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Not just magnitude but also the direction!

VECTOR

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FREEDOM FROM PLASTIC

Plastic has been a constant convenient companion and though its dangerous effect of the environment is known to all, its ease in usage makes it a bad habit much difficult to get rid of. Plastic is a pollutant that poses a major threat to the environment and the problem of its disposal and the consequent waste management has led to sanitary issues in urban and rural areas. Our country took a stand and implemented a strict ban on plastic to curb its usage. Freedom from plastic was an initiative taken up by Vidyalkar to spread the message of reducing the use of plastic bags and encouraging the use of an eco-friendly alternative i.e., cloth bags. Cloth bags are environmentally better than plastic bags because they are recyclable and also reusable. Using cloth bags helps in environmental sustainability.

This initiative was inaugurated on August 1, 2018 by Mr. Milind Tadvalkar (Director, VDT) in support of the NSS unit of Vidyalkar School of Information Technology and volunteering committee of Vidyalkar Polytechnic. The NSS unit appealed to the students to bring old as well as used clothes, bed-sheets, curtains etc., which led to reus-



ing of those items to make cloth bags. The activity started on the day of inauguration itself wherein the teachers of both the Institutes gave a helping hand to the students. This activity is in action till date and will be continued. The volunteers of the NSS unit of Vidyalkar School of Information Technology and

Volunteering Committee of Vidyalkar Polytechnic work in batches allotted to them, so that their academic schedules are not affected.

The volunteers were given a target of 1000 cloth bags out of which 600 cloth bags were to be made before 15 August 2018. The volunteers managed to complete the

target of 600 cloth bags on 14 August itself. The teachers also actively helped the volunteers in making the cloth bags. These cloth bags will be further distributed in the local areas thus attempting to realise the motto, "freedom from plastic".

— Prof. Vijay Gawde & Prof. Harish Noula, VSIT

VSIT students win on Star Plus' Sabse Smart Kaun

Third Year Mass Media undergrads Prajakta Rawool and VSIT Management alumna Vaishnavi Venugopal participated in the Hindi reality TV show Sabse Smart Kaun, aired on Star Plus. The students appeared in the 44th episode of the show. The shooting occurred on July 20, 2018 and the episode was telecast on August 02, 2018. The students were confident and energetic throughout the show and won cash prizes.

Prajakta Rawool shared her thoughts on the experience:

"Sabse Smart Kaun on Starplus was celebrating Women's Special Month and we were fortunate to be a part of the special episode to celebrate "Womenhood and Friendship". It was an amazing experience as the format of the show was to give logical answers to the questions and



compete against another team. It gave us an opportunity to spread the message of equality and how a woman should be independent enough to support herself to achieve her goals in life.

The show was also quite enjoyable as we played a lot of games on set with the

host Ravi Dubey. The show gave us an opportunity to show the world that friendship is the key to happiness. It also helped us show that a friend can motivate you to do good and encourage you to actively take up challenges in life. We won many hearts with our smart an-

swers and the involvement in this show has definitely been a learning experience by boosting our confidence, enabling us to understand how reality shows work and how female friendships are a necessity to develop into a strong, independent woman."

“Legitimate use of violence can only be that which is required in self-defense.”

— Ron Paul

AUGUST 2018

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Self-defence for Girls

In times of peril where dangers lurk in every corner, it is better to be ready for the unexpected. The streets and spaces, public and private, are not always safe for women and it is time to acknowledge that fact than hushing it under the carpet of morality. Self-defence has become important so that a woman no longer has to travel in fear but with confidence. ‘I don’t even call it violence when it’s self-defence; I call it intelligence’-Malcolm X

The Women’s Development Cell of Vidyalankar School of Information Technology recently organized a Workshop on Self-Defence for girl students on 21 July 2018. The Workshop was conducted by Martial Arts expert Ms. Pooja Banger. The

self-defence workshop was based on the martial art taekwondo, where female students were taught various techniques in order to protect themselves if they find themselves in situations where their security could be compromised.

