

# Unit 2

## PROSE

### I CAN'T CLIMB TREES ANYMORE

#### Ruskin Bond

#### About the author

Ruskin Bond was born on 19<sup>th</sup> May 1934. He is an award winning Indian author of British descent. He is much renowned for his role in promoting children's literature in India. The Indian council for Child Education has recognized his role in the growth of children's literature in India. He got the Sahitya Akademi Award in 1992 for 'Our trees still grow in Dehra'. He was awarded the Padmashri in 1999 and Padma Bhushan in 2014. As a prolific writer, he has written over 500 short stories, essays and novels. His popular novel 'The Blue Umbrella' was made into a Hindi film and was awarded the National Film Award for the best children's film in 2007.



#### Picture Representation of the Prose



Old House



Jackfruit Tree



Turnstile



Hollyhocks Flowers



A Colonel



A Brigadier



A Tree with Hollow



Marbles and Coins



Flying Trapeze



Stone Bench

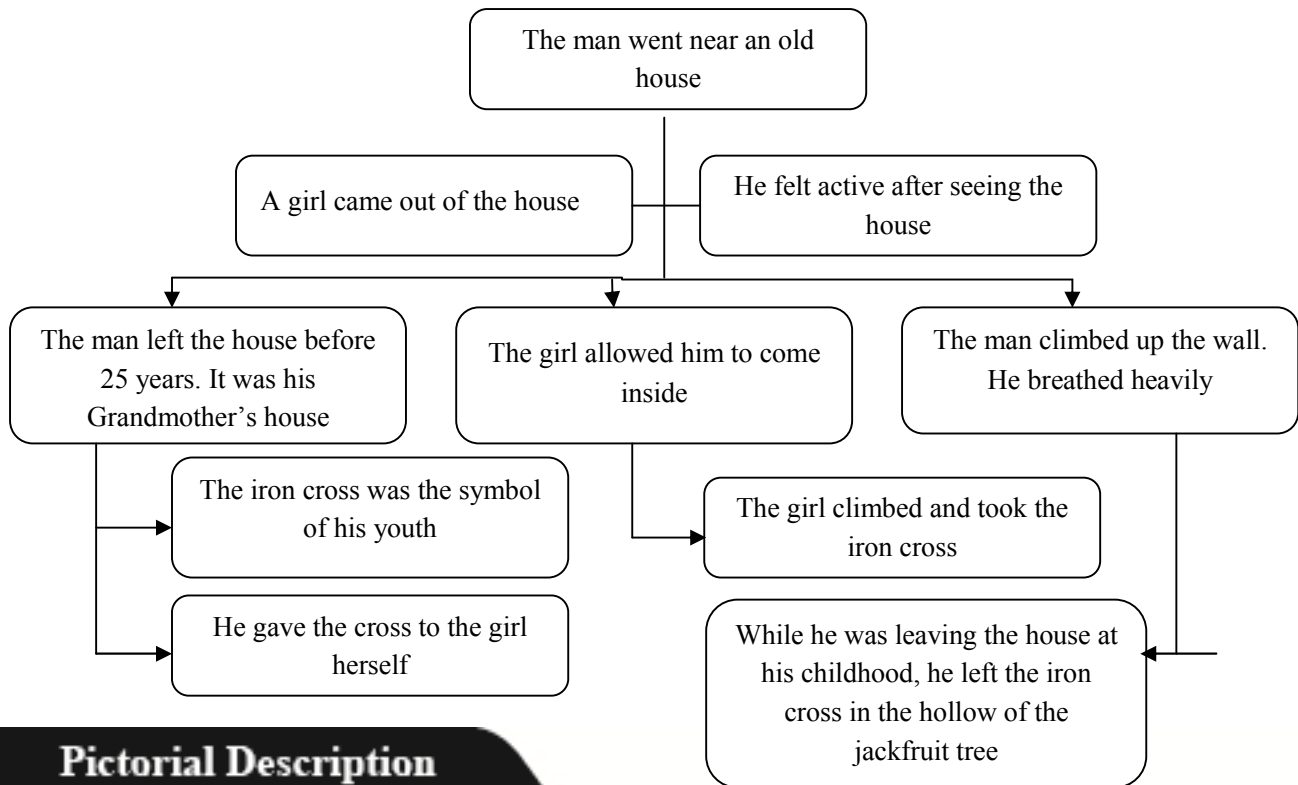


Budgerigars Birds



German Iron Cross

## MIND MAP



## Pictorial Description



TEXT TRANSLATION

PROSE	தமிழாக்கம்
<p><b>page 28</b></p> <p><b>Warm up</b></p> <p>a. Have you ever tried swinging from a tree?</p> <p>b. Have you ever climbed up a tree to pluck fruits?</p> <p>c. Think of other occasions when you have climbed up trees, either near your homes or outside. Share your reasons with the class.