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## **SCHOOL'S CORNER**

Activity Club

Science Society

English Debating Society

Dramatics Society

7 Formulas For Writing Articles That Get Read!

Tips For Upcoming Writers

*'Impressions 2003-04' School Magazine with complete contents including English & Urdu sections is available from the School Office.*

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## Editor's Note:

This is the second issue of our school magazine "Impressions". A lot of critical insight and painstaking effort has once again been put in at every step to make this magazine a success. I thank all our young scholars and contributors who have given their best on a variety of topics and I am sure that their efforts will pave the way towards a literary revolution in the students of Alpina.

This magazine is a hub for children to share their ideas, thoughts, and feelings through writings, art, and whatever other means they can come up with! The content and look will change every year depending entirely on what the children send in. All the articles sent in by the children (only the articles) will be selected each year and featured on the school's website ([www.aplina.edu.pk.com](http://www.aplina.edu.pk.com)).

This year too we were bombarded with an arsenal of materials but unfortunately, many did not make the mark. In order to increase the chances of getting your work published I strongly recommend that you follow the listed few steps.

1. Clearly mark on the top of your submission sheet the following information: your Name, Class, and School Branch.
2. Place the topic on top.
3. If the work is not original please mention the reference or references used.
4. It would be nice if your contribution is typed. If you can not type at home you can always contact your computer teacher and type your submission on the school's computers.
5. A sloppy submission may not get the same attention, as one that shows effort to put it together, gets. Remember, appearances do count.
6. A maximum of three items can be submitted by the same student at one time.
7. Selecting a topic on unusual themes, than on more mundane ones, might stand a greater chance of getting printed. A poem about rainbows, for example, has to be quite wonderful in order to get accepted for publication. On the other hand, a poem written by a student about the dangers of smoking, a theme the publishers might want to present, has a greater probability of getting published.
8. If your submission gets rejected, try harder. Work on it. Improve it. Persistence is important. Write something else that is different and better. But don't ever give up. Sometimes all that is needed is a different angle to the same story to make it successful. If one of your articles is rejected and you still feel the ideas have merit, rewrite and submit it again.
9. And always do check the grammar and spellings of your submissions.

I have also included two articles in the 'School Corner' that should assist you in coming up with new and creative topics, and help you write them out better.

I express my gratitude to all the teachers who helped in the compilation of this magazine and want to extend my special thanks to Mr. Munawar Usmani, Mr. Shahood Rizvi, Mr. Habibullah Bukhari, and Mr. Aamir Awan, who helped to get our magazine printed. Though we have tried our best to make sure the magazine is error-free, I apologise in advance for any unintentional mistakes that might have occurred.

Hope you will find this issue interesting and informative.

Have fun and we expect to see more contributions from you soon!

**Babur Jafri**

# TEACHER'S CORNER

## **Self-Confidence Leads To Success**

*Ms. Syeda Fareeha Irum*

Self-confidence is the basis and key to our future virtues. No one can make the best of himself without first having self-confidence. We must trust our judgement and have the courage to try out new things in life. Self-confidence is an essential asset of our character and personality. Success mostly depends upon confidence, steadiness, and resolution. With these also required is a spirit to embrace sufferings in the stride; because sufferings are an integral part of life. After this long and painful process, rest assured, success is yours.

Life's doorways do not open to people who stand timidly at the threshold, but are opened to those who have the courage to catch hold of the latch and rap it loudly against the door till it is opened. And this passion makes them thrive and stand out, because otherwise the world does not grant a person a quality status in society or a big office in one's career. It has to be competed for and 'snatched'.

When one determines to create his own world and wants to be unique, immortal, and singular in the world, the mighty forces come to aid him; because God helps those who help themselves.

What we want to be, what we wish to do, and whatever we desire to attain should be before our eyes day and night. Focus all your concentration and efforts upon it. We should not lower our high aims but remain centred on them. Then must we adopt a fair, straight, and correct way to reach the goal. Do not just wander aimlessly around hoping to reach greatness; a rolling stone gathers no moss.

He who keeps his destination before him and does not care for the difficulties and hindrances that lie in his way, who is not ready to see the face of failure at all, and who is fully confident of his conquest and success and makes supreme efforts for that, ultimately deservedly wins and succeeds. Our fortunes are according to our pains. And as the saying is too: "If little are our efforts, little are our gains". Self-confidence, we must understand, does not come through wishful thinking. It comes through understanding, planning, determination, and proficiency. It demands skill, practice, and above all, education.

Life is vast enough, and the world rich enough, to afford to grant each one of us the scope and choice of what we know and what we want to do. There are certain people who would want to become linguists, poets, artists, or great businessmen, but these and many other fields of interest can only be pursued successfully when we have confidence in ourselves, and we can in fact properly utilize the world with all its resources and enhance our capabilities.

## **Clues To Predicting One's Personality!**

*Ms. Tahrim Fatima*

Whether you believe in palmistry or not, reading your friend's palm is great fun. Here are some clues by which you can guess one's personality only by looking at their practical hand.

Clue One: First of all determine whether your friend is right or left-handed. Then start with the person's dominant hand.

Gently fold the person's hand into a fist and then unfold the fingers.

- a) A person who struggles or resists this move reveals their basic stubbornness or suspicion of others (*or maybe just of you!*)
- b) If the person easily opens the fingers, they seem to anticipate your moves and are prone to being easily swayed.

Clue Two: Next ask the person to spread their fingers as far apart as they can.

- a) The wider the spaces between the fingers at the lower part, the more open and generous they are both with affection and material things.
- b) A person whose fingers remain close together shows his lack of enthusiasm for letting anyone step into their life or anything of value.

Clue Three: The thumb is a guide to the overall personality.

- a) A rigid straight thumb denotes a person who is rigid and conservative by nature.
- b) A flexible curved thumb shows versatility and an easy going nature.

Clue Four: The shape and size of the fingers also provide information about the person's character. The following fingers, if well-developed and strong, show:

- a) Fore finger:           Ambition, striving for position and status.
- b) Middle finger:       Fulfilment and balance.
- c) Ring finger:          Creativity.
- d) Small finger:        Manipulative nature.

All you have to do is to learn these clues, and with a little bit of practice you can analyze and predict anyone's personality just by looking at their hands.

## **We Are Proud To Be ALPINIANS**

*Sir Wajid Ali*

Move to the East and far in the West,  
Gallop through the North and South,  
And then come to a rest,  
You will come to know, wherever you go,  
Learning is the greatest conquest.

Knowledge, wisdom, education,  
Faith, honesty, and devotion...  
Skills, perfection, and solution,  
Worthiness and determination...

Learn everything here, we learn everything here,  
We are proud to be ALPINIANS,  
We are proud to be ALPINIANS...

Strength, fitness, exuberance,  
Promptitude and confidence...  
Wit, wisdom, and intelligence,  
Common sense and contrivance...

Learn everything here, we learn everything here,

We are proud to be ALPINIANS,  
We are proud to be ALPINIANS...

Honour, valour, dignity,  
Courage and intrepidity...  
Altitude, decency, and morality  
Comeliness and personality...

Learn everything here, we learn everything here,  
We are proud to be ALPINIANS,  
We are proud to be ALPINIANS...

# CHILDREN'S CONTRIBUTIONS

## ARTICLES

### **The World's Greatest Vampires**

*Zara Mustaq*

**Class 9**

Do you know the meaning of 'Vampire'? The word vampire means 'the reanimated corpse believed to leave its grave at night and suck the blood of living people'. But do you know that there are two types of vampires.

The first type is the one that I have just described. The second type is the one that you must be wondering about. My dear readers! What I am about to tell you will not surprise you as you are already quite familiar with the other type of vampires. Now can you guess? Can you guess how they suck the blood of people? How their cruelty squeezes life out of the people? Yes! They will kill people by subjecting them to misery and hunger. Now, you will certainly be able to guess.

Yes you are right. They are the corrupt people of this country. Their corruption is leading the country backwards. They are the world's greatest vampires and we are here to throw out these vampires who are sucking the blood of the poor and innocent. This act of ours will make the country strong, developed, and prosperous.

### **Pakistani Children**

*Mahnoor Iqbal*

**Class 2**

We are Pakistani children. We love our country. We respect its flag. We worked hard for Pakistan. We should keep our country clean. Pakistani children should celebrate the Independence Day very warmly. We should try to make our country strong. We should learn good habits. We should respect our elders and teachers. We should not fight with each other. We all promise to work hard for the success of our country.

### **What Does Your Name Mean?**

*Nida Anwar*

**Class 8**

One often wonders what exactly is in a name. Does a rose by any other name really smell as sweet? To find out what your name means find out what each letter of your name means. Then connect all the meanings and it will describe you as a whole. If you have double or triple letters, just count the meaning once.

- A: You can be quiet when you have something on your mind.
- B: You are always cautious when it comes to meeting new people.
- C: You definitely have a partier side in you; don't be shy to show it.
- D: You have trouble trusting people.
- E: You are a very exciting person.
- F: Everyone loves you.
- G: You have excellent ways of viewing people.
- H: You are not judgemental.

