

UNDERCOVER

Jan 2013

Issue No. One

A PUBLICATION OF:
PERSPECTIVE

“Although I know it's unfair I reveal myself one mask at a time.” These “masks” help us avoid conflicts in life.”

Reality Check.

In this issue of Perspective, we reveal the self that lies behind the mask and celebrate their truth and deception. We want you to tell us what is behind that mask and why would you put it on. We commend our students' desires and aspirations through their contributions.



10 Years...



*Unity in Diversity*

EDITORIAL

From strength to strength our school has completed 10 years and has become the premier educational institution in India, and one of the leading schools in the world. A few of us, have been fortunate enough to witness this metamorphosis and be a part of this wonderful family. This issue of Perspective addresses a multitude of aspects related to masks, and is very close to our hearts as it includes contributions from every class in the school, while commemorating ten glorious years of our “second home.”

We at the Dhirubhai Ambani International School, are celebrating a decade of the institution’s being majestically and with grandeur. This year we have an amazing spectacle based on India’s past, present and future – “Mother” followed by a fun fest. This performance is like none that we have witnessed before, however is a soul sequel to “We the People.” Sounds like the same thing as the last year, and the year before that? How about NO!

We sure have witnessed amazing performances and have imagined bizarre themes, ranging from the contrasting worlds of colour in Jivtara to a riveting retelling of the Indian freedom struggle in, “We the People,” and no list of great performances can be complete without at least mentioning the other sensational productions, such as “I have a Dream” and “I am Mumbai.”

- Ishan Goenka

Kindergarten ART.



Happy Halloween. Time to go trick o' treating



My creation - Czar Kunder



Nap Time! Cause standing up is too mainstream!



A Masterpiece

A Day in the Life of A Superhero

BLACK WIDOW WAS FORMED,
BY POKY NEEDLES AND PRICKLY
THORNS.

SHE HAS SOFT, SILKY, SHORT
HAIR,

AND IS VERY, VERY FAIR.

SHE WEARS A BLACK JUMPSUIT,

AND ON HER FEET ARE SHINY
BLACK BOOTS.

BLACK WIDOW KEEPS WATCH
OVER THE CITY,

BUT, SHE IS NOT THAT BUSY,

SHE GOES TO "CAFÉ COFFEE
DAY",

WHICH ISN'T VERY FAR AWAY.

SHE'S GOT EVERYTHING IN
HAND.

HER CLOTHES ARE FROM THE
MOST FASHIONABLE BRANDS.

AT THE END OF THE DAY SHE
WOULD SAY,

OH! HOW I WISH I COULD FLY
AWAY

- ISHIKA KESWANI

III A

Superheroes in Action

The window a jar,
And there on top of the car!

Was a girl passing by,
With a magical sty in her eye.

She wore purple hand gloves,
And flew through a group of doves.

Her hair was long and curly,
And always woke up so early!

She saved a goat (two or three),
From falling into the river.

She grabbed a girl from drowning
into the sea,

Without a single shiver!!

She flew so fast,

I was totally aghast!

A pup needed helping,

Now there she came,

That little dame.

She looked at me, I looked at her,

And then I realized she was my
sister!

I was stunned, I was zapped,

My sister had me in a trap.

She came through the door,

That I fainted on the floor.

-Saachi Maskara

IV A

ESSAYS. SHORT STORIES.

