

**LEARN YOUR ENGLISH SERIES**

# **ENGLISH READER**

**Text Book  
for  
Class VII**



**PUNJAB SCHOOL EDUCATION BOARD**

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**First Edition 2014-15**

**Edition 2018-19..... 1,94,754 Copies**

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## FOREWORD

Punjab School Education Board has always been engaged in an endeavour to ensure the dissemination of quality education and information to the students of the state. English is both a national and an international Language . It is therefore important that our students do not lag behind in the matter of proficiency in English language at any level or in any field. The Board is, therefore, constantly engaged in revising and updating the teaching materials to be used in the schools of Punjab. English, as is well known, is a compulsory subject from Class I onwards. The Present Book is a part of the series of textbooks in English prepared under the guidance of Mrs. Amreeta Gill (Retired), Director Academics, Punjab School Education Board. The book has been prepared by Mrs. Sushmita Malik; vetted by Dr. D.V. Jindal, Mrs. Gursharan Arora; revised by Dr. N.P. Manocha, retd. Prof. S.D. College, Chandigarh; edited by Ms. Surabhi Jaikwal, Lecturer in English, Punjab School Education Board, S.A.S. Nagar; Illustrated by Mr. Gurdeep Singh Deep. It is hoped that the book revised as per the recommendations of NCF 2005 and Punjab Curriculum Framework 2013, will go a long way in helping our students to develop deep interest in the language and use it in daily life with confidence. An attempt has been made to base the book on the functional use of the language, talking care of pedagogical needs of the children. An attempt has also been made to base the books on the functional use of the language, taking care of pedagogical needs of the children.

We would gratefully welcome comments and suggestions from teachers, experts and users of the book for any further improvement,

**Chairman**

Punjab School Education Board

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## How the Camel Got its Hump

moisten  
recite

yoke  
hump

disturbed  
especially

creature  
store

extra  
realised

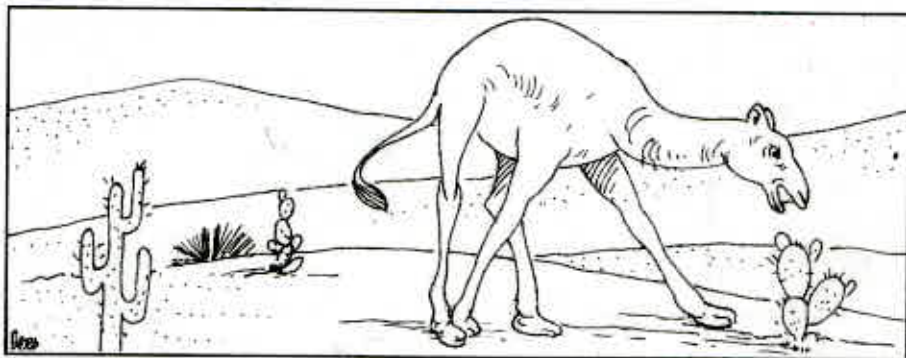
[Adapted from 'Just So Stories' by Rudyard Kipling]

Thousands of years ago, when the world was new and the animals had just begun to work for Man, there lived a camel in a desert. He lived there because he did not want to work. (*You know a desert has nothing but sand in it*). So he ate all day. He ate thorns and sticks. He chewed cactus stems to moisten his throat. Sometimes he walked to the edge of the desert where grasses were juicier.

He always sat below a huge sand hill, and if any creature spoke to him, he just said "Humph!"

One morning, a horse came up to him and said, "Camel, O camel! Come and live like the rest of us."

The camel opened one sleepy eye and said, "Humph!" So the horse went away and told Man.



Soon a dog came along and told the camel, "Look what I do for Man! He throws a stick and I bring it back to him. Come and do the same."

"Humph!" said the camel.

Then an ox came to him. He had a yoke on his neck. "O camel of the desert!" said he. "Come and help Man. Plough his land like I do."

The camel was by now getting rather angry for being disturbed so often. So he gave a loud 'Humph! Humph!' and walked away.

At the end of the day Man called the horse, the dog and the ox, and said, "Since that 'humph thing' in the desert won't work (*and there's so much to do*), you'll all have to work double time."

Now this made the three very angry. They held a meeting to decide what they should do. As they were thinking, along came the Jinn of the desert. They made up their mind to ask for help.

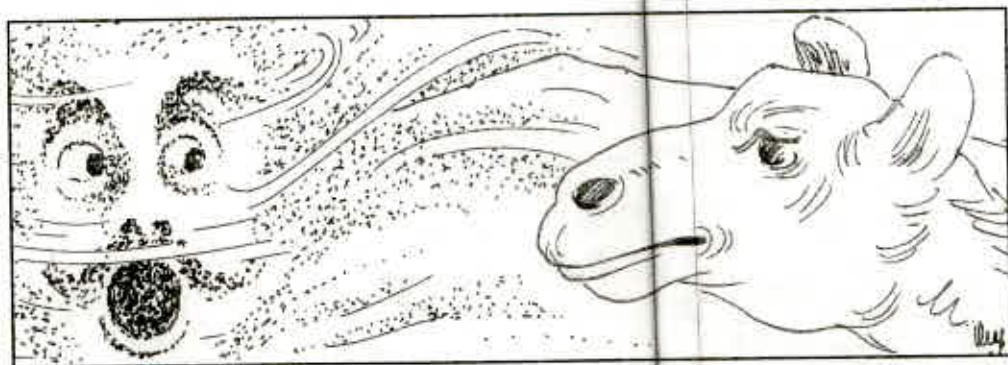
"Jinn of the Desert," said they, "is it right for someone to be idle?"

"Certainly not!" said the Jinn.

"Well," said the horse, "there's a creature in the middle of the desert. It has a long neck and long legs. He refuses to do any work."

"Very well," said the Jinn, "I'll talk to him soon."

So he rolled himself in his dust cloak, and flew across the desert to where the camel, was.



"My friend", said the Jinn to the camel, "what is this I hear about not working for Man?"

"Humph!" said the camel.

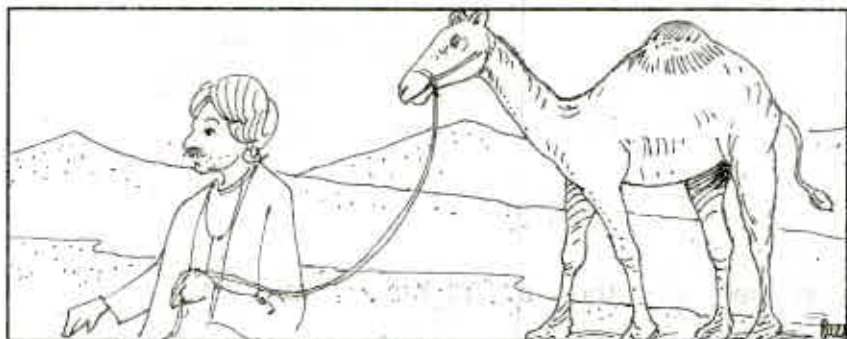
"Because of you, the horse, the dog and the ox have extra work to do," he continued.

"Humph!" said the camel.

*(The Jinn realised he would get no other answer, so he began to recite some magic words in his mind.)*

He said to the camel, "I want you to work for Man, you shouldn't sit idle."

Once again the camel answered with a loud "Humph!" But no sooner had he said it, than he felt his back puffing up and puffing up into a great big HUMP.



"Do you see that?" said the Jinn. *(The camel was very upset.)*

"That's your very own "Humph" which you've brought upon yourself by being so lazy. Now you are going to help Man."

"How can I," said the camel, "with this huge thing on my back?"

"Oh I've given that especially to you," said the Jinn. "It'll help you work harder and better."

"But how?" asked the camel.

"Well, you won't have to eat everyday from now on," explained the Jinn. "You can store your food in your humph, and then work for a week without stopping. And don't you say I never did anything for you!"

Saying this the Jinn disappeared. From that day, the camel has had a hump.



### Glossary

moisten	:	to wet something I tried to <b>moisten</b> the cloth.
yoke	:	wooden frame for joining oxen at the neck The oxen were badly hurt when the <b>yoke</b> gave way.
disturb	:	to cause somebody to worry It is not good to <b>disturb</b> people when they are working.
creature	:	living being The earth is full of <b>creatures</b> both big and small.
extra	:	more than needed or required I have an <b>extra</b> ticket.
recite	:	to say a piece of literature aloud from memory Rita was asked to <b>recite</b> a poem for the competition.
hump	:	a round projecting part of the back of a camel The camel stores fat in its <b>hump</b> .
especially	:	particularly It is not safe here to go out alone, <b>especially</b> at night time.
store	:	to keep a supply of something for future use We have to <b>store</b> water during summers.
realise	:	to become aware of I <b>realise</b> it is not easy to learn karate.
idle	:	not in action or at work
make up	:	
mind	:	decided
refuse	:	not to accept

### EXERCISES

#### I Answer the following questions :

1. Why did the camel live in a desert?
2. What did the horse ask the camel to do?
3. What did the Jinn say after reciting some magic words in his mind?
4. Where can the camel store his food?
5. Why was the camel unhappy about his hump?



## II Who said these words and to whom?

1. "Camel, O camel! Come and live like the rest of us."
2. "Come and help man. Plough his land like I do."
3. "Is it right for someone to be idle?"
4. "What is this I hear about not working for man?"
5. "Well, you won't have to eat everyday from now on."

## III Complete the following sentences with the help of the text.

1. The camel chewed.....
2. The ox had a yoke.....
3. They made up their mind.....
4. The camel was getting angry.....
5. The Jinn flew.....

## IV Suggest one word each from the lesson for the following expression

1. Line marking the outer limit/boundary of a place.
2. To bite food many times with your teeth.
3. A thorny plant with a thick fleshy stem with no leaves.
4. A large farming tool with sharp blades to cut and turn over the soil.
5. A large area of land where there is sand and sand and very little water or very few plants.

## V Tick the correct word given in the brackets:

1. Our modern towns are concrete (deserts/desserts).
2. The ox had a (yolk/yoke) on his neck.
3. We should not sit (idle/ideal).
4. The magician wore a (clock/cloak).
5. The camel sat (blow/below) a huge sand hill.

VI **Write the antonyms of these words.**

1. often .....
2. end .....
3. lazy .....
4. opened .....
5. never .....

VII **Choose the correct feminine gender of the given words from the four choices:**

- |       |                              |
|-------|------------------------------|
| horse | lamb/mare/deer/colt          |
| dog   | bitch/kitten/bear/puppy      |
| ox    | cow/bull/buffalo/pony        |
| tiger | panther/tigress/lion/leopard |

VIII **Complete the table using suitable degrees:**

_____	jucier	_____
hard	_____	_____
_____	better	_____
young	_____	_____
fast	_____	_____

**'Dis' in the word disappeared (dis + appeared) acts as a prefix (put at the beginning) added to some verbs to convey opposite meaning. Make words using 'dis' as a prefix and use these words in sentences.**

1. comfort .....
2. like .....

3. courage .....
4. connect .....
5. agree .....

X

There is one word in each line given below. One word in the first line has been found for you. Find out a word in each of the remaining lines.

B	L	A	N	G	R	Y	Z
P	D	E	S	E	R	T	K
P	H	U	H	U	M	P	R
P	T	H	O	R	N	S	Q
Q	R	S	L	E	E	P	Y
K	M	O	I	S	T	E	N

\*\*\*\*\*



## The Selfish Giant

Giant	blossoms	gruff voice	trespasser
prosecute	North Wind	Frost	Hail
twittering	farthest	knock	down
beneath	stretched out	wicked	paradise
	knelt	rattled on the roof	

*[This is an abridged version of the story "The selfish Giant" written by Oscar Wilde more than a hundred years ago.]*

Every afternoon, on their way back from school, the children used to go and play in the Giant's garden. It was a lovely garden with soft green grass. Over the grass stood beautiful flowers like stars, and there were peach trees that in spring bore delicate blossoms of pink and pearl, and in autumn rich fruit. Birds sat on the trees and sang so sweetly that the children would often stop playing and listen to them. One day the Giant came back. He had gone to his friend for seven years. He saw the children playing in his garden.

"What are you doing here?" he cried in his gruff voice. The children were scared. "My garden is my own garden and I will allow nobody to play in it", said the selfish Giant. He built a high wall round it and put up a board which read:

**TRESPASSERS WILL BE PROSECUTED**

The poor children had nowhere to play. They tried to play on the road, but it was dusty and full of stones. They would wander around the high walls and talk about the beautiful garden inside. "How happy we were!" the children said to each other.



Then spring arrived. All over the country the trees were full of little blossoms and birds sat on the trees and sang. But in the garden of the selfish Giant it was still winter. Trees did not blossom; birds did not care to sing as there were no children. The Snow and Frost were so pleased. Snow covered the grass with her great white cloak and frost painted all the trees silver. The North Wind roared all day about the garden and blew down the chimney pots. Soon Hail visited too. He rattled on the roof of the castle and ran round and round the garden.

The Giant could not understand why Spring was so late in coming. He hated the sight of the cold white garden. But neither Spring nor Summer was anywhere in sight. Autumn arrived everywhere giving golden fruit to every garden except the Giant's garden.

One morning suddenly the Giant heard some lovely music. It was a little bird singing in his garden. The Giant found it to be the most beautiful music in the world. No sooner the Hail stopped dancing, the North Wind stopped roaring and a lovely perfume came to him through the window.

The Giant looked out and do you know what he saw?

It was a wonderful sight. Through a little hole in the wall the children had crept into his garden and they were sitting on the branches of the trees. The trees were once again covered with blossoms, the birds were flying about twittering with delight, and the flowers were peeping out through the green grass and laughing.



It was a lively scene but somewhere in the farthest corner of the garden it was still winter. A little boy stood there. He could not reach the branches of the trees. He wept as he wandered around. The trees were covered with frost and snow and the North Wind was still blowing and roaring. The tree bent its branches. "Climb up little boy", it said, but the boy was too tiny to reach the branches.

The Giant's heart was filled with pity. "How selfish I have been!" he said. He decided to put the little boy on the tree and knock down the wall so that the children could once again come and play in his garden. The Giant went into the garden but the moment the children saw him they were frightened and ran away. Only the little boy did not run for his eyes were full of tears and he could not see the Giant. The Giant picked him up and gently put him on the tree. Lo and behold! The tree blossomed, and the birds sang. The little boy put his arms round the Giant's neck and kissed him.

When the other children saw that the Giant was not wicked, they came back to play and with them came the Spring. The Giant knocked down the wall. All day the children played with the Giant. But the Giant could not see the little boy he had put on the tree. He asked the children but they knew nothing of him. The Giant missed his little friend. Every afternoon the children played with the Giant but he longed for his first little friend.

Years went by and the Giant grew old and weak. He sat in his armchair and watched the children as they played. He thought they were more beautiful than the flowers in his garden.

One winter morning, the Giant saw a wonderful sight. In the farthest corner of the garden stood a tree covered with white blossoms. Its branches were golden and silver fruits hung down from them. Beneath the tree stood the little boy. As the Giant came closer to the boy he saw two nail wounds on the child's hands and feet. The Giant was furious. "Who has wounded you? I will kill him".

"These are wounds of love", answered the child. The Giant knelt before the child. The child said to the Giant, "You let me play in your garden, today you shall come to my garden, which is Paradise."



That afternoon, the children found the Giant lying dead under the tree, covered with white blossoms.

### Glossary

- Giant** : a person of great strength  
The little boy was afraid of the **Giant**.
- selfish** : one who does not like to share his things with others  
We should not be **selfish**.
- blossoms** : flowers  
The tree was full of **blossoms** of white and blue.
- gruff voice** : rough sounding voice  
The stranger spoke in a **gruff voice**.
- trespasser** : a person who goes to another's place without permission  
The **trespasser** was prosecuted.
- prosecute** : complain against someone in a court of law  
Ali was **prosecuted** for exceeding the speed limits.
- Frost** : white powdery, ice like substance formed when the temperature is very low  
**Frost** can kill young plants.
- Hail** : frozen rain falling as little balls of ice  
We were caught in the **hail**.
- rattle** : making short, sharp sounds quickly one after the other  
Hailstones **rattled** on the tin roof.
- twittering** : making short, high pitched sounds.  
I could hear the **twittering** of the birds from a distance.
- knock down** : to destroy a building by breaking its walls.  
The old building on the main road was **knocked down** by bulldozers.
- wicked** : unpleasant and unfriendly  
The **wicked** witch cast a spell on the girl.
- Paradise** : heaven  
Kashmir is said to be a **paradise** on earth.
- farthest** : at a great distance  
Ravi's house is at the **farthest** corner of the street.

*beneath* : *under*

*The old man sat **beneath** a banyan tree.*

*kneel* : *to get on one's knees*

*Simran knelt down to pray.*

*wander* : *to move about without a fixed aim*

*peeping*

*out* : *looking secretly*

*delight* : *joy*

### EXERCISES

#### I Answer the following questions

1. Where would the children go on their way back from school?
2. What did the Giant see when he came back after seven years?
3. Why did the Giant decide to knock down the wall?
4. Why was the Giant furious?
5. Where was the Giant found dead at the end of the story?

