

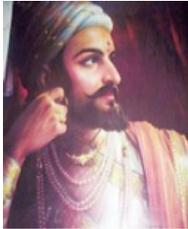
2 The Lost Casket



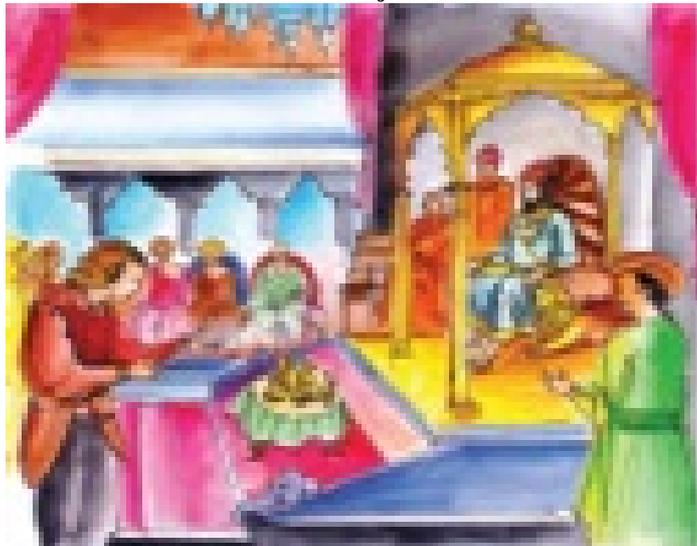
Akbar



Shah Jahan



Shivaji



Look at the pictures and discuss the questions that follow:

1. What do you know about the persons in the pictures?
2. One of the above was a brave Maratha king, also known as Chatrapathi. Can you name him?
3. There are many stories about his acts of bravery and generosity. Talk about one of them.

Read the following story and answer the questions that follow:

Shivaji once attacked the city of Surat, which was under the Mughals then. The Englishmen who lived in Surat ran away for safety. Though they escaped, their belongings were taken away by the soldiers of Shivaji to Raigarh, the capital of Shivaji's kingdom.

The attack shook two English men, Adam Smith and his nephew John. Adam Smith was particularly upset because he had lost a small gold casket. The casket contained a beautiful picture of his dead wife, decorated with rubies and diamonds.

John wanted to recover the casket. He decided to go into the Maratha country secretly.

Many days later, He overtook a train of bullock carts carrying all the spoils of war to Raigarh. The soldiers of Shivaji caught John and took him as a prisoner.

At the durbar, the spoils of Surat had been spread out. A rich carpet was piled high with gold, silver, diamonds, rubies and emeralds.

The gold casket of Adam Smith was also there along with the other looted things. Now, John saw Shivaji for the first time. He hoped to have a private talk with the king. Luckily for him, Shivaji was curious about the Englishman in his court.

“What brings you to Raigarh?” asked Shivaji. John told him the whole story. Shivaji listened. He explained that everything was now the property of our kingdom and it was no good to give away the casket because it was the property of the people of our kingdom. He added that he was freeing John but that he would have to leave Raigarh within three days. He gave permission to John to stay in his fort for three days.

The next evening, John went to a lonely part of the fort, which overlooked the surrounding country. After watching the sunset, he turned to go back. Ahead of him, he saw a single Maratha soldier walking, head down, as if he were lost in thought. The next minute, John realised with shock that the soldier was being followed by three men! All at once the three men drew their swords and rushed upon the lonely soldier. But the soldier with remarkable swiftness threw off his heavy shawl. He drew his sword and ran to a narrow passage between two blocks of stone. In that position, he was waiting for the three men who tried to attack him.

John had no weapon except a walking stick, but he hit the last attacker with it and knocked him to the ground. The next man attacked John and thrust his sword under his arm, but it only cut his thick overcoat. As he withdrew the sword, John fell upon him. He used all his strength, threw him down and pinned him to the ground. He then turned to the remaining two men.

To his surprise, he found that the lone Maratha soldier was none other than the great Shivaji himself. Though his enemies were taller and stronger, Shivaji managed this by the quickness of his movements and his wonderful skill with his sword, called *Bhawani*. It flashed like lightning and he soon drove it through the heart of the attacker.

Shivaji turned to John who rose to his feet to greet him. The man beneath John took advantage of this and attacked Shivaji. But Shivaji caught and threw him over the parapet. The attacker fell over the parapet to the rocks below and died.

A smile lit up Shivaji’s face as he looked at John. “ You have helped me today. Ask me for what you like to take. I cannot refuse to one who has helped me and the Maratha people.”

