

2.4 The fall of Troy

... Warning up!...

1. Building a Story

Form groups of eight. The group leader prepares slips of paper for each of the seven points given below and distributes them among the others. The group sits in a circle, taking their seats according to the number on the slip they have. Then each one completes the sentence on his/her slip without sharing it with the others. The group leader collects the slips and reads all the sentences aloud as one continuous passage. Does the story make sense? The group then works on the story to make it more meaningful and interesting.

- Ans. 1. Once there was a beautiful princess.
2. Who lived in a beautiful palace in a large forest.
3. She ate only fresh fruits, vegetables and salads for every meal.
4. She went on a voyage to the Arctic Circle.
5. There she saw frozen seas, ice bergs and a variety of sea animals.
6. She was thrilled to see so many different things, which she had never seen before.
7. That is why she decided to visit a new place every year.

2. Interviews

(a) Why? Form groups of five. Choose a familiar character from any one of the epics you know. One person from the group plays the role of that character. Others in the group frame questions related to that character's life. The condition is that all the questions should begin with a 'Why...'? They interview the character using these 'Why?' questions. Practice and present the interview in the classroom.

Ans. Questions for Lord Rama. Epic: Ramayana

- (1) Why did you marry Sita?
- (2) Why did your father ask you to leave the kingdom?
- (3) Why did your stepmother want you to leave the kingdom?
- (4) Why did Lakshman accompany you to the forest?
- (5) Why did Lakshman leave Sita alone in the hut?

(b) Follow the above procedure. Now all the questions begin with 'How....'?

- Ans. (1) How did you marry Sita?
(2) How many brothers did you have?
(3) How did your stepmother make you leave the kingdom?
(4) How did Ravana trick Sita?
(5) How did Hanuman help you?

(c) A short script of the interviews:

(1) Why did your father ask you to leave the kingdom?

Ans. My father fulfilled my stepmother Kaikeyi's wish and banished me from Ayodhya.

(2) Why did your stepmother want you to leave the kingdom?

Ans. My stepmother Kaikeyi wanted her son Bharat to become the king. This would not have been possible if I had been in Ayodhya. Hence she wanted me to leave the kingdom.

(3) Why did Lakshman accompany you to the forest?

Ans. Lakshman loved me and wanted to ensure my safety in the forest. Hence he accompanied me to the forest.

...English workshop.....

1. Read the passage and name the following.

(a) He composed the Illiad and Odyssey

Ans. Homer

(b) He persuaded Helen to elope with him

Ans. Paris

(c) She was wife of the King Menelaus

Ans. Helen

(d) He led the defence of Troy for nine years

Ans. Hector

(e) He was killed by a poisoned arrow that entered his heel :

Ans. Achilles

2. Find antonyms of the following from the passage.

(a) barren

Ans. Fertile

(b) offended

Ans. Pleased

(c) cowardly

Ans. Brave

(d) peace

Ans. War

(e) surrender

Ans. Attack

(f) exposed

Ans. Protected

(g) defenceless

Ans. Safe

3. From other sources find synonyms of the following words used in the story.

(a) great (hero)

Ans. Gallant

(b) beautiful (woman)

Ans. Entrancing

(c) fight (verb)

Ans. Attack

(d) rich (city)

Ans. Prosperous

(e) safe

Ans. Sheltered

(f) strong (city)

Ans. Well protected

(g) brave

Ans. Courageous

4. Correct the following sentences using facts from the passage.

(a) Troy traded in cattle and grass, with other cities.

Ans. Troy traded in goods and grain with other cities.

(b) During war, Trojans jumped over the fort gates to fight the enemy.

Ans. During war, Trojans came out of the open fort gates to fight the enemy.

(c) Helen eloped with Menelaus.

Ans. Helen eloped with Paris.

(d) Troy was attacked because it was a strong, rich city.

Ans. Troy was attacked because its Prince Paris had persuaded Helen, the wife of a Greek king Menelaus, to elope with him.

(e) The Greek armies and heroes always defeated the Trojans.

Ans. Sometimes the Trojans seemed to have the better of the fight and sometimes the Greeks.

(f) Both the enemies were eager to continue fighting.

Ans. The Trojans were tired of being shut up in their city and the Greeks were longing to see their homes again.

(g) The great heroes avoided one another.

Ans. Sometimes there were single fights between two great heroes.

(h) Achilles was killed by an arrow that pierced his heart.