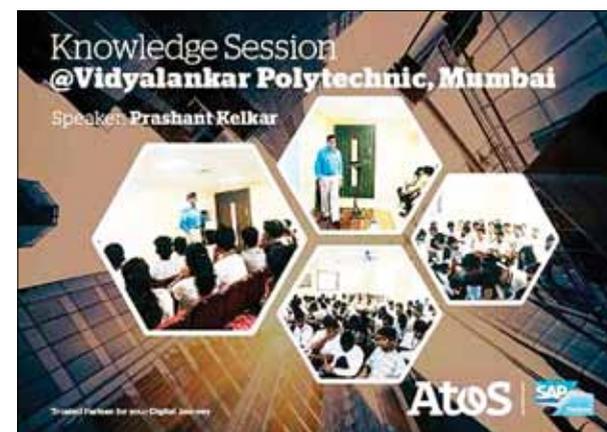
Self-defence is not only for martial arts experts and with practice, can be used by anyone to shield themselves in the face of danger. The idea behind self-defence is to keep oneself continuously armed and less susceptible to crime. Women can take care of themselves anytime and anywhere and self-defence is the best way to ensure that. The safety and security of women is an utmost priority in today’s socio-political scenario; keeping the same in mind the Workshop on Self-de-

fence was organized to provide some valuable tips to the girl students of VSIT. The expert gave valuable tips and demonstrated techniques like Eyes Attack – the use of thumb, Nose Attack – the use of Palm and the Ear Attack – again the use of Palm, then knee lock, and kick. The Workshop was organized by the Women Development Committee, the activity process owners being Prof. Akshata Jain, Prof. Ujwala S, Prof. Pooja Jogu and Dr. Nima John. The program was attended by girl students belonging to BFM, BMM, BMS, BAF as well as BBI streams. The program received an overwhelming response and was a great success.

— **Dr. Nima John**, Assistant Professor, VSIT



A seminar on SAP



The Department of Information Technology of Vidyalankar Polytechnic organized a seminar on SAP (Systems, Applications, and Products) and its various advantages and career options in the near future, for the students. The speaker for the day was Mr. Prashant Kelkar, Vice-President at ATOS. He has twenty-plus years of experience in the field of IT and has won various recognitions throughout his career. The seminar started with a brief introduction of the speaker to enlighten students about his work.

Then, we were introduced to ATOS, which is a European IT company having its branches spread out in various continents of the world. ATOS provides solutions and services to the industry. To understand the concept of SAP, he first explained about the concept of ERP (Enterprise Resource Planning) and how it plays an integral role in all round development of an organization.

Next to this, the methodology was discussed which makes it easier to plan and manage its hierarchy. On the same grounds, SAP was developed in order to improve business operations and manage customer relations. The SAP has a customized programming language called as ABAP which is a combination of C, C++ and COBOL programming languages. The speaker was also giving real-time examples for better understanding. Next to this, cloud computing was discussed as it plays an important role in SAP. All the data in this system is stored on cloud for better access and faster processing of the system. Moreover, SAP solutions also include Machine Learning, Cloud ERP, Block chain Technologies and Internet Of Things (IOT). Depending upon the size of the firm, customized SAP solutions are provided.

Later on, an overview about various career opportunities available in the same field, in order to meet the requirements of coming future, was shared. He also exemplified his own office structure to let us understand the functioning of the corporate world. He also emphasized on the required skill-set of a person and the practice of those skills at workplace, in order to grow as a professional. According to him, setting up a business is easy because it depends on the determination and focus of a person towards his goals. But better planning and execution is important and can be difficult in the absence of better management.

The seminar served as an interaction between an experienced professional and young aspiring professionals. Knowledge is power. Now we have not only the knowledge of the functioning and methodology involved in corporate work but also their requirements and expectations. SAP is a wonderful technology which aims at digitalizing various gaps between the firm and its target audience. We, the students of VP, would like to thank Vidyalankar Polytechnic’s staff for arranging such an informative session for all the students.

— **Jaagrut Shah**, IF V (C), VP

Why Chinese Manufacturers Copy Others

I’ve been in China for a month. The reason behind Chinese Manufacturers like Xiaomi, Huawei, Oppo and Vivo replicating Apple’s design is because of their Mandarin culture. Chinese children are taught to write by practicing a professional’s initials. Later on, they’re allowed to make their own changes. The Chinese smartphone market is the ever increasing industry ever... In China, you can even find a completely cloned iPhone. It’s quite difficult to spot the difference between the original and du-

plicate. So, companies in China modify Android skins and create their UI.

MIUI is the most used firmware software used in smartphones after Cyanogen Mod. EMUI and MIUI have their own features and specifications in complete different ways. But they’re somewhere down the line motivated by Apple. Talking about Samsung, Apple sued Samsung way back in 2011 for the slide to unlock pattern and other credentials. Samsung’s hardware is the most unique and innovative. Just look at Galaxy S6 Edge

and Galaxy note 8....