At the durbar next morning, the casket was waiting for John. Shivaji also gave him a necklace of precious pearls, and arranged to send him back to Surat.

casket (n): a small, decorated box for keeping jewellery and valuables

spoils (n): the benefits that someone gets when they win something, for example a war.

loot (v): take by force after fight / war

parapet (n): a small supporting wall on the roof

I. Answer the following questions:

1. Why was Adam Smith so possessive about the casket?
2. How did John reach Shivaji’s durbar?
3. Why did John wish to have a private audience with the king?
4. Why do you think Shivaji disguised himself as a soldier?
5. What did John do to save the soldier?
6. What surprised John in the fight?
- * 7. What would have happened, if John had not saved Shivaji?
- * 8. Do you agree that John was as brave as Shivaji? Justify your answer.
9. How did Shivaji repay John?
10. Which line in the last paragraph tells us about Shivaji’s generosity?
- *11. What qualities of Shivaji impress you / inspire you most?
- *12. If you were John, would you save Shivaji? Justify your answer.

II. Say whether the following statements are True or False. Correct the false statements.

1. Surat was under the control of Englishmen at the time of Shivaji’s attack.
2. The casket was one among the spoils of Surat displayed at the durbar.
3. Shivaji agreed to give back the casket when he listened to the whole story in the durbar.
4. John did not know before the fight that the lone soldier was Shivaji.
5. Adam Smith was not worried about the loss of the small casket.
6. John attacked Shivaji to kill him.
7. Shivaji was pleased with the nature of John.

III. Rearrange the following sentences in the order as they occur in the text.

1. One evening when a Maratha soldier was walking in the fort, three men attacked him violently.
2. At the end, the casket was returned to John.

3. Shivaji expressed his gratitude to John by presenting him a precious necklace.
4. John was shocked to know that the Maratha soldier was none other than Shivaji.
5. Shivaji killed the assassin with his sword, the Bhawani.
6. Shivaji refused to give away the casket to John because it belonged to his people.
7. When Shivaji attacked the city of Surat, the Englishmen fled for safety.

I. Look at the following words.

quickness swiftness

The above words are nouns, but they are formed when the suffix “-ness” is added to the adjectives “quick” and “swift.”

Read the passage again, pick out adjectives, and see if they take the suffix ‘-ness’ to form nouns. Check your work using a dictionary. Then write them in your notebook.

Read the following passage. Observe the underlined words.

It was the New Year’s Day. It was celebrated by people all over the world. Sushma wanted to buy a bunch of flowers for her teacher. She rushed to the florist. But there was a huge crowd. With great difficulty, she bought one and quickly reached her school. When she entered the class, there were already a heap of greetings and bouquets on the teacher’s table. But the teacher accepted Sushma’s flowers as if they were special. Then she distributed a packet of sweets to all the children. It was a wonderful day for them.

The above underlined words refer to a group of people or things. Such words are called “collective nouns”.

I. Write sentences of your own using these collective nouns.

army group herd pile fleet flock bunch

II. Look at the words “secretly”, “luckily”, and “savagely”. They are formed by adding the suffix “-ly” to the adjectives “secret”, “lucky” and “savage”. They are adverbs of manner. They tell us how an action happens.

Read the following passage about Rohini and circle the adverbs of manner. Then pick out the verbs of action that the adverbs refer to.

Rohini was seriously preparing for the state level dance competition at Ravindra Bharathi. I went along with her mother to see the programme . We were comfortably seated in the first row of the auditorium. She appeared to be an angel on the stage, and danced wonderfully. We watched the programme enthusiastically. Though Rohini performed excellently, her mother was nervous as she waited for the announcement of the winner. After all the participants had finished, the judges took the stage. The results were announced. Unfortunately, Rohini missed the first prize. However, she accepted the second prize, a cheque for Rs.50,000, with tears in her eyes. She voluntarily donated the sum to an orphanage. The audience stood up and loudly applauded her saying “Rohini, you are really generous.”

III. Fill in the blanks in the following conversation between Rohit and his father. Change the words in brackets into adverbs.

Father : Your exams are approaching. Are you studying _____? (serious)

Rohit : Yes dad, I’m studying all the subjects_____.(careful)

Father : Last time you failed in Maths. Are you working_____ (thorough) on the exercises?

Rohit : I’ve revised them several times. Now I can do them _____ (confident)

Father : I hope you’ll do the exam_____. (excellent)

Rohit : Sure, dad.

