

Warm Up

۲

- a. Have you been to a science exhibition or a science fair?
- b. What are the common themes of these exhibitions?
- c. People are exploiting Nature and its resources in many ways. Think of a few and discuss with your partner. Look what lies under...



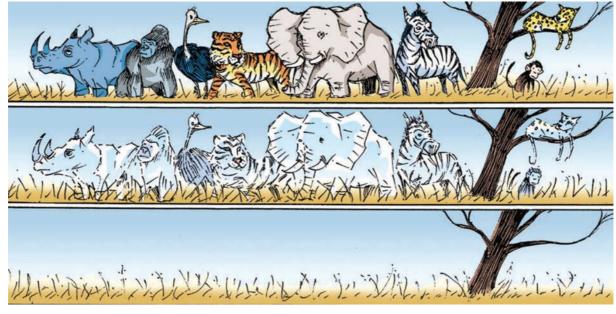
d. Do you recognise the environmental threat given below?



This kind of pollution is called ocean dumping. Discuss in groups and suggest what students and young peole can do to raise awareness and get society to take action to overcome this issue.



e. Observe the three stages. What do you notice? Discuss with your partner and share your thoughts with the class.



Human beings are social animals but do not consider the other species on the earth! Let's spare a thought for the endangered species and keep them alive for the next generation.



a. Have you heard a story about the humming bird!

1. The story of the hummingbird is about this huge forest being consumed by a fire. All the animals in the forest come out and they are transfixed as they watch the forest burning and they feel very overwhelmed, very powerless, except this little hummingbird. It says, 'I'm going to do something about the fire!' So it flies to the **nearest** stream and

takes a drop of water. It puts it on the fire, and goes up and down, up and down, as fast as it can.

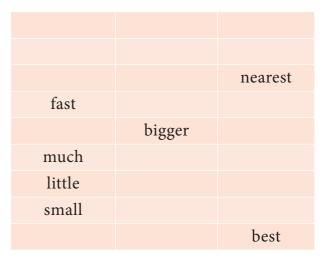


2. In the meantime all the other animals, much **bigger** animals like the elephant with a big trunk that could bring **much** more water, they are standing there helpless. And

they are saying to the hummingbird, 'What do you think you can do? You are too little. This fire is too big. Your wings are too **little** and your beak is so **small** that you can only bring a small drop of water at a time.'

3. But as they continue to discourage it, it turns to them without wasting any time and it tells them, 'I am doing the **best** I can.'

a. Look at the highlighted words and fill in the other forms in the two columns. (Refer to a Dictionary.)



b. Do you see sparrows around your house now-a-days. Have you ever thought where they are or where they have gone? Read the following text and learn more about sparrows.

Homeless House Sparrows

1. In recent times the house sparrow (Passer domesticus indicus) has become one of the endangered birds. The reasons

for its decline in number are many such as lack of nesting places, lack of food etc. We are hard pressed to spot the humble house sparrow, known as,



"angadikuruvi" and we need something like World Sparrow Day observed on March 20th every year since 2010, to remind us of our close connection and this bird, that has over centuries successfully adapted itself to human life.

2. Once upon a time, nests of house sparrows were to be found in almost every household as well as in public places such as markets (hence the name "angadikuruvi"), bus bays and railway stations where they lived in colonies and survived on food grains, insects and worms. Nowadays they are facing a crisis of survival in what was once their natural range/habitat. They can only be seen in television and pictures.

a. Why is a sparrow called "angadikuruvi"?

b. What sort of crisis are sparrows facing today?

3. Sparrows are small, plump, brown-grey birds with short tails and stubby powerful

beaks. They are small birds with a distinct difference between male and female birds;

the male has a black throat, white cheeks and black bib while the female is brown with an



eye stripe. Their average size is 14–16cms and weigh nearly 26–32 gms.One peculiar behaviour of house sparrows is dust bathing. The sparrows will first scratch a hole in the ground with their feet, then lie in it and fling dirt or sand over their bodies with flicks of their wings. They will also bathe in water. Water bathing is similar to dust bathing, with the sparrow standing in shallow water and splashing water over its back with its wings, and also ducking its head under water.

c. How do sparrows take a dust bath?

4. House sparrow is listed in Red Data Book of International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN). The reasons for the decline of the house sparrows are many. Studies show that it may be because of the destruction of its habitat, due to urbanization and super market culture taking over local markets, lack of insects that are vital for the young chicks and even electromagnetic pollution from mobile phone towers that harm its reproductive cycle. In addition, use of broad spectrum insecticides has destroyed insects and thus the availability of insects to feed on. It also leads to inaccessibility of pesticide free fruits. Recent surveys reveal sparrows near organic farms looking for food on the ground.

d. Give two reasons for the decline in the number of sparrows.

