

A Glass of Milk



Pre-reading

Dictionary Reference: Learning New Words

Activity 1

Look up the following words in a dictionary. You should seek the following information about the words.

1. Meaning of the word as used in the play (adjective/noun/verb, etc.)
2. Pronunciation (The teacher may refer to the dictionary or the mobile phone for correct pronunciation.)
3. Spellings

complicated	diagnose	surgery
attention	struggle	discuss

Reading

Let us read the play

Scene 1

Time : Afternoon

Location : Blackpool - a small town in England

Scene:

Characters: a boy (Howard Kelly)

a lady (Anita)

A small and a narrow street, afternoon time, a small boy selling things from door to door

Boy (to himself): I must sell two more books! How will I give my school fee if I don't sell these books? But it is a hot afternoon! I am so hungry and thirsty! I think I must ask for some water from the next house!

The boy sees a small house. He rings the bell. A lady opens the door.

Boy (tired and hungry): Good afternoon, Ma'am!

Lady (politely): Good afternoon! Do you want something?

Boy: My name is Howard, Howard Kelly. I am selling these books. Will you buy one of my books?



Lady: You are very small. You should be in school and not selling things!

Boy: Yes, Ma'am. I need to pay for my fee. For this reason, I go door to door selling books. And, ah (hesitatingly) Can I get some water, please? I am very thirsty.

The lady looks at him and says:

Lady: Sure! Just a few minutes, child. (goes inside and comes back with a glass) Here you are! Here's some milk. You are so weak. It appears you haven't eaten for days!

Boy (taking the glass from the lady and drinking it): Thank you so much, Ma'am. You are very kind! How much, ehm... How much do I, ah... owe you for the milk?



Lady (speaking warmly): Nothing! You owe me nothing. My mother has taught me not to accept payment for a deed of kindness. And let me buy a book from you. How much does the book cost?

Boy (smiling): Thank you, Ma'am! I will always remember this. The book is for 4 pounds and 70 pence.

The lady takes the book and hands over 5 pounds to the boy and tells him to keep the change. The boy smiles and leaves the house. He is happy and feels stronger.

Scene 2 (many years later)

Time : Morning

Location : A big city hospital

Characters : Dr Peter Brown

Dr Howard Kelly

(Dr Brown and Dr Kelly are discussing a case.)

Dr Kelly: Is it a difficult case, Dr Brown?

Dr Brown: Yes, it is complicated. We have not yet been able to diagnose the problem.

Dr Kelly (coming near Dr Brown): Who is the woman? Where is she from? And, how did she become so ill?

Dr Brown (facing Dr Kelly): She is from Blackpool. The doctors there advised her to come to this hospital as they could not understand her disease. It started with food poisoning but got complicated. Perhaps, her liver has got affected.

Dr Kelly: What? from Blackpool? That's where I come from. Where is the lady?

(Dr Brown taking Dr Kelly to the hospital room)

Dr Brown: There she is! She needs immediate surgery. I don't think we can do much in this case even after surgery.

Dr Kelly (peeps into the room and sees the sleeping woman, smiles): We must do our best! And, I'll do my best to save her.

Dr Brown: Sure doctor! We'll make all possible efforts to save her. Do you know her?

Dr Kelly smiles again.



Scene 3

Location : a room in the hospital

Characters : the Lady

a nurse

a man (from the bills department)

(The nurse prepares to give medicine to the Lady)

Man (giving some papers to the nurse): Is she feeling better? She is lucky that Dr Howard Kelly handled her case. This is her bill. She needs to pay within two days. Show her the bill.

Nurse (taking the bill from the man): You are right. She is lucky! And yes, she is much better and healthier.

Nurse gives medicine to the Lady.

Nurse (handing over the bill to the Lady): Here is your medicine! And, er... this is your bill. As per the hospital rules, you need to pay the bill in two days.

Lady (looking worried): This hospital seems to be very expensive.

Nurse: Yes, Madam. It is the most expensive hospital in London.

Lady (looks at the bill): ...It will take me a lifetime to pay the bill!

It is signed by Dr Howard Kelly.

Nurse: Yes! He's very kind. He took special care of you. He's from your city.

Lady (looking interested): Really? Is he from Blackpool?

Nurse: Yes, he is! Let me see your bill, Madam! (takes the bill and looks at it, smiles) Yes, something is written on it. Did you see it?

Lady: No, let me see it again. (reads aloud with tears in her eyes)

'Paid in full years ago with a glass of milk'.

Dr Howard Kelly



Lady: God Bless Howard! I'm very happy. My faith in God and goodness of people has become stronger today.

Note : The play is written by Vandana Lunyal adapted from 'A Glass of Milk' whose author is unknown.

Post-Reading

Vocabulary Expansion

Activity 2

Find suffixes in the following words.

1. complicated _____
2. hesitatingly _____
3. warmly _____
4. stronger _____
5. goodness _____

Let us revise the Prepositions - 'besides', 'beside', 'between' and 'among'.

'Besides' means 'in addition to'.

'Beside' means 'by the side of'.

1. What other sport do you play besides hockey?
2. She sat beside her sick son all night.

'Between' is used for two people or things.

'Among' is used for more than two people or things.

