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Editorial

Hello my dear friends,

The youth are the future of tomorrow that belongs to an adage. The challenges young generations are facing today are complex and diverse. There are more opportunities to learn and partake but fewer provided pathways.

What you have in your hands is the inaugural issue of a youth monthly, Clarian Call. We are delighted to celebrate the launch of this maiden issue, with the start of New Year.

The publication of this issue serves as a landmark in the progress and growth of the teens. Our process will continue to create a future full of optimism and enthusiasm, a future where every venture will succeed and failure and frustration will be something of history.

What you will find in the pages of Clarian Call is an assortment of instructive and informative articles composed by honest, sincere and accommodating individuals who toil to survive intently.

I would like to lend a very warm welcome to the readership of the magazine. A special thank you is also extended to every one who has volunteered to achieve contribute to the accomplishment of this magazine.

On behalf of the Clarian Call Team, I would like to thank everybody once again. I hope that you have enjoyed reading this magazine and we will be thankful to receive your constructive comments and valuable suggestion that could improve the quality of the magazine.

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The poem, 'Disabled' by Wilfred Owen portrays the pitiful life of a young man who experienced terrible suffering having signed up in the First World War. He lost his vital limbs of his body. He depicts his present life which is lonely and wheelchair-bound. By contrasting his present state of life with his life before the war, Owen conveys the painful consequences of war and criticises those in allegation. This is a poem which elicits deep concern in its reader.

Here below there is a diary entry based on the poem.

12 December, 1917
Joncourt, France

Dear diary

I had to suffer terrible disfigurement having lost my legs and an arm in the World War I. I was utterly helpless, lonely and confined to a wheelchair in a park. My forced immobility of life was the consequence of the war. When I recall my happy past, my miserable present put me in a sea of distress. In my sedentary life, I listened to the voices of chirpy and cheerful children in the park which sounded sad to me.

Before I became disabled, I was a young soldier. I enjoyed the company of slender women and their soft touches. Now they hated to touch me because of my physical abnormality.

I think half of my life had gone with the wound. The difference is obvious. A year ago I was handsome. An artist wanted to draw my attractive figure. Now I have become pale and I cannot even support myself.

After winning a football match I had been drinking and I thought of signing up for war. I did not give any thought to the dire consequences of the war that might befall me. Additionally, I was too young to think of it. With the influence of my girl friend Meg, to be more manlike to ladies and to look dashing in military uniform, I joined the war.

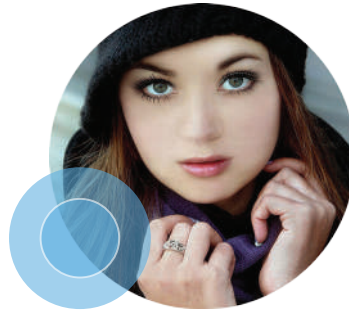
By time the scenario changed a lot. My departure for war was cheered with a lot of people but on my return there were fewer people to greet me. None but a senior citizen was by my side to appreciate me. Once I was a dream boy to women has now become object of pity to them. I was sitting in the park noticing the women passing by me. Their eyes simply passed over me and glanced at me piteously. I could understand the stern reality of life then.

I wondered in the end helplessly that no one would come to see me to put me to bed. I had nothing to do to protect and warm myself. I was now in the hope that someone would remember me and take care of me.

In conclusion, I think war was not the place where I could prove my manhood; it is where I lost it.

Md. Bazlul Karim
(Senior teacher, International Turkish Hope School)

Sonia's mother was trying to condole her employers, particularly a most aggravated Mrs. Rahman. "We'll find it," she told her for the umpteenth time. "We'll go through the whole house."



Affliction ——— ——— ——— ——— ———

Sonia looked at the necklace in awe and amazement. It was the most beautiful thing she had ever seen. The mother-of-pearls glittered with the light of a thousand bright suns and the gems were perfectly cut, polished till they could not glow any more brightly. The gold chain gave off a yellow sheen and in the centre there was one giant blood-red stone, a ruby, as they were called. Sabrina's pretty slim fingers scratched against one of the gems lightly, and then she put the necklace back into its velvet case.

"Pretty, isn't," Sabrina chortled. My Mother's going to give it to me when I marry a beautiful rick prince, she says. Till then it's hers. What do you think?"

"It is amazing," Sonia gushed out in delight, of course, "Thank you so much for showing this to me. Ah... you are so lucky and so beautiful". She could not help feeling a bit jealous because she was neither. Her mother was a hardworking, lower class woman who worked as a maid in Sabrina's house and three others, and she had no father that was why she always felt so grateful and elated that the richest and most popular girl in school was her best friends.

They had dinner in the kitchen. There was a big party upstairs, and Sabrina soon come to join Sonia after a while and they talked while Sonia munched on roast chicken and mutton and drank lemonade.



Suddenly, Mrs. Rahman came to the kitchen. She looked scared and bewildered out of her wits. “Sabrina,” she called out, “Where have you been? You haven’t seen my necklace, have you?”

Sabrina looked nonplussed. “No, I haven’t seen it since afternoon”.

“But I can’t find it”.

Immediately, this raised a big hue and cry. The party was over, the guests had left a while ago, Sonia’s mother was trying to condole her employers, particularly a most aggravated Mrs. Rahman. “We’ll find it,” she told her for the umpteenth time. “We’ll go through the whole house.”

So everyone in the household, starting from the servants to Sabrina, her parents, Sonia and her mother stated searching for the lost necklace. They combed through the entire house. Where could it be? They sifted for it behind the furniture, but they did not find it there. They looked into every chest of drawers in the house, but could not find the necklace. They looked in each room, behind the curtains, under the bed, on the sofa, anywhere possible that Sabrina’s mother might have left accidentally, but still they could not find the necklace.

The servants were growing restless. They had been searching most fervently for two hours. Suddenly, Sabrina mother pointed to the frayed, old satchel bag that Sonia was wearing: “Give me your bag, you girl. What’s inside?”

Sonia felt shocked. How could Mrs.

Rahman insinuate something like that? She trembled and said,” No madam. I didn’t steal it. How could it be in my bag?”

The reply she got was even more astounding- “Shut up you and give me the bag”.

Having nothing else to do, she slung the dilapidated old bag from her shoulders and handed it her.

“Let me, madam...there is the chain. You unzip it this way... oh my god!” Sonia ejaculated. “I did not do it. Ma’m, believe me, she whined and brayed like a dying horse. “I didn’t, I didn’t”. She sobbed relentlessly

“Sonia, how could you?” her mother cried aghast. Her face was black with anger, as impassive as a wooden statue. She grasped Sonia’s black hair with her hands and administered a number of lusty blows. “How could you? Is this what I have taught you all my life? To steal?”