#### II Who said these words and to whom?

1. "Climb up little boy."
2. "I will allow nobody to play in it."
3. "Who has wounded you? I will kill him."
4. "These are wounds of love."
5. "How happy we were!"

#### III Complete the sentences in Column A adding the second half from Column B.

##### A

1. It was a lovely garden
2. I will allow nobody
3. He hated the sight
4. The Giant missed
5. All day the children

##### B

- his little friend.
- of the cold white garden.
- played with the Giant.
- with soft green grass.
- to play in it.

IV **Tick the correct word given in the brackets:**

1. They would (wander/wonder) around the school.
2. It was a wonderful (seen/scene).
3. The Giant grew very old and (weak/week).
4. There was a little (hole/whole) in the wall.
5. The Giant (hated/hatred) the sight of the garden.

V **Pick the odd word out:**

hail	frost	castle	snow
summer	weather	winter	autumn
morning	spring	evening	night
flowers	blossoms	trees	buds

VI **Match the word in Column A with their opposite in Column B****Column A**

selfless  
nearest  
calm  
virtuous  
anywhere  
roughly  
hard  
big  
departed  
seldom

**Column B**

soft  
often  
nowhere  
arrived  
farthest  
selfish  
tiny  
furious  
wicked  
gently



**VII Join the sentences using these Conjunctions *and, or, but, because*.**

1. The road was dusty.....full of stone.
2. My father is active.....my brother is lazy.
3. He cannot run fast ..... he is very fat.
4. I know the answer .....I will not tell you.
5. He is our neighbour.....we love him.
6. You should keep quiet .....you should go out.

**VIII Change the voice of the following sentences.**

1. The trees were covered with snow.
2. The little boy could not see the Giant.
3. The Giant missed his little friend.
4. The Giant heard some lovely music.

**IX Complete the following words taken from the text:**

sca.....d

pro.....cuted

be.....tiful

per.....me

ex.....pt

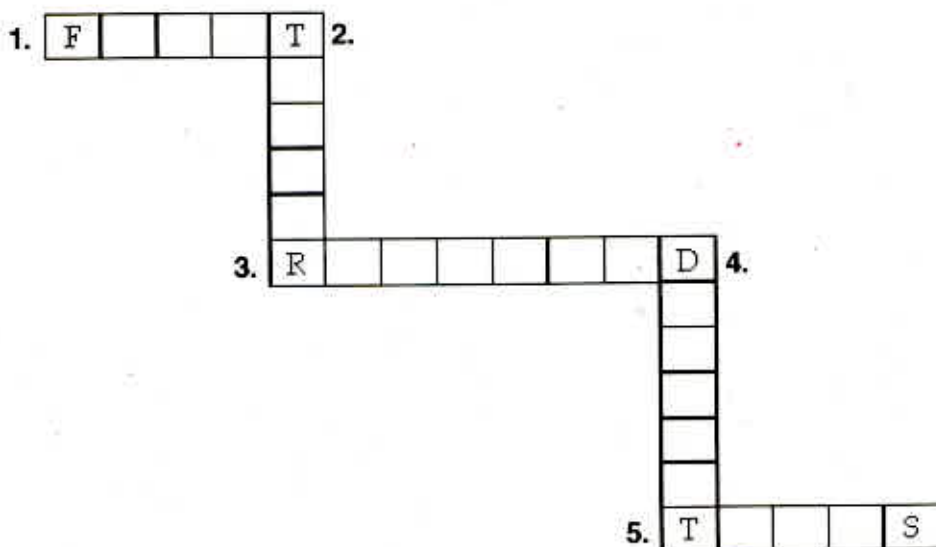
ra.....led

wo.....ds

bran.....es

X

Complete the following word ladder with the help of the clues given below:



### Clues

1. The peach trees bore rich.....in autumn.
2. The Giant lost .....to see the wounded child.
3. The Giant .....his mistake.
4. The birds were twittering with.....
5. The .....were covered with blossoms.

\*\*\*\*\*

## DESERTS

expanse of sand

extremely

conserve

mounds

barren

vegetation

island

survive

uninhabited

moisture

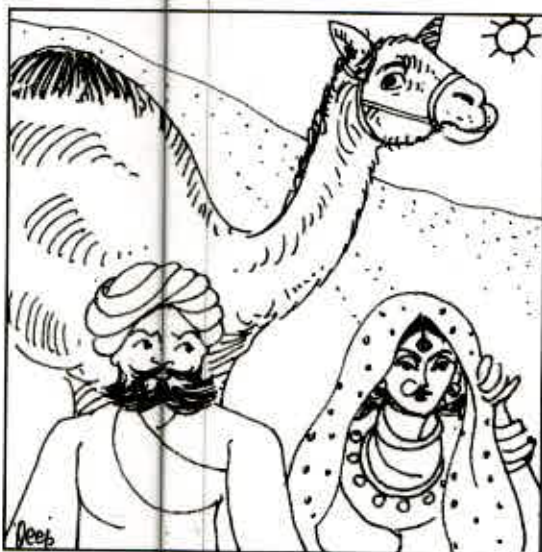
absorb

The word "desert" brings to mind a wide expanse of sand, where no rain falls and there is very little vegetation. It is an area which is dry, hot, waterless and uninhabited. But if we go to a desert we may be proved totally wrong. The desert can be a beautiful place where a variety of people, plants and animals live in conditions different from us.

All deserts are not hot and sandy. They can be hot all year round as in the Sahara of Africa or they can be always very cold, even snow covered as in Greenland or Antarctica. The Gobi desert in Mongolia, is hot in summer and cold in winter. In our own country, the Thar Desert is hot but we have Ladakh where it is extremely cold.

We would generally call a place a desert if it has little or no water and vegetation. The major feature of all deserts is dryness and variation of temperature.

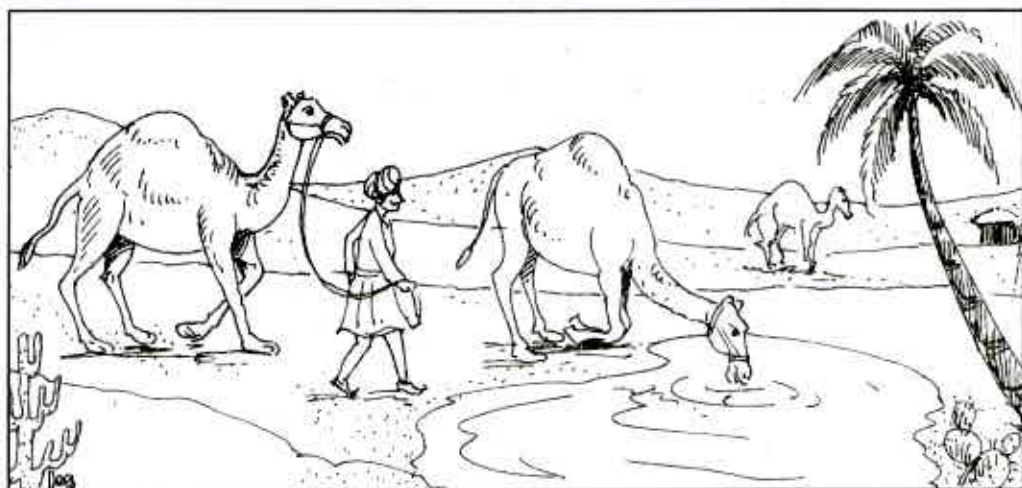
Some deserts are bare and rocky while others are sandy. The wind sweeps the sand into huge wave-like mounds called sand dunes. These keep shifting and moving endlessly across the desert. Sometimes an underground water source like a spring or well comes close to the surface,





creating an oasis, where plants grow, and people live. An oasis is like a little green island in the middle of a desert.

Despite the barren landscape, a variety of animals and plants can be found in the desert. The problem facing these animals is the lack of water and the heat. Smaller animals like rats and squirrels do not drink water. They eat animals and get moisture from their meat. Others eat plants and seeds from where they get water. These animals spend the day underground to shelter themselves from the hot sun.

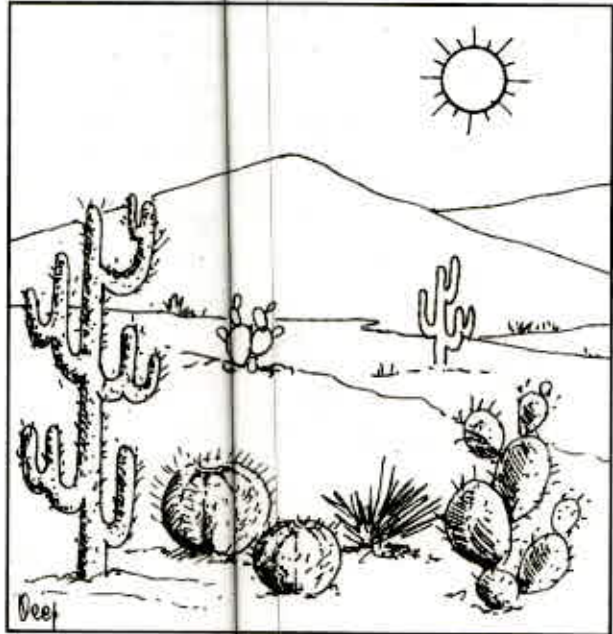


They come out to feed only at night. Reptiles, on the other hand need to warm up in the sun before they become active to hunt, so they cannot feed at night. They shelter in burrows or rock crevices during the hottest part of the day, basking and feeding during the cooler early morning and evening. Camels are desert animals. Their flat wide feet help them walk easily over soft sand and they can even close their nostrils to stop sand blowing in. Camels will eat dry, thorny plants that other animals would not, and they can go for long periods without food and water. Their humps are actually food stores in the form of fat, and their bodies conserve as much water as possible. No wonder they can do without water for days. The reason is that they sweat very little. They can stand a high body temperature. When they do drink water they can take large volumes of water in a short time. The camel is popularly known as the "ship of the desert." Camels are used for carrying goods and people

for many miles. Their meat, wool and milk is valuable too.

As plants need water to survive, they must conserve as much as they can. Desert plants such as the cacti store water in their thick stems. Their roots lie close to the surface to the ground and quickly absorb the moisture from the light rains that sometimes fall.

Desert, and arid regions cover one eighth of the world's land area. The driest desert is the Atacama in Chile, South America and the largest desert is the Sahara in Africa. The continent with the largest proportion of desert which is almost one half its area, is Australia.



Deserts are as important as forests, oceans, plains and mountains. Let's not look down upon deserts. Many humans, plants and animals have their homes in deserts and hence, a useful part of the earth.

### Glossary

**expanse** : a wide and open area of land

An ocean is a wide **expanse** of water.

**vegetation** : plants found in a particular environment

The **vegetation** in a particular area depends on the kind of climate and soil.

**burrow** : a hole or tunnel made in the ground and used as a shelter by rabbits, foxes etc.

Rabbits live in **burrows**.

- uninhabited* : with no people living there  
 Large areas of Greenland are **uninhabited**.
- extremely* : to very high degree  
 It is **extremely** cold in the countries near the poles.
- mounds* : a mass of piled earth  
 You can see small **mounds** on your way to the temple.
- island* : a piece of land surrounded by water  
 Sri Lanka is an **island**.
- moisture* : wetness, caused by water  
 There is a lot of **moisture** in the air these days.
- conserve* : to prevent something from being changed, lost or destroyed  
 We must **conserve** water as it is very precious.
- barren* : not good enough to produce crops  
 The land in front of our house is **barren**.
- survive* : to continue to live or exist  
 We need food and water to **survive**
- absorb* : take in completely  
 The sponge **absorbed** the water.
- bare* : ( here ) not covered with vegetation
- sand dunes* : hills of sand
- arid* : very dry

## EXERCISES

### I Answer the following questions briefly.

1. What are the major features of all deserts?
2. What can we find in a desert?
3. Which desert is hot in summer and cold in winter?
4. What do camels eat?
5. What do we get from camels?
6. Which is the driest desert in the world?
7. Where is the largest desert located?
8. Why do we say that deserts are a useful part of the earth?



**II Tick the correct word in the bracket:**

1. Some deserts are (bear/bare) and rocky.
2. We shall go to Delhi next (week/weak).
3. I have brought a (pair/pare) of new shoes.
4. She gave birth to a (mail/male) child.
5. We shall go to our school by the shortest (root/route).
6. We get milk from a (dairy/diary).
7. Wheat (flour/floor) is used to make bread.
8. He sat under the (shade/shadow) of the tree.

**III Complete the table using the correct degrees of the adjectives.**

_____	smaller	_____
_____	_____	hottest
_____	cooler	_____
_____	_____	longest
easy	_____	_____
_____	_____	driest
near	_____	_____
much	_____	_____

IV Match the words in column A with their nearest opposites in column B:

## A

dry  
major  
beautiful  
spend  
honour  
high  
create  
fresh

## B

minor  
low  
stale  
ugly  
wet  
destroy  
shame  
save

V Suggest a suitable word for each of the following. You can find these words in the lesson.

1. a small area in a desert where water and plants are found
2. a piece of land that is surrounded by water
3. a pile of earth, stones etc. like a very small hill
4. a hill of loose, dry sand formed by the wind
5. a dry area of land having not enough rainfall
6. a picture of land you can see when you look across an area of land
7. land of poor quality not good enough to produce crops animals and creatures that creep or crawl

VI Change the following words into *Nouns* and make sentences using the *noun* formation of these words:

feed	sweep	grow	live	conserve
survive	protect	absorb	perform	assure

**VII Complete the following sentences using suitable *adjectives*:**

1. All deserts are not.....
2. Some deserts are .....
3. All my friends are .....
4. An ..... person is liked by all.
5. We have a ..... piece of land.
6. Ram and Sham are ..... friends.
7. It was indeed a ..... victory.
8. Amritsar is a ..... city.

**VIII Fill in the blanks using correct form of the word given in the brackets:**

1. The camel is ..... as the ship of the desert.(know)
2. They are ..... a noise in the class. (make)
3. I ..... him yesterday. (meet)
4. The earth ..... round the sun. (move)
5. She was ..... a picture. (paint)
6. He has ..... his work. (complete)
7. The train had ..... before I reached the station. (arrive)
8. India is ..... in every field. (progress)

**IX Write a short paragraph on 'A Camel'.**

**X Write a letter to your friend sharing your knowledge about deserts based on the reading of this lesson.**



## Reaching for the Stars

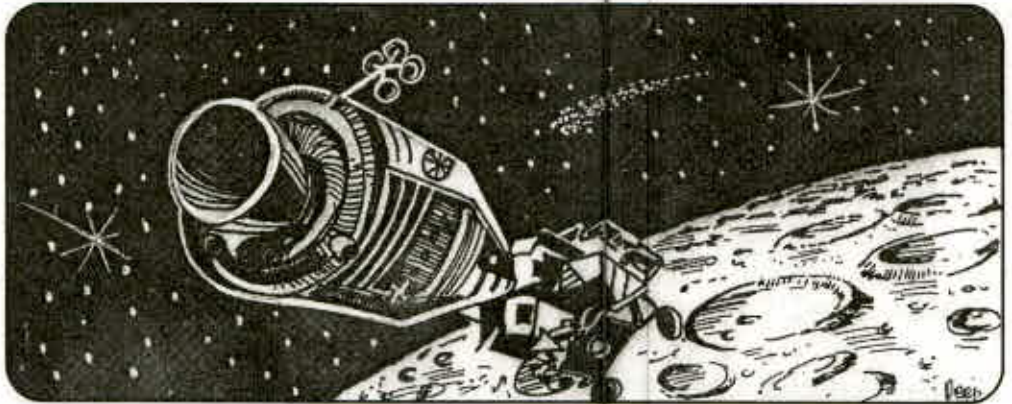
astronaut	keen	birthright	resident	flee
scratch	acrobatic	assignment	layperson	
assigned	disbelief	horrific	mission	

Born in 1961 in Karnal, a small sleepy town of Haryana, "Karnal ki Beti", Kalpana Chawla rose to be the first Indian Woman Astronaut. She was the second Indian to go to space. The first was an Indian Air Force Officer Squadron Leader Rakesh Sharma. She was a keen maker of aero models as a child. She almost considered it her birthright to be "A resident of the Milky Way".



Kalpana was born to Banarsi Lal Chawla and Sanyogita Devi who had to flee from Pakistan during the partition of India in 1947. Her father had a thriving tyre business which he had built from a scratch. Kalpana Chawla began her education at a school in Karnal. Her dream began when at the age of eight her father took her to the Karnal Flying Club for the first time. This was her first step in her journey to space. Thereafter from 1978 to 1982 she did her Bachelors in Aeronautical Engineering from the Punjab Engineering College. She was the first woman to study Aeronautical Engineering. She left to do her higher studies in America. She joined the University of Texas, Arlington. Her guide at the university recalls her as a shy and quiet girl but with a strong will. After her masters, Chawla moved to Colorado University to do her doctorate, which she completed in 1988. Though a small town girl, Kalpana always dreamt big. Her mother always said, "Kalpana was born in our family but she

has a mind of her own". It was her sheer determination that brought her to the USA.