My Super Heroes

It was a bright day. I was reading a book when my mom called me. She told me to hang the washed clothes as it was my favourite hobby. I hung them singing in joy. Suddenly I saw a key flash and a golden bridge appeared in front of me. I was surprised so I called my mum. She said she would help me find the answer to the golden bridge. So we slowly got on and walked across. At the end we were in a fairy world. Mermaids were swimming in the rivers. I felt like swimming too. But I just said hello and walked away happy to have seen mermaids. I saw flowers of every kind and shape. It was a wonderful sight. But as we walked deeper it became very dark and cold. Between a fit of shivering I ran away only to find a huge hole on my way. I ran to my mom and asked her to help me. Just as I finished my dad appeared wearing a red cape which said super hero. Yippee I shouted. We then walked to the hole. Suddenly we saw one figure chanting a song like this, "hole on hole, your life is so that when I say you have to go! Suddenly the hole disappeared. After the figure crossed it came back! We were very surprised. We said the magic rhyme and the hole went. We ran after the figure which we now knew was a man. We shot forward like lightning. Then we caught a glimpse of his face. It was my best friend Henry! I hesitated but called my mom who phoned the police. Finally with Henry caught and bridge returned. We went home happy to have solved a mystery together. I was the happiest. So from then on my parents were my super heroes!!

-Devika Khotari

2B

A Day with Rapunzel

I awoke with a start. The shades were apart and windows were open. I tiptoed outside the room, as quiet as a church mouse. There was a shadow in the hallway. I went a little closer and spotted a long cape. The size must have been XXXXL. I went closer and closer. I couldn't help but notice a fair, blonde haired girl wearing a lovely gown.

My thoughts were stalled as she spoke, "My name is Rapunzel. I am a super hero and work with the Wonder avengers, but one of my team members, Wonder woman got bashed up and is in the hospital, so we want to take you to her place." I was shocked! After a few moments, I agreed. She gave me a crimson red cape and taught me how to fly. She gave a flyie-talkie and started to fly without her cape. I realized that her hair was her cape. I took a go at it and thought about flying up in space amongst stars. The next second, up

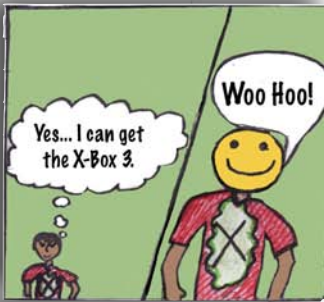
and up I rose, until... stars twinkled in all four directions. I sighed with amazement; this was totally 'out of the world'! Rapunzel called me back and that moment something beeped on her gown. "It's a danger sign, there's a villain out there," she said in a serious tone. My goggleye-prudish monster-searcher (GPS) will help us track it down. Plus, I could just shoot at the villain by thinking about it.

'BAM!' Dead! I was shocked but I just followed her out onto the terrace. She told me to touch the GPS and WHOOSH... I reached the garbage dump and saw... JOKER! Rapunzel began shooting things at him and I did so too. The Joker was on fire. I went closer and realized that he was dead! I rejoiced as I had killed a villain! I saw Rapunzel still shooting at someone... my heart was beating. I touched the person's face and pulled... it was WONDERWOMAN in disguise!

Prisha Mangat

4A

M A S K



What I want to be ?

To be an alien from a planet not yet discovered is my first, and only choice If I were to be anyone but myself.

I would like to be from a planet named Chingwong Tangmang. This is a planet, way beyond the milky way. My race would be the most advanced and old. In fact, the smartest specimen of intelligent life. I would be smarter than the smartest person ever, who is, to name, Ranjai Bhosle.

My appearance would seem strange to human beings, but on my planet, I rank amongst the most handsome of my kind, with my muscular form, large head, short hedgehog hair, x-ray vision eyes and razor sharp ears.

With the ability to travel at the speed of light, I would travel to Earth on a mission to help Earthlings to rediscover simple, environment friendly and fun ways of living in harmony.