Suddenly Sonia looked around to Sabrina for help. But she was nowhere to be seen, all of a sudden.

She tried to find out where she was, beseeching her help. As she turned her head, she saw Sabrina’s silhouette on the stairs leading to her mother’s bedroom, where she had shown her the necklace only a few hours ago.

Ridwan Bin Monjur
(O-Level)



All Hands Abroad - Mahmud Hussain

Meet Mr. DELL. He's that guy you met probably a couple of years ago. Almost every single Bangladeshi student had to face him during their high school years. A strongly-built and cruel man, Mr. DELL would stamp the dreams and ambitions out of anyone who dared to defy him.

Still don't remember him? Perhaps this would help: his name stands for the things your parents always wanted you to be.

Yes, Mr. DELL is the incarnation of those horrific words an average Bangladeshi teen has to hear: "You must become a Doctor, or an Engineer, or a Lawyer, or else you'll become a Loser."

Needless to say, those who indeed wanted to become any of those four found Mr. DELL a lovely guy. However, others hated being stuck with something they never wanted, declaring their undergrad majors even before they had the chance to get a glimpse at life. These unlucky individuals may be surprised to know that unlike in Bangladesh, many universities in foreign countries don't require students to declare a major in their freshman year, this being one of the many perks of studying abroad.

In today's competitive, fast-paced world,

international education has become extremely important for increasing both intellectual and professional experiences, especially for the Bangladeshi youth. A degree from a renowned international university could be the ticket to a career in your desired field. Because the education system in our country has many flaws, lots of students are setting sail for undergraduate and graduate programs abroad.

So what makes these seemingly "glittering" opportunities abroad so special?

Perhaps one of the greatest advantages of studying abroad, especially in Western countries, is the academic freedom students get. With surprisingly low class size and low student-to-faculty ratio, many universities in the USA and Canada offer a huge number of interdisciplinary programs, minors, double majors, and stunning lab and research facilities. Some universities will let you change your major, while others will even let you create a customized major with your selection of courses. Regardless of your academic background, these universities let you design your academics just the way you want it.

Syeda Akila Ally, a Biology and Physics double major at The University of Chicago,

says, “I’ve always enjoyed reading Philosophy and literary texts. I really loved the liberal arts approach in the USA, and since I wouldn’t be able to study the humanities and

Social Sciences if I chose to study Medicine or Physics in Bangladesh, I applied to universities in the USA.”

An international education would undoubtedly change the way you perceive things, affecting your career as well as everything you want to do in future. With world-wide recognition and accreditation by international organizations, a degree from a well-known foreign university will let you get a good

job anywhere, any time! Because your education will be immensely valued even here in

A degree from a renowned international university could be the ticket to a career in your desired field

Bangladesh, getting a degree from abroad is the best thing to do if you want to give something back to your community.

Tahmid Shahriar, a Computer & Information Science major at University of Pennsylvania, says, “I went to Penn to get a world class education that would help me make a difference when I’ll start my own business back in Bangladesh. Penn is very entrepreneurship focused and my time at Penn will help me create my own firm from scratch.”

But is there a guarantee that you’re bound to achieve success if you study abroad?

Well, definitely not.

But, if you take a look at the life history of some of the most successful Bangladeshis, you’ll see that a lot of them, in some point in their lives, had obtained degrees from foreign institutes.

Dr. Muhammad Yunus obtained his PhD from Vanderbilt; Salman Khan, founder of Khan Academy, got his BS and MS from MIT, and MBA from Harvard; Dr. Mahbub Majumder, renowned mathematician and coach of Bangladesh’s Mathematical Olympiad team, received his BS from MIT, MS from Stanford, and PhD from Cambridge; Ejaj Ahmed, founder and president of Bangladesh Youth

Leadership Center, earned his MA from Harvard; the list goes on and on... In the end, home or abroad, it’s

up to you whether you’ll be successful or not. But you increase that chance of being successful to a considerable extent when you go abroad for education, thirsty for learning new stuff; curious with the prospect of facing new challenges; enthusiastic to know new cultures; eager to meet new people with new ideas, new perspectives, and new stories...

It’s your turn to decide.

Mahmud Hussain
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Moisturising: Our right and Wrong Choices

We always fail to acknowledge the importance of moisturiser.

HOLD UP!!!

Before you run away yelling there's a moisturizer lunatic on the loose, hear me out!

Doesn't matter whether you have dry skin or oily skin, whether you're a guy or a girl, you need moisturiser. People with oily skin should go for a water base moisturizer than a normal moisturizer.

Now, how is moisturizer important?

First off, not using a moisturizer can cause pre-mature aging! Now, no one wants to look like an old hag when they're only 30, do they?! We all want good skin and moisturizing is one of the 1st steps to it.

Moisturisers act as lubricants on your

skin. When your skin feels dry and tight, you are more likely to get more wrinkles because rough surfaces create more friction-simple physics!!!

A chemical named emollients in your moisturizer penetrates your skin and makes it soft, supple and flexible. So when you do not have moisturizer on, every time you move your face, a lot of cells are dying due to friction which leads to, again, premature aging – whereas a hydrated face looks plump and beautiful.

Moving on, moisturizers also help in trapping the moisture inside our body, keeping our body hydrated. Above all, a hydrated skin always radiates.

Now comes the hard part- keeping your body hydrated- Drinking Water!!! Drinking water not only hydrates our skin but also washes away the toxins that may cause premature aging of the skin, acne, rashes, etc. More than that, it helps your metabolism – keeping your bodyweight in check. (That was an off-topic additional tip, but an advice anyways)

When you do not drink enough, your eyes look sunken and your face loses its internal glow.

So drinking eight to ten glasses of water is a must, right?

WRONG!!!

Water intake depends on your heart conditions, how active you are and where you live. So it depends from one person to the next as no single formula can fit everyone.

But here are two general methods to find out how much water you should be taking:

Method 1:

$$\text{Your weight in kg} \times 0.3 = \text{Minimum water intake (in decilitres)}$$

For example, if your body weight is 60 kg, $60 \times 0.3 = 18$ decilitres or 1.8 Litres of water (this is only the minimum!!!)

But if you want to stay healthy and lively, multiply the result with 1.5. The result you get is the optimum amount you should be taking.

Method 2: (English Method)

$$\text{Your weight in pounds} \div 2 = \text{Daily intake of water in ounces.}$$

But again, to be as healthy as a chipmunk, the result should be multiplied by 1.5 for the optimum daily intake.

I know, we forget about drinking water, so I would suggest you to set alarms on your phone, preferably 2 to 3 hours apart. Believe me, it helps and you should start to feel the difference within a few days.