Importance of sparrows

5. Every organism in this planet has its own role to play in the web of interconnected life. These enchanting tiny birds help in maintaining the ecological balance. A sparrow is an important member of various urban and natural food chains and food webs. It feeds on grains like rice, wheat etc. and also on larva of mosquitoes. This mechanism is a natural pest control process which helps human beings. Sparrows assist in the process of pollen transfer thus leading to pollination of the flower. Sparrows are loved by young and old. These lovable and charming birds bring prosperity to us. Our children have always enjoyed watching them and entertain themselves by singing songs related to sparrows.

e. Why is the sparrow important in food chains and food webs?

Sparrow Conservation

6. World Sparrow Day is celebrated to raise awareness and create a platform

to highlight the need to conserve sparrows and the bio-diversity of this earth.



• Creating awareness about these birds seems to be the key to their survival. World Sparrow Day is a step in the right direction. • As always individual efforts count the most and all it takes is a pot with a small hole that is hung anywhere outside to attract sparrows.

• There are many online sparrow monitoriing projects, where bird enthusiasts record sightings of sparrows. The Nature Forever Society, based in Pune, is running a similar programme, viz Common Bird Monitoring of India.

f. Why should we save this small, common bird?

For instance, in October, 2012 the Delhi government has declared the house sparrow as the State Bird. It is a milestone in the conservation of the bird and has been done to lay emphasis on the magnitude of action required to conserve the small birds. It is time to take effective action to conserve the tiny social bird. It is our responsibility to save this small, lovable, beautiful and harmless bird for environment conservation. It requires a part of your heart and a little effort that may create an impact in the life system of house sparrows.

Glossary	

decline(adj)	: decreasing/ weakening
adapted(v)	: to adjust according to the surroundings
habitat(n)	: a place in which one lives
distinct(adj)	: prominent, clear
peculiar(adj)	: odd, unusual
flicker (v)	: make small quick
	movements

urbanization(n)	: process of the formation and growth of cities
vital(adj)	: very important
insecticide(n)	: a substance used to kill insects
prosperity(n)	: having good fortune
enthusiast(n)	: a person who is very interested in and



involved

The Ministry of Environment and Forest recently announced that there are 14 species of birds that might not fly anymore in the future and might be extinct in India. The announcement came after International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) informed the ministry. The three main reasons for the threatened status of these birds, according to IUCN is poaching, excessive use of insecticides and loss of habitat. White-rumped Vulture, Indian Vulture, Red-headed Vulture, Siberian Crane, Bengal Florican, Himalayan Quail, Forest Owlet, White-belled Heron, Sociable Lapwing, Christmas Frigatebird, Jerdon's Courser, Pink-headed Duck,Spoon billed Sandpiper, Great Indian Bustard. If you would like to see these birds, go to the link :http://indiasendangered.

There are 15 wildlife and 15 bird sanctuaries that together cover over 2997.60 km², 2.30% of the total state area of Tamilnadu. com/14-species-of-birds-on-the-vergeof-extinction/

Language Study.

Look at the words 'agriculture' and 'horticulture'

The suffix "- culture" is added to mean growth or cultivation

Based on this model, a few terms for the cultivation or growing of specific plants or animals are mentioned below.

A) Words	B) Meaning
a) agriculture	- farming
b) apiculture	- bee-keeping
c) aquaculture	 aquatic animals or plants
d) aviculture	- birds
e) floriculture	- flowers
f) horticulture	- gardening

Now match the Column A with Column B.

A) Words		B) Meaning
a) mariculture	-	development of sustainable agriculture
b) monoculture	-	raising of fish in tanks
c) permaculture	-	silk and silkworms
d) sericulture	-	earthworms
e) pisciculture	-	sea fish or other marine life
f) vermiculture	-	grapevines
g) viticulture	-	cultivation of only one sort of crop

Unit-6_109-125_SPARE A THOUGHT - March-11-2018.indd 110

A phobia is extreme fear or dislike of something.

Words		Meaning	
1. agrizoophobia	-	fear of wild animals	
2. agyrophobia	-	fear of streets or crossing them	
3. aichmophobia	-	fear of needles or pointed objects	
4. ailurophobia	-	fear of cats	
5. acerophobia	-	fear of sourness	

Now, find out what the following phobias mean.

achluophobia	acousticophobia
acrophobia	bibliophobia
botanophobia	brontophobia
equinophobia	onomatophobia
ophidiophobia	pediophobia
pedophobia	thermophobia

A mania is an excessive enthusiasm, desire or obession for something.

Words	Meaning
1. ablutomania	- mania for washing oneself
2. arithmomania	- obsessive preoccupation with numbers
3. clinomania	 excessive desire to stay in bed
4. dinomania	- mania for dancing

Now, find out what the following mania mean.

ergomania	graphomania
kleptomania	megalomania
monomania	plutomania

G Grammar a. Word formation and spelling

Words in English are not always spelled as they are pronounced. Spelling in English follows some basic rules and the majority of English words (around 75%) follow these rules. You can learn the rules but there are always exceptions to the rules that need to be learned too.



