first entrepreneurs in a business that became an ongoing craze, sparking numerous copycats.

9. You consider yourself an outsider.

Entrepreneurs aren’t always accepted, says Vincent Petryk, founder of J.P. Licks, a Boston chain of ice-cream shops. They may be seen as opinionated, quirky and demanding—but that is not necessarily a bad thing. “They are often rejected for being different in some way, and that just makes them work harder,” Petryk says. Case in point: Rather than copying what most other ice-cream shops were doing,
including buying from the same well-known suppliers, Petryk forged his own path for J.P. Licks, developing made-from-scratch desserts in bold flavours.

10. **You recover quickly.**

It’s a popular notion that successful entrepreneurs fail fast and fail often. For Corcoran, the trick is in the speed of recovery: If you fail, resist the urge to mope or feel sorry for yourself. Don’t wallow; move on to the next big thing immediately.

11. **You listen.**

Actress Jessica Alba, co-founder and president of Santa Monica, Calif.-based The Honest Company, which sells baby, home and personal-care products, notes that “it’s important to surround yourself with people smarter than you and to listen to ideas that aren’t yours. I’m open to ideas that aren’t mine and people that know what I don’t, because I think success takes communication, collaboration and, sometimes, failure.”

12. **You focus on what matters (when you figure out what matters).**

“Entrepreneurs fall down and pick themselves up until they get it right,” says Micha Kaufman, co-founder and CEO of the fast-growth online freelance marketplace Fiverr. During Fiverr’s launch, instead of trying to deal with “an endless number of potential challenges,” Kaufman and his team focused on “the single biggest challenge every marketplace has: building liquidity. Without liquidity, there is no marketplace.”

Reetika Batra  
(MBA-GEN.)
Top 5 Consulting Intern Mistakes

I'm often asked what big mistakes interns make that prevent them from getting full-time consulting job offers.

Here are the big ones:

1) Being Arrogant - In a bid to impress co-workers and clients, some interns will talk big and alienate others. The key is in watching specific words you use to convey an idea or your tone of voice. If you say, "Well at Harvard, we did it this way instead of that way", well you immediately get labeled an *sshole and, *ssholes don't get full-time job offers. Other times, you can use the right words but if you say it in a way that is dismissive or somehow conveys you're "better than" the other person, or they are "less than" you, that's a problem too.

I've found some ex-investment bankers and ex-military people have these problems. In banking and the military, there is a more hierarchical culture. In the military, it is okay for a senior officer to insist or even demand a junior officer do something. In banking, it's fine for a more senior person to be more abrupt in dealing with an analyst. In consulting, neither is okay. In consulting, we respectfully ask for what we want (regardless of tenure) and we're polite to everyone. If you're not, you won't get a full-time offer.

Here's an example. If you are a post-MBA intern, and a full-time analyst (who is 5 years younger than you) asks if you would mind ordering dinner for the team because she's swamped and your work load is light, what would you do? In consulting, you'd say, "No problem."

When I was a Business Analyst, my engagement manager offered to order dinner for me when he knew I was busy and he wasn't. I had all the key facts in my head and I was running the deck (getting it produced, double checking it for errors, making final revisions to the details of the presentation) and he was mostly waiting for me to finish. He ordered dinner. No big deal.

2) Using Outward Confidence to Obscure Faulty Logic - Not as extreme as arrogance, but still a problem, is conveying false bravado in lieu of firm logical conclusions.

Everyone knows you're supposed to be confident in consulting. But there's a HUGE difference between being confident that you're correct vs. acting confident hoping nobody will actually check if you are correct.

Consultants have incredibly good BS detectors. If you are logically wrong but acting with great confidence, they will figure it out in less than 5 minutes and call you on it. Do that once, your job offer is gone.

It is better to be confident that you do NOT know the answer, and to explain that you will go find or figure out the answer.

As an example, with my clients I am generally either a) confident I am right
and I say so, b) confident that I don't know the answer, and express my lack of certainty with confidence, or c) confident the answer is borderline and there's no obvious right or wrong answer (in which case the decision is more a matter of preference than one based on a data-driven conclusion).

In other words, don't confuse confidence / lack of confidence with right vs. wrong. They are completely independent. Never use one to mask the other.

3) Confusing Opinions with Conclusions & Hypotheses - A conclusion is a statement you can reasonably justify with the facts. A hypothesis is an opinion that hasn't yet been validated by the facts, but is one that you think would be worth validating. An opinion is just an idea.

Never confuse or mislabel these three very different ideas!

Some interns will present an opinion as if it's a conclusion. This is a total job offer killer.

When a BCG intern offers an opinion to a client, and doesn't explicitly frame it as a hypothesis, and the client can disprove it factually, the client doesn't say you screwed up. They say BCG is incompetent.

As you can imagine, partners at BCG (and all the firms) really hate it when this happens. So if you do this just once, and someone important catches you, you're toast. No full-time job offer -- and you probably won't be allowed to talk to a client without "adult supervision" for the rest of your internship.

If you have any opinion, preface it by saying, "Here's an interesting hypothesis..." If it is a conclusion, say, "My conclusion is the client should do X, BECAUSE of X, Y and Z reasons."

NEVER say, "The client should do X" when you're just offering an opinion.

When you don't preface a statement as a hypothesis, it is ASSUMED to be a conclusion.

If you did not intend to state a conclusion, make sure it is crystal clear to the other person that you're stating a hypothesis.

4) Arguing with Feedback - When a manager or partner gives you feedback, it is because you are not doing things the way they want you to do them. 95% of the time, this person is correct and you're incorrect. This is not a dissertation defense. You can't argue your way out of it hoping the constructive feedback won't count.

When you fight the feedback, it counts as 3 times WORSE than accepting the feedback and asking for tips on how to improve.

It is NORMAL for interns and new consultants in their first 3 - 6 months to have numerous problem areas. The firms expect this and build their supervision model around this very common trend. What they are looking for during an internship is whether or not you are receptive to feedback and can improve.

The presumption is if you do not accept the feedback, and instead spend your energy trying to argue your way out of the
feedback "counting," then you will never improve. The thought is if you can't even acknowledge there is a problem, there's no way you will take the actions necessary to improve.

5) Making a Computation Error - NEVER EVER make a math mistake. Double and triple check your math. When a client gives you data, NEVER accept it at face value. Always double check the values to ensure the range of values is in the range you expect. If you ask for "sales" data, make sure you know how they define "sales." Is it amount billed? Amount collected? Before taxes? After taxes? Before internal pricing adjustments?

Clients will take a single type of metric and easily have 5 or 6 versions of it. If you don't know the difference, and the senior client catches your misuse of the wrong version of the metric, it is YOUR fault -- not the fault of the client who provided the data to you.

So misunderstanding the data you got from the client also counts as a computational error. In any computation, you need to do two things correctly. You need to do the computation itself correctly (avoid math mistakes), and you need to guarantee the values you are computing are correct and correctly understood.

Anmol Chadha
(MBA-GEN.)
8 Great Entrepreneurial Success Stories

It never ceases to amaze me how much time people waste searching endlessly for magic shortcuts to entrepreneurial success and fulfillment when the only real path is staring them right in the face: real entrepreneurs who start real businesses that employ real people who provide real products and services to real customers.

Yes, I know that’s hard. It’s a lot of work. What can I say, that’s life. Besides, look on the bright side: You get to do what you want and you get to do it your way. There’s just one catch. You’ve got to start somewhere. Ideas and opportunities don’t just materialize out of thin air.

The only way I know to get started is by learning a marketable skill and getting to work. In my experience, that’s where the ideas, opportunities, partners, and finances always seem to come from. Sure, it also takes an enormous amount of hard work, but that just comes with the territory.

If you want to do entrepreneurship right, here are eight stories you’ve probably never heard about companies you’ve most definitely heard of.

The Pierre Omidyar way. In 1995, a computer programmer started auctioning off stuff on his personal website. Auction Web, as it was then known, was really just a personal project, but, when the amount of web traffic made it necessary to upgrade to a business Internet account, Omidyar had to start charging people fees. He actually hired his first employee to handle all the payment checks. The site is now known as eBay.

The John Ferolito and Don Vultaggio way. Back in the 70s, a couple of Brooklyn friends started a beer distributor out of the back of an old VW bus. Two decades later, after seeing how well Snapple was doing they decided to try their hand at soft drinks and launched AriZona Green Tea. Today, AriZona teas are #1 in America and distributed worldwide. The friends still own the company.

The Matt Maloney and Mike Evans way. When a couple of Chicago software developers working on lookup searches for Apartments.com got sick of calling restaurants in search of takeout food for dinner, the light bulb went off: Why isn’t there a one-stop shop for food delivery? That’s when the pair decided to start Grub Hub, which went public last April and is now valued at more than $3 billion.

The Joe Coulombe way. After operating a small chain of convenience stores in southern California, Joe Coulombe had an idea: that upwardly mobile college grads might want something better than 7-11. So he opened a tropical-themed market in Pasadena, stocked it with good wine and booze, hired good people, and paid them well. He added more locations near universities, then healthy foods, and that’s how Trader Joe’s got started.
The Howard Schultz way. A trip to Milan gave a young marketer working for a Seattle coffee bean roaster an idea for upscale espresso cafes like they have all over Italy. His employer had no interest in owning coffee shops but agreed to finance Schultz’s endeavor. They even sold him their brand name, Starbucks.

The Phil Robertson way. There was a guy who so loved duck hunting that he chose that over playing pro football for the NFL. He invented a duck call, started a company called Duck Commander, eventually put his son Willy in charge, and that spawned a media and merchandising empire for a family of rednecks known as Duck Dynasty.

The Konosuke Matsushita way. In Japan in 1917, a 23-year-old apprentice at the Osaka Electric Light Company with no formal education came up with an improved light socket. His boss wasn’t interested so young Matsushita started making samples in his basement. He later expanded with battery-powered bicycle lamps and other electronic products. Matsushita Electric, as it was known until 2008 when the company officially changed its name to Panasonic, is now worth $66 billion.

The Steve Wozniak and Steve Jobs way. While they had been friends since high school, the two college dropouts gained considerable exposure to the computer world while working on game software together on the night shift at Atari. The third Apple founder, Ron Wayne, was also an Atari alumnus.

As I always say, the world is full of infinite possibilities and countless opportunities, but your life and career are finite, meaning you have limited time to find what you’re searching for and make your mark on the world. This is your time. It’s limited so don’t waste it. Find something you like to do and just do it. That’s how real entrepreneurs always start.

Vartika Goel
(MBA-GEN.)
9 speaking habits that will make you sound smarter

There are four kinds of speakers in the business world:

1. The incoherent, who meander, use tons of jargon, and talk of things interesting mostly to themselves.

2. The coherent, who can verbally communicate facts and opinions but seldom say anything memorable.

3. The articulate, who speak succinctly and clearly but whose words are seldom persuasive.

4. The eloquent, who use language and body language to win the hearts and minds of listeners.

Eloquent people sound smart, regardless of how intelligent they are. The opposite is true as well. Smart people who are incoherent — like some engineers I've known — often come off as if they're of limited intelligence.

Fortunately, eloquence is a skill that can be taught, practiced, and mastered. Here are nine easily mastered techniques to quickly make yourself more eloquent and smarter-sounding.

1. Stand or sit with spine straight but relaxed

Eloquence is more than just how you use language. It's also how you use your body language. The position of your back is the foundation of your body language and therefore the root of your eloquence.

Slumping communicates a lack of confidence in yourself and your words. The other extreme, a ramrod straight back, says "fight or flight." A straight but relaxed spine puts you in a mental and physical state from which words flow smoothly and easily.
2. Keep your chin up

The position of your head is just as important as the position of your spine, a fact reflected in many common expressions. To "hold your head high," for example, is to show pride and determination. To be "downcast" means you're already beaten down.

An upright head is essential for eloquence for physiological reasons as well. A tense neck — inevitable if your head is facing down — tends to strangle your words, preventing you from speaking clearly.

3. Focus on your listeners

Eloquence is meaningful only if people are listening to you, and they won't listen if you're thinking about something else or if your eyes are wandering all over the room. Eloquence without attention is mere speechifying.

Two special cases: Avoid glancing sideways — it makes you seem dishonest, i.e., shifty-eyed. If you must check your notes, use your eyes to look downward without nodding your head.

4. Speak loudly enough to be heard

For maximum eloquence, speak loudly enough so people farthest from you can hear but not so loudly that it's uncomfortable for those in front.

If you're unsure of your volume, ask somebody in the back if they can hear you clearly. If they answer yes, say "How about this?" in a voice slightly less loud. If they answer no, crank your voice up a notch.

But never raise your voice to a yell. Yelling makes you sound insane rather than eloquent. If you find yourself in that position, either ask for a microphone or request that people move closer.
5. Buttress words with appropriate gestures

Use your hands to emphasize key points. The easy way to learn this skill is to watch how celebrities and popular public speakers use gestures as they speak. Note how their hand movements seem to "emerge" from their words.

If you're not actively using a gesture, keep your hands still. Fiddling with your glasses, rattling your papers, scratching yourself, and so forth will distract the audience from your message and "cancel out" your eloquence.

6. Strategically position your body

Add power to your words by moving your body appropriately. For example, if you're speaking to a group from a stage, you might move from one spot to another to signal that you're introducing a new idea.

Similarly, when sitting at the conference table, incline forward slightly when you want to emphasize a point. Reorient your sitting position when you move from one subject or concept to another.

7. Use vivid words that everyone understands

Clichés — especially biz-blab — are the opposite of eloquence. Use unexpected but common words or phrases that illustrate points in a memorable manner. Example: "common as houseflies" rather than "dime a dozen."

Also avoid words that your audience might not understand. Using fancy words makes you sound snobby, not smart. If you absolutely must introduce a term unfamiliar to the audience, define it in plain language.
8. Speak at different speeds

Speaking at a single speed quickly turns whatever you're saying into a monotonous drone. Instead, slow down and speed up depending upon the importance of what you're communicating at the time.

If you're summarizing or going over background, speak more quickly than when you're providing new information. When you're describing introducing an important concept, slow down to give listeners time to absorb it.

9. Use pauses to create emphasis

Silence isn't just golden, it's also the crowning glory of eloquence. For example, a slight pause before you're about to say something important creates suspense. It leads your audience to "hang on your every word."

Similarly, a pause after you've said something important emphasizes its importance and gives listeners a moment to reflect on its importance. A perfect example of the eloquence that comes with pausing is Martin Luther King's "I Have a Dream" speech.
How to organize your résumé in every stage of your career

You've quantified your bullet points, you've curated your skills section, and you've proofread it from top to bottom. Sounds like your résumé's all set to go, right?

Almost! There's actually one more step — and that's putting all the sections in the correct order. Like with everything job-search-related, this should be tailored to the position and your specific situation. To give you an idea of where to start, here are four great ways to organize your résumé depending on where you are in your career.

1. For most of us

   - Summary Statement (optional)
   - Experience
   - Professional Organizations / Community Involvement (optional)
   - Education
   - Skills and Certifications

This is where most people begin when it comes to organizing a résumé. If you've had a lot of different relevant experiences, it might make sense to have a summary statement that helps tie it all together (here's what that looks like), but if it's all in the same field, it's not necessary. The section on professional organizations and community involvement is similarly optional.

The best reason for using this layout is that everything is where a recruiter would expect it to be, which means it's easier to find and skim your qualifications. And this almost always gives you at better shot at getting called in for an interview.

2. For recent grads

   - Education
   - Experience
   - Leadership
   - Awards and Activities (optional)
   - Skills

New grads are in a slightly unique position. While there are plenty of supposedly "entry-level" positions that require two to three years of experience, there are also many opportunities geared specifically toward recent graduates. With this in mind, it makes good sense to signal that you're new to full-time employment by keeping your education at the top.