</p> <p>Read the story given below. Find out why the narrator feels that he can't climb.</p>	<p><b>தயாராகுதல்</b></p> <p>அ) நீங்கள் மரத்தில் தொங்கியபடியே ஊஞ்சலாட முயற்சி செய்துள்ளீர்களா?</p> <p>ஆ) நீங்கள் எப்பொழுதாவது பழங்களைப் பறிப்பதற்காக மரம் ஏறியதுண்டா?</p> <p>இ) வீட்டிற்கு அருகிலோ அல்லது வெளிப்பகுதிகளிலோ நீங்கள் மரம் ஏறிய நிகழ்வுகளை நினைவுகூர்க. உங்களது காரணங்களை வகுப்பில் உள்ளவர்களோடு பகிர்ந்து கொள்க.</p> <p>கீழே தரப்பட்டுள்ள கதையை படிக்கவும். பார்வையாளர் தன்னால் இனிமேல் மரங்களில் ஏற முடியாது என்று நினைப்பதற்கான காரணங்களை கண்டுபிடி.</p>
<p>He stood on the grass verge by the side of the road and looked over the garden wall at the old house. It hadn't changed much. The old house built with solid blocks of granite wasn't altered at all. But there was a new outhouse, and there were fewer trees. He was glad to see that the jackfruit tree still stood at the side of the building casting its shade on the wall.</p>	<p>அவர் சாலையின் அருகிலுள்ள புல்வெளியின் விளிம்பில் நின்று கொண்டு அந்த பழைய வீட்டினிலுள்ள தோட்டத்தின் சுவரைப் பார்த்தார். அதுவொன்றும் பெரியளவில் மாற்றமடையவில்லை. கிரானைட் கருங்கற்களால் கட்டப்பட்ட அந்த வீட்டில் எவ்விதமான மாற்றமும் செய்யப்படவில்லை. ஆனால் அங்கு புதிதாக ஒரு பண்ணைவீடும், சில மரங்களும் காணப்பட்டன. அந்த வீட்டின் அருகில் இன்றளவும் நின்று கொண்டு அவ்வீட்டிற்கு நிழல் தந்து கொண்டிருக்கும் பலா மரத்தைக் கண்டு அவர் பெரும் மகிழ்ச்சியடைந்தார்.</p>