The main basic spelling rules of English relate to: spelling and plural; doubling letters; dropping and adding letters; verb forms, prefixes and suffixes;

When there is a prefix, we do not normally add or take away more letters:

dis + obey → disobey	mis + <mark>spell</mark> → misspell
in + <mark>humane →</mark> inhumane	over + hear \rightarrow overhear

Prefixes il-, im-, ir-

We commonly use the prefixes il-, im- or irwhen the first letter of a word is l, m, p, or r.

il- before l	im- before m	ir- before r
	or p	
<mark>il</mark> legible	<mark>im</mark> moral	<mark>ir</mark> relevant

Spelling and plural forms

There are rules for the plurals of regular nouns and the - s forms of regular verbs. The general rule is add - s:

$bring \rightarrow brings$	day→days	$ear \rightarrow ears$
$smile \rightarrow smiles$	speak → speaks	$town \rightarrow towns$

If the ending is pronounced as 'ch' /tJ/ or 's' /s/, we add -es /Iz/:

noun plurals	verb -s forms
$bus \rightarrow buses$	$cross \rightarrow crosses$
$church \rightarrow churches$	$fetch \rightarrow fetches$

If a word ends in an -e, we add a n -s:

$base \rightarrow bases$	face → faces
judge → judges	$lose \rightarrow loses$

If the word ends in a consonant plus -y, we change -y to i and add -es:

noun plurals	verb -s forms
$baby \rightarrow babies$	$marry \rightarrow marries$
$opportunity \rightarrow$	$reply \rightarrow replies$
opportunities	

We add -esto some wor ds ending in -o:

noun plurals	noun plurals/ verb -s forms
$tomato \rightarrow tomatoes$	2

However, some words ending in -o only require -s: videos, discos, pianos, memos, photos.

For some nouns ending in -f or -fe, we form the plural by changing the -f or -fe to -ves:

$loaf \rightarrow loaves$	shelf \rightarrow shelves
thief \rightarrow thieves	wife \rightarrow wives

Spelling: doubling consonants(tense)

We often double the final consonant of a word (b, d, g, l, m, n, p, r, t) when a suffix beginning with a vowel is added (-ed, -er, -est, -ing):

$hop + -ed \rightarrow hopped$	slim + -ing → slimming
$red + -ish \rightarrow reddish$	thin + -er \rightarrow thinner
$rub + -ed \rightarrow rubbed$	travel+ -er → traveller
$sit + -ing \rightarrow sitting$	wet + -er \rightarrow wetter

When we add a suffix to a word with more than one syllable, we double the consonant only when the word ends in a stressed syllable:

admit + -ing \rightarrow	prefer + -ed \rightarrow
admitting	preferred
forget + -ing \rightarrow	transmit + -ed \rightarrow
forgetting	transmitted
occur + -ence \rightarrow	upset + -ing \rightarrow
occurrence	upsetting

Compare, visit or enter where the spoken stress is on the first syllable:

visit \rightarrow *visiting enter* \rightarrow *entered*

Spelling: dropping and adding letters The final -e (Noun formation)

We often drop the final -e when a suffix beginning with a vowel is added to a word:

$approve + -al \rightarrow$	$hope + -ing \rightarrow$
approval	hoping
fame + -ous →famous	invite + -ation \rightarrow
	invitation
$hate + -ed \rightarrow hated$	$note + -able \rightarrow$
	notable
argue → argument	$true \rightarrow truly$
$due \rightarrow duly$	whole \rightarrow wholly

Changing -y to -i

When we add a suffix to a word ending in a consonant + -y, we normally change -y to i:

$amplify + -er \rightarrow$	$fury + -ous \rightarrow$
amplifier	furious
$busy + -ness \rightarrow$	$purify + -cation \rightarrow$
business	purification
$day + -ly \rightarrow daily$	reply + -ed \rightarrow
	replied

Spelling: ie or ei?

If in doubt about ie or ei, when the sound of the vowel is as in brief /i:/, we spell it ie; but after the letter c, we spell it ei:

ie	ei after c
achieve	ceiling
belief	conceit
diesel	deceive
niece	receipt
relieve	perceive

Frequently misspelled words

- 1. committee 2. eminence
- 3. opportunity 4. patronize 5. souvenir

b. Punctuation

How well do you know your punctuation? Why is it important?

Eats, Shoots and Leaves

A panda walks into a cafe. He orders a sandwich, eats it, then draws a gun and fires two shots in the air.



"Why?" asks the

confused waiter, as the panda makes towards the exit. The panda produces a badly punctuated wildlife manual and tosses it over his shoulder.

"I'm a panda." he says. "Look it up."

The waiter turns to the relevant page and finds an explanation.

