

(sec 01) 2020, now in the rear-view mirror, through the lens of 20-20 hindsight!

What I/we have lost, What I/we have gained

JUDI FREEMAN DEC 31, 2020 11:00PM

What I/we've lost (in 2020)

HAFIZNASIR FEB 06, 2021 12:34PM

penang ,malaysia

lost a lot of my life style, hang out with my friends, travelling, college life ,because of lockdown, even when we're celebrate HARI RAYA , we're couldn't go everywhere. For me, it isn't cool like usually.

ALI JAN 12, 2021 10:53AM

Ali , Lebanon

Knowing that we are living in a crisis(catastrophe), there wasn't too much we could've done in our Christmas break. All we did was sit in our house eating and gaining weigh ,watching news, (me watching anime(Japanese cartoon)). Not to mention I had to finish my assignments and submit them. For an introvert like me, I guess I enjoyed my time playing video games and watching anime...

ANONYMOUS JAN 08, 2021 01:54PM

Utako , Japan

My daily life
A lot of time with friends
Opportunities of traveling

ANONYMOUS JAN 08, 2021 01:36PM

Emily , Dominican Republic.

I lost my lifestyle, being able to go out with my friends, being able to travel to different places.

The loss of travel opportunities is a big one. I feel terrible for anyone who was excited about travel plans that unfortunately had to be cancelled. – GREG ROSENKRANZ

ANONYMOUS JAN 08, 2021 08:27AM

Zeynep , Turkey

I lost my normal life lay-out and got really disconnected to school. Unfortunately I also had to see my friends and loved ones suffer from a deadly disease.

ANONYMOUS JAN 08, 2021 04:08AM

Minha , V.P,Kerala,India

Indian's have lost great actors this year.Personally,I've lost my uncle in an accident.I've lost face-to-face communication,school days with a lot of memorable moments,I didn't get a chance to meet new friends in my class.

NANCHONCHONKYAW JAN 07, 2021 11:35AM

Nan Chon ,Gaygue,Myanmar

I've lost my school life and also normal life in 2020 because of Covid-19 as you know. It was a year that I lost many benefits that I can get from my school and I also missed some chances concerning with my education.

Th

ANONYMOUS JAN 07, 2021 10:25AM

Sana , Japan

Many people passed away due to coronavirus, including the most famous Japanese comedian, Ken Shimura.
And the biggest event we lost in 2020 is Tokyo Olympic...

ANONYMOUS JAN 06, 2021 07:10PM

Nouhaila , sale Morocco

People have lost their jobs, their members of family.

ANONYMOUS JAN 06, 2021 03:31PM

Arun

I've lost one whole year of my school, connections with friends, travelling, taking pictures and the feeling of safety in public...

ANONYMOUS JAN 05, 2021 03:57PM

Lēja Minsevičiūtē

I've lost my cat, didn't talk or chat with my classmates that much. Some people lost their family members, friends, jobs and sometimes even themselves.

OURANIA PARASTATIDIS JAN 05, 2021 03:59PM

Ourania P

Regular routine, jobs, physical interactions, I don't remember the last time I've hugged someone

SILVIA GUARNOTTA JAN 05, 2021 03:56PM

Silvia Cuarnotta

connections to friends

EMMA LIU JAN 05, 2021 03:56PM

Emma Liu

have lost any semblance of safety in public, mental wellbeing, etc.

retweet — BROOKS GILLESPIE

JESSE CORRELL JAN 05, 2021 03:55PM

Jesse Correll

normal life

ANONYMOUS JAN 05, 2021 04:02PM

Rachel Reinika

people have lost lives, jobs, homes, I haven't been able to see many friends or family, feels like I'm missing a big part of high school, no separation of home and school

MIA CHOW JAN 05, 2021 03:54PM

mia chow

being able to see friends

ADDY KROEMER JAN 05, 2021 03:55PM

Addy Kroemer

Motivation and a sense of community

TANDIN JOHNSON WARD JAN 05, 2021 03:55PM

Tandin

social interactions and friendships

ANONYMOUS JAN 05, 2021 03:57PM

Vanessa Gwynne

motivation and some connections with friends

ANONYMOUS JAN 05, 2021 03:55PM

Paola Williams

a lot of time with friends/ adventures/ peace of mind

BRENDAN REEDER JAN 05, 2021 03:57PM

Brendan Reeder

Time, human interaction, people, mental health, travel

REGINA CHIEMI JAN 05, 2021 03:55PM

Regina Chiemi

connection to the outside world/ traveling

ANONYMOUS JAN 05, 2021 03:57PM

Andy Williams

A whole year of the "high school experience"

ANONYMOUS JAN 05, 2021 03:54PM

Elisa Wang

Time spent interacting with others

GREG WASHINGTON JAN 05, 2021 04:00PM

Greg Washington

Lost regular activities like clubs, sports, religious activities. Also the people we see only at these times.

RAYNA MURPHY JAN 05, 2021 03:54PM

RBG :(

DANNY NGUYEN JAN 05, 2021 03:57PM

Danny Nguyen

ability to travel to new places with friends, the enthusiasm i used to have :(

DEANNA IRIS WARD JAN 05, 2021 04:02PM

Deanna Ward

the same dynamics with close friends/family

Aidan

Lost regular routine of life, 354,000 American citizens from the Pandemic, connections to friends and loved ones

DAMON JAN 05, 2021 03:56PM

Damon

Time

ANONYMOUS JAN 05, 2021 03:55PM

Eileen

motivation because nothing seems to be changing everything is just spiraling

ANONYMOUS JAN 05, 2021 04:01PM

Jack

Lives (to COVID); experiences, socializing, connection; a year of our high school career :(. I feel like I've lost my community and city...

ANONYMOUS JAN 05, 2021 03:53PM

J

GRACE JAN 05, 2021 04:02PM

Grace

- time with family and friends
- traveling for school or for vacation
- important high school experiences like prom and club events

ISABELLA SALAZAR JAN 05, 2021 03:57PM

Being with the ones we love, celebrating holidays and other events with family and friends, and just being able to meet knew people when walking down the street. So many people have lost loved ones. Many of us have lost mental stability and sanity because of the isolation, and the fact that everything now seems more stressful because the pandemic is always on our minds.

ANONYMOUS JAN 05, 2021 03:56PM

Aidan O

I lost a lot of time management skills. I lost a lot of experiences I also could have had with other people in my company.

BROOKS JAN 05, 2021 03:54PM

I lost a lot of motivation

Ziqi

In person interactions with many friends, seeing each other in school. Being with my friends was what kept me going for school.

LILAH JAN 05, 2021 03:55PM

Lilah

Small daily interactions with strangers or acquaintances that could impact your whole day

What I/we've gained (in 2020)

HAFIZNASIR FEB 06, 2021 12:35PM

penang, malaysia

i've a lot of time to spending with my family such as cooking, watch the movies especially harry potter. i literally enjoyed my day during the lockdown .For me, this pandemic teach us about family relationship. Because everyone were busy like before, and now we're together.

ANONYMOUS JAN 08, 2021 01:56PM

Utako Japan

Management skill

This is because I had to manage time by myself during the Corona break.

I think my organization and time management skills improved during the pandemic as well! – GREG ROSENKRANZ

ANONYMOUS JAN 08, 2021 01:41PM

Emily , Dominican Republic.

I gained many experiences, such as being at home all the time without needing to go out, living more with my family,

ANONYMOUS JAN 08, 2021 08:29AM

Zeynep , Turkey

I gained many useful skills, met various kinds of people and developed relationships. I had time to think what will happen in future and resolve some confusion within me.

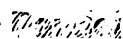
ANONYMOUS JAN 08, 2021 04:32AM

Minha V.P, Kerala, India

I've got a lot of private time to think about myself and what I want to do.And I've done some gardening and felt more connected with nature.Learned the importance of health and how to protect it.Got

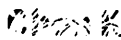
a lot of family times. Found new hobbies to enjoy quarantine. Overall, 2020 have been crazy for me and it taught me a lot of lessons.

ARUN  JAN 08, 2021 03:09AM

Arun 

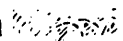
I lost many things but, gained a lot too. I got to know myself better than ever and I got a chance to work on my craft of creating and capturing images, I to hone my Photoshop and Lightroom skills as I worked on it more than ever. Also I got to spend a lot of time with my friends and family, worked on my relationships. As a whole this crazy year was full of growth and progress for me.

NANCHONCHONKYAW  JAN 07, 2021 11:38AM

Nan Chon , Gaygue, Myanmar

On the other side, there are also things that I gained in 2020, like having more time with my family and having time to do my hobby. I gained more private time. Moreover, I also had a chance to connect with people from around the world through online.

ANONYMOUS  JAN 07, 2021 10:25AM

Sana , Japan

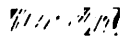
What I have gained is how important face-to-face communication is. When I have to stay home, I lost many opportunities to communicate with friends or teachers, but this experience let me realize the importance and necessity of communication. And I've learned that it is not a natural thing to be able to learn at school, to see my friends or to hang out with them, and to be healthy.

ANONYMOUS  JAN 06, 2021 07:16PM

Nouhaila el, Sale Morocco

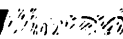
I have gained patience, how to do almost everything by myself, how my family and my friends are important, and finally how to be independent.

ANONYMOUS  JAN 06, 2021 03:36PM

Arun 

The long lockdowns helped me build patience, online classes helped me build self-control, I learnt how constantly being in your mind is good and bad, I realized some of the bad things that I did in the past and made up for it and most of all I gained closer to my family. Also, I learned to respect what I had and not take things for granted.

ANONYMOUS  JAN 06, 2021 09:58AM


Lèja 

I've become closer with my family members and cousins, gained confidence in myself and did a few things that I never knew I could, like learning Japanese language little by little, learned how to enjoy being at home.


REGINA  JAN 05, 2021 03:59PM

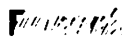
Regina 

a better standing of where we are in respect to the rest of the world, our privilege

ISABELLA  JAN 05, 2021 04:00PM

I've gained so much perspective about the things that really matter, and I've become more grateful for the little things.

GREG  JAN 05, 2021 04:02PM

Greg 

Gained a lot of perspective, so much to be grateful for despite the challenges.

ANONYMOUS  JAN 05, 2021 04:04PM

Rachel 

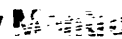
I've gotten even closer to friends, found new virtual things to do together that will be helpful when we're away in college, 2020 drew attention to many issues and causes which I didn't know much about before

BRENDAN MULLEN  JAN 05, 2021 04:00PM

Brendan 

learn the realities of a pandemic, perspective on shared problems

ANONYMOUS  JAN 05, 2021 03:58PM

Andy 


More of an appreciation for the simple things

ANONYMOUS  JAN 05, 2021 03:57PM

Vanessa 

learned to stay positive during hard times

JESSE  JAN 05, 2021 03:56PM

Jesse 

learned a-lot about myself

ANONYMOUS  JAN 05, 2021 03:56PM

Eileen

I learned a lot about myself and I appreciate myself a little more than before.

ANONYMOUS JAN 05, 2021 03:57PM

Aidan O

I gained a lot of technological skills because school has been virtual. I have also gained a lot of sleep because I don't have to embark on the commute to school every morning.

