

THE RYGAARDS TIMES

TREASURE HUNT AT THE LAST PAGE !!

RYGAARDS WINS 2ND PLACE IN MATH COMPETITION!

Saanvi 9x

Yesterday, on the 18th of April, 18 students from years 7-9 went to our first DISN math competition. The competition was hosted at CIS between 14:30-18:30 and consisted of 5 rounds. The rounds were completed in teams of three and varied in topic. The first round was logic problems, the second were Japanese Zukei puzzles and the third was a four four's game. The fourth round was a sky-scraper blocks perspective game that was similar to Sudoku but with more rules. By the end of the fourth round the Y9 boys' team was within the top 3 teams out of a total of eleven U14 teams. After that we had a lunch break in CIS's wonderful cafeteria that served us delicious food and cake. The fifth and last round consisted of 20 word-problems to be solved in 20 minutes. In the end the scores were remarkably close, with only a 5-point difference between first and last place! Finally, our 9Y boys' team was able to secure 2nd place. All in all, the competition was competitive and a great experience. Even though Year 9 is the final year to enter the competition, we encourage the younger students to participate in the forthcoming years.



BADMINTON FRIENDLIES

Ansh 10y

On Monday the 15th and Monday 8th, Rygaards and NIS had a series of friendly badminton matches. We played both home and away. Both schools brought 16 players each to the games and we played against each other depending on skill level. Overall, it was a very fun experience and we all had very competitive games! Although we were never told our scores or which school performed better, all the games were very close and both schools had around the same number of wins. Apart from the games we all got to meet some new people make some new friends. We all had a great time and can't wait to go again new year.



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INDIAN ELECTIONS

Tanish 9x

The world's biggest election is kicking off this week to decide who will lead the world's biggest democracy. Most countries simply go to polls on a single, predetermined day. However, with nearly a billion voters, this is simply not possible.

India's national elections pose a huge logistical challenge that takes over a month to complete, with over 5.5 million electronic voting machines across over 1 million polling stations throughout the country. They span 28 states and 4 union territories from congested cities and isolated areas to the snow-peaked Himalayas and the western deserts and tiny islands in the Indian Ocean. In fact, in the last election in 2019 (elections happen every 5 years) the government spent over USD 8.6 billion, compared to the US who spent USD 6.5 billion in 2016.

Over 15 million election workers will be deployed, traveling by all means of transports in order to get to the people. For example, in the city of Tashigang, located on the border with Tibet, the government deployed the world's highest polling station at 2650m.



The current government, the BJP is led by the current prime minister, Narendra Modi. He has been in charge for 2 consecutive terms now (2014-19, 2019-24). And he will be looking to assert his dominance with a 3rd successive term in power. However, despite the challenges he might face, the BJP is projected to win by a significant majority.

The main other opposition, the Congress which has been in charge of the country for the majority of its 77 years long independence, has recently been struggling. Its inability to garner votes can likely be attributed to its inability of being able to ignite a spark within the population, as we are talking about a country where promises need to be made and change needs to be accomplished, in order for people to have any faith; it is a country with high expectations of its leaders.

And now, not only India, but the whole world will be watching on to witness who will lead the nation, and inevitably, the future of the global stage.



