

# YOCee eBook - Issue 4

Brought to you by:

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# It is not okay to break the safety rules

- S.R.Ishita

As we all know, India is currently in an unbelievably severe situation due to the second wave of COVID-19. The cases and death rates were seen increasing and that caused the government to add on some more safety rules which every resident in India must follow. Many states have imposed lockdown till further notice. All shops, except medical shops, hospitals and landmarks providing vaccines are closed. No one should step out without a valid reason.

But, what are those valid reasons? We come across hearing many people break the rules. Some people break the rules out of sheer negligence and some unsure of the rules. Only 13% of India's population is vaccinated (source), as of date. Availability of doses and reluctance towards vaccination are among the causes for the lower percentage. But rules have to be followed by people even who have already been vaccinated. Still a few people break the rules because of helplessness. Some shopkeepers break the rules to earn money when they have enough to survive for a week, but few others open their shops to survive for a day.

The most common reason many people attribute to is India's illiteracy level. Many do not understand the seriousness of the situation we are in. Many are still ignorant about the technicalities of this disease, is what we hear. On the other hand, some people break the rules unintentionally or do not have a choice. People in poverty cannot follow all the rules like social distancing and isolation. a dozen people living inside a small house, the lack of public toilets are a few of the many reasons causing the number of Covid cases to increase in India.

It is not okay to break the safety rules for unnecessary reasons, but when there is an absolute need, people need to take all the safety precautions and obtain permission while stepping out.



# Hop and Shop!

-Sanjitha S



Who doesn't love shopping? It need not necessarily mean purchasing clothes or accessories or something expensive and grand. Just buying a bar of chocolate is also shopping in my dictionary!

So yes, I love roaming around shops and browsing through their commodities. If you had carefully paid attention, you would have noticed that I purposefully used the word "browsing" instead of "buying". Well, that's precisely what I do – look around.

My mother and I would just be strolling around our neighbourhood when suddenly a new store would catch my eye. In we go! And after some time, we come out empty-handed. I guess people would call me a window-shopper. It just gives me immense pleasure to casually go in and glance at all the goods put up for sale. I am especially fond of window-shopping in malls. Why, you ask? The reason is pretty simple – I don't visit malls often. Thus, it is a welcome change to my shopping scenery. Also, it amuses me to see that the stores there have more decorations hanging about to beautify them than merchandise! If you also window shop malls like me, bear one tip in mind – don't glimpse at the price tag. Not even by mistake. Not if you want to suffer a heart attack.

From time to time, I have wondered what it would be like if I set up a shop of my own? Would people buy from my store, or would they just glance around like me? What would I sell and at what rates would I sell them?

I am a big fan of Harry Potter novels and it pains me that there are no offline boutiques dedicated entirely to Potter merchandise in India. So that's what I would sell – Harry Potter books and accessories.

In fact, I actually got to construct a dummy online Potter store three years back with one of my friends for a computer science competition in school. It actually came out really well. The only problem is that the store does not really exist and customers won't be able to buy the products which they had added to their carts.

*Featured image: Screen of Harry Potter Store built by Sanjitha and team*



# Fictionality into the Reality!

- S.Swathi

Children usually read stories. It could be a short story, novel, fairy tale or comics. Visualize what would happen if you are a character in a story that you like... Won't that be amazing? Yes, indeed. Luckily, I too have one! Let me tell you all about it.

Most children know the story about 'Aladdin'. Can you take a guess of the character that I like? Needless to say, I like Genie, the blue man who comes out of the magical lamp. Nevertheless, don't think that I would ever like to have a bald head and beard! Nor be a slave! I am a human, who will turn into a genie at times of need (same as Peter Parker who turns into Spider Man to rectify any problem).

"But, why am I fascinated with such a character? What will be the use of being that personality in real life?" By the way, I want to quote here that I like to serve people, a habit that I can proudly say my teachers have inculcated into many of my classmates. When I become a Genie, I will have the strength to do welfare for the people and I will use my superpower to help them by fulfilling their needs. I may also use my vigor to get the things that I require instantly.