AIDAN C JAN 05, 2021 03:58PM

Aidan C

New perspective on going about my everyday life, an understanding of what I value

GRACE JAN 05, 2021 04:00PM

Grace

- more appreciation for small things (social interaction, not wearing a mask, etc.)
- experience: we saw how the pandemic both brought us together and divided us

TANDIN JAN 05, 2021 03:56PM

Tandin

new hobbies

ADDY! JAN 05, 2021 03:56PM

Addy

A better understanding of myself, my interests, and my aspirations

MIA JAN 05, 2021 03:56PM

mia

new skills that i've wanted to teach myself, a better understanding of myself

DEANNA IRIS JAN 05, 2021 04:03PM

Deanna

understanding of ourselves and our contributions to others; to not take things for granted :)

LILAH C JAN 05, 2021 03:56PM

Lilah

learning how to adapt and adjust to hard situations and how to maintain relationships at the same time

OURANIA JAN 05, 2021 03:57PM

Ourania P

Cognizance of the things I take for granted on a daily basis and the ability to adapt in terms of communication

REGINA JAN 05, 2021 03:55PM

Regina C

an appreciation for mask

DANNY NGUYEN JAN 05, 2021 03:59PM

Danny

a new appreciation for the world around us, better reflection skills, and i've gained my enthusiasm back.. i start college next year!

ANONYMOUS JAN 05, 2021 03:56PM

Jack

Knowledge about ourselves, greater racial awareness and drive for change, a new President and Congress

ANONYMOUS JAN 05, 2021 03:55PM

J

ANONYMOUS JAN 05, 2021 03:57PM

Paola

Understanding just how important friends and friendships are to me and just quality time with others

ANONYMOUS JAN 05, 2021 03:56PM

Elisa

Got to spend more time with my family and learned to appreciate what I have

BROOKS JAN 05, 2021 03:57PM

friends!

also excitement for college

RAYNA JAN 05, 2021 03:54PM

time for hobbies

ZIJI ZHANG JAN 05, 2021 03:56 PM

Ziqi

Reflection, appreciation. More educated and passionate about issues. Care more about what's going on in the world.

DAMON JAN 05, 2021 03:56 PM

Damon

Knowledge

SILVIA GUARINO JAN 05, 2021 03:56 PM

Silvia

The ability to keep myself on track and productive at home

EMMA JAN 05, 2021 03:58 PM

Emma

More social skills in (virtually) reaching out to friends/teachers and communicating

(sec 02) 2020, now in the rear-view mirror, through the lens of 20-20 hindsight!

What I/we have lost, What I/we have gained

JUDI FREEMAN DEC 31, 2020 11:08PM

What I/we've lost (in 2020)

ANONYMOUS FEB 01, 2021 01:00PM

Bivushi , Nepal

There have been many challenges and lost opportunities over 2020. From the simple pleasure of travelling and chatting over coffee with family and friends to the more difficult reality of not being able to friends for long stretches of time. While all students like me are suffering, those who came into the pandemic with the fewest academic opportunities are on track to exit with the greatest learning loss. Though students like me are blessed to learn through online classes but frequent internet interruption and power cut has troubled me a lot.

Let's hope 2021 will be a better year!

ANONYMOUS JAN 28, 2021 10:39PM

Glycel - ang, Philippines

Firstly, I feel like I lost time. Being in quarantine felt like I was stuck in a specific moment. Even if months were passing by, it didn't feel like time passed. Even if my birthday passed, I didn't feel any older 😊. So for most people, I think they also felt the same way, like they were missing out on a life experience that they should have been going through at this moment. Because of the pandemic, they're forced to wait for the vaccines and practice a different way of life (such as switching to online ventures to earn money, work from home etc.). For instance, I am a graduating student and we were supposed to have our prom and graduation this year but the pandemic dictates otherwise. So, even if I go into college, it will feel like something is missing in my highschool life.

ANONYMOUS JAN 14, 2021 10:41AM

Faruk S, Sarajevo, Bosnia & Herzegovina

We've lost quite a few things.

Many people unfortunately lost loved ones. One of my family friends has died of COVID-19.

We've lost many of our liberties that most of us took for granted - including myself.

Unemployment has skyrocketed worldwide as well as civil unrest.

There are probably those who lost hope...

ANONYMOUS JAN 13, 2021 08:19PM

Saeed , Lebanon



Hi guys, in 2020 we all lost a lot of valuable things basically because of COVID-19. I lost the good times going out with my friends. Some of the beloved ones lost their lives. Not to mention how we lost our society's normality. Also, we are facing here an economic crisis. A lot of people lost their jobs due to lockdowns and economic conditions.

MAURO  JAN 11, 2021 06:58PM

MAURO FROM ECUADOR

Many people claim that last year was hard. On my opinion it is true because many people lost family, and the economy was bad. First of all, last year I lost family for example, I lost my grandmother, and it was so hard because she was so important to me. And many people died around the world. Furthermore, the economy was bad for example, in my country many people lost their jobs, and in Ecuador increased food prices. Finally, I think that last year was bad, but I hope next year would be better.



PAING   JAN 09, 2021 08:56AM

2020 is a challenging year for all around the world. Everything was different and difficult too. Moreover, We all lost our hopes and dreams. I always had a plan for what I'll do in the next year but when it comes to 2020, everything is gone. People lost their jobs. Some lost their beloved ones and my best friend's grandpa was gone last October. We all were full of sorrow because of the isolated cases.

ANONYMOUS   JAN 08, 2021 02:57PM

2020

I think in 2020 we lost "normality". The whole situation was new for everyone. Suddenly everything was different and things we were so used to do every day weren't possible any more. Some people lost their jobs, some lost a family member, friend or loved one and some lost hope. I think it has been a very tough year for most people and we never thought it could be that challenging.

I agree! Who are you and where are you writing from?
— JUDI FREEMAN

ANONYMOUS   JAN 08, 2021 02:55PM

Florence from Rwanda

People have lost life expectancy because everyone is feeling disguised about covid 19. People are also feeling discouraged in their jobs.

TIFFANY   JAN 06, 2021 05:38PM

Tiffany D, Boston, MA USA

In 2020, we lost jobs, hope for the future, and our trust in government officials (seeing how they dealt with the pandemic).

Most importantly, people lost loved ones and felt pain for those that fell victim to the virus. Our daily routines were also lost amidst this pandemic, but replaced with modified ones that kept people around us safe.

ANONYMOUS   JAN 06, 2021 05:36PM

Maya , Boston MA

We've lost a lot of motivation amongst citizens, school-wise and job-wise because of the pandemic and what it has done to the everyday person. Many have also lost faith in the government, considering how the pandemic is being handled and just how Trump acts in general.

KYRA   JAN 06, 2021 05:41PM

Kyra , Boston, MA

It feels like 2020 was full of loss for a lot of reasons. The pandemic, as well as the deaths of many prominent celebrities and governmental figures. For me, it was really really hard to find silver linings. My parents are both immunocompromised so I didn't really go anywhere or do anything until recently. Due to attending a lot of funerals right before the pandemic revved up, we were quarantined for a while. I've also been dealing with a lot of personal stress through this year. I briefly had a cat, who got hit by a car after a few months, which really is very 2020. I hate to be so negative, but 2020 really just felt like being kicked when you were down.

ZIANE   JAN 06, 2021 05:37PM

Ziane , Boston, MA, USA

Looking back at 2020, I realize the world lost a lot of people, jobs, ways of life, and some sanity. For many, their losses are tangible: they lost their sources of income and loved ones. Others (myself included), lost a sense of excitement that usually comes with seasonal shifts (I'm referring to that carefree summer feeling). I also lost control of my time on screens. We all miss the little moments greeting our friends in the halls.

NATALIE   JAN 06, 2021 05:36PM

Natalie , Boston USA.

The amount of loss the world has gone through in 2020 is immense. I will go broad first, with the losses of many celebrities such as Kobe Bryant and Chadwick Boseman, both incredible people who inspired so many others. I was devastated when I learned of their passing. Moving more personal, this pandemic has taken away something I've always considered my saving grace, socialization and my friends. At one point, it was the only thing keeping me going, the only thing that made me keep trying in school and such. Not being around other people and being trapped indoors really really hurt my mental health, and I still struggle to this day to find the willpower to do things to better myself such as

homework and self-care. I won't go too in-depth, but it really hurt me mentally, being isolated.

OLIVIA B... JAN 06, 2021 05:39PM

Olivia B..., Boston, MA

I think that, like many others have said, we have lost a lot of public figures such as celebrities or political figures like Ruth Bader Ginsburg and because of that a lot of people lost those they look up to. I also think that due to Covid, I have lost a lot of potential experiences I could have had having to stay home for so long. The country as a whole has devastatingly lost many people to covid.

VINCENT ... JAN 06, 2021 05:35PM

Vincent ..., Boston, USA

In 2020, we've lost a lot of lives and time. Many celebrities passed away this year like Kobe and Alex Trebek. Kobe is one of the greatest basketball players to ever play the game. Alex Trebek hosted Jeopardy!, one of my favorite shows. These two men shaped a lot of people into who they are today. Kobe was an inspiration to all kids who wanted to be professional athletes. Alex Trebek shared knowledge in a fun and engaging way.

What happened to Kobe--heartbreaking...it seems like a century ago, right? And it was January 2020. – JUDI FREEMAN

ANONYMOUS JAN 06, 2021 05:35PM

Chrisitan ..., Boston, USA

One thing I feel as though a lot of people around the US have lost is their sense of community as well as unity. Not only have we lost the ability to freely convene with each other, however through efforts of different communities to solve racial problems, there has been further divide in communities. One thing I feel I have lost personally is my sense of value and what is important to me. After passing everyday methodically, nothing really feels different or important anymore, a lot of things feel like they're one big mush of activities, which has caused me to lose a lot of motivation to complete somethings.

ALLISON ... JAN 06, 2021 05:35PM

Ally ..., Boston, MA, USA

2020 was a very difficult year because of the pandemic and all the horrible things that had happened in this year. I lost my sense of reality because my daily life routines were extremely altered due to quarantine. I also lost my social interactions at school and extracurriculars that helped distract me from the stress and kept me happy. I felt I lost my main source of happiness, my friends. Although we FaceTime and text, it's not the same as in person.

ANONYMOUS JAN 06, 2021 05:34PM

Olivia T..., Boston, MA, USA

2020 has been a tough year for everyone in more ways than I can even count. Covid negatively impacted so many people's lives, and so many people lost their jobs or other important things in their day to day life. I think that besides the pandemic what we have lost most in 2020 is our outlook on life. Over the course of 2020 I found it very hard to be optimistic or hopeful as everything seemed to go wrong. Overall 2020 was filled with sadness, loss, and stress.

ANONYMOUS JAN 06, 2021 05:35PM

Isabella ..., Boston, MA, USA

In 2020, we lost many lives, many social aspects of our lives, trust in politicians and other leaders, and so much more. Many people lost their jobs or loved ones. In a time when we needed leaders to step up, many of them failed to do so. People not only lost trust in politicians, but many lost trust in their peers.

ANONYMOUS JAN 06, 2021 05:41PM

Thanh ..., Boston, MA, USA

Since the virus began to spread and continued to affect everyone globally, I can say with certainty that we lost many of the social interactions and norms with each other. We also lost a lot of trust and hope in the government as videos of police brutality and abuse of power surface the internet as spread around to users all over the world to see. We lost hope in the government (specifically the US government) due to its lack of concern for the people and lack of ability to protect the citizens from a pandemic. We also lost people and motivation.

ANONYMOUS JAN 06, 2021 05:37PM

Maggie ..., Boston, MA, USA

This year we have lost countless lives, many to Covid, but many to other causes. We have also lost in person connection and many of the best parts of our everyday lives that we took for granted. We have lost the chance to go learn and experience high school in person. Now it is so much harder to see friends and relatives, and when we are able to it is at a distance. We have also lost trust in our government and democracy and in many circumstances we have lost hope elsewhere.