I: You sometimes have a bad temper.  
J: J = Jealousy  
K: You like to try new things.  
L: Love is a hard word for you to comprehend.  
M: Success comes easily to you.  
N: You like to work, but you always want a break.  
O: You are very open-minded.  
P: You have a lack of understanding of people; you only focus on yourself.  
Q: You are a hypocrite.  
R: You are a social butterfly.  
S: You are very close-minded.  
T: You have an attitude; a big one.  
U: You feel you have to be equal to people's standards.  
V: You are very verbal.  
W: You love your privacy.  
X: You never tell people what to do.  
Y: You cause a lot of trouble.  
Z: You are always fighting with someone.

## **Fatima Jinnah**

*Nida Arshad*

**Class 4**

Fatima Jinnah, 'The Mother of the Nation', was born in July 1891, in Karachi. She was the dear sister of Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah. She was the youngest in her family. Her father's name was Poonjah Jinnah. At the age of eleven she was admitted in Convent Bombay School. She went on to become a dentist and practised in Bombay. She remained unmarried.

She spent her whole life with her brother helping him in politics. She lived in Bombay for 56 years and spent the rest of her life in Karachi. She died at the age of 76 years in July 1967. May God bless her soul forever.

## **Harry Potter 4**

*Sumbul Afzal*

**Class 8**

Since 1997 this magical series has won top awards for all 5 of its books. The writer is Joanne Kathleen Rowling, who I feel should be declared as the best author, since by now her books are the most sold over in the world. There have been five books written by her:

- 1- The Philosopher's Stone,
- 2- The Chamber of Secrets,
- 3- The Prisoner of Azkaban,
- 4- The Goblet of Fire, and
- 5- The Order of the Phoenix.

These books are about a very famous wizard boy. His name is Harry Potter and he studies at the Hogwart's Witchcraft and Wizardry School of Magic.

Harry was brought up by his Aunt, his mother's sister. She and her family were ordinary people and were scared of magicians. They treated Harry very harshly and told Harry that his parents had died in a car crash and the accident had left a scar on his forehead. They were hoping that Harry would grow up to be a normal person and not have magical qualities like his parents had. However, strange things used to happen to Harry sometimes. When he was angry, scared or surprised, his hair would sometimes grow to its full size from being bald the previous night, or his old jumper would turn into a dove while he would be trying to wear it. He really had no clue as to why these weird things happened to him until his eleventh birthday.

On his eleventh birthday a man came to Harry's house and told him the truth about his parents, his scar, and why odd things happened to him. The man's name was Haggard and he himself was not a magician but a giant who taught at Hogwart's. He told Harry how both of his magician parents had been killed by a much feared Dark wizard called Voldemort. Harry's father died while fighting this evil wizard and later Voldemort also killed Harry's mother who was trying to protect him. Harry was at the time only a one year old baby. Voldemort also tried killing Harry by casting a dangerous and deadly curse on him, but something amazing happened. Harry did not die. Instead, the magic backfired and all of Voldemort's magical powers were transferred to Harry. Voldemort's body was completely lost and only his soul survived, weak and frail. Harry came out unscathed except for a scar on his forehead.

Haggard took Harry with him to Hogwarts where Harry made many new friends. Two of his best friends became Ron Weasley and Hermione Granger. Ron was from a long line of wizards, and had a large family. Hermione Granger was the smartest witch in her year. She had top marks in everything. She was also a Muggle, which meant she did not have any magical blood in her; she came from a family that did not know about magic. They are the ones that help Harry with the tasks he has. Both are in his House, Gryffindor. He also made some enemies. Draco Malfoy hated him and tried to cause him as much harm as he could. Malfoy was in the House of Slytherin.

This is the background to the story. Many of you must have seen the first two parts of the Harry Potter series on video. I will take up the fourth book of the series 'Goblet of Fire'.

The story of the fourth book is about a new game introduced at Hogwarts. In this game they have a Triwizard tournament. Two other schools apart from Hogwarts also participate: Durmstrang and Beauxbaton. Only students of seventeen years or above are allowed to take part since the games included in the tournament are considered extremely dangerous and risky. This also meant that Harry and his friends were not old enough to compete. The names of the students would be decided through balloting. Students would put their names in a Goblet of Fire which would then select one name from the participating Schools.

The Goblet of Fire was placed in a public place and the students wanting to take part in the competition dropped their names in it. The goblet could automatically detect the ages of the students and would accordingly accept or reject their names. When the time for the selection of names from each School came, the Goblet did the most unusual thing. After it had, amid great applause, announced the names of Cedric Diggory from Hogwarts, Fleur from Beauxbaton, and Viktor Krum from Durmstrang, it also went on to announce the name of Harry Potter from Hogwarts. Harry was very surprised since he had no idea who had placed his name in the Goblet. Dumbledore, who was the Headmaster of Hogwarts, was however extremely worried. It was obvious that someone, probably Voldemort, had by magic deceived the Goblet into accepting Harry's name. Whoever this person was surely wanted Harry to die during the games. Since the Goblet had announced Harry's name and the rules stated that all the names selected by the Goblet will have to participate in the games, Harry Potter was forced to enter the tournament.

The tournament consisted of three almost impossible tasks; the first one was very hard because the players had to confront a female dragon and steal her most precious egg: her Golden egg. Harry was panicking; he didn't know how to get past the dragon until Professor Moody, his new 'Defence against the Dark Arts' teacher, and Hermione helped him to learn a spell by which he could get his broomstick (he was an excellent flyer) and fly past the dragon and take the egg. Cedric Diggory of Hogwarts was a kind of friend of Harry's and Harry told him about the first task too. When the tournament gets underway, Harry passes the dragon and gets a tied first place with Viktor Krum. The first task had gone very well but he had now to look

forward to his second task.

In the second task Harry had to get past the mermaids and take back his friend Ron who the mermaids had taken as a prisoner. Harry was not a very good swimmer and he was terrified at the idea of having to save his friend under water until another friend, the house elf, gave him gellyweeds that would make him breathe underwater for sixty minutes. After many adventures the second task also went well; and Harry was looking forward to the third and last task, which didn't go very well because it led Harry and Cedric Diggory straight to Lord Voldemort who killed Cedric and wanted to kill Harry as well, but Harry managed to escape.

When he came back to Hogwarts, Professor Moody brought him in his office and told him the truth. He wasn't a Professor, he was Lord Voldemort's best friend and he was there to kill him. Just when he was about to dispatch Harry, Headmaster Dumbledore came in and Harry was saved.

I liked this book very much and I think that it is one of the best books I have ever read because it had the right amount of mystery and suspense and it had all the ingredients to be a perfect novel not only for kids but also for adults. One thing that could have been different about the ending is Harry's friend's death. I think that in the end the Headmaster should have saved him too. I feel that way because young people die too often in real life, at least the novels should have a happy ending.

## **Friendship**

*Umama Reza*

**Class 9**

We often use the word 'friendship' in our daily lives but there are only a few who really understand what friendship is.

In my opinion, friendship is in the beginning like a small plant, which, with the care of true friends, blossoms into a shady and strong tree. For its growth it needs watering of love, oxygen of sincerity, sunlight of affection, and chlorophyll of sacrifice. At the same time, it should be protected from the winds of misunderstanding, the worms of selfishness, the insects of doubt, and the germs of treachery.

If this plant is protected from these pests and insects, it will grow into a big, strong, evergreen tree. But if these creepers are allowed to fester, then instead of growing into a tree, it will be eaten up by them.

## **About Colours**

*Umama Reza*

**Class 9**

Facts about colours in general and room colours in particular:

White: Gives a feeling of lightness and coolness.

Yellow: Creates a joyful mood, a feeling of warmth and lightness, a sense of roominess, and quickens the pulse and activates the brain; but may aggressively excite it.

Red: is one of the warmest colours and raises the spirits. However, prolonged exposure causes tiredness and speeds the pulse.

Dark Blue: Sets one's mind at peace but can induce sadness.

Green: Makes one feel comfortable, cool, and calm, and reduces eye pressure. It helps sharpen eyesight in general and normalizes the blood pressure.

Black: Reduces vitality, is depressing, and creates feelings of oppression.

Brown: Creates a feeling of warmth, stability, and mental balance.

Light Blue: Makes the room seem cooler, causes a feeling of remoteness, and has a calming effect.

Grey: is a cold colour evoking feelings of dullness and apathy.

Orange: Quickens the pulse and gives a feeling of warmth.

Purple: Uplifting and puts one in a good mood with feelings of warmth.

## **Artificial Kidney Machine**

*Huma Najam*

**Class 7**

The human kidneys purify blood by dialyses through natural membranes. The tiny waste products such as urea and uric acid pass through the membranes, while bigger particles of blood proteins (haemoglobin) are retained. Kidney failure leads to death, due to accumulation of poisonous waste products in blood.

Nowadays the patient's blood can be cleaned by passing it into an artificial kidney machine. Here the impure blood is made to pass through a series of tubes surrounded by a washing solution in water. The toxic waste chemicals pass across the tube walls into the washing solution. The purified blood is returned to the patient. This process is called dialysis.