***I. Write a paragraph on John focussing on his character. Also, talk about the reversal in the attitude of John and Shivaji about each other.**

II. Given below is a brief biographical sketch of Shivaji.

Shivaji was born in Shivneri on 10th April, 1627 to Jijabai and Shahaji Bhosle. His father Shahaji was a nobleman in the royal court of Bijapur. Shivaji was named so after Lord Shiva of the Hindu mythology as his mother was an ardent Hindu devotee. Since childhood, Shivaji was brave and never feared anything. There were many instances in his childhood that showed he was a born ruler. At the young age of fourteen, he had the dream of building his kingdom. At the age of 20, he took out his very first military attack and captured the Torna Fort of the kingdom of Bijapur.

After that, there was no stopping for him and he had a series of triumphs. Shivaji was known for his protective and

fatherly attitude towards his citizens. He is remembered till date as a hero who worked for the welfare of his subjects and state. Shivaji breathed his last in 1680 after suffering from fever for three whole weeks.

Based on the information given above and the information you already have, write a brief speech about Shivaji, which you are to deliver on the occasion of naming one of the Houses in the school as “Shivaji House.” You may begin like this:

Dear friends,

It’s a matter of great pride and pleasure for me to talk about Shivaji, a brave Maratha king, also known as Chatrapathi.

Shivaji was a born ruler.



How well did I write?

Fill in the boxes using yes/ somewhat/ no.

- I was able to explain / describe / narrate well.
- The sentences I used were properly connected.
- I was able to express my ideas in apt words.
- The ideas were arranged in proper sequence.
- I used proper punctuation marks.

Study the following results.

How well did I edit my work?

Fill in the boxes using yes/ somewhat/ no.

- I deleted the excess words.
- I corrected the wrong forms of words.
- I corrected the punctuation errors.
- I added new words wherever necessary.
- I corrected the misspelt words.



Girls Percentage Boys Percentage

Swathi 86 Abhilash 85.6

Swetha 82 Farooq 85

Naga Rani 78 Sai Krishna 79.6

Hemalatha 69 Bhanu Prasad 67.6

Mamatha 68 Uday Kumar 76

Sruthi Geetha 68 Vinod Kumar 76.8

Manjula 67.6 Masanna 71

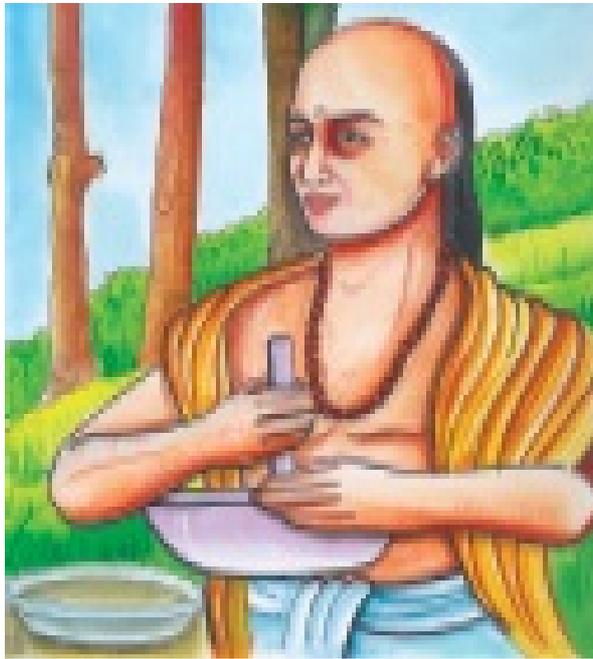
Notice Board



Answer the following questions:

1. Name the school topper.
2. Which two students scored equal percentage?
3. Who got the lowest percentage?
4. How many have scored eighty percent and above?
5. Comment on the overall performance of the students.
6. Who performed well, boys or girls? Support your answer.

Your teacher will tell you an interesting story about a great person “Charaka.” Listen carefully and do the following exercises.



I. Fill in the blanks after your teacher has finished reading the story.

1. Prevention is better than _____.
2. Charaka presented the concept of digestion _____ and immunity.
3. Charaka _____ the anatomy of human body.
4. Charaka gave the number of _____ present in the human body including _____.
5. Charakasamhita is a great contribution in the field of _____.
6. Charaka said that the heart is the controlling _____.
7. The two ancient physicians who guided Charaka were _____ and _____.

II. Tick \rightarrow the correct answer.

1. A physician should have...
a) impatience. c) arrogance.
b) sense. d) patience.
2. The first person to find out the cause of human sickness was...
a) Susruta. c) Charaka.
b) Dharmapada. d) Charakasamhita.
3. Charaka was a great...
a) surgeon. c) philosopher.
b) physician. d) translator.

