

Life Through The
Eyes



Of a 10 year old

By *Ishan*  *Khire*

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Preface

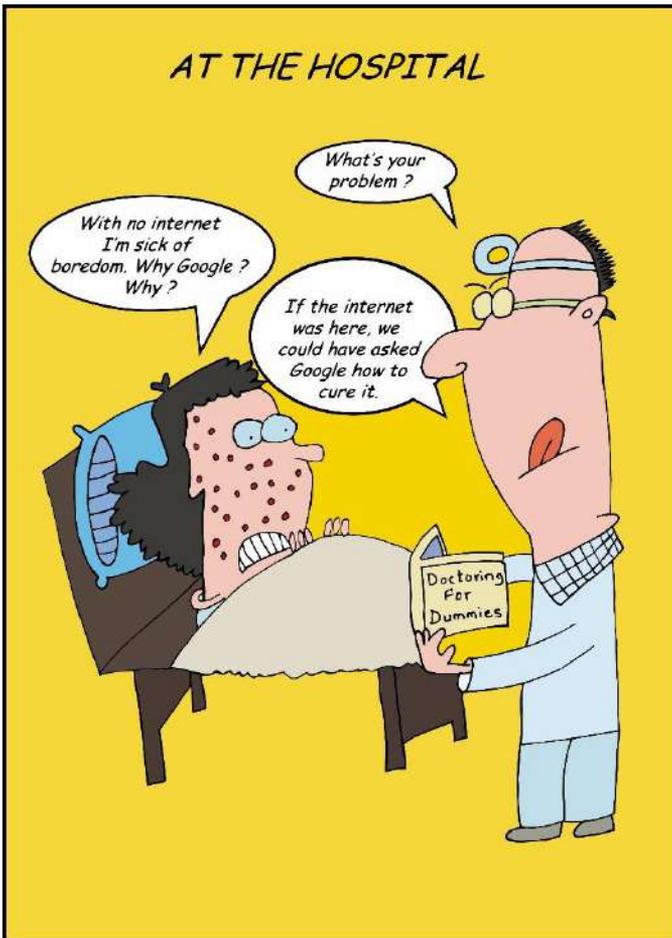
Hi, my name is Ishan. I am a 10 year old boy in 5th grade. I am very thankful for my parents who not only helped me write the book, but also came up with the idea to write one. I am also thankful for my younger sister who gave me the idea of including a cranky, young sister. Also, everything in this book is meant to be funny (looking at you, adults). I did not mean to offend anyone or anything I have mentioned in this book. I'm sure you'll like this book. Enough of boring stuff, go out and read! (Never thought I'd say that before)

Part 1 - Disaster Strikes: Life without Internet!!!

How it all began

Hi, my name is Ishan and I'm freaking out! I don't have any internet! This is bad... really bad!! Even worse, the whole city is out of internet...

I wonder how people are surviving? How are the hospitals working? This is probably how it looks in the hospital...



You are probably getting confused... so let me start from the beginning.

Day 1: March 13th, 2017

Hi, my name is Ishan. I am a 10 year old boy in 4th grade. I go to a school named "Sunshine Elementary". Don't be fooled by its name, you'll need much more than sunshine to brighten up your day if you go to that school. I live in Sunnyvale - a city in Silicon Valley in California, USA. It's close to San Francisco. I was watching TV sometime back when suddenly the internet went out. Later I saw in the news that our entire city is going to be out of internet for 11 WHOLE DAYS!!!

Now I don't even know what to do...I mean the basic need of life is internet. Don't believe me? This is what my family does, like any other family, on a normal day:

Me - I play video games all day. My hand just doesn't feel right without a controller in it. And my eyes always hurt without a screen in front of them.

My sister - My younger sister is constantly on the TV watching Bubble Guppies... while throwing screaming fits (she's 7).

My mom - My mom is always looking out for weight loss videos on the internet and coupons and deals for diet food (like healthy donuts).