<p>He remembered his grandmother saying: 'A blessing rests on the house where the shadow of a tree falls.' And so the present owners must also be receiving the tree's blessings. At the spot where he stood there had once been a turnstile, and as a boy he would swing on it, going round and round until he was quite dizzy. Now the turnstile was gone, the opening walled up. Tall hollyhocks grew on the other side of the wall.</p>	<p>அவர் தன் பாட்டி சொன்னதை நினைவுகூர்ந்தார்: ஒரு மரத்தின் நிழல் எந்த வீட்டின் மேல் விழுகிறதோ அங்கே ஆசீர்வாதம் நிலைகொள்கிறது. இப்பொழுது அந்த வீட்டில் வசிப்பவர்களும் அந்த ஆசீர்வாதங்களைப் பெற்றுக் கொண்டிருப்பார்கள். அவர் தற்பொழுது நின்று கொண்டிருக்கும் இடத்தில் ஒரு காலத்தில் சுழலும் வாயிற்கதவொன்று இருந்தது. அவர் சிறுவனாக இருந்த சமயங்களில் அதன் சுழலும் கம்பியைப் பிடித்துக்கொண்டு மயக்கம் வரும்வரை ஊஞ்சலாடுவார். இப்பொழுது அந்த சுழலும் கதவு அங்கில்லை. இப்பொழுது அந்த இடைவெளி சுவர் வைத்து மறைக்கப்பட்டுள்ளது. சுவரில் பலவண்ணப் பூக்களையுடைய ஹோலிகாக்ஸ் செடிகள் வளர்ந்திருந்தன.</p>
<p>'What are you looking at?'</p>	<p>நீங்கள் எதைப் பார்த்துக் கொண்டிருக்கிறீர்கள்?</p>
<p>It was a disembodied voice at first. Moments later a girl stood framed between dark red hollyhocks staring at the man. She was only twelve or thirteen, with lively eyes and long black hair.</p>	<p>முதலில் அதுவொரு அசரீரி போலக் கேட்டது. கருஞ்சிவப்புநிற ஹோலிகாக்ஸ் மலர்களுக்கிடையே ஒரு சிறுமி நிற்குகொண்டு அவரையே வெறிக்கப் பார்த்துக்கொண்டிருப்பது சற்று நேரத்திற்குப் பிறகே தெரிய வந்தது. 12 அல்லது 13 வயது மதிக்கத்தக்க அவள்</p>