Kalpana loved to fly. She earned her pilot's licence when she lived in the Bay Area of San Francisco between 1988 and 1994. She later took up acrobatic flying and used to give joy rides to her friends. Kalpana married Jean Pierre Harrison, her flying instructor when she was 27 years old.

In December 1994, NASA accepted her application and by March 1995, Chawla reported to the Johnson Space Centre as a candidate in the 15th Group of Astronauts. Her path to the stars was paved with very complex technical requirements which are difficult for any layperson to understand. Space training is a difficult process where experiencing gravity's pull can increase your pulse rate from 72 to 102 within seconds, where every movement can give rise to pain. Only the very fit can think of such an assignment.

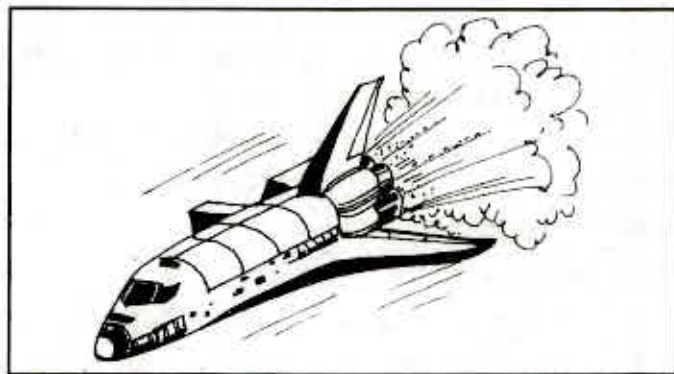
In November 1996, Kalpana's long cherished dream came true when she was assigned as Mission Specialist and Prime Robotic Arm Operator on STS-87. It was to be a 16 day mission at the fag end of 1997.

Kalpana was not just a space traveller. She loved to listen to albums of Ravi Shankar, Hariprasad Chaurasia and Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan. She learnt Bharatnatyam when she was 32. In January 1998, Kalpana was well on her way to participate in the Olympics of space for the second time. In 2000, she was assigned to the crew of Colombia, to be launched in 2003.

It was February 1, the time 8.53 a.m. at the Kennedy Space Centre in Florida and a little after seven in India. All news channels flashed this



heart breaking news..... "The space shuttle Columbia with six astronauts on board has exploded over Texas, Arkansas and Louisiana due to some technical failure". The whole world watched in disbelief as the horrific images were telecast over and over again.



India had lost a daughter who was a role model for many Indians. Her spirit will never die. It will continue to inspire and motivate others like her to follow her example. Kalpana had done 760 hours in space. She had travelled 4 million kilometers, as many as 252 times around the earth. Here was one brave girl who really had crossed the shores and skies to fulfil her motto, "Follow your dream".

She herself played a big role in helping the girl child. Two girl students, from her school in Karnal, were sponsored by her every year as part of the NASA Space School Foundation Programme.

Our first astronaut Rakesh Sharma says of her, "She was made up of the right stuff". Do you know the Haryana government has decided to give an award every year in the name of Kalpana Chawla? A gold medal will be awarded to the girl topping in the Class X examination. The Punjab Government has also decided to award a medal in her memory to the best student in aerospace engineering in the Punjab Engineering College. What better tribute to someone who not only realized her own dream, but also passed her dream on.

Kalpana Chawla will always be remembered as one of the world's special women. She was not only the first Indian woman in space, but a woman who dared to see her dreams fulfilled. "Measured in miles, you are far away, measured in thoughts, you're close today."



## Glossary

- astronaut** : a person who is trained to travel in a spacecraft  
Rakesh Sharma is the first Indian **astronaut**.
- keen** : interested in somebody or something, fond of somebody or something  
Ravi is **keen** to learn swimming.
- birthright** : the things that somebody may claim as a matter of right because of his birth at a particular place or time  
Tilak said, "Freedom is my **birthright** and I shall have it."
- resident** : a person who lives or has a home in a place  
James is a **resident** of America.
- flee** : to escape or run away  
The prisoner was caught while he was trying to **flee**.
- scratch** : to begin something from the very beginning without advantage or preparation  
We lost everything during the partition; we had to start from a **scratch**.
- acrobatic** : involving or performing difficult or unusual movements  
Reena is known for her **acrobatic** skills.
- strong will** : the quality of being firmly committed to doing something  
Her **strong will** helped her overcome all her problems.
- assignment** : task or duty that is assigned to somebody  
Her **assignment** requires her to travel a lot.
- layperson** : a person who does not have expert knowledge of a subject  
Even a **layperson** can understand the mechanics of a fan.
- assigned** : to give somebody their share of work or responsibility  
Rani has been **assigned** the task of writing the letters.
- disbelief** : inability to believe, absence of belief  
He shook his head in **disbelief**.
- horrific** : causing horror or fear  
The **horrific** pictures made me feel sick.
- mission** : a particular task done by a person or a group  
The **mission** was successful.

<i>thriving</i>	: <i>flourishing</i>
<i>sheer</i>	: <i>complete determination, firmness of purpose</i>
<i>exploded</i>	: <i>to burst violently</i>

### EXERCISES

#### I Answer the following questions :

1. Why is Kalpana Chawla called 'Karnal ki Beti'?
2. Who was the first Indian Air Force Officer to go to space?
3. Where did Kalpana Chawla receive her school education?
4. When was Kalpana's long cherished dream fulfilled?
5. What does the writer mean by saying that Kalpana was not just a space traveller?
6. What happened to the space shuttle 'Columbia' on 1st February 2003?
7. Why is Kalpana Chawla regarded as a role model for many Indians?
8. What has the Punjab Government done to keep Kalpana's memory alive?

#### II Complete the following sentences by adding the appropriate parts of the sentences given in the box:

1. This was her first step .....
2. She was the first woman .....
3. Kalpana took up acrobatic flying.....
4. Kalpana played a big role .....
5. India had lost a daughter .....
6. Kalpana will always be remembered .....
7. A gold medal will be awarded .....
8. Kalpana was well on her way .....

- and used to give joyrides to her friends
- in helping the girl child
- who was a role model for many Indians
- in her journey to space
- as one of the world's special women
- to study aeronautical engineering
- to participate in the Olympics of space for the second time
- to the girl topping in the class X examination

## III

**Use the correct form of the verbs given in the brackets:**

1. Kalpana Chawla ..... (leave) to do her higher studies in America.
2. After her masters, she .....(move) to Colorado University.
3. Kalpana..... (marry) Jean Pierre Harrison.
4. The whole world ..... (watch) in disbelief as the horrific images were telecasted.
5. Two girl students were ..... (sponsor) by her every year.
6. The Punjab Government has also ..... (decide) to award a medal in her memory.
7. She worked hard ..... (realise) her dream.
8. The train had ..... (arrive) before we reached the station.
9. It started ..... (rain) when I got ready to go to school.
10. I saw him ..... (stand) near the school gate.



IV **Suggest a suitable word for each of the following e.g. A person who travels in a space craft is called- Astronaut.:**

1. A person who makes/sells cakes, pastries, sweets.
2. A person who makes pots, cups from clay.
3. A person who connects and repairs water and drain pipes.
4. A person who makes statues out of stone.
5. A person who travels from place to place to sell goods.
6. A person who mends shoes.
7. A person who makes/repairs things of iron.
8. A person who deals in flowers.

V **In many of the nouns 'ment' acts as a suffix.**

agree + ment

**Find out five such nouns from the lesson and use them in sentences of your own.**

VI **Find the antonyms of the following words and use them in sentences of your own:**

- |              |       |
|--------------|-------|
| 1. accept    | ..... |
| 2. increase  | ..... |
| 3. disbelief | ..... |
| 4. earn      | ..... |
| 5. quiet     | ..... |
| 6. motivate  | ..... |
| 7. award     | ..... |
| 8. dream     | ..... |
| 9. love      | ..... |
| 10. deep     | ..... |

VII **Complete the following words taken from the lesson:**

- |             |             |
|-------------|-------------|
| ba_____lors | uni_____ity |
| li_____ce   | par_____ate |
| spe_____st  | tra_____er  |
| te_____st   | cons_____ed |
| awa_____ed  | frig_____ed |

- VIII Complete the following expressions matching the words given in column A with the words given in column B.

milky way

**A**

1. heart
2. far
3. joy
4. role
5. far

**B**

- away  
ride  
breaking  
end  
model

- IX Write a paragraph on the achievements of any great Indian woman of your choice.
- X Kalpana Chawla's motto was 'Follow your dream'. Write a few sentences on how do you plan to follow your dream.

\*\*\*\*\*

## Birbal Hits Back

popularly  
constructed  
summoned

hatched  
compound  
presence

royal  
plot  
arrested

exile

Akbar was a great Mughal Emperor. He was the son of Humayun. He was barely thirteen when he became the Emperor. He is popularly called 'Akbar the Great'.

There were nine jewels or wise men (Navratnas) in Akbar's court. Birbal was the wisest of them. He was Akbar's favourite.

"We must get rid of Birbal somehow," a wicked minister said to his friend one day.



"He always comes in our way. Let's think of a plot to kill Birbal," said the wicked minister.

They hatched a plot to kill Birbal. They went to the royal barber and said, "If you want to become rich, we have a plan. The next time you go to cut the king's hair, tell him that you had a dream; that you saw the king's father and grandfather in Heaven; that they looked very sad and wanted Birbal's company in Heaven for six months".



"The king will certainly kill Birbal and send him to Heaven. Then we will give you five thousand gold coins."

The royal barber agreed to do the job. On his next visit, the barber told Akbar what the wicked minister had asked him to tell.

Birbal was summoned to the court. Akbar said, "My dear Birbal, my father and grandfather are very sad in Heaven."

Birbal asked, "My lord! How can you say this?"

"My barber had a dream" said Akbar. "He saw my father and grandfather unhappy there. They wanted your company in Heaven for six months."

Birbal was quick to understand the plot. He knew that this was the plot of the wicked minister against him. But he said, "My lord, I am ready to go to Heaven for six months."



Birbal secretly constructed an underground tunnel in the compound of his house. He got a big heap of fire wood put at the mouth of the tunnel. He entered the heap in the presence of Akbar and other Ministers. The barber joyfully set fire to the heap of wood. Birbal's enemies were happy to think that Birbal was no more.

Birbal passed six months in exile. After six months he came to the court with long hair and a beard.

"Welcome back my dear Birbal," Akbar said in great joy. "How are my father and grandfather in Heaven? Why do you have long hair and a beard?"

"My Lord! Your father and grandfather are happy there but they too have long hair and beards. That is the only reason they are sad." said Birbal.

"Long hair and beards!" asked Akbar. "Why?"

"There is no barber in Heaven to serve them. They want you to send the royal barber to them," Birbal answered.

Now it was the barber's turn to go to Heaven. He was very frightened. He told the whole plot of the wicked minister to the king.

The minister and the barber were at once arrested and sent to jail.

### Glossary

- popular** : favourite, famous  
*Gandhiji was a **popular** leader.*
- hatch** : to create, produce a plot, plan in secret  
*The detectives **hatched** a plot to catch the criminal.*
- royal** : belonging to the family of a king or queen  
*The **royal** family of Nepal is on a visit to India.*
- exile** : the state of being sent away from one's native country or home  
*Lord Rama spent many years in **exile**.*
- constructed** : built  
*A temple was **constructed** in the town.*
- compound** : an area enclosed by a fence  
*Jaspreet lives in the same **compound** as us.*
- plot** : a secret plan to do something wrong  
*The minister hatched a **plot** to kill the king.*
- presence** : the state of being present in a place  
*Your **presence** is requested in the meeting*
- summon** : to send a message telling somebody to come  
*The king **summoned** his courtiers.*
- arrest** : to take into custody  
*The thief was **arrested** by the police.*
- emperor** : ruler

*barely* : *hardly*  
*wicked* : *bad, evil*

### EXERCISES

#### I Answer the following questions :

1. What do you know about Akbar as a king?
2. Who was the favourite Navratns of Akbar?
3. Who hatched a plot to kill Birbal?
4. Why were Birbal's enemies happy?
5. What did Birbal tell Akbar when he returned to the court after six months?
6. What punishment was given to the wicked minister and the barber?
7. What lesson do you learn from the story?

#### II Who said these words and to whom:

1. "He always comes in our way."
2. "My Lord! How can you say this?"
3. "They wanted your company in Heaven for six months."
4. "My Lord, I am ready to go to Heaven for six months."
5. "How are my father and grandfather in Heaven?"

#### III Fill in blanks with suitable conjunctions:

1. You stay in Heaven for six months..... I will punish you.
2. The minister planned to kill Birbal ..... Birbal was quick to understand the plot.
3. The barber was frightened ..... he told the whole plot to the king.
4. Birbal's enemies were happy ..... they thought that Birbal was no more.
5. Akabar was very young ..... he became the emperor.
6. We have a plan ..... you want to become rich.



7. Birbal understood the plot ..... he was not upset.
8. Birbal came to the court ..... he had spent six months in exile.

**IV Tick the correct word in the bracket :**

1. They thought of a (plan/plain) to kill Birbal.
2. The barber went to cut king's (hair/hare).
3. Birbal (prepared/constructed) an underground tunnel.
4. Akbar was a (great/grate) king.
5. They thought that Birbal would (lose/loose) his life.
6. Birbal took the (rite/right) decision.
7. Akbar was a very (fair/fare) and just king.
8. The minister tried in (vein/vain) to kill Birbal.

**V Fill in the blank with a correct degree of adjective:**

1. Birbal was ..... than the minister. (clever)
2. Birbal was the ..... of Akbar's nine jewels. (wise)
3. Akbar had a ..... region than Babur. (large)
4. The minister is ..... than the barber. (wicked)
5. Akbar is the ..... of all Mughal emperors. (popular)
6. A wise enemy is ..... than a foolish friend. (good)

**VI Use the correct form of the verb given in the bracket:**

1. The royal barber ..... to do the job. (agree)
2. Birbal was ..... to the court. (summon)
3. The barber was ..... a lie. (tell)
4. Birbal ..... that this was the mischief of the minister. (know)
5. Akbar ..... Birbal when the latter returned after six months. (welcome)
6. Birbal ..... six months in exile. (spend)
7. Birbal ..... the heap in the presence of Akbar and other ministers. (enter)
8. The barber was ..... by the king. (punish)

# VII Many of the adverbs end with 'ly'

secret+ly = secretly  
popular+ly = popularly

Make adverbs of the following words and use them in sentences of your own.

wise	heaven	quick	time	happy
wicked	sad	rich	great	friend

# VIII In many of the nouns 'ness' acts as a suffix

kind+ness = kindness  
great+ness = greatness

Change the following words into nouns by adding 'ness' as a suffix. The words which cannot be changed this way, try to change them into nouns in any other way.

rich	weak	manage	polite	soft
cool	quite	clever	shy	arrange

IX Write in your own words any other story you have read/heard about Akbar and Birbal.

X Write a short paragraph on any great Indian emperor/king (other than Akbar) who is known as a justice loving emperor/king.

\*\*\*\*\*

## Kindness Always Repays

thorn  
ferocious  
lo and behold

relieved  
arena

arrested  
pin drop silence

mercilessly  
purr  
dared



One day, a young man named Androcles was walking through a forest. He was a poor man. Suddenly he heard the roar of a lion. He got frightened and climbed up a tree. The lion kept roaring. The lion did not sound angry but it sounded as though it was in great pain. Androcles was a very kind man. He could not bear to see the lion in this condition. He got down the tree and went towards the lion.





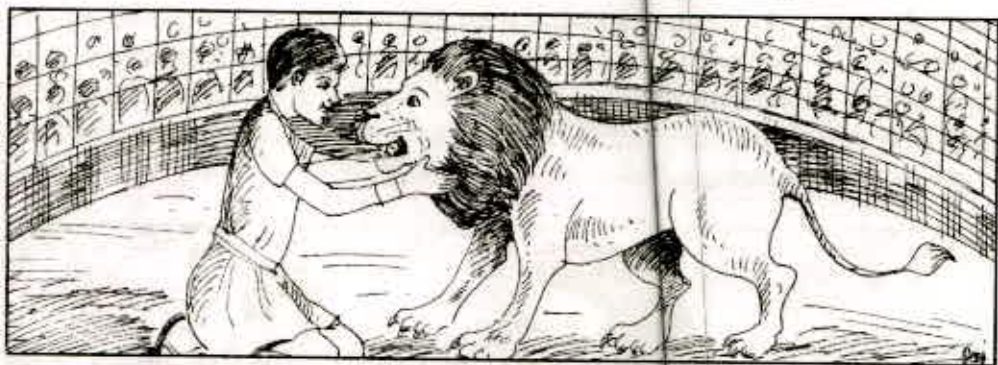
He saw the lion lying on the ground and crying with pain. The lion saw Androcles and held out its paw. Androcles saw a big thorn stuck in its paw. He at once pulled out the thorn. The lion was relieved. It licked Androcles as if to thank him. The lion went off into the deep forest.

One day Androcles was arrested by the king's soldiers. He had committed no crime. His only fault was that he belonged to a religion different from that of the king. He was mercilessly thrown into a prison.