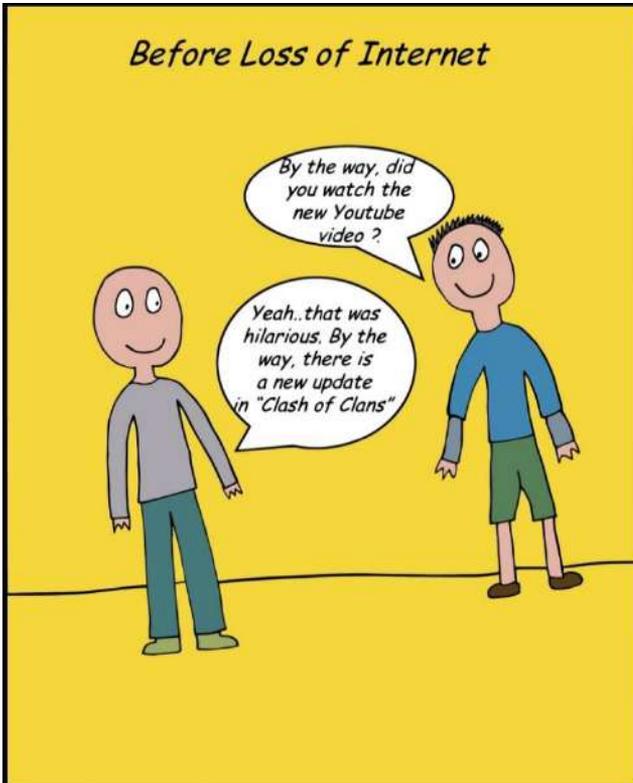
My dad - My dad is always on his computer doing "work".

How are we going to survive now!!!

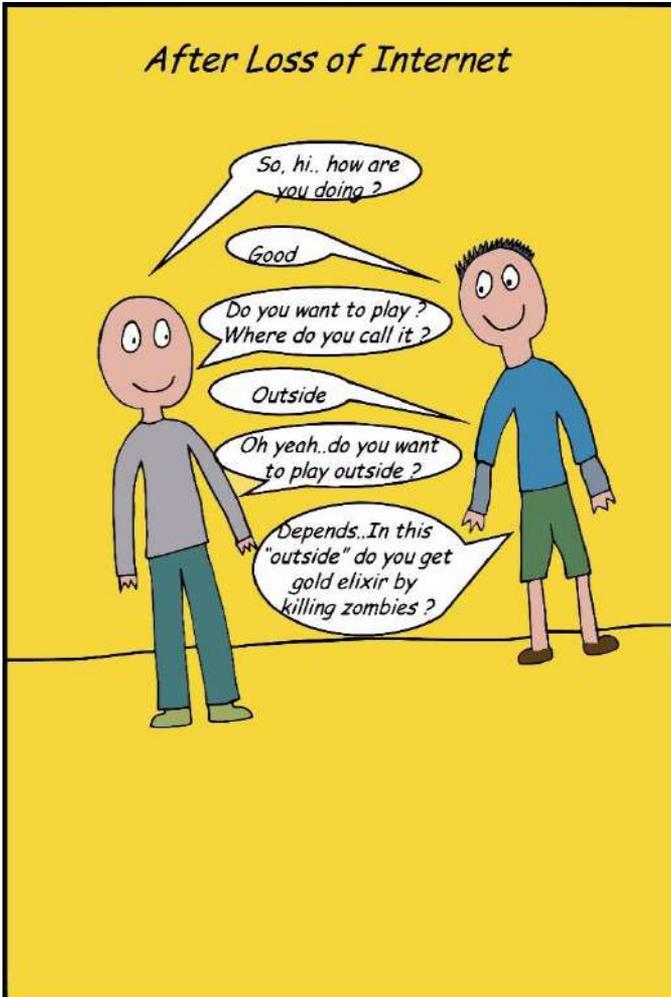
Day 3

It's only the third day! You have no idea how boring life has become. Me and my friends have absolutely nothing to talk about.

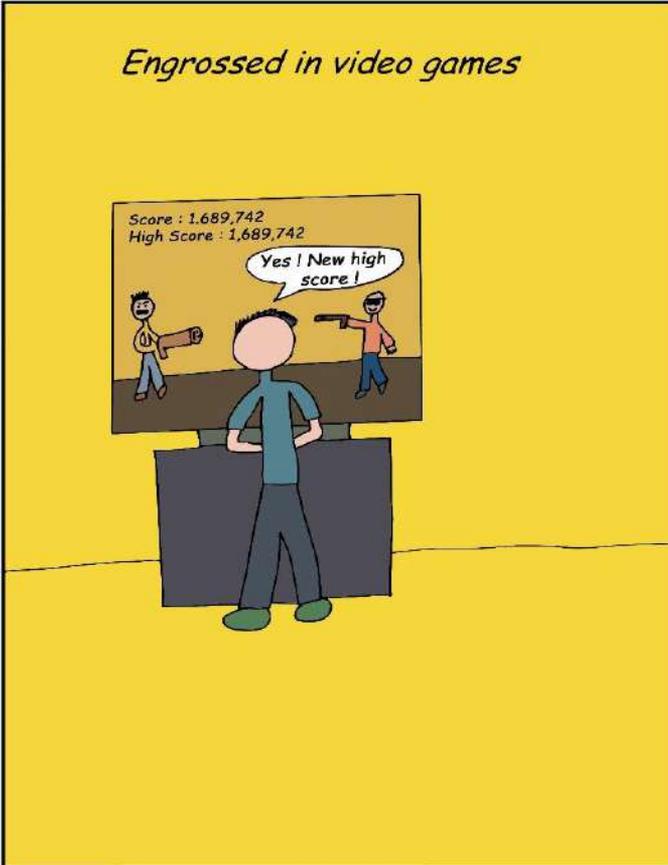
Here is how our conversations used to be:



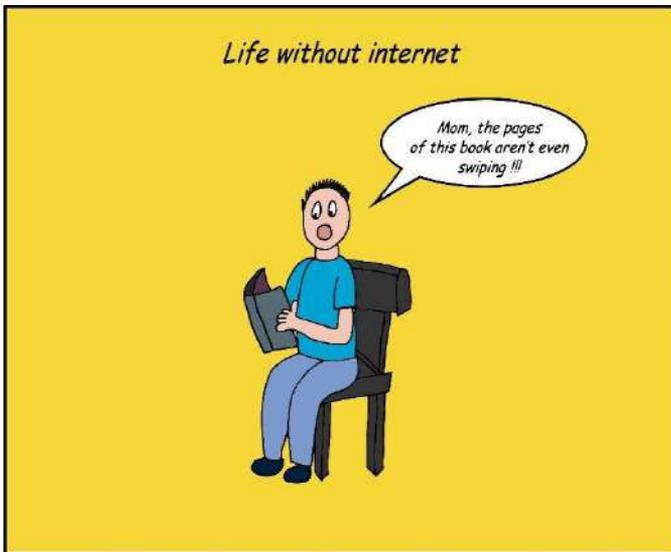
And this is how it looks like now ...



And this is how it is supposed to look like in the house.



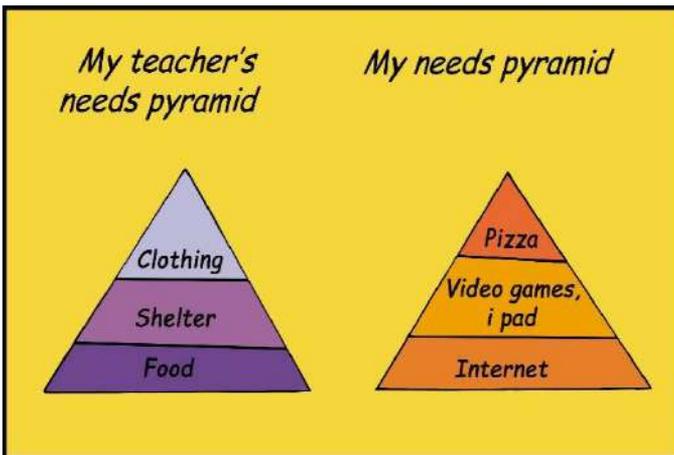
And this is how it does look in the house.



Life is lame without internet.

Day 5

Today, in school, my science teacher was teaching us about the “basic needs pyramid” and told us that there are 3 basic needs for humans - food, clothing, and shelter. I don’t agree with her. I say that’s a lie. The basic needs of life are Internet, gadgets (like i-pad and Xbox), and pizza.

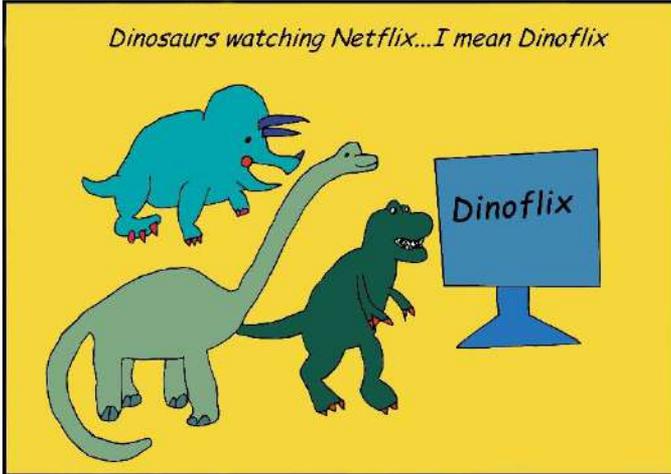


Day 6: Still No Internet

My mom told me that when they were growing up, they didn't have internet. I can't believe that people survived for so long without the internet. What did they even do back then? You know what I think? I think that internet always existed. People in old times were just pretending that they didn't have the internet...or it's just a story made up to make kids better behaved.