1. There is no love between the two brothers.
2. Distribute sweets among all the children.

Activity 3

Fill in the blanks choosing from the words given in the box.

beside	besides	between	among
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1. The two brothers distributed the sweets _____ themselves.
2. Radha came and sat _____ her mother.
3. The four thieves quarrelled _____ themselves.
4. I have three other pens _____ this.
5. _____ advising them, he gave them money also.
6. A beggar was sitting _____ the temple gate.

Learning to Read and Comprehend

Activity 4

Read the play carefully and write the answers.

Scene 1

1. Count and write the number of characters in Scene 1 of the play.

2. What are their names?

3. What is the time?

4. What does the boy say to himself?

5. Why does he sell books?

6. Why does he ring the bell?

7. Who opens the door?

8. What does he request the Lady for?

9. What does the Lady give him?

10. How much money does the Lady give the boy for the book?

Scene 2

1. Count and write the number of characters in Scene 2 of the play.

2. What is the profession of the characters of this scene?

3. Why had the Lady come to this hospital?

4. How did the Lady get ill?

5. What kind of treatment did she need?

Scene 3

1. How much time did the patients get to pay the bill, as per the rules?

2. Why did the Lady get worried?

3. Why did the Lady have tears in her eyes?

4. Why did she not have to pay the bill?

5. Who had paid the bill? Why?

6. Why was the Lady happy in the end?

Learning Language

Degrees of Adjectives

Adjectives have three forms of comparison: Positive, Comparative and Superlative.

Simple adjectives that make no comparisons are positive forms.

Most adjectives form the comparative by adding '-r', '-er', '-ier' and the superlative by adding '-st', '-est', '-iest' to the positive.

Let us look at the following examples:

Positive	Comparative	Superlative
quick	quicker	quickest
fine	finer	finest
nice	nicer	nicest
bold	bolder	boldest
clever	cleverer	cleverest
deep	deeper	deepest
dirty	dirtier	dirtiest
heavy	heavier	heaviest
happy	happier	happiest

Some adjectives with more than one syllable form the comparative by using the adverb "more", and superlative by using the adverb "most".

Let us look at some more examples:

Positive	Comparative	Superlative
beautiful	more beautiful	most beautiful
courageous	more courageous	most courageous
difficult	more difficult	most difficult
satisfactory	more satisfactory	most satisfactory
useful	more useful	most useful

Some comparative and superlative adjectives are not formed from the positive. They are different words.

Let us look at some more examples:

Positive	Comparative	Superlative
good	better	best
bad	worse	worst
little	less	least
far	farther/further	farthest/furthest
many	more	most

Activity 5

Complete the following sentences by choosing the correct form of the adjectives given in the brackets.

1. Australia is the _____ island in the world. (large, larger, largest)
2. The class test was _____ than we had expected. (easy, easier, easiest)
3. The elephant has the _____ trunk. (long, longer, longest)
4. Kilimanjaro in Africa is _____ than Mont Blanc in Europe. (tall, taller, tallest)
5. The white dog was the _____ of all. (greedy, greedier, greediest)

Activity 6

Fill in the blanks with the correct degree of comparison of the adjective. Use the adjective given in the brackets.

1. Shyam is _____ than Karan. Neil is the _____ of them all. (healthy)
2. My room is _____ than yours. (neat)
3. Pole star is the _____ star. (bright)
4. The sweets I ate at this sweetshop are _____ than any other sweets I have ever eaten. (delicious)
5. Is the Prime Minister _____ than the President? (powerful)

Comparative and Superlative Adjectives

Activity 7

Rewrite each sentence below using the comparative or the superlative form of the adjectives given in the brackets.

Example A: You are (tall) than me.

Answer A : You are taller than me.

1. The fish I caught is (big) than the one you caught.

2. That is the (small) umbrella I have ever seen.

3. She is the (pretty) girl I have ever seen.

4. My friend is (fabulous) than yours.

5. That building is (large) than the one next to it.

6. Who has the (easy) job in our family?

7. Do you think a screwdriver is (useful) than a hammer?

Learning to Speak

Activity 8 (Think - Pair - Share)

Think about what you would want to do to help someone. Think of a good human value such as:

1. sharing food
2. caring for an injured animal
3. giving new clothes to the needy, etc.

Sit facing your partner. Tell your partner about it. Each pair will take 5 minutes to speak and listen to each other. After five minutes, say what you have learnt about your partner (in front of the class).

Learning to Write

Activity 9

Do some people, who want to sell something, ring your door-bell in the afternoons? Do they disturb you? How do you react? Are you polite to them? Most people are rude to them. Write about the time when a salesman rang a bell when you were sleeping. You can use some of the following words/phrases.

afternoon, bell, fast asleep, woke up, salesman, selling books, pestered, offered water, angry, close the door

Learning to Use Language

Read the following paragraph on Blackpool:

Blackpool is a beautiful town in England. Tourists love going to Blackpool. Blackpool is situated at the seaside. The seawater of Blackpool is very salty and visibly black. That is why the town is called Blackpool. It is a place that children love going to. There is a lot that children may find amusing. There is a tall tower in the middle of the town which is also black.



Activity 10

Write a paragraph on your village/town/city or Amritsar/ Jalandhar/Patiala/ Ludhiana, etc.

You may talk about:

1. where the place is located
2. what the place is famous for
3. what most people do when they visit the place.

Note: The teacher must help learners to get information about the city/ place they want to write about.