With that said, you don't want to sell yourself short by not including your extracurricular activities. There are tons of transferable skills gained though leadership positions in clubs — and you need to make sure to highlight them in a separate section. Read this for a step-by-step guide on your post-college résumé.

3. For career changers

   - Objective (optional)
   - Relevant Experience
   - Additional Experience
   - Professional Organizations / Community Involvement (optional)
As if changing careers isn't hard enough! The trickiest résumés to craft are ones that need to show how experience in one field is relevant and transferable to another. There are a few ways to do this effectively.

You can offer an objective that explains your career change and the strengths you would bring to your new field. (More on that here.) Or, you can split up your experience into "relevant" and "additional" in order to highlight specific experiences. (Pro tip: Instead of "Relevant Experience," label this section "Editorial Experience," "Sales Experience," or whatever makes sense for your new field.) Or, finally, if you have limited relevant experience, you can simply spell out your skills and certifications and place that section above your experience section as a way to drive that home.

4. For senior-level candidates

- Summary Statement
- Experience
- Professional Organizations / Community Involvement (optional)
- Education
- Skills and Certifications

You'll notice that the senior-level résumé looks an awful lot like the standard résumé layout. You're not wrong; just because you're at a higher level doesn't mean you can get away with a convoluted format. How easy it is to skim your qualifications is important, no matter how far along you are in your career.

Of course, there are some differences. If you're applying for a senior-level position, you're usually in the clear for submitting a two-page résumé. Also, with so much experience and a two-pager, it's absolutely necessary for you to have a summary statement at the very top. This isn't really negotiable anymore.

While you don't want to deviate too much from what's expected, you do want to personalize it a bit to your own experience and needs. As a starting point, give one of these layouts a whirl and go from there.

Reema Jain (MBA-GEN.)
The 10 Stages of Corporate Life Cycles

So you've got business problems. Well, thank God! Problems come with change, change comes with growth, and no company ever achieved peak performance without growing. The struggle for success is a struggle with problems. Rejoice. Without problems you'd be dead.

But there are problems, and then there are problems. Some problems threaten while others beckon. Like good parents, good CEOs know that some problems are just not worth getting all bent out of shape over. They're the normal—that is, perfectly appropriate and even predictable—maladies, stresses, strains, and pitfalls of successful corporate growth and development. Some threats CEOs avoid by taking the available preventive vaccines. Most they treat—promptly and skillfully—lest the problems fester or fulminate.

Abnormal problems are abnormal only in their timing. They're normal problems that break out when they're not supposed to—like mumps, say, in middle age, or prostate trouble in adolescence. If CEOs do not or cannot deal effectively with the problems that confront a normally growing business, those problems will become chronic.

If leaders cannot handle a problem with the same energy they apply to other situations, that problem is abnormal. If the same type of problem repeats it despite the founder’s has tried to solve it, that problem is abnormal. If the founder needs outside professional help to solve it, that problem is abnormal.

By contrast, normal problems are those that founders can resolve routinely or with the application of their energy. If a CEO can increase sales; create new markets; control cash, accounts receivable, and inventory; and design new products so that the company is able to make a smooth ascent to Prime—the ideal stage of balanced creativity and discipline—then those problems are normal.

Before you can judge whether a problem is occurring at a normal time, you must understand the corporate life cycle. Once companies know where they are in relation to Prime, they can learn what they need to do to get there—either for the first time or on a return trip.

For each defining stage there is a set of actions: the steps required for a young company to reach Prime or for older companies to regain Prime. Again and again, real companies have lived through the process and validated the theory. In essence, successful organizations passionately nurture both their expansive, creative energy and their need for structure and discipline. That is the dynamic of Prime organizations.

Corporate life cycles are defined by the interrelationship of flexibility and control. They are not defined by a company's chronological age, sales or assets, or number of employees. The goal is to reach—and stay at—Prime.
The 10 Stages of Corporate Life Cycles

**Courtship.** Would-be founders focus on ideas and future possibilities, making and talking about ambitious plans. Courtship ends and infancy begins when the founders assume risk.

**Infancy.** The founders’ attention shifts from ideas and possibilities to results. The need to make sales drives this action-oriented, opportunity-driven stage. Nobody pays much attention to paperwork, controls, systems, or procedures. Founders work 16-hour days, six to seven days a week, trying to do everything by themselves.

**Go-Go.** This is a rapid-growth stage. Sales are still king. The founders believe they can do no wrong. Because they see everything as an opportunity, their arrogance leaves their businesses vulnerable to flagrant mistakes. They organize their companies around people rather than functions; capable employee scan--and do--wear many hats, but to their staff’s consternation, the founders continue to make every decision.

**Adolescence.** During this stage, companies take a new form. The founders hire chief operating officers but find it difficult to hand over the reins. An attitude of us (the old-timers) versus them (the COO and his or her supporters) hampers operations. There are so many internal conflicts; people have little time left to serve customers. Companies suffer a temporary loss of vision.

**Prime.** With a renewed clarity of vision, companies establish an even balance between control and flexibility. Everything comes together. Disciplined yet innovative, companies consistently meet their customers' needs. New businesses sprout up within the organization, and they are decentralized to provide new life-cycle opportunities.

**Stability.** Companies are still strong, but without the eagerness of their earlier stages. They welcome new ideas but with less excitement than they did during the growing stages. The financial people begin to impose controls for short-term results in ways that curtail long-term innovation. The emphasis on marketing and research and development wanes.

**Aristocracy.** Not making waves becomes a way of life. Outward signs of respectability--dress, office decor, and titles--take on enormous importance. Companies acquire businesses rather than incubate start-ups. Their culture emphasizes how things are done over what's being done and why people are doing it. Company leaders rely on the past to carry them into the future.

**Recrimination.** In this stage of decay, companies conduct witch-hunts to find out who did wrong rather than try to discover what went wrong and how to fix it. Cost reductions take precedence over efforts that could increase revenues. Backstabbing and corporate infighting rule. Executives fight to protect their turf, isolating themselves from their fellow executives. Petty jealousies reign supreme.
**Bureaucracy.** If companies do not die in the previous stage--maybe they are in a regulated environment where the critical factor for success is not how they satisfy customers but whether they are politically an asset or a liability--they become bureaucratic. Procedure manuals thicken, paperwork abounds, and rules and policies choke innovation and creativity. Even customers--forsaken and forgotten--find they need to devise elaborate strategies to get anybody's attention.

**Death.** This final stage may creep up over several years, or it may arrive suddenly, with one massive blow. Companies crumble when they cannot generate the cash they need; the outflow finally exhausts any inflow.

Mansi Goel
(MBA-GEN.)
10 Things Every Employee Should Know About the Corporate World

My past 30 years in corporate life, I was an executive and then thrown off the corporate ladder 7 years ago. And it’s been a slow climb back up since.

What have I learned?

1. Whatever you do, be competent in your current job. It’s the only true currency you have. That being said, no amount of competence will protect you when the next re-organization comes.

2. Never forget that relationships in business should be business relationships. You may have a friend or lover at work, but the relationship will end the moment the opportunity to advance in the business is placed between you and your friend or lover. By the way, I strongly recommend keeping romance outside of the workplace.

3. Understand that politics is a fact of corporate life, and learn to deal with it. That means you take time to understand the views of the people involved in corporate conflicts, as well as the conflicts themselves. There will be times when you have to choose between being in the right or being employed. It’s your choice.

4. Understand the culture of the organization, especially their expectations of what makes a good employee. They all say they believe in teamwork, dedication, hard work, etc. But look at the employees who are successful, who get the recognition, who rise quickly — they represent what the company is looking for. What do they do that you can do?

5. Everything communicates. How you dress, how you stand, how you speak, etc. If you want to succeed in a corporate environment, you have to communicate that you are the kind of employee that represents the corporate success story.

6. It’s a mistake to confuse your personal identity with your employment. If and when you’re sacked, you’ll be spending quite a bit of time trying to figure out who you are. Have a life outside a corporate life.

7. Document what you do in a public place. We maintain a wiki where I work, and I make a point of adding things I’ve learned. I do it not only to remember how to do things, but also so that everyone can see what I do, and how much I do. Because I’ve made a habit of it, it’s not regarded as a “cover your a**” (CYA) activity, but a cynical person might see it that way.

8. Make your boss look good. Understand what your boss regards as a priority, and help him or her accomplish it. Make sure that you document what you’ve
done. Your boss needs the accomplishment, but shouldn’t get the credit for the work you’ve done.

9. Train your replacement. You won’t be able to get a promotion if there’s no one else to take your job.

10. For all of the reputation that corporations are soul-sucking, back-stabbing, political jungles where you can only rise by stepping on the heads of others, they also provide employment, benefits and a bit of security that support millions of people and their families world wide.

They are not democracies, charities or therapy centers. They exist to make money, and they hired you to help them make money. That’s the deal.

*Keep that in mind every day, keep your emotions in check, do your job, and if you find you don’t like working there anymore, don’t complain — just keep it professional, and move on.*

Neha Jain  
(BBA-GEN.)
GET ON BOARD WITH THE WORLD
Oil, Global Politics and Indian Economy

Oil is one of the most important commodities in recent times. Much of the economy depends on oil and this is why prices of oil matter to almost every economy including India.

India is one of the largest importers of oil in the world. It imports nearly 70 percent of its total oil needs which accounts for one third of its total imports. For this reason, the price of oil affects India a lot.

Global crude oil prices fell 17 percent to 46.59 US dollars per barrel in 2015 after sliding 47 percent in 2014. Experts are predicting a fall towards 30 US dollars per barrel in 2016.

Reasons for fall in oil prices

- The escalating tensions between the Sunni dominated Saudi Arabia and Shia dominated Iran – the two top oil producing nations in the World - is said to be the primary reason behind falling crude prices.
- Slowing demand, especially in Asia where the biggest economy and energy consumer, China, is seeing the slowest economic growth in a generation.
- Large overhang that has left storage tanks around the world struggling to cope with the excess oil. Domestic crude production in the USA reached 9.6 million barrels in July 2015. Canada experienced a similar sharp surge in production, as heavy investment in tar sands began to pay off.
- Shale gas revolution in the USA, in recent years led to lesser dependence on crude oil imports. This revolution is of importance for the global oil market as the USA consumes around 20 percent of the oil production in the world.

Impact on Global politics

- Political realignment: Given the centrality of oil in the global power equation, this is bound to translate into a profound shakeup in the political order, with petroleum-producing states from Saudi Arabia to Russia losing both prominence and geopolitical clout.
- Relevance of OPEC: Oil is not a scarce resource any more. The geopolitical battle is not over access to resources but about global market share. Saudi Arabia seems to flood global markets to push out higher-cost producers, especially in the US. Further Iran has little interest in cooperating with the Saudis on oil. That means that OPEC looks unlikely to be revived.
- Role of Saudi Arabia: It is no longer the swing producer in the global oil market. It is producing at full tilt even though the oil price has collapsed. In the past, Saudi Arabia’s balancing role meant that both low-cost and high-cost producers would supply the market at an elevated price that guaranteed an income stream for all producers.
• **Role of the USA:** If the country’s domestic shale industry manages to maintain production at lower prices, America will be heading towards self-sufficiency in oil and gas. Its interest in guaranteeing stability in the Middle East might wane accordingly thus increasing geopolitical tensions.

**Benefits to India**
As a major oil importing nation in the world, India will have the following benefits due to reduced oil prices in the global market.

• **Current account balance:** India, one of the largest importers of crude oil, is saving billions of dollars due to falling prices of crude oil. Fall in prices would drive down the value of its imports. This helps in narrowing India’s current account deficit.

• **Inflation:** Oil price affects the entire economy, especially because of its use in transportation of goods and services. A fall in oil price also leads to fall in prices of all petroleum by products like tyre, paints, etc. It also benefits many industries because of decreased input costs.

• **Oil subsidy and fiscal deficit:** The government fixes the price of fuel at a subsidised rate which is relative to the market price. Hence, fall in oil prices leads to reduced government fund transfers to oil marketing companies on account of subsidies and thereby, low fiscal deficit.

• **As per the 2015-16 Economic Survey,** decline in global crude oil prices majorly helped in restricting the petroleum subsidy bill to 30000 crore rupees in 2015-16 against 57769 crore rupees spent in 2014-15.

• **Rupee exchange rate:** Low oil price means favourable exchange rate for Indian rupee in the Indian rupee because of reduced dependence on reserved currencies like the dollar for oil payments.

    However, the downside is that the dollar strengthens every time the value of oil falls. This negates any benefits accruing to India due to lower oil prices as it is a major service exporter in the world.

• **As per the Economic Survey 2015-16,** India exported 155.6 billion US dollars worth services in 2014 making the country the eighth largest services exporter in the world.

**Downsides for India**
The fall in global oil prices may be beneficial to India, but it still has its downsides which are as follows -

• **Petroleum producers:** It affects the exporters of petroleum producers in the country. India is the sixth largest exporter of petroleum products in the world. Any fall in oil prices negatively impacts exports.
Moreover, a lot of India's trade partners and buyers of its exports are net oil exporters. A fall in oil price may impact their economy, and hamper demand for Indian products.

- **Remittances:** As per the World Bank's Migration and Development Brief 2015, India is the World’s largest remittance recipient with 72 billion US dollars. Majority of this money comes from Indians staying in Gulf countries.

- **Hence,** any fall in oil prices adversely impacts the economic prospects of GCC and thereby, remittances to India which plays an important role to fund the Current Account Deficit (CAD).

**Fallout for rest of the world**

- **Drop in revenue:** Major decline in oil export revenues forced countries like Russia, Saudi Arabia and Venezuela to cut public spending which will have long term impact on human development.

- **Fall in investments:** When crude oil price was over 100 dollars a barrel it made sense to spend on exploration in out-of-the-way provinces, such as the Arctic, West Africa and deep below the saline rock off the coast of Brazil.

- **This trend has been reversed in recent times as prices have tumbled, so has the investment.** Projects worth 380 billion US dollars of investment in oil exploration activities have been put on hold.

- **Political order:** The fall in global crude prices has shifted the global political order that once rested on oil’s soaring price. With concern over climate change growing globally couple with the predominance of renewable energy sources the demand for oil is sure to decline in future.

**Conclusion**

According to the International Energy Agency (IEA), prices **might not again reach the 50 to 60 dollars per barrel range until the 2020s.** While this trend may mean hardship for some, especially the citizens of export-dependent States like Russia and Venezuela, it could help others like China and India because of reduced import bill.

**India should seize the opportunities provided by the low oil price regime and use its good offices to negotiate long term strategic deals with major oil exporting nations before the market enters into the phase of correction.**

Vartika Goel
(MBA-GEN.)
Timeline

The Kashmir Conflict is one of the biggest disputes of the past century and one of the longest existing conflicts. It began officially on 1947 and continues to this day. In 68 years it has caused the death, displacement and destruction of thousands of people. To understand this conflict one must know the history behind the conflict. Below is a timeline of the events leading up to the inception of the conflict and the course of the same?

Kashmir Before 1947

9 March 1846:
Following victory in the First Anglo-Sikh War, the East India Company annexes the Kashmir Valley. The princely state of Jammu & Kashmir (generally called Kashmir) is formed.

16 March 1846:
The Treaty of Amritsar is signed; Gulab Singh is appointed as the ruler of Kashmir in exchange of annual payments and suzerainty. His family will rule Kashmir till 1952.

11 June 1939:
The Jammu & Kashmir National Conference is formed. Led by Sheikh Abdullah, the party opposes the unpopular rule of Hari Singh. In May 1946, the Quit Kashmir movement is launched by Abdullah, demanding sovereignty for the Kashmiri people and the repeal of the Treaty of Amritsar.