He was told that he would have to fight a ferocious and hungry lion. If he won, he would be set free.

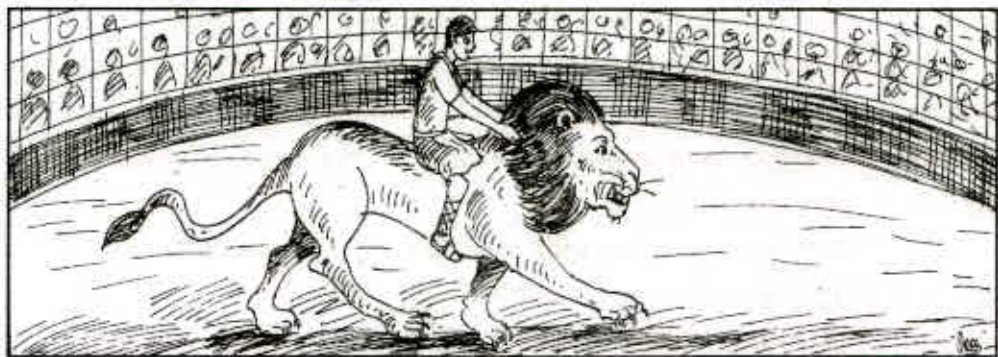
Androcles knew that he would be killed. He was sure that he could never fight a lion with bare hands.

At last the day arrived. Hundreds of people had gathered to watch Androcles fight the lion. Androcles waited in the arena with his eyes closed as he prayed for help. He soon heard a roaring sound. He thought it was the lion. But no, it was the people who were tired of waiting and were shouting for the lion. All of a sudden there was pin drop silence.



Androcles lifted his head and looked around. In the corner he could see a ferocious lion. The lion was thin and starved. He was hungry and roaring with anger. He saw Androcles and came charging towards him. Poor Androcles could do nothing except close his eyes and pray. The lion came nearer and nearer. Androcles could feel the lion's breath on his face.

The lion came near Androcles and stopped. What do you think the lion did? It began to purr like a kitten. The people were taken aback.



They had never seen something like this before. The lion went close to Androcles and licked and rubbed against him happily. Androcles opened his eyes and Lo and behold! There in front of him was the same lion he had helped in the forest. He played with the lion and rode on it around the arena. No one dared stop him.

Had Androcles not shown kindness to the lion in the forest, do you think the lion would have spared his life? This is a story of an animal repaying a man for the kindness shown.

### Remember

Little deeds of kindness,  
 Little words of love,  
 Make the mighty ocean,  
 And the skies above.

### Glossary

- thorn** : a sharp pointed growth on the stem of some plants  
*Be careful while plucking the flowers; the **thorns** could hurt you.*
- relieve** : to reduce or remove pain  
*I was **relieved** of the headache once I took the medicine.*
- arrest** : to take and keep somebody prisoner with the authority of the law  
*Five people were **arrested** for committing the murder.*
- fault** : a mistake  
*Rajan was punished for no **fault** of his.*
- mercilessly** : showing no pity  
*The boy was beaten **mercilessly** by his step father.*



**ferocious** : fierce, violent

The tiger is a **ferocious** beast.

**arena** : level area for sports, public entertainment

The crowd cheered as the actor entered the **arena**.

**pin drop** : total silence

silence There was **pin drop silence** when the musician began to play.

**purr** : call of a kitten

Rani could hear the **purr** of the kitten from a distance.

**dare** : to be brave enough to do something, challenge

He **dared** me to jump into the river.

**bear** : tolerate

**committed** : did, perform

**spared** : left undamaged / unharmed

**repays** : returns

### EXERCISES

#### I Answer the following questions:

1. Where did Androcles hear the roar of a lion?
2. What did Androcles see when he got down the tree?
3. What did Androcles do when he saw a thorn stuck in the lion's paw?
4. Why did the king's soldiers arrest Androcles?
5. How did Androcles react when the lion came charging towards him?
6. Why did the lion spare Androcles's life?
7. What does the story teach us?
8. What would have happened if Androcles had not shown kindness to the lion?

#### II Choose the correct words from the lesson to fill in the blanks in each sentence:

1. The lion kept ..... (playing/fighting/roaring).
2. Androcles got down the tree and went ..... the lion. (before/after/towards)
3. The lion went off ..... the deep forest. (near/to/into)
4. The people were shouting ..... the lion. (at/to/for)



5. Androcles could feel the lion's breath on his .....  
(chest/face/shoulders)
6. The lion went close to Androcles and .....  
and rubbed against him happily. (kicked/licked/picked)
7. The lion saw Androcles and held out its .....  
(tail/paw/face)
8. Androcles waited in the ..... with his eyes  
closed. (prison/jungle/arena)

### III Tick the correct *italics* word in each sentence:

1. Androcles could not *bear/beer* to see the lion in this condition.
2. Androcles pulled out the *thorn/throne*.
3. Androcles *heard/herd* the roar of a lion.
4. Androcles *prayed/preyed* to God for help.
5. The lion was crying with *pain/pane*.
6. Androcles turned *pale/pail* with fear.
7. Androcles was not sure *whether/weather* he would live or not.
8. Androcles got his *due/dew* reward.

### IV Find antonyms of the *italicized* words and use them in sentences of your own:

1. Androcles was a very *kind* man.
2. Androcles was *arrested* by the king's soldiers.
3. People had *gathered* to watch Androcles fight the lion.
4. There was pin drop *silence*.
5. The lion was *thin* and starved.
6. Androcles *opened* his eyes.
7. The lion came near and *stopped*.
8. Androcles was *eager* to help the lion.

### V Rearrange these words to make meaningful sentences given in the lesson:

1. walking/a/was/forest/through/Androcles
2. crime/had/no/he/committed
3. taken/were/aback/the people

4. angry/did/not/the/sound/lion
5. stop him/dared/no one/to
6. free/set/be/would/he
7. the/forest/deep/went into/the lion
8. nothing/poor/could/Androcles/do

**VI Use the following expression in your own sentences:**

get down	hold out	throw into
look around	climb up	taken aback

**VII Complete the following words taken from the lesson:**

sudd.....ly	soun.....d	merci.....ly
sto.....ed	kind.....ss	rep.....ng
fer.....us	sta.....ed	

**VIII Five names of the animals are hidden here.**

M	L	S	P	O
B	C	F	A	E
L	I	O	N	L
D	N	X	T	E
C	V	Q	H	P
U	P	Y	E	H
Z	E	B	R	A
Y	P	R	E	N
T	A	L	B	T
W	G	T	K	B

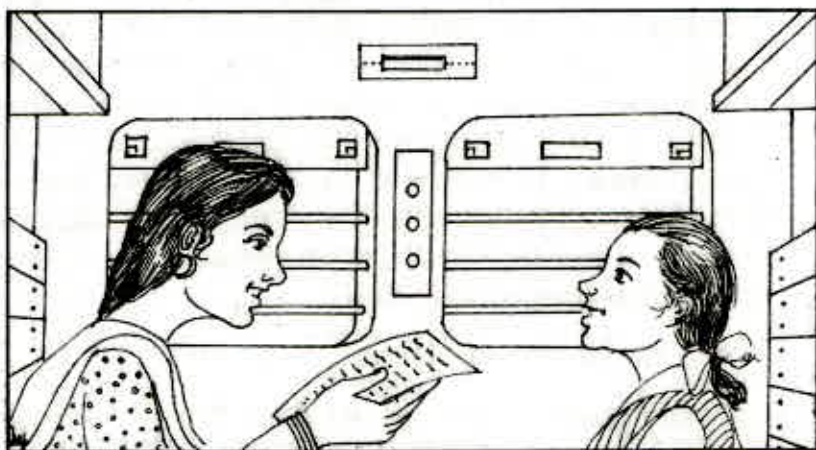
**IX Write a paragraph on any animal of your choice.**

**X Write a letter to your friend sharing your experience how you helped somebody in difficulty.**

## Let's Meet Them

vacation	professions	fascinated	inspired
adventure	determined	creed	diversity
deprived	prompt	memorable	destination

Rani and Raju were on their way to Chennai from Jammu. Their school had closed for the summer vacation and it was just the right time to visit Grandma and Grandpa in the village. It was a long journey by train. Rani and Raju wondered how they would pass the time. They carried with themselves a pack of cards, a toy game and lots of story books to keep them busy during the journey. Little did they know that they would meet a number of interesting passengers whose lives and experiences would make their journey very interesting and that their time would just fly. It was also important for the children to find out about people in different professions as this was part of their project for the holidays.



Just sitting opposite to Rani on the lower berth was a young lady writing something on a piece of paper. Rani was curious to know what she was doing. On enquiring she learnt that the lady was a famous writer of children's story books. She was trying to think and write some stories



for children. Rani introduced herself to the lady and tried to find out about her work. She learnt that her name was Ravinder Kaur and she belonged to Jalandhar.

*Rani :* Why did you become a writer ?

*Ravinder :* Well, it's something that has always fascinated me. My favourite hobby has also been creative writing and reading. Even when I was small like you, I loved to read story books. I loved reading horror and adventure stories. I would spend hours in a library near my house, reading books. Now of course I read novels, magazines and newspapers regularly. Whenever I read something interesting or I experience something good I like to write about it. I have always been good at creative writing. While at school, I was highly appreciated by my teachers for my interesting and imaginative essays, stories and writings.

*Rani :* How did you start writing story books for children ?

*Ravinder :* I did my graduation with English. Thereafter I did a special course in creative writing. Seeing my talent in writing, my father encouraged me to write articles for magazines and newspapers. These were highly appreciated. Thus I got initiated into writing. But my desire was always to write story books for children. I was very lucky when one of the leading publishers read my articles and asked me to do some stories for them. Do you know some of my stories have been turned into films?

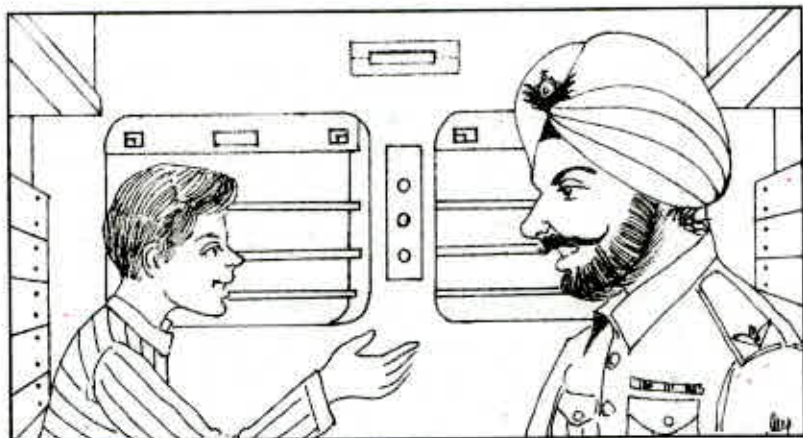
*Rani :* Is it hard to become a writer ?

*Ravinder :* Nothing is difficult if you try hard. But, of course, you should be interested in a variety of reading and writing if you want to be a writer.

*Rani :* Who are the writers who have inspired you ?

*Ravinder :* Amrita Pritam, Khushwant Singh, Ruskin Bond, Salman Rushdie, Prem Chand, Rabindranath Tagore, Jawaharlal Nehru and many others.

- Rani* : Did you know any writer when you were of my age ?
- Ravinder* : Not really. I knew them through their writings.
- Rani* : What do you do with your writings ?
- Ravinder* : I send them to a publisher who gets them printed and published.
- Rani* : How do your books reach the children ?
- Ravinder* : The publisher gets the books illustrated, printed and then sends them to different book sellers who sell the books.
- Rani* : Can you tell me the names of some of your books ?
- Ravinder* : Tales from Far and Near, The Haunted House, The Boy Who Ran Away etc. Have you read any of my books ?
- Rani* : (Excitedly) Oh yes, I got one of them as a birthday present. I really enjoyed the book. I am so lucky to be meeting the author. Can I request you to autograph my book?
- Ravinder* : It's my pleasure.



While Rani chatted with Ravinder, Raju suddenly spotted a person in full uniform getting on to the train. The gentleman occupied a berth very close to where Raju and Rani were. Raju was determined to talk to the officer and find out about his profession. Like all teenagers, Raju had



always been fascinated by tanks, warships, fighter aircrafts and submarines. He never missed the Republic Day Parade in Delhi where the soldiers were seen marching smartly and the military band playing breathtaking tunes. In fact he was quite sure he would like to join the Armed Forces when he grew up. Seeing an opportune moment Raju quietly got up and went and sat next to the officer. The officer was very friendly and he asked Raju where he was studying. Raju made the best of the meeting and did not lose the opportunity to interview the gentleman. Raju found out that the gentleman was an Air Force officer and his name was Flight Lieutenant Amarjeet Singh

*Raju :* Sir, when did you join the Air Force?

*Amarjeet :* Just about six years back.

*Raju :* What inspired you to join the Air Force?

*Amarjeet :* My father and grandfather were all fighter pilots, so I have grown up seeing uniformed men around me. I had always dreamt of being a pilot and I worked towards it.

*Raju :* Did you need a special training to join the service?

*Amarjeet :* Oh Yes, after my schooling I joined the National Defence Academy at Kharagvasla near Pune as a cadet. From there I went to the Air Force Academy at Hyderabad to become a fighter pilot.

*Raju :* Do you feel scared when you are flying through the air ?

*Amarjeet :* Not really, it's a great feeling to be in the air and moving at such a fast speed. It has a thrill of its own. I would never give this up for anything.

*Raju :* Don't you think your life is at risk?

*Amarjeet :* There is risk in everything you do, so why worry. Also it's a great feeling to be able to do something for the land where you are born. I feel very proud and privileged when I wear my uniform. In no way could I have served my country in a better way. Do you know our Air Force is the fourth largest in the world today?



*Raju :* What is your motto in the Air Force?

*Amarjeet :* "To Touch The Sky With Glory".

*Raju :* Can I join the Air Force when I grow up ?

*Amarjeet :* Why not? Anyone can, regardless of caste, creed, religion or region. Men and women from all over the country, representing India in all its diversity, stand shoulder to shoulder in its ranks. You have to have certain qualifications, clear some written exams and interviews. We have a very strict physical endurance and medical test.

*Raju :* I am already an NCC Cadet. I definitely aspire to be an Air Force pilot some day.

*Amarjeet :* All the best. May your dream come true !

*Raju :* Thanks a lot and Happy Flying !

As the journey continued, Raju and Rani were busy trying to figure out what the other passengers would be working as. Suddenly one of the passengers took very seriously ill. An announcement was made for any doctor on the train to attend to the sick passenger. Before long a doctor appeared on the scene with her medical box. After the doctor gave the patient some medicine and the patient was feeling better, Rani thought it was a good chance to talk to the medical practitioner about her profession. So Rani began her interview with Dr. Sharma.

*Rani :* Doctor Sharma, it was really very nice of you to have come forward to treat the patient.

*Doctor Sharma :* I just did my duty. Do you know when we pass out after finishing our training in medicine, we are asked to take an oath that we will not turn away any patient.

*Rani :* But doctor, there are many doctors who do not think like you. I really appreciate your commitment to your profession.

*Doctor Sharma :* Thanks. Are you keen to become a doctor too?

*Rani:* Yes, that is the reason I plan to study Biology in school. Medicine has always fascinated me. I want to open a clinic in our village, as there is no hospital there. The villagers have to go very far for proper medical treatment.

**Doctor Sharma :** That is a very noble thought. We must think about the people who are deprived and try to help them.

**Rani :** Does it bother you when you are disturbed in the middle of the night?

**Doctor Sharma :** Not really, I have now got quite used to it.

**Rani :** Tell me some qualities a doctor must possess.

**Doctor Sharma :** You need to be very patient and nice with your patients. Never let them feel you have no time for them. You need to be very prompt in responding to calls from patients. You also need to read a lot and keep yourself up-to-date with the latest developments in the field of medicine.

**Rani :** Thank you, doctor. It was really nice talking to you. I will surely follow your advice.

The train moved on but Rani was too tired for any further conversation. She fell asleep only to wake up at her destination. The journey was a memorable one for both Raju and Rani. They had learnt a lot.

### Glossary

**vacation :** holidays

*The Singh family has gone on a short **vacation** to Singapore.*

**profession :** a paid occupation that requires education and training

*people from different **professions** live in our neighbourhood*

**fascinated :** very interested or attracted by someone or something

*We are all **fascinated** by new technology.*

**inspired :** encouraged, motivated

*His success **inspired** the rest of us to work hard.*

**adventure :** an unusual, exciting or dangerous experience

*If you like **adventure**, join the army.*

**determined :** firm in purpose or believe

*Rani is **determined** to climb the peak.*

- creed** : a set of beliefs or opinions  
*Gandhiji is respected by people of all castes and creeds*
- diversity** : variety, scope  
*India is a land of **diversity**.*
- deprived** : in want  
*The children of Mr. Verma were **deprived** of a comfortable life during their childhood.*
- prompt** : without delay  
*I want a **prompt** reply.*
- memorable** : worth remembering  
*The train journey from Kalka to Shimla was indeed **memorable**.*
- destination** : the place to which somebody is going or being sent  
*The goods reached their **destination** on time.*

## EXERCISES

### I Answer the following questions:

1. Why was it the right time for Rani and Raju to visit their village?
2. What did Rani and Raju carry with them to remain busy during the journey?
3. Who was sitting opposite to Rani and what was she doing?
4. What was the favourite hobby of Ravinder?
5. Who was sitting close to Raju?
6. What had inspired Amarjeet to join Air Force?
7. Why is Raju interested in joining Air Force?
8. Why is Rani keen to become a doctor?