All this talk about drinking water and moisturizing is making me thirsty. So I will be off to make myself a shake. Oh yes, take a lot of fluids, whether it be fruit juice or lassi, keep yourself hydrated. Until next time...

Anika Yasmin Mubassira
(A-Level)
YouTube/Fb: Nika Yasmin

*The future belongs to those who
prepare for it today.*
-Malcom X

A Wartime Story

Being selfish is a bad thing. But sometimes you have to be selfish enough to keep yourself calm down and to keep your family safe and sound. However, in some cases being selfish doesn't even work. I think sometimes, what if I wouldn't have let Alex go. What if I wouldn't have secretly took him to the training center? What if? I was galloping down the meadow like a horse. The sun rays were dim and the birds had just started to sing. I could hear the manly voices and the hustle of the engine. No matter what happened, I had to see him...maybe for the last time. I knew that I had to let him go anyhow, but there was this thing that was stopping me from doing it. Neither could I fight it nor could I let my younger and only brother stop from joining the army. It was his dream.

After a long run I finally got a glance of Alex. He waved at me and climbed up the bus. I was standing on the slope. I couldn't go any further or else I would have stopped him and he would have stayed. I knew my mother couldn't bear the pain but I had to inform her. So after crossing the yellow dandelion fields, I finally arrived our porch. Mom was

there, sitting on the rocking chair with his picture with tear drops rolling down her pale, wrinkled cheek. I saw my daddy's old photo hanging on the wall inside and I felt like a betrayer. Before daddy left us, he made me promise that neither I



nor Alex will join the army. However, one of us did and I'm guilty for that. My mom patted my shoulder as I sat at her knees, we both said nothing and sat there watching the rain washing away Alex's footprints. My brother was 20 year old lad. He was our entertainer. When he was home there were a lot of chaos. Music played on the radio all the time or him

running all round the house and annoying everyone who were present. Even our dog, Fat Louie, used to get irritated. We were used to it. However, after he went away the house was a hushed place. The silence was unbearable. It frustrated me so much that I spent most of my in the school taking extra classes to help the weak kids. Slowly and steadily we got used to this silence too. One morning, 6 weeks later.

no sign of Alex or his letters. For 5 years we waited uncomplainingly to see him again. Things changed too. Mom forced into a marriage with a friend of mine named Derek. I gave birth to a beautiful daughter and Fat Louie passed away. One day Derek came home panting,. He rushed into the kitchen and handed mom with a letter. A letter from Alex. It said... “ My beloved mother and my beautiful

Lazy Jules, Forgive me for the delay. Things were not going to well. What I’m going to say to you is very important and do not panic. This might be my very last letter to you. In a few days we will be leaving for Austria. Then lord tell us what to do. There is a war going on and we have to join the cavalry. I’ll be a busy fighting a war and really do not know when I can write to you again. Now listen to me very carefully. There might be a war starting near our village our rivals may take a revenge on us. So please run



I was on my way to work when I met the post man who brought a letter from Alex. I took the letter home at that instance. The letter said he’ll be going to London and he has been awarded as the troops’ best sword man. He might come home for a visit. And so we waited for his visit, which never took place. Days went by, months passed and so did the years but there was

away. Inform the neighbors and gather all your carts. You’ll find a detailed maps and some guides in the second drawer of my closet. Use it will. Do not, I repeat do not fight against them. Its going to be an ugly fight if you do. Stay safe and if Lord wants I’ll come back to you someday. If not so then always remember I love you both very much and I’m too craving to

see you two badly. Farewell my lovelies. Love Alex Harper” After a week Alex’s words came true. Thanks to my brave brother We all were prepared. As soon as the war started we headed south into the mountains. We crossed thousands of miles of land. Had nothing for days. Children died, adults died and so did my mother due to the extremely low temperature. I kept my family as safe as possible. Protected my daughter, Emily, more than I could. Derek stayed by my side all the time. We helped each other in every single step of horror and trouble. Tragedy was all over us. the crowd decreased from 30 to only 12. After weeks of travelling we finally found a

British and there was no danger but still we worried. Everyday injured soldiers came and I always used to search for Alex. I searched the databases and asked almost everyone about Alex. So, just like every other day I was dressing an injured soldier in the hospital who lost his leg in a bomb blast when he asked my name. as I replied politely, he asked slowly “ do you know anyone named Alex Harper?” My mind sparked and my heart beat faster as he continued saying that, he was a friend of Alex in the Army and they were pretty close. He saw my picture in Alex’s journal. “We were on the peak of a hill in Austria. Patrolling. A bomb exploded in front of us and we both fell down.

Sometimes I used to go down to the river and sit there crying with his photo in my hand.

British base camp. As we rushed in the camp with our flags , they welcomed us and facilitate us with food and shelter. We managed to stay there. I worked as a nurse and Derek helped with the loading and unloading trucks. We lived in a small tent and Emily made new friends. We told her stories about our childhood days and she used to gaze at us wondering how beautiful days were back then. I missed Alex very much. Sometimes I used to go down to the river and sit there crying with his photo in my hand. The whole hilly area was under the control of the

That was the last time I saw my buddy. Covered in blood.” I couldn’t take it any longer so I ran out of the tent. Couldn’t believe what I just heard and fell on my knees. Then I felt something on my left shoulder and as I turned around think it was Derek, to my surprise...I heard that name only one person in the world called me with... “ Jules, is that you?” “Alex?!?”

Maisha Ibnath Mujib
(A-Level)

Studies: The Far Cry Way



Do whatever you are doing. Do not think of your examinations when you are in the football field. Do not think of the football field on your reading table.

While playing Far Cry 1, 2, 3 or 4, or any first-person shooter (FPS), every gamer has 3 options to approach a mission-noisy, stealth and silence. Firstly, the gamer can go in guns blazing - gunning and burning down everything in sight with the help of his vast arsenal of weapons. Secondly, he can use his knife or short range silencer weapon to sneak behind each of his opponents to take them down one by one with flawless timing and positioning. The third way, the smart one, which has served me and many of my friends over the years both in games and education.

And that involves sniping down your adversaries one by one using a long range sniper. With time running out and the examinations in May fast approaching, it is high time we put our gamely learnings into practical use in our studies.

Today, there are lots of things to do but what we lack is time. We can take a walk in the morning, take breakfast, go to class or work and hang out with friends. We may also attend co-curricular lessons like music, martial arts, football, cricket, cooking, etc. It may be required to give

time to family and do household chores. In spite of all this, we still have the same 24 hours in a day since time immemorial with genres and sub-genres of the aforementioned activities evolving every day. For example, the person who goes to class has a part-time job, he may also be interested in martial arts. It has several genres including Krav Maga*, Karate, Kung Fu, Aikido, Muay Thai, Boxing, Kick boxing, Judo, etc. He may take an interest in music with the variety of instruments ranging from drums to trumpets and guitars to violins and genres ranging from metal to pop and classical to rap to choose from. The options open to a person to spend time in the day is numerous with the blessings of the internet. On the other hand, most parents are concerned with the education of their children and the young generation struggles to deal with the immense pressure of classes, work, co-curricula and studies, which results in unexpected scores on the result sheet.