"PANDA. Large black-and-white bear-like mammal, native to China. Eats, shoots and leaves."

	Punctuation		
•	Full Stop To end a sentence		
,	Comma To divide items in a list or to give a sentence clearer meaning		
?.	Question Mark At the end of a sentence when a question is asked		
!	Exclamation Mark At the end of an exiting sentence to emphasise a strong feeling		
•	Semi-Colon To link major elements of a sentence		
•	Colon Before a list		
۰۰ ٫٫	Quotation Marks To show the begining and end of what someone is saying		
-	Hyphen To join words together		
٢	Apostrophe When showing ownership or to show missing letters		

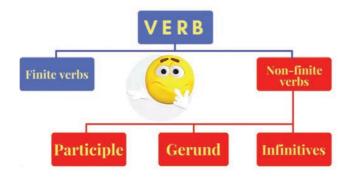
Task: Now that you have learnt to spell and punctuate, help this student to correct the spelling and punctuation errors he/she has made while taking down a dictated passage. Write the answers in the blanks provided. (One has been done for you.)

kichen garten

my Dream for the fuchure happened to be fun and rewaarding i had always Wanted to grow organic vejitables in a kichen garten of my own to use it in my own daytoday diet all i had to do was to utilise the space Outside the kichen i used natural vermiculture manure made from earthworm farms to grow my own Faourite vejitables like tomtoes cucumber aubergine ladies finger bottle gaurd corriander what a rich harvest my little garten became An envious one to my neihbours

Kitchen Garden

c. Some more verb forms.



Verbs which have the past or the present form are called **FINITE verbs**.

- ▲ I saw a sparrow chirping on the roof.
- ▲ I see a sparrow chirping on the roof.
- ▲ I have seen a sparrow chirping on the roof.

▲ They had seen a sparrow chirping on the roof.

Note: Of the two verb forms see and chirping only see changes with tense. That is the finite verb.

Verbs which do not change to indicate tense number or person are called **NON-FINITE** verbs.

Let us look at the use of Non-finite forms in detail.

Non-finite verbs do not indicate the action of subject or noun, number or tense, mood or gender in the sentence. They are commonly used in the sentence as nouns, adverbs and adjectives as well as to form non-finite clauses.

Non-finite verbs are classified into three types.

They are 1. Infinitives 2. Participles 3. Gerunds

i. Infinitives: It is considered the base form and uses the word 'to' before the verb. It functions as noun phrases or modifiers of nouns.

Eg.

1. It is our responsibility *to save* sparrows.

2. Water bathing is similar *to dust* bathing.

ii. Participle: It is formed by adding 'ing' or 'ed' to the basic verb. It is used as an adjective that modifies a noun.

Eg.

- 1. Creating awareness is the key to survival.
- 2. *Fluttering* their wings, the sparrows splashed in the water.

iii.Gerund: It is verb that ends in 'ing' and is used as a noun. It can be the subject of a verb, the object of a verb or the object of a preposition.

Eg.

1. *Perching* on the ground the sparrows search for grains.



2. *Nesting* of sparrows was very low last year.

Task: Underline the non-finites (infinitive, participles and gerunds) in the given sentences and identify its type.

Eg. Cycling is a good exercise. (Gerund)

- 1. Latha loves to cook exotic dishes.
- 2. The sleeping gatekeeper caused a delay.
- 3. Sathish enjoys reading.
- 4. The teachers encouraged the students to ask questions.
- 5. Hearing a loud noise, we ran to the window.
- 6. Smoking is prohibited.
- 7. Raj who was seriously injured in the accident is now fighting for his life.
- 8. Anandi likes to go trekking during holidays .
- 9. Mary suggested taking notes.
- 10. It was difficult to complete the rough draft.

Listening and Speaking

a. Children love to listen to fables and tales. Here's a grandma telling her grandson an interesting short tale. Let's listen to it carefully.

Let's learn something about the Art of Story Telling

Points to Remember

- ▹ Know your audience.
- ▶ Set the Scene.
- Be creative with chronology.
- ▶ Know your punchline.
- ▶ Be expressive and get excited.
- ▶ Tell the story like you talk.
- ▶ Make it easy to relate.
- ► Enjoy the process.

Task: Complete the following stories:

i) I was alone at home. It was half past nine in the night. My parents had gone out shopping. It was raining heavily. Suddenly the door bell rang, just then the power was cut. I stumbled in the darkness and

ii) One night as I was returning home after my music class, I looked up and saw a bright light up in the sky. It grew bigger as it moved down slowly. I became curious and followed it closely. Suddenly.....



a. Every school has an Earth Club that organises an Inter-School Science Exhibition. You are the Secretary of your school's Earth club. Draft a notice for your school noticeboard. Let's learn how to proceed with drafting notices.

NOTICE-WRITING

A Notice is a short piece of formal writing. It is usually to announce an event, give details of a meeting, arrange a tour or camp etc.