-Devika Khotari

2B



ESSAYS. SHORT STORIES. POEMS

How I Uncovered A Masked Mystery

On the 18th of July 2012, I was in New York during my summer vacations, enjoying with my family. We had taken several day trips to shopping outlets all the way in New Jersey, which was a three-hour drive from the hotel we were staying at. This time we were going to a theme park called Six Flags, which had all kinds of daunting rides including the world's tallest rollercoaster. My family and I set out at 7:30 a.m. in a SUV that we had rented a couple of days back. Since the driver was long, before leaving the hotel my brother and I purchased a few music CD's of our choice. They consisted of rock and pop, and one was them encompassed the biggest hit songs of the year. We also bought binoculars, drinking water and sunscreen. We enjoyed the music throughout the ride. On the way, when we were already a few miles into New Jersey, several 'wanted' posters caught my eye. All the posters that I noticed were of people from the same gang. All of them were from the U.S's top ten-wanted list. The reward of catching any one of these thugs was a large six-digit sum of money and a medal of valor. Seeing this immediately sent a shiver down the spine, not just because of how wanted they were, but because all of them wore a masks in disguise.

Even after reaching the Six Flags theme park I had a very disconcerting feeling, and couldn't get this thought off my mind. I was scared knowing that any of the mundane people around me could be one of those 'wanted' thugs. Entering the theme park and seeing the joyous spirit of everyone around me almost got my mind off things. I went on about 10 to 15 amazing rollercoaster rides. This in all took me four full hours to complete. Though each ride lasted for only 3 minutes or less, the wait before the rollercoaster ranged from about 15 to 45 minutes. The last ride I went for was called King Da Ka. It has been certified as the world's largest and fastest rollercoaster yet. Because of which, the wait was about 45 minutes long. The line moved extremely slowly. While I was just staring into space I noticed 5 men wearing black masks at a stall nearby. I got goosebumps. Those 5 men instantly reminded me about the 'wanted' posters that I saw on my way to Six Flags. Though I was trembling with fear, I took a bold decision and took a closer look at the faces behind those masks. However, since this was a risky decision, I needed to be subtle and remain unnoticed. That's when I remembered, I had packed binoculars in my bag while packing for this trip. So with the help of those binoculars I took a closer look at those men. I couldn't make out who they were and whether they were those 'wanted' thugs. But as the line started moving and I was about to walk ahead, I noticed those masked men remove massive guns. They were loading these guns with bullets. I was shocked when I saw one of the masked men remove his mask. His faced was identical to the one that was shown in the poster.

I therefore immediately did the right thing and informed the closest guard. Undoubtedly, he dialed 911, and within a couple of minutes the policemen had arrived. they were just in time to stop those criminals from causing any chaos and were able to stop them from annihilating everything.

That day I was very proud. The F.B.I thanked me for saving so many lives and making it possible to catch these wanted criminals. They appreciated my gesture so much that they rewarded me \$500,000 and a medal of valor.

I made it to the front page of the New York Times and was showered with compliments at the Mumbai airport when I returned. That was a day I uncovered a mystery, that day I will never forget.

- Aayush Trived

- 6B

ESSAYS. SHORT STORIES. POEMS

Tasks of the Tribal Masks

MASKS DISGUISE YOUR FACE,
 MAKE IT LOOK LIKE IT'S FULL OF GRACE,
 THEY DRIVE AWAY ALL THE EVIL,
 AND THEY MAKE YOU LOOK LIKE YOUR PART OF
 THE MEDIEVAL.
 THEY COME IN DIFFERENT COLORS, SIZES AND
 SHAPES,
 TO LOOK AND FEEL AS FRESH AS NEW
 THEY ARE SAID TO HAVE MAGICAL POWERS,
 AND GIVE BOTANICAL SECRETS TO GROW
 FLOWERS.
 NOT ONLY DO THEY SHOW CRAFTSMANSHIP,
 BUT HAVE SPIRITUAL ESSENCE,
 THEY GIVE A SPIRIT TO THE DEAD,
 AND A GOOD HARVEST TO PEASANTS.
 IN JUNGLES THE TRIBAL'S WEAR MASKS AT THE
 BACK,
 SO HUNGRY LEOPARDS AND TIGERS DON'T
 ATTACK,
 IN GROUPS THEY EAT, SING, AND DANCE,
 TO KEEP THE ANIMALS DISTANT PRANCE.
 THEY ARE ALSO WORN DURING TRIBAL DANCES,
 CARRIED OFF REALLY WELL WHEN THEY GIVE
 THOSE SCARY GLANCES.
 THEY ARE BRAVE AND PROUD OF THEIR RENOWN,
 AND SHOW IT OFF IN THEIR FEATHERED CROWN.

