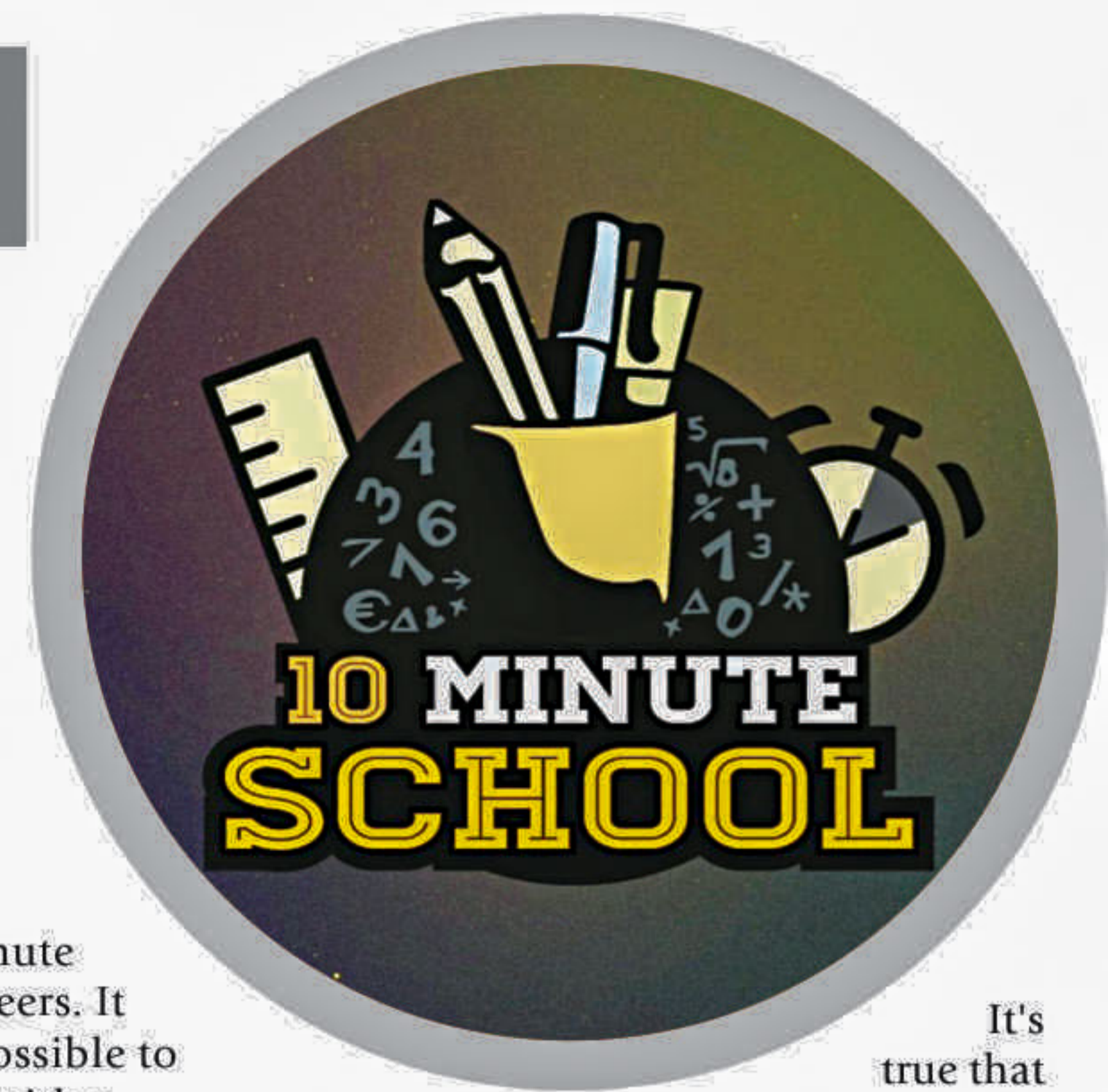


STUDYING IS FUN

Especially if it can be done within 10 minutes.



AANILA KISHWAR TARANNUM

As a student of the national curriculum, I had learned to accept my life for the stressful, miserable phenomenon that it is from an early age. But no amount of mental preparation was enough for admission tests, a spectacle that turned out to be far more terrifying than I could have ever imagined. During my admission preparation days, I had been forced to do quite an inhuman amount of studying which at one point, became more monotonous than Mosharraf Karim memes. The solution to this pressing problem is a website called 10 Minute School that aims to make education more exciting, without using any memes, of course.