Things to remember while writing a notice.



In case of an event...

- Mention the target group (for whom is the notice)
- Purpose
- Date, time, venue
- Last date to register
- Contact details

In case of a meeting...

- Mention target group
- Purpose
- Date, time, venue
- Agenda
- Contact details

In case of arranging a tour or camp...

Mention target group

Places of visit

- Date and duration
- Cost of the trip
- Last date for registration
- Contact details

FORMAT OF A NOTICE

Name of the organisation/ Institution/office issuing Notice NOTICE HEADING Date of issue of Notice CONTENT Signature Name





The following is a notice by the Secretary of Earth Club for the students of Classes 9 to 12, informing them about an Inter-Class Debate competition with all necessary details.

GOVERNMENT HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL, TRICHY.

NOTICE

INTER-CLASS DEBATE COMPETITION

12th January, 2018

This is to inform the students of Classes 9 to 12 that an Inter - Class Debate is being organised from 10a.m to 12 noon on 23rd January, 2018, in the school Auditorium. The topic is 'Organic Farming is the need of the hour.' Those who are interested should give their names to their respective class teachers on or before 20th January ,2018.

Santhoshi Student Secretary, **GHSS Earth Club**



Quotable Faith is the bird that feels light when the dawn is still dark.

Task: Your school is holding a summer camp for training students on vermiculture. Write a notice for the school Notice board. You are Vijay / Vijaya, the Secretary of the Earth Club of your school.

Task: You are Adirai /Aravind, the School Pupil Leader of your school. Your school is organising a Science Exhibition for students of Class XI during the December vacation. Write a notice in about 50 – 70 words giving the information about the exhibition.

b. Writing a speech

Have you heard the speeches of Rabindranath Tagore or Swami Vivekananda. Their speeches have been published for their good content, values and effective



style. Writing a speech before you speak on a stage is as essential as presenting it.

- How can speeches make an impact on the listener?
- Why do we write speeches before we orate?

You may find that you are expected to speak in your school assembly, in a competition, school function or at a public gathering or social event, and being prepared to speak at these occasions requires planning and preparing the text beforehand. Here is a guideline. Secrets of writing a speech that wins a crowd:

Guidelines

• Open with a statement that will grasp the attention of the

audience. Choose your topic well.

• Focus on a message, which needs to match the occasion.



• Find the purpose; why are you

giving a speech on this topic? Pick your main ideas.

- Do not try to put too many ideas into your speech. Just give one or two main ideas.
- Persuade people by quoting someone else that the audience likes and respects.
- Write as you talk. Remember that you are writing a speech not an essay.
- Use short sentences. Don't use pretentious words. Use simple or concrete words.
- Concrete details keep people interested. Get your facts together.
- You want people to believe that you know what you are talking about. Use the library or Internet to collect information.
- All good speeches require shape an Introduction, the body and a conclusion.
- Simplify after you have written a first draft of your speech, go back and look for words you can edit or replace. Editing words can make your points clearer.

Unit-6_109-125_SPARE A THOUGHT - March-11-2018.indd 117

Have you heard about "The Girl Who Silenced the World for Five Minutes."

She was an environmentalist and an excellent orator. Severn Suzuki who took the microphone at the United Nations Earth



Summit in Rio de Janeiro in 1992 was just 12 years old. The following is an excerpt from her speech.

I'm only a child and I don't have all the solutions, but I want you to realise, neither do you! You don't know how to fix the holes in our ozone layer. You don't know how to bring salmon back up a dead stream. You don't know how to bring back an animal now extinct. And you can't bring back forests that once grew where there is now desert. If you don't know how to fix it, please stop breaking it!

Do not forget why you're attending these conferences, who you're doing this for we are your own children. You are deciding what kind of world we will grow up in. Parents should be able to comfort their children by saying "everything's going to be alright", "we're doing the best we can" and "it's not the end of the world."

Task: Now it's your turn! Write a speech for the morning assembly, on endangered animals and ways to protect them.

c. Thiruthamizh, an active volunteer of NSS of your school, participates in a science exhibition. He writes his diary at the end of the day where he shares his

experiences. Go through his diary entry and understand the format and the language of diary-writing.

Diary is a kind of personal document of

an individual to pen down his/ her emotions, thoughts or feelings on а daily basis. It be created can



or designed for various needs - to write down a list, weekly plan, calendar events etc., apart from writing day wise journals.

14th Nov, (Wednesday)

10 p.m.