Ans. Achilles was killed by an arrow that pierced his heel.

5. State the counter-action for the following actions.

Action	Counter-action (Answer)
(a) Helen eloped with Paris.	Greece declared war against the Troy.
(b) The Greeks sailed to Troy and attacked it.	The Trojans fought hard and the siege continued for ten years.
(c) Hector was killed by Achilles.	Achilles himself was killed later by a poisoned arrow.
(d) The siege continued for ten long years.	The Trojans fought hard and the fighting went on daily.

6. From either of our two Indian epics, find out which battle/war lasted the longest? Write down about its cause, the enemy armies, its heroes, its duration and the final outcome.

Ans.

	Ramayana	Mahabharata
Cause	In Ramayana, there was a war between Rama and Ravana as the latter had kidnapped Sita to take revenge for his sister (Sita's) revenge of insult.	Mahabharata was the battle fought between the Pandavas and the Kaurava for their kingdom, Hastinapura.
Enemy Armies	Ravana's army.	Duryodhan's army.
Heroes	Rama was the hero of Ramayan.	The Pandavas were heroes of Mahabharata.

Duration	13 Days	18 Days
Final outcome	Rama finally defeated Ravana with the help of his Brother and Hanuman.	Duryodhan was finally defarted by the Randavas.

7. Complete the following sentence with reference to the passage.

(1) Epics are long poems that relate the deed of a great national hero or a great national war.

(2) They may be composed and sung or recited for many years before they are actually written down.

(3) Nobody knows for certain who the author of these early epics is.

(4) It is believed that The Iliad and The Odyssey were composed and recited by a blind poet named Homer, who lived about 900 BCE and who wandered from one Greek city or village to another, singing his poems to all who would receive him in their homes.

(5) At the back rose the high peak of Mount Ida from which flowed many rivers and streams.

• Underline the clauses in the above sentences and also the words that link or connect the clauses.

(Linking words are underlined.)

(1) Epics are long poems that relate the deed of a great national hero or a great national war.

Ans. Epics are long poems - Clause that relate the deed of a great national hero or a great national war - Clause

(2) They may be composed and sung or recited for many years before they are actually written down.

Ans. They may be composed - Clause
(they may be) sung - Clause
(they may be) recited for many years - Clause before they are actually written down - Clause

(3) Nobody knows for certain who the author of these early epics is.

Ans. Nobody knows for certain - Clause
who the author of these early epics is - Clause

(4) It is believed that The Iliad and The Odyssey were composed and recited by a blind poet named Homer, who lived about 900 BCE and who wandered from one Greek city or village to another, singing his poems to all who would receive him in their homes.

Ans. It is believed - Clause
that The Iliad and The Odyssey were composed clause
(That The Iliad and The Odyssey were) recited by a blind poet named Homer - Clause
who lived about 900 BCE - Clause who wandered from one Greek city or village to another,
singing his poems to all - Clause
who would receive him in their homes - Clause

(5) At the back rose the high peak of Mount Ida, from which flowed many rivers and streams.

Ans. At the back rose the high peak of Mount Ida - Clause
from which flowed many rivers and streams – Clause

Part 2

... English workshop.....

1. Find and write the Greek and Trojan names used in the story (Part I and II).

Ans. • Trojan names: Paris, a prince of Troy, King Priam, Hector.
• Greek names: Helen, Menelaus, Achilles, Odysseus, and Agamemnon.

2. List all the words related to 'war' from both parts of the story.

Ans. Strong wall, enemy, attack, a strong fortress, brave soldiers, kings, heroes, revenge, siege, fought, force, battles, armies, arrow, wounded, victory, burn, kill, weapons, enemies, and armour are some of the words related to the war that is used in the story.

3. Note the following constructions carefully and then use them to express your ideas:

(a) A horse big enough to hold men inside it...

Ans. Our school auditorium was big enough to hold a grand function.

(b) The Greeks were tired of the long war.

Ans. We were tired of the long wait for the bus.

(c) They are afraid of the long voyage home, too..

Ans. The children were afraid of the commotion.

(d) They made it too big to go inside your city.

Ans. The bed was too big to be kept in the room.

(e) They were so excited that they paid no attention to his words.

Ans. The teenagers were so excited that it was difficult to control them.

4. Put the following events in the order in which they took place. Number them accordingly.

(a) The Trojans found a Greek man under the big wooden horse.

