

## 2.5 The happy prince

**Warning up:-**

**1. There are different types of short stories. Use a dictionary / Internet and find out what each of the following types refers to.**

**(1) fable**

**Ans:-** moral bearing story with animal character.

**(2) anecdote**

**Ans:-** short amusing account of an incident.

**(3) fairy tale**

**Ans:-** having supernatural characters/a moral for children.

**(4) parable**

**Ans:-** having religious base and message or moral.

**(5) tragedy**

**Ans:-** serious and ends in a tragedy.

**(6) humorous story**

**Ans:-** causing laughter and amusement; comic.

**(7) detective story**

**Ans:-** the plot revolves around the investigation and solving of a crime/s.

**(8) myth**

**Ans:-** originated in ancient times. authorship unknown.

**2. Have you heard of birds that fly from one part of the world to another in small or large flocks?**

**Ans:-** They are called Migratory birds.

**Discuss and write down two reasons why they migrate and return.**

**Ans:-** 'Migratory birds' migrate for food and for warmth. They return when the food supplies in their home area stabilize and winter changes to summer again.

**3. Speech or dialogues can be reported in two ways - Direct and Indirect. When the exact words of the speaker are reported we call it Direct Speech. When the exact words of the speaker are not reported, but just its contents we call it Indirect Speech.**

**Direct Speech:** Amor said, "I shall come to meet you tomorrow, Sanket."

**Indirect Speech:** Amar told Sanket that he would go to meet him the next day.

**Note down the changes you observe in the Indirect Speech.**

- Ans:-** (1) There are no inverted commas in Indirect Speech.  
(2) The verb changes in Indirect Speech.  
(3) There is a change in the adverb in Indirect Speech.  
(4) The word 'that' is added in Indirect Speech.

### **English Workshop:-**

**1. Say whether these sentences are true or false and correct the false ones.**

**(1) The writer of the story is William Blake.**

**Ans:-** False.

Correct sentence:- The writer of the story is Oscar Wilde.

**(2) Everyone admired the statue of the Happy Prince.**

**Ans:-** True.

**(3) The mother was working, when the Swallow brought the yellow jewel.**

**Ans:-** False

Correct sentence:- The mother was sleeping when the Swallow brought the yellow jewel.

**(4) The two best things the servants brought to God were gold and jewel stones.**

**Ans:-** False

Correct sentence:- The two best things the servants brought to God were the broken heart and the dead bird.

**2. Find from the story the Homophones of the following words**

**(Words that sound the same, but differ in spellings and meanings.)**

**(1) weak**

**Ans:-** week

**(2) their**

**Ans:-** there

**(3) blew**

**Ans:-** blue

**(4) sea**

**Ans:-** see

**(5) read**

**Ans:-** red

**(6) waste**

**Ans:-** waist

**(7) know**

**Ans:-** no

**(8) knot**

**Ans:-** not

**(9) threw**

**Ans:-** through

**(10) right**

**Ans:-** write

**3. Answer the given questions in your own words.**

**(1) Where was the Happy Prince's statue?**

**Ans:-** The statue of the Happy Prince stood high above the city. It was covered with gold, its eyes were bright blue jewels, and a red jewel hung from its waist. Everyone thought that it was very beautiful.

**(2) Why did the swallow decide to stay under the statue of the Happy Prince at night?**

**Ans:-** The Swallow decided to stay under the statue of the Happy Prince at night because it was high up, and so there was plenty of fresh air.

**(3) Why was the Prince sad?**

**Ans:-** The happy prince was sad because he saw that in city there was sadness, misery and poor people with hunger. but when the prince was in palace he was living happily and sadness was not allowed. the happy prince became sad for the people who were poor and nobody to help.

**(4) What was the first task given to the Swallow?**

**Ans:-** The Happy Prince asked the Swallow to take the great red jewel from his waist and give it to a poor woman whose son was ill and hungry. This was the Swallow's first task.

**(5) To whom did the Prince gift the two gemstones of his eyes?**

**Ans:-** The Prince gifted two gemstones of his eyes to a young writer who could not complete his writing and to a little girl selling eggs, whose eggs had fallen and broken.

**(6) What decision did the Swallow finally make? Was it a wise one? Comment.**

**Ans:-** The Swallow finally decided not to go to Egypt but to remain with the Happy Prince, whom he loved very much. It may not have been a wise decision because it led to the death of the Swallow: but it was a decision made from the heart, and was an emotional decision which was rewarded in heaven.

**(7) Why did the Swallow finally decide not to leave the Prince?**

**Ans:-** The Swallow finally decided not to leave the prince because he loved him very much.

**(8) What message do you get from this story?**

**Ans:-** The message that we get from this story is that we should be loyal, generous and compassionate. We will not only get peace when on earth but will also get appreciation and reward in heaven.

#### **4. Infinitives, Participles, Gerunds**

##### **(a) Infinitives**

In the sentences 'I have to study' and 'I must study', 'study' is in the infinitive form, because it does not take -s, -es or -ed after it even if the number or person of the Subject changes. Infinitives are generally preceded by 'to' or sometimes by a modal auxiliary.