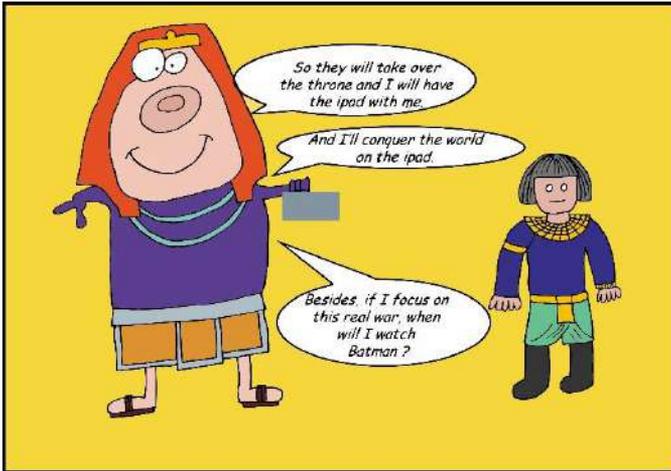
Let me show you how I think the olden times were...

The age of the Dinosaurs

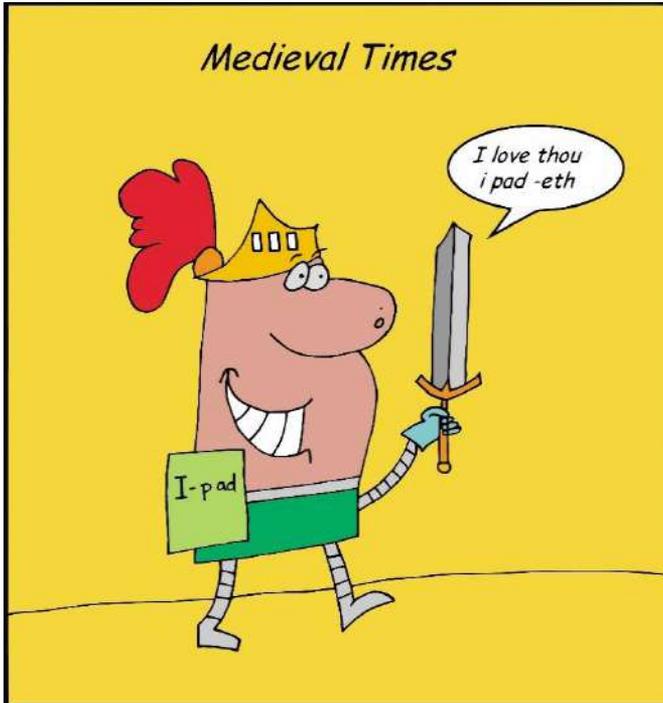


We've all learnt that the dinosaurs became extinct because a meteor hit the earth. But did you know that they did not just die because of the meteor? They died because the meteor hit the earth and blocked the internet connection. Then the dinosaurs died of boredom.

Now we come to the ancient Egyptians



Medieval times

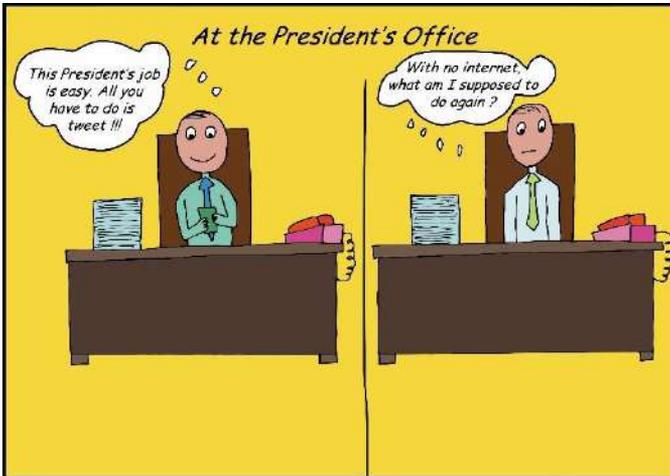


You might have heard that knights battled for honor and glory. But actually, I think they did it for fun. The clothes and sword were attached to their video games, so when you move the clothes

and swords, you would move in the game. You would go to a game center (a building to play games). Have you seen all the ancient buildings in Rome and Greece? I think they were designed especially to be able to play these games. You connect with other players and you fight the air. The other person will see your moves when you fight back. This is the origin of Nintendo (by the way... it's medieval name was Knightendo)

Day 8

I'm wondering what other people are doing without internet. What would the president do without internet?



Day 9

I just don't know how to spend my time without internet...and you know the worst thing? I can't even ask Google to bring back Google...You know Google has a

cure for everything, right? Well, at least I have something to keep me occupied, this book! Also, I am going on a vacation...it's to Florida...and what's hilarious is that my parents can't even book the tickets online.

Day 11: Internet is back!!!