Now, the million dollar question is... What can a student do?

The obvious tendency is to keep study-time a minimum and scores at a maximum...easier said than done? I do not think so...the main principal is to snipe 'em down!

With this fast-paced life, it is not possible to study all day and neither can one afford to make low scores. Here are a few tips that may help in the years to come.

Aim: Aim, hence study, for the examinations.

*Krav Maga is not a traditional martial art, rather it is a self-defence system

Timing: Start at least 90 days before your year final examinations. (15 for semester finals). The night-before-exam studies are not that fruitful.

Focus: Do whatever you are doing. Do not think of your examinations when you are in the football field. Do not think of the football field on your reading table.

Allocate: Allocate at least 2 hours at night and 30 minutes in the morning for your studies. The morning is the best time to memorize something. But it is during the sleep that you learn. So try to study and then sleep. This tactic also applicable for workouts or any other activities.

Materials: You will need the following things:

1. 1 Pencil
2. 1 Eraser
3. 1 Sharpener
4. 5 Pens
5. 1 Highlighter
6. Question Paper Booklets
7. 1 fat copy
8. 1 Diary
9. Notes/ Texts

The Snipe System: This is the most important part.

1. Take your question paper. See which topics were the most common in the last 5 years.
2. Target the top 5 topics or chapters.
3. Take your diary. Make a schedule.

- (i) Target the first 10 days.
 - (ii) Aim to finish the 5 topics.
 - (iii) Target the next 10 days.
 - (iv) Finish the previous questions of the 5 topics.
 - (v) Repeat for next 5 topics.
4. Move to the next subject. Repeat.
 5. The aim is to snipe down the topics one by one. If 10 days is not enough for you. Make it 15 OR 20!!!
 6. Start with the mock examinations ASAP!!!
 7. Final Revision:
 - (i) Start with the revision of the last examination.
 - (ii) Increase the allocation of time to 10-15 hours per day. You want to pass the examination, don't you?
 - (iii) Keep the last 1 week before the start of the examination for the revision of the FIRST examination.

Composure: Finish the topic you started. Do not leave it for tomorrow.

No Pressure: Do not take any pressure. Stay calm and proceed and stay POSITIVE!!! If you panic, you only waste time, benefit for nobody. A sniper cannot take a good shot if he panics or doubts himself! STAY CONFIDENT!!!

Balance: A shooter must have balance. And so should you. Balance out all of

your activities. If you have a job, finish work and get back as early as possible. If you have a friend, finish talking before your study time. If you have chores, finish them. Balance your life.

Sleep: Sleeping is very important. At least 6 hours of sleep is required for the brain to learn things effectively. Recent studies show that our brain learns while we sleep.

Activities: If you are not involved in any physical activity. Start right NOW!!! At least go for a 15 minute walk in the morning. Push-ups before study time helps as well as it circulates blood and nutrition flow to the brain.

At last but not least, REMEMBER: Everything in the Sniping System has to be perfect; a moment of complacency and your cover is blown.

The aim is not to study all day but to study smartly and effectively.

So be very careful with your scheduling. And GO GET 'EM!!!

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[The writer is an Ex-Manarite of Batch '07 and gave his O levels in 2008 and completed his HSC from St Joseph Higher Secondary School in 2011. He appeared his Diploma-in-Law examinations in 2013 and is doing his Final year from the same institution]

Columbus Myth



‘Myth’ is no alien word in our generation particularly in this age of information. Though commonly this word is used against peoples’ superstitions or pagan religious beliefs. West, being in the pinnacle of Civilisation is not yet immune from the fallacious and deceitful A.K.A mythological

beliefs that Christopher Columbus discovered America. Christopher Columbus was not a name of any saint or D.C comic figures but a simple ship Captain with great navigation skills. Despite his mastered navigational talent, he mistakenly thought that he had discovered a short-cut route to India which in the end turned out to be a ‘discovery’ of a New World and thus he was famed. Even in this modern education by the West, he is still commonly considered to be the discoverer of America which is simply a lie or, more accurately said, a MYTH. Saying Columbus discovered America sounds like

It would be more fair and perfect to say, Columbus invaded America rather than saying he ‘discovered’ it.

someone entered in your house and shouts ‘AHAA, I discovered this house.’ It would be more fair and perfect to say, Columbus invaded America rather than saying he ‘discovered’ it.

The talented Columbus was somehow convinced that it is possible to reach India by sailing due West across Atlantic Ocean. Impressed by his zealous confidence, Queen Isabella I of Castile and Leon financed his voyage of exploration in 1492 which in reality marked a brutal European occupation of the Native Americans. On August 3rd he sailed from Palos, Spain, with three small ships, the Santa María, commanded by Columbus himself, the Pinta under Martín Pinzón, and the Niña under Vicente Yáñez Pinzón. When Columbus landed on an island called Guanahani which was renamed San Salvador by Columbus, he actually thought that he was on the Eastern

side of India. And thus those natives were named Red Indians. Columbus then returned to Spain in

order to bring 1500 colonists in a large fleet of 17 ships. Columbus achieved a promotion as an admiral of the open sea, and was authorised as a governor-general of all new lands he had ‘discovered’. With no surprise, he lost his respected governing position within a short time due to his lack of administrative calibre and villainous nature. Some of us may wonder, how come the continents of America is not named after Columbus, the man who is fallaciously alleged as the ‘discoverer of the New World’, but it is named after someone

else! The answer to this little mystery is, an Italian explorer Amerigo Vespucci who substantiated the matter that Southern America did not represent Asia's eastern outskirts. It was after his name 'Amerigo' the two continents got their names 'America' in the year 1507.

Now bursting the myth, it is humanly impossible to identify the first ever human in history who actually landed on the great American Islands,

claim that, many Muslim explorers had visited America during the Abbasid period.

Likewise every mythology has got a motive, the reason why Columbus is over praised, undisputed discoverer of America is that, he had originally marked the era of European colonization and he did set the notion of transforming Civilizations, in one hand bringing and settling the Europeans and in



only GOD knows. But for obvious reasons, through historical analysis, it has been found that many men trod on the land of great Americas long before Columbus. For instance, the Chinese record of centuries old Maps show that, they explored America a long time before Columbus. Among the Europeans, history suggests that Leif Erikson a Viking Icelandic explorer, landed on North of America before Columbus did. Even some Muslim Historians

the other hand cleansing the Natives out of their own motherland. It was estimated that in between 15-30 Million Natives were massacred and it is no irony that the European genocide is hindered in our education of History. Truth is indeed bitter.