How can I use the powers now? You may predict it easily. If I had known the occurrence of this fatal virus earlier, I would have stopped its spread! Even, if that were not possible, I would have used my superpower to create the necessities of the hour such as oxygen beds, vaccines, masks and every essential medical supply to stop the rapid spread not just in our country, but throughout the entire world.

Not limited to just the general good, I would use this virtue in my personal life too to enhance my skill sets such as singing, playing tennis or to become a scientist and what not. I can get whatever things that I demand. Because you know it! I will have all the powers at my fingertips.

Though interesting, there is a flip side to every fantasy. Life becomes boring if all the lines are straight and when everything is perfect. Anything that is obtained without efforts & hard work doesn't give satisfaction. The fictional life in the real world will surely be amusing. Anything can be achieved with fictionality. But on the other hand, it is better to stick to reality. It is thought-provoking and helps to be non-idle. So, I would want to be a person who can create magic in others' lives by means of strenuous efforts in helping them.

Featured image of a girl genie  
conjured by Swathi



# Abracadabra

-Thanushri M

When I think about the word 'genie' the first thing that pops into my mind is the movie 'Aladdin'. Well! there can't be a person existing on this planet without knowing Aladdin and his famous lamp. All of us must have wished for a magical lamp that grants 3 wishes when we heard about this story in our childhood days. If I gets that golden opportunity, here is what I would ask for.

My first wish would be for COVID to be wiped out from our planet.

Most of us would've experienced stressful days, pain and boredom in this pandemic. But, with just a snap, if it all disappears, how glorious would that be! We will be able to meet our beloved friends and family. We can say goodbye to social distancing, sanitizing and of course wearing masks. No more restrictions and rules to go out and we will be free again. Physical schools, colleges and universities will reopen. No more online sessions and classes..



Cinema theaters, malls, resorts, amusement parks will reopen bringing a surplus amount of joy to people. Shops will be crowded again and even the smallest items will be selling like hotcakes.

Now moving on to the second wish...

I wish for the whole world to become a pollution-free, green environment where we can live in peace and discover the secrets of wildlife and nature. We can brainstorm new ideas to produce renewable energy and will have another chance to protect our dear Earth.

Moving on to my 3rd wish. This is not related to the world or the pandemic. This wish is specifically for me. I wish to study really well and be determined, active, and kind. Being determined will help me to accomplish my goals and will help me to succeed in life.

These are the three wishes I would ask if I find a genie in a lamp. If each and every one of us become responsible to our society and to our environment, anything is possible that includes the above three wishes too.

What will your wishes be? Is it similar to the ones listed above? Let your imaginations drive you crazy!

# A Dream Dinner

-Shivaathmika J

If I could have dinner with any three people it would be with people who have had many struggles, but rose above them. I would pick J.K. Rowling, Albert Einstein, & Galileo Galilei. They have all had the same type of problems. Neither of them was satisfied with their job. Galileo Galilei and J K Rowling both had public rejections.

We would all eat our favorite foods. For Albert Einstein, it would be scrambled eggs and lentil soup. Galileo likes chicken pot pie and Rowling likes sushi. I will eat pasta. Yum

I would like to talk about their life history. When it comes through different voices you don't always get accurate information. I would also ask Einstein and Galilei if they knew how much impact their theories made in the modern world. I would certainly like to imagine Galileo Galilei's reaction when he hears that the heliocentric (sun-centered) universe theory was accurate. He might be upset to hear that, because that is why the Catholic Church put him under home arrest.

These people made a big impact on our education and our lives and I am very grateful for them.



# Advertisements rules the roost

**-Medha R**



Advertisements do. Why?

Advertising is an intrigued paid form of communication for promoting a product, service, or event.