The use of artificial kidney machines saves the lives of thousands of people each year.

## **Pakistani Women**

*Tayyaba Tahir*

**Class 8**

Women in Pakistan have begun to take an active part in different spheres of life. Job opportunities for them in the past were scanty. By and large women worked as lady doctors, nurses, health visitors, and teachers in the first ten years after the creation of Pakistan.

But spheres for women are now greater than ever before. They seem well on their way to become even more active in the near future. They now compete successfully in the Central Superior Services (CSS) examinations. They hold responsible positions in administration, customs, income tax, railways, foreign services, police, and postal departments, just to name a few. Some of them are in the National and Provincial assemblies as MNAs and MPAs. Quite a number of educated women are in banks and in businesses. Pakistan had its first ever prime minister in 1988 -90 and again in 1994-96.

The women of Pakistan are fully conscious of their social and political status.

## **The End Of Dishonesty**

*Muhammad Usama Shabbir*

**Class 8**

Once upon a time, a poor milkman lived with his wife in a small village. He was an honest, pious, and kind-hearted fellow. But his wife was a proud and greedy woman. Unfortunately, they had no children. Therefore, they often remained sad and troubled. One day, weeping bitterly, he went to sleep. In his dream, the milkman saw a glorious holy man. He told him that a son will be born to him but if he or his wife ever felt

greedy or performed any dishonesty then they'll receive a great loss. At that very moment, the milkman woke up and he told his wife about his dream. After a year a beautiful son was born to them. At that time their happiness was boundless.

When their son was at the age of ten and was studying in school, they found it hard to make both ends meet. His wife said to him, "If we mix some water in the milk, we can earn more money", but the pious heart of the milkman did not allow him to do so and he refused.

Some days later, another incident took place. His wife, on her way back to home from the market, found a bag lying by the road. She picked it up and came back home. Upon opening it she found it full of money. She was very glad and did not mention it to anyone. She feared that her husband will take the bag back from her and will try to return it to its rightful owner.

A few days soon after, a gang of thieves entered their home. They looted everything; they found even that bag. When they were about to run away, one of them, who was carrying that bag found that all the money in it was counterfeit. He threw the bag down and they escaped. The police arrived and found the discarded bag. The policemen arrested the wife for keeping counterfeit money and she was punished by being sentenced to life imprisonment.

## **Unforgettable**

*Asma Najam*

**Class 9**

I want to tell you about the death of my grandfather. He was very kind, caring and helpful to the poor and needy. He was healthy and quite fit.

It was the month of Ramazan when he felt an angina pain. He was fasting at the time. But he had no idea about his problem. On Eid we were all very happy. But after a week or so he felt the angina pain again. But this time the pain was much severe. We were worried about him. We went to the doctor. The doctor declared after checking his ECG that it was a heart attack. My papa and grandmother took him quickly to the hospital. The doctor injected him with some medicine and said that he was out of danger now. Next day he felt a bit better. We were very happy and thanked God.

But in the evening he got another heart attack. Doctors tried their best to save his life but in vain. He was no more with us. My father informed us by phone about his death. We were shocked. We all cried bitterly, even my youngest three year cousin was also weeping hysterically because grandfather had loved her very much. She kept asking what had happened to her grandfather. At night the dead body was brought back home. My cousin saw all the people crying there. She asked, "Why are the women disturbing her grandfather when he was sleeping?"

Eight months have passed since his death but we still miss him very much because we all had a special attachment with him. But the laws of nature are absolute. We have to bow before the Will of God. May his soul rest in heaven. Ameen.

## **How Big Is A Billion?**

*Muniba Fatima*

**Class 10**

Suppose you had a billion rupees, and in your desire to be entirely unique, you decide to invest it in a not so well known stock company. Now suppose that the company was so poorly run that it lost a thousand rupees of your money every day of the week, while still managing to stay in business. Then it would take more than two thousand years to lose your one billion rupees.

Again, assume that you are seventeen years old and you started to count to a billion. One count every second, day and night, without stopping to eat or sleep. Of course, you cannot do so without going at it in shifts. So we will assume that two of your seventeen year old friends help you in counting too. By the time you reach a billion, you and your friends would be in your late forties.

If your fountain pen was enlarged one billion times, it would be 95,000 miles long and 8,000 miles high. The cap of your pen would be big enough to enclose the earth, whose diameter is 7,900 miles.

## **How To Invent The Chinese Language**

*Maryam Iftikhar*

**Class 10**

### Apparatus:

4-5 stones, a pressure cooker, a stove, a matchbox, and a glass of water.

### Procedures:

1. Pour water in the pressure cooker.
2. Put stones in the cooker.
3. Light the stove with a matchstick.
4. Close it tightly.
5. Put the pressure cooker on the stove.

After about five minutes as the pressure builds up, you will hear sounds such as chung poo choo chee choocha. These sounds are also known as the Chinese language.

### Precautions:

1. The stones should be of small size.
2. The lid of the cooker must be closed tightly.
3. Make sure your Mum is not at home.

## **Virtues Of The Holy Quran**

*Asma Shaukat*

**Class 8**

The Holy Quran is a sacred book. Love for the Holy Quran is needed for developing a love for the Almighty. Love for one leads to love for others. The creation of man in this world is only for the purpose of acquiring a realization of Allah and the rest of creation is for man's utilization. Sometimes, temporary changes are caused in their functions by Allah. There is no rain where it used to rain; or no wind blows when it should blow. Similar changes are wrought in other of Allah's creations. One manifestation of His utmost

excellence is the glorious Quran, which is the word of Allah Himself. What greater pleasure can there be for a lover of the Divine, than the fact that the Quran is Allah's own revelation. As a poet said:

'O, flower! How pleased am I with you,  
You have the smell of someone (beloved).

A study of the Quran itself makes one realise that there is no excellence elsewhere that cannot be found in the glorious Quran. Almighty Allah has said that the superiority of Quran over all other discourses is like the superiority of Allah Himself over all his creation; of master over his slaves and of possessor over possessed.

If we declare ourselves to be Muslims and also feel proud of Islam, then we should know that it is the command of Rasulallah (PBUH) that the glorious Quran should be recited and understood in a befitting manner.

"O Allah! Have mercy upon me, so that I always abstain from sinful deeds as long as I may live. Be kind to me that I do not toil in vain pursuits and bless me with solace in that which pleases Thee".

If you want to attract the attention of our Great Master, you must devote yourself to the recitation and understanding of the Holy Quran. May Allah Almighty bless you and me with the memorizing of the Holy Quran and 'ahadith' by the grace of His prophet's beneficence.

He has a relationship of friendliness with all,  
He reaches out to the hearts of each and everyone.

## **The Wolf In A Sheepskin**

*Maham Jamshied*

**Class 1**

There was a wolf who wanted to attack a flock of sheep. He found a sheepskin and wrapped it around himself. Then he crept into a field full of sheep and pretended to graze all day just like the sheep.

When night came the shepherd rounded the sheep into a pen. They did not know that one of them was really a wolf. The wolf walked around the pen, and looked for the fattest sheep to kill. But, unfortunately for him, the shepherd came back to the pen to choose a sheep for his dinner. He picked a large one. To his surprise it was a wolf wearing a sheepskin.

## **Can Fish Hear?**

*Hira Abdul Jabbar*

**Class 8**

You have probably read, and will read many more times, about the silent world of the fishes. Nothing could be further from the truth. The underwater world is as noisy as the dry land world to those creatures made by Nature for living there.

Fish are very well equipped for hearing. They have, to start with, a pair of ears. These ears do not have outside parts as ours have, but are simply tiny holes on either side of the head, leading to the inner ear. Because there is no outside structure to direct the sound, these ears are probably not as good as ours, but the fish have more ways of picking up sounds, or vibrations in the water.

Along each side of the fish's body is a line of little holes, or pores, which can also pick up vibrations and changes of pressure in the water – perhaps, indicating the approach of an enemy – and pass on this message to the brain.

Also, fish of the Carp family – this includes our familiar Goldfish – have tiny bones in the head which are linked with the swim bladder. The swim bladder, a taut, air-filled balloon, which keeps the fish upright in water – also acts as a sounding board which can pick up and magnify the tiniest of vibrations, and pass these along the bones directly to the inner ear.

For all these reasons you must move very quietly along the bank when you go fishing. You cannot hear the fish – but they can certainly hear you.

## **Internet And Children**

*Anum Khan*

**Class 9**

What does the internet mean? How are children using it? And what are they gaining from it?

The Internet was developed by a group of scientists to share knowledge. It was initially restricted by the government departments but later on many countries started using it on an international level. Soon it caught on like a fire in the forest.

It was used very well in the beginning but after sometime chatting and some not so nice web sites made their way onto the internet. Now every child is using the internet freely without any restrictions. Parents are usually satisfied to know that their child is chatting on the computer to a friend of his or her, but what they do not know is that this friend might be showing them all the wrong sorts of glitz and glamour. Some parents do not even know about the 'History' function. (History shows the records of all web sites that have currently been visited by the user).