Imagine if a website like Khan Academy was designed to specifically

cater to the needs of Bangladeshi students, complete with personal mentoring and progress trackers. Now, that is what 10 Minute School does: providing model tests, infographics, blogs and video tutorials that focus on a few particular examinations: SSC, HSC, SATs, and admission tests. I felt that it is specifically convenient for admission test candidates, as they could use all the help they can get, and 10MS provides such help in the most enjoyable way possible. "10 Minute School provided me with a way to practice without increasing the stress that has already piled up, and it doesn't even take up much time, which is a big plus point because I don't really have a lot of time nowadays. It's fun, informative and a real confidence booster. And everything in there looks cool", says Audri Adhyas Paul, a student

planning to take the IBA admission test this year.

The people behind 10 Minute School are almost all volunteers. It would seem borderline impossible to pull off such a huge project with a workforce that is entirely voluntary but Ayman Sadiq, the Chief Everything Officer, somehow succeeded in doing so. "I initially wanted to revamp our education system and make things fun. So far we've succeeded in the fun part; as for revamping, there's still a long way to go. I'm glad I involved the right people in this project, happy people who want to create a positive impact", he says. If you think you have any skills that could be used to make 10MS even better, feel free to get in touch with them over at 10minuteschool.com or facebook.com/10minuteschool.

It's true that there are millions of online resources available when it comes to education, but what make 10MS truly stand out are their attention to detail and their dedication to improving the quality of the Bangladeshi education system. We grew up knowing that we had no other choice but to pass exams through learning immensely boring content taught in the most uninspiring way; 10 Minute School is here to change that. This website will help you learn, practice and progress, and it will leave you with a much better understanding of whatever topic you are studying.

Getting your questions ANSWERED

NAZIFA RAIDAH

We all have those quirky questions that pop up in our head once in a while but never get answered. If you're that person, for you there's Quora.

Quora is a community platform that has gained massive popularity and growth just within a few years of its existence. Launched in 2010, Quora's co-founder and CEO Adam D'Angelo set out on his mission to make the web more interesting by having people tease out information from one another and using technology to curate and filter it. Quora has made a good case that the web was missing out on a valuable knowledge source. By encouraging people to write down their personal experiences, expertise, and advice, the site has compiled some arresting content of the kind that marks the most memorable of face-to-face conversations. Examples range from an astronaut trainer explaining prelaunch rituals to knowing whether monkeys can poop upside down (turns out no).

This is no ordinary Q&A platform where you just ask questions and get answers but you can also get the best reviews. Using Quora you get to select a

range of topics of your liking, for example International relations, Business, Food, Fashion, Pop-Culture etc. You can ask questions anonymously if you want and get the suggested experts of those topics to answer your questions.

Quora gives its users "credits" to

don't worry if you're down on credits. If you go below 100 credits, it will be periodically refreshed back to 100 credits. This means if you have zero credits, you will eventually get 100 credits as back-up. Quora calls this "system refreshes". You can also earn

credits for every upvote that answer receives.

You might wonder how Quora is any different from other Q&A platforms like Yahoo Answers. While other Q&A sites all end up in the state where there's some good information but there's a ton of low-quality answers, Quora can predict which content is good based on signals like which topics you read or follow on the site and answers you voted on and only show you that.

And we're not done just yet. In early 2013, Quora added blogging as one of its major focuses. Its unending news feed of information is open to all in the community. As a member of this blog service, you can take part in other blogs by sharing, commenting or answering proposed questions. Quora also has an app you can download and have a better user experience, allowing you to waste time a bit more productively.

Pretty neat, huh?

Nazifa Raidah loves books, movies, creeping people out and singing in the shower. She also checks for monsters under her bed before going to sleep every night. Send her a virtual cookie at nazifa45678@gmail.com



access certain privileges. It gives you 500 credits to start. If you have questions you need to get answered urgently or by an authentic source you can easily use those credits to ask other people in the "Ask to Answer" option and get prompt answers. And

more credits by answering questions. For every upvote that you receive for an answer or post, you will receive 10 credits. This is even true if you wrote the answer anonymously. When someone who you Ask to Answer a question writes an answer, you will receive 5