ARBiT it happens here...



Observing Look for Circles Day

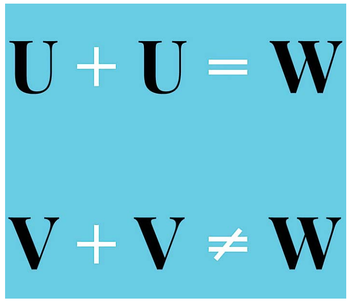
Look for Circles Day is a playful reminder to notice the circular shapes that surround us in everyday life. From the wheels on vehicles to the sun, clocks, and everyday objects, circles are everywhere, representing unity, continuity, and harmony. The day encourages people to slow down, observe their surroundings, and appreciate the simple geometry that shapes our world. Schools, families, and communities often engage in creative activities, spotting or drawing circles, making it a fun way to blend curiosity with mindfulness. Look for Circles Day celebrates the beauty in the details we often overlook.

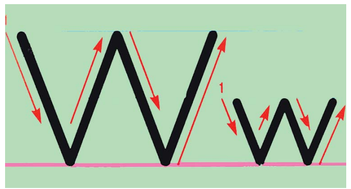
राष्ट्रदूत
MONDAY
02 November 2026
A-B

#"DOUBLE U"

Why Call "W" a Double U When It Looks Like a Double V?

The Latin word unum (one) was written as *VNVM*. At this stage, U existed as a sound, not as a distinct written letter





One of the most curious questions about the English alphabet is why the letter W is called "double U," even though it clearly looks like two Vs placed side by side. The answer lies not in modern English, but in the long history of alphabets, letter shapes, and pronunciation across Latin and Germanic languages.

The Early Alphabet and the Letter "U"

In classical Latin, there was no separate letter U or W. The Romans used a single letter, V, to represent both the vowel sound U and the consonant sound V. As a result, words that today use U or V were all written with the same character.

For example, the Latin word *unum* (one) was written as VNVM. At this stage, U existed as a sound, not as a distinct written letter.

The Need for a New Letter

As Germanic languages such as Old English began to be written using the Latin alphabet, scribes faced a problem. These languages had a "W" sound that Latin did not. To represent this sound, early writers used two U sounds together, written as uu. Because the letter U was still written in the angular Roman style that resembled a V, this "uu" combination looked exactly like VV on the page.

From "Double U" to W

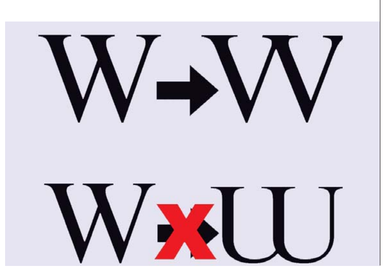
Over time, the two connected Us (uu) merged into a single character. Even though the written form evolved and eventually came to resemble two Vs, the name "double U" remained because it reflected the original sound-based concept rather than the visual shape.

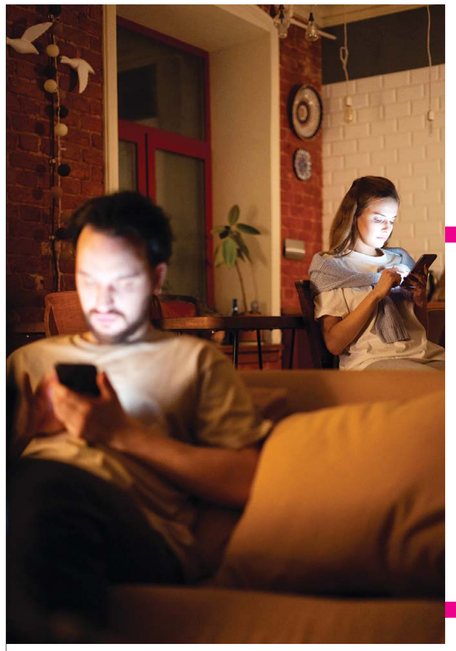
Why Not "Double V" in English?

Some languages did go in that direction. In French, Spanish, and Italian, the letter W is often called "double V" because in those languages, V and U are clearly distinct letters and the shape is interpreted visually. English, however, preserved the older naming tradition from medieval scribes, keeping "double U" as the letter's name.

Conclusion

The letter W is called "double U" because it originated as two Us written together to represent a new sound in early Germanic languages. Although its shape now resembles two Vs, its name preserves a historical snapshot of how alphabets evolve over time. The mismatch between name and appearance is a reminder that language is shaped by history as much as by logic.