ANONYMOUS JAN 06, 2021 05:35PM

Hailey ..., Boston, MA, USA

In 2020, the world has lost many many lives due to the pandemic. We also lost our normal way of living, everything has transitioned online and it is a risk to even step out of your homes. I lost the end of my junior year and my senior year, which isn't that big of a deal when you step back and look at all of the things other people have lost. In the United States people have lost their jobs/ their income which has left them fighting for their homes and for bare necessities.

EMILY H. BOSTON JAN 06, 2021 05:38 PM

Emily H, Boston, MA, USA

In 2020, we have lost over a million people to COVID. Because of this global pandemic, many people have lost their homes, their jobs, and their time spent with their loved ones. With so many important events that have happened in 2020, the United States has lost a lot of trust and respect towards the government. Although a lot of great changes are about to happen to happen in 2021, 2020 marks a very important time in history.

ANONYMOUS JAN 06, 2021 05:38 PM

Shuwen [redacted], Boston, MA, USA

In 2020, we've a lot of lives world wide. Covid has taken the lives of millions. I believe that especially in the U.S. , many lives could have been saved if more action was taken earlier. Due to quarantine, people's mental health has also taken a tow.

SAUL [redacted] JAN 06, 2021 05:39 PM

Saul [redacted], Boston, MA, USA

There are obviously many things our society lost in 2020 and I doubt we will ever be the same. Obviously, there are the hundreds of thousands of people who have died to COVID-19, but also there are so many more who have been permanently affected by the virus. Of course, aside from COVID-19, there were many influencers and great people that were lost throughout this year such as Kobe Bryant and Chadwick Boseman. I, myself, can't really compare the the very little I lost throughout 2020 compared to those who are in worse positions than me. Worst case scenario, I lost the opportunity to be a CIT at my camp and contact with a bunch of friends from the disappearance of in-person school. However, I really don't feel that inconvenienced by anything that happened to me last year.

ANONYMOUS JAN 06, 2021 05:34 PM

Christopher [redacted], Boston, USA

I think as a whole we've lost many things in 2020. The most important thing many of us have lost in 2020 are family members. The pandemic has took the lives of many of our loved ones. We've also lost our normal lives. Many have lost their jobs and are continuing to struggle financially.

ANONYMOUS JAN 06, 2021 05:34 PM

Megan [redacted], Boston, MA, USA

In 2020, personally I lost a lot of motivation in school-wise and just general. Back in March when school was still in person I got used to my busy schedule and when we went on lockdown it was hard to feel motivated with nothing to do. As a society I think we have lost many great leaders like Ruth Bader Ginsburg. 2020 has been a year of great loss, with the passing of many due to COVID and the loss of many leaders who strived to move society forward.

ANONYMOUS JAN 06, 2021 05:29 PM

Myers [redacted], Boston, MA, USA

Overall I believe that we lost more than I gained in 2020 as it was the worst year in many years. One thing we lost this year was we lost Kobe Bryant and Chadwick Boseman. These two were some of the most beloved celebrities at the time as Kobe was an all time great basketball player while Chadwick was a very memorable actor who played roles like Black Panther. Another thing that we lost was many people due to covid and to add on we also lost much time to be with friends and other people due to quarantine. Lastly, the biggest thing I completely lost was respect for our nation as the government as a whole handled this pandemic horribly as the large numbers of cases and deaths could've been prevented with stricter policies on covid.

ANONYMOUS JAN 06, 2021 03:41 PM

Diana D, Boston, MA, USA

Collectively, we lost more than we gained during 2020. We lost amazing public figures such as Kobe Bryant and Chadwick Boseman. We lost millions of people worldwide due to COVID. We lost (more) respect for political leaders who showed their true colors within their COVID responses. And in a way, we lost touch with one another. We lost the connections we had built when we could see each other smile. When my grandma passed back in April (not COVID-related), she was all alone in her hospital room. I wish my family had the chance to say goodbye, but COVID guidelines did not allow that. That was one of the biggest moments that I lost to the circumstances of 2020. Although the list could go on perennally, there is no doubt that 2020 was a year of exponential growth. Yes, our world fell to its knees, but I am sure that we will see some better days in 2021.

PATTY [redacted] JAN 06, 2021 02:32 PM

Patty H, Boston, MA, USA

In 2020, we've lost countless lives due to the pandemic in addition to great leaders that many of us looked up to. We've also lost our "old" way of life because things will never be the same after COVID ends. Finally, it can be safe to say that we've lost trust in our institutions and our leading figures as their past actions have shown the lack of ability in leading our nation.

EMMANUELLE [redacted] JAN 06, 2021 01:54 PM

Emmanuelle, Boston, MA, USA

In 2020 there have been so many lives lost, whether it be to COVID or police brutality or suicide. I think we have also lost our old way of life that probably wont come back for a while or ever even. I personally have lost trust and faith in the democratic system in this country due to the way that Trump has been acting for the past four years, but especially this year and during the election. We have also lost so many interpersonal connections because we

can't see most people everyday like we used to. we are now stuck to saying hi through masks and from distances.

JASMINE / 2021 JAN 06, 2021 05:38AM

Jasmine / 2021, Boston, MA, USA

In 2020, the world has lost millions of lives from COVID and other causes. It seems like everyone has had to say goodbye to someone this year, including me. Some people may have lost some faith in humanity unfortunately (others may have gained some faith as well though). I think I also lost some ignorance of believing in the effectiveness and justness of some systems (which is not a bad thing because I was gaining awareness). People have lost jobs, family and friends, security, safety. 2020 has definitely been a year of tremendous loss for a lot of people.

LUKAS / 2021 JAN 06, 2021 03:42AM

Lukas / 2021, Boston USA

We've lost so many lives this year. All the lives lost from COVID-19. We've also lost leaders and fighters for justice, along with victims of injustice. Many have lost family members and friends. I found myself losing a sense of control this year, having to somehow accept that things will never be the same after it. We've lost whatever "normal" used to mean to everyone. Some of us have lost our minds. I've lost connections, failing to keep in touch with as many people online as I would have otherwise. Many people have lost a sense of purpose or hope. We've definitely lost trust in our government and in our systems. Similarly, our country, leading up to 2020 and then reaching what I would consider a peak, has become so polarized that we've lost track of unity.

NAYELI / 2021 JAN 06, 2021 01:12AM

Nayeli / 2021, Boston USA

Throughout the course of 2020 I can say that as a global community we have lost the very systems and interactions we relied on in our daily lives. We were forced to give up in person interactions, the ability to see loved ones and to live "normally". We've lost trust in our government and its ability to protect citizens from an outbreak and make competent decisions and we've lost faith in the systems that were supposed to protect us like the police or the judicial system. Personally I've lost people to covid and to other health reasons while simultaneously trying to learn alongside my peers about how to learn virtually and keep up with the never ending stream of work.

MAIA / 2021 JAN 06, 2021 05:35PM

Maia / 2021, Boston, USA

We've lost a lot of our societal practices and norms through COVID. Along with COVID, we lost countless lives relating to and not relating to the disease, some not relating to being Kobe

Bryant, Chadwick Bozeman, and Ruth Bader Ginsburg. We have also lost respect for groups of people through human rights issues such as police brutality. In addition we have lost a lot of trust in our government through how things this year were handled and issues with alleged voter fraud draws questioning to our judicial system and our politicians.

What I/we've gained (in 2020)

ANONYMOUS FEB 01, 2021 12:36PM

Bivushi / 2021, Nepal

What I've gained is greater resilience in the face of this uncertainty. I have learned to embrace all the new opportunities that can come from unexpected change. Another most important thing I've learned is while we're in isolation is to take care of myself and my family. Hence, I learnt to be happy and positive for everything around me because everything doesn't have to be perfect in life for us to be happy and to appreciate ourselves and everything around us. We just have to be grateful.

ANONYMOUS JAN 28, 2021 10:43PM

Glycel / 2021, Philippines

Just like how the pandemic stole the time we wanted, it gave us back the time that we needed. I felt like I was able to understand myself more. Normally, I would be too occupied with school work but with the pandemic, I didn't know that this much extra time existed. I was able to get to know my family as I was seeing them 24/7. I also think that this needed time helped remind people how to adjust. We've been stuck in the same cycle for a long time that pandemic seemed like a huge turn around for everyone. The time taught us about life's untemporaries and necessities.

ANONYMOUS JAN 21, 2021 05:04PM

Paarth A, India, Haryana

For me, the year has been more positive, and a learning year. It taught me the unpredictability of life, and the fact that we can never be static - we must adapt at every step of our life. It has given me the chance to be with myself, to take a break from hectic schedules and focus on my physical and mental health, and to relax and spend time with friends and family. I will never forget how important people around us can be, especially in times of adversity. It has made digital life boom and edge into aspects like schooling in ways it never was before. I think this is a step in the right direction as the future is in Computers and Artificial Intelligence, and it is also the field which interests me the most. The final and maybe the most important thing is that mankind should never push nature to its limits, or it will find a way of fighting back.

ANONYMOUS JAN 14, 2021 10:47AM

Faruk S, Sarajevo, Bosnia & Herzegovina

While we've lost many things, we should look at the positive side of things since we're stuck with this situation for as long as it lasts - so we might as well make the best of it.

I tried to do that and I feel like I've succeeded to a certain extent.

I got to spend more time with my family.

I've also had more time to catch up on some reading.

I discovered new music.

Above all I learned to appreciate what we lost. Only now I appreciate life without masks, social distancing, curfews, constant risk etc. I appreciate it now because I could never have imagined that I would live to see a pandemic.

Had someone told me only a few years ago that I would live to see this I wouldn't have believed them.

ANONYMOUS JAN 13, 2021 08:24PM

Saeed , Lebanon

The only thing all the people gained in 2020 is some weight. But i got the courage to start learning a third language and get more educated in online business . Moreover, i improved my computer skills . And i tried different routine through lockdown

MAURO QUIZHPE JAN 11, 2021 06:58PM

MAURO . FROM ECUADOR

On my opinion last year we won many things. We spent more time with our family. Also, I improved in my study.

First of all, I spent more time with my family because my mother was all the time at home, and I think that many families were together last year.

Also, we developed new habilities, for example I learned to cook, and I learned to play guitar.

Furthermore, I improved in my studies. For example, last year I stududied hard because I was at home all the time and I read a lot so , I had good grades.

Finally, I think that God is the unique that have the control, and I always pray with my family. I hope this year would be better.



PAINC  JAN 09, 2021 08:57AM

It was also a good year for me. I was always swamped with my studies all the time but when it came to 2020, everything in my life had changed. First, I felt disappointed because I had to live at home for a long time. On the other hand, I had a much private time with my family. I also realized that I should take care of myself because I used to eat instant food before the year 2020. I met many good people too. One thing that I got as a lesson from 2020 is that never feel hesitate to thank someone who did something good though it's small or not

ANONYMOUS JAN 08, 2021 03:22PM

Florence from Rwanda

To save goods and money for the future is a lesson gained. To encourage use of technology in communication because in lockdown it was the only way to meet friends and relatives. To adopt technology in education.

ANONYMOUS JAN 08, 2021 02:58PM

2020

I think that there were also some good points. Of course the general situation wasn't good but we had in some way the chance to make the best out of it. We had more time for our families. We learned to appreciate small things. We stared new challenges for ourselves if it was working out more or cooking or anything. We learned new skills and maybe got to know ourselves better.

Hi! Who are you and where are you writing from? – JUDI FREEMAN

ANONYMOUS JAN 08, 2021 03:00PM

To believe in God as a superpower.