Arafat Hossain
(A Level, MDIC)



Smart Phone Camera Tips and Tricks

“but you definitely can put those pixels to excellent use. Know your limits.”

Smart phones, nowadays, are obviously nothing out of the extraordinary to be seen amongst the contents of a purse bag or pant pockets. Whether it is because of their ability to perform a hundred tasks, or it being solely an icon representing status, these glass-like fragile gadgets disrespecting the unquestionable durability of their ancestors have made it to almost everyone's wishlist. From the overly genius gadget gurus who can't help but modify even the hardware, to the people making hilarious attempts at showing off and failing miserably, the camera is a vital function to everyone. So if you aren't one of those guys too fed up about learning something new about their phone, consider trying out these few tips and tricks.

1. Firstly, know your camera limits. You cannot possibly think of

getting the output of a 16.0 MP camera from that of a 5.0 MP, but you definitely can put those pixels to excellent use. Know your limits. With that being said, let's move on further.

2. The \$1 Tripod. Tripods are magnificent accessories for all



types of cameras once you master how to use them. But are you willing to put that much of a huge amount on an accessory like that? You don't have to. Stick 2 large

size paper clips on one side of your phone, and there you have it!

The best DIY alternative to a tripod. The photos can easily be taken by using the timer or in case if some phones, by connecting ear phones and taking the shot by pressing the volume button.

3. Most smart phones can detect infrared light. This



particular ability can enable them in to be used in many purposes, especially in the case of TV remotes.

If the battery is working, you will see a purple light emitting from the front with the press of each button.

4. Shake the camera a little before taking a shot. By shaking the handset just before going for the snap will help the camera balance light. Hence, you get a more clear photo, nonetheless it being over lit or under lit.
5. Exposure lock and focus lock: Rather than tapping on the subject in the photo, keep pressing on the subject until it takes the photo or locks the exposure. This helps your phone to better understand the light on your subject, and help

take better photos. Same goes for the focus. If you hold on long enough, your handset camera can focus a lot better and take a much clearer



6. Avoid over-the-line editing. Filters definitely are awesome. They add a unique trim to the photo and definitely makes it look magnificent. However, we should know that they are just artificial lights and shadows, and were not captured by the camera itself. For this reason, many filters don't match well with the clicked photo, which often results in small but important details being ruined, as well as blurring the whole photo. Keep it the most original as possible.
7. Sunglasses are useful. They can be a great help when the camera itself is having a hard time adjusting to the over lit conditions. Just hold it behind the glasses and that should

do it. Taking it to the next level is by using multi-shaded sunglasses (e.g. the ones that has a dark shade



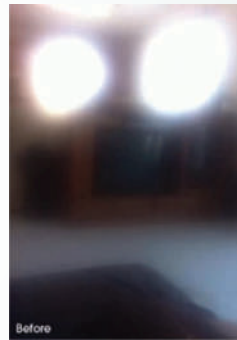
on top and light on bottom).

Point to mention though, is that this trick requires high end specs on the camera.

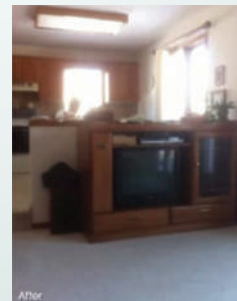
8. Avoid zooming in. Most smart phones use digital zoom. By using this and not any lenses or equipment, the quality of the photo is most likely to be severely affected. A more preferable method is to take the photo at 0% zoom and cropping out the required part. This way, the quality of the photo will be less deteriorated.
8. Clean and protect the lens. This should go without saying, but sadly needs to be said. Many people still use their smart phones like the practically indestructible ones the old Nokia handsets were, and they end up blaming their smart phones for not lasting long, and for being the cause of massive money being spent in repairs. The most careful of the owners manage

to care enough to put on a screen protector. But the camera lens is scheduled to have it's torture. Because most phone camera lenses do not come up with protective layers, we can cut a screen protector (even the cheapest ones would do) to make a small square shaped piece out of it. Afterwards, by applying it to the camera lens, it can resist small scratches and retain its original glare.

9. Scotch tapes are very useful. Almost every smart phone has



the tendency to put an end to serving you even after the first fall. It's just how they are made. You'll have to spend a wise amount of money repairing the screen. If the impact decided to devour your camera lens however, it would be the perfect situation for your wallet to cry. Because that finding individual camera lenses are incredibly rare, you might have



to change the whole case. However, a rather temporary solution is the use of scotch tapes on the

broken lens, so that you don't have to suffer all the way before getting a replacement. The tape will balance out most of the light scattered by the cracked lens and combine it together.

10. The Panorama Sequence: This trick puts your camera's panorama mode into excellent use. To make yourself appear on different locations in the same photo, you don't need to use Photoshop. Turn on panorama mode and put yourself in position for the first shot (remember, the panorama option takes a few photos and stitches them together).

As you can see, the panorama



After it's taken, move around back



And run into position for the next shot.



does not take the whole photo at once. If you keep moving into new positions, the panorama will keep capturing you in all those

positions. Here's how the final product should look like:



Point to mention : for a new position do not move left or right before the next photo. Run around back so that you do not get captured into any unwanted position.

11. The Drive-by Panorama: This is quite similar to the panorama sequence, but you do it in a vehicle. Simply activate the panorama and keep it capturing the outside view as you reach your destination.



After you're done, you should have something like this:

The only problem arises with the vehicles speed. Unless your camera has extremely high specifications, even a little speed will stand out as an obstruction to clarity. All the best with your new skills!

Usama Nafis
(A-Level)



Traditional Martial Art OR Modern Self-Defense System

The difference between a martial art and a self-defense training is a huge subject. Martial arts and self-defense are completely different, but they are absolutely same. But many people confuse the two.

Martial arts are codified systems and traditions of combat practices, which are practiced for a variety of reasons. Self-defense is one of them, other than that competition, physical health and fitness, as well as mental, physical and spiritual development, whereas self-defense is a countermeasure that involves defending of oneself or of another from harm. Self-defense is the physical force to counter an immediate threat of violence. Many styles of martial arts are practiced for self-defense techniques. Some styles train primarily for self-defense, while other martial art techniques can be effectively applied for self-defense sometimes.