	உற்சாகமுட்டும் கண்களும், நீண்ட கருங்கூந்தலும் உடையவளாக இருந்தாள்.
'I'm looking at the house. Is it yours?', he asked.	"நான் வீட்டைப் பார்த்துக் கொண்டிருந்தேன். இது உன்னுடையதா?" அவர் கேட்டார்.
'No. It's my father's. Why? Do you want to buy it?'	"இல்லை. இது என் தந்தையினுடையது. ஏன்? நீங்கள் இதை வாங்க விரும்புகிறீர்களா?"
'And what does your father do?'	"உன் தந்தை என்ன செய்கிறார்?"
'He's only a colonel.'	"அவர் ஒரு படைப்பகுதி முதல்வன் (கர்னல்)"
'Only a colonel?'	"படைப்பகுதி முதல்வன் தானா (கர்னல் தானா)?"
'Well, he should have been a brigadier by now.'	"நல்லது. இந்நேரம் அவர் ஒரு படைப்பகுதி தலைவராகியிருக்க வேண்டும்."
The man burst out laughing.	அந்த மனிதர் பயங்கரமாகச் சிரித்தார்.
'It's not funny,' she said. 'Even Mommy says he should have been a brigadier.'	"இதுவொன்றும் வேடிக்கையல்ல. அவர் படைப்பகுதி தலைவராகியிருக்க வேண்டுமென என் அம்மா கூட கூறியிருக்கிறார்கள், என்றாள் அவள்."
It was on the tip of his tongue to make a witty remark ('Perhaps that's why he's still a Colonel'), but he did not want to give offence. They stood on either side of the wall, appraising each other.	அதனால் தான் என்னவோ அவர் இன்னும் படைத்தளபதி முதல்வனாகவே (கர்னலாகவே) இருக்கிறார் என்று சொல்ல வார்த்தைகள் நாக்கின் நுனி வரை வந்துவிட்டது, ஆனால் அது அவளுக்கு வருத்தத்தைக் கொடுக்கும் என அவர் நினைத்து அதனை சொல்லவில்லை. அவர்கள் சுவரின் இருபுறமும் நிற்குகொண்டு ஒருவரையொருவர் பாராட்டிக் கொண்டனர்.
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"Do you want to buy it?"	"நீங்கள் இதை வாங்க விரும்புகிறீர்களா?"
"No", he said.	"அவர் இல்லை எனக் கூறினார்."
'Well' she said, 'If you don't want to buy the house, what are you looking at?'	"நல்லது" என அவள் கூறினாள், "நீங்கள் இந்த வீட்டை வாங்க விரும்பவில்லையெனில், நீங்கள் எதைப் பார்த்துக் கொண்டிருக்கிறீர்கள்?"
'I used to live here twenty-five years ago. As a boy. As a young man.... And then my grandmother died, and we sold the house and went away.'	"25 ஆண்டுகளுக்கு முன்னர் நான் இங்குதான் வாழ்ந்தேன். ஒரு சிறுவனாக. ஒரு இளைஞனாக...மேலும் எனது பாட்டி அப்பொழுது இறந்துவிட்டார்கள். நாங்கள் வீட்டை விற்றுவிட்டு சென்றுவிட்டோம்."
She was silent for a while, taking in this information. Then she said, 'And you'd like to buy it back now, but you don't have the money?' He did not look very prosperous.	இச்செய்திகளை உள்வாங்கிக்கொண்ட அவள் சிறிது நேரம் அமைதியாக இருந்தாள். பிறகு அவள், "நீங்கள் இந்த வீட்டை இப்பொழுது வாங்க விரும்புகிறீர்கள், ஆனால் உங்களிடம் பணமில்லையோ?" அவர் பார்ப்பதற்கு செல்வச் செழிப்புள்ளவராக தோற்றமளிக்கவில்லை.
'No, I wasn't thinking of buying it back, wanted to see it again, that's all. How long have you lived in it?'	"இல்லை. நான் இவ்வீட்டை மீண்டும் வாங்குவதைப் பற்றியெல்லாம் யோசிக்கவில்லை, மறுபடியும் இதனைப் பார்க்க வேண்டும், அவ்வளவு தான். நீங்கள் எவ்வளவு காலமாக இங்கு வசிக்கிறீர்கள்?"
'Only three years,' she smiled.	"அவள் சிரித்துக் கொண்டே, 3 ஆண்டுகளாக என்றாள்."
'Would you like to come in and look more closely?'	"நீங்கள் உள்ளே வந்து மிக அருகிலிருந்து பார்க்க



