Part 1 – School Category



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Director's Message

GEAR YOUR SUCCESS

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December 31, 2021

Dear Learners,

I am glad to place an eBook on the topic *The India of My Dreams*.

This eBook is an outcome of the *English Challenge Contest 2021* conducted during this year.

As part of encouragement and motivation to student authors, we have made only very mild corrections.

On behalf of the entire Gear Your Success team, I sincerely thank our partners Rotary Club of Madras Temple City and Mangaladeepam; and jury for supporting this initiative.

Good luck!

In the cause of learning,

N.B.l.

Dr N Balakumar Director

AASHUTOSH INDUSEKHAR



Sri Sankara Senior Secondary School, Chennai.

Essay Writing School Category Entry # SL317 First Prize



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The India of my dreams is a country of equality and progress. A shining beacon, showing the world the way to the future, leading in all fields. It is a land of opportunity for all, regardless of race, creed, or religion. It is a land of law, where the rule of law applies to everyone, equally, leaving no one behind yet giving no one an advantage.

The India of the future must fully develop its biggest and most valuable resource, the human resource. In my dream world, no child must die of hunger, thirst, or of a preventable illness while its parents can do naught but suffer in silence unable to do anything to help. It must be a land where every citizen is educated and well equipped to realise their potential to the fullest. By bringing its human element to the fullest potential, it will create a

self-sustaining positive loop of progress and development.

The India of the future should be a fully independent nation, able to meet all its demand locally, yet be a global player, helping those in need and lending a hand to the poor, weak, and weary of the world. It must be a land at peace with its neighbours, settling all conflicts, and only then can it work inwards.

The India of the future should be a land of honesty and meritocracy, where the government is held fully accountable to its people and its actions should be in full transparency. Any nepotism or bribery should be punished and only those truly deserving of a position should be given it. In a land free of institutionalised corruption and bureaucratic entanglements, the government can work at its fullest extent, to do the best it can for the people.

The India of tomorrow should be a land lead by logic and clarity, one that looks towards the future, while still preserving the past. It should be a land that adheres to only one law, that being the law of the land. While religion should still be free to flourish and prosper, it should be allowed no say in any rulings and decisions.

The India of the future is one where women can go out at night, without having to be scared for their life, safety, and their dignity. The laws that govern the land must be strict enough to deter any potential ill-doers and harsh punishments should be strictly enforced to set a precedent as well.

The India of my dreams would be a welfare state in its truest form, a land that is truly built by and for its people. It would be a country where the common man is truly looked after by the ruling body. It must be one where a person can peacefully retire without worrying about their survival. It must be one, where a citizen can comfortably provide for themselves, the basic needs such as water, schooling, and healthcare, even during tumultuous points of their lives. But, it must also be the land where the lowest parts of society are uplifted through government intervention, and not left to fend for themselves.

India, in my dreams, is quite similar to the India the founders imagined, it is quite similar to the India we all imagine. While the groundwork has already been laid and the progress significant, there is still far too much to be achieved. It can only be achieved if we all come together as one to fight for it and fight for a better future. As visualised by poet Rabindranath Tagore, India must be a land;

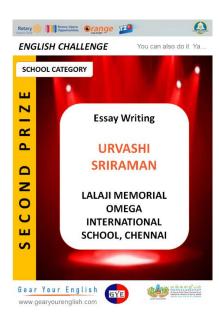
- Where the mind is without fear and the head is held high;
- Where knowledge is free;
- Where the world has not been broken up into fragments by narrow domestic walls;
- Where the clear stream of reason has not lost its way into the dreary desert sand of dead habit;
- Where the mind is led forward by thee into ever-widening thought and action.

URVASHI SRIRAMAN



Lalaji Memorial Omega International School, Chennai.

Essay Writing School Category Entry # SEB83 Second Prize



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India has always been the most diverse country to me. Its citizens, rich culture, heritage, delicious food, bright festivals, sports, ancient ruins and history, the vast flora and fauna are the apple of my eyes. I've always imagined India to be colorful and a country that is full of positive energy. India is warmth, where one seeks light. India is brotherhood, where we support each other, come what may. India is joy, where most of us make the best of our lives. India is hope, we never give up.