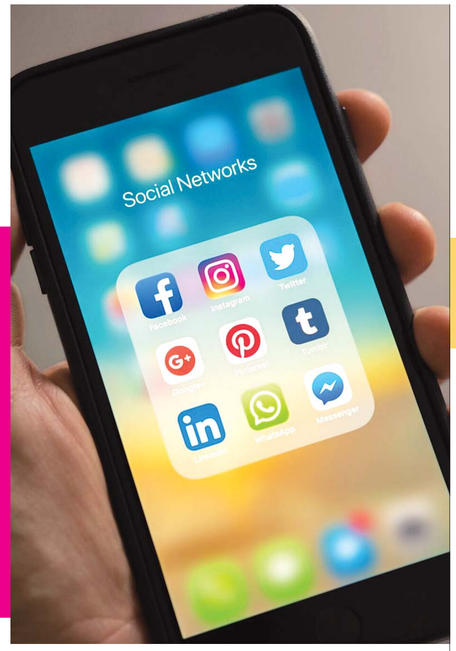




Beyond Good Morning

PART:2

Most chats on dating apps begin with a good morning. Most of them end there too. In the second part, I put one whole day of messages from the men in my phone on record, from the 2 am 'Shelly' to the late-night 'helllooo,' and draw up a kundli to read them by.





Shailaza Singh
Published Author, Poet and a YouTuber

'Hi. Good morning,' wrote the VP of Undergoing at 7:18. (VP Projects, divorce still 'undergoing.')

Then, the second line. 'Uth jao g.'

The g, I assume, was for ji. Respect, abbreviated.

Only my mother has ever ordered me to wake up. Now, there were two. I did not reply. A little later: 'Gone to sleep???' Three question marks, each one a little more offended than the one before it.

The next morning, at 6:32: 'Good morning. Wish to connect with u. Waited for u entire yesterday.'

The entire yesterday. I did wonder who was building the flyovers of this country while its VPs sat waiting for my reply. No wonder, the projects are always undergoing.

That was when I went back through years of chats. The men in my phone are up before the milkman. 'Good morning' is the like button of these men. Press it and scroll on.

Put all their messages into one day, and my phone looks like this.

2:53 am: Shelly

One gentleman had opened our acquaintance with a full plan for our future. 'Hey, let's connect. We can be friend, good friends and later best friends, looking to connect for daily conversation.' Then, one night, at 2:53, the daily conversation finally arrived. One word.

'Shelly.'

(On the apps, I am Shelly.)

Nothing before it. Nothing after it. My name, alone on the screen at three in the morning, like a man standing at the gate calling for his dog.

I did not wag my tail.

8:22 am: Mr. Newton

At 8:22, one Sunday morning, a new gentleman said hi and announced, 'You are sweet.'

'Sweet...? Kaise?' I asked. Sweet is a word for gulab jamun, not for a woman you have known for four minutes.

Before nine o'clock came his question.

'Is your kid ok with it if u get married?'

One gentleman from Tamil Nadu once told me he needed to know whether my daughter liked him, because after all, we need to have a tuning. Tuning. Like a radio. This one had skipped the tuning and gone straight to her permission.

'Huh? Aren't u going too fast?'

'It wasn't agenda,' he said. 'It was just a question.' The next morning, I asked about his plans for the day.

'Not sure. Kaam bhi ho sakta hai. Aram bhi. For me everyday might be Sunday. Or everyday may be working day.'

He said this on a Monday. To a woman who works from home, for whom every day is Monday, including Sunday.

'Ideally I'm a farmer. I take care of my apple orchards.'

'You become newton soon!!!!' I wrote. Four exclamation marks. I was very pleased with my joke.

'Haha,' he said. One haha for four exclamation marks.

Mr. Newton never had an agenda. He only had a list. 'What you did whole day?' 'Dinner ho gaya? 'Kya kar rahi ho?'

After that, the orchard went into winter. Hi. How are you. Happy Diwali. Hi. In December, he asked me what was new, and when I asked him back: 'Nahin yahan all same.'

He was a farmer. He understood seasons. Our chat had only one, and it was called 'Hi.'

8:42 am: She Walks In Beauty

At 8:42, Mr. Byron. 'hey.' Then 'good morning.' Then 'hope you hVe q lovely day.'

Mr. Byron had begun with poetry. His very first message quoted Lord Byron, 'She walks in beauty, like the night of cloudless climes and starry skies,' followed by, 'you look gorgeous in the pictures.' Nobody had quoted Byron to me since college.