22-24 March 1940:
The All-India Muslim League passes the Lahore Resolution (popularly known as the Pakistan Resolution) demanding a separate nation for Muslims living in British India. The resolution declares that “No constitutional plan would be workable or acceptable to the Muslims unless geographical contiguous units are demarcated into regions which should be so constituted with such territorial readjustments as may be necessary.”

15 July 1947:
The British Parliament passes the Indian Independence Act, relinquishing control of the subcontinent to the Dominions of India and Pakistan.

14 August 1947:
The Dominion of Pakistan (in 1956 it became the Islamic Republic of Pakistan) comes into being.

15 August 1947:
The Union of India (officially the Republic of India) comes into being.

1947 – 1948:
INC leaders campaign relentlessly to convince each of the hundreds of princely states to join the Dominion of India instead of opting for Pakistan or independence. Led by the efforts of Vallabhbhai Patel and VP Menon, almost all the states join India. The three main challenges are posed by Hyderabad, Junagadh – and Kashmir. Junagadh is integrated after a diplomatic crisis and a plebiscite; Hyderabad joins the Indian Union after the Indian Army intervenes through Operation Polo.

The Conflict Begins Early 1947:
A revolt begins in the Poonch region of Kashmir against Hari Singh. Poonch is less than 100 km from Pakistan, and the rebels are actively supplied by Pakistani forces who dubbed them as the “Azad Army”. Hindus and Sikhs are massacred by Muslims.
12 August 1947: Hari Singh asks for a Standstill Agreement with India and Pakistan. The agreement states that “existing arrangements should continue pending settlement of details.” The agreement is signed by only Pakistan. It is widely believed that Singh is still unsure about which country to join, and generally more inclined to opt for independence.

Kashmir is a Muslim-majority State ruled by a Hindu king.

September 1947: Muslims in Jammu are massacred by Hindu and Sikh mobs. Thousands of Muslims flee Jammu even as thousands of Hindus and Sikhs flee Poonch. The situation in Kashmir has denigrated drastically.

22 October 1947: Tribal militias composed of Pathans equipped by the Pakistani Army rally with the Poonch rebels and dissidents and invade Kashmir. There is widespread looting, pillaging and raping as the tribals quickly make their way to Srinagar.

26 October 1947: Hari Singh writes to then-Governor-General Mountbatten, saying that “… soldiers in plain clothes, and desperadoes with modern weapons have been allowed to [infiltrate] the State … In spite of repeated requests made by my Government no attempt has been made to check these raiders … The Pakistan Radio even put out a story that a Provisional Government had been set up in Kashmir. The people of my State both the Muslims and non-Muslims generally have taken no part at all … I have no option but to ask for help from the Indian Dominion. Naturally they cannot send the help asked for by me without my State acceding to the Dominion of India. I have accordingly decided to do so and I attach the Instrument of Accession for acceptance by your Government …”

26 October 1947: The Instrument of Accession is signed; Hari Singh accedes the princely state of Jammu & Kashmir to India. The location where the document was signed is contested; some historians say it’s Delhi, others argue it’s Srinagar. The National Conference – the strongest political party in Kashmir – endorses the Accession saying that now “India has the legal and moral justification” to send in the Army.

The First Indo-Pakistani War & UN Intervention 27 October 1947: The Indian Army enters Kashmir to repeal the invaders. The First Indo-Pakistani War begins.

1 November 1947: Mountbatten meets with Jinnah in Lahore, proposes that in those princely states where the ruler did not accede to a Dominion corresponding to the majority of his population, the accession would be reviewed by an “impartial reference to the will of the people” (such states would’ve included Kashmir, Junagadh and Hyderabad). Jinnah rejects the offer.

1 January 1949: India takes the Kashmir issue to the United Nations Security Council, invoking Article 35 of the UN Charter. Consequently, the United Nations Commission for India and Pakistan (UNCIP) is set up.

21 April 1949: Resolution 47 of the UNSC is passed, recommending a UN-mediated
plebiscite in Kashmir. To ensure that such a plebiscite can be held, the UN asks Pakistan to remove all its troops and tribals, and asks India to reduce its military presence in the region to a minimum. The imposition of an immediate ceasefire is advised.

1 January 1949: Ceasefire is imposed; the War ends. India is left in control of Ladakh and most of the Valley and southern regions while Pakistan is left in control of northern regions and what comes to be known as “Azad Kashmir”. The ceasefire line comes to be known as the Line of Control, the international border between India and Pakistan in Kashmir.

Article 370, The Sino-India War & The 1965 War 1948-1951: The UN puts up several proposals on how a plebiscite could be conducted in Kashmir; none of them are accepted by India and Pakistan.

17 October 1949: Article 370 of the Indian Constitution is adopted; J&K becomes a State in the Indian Union, albeit one with extra privileges.

1951: Elections are held in the Indian State of Kashmir for the first time since independence. The election is not a substitute for a plebiscite.

30 October 1956: The Kashmiri State Constituent Assembly adopts a State Constitution declaring it an integral part of the Indian Union.

1962: The Indo-China War takes place. An ill-prepared India suffers territorial losses as China occupies Aksai Chin. The Line of Actual Control divides India and China in the region.

2 March 1963: The Sino-Pakistan Frontier Agreement is finalized; Pakistan cedes the Shaksgam Valley to China, a region Pakistan neither occupied nor administered. Relations with India denigrate further. 1965: Following a failed attempt by Pakistani forces to precipitate insurgency in Kashmir, full-scale fighting breaks out between the two countries.

10 January 1966: The Tashkent Declaration is ratified. It states that both sides will withdraw to pre-1965 borders and that the two neighbours would “consider measures towards the restoration of economic and trade relations ... as well as cultural exchanges between India and Pakistan”.

The Bangladesh Liberation War And The Simla Agreement 1971: After Pakistan carries out air strikes on 11 Indian airbases, India retaliates by sending troops to support the Mukti Bahini, East Pakistan’s rebel outfit. The Bangladesh Liberation War ends with a decisive Indian victory and the creation of Bangladesh.

2 July 1972: The Simla Agreement is signed. The pact reaffirms the Line of Control and asks for more bilateral cooperation between the two nations.

13 April 1984: Through Operation Meghdoot, India gains control of the desolate Siachen glacier. The skirmishes in the region would subside only in 2003 when a ceasefire would be imposed.

Rise Of Insurgency In Kashmir 1987: Due to elections that are widely accused of being rigged, low social security, negligent economic development and widespread
dissatisfaction, protests break out in Kashmir.

1989: The Soviets leave Afghanistan 10 years after invading it. Now, dangerously armed mujahadeen spark Islamic radicalism in the Valley. Within a year, mass insurgency breaks out. Police firing on protests contributes to increasing frustration and instability in the region.

September 1990: The Armed Forces (Jammu and Kashmir) Special Powers Act (AFSPA) is enacted. It will become one of India’s most controversial and debated legislations.

1990s: Insurgency continues to grow; Islamic radicalism and religious fundamentalism spread even as indigenous Kashmiri Pandits are driven out of the region in thousands. The exodus destabilizes the region further.

Kargil War, Military Standoff & The 2014 Assembly Elections May-July 1999: The Kargil War begins after Pakistani soldiers cross the Line of Control and team up with insurgents. Due to military and diplomatic opposition, Pakistan withdraws behind the Line of Control. It is the only war ever fought by two nuclear-weapons nations through conventional methods.

2001-2002: Terrorists attack the J&K Legislative Assembly and later the Indian Parliament. Tensions escalate and the threat of nuclear warfare looms as India and Pakistan engage in a military standoff along the Line of Control. Conflict is narrowly avoided due to international diplomatic mediation.

26 November 2008 – 29 November 2008: 10 terrorists carry out 12 attacks in Mumbai, killing 164 and injuring hundreds. Due to Pakistan’s links with the terror outfits, India accuses Pakistan of harbouring terrorists. Bilateral relations that were restored in 2003 are invalidated. Meanwhile, insurgency in Kashmir continues.

2014: The Kashmiri Legislative Assembly elections see the highest voter turnout in 25 years; India claims it is evidence that the Kashmiri people have embraced Indian democracy.

Shivangi Pathak
(MBA-GEN.)
INTRODUCTION OF “JAT BILL” IN STATE ASSEMBLY

The Haryana government will introduce a bill in the state assembly in the forthcoming session to grant reservation to five communities, including the Jats, chief minister Manohar Lal Khattar said on Saturday. He said that the state government would introduce a new bill in the assembly session beginning from March 14 for reservation to five communities, namely Jats, Jat Sikhs, Tyagis, Bishnois and Rors. Khattar said that a five member committee had already been constituted under the chairmanship of the chief secretary to prepare draft of the bill to grant reservation under the ambit of constitution. He said that an all party committee was also being set up to give suggestions for drafting of the bill. The BJP government in the state had promised reservation for the Jat community and others after the recent Jat agitation for reservation left the state paralysed for nine days. At least 30 people were killed, over 200 injured and property worth hundreds of crores was destroyed as the agitation turned violent. The chief minister urged presidents of all registered political parties to send the name of their representative to the government for this committee.

Sneha Mishra
(MBA-GEN.)
15 Famous Indian Fashion Brands That Sound Foreign But Are Purely Home-grown

A brand usually does everything to make itself popular amongst people. Fancy names, marketing strategies and publicity stunts are the usual things a brand undertakes to reach out to people. They play with people’s psychology and create perceptions about their brand. Keeping names which sound foreign is one of most used marketing strategy by brands to fool people to think that the brand is not Indian. People generally have a perception that a foreign brand will definitely be better than the Indian counterpart, which is completely wrong!

You’ll be amazed to know that these famous fashion brands are actually Indian which all this while you thought was foreign.

1. **The Raymond Group** - Owned by Gautam Singhania, Chairman of JK Group of Companies.
5. **HiDesign** – Owned by Entrepreneur Dilip Kapur.

7. **Knotty Derby and Arden Shoes** – Owned by Sumanglam Impex Private Limited.


9. **Westside** – Owned by Trent, the retail arm of The Tata Group.

10. **Spykar** - Owned by Sanjay Vakharia, COO, Spykar Lifestyles Pvt Ltd


13. **Monte Carlo** – Owned by Jawahar Lal Oswal, CEO of Oswal Woollen Mills Limited.

14. **Da Milano** – Owned by Entrepreneur Sahil Malik.

15. **Park Avenue, Parx and ColorPlus** – Owned by The Raymond Group.

Ayush Garg
(MBA-HR)
# The Top Science Stories of Early 2015

**Biology**

- **JANUARY**
  - A new synthetic biology company called Cambrian Genomics raises over $10M to use lasers to create and edit DNA and allow customers to create their own custom living creatures.

- **Astronomy**
  - A new study based on calculations of gravitational influence suggests that at least two more planets are circling the sun in our solar system for beyond Pluto’s orbit.

- **Biology**
  - Moscow State University secures Russia’s largest-ever scientific grant to collect the DNA of every living and extinct creature for the world’s first database of its kind.

- **Medical**
  - Scientists discover telobactin, the first new antibiotic in 30 years, through a breakthrough method that used an electronic device to isolate antibiotic compounds in soil.

- **Biology**
  - Researchers grow human skeletal muscle in the laboratory that contracts and responds just like native tissue to external stimuli for the first time.

- **Physics**
  - Physicists at MIT have found that subatomic particles can be induced to speed up all by themselves, almost to the speed of light, without the application of any external forces.

- **Astronomy**
  - A Sun-like star with orbiting Earth-sized planets dating back to the dawn of the Galaxy has been discovered by an international team of astronomers.

- **Materials**
  - A PHD candidate at Delft University develops a new method for producing high-quality graphene at about 1/1000th the previous cost.

- **Chemistry**
  - A “vibrational” chemical bond predicted in the 1980s last finally demonstrated and confirmed experimentally.

- **Medical**
  - Researchers claim a world first in proving that artificial, microscopic machines can travel inside a living creature and deliver their medicinal load without any detrimental effects.
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<th><strong>Biology</strong></th>
<th><strong>Medical</strong></th>
<th><strong>Physics</strong></th>
<th><strong>Space</strong></th>
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<td>A new method that uses human pluripotent stem cells to create new cells capable of initiating human hair growth is successful in the lab.</td>
<td>Britain votes to allow the world’s first three-parent in vitro fertilization (IVF) babies which doctors say will prevent some inherited incurable diseases.</td>
<td>A new physics model that applies quantum correction terms to complement Einstein’s theory of general relativity proposes that there was no Big Bang and that the universe has existed forever.</td>
<td>New data suggests that four young stars clustered in the constellation Norma are the likely signature of the long predicted dark matter galaxy.</td>
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<td><strong>Biology</strong></td>
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<td>The first map of the human epigenome is completed, which can be thought of as the molecular switches that can turn on or silence individual genes in the DNA.</td>
<td>A lab-made molecule that mimics an antibody from our immune system successfully keeps 4 monkeys free of HIV despite large doses, with human trials expected to begin soon.</td>
<td>SpaceX launches the DSCOVR satellite into deep space to provide advanced warning of extreme emissions from the sun which can affect power grids, communications systems, and satellites.</td>
<td>Researchers create a genetically modified bacteria that can successfully bypass the biomass step and convert hydrogen into alcohol-based fuel.</td>
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<td><strong>Biology</strong></td>
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<td>Scientists in the UK unveil a new super powerful electron microscope that can pinpoint the position of single atoms and provide unprecedented resolution of objects a million times smaller than a human hair.</td>
<td>Scientists discover a black hole in the middle of a quasar that is 12 billion times as massive as our sun.</td>
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Climate Change Could Cause Half A Million Deaths In 2050: What Regions, Countries Are Most Vulnerable?

An estimated 500,000 people in the world could starve to death by 2050 because of low crop production as a result of climate change, according to a new study conducted by the University of Oxford.

In a study featured in the journal The Lancet, researchers at the Oxford Martin Programme on the Future of Food examined how various changes in the Earth's climate could impact the health and diet of people.

Their research is considered to be the first of its kind to present strong evidence that climate change could have far-reaching consequences on the ability of countries to produce enough food by 2050.

Lead investigator Dr. Marco Springmann pointed out that, while a number of studies have been made on food security over the years, only a few of them were able to focus on the effects of agricultural production on human health.

He said that changes in the availability and consumption of food could impact the susceptibility of people to dietary and weight-related issues, including lower intake of vegetable and fruits, higher consumption of red meat products and even higher body weight.

All of these aspects contribute to a higher incidence of illnesses such as cancer, stroke and heart disease, as well as death from such diseases.

Springmann added that even minor changes in food availability for every person could produce undesirable impacts on the composition and energy content of diets. This could ultimately result in significant changes on people's health.

Reduction of Food Availability

According to the researchers' findings, current climate change trends could drastically reduce food availability around the world by as much as one-third in the next three decades, resulting in the deaths of 529,000 people.

Two regions that will likely be hit the hardest by the projected drop in food production are the Western Pacific with 264,000 deaths and Southeast Asia with 164,000 deaths.

In China alone, an estimated 248,000 people could die because of poor food availability, while India could lose 136,000 people.

The European countries of Greece and Italy could suffer the largest loss of life as a result of food scarcity on a per-capita basis with 124 deaths per million people and 89 deaths per million people, respectively.

The researchers made use of a model for agricultural economy that was based on various factors, such as trajectories of carbon emissions, socioeconomic pathways and potential responses to
climate change in their assessment of production, trade and consumption of food around the world for 2050.

They determined how many people could likely die as a result of changes in their diet and body weight using a middle-of-the-road development scenario as well as four scenarios for climate change. They then compared their findings to projections if climate change did not exist in the world.

The study's findings show that, if global emissions were to be eliminated, the availability and consumption of food around the world would increase enough to prevent 1.9 million people from dying.

Himanshu Gupta
(MBA-M&S)
Masters of one of the world’s most revered forms of analog craftsmanship take on the smartwatch.

