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BreakingNewsEnglish - The Mini Lesson

600 students expelled for cheating

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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 threw 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 d) origami paper cranes. T / F
- The education minister said it was easy to e) 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

- expelled 1.
- 2 somewhat
- provided
- 4. illegitimate
- clinging
- 6. ensure
- 7. conditions
- 8. virtually
- 9. monitor
- 10. force

- slightly a.
- b. make certain
- unlawful C.
- d. observe
- e. almost
- f. thrown out
- g. coercion
- h. supplied
- i. circumstances
- j. holding

Discussion - Student A

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

Answer these questions

- 1. Where does this take place?
- 2. How did the students cheat?
- 3. What did teachers find inside the classroom?
- 4. How many 10th graders are taking the tests?
- 5. Who is the Education minister? What did he say about fair examinations?
- 6. How are schools dealing with this problem?
- 7. What do YOU think is the best punishment for cheating?