Traditional martial arts were created thousands and thousands of years ago by the

great warriors of that time which was needed and was successfully applied in the warzone of that time, such as fighting with swords, throwing steel made stars by the ninjas and short-blade fighting back in the 17th century. Those martial arts are still taught in different nations and culture to spread the tradition and to keep that respect of

Martial arts and self-defense are completely different, but they are absolutely same.

those fighters as well as showing one kind of honor to those legendary masters. But many people prefer to learn

martial arts with the purpose of obtaining fighting skills to protect themselves on the streets against everyday dangers. They have the kind of idea that they have to learn a martial art or Jet Li or Jackie Chan moves. This simply is not true. While many martial art did evolve self-defense systems, they suited the needs of people in a specific time and place. They do not necessarily translate well to practical or modern-day needs. You are not, for example, going to do a flying

kick to a workplace harasser or a child abuser. Instead you can use self-defense techniques for the real dangers, women and girls face in our society today, such as harassment, abuse, eve teasing and sexual assault.

There are different martial arts with their own concepts and beliefs that came from different countries, nations, cultures or traditions. They have their own and different techniques. Respect or honor is an issue there.

Nowadays, these martial arts have become sports, just to prove the elegance of one over another and spreading the tradition by making it popular which can be done easily under the 'sports' tag. Actually, these things became business-oriented, decreasing the effectiveness of the original martial art for which people get to learn less, thus knowledge became limited for becoming sports and martial arts became an entertainment.

On the other hand, self-defense does not have the respect issues; they do not bow down before the fight or the fighter. It is all about survival to them. Self-defense was actually created from the effective techniques of various martial arts combining them into one system and modern self-defense system still adopts new techniques and moves. They simply do not want to die with honor but to live longer.

Self-defense and martial arts have their own strengths and they do have things in common. Both will get you in touch with physical as well as spiritual power. Self-defense and martial arts increase confidence and both create a strong body-mind connection.

In short, it does not matter what you love to learn or what you learn, there are no limitations to it; you just need to make sure you do not die out there, **STAY SAFE!**

Neezamuddin Faayez

CIMA, Thames-enej Chartered Academy



whereas self-defense is a countermeasure that involves defending of oneself or of another from harm.





FREE WI-FI

the new service that gives free access to the internet. She said that all one had to do was to connect to their network called “free Wi-Fi” which the service provider claimed to be available everywhere in our town. Only it had to be downloaded from Google Search.

When I got home the following evening, I decided to try it out.

I took out my laptop and searched for access to the “free Wi-Fi”. The signal was excellent with the fullest bar. I was delighted and quickly clicked the “connect”

button. My internet browser popped up with a sinister black screen and with blood-red creepy fonts, and a message showed up:

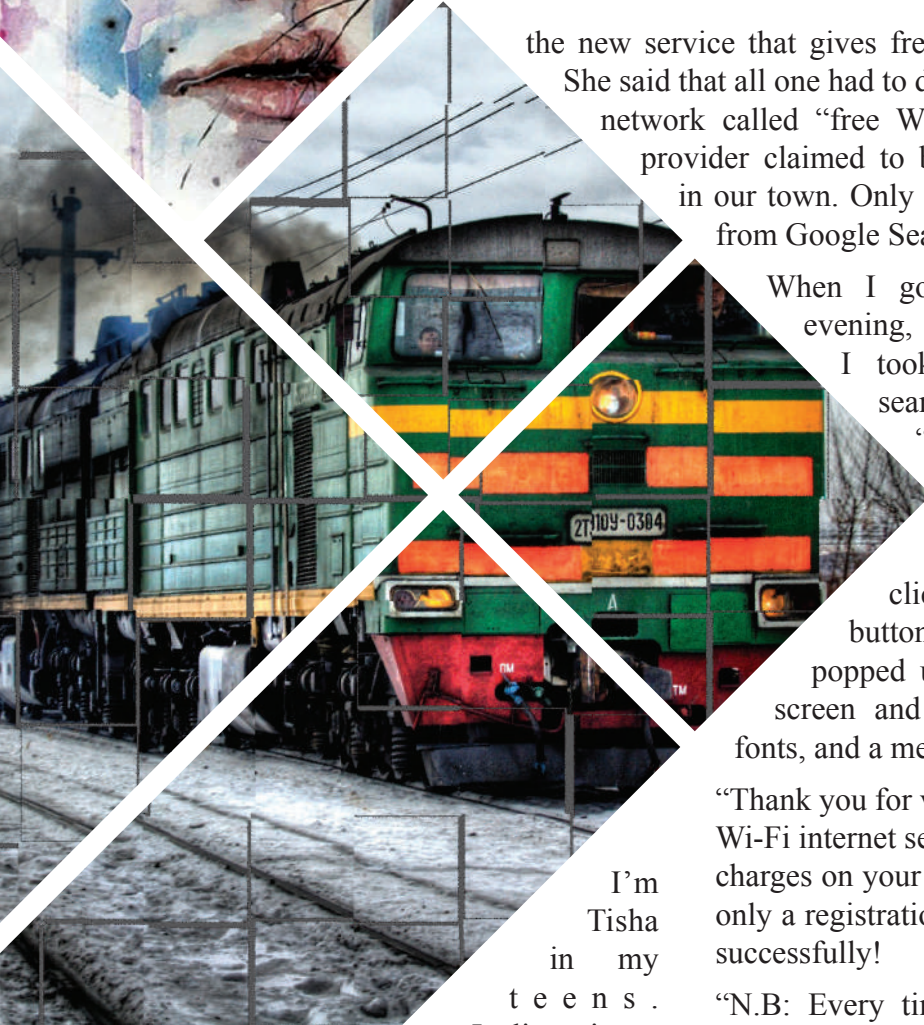
“Thank you for visiting! Welcome to free Wi-Fi internet service. We do not put any charges on your access. What we need is only a registration, which you have done successfully!”

“N.B: Every time you want to access us , some basic question must be as answered.”

There were four pictures on a screen showing 4 vehicles: a bus, a train, a boat and a plane.

Underneath was a question:

“What is your usual mode of transport?”



I'm
Tisha
in my
teen s .

I live in a small town. I don't belong to an affluent family. So, there are a lot of things that I can hardly afford. I recently purchased a laptop after depositing my money in a piggy bank.

One day I was in my school and one of my friends told me that she heard about

None of the options was my answer as I always walk to school, so I clicked randomly on the train's picture as an option.

A 'thank you' message popped up and I was able to use the internet.

Next day I was watching TV. Breaking news showed up below saying that a train had derailed and fallen into the river while crossing it.

Several carriers had plunged into the river and almost all the passengers perished.

I was horrified and went blank after I remembered about the website I had visited the night before. I tried to console myself that it was just a mere coincidence and nothing else. I mean it's so silly! If I had selected a plane, would there be a plane crash in our town next day? That is ludicrous.