Pim Koeslag designs and fabricates some of the world’s most complicated mechanical timepieces. Especially ambitious is his Grand Tourbillon Minute Repeater, created for Ateliers deMonaco, a watch company he helped start. When I visited his bright, sunlit factory in Geneva in May, he opened a refrigerator-size safe to show me one of them.

“If you want to go for the real complex stuff,” he said, “here it is.” The watch, a gorgeous chunk of white gold, includes more than 400 painstakingly machined, polished and hand-assembled parts. One of them is a circular metal gong, struck by small hammers that mark the time with two-tone melodies. The watch’s mechanisms — including its “balance wheel,” whose oscillation is visible through an opening in the watch face — are so precise that the device loses or gains only two seconds a day. The Grand Tourbillon Minute Repeater sells for just over $200,000, and Koeslag has made just eight of them.

“A Prince of Qatar has bought three already,” said Koeslag, a mannerly blond man who wore a trim pinstriped suit. “Very special watches, for very special people.” On the factory floor behind us, a dozen white-coated women were piecing together other watches that Koeslag has designed for Frédérique Constant, a midrange watch brand. These will sell for as much as $30,000. One woman peered into a
microscope as she carefully wielded a long, thin needle to apply a drop of pink oil, before setting a tiny pin in place. This is the tradition that Koeslag is selling to his customers: the patient Swiss art of manufacturing complex, handmade mechanisms.

Last fall, however, Koeslag set off on a very different, decidedly 21st-century project: a smartwatch. In response to Apple’s plans to introduce a high-tech watch this year, the chief executive of Frédérique Constant, Peter Stas, decided the company would produce its own. It would not be a minicomputer with a screen, like Apple’s. Instead, it would combine the functions of a Fitbit, a device that tracks physical activity, with a traditional Swiss timepiece, a $1,200 entry-level Frédérique Constant watch. A Silicon Valley company would produce the tiny sensors that count steps and measure sleep cycles, and this information would be transmitted to a phone through a Bluetooth connection. The phone would also control the watch — resetting its hands in different time zones, for example. From the outside, the watch wouldn’t look “smart” at all, but it would be packed with electronics. Koeslag’s job was to bring to life this chimera of Swiss engineering and Silicon Valley wizardry.

Koeslag faced a significant problem, though: He had never worked with chips and sensors before. He didn’t even own a soldering iron. Swiss watchmakers don’t need them; their devices are put together with screws and screwdrivers.

Mayank Jaiswal
(MBA-GEN.)
In today’s world of free information, there are still people and companies that hold valuable pieces of information that are not freely available to the public.

Even though science has advanced to a degree where a competitor company can just reverse engineer a product, some companies still hold their own by holding secrets that make them exclusive in the market.

And they go to ridiculous extents to keep the secret a secret and have been successful at it since these secrets have not been revealed for decades.

1. The recipe of Coca-Cola

Coco Cola refused and didn’t come for a long time until Indian government changed the rule.

Only two executives know the formula and it is very fiercely guarded by keeping it under lock in the Sun Trust Bank in Atlanta.

2. The classic trade secret case of Listerine – the mouthwash

How can a mouthwash so widely used, be a secret? It is, or at least, Pfizer thought so when it acquired its formula in 1880. For the next 70 years, it paid Dr. J.J. Lawrence, the inventor, royalty payments.

But in the middle, they go to know that the secret of this famous mouthwash is actually out there in the open.

So they sued the Lawrence family, but the court threw out the case, saying that the other
companies acquired the formula by legal means.

So, technically, the mouthwash is still a secret, even though it isn’t.

3. The Hapsburg napkin folds, which is a national secret in Austria

The Hapsburg napkin fold is a national secret in Austria.

Only two anonymous government employees know how to fold a piece of napkin in the shape above. And there is no document where it is written how to fold a napkin into the shape we see. When the employees retire, they pass on the information to the new employees who will then fold the napkins laid out during state dinners.

Also, no one in the world has figured out a way to do it perfectly yet.

4. Stock market trading software that helps financial institutions by predicting stock market trends

Stock market software are extremely valuable. Most of the top financial institutions have their trademarked software, which they use to invest smartly and make huge gains in the process.

The access to such software is highly regulated, and one such computer programmer lifted some lines of this code and was sentenced to 8 years in prison.

5. The symbols on Led Zeppelin’s album cover

The symbols on Led Zeppelin’s album cover
No one knows what the first symbol in the above album cover means. This album contained their classic song Stairway to Heaven.

Not even the band members or the producers know the meaning of that symbol. Each of the four members agreed to contribute for the album cover with a symbol they chose.

That’s why only Jimmy Page knows what that symbol means, and by the looks of it, he is not going to tell us about it before he dies.

6. Genetic crops

Food is going to be one of the most fought for resource in the future. Companies are coming up with novel designer food grains and seeds that are resistant to harsh weather, pests, and disease. They also give higher yields per square kilometer.

This means that the genetic formula of such seeds is extremely precious. There have been cases where farmers have used these seeds without permission and companies have sued them for illegal use, burning whole farms to purge their seed usage.

7. The results of Academy Awards is known only to two accountants 48 hours in advance

Since the time the Academy Awards have started, there has been no leak about the information of winners, even though it is not computerized yet.

The ballots that contain the votes are handled by two executives of Price Water House Cooper auditors. They count each vote by hand and note down the numbers on paper by a pen.

Then they each take half the results in two separate suitcases and are escorted to the venue by LAPD police officers.
8. Auto-Tune audio processor

Auto-tune was actually created for analyzing seismic data. Then its creators realized that the software can be used to analyze and correct digital voice files of recorded songs.

And thus came along auto-tune that changed the music industry forever. Almost all singers use the tool to make their songs sound flawless.

The software is also one of a kind, with no competitor in sight.

9. A Mexican language called Ayapaneco is known by only two people and they refuse to speak to each other

It is not exactly a secret but only two people know how to speak the language. It used to be popular in Mexico before the Spanish invasion. Like all the old endemic languages, Ayapaneco also died out slowly.

The two people who speak it also refuse to teach it to other people so that the language somehow survives.

Looks like another language will die soon, buried with both these stubborn old men.

10. WD-40, the garage staple has a formula so tightly guarded that it has been inside a bank vault for 50 years

WD-40 is almost used for everything – from cleaning to greasing to polishing machine parts.

The formula to this popular industrial solvent is kept in a bank vault for the past 50 years and has been taken out only twice.
And just like the KFC spices, the product is mixed at 3 different locations in the country and then it is passed on to the manufacturers, just so that no one gets the complete formula of the famous product.

11. The New York Times Bestseller List

No one knows how The NYT comes up with their bestseller list. The simplest explanation would be that they count the number of copies the book has sold from the various bookstores. But this is not true. There have been cases where the book hasn’t sold a lot of copies but has still made it to the list.

How they make the list is a well-kept trade secret, because if the publishers come to know how they make the list, they could use this data to make the book more adept at making into the list.

12. A card trick called Berglas effect that no top magician has been able to crack. A real-life Prestige.

The card trick goes thus –

a. The magician hands over a perfect deck of cards to person A
b. Then he asks person B to name any card and the position he wasn’t the card in the deck (for example Ace of hearts, 8th card from the top)
c. Then the magician asks person A to reach out for the 8th card.
d. And voila! It is the Ace of hearts 8th in the deck.
This card trick is known by only two people – Mr. Berglas and his apprentice Marc Paul. Every other magician has tried to crack this trick, but, until now, no one has been able to do it successfully yet.

13. The recipe of KFC spices is known to only two people in the world

Just like with Coca-Cola, only two KFC executives know the secret recipe of the spices used in the famous fried chicken everyone around the world eat.

The recipe is guarded in a facility that sounds like it is made to guard a treasure. The facility has 2 feet thick concrete walls, round the clock surveillance, armed guards and unique PIN codes for the two executives who can open it only when both of them are present there.

To go even further to keep it a secret, not all the spices are mixed in one place. Half the spices are mixed in one location and then this mixture is taken to another location to be mixed fully so that no one knows all the spices that are present.

14. Plasma display was an exclusive technology that belonged to Samsung until it was stolen

Not a lot of us know this, but the plasma screen television tech was researched and developed exclusively by Samsung. They would have had the monopoly in the television business had it not been for the person who stole all the secret files on his last day of employment and walked away with it.

Then, he gave the stolen secrets to a Chinese company and hence every manufacturer can build a plasma TV today.
The pen-drive the man stole is estimated to be worth over a billion dollars.

15. The recipe to Hershey’s bar, the first sweet chocolate bar, has been a trade secret for 100 years.

When chocolate was manufactured in the past, it was always dark chocolate, and hence, it was not as popular as the chocolate we eat nowadays. It was bitter and sweet and had the popularity akin to coffee’s.

It was in 1900 that the first Hershey’s milk chocolate was formulated, where the dominant taste was sweet and not bitter.

This made the whole population love chocolate as we love it today. The formula to this sweet chocolate bar is still a secret, although many other companies have come up with their versions of sweet chocolate. Hershey’s still remains to have a unique taste among competitors. As they say,

*A secret between two people is a secret, only if one of them is dead.*

Vartika Goel
(MBA-GEN.)
BJP’S BIG FARM PUSH

The natural trajectory for the BJP has been to grow from urban centres to rural areas. This has been the experience in many states. After its claim to be the largest political party in the world, the BJP, however, felt that its recent reverses in rural India — be it Bihar or rural areas of Gujarat in the recently held local panchayat elections — called for a redressal mechanism.

Add to that the all-important assembly election in Uttar Pradesh in 2017, dubbed by many as the semi-final before the 2019 general elections, and the need to put the party’s farmer-friendly face became imperative.

The BJP government, under PM Narendra Modi, has been noticed for big-bang economic reform measures like ease of doing business, or startup India. It, however, needed a major policy push to identify the party with the farmers — still the largest voters’ bloc in the country. The recently announced Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojna — a repackaged crop insurance scheme — is one such measure.

PM Modi wrote a series of tweets to mark the arrival of the scheme, while BJP chief ministers held press conferences in their various states on this “landmark scheme”. Modi described the scheme wherein the centre will provide Rs 8,800 crore annually in a move that will transform the lives of the farmers in a big way. The home minister Rajnath Singh added that the insurance scheme will have the lowest premium for farmers in the history of Independent India.

Sources say that the coming Union Budget will have farmers, farm distress, and rural areas as one of the key focus. Coupled with this crop insurance scheme, the party wants to tell the country that it represents the interests of farmers and rural India as well, and not just urban India, as alleged by Rahul Gandhi through his “suit boot ki sarkar” jibe.

That the BJP considers this farm insurance scheme as landmark is evident. The party was, in fact, preparing for the big announcement for some time. In its farmers’ cell meeting held near the national capital, the issue was raised with Rajnath Singh, agriculture minister Radha Mohan Singh and BJP party president Amit Shah. The party now plans a farmers’ awareness week between March 9 and March 15 “to announce the arrival of the scheme”. This will be followed by a big farmers’ “thanksgiving rally” in Delhi.

But will this change the perception about the BJP? If the BJP insiders are to be believed the party has just taken “the most revolutionary scheme for farmers”, in a very long time, which will also result in a “solid harvest of votes” in the coming elections.

Anuj Malhotra
(MBA-GEN.)
11 Times Your Inner Voice Really Screwed Things Up For You

If your inner voice was always right, everything would have been perfect in your life right now. But sometimes your inner voice can deceive you and compels you to make wrong decisions. Here are some situations, where it did not listen to your mind nor your heart.

1. **When it told you to eat that piece of cake while you were on diet**

   Your inner voice will lead you to the fridge door, open it, and bite into that slice of cake. Which is a terrible idea if you’re trying to shed off those extra kilos. Your inner voice might tell you that one piece doesn’t matter, except, that it does.

2. **When it told you to make an impulsive buy**

   ‘YOLO’, says your inner voice while you’re stuck in a dilemma of buying or leaving an expensive thing you were not planning to buy. Impulse buys are exciting, however they are bad decisions that often turn into regrets.

3. **When it told you to quit your job and travel**

   Honestly, quitting your job and packing your bags to wander is NOT a good idea. Until and unless you’ve got millions in your bank account, quitting stability for a nomadic life is foolishness. How ever much the stories of hipsters inspire you, situations are going to be worse. If your inner voice is smart, it will tell you to save instead of quitting.

4. **When it told you to pick your comfort zone over hard work**

   We want to do less work, lead a comfortable life and be in a comfort zone, as opposed to taking risks and exploring new opportunities. Your inner voice
deceives you when it tells you to choose a comfortable job over a challenging one.

5. **When it told you to down that fourth shot**

Huge mistake. Drinking because your inner voice told you to do so will only make you end up in your washroom and want to die.

6. **When it told you to choose beauty over brains**

Beauty is an illusion. It is also a temporary asset. Your inner voice may get charmed by temporary beauty and might take away your attention from the more important aspect, brains.

7. **When your inner voice was not yours but someone else's**

For many people, their inner voice is not their own, but the voice of the most important person in their life. Although there is nothing wrong with this, you will always take decisions based on how someone else thinks, which could be detrimental to yourself in the long run.

8. **When it told you to lie**

Lying is a temporary relief. There is no escape from the truth. You will have to face it one day or the other. When your inner voice tells you to lie, you need a strong mind to not listen to it.

9. **When it told you to steal something**

Stealing things is bad. Period.

10. **When it told you to compromise**

"COMPROMISE"
Making compromises won’t let you stay happy. When you cut yourself off from the pleasures and things you need unwillingly, sooner or later you are bound to start feeling unhappy about it.

11. When it told you to speak your mind when you were angry

Speaking your mind is a good habit. But speaking your mind while you’re angry is one of the silliest things you can do. You may say things you don’t really mean and hurt someone badly. Thus, tell your inner voice to hold its tongue for a while.
11 Struggles Of Being A Man In India

It goes without saying that patriarchy in India prevails to a large extent. While atrocities against women are common in our nation, when we look at the larger picture, it’s not just women who suffer here. Though differently, men in India have their own battles to fight. It isn’t easy being a woman, but it isn’t a cakewalk being a man either. Following are the struggles of being a man in India.

1. It is just assumed that they mean harm, no matter where they are

If a man comes up and talks to a woman, the first thing a woman assumes is that he’s going to do something wrong.

2. Parental pressure isn’t just confined to women when it comes to getting married

While women are pressured into getting married young and bearing children as soon as they do, men are pressured into earning well, saving, and being well off before they settle down. After all, it’s just his responsibility to bring the bread on the table, right?

3. They are not allowed to have emotions

This case isn’t confined to our country exclusively, but is a problem throughout the world. Society, for years, has regarded men as the tougher sex, urging them to just dust off and move on without getting in touch with their feelings about people, situations, and events. And if they do, they’re belittled.

4. Society expects a man to have the upper hand in a marriage/relationship
A man is expected to be the dominant one in a relationship. He should pay the bills, he should be the one to take major decisions, and if he believes in having equality in a long term relationship with his partner, he’s blindly labelled ‘namard’ (unmanly).

5. They have to be the providers of comfort and security

Men are cruelly asked questions based on how much they earn, what their salary increment is like, and more importantly, if they can manage to take care of their daughters with the amount of money they have. Not to mention, buying a house and being able to afford other perks in time.

6. Men cannot speak up about rape

Rape is a problem for men too, but one of the reasons it goes unnoticed is that they’re never encouraged to talk about it. Men also get molested, and it adversely affects their lifestyle for the rest of their lives, but they’re not allowed to speak up because that is a sign of a weak man. And men aren’t allowed to be weak.

7. Or about domestic violence

While there are women who face the brunt of an abusive spouse/family, men have also been victims of domestic abuse, and it’s a lot harder for them to come out with it without being discouraged or labelled as being less of a man.