##### **(b) Participles**

In the sentences 'She dived into the swimming pool' and 'The writing table is in a mess' 'Swimming' and 'writing' are in the verb + ing form and function as Adjectives. These are Present Participles.

In the sentences, 'The police recovered the stolen jewels' and 'He bandaged his bruised arm', stolen and bruised are in the verb + en /ed form and function as Adjectives.

##### **(c) Gerunds**

In the sentences, 'I love swimming' and 'Reading is a good habit', the verb + ing form function as Nouns (as the Subject or Object). These are called Verbal Nouns or Gerunds. Say whether the underlined are Infinitives / Participles (Present or Past) / Gerunds.

**(1) I wish to go to Egypt.**

**Ans:-** Infinitive

**(2) They liked his written stories.**

**Ans:-** Participle (Past)

**(3) He is trying to finish a story.**

**Ans:-** Infinitive

**(4) Suffering is stranger than anything.**

**Ans:-** Gerund

**(5) The dying swallow fell at his feet.**

**Ans:-** Participle (Present)

**(6) He began to cry.**

**Ans:-** Infinitive

**(7) He watched the working seamen.**

**Ans:-** Participle (Present)

**5. Write the following dialogues from the story in the Indirect Speech.**

**(1) 'Who are you?' asked the bird. 'I am the Happy Prince.'**

**"Then why are you crying? I am wet with your tears."**

**Ans:-** The bird asked the Happy Prince who he was. When he replied, the bird asked why he was crying if he was the Happy Prince and added that he, the bird, was wet with his tears.

**(2) The Happy Prince looked very sad and the little Swallow was sorry for him. "It is very cold here," he said, "but I will stay with you for one more night. Tomorrow I will take the jewel."**

**"Thank you, little bird," said the Prince.**

**Ans:-** The Happy Prince looked very sad and the little Swallow was sorry for him. He said that though it was very cold there, he would stay with the Prince for one more night. He would take the jewel the next day. The Prince then thanked the little bird.

**(3) "Little bird, little bird," said the prince, "please will you stay with me for one more night?"**

**'My friends are waiting for me,' answered the bird.**

**Ans:-** The prince pleaded with the little bird to stay with him for one more night. The bird replied that his friends were waiting for him.

**(4) Under a bridge, two little boys were lying close together to keep warm. 'We are o hungry!' they said.**

**'You cannot lie there!' shouted a guard.**

**Ans:-** Under a bridge, two little boys were lying close together to keep warm. They sadly remarked that they were very hungry. A guard shouted at them and told them that they could not lie there.

**(5) :Goodbye, dear prince!' he said.**

**'I am glad that you are going to Egypt,' said the prince. 'You have stayed too long.**

**'I am not going to Egypt,' said the Swallow. 'I am going to the house of God.'**

**Ans.** When the Swallow bid goodbye to the prince, the prince replied that he was happy that the Swallow was going to Egypt, and that he had stayed too long there. Upon which the Swallow replied that he was not going to Egypt, but was going to the house of God.

**6. Divide the story into parts. Make 4 groups in your class. Each group should take one of the 4 parts to convert the story into a play and enact your part.**

**Ans:- (Student do it your own)**

**7. If you could change the end of the story i.e. after the Swallow refused to fly to Egypt, how would you change it? Summarise your idea in 10 to 12 lines.**

**Ans:-** Summary of the idea:-

### *A MIRACLE*

The Swallow, battling the bitter cold, refuses to fly to Egypt and continues to live with the prince to support him in his time of need. God sees this love and friendship among the two and decides to do something. He restores the prince to his glory. The Happy Prince becomes golden and beautiful once again, and is admired by all. The little Swallow develops extra layers of feathers to protect him from the cold, and the two continue to live with each other. The prince continues to be generous, but his wealth never diminishes. The Swallow is his messenger and informant. They become immortal. The two realize that these miracles are the work of God and they look towards heaven to thank God.

**8. think of one of your favorite stories. fill in the following facts about the story.**

**(1) Name of the story**

**Ans:-** Pride and Prejudice.

**(2) Type of story**

**Ans:-** Romantic/Social.

**(3) Setting (time and place)**

**Ans:-** the early 1800s; in England.

**(4) Important characters**

**Ans:-** Elizabeth and Jane Bennet; Mrs. Bennet; Darcy.

**(5) Theme/Plot**

**Ans:-** The emotional development of the main characters.

**(6) Conflict/Dilemma**

**Ans:-** Darcy is rich and proud; Elizabeth is strongly prejudiced against him. Their status and lifestyles differ. However, they are attracted to each other.

**(7) Solution**

**Ans:-** How they overcome their prejudices and come together forms the main story of the novel.

**(8) End**

**Ans:-** Darcy and Elizabeth overcome their prejudices and their true emotions come through. The end is a happy one with everything ending well.