To save money for the future.

To use social media so as to connect to the relative and friend who are far from one'shome

ANONYMOUS JAN 08, 2021 02:17PM

Nahna Pc, India, Kerala

In 2020, I was able to spend more time with my family and loved ones. I understood the importance of relationships. I realised importance of many people in my life in 2020 when this pandemic kept me away from them. I was able to invest time on my hobbies. The year 2020 was a mixture of sadness and happiness for me.

TIFFANY T. T. JAN 06, 2021 05:44PM

Tiffany D, Boston, USA

For me personally, I believe I gained a stronger understanding of relationships and how necessary connection between others is. As hard as 2020 may have been, I believe the social distancing ironically brought communities of people together. It's amazing to see how people are able to work together to help others through this difficult time.

ZIANE Z. Z. JAN 06, 2021 05:40PM

Ziane Z. Z., Boston, MA, USA

In 2020 we all gained more self-awareness. I appreciate the sense of global unity that citizens have with one another.

SAUL S. S. JAN 06, 2021 05:42PM

Saul S. S., Boston, MA, USA

I really have to struggle to find anything our world gained last year because it has so easily been overshadowed by the magnitude of what we lost last year. That's not to say I didn't gain anything. I believe whatever we gained was on the individual level, and I think I did gain a little bit in 2020, such as stronger family connections and bonds with many people I hadn't met last year through my online hobbies.

EMILY E. E. JAN 06, 2021 05:39PM

Emily H, Boston, MA, USA

With everything going virtual in 2020, we have gained a way to communicate and unite through numerous platforms. Even when the circumstances were unfavorable, a great movement happened in 2020. Although most people were quarantined at home, we all have learned the importance of mental health and self care while being by ourself. We have learned to value the time we get to spend with family and friends.

ANONYMOUS JAN 06, 2021 05:36PM

Maya M. M., Boston MA

More was definitely lost than gained in 2020, but there were some positives. Many people gained a stronger bond with their families during quarantine because of how much time was spent together, many took up new hobbies just to have something to do, and many gained more insight in political issues as they became more prominent in our society.

ANONYMOUS JAN 06, 2021 05:39PM

Hailey H. H., Boston, MA, USA

In 2020 we have gained a lot. We have gained the experience of the pandemic and a shift in the way we live. We have gained a lot of perspective on how people treat each other; the pandemic has shown us how some are very selfish and some people are very empathetic and selfless. In 2020, I gained 3 baby cousins. I reconnected with some old friends in 2020 as well as gaining some new ones. I have also gained time with my family to bond with my siblings. My sister has become one of my best friends because of the quarantine.

VINCENT V. V. JAN 06, 2021 05:39PM

Vincent V. V., Boston, USA

Although we lost a lot in 2020, we gained a greater respect for the sacrifices made by essential workers. I got closer with my family as we were all stuck in the house together for several months. I've also begun to appreciate the smaller things in life that I had previously taken for granted. I miss hanging out with my friends and listening to music on my daily train ride from school.

ALLISON A. A. JAN 06, 2021 05:38PM

Ally A. A., Boston, MA, USA

Although I felt I lost more in 2020, I also gained some. I gained more appreciation for the little things I would take for granted or hate during times when we were not in quarantine. I also gained more appreciation for my family and friends and I felt I grew closer with them. Also we gained more hope for a better future with the Black Lives Matter movement and the fight against injustices.

ANONYMOUS JAN 06, 2021 05:39PM

Isabella I. I., Boston, MA, USA

In 2020, we have become more aware of many things around us and we have learned to appreciate things that we did not before. There is more of a spotlight on political justice and inequality now than there has been in a long time. There is an increased pressure to make serious changes. Through our loss of most social interactions, we have gained a new appreciation of the way life used to be. Personally, I think I have become more aware. This year has been a wake up call and has really put things into perspective.

NATALIE N. N. JAN 06, 2021 05:39PM

Natalie [REDACTED], Boston USA.

2020 was a difficult time for many, but one thing we have certainly gained in 2020 is backbone and ground in the fight for social justice. With the murder of George Floyd, and the subsequent riots and protests, this country has been forced to acknowledge the injustice that the people of color in this country face, at the hands of the very people meant to protect them (the police). I would certainly say that this battle is not over, it has just begun, but massive progress and outreach was made. Another thing that we have gained is voting out Donald Trump, one of the worst presidents in my opinion (the running is tough). There are other things I could name, but in the interest of time I will leave it here.

ANONYMOUS JAN 06, 2021 05:48PM

Maggie [REDACTED], Boston, MA, USA

Although I think we have lost more than we have gained in 2020 there have been a few positives. I have been able to spend more time with my immediate family and I have also discovered new hobbies. I have also been able to reach out to old friends. I have had the chance to learn more about how I work without the structure of school and I have learned much more about the injustice and inequities in our country. As a country I think that we have lost so much this year, but in many ways we have also gained a greater sense of empathy and a chance for action.

ANONYMOUS JAN 06, 2021 05:39PM

Christopher [REDACTED], Boston, USA

In 2020 we have also gained many things. For the USA, we have gained a new president who will probably unite the country together more than ever in the last 4 years. For a few other millions, people took advantage of the discounted stock prices and made huge profits. Furthermore, I think a lot of people have been more educated on climate change this year. With the forest fires last year, I think people are slowly becoming more educated in regards to the environment.

ANONYMOUS JAN 06, 2021 05:38PM

Olivia [REDACTED], Boston, MA, USA

Though we have all lost many things in 2020 I think that the only way to move forward is to try and see what we have gained. So many people found new hobbies, new ways to connect online, and an opportunity to make changes in their life that they had been avoiding. For myself I think that 2020 has allowed me to learn so much more about myself than I ever did before, being separated from friends and family really pushed me to discover who I am on my own without others influences. Although the losses of 2020 greatly outweigh the gains I do not think I would be anywhere close to the person who I am today without going through such a monumental year.

ANONYMOUS JAN 06, 2021 05:38PM

Megan [REDACTED], Boston, MA, USA

In 2020, I think we as a society have gained a lot more information about COVID and how to prevent the spread throughout the year. Recently we have gained the vaccine which will limit the spread of COVID. Personally, I think I've gained a greater sense of who I am and my personality since i have so much time to think and be alone, which I am very thankful for. In school, I didn't have a lot of time to myself but now with a lot of freetime, I am able to do things for myself.

ANONYMOUS JAN 06, 2021 05:39PM

Shuwen [REDACTED], Boston, MA, USA

Even though 2020 was a hard, I still learned a lot. I became more aware of issues surrounding our society. I also learned to adapt to transition school and work online. 2020 provided me with the opportunity to understand my body better and helped me realize the importance of the people around me.

ANONYMOUS JAN 06, 2021 05:42PM

Thanh [REDACTED], Boston, MA, USA

We gained the ability to adapt to our quarantined spaces while still maintaining social interactions with peers and our work/school life. We also gained a lot of fear of the virus or uncleanliness in general and fear of authority figures and big corporations. gained a lot of knowledge on issues relating race, human rights, corporations, and global issues. I also gained more consciousness of my identity (specifically gender) and learned more about myself.

ANONYMOUS JAN 06, 2021 05:39PM

Tia [REDACTED], Boston, MA

Despite all the hardships and chaos this year, I think I've also learned a lot and some good came out of quarantine. I've taken up hobbies that I wouldn't have paid any attention to if I had not had the free time we got at home such as picking up piano again, reading for pleasure, and painting. I have also gotten closer to my brother and parents since we have spent so much time together. An important subject I also think I have gained knowledge on are social issues. I have become more aware and involved in these matters.

Me too, Tia! — JUDI FREEMAN

Though I still want to learn to knit (I'm an old lady!) — JUDI FREEMAN

KYRA [REDACTED] JAN 06, 2021 05:33PM

Kyra [REDACTED], Boston, MA

Personally, 2020 was really bad for me, and I honestly don't think I "gained" much. As a whole, people were able to come together within their communities and we got to start new things that will continue to help pass the pandemic-- like mutual aid.

ANONYMOUS JAN 06, 2021 05:32PM

Myers, Boston, MA, USA

Personally this year as bad as it was I think that I gained a few things that will help me throughout my life. One was my license which was earned in December and the month before I gained my poodle Kimchi. Lastly, the main thing I gained this year was a ton of self awareness about how our world is, for example, more awareness on politics. Overall, I believe that I matured drastically compared to the start of 2020.

Pictures of Kimchi? — JUDI FREEMAN

ANONYMOUS JAN 06, 2021 03:49PM

Diana D, Boston, MA, USA

Despite being a train wreck, 2020 gave us all an experience that we will likely never see again. During quarantine, we spent ample time alone with ourselves. We picked up new hobbies, new interests, and so forth. I personally gained a deeper sense of self-awareness and confidence, and I can only hope that others did as well. We have also become a lot more cognizant of topics such as public safety/health (thanks, COVID), and the importance of our votes during the election. Although this was a foreign experience for all of us, COVID granted us unforgettable lessons and chances for deeper introspection.

I keep hearing that people gained confidence during this period which I think is awesome. — JUDI FREEMAN

PATTY JAN 06, 2021 02:30PM

Patty H, Boston, MA, USA

In 2020, I've gained a greater appreciation for the little things in life that we took for granted pre-COVID. I've realized how important human connection is and now miss the small things we did everyday, whether it was going to the movies or dining outside. I've also gained a deeper understanding of issues within our country and learned to use my voice more often.

It's sad how we all took those little things for granted...but at least we will come out of this pandemic with a new perspective and appreciation. — DIANA DIEP

EBOGOMOL JAN 06, 2021 01:51PM

Emmanuelle, Boston, MA, USA

I think that in 2020 for starters the United States has gained a huge divide between the two parties or opinions in the country. I also think the world has gained a bit of harsh reality, and realizing that everything can change at any moment. Personally, I have gained more caution when it comes to health, due to the coronavirus. I think some areas and communities have gained unity, but on small levels.

Jasmine, Boston, MA, USA

In 2020 our society has hopefully gained more empathy and understanding for people not like ourselves. Personally, I gained more knowledge of certain issues, and better understanding of different circumstances and perspectives. I gained a better appreciation for things that were considered "normal" before COVID, but also more anxiety about the world. On a more positive note, I gained work experience which was new, and some closer relationships with friends, in part because of the specific circumstances of the year.

LUKAS JAN 06, 2021 03:43AM

Lukas, Boston USA

Personally, I gained a clear sense of who I am and what's really important to me. Partly as a result of all the bad things that went down in 2020, I gained a lot of knowledge about social issues going on right in front of my eyes. I gained an understanding of why I hadn't been aware of these things before. We've all gained a new way of communicating with each other and a new way of working around difficult situations COVID has presented. Our country has gained a new president, and with vaccines rolling out, we've gained at least a slight sense of hope for this new year.

When we look back, I think that this will prove to be universally true because so many people had the time to reflect on that and listen much more closely than they had previously. Maybe that's a lesson for the future...we need to deal with all the distractions and focus on the important stuff. — JUDI FREEMAN

NAYELI JAN 06, 2021 01:21AM

Nayei, Boston USA

In 2020 I think I can accurately say that I gained more than I lost, despite the fact its probably was the hardest year I've ever had. I alongside many of my peers gained tremendous amounts of knowledge on race related issues, the environment, human rights, as well as global issues. We've learned how to form communities and spaces that transcend the boundaries of the rooms and homes we were trapped in for the pandemic and stay connected through it all. We've learned how appreciate the small things in ife because we never know when they can be taken away. We've also gained fears about both the world and our country's future and at times even our own.