I will always and forever look with positivity although there is a lot of negative happenings in the country. I find it funny how people hate this country, not counting the ones that aren't Indians, but the ones that are. This country is beautiful in its own ways, just like a human it has flaws too, and we just need to accept it: for

acceptance can change everything, I envision India to be loved.

India has the most talented and smartest people in the world I feel. They are very hardworking, dedicated, sincere and amazing at what they do. Their imagination and dreams are not even half as much of the blood, sweat and tears they put into earning a livelihood. I want to see India's youth, the elders and all the citizens young and old, achieve their dreams and soar high across the skies.

From a young age, we are taught to love and respect our parents, elders, teachers and country very dearly that for some people the country turns into their passion. The service and the courage our army has will always be admired.

India of my dreams is always – mother. The hospitality and care that Indians show. The humble and hardworking farmers. The festivals we celebrate as a family. The concern and the warmth we receive, the dedication, passion and hope that we all carry to strive to make India a better country.

India as my dream would be a country with love and peace, a corruption free, a country with a better education system, a country full of opportunities, an open-minded country, a country open to change, a country full of skills that promote our culture more, a country that doesn't break the traffic rules and regulations, a clean country, a country full of respect and courtesy, to help one another, to conserve resources and each and every citizen in India to

contribute and work together to make it happen for only if we stand united today we can make a better tomorrow.

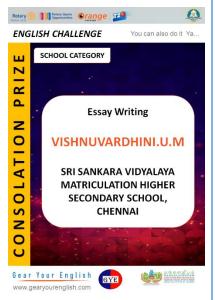
India is home, wherever, you are or whatever you do, you will always remember the smell of India, the taste of India, the view of India, the light of India and the comfort of India. India to me, in one word is *home*.

VISHNUVARDHINI.U.M

Sri Sankara Vidyalaya Matriculation Higher Secondary School, Chennai.

Introduction:

Essay Writing School Category Entry # SEB159 Consolation Prize



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"A COUNTRY IS HONORED BY ITS LAND AND WATER RESOURCE.

A COUNTRY IS UPLIFTED BY ITS MOUNTAIN AND ANIMAL RESOURCE.

A COUNTRY IS PLEASURED BY ITS FRUIT AND FOREST RESOURCE"

All these resources are the wealth of a country – There is no doubt in it. But all these outer resources would not make a country more special ... The real wealth of the country lies in its citizens and their culture and tradition. Do you think a country would be honored without these characteristics? Definitely not. So, a real pride and wealth of a country lies in its Citizens and their culture. A country is a place where peace and tranquility can be found. Every citizen has a dream and wish to develop their

nation and Patriotism is their main motivation. In this essay I'm going to spotlight my dreams for my country India, as a patriot citizen.

"Citizenship consists in the service of the country"- Jawaharlal Nehru

<u>India – My country:</u>

India is a land of diversity. "UNITY IN DIVERSTIY" ... India is a vast country with colorful tradition and She is a home to more than a hundred different languages and She has an history that goes back around thousands of years. I'm proud to born in the karmabhoomi (land of duty) India. India is a karmabhoomi in contradistinction to bhogabhumi (land of enjoyment). Many of the best brains of the world are made in India. It was a wealthy country before British invaded her as they drained most of her resources to develop their countries. After the Independence, at initial stage 40% of her people were below the poverty line. The basic necessities of life are a dream to the marginalized. India is one of the few nations on the earth which have retained some of their ancient institutions although they have been overlaid with superstition and error. But she has hitherto shown an inherent capacity for purging herself of error and superstition. My faith in her ability to solve the economic problems that face her millions has never been so it is today. I have a deep belief that no Country is perfect it may be India or Norway or any other country. But I want Her to give her best to be a better country.

