



WORLD'S BIGGEST OLYMPIADS

8 School Level Olympiad Exams



Presents

Brainiac Bulletin

A FORTNIGHTLY NEWSLETTER

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★ SOF WISHES ALL THE BEST ★

TO ASPIRANTS TAKING THE JANUARY OLYMPIAD EXAM!

SOF FORTNIGHTLY UPDATES

Important Notice: The SOF NSO, IMO, IEO, IGKO, ICO exams have successfully concluded across all examination dates, marking another milestone in our journey of academic excellence.

All the 2025 SOF Olympiads have now completed their second phase, while a few are approaching their scheduled dates.

For schools that may have missed registration for the ICSO, ISSO, and IHO, it's the final opportunity to participate. Don't miss the chance, registrations are open for the upcoming final exam dates listed below.

EXAM SCHEDULE

SOF Olympiad	Date 1	Date 2	Date 3
ICSO	24 September, 2025	09 October, 2025	22 January, 2026
ISSO	18 September, 2025	20 November, 2025	23 January, 2026
IHO	19 September, 2025	19 November, 2025	22 January, 2026

For additional information, Schools and institutes are advised to contact the SOF support team. Teachers and Principals may contact SOF Authorities at **+91 9312680855, +91 9312680857, or +91 124-4951200** to get all the details.

Showcase Your Success in the SOF Hall of Fame!

SOF invites schools, parents and students to submit entries for the "Hall of Fame", a platform that celebrates exceptional and well-rounded student achievements. Selected entries will be featured on the SOF website, Facebook page, and in this newsletter.

To participate, please email your achievements along with valid proof and photographs to info@sofworld.org

FROM EDUCATORS' DESK -TEACHER TESTIMONIALS

**Real voices. Real classrooms. Real impact**

Discover how educators like you are transforming teaching, one story at a time.

STUDENTS WHO DARED TO DREAM BIGGER - STUDENT TESTIMONIALS

**Stories That Illuminate the Path to Success**

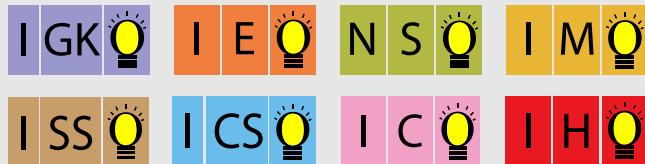
Every star has a story. Discover what drives these young achievers.

The best way to revise the Olympiad syllabus is here!

mtg Presenting

PREVIOUS YEARS' PAPERS

The Latest Edition for SOF Olympiads 2025-26

**Science is cooler than you think!****Fusion reactors may create dark matter particles**

Physicists have outlined how fusion reactors could theoretically produce axions, mysterious particles that may help explain dark matter. The breakthrough solves a problem once joked about on The Big Bang Theory, where the math failed.

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FREEBIE ALERT – Free E book for powerful learnings**More Reps, more prep!**

Transform the way your students learn. Download these free IHO sample papers that help students analyse exam questions and gain concept familiarity. Help them learn faster, understand better and think smarter.

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INNOVATIONS THAT CHANGED OUR WORLD FOR FOREVER!

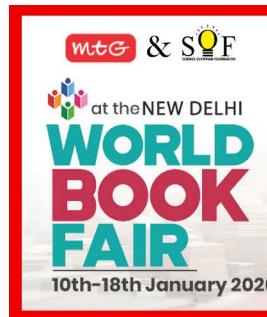
Everyday Invention That Held Everything Together

By (1948)



Velcro stuck to everything. Before it existed, fastening things usually meant relying on buttons, zippers, snaps, or ties. Methods that could be time-consuming, fragile, or difficult to use. When Swiss engineer George de Mestral invented the hook-and-loop fastener, he introduced a simple yet powerful idea: two surfaces that could securely attach with a light press and separate just as easily. This innovation made fastening quicker, more reliable, and accessible to people of all ages and abilities.

Velcro quickly revolutionised multiple industries, from fashion and footwear to medical equipment and aerospace technology. Its durability, reusability, and versatility turned a small observation from nature into a global solution for everyday fastening problems.



WORLD BOOK FAIR
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Bharat Mandapam,
Pragati Maidan, New Delhi

TEXTBOOK MEETS REAL WORLD

Tarnishing of Brass (Copper-Zinc Alloy)

Brass is an alloy mainly composed of copper (Cu) and zinc (Zn). When brass objects are exposed to air over long periods of time, they slowly lose their bright, shiny appearance and develop a dull brown or green coating on the surface. This change is not caused by dirt but by a chemical reaction between the metals in brass and substances present in the atmosphere.