MAIA JAN 06, 2021 05:33PM

Maia, Boston, USA

I think through the pandemic, we've gained a new sense of what's important to us and a new sense of unity through the whole world being put through something together. We also gained a sense of gratitude for everyday things especially before the virus that we overlooked such as the freedom to hang out in large groups. In

addition, however, we gained a sense of fear in the distribution of others' germs and an understanding of just how much they can affect us. Another fear we gained is the hateful beliefs that members in our society have through seeing them in speech and in violence. To counteract this, we have also gained a sense of purpose, the need to stand up for others, to stay up to date with current events, and be vocal with our beliefs and use our freedom

of speech to voice the many injustices we have been noticing in our world and in our year. More personally, I have gained a closer relationship to my family and some of my close friends and new friends.

(sec 03) 2020, now in the rear-view mirror, through the lens of 20-20 hindsight!

What I/we have lost, What I/we have gained

JUDI FREEMAN DEC 31, 2020 11:10PM

What I/we've lost (in 2020)

ANONYMOUS JAN 27, 2021 03:07PM

Afreen Parakkal, Kerala, India

2020 wasn't chaotic. Like every year it too had pros and cons but in a greater intensity. It was the last year of my school as I am in 12th standard. It was a great loss for me as far as I'm concerned. A great bundle of memories is lost. After some years if I think about my 12th life...my mind would be blank because the memories are just of online classes. As a Science student I wasn't able to do experiments with chemicals in my school until Feb 2021. Lighter moments with friend and teachers were a great missing. I'm a person who loves to explore the world through different angles. But 2020 didn't give me a chance to fulfill that dream of mine.. But a ray of hope is there that 2021 would help me to give life to my dreams.

ANONYMOUS JAN 12, 2021 04:38AM

Tanvi Khatkar, Haryana, India

The year 2020 was a difficult one. Rather, it was a different one. Thinking about the number of times we have heard the term unprecedented makes us all smile. I believe we have lost many things in the year 2020. Some of them were materialistic, some were intangible. Thinking about the world as a whole, I believe that we have most certainly lost the feeling of taking things for granted, the feeling of not appreciating the gifts God has given us and most importantly, the feeling of not staying strong in the times of adversities. To mention the tangible, worldly things we have lost is also noteworthy. Many celebrities have passed away, many close friends and relatives have lost their lives to the coronavirus or some other illness or tragedy. However, 2020 has taught me to not count the items, people and things we have lost, rather appreciate all that we have.

ANONYMOUS JAN 10, 2021 08:38PM

Beatriz Pereira, Portugal

Besides the positivity, 2020 brought a lot of sadness and loss. I couldn't see my grandparents for a long time which hurt me

because I was used to be with them everyday, although I know it was safer and for their benefit.

My friends and I were together everyday during and after school and during quarantine we lost a lot of good moments that we could have had.

As a society we lost a huge amount of lives, the economies of every country were severely affected and the idea of interpersonal connections will never be the same.

ANONYMOUS JAN 10, 2021 06:57PM

Pranav Singh, Haryana, India

Lost- I've lost that feeling of talking to another person other than my family. Going to school and meeting friends, having fun, playing around etc. I lost a very dear family member. Lost that sense of time and going outside.

ANONYMOUS JAN 09, 2021 12:29PM

Hnin Myint, Myanmar, Ayeyarwady, Gaygue

2020 was a really hard and harsh year not only for me but also for everyone. I lost my precious time with my friends. I lost my chances of traveling places. Sometimes, I even felt hopeless. Luckily, I didn't lose any close family members. It is enough for me. I am also sorry to those who lost your close family members. The sun always shines after the storm. I believe this 2021 will be better and brighter for everyone.

ANONYMOUS JAN 07, 2021 05:56PM

Hadeel Al-Hajj, Lebanon, Tyre

2020 was really a hard and vicious year for everyone around the world. What I've lost in this year is time and my normal routine including going to school everyday, meeting my close friends and doing some school activities such as projects with schoolmates. Also, as a country, we've lost many lives not just because of Corona, this rough virus, but also because of "Beirut Port Explosion". Moreover, the economic situation increased everyone's misery.

ANONYMOUS JAN 07, 2021 03:34 AM

2020 was really a hard and vicious year for everyone around the world. What I've lost in this year is time and my normal routine including going to school everyday, meeting my close friends and doing some school activities such as projects with schoolmates . Also, as a country, we lost many lives not just because of Corona, this rough virus, but also because of "Beirut Port Explosion " . Moreover, the economic situation increased everyone's misery.

ANONYMOUS JAN 07, 2021 03:34 AM

Antonia V, Australia

I have been in the fortunate position to not lose a close family member, however have lost a lot of time and connections with friends and family. I have grown apart with many of my closest friends throughout isolation and it is quite sad to see each other drift apart. I have also lost a lot of sporting opportunities, which i feel guilty complaining about, but it is still something that i have lost. I hope that in 2021 we can all make up for that lost time and opportunities that were taken away from us last year.

DIANA CAYLA JAN 06, 2021 11:50 PM

Diana Cayla, Ecuador.

I think last year everyone lost time. Time with our friends, our family, time to do what we wanted to and time in our lives. I lost time and I lost somebody too. For who lost somebody too, I'm so sorry. Last year snatched us everything, unless that's how I feel. Last year I lost any motivation and my energy for everything and everyone. Last year I wasn't able to think of myself and anyone else. I threw my daily activities in the trash and I lost my discipline to make everything. In other words, last year broke me down. It seems look better when I hear is not just me who feels like that. But stills being the same. I'm glad for who didn't lost somebody and still keeping up. Please keep going and try to be the most happily you could never be.

ANONYMOUS JAN 06, 2021 08:28 PM

Jasmin, Austria

I wasn't able to attend orchestra rehearsals, I wasn't allowed to visit my friends, I couldn't attend athletics training either. I nearly "lost" my best friend, the only person I truly trust and I wasn't really able to escape the arguments at home so my mental health has definitely declined. But looking back it's not as bad as it could've been, I didn't lose any family members and I was still able to work during the summer holidays. Still, it was hard to find motivation to get up in the mornings.

ANONYMOUS JAN 06, 2021 07:51 PM

Valeri

This year was special to me and I think it was for a lot of teenagers too. I lost a sense of what school is, since for the first couple of months we didn't had any online lessons, nor a efficient way to communicate with the rest of the school. After some time, we finally started to partially attending some of the school's programmes, however, despite that in time it all got better, nothing felt right, nothing benefited us, and I'm sure as many of you already know, how incredibly awful Zoom calls can be for an ordinary student to learn is. If they start participating, they might get targeted by the teacher to respond in the questions they ask, since the rest of the 20 or so students will not even bother to open their microphone or camera, and so on.

Now that's just for school. Although I'd love to talk about the story of my life for this year, it all comes down to personal issues, so I'm not going to bore you with the whole story, probably because I haven't myself figured out how exactly the year went by. Just, that I did a lot of identity finding, and really, I mean really, took my own personal time to understand my life, even if it was in horrible conditions inside the home with a pandemic in my country.

LOLITA JAN 06, 2021 02:57 PM

In 2020, I feel like I lost a very important part of my life. Seeing friends, going out, having fun, making memories. It all vanished when the pandemic started. Whenever I talk to my family, they say that the later years in were the most memorable, and they feel bad that our generation is going through such solitude. I've lost friends (both through Covid and because of loss of contact.)

ANDERSON JAN 06, 2021 02:55 PM

Anderson

In 2020, due to covid I lost a few family members, causing me to lose some of my sanity, and putting me in dark place for a while.

GIAN JAN 06, 2021 02:55 PM

Gian

In 2020 I lost some family members unfortunately, and I also lost a bit of touch with reality as the beginning of quarantine was very mentally draining (but ofc, it is slowly coming back)

ANONYMOUS JAN 06, 2021 02:53 PM

Jonah

I lost a lot of connections that I didn't really have to put effort into maintaining during school.

JACOB JAN 06, 2021 02:53 PM

Jacob

I have lost almost nothing except 1.5 crew seasons

Sarah

I have lost in 2020 was the normal routines and honestly the ability to be able to do actual school now. I couldn't play sports at all either. I am grateful for not suffering as much as others during the pandemic.

What we have lost is our complete normal life. Our complete ability to see each other safely. Mental health declining as well as with the death that came with this year. We took everything for granted that we would've never noticed without the pandemic.

ANONYMOUS JAN 06, 2021 02:56PM

Brian

In 2020, I lost my regular routine and a few friends who I have not talked to in a while due to the pandemic. Overall I did not lose much but as a world I think we lost a lot.

TINA JAN 06, 2021 02:58PM

I lost some sense of organization, especially towards the beginning of the pandemic. I don't like online classes very much, since I find it harder to focus. It also has messed with my plans for both 2020 and 2021. Originally, I was supposed to go to a student leadership conference during the summer, and it got canceled due to Covid. I'm doing it this summer, but I had planned to do something else this summer to be honest.

As a whole, we lost many lives

JOANN JAN 06, 2021 02:53PM

Joanna, Boston MA, USA

Because of the pandemic I've missed out on quite a few of the extracurriculars I would normally be doing over the summer and during the school year. I also, of course, miss my friends, but I think my greatest loss is those small interactions during the 4 minutes between classes and the acquaintances that I would talk to in that fleeting moment. It's a lot harder to reach out now since we aren't close, per-se.

BRIGID JAN 06, 2021 02:54PM

I've lost my routines and motivation, definitely struggling more in school than I ever have before. I lost what was a "normal" family life for me with the death of my parents marriage, and with all the stress I've definitely noticed a severe decline in my mental health. Also I had straight As last year and not so much this year.

ALBERT JAN 06, 2021 02:53PM

Albert

We've lost our ability to go outside and do activities we regularly would've. I think it's safe to say that the pandemic has turned our daily routines completely upside down.

An, MA, USA

In 2020, due to the pandemic, I've lost motivation, some friends, and my sanity! It's become extremely difficult to have to continue telling yourself to keep going with schoolwork because it seems sort of ridiculous, given the global context of what's currently going on. My immediate thoughts aren't "I have to complete this homework assignment tonight" it's "my mom's been going out a lot, I hope she doesn't catch this virus and dies."

OLIVIA S JAN 06, 2021 02:54PM

As a country and a world, we've lost a lot of lives during 2020 during COVID. A lot of people also lost jobs, money, housing etc. 2020 was a year of pretty devastating loss, particularly in countries where the virus was mismanaged (like the U.S.)

I/ the whole world also lost human connection and our normal routines. I went from attending a school with 2000 people every day to not seeing anyone other than my family. The switch to virtual learning sort of turned my normal routine upside-down.

ANONYMOUS JAN 06, 2021 02:55PM

Leo

As a country, we have lost many lives, and many people have lost their economic security.

I lost a lot of my normal routines, activities, and social connections.

ANONYMOUS JAN 06, 2021 02:54PM

Shaun P

I feel like the most valuable thing I've lost is time with other people. Being that I am going off to college next year, spending one last year with people I have called family for years is what's most valuable to me, but being that we are in a pandemic, I've lost much of that time.

ANONYMOUS JAN 12, 2021 11:21AM

Kali I., USA, Boston, Massachusetts

To be honest, 2020 has been both the longest and the shortest year to me. I barely remember those first couple of months when things were still "normal." There has just been so much time that I've spent, virtually restricted to my home. I feel like 2020 was the year of missed opportunities. I wasn't able to go on my family trip to Kenya over the summer. It would have been my first time returning since I first came to the US. I was also looking forward to finding some kind of job or internship for that summer. All in all, I feel as though I've lost a sense of "normal."