-SANAM SHARMA 7B

What I want to be

To be an alien from a planet not yet discovered is my
 first, and only choice If I were to be anyone but myself.
 I would like to be from a planet named Chingwong
 Tangmang. This is a planet, way beyond the milky way.
 My race would be the most advanced and old. In fact,
 the smartest specimen of intelligent life. I would be
 smarter than the smartest person ever, who is, to name,
 Ranjai Bhosle.

My appearance would seem strange to human beings,
 but on my planet, I rank amongst the most handsome
 of my kind, with my muscular form, large head, short
 hedgehog hair, x-ray vision eyes and razor sharp ears.

With the ability to travel at the speed of light, I would
 travel to Earth on a mission to help Earthlings to
 rediscover simple, environment friendly and fun ways of
 living in harmony

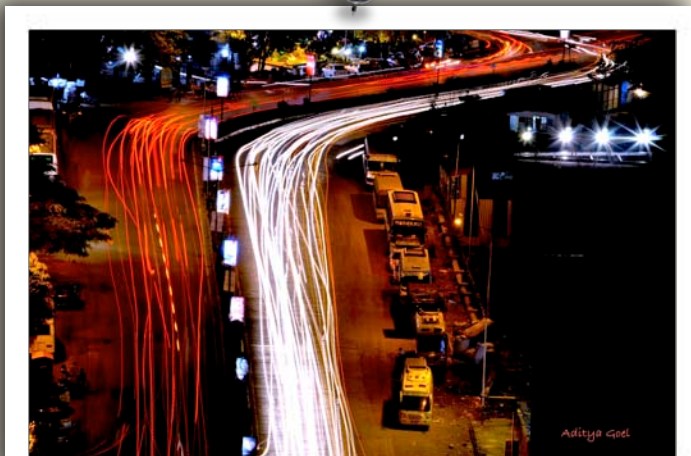
Ranjali Bhose

5B

Me V/S Evil

If I would have the ability to transform into anybody that I wish to be, I would like to transform into a superhero. My name would be X-man and I would have mysterious and magical powers. I would use the powers to protect the good from the evil and help all those who were in trouble. For example, if people were going to have an accident, I would intervene, and pick up the cars, and prevent the accident from taking place. I would protect India from terrorists by creating a barrier that would be unaffected by any weapon on this planet. Any person, who tried to hurt my family, would be immobilized through my special laser gun. My powers could be used to save so many lives. Not only humans, but my powers would be used for the helpless animals that were being attacked by the hunters, and I would then reunite the animal with its family. These powers would prevent me from being a normal kid and I would be the famous boy who helps his country. I know that my life will go through many ups and downs due to me being a superhero, but I'm willing to take that risk. It's a sacrifice that I am willing to make. My life is not as precious to me as my dear country. I will make sure that all of evil is destroyed and until then, I shall not rest in peace. This is my motivation to become a superhero.

Harsh Aryan Das



Photography by
Aditya Goel (10 C)



Tasks of the Tribal Masks

COMEDY – 'MASK'ING EMOTIONS

COMEDY IS A MERE MASK WHOSE WEIGHT,
ONLY A FEW CAN BEAR.

BEYOND EMOTIONS YOU CAN RATE,
AND THE TRUE PICTURE ISN'T THAT FAIR.

PEOPLE INDULGE IN COMEDY, TO HAVE A LAUGH,
TO SEE PEOPLE WEARING THEIR HEART ON THEIR
SCARF.

WHAT PEOPLE DON'T UNDERSTAND IS THE TRUTH
BEHIND IT,

YOU ARE NOT GOING TO LIKE IT, FOR YOU, IT IS
NOT FIT.