Whenever you turn on the television to watch your favorite show or sports game or a YouTube video, an advertisement pops up in between.

Advertisements create awareness about a newly launched product or service to a larger audience.

Many people have offline and online businesses and they can capture the market only through advertisement. Television and other media get revenue through advertisements. So it is a win-win situation for both.

Due to tremendous development in the industry, the mediums of advertising change.

It started with newspapers and radio then television and gadgets. Though it kept changing, it never failed to lose its prominence.

Since it's been a beneficial form of communication for years, I feel advertising is useful and important.

# Make Everything normal again genie!

- Shivaathmika J

If I ever found a genie, it would be in a bottle. I have never actually seen a lamp that a genie might be in. But if I did find one in a bottle, the wishes I ask will not be for me; It will be for the world.

In this case, my first wish would be for everything to be normal again.

Covid-19 has changed all of our lives forever and if only it never happened, I know many people would be extremely happy. India today is the second on the list of depression. 56% of young adults, teenagers, and kids are affected by depression in the world today. Most of it was caused by Covid. Even if it was over not everyone would be completely happy though.

My next wish is for people who have less than us. I wish for them to have a job and shelter. For kids: education. If they have a job they should be able to buy food and other basic needs for themselves and their families.

My third wish would be pollution reduction. More than less hopefully.

I don't think I will be meeting a genie in a month or so but I sure do hope I find one soon enough!



# Family Newspaper with Family

- S.R.Ishita



I have tried making a family newspaper, I decided to make a family tree with the latest updates in my family. As you suspected, it was a grand failure. I used the old-fashioned mail to send it to my entire family, but it did not reach them. Now, if I create a newspaper, I will probably start with all the family events that we missed in the quarantine. I will add the upcoming birthdays of my family members. I will add some special mentions and messages to few people in my family. After setting a good mood, I will add the ratio of people who took the vaccine to those who did not in my family, I will add a lot of quotes on safety and insist all my family members be safe and put the vaccine as soon as possible!

To make the newspaper feel real, I will add some guest columns on what my family members have been up to and I will add many pictures of all the new activities my cousins have taken in the lockdown and of course, some health advice pieces from the health care workers in my family. I will add some book reviews and movie reviews to keep everyone engaged during the quarantine. My list would keep going on! I probably would not do it alone. Where is the fun in that? I will do it with all my cousins, I will assign jobs for each one of them and collate it as a family newspaper! That makes it more fun and easier for me to do!

# **Genie, grant my wishes!**

## **- Medha R**

### **1. Understanding Maths concepts with ease -**

Maths is a tactical subject and the difficulty differs for everyone. Some may find it easy some may find it challenging. I find Maths challenging since I strive a lot to get the concepts. I always devote a lot of time to practicing Maths then only I will be able to grasp the concepts before the exam. So, understanding Maths concepts with ease would be phenomenal.

### **2. The ability to fly -**

If I could ask for one superpower, it would definitely be the ability to fly. If I was able to fly, I would be able to minimize the usage of vehicles mitigating a small amount of air pollution. It would be more convenient to travel while seeing the magnificent world and nature below. Since many people access the roads below, it would be amazing to travel freely without anyone blocking your way in the sky excluding the birds that fly in the sky.

### **3. Having access to all cooking and baking recipes and their appliances -**

I love to bake and cook since I get to try out sumptuous cravings to fill my own tummy. Cooking and baking intrigue me. We all use YouTube to browse the recipes and I always admire the exquisite kitchen and the products they use. Having all their products and aesthetics is equivalent to owning a dreamland!



# *The Hidden Photo*

- S.R.Ishita

I have this one photo, which brings back my whole childhood and future. It is kept in a box hidden secretly in my house. To me that photo is not just a photo, it's my entire childhood. Let me tell you more about it...

