

## **A Medley of Rhetoric and Rhythm !**

### **At the G.A. Class XI JAM session**

The Just A Minute (JAM) session, a game designed to test the participants vocabulary, extempore skills and their ability to think quickly on their feet conducted on 11<sup>th</sup> September, 2020, was eagerly attended by the students of Class XI who enjoyed every minute of it! The program was conducted in two separate sessions that took place simultaneously through Zoom, from 1:45 PM to 2:30 PM, organized and conducted by the students of Class XII.

The participants were divided into two teams. One team consisted of Vaishnavi and Navasakthi Chemmal of Class XI C, Charu Leka Hari of Class XI A and Sriniketh Sriram of Class XI B whose game was moderated by Sudiksha Desikan and Ramkumar Madhavan. The other team consisted of Prarthana Anu Venkataraghavan and Rishi Kartikeyan of Class XI A, and Saadhvi Sree and J. Kashyap from Class XI B and was moderated by Aravind Shivram and Dhananjayan Seshadri.

The topic for the first round was 'I'm reading a book about anti-gravity, it's impossible to put down' and for the second round was 'A man knocked on my door and asked for a small donation for a local swimming pool so I gave him a glass of water'. The participants were informed of their topics a day in advance and were required to speak about them continuously for a minute, while adhering to certain strict rules. The order of speakers was determined with a playful singing contest for the first group, and a race to see who could recite the alphabet backwards the fastest, for the second group. Active participation was encouraged as the contestants were required to provide objections and feedback for each other, in the spirit of mutually beneficial learning. The event was jaunty and light-hearted as the competitors were asked to give 'koofias' in the form of calling out the names of countries, creating taglines for products found in the school canteen, or giving little dance and music performances before putting forth their objections. Even the 'go-word', the starting signal for the speakers, didn't stay the same, and was another element that kept both speakers and moderators on their toes.

The program concluded with a round of applause for the students who had managed to speak the longest, and the moderators were generous and enthusiastic with their praise for all the students for doing an excellent job, despite being only beginners at JAM. "There's so much to congratulate each and every participant about- their spontaneity, presentation skills, sense of observation and ability to catch mistakes." said Mrs. Aasha Pillai, Assistant Vice-Principal of PSBB Nungambakkam. She warmly complimented the moderators for doing a wonderful job as well.

It was an invigorating experience for the participants and audience alike, and left the audience asking for more!