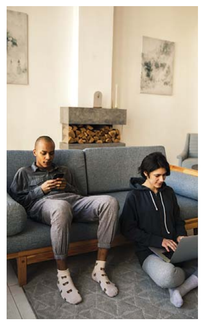
My heart skipped a beat. Finally, a well-read man.

By the afternoon of that same day, he had travelled from 1814 to 'had your lunch.'

'Pink city, I hope I got that right,' he typed. I said yes. A few messages later: 'So you live in Delhi or Jaipur?' And then, of course, the question they all ask: did I come to Delhi at all?

It does not matter that trains, buses and highways run in both directions. The man never asks, 'Shall I come to Jaipur?' Every man, it seems, is a capital city. The woman is always the outstation candidate.





9 am: Hi Goo8

The busiest hour belongs to a gentleman who had been sending 'Hey Shelly' at all hours, including 2:10 in the morning.

'Hi Shelly. Good morning.'

'Hi goo8,' I reply.

That is not a printing mistake. That is my own thumb at nine in the morning, left here in the interest of honest reporting. A man who cannot finish a sentence, and a woman who cannot finish a word.

'How r u doing.'

'Good, u tell me.'

'Doing good. Btw I was thinking...'

And then, nothing.

That was some years ago. He is still thinking.

By the time I opened the chat at night, I had no idea what we were talking about, so, I scrolled up for the context. Fourteen 'hmm's, two 'good morning's and one 'ok.' Archaeologists have found entire civilisations with less digging. Then one morning, at 10:24, he sent the wisest message I have received on any app.

'Hey Shelly. Good morning. Will we be able to go further from good morning msg also.. lol. As we keep on missing each other msgs here.'

He diagnosed the disease perfectly, and in the same message took another dose.

4 pm: Maine Kya Theka Le Rakha Hai?

Every man in India wants to know if I have had my lunch. Not one has ever sent it.

'How are you?'

'Fine.'

'What else?'

What else. Was I now supposed to type out the electrician and the price of tomatoes for a stranger whose vocabulary so far was 'hmm?' I type articles for a living. Typing my whole day for a man who replies in one syllable is called unpaid labour.

By the third call, they all arrive at the same two words.

'Aur batao.'

Once, I actually said it.

'Main hi kyon bataoon? Maine kya theka le rakha hai? Tum batao.'

The next time, the gentleman simply disappeared. He had nothing to batao.

6 pm: The Chat Kundli

Twelve years of cringing, converted into a chart.

SHELLY'S CHAT KUNDLI

If he types 'Good morning. How are you?' with capitals and full stops: he can type. Rare. If he also writes in full paragraphs: check for ChatGPT. If there is no ChatGPT, check for a wife.

A spelling mistake: slippery thumbs, or no attention to detail. Either way, he will forget your birthday.

Romance by the third message: the faster the poetry, the faster the landing.

'Hey Shelly,' and nothing else: he has started a conversation and handed you the job of finishing it.

'Hmm:' he is married, sleepy, or both.

A long silence before he answers 'Are you married?' He is either taking a deep breath, or hiding the wife behind the curtain.

'Where u live' before your name: he is not looking for a partner. He is checking delivery range.

'lol' at the end of every line: he is not laughing. He is nervous.

By this chart, the gun milan between me and the men on these apps has never crossed six out of thirty-six. The pandits say eighteen is the minimum.

I ran my own messages through it too. 'Are you married?' as the first question means: she has been here before. 'Okay... good' means: she has no idea what you were talking about.

Dear Mothers of Sons

All our lives, we Indian girls were told one story. One day, a prince charming would come, marry us and take us to his home. Everybody promised he would come. Nobody said he would talk. Nobody said he would make us laugh, or laugh at our jokes.

The prince did arrive. On a phone. With 'hmm.'

So, mothers of India, a small request. You taught your sons to touch feet, to say namaste to Sharma uncle, and never, ever to ask for a second rasgulla at somebody else's house. You forgot one thing. Conversation. Somewhere between his first tooth and his first salary, your son learnt exactly four sentences. Good morning. Good night. Had your lunch? And hmm. With these four, he was sent out into the world to find a wife. Some of them have found two.

So please, before he is old enough to download an app, sit him down at the dining table. Ask him how his day was, and do not accept 'theek tha.' Make him tell you one thing that happened. Then, one thing he thought about it. Then, make him ask you one question back. Not about lunch.