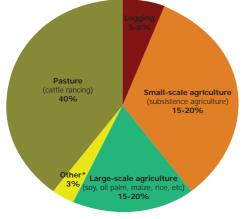
It was a great day, with my entire school preparing for the Earth Club activities. My friends and representatives of each class, along with NSS volunteers were all dressed prim and proper in their crisp uniforms. Tying festoons, twirling and twisting colour ribbons did turn out beyond control as it was a breezy day. Tangling and detangling the ribbons did irritate us then... but thinking of it now is hilarious! Legs were trod! Exhibits displayed serial lights and necessary connections for the animated exhibits all had to be unpacked!! Fixed - unfixed several times until the Chief Guest arrived to see the exhibits. On the whole, it was worth I all the trouble. Watching the mayhem around me, I really learnt the art of managing!

I have to thank my friends for making the day memorable

After you go home from school, think of the day and enter it in the diary format .

d. Just as a passage gives us a lot of information, a pie-chart or bar graph will contain a lot of information. A picture paints a thousand words!

The process of presenting facts in a diagram is called encoding. Look at the pie-chart given below on the utility of tropical forests. Observe how it is decoded and understood.



* Other Includes urbanization, dams, infrastrure, mining, non-agricultural fires

Read the questions and answers given below.

1. What do the different sections in the pie-chart say?

The different sections referred in the piechart are pasture, logging, small-scale agriculture, large-scale agriculture and others.

2. What is the highest percentage of land used for?

The highest percentage of land is used for pasture.

3. What is meaning of logging?

Logging is the activity or business of felling trees and cutting and preparing the timber.

Task: Study the following posters and write your observations about the threats to animal and human life we face these days.





i. Collect some pictures, slogans and stor ies about birds, its nesting habits, birdbaths and make a bird feeder.



ii. Complete the visually appealing poster in about 50 words.



Extensive Reading

Here are a few environmentalists who have fought with determination for a Green Globe and Save nature for the future!



Wangaari Maathai (Africa)



Saalumarada Thimmakka (Karnataka)



Rachel Carson (U.S.A)



Jadev Payeng (Assam)



G. Nammalwar (Tamil Nadu)



Jyotsna Sitling (West Bengal)

Gather information about these environmentalists and find out what they have done.



۲

An environmental science degree equips you with essential skills and practical experience that could lead to a career in the environment sector or a range of other occupations such as...

- Environmental consultant
- Marine biologist
- Nature conservation officer
- Recycling officer
- Sustainability consultant
- Waste management officer
- Water quality scientist
- Environmental health practitioner
- Landscape architect
- Town planner
- Toxicologist



 \bigcirc

.



	The Green Crusade -
★	A Sand County Almanac

- A The World Without Us
- 🔺 Ecotopia

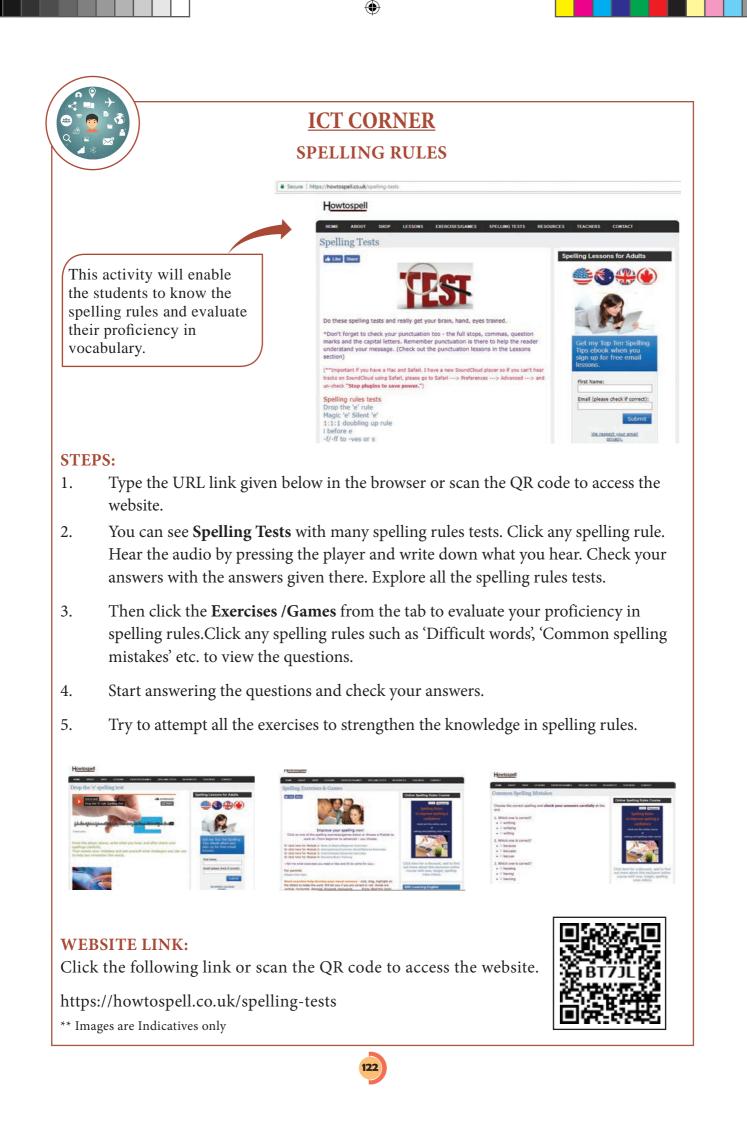
- The Improving State of the World
- ▲ Bountiful Harvest
- **A** friend of the Earth

Charles '	T. Ru	bin
-----------	-------	-----

۲

- Aldo Leopold
- Alan Weisman
- Ernest Callenbach
- Indur M. Goklany
 - Thomas R. Degregori
 - T.C. Boyle





 \bigcirc

Listening Activity

Unit - 1

Vijay: Hi Yusuf, how are you?