COMEDY IS A MASK OF EMOTIONS SO DEEP,
IT LEAVES THE CROWD IN AN EXHAUSTED HEAR.

COMEDY IS ANYTHING BUT A MERE GAME,
THERE IS A LOT MORE TO IT, THAN JUST A MINUTE
OF FAME.

COMEDY ISN'T ALL ABOUT LAUGHTER AND FUN,
SOMETIMES THERE IS ALSO, A DARK SIDE TO THE
SUN.

COMEDY IS A PLAY ON EMOTION AND FEELING,
IT LEAVES THE DOER SAPPED, BEYOND ANY
HEALING.

PRITHVI PUNJABI

VIIIA



SEE NO EVIL, SPEAK NO EVIL
HEAR NO EVIL

- Yuvansh
7B
- Prithvi

HEAR NO EVIL
SEE NO EVIL, SPEAK NO EVIL

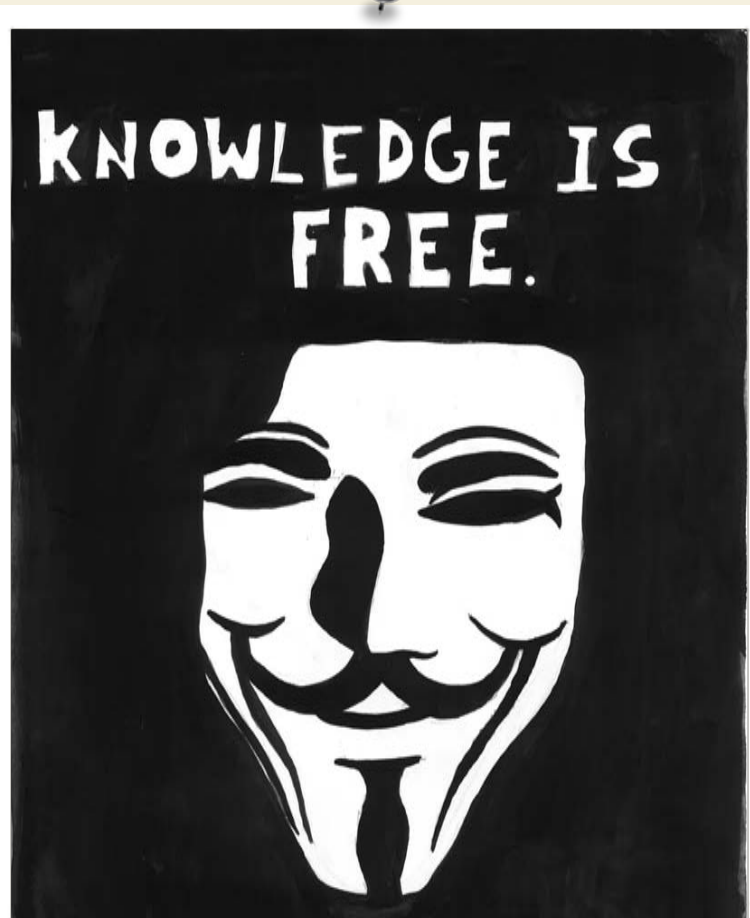


Mockery of Masks

I'D MUCH RATHER BE,
A HORRID MONSTROSITY,
THAN CONFORM TO A PLEA,
OF THIS JUDGMENTAL SOCIETY.
A RIDICULOUS CHARADE,
A HIDDEN MASQUERADE,
OUR IDENTITIES FADE,
WE CANNOT BE REMADE.
THIS DISGUISE WE WEAR,
CAN HOLD ITS SHARE,
OF ACUTE DESPAIR,
WHICH WE CANNOT BEAR.
AND AS THIS COMES TO AN END,
A NOTE TO EVERY FRIEND,
A CHANGES IS AROUND THE BEND,
TO HIDE- NO MORE ENERGY WILL I SPEND.
THIS MASK I WILL DROP,
THIS CHARADE HAS TO STOP,
MY IDENTITY, NONE SHALL BLOCK,
IT IS ME, AND NONE ELSE THAT YOU MOCK.