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DIVERGENT

Age Rating: 13+

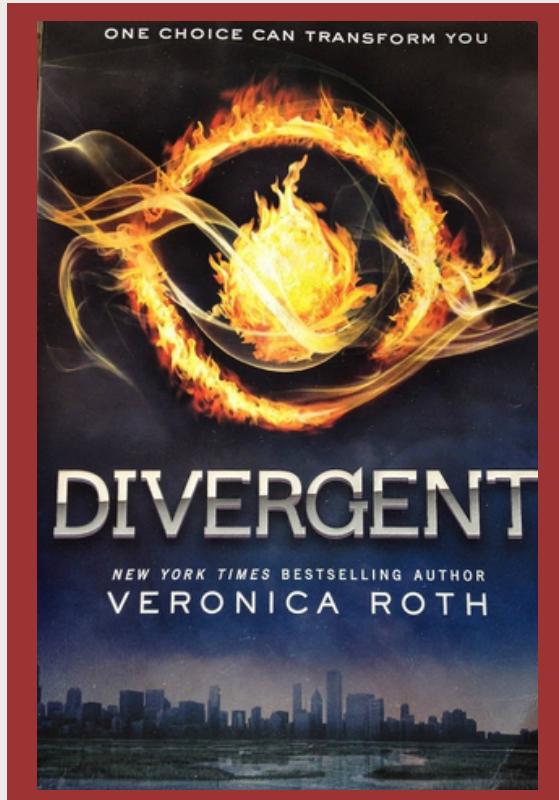
Author: Veronica Roth

Genre: Fiction, Dystopia

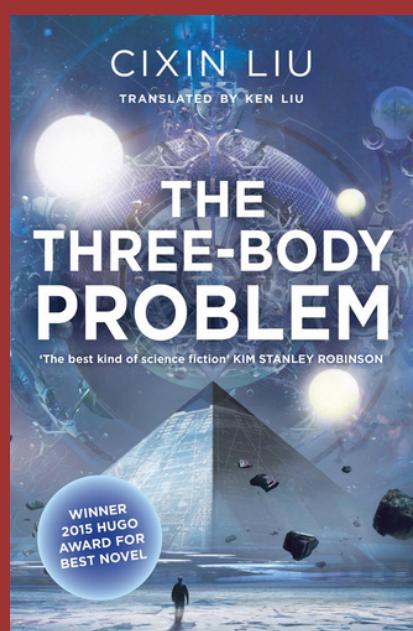
Divergent is a thought-provoking dystopian novel—much like the Hunger Games and the Maze Runner trilogies—because, similarly, it features a strong and inspiring protagonist who must fight against an oppressive system in order to survive. Divergent follows Tris, a 16-year-old who has grown up in a post-apocalyptic Chicago where the population is divided into five Factions: Abnegation (the selfless), Amity (the kind), Candor (the honest), Dauntless (the brave), and Erudite (the intelligent). Everyone's faction is determined once they turn 16 years old when they take a placement test that reveals what faction they belong to, based on their set of values and personality traits. They then choose the Faction to which they will devote the rest of their life—typically the one they got on their test results—and must train to join their chosen Faction. Those who fail to pass all the tests end up Factionless, destined to be poor and unimportant for the rest of their days.

To Tris' surprise, she receives inconclusive results for her placement test revealing that she is Divergent, meaning she does not fit into just one faction. Being Divergent is dangerous in this dystopian world, often worse than being Factionless, so Tris must keep it a secret while she embarks on adventures within the faction she chooses.

Lana 10x



I highly recommend Divergent since it is a remarkable book with an interesting storyline that continues into its two preceding novels: Insurgent and Allegiant. This trilogy is packed with action and intriguing characters that made me binge-read it in just two days. Better yet, it's in the library! Once you've finished reading the books, you can go watch the movies on streaming platforms like Prime Video.



Isabelle 10y

THE THREE BODY PROBLEM

Science fiction fans, this one's for you. With the new series coming out, I couldn't help bring some well deserved attention to this sci-fi masterpiece. Praised as one of the best science fiction novels of all time, the Three-Body Problem is an intricate analysis of science, or relationship as a human race, and a presentation of glorious ideas. It was a thrilling joyride, with a huge twist at the end, and I would recommend it to anyone who likes sci-fi. Warning though, it is not a fast paced novel. The story follows Wang Miao, a nanotechnology scientist, the deaths of several other scientists just like him, and the questions; are we alone in the universe, and would contact with them be for better, or for worse?

And P.S, it's in the library! And when you're done, you can check out the new series on Netflix, Three Body Problem, starring Eiza González.