ANONYMOUS JAN 06, 2021 02:52PM

Cecelia [redacted], Boston, MA, USA

I think I've lost a lot of connection with people outside of my immediate family, and I think not being able to see people in person has been really hard.

ANONYMOUS JAN 06, 2021 02:53PM

Lucy [redacted], Boston MA, USA

I have definitely lost a lot of motivation I had. Once the pandemic hit I quickly lost interest in a lot of things I liked quite a lot before and I kind of strayed away academically.

HENRY [redacted] JAN 06, 2021 02:53PM

Henry [redacted], Boston, MA, USA

As I think a lot of other people are going to say, my daily routine was lost. Personally, I am a fan of routines, and my routine was great. Now, I guess during the school week I have a routine, which consists of sitting down for 7 hours a day staring at a screen, not very fun. I've lost the ability to travel with my family, we tend to go to 3 or 4 different countries during the summer and during breaks, in 2020 our big trip was supposed to be Italy, and now that can't happen. I've also lost the ability to go to my house in Canada, and it's not so much that but that my whole extended family lives up there, and I only get to see them twice or so a year so that was sad.

KATHERINE [redacted] JAN 06, 2021 02:54PM

Katherine K., USA, Boston Massachusetts

2020 was a rough year all around for everyone. As the year progressed, I felt like I lost myself, I lost my normal routine when we were thrown into a full force quarantine, lost contact with a lot of my friends because most of the time we would only talk or really hang out in school. I lost one of the most important things when we couldn't play sports anymore because being with my teammates is what really brings me joy.

IAN [redacted] JAN 06, 2021 02:52PM

Ian [redacted]

I lost my chance at 2 very important things for my future. I lost the ability to compete at semifinals for the Massachusetts Education Theater Guild, an opportunity I may never get back. I also likely lost the exchange trip to Germany, a trip that I had placed a lot on. I want to go to school in Germany, and now with Covid it will be significantly harder to get to Germany before I have to decide where to go to school.

SARAH [redacted] JAN 06, 2021 02:51PM

Sarah [redacted]

What I have lost was my normal toniue as

ERIN [redacted] JAN 06, 2021 02:51 PM

Erin [redacted], USA, Boston, Massachusetts

What I lost this year isn't nearly as unfortunate and sad as what/who others have lost. I haven't been as badly affected by COVID other than having to do school virtually and not being able to play my sport. I haven't been able to see my family as much as well as my friends. I think that I've been extremely lucky and I'm grateful that I haven't lost someone close to me. I realize that others have lost someone close to them, which is really sad and upsetting how many lives have been lost from COVID.

ANONYMOUS JAN 06, 2021 02:57PM

Ben Z., USA, Boston, Massachusetts

I didn't lose as much as I think other people have. Over the summer I lost quite a few friends just from not reaching out to them and not being able to sustain an environment where we could interact on a scale like school provides us. I also lost the ability to have social interactions to the degree that I did before COVID.

As for what we've lost, we've lost our minds. There are so many crazy things happening right now, and while COVID was a catalyst, I feel like even without it, the elections would've been stressful.

LEV [redacted] JAN 06, 2021 02:52PM

Lev [redacted], USA, Boston, Massachusetts

Essentially, many of us lost most of our activities and things to do during 2020. Whether it was a sports season, a summer camp, being able to see family, or something else, everyone lost many things during 2020. I think the main loss that I've felt during 2020 was the loss of my ability to see friends and family. This is the single most impactful loss that I think many of us have, and it has impacted all of us a lot during 2020.

AMBER [redacted] JAN 06, 2021 03:02PM

Amber [redacted], Boston, MA

Throughout this pandemic I have lost a lot of my social abilities that I gained in 2019 and the beginning of 2020. I felt a lot less connected to my immediate family (aunts, uncles, cousins etc) and some friends as well. The beginning of March was especially hard after the loss of my uncle and trying to have a funeral while the new restrictions were being set in place. I lost a major part of my high school experience that everyone can relate too, I time that I looked forward to since I was little. But I realized how much more people have to sacrifice and me losing a part of my high school career is not as significant. The months after that I learned a lot more about myself and adjusted to the climate we were in.

ANONYMOUS JAN 06, 2021 02:53PM

Emily, USA, Boston, MA

I think with the whole switch to a virtual setting, I feel like I lost more of my sense of time and really mental health. Everyday honestly feels like the same to me nowadays because it's always getting up, opening up my computer, and having classes all day on Zoom. Although the work is less, I feel like I'm more stressed because I'm worried that I'm not really learning as effectively as I would if I was in school physically. Especially since I'm taking AP courses this year, I'm also worried about how the exam will go and if I'm really prepared for that.

ANDRE JAN 06, 2021 01:16PM

Andre W., USA, Boston, Massachusetts

Personally, like Pin Yi, I also lost my old normal routines. It was difficult for a bit to get used to going to school virtually. A lot of motivation was additionally lost, with the thought that everything would be terrible. Things have undoubtedly improved, though.

When I say "us" as a collective, I'm talking about the USA as a whole. Clearly, we can quantify those who have sadly passed away due to the virus in 2020 (and now in the few days of 2021). We've lost so much more as well, such as economic stability, political stability, face-to-face contact with others, and more. Life certainly changed at a moment's notice. We adapted well, but only to an extent. I say this because of the people who still go out with masks or the people who don't try to stay safe. Because of them, we continue to lose more of the aforementioned things.

But hopefully, 2021 will be better.

PIN YI JAN 06, 2021 12:37PM

Pin Yi C., USA, Boston, Massachusetts

In terms of what I, personally, have lost, I think the biggest thing is the loss of my "normal" routines from before the pandemic. School is one of them; even though everyone is trying their best to make online learning work, it still cannot really replace full-on in-person learning. There is a net loss of learning time, for one, and extracurricular activities (especially sports) are severely restricted. Another thing is simple human interaction--I have not met up with any of my friends physically since March, especially since for a while, even going outdoors made me anxious. Other things include eating out at restaurants, going on evening strolls around Boston Common, visiting the library, watching a movie at theaters, et cetera, et cetera. By themselves, these may seem small, not really worth fussing about, but together, they add up, resulting in a drastic change in lifestyle.

In terms of what we as a people have lost, I think the biggest thing is lives. About 1.87 million people have died from COVID, and that is just the official stats. I believe that the real number is far, far higher, especially if you take into account the deaths that were indirectly caused by COVID. Furthermore, many people have lost their jobs, and too many small businesses have closed

permanently. In addition, the inequality gap between the rich and the poor have only gotten wider, especially since the rich are more likely to have job that are "work-from-home," and online learning favors well-off students, who have reliable access to WiFi and a quiet space to attend class.

What I/we've gained (in 2020)

ANONYMOUS JAN 12, 2021 11:31AM

Kali I., USA, Boston, Massachusetts

As horrible a year as 2020 may have been, I think that there at least a few good things to come out of it. First is the closer relationships I've been able to make with my family. Being at home all the time has made us all closer and allowed us more time to spend as a family. We also welcomed an addition to our family mid December, who hasn't stopped reminding us of his presence. I've also gained a greater appreciation for the people who have had to adapt the most to these uncertain times. People like nurses, doctors, teachers, and parents. 2020 has shown us all how fragile our way of life can be and just how resilient we need to be to take it back.

ANONYMOUS JAN 12, 2021 04:39AM

Tanvi, Haryana, India

Thinking about what we have gained in the year 2020 is not easy, but I would most certainly say that I have gained the ability of understanding the boons in my life, taking one day at a time, realising the importance of my loved ones and making the most of all that God has blessed me with. I believe that the world as a whole has again, gained these qualities for this year has been a rollercoaster ride and has shown the various ups and downs life can present and most importantly, how to stay strong and steadfast during all of them. Thank you!

ANONYMOUS JAN 10, 2021 08:32PM

Beatriz, Portugal

2020 was indeed a remarkable year for everyone. In my case, I was very lucky because none of my family members or close friends got COVID and everybody was safe.

In the beginning of the year, covid was not a problem and everyone was living their lives normally.

In march we the lockdown started and unlike what I thought, I didn't have much time to rest because I was overwhelmed with my school work. However, there were a lot of positive parts in it, me and my family spent a lot of time together playing games, baking cakes and doing family activities. That made me very happy, because with the amount of work each one of us have, sometimes we cannot spend as much time together as we would like to.

Also, I could carry on with my workouts and my lifestyle became healthier.

In terms of personal traits, I've gained a lot more maturity and

learn not to take things for granted and not to plan too much everything because life can change at any time. Now talking in a world- scale, I believe everyone learned more about themselves and the society itself. We could see that people are too focused on themselves and the consequences of it are very dangerous.

ANONYMOUS JAN 10, 2021 06:57PM

PRANAV, Gurgaon.Haryana,India

2020 has been a topsy turvy year and there have been lots of things that I have learnt and lost at the same time
Gained- Learnt how to cook simple foods, clean the house. I'm basically ready to live in the forest like a survivalist. I've been able to participate in a lot of competitions to improve my strengths. I'm thankful to be part of this project which is one the most important things I've gotten. I've been handed new responsibilities and roles. Learnt a lot of gratitude and patience

ANONYMOUS JAN 09, 2021 12:30PM

Hnin ၵ်း, Myanmar , Ayeyarwady, Gaygue

However , 2020 was a blessing in disguise . I have also gained a lot of things too. In the meanwhile, I had the chance to participate in a lot of English global programs. I had enough time to focus on English because all the schools were closed . Moreover, I had time to reevaluate myself, to think carefully about what I want to be, and to plan for the future.

ANONYMOUS JAN 07, 2021 06:00PM

Hadeel ၵ်း, Lebanon, Tyre

I have gained a lot of things in this year. First, I had the opportunity to participate in this project and to know you guys. Also, I've been able to spend more time with my family and with myself, trying to enhance my personality and to see life in a different way. Moreover, I've discovered some talents that I own but have never enhanced such as drawing and painting. Nevertheless, I experienced the new type of education which is the online ones. In brief, what I've gained in this year is more than what I've lost.

ANONYMOUS JAN 07, 2021 02:11PM

During the last year, I have done a lot to improve myself. I participated in many activities. I had more time to practice and learn languages. I became part of a community (online, but still) where everyone shares the love for music and I've made new friends there who are incredibly kind and encouraging and I'm extremely grateful for this. I got to spend more time with my family as well and I feel like I've been able to focus on the subjects I like and set priorities, something I wouldn't have been able to do if we had had in-person lessons. But the most important thing I've gained is probably an incredible appreciation of everything we considered normal before.

ANONYMOUS JAN 07, 2021 03:37AM

Antonia V , Australia

I have gained a lot more self respect and confidence in my actions. I had a lot of issues when i was isolated but i have slowly become the person that i was hoping to one day be. I have picked up new skills and learned more about my self in that time than ever before (there wasn't really much else to do). I have also learnt a lot about the people around me and who i should be surrounding myself with.

DIANA CALLE JAN 06, 2021 11:31PM

Diana ၵ်း, Ecuador.

Last year I had a lot of problems to overcome and I did so I think that's what I gained. Also I could say I spent my time in activities I don't regret of. I was studying lenguajes, improved my english, thought of myself and the things I want to do in the future and appreciate the people I've next to me. Honestly I think we've just gained knowledge. We learned how to survive a pandemic, how to improve in our activities, how to still studying, working and loving unless we were meters away. Personally I can say it's more what I've lost than what I've gained but it's okay because that's what the life actually is. Like humans we've learned a lot of so in the future I hope we can be a better humanity.