That photo was taken when I was 2 years old. It was the first time I held a badminton racquet. I had gone to a badminton court for the first time in my life. I was so small, and I was shocked looking at how high the ceiling was, and it was so beautiful. I accidentally stepped inside the place where my current coach was playing with my dad. I just kept walking and picked up the shuttle in my little hands. I didn't let anyone take it from me, I am told.

After few minutes, my current coach let me hold his racquet and my dad took that picture. Even now, when I see that picture, the series of events surrounding that picture play in my head. I don't think I can ever forget that picture. It will always be in the back of my head.

My life changed a lot after I started playing badminton. I have lots of trophies, medals, certificates and cash prizes.

But that photo means a lot more to me. I am sure that almost everyone has a picture that is close to their heart.

# Invisible Power

**-Medha R**

Being invisible is a massive gain. Strolling and sneaking to places having fun! Here's what I will do if I was invisible for a day: There are many posh hotels, studio and homes which cannot be visited by the public or might be a little lavish for us to visit. Now that I have the power of invisibility I will sneak into those places enjoying the splendor appearance of the place. Many visit a particular place on a special occasion like a festival or an event. Certain places have restricted areas that can't be entered by everyone. Being invisible, you can walk carefully and enter those areas I have been played a prank many times like some scare me, do prank calls, put toothpaste on Oreo, etc. I would reciprocate the same with them by

- Talking loud and scaring them as they won't be able to see me
- Moving their things like books, pens, phones and making them float in air
- Eating snacks in front of them so that they can see the food float in air and disappear. Being invisible is a privilege bestowed on us which should be used cautiously without causing any harm. So, I will never misuse the power of being invisible



# Airplane Experience

-Sthuthi Arun

Every time I travel by air, a single thought occurs to me – what if the plane crashes? I'm sure we all feel that way, be it the first time or the plane or the 28th. The thought always runs on the back of your head. You think about the worst-case scenario. Especially during turbulence.

Those times are the worst!

But, it actually appears that travelling by flight is safer than by car. Stats show that there is a one in 11 million chance of dying in a plane crash, but one in 5,000 in a car. However, when you're driving, you are the one on the wheel. You feel safe because you are in control. This is not the case with flights. It's up to two people we know nothing of in an aircraft thousands of feet above the ground. Yikes!

I remember my flight trip five years ago (wow, it's been a long time since I've travelled by air!). Let's just say, it was like a rollercoaster without the tracks. Everything went smoothly until the landing. The pilot took the plane straight down. Literally. It was like going down on a rollercoaster. My insides were churning like anything. And then, the next minute, we were on the ground. Everything went so quickly. It was an experience I will never forget.

# World of sports

-S.R.Ishita

Last year every sportsperson had many challenges to face. You may think that “It is just sports; they should be happy to rest”. But that is almost impossible for sportspeople. Trust me, I am one myself.

Suddenly, the most tiring part of your day is taken out, how will you sleep? How will you maintain your finesse? These are just a few of the challenges we faced. Constantly worrying about how you will get back to your game! That’s one of the worst parts of a sportsperson’s life. I personally overthink a lot and one whole year without practice was hard to digest. I felt as if I was choked by this news and my fear was blocking it out. I follow sports a lot too, I watch almost every sport. I am a huge cricket fan! The joy of arguing on who will win before the match starts and the sudden twist in the match hits differently. I am sure, every sports follower would have missed it last year.

Now, even when IPL started, the whole world was excited. Later many other sports started conducting tournaments like Spain Opens, Thailand Opens, etc..... When everything was going smooth (like butter) IPL was canceled. But we still enjoyed watching other sports in other countries and we are awaiting the world cup this year!

All the sportspeople did a wonderful job of training in their homes, maintaining their diets, and getting back to their game quicker than ever. The saying ‘Need is the best teacher’ stands true to its words! The thrill has just increased in us!

We are waiting for IPL to start again, in UAE!