Yay! The internet is back! The internet is back! What a relief...

Hmmm... Now that I think about the last 11 days... Maybe there is a good side about the whole "no internet we're going to die" thing...When I made new friends I said hi and asked their name, instead of asking them what arena they are in the game "Clash of Clans". And in these 11 days, when somebody said something

funny, people actually laughed! They didn't instantly go to their phones and type "LOL" (That's "Laugh Out Loud" for all the adults out there).

But it's still good to have Google. (My motto)

Part 2 – The School Menace!!!

What is school? Some people say it is a place where new friendships begin, others say it is a place where teacher student bonds are formed, where children learn.

You know what I say?

You haven't been to my school!!!

My teacher has spies all over... When somebody talks in my class, all the spies will tattletale on you in the blink of an eye. And the teacher doesn't even care what you do! One time I killed the Gargantuan in the game Zombie Fight 3. The next day I told my teacher about my accomplishment expecting a prize, at

least some "congratulations". Instead I got a timeout for not completing my homework.

Grades

I am a straight A's student except for "organization" and "returning work on time" and the "behavior" nonsense. Why do they even have categories like "behavior" on the report card. We go to school to learn, not to behave!

Lectures

My teacher always lectures us about this "behavior". Every time the class does something bad, the teacher always gives a boring lecture. The only good thing about these lectures that it cuts into our

work time. There was this one time that I actually decided to be good. My teacher finally complemented me by saying "This time you were good, but usually you are bad" and then went on to give another lecture about why should we always be good. Now, I don't understand, in order to avoid the lecture, should we be good or bad?

Back to school – After the break

I got up today, changed my clothes and got ready to face my soon to be terrible day. I have a super strict teacher called Ms. Selvin and I didn't do my homework...Guess what happens when you add these two...You don't need to be an expert in Math to solve this problem. You can work it out. But over time I have adapted just like the animals learn to adapt in extreme circumstances.

Now back to my school problem. I went to school unaware of what good luck I would have. When I came to school, I just got the best news. Our class is having the two greatest words in the English language - SUBSTITUTE TEACHER. Substitute teachers don't care

what you're doing. They give you an A+,
get paid, and move on.

Types of Students

According to the teacher there are 3 types of students in my class: the good, the bad and the neutral (don't care) ...

Now the neutral side forms about half of the class. These are the children who are quiet in class, do their homework regularly, and aren't a bother to the teacher.

Then comes the good students list. These "good students" come on the teacher's good side mainly for one reason - they are the teacher's spies. They leak information to the teacher about missing homework and kids who talk.

I belong to the last category. It is my favorite - the "bad side". The kids in the

bad side don't regularly complete their homework and are "disruptive" in class. The teacher calls it disruptive, I call it fun.

Ok... Now it's 9:48...18 minutes past my bed time...my mom is calling me... I have to go...more later...

The class WhatsApp chat group

Another funny thing about our classroom...The parents of these good kids are so crazy about school that they even decided to create a WhatsApp group.

All that the parents talk about on this group is about homework, projects and the upcoming tests. They are so crazy that they know more about school than

me! So basically, if I forget one of my homework assignments, you know where to look for...the chat group...

I can't believe that moms spend what little time they have at home in talking about my school...

Our class chat group is basically a mini Facebook. Who knows, maybe there is a mini Facebook for every class in the world...

The Parent Teacher Conference

Today is PTC day (Parent Teacher Conference). These conferences are basically 1 on 1 meetings which are held after every semester between the teacher and parents. They are useless with my parents. Unlike a lot of parents,

none of my parents wants to attend the PTC. My parents argue a lot about who should go to the parent teacher conference. They finally decide by flipping a coin.

They know pretty much what to expect at the conference. The whole conference will go like this...the teacher will say really bad things about me in nice words and my parents will pretend that they are going to change me. I'm cool about Parent Teacher Conference.



* What the teacher really means is that: Hi, Ishan is doing terrible in terms of neatness.

** What my mom means: Then why are we paying you \$ 850 a month if he still has problems?

Last day of school before vacation
starts

Yes, yes, yes, yes, yes!... school is finally
over...for over 3 weeks.

Part 3 – Life outside school

My favorite place ... the outside world...
Why do I like the outside world? We all have our reasons. Mine is that **it's not school!**

And since we were talking about teachers and parents in the last section, let me continue with those species.

The Parent Species

Parents are really an unusual species. I have seen various types of parents reacting completely different to similar situations.

Classification of the “Parent” Species

Cool Parents

I really like cool parents. They are like my parents... they don't come to school very often, don't scold their kids much for school related activities. They are pretty cool...But my parents do get behind me for doing other activities like writing this book. And even I like these activities because they are fun.