4. Charakasamhita was written...

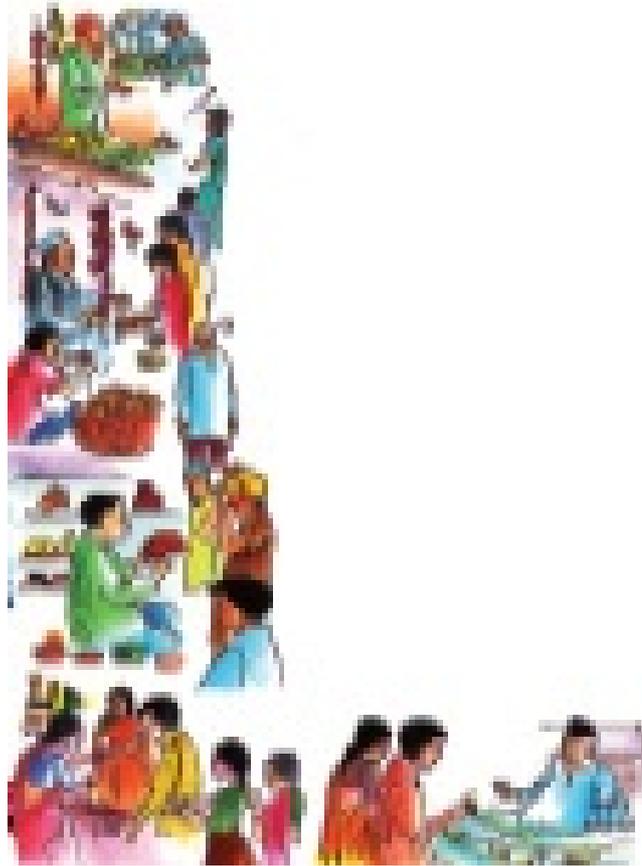
a) nearly twenty years ago. c) nearly twenty decades ago.

b) nearly twenty centuries ago. d) nearly twenty five years ago.

III. Group work

Have you ever been to a historic place? Talk about it in your group. Describe the things that you liked / disliked.

Read the following poem.



In the Bazaars of Hyderabad

What do you sell, O ye merchants?

Richly your wares are displayed.

Turbans of crimson and silver,

Tunics of purple brocade,

Mirror with panels of amber,

Daggers with handles of jade.

What do you weigh, O ye vendors?

Saffron and lentil and rice

What do you grind, O ye maidens?

Sandalwood, henna, and spice.

What do you call, O ye peddlers?

Chessman and ivory dice.

What do you make, O ye goldsmiths?

Wristlets and anklets and ring,

Bells for the feet of blue pigeons

Frail as a dragonfly's wing,

Girdles of gold for dancers,

Scabbards of gold for the king.

What do you cry, O ye fruitmen?

Citron, pomegranate, and plum.

What do you play, O ye magicians?

Spells for aeons to come.

What do you weave, O ye flowergirls
With tassels of azure and red?
Crowns for the brow of a bridegroom,
Chaplets to garland his bed,
Sheets of white blossoms new-garnered
To perfume the sleep of the dead.

- *Sarojini Naidu*



O ye: a meaning “you” used in the past especially to address more than one person

wares (n): goods that someone sells in a market or on the street

brocade (n): expensive thick cloth with a pattern woven into it

amber (n): a hard yellow-brown substance used for making jewellery

jade (n): a precious stone used for making jewellery and art objects

vendor (s): someone who sells something

peddler (s): someone who goes from one place to another selling things

ivory (n): the yellowish white bone that an elephant’s tusk is made of

dice (n): a small block with six sides marked with spots

frail (v): thin and delicate

scabbards (n): a cover for the blade of a sword or dagger

aeon (s): an extremely long period of time

tassels (n): a group of strings tied together at one end and fastened to clothing or objects for decoration

azure (n): bright blue

chaplets (n): a circle of flowers and leaves that you wear on your head

Answer the following questions:

1. What is the poet talking about in the first stanza?
2. What is that you like most about the poem?
3. Which words or images describe the grandeur of the market?
4. What impression do you form about the market?
5. *When you happen to visit the bazaars of Hyderabad, what things in the poem come to your mind?

How well did I read?

Fill in the boxes using yes/ somewhat/ no.

I enjoyed reading the poem.

I got the idea of the poem on my own.

I got the idea with the help of my friends in the group.

The teacher helped me to understand the poem.

I used the glossary given at the end of the poem.



Collect details about some historical persons like Srikrishna Devaraya, Harsha, Ashoka and Akbar and write a biographical sketch. Display it on the wall magazine or publish it in the school magazine. Talk about the significance of their rule.

Read this biographical sketch of a famous musician.