In fact, there are many children who are using the internet correctly but these are only those who are regularly checked on by their parents. I request all parents to keep a check on their children in the virtual world just as they do so in the real world. The internet is not a bad thing, but a good thing is only good as long as it is being used correctly.

Oh! I should go now. It is 7:00 p.m. – time for my internet.

## **The Importance Of Saving**

*Mashal Hassan*

**Class 7**

Saving something for a rainy day has always been desirable advice for all people. No one can deny the wisdom of saving. Everyone should think of the future and provide for the time when he or she will not be able to earn as much. If we put aside a part of our income today for use in the future, we will not be unhappy in our old age.

Saving is good not only for the welfare of individuals but is also essential for the prosperity of the whole nation, for the better life of future generations, and for the very survival of the country.

Our future depends on what we do in the present. If we spend all our wealth to meet our present needs, we will have nothing left with which to build our future. If we follow a responsible policy, and put a part of our individual and national income in profitable projects, we will reap a rich harvest in the days to come.

We, the human beings, have been blessed with intelligence. We should not act like animals, living in the present and for the present alone.

“Let us eat, drink, and be merry, for tomorrow we die”, is a very irresponsible slogan to live by. We may die tomorrow but others, our own children, will certainly take our place. We should make things easier and better for them. We should leave to them a happier world. This will be possible only if we save today. Only fools can be parted with their money, because they shut their eyes to the realities of the life around them and the challenges of the future.

We should remember that the savings of the individual is the wealth of the nation. We are a third world country. We have to develop our industry, agriculture, education, and health facilities. All these projects need money. This money can only come from our resources, from our own savings. If we cannot save for ourselves, who else will? Saving is a must for every self-respecting individual and successful nation.

## **Uses Of Science**

*Sidra Mehmood*

**Class 7**

We live in the Age of Science. Science has changed our lives so much that we cannot even think of living without it. Science has brought revolutions after revolutions in the present world. It has touched every corner of society.

The present is defined completely by science. Nowadays, in technologically developed societies people live, move, and even think in terms of science. Its gifts to mankind are immeasurable.

The advantages of science are interlinked with our modern life. The world of communications has been simply transformed by the invention of wireless technology. Electricity was perhaps the greatest discovery of science. This wonderful discovery has defined time and space and has added to the joy and comfort of life. Science has not only added to our physical comforts but it is also responsible for our mental and intellectual development. One such example is the invention of computers. It is considered to be the greatest invention of today's world.

There is no limit for the discussion on the uses and wonders of science. It would suffice to say that science has its effects on every aspect of human life and inventions are coming up on a daily basis.

## **Fatima Jinnah**

Many people knew Fatima Jinnah as just the sister of Quaid-e-Azam. But she was also a helping hand and a medical advisor to him. She was a great support to the Quaid in politics, in thoughts, and in the making of the vision for Pakistan, not only before partition but also in the period Quaid-e-Azam remained alive after partition.

Fatima Jinnah not only played an important role in Pakistan Movement but also worked hard for the welfare of the people of Pakistan. That is why she was called ‘Madar-e-Millat’ which means the ‘Mother of the Nation’. This title was given to her by the nation, not by any individual or single political party.

She was extremely courageous, much disciplined, very stern, and an uncompromising lady, who was clear in her thoughts and ideas. She was concerned that the women have to play an effective part in the process of modern nation building. She wanted that the women should play a part in the society but they should look after their family first.

## **Relationship Between Horoscopes And Planets**

*Adeem Ahmed*

**Class 10**

Many of you must have wondered how planets relate with horoscopes. Astrologers assign every planet (including the sun and moon) with a particular sign depending on where that planet appears on the ecliptic at the time for which the horoscopes are cast. Each planet represents basic human drives, and each sign represents a set of human characteristics. When astrologers designate a person as a certain sign, for example Leo or Pisces, they are referring to the person's 'sun-sign', which is the sign the sun occupied at the time of the persons' birth.

The horoscope is also divided in two twelve halves, which make up the 24 hour period during which the earth rotates on its axis. Astrologers make predictions by interpreting the relative positions of astronomical bodies within the signs and houses of horoscopes.

## **A Little Word**

*Usama bin Islam*

**Class 10**

We should always think before we speak because our words can either heal and give comfort to a sad heart or they can break it. We should carefully choose our words before speaking. Little words of love and sympathy can make this world a Heaven.

## **Character Sketch Of A Topper**

*Hafiz Haseeb Ahmad Qureshi*

**Class 9**

During my ten years of student life I have come across a lot of toppers. Some are obviously nerds with thick glasses and lean statures. Others are cool hip hop sorts who do not mix easily with others. Still some others are humble beings, making you think they secured all those A's by mistake. Other than being labelled as teachers' pets by all and sundry and safeguarding their trade secrets of how they study, these toppers have other things in common as well.

## Lifeless in Class

Toppers would always sit in the class armed with a notebook and a variety of pens and pencils. In fact these people are the blessed source of stationery and writing materials for the rest of the class. Whenever someone needs a pen or paper he knows exactly where to go. Change might be the only constant in life but these toppers are not willing to change their focus of attention in class, even if hit by an earthquake, rainstorm, or landslide.

### Over-possessive about notes

A topper would never like to share his notes with his colleagues. To him his notes are as much (or more) important as liberating the world is to the US! If you dare ask them about these notes, they would pretend as if they didn't hear you. Upon repeating two or three times, they will make an innocent face and ask what would you do with those notes? They are useless pieces of paper and nothing else. Finally, after much persuasion, they would agree and you would leave looking triumphant and ecstatic at your achievement.

For the next weeks or so you would have to run after them like a paparazzi. Whether it is the cafeteria, the library, or the gardens, they would vanish into thin air as soon as you approach them. Even if you manage to catch them by chance, they would exclaim, "Oh I am so sorry! I forgot to bring those notes today. Why don't you call me up and remind me?" Ultimately you get the notes but unfortunately by then that particular exam is dead and long gone.

### Jittery during Exams

These creatures would be extremely panicky and tense before an exam. Their eyes would be swollen red and have an appearance that would force the chowkidar to think twice before letting them enter. Immersed in heaps of papers and books, their ears would be tuned towards other people mentioning their preparations for the exams. If anybody knows any topic more than them, they would immediately flip to that topic and start reading it as if their life depended upon it. They could also be seen inquiring about the school/college's relegation and withdrawal policies. After the paper you can try placing cotton in your ears but would still hear how they are sure to be flunking their tests.

### Extremely uncooperative during a test.

Toppers become deaf when they sit down for a test or exam. No matter how much you shout, they would continue doing their work as if nothing was happening. You would go berserk asking them to please confirm your answer or definition, but they would remain silent and reply as if in a Charlie Chaplin movie. It would be very difficult for you to believe that this is the same person who could normally even read the lips of others in the classroom. Momentarily you are inclined to consider that your topper friend has lost his voice. Understanding the gravity of the situation you raise up your hand to inform the invigilators about it. Upon their inaction to redress your compassionate concern, you call him all sorts of names in your heart and go on to the next question. When you confront them later on, they would put up the most innocent of faces and say, "I didn't hear anything, but still I am awfully sorry".

## **Chintu And The Vendor**

*Ahsan Madni*

**Class 1**

Chintu was a very clever and bold boy. Once he bought berries from a vendor. The vendor gave him the berries less in weight.

As Chintu was watchful, the vendor could not outsmart him. Chintu immediately pointed out, "Why are you giving me less berries?"

The vendor cunningly said, "Because the less will be easier for you to carry".

Chintu quickly put some money in the vendor's hand and walked off.

The vendor counted the money. He found it short. He called Chintu back and said, "You have given me less money".

Chintu sharply replied, "Isn't it easier to count it, Sir?"

Those who try acting smart are likely to be outsmarted by smarter people.

## **Hope**

*Amna Nasir*

**Class 6**

Hope is a word that has four letters:

‘H’ is the Hope for Humanity,

‘O’ is the Hope for Ordinary beings,

‘P’ is the Hope for the People of the world,

‘E’ is the Hope for Everyone.

Hope is the grounds on which the world is stable. If you have a desire, hope is its label. If you keep on losing your hope, there will be no way left for your dreams to be fulfilled. So leave behind all your worries and be hopeful. Give way to your desires and see them bear fruit.

## **My Pet**

*Abdul us Samad*

**Class 1**

I have a pet. It is a cat. Its name is Mano. It is a beautiful animal. Its colour is black and white. It looks very smart. It looks after my house. It plays with me. We play together with a ball. I feel proud of my pet. I pray for its health. I like my Mano very much.

## **In Self-Reliance Lies Our Salvation**

*Amber Tariq*

**Ex-Alpinian**

The world of today is extremely fast paced. Only the fittest survive in this world. There is no place for coming second, and therefore one has to be second to none in all aspects. One cannot rely on other people’s compassion. The only way to keep up with the world of today is through ‘Self-Reliance’.

Wars are no longer fought in the battlefields but in the fields of culture and economics; the latter being the more important. A strong economy leads to a stronger nation and a stronger country, and the only way to achieve that is through self-reliance.