Apple has also copied ideas from Samsung, Google, HTC and Xiaomi. HTC was the first company with a dual camera, Xiaomi with Mi Mix for infinity display. Samsung bought up huge screens in smartphones and a handful of Google’s Android features in iOS. The only difference is Apple just take their ideas to next level and bring a bit new stuff in it. Few of Android Pie features are inspired by iOS 12. Someone is copying another in one way or the other!

— **Jainil Sampat**, IFB 3 I, VP

TRUE INSIGHT ON OVERSEAS EDUCATION!

Let me start by saying, it had always been my dream to have done at least some of my schooling abroad. But before I knew it I found myself pursuing a degree in one of the engineering colleges in India and I was convinced overseas education was an intangible idea!

That’s when I received a message from AdmitAbroad saying that they were conducting a session on “PLAN USA” which had always been my dream destination. I decided to go attend that. I was taken aback when I learned that the event was specially arranged for students of Semester 5 because I was always of the idea that all aspiring to give the GRE test must begin their prep in Semester 7.

The session was held at Kohinoor Banquet in Dadar. On reaching Kohinoor I witnessed an auditorium jam-packed with students and parents. The session was delivered by their Expert Advisor Ms. Shweta Apte, who had to her credit over 15 years of experience in overseas education and Mr. Ryan Pereira, Regional officer of USIEF which is the official body of Education in USA.

The session covered all aspects of studies abroad. It focused on what an Admission Committee really looked for in an application, It was interesting to know that the admission committee not only considered the GRE and TOEFL scores but also many other aspects like our passion for that University and the



course we planned to major in. They said, “The Committee checks your overall profile and notes the kind of internship you have done. It also looks for any research in the same field you plan to do your major in.” Most top schools have an 80% rejection ratio. If we want to be in the remaining 20%, we really need to build up our profile and that will take time. The session also elaborated the importance of documentation. We need to collect our transcripts, financials, etc.

I could clear my thoughts on the SOP (Statement of Purpose). I was always under the impression that the SOP is usually written by a consultant. AdmitAbroad uses a different method which really appealed to me. Ms. Shwe-

ta said that the SOP is our own story and nobody can be more genuine than our own self and that AdmitAbroad was here to help us narrate our story.

Similarly, for the LOR (Letter of Recommendation), some light was shed on how to select a recommender. My idea was always to select a recommender who would be a Ph.D. holder; but Mr. Ryan Pereira mentioned that your recommender should be someone who has really worked closely with you and who can highlight your technical strengths and your unique skill sets.

The test structure of exams like GRE and TOEFL were explained along with various strategies to ace them.

What I liked the most was the way they explained to us why it was beneficial to start in Semester 5. In Semester 5, typically in Engineering, we aren’t too burdened and we can easily finish preparing and taking the GRE, as the GRE score is valid for 5 years and the TOEFL

scores are valid for 2 years. In semester 7, we are pre-occupied with the Final Year Project and Placement activities and can’t really focus on GRE and that is why we probably can’t get the marks that match up to our potential.

Secondly, we get time to improve on our C.G.P.A in Semesters 5, 6, 7 and 8 and can do a few worthy internships or publish a few research papers to genuinely build a strong profile.

Studying abroad is a lengthy, time consuming and tedious process but if we plan it systematically, we can really achieve the best possible outcome.

This seminar has proved to be an eye-opener and has cleared all my doubts regarding overseas education. Thanks to AdmitAbroad (Vidyalankar), MS in the US now seems less like a hurdle and more like a milestone to be achieved in my academic career!

— **Andrew Gabriel,**
FCRIT (ME), Semester 5

Transformation: ‘YOU to YOU+’ The Beginning is always TODAY



Vidyalankar Institute of Technology (MMS Department) organised a three day induction programme for the new batch of students to welcome and introduce them to the essence of VIT. In this course of time, a Self-Transformation Session was hosted on 2nd August 2018 by Mr. Vishal Bhojani and Mr. Prathamesh Veling (Founders & Directors- Magic Institute of Excellence, a company by Magic Business Ventures Pvt. Ltd).