ANONYMOUS JAN 06, 2021 08:39PM

Jasmin ၵ်း, Austria

I had more time to practice and learn languages. I became part of a community (online, but still) where everyone shares the love for music and I've made new friends there who are incredibly kind and encouraging and I'm extremely grateful for this. I got to spend more time with my family as well and I feel like I've been able to

focus on the subjects I like and set priorities, something I wouldn't have been able to do if we had had in-person lessons. But the most important thing I've gained is probably an incredible appreciation of everything we considered normal before.

ANONYMOUS JAN 06, 2021 07:58PM

Valeri

When it comes to the things I gained, well, I'd say that for the most part, I understood that if a meteorite hit the earth, and we all had to evacuate and go into bunkers, we'd have no chance. In all seriousness, what is there to gain from just sitting inside the house? Sure I figured things about myself and how the world circles around me, but I personally put experience over all other factors of life, and well, definitely haven't had much of that last year.

I hope that every kid understands out there, that in such hard days, they're not alone but just momentarily stuck in time. But the days are passing and eventually there will be a point where you will have to break out of the clock to truly breathe and realize that the world is changing. Hopefully you'll find your place in it.

ANONYMOUS JAN 06, 2021 02:58PM

Ben Boston MA, USA

I have gained new friends and grown closer to people who I never thought I would ever interact with.

LOLITA ZUBER JAN 06, 2021 02:56PM

In 2020 I definitely gained a sense of independence and learned how to cope with my emotions. This year, I learned more about myself than ever before. I discovered that it's okay to do things alone, and not to be afraid of it. I developed more of a self love and realized that at the end of the day, the only person who would understand me the most and be there for me was myself.

AN TRIST JAN 06, 2021 02:58PM

I think being alone in quarantine forces you to come to terms with yourself. You're forced to reflect on yourself and gain insight on who you are. I've definitely gained some perspective and time for reflection, as other classmates have said.

ANDERSON D. JAN 06, 2021 02:56PM

Anderson D.

All that I really gained from 2020 was time for myself, which in a way was a good thing and allowed me to reform myself in a way.

ANONYMOUS JAN 06, 2021 02:57PM

Leo

I gained motivation to teach myself skills, and appreciation for what I have.

SARAH JAN 06, 2021 02:58PM

Sarah

What I have gained was a lot of time to self reflect on myself and being able to be exposed to more issues in the world this year. As well as a lot of time to myself has been kind of nice.

What we gained was to see how nice just normal life was and a saw a lot of change within other people this year.

KATHERINE JAN 06, 2021 02:58PM

Katherine K., USA, Boston, Massachusetts

I am very thankful for the things I have gained in 2020. I may have lost myself at the beginning, but I gained a new respect for myself when I learned that I can stand up for myself and quarantine taught me that confidence is key. I gained relationships with some of the most important people in my life, connecting with old friends and making new ones, and becoming closer with my family.

ERIN JAN 06, 2021 02:58PM

Erin, USA, Boston, Massachusetts

I personally have gained more than what I've lost. I've been able to spend more time with myself, and from that have discovered more about myself and hobbies I enjoy. I started reading again, learning to play the piano, photography, baking, and more. I'm very grateful that through this time I've been able to grow in a positive way and had the time and opportunity to do so.

OLIVIA JAN 06, 2021 02:57PM

I personally gained a lot of time to spend with my family, which I really appreciated. With parents from work and siblings home from college, I got to spend much more time with them than I normally would have. I definitely gained a closer connection with my family, which I am grateful for.

I also think people in general gained a) a lot of skill with technology and b) the ability to spend time alone. Being trapped inside your home is isolating, but I think a lot of people got used to just being their own company.

ANONYMOUS JAN 06, 2021 02:56PM

Shaun

I have discovered much about myself personally and have been able to become a better person. I have had much time for self reflection and finding things I love to do with even a greater appreciation for it. Those escapes doing things I love have made this year somewhat bearable.

Boston, MA

With everything I've lost I gained a lot more. Surprisingly, this year taught me more about myself than any other year. I think that being in a set place for so long allowed me to build confidence and express my identity. This year went by so quickly but in retrospect it was incredibly long. I measured it through how much I was able to gain motivation to do things. I felt more ambitious with school work and extracurriculars. I got more involved with learning about world issues, that I steered away from before because I found it stressful and confusing. I got even closer with my parents which I didn't even think was possible because we are already so tightly knit. I made new friends who have helped me through a lot and even furthered my relationship with friends from my childhood. 2020 has taught me a lot, and I think that if I was able to get through a year of such turmoil and distraught I can get through anything.

BRIGID [REDACTED] JAN 06, 2021 02:55PM

I've gained a dog named Maisie, and some of my friendships have grown stronger. I've also gained a therapist.

ANONYMOUS [REDACTED] JAN 06, 2021 02:56PM

Cecelia [REDACTED], Boston, MA, USA

I think I've gained appreciation for just normal interactions that are no longer possible

HENRY POYNTER [REDACTED] JAN 06, 2021 02:57PM

Henry [REDACTED], Boston, MA, USA

I gained a lot of knowledge about things I wouldn't ordinarily think about. And I think our community has gained some type of relationship because of our need to work together during this. I also learned a lot about myself personally through this time

JOANNA [REDACTED] JAN 06, 2021 02:55PM

Joanna [REDACTED], Boston MA, USA

Lockdown has saved me time and restored my creative energy in a lot of ways! I've also been able to be more active and present in GSA and really center myself there.

My creative energy also grew during quarantine with photography!
— ANDRE WEISS

ANONYMOUS [REDACTED] JAN 06, 2021 02:55PM

Lucy [REDACTED]

I gained a lot of self confidence and a new perspective. I feel a lot closer to my true identity than I did before because I was at home alone so much. Also my cat who i love a lot.

Levi [REDACTED], USA, Boston, Massachusetts

Despite everything that we have lost in 2020, I think the thing that I have truly gained is a better knowledge of myself and who I am. This prolonged period of isolation has allowed us all to get to know ourselves better, especially when left alone with our own thoughts. 2020 was an extremely hard year for everyone, but I think that we will all come out of it as bigger and better people.

ALBERT [REDACTED] JAN 06, 2021 02:54PM

Albert [REDACTED]

I've gained a better appreciation for many aspects of life that I'd taken for granted before. 2020 was a year of great loss, but it's also taught us to appreciate what we do have, and to make the most of our quarantined lives.

IAN [REDACTED] JAN 06, 2021 02:55PM

Ian [REDACTED]

I gained a new outlook on life and the world. The terrible events of the year have forged a new understanding of the world and my place in it. The isolation allowed me to discover my true gender identity, and the hardships served as a crucible that hardened and reinforced my relationship with my boyfriend. After the events of 2020, I feel like I can survive anything.

GIAN [REDACTED] JAN 06, 2021 02:52PM

Gian [REDACTED]

I've gained substantial insight of both my identity and goals, as well as self worth

ANONYMOUS [REDACTED] JAN 06, 2021 02:54PM

Emily [REDACTED], USA, Boston, MA

Something that I feel like I definitely gained is more rest in terms of sleep, as I used to only get like 5 or 6 hours of sleep a night. But now, since there's less homework, I'm able to have more time to myself and be able to get a little more sleep.

ANONYMOUS [REDACTED] JAN 06, 2021 02:52PM

Jonah [REDACTED]

I gained a lot of time to myself which was very appreciated. Its been almost a year so a lot has changed that I don't realize.

ANDRE [REDACTED] JAN 06, 2021 01:21PM

Andre W., USA, Boston, Massachusetts

Surprisingly, I've gained a lot personally during the pandemic, and so have most people. Particularly, if we look at the class of 2021, we gained a lot of opportunities. A basic example would be a rising number of internships and possibilities now that we're virtual and the ability to do multiple internships at once (shh). For instance, through that, I was able to save up enough to buy a new camera.

If I talk about "us" as the USA again, we've gained a new level of cohesiveness while also a new level of polarization. People are sticking closer together more than ever (quite literally as well with quarantining) and political sides are becoming more and more hostile towards the other side. Sure, it's both a good and a bad thing. The good? It led us to start protests and movements such as that of BLM. The bad? People like anti-maskers are a thing.

Again, the best we can do is hope for better in 2021, seeing that 2020 did have some silver linings. Hopefully that'll happen with this final thing we gained: vaccines.

PIN YI JAN 06, 2021 12:47PM

Pin Yi C, USA, Boston, Massachusetts

Though the pandemic was likely a huge hardship on all of us, I think there are some things that we have gained as well. For one, many of us probably have spent more time with close family than ever before--I know I have. Before, I was not at home most of the time, and when I was, I was usually too tired or too busy to be up for anything more than vague conversation. A lot of us have likely gotten new hobbies as well. For example, I have started baking during the pandemic, found it surprisingly enjoyable, and I think that this is something I would likely continue even after life gets back to normal (whenever that will be).

This might be just me, but I have actually gained some organizational/time management skills during the pandemic, because the relative freedom of online learning has forced me to structure my time effectively myself. As a result, even though I still procrastinate, I have actually slept better than I have throughout my entire high school career, while still completing my assignments on time.

JAN 06, 2021 02:55 PM
Jacob

I have gained political knowledge and weight

(sec 04) 2020, now in the rear-view mirror, through the lens of 20-20 hindsight!

What I/we have lost, What I/we have gained

JUDI FREEMAN DEC 31, 2020 11:12PM

What I/we've lost (in 2020)

ANONYMOUS JAN 12, 2021 05:38PM

Jorinda, Lithuania

I've lost the opportunity to have a big graduation from music school and lost some trust for a friend.

EMIRHAN JAN 12, 2021 03:59PM

Emirhan, Turkey

I lost the physical connection with my network (school, friends, relatives)

ANONYMOUS JAN 10, 2021 06:46PM

I lost many friends from lost connection because of the pandemic

ABBY DASHBELL JAN 09, 2021 05:30AM

Abby B

I lost the opportunity to visit family and friends during breaks and the holidays.

ANONYMOUS JAN 08, 2021 04:16PM

Arsen Kuznetsov, Kazakhstan

The ability to roam the streets without worrying of getting ill. It has gotten a bit stressful to even go out because so much precautions need to be taken. But as a person who likes computers, nothing much has changed for me besides the schooling format.

ANONYMOUS JAN 07, 2021 07:55PM

Hawraa k. Tyre, Lebanon

In 2020, I have forfeited the opportunity to go to school in a typical way like the other years. Furthermore, going outside, shopping, and even meeting friends were limited this year when everything locked down.

ANONYMOUS JAN 07, 2021 03:18PM

Hnin Hnin, Hara, Myanmar

For me, I gained a lot of opportunities. During 2020, I joined a lot of programmes that help me to improve my skills. I joined global classroom 2020 where I have got many friends around the world and knowledge. We used to discuss one topic per week. Then, I joined the G.L.E.A.N project too. That's really fun. We play games and make some enjoyable activities.

Nevertheless, I'd lost the chance to travel and go to school. I can't meet with my friends outside. These are my lost and gained.

ANONYMOUS JAN 07, 2021 03:56AM

Priyanka Prasad, India

I missed out on going to school in person in my senior year since everything was online. I lost multiple opportunities to travel, to meet my friends and family. Other than that, life was more or less normal...

ANONYMOUS JAN 06, 2021 11:01AM

Sudenaz Suleymanova, Turkey

I've lost nothing but opportunity to travel. I was going to abroad for summer. That's all.