-SAUMYA KAULGUD

IXA



Student Council Interview

PERSPECTIVE 2012

Student council – Arijit Nerurkar

Questions:

How was your year as a part of the student council?

Very challenging- I did much more work than I thought I would.

What did you enjoy most about leading your house?

I got respect and responsibility that I never had before.

Did you face any problems? How did you overcome them?

Yes, like miscommunication amongst the house. I then decided to take full responsibility of list making and informing.

What are your expectations from the upcoming council?

I'm definitely going to have a talk with them before they take charge, so that they know what they are up for. I'm sure they will do well.

Do you think they will match up to your standards?

Certainly, if I tell them what I did wrong, then yeah.

Any tips for the forthcoming council?

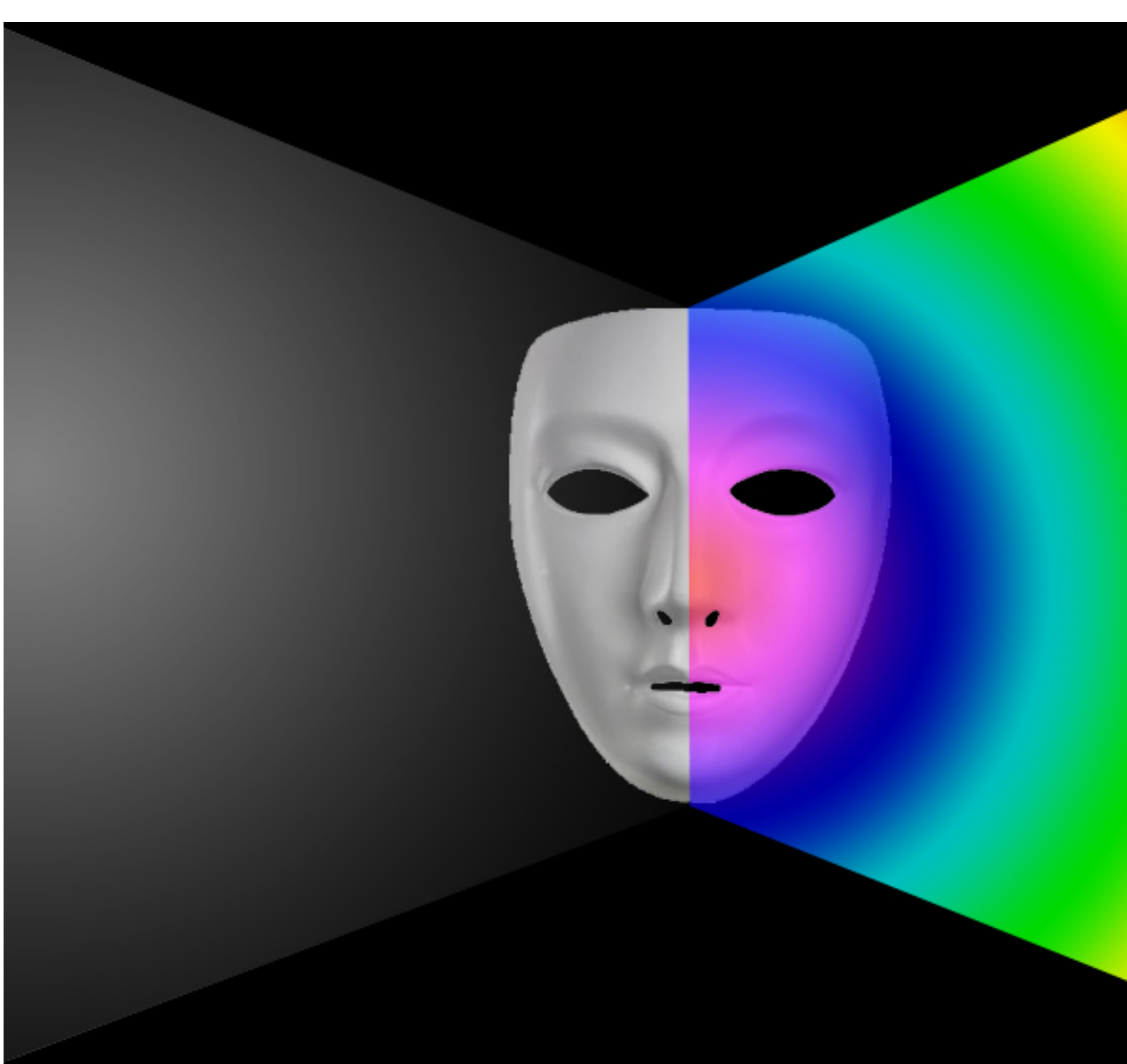
Make ready-made tables for making lists; and be prepared to take full responsibility (don't delegate work)