### II Who said these words and to whom:

1. "What do you do with your writings?"
2. "Can you tell me the names of some of your books?"
3. "I had always dreamt of becoming a pilot."



4. "I went to the Air Force Academy at Hyderabad to become a fighter pilot."
5. "What is your motto in the Air Force?"
6. "We have a very strict physical endurance and medical test."
7. "We are asked to take an oath that we will not turn away any patient."
8. "I want to open a clinic in my village."

## III

**Choose the correct word as given in the lesson to fill in the blank in each sentence:**

1. Their school had closed for the ..... vacation. (summer/winter/autumn)
2. Ravinder was writing story books for ..... (women/children/old people)
3. Ravinder's ..... encouraged her to write articles for the magazines and newspapers. (mother/father/sister)
4. Amarjeet feels very proud and ..... when he wears his uniform. (sad/happy/privileged)
5. I really appreciate your ..... in your profession. (sincerity/commitment/honesty)
6. The patient was feeling ..... (sad/unhappy/better)
7. The villagers have to go very far for ..... medical treatment. (good/proper/speedy)
8. You need to be..... in responding to calls from patients. (active/eager/prompt)

#### IV Tick the correct italicized word:

1. Rani and Raju *wondered* / *wandered* how they would pass the time.
2. They would *meet* / *meat* a number of persons.
3. She was sitting on the lower *birth* / *berth*.
4. Ravinder loved to read *story* / *storey* books.
5. Ravinder knew many great writers *through* / *throw* their writings.
6. Raju did not *waste* / *waist* the opportunity to interview Amarjeet.
7. I have now got *quiet* / *quite* used to it.
8. It was opportune *moment* / *movement* to talk to the officer.

#### V Change the voice:

1. Ravinder was writing something on a piece of paper.
2. I send my writings to a publisher.
3. Raju spotted a person.
4. We should serve our country.
5. He never missed the Republic Day Parade.
6. Many writers inspired Ravinder.
7. Medicine has always fascinated me.
8. They had learnt many things.

#### VI Suggest a suitable word for each of the following:

1. A person who carries luggage at a railway station, bus stand.
2. A person who goes on a religious tour.
3. A person who sells tea, sugar, soap and other household goods.
4. A person who keeps watch over students during examinations.
5. A person who sells jewels, ornaments.
6. A person who practices law.
7. A person who tells your future on the basis of sun, moon, stars.
8. A person who eats too much.

**VII Make nouns adding *ment* or *ness* and use these nouns in sentences of your own:**

manage + ment

kind + ness

prompt	serious	encourage	large	dry
retire	happy	sweet	enjoy	arrange

**VIII Use *synonyms* of the following words in sentences of your own:**

fascinated	appreciated	lucky	scared
respond	prompt	proper	initiated

**IX Write a paragraph on 'My Aim in Life'.**

**X Write a letter to your friend sharing your experience of a journey by bus or train.**

\*\*\*\*\*



## A Clean Confession

pleasure	stumps	unbearable	permission
disgust	suicide	auspicious	effective
desired	choked	debt	resolved
confession	adequate	pledged	repentance

A relative and I became very fond of smoking. Not that we saw any good in smoking, or liked the smell of a cigarette. We simply imagined a sort of pleasure in sending out clouds of smoke from our mouths. My uncle had the habit, and we thought we should copy his example. But we had no money. So we began stealing stumps of cigarettes thrown away by my uncle.



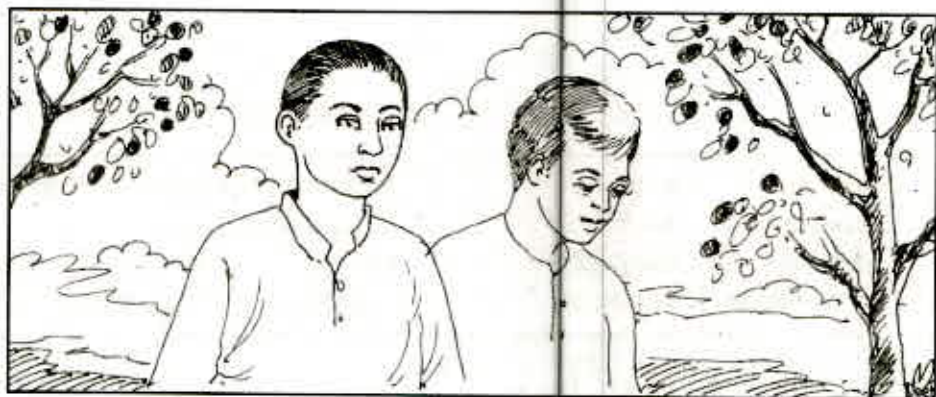
The stumps, however, were not always available and could not give out much smoke either. So we began to steal coppers\* from the servant's pocket money in order to purchase cigarettes. But the question was where to keep them. We could not of course smoke in the presence of elders. We managed somehow for a few weeks on these stolen coppers.

But we were far from being satisfied with such things as these. Our want of independence began to be painful. It was unbearable that we should be unable to do anything without the elders' permission. At last, in sheer disgust, we decided to commit suicide.

But how were we to do it? From where were we to get the poison? We heard that *dhatūra* seeds were an effective poison. Off we went to

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\* *coppers* : small coins (part of currency prevalent at that time)



the jungle in search of these seeds and got them. Evening was thought to be the auspicious hour. We went to *Kedarji Mandir*, put ghee in the temple lamp, had the *darshan* and then looked for a lonely corner. But our courage failed us. Supposing we were not at once killed? And what was the good of killing ourselves? Why not rather put up with lack of independence? But we swallowed two or three seeds nevertheless. We dared not take more. Both of us did not like to die, and decided to go to *Ramji Mandir* to calm ourselves, and to dismiss the thought of suicide.

I realised that it was not easy to commit suicide.

The thought of suicide ultimately resulted in both of us bidding goodbye to the habit of smoking and of stealing the servant's coppers for the purpose.

Ever since I have grown up, I have never desired to smoke and have always regarded the habit of smoking as barbarous, dirty and harmful. I have understood why there is such a desire for smoking throughout the world. I cannot bear to travel in a compartment full of people smoking. I become choked.

But much more serious than this theft was the one I was guilty of a little later. I stole the coppers when I was twelve or thirteen, possibly less. The other theft was committed when I was fifteen. In this case I stole a bit of gold out of my meat eating brother's armlet. This brother had run into a debt of about twenty five rupees. He had on his arm an armlet of solid gold. It was not difficult to clip a bit out of it.

Well, it was done, and the debt cleared. But this became more than



I could bear. I resolved never to steal again. I also made up my mind to confess it to my father. But I did not dare to speak. Not that I was afraid of my father beating me. No. I do not recall his ever having beaten any of us. I was afraid of the pain that I should cause him. But I felt that the risks should be taken; that there could be no cleansing without a clean confession.

I decided at last to write out the confession to submit it to my father, and ask his forgiveness. I wrote it on a slip of paper and handed it to him myself. In this note not only did I confess my guilt, but I asked adequate punishment for it, and closed with a request to him not to punish himself for my offence. I also pledged myself never to steal in future.

I was trembling as I handed the confession to my father. He was then confined to bed. His bed was a plain wooden plank. I handed him the note and sat opposite the plank.

He read it through, and tears trickled down his cheeks, wetting the paper. For a moment he closed his eyes in thought and then tore up the note. He had sat up to read it. He again lay down. I also cried. I could see my father's agony. If I were a painter I could draw a picture of the whole scene today. It is still so vivid in my mind.

Those tears of love cleansed my heart, and washed my sin away. Only he who has experienced such love can know what it is !

This sort of forgiveness was not natural to my father. I had thought that he would be angry, say hard things, and strike his forehead. But he was so wonderfully peaceful, and I believe this was due to my clean confession. A clean confession, combined with a promise never to commit the sin again, when offered before one who has the right to receive it, is the purest type of repentance. I knew that my confession made my father feel absolutely safe about me, and increased greatly his affection for me.

*As told by Gandhiji in his autobiography "The story of my life."*



## Glossary

- pleasure** : happiness, satisfaction  
It gives me great **pleasure** to help people in times of need.
- stumps** : remainder, the part that is left after the main part is cut off  
He threw the cigarette **stumps** out of the window.
- unbearable** : intolerable  
It was **unbearable** to see the patient in pain.
- permission** : the action of allowing somebody to do something  
I asked my teacher's **permission** to leave the class.
- disgust** : strong dislike for something  
The idea of smoking, fills me with **disgust**.
- suicide** : take one's own life  
The old lady committed **suicide**.
- auspicious** : showing signs of future success, carrying some sanctity with it  
Today is an **auspicious** day for the wedding ceremony.
- effective** : having the desired effect  
The medicine is very **effective**.
- desired** : wanted something  
My father **desired** that I should become a doctor.
- choked** : to become blocked up  
The man was **choked** to death when he fell into the ditch.
- debt** : a sum of money owed to somebody  
My **debts** are increasing day by day.
- resolve** : to decide firmly  
I **resolved** never to tell a lie.
- confession** : admitting that one is guilty of a crime  
I'm afraid I have a **confession** to make.
- adequate** : satisfactory in quality or quantity; sufficient  
There is **adequate** food in the house for all of us.
- pledge** : a serious promise  
The workers took a **pledge** never to go on strike again.

- repentance* : regret or sorrow for something bad that one has done  
*Manjiv is showing no sign of repentance.*
- fond of* : having a strong liking
- barbarous* : wild, not civilized

## EXERCISES

### I Answer the following questions :

1. What made Gandhiji interested in smoking?
2. What appeared to be unbearable to Gandhiji?
3. Why did Gandhiji start stealing small coins from the servant's pocket money?
4. Why did Gandhiji dismiss the idea of committing suicide?
5. When did Gandhiji commit the other theft?
6. When did Gandhiji decide to confess to his father?
7. What was the reaction of Gandhiji's father when he read Gandhiji's confession?
8. What does Gandhiji mean by a "clear confession"?

### II Fill in the blanks choosing the correct word from the bracket as used in the lesson:

1. Gandhiji and his relative began to steal .....  
 (cigarettes/ coppers/seeds)
2. We ..... two or three seeds.(ate/chewed/  
 swallowed)
3. I also ..... myself never to steal in  
 future.(told/ pledged/promised)
4. I had thought that my father would be .....(sad/  
 angry/ happy)
5. I believe this was due to my .....confession.  
 (clean/ open/quick)

6. I also asked for ..... punishment. (reasonable/  
heavy/adequate)
7. Those tears of love.....my heart. (changed/  
broke/cleansed)
8. My confession made my father feel.....safe  
about me. (highly/absolutely/totally)

### III Tick the correct word given in the bracket:

1. Gandhiji was an (angel/angle) of peace.
2. In (sheer/shear) disgust they decided to commit suicide.
3. Gandhiji and his relative became (fond/found) of smoking.
4. Gandhiji's father did not lose his (piece/peace) of mind.
5. But we were (for/far) from being satisfied.
6. We should act upon Gandhiji's (advice/advise).
7. We shall read the life story of Gandhiji during summer  
(vocation/vacation).
8. You should not (brake/break) your promise.

### IV Complete the following sentences by adding the appropriate parts of the sentences given in the box:

1. We thought we should .....
2. But the question was .....
3. Not that I was afraid .....
4. I wrote it on a slip of paper .....
5. He closed his eyes in thought .....
6. It is still so .....
7. The other theft was committed.....
8. Only he who has explained such love .....



- vivid in my mind
- and then tore up the note
- and handed it to him myself
- of my father beating me
- where to keep them
- copy his example
- can know what it is!
- when I was fifteen

**V** Nouns of the following words have been given in the lesson. Find out these nouns and use them in sentences of your own:

- |                |       |
|----------------|-------|
| 1. punish      | ..... |
| 2. forgive     | ..... |
| 3. repent      | ..... |
| 4. permit      | ..... |
| 5. confess     | ..... |
| 6. please      | ..... |
| 7. independent | ..... |
| 8. courageous  | ..... |

**VI** Match the words in *Column A* with their meanings in *Column B*:

- | <i>A</i>      | <i>B</i>    |
|---------------|-------------|
| 1. dismiss    | cruel       |
| 2. resolved   | eat quickly |
| 3. agony      | remove      |
| 4. repentance | clear       |
| 5. confess    | pain        |
| 6. vivid      | regret      |
| 7. swallowed  | determined  |
| 8. barbarous  | admit       |

**VII** *"Un" acts as a prefix (put at the beginning of a word) to form new words that have opposite meaning.*

un + able = unable

un + bearable = unbearable

Make words using "un" as a prefix and use these words in sentences of your own:

1. kind .....
2. willing .....
3. necessary .....
4. aware .....
5. certain .....
6. conscious .....
7. common .....
8. beaten .....
9. happy .....
10. believable .....

**VIII** *Fill in the blanks with suitable prepositions:*

1. Gandhiji and his relative became fond .....smoking.
2. They looked ..... a lovely corner.
3. Gandhiji made .....his mind to confess.
4. Gandhiji's father was confined .....bed.
5. This was due ..... Gandhiji's clean confession.
6. Later, Gandhiji developed hatred .....smoking.
7. We must abide .....the rules.
8. We should hope .....the best.

**IX** *Based on your reading of the lesson , write a paragraph on 'Gandhiji'.*

**X** *Write a letter to your mother admitting a serious mistake made by you in the recent past.*

## The Child's Return -1

defeated	glorious	dragged	pretence	forbidden
anxious	mysterious	suspicion	ornaments	

When Raicharan came as servant to his master's home he was just twelve years old. He was asked to look after his master's little son, Anukul. As time went on, the boy left Raicharan's arms to go to school. He went from school to college, and after college he became a judge. Until the time of the boy's marriage, Raicharan was his only servant.

But once Anukul married, Raicharan found that he had two masters instead of one. Soon he was blessed with a son. Raicharan looked after the child so lovingly that the baby soon grew to trust him completely. Raicharan would throw him up in his arms, call him in funny baby language, put his face close to the baby's and take it away again with a laugh.

The child was now able to crawl and would wander outside the house. When Raicharan went to catch him, he would laugh and try to run away. Raicharan was surprised at the baby's skill and exact judgment in this. He would say to his mistress, "Your son will be a judge someday."

It was a great day for Raicharan when the baby began to walk; and his joy was endless when the child called his father Ba-ba, and his mother Ma-ma, and Raicharan Chan-na. The old servant wanted to tell the whole world about it.

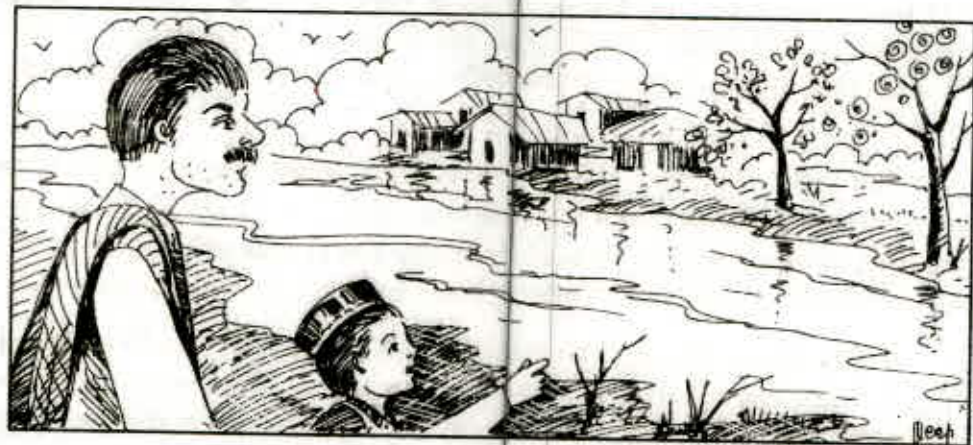
After a while Raicharan had to entertain the child in other ways. For instance, he had to play the part of a horse, holding a string between his teeth. He had to fight with the little boy; and there would be an outcry if he could not, by some trick, fall on his back, defeated, at the end of the battle.



About this time Anukul was sent to a district on the banks of the river Padma. On his way through Calcutta he bought his son a little go-cart, and also a yellow silk coat, a gold cap and gold jewellery. Raicharan loved to take these fine things out and put them on the little boy whenever he took him out for a walk, and he did it with great pride and ceremony.

Then the rainy season came, and day after day the rain poured down. The hungry river, like a great snake, twisted over roads, villages and cornfields, covering the tall grasses and trees with its flood. The roar of the main stream could be heard far away.