Today no one can escape from the cruel laws of the mighty. Unless we rely on our own strength and exploit our potentials ourselves, we can become marionettes in the hands of others which could even lead to our own destruction. The only path to salvation is a scenario of self-reliance; self-reliance in all aspects.

Nations have risen to glory due to the fact that they relied upon their own strength. Take the example of Japan, a country shattered by wars. It started from mere nothing just at the same time when we gained our independence. Now it is an economic giant, a symbol of prosperity, determination and most important of all, self-reliance.

If slogans could bring revolutions, they would have brought many upheavals in our country, but the fact is they do not. Until something practical is initiated there will be no change. We have to show in our actions that we believe in:

‘God helps those who help themselves’.

Why do we have to use imported things while we have the best made local things?

Now thanks to God, awareness is rising among people and there has been a marked reduction in loans. Recently, Pakistan Human Development Fund received donations from Pakistanis all over the world. In the field of defence, making of Mashaks, and JF-17 Thunder Fighters, are steps in the right direction.

Thus, the only way we can be the fittest among nations is only if we rely on our own strength. Only self-reliance can lead us to our own salvation.

## **Why I Love My School**

*Sana Saeed*

**Class 7**

These are the two things in this world that I love most. First is my mother and second is my school. My mother taught me how to speak, how to behave, how to wear clothes, and how to eat. My school taught me knowledge, how to respect my teachers, and how to express my ideas on any subject. My school has created a sense of discrimination in me. I can now easily distinguish between good and evil.

My teachers are very polite, courteous, and kind-hearted. They are always ready to teach me and help me wherever or whenever I face difficulty in any subject.

When I came to my school I was simply a novice, but now I am absolutely confident and can understand the ins and outs of life. I owe a lot to my teachers and as a matter of fact I can not ever repay what my school has given to me.

However, I am determined to help my school after completing my education. I pray to God Almighty to enable me to materialize my ambitions to become a doctor. If I do become one, I will look after the children of my school.

May my school live long. Ameen!

## **A Sister To A Sister**

*Umama Reza*

**Class 9**

WHO ELSE BUT YOU...

- Would wake me up at 2 a.m. to enlighten me with the latest idea about the party that we are to have next week.
- Would leave the room in an absolute mess declaring that you have cleaned your closet.
- Would remember to borrow my things but forget to put them back where they belong.
- Would make me mad just for fun.
- Would take my shoes and claim that it was actually lent to you.
- Would laze around all day long and remark "I am so tired" in the evening.
- Would love me just like you!

Thank you sis for making my life miserable only half the time.

## **Sultan Mehmood And His Courtier**

*Umer Bilal*

**Class 9**

Sultan Mehmood had a precious goblet. One day, he ordered his courtiers to break it. Everyone hesitated in breaking it and apologised, “Your Majesty, it is not suitable to break such a rare thing”. At last, he nodded to Ayaz. He broke it into pieces at once. The courtiers condemned him for destroying such an exceptional specimen. Ayaz replied, “You kept in mind the scarcity of the goblet while I follow the orders of the King”.

The Sultan pretended to be very angry and asked him why he had broken the goblet when all the other courtiers had told him not to do so. Ayaz humbly said, “Your Majesty! I was mistaken, forgive me”. The Sultan said to the courtiers, “It is his obedience which has made him my favourite, of which you are jealous and envious of”.

## **My Mother**

*Fatima Zahid*

**Class 6**

What is a mother?

Mother is a precious gift of God. Allah Almighty has said that the ‘Heaven lies under the feet of the Mother’. There is no friendship or love like that of the mother for her child.

My mother is my ideal. She is like a glowing star in the night sky or like a flower in full bloom to me. My mother takes care of me as a little pea and helps me in my studies. She also cooks very delicious food. She tucks me into bed at night and tells me to sleep tight.

I once dedicated a poem to her that I would like to share:

My mother’s government is very strict,  
Making rules as hard as bricks,  
Work harder and harder,  
For wealth and reputation.

Behave yourself and don’t be rude,  
Never try to eat junk food,  
Orders, orders, all the time,  
Not to follow is a punishable crime.

I love her very much and pray to Allah that may He give her a long life, good health, and happiness. (Amin)

## **Is That All?**

*Ansa Qurat-ul-Ain*

**Ex-Alpinian**

Last week I was sitting besides a stream. A cool breeze was blowing. Birds were chirping in the trees. There was greenery everywhere. It was a very pleasing sight and had a freshening effect.

While I was throwing pebbles in the water, I was thinking about our country. Suddenly a beautiful bird came and sat on my shoulder. It started chirping continuously. I listened attentively to it and realized that it was asking me something.

“Is that all? Is that all you have given to your country? So many people are crying, so many are in pain, but all you do is burying your head in the sand!”

Startled though I was, I asked the bird where it had come from. It told me it had come from a place where everyone wanted to see Pakistan as a great country. “Your country’s outlook”, it said, “is so drab. Paint it in bright colours. It is going to be 57 years old now but is still an underdeveloped country. Your ancestors did not envision Pakistan like this... You are all equally responsible for its development as well as its destruction. Turn over a new leaf. Stop this corruption. Everyone is trying to deceive and mislead each other. Everyone has these dreams of becoming rich overnight, by hook or crook. Don’t make poor people poorer, enslaving them to serve your wicked deeds.

It is time to face up to these problems. Nowadays the issue of terrorism is at its peak. Why do you not realize that blood is thicker than water? Mothers, sisters, wives, and daughters, are crying for their sons, brothers, husbands, and fathers. Stop spilling each others blood for money. Infants are killed even before they have seen their mothers. Women are no longer safe from evil eyes and intentions”.

I realized that this was all true, but we were all at sea and could not understand this.

And the bird continued, “Your policy makers live in a fool’s paradise. They think that making good roads and plazas is an end in itself and will make our country a developed one. But prices are rising everyday and the poor can barely make ends meet. There are millions of hungry children crying themselves to sleep. People are jobless. The population is rising. Illiteracy is making us a nation of mediocres. These illiterate masses that you look down upon have character, have strength, for they toil and labour and bear the hardships of life. But they never make it to the corridors of power. They never can make words work for them. They never could go to good schools, because their parents did not have enough money to send them there. These children were damned to inferiority complexes for the rest of their lives. Ah, if only the proof of the pudding was in the eating”.

Then the bird paused and took a deep breath. “The latest thing that you are trying to do is to be like the western people, and applying their western rules. But you forget that you are as different from them as chalk is from cheese. You blindly copy them and build castles in the air, wishing that everyone was born with a silver spoon in their mouths. But you are not willing to work hard for it. You beg and ask for aids, not wanting to make the sacrifices that are needed from you. Each man keeps thinking of his own selfish interests and no one thinks for the welfare of the nation”.

The bird looked up at me and said, “Alas! No one listens”.

I thought for a while and asked the bird how we could put an end to all these problems.

The bird said, “Work hard. Love your country and fulfil your responsibilities. Educate yourselves to the maximum and be honest in your dealings. Make the country proud of having you as its citizen, and remember,

‘Fine feathers make fine birds’.

Take a leaf out of the great heroes of your glorious past”.

After this the bird flew away. It had made me see so much so quickly. It had made me think, “Is that all we have given to our country?”

## POETRY

### **Examination**

*Maryam Mehmood*

**Class 8**

Oh! It's another Examination,  
What a botheration!  
    Maths with its calculations,  
    English with its compositions,  
Science with its classifications,  
Urdu with its dictations,  
    And no time for relaxation!

### **Earn Yourself A Name**

*Ayesha Saher*

**Class 7**

Try, try, and try,  
Earn a name for yourself,  
And, you will never die.

For sweetest things turn sourest  
By their deeds,  
Lilies that fester, smell  
Far worse than weeds.

Be thankful for the problems,  
For if they were less,  
One might get your seat,  
With his ability less.

Motivation is what gets you started,  
Habit is what keeps you going,  
Almighty will help you with His grace,  
For slow and steady wins the race.

So, the best preparation for tomorrow's singing bell,  
Is to also do today's work superbly well.

### **Mother**

*Ayisha Zahid*

**Ex-Alpinian**

In the moments of tears,  
In the days of fears,  
I see her come to me,  
Her words like sweets,

Give me relief.  
She is gentle and kind,  
And her love is totally blind,  
So sweet and daring,  
So bold and caring,  
She shares my happiness,  
My dreams and tears,  
A mother is a gift of God,  
And I thank for this my Lord,  
Oh God! Bless everyone with this treasure,  
So that they could live with pleasure.

## **Me And My Lord**

*Muhammad Hammad Nisar*

**Class 3**

When I was a child,  
I used to see the sky,  
Full of stars in the night,  
In the day, cloudy or bright,  
I wonder at its height,  
I thought it was a roof,  
But I was such a fool,  
It is a wonder of God,  
Without pillar or rod,  
Sky, moon, sun and stars,  
Clouds, rain, trees and flowers,  
Every thing is under His order,  
I pray to you my Lord,  
Let me be like one of them,  
Like a slave in your Kingdom.