India of my dreams:

India of my dreams would be a place which is free from all the ill feelings of caste, creed, color, language, religion etc. There is no partiality between the

women and men. All will be treated equally. My dream India is the place without the peoples who are poor- by -heart (selfish peoples). My dream India will be gifted with sincere and honest leaders who will not indulge themselves in bribery and corrupt practices. My dream India protects the nature mother and will give respect to her. My dream India gives its utmost respect to agriculture, which is the backbone of India. I want India's rise so that the whole world may benefit. I do not want India to rise on the ruin of other nations. My dream India can be no peril to other nations inasmuch as we will exploit none, just as we will allow none to exploit us. Though Swaraj we will serve the whole world. For the poor the economic is the spiritual. We cannot make any other appeal to those starving millions. It will fall flat on them. But if we take food to them and they will regard us as their God. They are incapable of any other thought. But I want equality so, India of my dreams will completely eradicate poverty and hunger. Women empowerment- leads to nation's development. The country would be so strong that no enemy would ever dare cast his covetous eyes on the sacred soil.

Conclusion:

At last, I conclude my essay That India is a vast country with many people with many thoughts. I know it's hard to unite people with similar thoughts. So, to survive in peace and harmony, united and strong, we Indians should have one thought- To rise India into a powerful and a peaceful country.

"VANDE MATRAM! JAI HIND!! BHARATMATA KI JAI!!"

PRITHI SRINIVASAN

Sri Sankara Senior Secondary School, Chennai.

Essay Writing School Category Entry # SL 321 Jury Mention Prize



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Pondering about reality is something I think we all tend to do. In a society, there are so many pieces in the puzzle and processing all of them at once is rather tough, but working together and listening to each other would make things much better. The ideal India of my dreams would be a place where everyone is accepted for who they are and everyone is treated as equal. In this essay I would like to shed light on the LGBTQ+ community in India. It's no mystery that the queer community in India is often looked down on, but why so? Where does all of this stigma and hatred towards the community come from? Most importantly, what is the point of all the hate crimes directed towards the LGBTQ+ community and what can do to work towards stopping these hate crimes?

The answer to these questions lies in the fact that queer culture is often misunderstood and viewed as a "sin" or a "phase" and as something wrong with an individual,

something that can be fixed or must be ended. Moreover, internalized queerphobia plays a big role in promoting the stigma surrounding the community. What people fail to acknowledge is that queerness is fluid and is a spectrum. Queer is used as an umbrella term to refer to anyone that has a "different" romantic/sexual orientation or gender identity/expression than what is prevalent or considered the norm. A quick google search will lead you to amazing sources and articles on the community written by queer people and allies that can provide for a deeper look into queer culture and how to be a good ally.

In my ideal India, there would be no such disgust directed towards the community, however that clearly is not the case. Taking time to educate oneself on the community can help in destigmatizing the community. Though everyone is primarily responsible for educating themselves on these things, circulating and sharing knowledge, understanding and experiences are very helpful. Listening to the community with an open mind is also of immense importance. Being able to publicly discuss and express queerness is a critical part of the lives of the LGBT+ youth for which the queer community of previous generations have fought for and for which our generations will continue to fight for. Queerness has been a part of India for ages, we can see it integrated in aspects of ancient India. In fact, this widespread queerphobia is believed to stem from the colonization of India by Europeans.

We don't need a study to know that our queer youth needs acceptance to be able to have healthy relationships - especially with their parents and other

family - and realizing that there is no "correct" way to express gender and sexuality is the log in the path of acceptance and destigmatization. In fact, doing away with the current amato/allo/hetero/cis normativity will help everyone by normalizing the idea that dressing or acting a certain way does not define one's identity as a person and that one need not identify with any labels as such to express themselves a certain way. For example, men dressing in a "feminine" manner doesn't mean that they are inherently queer, but rather that on an individual level, would like to express themselves in that way. Pronouns are quite the hot topic at the moment and are also a means of expressing oneself. An individual need not be transgender or genderqueer to pick out and use a set of pronouns that are not associated with their gender/assigned gender. Pronouns merely serve to express whether one feels masculine, feminine, and androgynous or any other way.