And if you have done all this, and he still sends 'hmm?' Then, madam, check his phone. According to my kundli, he is either sleepy or married.

Night: Extra Vowels

22:54. Mr. Byron: 'helllooo.' The next morning: 'goood morning.'

As his sentences got shorter, his vowels got longer. He was paying for every missing sentence with an extra 'o.'

And then, one morning, Telegram brought me a brand new gentleman.

'Hi,' he wrote. 'Raj here.'

I looked at the name at the top of the chat.

It was not Raj.

To be continued...

rajeshsharma1049@gmail.com



#KAHAN GAYAB HO?

#ILLUSTRATIONS

Art in the Nation's Founding Document

The illustrations were not random decorations. Each image symbolized an important phase of Indian history, culture, and values

The Constitution of India is not only a legal and political document but also a remarkable work of art. The original handwritten Constitution was beautifully decorated with illustrations that represent the cultural and historical journey of India. These illustrations were mainly designed under the guidance of the famous artist Nandalal Bose, with contributions from artists such as Ram Manohar Sinha and artists from Shantiniketan.

These artworks were carefully placed throughout the Constitution to reflect India's heritage, from the ancient Indus Valley civilization to the modern freedom movement.

Artistic Vision Behind the Constitution

The illustrations were not random decorations. Each image symbolized an important phase of Indian history, culture, and values. Nandalal Bose supervised the artistic work and ensured that the artwork represented the spirit of Indian civilization.

The artists used traditional Indian painting styles and motifs. Every illustration complements the text and reminds readers of the long cultural journey that led to the creation of independent India.

Important Illustrations in the Constitution

1. **Page 1 - Harappan Bull**

   The first page of the Constitution contains the image of the Harappan Bull, inspired by the ancient seals of the Indus Valley Civilization. This symbol represents one of the world's earliest urban civilizations, reminding readers that Indian culture has deep and ancient roots.

2. **Page 6 - Ram, Sita, and Lakshman**

   On page 6, there is an illustration of Rama, Sita, and Lakshmana from the epic Ramayana. This scene represents ideals of duty, sacrifice, and righteousness, values that are central to Indian cultural traditions.

3. **Page 63 - Buddha**

   Page 63 features an image of Gautama Buddha, the founder of Buddhism. The depiction of Buddha symbolizes peace, wisdom, compassion, and moral guidance. It highlights the importance of non-violence and ethical living in Indian philosophy.

4. **Page 113 - Nataraja**

   Page 113 contains the famous image of Nataraja, the cosmic dancing form of Shiva. This symbol represents the rhythm of creation, preservation, and destruction in the universe. It also reflects India's deep spiritual and artistic traditions.

5. **Page 160 - Subhas Chandra Bose and INA**

   One of the most powerful illustrations appears on page 160, depicting Subhas Chandra Bose along with the soldiers of the Indian National Army. This image honours the bravery and sacrifice of those who fought for India's independence.

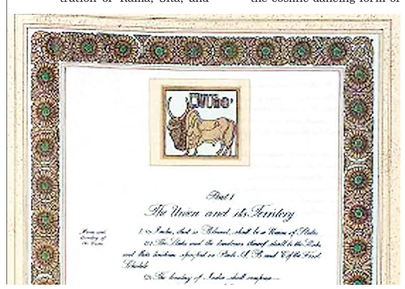
6. **Page 181 - Maritime Trade**

   Page 181 shows a scene of maritime trade, representing India's long history of sea trade with other civilizations. Ancient Indian traders traveled across oceans to places in Southeast Asia and beyond, spreading culture, goods, and ideas.

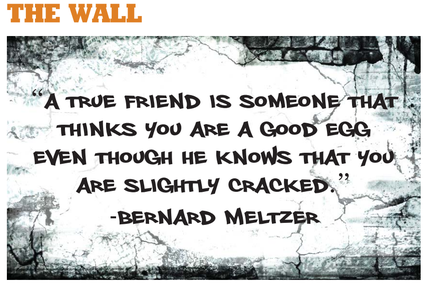
Contribution of the Artists

The artistic work of the Constitution reflects the vision of Nandalal Bose and his students. Another important contributor, Ram Manohar Sinha, also helped in designing and painting several illustrations. Their work ensured that the Constitution visually tells the story of India's cultural evolution.





THE WALL



BABY BLUES

By Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



ZITS

By Jerry Scott & Jim Borgman