ANONYMOUS JAN 06, 2021 10:11AM

Sara N. Beirut, Lebanon

As one would expect, I lost a few things such as being able to see family and friends, but honestly I'm grateful that I'm still healthy and safe.

ANONYMOUS JAN 06, 2021 02:37AM

Aris T., Finland

I've lost nothing
My life was rather normal and not so different than usual

ANONYMOUS JAN 05, 2021 10:59PM

Gabriela Masquez Rosado


I lost the opportunity to travel. I had plans to spend time with my family through seeing new places, and other plans to spend time with friends and become more independent through travel as well.

MAIANH  JAN 05, 2021 01:43PM

Maianh 

our entire summer (the ability to travel to new places or familiar places) -I wasn't able to travel to see my family for the holidays or vacation (we live all over the country).

ANONYMOUS JAN 05, 2021 01:40PM

Katie 

I've lost the opportunity to connect with a lot of my friends and teachers in person, as well as meet new people like I typically would through school and extracurriculars.

ANONYMOUS JAN 05, 2021 01:41PM

Tiffany 

I have definitely lost quality family spending time because of all the COVID restrictions on travel.

SERENA  JAN 05, 2021 01:39PM

Serena 

interaction with acquaintances

ANONYMOUS JAN 05, 2021 01:39PM

Zoe 

In 2020, I've lost the ability to see my sister and anyone not in my immediate family.

ANONYMOUS JAN 05, 2021 01:39PM

Katy

I lost the beginning of my senior year sadly


LILA  JAN 05, 2021 01:40PM

I have lost time to spend with my family and friends, and opportunities that we get in real school

XIXIN  JAN 05, 2021 01:40PM

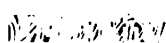
I've lost the connection with a lot of my friends.

ESLI  JAN 05, 2021 01:40PM

Esli 

In 2020 I've lost the ability to see my friends and family in person.

ANONYMOUS JAN 05, 2021 01:38PM

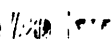
Colin 

ANONYMOUS JAN 05, 2021 01:43PM

Shamir 

I've lost a part of myself

ANONYMOUS JAN 05, 2021 01:42PM

Josie 

In 2020, I lost a family member as well as time with the people I love.

ANONYMOUS JAN 05, 2021 01:40PM

Douglas 

a ton of privacy rights

XINYAN  JAN 05, 2021 01:40PM

Xinyan 

In 2020, I have lost the opportunity to go to school in person and to hang out with my friends. Many of my family members have lost their jobs.

ANONYMOUS JAN 05, 2021 01:40PM

Fiona M

In 2020 I lost a lot of close bonds I had with people because I couldn't see them as often.

ASTRID  JAN 05, 2021 01:39PM

Astrid

We've lost a lot of connection between us and our friends

MICHAEL  JAN 05, 2021 01:42PM

Michael

I lost the ability to travel or go out with people often. Also lost motivation to do many things.

SOPHIA  JAN 05, 2021 01:38PM

Sophia 

The ability to travel.

GRETA GONCALVES JAN 05, 2021 01:02 PM

Greta Goncalves

I lost the ability to see my family, who are all abroad, as well as a lot of friends, as we didn't talk as much over Covid

SAMUEL RINGROSE JAN 05, 2021 01:42PM

Samuel Ringrose

I've lost connections that I had with a lot of people at school. There are many people that I still keep in touch with, but not as much as before.

ANONYMOUS JAN 05, 2021 01:45PM

Azalea T

A whole lot of people, normal interactions, freedoms, feeling of safety in public, mental health, a year of landmark experiences like graduations and weddings

SYDNEY BIRCH JAN 05, 2021 01:40PM

I have lost the ability to regularly see my grandparents, as they are both extremely cautious with the virus. We've all lost social interaction to some extent.

ANONYMOUS JAN 05, 2021 01:40PM

Lilah Birrell

My family and I have lost time with my extended family. I also have lost time and probably will lose more time in the college hunt as in going to college tours in person.

LEAH FRIEDLAND JAN 05, 2021 01:41PM

Leah Friedland

In 2020, we lost a lot of social interaction, especially the 5 days a week we would normally see students and teachers at school.

GRACE CONNOR JAN 05, 2021 01:38PM

I've lost being able to go to school in person, meaning I don't get to see my friends in person any more

WILLA DAVIS JAN 05, 2021 01:39PM

What we have lost

we have lost the ability to be close with those we love, and go to school

What I/we've gained (in 2020)

ANONYMOUS JAN 12, 2021 05:40PM

Jorinda, Lithuania

I've gained some time to work on my mental health, gained some skills in IT, learned how to cope with situations like this.

EMIRHAN FIRTINA JAN 12, 2021 03:56PM

Emirhan, Turkey

I gained the ability to self-motivate and work efficiently at home

ANONYMOUS JAN 10, 2021 06:47PM

In 2020 I've gained real friends and gained understanding in what's real and worth being by. It's a very important lesson to learn who's going to be here for you and how's not.

ANONYMOUS JAN 08, 2021 04:19PM

Arsen Akhmedov, Kazakhstan

I've gotten the ability to see how even this young generation is struggling with online education, considering we are figuratively bathing in gadgets. The network infrastructure wasn't ready for this, and it needs improvement in order for online education to be satisfying.

ANONYMOUS JAN 07, 2021 07:57PM

Hawraa k. Tyre, Lebanon

In 2020, I have earned more free time to work on my drawing personal account on Instagram and to spend a lot of time with family members. Also, due to the pandemic, I have learned that awareness is the most crucial piece for our health.

ANONYMOUS JAN 07, 2021 04:05AM

Priyanka Reddy, India

I've gotten a lot of time to focus on extracurriculars, focus on academics etc., because I didn't travel anywhere during the summer and Christmas breaks as I normally do. The time spent travelling from my house to my school and other classes was saved as well, so I was able to utilize that time to exercise and stay healthy. I'm glad to say that I'm much healthier (both physically and mentally) than I was before. I learned how to appreciate the small things in life and how to express what I feel to the people in my life

ANONYMOUS JAN 06, 2021 10:08AM

Sara N. Beirut, Lebanon

I've gotten more free time to work on my paintings and other hobbies. I've also been able to spend more time with my family and I learned patience and other life skills during quarantine/2020.

ANONYMOUS JAN 06, 2021 08:53AM

Kusum , Nepal

I've improved on prioritizing things/values/skills to learn, and self disciplining myself to set and achieve the goal of my priorities.

ANONYMOUS JAN 06, 2021 02:37AM

Aris T., Finland

I've gained nothing

ANONYMOUS JAN 05, 2021 11:00PM

Gabriela

I have gained a greater love for the simple pleasures of life, such as breathing fresh air and going for walks, and even gained more love for myself too.

ANONYMOUS JAN 05, 2021 01:53PM

Azalea T

A new understanding of ourselves: how we react to certain situations, what keeps us going (apparently structure motivates me), sleep, opportunities to learn new things, appreciation of what we have and the little things in life, closer relationships with family, recognition of societal problems/ desire to make change

ANONYMOUS JAN 05, 2021 01:43PM

Zoe

In 2020 I think we've all gained appreciation for any privileges we might have and also the ability to realize that there is a lot more suffering in the world than we thought before covid.

ANONYMOUS JAN 05, 2021 01:46PM

Shamir

I've gained a realization that the "perfect world" that I want may not actually be what I want after all. I remember at the beginning of 2020, I was at Church and as people were celebrating, I told myself that I just wanted to be home and not surround myself with so much people. I wanted to live in a world where remaining physically distant from others wasn't an abnormal thing. I wanted to be able to find an easier way to read people's facial expressions. 2020 answered my wishes in the worst way possible.

I suggest you move to Finland. Here staying away from people is normal, actually it's IDEAL way of living – ANONYMOUS

ANONYMOUS JAN 05, 2021 01:42PM

Tiffany

I've gained the opportunity to be more cautious about the health and safety of those around me and have grown to understand my

mental health a little more which I think is really important to my health and well-being as well.

ANONYMOUS JAN 05, 2021 01:42PM

Katie

a lot more free time to manage schoolwork, extracurriculars, and other things since I don't have to commute anywhere anymore

XIXIN  JAN 05, 2021 01:42PM

I've gained new friendships online and have a greater appreciation for the few people that I am still able to stay connected with even during the pandemic, such as my family.

ANONYMOUS JAN 05, 2021 01:42PM

Douglas

\$600 while congress gives billions to corporations

ESLI  JAN 05, 2021 01:43PM

Esli

I've gained a better relationship with my brother, and a lot more time to hang out with him.

SYDNEY  JAN 05, 2021 01:45PM

I've gained more time for myself, a closer bond with my siblings, and a new appreciation for the activities that I can still participate in despite the pandemic (sports, birthdays, etc.).

ANONYMOUS JAN 05, 2021 01:42PM

Fiona

I gained a closer relationship with my family, my sister especially. I also had a lot of time to reflect and feel grateful for the time I get to spend with my friends

ANONYMOUS JAN 05, 2021 01:41PM

Katy

I gained closer relations with friends and family while also learning new ways of communication and learning on line, and still living my life while staying safe

XINYAN  JAN 05, 2021 01:41PM

Xinyan

I have become closer with my family and I learned a lot about issues going on around the world.

MICHAEL  JAN 05, 2021 01:41PM

Michael

I've taught myself Japanese (a real little bit but still working on it), learned to cook, and somehow became closer with a lot of friends more than losing connections.

ANONYMOUS JAN 05, 2021 01:41PM

Josie *Nothing*

In 2020, I gained a lot of new perspectives on the world. I think everyone's lives have been drastically changed, and personally that allowed to me to see things a lot differently. These perspectives vary from relationships to politics.

AWILDERG1 JAN 05, 2021 01:40PM

Astrid

A better way of understanding ourselves; we've been forced to spend a lot of time just by ourselves and so (I at least) have had the time to really work on myself as a person

SAMUEL RINGROSE JAN 05, 2021 01:42PM

Samuel Ringrose

I have formed a closer connection with my family, and I have learned more about different ways of communicating virtually.

GRETA GRYGALIS JAN 05, 2021 01:41PM

Greta Grygalis

more time for myself

ANONYMOUS JAN 05, 2021 01:40PM

Lilah *Country*

I have gained a stronger relationship with my parents and we are closer than ever.

WILLA SERRIS JAN 05, 2021 01:40PM

Gained

New ways to work, communicate, and socialize that I don't think we would have ever thought of if it weren't for covid

MAIANH JAN 05, 2021 01:41PM

Maianh *Friend*

a greater appreciation for being able to be outside and with others (being able to celebrate birthdays with more people, going out to eat at restaurants)

ANONYMOUS JAN 05, 2021 01:49PM

Colin *McCarthy* closer relationships with siblings/cousins

and I became more aware of how fortunate we are and that we are a lot more fortunate than others during a time like this

GRACE JAN 05, 2021 01:39PM

I now get at least 7.5-8 hours of sleep every night and feel much better for it

LEAH PRIZABET JAN 05, 2021 01:39PM

Leah *Friend*

Many who took extra time to research, gained new insight on our nation's history and systems of oppression

SOPHIA ARBORE JAN 05, 2021 01:40PM

Sophia *Friend*

I got a new puppy. But all together as a society I feel it has brought us closer because this is something that affects everybody and we are all going through it together.

SERENA TIRRELL JAN 05, 2021 01:39PM

Serena *Friend*

newfound interests

LILA CL'RRANI JAN 05, 2021 01:41PM

closer relationships with my siblings and cousins and the realization that we are a lot more fortunate than others which became evident during the pandemic

#####