We believe that it is crucial to transform the mindset of students towards the MBA programme. There is a difference between “Doing an MBA” and “Becoming an MBA” which the management students should understand instead of just considering it as an additional degree like graduation. There is no failure in MBA but it is lack of transformation from a ‘Student’ to a ‘Professional’ that hinders your growth. The concept of ageing and growing can

sound similar but in order to attain professionalism, one should understand that, ‘ageing’ is a natural process which happens irrespective of any efforts whereas ‘growing’ requires significant efforts by transforming “YOU” to “YOU+”. The idea of transformation highlights on being a better version of you before you compete with the world.

The Transformation session focused on rediscovering yourself through a change meditative exercise to visualiza-

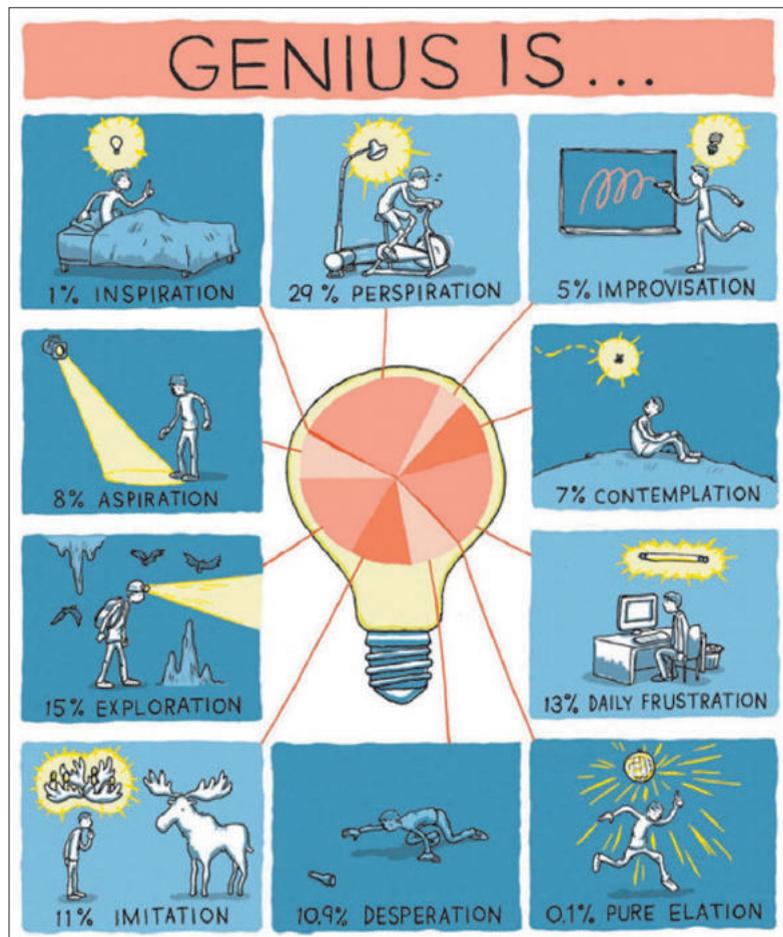
tion and self-introspection. This gave a vivid insight of reasons to choose MBA and also to comprehend the importance of chasing the goals that one has pre-determined. The speakers imparted their magical thoughts on invoking success. So I would sum up with this thought, “To attain long term success and growth in life, you should not just be a utility but also build yourself an identity.”

— **Janhavi Yelamkar,**
VIT School of Management

“The game of life is a lot like football. You have to tackle your problems, block your fears, and score your points when you get the opportunity.”