## **The Worst Subjects Ever**

*Zara Mushtaq*

**Class 9**

When I sat down with my buddy,  
And opened my text books to study,  
I did not know what to do because...  
Mathematics made me dizzy,  
The problems drove me crazy.  
History went over my head...  
“What did early people eat?  
And how did they bury the dead?”  
Worst of all is Chemistry,  
More torturing than a mystery,  
Urdu made my stomach do flip-flops,  
And I tried not to blow my top.  
When I look at the subjects that were the worst...  
I remembered the way they got me like a curse!

## **World Cup**

*Ayesha Sattar*

**Class 9**

World cup comes after every four years,  
Everyone cries with tears,

Because,

    When winners are glad,

    Then losers are sad,

We are to win,

But hope that all our hopes,

Do not go into the bin.

    A game of cricket it is,

    A matter of life and death is it...

But at the end of the day

It is only a tale of the wicket.

## **Cosy**

*Rameen Mehmmud*

**Class 1**

I have many dolls but Cosy is my best doll.

She has curly black hair.

She has blue eyes.

There is a dimple in her chin.

She wears a pink frock and yellow shoes.

She talks and she sings.

I like her because she always sleeps with me.

She is my friend.

I love her very much.

## **Points To Ponder**

*Hira Masood*

**Class 10**

Watch your thoughts,

They become words.

Watch your words,

They become actions.

Watch your actions,

They become habits.

Watch your habits,

They become your character.

Watch your character,

It becomes your destiny.

Do all the good you can,

By all the means you can,

In all the ways you can,

In all the places you can,

At all the times you can,  
To all the people you can  
As long as ever you can.

## **Brothers And Sisters Are...**

*Arooj Hashmi*

**Class 10**

The ones who think it is fun to tease you all day long about your new haircut. Then when you tease them back they cry!

The ones you have to find a bathroom for, when there isn't a bathroom within twenty miles!

The ones who eat the last slice of chocolate cake when you have had your eye on it for hours!

The ones who always know how to make you laugh, especially when you are drinking, so that you get a quart of milk up your nose.

The ones who keep their rooms clean and as neat as a pin because they spend all their time in yours!

## **My Favorite Book**

*Abdul Rehman*

**Class 1**

I have many books at my home.

I read books.

My favourite book is 'English Now'.

It has 100 pages.

It is made of paper.

It is good for Class one.

It has beautiful pictures.

I like it very much.

## **No Time**

*Maha Awaisi*

**Class 10**

I knelt to pray but not for long,

I had too much to do,

I had to hurry and get to work,

For bills would soon be due.

So I knelt and said a hurried prayer,

And jumped up off my knees,

My Muslim duty was now done

My soul could rest at ease.

All day long I had no time,

To spread a word of cheer,

No time to speak of Allah to friends,

They'd laugh at me I had feared.

No time, no time, too much to do,

That was my constant cry,

No time to give to my soul in need,  
But at last the time, the time to die,  
I went before the lord,  
I came; I stood with downcast eyes,  
For in his hands God held a book,  
It was the Book of Life,  
God looked into His Book and said,  
Your name I cannot find,  
I once was going to write it down...  
But never found the time.

## **A Flower In The Wind**

*Usman Akbar*

**Class 10**

I do not  
want to change you  
You know what  
is best for you  
much better than I.

I do not  
want you to change me  
I want you to  
accept me and respect me  
the way I am.

In this way  
We can build  
a strong relationship  
based on reality  
rather than a dream.

## **Thoughts**

*Maria Hassan*

**Class 4**

If you see someone  
Without a smile,  
Give him/her  
One of yours.

Leave your name  
On the hearts of the people,  
Not just on the marble.

## **My Sweet Dream**

*Somia Iqbal*

**Class 10**

Once I was lying on my bed,  
And feeling very bored and sad,  
    I saw a fairy holding my hand,  
    Taking me in the city of her band,  
Chocolate, chocolate, all around,  
And I was roaming on the ground,  
    I was swimming in the pool,  
    Having Pepsi very cool,  
My mouth was full of crispy chips,  
And I was about to close my open lips,  
    Suddenly I slipped from a mountain of ice cream,  
    And fell into the city of my dream,  
I saw a river of mango juice,  
Besides having a tasty ooze,  
    Fortunately I saw a cave of sweets,  
    And I was happy to see that treat,  
I was bouncing on Ding Dong gum,  
And jumping on the Dum Dum bubble gum,  
    Sauces and ketchups were dancing there,  
    Burgers and biscuits were playing near,  
Than I gave a happy clap,  
And on my cheeks I got a slap,  
    My mother ordered me to leave that  
    These silly dreams which you hatch.

## **Good Luck & Bad Luck**

*Kanwal Naeem*

**Class 4**

See a pin and pick it up,  
All day you'll have good luck.

See a pin and let it lay,  
Bad luck will follow you all day.

## **Mistake**

*Sidra Mehmood*

**Class 7**

It is not a mistake,  
To commit a mistake,  
It is a mistake,  
To repeat a mistake.

## **Some Pieces Of Advice**

*Bushra Mahtab*

**Class 10**

Pray as everything is in the hands of God,  
Work as everything is in your hands.

Love everyone,  
Trust few.

Thinking well is wise;  
Planning well is wiser;  
Doing well is the wisest!

The cup of friendship is as if made of china;  
Once broken it can be mended, but the crack will remain visible.

When a job is too big for one,  
A friend can help get it done.

## **Solving Our Problems**

*Ahmed Mehtab*

**Class 9**

Altogether, holding hands  
Let us gather, and take a stand,  
    Work to wipe out pollution,  
    And solve these problems with sensible solutions,  
And isn't that a worthy cause,  
As though pollution never was.  
    To defend a belief truly worth fighting for,  
    To finish off all this hatred and all this war.  
So once again in peace we shall live,  
And feel the joy you experience when you give,  
    And then you will see, certainly, the little things you do,  
    You're lending a helping hand, so we'll count you in too.

## **Moon**

*Umama Hayat*

**Class 2**

The moon is like a shining star,  
But it is much too far,  
It shines bright,  
But it's colour is white,  
It reflects from the sun,  
And children play in the moonlight having fun,  
The moon is creating the tides,  
And people are walking at sea sides,  
It has a beautiful view,  
To see the moon, stand at Sea View.

## **Rules Of Living**

*Waqar*

**Class 12**

Never put off till tomorrow,  
What you can do today.

Never trouble another for,  
What you can do yourself.

Never spend your money,  
Before you have it.

Never buy what you do not want,  
Just because it is cheap.

Pride costs us more than hunger, thirst and cold.

We seldom repent having eaten too little.

Nothing is troublesome that we do willingly.

How much pain evils have caused us that have never happened!

## **Parents Are A Gift Of God**

*Syed Abdul Ahad*

**Class 7**

Parents are a precious gift of God,  
Who are given to us by the Lord.

They love and they scold,  
To turn us into gold.

The money they earn,  
They spend on us to learn.

They are with us in hard times,  
And pray for us with their hearts and minds.

The piece of advice they give,  
Is like a valuable gift.

They tell us what is wrong and right,  
To make us the people we are.

## **Mama & Papa**

*Huzaiifa Shakeeb*

**Class 1**

A simple child to his mother said,  
“What would happen if Papa is dead?”  
“O hush!” said Mama. “Don’t talk of death;  
Soon he will be in good health.  
God to your Papa with mercy shall give  
Life and health, and he will live.  
Pray dear child, don’t shed tears,  
For children’s prayers does God hear”.

A week after father was all right,  
The home was brightened with lovely light,  
But soon bad luck again had fell,  
Sickness of Mama made home a hell,  
The little child sighed and wept,  
And weeping still at last he slept,  
The lonely child having no sister or brother,  
He asked next day his father,  
“What would happen Papa,  
If God takes away Mama?”  
“O don’t worry child about your mother,  
In such a case you will get another”.

## **Life Is Mathematics**

*Maryam Mehmood*

**Class 8**

+ Add Friends,  
- Subtract Enemies,  
/ Divide Sorrow,  
x Multiply Happiness.

## **Birds**

*M. Dawood*

**Class 2**

Birds are beautiful,  
Birds are beautiful.

Sitting on the trees,  
Hopping on the grass,  
Flying in the air, free.

Birds are beautiful,  
Birds are beautiful.

Singing sweet songs,  
Having pretty feathers,  
Big, tiny, and long.

## **Stars**

*Usman-ul-Haq*

**Class 2**

I love stars,  
When I see them in the sky,  
When they shine,  
They inspire me,

They give a message of peace,  
They are the signs of happiness,  
We all love stars,  
In a black, dark sky,  
They look like diamonds,  
So, I love stars.

**God's Gift**  
*Misbah Hassan*  
Class 3

God made the sunshine,  
God made the sand,  
God made the oceans,  
God made the land.

God made the mountains,  
God made the snow,  
God made all  
The rivers flow.

He filled the world,  
With love and peace,  
And all the blessings,  
That we need.

God is very  
Kind indeed,  
Thank you very much,  
For blessing us with countless things.

**Friendship: Believes All Things**  
*Mahum Tariq*  
Class 6

Friends are patient and kind,  
They are not jealous or boastful,  
They are not arrogant or rude.