	விரும்புகிறீர்களா என்றான்?"
'Wouldn't your parents mind?'	"உனது பெற்றோர்கள் எதுவும் நினைத்துக்கொள்ள மாட்டார்களா?"
'They've gone to the club.' They won't mind. I'm allowed to bring my friends home.'	"அவர்கள் ஒரு கலைமன்றத்துக்குச் சென்றுள்ளார்கள். இதனை பொருட்படுத்தமாட்டார்கள். நான் என் நண்பர்களை வீட்டிற்கு அழைத்துவர அனுமதித்துள்ளார்கள்."
'Even elderly friends like me?'	"என்னைப் போன்ற வயதில் மூத்த நண்பர்களைக் கூடவா?"
'How old are you?'	"உங்கள் வயது என்ன?"
'Oh, just middle aged, but feeling young today.' And to prove it he decided he'd climb over the wall instead of going round to the gate. He got up on the wall all right, but had to rest there, breathing heavily.	"ஓ, நடுத்தர வயதுதான், ஆனால் இன்று இளைஞனாக உணருகிறேன்." அதனை நிரூபிக்க நுழைவுவாயிலைச் சுற்றி வருவதற்குப் பதிலாக சுவர் மீது ஏறி வர நான் முடிவு செய்துள்ளேன். அவர் சுவர் மீது ஏறிவிட்டார், ஆனால் பலமாக மூச்சுவிட்டு அங்கேயே ஓய்வெடுக்க வேண்டியதாயிற்று.
'Middle-aged man on the flying trapeze,' he muttered to himself.	"பறக்கும் ஊஞ்சலில் (சர்க்கஸில்) நடுத்தர வயது மனிதன்" தனக்குத்தானே சொல்லிக் கொண்டார்.
'I'll help you,' she said, and gave him her hand.	"நான் உங்களுக்கு உதவுகிறேன்" என்ற அவள் அவரிடம் தன் கையை நீட்டினாள்.
He slithered down into a flower-bed, shattering the stem of a hollyhock.	ஹேலிகாக் செடியின் தண்டை உடைத்துக் கொண்டு நழுவி அவர் கீழே உதிர்ந்து கிடந்த பூக்களின் மீது விழுந்தார்.
As they walked across the grass he spotted a stone bench under a mango tree. It was the bench on which his grandmother used to rest, when she was tired of pruning rose bushes and bougainvillea. 'Let's just sit here,' he said. 'I don't want to go inside.'	அவர்கள் புல்வெளியைக் கடந்து சென்ற பொழுது ஒரு மாமரத்தின் கீழே உள்ள கல்லாலான இருக்கையைக் காண்பித்தார். ரோஜாச்செடிகளையும், தாள் பூமரக் கிளைகளையும் நறுக்கிவிடுகையில் சோர்வடைந்து பின்னர் என்னுடைய பாட்டி வழக்கமாக இங்குதான் அமர்ந்து இழைப்பாருவார்கள். "நாமும் இங்கே அமரலாமா", என்றார் அவர். "மேலும் நான் உள்ளே போக விரும்பவில்லை."
She sat beside him on the bench.	அவருக்குப் பக்கத்திலேயே அவளும் அமர்ந்தாள்.
They were silent for some time. The man closed his eyes and remembered other times - the music of a piano, the chiming of a grandfather clock, the constant twitter of budgerigars on the veranda, his grandfather cranking up the old car...	அவர்கள் சிறிது நேரம் அமைதியாக இருந்தனர். அவர் கண்களை மூடிக்கொண்டு கடந்த காலத்தை நினைவுபடுத்தினார் - பியானோவின் இசை, தாத்தாவின் கடிகாரம் எழுப்பும் சத்தம், வராண்டாவில் பட்ஜெரிக்காஸ் எனும் கிளியின் கீச்சிடும் சத்தம், அவரது தாத்தாவின் பழைய கார் புறப்படும் சத்தம் என ஒவ்வொன்றாக நினைவுக்கு வந்தன.
'I used to climb the jackfruit tree,' he said, opening his eyes.	"பலா மரத்தின் மீது ஏறி விளையாடுவது என் வழக்கம்" எனக் கூறிக்கொண்டே கண்களைத் திறந்தார்.
<b>PAGE – 30</b>	
'Do you want to climb it again? My parents won't mind.'	"நீங்கள் மீண்டும் மரத்தின் மீது ஏற விரும்புகிறீர்களா? என் பெற்றோர்கள் ஒன்றும் பொருட்படுத்த மாட்டார்கள்."
'No, no. Not after climbing the garden wall. Let's just sit here for a few minutes and talk. I mention the jackfruit tree because it was my favourite place.'	"இல்லை, இல்லை. தோட்டத்து சுவரின் மீது ஏறிய பின்னர் அப்படி ஒன்றுமில்லை. நாம் இங்கேயே அமர்ந்து சிறிது நேரம் பேசிக்கொண்டிருக்கலாம். நான் பலா மரம் என

