

# अभिरुचि

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(Secondary-ICSE Newsletter)

Quarantine Tales



## Language Arts



### The Secret

Two weeks back when I was on my way to school, one of my friends, Sara, called out to me loudly. Startled, I turned back and saw her running towards me. By the time she came to me, she was panting heavily exhausted from running. Excitedly, she told me that she wanted to skip school, but did not want to do it alone.

She then requested me to join her since none of her other friends had agreed to. I was very skeptical about this as I feared my parents' reaction. While her pleading continued, my curiosity grew. Besides, I did not want to disappoint her and lose her as my friend. Eventually I relented to her plea and decided to join her, not making a big deal out of it. Little did I know what a blunder I had made.

We sneaked out of the school campus and went into the stores, not too far from the school. We roamed around the busy market area and bought a few items and food. Later, we made our way back home. I was careful my shenanigan remained a secret and my parents did not grow suspicious of me. The next day Sara demanded that I go with her. I was tempted to decline, but that would have been very mundane. Since I did enjoy skipping school, I went with her. This continued for the next two weeks until one disastrous day.

I had returned home as usual, but when I entered the house, I saw my mother waiting for me with a fury in her eyes that I had never seen.

"Where were you today?", she asked sternly with a calmness that frightened me.

I tried not to show my nervousness and replied casually that I was in school. Stung by my betrayal, she flung out a paper from the table.

"I got a letter from your school, saying you have been absent for two weeks! Explain yourself!" she yelled.

I knew there was no use lying anymore and told her the entire truth. She was shocked. Tears rolled down my cheeks as she scolded and expressed her disappointment. I was left to decide my own punishment. What an enjoyable secret between Sara and me turned into a nightmare!

As teenagers, we feel that we should have the freedom to make our own choices. However, the secret I learnt was that freedom comes with responsibility. I had dug my own grave, and now I must lie in it.

Rudrakshi Acharyya, IX-C



### The Dreamer's Deathbed

Daring dreamer devoid of sleep,  
Tell me which burden is heaviest of all,  
Drowning in thoughts that run hard and deep,  
Could you resist the siren's call?

Tell me all that you've sacrificed,  
For a lick of your sweet fantasy,  
Running yourself dirty and ragged,  
Was it worth it or simply fallacy?

I saw the glitter in your hopeful eyes,  
With every milestone you transcended,  
Tell me how did it not make you wise,  
To everything else that you upended?

I watched you break, I watched you build,  
You did it all with a warrior's smile,  
But sweetheart, I am not stronger still,  
Can't be your lighthouse kept alight.

Lie to me, my darling dreamer,  
Tell me, you won't cross the shoreline,  
Horizon is the trip we make together,  
Reminiscing to when you were simply 'mine'.

Annie Vaithara (ICSE Class of 2019)



# Armed Adolescents

They say greatness of war can't be matched -  
Just like the glory of winners can't be snatched.  
As we see the enemies fall to the ground,  
Twisting and piling into a big mound,  
Body riddled with holes -  
Glory of horrors best left untold.

Dust and wind hurting the eye,  
Yelling out at our comrades hoping for a reply;  
Stomachs empty and minds drained,  
Clothes and hands blood-stained.  
Holding onto a burning stronghold,  
Glory of horrors best left untold.

The screams deafening.  
Eternal sleep beckoning.  
But we can't die,  
Nor can we cry.  
This duty on us was by god bestowed,  
Glory of horrors best left untold.

After blood, sweat and tears,  
Claim greatness, defeat fears.  
Uphold the spirit of manhood -  
At the cost of our childhood.  
And the Gods said, "Behold,  
Glory of horrors best left untold."



## The Importance of Trees

We must all be aware of the famous quote "If I were a tree, I would have no reason to love a human" The quote means that the people destroy everything, they have no good things. The cutting down of trees is increasing day by day which has resulted a lack of trees in the world by which many problems have been caused. There are some people who know the importance of trees and value them whereas some people know the importance but do not value them. We take everything from the trees such as the fruits they produce, their branches for shelter, etc., but don't give them anything in return. Imagining if you were a tree and a human takes everything from you, wouldn't you feel provoked? The trees feel the same.

If plants and trees wouldn't be there, we also wouldn't have been here because they provide us oxygen and they store carbon dioxide. Also, they give the animals food to eat so we can see the animals which we couldn't even imagine they existed. But now as the trees are decreasing because of human activities, the animals which are quite common are also getting endangered. The human activities by which the animals are getting endangered included cutting down forests to make furniture and small homes. Now, the example for this is the fire in the amazon forest in the year 2019. The people were caring about it just for a few months because it was new, but eventually everyone forgot it.

The people who care about the things happening, have made many slogans and quotes to spread the awareness that the trees are very important for us to live. Some of the famous slogans and quotes are "Take care of the trees, they will take care of you.", Save Trees or else their leaves will only be seen in Museums, "Plant a tree, so that the next generation can get air for free.", and many more. Hence, all this proves that trees are very important. Trees are also living beings and we should care and value them.

Delisha Shah, VII-C



## Global Warming

Due to human activities taking place on our Earth there is an increase in global warming in our atmosphere. Due to increase of global warming, the glaciers have started to melt. The melting of glaciers further leads to rise in sea level which in turn floods the land on Earth .

Due to Global Warming the temperature of Earth is increasing day by day. Nowadays we sometimes feel hot in winters too. This also results in extreme weather conditions like heat waves, droughts, cyclones, blizzards and rainstorms Due to Global Warming, there occur climate changes in nature which may also harm our health. The major reason for global warming is Green House Gases. Burning of fossil fuels also contribute to Global Warming as it releases carbon dioxide in the process.

Human beings have a high demand of papers, wood, furniture and etc. These all things are coming from trees. To fulfill our demands the method of deforestation used. A mature tree can absorb 4.8 pounds of carbon dioxide. Each year by estimate 3.5 to 7 billions trees are cut every year. According to Scientific American, deforestation is responsible for 15 percent of the greenhouse gases in the atmosphere.

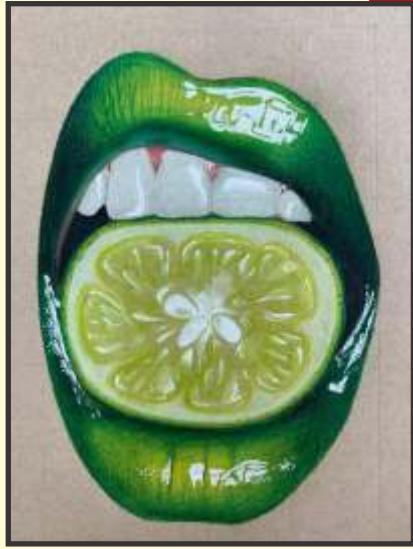
There are plenty of more reasons for increase in Global Warming. Using air conditioners is one such reasons. So we need too plant trees as much as we can, decrease the usage of air conditioner and the demand of goods which are made up of wood.

By Krishika Rungta, VII-C



# Art Corner

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