Friends do not insist on having their own way,  
They are not irritable or resentful,  
They do not rejoice at wrongs,  
But delight in what is right.

Friends bear all things,  
Believe all things,  
Hope all things,  
Endure all things.

Friendship never ends.

## **A Bird I Am!**

*Sana Saeed*

**Class 7**

Soaring high up in the sky,  
With excitement I start to cry,  
Roaming around the glorious sun,  
Gliding down is a lot of fun!

Feeling light like a cloud,  
Makes me feel gay and proud,  
To see the world I'm always willing,  
My journey is exciting and thrilling!

Fish are my favourite prey,  
I catch them everyday,  
Searching for a place to build my nest,  
I love to travel from east to west!

So you can guess what I am,  
A creature of God, a bird I am!

## **Many Dreams...**

*Zainab Najeeb*

**Class 3**

The clock is  
always ticking,  
and the sand  
runs out too fast.

You should begin today,  
before today  
becomes the past.

Just take your dream,  
and keep on moving.  
There's no time  
to stop and stare.

Look at the cemetery –  
many dreams die there.

## **Aliens Observing The Earth**

*Ayesha Saheer*

**Class 7**

The garden of life where animals grow,  
And flowers blossom and faint wind doth blow,  
Look at the Earth, with its pollution high,  
From corruption and war the planet will die.

Look at the Earth, such a disgusting place,  
They breed over there, the human race,  
A foul race of creatures dependent upon power,  
They're rough and tough, and sore and sour.

They are killing themselves,  
I don't know why they should,  
For its money and greed,  
And not for good deeds.

Will they ever settle and make good friends?  
I don't know, we shall see, that really depends.

## **I Am A Starving Litterbin**

*Zarnain Masood*

**Class 7**

I am a starving litterbin,  
Nobody throws some garbage in,  
Nobody cares about the way I feel,  
To get the garbage I can't kneel.

Food is something I can't live without,  
I don't get it even if I shout,  
If you don't make a mess,  
The pollution will be less.

People who throw litter in the hubs,  
Are also known as litter bugs,  
I am a starving litterbin,  
Please throw some garbage in!

## **My Cat**

*Hamza Saeed*

**Class 1**

I have a cat,  
She is black,  
Likes to eat rats;

    With brown eyes,  
    Shining at night,  
    Looks at me  
    When I come to see;

Tells me that,  
She missed me a lot,  
We go to a plot  
For a little walk;

    I love my cat,  
    When wearing a white hat,  
    With red bow,

Like the rose,  
And both we go;  
She climbs the trees,  
When she is free,  
And calls me up,  
With a milk cup;  
When she says meow,  
I feel happy,  
And I rub her fur,  
With soft hands,  
To make her purr.

I love my cat.

### **Where There Is...**

*Maryam Mehmood*

**Class 8**

Where there is faith, there is love,  
Where there is love, there is peace,  
Where there is peace, there is God,  
Where there is God, there is no need.

### **Money**

*Waqas Mehmood*

**Class 9**

Money.....  
It can buy you a house,  
But not a home!  
It can buy you a bed,  
But not sleep!  
It can buy you a clock,  
But not time!  
It can buy you a position,  
But not respect!  
It can buy you medicine,  
But not health!  
It can buy you blood,  
But not a life!

So you see money isn't everything!  
And it often causes pain and suffering,

I tell you all this because I am your friend, and as your friend, I want to take away from you all your pain and suffering.....

So please send me all your money and let me suffer for you!

# SCHOOL'S CORNER

## **Activity Club**

### ***Model Town A***

#### **Girls Branch**

It is the practice of Alpina School to ensure that students and teachers both work in complete harmony and collaboration.

The main purpose of our Activity Club is to engage in activities that develop the aesthetic senses in the students through practical means. Diverse artistic skills are inculcated, via painting, flower making, pot and relief painting, glass and spray work, dry arrangements, cooking, different salad arrangements, and many other similar activities.

The Activity Club explores all mediums of arts and crafts. These activities furthermore improve creativity in us, the students. It also polishes the imaginative senses and prepares us for a better and successful life.

Due to this society we have come to know how to utilize, what would normally be termed as 'waste', in a decorative and attractive manner. These activities also employ our abilities in an expressive and creative way.

The Activity Club also, invariably, provides us a chance to develop social contacts as we discuss and share our ideas with each other.

We can therefore, claim that our Activity Club is the best source in helping us express and develop our hidden talents in a most meaningful and productive way.

#### Girls Branch, Model Town A:

President: Shumaila Riaz (Class 10)

Vice President: Aqsa Saleem (Class 8)

Secretary: Omama Abbasi (Class 7)

Teacher Incharge: Ms. Zubaira Sajjad

#### Boys Branch, Model Town A:

President: Imran Tanveer

Secretary: Waqas Nasir

Teacher Incharge: Mrs. Humaira Mehmood

#### Girls Branch, Satellite Town:

President: Anum Jillani (Class 10)

Vice President: Sana Zahid (Class 8)

Secretary: Fouzia Tahir (Class 9)

Teacher Incharge: Ms. Bushra Anjum

#### Boys Branch, Satellite Town:

President: Talha Iqbal (Class 10)

Vice President: Uzair Rasool (Class 9)

Secretary: Usman Zaheer (Class 6)

Teacher Incharge: Ms. Saeeda Mehtab

## **Science Society**

### ***Model Town A***

#### **Girls Branch**

The Science Society provides a strong link between students and science. The main aim and objective of our Science Society is to enrich the theoretic and practical knowledge of the students.

As compared to normal studies, the Science Society provides much more extensive and well explained concepts of different theories. As the Science Society is run on a hands-on and practical approach, it is much more explicable to us and we get to spend more time in pursuing our favourite topics.

We learn about the latest information on Science. We are told about the hottest inventions and new projects coming up in the world. We are given opportunities to practice experiments in a friendly environment and with the latest equipments.

Once in a year the society arranges a 'Science Exhibition' in the school campus. The science fair project is the culmination of hard work and persistent investigation. It affords us the opportunity to share our interests with parents, relatives, neighbors, and teachers as well as the chance to be interviewed by the judges who are scientists, engineers, doctors, and others with scientific interests.

The opportunity significantly contributes to the education of students in the thinking process of formulating the project and actually doing the experiments. It may mean the beginning of a life-long fascination with science.

Doing a science project provides an opportunity for students to:

1. Learn and practice science process skills
2. Foster imagination and creative thought
3. Develop organizational skills
4. Work independently as well as in a group
5. Enhance communications skills
6. Meet others interested in science study
7. Earn recognition for academic excellence

The future, it is said, lies in science, mathematics, and technology. For those with the interest, talent, and ability, there are opportunities and exciting careers. It is a future that seeks to improve lives of people, to increase their productivity, to expand their minds, and to extend their potentials.

#### Girls Branch, Model Town A:

President: Amna Syed (Class 9)  
Vice President: Wajeeha Munawar (Class 9)  
Secretary: Zainab Zulfiqar (Class 8)  
Joint Secretary: Fatima Zahid (Class 6)

Teacher Incharge: Ms.Mehreen Anwar

#### Boys Branch, Model Town A:

President: Muhammad Rameez  
Secretary: Musab Mamoon

Teacher Incharge: Mr. Mehmood Ayaz

### Girls Branch, Satellite Town:

President: Nida Qamar (Class 10)  
Vice President: Hira A. Jabbar (Class 8)  
Secretary: Asma Shaukat (Class 8)

Teacher Incharge: Ms. Asma Mehtab

### Boys Branch, Satellite Town:

President: Maooz Ahmed (Class 10)  
Vice President: Mohsen Adeel (Class 10)  
Secretary: Zulnoorain (Class 6)

Teacher Incharge: Ms. Saima Nisar

## **English Debating Society**

### **Model Town A**

#### **Girls Branch**

*'While working on an argument together, I learned that we have a lot more in common than we have differences.'*

The debating experience is a synergistic effect on students to broaden their opportunities to know students other than themselves while working together toward a common goal.

At the beginning of the society we always have an election to nominate our Office bearers and finalise the Society's schedule. Through the Debating Society we acquire the skills and experiences we need to access greater educational opportunities.

Debate improves three fundamental academic skills that translate very easily into a variety of learning environments. Debate teaches critical thinking, research, and presentation skills at profound levels. The ability to analyze and evaluate arguments and ideas carefully is vital in an information age. Few instructional methods teach comprehension, analysis, and evaluation as well as debate. The competitive motivation to do well while debating encourages students to think more clearly, research thoroughly, and prepare their remarks carefully. Once students have learned these fundamental skills, they become more proficient in other academic settings.

Apart from the weekly debates, the Debating Society arranges Debating Competitions twice a year to encourage students to deliver their ideas, thoughts and views on various contentious topics. Competitive debate also increases knowledge of content. We annually research many books, academic journal articles, official documents, reports, magazines and news articles on broad topic areas. Through debating we learn a great deal about public matters, politics, economics and social issues. We specially enjoy our debates on controversial and heated issues.