One afternoon the rain stopped. It was cloudy, but cool and bright. The determined little boy did not want to stay indoors on such a fine afternoon. He climbed into the go-cart and Raicharan dragged him slowly along till he reached the rice fields, on the banks of the river. There was no one in the fields, and no boat on the stream. On the farther side of the water the clouds had parted in the west, where the sun was setting in a glorious flame of colour. Suddenly the child pointed in front of him and cried, "Chan-na ! pitty fow."



A large *Kadamba* tree in full bloom stood in the mud close by. The baby looked at it with greedy eyes, and Raicharan knew immediately what he wanted; he was saying, in his baby language, "Chan-na! pretty flowers." Raicharan had once made a small go-cart out of the flower balls of this tree, and the child had been so happy dragging it about by a string that for the whole day Raicharan was not asked to pull the real go-cart at all.

But that evening, Raicharan had no wish, to go climbing through the mud to reach the flowers. So he quickly pointed in the opposite direction and cried. "Look, baby, look! Look at the bird!" And with all sorts of strange noises he pushed the go-cart away from the tree.

But a clever child cannot be put off so easily. There was nothing to attract his eyes, and he could not see any bird because it was imaginary.

The little Master's mind was made up, so Raicharan said at last. "Very well, baby, you sit still in the cart and I'll go get you the pretty flowers. But take care you do not go too near the water." He bared his legs to the knee and struggled through the mud to the tree.

The moment Raicharan was gone, his little Master's thoughts raced off to the forbidden water. The baby saw the river rushing by. The child grew excited by those merry waves. He got down quietly from the go-cart and ran off towards the river. On his way he picked up a small stick and leant over the bank of the stream, pretending to fish. The mysterious voices of the river seemed to be inviting him to enter their play house.

Raicharan picked a handful of flowers from the tree and carried them back, smiling to the little boy. But when he reached the go-cart it was empty. He looked round on all sides, but there was no one there.

In that first terrible moment his blood froze within him. The whole world swam round like a dark cloud before his eyes, and he gave one heart-broken cry. "Master, Master, little Master!"

But no voice answered, "Chan-na." No child laughed merrily back. He heard no baby voice welcoming his return. The noisy river ran on, as though it knew nothing at all, and had no time to attend to such a small human event as the death of a child.

Darkness came, and Raicharan's mistress grew more and more anxious. She sent men out everywhere to search. They went with lamps in their hands and reached at last the banks of the Padma.

There they found Raicharan rushing up and down the fields, like a stormy wind, shouting in a voice of despair, "Master, Master, Little Master."

When they got Raicharan home at last, he fell at the feet of his



mistress. They questioned him, and asked him repeatedly where he had left the child but all he could say was that he knew nothing.

Everyone believed that the child had been drowned in the river, but there remained one small doubt, a band of gypsies had been noticed outside the village that afternoon, and some suspicion rested on them. In her terrible sorrow the mother even thought that Raicharan himself had stolen the child. She called him aside and begged him pitifully: "Raicharan, give me back my baby. Give me back my child. Take from me any money you want, but give me back my child."

Raicharan only beat his head in reply. In her anger, his mistress ordered him out of the house.

Anukul tried to argue with his wife about this wholly unjust suspicion. "Why should Raicharan do a wicked thing like that?" he asked.

The mother only replied, "The baby was wearing gold ornaments. Who knows?"

It was impossible to argue with her after that.

### Glossary

- defeat** : to win a victory over somebody  
He has been **defeated** in hockey.
- glorious** : great fame or glory  
India has a **glorious** past.
- drag** : to pull something or somebody along with effort and difficulty  
John **dragged** the table to the corner of the room.
- pretence** : a false display  
Their way of life was all **pretence**.
- forbid** : to order somebody not to do something  
Rafiq was **forbidden** to talk to Ahmed.
- mysterious** : difficult to understand or explain  
The woman disappeared under **mysterious** circumstances.



- anxious* : feeling worried or nervous  
 I was **anxious** to know my marks in the half yearly examinations.
- suspicion* : a feeling or thought, without certain proof  
 He was arrested on **suspicion** of having stolen the money.
- ornaments* : jewellery  
 The bride wore beautiful **ornaments**.

### EXERCISES

#### I Answer the following questions :

1. Why did Raicharan think that he had two masters?
2. What would the child do when Raicharan went to catch him?
3. What would Raicharan do to entertain the child?
4. What did Raicharan tell the child before he went to pick flowers?
5. What did Raicharan find when he returned after picking flowers?
6. How did Raicharan react when he found the child nowhere?
7. Do you think Anukul's wife is right in blaming Raicharan?
8. Do you think Anukul also agreed with his wife?

#### II Fill in the blanks choosing the correct word from the bracket as used in the lesson:

1. The baby soon grew to ..... him completely. (love/like/trust)
2. Raicharan would .....him up in his arms. (take/throw/catch)
3. Raicharan had to .....the child in other ways. (treat/handle/entertain)
4. The child grew excited by those ..... waves. (high/beautiful/merry)
5. Raicharan's mistress grew more and more ..... (angry/worried/anxious).

6. Anukul's wife thought that Raicharan himself had ..... the child.(hidden/killed/stolen)
7. Raicharan only beat his .....in reply.(chest/legs/head)
8. Raicharan gave one .....cry.(loud/noisy/heart - broken)

**III Adjectives of the following words have been used in the lesson. Find out these adjectives and make sentences using these adjectives.**

- |                |       |
|----------------|-------|
| 1. rain        | ..... |
| 2. cloud       | ..... |
| 3. greed       | ..... |
| 4. hunger      | ..... |
| 5. storm       | ..... |
| 6. fun         | ..... |
| 7. happiness   | ..... |
| 8. imagination | ..... |

**IV Change the following sentences from direct into indirect speech:**

1. Raicharan said, "I have two masters instead of one."
2. Raicharan would say to his mistress, "Your son will be a judge someday."
3. Raicharan said to the baby, "Look at the bird!"
4. The child said, "I cannot see any bird."
5. Raicharan said, "Baby, I will get you the pretty flowers."
6. They said to Raicharan, "Where have you left the child?"
7. Anukul said to his wife, "Why should Raicharan do a wicked thing like that?"
8. Raicharan said, "I know nothing about the child."

**V Fill in the blanks with suitable prepositions:**

1. The boy ran .....the river.
2. Raicharan fell .....the feet of his master.
3. On his way ,he picked .....a small stick.
4. He leant .....the bank of the stream.
5. We are proud .....our country.
6. They went to Delhi .....train.
7. We go to school .....foot.
8. He is senior .....me.

**VI Change the following sentences from active to passive voice:**

1. Raicharan loved the child.
2. Raicharan served his master sincerely.
3. He heard no baby voice.
4. Raicharan would play the part of a horse.
5. The baby looked at it.
6. Raicharan had not imagined it.
7. They found Raicharan in a miserable condition.
8. Anukul brought many gifts for the child.

**VII Use the following phrases making meaningful sentences:**

1. look at
2. look for
3. look into
4. look up
5. give up
6. deal in
7. laugh at
8. carry out



**VIII Rewrite the following sentences using adverbs for the italicized expressions:**

1. Raicharan looked after the child *with love*.
2. Raicharan pointed in the opposite direction *without any delay*.
3. The child got down from the go-cart *without making any noise*.
4. Anukul's wife waited for the child *with feelings of worry*.
5. They questioned him about the child *again and again*.
6. I can climb a tree *with ease*.
7. You should do your work *with care*.
8. We go to Delhi *many times*.

**IX Read any other story written by Rabindranath Tagore and write it in your own words.**

**X Write a short paragraph on Raicharan's character.**

\*\*\*\*\*

## The Child's Return – II

crawl	amusement	amazement	companion	fault
persuaded	neglect	innocent	justice	faithful

Raicharan went back to his village. He had no son, and there seemed no hope that a child would now be born to him. But before the end of the year, his wife gave birth to a son and died.

At first Raicharan could feel no love for this new baby. He had a strange suspicion that he had come to take the place of the little master. He also thought it would be wicked to be happy with a son of his own after what had happened to his master's little child.

With time a change came over Raicharan's mind. A wonderful thing happened. This new baby began to crawl about and wander outside the house in search of amusement. He was clever and full of fun; and his voice, his laughter and tears, his actions, all reminded Raicharan of the little Master. Sometimes, when Raicharan listened to the baby's crying, it seemed to him that his former little Master was crying for him in heaven.

Phailna (*for that was the name given to the new baby*) soon began to talk. He learnt to say Ba-ba and Ma-ma. When Raicharan heard these familiar sounds the mystery suddenly became clear. The little Master could not forget his Chan-na and therefore he had been reborn in this house. To Raicharan, there were three arguments in favour of this:

The new baby was born soon after his little Master's death.

His wife had been unexpectedly blessed with the birth of this son in middle age.

The new baby walked and talked just like his little Master, calling out Ba-ba and Ma-ma in just the same way. This was certainly the judge's son, he thought to himself. Then suddenly Raicharan remembered the

mother's words. "Ah," he said to himself in amazement, "the mother's heart was right. She knew I had stolen her child."

He was at once filled with sorrow for his past neglect of the baby, and began to bring him up as if he were the son of a rich man. He bought a go-cart, a yellow silk coat, and a gold embroidered cap. He melted down the ornaments of his dead wife and made gold jewellery. He refused to let the little one play with any child in the neighborhood and became his only companion, day and night.

The baby grew older and was spoiled by so much love and care. His clothes were so fine that the village children called him, "Your Lordship," and laughed at him.

At last the time came for the boy to go to school. Raicharan sold his small piece of land and went to Calcutta. With great difficulty he found employment as a servant and sent Phailna to school. He spent all his wages on giving his son the best of education, the best clothes, the best food. Meanwhile Raicharan himself lived on a mere handful of rice and would say in secret, "Ah, my little Master, my dear little Master, you loved me so much that you came back to my house! You will never suffer from any neglect of mine."

In this way, twelve years passed. The boy could now read and write well. He was bright, good-looking and healthy. He took great trouble over his looks. He spent money freely in fine clothes and enjoyment and did not think of Raicharan as a father. Although the old man loved him like his father, his manner was that of a servant. And Raicharan made another mistake in that he did not tell anyone that he was the father of the child.

The other students in the house where Phailna lived were greatly amused by Raicharan's simple country manners. Phailna sometimes joined in their fun, when his father was not there. But at the bottom of their hearts, all the students loved the innocent old man, and Phailna was also very fond of him, as a young master loves his faithful servant.

Raicharan grew older and older, and his employer was always finding fault with him. The truth was that he starved himself for the boy's sake. He grew weaker in body, and was no longer able to do his daily



work. He began to forget things and became dull and stupid. But his employer expected the work to be done properly, and would listen to no excuse. Raicharan had now spent the money he had brought with him from the sale of the land, and the boy grumbled continuously and was always asking for more money.

At last Raicharan made up his mind. He gave up his work as a servant, and left some money with Phailna. He told his son that he was going to attend to some necessary business in his native village, but promised he would return as soon as possible. He went off at once to Baraset, where Anukul was the district judge. Anukul's wife had no other child, and she was still heart broken.

One evening Anukul was resting after a long and tiring day in court. His wife was talking to a medicine seller who had just persuaded her to spend a large sum of money on one of his mixtures. He swore that she would have a child within the years, if she took the medicine. Anukul heard someone calling him from the courtyard, and he went out to see who was there. There before him stood Raicharan. Anukul's heart was softened when he saw his old servant. He asked him many questions and offered to take him back into his employment.

But Raicharan only smiled faintly and said in reply, "I only want to say *namaste* to my mistress."

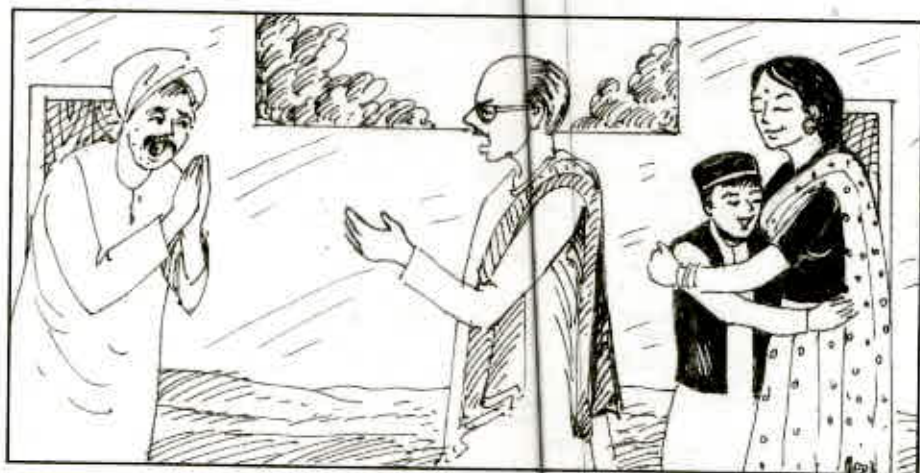
Anukul took Raicharan into the house, but the mistress did not receive him as kindly as his old master had done. Raicharan took no notice, but said, "It was not the river Padma that stole your baby. It was I."

"Great God!" Anukul cried. "What are you saying? Where is he?"

Raicharan replied, "He is with me. I will bring him the day after tomorrow."

It was Sunday, and Anukul did not have to go to court. From early morning he and his wife waited for Raicharan. At ten o'clock he came, leading Phailna by the hand.

Anukul's wife did not hesitate for a moment. She took the boy on her knee and was wild with excitement, laughing, crying, touching him, kissing his hair, and looking into his face with hungry, eager eyes. The boy was very good looking and was dressed like a gentleman's son. Anukul's heart was filled with tenderness and love.



Being a judge, his desire for truth and justice made him ask, "Have you any proof that he is my son?"

Raicharan said, "Proof? How could there be any proof of such a deed? God alone knows that I stole your boy."

Anukul saw how eagerly his wife clung to the boy. He realised that it was useless to ask for proof and that it would be wiser to believe. "Where could an old man like Raicharan get such a boy? And why should his faithful servant cheat him in the first place? He could surely hope to gain nothing from cheating him," he thought to himself. He could not however forgive his old servant and he said, "Raicharan, you must not remain here any longer."

"Where shall I go master?" said Raicharan, in a voice choked with sorrow. "I am old. Who will take me as a servant?"

"Let him stay. My child will be pleased, and I forgive him," said Anukul's wife.

But Anukul's conscience would not allow him this. "No", he said, "I cannot forgive him for what he has done."



Raicharan bowed to the ground and touched Anukul's feet. "Master," he cried, "let me stay. It was not I that did it. It was God." Anukul did not like Raicharan blaming God for the act. "No, I cannot allow you to stay after what you have done; you have lost my trust."

Raicharan now said, "I did not do it. It was my fate."

But no educated person could take this for an excuse and Anukul was more determined. Phailna was angry at first when he saw that he was deprived of this wealthy parents all this time but he felt pity for Raicharan. "Father, forgive him. Even if you don't let him live with us, give him at least a small monthly pension." Raicharan was speechless when he heard this. He looked for the last time at the face of his son. He said *namaste* to his old master and mistress. He then went out and was lost among the numberless people of the world.

That month end, Anukul sent some money to his village. Unfortunately, the money came back as no person by the name of Raicharan could be found living in that village.

### Glossary

- crawl* : to move slowly on hands and knees  
The little baby has started to **crawl**.
- amusement*: entertainment  
The hotel provides a variety of **amusements**.
- amazement* : great surprise or wonder  
He looked at me in **amazement**.
- companion* : friend, playmate  
A dog is a good **companion**.
- native* : a person born in a place or a country and associated with it by birth  
He speaks English like a **native** speaker.
- persuade* : to convince  
I **persuaded** my friend to come for the picnic.
- neglect* : to give no or little attention  
The child died due to the **neglect** of his parents.



- innocent* : not guilty of wrong doing  
*Ravi was innocent but he could not prove it.*
- justice* : right and fair behaviour or treatment  
*The old man did not get justice.*

## EXERCISES

### I Answer the following questions :

1. What happened to Raicharan's wife after the birth of a son?
2. What were the feelings of Raicharan soon after the birth of the baby?
3. Why did Raicharan believe that the little master had been reborn in his house?
4. Why did Raicharan himself live on a handful of rice?
5. Why was Raicharan's new employee unhappy with him?
6. How did Anukul's wife react when Raicharan brought Phailna to her house?
7. Why did Anukul think that it was wiser to believe that Phailna was his son?
8. Where did Raicharan go when he was not allowed to stay in Anukul's house?

### II Who said these words and to whom:

1. "She knew I had stolen the child."
2. "It was not river Padma that stole your baby. It was I."
3. "He is with me. I will bring him the day after tomorrow."
4. "Have you any proof that he is my son?"
5. "You must not remain here any longer."
6. "Where shall I go master?"
7. "It was not I that did it."
8. "I cannot allow you to stay after what you have done."

### III Use suitable conjunctions from the box to fill in the blanks:

till	before	but
if	or	
after	when	how

1. Raicharan's wife gave birth to a son .....the end of the year.
2. Raicharan went to meet his mistress .....she did not receive him kindly.
3. He arrived .....you had gone.
4. Raicharan was speechless .....he heard this.
5. Wait here .....I return.
6. I will bring a gift for you .....I go to Delhi.
7. You must work hard .....you will fail.
8. I do not understand .....it happened.

