

# Beehive

Textbook in English for Class IX



विद्यया ऽ मृतमश्नुते



एन सी ई आर टी  
NCERT

राष्ट्रीय शैक्षिक अनुसंधान और प्रशिक्षण परिषद्  
NATIONAL COUNCIL OF EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH AND TRAINING

**First Edition**

February 2006 Phalguna 1927

**Reprinted**

October 2006 Kartika 1928

October 2007 Kartika 1929

December 2009 Agrahayana 1931

January 2011 Magha 1932

January 2012 Pausa 1933

December 2012 Agrahayana 1934

February 2014 Magha 1935

December 2014 Pausa 1936

December 2015 Agrahayana 1937

December 2016 Pausa 1938

December 2017 Pausa 1939

**PD 180T+200T HK****© National Council of Educational  
Research and Training, 2006****₹ 65.00***Printed on 80 GSM paper with  
NCERT watermark*

Published at the Publication Division  
by the Secretary, National Council of  
Educational Research and Training,  
Sri Aurobindo Marg, New Delhi 110  
016 and printed at Deep Trading  
Co., H-203, Sector-63, Noida  
201 301

**ALL RIGHTS RESERVED**

- ❑ No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted, in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise without the prior permission of the publisher.
- ❑ This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade, be lent, re-sold, hired out or otherwise disposed of without the publisher's consent, in any form of binding or cover other than that in which it is published.
- ❑ The correct price of this publication is the price printed on this page. Any revised price indicated by a rubber stamp or by a sticker or by any other means is incorrect and should be unacceptable.

**OFFICES OF THE PUBLICATION  
DIVISION, NCERT**

NCERT Campus  
Sri Aurobindo Marg  
New Delhi 110 016

Phone : 011-26562708

108, 100 Feet Road  
Hosdakere Halli Extension  
Banashankari III Stage  
Bengaluru 560 085

Phone : 080-26725740

Navjivan Trust Building  
P.O. Navjivan  
Ahmedabad 380 014

Phone : 079-27541446

CWC Campus  
Opp. Dhankal Bus Stop  
Panihati

Kolkata 700 114

Phone : 033-25530454

CWC Complex  
Maligaon  
Guwahati 781 021

Phone : 0361-2674869

**Publication Team**

Head, Publication Division : *M. Siraj Anwar*

Chief Editor : *Shveta Uppal*

Chief Business Manager : *Gautam Ganguly*

Chief Production Officer (In-charge) : *Arun Chitkara*

Editor : *Vijayam Sankaranarayanan*

Production Assistant : *Rajesh Pippal*

**Cover, Illustrations and Layout**

*Nidhi Wadhwa*



## FOREWORD



THE National Curriculum Framework (NCF), 2005, recommends that children's life at school must be linked to their life outside the school. This principle marks a departure from the legacy of bookish learning which continues to shape our system and causes a gap between the school, home and community. The syllabi and textbooks developed on the basis of NCF signify an attempt to implement this basic idea. They also attempt to discourage rote learning and the maintenance of sharp boundaries between different subject areas. We hope these measures will take us significantly further in the direction of a child-centred system of education outlined in the National Policy of Education (1986).

The success of this effort depends on the steps that school principals and teachers will take to encourage children to reflect on their own learning and to pursue imaginative activities and questions. We must recognise that, given space, time and freedom, children generate new knowledge by engaging with the information passed on to them by adults. Treating the prescribed textbook as the sole basis of examination is one of the key reasons why other resources and sites of learning are ignored. Inculcating creativity and initiative is possible if we perceive and treat children as participants in learning, not as receivers of a fixed body of knowledge.

These aims imply considerable change in school routines and mode of functioning. Flexibility in the daily time-table is as necessary as rigour in implementing the annual calendar so that the required number of teaching days are actually devoted to teaching. The methods used for teaching and evaluation will also determine how effective this textbook proves for making children's life at school a happy experience, rather than a source of stress or boredom. Syllabus designers have tried to address the problem of curricular burden by restructuring and reorienting knowledge at different stages with greater consideration for child psychology and the time available for teaching. The textbook attempts to enhance this endeavour by giving higher priority and space to opportunities for contemplation and wondering, discussion in small groups, and activities requiring hands-on experience.

The National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) appreciates the hard work done by the textbook development committee responsible for this book. We wish to thank the Chairperson of the advisory group in languages, Professor Namwar Singh and the Chief Advisor for this book, Professor R. Amritavalli for guiding the work of this committee. Several teachers contributed to the development of this textbook; we are

grateful to their principals for making this possible. We are indebted to the institutions and organisations which have generously permitted us to draw upon their resources, materials and personnel. We are especially grateful to the members of the National Monitoring Committee, appointed by the Department of Secondary and Higher Education, Ministry of Human Resource Development under the Chairpersonship of Professor Mrinal Miri and Professor G.P. Deshpande for their valuable time and contribution. As an organisation committed to systemic reform and continuous improvement in the quality of its products, NCERT welcomes comments and suggestions which will enable us to undertake further revision and refinements.