8. Not all dowry/rape cases that are filed against men are true

Here is where you can find just ONE of the several false cases that occur in India that go unnoticed. The atrocities are a lot worse than we imagine.
9. Men are objectified too

Objectification of men is all around us—be it magazines, Bollywood films, male models, etc. The only difference? It’s considered a compliment for them.

10. Men should be the fix-it guys

Men should know how to fix taps, the fridge, flat tyres, and save money well before getting married, whereas women aren’t taught these things as a necessity.

11. An earning man can be married to a non-earning woman, but it is deemed unnatural to have it the other way around

With rapid development and subsequent employment opportunities, women (referring to the urban and semi-urban population) are becoming more and more independent in our country today. Even so, if a woman doesn’t work or doesn’t earn in any way, she is eligible to marry a man who does, but it can never be the other way around. He will not only be considered a failure in society, but will also lose out on a suitable life partner because of his unemployed status.

Though we’re aware of the fact that gender equality is a major issue in a rigid society like ours, we’re far from really acting on it. The only way we can stop this is by putting an end to gender policing. A man can cry, and a woman can use tools just as well. And it all starts with what we teach our impressionable little kids at home, and in school. Let’s not teach them how to be more masculine or feminine, but how to be compassionate, good human beings.

Mayank Jaiswal
(MBA-GEN.)
9 Things You Might Not Have Known Were Illegal In India

Over the last few days, many of us had to address the legality, or illegality, of certain things. Phrases like sedition laws, right to dissent, freedom of expression have all been thrown in the mix. While it’s great that a good number of young people are finally talking about these things in the open now, let us not forget that there are many laws out there which, believe it or not, make some otherwise everyday things illegal in India.

1. In Delhi, it’s illegal to not alert the authorities by beating the drum when locusts attack. According to the East Punjab Agriculture Pests, Diseases and Noxious Weeds Act, 1949, if locusts attack the city but you fail to report it to the authorities by beating a drum, you’re liable to pay a fine of 50 rupees.

2. If you find money lying around that’s more than 10 rupees, you’re committing a crime by not reporting it. According to the Treasure Trove Act of 1878, any treasure you find belongs to the Queen. But if it’s less than 10 rupees, you can keep it. If it’s of a higher amount, you have to report it to the authorities. Yep, totally doing that.

3. It's illegal to fly a kite without a permit. According to the Indian Aircraft Act of 1934, which says you need a permit or a license to fly a plane, you also need a similar permit to fly a kite. But what about kai po che, bro.

4. It's illegal for more than 10 couples to dance on the same stage together. According to the Licensing and Controlling Places of Amusement (other than Cinemas), 1960, if more than 10 couples are seen dancing at the same time on the same stage, then the law has the power to either reduce the number of couples or totally shut down the event.

5. It is illegal to get your ears cleaned or your teeth fixed by roadside vendors. According to the Chapter V, Section 49 of the Dentist Act of 1948, street dentistry is illegal in India. So what if they charge you about 150 bucks for something that could cost more than 10,000 rupees in a dentists office? A similar law also deems roadside ear cleaning illegal. I guess poverty, mixed with supply and demand, ensures that these practices will just continue, no matter what the ENT or the Dental care lobby thinks.
6. It is illegal to attempt suicide. It's fine if you succeed though. [Recently scrapped] According to the now recanted Section 309 of the IPC, any attempt to suicide was punishable under the law. No wonder they had to put Irom Sharmila under house arrest and force feed her. Didn't break her resolve though - her fight to repeal AFSPA still continues.

7. It is illegal to have factories that do not have spittoons where the workers work. This is actually bizarre. At a time when workers in Maruti and Honda factories are struggling to get their demands met by their bosses, their still exists Section 20 of The Factories Act of 1948, under which there has to be a regular number of spittoons on the factory floor for the workers to spit on. That's all good sir, but why then do you guys give factory workers so little time to even pee? Are they to improvise with the spittoons?

8. Prostitution isn't illegal in India. But pimping is. There's a reason red light areas exist in certain cities and towns in India. You can pay someone for sex nobody can legally bother you about it, but if you approach a pimp or try to pimp someone else, you're in trouble.

9. It's illegal for factories to make women work at night in factories. Did you know that under the Factories Act of 1948, it is also illegal to make women workers work night shifts? BPO employees, what do you have to say?

Pratyusha
(MBA-HR)
#1 Flip A Coin

What do you do when you have to make a difficult decision of choosing something between two options? Flipping a coin is one thing that can help you out but what if a coin is not handy? Well, you have Google to the rescue. Type 'Flip A Coin' and click on 'I'm Feeling Lucky', and voila Google will tell you whether it's heads or tails!

#2 Roll A Dice

Many people use dice when playing board games or while studying probability in mathematics but what if you've lost the dice? Well, not many know but Google gives you an option to roll a dice as well. Just type 'Roll a dice' and it'll help you play games easily.
#3 Askew

Type in the word 'Askew' in the search bar and the result will be slanted. Go ahead and scroll the way to the bottom, you will see all of the searches starting to tilt slightly.

#4 Zerg Rush

If you type 'Zerg Rush' into the search bar and click on I'm Feeling Lucky button, a playable game with small 'o' characters will appear that starts destroying search results if they are not clicked with the mouse pointer. Sounds fun, doesn't it?
#5 Atari Breakout

Type 'Atari Breakout' into Google Images and you'll get the classic Atari arcade game to play. An amazing way to kill time. LOL!

![Atari Breakout Game](image)

#6 Google Pacman

Google also lets you play seminal 1980s arcade game PacMan. Just type 'Google Pacman' in the search box and get ready to chop some power pellets and chased multi colored coast around the Google logo.

![Google Pacman Game](image)

#7 Google Gravity

Well, just type Google Gravity in the search bar and click on I'm Feeling Lucky, you'll find, all of the icons at the top of the site falling down towards the bottom of the page. You can even click on the icons and throw them around.
#8 Do A Barrel Roll

Type 'Do a barrel roll' and click on I'm Feeling Lucky. Doing this will make the Google search page roll and flip 360 degrees. It's amazing!

#9 Google Orbit

This is awesome! Just type 'Google Orbit' and click on the I'm Feeling Lucky, you'll watch the home page swirl and spin as you move your mouse around the screen. The text on the screen revolves around the center logo with all the clickable links.
#10 Offline Dinosaur Game

If your internet connection is weak and you’re getting bored, then you don’t need to worry at all because Google gives you an awesome endless Dinosaur Game hidden right there on Chrome!

Sneha Mishra
(MBA-GEN.)
You’ve Probably Been Using These Everyday Phrases Wrong All Your Life

Don't be surprised! This happens more often than most of us would've imagined. We hear a fairly common phrase over and over again in a conversation and imitate its usage in our daily lives. And sometimes that transition and this new found knowledge aren't very precise and devoid of human error. So we decided to help you out with these common English phrases that you've probably been getting wrong all this while.

That's right. Although the corrected phrase sounds wrong, it actually stems from an older comical expression: 'If that's what you think then you've got another think coming.'

A simple grammatical error in which we end up using an adjective, 'good,' instead of the adverb, 'well,' which is the correct manner of using the phrase.

Usually a phonetic error, the phrase 'getting away scot free' actually comes from medieval times when 'scot' was a kind of tax.

Derived from a clause in English law: 'To all intents, construction and purposes,'
Another common phonetic error where 'leeway' actually just means the amount of freedom one has to move about.

To beckon would be just to gesture someone to come closer while the phrase 'at beck and call' would imply someone who is ready to obey every command.

The origin of the phrase comes from one putting their tongue in their cheeks and biting on it to prevent a fit of laughter, since the phrase means 'to speak or write something in an ironic or insincere fashion'.

Saying that you could care less about something would mean that it does matter to you to some extent, while most people end up using the phrase when they are trying to imply the opposite.

A tenterhook is a hook that is used to fasten cloth to a drying frame or tenter. In fact, tenderhooks is not even a word.

A mistake commonly made with the suffix, "ir-", between the usage of either regardless or irrespective, this common error has long been argued since the word as a whole contradicts itself with a prefix and suffix - "less" - both meaning "not" or "without."
We're not too sure how this came about but 'make due' is just wrong when we try to imply that we can 'make do' with whatever resources we have.

A grammatical error in converting the phrase into its plural form; an individual would be a 'runner up' while a group of individuals would be 'runners up.'

Saying 'try and' technically leaves the phrase incomplete, and incorrect in the most common places of use. While 'trying to' would imply the 'effort of.'

The 'safe' is unnecessary, since a haven is inherently mean to be safe.

The phrase 'case in point' is used when one needs to point out a specific example of the subject currently in discussion.

While you could still get away with the incorrect phrase in modern times, due to its widespread use, the phrase actually stems from biblical times when God used his 'spit' and mud to create Adam in his likeness.
The situations in which one would usually use this phrase would be when one actually misses the target by a small bit, which actually is the opposite of what one ends up saying when they say 'near miss' which implies that you almost missed but didn't.

Ahh! The eternal case of 'reign' as opposed to 'rein' has baffled quite a few of us for a while, so here it goes. Reign means the rule of a monarch or a position of high authority, while reins are the straps attached to the ends of a horse's bit to control it.

To 'home in' on something is to narrow down to a target, while the word 'hone' means to refine or improve over a period of time.

While the incorrect version of this phrase doesn't actually make any sense, a lot of us are accused of indulging into this phonetic error. 'One and the same' would mean that a pair of things are alike or the same.

Anmol Chadha
(MBA-GEN.)
Edison invented the light bulb.

Everyone knows it, even the kid in kindergarten. But ask them who invented that velcro strap on their sandals, and no one knows.

Yes, the light bulb was an important invention, but there have been many more inventions that have impacted us in a very large way. Their inventors haven’t gained fame because these items seem trivial and so common, we do not stop and wonder when we come across one.

But when you do look at them and how simple they really are, you realize the ingenuity behind them, and the person who created them.

1. Garrett Morgan, the man who made traffic a little less annoying and exponentially less lethal

Morgan set up the first street traffic light after being bothered by road accidents. With the populations ever growing in the future and with an exponential addition of cars and bikes on the roads, his inventions will still help us long into the future.

2. Georges de Mestral, the reason we can all wear sandals easily

de Mestral invented the velcro after he found stubborn thistles on his dog’s fur. He observed that the thistles had hook-like leaves that didn’t let go easily. As a result, we got velcro, which is as widespread as a zipper.

3. William Addis, the reason we have clean teeth

Addis invented the first toothbrush. He wanted something to make brush his teeth easier. He soon discovered that a toothbrush made of squirrel hair and bone handle was the most effective way to clean his teeth. Now everyone can clean their teeth by himself. It is also more convenient to use.
People used pieces of rag, fingers and twigs of trees before Addis came up with the **toothbrush**. People used charcoal on a body part that is supposed to be white.

Thank God for Addis, we don’t have to use pieces of cloth to clean our teeth.

### 4. Willis Carrier, the reason we keep out cool in the face of harsh summers

![Willis Carrier](image1.jpg)

Carrier made the **first air conditioner** with a stable coolant. And as a result, gave us a gadget that keeps us cool every summer. And what with the global warming and all, his invention will be crucial to all humans on this planet.

### 5. Lazlo Biro, the reason we write so smoothly

![Lazlo Biro](image2.jpg)

Lazlo Biro first used printer ink in his fountain pen, but it didn’t work. So he invented the **world’s first ball point pen**. He revolutionized writing until the stylus came along.

### 6. Douglas Engelbart who gave us the best way to communicate with our computers

![Douglas Engelbart](image3.jpg)

He came up with the design of the **first computer mouse in 1968**. More than one billion computer mice have been sold since then.

### 7. Ron Klein, the reason behind almost all financial transactions today

![Ron Klein](image4.jpg)

Ron Klein invented the **magnetic strip** that enables us to make cashless transactions multiple times in a day. He may well be the reason behind the extinction of paper money.
8. Harvey Ball, the man who made texting more interesting

Harvey Ball created the first emoticon – the smiley. He could have raked in millions, but sadly, he never copyrighted his work, because he didn’t feel that it would be so popular.

9. Nick Holonyak the reason why tube lights and light bulbs will be extinct

Mr. Holonyak predicted way back in 1962 that his invention, the LED bulb will replace all incandescent bulbs in the future.
As we know now, he may well be true.

10. Karlheinz Brandenburg the reason we can listen to pirated music

Brandenburg invented the Mp3 file format that made music so easily transferable everywhere electronically.

11. Gideon Sundback, the reason why men can pee without pulling their pants down

Sundback invented the zipper that became main stream on every trouser that was created for men. It also became standard on bags too.

12. Dietrich Nikolaus Winkel, the man behind perfect music

Winkel invented the first functional metronome. The metronome is used to count a period in music. This device is basically the reason we call a particular music “slow” and “fast”.
13. Joseph Friedman, the reason we can drink without sprained necks

Joseph Friedman came up with the idea of **bendable straws**. He thought of this when he was sitting in an eatery and his daughter had difficulty in drinking the drink in front of her.

14. James Goodfellow, the reason we can withdraw cash anywhere, at any time

Mr. Goodfellow came up with the idea of **a PIN code**, which would let people withdraw cash from machines, that are called **ATM machines** today.

15. Ajay Bhatt – the inventor of USB. Enough Said.

As we said – enough said.

16. Andy Serkis, not really an inventor, but made memorable characters

Not really an inventor, but not a lot of people know that he is the face behind **Gollum, King Kong, Caeser in Dawn of The Planet Of the Apes, and Supreme Leader Snoke** in the latest Star Wars movie.

Sometimes our work lives on way after we pass on, and this work can impact other people in ways we cannot really predict. Even if we do not really think it is significant.

As General Maximus said “**What we do today, echoes in eternity.**”

Mayank Jaiswal
(MBA-GEN.)
Ever Wondered What The ‘i’ In Your iPhone Stands For?

If you don't have an iPhone, then you don't have an iPhone. True that! People who own Apple products, be it an iPhone, an iMac or the iPod, hold them dearly. Of course, it's something you shell out a huge sum of money (and in some cases, a kidney for) so it's quite obvious that you're going to flaunt it. But have you ever paused to wonder what the 'i' in your phone, pad or pod stands for! You won't be entirely wrong if you think that the 'i' stands for the person who owns the product. I, for one, always that this was the case with the I (see what I did there?). But actually, this wasn't the idea when Apple pitched its first iMac. In 1998, when Steve Jobs first introduced the iMac, he told people that the 'I' stood for the Internet. Those were the days when the Internet had just arrived and people were still exploring the whole new world of possibilities that it brought with it. The iMac was launched to provide faster access to the internet.

While giving a presentation, Steve Jobs said, "An iMac comes from the marriage of the excitement of the Internet with the simplicity of Macintosh."

But that wasn't all. The letter 'i' was given a comprehensive identity by Jobs, who said that 'i' also stands for information, individual instruct, inform, and inspire.

And this way, Apple covered almost every arena where the technology could impact.

Well, 'I' clearly has more to it than meets the eye!
11 People Who Became Famous In The Craziest, Strangest Ways

Fame is contagious. Fame is sometimes accidental too; arising out of strange events/occurrences that catapult "normal people" to that "fame" pedestal! These 15 people went viral, unbeknownst to them.

1. The Mysterious Lady

In Red at the London Olympics. She kicked up quite a storm when she mysteriously appeared in 'red and blue' at the London Olympics, beside Sushil Kumar (flag bearer for the event). Indian officials and media collectively fumed at the fact that she insulted India on a global forum by "gate-crashing" it; while later it was confirmed that her name is Madhura K. Nagendra and she was part of the dance cast for the opening ceremony.