### IV Rewrite the following sentences after replacing the italicized words/expressions with suitable words from the lesson:

1. Raicharan spent his *money received for the work done* on giving Phailna the best of education.
2. Raicharan began to forget things and became dull and *foolish*.
3. The boy *complained in a bad tempered way* continuously.
4. Anukul heard someone calling him from the *unroofed space*.
5. Anukul saw how eagerly his wife *held tightly* the baby.
6. Anukul's heart was filled with *feelings of kindness and pity*.
7. Raicharan thought it would be *very bad and immoral* to be happy at the birth of his own son.
8. They loved the *harmless and guiltless* old man.

**V Suggest a suitable word for each of the following:**

*e.g. A person who can read and write. Literate*

1. A person who loves his country.
2. A person who dies for a noble cause.
3. A person who believes in fate.
4. A person who looks at the bright side of things.
5. A person who eats only vegetables.
6. A person who employs others.
7. A person who goes on a tour visiting places for pleasure and interest.

**VI Use the correct form of the verb given in the bracket:**

1. Raicharan .....his piece of land and went to Calcutta.(sell)
2. Raicharan's wife had .....after giving birth to Phailna (die).
3. When Raicharan went to Calcutta he .....employment with great difficulty.(find)
4. The boy was always .....for more money.(ask)
5. Raicharan .....his son that he would return soon.(promise)
6. Anukul's wife was wild with excitement when Raicharan .....the child back.(bring)
7. Raicharan should have .....more care.(take)
8. Raicharan .....out and was lost among the people.(go)



**VII Match the words in Column A with their opposites in Column B**

A	B
1. bottom	disloyal
2. forget	latter
3. faithful	top
4. justice	hell
5. hope	remember
6. heaven	impossible
7. possible	despair
8. former	injustice

**VIII Change the following sentences from active to passive voice:**

1. Raicharan made another mistake.
2. Raicharan was spending a lot of money.
3. Who will take me as a servant?
4. I will bring him the day after tomorrow.
5. The old man treated him kindly.
6. So much love and care spoiled the child.
7. All the students loved the old man.
8. Anukul could not forgive his old servant.

**IX Write a short paragraph on the role of Anukul in the story.****X Write a letter to your friend sharing your knowledge about Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore or any other Indian writer.**

## A Letter from a Son to his Mother

bunker	stone's throw	risky	profession
vacate	intruders	gallantry	impressive
enrolled	invasion	wounded	convinced
justice	realised my dream		single handed

C/o 56 A.P.O.

5 September, 20---

Dear Mother

I received all your letters. Let me tell you first and foremost that I am hale and hearty. I do miss home and all of you and look forward to going on annual leave shortly. I am writing this letter to you from my bunker. I am at a stone's throw from the enemy lines. Sitting here, I can hear the guns firing off and on. At such times it is not fear that fills my mind but a sense of pride that I am here to protect my country. I clearly remember father's and your words the day I passed out of the Indian



Military Academy. All our relations and friends kept telling you how

risky the profession was and that you should not have allowed me to join the services. You had replied, "Everyone dies, but very few get a chance to die for the country." Your words inspire me each day of my life.

It is wrong for people to make you afraid about my being on the Line of Control. Yes, it is the frontline and it is never quiet but mother guess what it would be if people like your son did not offer to join the army and serve here? What would happen to our motherland? What will become of the sacrifice of so many soldiers who gave their lives to defend the country? You remember how granduncle fought the raiders in 1947-48. His unit was one of the first to land at Srinagar and fight the Pakistan infiltrators. Had it not been for people like granduncle we would have lost the beautiful valley of Kashmir. You remember how he was severely wounded in the battle but never left his post till the enemy was soundly defeated. His battalion chased the raiders from the valley and they dared not to return for many years.

Father used to tell me stories of the brave deeds of granduncle. Everyone in the village still remembers him as "*Kashmir de Sher*". Even the village school bears his name. He was the first gallantry award winner after the independence of India. There have been many awards won by soldiers, sailors and airmen from the village but he was the first Vir Chakra from the village. His photograph receiving the medal from the President of India in our sitting room looks so impressive. To me it appears he is always telling me "*Nischay Kar apni jeet karon*".

Father joined the same battalion of the proud Sikh regiment when the call came during the Chinese invasion of 1962. You remember how many young men of his generation left their jobs and enrolled in the Army. Father gallantly fought the intruders again in 1965 in the valley and took part in the operations which ended in the capture of Hajipur. How can you forget his letters written from East Pakistan, now Bangladesh in 1971? He killed three enemy soldiers single handed and saved the life of uncle Joginder Singh who was lying wounded in the minefield. Joginder uncle calls father "*Sheran de Sher*" and has always considered him more than his own brother.

I still remember how happy father was to see me in the uniform of



the proud Sikh Regiment. I too was happy at my decision. After joining the battalion, the more I read about the achievements of the Sikh regiment the more I felt convinced I had done the right thing by following my family tradition. You were yourself so happy to see me in uniform. I remember how you took me in front of the photograph of granduncle and when I saluted his photograph you had tears of joy in your eyes. You kissed me and said, "May the blessings of *Wahe Guru* keep you safe and make you reach the very highest position".

Mother do not worry I have shed a lot of sweat during training at the Indian Military Academy, so that I can command the men under me in battle and make the enemy shed their blood. I have learnt the motto of the Academy well, **"The safety, honour and welfare of your country comes first, always and every time. The honour, welfare and comfort of the men you command come next. Your own ease, comfort and safety comes last always and every time"**. I have great examples from my Regiment of Lance Naik Karam Singh, Param Vir Chakra and Subedar Joginder Singh, Param Vir Chakra in front of me. In my own family the achievements of granduncle during the first Indo-Pakistan war in Kashmir in 1947-48 and my father during the 1965 and 1971 Indo-Pakistan war, are there to inspire me.

My friend Gurinder is also with me these days. Being an Army Ordnance Corps officer he has to do his infantry attachment before joining the Army Ordnance Corps. Luckily he has been attached to our battalion. Even he has started enjoying the life in the battalion and all the adventure at the Line of Control. Only yesterday he was asking me if he could change over to the Sikh Regiment. He thinks I have taken the right decision to lead this wonderful life full of challenges and adventure.

I end this letter with lots of love to father and you.

Yours affectionately

Harinder



## Glossary

- bunker** : a strongly built underground shelter for soldiers  
The correspondent was reporting from the **bunker**.
- at a stone's** : very close
- throw** : My house is at **a stone's throw** from his house.
- risky** : full of danger  
It is **risky** to play with fire crackers.
- profession** : a paid occupation especially one that requires advanced education and training.  
He has joined the same **profession** as his father.
- vacate** : to leave a place or position  
Rita asked Rani to **vacate** her house.
- intruder** : somebody who enters another person's property illegally  
The **intruders** were punished and asked to pay a fine.
- gallantry** : courage especially in battle  
Raj received an award for his **gallantry** from the President.
- impressive** : gaining somebody's admiration because of size, beauty or importance  
His collection of paintings is very **impressive**.
- enrolled** : to become a member of a group  
She has **enrolled** for the computer classes.
- invasion** : armed forces entering a country or territory  
The Chinese **invasion** took place in 1962.
- wounded** : injured  
The soldier was badly **wounded**.
- convinced** : more than sure about something  
I am **convinced** that Ravi is not a thief.
- realised** : achieve one's aim
- my dream** : I **realised my dream** of becoming a doctor only because of my mother's support.
- single handed** : all alone  
Karan fought the dacoits **single handed**.

## EXERCISES

### I Answer the following questions.

1. What can Harinder hear sitting in his bunker?
2. Which battalion was fired by Harinder's father?
3. Whose examples of bravery give inspiration to Harinder?
4. Who was the first gallantry award winner after the independence of India?
5. Whose life was saved by Harinder's father in 1971 war?
6. Who is remembered as "Kashmir De Sher"?
7. When was the Sikh regiment joined by Harinder's father?
8. Why was Harinder Convinced that he had taken the right decision by joining the Sikh regiment?

### II Tick the correct word as used in the lesson.

1. Harinder is writing a letter to his mother from.....  
(bunker/ field/room)
2. I am here to .....my country.(praise/support/protect)
3. Harinder's granduncle fought the.....in 1947-48.( raiders/  
railors/airmen)
4. Uncle Joginder Singh was lying wounded in the.....  
(practice/field/minefield/barrack)
5. You remember how he was .....wounded in the battle.  
(badly/quickly/ sweetly)
6. I have shed a lot of .....(weight/sweat/blood)
7. I have learnt the .....of the Academy.(song/lesson/  
motto)
8. I am happy that Gurinder has been .....to our  
battalion. (attached/appointed/allotted)



## III

**Complete the following sentences by adding the appropriate parts of the sentences given in the box.**

1. At such times it is not fear.....
2. Your words inspire me.....
3. They dared not.....
4. He was the first gallantry award winner.....
5. His photograph receiving the medal.....
6. You were yourself so happy.....
7. I have done the right thing.....
8. Even he has started.....

- by following my family tradition
- each day of my life.
- to return for many years
- to see me in uniform.
- that fills my mind.
- from the President of India
- enjoying the life in the battalion.
- after the independence of India.

## IV

**Make sentences using the following expressions:**

1. hale and hearty
2. far and wide
3. again and again
4. now and then
5. sooner or later
6. all in all

V

**Tick the correct words given in the bracket:**

1. He was wiping the (sweat/sweet) from his face.
2. The teacher was taking the (role/roll) call.
3. The patient has taken a (doze/dose) of medicine.
4. The Cow has a long (tale/tail).
5. The flag was flying on the (pole/poll).
6. We shall (cast/caste) our vote in his favour.

VI

**Use the antonyms of the following words in sentences of your own.**

1. remember .....
2. joy .....
3. blessing .....
4. lucky .....
5. defend .....
6. proud .....
7. fear .....
8. defeat .....

VII

**Nouns of the following words have been used in the lesson. Find out these nouns and make sentences of your own using these nouns.**

1. achieve .....
2. bless .....
3. attach .....
4. decide .....
5. safe .....
6. operate .....
7. independent .....
8. intrude .....

## VIII

**Rewrite the following sentences substituting /using adverbs for the italicized expressions:**

1. Harinder's father fought *like a gallant*.
2. Harinder joined the army *of his own free will*.
3. Harinder's mother always treated him *with lot of affection*.
4. Harinder visits his parents *once a year*.
5. We listened to our teacher *with attention*.
6. *It is matter of luck* that Gurinder is attached to our battalion.
7. We should talk to others *in a polite manner*.
8. *All of a sudden* he left the room.

## IX

**Write a few lines on the topic "I love you Mother"**

## X

**Write a letter to your father expressing your desire to join Indian Army after completing your education.**

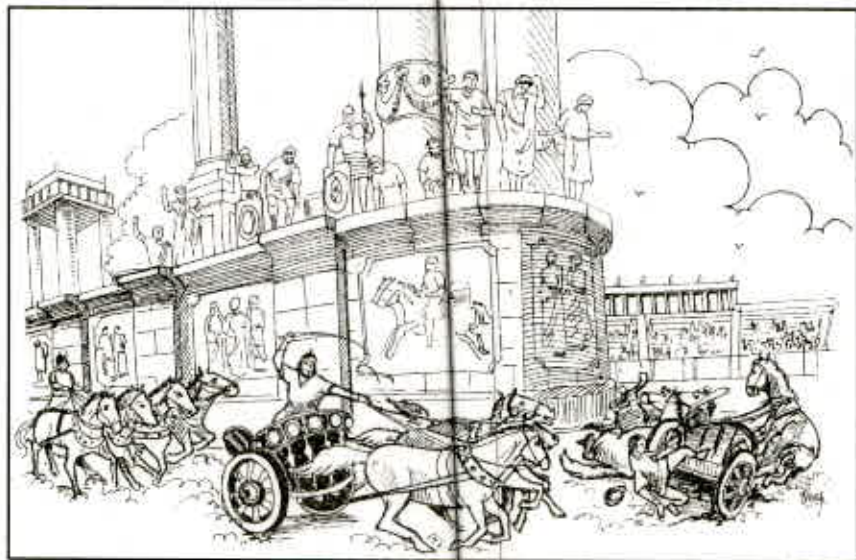
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## The Olympic Games

Legends	chariot	ancient	participants
site	sprint	symbol	athlete
amateur	competitors	enthusiastic	
wreath	revived	grove	extinguished

Do you know, the Olympic Games are named after Olympia in Greece, where they were first held in ancient times ?



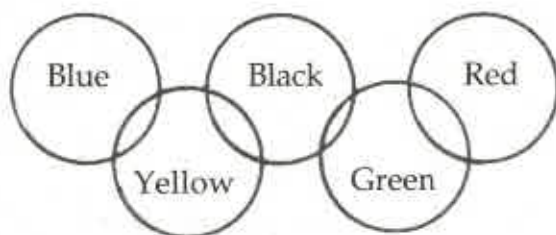
If we go far back into history and time to the days of the ancient Greeks we will see that Hercules started the first Olympic Games almost three thousand years ago in Ancient Greece. These were held in Olympia. There are many legends about how the Olympics started. One of them tells about King Oenomaus who ruled the city of Elis and the valley of Olympia. He wanted to marry his beautiful daughter Hippodamia to any young man who would race and outrun the king's own chariot. If the young man did not succeed he would be killed. Thirteen brave men tried their luck but failed and were put to death. The fourteenth, was a lucky

young man called Pelops. During the race, the wheel of the king's chariot came off and the king was killed. Pelops married Hippodamia and started the Games in Olympia as a thanksgiving to the God Zeus for giving him success and making him a king. Thus the Games which began as a way of honouring the Gods gradually became an organised competition with running, throwing, jumping, wrestling, riding and chariot-racing events.

Later a Christian Emperor called Theodosius banned the Olympic Games completely. But again in 1829, a very enthusiastic Frenchman called Baron Pierre de Coubertin who firmly believed that physical development was important, suggested that the Games be revived. His idea was accepted in 1894 by an International Athletic Congress. Meeting in Paris, the delegates decided to hold the Olympic Games every four years in major cities of the world. They established the International Olympic Committee and voted to hold the first modern games in Athens, Greece in 1896.

Thus the modern Olympics began on April 6, 1896, in Athens, to promote friendship and understanding among nations. It is the most famous sporting competition held in the world today.

The Olympic symbol which you see in the picture, shows five interlocking blue, yellow, black, green and red rings on a white field. The symbol represents the continents of the world joined in friendship.



At least one of these five colours appears in the flag of every country of the world. The participants from all over the world try to win bronze, silver and gold medals in their respective sports. Even today the Games are held in a different city around the world each time as decided. A special stadium is often built for the event, such as the one at Munich in Germany for the 1972 Olympics. The young men and women who come from all over the world to compete in the various sports, live in an Olympic village at the site of the Games.





An athletic stadium at the site of the Games allows several different sports to go on at the same time. There is a running track around the outside of the stadium, marked off into separate lanes. The track is used for running races, which are known as track events. The races may be short sprints or longer races of several laps. Some races involve jumping over hurdles. In relays every member of a team run a section of the race before passing a baton to a team-mate. Inside the track, there are areas for "field" events such as throwing of the javelin, discus, or shot put, pole vaulting, and the long and high jump. Track and field events are the most important part of the Olympics and attract the largest number of competitors. National sides from all over the world compete for the World Cup every four years.

Other summer Olympic sports include archery, swimming, boxing, wrestling, weight lifting, rowing, yachting, shooting, cycling, gymnastics, fencing, equestrian events (horseback), basketball and water polo. Winter Olympics include events like skiing, ski jumping, figure skating, speed skating, ice hockey and some others.

To compete in any Olympic event the athlete must be an amateur and a citizen or a subject of the country, he represents. Imagine the winner in the olden days was awarded just a wreath made of olive leaves, but today the winner of an event is awarded a gold medal, while second and third place winners are given silver and bronze medals along with certificates.



The opening and closing ceremony of the Olympic Games is a show not to be missed. The games begin with a march by all the athletes around the stadium, called the Parade of Nations. Then facing the Olympic flag the athletes take the Olympic oath. The Olympic flame is lit with a torch brought by a relay of athletes from the ruins of ancient Olympia in Greece. When the Games are over the flag is lowered and the flame extinguished.

Some great Olympians are Jesse Owens, Mark Spitz, Dhyan Chand, Carl Lewis and Dawn Fraser. You can add to the list by finding out about some others.

India has had its share of Olympic medals too. We have won several medals since the Games started. Our hockey team won the Olympic gold medal in 1928, 1932, 1936, 1948, 1952, 1956, 1964, 1980. In 2008, Abhinav Bindra won a gold medal in shooting.

The Olympic Games are held every four years, with the summer and winter games alternating, meaning they each occur after every four years but two years apart. Some of the cities where the Games have recently been held are 2004 Greece (summer), 2006 Italy (winter), 2008 China (summer), 2010 Canada (winter), 2012 United Kingdom (summer), 2014 Russia (winter). Do you know there were no games in the years 1916, 1940 and 1944 because of the World Wars?