Parents who know too much

Some parents know a lot about what their kids do in school. They know all the latest assignments, all the timeouts their kids got in school, and they can sniff out incomplete homework assignments from a mile away.

Parents who care too much

I am so lucky to not have parents like my classmate, Beth. Her mom is a PhD and she expects her to study for every test and do every work and literally spend her entire time doing homework.

My opinion: This is crazy... I mean why should a mom be so mad at her child for not preparing for a test...this is 4th grade...grades don't even count at elementary school. And besides Beth is at least doing 80% of work at home...I do none...I am so glad that I don't have parents who don't yell at me.

The Spelling Bee

Now, all of you probably know spelling bee competitions. They are everyone's favorite these days. I really admire the kids who work a lot on their spellings and their parents as well who take a lot of effort on their kids. But personally, I really don't get the point of spelling bee. Why would I ever need to know the spelling of "flocinaucinihilipilification"



(yes, this is an actual word - you can google it). I can live my whole life without knowing its spelling. And besides, why take all that effort learning how to spell, only to misspell when you grow up while texting.

The Chess Competition

I play competitive chess... Now you're thinking chess is for nerds, don't you? That is what even I thought before I played chess. But let me tell you ...chess players are both, really funny and really weird.

Let me tell you a few instances.

There is a rule in chess that if you touch a piece on the board, you have to move it. So, once, during a game, my opponent

grabbed my hand and made me touch a piece and then asked me to move it. Now who does that?

Let me tell you another cool thing. In chess there are many big words which make you sound as if you are a genius. Every time you lose in a game, you're supposed to say "I just made a big blunder towards the end. My opponent was on the verge of losing." That's the BASIC RULE in chess. You always say that you were winning, had it not been for that silly blunder. Remember to use words such as "blunder" not "mistake". It makes it sound as if you were totally winning and that you deserved to win.

And then, when you actually win a game, you say, " I created a tactical

combination using my fianchettoed bishop". Now that sentence makes you sound like a genius. Though really you may have won luckily. But no one wants to admit that they won by luck.

Chess players keep this secret amongst themselves. And to the outside world, they appear as a bunch of geniuses. Chess players invented long and complex words to make them sound like geniuses. And I know this because I am one of them.

Sports Coaches

Since we are talking about chess, let me tell you something about my chess coach. I have a history of chess coaches. But the most interesting one I had was coach M. Coach M always wore a cap. He was really funny and cool but no one knew why he wore a cap. We used to always have this discussion, but once everybody in class decided that we were going to see what was beneath the cap. One kid in my class once actually removed the cap. And guess what...you will never believe what was under the cap. Another cap! I guess coach M always prepares for that kind of stuff.

The new "Fashion Craze".

"This is the age of half clothes"

- *Ishan Khire*

This is my quote. Take a good look at it and then go to the mall. At least half of the people wear ripped clothes. What has become of humanity! Ripped clothes are now a fashion?

Everybody in my school has ripped clothes ...except for me. And I remember the other day, my teacher was yelling at some student for having a very small rip in his uniform. And then the very next day when we were talking about the clothes we had to wear for our annual day performance, the same teacher suggested that all the boys wear ripped

jeans. Can someone please explain me what is happening? Shops are charging more for pre-ripped clothes than for normal clothes. Isn't the whole point of wearing clothes to protect your body? What a scam!!! You know what I think? While manufacturing clothes, the machines probably did something wrong due to which the clothes got ripped. The company decided to sell them anyways. Then a fashion model saw it and liked it. The next week BOOM!!! A ripped jean started costing \$70 and a normal one \$40.

Doing stuff “for our good”

Grownups, especially, parents and teachers, always tell us stuff “for our good”. They are trying to help us. But I don't understand something...how is it that they can do the stuff which we can't do? How come they ask us to have milk while they can have tea and coffee? How come we're the ones who sleep early while parents can stay up late playing video games on the computer or watching TV? And, how come *they* get to drive? The average adult gets 2 tickets for driving. The average kid gets none.

Gadgets

Modern technology is so cool...There are so many cool inventions. These days there is a phone app for everything.

There's even a phone app for finding your phone! One time I saw this advertisement...