2. The Success Kid

You might remember this kid from seeing all the 'success' related memes on the Internet. Well, here comes Sammy Griner, a boy whose mother took this picture of his when he was just 11 months old, in 2007 and posted it on Flickr. Nothing happened for two years, until one day the photo went 'crazy viral'. The "I hate sandcastles" picture became a stock photo and had big brands like Virgin Mobile, vying for it.
3. The Sports Prankster

Meet Karl Power. He’s the envy of every sports 'streaker', albeit he has taken streaking to an altogether new level. Appeared in a photograph with Manchester United, before their Champions League game against Bayern Munich, in 2001.

When England played Australia in a cricket match in 2001, Power walked onto bat with the team! He later removed his helmet and only then was he recognized. He even beat Michael Schumacher to the podium at the 2002 British Grand Prix.

And played a game of tennis at Wimbledon's Centre Court before Tim Henman's match.
4. The Newspaper Lady who became a TV/film sensation

The lady in this newspaper article became viral and her picture went on to feature in numerous films and commercials.

5. The Man with the Golden Arm

James Harrison has donated blood more than 1000 times, which is a world record. His act has saved 2.2 million babies, including his own grandson, from the deadly Rhesus disease. The uniqueness of his blood has also helped in creating the Anti-D vaccine.
6. **Playboy's naked model's image used to test algorithms in digital image processing!**

Lena Soderberg's 1972 Playboy photo became one of the most widely used standard test images for compression algorithms. This image had the right balance of colour, detail, focus, shading and reflections, which made it the perfect fit for algorithms.

7. **The "Immortal" woman**

Henrietta Lacks died at the age of 31 after she developed cervical cancer. While she was alive, cells from her cervix (both healthy and cancerous) were given to researcher George Otto Gey at John Hopkins University (where she was undergoing treatment), without her knowledge. George found that her cells behaved differently from any other cells he'd ever seen. From her healthy cells, he could create the first "immortal" human cells named HeLa (after her name). They were termed immortal because they lived longer than normal cells.
8. Scumbag Steve

This image is another popular meme face and it belongs to Blake Boston aka Weezy B. This picture was posted on Reddit and received 8,607 upvotes, prior to being archived. Blake revealed that this picture, that later became famous, was clicked by his mother.

9. The Overly Attached Girlfriend

Laina Walker was given the "Overly Attached Girlfriend" meme-face, which she carried with grace and elan.

10. The woman who started the Civil Rights Movement in America

Rosa Parks was arrested for refusing to give up her bus seat to a white man, on the afternoon of December 1, 1955. The seemingly insignificant decision of hers sparked the Civil Rights Movement in America.
11. The man who was too handsome for Saudi Arabia

In 2013, Omar Borkan Al Gala, an actor/photographer/poet from Dubai, along with two other men were thrown out of Riyadh’s annual Janadriyah Festival by Religious Police for being 'ridiculously handsome'. It was later found out that that wasn’t the reason why Al Gala was chucked out. He was booked for dancing inappropriately at a wedding.

Nevertheless, the incident catapulted him to fame and Al Gala still basks in the glory of being famous.

Anuj Malhotra
(MBA-GEN.)
15 Crazy Facts About The Siachen Glacier That Will Make You Love Our Soldiers Even More

Minus 45 degrees Celsius is not a joke.

Even when you are equipped with the best snow gear and clothes in the world. The human body simply refuses to work normally in these conditions where your body literally screams for oxygen.

But even if human bodies refuse to work normally in these harsh conditions, our soldiers with their human bodies do not. They toil on, day after day, guarding the highest battlefield with the will to protect it from the enemy.

It is more than just a hard task. You have to really think about the hardships they face every day to realize the sacrifices they make every day, even if they do not lose their lives.

1. **There is no telling when the next resupply helicopter might come**

   Because the weather is very unpredictable and the pilots risk their lives even in the clearest of days by going to such a high altitude.

2. **On bad days, there is zero visibility.**
   And zero means zero. You cannot even see the hand held up right in front of your eyes. This is the reason soldiers tie each other with ropes so that no one loses sight of the comrade in such blizzards.

3. **And it lasts for months – literally for more than 30 consecutive days**
   And when it lasts for an extended period of time, resupply becomes impossible and the soldiers have to make their present supplies last until the storm clears – which could be days or weeks, who knows.

4. **There are no beds for the soldiers to sleep on**
   Beds take up a lot of space. So the soldiers just store the supplies and use them as beds.

5. **It takes 3 hours to heat up a bucket of water for a wash**
They cannot have proper baths because the water will simply not remain warm long enough. They give themselves a good wash, that’s all. And we complain if our geyser doesn’t work for one day.

6. You have to poop out in the open, and there is no saying if you might return or not

The Army has started providing soldiers with bio-toilets now, but not all bases have them. Soldiers walk in deep snow and defecate in the open. Their biggest danger is a crevasse that is hidden under a thin layer of snow which can bury them almost instantly.

7. Isolation can drive people mad, and hence, they keep busy

The psychological effects are as bad as physical effects. On bad days, they have nothing but themselves to spend their time with. Books and makeshift games and the monotony of maintaining operational logs keeps them sane and busy.

8. Soldiers get to call home once a week for just two minutes

They are allowed one call a week for just two minutes via a satellite phone. There have been cases where some soldiers give up their quota of two minutes to another soldier, just because he misses his loved ones more.

9. Memory loss, speech blurring, frost bites, lung infections

Just a normal day at the office for our brave soldiers.

10. 869 soldiers and officers have died as for 2015

Bullets are the last thing soldiers have to fear here.

11. Leading killer of them? Blood clot

One-third of all the causes of deaths was because of blood clots. The chances of a human body to develop blood clots is 100 times higher in Siachen than on sea level.

12. Each soldier carries 30 kilos of load at all times

This includes patrolling long distances every day.

13. Your sweat literally freezes and crackles between your skin and clothes

Because it is so cold, nothing stays liquid, even under 7 layers of protective clothing.
14. It takes soldiers 2-3 hours to relieve themselves and they take laxatives too
Even normal and healthy persons have it difficult to get regular bowel movements.
Each session that should normally last 10-15 minutes lasts for 3-4 hours, after taking a lot of laxatives.
Every day.

15. You can get a sunburn and a frostbite at the same times
The cold is harsh, and so is the sun.
If soldiers stand outside in the sun for long, they get frostbites and sunburns at the same time.
Humans should break in these conditions, but somehow our valiant soldiers soldier on.
Why?
Because they have somehow trained their bodies that they have become super humans?
Maybe.
But their ruggedness is beyond the physical. It is the will to protect our borders with all their strength — mental and physical, and love for their mothers.
Gar firdaus, bar roo-e- zamin ast ,
hamin ast-o hamin ast-o hamin ast...!!
My inner voice

I am full to the brink of my head with people trying to protect
My physical form.

Why don’t they understand that body is mortal?

So, they fear of the body of being raped, molested and so on...

I would like to say to them,

Better to protect my spirit, let it not diminish.

Protect my conscience; let it not be demeaned or corrupted.

Then that, would be more productive than trying to save something that will perish in sometime.

Now or maybe later,

For the spirit shall remain forever!

Shivangi Pathak
(MBA-GEN.)
Soldier

He doesn’t know you
Still he waits. Alert
With gritted teeth and shut
Mouth, as if the cold has
Frozen his words and turned his body into brittle ice.
But he refuses to break.
He is the only dam that
Keeps the rivers of blood
From flowing. The only
Border that separates
War from daily routine.
He is ready to die for you.
He is fighting against a stranger.
His enemy is not his own
He is fighting for a stranger.
His war is not his own.
He has to win, for his
Victory is not just his own.
And just like his life, his
Death will never be his own.
But he waits. Alert...!!

Ayushi Shrivastav
(MBA-GEN.)
Humility

Humility is now an old farmer so tired,
Its importance is now no longer admired.
It used to be a tool to sustain relations,
But now we have lost our patience!!
Time stops for nobody, everybody knows,
But disrespect and loudness are not the qualities to show.
Humbleness and politeness are the gratitude one owes!

Busy is the world making few pennies,
Children have forgotten the stories of granny,
Smoky is now the weather once sunny,
Now is the world crazy for money!
Life’s accountancy
My parents are my opening stock
What comes I debit,
What comes I credit,
My birth is my purchase account
My ideas are my assets,
My problems are my liabilities
Happiness is my profit,
Sorrow is my loss,
Soul is my goodwill,
Friends are my assets,
Duty is my outstanding expense,
Good work is my prepaid expense,
Friendship is my hidden adjustment
Character is my capital
Bad things I always depreciate,
Good things I always appreciate
Knowledge is my investment
Patience is my interest
My mind is a cash balance,
My thinking is my bank balance
Behaviour is my journal entry
Aim is totally balance sheet,
God is my closing stock,
My death is my soul account.

Shivani Kuchhal
(MBA-HR)
Youthful daze

Let’s sit on the window sills
Of moving cars
And feel the wind
Caress our being
Let’s sing the oldest song
That we can remember
That ones that have seeped their way
Into our very souls
Let’s blink and let the tears slip by
Let’s cry till we are empty inside
Let’s run away
And not look back
Climb Mountains
Put up some crazy flags
While we are still
Young

Prashansa
(MTECH.)
Zero, will you be my hero?

My camaraderie with you,
Can only be summarized as new,
For I cannot think of anything better,
As I have been writing to you a letter
You leave me awestruck with your uniqueness,
For you we have to deal with fairness,
Invented by Aryabhatta,
Can be made into a song by David Guetta,
Some students fear,
Hoping that they never shed a tear,
Only because of you, only because of you,

Scholars and mathematicians can do nothing but ne enchanted with your presence,
All because of your sweet effervescence.

Anita Oberoi
(MBA-M&S)
15 Safety Tips And Facts That Could Save Your Life One Day

Life is unpredictable, but that doesn’t mean you have to be unprepared when going gets tough.

1) If the driver of the taxi that you’ve just hailed is behaving suspiciously, you can remember this little trick. Make a call to your partner or pretend to call someone, it really doesn’t matter. In the course of the conversation, give details of your taxi (type, colour, and even number) and the road that you’ll be taking for your commute loud enough for the driver to hear. He doesn’t know the purpose of the call, but he knows that the taxi is now identifiable to your contact. Chances are he won’t pull off any stunt.

2) If you’re in a hotel room with a door that has a peephole without any cover, place a crumpled paper or tissue in the hole so that nobody can look inside. The one-way peephole technology isn’t always foolproof.

3) Never pull out any weapon (knife, bat or gun [if you’re one of those]) unless the situation is dire or you’re prepared to kill or die. Weapons always escalate the situation to a dangerous level because when you use a weapon on somebody, there is always a risk of it being used against you. Also, never use pepper spray in a closed space (say a room or in a cab). It will decapacitate both you and the perpetrator in the process.

4) Keep your car keys on your bedside table. During a home invasion, if the car is in your bedroom range, you can press the panic alert button on your key that will cause your car horn to blast and headlights to flash, thereby scaring the burglar/criminal away. If not, there is always an ‘ALERT’ or ‘CODE RED’ app that comes pre-installed on your phone and is available on both Android and iPhone. Using that app, you can set off the panic alarm and send emergency messages to your friends and parents.

5) If a stranger gets in your car forcefully and orders you to take them somewhere, you can drive straight into a pole or a lamp post. This way you’ll render yourself useless to them because
   a) the car is damaged and
   b) you’ve drawn enough attention by crashing the car. Sure, you’ll damage your car but you’ll save your life.

6) Never walk down the stairs with your hands in your pockets. This way if you trip fall, you’ll not be able to catch yourself.
7) Remember if you ever encounter any hostile situation/person, you will only have two options—fight or flight! Many people freeze due to shock or adrenaline when they are under such situations. The outcome will only be the worst. You need to decide in your head what your immediate course of action would be. You either run and get away (possibly the best solution) or you can choose to fight with all your might.

8) If you’re heading towards a vacant parking lot especially at night or when the area is not particularly safe, walk with the car keys in your hand. This will reduce the amount of time it takes you to get into your car and start it, thereby reducing your exposure to any sudden attack. In fact, a key held in your fist and protruding between your knuckles can also act as a makeshift weapon in case of any emergency. © terrain (dot) org

9) If you ever get lost in the woods or in jungles, your first step will be to find water and shelter. Remember, you can survive days without food, but you can only last hours without shelter (only if the environment is harsh) against the natural elements. You can only survive 3 days without water. Also, you can make 3 weeks without food.

10) When you’re stuck in a riptide, always swim parallel to the shore. If you swim against the riptide, you will be exhausted in no time, your body will give up and you will be pulled under. Never fight a riptide. Swimming parallel to the shore or floating on your back will pull you out.

11) In emergency situations, especially in accidents, most people will stand and look at you but will resist helping you because of the bystander effect. You can avoid it by pointing out directly to someone and asking for help. For example, don’t yell at a crowd for help; point at one person and say ‘you in blue shirt call the ambulance now!’

12) If you ever get caught in a burning building, always lay low to the ground. The breathable air will be closer to the floor.

13) If you are being attacked, you can defend yourself by hitting them in their groin, eyes or ears. This is where the person is most vulnerable and if you get a good hit, you can stall them long enough for you to get away. Alternatively, if you have no weapon to defend yourself, your belt can be used as a whip.

14) Always trust your instincts, guys. That is our natural warning system and it’s mostly never wrong. Your subconscious mind always picks on
those warning signs that your conscious mind doesn’t. If a situation doesn’t add up or if you don’t feel right’ about a person, location etc, listen to your gut instinct.

15) Saving the most obvious for the last. Never text/talk and walk. You can never pay close attention to your surroundings if you are on your phone. That can be a serious problem especially if a vehicle is coming straight at you or when you’re being followed. The human brain cannot multitask and thus it’s extremely risky. So, just get off your cell phone.

Mudit Singhal
(BBA)
Every Indian Needs To Be Aware Of These 26 Rights That Have Been Granted To Us By The Law

We all know that the Indian constitution is very intricate, and complex. Its complexity is such that we fail to know many of our basic rights, let alone understand them. It's ironic considering we often talk about the importance of knowing our fundamental rights; ask anyone about rights and they will give you their two cents about freedom of speech and you'll regret even bringing up the topic. But, the reality is we ACTUALLY don’t know all of our rights, and maybe it's not possible either. However, there are some rights that you can’t afford to not know about, so we compiled a list containing a few of them that you should always keep in mind.

In 2011, the Supreme Court ruled that according to Section 497 of the IPC, a woman cannot be proceeded for her involvement in an adulterous relationship. In fact, the section says that she can’t even be charged for being an instigator of the adultery.

Under Section 14 of the Hindu Marriage Act 1955, a couple cannot register a petition for divorce within a year of marriage. However, if the High Court feels that the petitioner is experiencing immense problems then the former can permit the latter to file for divorce.

Under Information Technology Act, 2000 voice and messages recorded in a tape recorder or phone can be used as an evidence at court. However, this depends on certain conditions like valid and important evidence can certainly be taken from the recorded conversations.

According to Indian Sarais Act, 1867 any individual can ask for water free of charge from any hotel at any time for themselves and their pets. Furthermore, he or she can use the washroom for free,
and no one can stop them. It is your right to demand water from any hotel at any time.

A Supreme Court ruling states that no woman can be arrested before sunrise or after sunset in order to stop them from getting harassed in the wee hours. This can only be overturned if the police get a written document as a proof of why they require to arrest the woman at that time.

In 2013, Delhi Police announced that a woman can file an FIR at any police station regardless of the jurisdiction, and the police has to accept it exactly as she describes. It also says that investigation needs to be taken as per the statement of the woman.

Under Section 51 in The Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973, only women officers can search and arrest women offenders under strict privacy and decency.

According to the directions by Delhi Police, if a woman is unable to go to the police station to lodge a complaint then she can lodge the same via an email or registered post. The senior police officer then sends the email or registered post to the Station House Officer of the area of crime for proper verification of the document, so that an FIR can be lodged.
Article 22(1) and 22(2) that looks after the Preventive Detention in India says that no person who is arrested can be detained longer than 24-hours.