Today over 204 nations send their athletes to take part in the Games and millions watch the events live or on the television. The Olympic Games help to foster friendship among nations as well as help to create a sound mind in a sound body."

### Glossary

**ancient** : *belonging to times that are long past*

*The temples belong to the **ancient** period.*

**legend** : *a story from the past that may or may not be true*

*The **legend** of Bhagat Singh is known to one and all.*

**chariot** : *an open vehicle with two wheels pulled by horses*

*A **chariot** race took place in the kingdom.*

**enthusiastic** : *a feeling of interest, excitement, admiration, great eagerness*

*Tina does not know much about the subject but she is **enthusiastic**.*

- revived** : to bring something back into existence  
The courses in Sanskrit have been **revived** in our college.
- grove** : a small wooded area or plantation  
There is a mango **grove** near our house.
- sprint** : a short, fast run; to run very fast  
Her sudden **sprint** in the middle of the race left the other runners behind.
- athlete** : a person who is trained to compete in physical exercises and sports  
Raj is a good **athlete**; he is sure to make his mark in the sports meet.
- stadium** : a large sports field surrounded by seats for spectators  
The Mohali **stadium** is used for many sports events.
- symbol** : an image, object that suggests or refers to something else.  
The Ashoka Chakra is a **symbol** of dynamism and movement.
- amateur** : a person who does something for pleasure and not for money  
Jaswinder is an **amateur** photographer.
- extinguished** : to stop something from burning  
The fire was **extinguished** in a short time.
- foster** : help to build  
Politicians are trying to **foster** friendship between India and Pakistan.

### EXERCISES

#### I Answer the following questions.

1. Why are Olympic games named after Olympia?
2. Who started the first Olympic games in ancient Greece?
3. What does the Olympic Symbol represent?
4. Which events attract the largest number of competitors in the Olympic games these days?
5. Who was the Captain of the Indian Hockey team in 1936 Olympics and which team was defeated by the Indian team?
6. Why were Olympic games cancelled three times?
7. Who was awarded a wreath made of olive leaves in the olden days?
8. How are Olympic games helpful for the nations of the world?

## II Tick the suitable word based on the study of the lesson:

1. The delegates decided to (accept/except) his idea.
2. A special stadium is (often/rarely) built for the event.
3. The participants live in an Olympic village at the (sight/site) of the games.
4. The Olympic games help to (faster/foster) friendship.
5. The participants compete in various (sports/supports).
6. Boxing competitions are held in a Boxing (ring/wring).

## III "Ship" acts as a suffix (put at the end) to form nouns:

e.g. friend+ship= friendship

Complete each of the following words and form nouns of these words by using 'ship' as a suffix.

e.g. par ———er= partner+ship= partnership

1. citi.....
2. rel.....on
3. spor.....an
4. dea.....r
5. sch.....ar
6. cham.....on
7. dict.....or
8. guar.....an

## IV Match the word in Column A with their opposites in Column B:

### A

1. ancient
2. success
3. friendship
4. appear
5. include
6. opening
7. create
8. winner

### B

1. exclude
2. enmity
3. modern
4. failure
5. closing
6. disappear
7. loser
8. destroy



**V Choose adjectives from the box which have the meaning given below:**

1. belonging to the distant past
2. relating to athletes with a strong healthy body
3. very pleasant and attractive to look at
4. showing strong feeling of interest, excitement
5. likely to happen or to prove true
6. qualities ,actions connected with a person's body
7. to have good fortune or good things in life
8. liked or admired by many people

charming	ancient	probable	athletic
enthusiastic	popular	lucky	physical

**VI Complete the following phrases choosing suitable words given in the box.**

1. as blue as the.....
2. as brave as a .....
3. as busy as a.....
4. as deep as a.....
5. as innocent as a.....
6. as cunning as a.....
7. as cold as.....
8. as good as .....

lion	ice	sky	bee
sea	gold	child	fox

**VII Correct the spellings of the following words :**

1. swiming
2. wresling
3. gymnastic
4. sklting
5. wiat lifting
6. skeeing
7. juvelen
8. pollvalting

**VIII The Olympic symbol has rings of different colours Find the names of these colours from the box.**

M	T	B	R	E	D	S	T
Y	R	B	L	A	C	K	Z
Q	X	Y	E	L	L	O	W
Z	E	B	L	U	E	S	T
A	G	R	E	E	N	P	Z
L	M	X	O	P	N	A	R

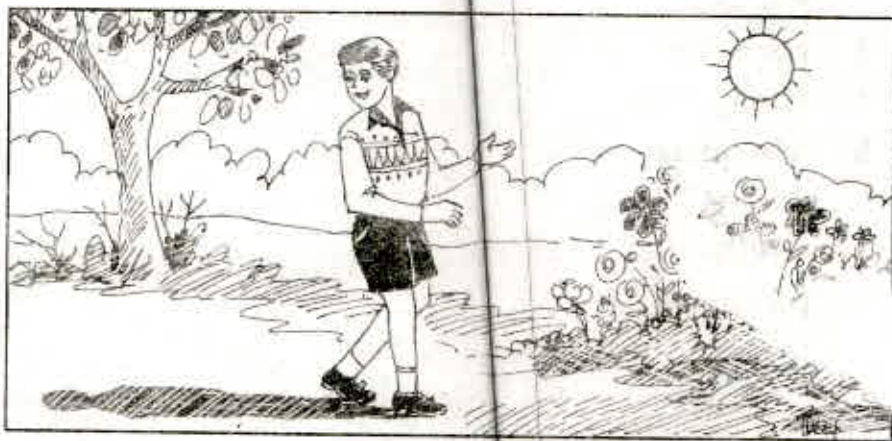
**IX Write a short paragraph on 'Olympic Games'.**

**X Write a letter to your friend sharing with him your views about the importance of Games.**

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# I

## My Shadow



I have a little shadow, that goes in and out with me,  
And what can be the use of him, is more than I can see.  
He is very, very like me, from the heels up to the head,  
And I can see him jump before me, when I jump into my bed.

The funniest thing about him, is the way he likes to grow,  
Not at all like proper children, which is always very slow.  
For he sometimes shoots up taller like an Indian rubber ball,  
And he sometimes gets so little that there's none of him at all.

He hasn't got a notion of how children ought to play,  
And can only make a fool of me in every sort of way.  
He stays so close beside me, he's coward you can see;  
I'd think shame to stick to nursie as that shadow sticks to me.

One morning, very early, before the sun was up,  
I rose and found the shining dew on every buttercup.  
But my lazy little shadow, like an arrant sleepy-head,  
Had stayed at home behind me and was fast asleep in bed.

R.L. Stevenson



**Glossary**

*notion* : understanding

*shining* : very bright and clear

*arrant* : complete

*buttercup*: a plant with bright yellow cup-shaped flowers

**EXERCISES****I Answer the following questions:**

1. What does the poet mean by saying that the shadow goes in and out with him?
2. How is the poet's shadow like the poet?
3. What does the poet find when he jumps into his bed?
4. What is the funniest thing about the shadow?
5. How does the shadow make a fool of the poet?
6. What did the poet experience one morning before the sun was up?

**II Fill in the blanks with words that rhyme:**

1. me .....
2. ball .....
3. slow .....
4. way .....
5. head .....
6. up .....

**III Complete the chart using the correct degrees of the adjectives:**

slow	.....	.....
.....	.....	funniest
.....	taller	.....
close	.....	.....
.....	.....	laziest
.....	earlier	.....

**IV** Make sentences using the following pairs of words showing clearly the difference in meaning:

1. beside, besides
2. heel, heal
3. head, heed
4. shade, shadow
5. fool, befool
6. see, look

**V** Complete the following expressions by matching the words given in Column A with the words given in Column B:

e.g. hot and cold

**A**

1. heart
2. bread
3. high
4. hope
5. joy
6. young
7. up
8. smile

**B**

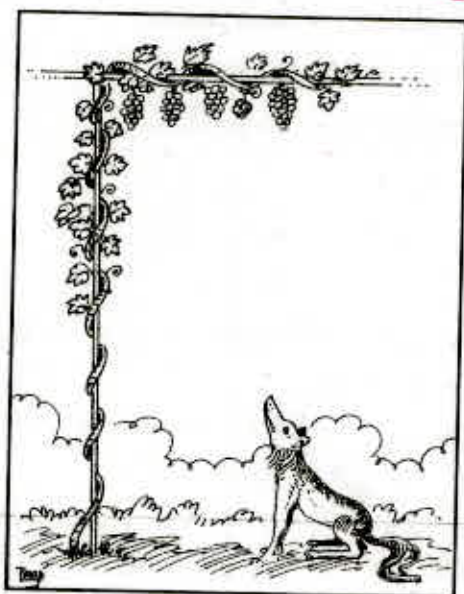
- butter  
soul  
sorrow  
low  
old  
despair  
frown  
down

**VI** Find the opposites of the following words and use them in sentences of your own:

1. early .....
2. coward .....
3. shame .....
4. shining .....
5. lazy .....
6. proper .....

## II

### The Fox and The Grapes



One summer's day a fox was passing through  
A vineyard: faint he was and hungry, too.  
When suddenly his keen eyes chanced to fall  
Upon a bunch of grapes above the wall.  
"Ha! Just the thing!" he said. "Who could resist it!"  
He eyed the purple cluster-jumped-and missed it.

"Ahem!" he coughed. "I'll take more careful aim,"  
And sprang again. Results were much the same,  
Although his leaps were desperate and high,  
At length he paused to wipe a tearful eye,  
And shrug a shoulder, "I am not so dry,  
And lunch is bound to come within the hour,  
Besides, he said, "I am sure those grapes are sour,"



The moral is: We seem to want the peach,  
 The grapes dangles just beyond our reach.  
 Yet, like the fox, we must not be upset  
 When sometimes things are just too hard to get.

Joseph Lauren

### Glossary

<i>vineyard</i>	: an area which is planted with grapevine
<i>faint</i>	: lacking in strength
<i>resist</i>	: to oppose
<i>cluster</i>	: a closely packed group
<i>sprang</i>	: to jump
<i>desperate</i>	: extremely intense
<i>shrug</i>	: to show doubt
<i>dangles</i>	: to hang loosely

### EXERCISES

#### I Answer the following questions:

1. What was the fox doing on a summer day?
2. What did the fox see?
3. What did the fox do to reach the grapes?  
 What was the result of the efforts made by the fox?
5. Why did the fox say that the grapes were sour?
6. What lesson do we learn from the poem?

#### II Fill in the blanks with words that rhyme:

1. fall .....
2. aim .....
3. high .....
4. peach .....
5. hour .....
6. upset .....

### III Tick the correct word as used in the poem:

1. The fox was passing through a *shipyard/vineyard*.
2. The fox was *hungry/angry*.
3. The fox saw the grapes above the *wall/window*.
4. The fox *sprang/shouted* again.
5. The fox paused to *wipe/wash* a tearful eye.
6. The fox could not *ceive/resist* his desire to eat grapes.

### IV Make sentences with the verbs given below. Use Past Indefinite Tense / Simple Past Tense:

e.g. Our school won the hockey match.

1. aim
2. faint
3. pause
4. resist
5. shrug
6. wipe

### V Find the opposites of the following words in the poem and use them in sentences of your own:

1. below .....
2. careless .....
3. low .....
4. rise .....
5. soft .....
6. wet .....

**VI A collective noun is one that is singular in form but stands for many.**

*e.g. a bunch of flowers*

**Complete the following with collective noun:**

1. A group of .....
2. A series of .....
3. A heap of .....
4. A hive of .....
5. A chain of .....
6. A galaxy of .....

\*\*\*\*\*



### III

## The Ice Cream Man

When summer's in the city,  
And brick's ablaze of heat,  
The Ice-cream man with his little cart,  
Goes trundling down the street.

Beneath his round umbrella,  
Oh, what a joyful sight,  
To see him fill the cones with mounds  
Of cooling brown or white.

Vanilla, chocolate, strawberry,  
Or chilly things to drink  
From bottles full of frosty fizz,  
Green, orange, white and pink.

His cart might be a flowerbed  
Of roses and sweet peas,  
The way the children cluster round  
As thick as honey bees.



Rachel Field

#### Glossary

- ablaze* : burning strongly  
*trundling* : a small roller  
*mounds* : large quantity  
*frosty* : chilly  
*fizz* : to emit bubbles

## EXERCISES

**I Answer the following questions:**

1. In which season do we see the ice cream man?
2. Where is the ice cream man generally seen?
3. Why does the ice cream man move slowly with his cart?
4. What does the poet mean by "fill the cones with mounds of cooling brown or white"?
5. What does the poet mean by "bottles full of frosty fizz"?
6. Why do children cluster round the ice cream man?

**II Make a list of the pairs of rhyming words used in the poem.****III The poet has used the expression *as thick as honey bees*. Complete the following expressions:**

1. as brave as a .....
2. as bright as a .....
3. as busy as a .....
4. as firm as a .....
5. as light as a .....
6. as gentle as a .....

**IV Make sentences using the adjectives given below:**

1. chilly
2. frosty
3. hot
4. sweet
5. thick
6. rosy

**V Use the following words in sentences:**

1. beneath
2. trundle
3. serve
4. glory
5. peas
6. flower bed

## IV

### The Master Plan



The worm, the frog, the monkey, the man  
One from the other in a master plan.  
The stars, the sun, the earth, the sky  
Science answers who, when, where and why.  
How life begins in its varied forms,  
How every detail stems from scientific norms.

There is no God, they have proved they say  
We spin like a top, so there's night and day.  
But will someone please come forward and explain  
Why a mother sheds tears when her child is in pain,  
Why those who sin keep burning within,  
Why the truth shall always finally win.



Why there is love, why there is hope,  
 Why people are bound when there's no rope,  
 Why a baby's smile or a cool breeze  
 Soothe my troubled heart and puts me at ease ?  
 Two ideas so sharply in contrast,  
 Two lines of thinking so differently cast  
 I can't deny either, so I think it might be  
 That science made me from a monkey and God is keeping me.

Mansi Naran

### Glossary

<i>varied</i>	: diverse
<i>sin</i>	: wickedness
<i>norms</i>	: rules
<i>soothe</i>	: to comfort
<i>deny</i>	: to refuse

### EXERCISES

#### I Answer the following questions:

1. What does the poet mean when she says science answers Who, When, Where and Why ?
2. How does a mother react when her child is in pain ?
3. What puts the poet's heart at ease ?
4. What do scientists think about life ?
5. What are the two different ideas referred to in the poem ?
6. What does the poet say at the end of the poem ?

#### II Make a list of the pairs of rhyming words used in the poem.

**III Make sentences of your own using nouns of the given words.**

1. explain .....
2. please .....
3. prove .....
4. sin .....
5. think .....
6. win .....

**IV Make sentences using adjective forms of the following words.**

1. truth .....
2. love .....
3. hope .....
4. pain .....
5. trouble .....
6. earth .....

**V Match the words in Column A with their opposites in Column B**

- | A          | B         |
|------------|-----------|
| 1. always  | admit     |
| 2. forward | falsehood |
| 3. win     | never     |
| 4. sharp   | lose      |
| 5. deny    | blunt     |
| 6. truth   | backward  |

**VI Complete the following expressions:**

1. As sweet as .....
2. As dumb as .....
3. As black as .....
4. As white as .....
5. As fast as .....
6. As green as .....

# V

## The Wind

I saw you toss the kites so high  
And blow the birds about the sky,  
And all around I heard you pass,  
Like ladies' skirts across the grass—  
O wind, a blowing all day long,  
O wind, that sings so loud a song!



I saw the different things you did,  
But always you yourself you hid,  
I felt you push, I heard you call,  
I could not see yourself at all.  
O wind, a blowing all day long,  
O wind, that sings so loud a song!

O you that are so strong and cold,  
O blower, are you young or old?  
Are you a beast of field and tree,  
Or just a stronger child than me?  
O wind, a blowing all day long,  
O wind, that sings so loud a song!



**Robert Louis Stevenson**



**Glossary**

<i>blow</i>	: to move
<i>different</i>	: not same
<i>blower</i>	: one who blows
<i>beast</i>	: a four-footed animal

**EXERCISES****I Answer the following questions:**

1. How does the wind help the birds ?
2. What does the wind do all the day long ?
3. How are kites helped by the wind ?
4. What does the poet mean when he says "I could not see yourself at all"?
5. What does the poet mean by 'a beast of field and tree'?
6. What kind of pictures come to the mind of the poet about the wind ?

**II Make a list of the pairs of the rhyming words used in the poem:****III Complete the chart with correct degrees of the adjectives:**

cold	.....	.....
.....	higher	.....
loud	.....	.....
.....	.....	oldest
.....	younger	.....
.....	.....	strongest

**IV. Make sentences using the following verbs in Past perfect tense:**

1. blow
2. call
3. hear
4. hide
5. push
6. see

**V. Make a list of the nouns used in the poem.****VI. Change the following words into adverbs and use them in sentences:**

1. loud .....
2. different .....
3. strong .....
4. cold .....
5. innocent .....
6. nice .....

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