# **A PHOTOGRAPH AND A MEMORY**

**-STHUTHI ARUN**

**Scrapbooking, in my opinion, is the best way to preserve photos.**

**I've been scrapbooking for over a year and it has always been a fun and wonderful experience for me. It adds a personal touch to our memories – the pictures. Each page has a story of its own. Like this one time when we went to the beach.**

**My sister and I were sitting on the shore building sandcastles when the wave came in and destroyed it completely. Not just that, it also took away our slippers. I had to run after it to fetch it back. That was an amusing situation. Just looking at the picture makes me smile.**

**Another memorable page from my scrapbook is about our trip to Singapore 5 years ago. Although it does not include every place we visited while we were there, just looking at the page reminds me of the whole trip. The “power of scrapbooking”, you could say.**

**I have not scrapbooked for quite some time now since we're out of pictures, but I hope to resume soon. Scrapbooking is a wonderful hobby and a great way to preserve pictures colorfully.**

# A peek into my life in May days

Sanjitha. S

May is the month meant for going on trips with my family, eating ice-creams and of course summer shopping (or should I say window-shopping?) Unfortunately, just like last year, these things were not on my “to-do during May” agenda. So, what did I do? Here’s a glimpse into what a typical week was like to me during this summer vacation.

## **Coaching classes**

I am a person who had never gone for any tuitions. Ever. I used to manage just fine by paying attention to whatever was taught in school. But last year, physics tested my patience too much. And that’s how for the first time in my life, I ended up enrolling in a physics coaching class. I spent most of my summer vacation pouring over the physics materials and attempting tests conducted by the institution. It’s definitely not a fun way to spend time.

## **School work**

No matter whether school functions offline or online, we are destined to have loads of holiday homework. And the fact that I have just entered 12th grade doesn’t help my case. Obviously, we were swamped with assignments and projects. Oh, it gets even better! We are to write exams as soon as the school reopens! Sweet, right?

## **Time to relax!**

Ha! This is my favourite part of the day. Just chilling out. This is the time where I indulge myself in spending quality time with my family. This includes an hour of watching television together and also playing card games. I also use up this time to listen to music and to read e-books



## **Writing for YOCee**

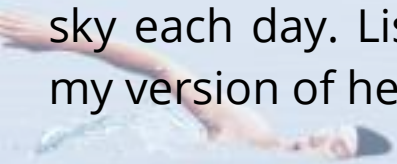
Writing has always been a passion of mine. And I'm proud to say that I spent a decent amount of time working on my passion this year. Writing to the daily prompts given by YOCee helped me to improve my style of writing and also made me think of topics that haven't crossed my mind. In a way, writing for this write track was a stress-buster for me.

## **Dance class**

One of my many hobbies includes dancing. Not the western dance but our very own Bharatanatyam. As I have entered my final year of schooling, I know that there is a good chance that I wouldn't have much time to focus much on anything else except my studies. So, I decided to make good use of this vacation by attending my dance classes regularly even though it's now online.

## **Spending time with Mother Nature**

I try my best to go up to our terrace every day just to feel the sun on my face and to experience the cool breeze that would occasionally pay a visit. I love observing the different patterns the clouds form in the sky each day. Listening to birds chirping while enjoying the sunset is my version of heaven these days.



*A pie chart by  
Sanjitha on how she  
spent her time in May*



# Photos bring happiness, lovable memories

-Thanushri M

When I think about the word 'photo', multiple memories gush around, which sometimes baffles my brain. We remember sense and replay the happenings in our minds when we look at a photo. Photos bring happiness, lovable memories to cherish, and recollect the moments in people's thoughts. In this pandemic, when we look at old photos we are able to imagine that wonderful moment in our mind. Though our life changed a lot, we still have memories in the back of our brains.

Though there are many beautiful photos with me, there are 2 specific photos that are close to my heart. When I see those photos, automatically a smile sticks to my face and I will be so happy and cherish those beautiful memories in my mind.