— Lewis Grizzard

OF IDEAS AND BRAIN-QUAKES: A review of Grant Snider's The Shape of Ideas

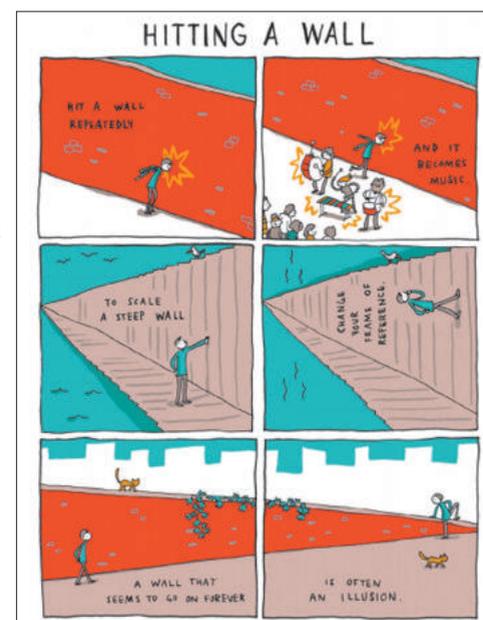


Self-help books, quotes and pictures are omnipresent, feeding off the digital generation's addictive sickness with the fast-paced world that has them left bereft of self-identity and orientation. We all seek motivation and we listen to what we already know and yet there is this nagging need to search for an inspiration that seems as eternal as Waiting for Godot. Illustrator Grant Snider takes a quirky route with his collection of illustrations titled *The Shape of Ideas: An Illustrated Exploration of Creativity*. Witty, unapologetic, insightful and empathetic to the subject's disposition, Snider's illustrations keep the reader engaged till the last page. He uses the comic form to depict and uncover various aspects of creativity. His panels are colourful and the drawings are simplistic, not too detailed and easily relatable. He explores all the contradictory emotions associated with creativity: the joy, the desperation, the inspirational moments and despair. Philosophy coupled with humour and the ease in the narration of thoughts allows the reader to engage not only with the text but also with his or her own understanding of creativity and seeking for ideas.

The book is divided into ten sections that traces the process and numerous facets of creativity and innovation: inspiration, perspiration, improvisation, aspiration, contemplation, exploration, daily frustration, imitation, desper-

ation and pure elation. He modifies the celebrated non-oxymoronic definition of genius by Thomas Alva Edison: "Genius is one percent inspiration, ninety nine percent perspiration".

He elaborates on the process of creation and innovation as complex and equivalent to discovery of the self by comprehending the external world. His identification of frustration and imitation makes the process of creativity less about art and therefore expands it to include every individual. Creativity is not unique to just artists, writers and poets but to every person attempting to make sense of the world, life and themselves and constantly seeking to find meaning in their mundane and monotonous existence. The illustrations do not preach and they do what illustrations do and should do: they show. Grant Snider clarifies in the preface to his readers, "This book will not help you solve ... problems. And that bottomless well of creativity?



It doesn't exist", insisting that possibility is infinite and hurdles are not insuperable.

— Lakshmi Pillai, Assistant Prof, VSIT

RECALLING MY ALMA MATER

This bond we share doesn't end with a single speech,

Our hearts won't be separated is what our life will always teach,

We know the future just won't be a walk in the park,

But we are here in this world to leave a mark.

The things this school has given us ends in a list,

Our friends and memories are all a gist, But cannot be managed in our fist.

If life was a thread and the thread was made of wool,

I would stitch together the candid years which we have spent in our school.

— Jainil Sampat, IFB 3 I, VP

Football is catching on and India is catching up. U-20 India team triumphs over Argentina in COTIF CUP 2018!

The sleeping giants of football India showed off their young blood at the COTIF Cup on August 10, 2018 which was held in Spain. India's under 20 football team managed to triumph against Argentina in the final fixture of the tournament. India's u-20 team coming runners up against Venezuela in the previous year, and Argentina's u-20 team winning 6 world cups this year, set up to be a big clash. Argentina being the obvious favorites was stunned by the performance of the boys in blue. This was the second meeting of the two teams, India having lost 0-1 in 1984. With two losses and a draw in the tournament India were looking for a win desperately.

The boys in blue got an early corner and took full advantage of it. A header directed to the far side of the goal and a bad fumble by the keeper gave India an early lead in the 4th minute. Argentina had a few chances in the first half but couldn't convert any of



them. India starting the second half with a red card, with a late challenge by Jadhav and a harsh decision by referee India became one man down. But India got another goal by a rocket of a free kick by Ali in the 50th minute. A curling free kick into top right hitting the woodwork and going in doubled India's lead. Argentina managed to get one back in the 70th minute. A brilliant

bit of skill on the edge of the box and the player dinked it over the keeper. India looked a bit shaky as Argentina press harder. India being one man down sat back and somehow managed to defend the one goal lead.

It was a great match and a great tournament for India. The level of football and fitness was seen throughout the tournament giving Indian football fans a sense of pride and hope for the future of Indian football. The young lads performed well and at the age of 20 being able to compete with good teams from all around the world somewhere invokes a sense of pride and respect. India's football future seems bright with football being pushed by figures like Sunil Chhetri at its forefront and the "#backtheblue" trending. Support is rising and excitement is increasing as to where India will be in 5-10 years. Football in catching on, India is catching up and there surge of fans and supporters rising.

— Anuj Bolinjkar, SY BMS DIV-F