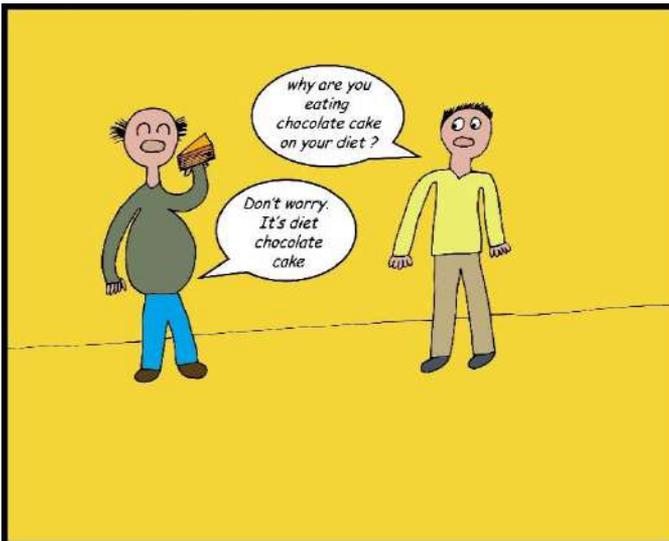
Advertisement:

Have you ever lost your phone? With this cell phone app, you can find your missing cell phone. Press the app and you'll find your cell phone.



Dieting and Weird Food

My mom diets a lot. She somehow always thinks that she's getting fat. All grownups, fat or slim, always think that they need to lose weight. My mom always eats diet food to lose weight. For example, she eats "Diet Donuts". I don't get it if you are on a diet, shouldn't the best thing to do is to not eat donuts at all?



Have you ever seen weird labels on food packets? I have. Like on one of my favorite chips packet, Cheezers, there is a label which says, "Now made with real cheese." What does that mean? All these days it was made with fake cheese?! I guess I should now start feeling healthy if a sign says "Made with real food". And, there is this ad which says "Now made with no chemicals". Does this mean that previously it was made with a lot of chemicals? I guess soon, we will start seeing ads which claim:

"Now made with no lead"

"Now non-poisonous"

"Now edible"

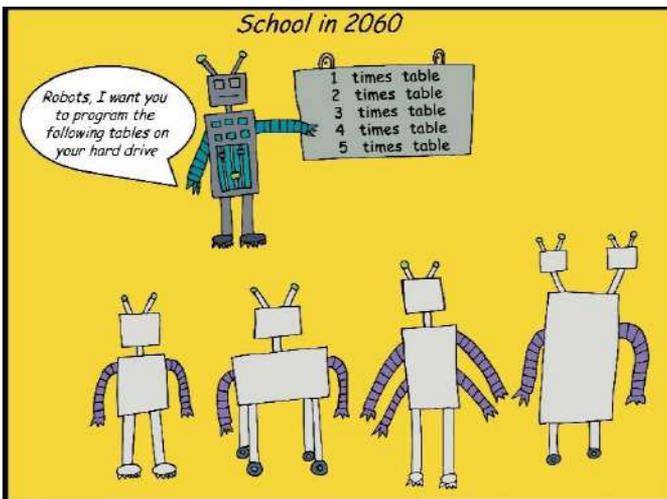
Part 4 – Back to The Future

Artificial Intelligence

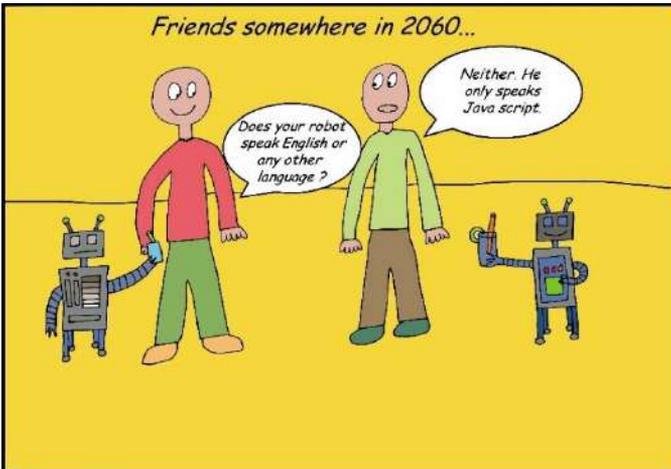
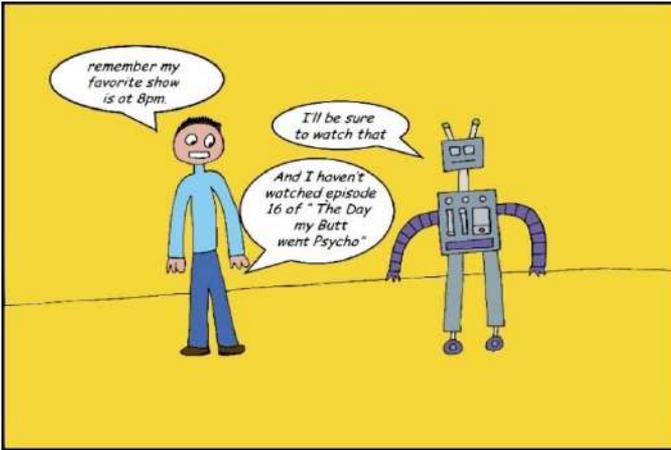
Do you know that scientists are working on Artificial Intelligence also known as AI? AI is making a machine intelligent so that it can think for itself. I don't understand how you can give AI to a machine? Don't you need cells to do that, but that's like making a cyborg. At most, it's extremely advanced programming. How can you teach something with no brain? And now they say, AI robots are going to take away people's jobs. Really? It makes me wonder how far can this go? Maybe a super advanced AI robot will be elected a president one day.