Activities that you wanted to introduce and wish the future council to initiate?

Quiz for seniors

FIFA 13 :D

-Arijit Nerurkar



THE IB

MASKS IN RITUALS

We wear the mask that grins and lies,
It hides our cheeks and shades our eyes,
This debt we pay to human guile;
With torn and bleeding hearts we smile,
And mouth with myriad subtleties.

--Paul Lawrence Dunbar

When 'masks' are referred to in literature, they are usually depicted as tools to hide the underlying emotions of the wearer. However, masks have long been an integral part of human culture. They were used very commonly for rituals, theatre performances, dances, and funerals and other ceremonies. A mask's color, structure and pattern, size, duration for which it is worn are among the multitudinous factors that determine the purpose of a mask.

Quite simply, a mask is something that covers the face (either in part or in its entirety) and sometimes also the head and shoulders. It may be to hide the real emotions of the wearer or to transform his personality for a particular period of time. It is believed to protect the wearer from harm, or to prevent the spirit from escaping from the body of the dead. It may also be used in indigenous tribal cultures to cure diseases.

Masks play an important role in many cultures as a part of their rituals. Due to the profound significance of masks in rituals, they are made by specially trained artisans, who have worked for several years as apprentices under master craftsmen. The skill and training for mask carving is very often handed down through the generations and the people who are skilled in making these masks are highly respected in their society.

These artisans are respected not only for their skill in making the masks but also because they are a storehouse of knowledge on the significance of each feature of a mask. For example, the colors that are used in masks play an important role in determining the effects of the masks. Red represents anger, the devil, blood and danger. Yellow represents fear as well as warmth. Blue signifies melancholy, righteousness, quality and coolness. White represents purity, innocence as well as ghostliness. Green depicts sickness as well as regeneration. Gray signifies maturity, sobriety, ambiguity and apathy. And black symbolizes evil, witchcraft, death, horror, morbidity and more.

The fact that the mask hides the identity of the wearer has been used for many purposes. In many cultures, members of secret societies used to wear masks and punish wrongdoers, thus enforcing a social code. Sometimes even members of the jury used to wear masks during trials. In medieval Europe, the executioner used to wear a mask. Grotesque war masks were worn in battles by warriors in medieval Japan, ancient Greece and Rome. Nowadays they are chiefly used in war ceremonies in some tribes.

Sometimes, masks are used in rituals for bounty and prosperity. For instance, beautiful masks were used in initiation ceremonies in West Africa. Masks are also used in rituals to represent the rain deities or fertility deities to whom obeisance is paid to ensure a good harvest. Sometimes, animal masks are used in rituals to ensure a good hunt. In Korea they are used in Shamanistic ceremonies to drive away evil spirits.

Masks have had huge significance in the cultures in the past. Masks are treasure troves of information on these cultures. It is not surprising, therefore, that masks have held the interest of anthropologists and historians over generations

Aditi Kannan

The Red Carpet

We usually begin every Friday morning with dreary eyes and tired souls. Except today was something unusual, people rushing into the auditorium with great enthusiasm. It was time for Lights, Camera, Action!