Debate also affords opportunities for personal growth in several ways. First, debate improves self-esteem and self-confidence. The ability to stand up and offer your opinion backed by strong evidence and argument improves one's willingness to engage in conversation. It makes you less afraid to learn. It makes you surer of yourself when you know that you can research a question and develop an answer. Win or lose, debating improves self-confidence.

Second, debate provides the opportunity for positive interaction with peers. Debate provides us with an opportunity to live together, to engage each other in social and personal issues in a safe and encouraging

environment, and often provides us an opportunity to know students from different schools, neighborhoods, and cultural backgrounds.

And finally, debate teaches us to understand the opinions of others. In a recent debate, we engaged in switch-side debating. We had to debate both sides of the same resolution. This aspect of debate alone makes the activity worthwhile, for we must come to learn our opponents' strongest arguments. We must learn these arguments both to defend them and to argue against them. Debate teaches us to appreciate the opinion of others and to disagree with others with respect.

There is growing evidence that debate reduces the tendency to react violently to frustrating situations. Much of the inexplicable violence we see today is born of frustration. Words provide a better way of relieving that frustration and resolving disagreement than fists, knives, or guns. Studies of competitive debate and violence suggest that several features found in violence reduction methods coalesce with the skills debate teaches. These studies point in a direction that would lead us to believe that debate teaches conflict resolution skills, improves usable vocabulary, improves self-esteem, and helps students distinguish argument from personal attack. Each of these skills lessens propensity toward violence.

Girls Branch, Model Town A:

President: Ayesha Sattar (Class 9)  
Vice President: Javeria Shabbir (class 10)  
G. Secretary: Eish Imran (Class 7)

Teacher Incharge: Imbesat Mehar

Boys Branch, Model Town A:

President: Osama A. Pirzada  
Secretary: Ikrash Najeeb

Teacher Incharge: Mr. Qasim Malik

Girls Branch, Satellite Town:

President: Somia Iqbal (Class 10)  
Vice President: Bushra Mehtas (Class 9)  
Secretary: Zubda Iftikhar (Class 7)

Teacher Incharge: Ms. Zahra Ahmed

Boys Branch, Satellite Town:

President: Mohsin Rehman (Class 10)  
Vice President: Abeer Hayat (Class 7)  
Secretary: Zaheer Babar (Class 8)

Teacher Incharge: Mr. Yousuf Khan

## **Dramatics Society**

### ***Model Town A***

#### **Girls Branch**

*'Life is like a stage'.*

Our entire life is based on a story and all ups and downs are acts of this drama.

Our school has provided us immense opportunities to not only gain developmental benefits through the Dramatics Society but learn according to our curriculum as well.

The following concepts are taught through drama: Leadership, Teamwork, Discipline, Dedication, Pride in work, Responsibility, Ethics, Self-esteem, Risk-taking, Morality, Conflict resolution, Aesthetics, and Appreciation for the world we live in.

What skills do students learn? Students learn how to sense the world around them, understand and apply basic principles of language use, judge information, perceive differently, compromise, celebrate ourselves and our life, make decisions, create and use processes, self-assess, self-manage, be adaptable, be productive, be sensitive, be safe, cooperate, imagine, intuit, trust, obtain and maintain hope, survive, communicate, write, lead, be confident, empathize, relate.....and many more...ah yes...and entertain!

#### Girls Branch, Model Town A:

President: Sania Qamer (Class 8)  
Vice President: Mirriam Mehmood (Class 8)  
Secretary: Ayesha Hafeez (class 10)  
Joint Secretaries: (i) Sehrish Ayaz (Class 9)  
(ii) Qareena Komal (Class 9)

Teacher Incharge: Ms. Huma Khan

#### Boys Branch, Model Town A:

President: Immad Ashraf  
Secretary: Danial Ahmed

Teacher Incharge: Ms. Sumbla Zameer

#### Girls Branch, Satellite Town:

President: Muniba Fatima (Class 10)  
Vice President: Faryal Ahmed (Class 9)  
Secretary: Mishal Hassan (Class 7)

Teacher Incharge: Ms. Nusrat Khursheed

#### Boys Branch, Satellite Town:

President: Saad Shams (Class 9)  
Vice President: Ahmed Mehtab (Class 9)  
Secretary: Yasir Majeed (Class 9)

Teacher Incharge: Ms. Maria Yousaf

## **7 Formulas For Writing Articles That Get Read!**

How can you make your article interesting and engage your reader? To find out read on...

Many of us have to write an article at one time or another. No matter why you're writing an article, it's your responsibility to make it interesting - otherwise no one will read it. (Except you.)

So how can you make your article interesting and engage your reader? It's all about the ANGLE. First pick your topic. For example, let's say your topic is something boring ... "car wax." Now, here's when many people would start writing.

Stop! You need an angle first! What aspect of car wax do you want to write about? Is there anything new or trendy in the world of car wax that others are interested in? Some ideas: how the new generation of car waxes helps protect the paint for twice as long, OR, an overview of the best five brands of car wax on the market, OR what the best type of wax is for your particular car. Get it? These are all angles. (By the way, I've never waxed my car, so please take these ideas with a grain of salt!)

Ready to brainstorm your angles? Here are seven article "formulas" to get you started. Some elements of each may overlap with each other, but each formula is truly distinct.

### **1. The How-To**

People love how-to articles! They lead the reader step-by-step through how to reach an objective. They also sometimes offer resources the reader can contact for more information.

What expertise do you have to share? Turn that subject into an interesting how-to for readers. Examples: "How to always get good grades," "How to find the best spot in the recess," and "How to get to school for free."

### **2. The List**

This is one of the most basic formulas and the easiest to write. Give a short one or two paragraph introduction, and then launch right into your list. Keep each item to a few sentences at the most. People love numbers, so number your list and give your total number in the title! Examples: "31 Ways to Organize Your Room," "15 Tips for Stink-Free Feet," "Five Reasons Teachers Won't Be the Same in 2004" and of course "7 Formulas For Writing Articles That Get Read!"

### **3. The "Straw Man"**

Here you set up a premise and knock it down, showing the benefits of your alternative view or approach. This is ideal to use when you're discussing the drawbacks of a new practice or method that's controversial right now. You can listen to the latest news to get ideas. Here's a popular example we often see on the covers of health magazines: "Are High Protein Diets the Key to Fast Weight Loss?" You get all excited, thinking you've discovered an amazing dieting revelation. But the article reveals, point by point, that high protein diets are unsafe for the long term, and that of course the only reliable way to lose weight is through diet and exercise. Oh well! Back to the treadmill...

### **4. The Mini Case Study**

Raise a provocative question and then answer it with three or four real-life examples. Example: For an article titled, "Should You Quit Your School and Go Independent?" you could begin with a few stats on how today's richest people are mostly school dropouts and highly successful. Then you could feature a few real cases, each with different outcomes to show all sides of the issue.

### **5. The Interview**

Choose a credible expert to interview for your article. For example, if your topic is the latest trends in education, you could interview a top educational analyst. Present it in either a traditional article format or do a Question & Answer format.

### **6. The Trend**

Trends aren't just for fashion! Whenever a trend sweeps a certain profession, you'll suddenly see dozens of articles covering the topic. From the latest hairstyle to the latest political problems, people want to know all about these trends - their origins, benefits, and drawbacks.

## 7. The Study Finding

These articles report the results of a study or survey. If you do a bit of research, you can probably dig up a recent study on which you can base your article. Examples: “Schools Cutting Marketing Budgets Across the Board,” “More movies, lesser business”, “Blind people outliving deaf ones”, “Chances of an Alpinian becoming a future president/prime minister”.(Alright, so you can scoff up the last one but hey, who knows!)

Hope these ideas got your creative juices flowing!

## Tips For Upcoming Writers

- 1. Read, read, and read some more.** The more you read, the better you write. Reading in bed with a bowl of popcorn is the best way to go about this.
- 2. Keep a journal,** something private, where you can let out your innermost thoughts. This is especially good if you have a very bad memory. Also, don't ever throw your journals or diaries away!
- 3. Look for inspiration right in your own back yard.** You don't have to travel across an ocean to find great ideas for stories. You can find them in your classroom, your lunchroom, your home! Your family and friends can turn out to be your best characters.
- 4. Learn from the pros.** When you do read, choose the best writers you can find. They can often be your best teachers. Just think of Harry Potter as an educational tool!
- 5. Don't expect perfect, ever.** Expect mistakes, and lots of them! Most writers rewrite over and over. And don't write in stone – meaning: don't think you can't change or improve what you've written, even if you've worked on it for a very long time. Sometimes you have to write through lots of trash before you get to the treasure.
- 6. Don't try and correct each and every word as you go.** Write your story out and then go back and make your corrections. Worrying about spelling, grammar, and punctuation while you're writing can bog you down. Check all those things over after you've finished for the day.
- 7. Read what you've written out loud.** Do this all the time so that you can hear how the words flow.
- 8. Become a people observer.** Wherever you are, take notice of people and their reactions to events. This will help you when you develop your characters.
- 9. When you travel keep an eye out for a story and take a notebook along with you.** You never know where inspiration will turn up!
- 10. Write from your heart.** Write about things that matter most to you and your words will soar!