I wonder how the world will look like a few decades from now, like in 2060.

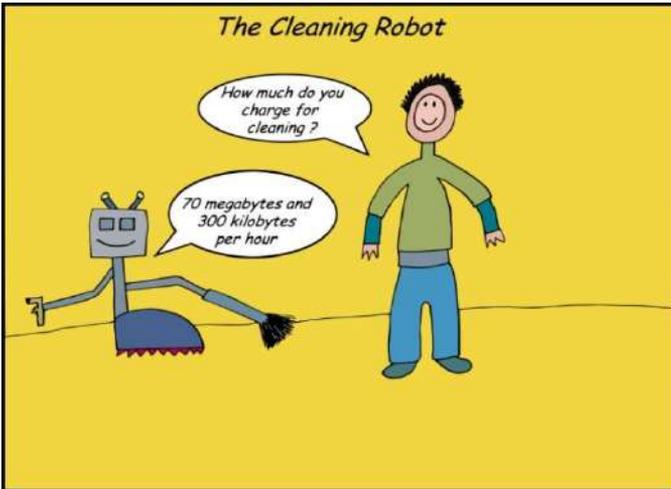
Robots will even go to school instead of the kids. Oh man... I feel so bad for the robots.



Pretty soon, humans will be so lazy that they will even have robots to watch TV for them.



Here comes the cleaning robot...



And while I am sitting here thinking about how things will be in the next generation, I wonder how Ishan of the next generation will be like?

This is how future Ishan's book will look like in 2060.

March 13, 2060

Hi...my name is Ishan and I am freaking out! We are out of AI robots... This is bad, really bad... even worse...the whole city is out of AI robots...

March 14, 2060

So, I got up today and changed my clothes and got ready to face my soon to be terrible day. I have a super strict AI robot teacher named MEE-N Selvin 2000. Oh wait! AI robots shut down. So, I don't have to go to school.

March 15, 2060

Life is getting really boring without AI robots. Now I actually have to do stuff

myself! I can't believe that people survived for so long without AI robots.

Thursday, ...

You have no idea how boring life is without AI robots. Me and my friends have nothing to talk about.

And now that AI robots aren't there, I can't use one of my cool computers and phones. I have to use iPhone 17. NO VIRTUAL REALITY. It's like I have to live a non-virtual real life. That's lost its trend years ago.

BOOM!

Ok...now back to 2017

So that's how I feel the future will probably look like. Feels exciting, doesn't

it? But now that I think more about it, can the AI robots match my teacher's personality in the future? Can they make a personality for the AI robot students? Can AI Robots have the humor and stupidity to laugh at a dumb joke? (heh, heh) Hey! Now that I think about it, the real challenge isn't to make artificial intelligence - computers are smart enough already - the real challenge is to make artificial stupidity!

Well, that's the end of the book. I hope you liked it.

Let me rephrase that, you better like it. It was fun writing this book (even though I had to sacrifice some videogame time). The book got me through some tough times (without internet). I hope you could

relate to at least some of the things and you probably observed some of the things that I wrote about. If you didn't try to look for them, look around and you'll probably find a lot of it. My mom's telling me to sleep now. Bye for now! It won't be long until my next book comes! Until then...you can play videogames (or if you're an adult, check the stock market).

BYE!

Ishan Khire is a 10-year-old boy studying in 5th Grade. He was born in Pune, India. He currently lives in Sunnyvale, California with his mom, dad and younger sister.

Ishan is a very curious and energetic child. He is a keen observer who loves to write. This is Ishan's first book.



In addition to writing, Ishan plays competitive chess. He is presently an aspiring player with 17 chess awards and prestigious titles. He is also ranked as one of the top 100 chess players in his age group in the US. His hobbies also include developing computer games using scratch programming.

Ishan would love to have your feedback regarding his book, both from kids and adults. If you would like to leave a note for Ishan or just say "hi", Ishan would be more than happy to hear from his readers.

Please send him an email at Ishankhire@gmail.com. Ishan is really excited to publish this book and hopes you will enjoy reading it.



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