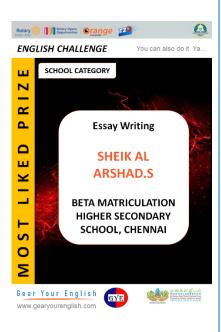
We can support the LGBTQ+ community by: standing by our queer peers and amplifying their voices, helping educate people that may not be well informed on the subject, normalizing the idea that gender and sexuality are fluid, and most importantly by being ready to listen to queer people and helping them feel secure in this environment. After all, if being queer wasn't natural then we wouldn't be in this situation.

SHEIK AL ARSHAD.S





Essay Writing School Category Entry # SEB91 Most Liked Prize



My 2020 vision for India is to transform it into a developed nation. That cannot be abstract; It is a lifeline. -A.P.J.ABDUL KALAM.

Proud INDIA, gained foot in the establishment in nuclear weapon arena. Marching towards the progress in career development. Proud to have surplus strength of the power of young people. One of the listed countries standing by its magnificence. I am pleased to see my country whose pride could not be measured. To set INDIA free many sacrifices have been done by great leaders. But we youth still have a question whether there exist truth, honest, peace in INDIA.

In INDIA, the proportion of men and women keeps on decreasing. Offence against women should be reduced. The inherent value of girls

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should be propagated. If this is achieved then INDIA's super power dream will come true.

INDIA is the fastest growing economy in the world with almost half of the population as women. If the nation wants to get into the league of developed nation then empowerment of women is need for the hour.

Corruption, lack of job opportunity which exists in excess should be completely eliminated in future. We need to create a corruption free INDIA by involving educated youth

Though the young generation is worthy, knowledgeable and educated are directed towards terrorism. The young people going in wrong way should be diverted by giving rise to employment.

Youth with lot of courage, scientific knowledge and self-confidence should be moulded to rule our motherland. Their new discovery should be encouraged. Initiative action should be taken to encourage their new discovery. Well skilled, talented youth generation move towards abroad because opportunities are not given to them.

People with unselfish, welfare and with the intention of helping others can make our country to achieve its goal as was dreamt by Gandhi and Abdul kalam. The future generation as a teacher should not only serve urban schools but also advance to rural schools for the upbringing of students and developing their talents. Creativity is the key to success in the future and primary education where teachers can bring creativity in children at that level.

Poverty should be eliminated by giving vocational education to the youth. This makes them strong, healthy and active.

As a large part of migration is a reflection of poverty and insecurity faced by large sections of the rural people, the focus of intervention has to be in rural areas. Unemployment and insufficient technical resources are the reasons for the shifting of people from rural area to urban.

The presence of good health, services, work opportunities, good and quality water and electricity, school, supportive agriculture sector are very important for the village.

Do how many people know the essential of language in history? Due to lack of language system many histories today unknowingly extinct.

Due to lack of interest of people many industries arts have disappeared. We as a youth should take effort to revive these lost talents and flourish it again as a passion and profession.

This is not only my dream. It is a dream of every INDIAN citizen where we can live in peace, harmony and unity in society for the country's development.

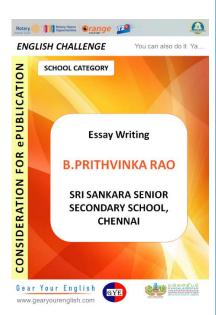
We will be remembered only if we give to our younger generation a prosperous and safe INDIA resulting out of economic prosperity coupled with civilization heritage.

B. PRITHVINKA RAO

Sri Sankara Senior Secondary School, Chennai.



Essay Writing School Category Entry # SL290 Consideration for ePublication



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What motivates me today, is the desire of a better tomorrow for our nation. Yes, I'm a proud Indian! I am from this dignified country which is syncretic and dynamic in its nature. India has given birth to various religions like Hinduism, Buddhism, Jainism, and Sikhism and is endowed with a vast cultural, regional and linguistic diversity. In such a territory, conflicts are easy to arise, but they never last, they always end with the perspective of how Unity is Strength. A democratic country like India is already everything that a citizen could wish for, but what's wrong if I aspire to go through the root causes of societal conflicts and dream of an India without these.