Ans. 6

(b) They broke down part of the wall and brought the horse in.

Ans. 8

(c) The cunning Odysseus thought of a plan.

Ans. 1

(d) The Greeks burnt their tents and sailed away.

Ans. 4

(e) Troy was burnt down.

Ans. 12

(f) The Greeks built a big wooden horse.

Ans. 2

(g) The great heroes hid inside the horse.

Ans. 3

(h) The priest warned the Trojans not to break the wall.

Ans. 7

(i) The Trojans were happy to see the Greek ships go.

Ans. 5

(j) The Trojans slept soundly.

Ans. 9

(k) The Greeks came out of the horse and opened the gates.

Ans. 10

(l) The Greek army entered the city.

Ans. 11

5. Form pairs. Imagine you are a pair of Trojans and you have come to know about Odysseus's plan. Make a counter plan to defeat the Greeks. Write down your plan as you would explain it to your fellow Trojans.

Ans. Listen to Trojan, I have come to know from one of our Spy about Odysseus's plan that the big wooden horse that will come close to us won't be an offering to the god of the sea but it is a conspiracy.

There will be many soldiers hidden inside that wooden horse who will attack us on reaching here. So I have a plan, we will pretend to show them that we are assuming wooden horse as our destiny and as an offering to the god of the sea. But as soon as that horse will come close to us we will destroy it with cannons and save our Troy.

6. Identify one example of a main clause and one example of a dependent clause from page 46. (Read the entry regarding clause in the Language Study pages.)

Ans. Many of the Trojans were killed before they could put on their armour.

Many of the Trojans were killed - Main Clause

before they could put on their armour - Dependent Clause

7. Be a writer.

(a) Now read the beginning and end of a sci-fi story given below and complete the story using your imagination.

Ans. "The Magic Glasses"

After ten years of diligent experimenting on 'light', Jayant, a brilliant scientist, created a pair of eye-glasses which would enable him to see through all opaque objects, doors, walls, metal structures, etc.

On Monday, he put on his 'magic' glasses and stepped into the busy street outside ... Everything seemed normal - the traffic, the crowds, etc. Suddenly, Jayant tripped over something and he looked down. It was the metal covering of a manhole. As he looked, he saw a strange sight. There were three little children below, deep under the footpath! How was that possible? Why was no one helping them? They were crying and wailing, sitting in the mess inside the drain. He looked up, and then realized that he had seen them because of his magic eye-glasses.

"Come on, help!" he shouted. "There are children trapped under this footpath, inside this drain!" Several people stopped. "How do you know?" asked a non-believer. "What is going on here?" asked an officious looking policeman. "Don't talk - just help!" snapped Jayant, trying to prise open the manhole cover. It was heavy, and several good Samaritans stepped forward to help. Within a few moments, the heavy lid was in their hands.

Everyone peered into the dark, gloomy and smelly drain. They could hear the faint sounds of crying. "I'm going down," said Jayant. "Those little ones will not be able to bear the poisonous gases much longer."

With the help of the cooperative by-standers, Jayant went down into the manhole and rescued the little kids - all of whom were below the age of five. Everyone clapped when he came out, dirty and smelly, with the three half-conscious kids. And so, Jayant received the 'State Award for Brave Citizens'.

(b) Read the following and observe the use of tenses.

'Last week I witnessed a strange accident. Let me tell you about it. The signal flashes green. Vehicles start from the opposite direction. They move fast. Suddenly a speeding motorcyclist tries to cut across, from the wrong side. He is about to collide with a loaded truck. He applies the brakes. He falls and slides out with his bike from under the truck. He comes out unscathed on the other side.' - When an event, which has occurred in the past, is narrated in the Present Tense to create a dramatic effect its Tense is called the 'Dramatic Present Tense'

- Now try to relate Jayant's sci-fi story, in the dramatic past tense.

Ans. Jayant wears his magic glasses and steps into the street. He trips over a manhole and looks down. What! Are there three little kids trapped inside the drain under the footpath? Jayant looks around for help, but there are non believers around him. He tries to prise open the manhole cover. Suddenly, willing hands help him. The cover is open, and they hear the sounds of children crying. Jayant bravely lowers himself down the dirty drain. He soon rescues the three kids trapped inside. As he hands over the kids to the policeman, the people around clap for him. He is a hero. Jayant later receives the State Award for Brave Citizens'.