Yusuf: I am fine and how about you?

Vijay: I am fine too.

Yusuf:

Where were you? I haven't see you for some time.

Vijay:

Oh Sorry! I forgot to tell you. I was on a school excursion.

Yusuf: Nice to hear! How was the trip?

Vijay: Excellent! It was really awesome.

Yusuf: Oh, I see! Where did you go?

Vijay:

We went to Vellore fort, Sathanoor dam, Tiruvannamalai and Gingee.

Yusuf: How many days was the study tour?

Vijay: It was a 2-day trip.

Yusuf: Tell me something about Gingee fort.

Vijay: It is a place of historical interest.

Yusuf: What was the most interesting there?

Vijay:

The two mountains - Raja and Rani mountains. Enjoyed hiking on them. It was very interesting.

Yusuf:

Tell me something interesting about Sathanur dam.

Vijay:

Sathanur Dam, is one of the major dams in Tamil Nadu. It is build across the Thenpennai River, also called the Pennaiyar River that flows through the Chennakesava Hills. The dam can be reached by road. It is about 30 km from Thiruvannamalai City. It was constructed in 1958. There is also a large crocodile farm and a fish grotto. There are parks inside the dam that you can visit.

Yusuf:

Did you visit the crocodile park?

Vijay:

Yes, it was very good and surprisingly this was my first visit to the Thiruvannamalai temple.

Yusuf:

What was very interesting there?

Vijay:

The shopping, the temple and the landscape were quite interesting.

Yusuf: Who accompanied you?

Vijay:

All my teachers and friends.

123

()

Yusuf:

What did you think of the study tour?

Vijay:

I will never forget the trip. I learnt to adapt with others, share with others.

Yusuf:

That's great to hear.

Unit-3

Fourteen people were killed - 10 in Tamil Nadu and four in Kerala, and life was hit as torrential rain pounded the southern districts of both the states after a deep depression in the Bay of Bengal transformed into Cyclone Ockhion Thursday and became a severe cyclonic storm on Friday, moving to the Arabian Sea. The Navy rescued eight fishermen caught in choppy waters and intensified search for 30 others who ware missing. Both state governments have put the disaster management team on high alert as the severe cyclonic storm, lying 60 km south of Kanyakumari, was expected to dump more rain in south Tamil Nadu and Kerala in the next 24 hours. It was expected to move toward the Lakshadweep archipelago in the Arabian sea and hit the islands on Saturday.

Unit-4

A full thirty days after Ramzan comes Id. It is a glorious morning. Look at this morning's sun. How lovely! As if it were congratulating the world on this day of Id. The villagers are getting ready to go to the Idgah. It will be late getting back from the Idgah. A walk of three miles, meeting and greeting hundreds of people; it would be impossible to return before noon!

The boys are the happiest. Some had kept

only a single fast, some not even that. Fasting is for grown-ups and old people. But the joy of the boys going to the Idgah cannot be diminished. They were counting the days, and at last the day has arrived. Now they are impatient.

Their own pockets bulge with coins, like the stomach of the pot-bellied Kubera, the Hindu God of wealth. They are forever taking the treasure out of their pockets and counting and re-counting it before putting it back. Out of this countless hoard, they will buy countless things – toys, sweets, trumpets, balls, and much more.

The happiest of all was Hamid. This boy was four or five years old, and thin and scrawny. His father had died of cholera the previous year and his mother bade farewell to the world. Hamid now lived with his grandmother Amina, slept in her protective arms and was just as happy as ever. Hamid had no shoes on his feet and the cap on his head was soiled and tattered. Nevertheless, he was happy. Poor Amina sits in her hovel and cries. Today is Id and she does not have a grain of food in the house. But what about Hamid? He is not concerned with the harsh realities of life. In his heart, there is brightness; in his mind, there is hope.

Hamid enters the hut and tells his grandmother, "You must not worry, Amma. I'll come back before anyone else. Don't be afraid of me."

Amina feels a tightening around her heart. Other children in the village are all going with their fathers. The only father Hamid has is Amina. How can she send him alone to the crowded fair? If he gets lost, who will help him? No, Amina would not let him go alone.