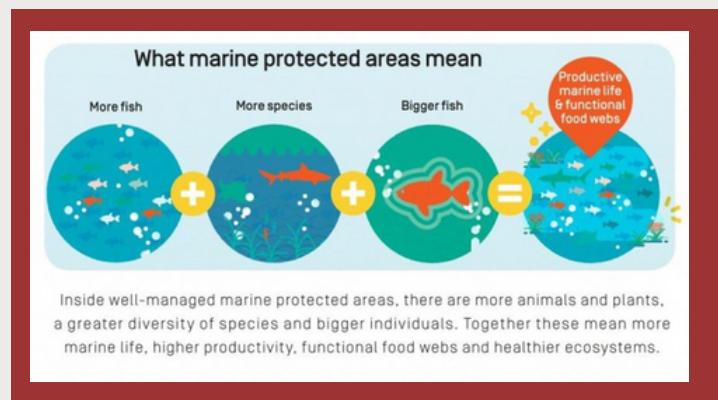
THE RYGAARDS TIMES

Isabelle 10y

BE INFORMED: A VERY SHORT SNAPSHOT INTO MARINE PROTECTED AREAS, AND FISHING

You may know what a Marine Protected Area, or an MPA is. Simply, MPAs are areas which are designated for protection for long-term biological conservation. At least, that's what they're supposed to be. But MPAs have ranges. Some fishing MPA's are fully protected, where zero fishing is allowed, and other are highly protected, where no commercial fishing is allowed.

However, some are merely 'general use zones' where commercial fishing is allowed, with only particular equipment banned. And in some cases, this general use protection does not protect the area, but spur more fishing, proving to negatively affect the area more than if it had no protection at all. The effects on the area can be more concentrated, rather than "in open-access zones, where fishing pressure may be spread out." In a study done on information up to 2018, of 111 protected areas examined, only 8% were increasing in adult biomass, and 28 MPAs were declining. MPAs also have to be carefully and strategically placed, and they aren't all the same. Research has shown that MPAs which are strictly legally regulated worked more effectively than others and suggests that effective conservation would require more of these.



Aatish 9y

SOLAR ECLIPSE

On April 8th, people throughout North America in the US, Canada and Mexico experienced the rare phenomenon called a total solar eclipse. This occurs when Earth-Moon-Sun align such that the moon blocks out our view of the sun. The eclipse lasted for a total of 4 minutes and 27 seconds and passed over a total of 32 million people's homes with an estimated 5 million more who travelled across the continent to the best spots to view the eclipse. Although solar eclipses occur all over the world twice a year, total eclipses are much rarer with the next one predicted to happen on the 30th of March 2033 over North-Western Alaska.



During a total solar eclipse, the first phase is a partial eclipse where the moon blocks part of the sun and you see a crescent shape. After the crescent disappears, tiny specks of light are visible around the edge of the sun called Baily's Beads. The final phase only occurs if you are in the path of totality. When the sun and moon are directly above you and perfectly align, you get a total solar eclipse which is certainly a transcendent experience that everyone must enjoy sometime during their life. During this time, the only part of the sun that is visible is the corona, which is the outermost part of the sun's atmosphere. When viewing a solar eclipse, you must use solar eclipse glasses because otherwise when your eyes dilate in low-light conditions such as a solar eclipse, it lets in more radiation from the sun which is harmful to the eyes. If you didn't get to see this year's solar eclipse, let's hope that you will be able to experience it sometime in the future!