That evening, I needed to use the internet for my assignment and I visited "free Wi-Fi" again with the help of my little data left.

Once again a message with 4 picture options popped up. The options were a bungalow, apartment, two story or huts.

Underneath was the question:

"Which type of house do you live in?"

I was about to choose bungalow then suddenly a doubt struck that what if my suspicions come true. So I clicked apartment with a pounding heart. Though I thought it was crazy, I decided not to avail the chance.

The next day, an apartment building

burned down completely. Luckily due to office hour, most of the dwellers were out for work. But 20 people trapped inside that apartment were burned in the blazing fire.

After being terrified and lost in myself for more than an hour, I stopped mulling over it, and calmed myself. I claimed that it was an insane coincidence. I took out my laptop and decided to gain access again.

A message with four picture options popped up again.

When I saw the pictures I forgot to breath and let out a gasp of horror.

The pictures were of my father, my little sister and me...

Underneath was the question:

"Which of them is your favorite family member?"

Ibnath Nabiha
(A-Level)



If I had selected a plane, would there be a plane crash in our town next day?



A brief account of football in Bangladesh



This is mainly due to lack of proper infrastructure, academy, support and most importantly inadequate investment in this field

In the history of games and sports, football has become the most popular sport in Bangladesh. Despite its popularity, the quality of Bangladeshi football has deteriorated in recent times. This is mainly due to lack of proper infrastructure, academy, support and

most importantly inadequate investment in this field. In our country, compared to cricket, the development of football has not come up to a level of our expectation.

During the 1990s, football was in a better position. The high voltage clash between the two historic clubs, Abahani Ltd. and

Mohammedan sporting club, was similar to the 'El Clasico' we see today, not in terms of the quality of playing but the excitement. The Swadhin Bangla Football Team, consisting of legendary football players who played football during the liberation war, played 16 matches in India and was officially received by the BFF in 2009. The FIFA ranking of Bangladesh was then 110 and now it has drastically fallen to 182.

Notwithstanding all the drawbacks of being a professional football player in Bangladesh, it is still popular and sensational game of the youth. Since the first broadcast of FIFA world cup finals in Bangladesh, people of our country celebrate the tradition of hoisting national flags of teams they support in the world cups. Recent times have seen the increasing popularity of the tournament in the nation's media and an increase in the sale of jerseys and flags. There is also a lot of excitement in watching live matches on big screen.

BFF (Bangladesh Football Federation) is currently working with AFC's Vision Asia Program to improve the infrastructure. Kazi Salahuddin, the president of BFF, has recently taken a lot of initiatives since

4th April, 2008. He took the first initiative of Bangladeshi Super League known as 'Koti Takar League'.

Young prospects of

Bangladesh take part in international youth Football

Tournaments like Gothia Cup and Dana Cup. Surprisingly, legendary football players such as Andrea Pirlo, Xabi Alonso and also Zlatan Ibrahimović took part in these



tournaments at their young age.

Regardless of the failures of the national football team, the success of individual players needs to be praised by the whole country. Hemonto Vincent Biswas wears the No. 10 Jersey of his country and he didn't fail to cope up with the pressure of wearing that number on his back. He was the first Bangladeshi footballer to get a trial at a European Club. FC Twenty called him for a trial but due to some issues, he was not selected for the first team. But he was entitled 'Unpolished Diamond' by the coach and the staff members of the Club. Mamunul Islam Mamun, the captain of Bangladesh National Football Team, impressed local Indians by taking Sheikh Jamal Dhanmondi Club to the finals of the 2014 IFA Shield. He received offers from Indian Clubs and went on loan to Atletico De Kolkata, but did not play a single game. Unable to play a single game in the ISL demoralized Mamunul but he did make us proud.

Recently Bangladesh U-16 National Football Team won the 'SAFF U-16 Championship', hosted in Bangladesh and the finals took place in Sylhet. A few players from Arambagh Football Academy were proud representatives of the team. In 'Bangabandhu Cup 2015', Bangladesh stood out as the runners-up as they lost against Malaysia U-23 team by 2-3 in the final match. Hence, not only individual success, but also collective success is evident.

In conclusion we can say, players are

hopeful that playing for the youth teams is the beginning of something big. The BFF president has promised to take football a long way. He is optimistic about Bangladesh participating in the FIFA World Cup 2022. The young generation is inspired by this and they are also hopeful about seeing Bangladesh national team perform in such tournaments and finding Bangladeshi Football in a better position in the near future.

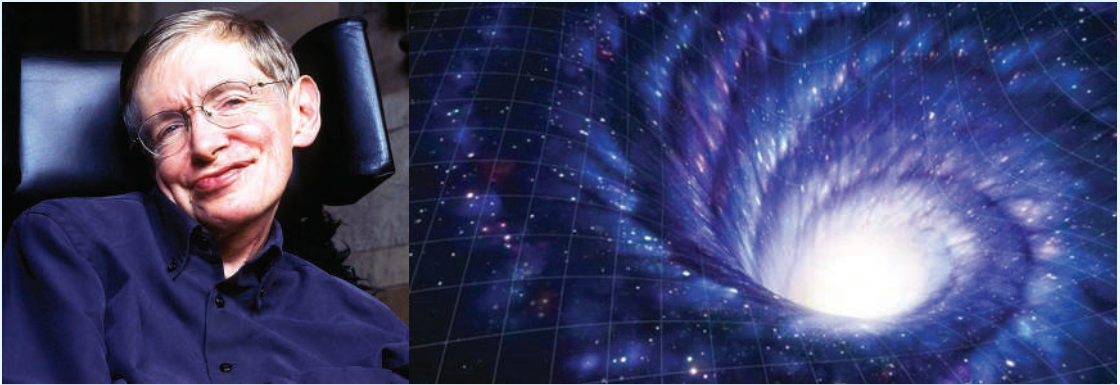
Saad Tausif

A-Level, SFX Greenherald International School



**played 16 matches
in India and was
officially received
by the BFF in 2009.
The FIFA ranking of
Bangladesh was then
110 and now it has
drastically fallen to
182.**





Stephen Hawking: At a Glance

Name: Stephen Hawking

Full Name: Stephen William Hawking

Aliases:

Date of birth: 8th January, 1942
(Currently 74)

Place of birth: Oxford, England

Father's name: Frank Hawking

Mother's name: Isobel Hawking

Childhood: His family moved to Albans when he was 8

Education: Schooling at St Albans School, followed by College Graduation in Physics at University College, Oxford where he received a First Class. He went on to do his Ph. D. at the University of Cambridge.

Tragedy: At age 21, while studying cosmology at the University of Cambridge, he was diagnosed with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis. Despite his debilitating illness, he has done groundbreaking work

in physics and cosmology.

