

## 600 students expelled for cheating

23rd March, 2015



Authorities in India's Bihar state have expelled around 600 high school students for cheating in their 10th grade examinations. The pupils used

a novel but somewhat dangerous way to get help with their exam papers – their parents scaled the walls of the school building and provided the answers to questions through the windows. Photographs and video footage of this illegitimate technique have gone viral. It shows dozens of parents clinging on to whatever they can on the walls to feed information to their children. Some of the parents were three stories up. Teachers found many cheat sheets inside the classroom. Some had been folded up into paper airplanes and thrown through the window.

Over 1.4 million 10th graders are taking the tests this week at more than 1,200 high schools across the state. Bihar's education minister P.K. Shahi told reporters that schools faced a difficult job to ensure exams took place under the strictest of conditions. He said: "It's virtually impossible to conduct fair examinations without the cooperation of parents." He added that it was not possible to monitor all parents who accompany their children to schools and other test centres. The situation regarding parents helping their children cheat has become so prevalent that police officers are posted to each school. However, an official said, "we can't use force to drive away the parents".

Sources: *DailyStar.com / IndiaTimes.com*

## Writing

Any student who cheats should be immediately thrown out of school. Discuss.

## Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

*expelled / cheating / novel / dangerous / illegitimate / technique / gone viral / education minister / strict conditions / cooperation / monitor / prevalent / force*

## True / False

- Over 600 university students in India were expelled for cheating. T / F
- The students used a technique using novels to help them cheat. T / F
- Dozens of parents climbed up to classroom windows to help kids cheat. T / F
- Some of the cheat sheets were folded into origami paper cranes. T / F
- The education minister said it was easy to keep exams secure. T / F
- The minister said parental cooperation was pretty much essential. T / F
- Police officers are posted at many schools to try and reduce cheating. T / F
- A school official said the schools could not use force to rid the parents. T / F

## Synonym Match

- |                 |                  |
|-----------------|------------------|
| 1. expelled     | a. slightly      |
| 2. somewhat     | b. make certain  |
| 3. provided     | c. unlawful      |
| 4. illegitimate | d. observe       |
| 5. clinging     | e. almost        |
| 6. ensure       | f. thrown out    |
| 7. conditions   | g. coercion      |
| 8. virtually    | h. supplied      |
| 9. monitor      | i. circumstances |
| 10. force       | j. holding       |

## Discussion – Student A

- What do you think about what you read?
- Why do people cheat?
- What do you think of this cheating technique?
- What things have you cheated at?
- What should happen to people who cheat at exams?
- What do you think of the parents who helped their kids cheat?
- Would you help your child cheat if it could better his/her life?
- How did the school let this happen?

## Phrase Match

- |  |                            |
|--|----------------------------|
| 1. a novel but                             | a. so prevalent            |
| 2. dozens of parents clinging on           | b. into paper airplanes    |
| 3. Some of the parents were three          | c. impossible              |
| 4. cheat                                   | d. away the parents        |
| 5. folded up                               | e. monitor all parents     |
| 6. exams took place under the              | f. stories up              |
| 7. virtually                               | g. strictest of conditions |
| 8. it was not possible to                  | h. sheets                  |
| 9. helping their children cheat has become | i. somewhat dangerous way  |
| 10. we can't use force to drive            | j. to whatever they can    |

## Discussion – Student B

- What kind of conditions should there be for exams?
- Are you good at exams?
- Would you cheat if you knew 100% no one would ever know?
- What does "to cheat yourself" mean?
- What do you think of cheats?
- What do you think of the police being needed to stop cheating?
- Should the authorities do anything to the parents?
- What questions would you like to ask the school authorities?

## Spelling

- uhaiirteots in India's Bihar state
- a novel but aomhetws dangerous way
- parents dcsllea the walls
- video oafeotg
- illegitimate tcueeqnhi
- three treossi up
- education triisnem
- a difficult job to rnuees exams took place
- ulalrtviy impossible
- tonirmo all parents
- comncapya their children
- become so neraltepv

### Answers – Synonym Match

1. f	2. a	3. h	4. c	5. j
6. b	7. i	8. e	9. d	10. g

## Role Play

### Role A – Cheating in exams

You think cheating in exams is the worst behaviour in a school. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't as bad. Also, tell the others which is the least worrying of these (and why): bad language, bullying or not doing homework.

### Role B – Bad language

You think bad language is the worst behaviour in a school. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't as bad. Also, tell the others which is the least worrying of these (and why): cheating in exams, bullying or not doing homework.

### Role C – Bullying

You think bullying is the worst behaviour in a school. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't as bad. Also, tell the others which is the least worrying of these (and why): bad language, cheating in exams or not doing homework.

### Role D – Not doing homework

You think not doing homework is the worst behaviour in a school. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't as bad. Also, tell the others which is the least worrying of these (and why): bad language, bullying or cheating in exams.

## Speaking – School

Rank these with your partner. Put the worst school "offences" at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- cheating in exams
- bad language
- vandalism
- truancy
- bullying
- not doing homework
- not listening to the teacher
- not wearing uniform

### Answers – True False

a	F	b	F	c	T	d	F	e	F	f	T	g	T	h	T
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Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.