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AVATAR: THE LAST AIRBENDER

Reyansh 10x

Avatar the last Airbender, also called Avatar the Legend of Aang in some regions is a is an American animated fantasy action television series created by Michael Dante DiMartino and Bryan Konietzko that first premiered on Netflix on the 22nd of February 2024, as a live adaptation of the beloved animated series which was produced by nickelodeon studios and aired in 2005. The story is based about a young boy, Aang (played by Gordon Cormier in the Netflix series), the current Avatar (a person who can yield powers of all elements) and the last survivor of his nation, the Air Nomads. The world is divided into four elemental nations: The Northern and Southern Water Tribe, the earth kingdom the fire nation and the air nomads. Aang, along with his friends Katara, Sokka, and Toph, strive to end a war between the Fire nation and all the other nations and defeat Fire Lord Ozai before he conquers the world. The first season has 8 episodes, which range from between 50 minutes to an hour. This has consistently remained one of the most popular shows on Netflix as of April 2024. I would strongly recommend anyone who fancies a good fantasy-action TV show to watch this masterpiece. Plus, the live adaptation also gives the viewers who do not like animated content a chance to experience this epic story. Netflix has confirmed the release of season 2 and season 3. Season 2 should be expected to be out in 2024 or 2025.



Credits to:

Aatish Joshi, Ansh Makadia, Mike Haozhe Zhang,
Isabelle Celeste Brander-Wang, Lana Pedras, Marcus Carl Christofer Johansson,
Rishi Tej, Saanvi Divya Raj, Tanish Joshi, Vihaan Ashish Sanghavi

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TREASURE HUNT

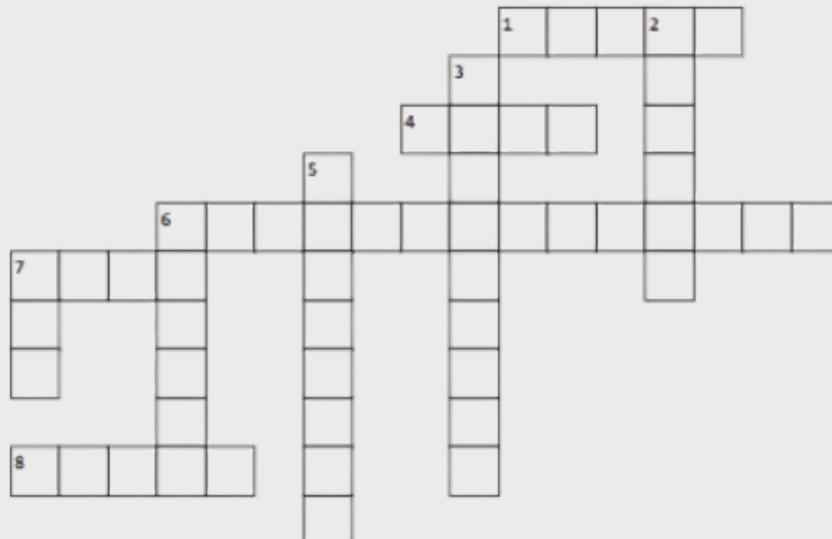
In the realm of dribbles, where hardwood meets the sky,

A tale unfolds where echoes of sneakers fly.
Seek the edges where boundaries commence,
A challenge awaits, where skills dispense.

Beyond the arc, where the net beckons high,
A daring endeavor beneath the watchful sky.
In the dance of hoops and the bouncing ball,
Discover the secret where aspirations call.

To the perimeter where strategies unfold,
Navigate the court, let stories be told.
Explore the margins, where tactics depart,
Find the essence at the court's furthest part.

SOLVE THE RIDDLE AND IT WILL BRING YOU TO A PLACE IN THE SCHOOL. YOU WILL FIND AN AMAZON BASICS BOX WITH TREASURE HUNT PRIZE WRITTEN ON IT AT THE CORRECT LOCATION. BRING IT TO ANSH OR ISABELLE IN 10Y AND YOU WILL RECEIVE A BOX OF TOFFIFEET !



Across

1. Where is the world's highest polling station?
4. The Indian elections happen every ___ years.
6. What genre is 'The Three Body Problem'?
7. In some cases, general use zones can spur ___ fishing. (BE INFORMED)
8. The tiny specks of light that are visible around the edge of the sun are called Bailey's ___.

Down

2. The solar eclipse happened on April ___.
3. Veroica Roth wrote this book.
5. Which month did the live-action avatar come out?
6. Which place did Rygaards come in the math competition?
7. Areas which are designated for protection for long-term biological conservation.