Oxygen, moisture, and sometimes sulfur-containing gases in the air react with the copper and zinc atoms at the surface of the brass. These reactions lead to the formation of metal oxides, such as copper oxide and zinc oxide. In humid or polluted environments, copper may also react with carbon dioxide and sulfur compounds to form green compounds like copper carbonate or copper sulfide.

As the silver (Ag) comes into contact with hydrogen sulfide gas in the air, a reaction occurs in which silver atoms bond with sulfur atoms. This reaction forms silver sulfide (Ag_2S), the dark, black material responsible for the tarnished look. Because silver sulfide is insoluble and strongly attached to the metal surface, the tarnish remains unless it is cleaned or polished away. Moisture in the air can speed up the reaction by helping the ions move more easily.

Because these compounds form directly on the surface of the brass, they adhere strongly and remain unless the metal is polished or chemically cleaned. Although this tarnish does not significantly weaken the brass, it alters its colour and reduces its shine. The overall reaction can be summarised as:



Scientific Conclusion:

The tarnishing of brass occurs due to surface reactions between its constituent metals (copper and zinc) and oxygen, moisture, and sulfur compounds in the air. These reactions produce dull brown or green surface compounds that change the appearance of brass but do not usually damage its structure.

TEACHERS HELPDESK

What could teachers do to boost logical thinking for their students?

- **Questioning:** Encourage students to ask "why" and "how" questions instead of memorising facts, helping them understand the reasoning behind concepts.
- **Application:** Use problem-solving activities, puzzles, and real-life scenarios that require students to analyse, compare, and draw conclusions.
- **Explanation:** Teach students to explain their thinking step by step, both verbally and in writing, to strengthen logical reasoning.
- **Discussion:** Promote discussion and debate in the classroom so students learn to justify answers with evidence and logic.
- **Exploration:** Introduce open-ended questions with more than one possible solution to develop flexible and critical thinking.
- **Reflection:** Provide regular opportunities for reflection, where students review mistakes and identify better reasoning strategies.

MYTH VS FACT

MYTH

King cobra is the most venomous animal in the world.

FACT

Box jellyfish (Class Cubozoa) is the most venomous animal in the world



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TIPS FOR TEACHERS

How AI is Changing the Future of Olympiad Preparation

- Personalisation:** Teachers can use AI tools to analyse student performance and create customised Olympiad practice plans targeting individual strengths and weaknesses.
- Assessment:** AI-powered platforms help teachers track progress through instant feedback, detailed analytics, and performance trends.
- Practice:** Teachers can provide students with adaptive problem sets that adjust difficulty based on their logical and mathematical growth.
- Guidance:** AI enables teachers to offer step-by-step hints, alternative solution methods, and conceptual explanations beyond classroom time.
- Efficiency:** Routine tasks like checking answers, generating worksheets, and organising mock tests can be automated, giving teachers more time to mentor students.
- Enrichment:** Teachers can use AI to expose students to higher-level problems, international Olympiad patterns, and simulated exam environments for deeper preparation.

WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF



Dinosaurs never went extinct?

Sometimes you can't help but wonder what would happen if the ancient world never truly ended, but lingered on into the present. Imagine stepping outside and sensing the land shift, as massive shapes move just beyond sight, powerful, patient, and watching. The air feels different, charged with something old and untamed

[Click Here](#)

VOCABULARY BOOST



What is Alacrity?

"Alacrity" refers to a cheerful readiness or eager willingness to act, often showing enthusiasm and quick response. It's the kind of energy you see when someone jumps into a task without hesitation, happy to help and ready to move. This word captures the spirit of promptness mixed with positivity and drive. Describe a moment when someone responds with eagerness, speed, and genuine enthusiasm today.

DO YOU KNOW?



Sharks have 2 extra senses

They can detect the smallest electrical charges in the water, including those from muscle contractions. They are also able to feel changes in the water pressure and movement.

ASTRONOMY FACT



Jan 3-4: Quadrantids Meteor Shower.

The Quadrantids is an above-average shower, with up to 40 meteors per hour at its peak. It is thought to be produced by dust grains left behind by an extinct comet known as 2003 EH1.



Have doubts & queries about the SOF Olympiads? Ask now! Submit your questions and get them answered by experts. Don't miss out, stay informed, and excel in the SOF Olympiad. Message us on the SOF Official Instagram Page.

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