

You may take a printout and use this as a worksheet or read the activities and write down the answers in a notebook labelled “My Daily 30-Minute Activity”.

## Oh, really?

Here’s a bit of trivia on authors and their works, and also a quiz on them. Ready?

1. J.R.R. Tolkien coined over 15 Elvish languages for his “The Hobbit” and “The Lord of the Rings” series. Among them two have enough words and grammar to be considered functional. Can you name them?

2. Arthur Conan Doyle, who created Sherlock Holmes, was also a first-class cricketer. Doyle famously dismissed the “Father of Cricket”. Can you name that cricketer?

3. Besides her mysteries, Agatha Christie is known for her quirky writing habits. She loved coming up with story ideas while sitting in a bathtub! Do you know what fruit she munched on while sketching out plots for her books?

4. Jane Austen gained attention for her novels that comment upon women’s role in the Regency Era.



Can you name her unpublished epistolary novel with an unconventional protagonist?

5. Roald Dahl was a chocolate-taster in his childhood. Small wonder his best-known classic is “Charlie and the Chocolate Factory”. He also wrote the screenplay for a James Bond film and a popular children’s musical. Can you name them?

Answers: 1. Quenya and Sindarin, 2. W.G. Grace, 3. “Chitty Chitty Bang Bang”, 4. “Lady Susan”, 5. “You Only Live Twice” and “Apples”.

## Identify the landmark

- It is the world’s largest museum, situated in Paris, France.
- It is a central landmark of Paris and is located on the banks of the River Seine.
- During the French Revolution it became a public museum.
- It served as a royal palace during the 16th and 17th centuries.
- Leonardo da Vinci’s famous painting Mona Lisa occupies pride of place here.



Answer: The Louvre Museum

## GK quotient

Come April 1 and the state of Odisha will celebrate Odisha Day or Utkala Dibas. What is this day all about, you might wonder. It marks the formation of the separate state of Odisha (formerly referred to as Orissa) from Bihar and Odisha Province. The state was carved out by the British on linguistic lines on April 1, 1936. Utkala Dibas is also an occasion for the state to celebrate its vibrant heritage.



How much do you know about Odisha? Answer these questions.

- Who is the present Chief Minister of Odisha?
- Which popular sweet of the state recently made news when it was awarded a GI tag?

Answers: 1. Naveen Patnaik 2. Odisha rasagola

## Who am I?

Identify the following bird and animals using the clues given.

1. I am a bird of prey, endemic to Africa.

I have incredibly long, strong legs which I use to stamp on prey such as snakes.

I rarely fly. I am known for taking long strides across the grasslands of Africa.

I appear on the court of arms of two African countries — Sudan and South Africa.

Answer: Secretary bird

2. I am a primate, native to the island of Madagascar.

I have big eyes and a long tail.

I mostly live on trees and am active during the night.

I am a very social creature and live in groups called troops.

Answer: Lemur

3. I am the only mammal with protective keratin scales all over my body.

I am found across Asia and parts of Africa.

I am the most trafficked animal in the world.

I use my long, sticky tongue to capture and eat ants and termites.

Answer: Pangolin



## Word of the day

### Sustainability

Sustainability is economic development that is not at the cost of the needs of future generations. It aims at preservation of natural resources and maintaining ecological balance. It takes into account the needs of future generations. The United Nations states that sustainable consumption and production aims at “doing more and better with less.” By choosing a sustainable lifestyle, we can reduce our environmental footprint and help preserve the environment for future generations.

ACTIVITY: Use the word of the day in a sentence.

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## What’s the good word?

Many words have more than one meaning. In the sentences below, write down one word that fits both the descriptions

1. The thick outer covering of a tree; a dog’s call.

2. One of the seasons; a sudden jump. ....

3. To carry the weight of something; an omnivorous mammal. ....

4. The exact details of a location; a formal speech.

5. A music group; stripes of different colours, textures or patterns. ....

Answers: 1. Bark, 2. Spring, 3. Bear, 4. Address, 5. Band.

## Bits & bytes

Fill in with relevant keyboard shortcuts or their functions:

- Win+D will take you to the \_\_\_\_\_ from the current window.
- To cut text from a part of a paragraph we would use the shortcut \_\_\_\_\_.
- Ctrl+(plus) will enable you to \_\_\_\_\_ a window.
- To browse privately in Google Chrome we often open an incognito window using the shortcut \_\_\_\_\_, but for Firefox or Internet Explorer we use \_\_\_\_\_.
- Ctrl+T usually opens a new \_\_\_\_\_ in most web browsers.



Answers: 1. Desktop, 2. Ctrl+X, 3. Zoom into, 4. Ctrl+Shift+N, Ctrl+Shift+P, 5. Tab

## What is a layup?

The layup is among the most basic shots in basketball. It is a two-point attempt wherein the person attempting the shot first leaps from below. They then lay the ball up near the basket and using one hand bounce it off the backboard and into the basket. The next time you watch a game of basketball, try to spot the layups.



Question: How many points does a player get for a successful layup?.....

Answer: Two points Photo: AP

## Journal writing

Write a note of gratitude to someone who means a lot to you.

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