It is mandatory that the names and other particulars of police personnel dealing with the interrogation and arrest of the person(s) is entered in the register.

Under Section 23 of the Bill of Rights Act, every person is entitled to know why he or she is being arrested or questioned. He or she can also question the validity of the arrest if the warrant is not lawful.

Under Section 185 of Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 if a police officer finds 100 ml. of alcohol in a person's blood while driving then he or she can be arrested for drunken driving.

In 2007 a Supreme Court ruling suggested that any police officer who refuses to lodge a complaint will be suspended and even face jail term.

Under Section 498 of Indian Adultery Penal Code a married man who commits adultery with an unmarried woman or widow upon the latter's consent, can't be charged for the offence.
According to Article 38(1) and Article 21 of IPC, every woman is entitled to receive free legal aid in order to promote their welfare. A woman is often held wrong or humiliated when she goes to the police station to file a complaint, which is why she should always be accompanied by a lawyer.

Section 294 of Indian Penal Code says obscenity in public is a criminal offence, but nothing specifically talks about kissing or hugging in public.

Article 39 (A) of Indian Penal Code grants equal pay to women at their work places.

Hindu Succession (Amendment) Act, 2005 allows both males and females to equal inheritance of their father's property.

No rape survivor can be forced to go to the police station to provide her statement due to the threat of her family being put in danger, and the cops can't force her.

Maternity Benefit Act 1961 states that no woman can be sacked from her employment regardless of any reason.
Section 160 of the Criminal Procedure Code states that women can be questioned in the presence of women constables at their home itself.

According to Indian Code of Criminal Procedure, a doctor has to attend a rape victim if she approaches herself for a medical examination.

In 2013, the health ministry directed doctors not to use 'rape' as a medical term and use it as their final call. It suggested that 'rape' is instead a legal term, and proper police papers is required to prove the offence.

In 2011, the Ministry of Women and Child Development ruled out against single man adopting a girl child in order to keep adoption clean and safer.

According to Hindu Adoption and Maintenance Act of 1956, married couples can’t adopt two children of same sex.
The Hotel Association of India (HAI) that manages over 280 hotels in India says that there is no such rule that denies admission to an unmarried couple in a hotel in India.

Quite an eye opener, isn't it?

Reetika Batra
(MBA-GEN.)
12 Best Answers To The Question ‘Why Should I Hire You?’

Know how to sell the brand that is you.

Why should I hire you?

You can't expect me to go to clients and represent the company's best interests if I can't sit here now and represent mine.

And do it well.

Why should I hire you?

Because I won't work for the company. I'll work for me. Luckily, our goals are aligned.

At the end of the day, every boss just wants some peace of mind.

Why should I hire you?

When you look at the schedule and you see my name, you know you have nothing to worry about.

They need to know that you know how the industry works.

Why should I hire you?

I know hiring a new employee is a huge investment. I plan to have your investment pay off immediately.

This might come handy when applying in customer support.

Why should I hire you?

Thank you for your question. I'm processing your query and will get back shortly. Your time is valuable to me.

Because the investors should never have to complain.

Why should I hire you?

I like money. You like money. I think we should do this.
Sometimes it just boils down to the basics. 

There's a thin line between confidence and arrogance.

Always good to know your limits, and play accordingly.

Simple economics, sir.

Why should I hire you?

I don't steal other people's lunch.
I cover my food when I microwave it.
I never leave the coffee pot empty.
Oh, and I use headphones when listening to music.

Have the same goals? Hop in.

Why should I hire you?

Because you and I want the same thing - for me to succeed.

And if nothing works, coat your honesty with some humour.

Why should I hire you?

Because I'm a super-hero. They call me 'Family man'.
I got kids to feed.

Good luck!

Vikas Bhatia
(BTECH.)
One of the best pieces of advice I’ve ever received was from an old sales manager of mine who said, “It’s not just about what you say, but HOW you say it.” You can be the most educated person in a room but if you come off like a robot, people won’t listen to you. Effective communication is all about influence, whether you are speaking to a crowd, someone you just met, or someone you speak to every single day. There are some key elements to managing your body language that can really open people up to you and what you are saying. It’s like the difference between someone hearing you and captivating someone. Here are 8 ways to increase your influence over your audience with effective body language:

**STRAIGHT NOT RIGID**

Posture is one of the first things people notice about you. The key here is to stand tall, without appearing rigid. You’re exuding confidence and strength, not standing at attention for a military-grade inspection. If you appear weak with your shoulders hunched and stooped over, people are going to sense weakness. If you walk around like you have a rod in your spine people are going to perceive arrogance. So stand up straight, relax your shoulders, and hold that head high.

**HANDSHAKE ETIQUITE**

I am a Texan, so handshakes are kind of a big deal to me. I was taught from a young age that the first thing you do when you introduce yourself to someone is shake their hand. Handshakes are not meant to be a battle of wills. You’re not trying to crush the hand of the other person, although there are specific times when a firmer than normal handshake is required.
For instance, the first time you meet a boy who is going to take your daughter on a date. In normal, more civil, circumstances you want your handshake to be firm, but not crushing. A lot can be said in a simple handshake, so make sure you are putting out the message that you want to be heard.

**POSITION YOUR BODY ACCORDINGLY**

Your stance is extremely important to setting the mood of a conversation. Opening your stance to the person you are talking to gives off a sense of vulnerability to them. This makes you seem more approachable and personable. If your hips are off center, or you are turned even slightly to the side, you give off an impression of being shut off or defensive. Keep both of these things in mind when you are talking to someone, because both stances have good, practical applications.

**DON'T BE A LEANER**

One bad habit of mine that I had to break was the tendency to lean on things when speaking to people. The simple act of leaning back against a wall or putting a hand on a wall can make you appear too casual. Again, this kind of goes back to the posture thing. You have to send a message with your entire body, and if that message is “I can’t even stand up on my own,” people aren’t going to listen.

**PAY ATTENTION TO YOUR NEUTRAL FACE**

I have a serious problem with “resting bitchface syndrome” (RBFS). I don’t mean to look mean, I just always seem like I am scowling. I remember one time in my old office where I saw a woman walking down the hall who I’d see a couple of times a week. On this particular day, we happened to strike up a conversation, and she said: “you’re so nice, I always thought you were mean.” I asked why she thought that, and she said I just looked mean. It never occurred to me that my RBFS gave off that impression, so I’ve always made it a point to smile at people when I see them, so they don’t get the wrong impression.

**CONSTRUCTIVE EYE CONTACT**

Eye contact is probably the most important aspect of body language that people mess up. If you are talking to someone and your eyes are shifty, it seems like you are being deceptive or aloof. Then again, if you intensely glare into someone’s eyes the entire time you are talking to someone, you might give off a serious serial killer vibe. Find that happy medium between intensity and diversion so that when you make eye contact throughout your interaction it puts weight behind what you are saying.
MATCH THEIR BODY LANGUAGE

One important aspect of body language in a conversation is to pay attention to the other person’s body language as much as you pay attention to yours. One technique that works is to mirror what they do. If they cross their arms, cross yours. Use their body language to steer yours. Again, this makes someone take notice of your body language and allows you to change theirs by changing yours. I honestly recommend consciously trying this one just to see how well it works.

Anujha Singh
(MBA-HR)
American English versus British English, do not get confused
Respondents 25 and younger were more likely to choose British English over American English, but American English was still the favored choice.

Here are some specific grammatical differences between the two versions:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>British English</th>
<th>American English</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CENTRE</td>
<td>CENTER</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>British English words that end in -re often end in -er in American English.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COLOUR</td>
<td>COLOR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>British English words ending in -our usually end in -or in American English.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>ORGANISE</td>
<td>ORGANIZE</td>
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<tr>
<td>Verbs in British English that are generally spelled -ise at the end are always spelled with -ize in American English.</td>
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<tr>
<td>ANALYSE</td>
<td>ANALYZE</td>
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<tr>
<td>Verbs in British English that end in -yse are always spelled -yze in American English.</td>
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<tr>
<td>MANOEUVRE</td>
<td>MANEUVER</td>
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<tr>
<td>British English words that are spelled with the double vowels 'ae' or 'oe' are just spelled with an 'e' in American English.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEFENCE</td>
<td>DEFENSE</td>
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</tbody>
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This Is What Happens To Your Body When You Quit Smoking

How many times have you motivated yourself to quit smoking? How many of you have actually succeeded in it? Quitting smoking is not easy but if you have really made up your mind, then you should definitely see this infographic for that added motivation.

This infographic, created by CVS Health, explains step by step what happens to your body after your last cigarette. Starting from 20 to 30 minutes after your last cigarette, this infograph goes on to describe the impact of turning a non-smoker after 15 years of smoking.
While initially after 20 minutes, your blood pressure and pulse drops, but after 48 hours your sense of taste and smell improves. After a year, the risk of heart disease drops to almost half of that of a smoker; and after 10 years, the risk of lung cancer reduces to half and risk of pancreatic cancer reduces to that of a non-smoker.

Finally, after 15 years, the risk of heart disease or death is similar to that of a non-smoker. Although 15 years is a long time, but it sure is worth the effort!

So, if this isn’t motivating enough to quit smoking, we wonder what is. After seeing this infographic, you should definitely consider quitting smoking.

Priyanka Shrivastav
(MBA-GEN.)
YOUNGISTAAN
TERMINAL
I was told what not to do

Ever since I could remember, I wanted to paint. I remember that I would sit for hours on my bed with my pad and pencil and just draw, draw anything I could imagine—sometimes, as simple as bed or chair. It would not matter if it were appreciated or not to middle-class family I belong I had to study that I was the only thing it mattered to my family—that I should study—or rather read and remember and pour it on a paper so that it could be establish that I was bright enough so, I was started to be told and taught and not waste my time with this useless engagement. It did not matter if I was appreciated or not. I just wanted to be accepted.

As simple and concerning as this act would seem to my parents or any other adult for that matter it scarred me yes, scarred—like the one you got on your body when you are beaten, like one on your mind when you have witnessed something terrible or like the one on your heart when you feel betrayed. It was scarring moment in all these ways for me—on my mind that did not know what else to doubt pain in my heart that could not help but act out—like all teenagers who were taught that what they should or should not do and also, a kind of weakening in the body for you if you pick that brush again, you will be scorched by the bare glare of those controlling eyes.

Violence, yes, and violence act it was. To stop a child from doing what he finds joy in. Though it may not show externally, its scarring on the inside, it changes you and like every other common teenager, I would throw tantrums, I would fight for no reason, I would cry for no reason, I would ask and fight for what I should not have and take for granted what I should value. I was not myself, I was not my own self anymore—the self that wanted to see, experience and draw. Furthermore the people around me had changed too. They had turned into these monsters that would not let me be, that would constantly and tauntingly to behave, to be what they wanted me to be, to fit in. Theses monsters would just not let go.

Laissez faire, I decided, made up my mind to stop caring for any of this. And I defied, betrayed and destroyed. I took a stand for what I believed in. And twenty years later I do not know what I believe in anymore, I have lost it all. I did not preserve it then and now nothing makes sense. For the people around me, I am the monster that does not listen, would not care and would not obey. And no matter how hard I try, I cannot heal those scars, I do not understand myself anymore, I do not know who I am that one violent act that killed my-self—the self that wanted to create had left me to nothing but nothingness.

Rishabh Manchanda
(MBA-GEN.)
Desecration of Temples and History in India

If an Indian remake of the movie Batman (The Dark Knight) was made, Aurangzeb will undoubtedly play the Joker. This is because the ‘text book historians’ of India have been pretty successful in demonizing Muslim Rulers and portraying them as invaders and plunderers who desecrated the temples during the medieval period. Their triumph is so profound that even the common Muslim populace seems inclined to what they preach. Now the questions that arise are whether the temples were actually destroyed/desecrated by the Muslims? Why were they destroyed? Was religious intolerance the cause behind? If not, then does the desecration of history cause a greater tyranny than the desecration of the temples? And lastly, who is Batman and who is the Joker?

Whenever a conquest has been or is made over a land, losing of the key strategic areas to the conqueror marks the conquest complete. The key strategic area need not be a military establishment or a fort, rather it has got a variable existence in the history. When we peek into medieval India we come across multiple places which earned that sovereign status of ‘strategic’ importance. For instance, the deities of royal temples were attributed with being sovereign over the geographical area, over which the temple was built (Vishakha N. Desai, et. al., Gods, Guardians and Lovers: Temple Sculptures from North India, A.D. 700-1200, Asia Society Galleries, 1993). The sacrosanct link between the deity, the king, the temple and the land is elucidated in a 6th century text Brhat Samhita. The relevant passage in this text propounds that if an image or a temple breaks or even moves from its position, or acts with no apparent cause, it warns of destruction of the king and his territory over which the temple is considered to preside (Richard H. Davis, Lives of Indian images, Princeton University Press, 1997). This elevated status of the deity and the temples added to their political vulnerability (Richard M. Eaton, Temple Desecration and Muslim States in Medieval India, Hope India Publication, 2004). Eaton further states that it would not be surprising to trace instances of temple discretion in times of inter-dynastic conflicts in medieval India.

However, it is surprising to note that temples were a usual place for contestation between the Hindu rulers long before the Muslim Turks had even landed in India. In AD 642 the image of Ganesha was looted by the Pallava king Narashimhavarman-I from Vatapi which was the Chalukyan capital. Later on after 50 years the Chalukyan army brought back the image. The state deity Lalituditya’s kingdom, the image of Vishnu Vaikutntha was destroyed by the Bengali troops in the 8th century. In early 10th century a gold image of Vishnu Vaikutntha was seized by Pratihara king Herambaphala after defeating the king of Kangra. In the early 11th century Rajendra-I endowed his capital with images he had seized after defeating the Chalukyas, Kalingas, Palas etc. (Eaton, 1994). There have been instances where Hindu kings apart from looting the temples of their images, have
indulged in destruction of the royal temples of their political adversaries. The temple of Kalapriya (at Kalpa near the Jammu river), which was patronized by the Paritharas, was destroyed by their enemies, the Rashtrakutas. (MICHAEL WILLIS, ‘RELIGION AND ROYAL PATRONAGE IN NORTH INDIA, IN DESAI AND MASON, EDS., GODS, GUARDIANS, AND LOVERS, TEMPLE SCULPTURES FROM NORTH INDIA, A.D. 700-1200, ASIA SOCIETY GALLERIES, 1993). Under the Muslim rulers the acts of temple discretion were carried out by military officers or authorities under the delegated command of the state. The most important thing to note in this is that instances of temple desecration took place at the periphery of the moving military frontier (Eaton, 1994). Khalji’s first raids on peninsular India during 1295 to early decades of the fourteenth century were apparently not driven by the ambition of annexation but for the want of wealth needed to defend northern India from the Mongolian attack. (MINHAJ SIRAJ JUZJANI, TABAKAT-I-NASRI, TRANS. H.G. RAVERTY 1881; REPR. NEW DELHI: ORIENTAL BOOKS REPRINT CORP., 1970, 2:816). The peninsular region for a short period of time served the same purpose as for the Khalji’s. After 1323, the Tughlaq’s sought a permanent control over the Deccan. Muhammad bin Tughlaq did so by ‘uprooting’ temples in western Andhra, most prominently Svayambhushiva complex at Warangal (EATON, 1994). The Muslim state in the Deccan had been expanding at the expense of non-Muslim states; however between 1526 and 1605, the north under the Mughals grew mainly at the expense of the Afghans. The absence of Afghans patronage of any temple or deity probably explains the nonexistence of any firm evidence of temple desecration by any of early Mughals anywhere, including Ayodhya. The common conception that Mir Baqi, who was the officer of Babur, destroyed a temple dedicated to Rama’s birthplace and later got Babur’s endorsement to build a mosque (Babri Masjid) was first propounded by S.K. Banerji in 1936 (S.K. BANERJI, BABUR AND HINDUS, JOURNAL OF THE UNITED PROVINCES HISTORICAL SOCIETY, 9 (1936), 76-83). However, the author fails to provide any evidence as a backing for his claim. The Mosque’s inscription reads that Babur had ordered its construction and was built by Mir Baqi. It was described as Mahbit-i-qudsiyan (‘the place of descent of celestial beings’). Any of this can hardly be interpreted as referring to Rama, since the description given is of the mosque and not the surrounding place, site or any early structure built on the site (EATON, 1994). However, there have been occurrences of temple desecration where the Mughal armies have ventured for annexation of the territories of Hindu rulers. Mir Jumla, the governor of Bengal in 1661 sacked the temples of raja of Kuch Bihar, who neighboured the northern frontier of the Mughal territory and had been harassing the same. All the instances of temple desecration occurred in the backdrop of military advancements and conflicts, where the Indo-Muslim states ventured for expansion into the territories of non-Muslim rulers. The most common notion was that such desecrations were meant to delegitimize the Hindu rulers’ authority over his kingdom. To decimate the indispensability between the temples
and the sovereign authority enjoyed by them, the temples were either destroyed or replaced by mosques so as to abdicate their authority by the later (Epigraphia Indica, Arabic and Persian Suppliments, 1962, Delhi: Manager of Publications, 1964, 57-8). All these instances of temple desecration point towards one thing in common, these acts were never directed towards people but at the adversarial king or the state deity. For instance, the Mughal annexation of the region of Kutch Bihar further clears the fact that Mughal authorities were steered by two principles; the first was to exterminate the state-deity of the defeated raja, Bhim Narayana; the second was to keep the Mughal armies from pillage or harming the local population of Kutch Bihar. Saiyid Muhammad Sadiq, the Chief Judge of Mughal Bengal was instructed to issue prohibitory orders that disallowed anyone from the army to cause any harm to the people in regards to their wealth and property. Sadiq was asked to impound the treasure of Bhim Narayana, break his idols and protect the common people. Anyone who would contravene such orders was to be punished by cutting off his hands, ears or nose. Thus adequate protection was provided to the inhabitants and the destitute (S. Moinul Haq, trans., Khafi Khan’s History of Alamgir, Karachi: Pakistan Historical Society, 1975, 142-3)