Poor little soul! Three miles of walking! He has no shoes on his feet. He will get blisters. If she were to go with him, she would pick him up every now and then, but then, three paise in Hamid's pocket, five in Amina's pouch. This was all there was, it is the festival of Id.

The villagers start for the fair. Hamid is walking along with the children. Sometimes they run ahead of the others, then sit under a tree and wait impatiently for the others.

Suddenly they could see the Idgah. These villagers wash their hands and feet and line up behind the others. A hundred thousand heads bow together in prayer!

The prayers are over. Men embrace each other. Then they descend on the sweet shops and toy vendors like an army moving for an assault. Hamid stands at some distance. He has only three paise. He cannot waste onethird of his treasure on any of these.

After the toys, it is the sweets. One buys rewri, another gulabjamun, a third sohan halwa. They eat with great relish. Hamid remains aloof. The poor fellow has only three paise.

After the sweet shops, there are some hardware shops and metal shops. There is no attraction for the boys here. They all walk on ahead except Hamid who stops outside a metal shop. He sees a pile of tongs. He remembers that his grandmother does not have a pair of tongs. Each time she bakes chapathi, she burns her fingers. If he bought her a chimta, she would be very happy. And then she wouldn't burn her fingers so. Where does poor Amma have the time to visit a market? Nor does she have the money. So, she burns her fingers every day.

At once Hamid bought it. Then he put it on his shoulder like a gun, and filled with pride, joined his friends. He wondered what sarcastic remarks the boys would pass, but it didn't matter.

By eleven o'clock, there was excitement in the village; the revelers were coming home.

On hearing his voice, Amina rushed forward and picked him up and kissed him. When she spotted the tongs, she was taken aback.

"Where did you get this from?"

"I bought it."

"For how much?"

"For three paise."

Amina grew angry. What a stupid boy! It is almost noon and you have not eaten or drunk anything. "A chimta! In the entire fair could you find nothing other than a stupid chimta?"

Hamid said meekly, "You burn your fingers when you make chapatti. That is why I bought it."

The old woman's temper changed to love. She did not say anything for her love was silent and seeped in tenderness. What concern for others! What a big heart! The poor boy! How he must have suffered seeing the others buying toys and eating sweets! Even at the fair, he only thought of his old grandmother! Amina's head was too full of words.

And then a very strange thing happened, stranger than the part played by the chimta. Hamid the child was now playing the role of Hamid the old man. And the old grandmother Amina became Amina the little girl. She broke down. She spread her dupatta and beseeched Allah's blessings for her grandchild. Large tears fell from her eyes

while Hamid comforted her. How was Hamid to understand what was going on inside her!

Unit-5

The protests carried out by the people in favour of Jallikattu are another example of how social media has forever changed the social and political discourse in India.If there is one thing to take away from the Jallikattu protests at the Marina beach, it is the power of social media and the ripples it can create in our daily lives. How did Jallikattu suddenly define Tamil identity for numerous city bred youngsters? The answer to that question is surprisingly simple – social media.

This is not the first time the city's youth have actively taken to social media for a cause. The floods in December 2015 were a clear example and so was cyclone Vardah. The trend resurfaced with the Jallikattu protests– only bigger and fiercer. We do jallikattu was one of the first hashtags to pop up. Several versions of the hashtag like support jallikattu, AmendPCA, justice for jallikattu started trending ferociously. The initially small protest gathered huge momentum on social media, drawing huge numbers to the beach.

Every development from there was widely shared using all forms of social media such as twitter, facebook, instagram, whatsapp, FM radio etc.. Images of people sleeping at the Marina beach on the first night of the protest and the image of youngsters flashing their phone lights were shared and re-shared. Celebrities tweeted their support. More posts on media made the entire city swell with a sense of community. As the clamour increased, the event drew more and more footfall, as people wanted to be a part of it to support the cause.

Unit-6

Grandma:

Dear, it's time to go to bed. Come here, it's story time.

Grandson:

Yeah Granny, I'm waiting for you. Tell me something new about our civilisations. Yesterday, you told me about the creation of earth and evolution of Man.

Grandma:

Honey, at last, all ancient civilisations ended barren.

Grandson:

Is it? Why did all ancient civilizations end barren? What happened to the trees and animals that lived here?

Grandma:

It's a long story. Long long ago, there was lots of water in rivers, ponds and lakes and lots of trees were there. The spotted deer roamed and the cheetah hunted it down as nature made it. There were snakes in the grass and insects among the plants. Man came in and the scene started to change... they killed animals, cut trees and their greed never stopped. Roads and Tracks appeared... the rains became rare...droughts increased. There were no leaves to welcome them, what little rain came the sand soaked it up... and that is why it is barren.

Grandson:

Yeah Ma!! I now understand the reality behind barren civilisations. I shall think of saving water for the future.

Grandma:

Good, dear! Good night.