New Delhi  
20 December 2005

*Director*  
National Council of Educational  
Research and Training



# TEXTBOOK DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE



## **CHAIRPERSON, ADVISORY GROUP IN LANGUAGES**

Professor Namwar Singh, formerly *Chairman*, School of Languages,  
Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi

## **CHIEF ADVISOR**

R. Amritavalli, *Professor*, Central Institute of English and Foreign  
Languages (CIEFL), Hyderabad

## **CHIEF COORDINATOR**

Ram Janma Sharma, *Professor and Head*, Department of Languages, NCERT,  
New Delhi

## **MEMBERS**

Amber Banerjee, *Principal*, Dehli Public School, Dagapur, Darjeeling Road,  
Pradhan Nagar, Siliguri

Nasiruddin Khan, *Reader in English*, Department of Languages, NCERT,  
New Delhi

S. Neerada, *Principal*, Kendriya Vidyalaya, AF 8, Rajokri, New Delhi

Sadhana Parashar, *AEO (ELT)*, CBSE, 17, Rouse Avenue, Institutional Area,  
New Delhi

Shruti Sircar, *Lecturer*, Centre for ESL Studies, CIEFL, Hyderabad

Sonia Makhija, *TGT (English)*, Govt Girls' Secondary School No. 3, Uttam  
Nagar, New Delhi

## **MEMBER-COORDINATOR**

Sandhya Rani Sahoo, *Reader in English*, Department of Languages, NCERT,  
New Delhi



## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



THE National Council of Educational Research and Training is grateful to Professor M.L. Tickoo, formerly of the Central Institute of English and Foreign Languages, Hyderabad, and the Regional Language Centre, Singapore, for going through the manuscript and making valuable suggestions.

For permission to reproduce copyright material in this book NCERT would like to thank the following: Voyager, London for 'The Fun They Had' by Isaac Asimov; Oxford University Press, New Delhi, for 'Evelyn Glennie Listens to Sound without Hearing It' by Deborah Cowley from *Broadway, Coursebook 8*; Wordsworth Edition Limited, Hertfordshire for 'The Duck and the Kangaroo' by Edward Lear; CBSE, New Delhi for 'On Killing a Tree' by Gieve Patel; Adrian Berry, Sheffield, U.K. for the two photographs of Santosh Yadav.

Special thanks are also due to the Publication Department, NCERT, for their support. NCERT gratefully acknowledges the contributions made by Matthew John, *Proof Reader*; and Achin Jain and Arvind Sharma, *DTP Operators*.

# Contents

FOREWORD ..... iii

NOTES FOR THE TEACHER ..... 1

*Units 1–3*

1. The Fun They Had ..... 5  
*Isaac Asimov*

*The Road Not Taken* ..... 15  
*Robert Frost*

2. The Sound of Music ..... 17  
I. EVELYN GLENNIE: *Deborah Cowley*  
II. BISMILLAH KHAN

*Wind* ..... 30  
*Subramania Bharati*

3. The Little Girl ..... 32  
*Katherine Mansfield*

*Rain on the Roof* ..... 41  
*Coates Kinney*

NOTES FOR THE TEACHER ..... 43

*Units 4–7*

4. A Truly Beautiful Mind ..... 46

*The Lake Isle of Innisfree* ..... 54  
*William Butler Yeats*

5. The Snake and the Mirror ..... 56  
*Vaikom Muhammad Basheer*

*A Legend of the Northland* ..... 65  
*Phoebe Cary*

6. My Childhood ..... 68  
*A. P. J. Abdul Kalam*  
*No Men Are Foreign* ..... 80  
*James Kirkup*
7. Packing ..... 82  
*Jerome K. Jerome*  
*The Duck and the Kangaroo* ..... 94  
*Edward Lear*
- NOTES FOR THE TEACHER ..... 97  
*Units 8-11*
8. Reach for the Top ..... 99  
I. SANTOSH YADAV  
II. MARIA SHARAPOVA  
*On Killing a Tree* ..... 110  
*Gieve Patel*
9. The Bond of Love ..... 113  
*Kenneth Anderson*  
*The Snake Trying* ..... 125  
*W. W. E. Ross*
10. Kathmandu ..... 127  
*Vikram Seth*  
*A Slumber Did My Spirit Seal* ..... 136  
*William Wordsworth*
11. If I Were You ..... 138  
*Douglas James*