The first one was taken by my grandpa (I love him a lot), my mom was holding me in her arms and my dad was beside her. I was 3 and a half years old. I was cuddling my mom as if she was a big teddy bear. Though it would look spectacular when I frame it I still love to keep it in a secret box. Though life moves on the memories of the photos will still be etched in my brain.

The second one, when I was holding the torch for my school during my Annual sport's day. We, a group of four students, best of Kho-Kho team took turns and went around our playground and gave it to the chief guest to inaugurate the sport's event. I felt honoured and proud. Happiness and joy filled my heart. These are my two memorable photos. Until now when I see them, happiness flourishes out of me. Do you have favourite photos or memories that mean a lot to you?



# **Dinner with the characters of my favourite show**

**-Maitreyi Aravindan**

**We all have food with our family members all the time. Right? I eat dinner all the time with my family watching TV. But if I was given the chance to eat with someone else for a dinner, it would definitely be my favourite show characters – The Lion Guard. I wouldn't want to eat with only three characters, but all of them! They are:**

- Kion**
- Fuli**
- Bunga**
- Ono**
- Anga**
- Beshtie**
- Rani**
- Nirmaala**
- Volio**
- Zurak**



**They are my favourite characters. I would definitely try not to miss a chance to eat with them! We can play games and talk about challenges that we would have to fight, also the funny things they do!**

**I have always loved the Lion King and Lion Guard because it teaches us a lot of important values. It teaches us to face all the challenges and obstacles popping up in our life. There are many quotes used to teach these values. I love all the animals in this world. The Lion Guard has many new animals I don't know of and the show also teaches many things about the lifestyles of different animals. I would love to rescue animals when I grow up and this gives me a chance to know about various animals.**



# Active ballgame in an inactive position

## - S Swathi

Pandemic has made hills and valleys in everyone's life including the sportspeople. Their daily practice is at a halt now and some of the games are been postponed. Due to the uncertainty, many sportsmen are not able to stick to their routine.

Sports, a physically demanding activity, includes both spectators and players. It is not about just winning or losing, but it is an identity that the participant obtains. It shows the culture of a place. Sports can be played individually (tennis, badminton) or as a team (soccer, hockey).

Sports is not only for the players, but it can be played by the spectators too. In fact, the games played by the players may inspire the fans. Sport has more advantages than disadvantages. Active sports provide benefits for mental and physical health. Mentally, it increases the players' confidence level, reduces stress and enhances the overall well-being. It is said that sports are linked with leadership traits too. Increased lifetime, balanced physical weight, strengthened bones and muscles are some of the primary benefits that help in leading a healthy lifestyle.

There is an antipode for everything! Disadvantages of the sports include injuries, sore losers and weather conditions

Though at present, the visitors aren't allowed to see the matches live at the stadium, we could watch it on gadgets (TV, phone and laptops), which will not make us lose the enthusiasm. We may also look upon the previous matches repeatedly, so as to gain knowledge of what happened in the competition. We may also check at the internet for the methods to play and understand the theory and techniques of the game.

Sports is not only for adults. It is for the children too. It is not a rule that one should start practicing as an adult. Anyone can start to practice at an early age to master the game which in turn, keeps the person fit at the old age too.



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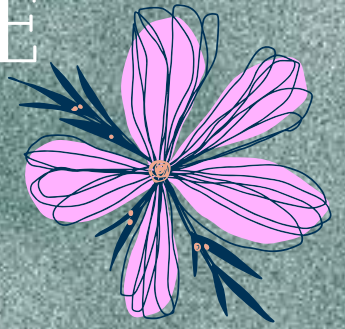
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# MESSAGE FROM THE TEAM



Hello Readers!

We present to you - YOCee eBook Issue-4! It was really fun to put this together, and we got to know what it takes to work as a team - compromise, sharing ideas, and mostly having fun. It was a wonderful and enriching experience. We hope you enjoy reading the wonderful articles in this eBook by the talented reporters at YOCee.

Happy reading!