The opening day of the first ever inter-house dramatics competition, began with a sensational performance by the Panther House. They enacted a fictitious story which was centered around a given article about Anna Hazare. These characters were wonderfully portrayed by Shantanu Jain and Vihaan Samat. Their journey began with the background score of 'We Are Young', a song which connected with the students and due to its popularity entranced the audience further into the play. All in all this performance was a very lively and successful one as it brought out the topics between two brothers and indirectly reinforced political facts about Anna Hazare. This enactment gave the readers an interesting insight into Anna Hazare's character.

This act was followed up by the Lions, with a spectacular performance on the political scenario of India. The newspaper article about the Assam Riots was cleverly portrayed through a political satire. This political feudality started with a shaky start when Shivani Mishra portraying Mamta Banerjee fumbled with her lines. But the spirits of the Lions soon caught on taking the satire on full swing. There was great comic timing between the characters and the play had a strong storyline full of puns that were directed towards members of the parliament. It was a fun-filled act due to its references to situations which the audience could relate to.

The next week the expectation levels were high and the Jaguar and Tiger house had to live up to the potential that the Lions and Panthers had shown. The day began with a good effort that was put up by the Jaguar house. However they were unsuccessful in leaving a mark in the audience's heart and mind. The story line was confusing and therefore the audience was unable to comprehend. The story line followed the trail of papers, which involved the actors to go missing. This led to a series of suspicion and chaos. Ultimately it was revealed that the criminals of this incident was not limited to only one, but included every character.

The Tiger house regained the audience's captivity by displaying an eye-opening performance. The truth may sometimes take you to a dead end and force you to choose an alternative which goes against your principles. Sara Sultan, one of the politicians in the performance was justified when she stated that 'There is a small difference between commission and corruption'. Overall, their acting was widely appreciated as they showed a sense of determination, dedication and devotion towards portraying their topic.

When the results were announced, it was no surprise to see the Tigers attain the first place, with the Lions close at heel taking the second position, and leaving the third and fourth to the Panthers and Jaguars. This was the first effort our school made towards hosting a unique 'Dramatic Competition', and we hope that it's followed by more entertaining competitions, such as this.

-Rhea Shah and Raina Roy

The AD Man Cometh.

On the first Wednesday of September, 2012,

Titled the "AD Man cometh," this session was an interactive and interesting take on the wide world of advertising from award winning filmmaker Mr. Prasoon Pandey. Advertisements, such as Pepsi's "Change the Game," campaign and the always entertaining Fevicol advertisements, are all Mr. Pandey's brainchildren.

The session began with an introduction to some of his creative genius' and a brief about Mr. Pandey by the Head of the English Department(International Curriculum), followed by Mr. Pandey exploring the key factors that influence his advertisements, from his inspirations, to his perspective of the society and of course his target audience.

The next half of the session included Mansi Sheth's (IBD Y2) questions to Mr. Pandey, from the perspective of Media Studies; a topic of deliberation in English Language and Literature. The answers to these questions explained many of the reasons behind the direction of an ad, and revealed some of the "tricks of the trade," while debunking myths and rumors.

To conclude this stellar experience, some current LitLang HL students analyzed and critiqued some of Mr. Pandey's acclaimed advertisements, much to his amusement, and their horror!

--Ishan Goenka and Aman More

Acknowledgements



*Dhirubhai Ambani International School in all
its Glory!*

This issue of Perspective
wouldn't have been possible
with out the guidance of Mrs.
Dhiman and the following
members:

Ishan Goenka; Aman More;
Raina Roy; Rhea Shah;
Manushi Ashar; Amrit
Kachroo; Pranati Wadwhan;
Naman Agrawal ; Dhruv Radia;
Shreya Shah

MASKS

FROM:
PERSPECTIVE

January 2013

Issue No.1