Occupational Life: After gaining his Ph.D. he became first a Research Fellow and later on a Professorial Fellow at Gonville and Caius College. After leaving the Institute of Astronomy in 1973, Stephen came to the Department of Applied Mathematics and Theoretical Physics in 1979, and held the post of Lucasian Professor of Mathematics from 1979 until 2009. The chair was founded in 1663 with money left in the will of the Reverend Henry Lucas who had been the Member of Parliament for the University. It was first held by Isaac Barrow and then in 1669 by Isaac Newton. Stephen is still an active part of Cambridge University and retains an office at the Department for Applied Maths and Theoretical Physics. His title is now the Dennis Stanton Avery and Sally Tsui Wong-Avery Director of Research at the Department of Applied Mathematics and Theoretical Physics.

Field of specialization: Astrophysics, General relativity, Quantum Gravity

Major contributions: Properties of Expanding Universe (thesis)

Awards:

Adams Prize (1966)

FRS (1974) [15]

Eddington Medal (1975)

Maxwell Medal and Prize (1976)

Heineman Prize (1976)

Hughes Medal (1976)

Albert Einstein Award (1978)

CBE (1982)

RAS Gold Medal (1985)

Dirac Medal (1987)

Wolf Prize (1988)

CH (1989)

Prince of Asturias Award (1989)

Andrew Gemant Award (1998)

Naylor Prize and Lectureship (1999)

Lilienfeld Prize (1999)

Albert Medal (Royal Society of Arts) (1999)

Copley Medal (2006)

Presidential Medal of Freedom (2009)

Fundamental Physics Prize (2012)

FRSA

Current position: Dennis Stanton Avery and Sally Tsui Wong-Avery Director of Research at the Department of Applied Mathematics and Theoretical Physics.

Books:

Black Holes and Baby Universes and Other Essays

A Brief History of Time

A Briefer History of Time (Hawking and Mlodinow book)

George and the Big Bang

George and the Unbreakable Code

George's Cosmic Treasure Hunt

George's Secret Key to the Universe

God Created the Integers

The Grand Design (book)

The Large Scale Structure of Space-Time

My Brief History

The Nature of Space and Time

On the Shoulders of Giants (book)

The Universe in a Nutshell

Personal Life: He has married twice and has fathered 3 children

Current residence: UK

Compiled by:

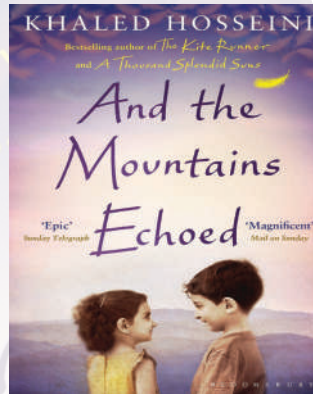
Samina Mehnaj

O-Level

Success is walking from failure to failure with no loss of enthusiasm.

-Winston Churchill

KHALED HOSSEINI
Bestselling author of *The Kite Runner*
and *A Thousand Splendid Suns*



Book Review

**And the Mountains Echoed by
Khaled Hosseini**

This is Hosseini's most ambitious work yet, its multifaceted story more globe-trotting than his best-selling first two novels.

When we first meet the novel's two central characters, they are children living in a remote, impoverished Afghan countryside. Abdullah is ten, and his beloved baby sister, Pari, is three. He has taken care of her since their mother died giving birth to her. The family has no money and the previous winter, the cold seeped into his family's shack and froze his 2-week-old stepbrother to death. Now his father has walked Abdullah and Pari across miles of desert, from their tiny village to the great city of Kabul, in hopes that one brutal act — a bargain with two rich devils — will save their family from the next ruthless winter.

The novel is built as a series of tales, each told in a different style from a different point of view. Fingers are sliced off in almost every chapter. Repeatedly his characters face a test of love: Will they sacrifice their dearest for a better life, or will they remain loyal at the cost of their own happiness?

Clarion Call Rating: 8/10

Hameem Hoque
(A-Level)

Game Review

Batman: Arkham Knight



The Batman: Arkham series did for superhero games what Christopher Nolan's Dark Knight Trilogy did for superhero movies. Batman faces the ultimate threat against the city he is sworn to protect. The Scarecrow returns to unite an impressive roster of super villains, including Penguin, Two-Face and Harley Quinn, to destroy The Dark Knight forever.

The game follows a familiar trajectory: explore an open world environment, with main story missions joining optional side quests to stretch out the gameplay. It also continues with the crazy-fun mix of combat, stealth and detective work that have been hallmarks of the series from day one, while adding a new Batmobile gameplay element to the mix. However, overuse of this iconic vehicle is one of the few cons of this game. Another element worth mentioning is the greater emphasis on the wider Batman family, with Oracle at the heart of the story, and key moments for Catwoman, Nightwing and Robin for special dual-hero dust-ups.

It is the end of the Arkham series and Rocksteady leaves it on a high note. This is an even bigger and more epic game than Arkham City, but one which luxuriates in the details and doesn't lose track of what makes the Dark Knight such a powerful protagonist.

Clarion Call Rating: 8/10

Hameem Hoque
(A-Level)

Humour Corner

- ◆ A friend was arguing with me that onion is the only food which gets your tear out.

So I throw a coconut on his face to prove him wrong!

- ◆ Teacher: What small bee gives you?
Kid: Honey!
Teacher: What small goat gives you?
Kid: Milk!
And what buffalo gives you?
Kid: Home work!

- ◆ The past of Eat is ate and the future of ate is weight and the most funny part is that people realize it so too late!

- ◆ Early to bed, and early to rise proves that..

..

..

..

...

The person has no internet connection!!!

- ◆ Why do cows have bells?
Because their horns don't work!
- ◆ Dad – Dear, I want you to marry a girl of my choice.
Son – no way..
Dad - She is the daughter of world's richest man.
Son – then its done.

Then his dad goes to that richest man..
Dad - I want your daughter to marry my son.

Rich man – nope

Dad: He is the COO of world bank.

Rich man – then its done.

Then Dad again goes to president of bank.

He asked – appoint my son the COO of the world bank.

Him – Never

Dad: – He is the son in law of World's richest man.

Him – then its fine.

- ◆ THIS IS Smartness...!!
- ◆ Teacher: Did your father help you with your homework?
Kid: No, he did it all by himself.
- ◆ Evening news is when they start off with Good Evening and then proceed to telling you why it isn't.
- ◆ Wife: You delivered an excellent speech
Husband: Thanks dear, but the audience was full of idiots and fools...
Wife: Hmm... so that explains why you addressed them as brothers and sisters.

Creativity comes from a conflict of ideas.

-Dontella Varsace

PHOTO CORNER

