

Some words can be confusing due the similarities in their pronunciation. Choose the right word in the following sentences

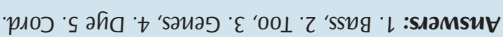
1. The bass / base guitarist was extremely talented.

2. It was too / two wonderful a show to be missed.

3. "Everyone in my family has brown eyes. It runs in the jeans / genes," she said.

4. Indigo is a natural dye / die.

5. He was looking for a strong and long cord / chord to tie the basket with.



Shiv Kumar Pushpakar

Ostracise

Ostracise is a **verb** which means expel someone from a group or society by general consent. It can also mean to exclude a person intentionally from an activity, conversation or privilege.

Origin: The word has its origin in the Greek word *ostrakismos*, which refers to a practice in the Athenian democracy in which citizens, who were thought to be a threat to the state, were expelled from Athens for ten years. The word *ostrakismos* is further derived from the word *ostraka* which means pottery shard. In the Athenian society, ostracism followed a voting by public. Citizens gathered in a special assembly and scratched the name of those they wished to be ostracised on pottery shards, and deposited them in urns.

The word "ostracism" continues to be used for various cases of social shunning.

Usage: Her friends ostracised Reena for holding a political view different from theirs.

Activity: Use the word in a sentence of your own

1. First rocket launch in India

It was in November 1963 that India's first rocket launch took off from a nondescript fishing village called Thumba, on the outskirts of Thiruvananthapuram in Kerala. The village soon became well known after the establishment of the Thumba Equatorial Rocket Launch Station. Did you know parts of the NASA-made rocket, Nike Apache, were transported on a bicycle and a bullock cart to the Thumba launch station back then?

Q. Who is called the father of the Indian space programme?

2. Honey lasts forever?

Honey, if stored properly say in airtight jars, will not spoil. This is due to honey's unique composition - its acidity, low water content and the presence of hydrogen peroxide (an anti-bacterial substance) which ensure that it stays good forever.

Because of the low moisture content, bacteria and other microorganisms cannot survive in honey.

Q: What do you call a place where hives of honey bees are kept?

Answers

1. Vikram Sarabhai for initiating space research in India and helping develop nuclear technology.
2. Apiary

Do you know me?

1. I am both an asteroid and a dwarf planet. I am located between Mars and Jupiter.
.....
2. I am the only known short-period comet regularly visible to the naked eye from Earth. Photo: NYT
.....
3. I am the densest and tiniest of stars and I rotate around 60 times per second.
.....
4. Though scientists have known about my existence for years, they were able to take the first picture of me only in April 2019.
.....
5. I am a galaxy and I contain a chemical compound called ethyl formate, which gives raspberries their taste, and rum its signature smell.
.....



Answers: 1. Ceres, 2. Halley's comet, 3. Neutron star, 4. Black hole, 5. Milkyway

Find the correct mirror image of this number 33222 from the given options.

- A. $\Sigma\Sigma\Sigma 33$
B. $\Sigma\Sigma\Sigma 3\epsilon$
C. $\Sigma\Sigma\Sigma\epsilon 3$
D. $\Sigma\Sigma\Sigma\epsilon\epsilon$

Answer: D

Strike up a debate on the given topic

In 2018, the Delhi government introduced 'Happiness Class' to equip students to tackle stressful and conflicting situations. The U.S. First Lady Melania Trump had also attended a session at a government school earlier this year. But are these classes really effective and should they be mandatory? Put on your thinking cap and get ready to a



Should Happiness Class/ Zero Hour be made compulsory?

Yes	No

Dear Diary

*I was wondering how awesome it will be to have
our classroom in ... (a location you fancy)*

[illegible]

Imagine and write. You may even type a note and mail it to us at school@thehindu.co.in. We will select a few for publication when we resume

Today's Diary Pick

Dear Diary,

Guess what! I found my long-lost monkey doll while cleaning my cupboard this morning. He is quite hilarious to look at - a personification of exaggeration with long arms and long legs completely out of proportion and a tail twice as long as his body. To top it all, he also wears a red T-shirt which says, "I am GREAT!"

We had a lot of fun in the old days, mostly me dragging him by his arms around the house, but also me hanging him by his Velcro-studded hands or legs from some shelf and me swinging him high in the air like a lasso.

Eventually, he faded out of my life like all my other toys as I took to books - as I grew up. But once this lockdown ends, I have a mind to become a child again and drag my dear monkey into all sorts of new adventures.

- **Harshitha Bhat,**
Carmel School, Bengaluru

WHY do cricketers wear whites in Test matches?

If you have ever seen the longest format of cricket, you would have noticed that all the players are wearing whites, irrespective of the team they are playing for. Have you ever wondered why players wear whites in Test cricket? Do you think you can guess the answer? Write down in the space provided and check with the answer to see if you have got it correct.



There are a number of reasons why white was chosen for players. The long history of the game, which goes back centuries, implies white clothing served practical purposes. It was mainly a summertime sport when it started, and white was the perfect choice in terms of comfort. Cricket is seen as a gentleman's game and upholds tradition, and the whites were given official status late in the 19th Century and continue to be the uniform in Test cricket. Besides all these, wearing whites also does aid spotting a dark red ball that is used in the format, making it a good logical choice.