India is rich in its physical diversity, similarly it is rich in its population and income disparities. This stratification might lead to poverty,

resulting in unhygienic routines, lack of access to basic necessities like food and education leading to increase in the number of crime rates. In such cases, Speedy and an effective justice delivery might help eradicate these actions and implementing more employment opportunities might improve the standard of life of its citizens.

India's improving education system has led way to establish and contribute to the great Indian economy. But, does it equally contribute to the morality of the citizens? The educational pattern in this era significantly focuses on employment opportunities. Rote learning is a dimensional technique used by large proportion of Indian students. They study to write exams, they write exams to score ranks and they score ranks to get placed in universities for better employment opportunities. But, in this process they often forget to 'learn'. The education pattern must also include morals and values to make them better humans.

Indian administration has been doing wonders since a very long time. There's excellence in every pattern of their duty! Similarly now, India is a prominent regional power, a nuclear power, an emerging global power and a potential superpower. I hope they start focusing upon the foreign relations equally. India assumes a growing international influence and a prominent voice in global affairs. It can potentially maintain better international relations, avoiding disparities and seeking to spread equality.

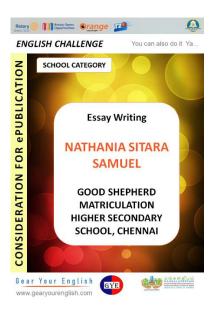
The historical nation of India, is significant for its popular warriors like Rani Velu Nachiyar, Azizun Bai and Rani Lakshmi Bai. But, even in this millennial, one irresistible thing here is Patriarchy. Most proportion of the society in India is patriarchal and patrilineal. There's a lack of mindset that women could be breadwinners. There are various women empowerment schemes, but involvement of men in such actions are very rare and that creates moral disparity leading to conflicting thoughts eradicating gender quality. I hope that such gender stereotypes are broken at their root level and a fair/fraternal society follows it.

In a country like India, the changes are always on the extremes, they are either the slowest to occur, or the fastest. The definition of perfection varies vastly when analyzed objectively. But, I have described my dream subjectively! I admire my nations past days, it has struggled for righteousness. I'm proud of my country's present day, it is striving hard for perfection. I will be astonished of my India's future as my dream would have come true!

NATHANIA SITARA SAMUEL

Good Shepherd Matriculation Higher Secondary School, Chennai.

Essay Writing School Category Entry # SL 275 Consideration for ePublishing



I have dreams for my India and the way it should be for me to live proudly in it. It would be a place that has developed and grown. I want India to be scientifically advanced and to excel greatly in technology. Corruption would not exist, Indians would not indulge in any form of corruption. Starvation and poverty would be eliminated. To eradicate illiteracy the country of my dreams would supply education to all citizens. Good infrastructures and sanitation would be provided for remote villages. India would be a developed country with zero unemployment. Women and children can freely walk around in the streets without the fear of being harassed.

We would be able to live comfortably without any hassle. The GDP of India would rise significantly as we would be a developed nation, with the help of advancement in technology India would have amazing Robots and machines to help us in many different fields of work. There would be no crime or

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criminals in India. The country would be free of war and quarrel. India of my dreams may seem unimaginable but if we try hard then it is possible. Ideas and initiative of youngsters and youth will be initiated to make India of my dreams more unique and creative. India would be a happy place filled with joy and peace.

When fighting for our country's freedom our leaders dreamt of an India which was free of bondage, prosperous, secular and developed. It has been seventy years since then and their dreams are yet to be real. My dream is far more simple and I hope it can be realised in my lifetime. Dr APJ Abdul Kalam quoted "My 2020 vision for India is to transform it into a developed nation. That cannot be abstract; it is a life line" with a courageous and brave heart I hope to fulfil the dreams of the great leaders, by taking the small steps needed to shape the India of my dreams .

As a student, I will save water and quit the usage of plastic, I will also reduce my carbon footprint. I will not litter the streets and follow the rules and safety measures that are needed for India to be a better nation.