Wasim Pirzada
(MBA-GEN.)
Hazy Crystal

The dust might annoy you sire, you may even fall trap to all types of respiratory maladies, otherwise it’s all pleasant here. This tiny pool of muddy water here and that pile of trash won’t cause much of a problem unless one is driven over by a speeding car and the other not eaten up by quadruped! The noise? Oh yes, the noise of course, I had almost forgotten it. It’s human to develop immunity to things that you get considerably used to and noise is no exception to it sire. Conventionally you don’t expect a person to remember anything in his retrospection unless unusual. The noise, sire, is no different from my children calling me or the cow mooing while being chased by those dogs, which are asleep right now. That’s why I forgot to mention anything about the noise. I cannot pick any unusual characteristic between my children calling me, the cow mooing or the dog barking. These dogs are crazy by the way sire. Do you know sire what is common between a man and a dog? Think sire! No? I knew you won’t be able to tell. Sire we look upon to dogs’ life as bizarre but we forget that in reciprocation they might too think the same! They cannot understand ours’ neither can we theirs’, but still I managed to carve out a similarity sire. The dog as well as the man toil for a content sleep which is an ultimate psychological similarity. What sire? Their toil is outré? I knew that would come. Sire, close to me the human intellect is no judge to their labyrinthine life. Have you heard of mirages sir? You have! That’s nice because life is exactly the same way as it is. What you see is an illusion but your mind doesn’t believe and so don’t you. The line that separates certitude from chimera is way too subtle. Our mind believes in fatuous things with such great conviction despite of the fact that you feed it with the truth which speaks otherwise. Nobody cares to caution the outside world that, what fails to decipher the disparity between the “actual illusion” and the “real fiction”, is also the stupid human mind. Sire, have you in any case read “The Fall”? No...not by Sartre. It’s by Camus. You were confused? I bet you were, plus the weather here is too harsh. What sire? You don’t mind! Neither do I actually sire, but there an enormous difference between your caring and mine. You do it by choice and I by chance! See I told you human mind has a tendency to flow with the wind notwithstanding where it intended to go. So coming back to “The Fall” sire, do you remember “The camel that provided the hair for my overcoat was mangy; yet my nails are manicured.” Yes, sire you are right! The part where the “lawyer” keeps on explaining himself. Sire this sentence describes most of the human race on the face of this planet. Everybody will contemplate on the “manicure”, which is shown to them- “the illusion” and most of them will neglect the “mangy camel”- the reality. Sire I am fed up of all this. Why don’t you take me to the “Republic”? I don’t mind quaffing the potion off Socrates’ share, provided you guarantee me a seat in “The Republic”. Sire I wish it would rain! I long for that gloomy sky, I
am tired of the bright nasty sun. At least the clouds don’t discriminate like the big-fire-ball, which gives warmth to the aloof, while cold encompasses the near. Sire this world surely is a deception and we wake-up to it every nightfall.

Wasim Pirzada
(MBA-GEN.)
Volatile thoughts

Reading a book casually to kill my boredom, I came across an interesting fact that kept me captive. It stated that 3,60,000 thoughts pass through human mind every hour. I was entranced for a while by the magnitude of thoughts and opposed the fact in my mind. I became conscious of my thoughts and actually realised that while watching t.v., walking or doing anything mind actually wonders a lot in past and future.

Even if u sit with your eyes closed for a minute and try to concentrate on your thoughts, you would actually realize this is the case. With every breath there is a new in mind. The thoughts may be joyous, sorrowful, troubling or there might be planning the next hour, the next day or whole of your life in a few seconds most of these thoughts are unimaginable in your life. If you consciously observe these thoughts for a few seconds, you will find that their irrelevance in your life and your indifference to them, they come in your mind repetitively. Thus volatility of thoughts does not end with the end of the day. Even while sleeping the mind continues to be a time traveller. When the alarm rings in the morning, we often feel that we were doing or thinking (in dreams) about something important or something more important prior to that most of the time we are unable to recall what all that was. This reflects the velocity of thoughts.

I have heard elderly saying-“man chanchal hai” (the mind is restless). I guess this is what they mean.

Now you might think why this strangely happens to all of us (leaving a few people). The reason is because we let this happen. We never try to control our mind and thoughts; rather, we allow them to control us. It is the nature of the mind, like anyone or anything else around us that is not effectively controlled, will surely be engaged in redundant activities.

This is one of the reasons for low level of concentration and higher irritation level among youth today. So, if you want to improve this state of mind you need to be conscious of your thoughts because such random thoughts may become your irrational opinion and being slave of such irrational and impulsive thought process may prove to be futile. But if you are unable to control this random flow of thoughts, you can achieve wonders in life.

Harsh Vardhan
(BBA)
A city of my imagination

Walking on the streets, you are always searching for that one place of security – place where you do not need to be constantly on vigilance. This city, with its sky reaching buildings and dark localites-drowns you from within. Where does this road lead to? Utopia, you wish! This city; politically volatile and ‘intellectually’ forward from the rest of the country-seems monstrous at night. You keep looking at these strange faces-is it kinship that you seek? Why is it then that every smile seems sinister; that every dialogue sets fear within? Can this really be the city of dreams; the city of harmony?

What do you desire from a city which not even allows you the sense of security or the ‘home’ that you seek? Nothing! Your imagination can bring a city of illusions, but illusions can never become reality. In a world like this; your imagination flounders at every step- where pepper is only a spice and not a weapon of defence, this world only exists in imagination. Is it trust that you seek then- trust that this city will not turn you away, not plunder your dreams in an angry fit? Perhaps. Trust that your child will return home safely and not die in a road scuffle or be tortured by those who wish to enforce their power. Can this city give you the assurance to seek the stars, not shelter in fear?

Every street; every face tells a story- is the city listening? You raise your voice against oppression but it curbs it by getting offended. You try to subvert the power relations that try to silence the cries of protest, but it only burns down your home and suppresses your spirit. This city is formed by its people- are the people hollow from within that they sway easily towards power and abandons those that seek their help? Have candle marches been turned into a performance instead of asserting the need of justice?

This city of your reality with its voracious hunger and hollow promises give way to the need to imagine a place where you can meet strangers without the fear of being invaded of your spirit. This city of your imagination; with its welcoming embrace and nurturing support, will always remain in the realm of dreams-because nobody is going to change. When the honking cars pulls you out of your thoughts- you realise that change can only come from within. You realise that this city seeks hope, a hope of becoming the city of your imagination- all you need is to believe.

Believe and venture out. Change will only come when you do not remove yourself from reality but take a leap of faith. Have faith that this city would not turn back on you. Imagination is the only first step; where dreams end, reality begins. And probably this time, reality would not be far away from your city of imagination; your utopia will finally be found.

Anjali Sharma
(MBA-IT)
Privatise the higher education

“Education is the most powerful weapon which one can use to change the world.” But where is the quality of education going in our country? It is fast deteriorating!

Former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh’s incisive observation about India’s economy that is over regulated but under governed especially rings true in the educational sector. Even after 67 years of independence, things have not improved much.

I would like to start with the observation that the supply of publicly provided professional education has not expanded commensurately with the growth in demand, thus signalling a failure. We being a poor country have always suffered from lack of funds. The government institutes are not able to expand even 6% from country’s budget when it is approved. The result is quite evident from the state of public college’s infrastructure.

Oh well, the INFRASTRUCTURE! If you are a government college’s alumni/student then ‘fans not working properly, pigeons flying in the college premises as if they own that place, washrooms in pathetic conditions, broken desks and chairs, shabby buildings, dirt all over’ must be a common sight for you. “Cleanliness” is definitely not a feature of most of the public institutions. On the other hand, the private institutions provide an ambience that has a positive and encouraging effect as well as a clean decor.

Even if we keep all this aside, can we forget that the quality of education imparted in the state run universities is not always satisfactory? Reasons for this state of affair may be security of jobs without commensurate accountability, ineffective supervision, involvement of politicians in management of almost all educational institutional and so on.

It’s high time the private players who have demonstrated their capacity to create knowledge on a sufficient scale through institutes like BITS, step into the shoes of the government.

The first step should be to dump the fairy tale that education is a sacred mission and cannot be permitted to be a business. Companies should be allowed to run educational institutions as well run the businesses that have transparent accounts and declare dividends. And what strikes me is how the word “profit” is automatically and unquestioningly taken to mean something bad and malafide. Making profit is not at odds with serving society. It is merely a measure of the efficiency with which an organisation is able to perform its social duties.

Moreover, the foreign education providers bill can open doors for foreign universities to set up campuses in India providing Indian students with an opportunity to have access to world class/global education without leaving their homes or spending their fortunes in dollars! But this will be possible only when
privatisation is allowed without regulation.

It is true that the government institutes have a great hand in educating the learners but the preconceived notions about private colleges have deterred the growth of education sector in India.

There is much that must leave us unhappy about the functioning of India’s public higher education sector. It has held the country back in many ways, principally by not responding with solutions for our pressing needs. Thus with justice, equality and quality of education, private education is way to go.

Afterall, ‘a child without quality education is like a bird without wings’

How will he/she fly?

References:”the case against privatisation of education” (The Hindu, dated may 10, 2014).

Rahul Khanna
(MBA-FINANCE)
Role of mathematics in daily life

Mathematics— the abstract science of number, quantity and space. What comes to your mind when you hear this invariably long word? A traumatized childhood for the most of us maybe? Those inexplicably long equations and mind boggling solutions that were imposed on our delicate brains, with which some of us are dealing till date. On the other hand, it could have been viewed as the most interesting and score grabbing subject by many. What actually is math? Just a subject taught to us, with or without our curriculum? or a frivolous play of numbers and principles?

No. Mathematics is not the least bit like that. It is far more widespread in its reasoning and contribution to this modern world. From home to school to work and places in –between, math is everywhere. People on medication need to understand different dosages, whether in grams or millilitres. Recipes call for ounces and cups and teaspoons—all measurements, all maths. And designers need to know if the dimensions of their furnishings and rugs will match the area of the rooms. Travellers need to know departure times and arrival schedules. They also need to know the weight of their luggage unless they want to risk some hefty baggage surcharges. Business and finance analysis may require sophisticated knowledge of how to read profit and income statements or how to decipher graph analyses. Purchasing that expensive dress to sale, going out for dinner with family, a movie outing with friends and deciding how much each has to pay, dividing a team containing certain number of members, estimating your percentage after an exam, betting on your favourite game, or counting days to your birthday, every petty action in your life has math infused in it. One cannot simply imagine their existence without the involvement of this core subject. Yet there are beings who are completely averse to the beauty of this subject. Its omnipresence is what makes it inevitable.

Ritesh
(BBA-JOURNALISM)
12 Things Our Generation Wants Parents To Understand

The parent-child bond is one of the most complicated relationships ever, especially if you're an Indian. But it's also the most important one. We may look like a generation that needs its own 'space' but truth be told; there can be no replacement to our relationship with our parents. And, that's why we have something to say to every Indian parent out there. Dear Parents, here are 10 things we want you to know, and understand.

1. We may look like confused souls and we may not have a clue about what we want to be at the moment, but we'll figure it out, eventually. Everyone does. It will all fall into place. We'll make something out of our lives and we'll make you proud - just give us some time and trust.

2. Just because our generation dates more people than you ever thought in your youth, doesn't mean we're a bunch of frivolous, materialistic and shallow youngsters. We, too, value relationships just as much as you do, just that we're not afraid to walk out when things don't work out.

3. What is different is not necessarily wrong. We may disagree with your set of ethics and morals, but that doesn't mean we're uncultured. It just means we have a different set of beliefs. Times change and so does the mindset.
4. Life was hard for you, we agree. But it hasn’t been any easier for us. We may have benefited from your experience and struggle but life is equally difficult for us, in a hundred other ways that you may not have ever experienced.

5. We're adults too. Yes, our company does play an important role but we don't get influenced by just about anything and everything happening around us. We have a mind of our own.

6. We may love to party all night or hang out with our friends the whole day, but that doesn't mean we're irresponsible. We're more worries about ourselves, our careers and our savings than anyone else, be assured of that. We can take care of ourselves well.
7. Drinking, partying or wearing certain kind of clothes say nothing about our character. Not everyone who drinks and parties sleeps around. All of us aren't the same.

8. We may or may not identify with and conform to social norms as easily as you. But that shouldn't create a rift between us. What should matter is how much we love you, despite all the differences.

9. We cannot be living life on someone else's experiences. Even though we respect your wisdom and guidance, there are certain things in life we want to figure out on our own, even at the cost of making mistakes. Realizations will come when they will. We don't intend to disobey you; we're just trying to live life on our own terms.
10. We do not agree with a lot of things you do, but we don’t expect you to change, and neither should you ask us to wear blinders and think exactly like you. The generation gap may make it hard for you to cope with our lifestyles and beliefs, but all we need is acceptance and trust. That's all it takes to strengthen the bond.

11. We know there are times when you really want to support our life decisions but don't, because of the fear of being judged by the society. You may not agree with our decisions but we know, you understand. So, just let go. We're a team, and who cares what anyone else thinks?

12. However much you may hate to do so, you have to set us free once we come of age. The more obsessive you become about protecting us, more are the chances of us straying and lying to you. The more you try to control someone, the more rebellious they become. Know that there will come a time where we will be taking our own decisions that may or may not comply with your agreement, and that nobody has the control over anyone else's life.
But, all said and done, you have and will always be the most important part of our lives. No amount of generation gap can weaken this bond!

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