Tyagaraja, the Immortal Musician

Tyagaraja was a gifted musician. He was also a great composer of songs. He composed as many as seven hundred songs in Telugu. There were three great composers in Carnatic music. They were Tyagaraja, Shyama Sastri and Muthuswami Dikshitar. Among them Tyagaraja was the greatest and most famous. Tyagaraja was also a great saint. He was a great devotee of Lord Rama, whom he worshipped in his house every day. He even had “darshan” of the Lord, people say.

Tyagaraja was born at Tiruvarur in Tanjavur District of Tamil Nadu on May 4, 1767. He was the third child of his parents, Ramabrahmam and Sitamma. They spoke Telugu at home. Tyagaraja had an elder brother named Panchapakesan or Jalpesan. There was music in Tyagaraja's blood. His mother was a good singer. He had his first lessons in music from her. His father was a good scholar in Telugu and Sanskrit. He learnt both the languages from him. When he was seven years old, the family moved to a village called Thiruvaiyaru.

Tyagaraja was interested in music from his childhood. Even as a young boy he used to compose songs and write them on the walls of his house. Noticing his son's interest in music, his father took him to Sonti Venkataramayya, a musician at the court of King Sarabhoji of Tanjavur. Tyagaraja became his disciple and learnt music from him.



When he grew up, he spent most of his time composing songs and singing them in front of the idol of Lord Rama in his house. He married at the age of eighteen. He had only one child, a daughter named Sitalakshmi. Once a week, he went along the streets singing songs in praise of God and maintained his family with what people gave him. He never cared for wealth. He did not want to join the royal court. But his elder brother, Jalpesan, wanted him to earn money through his music.

One day the Raja of Tanjavur invited Tyagaraja to sing in his court. He offered him a gift of fifty acres of land and a lot of gold coins. But Tyagaraja refused to sing in the King's Court. Jalpesan, his elder brother was wild with anger. "Your Rama is not going to give you food. Why don't you sing in the king's court? We can be rich and live a happy life," he said to Tyagaraja. But Tyagaraja did not heed his brother's words. Jalpesan took the idol of Lord Rama and threw it into the river Kaveri.

Not finding his deity at home, Tyagaraja was in a great sorrow. He composed many songs in praise of Lord Rama and sang them with great feeling. After two months he had a dream. In his dream, he saw the place where his idol of Lord Rama was lying. The next morning he went to the place, found the idol and brought it back home. In a joyful mood, he sang many fine songs in praise of his deity.

In his old age, Tyagaraja set out on a pilgrimage. He went to Tirupathi to have "darshan" of Lord Venkateshwara. In the temple he saw a curtain in front of the image of Lord Venkateshwara. He could not see the Lord's image. He was disappointed. Then he sang a song expressing a strong desire to see the Lord. As he sang, the curtain parted and he had 'darshan' of Lord Venkateshwara.

After his pilgrimage, Tyagaraja returned to Thiruvaiyaru and spent the rest of his days there. He composed songs in praise of his deity and sang them with great devotion. One day, when he was eighty years old, he said to his disciples, "I am going to join my Lord Rama tomorrow." The next day he passed away.

But Tyagaraja lives through his music. He is as popular today as he was two hundred years ago. Today Thiruvaiyaru is a place of pilgrimage for musicians. In the month of January every year, musicians from all over South India gather at Thiruvaiyur to sing his songs and show their regard to the great saint musician.

composer (n): a person who makes songs

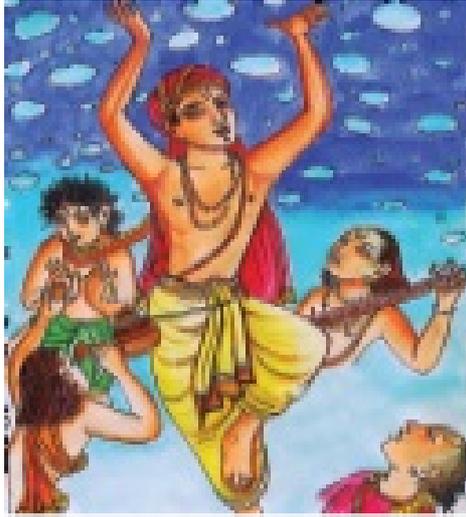
grief (n): a great sorrow

pilgrimage (n): a journey to a holy place

heed (v): to pay attention to something

Answer the following questions:

1. Why does the writer say that Tyagaraja was an immortal musician?
- *2. Which part of the passage is appealing to you? Why?
- *3. Does this remind you of any other eminent musicians like Bhaktha Ramadasu? Who are they? How are they similar to or different from Tyagaraja?



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