Do you see that thick branch stretching over the roof? Half way along it there's a small hollow in which I used to keep some of my treasures. 'What kind of treasures?'	குறிப்பிட்டேன் அல்லவா, ஏனெனில் அது எனக்கு மிகவும் பிடித்தமான விருப்பத்திற்குரிய இடம். அடர்த்தியான அதன் கிளையொன்று கூரைக்கு மேலே செல்வதை நீ பார்க்கிறாயா? அதன் பாதிதூரத்தில் உள்ள பொந்தில் நான் எனது சில பொக்கிஷங்களை பத்திரப்படுத்தி வைப்பது வழக்கம். "எந்த மாதிரியான பொக்கிஷங்கள்?"
'Oh, nothing very valuable. Marbles I'd won. A book I wasn't supposed to read. A few old coins I'd collected. Things came and went. I was a bit of a crow, you know, collecting bright things and putting them away. There was my grandfather's Iron Cross. Well, not my grandfather's exactly, because he was British and the Iron Cross' was a German decoration awarded for bravery during the War - the First World War when my grandfather fought in France. He got it from a German soldier'	"ஓ அவையொன்றும் விலைமதிப்புள்ளவையல்ல. நான் வென்றெடுத்த கூழாங்கற்கள். நான் படித்திராத புத்தகங்கள். நான் சேகரித்த சில பழைய நாணயங்கள். பொருட்கள் வந்து போயின. நான் ஒரு காகத்தைப் போல பளிச்சிடும் பொருட்களையெல்லாம் சேகரித்து வைத்திருந்தேன். அங்கே இருப்பது என் தாத்தாவின் இரும்பாலான சிலுவைப் பதக்கம் ஆகும். அது என் தாத்தாவினுடையது என அருதியிட்டு கூறமுடியாது. ஏனெனில் என் தாத்தா ஒரு ஆங்கிலேயர். மேலும் அந்த இரும்பு சிலுவையானது ஒரு ஜெர்மானிய அலங்காரப் பொருள். முதல் உலகப்போரில் வீர தீர செயலாற்றியமைக்காக வழங்கப்பட்டது. எனது தாத்தா பிரான்சு நாட்டில் நடைபெற்ற போரில் பங்கேற்றார். அதனை அவர் ஒரு ஜெர்மானிய போர் வீரரிடமிருந்து பெற்றார்."
<b>Do you know?</b> The Param Vir Chakra is the highest wartime gallantry award, given to soldiers of the Indian Armed Forces, for the display of utmost courage and complete selflessness when facing the enemy. Since its inception in 1950, 21 fearless heroes (14 posthumous) have been awarded the medal till January 2018.	உங்களுக்குத் தெரியுமா? பரம் வீர சக்ரா என்பது மிக உயர்ந்த யுத்த கால வீர விருதாகக் கருதப்படுகிறது. இவ்விருது ஆயுதம் தாங்கிய வீரரின் தைரியத்தையும், சுயநலமின்மையையும் போர் காலங்களில் எதிரியை எதிர்கொள்ளும் பொழுது வெளிப்படுத்தியமைக்காக வழங்கி கௌரவிக்கப்படுகிறது. 1950-ல் இவ்விருது தொடங்கப்பட்டதிலிருந்து 21 துணிச்சலான வீரர்களுக்கு (14 பேருக்கு இறப்பிற்குப் பிறகு) ஜனவரி 2018 வரை வழங்கப்பட்டுள்ளது.
'Do you still have it?'	"இன்னும் அதை வைத்துள்ளீர்களா?"
'No', he said, looking her in the eyes. 'I left it in the jackfruit tree.'	"இல்லை" அவள் கண்களைப் பார்த்தவாறே அவர் கூறினார். "நான் இந்த பலா மரத்தில் தான் அதை விட்டுச் சென்றேன்."
'You left it in the tree?'	"நீங்கள் அதை மரத்தில் விட்டுச் (வைத்துச்) சென்றீர்களா?"
'Yes, I was so excited at the time, packing and saying goodbye to people and thinking about the ship I was going to sail on that I simply forgot all about it.'	"ஆமாம். நான் அந்த நேரத்தில் மிகவும் பரவசமாக இருந்தேன். பொருட்களை எடுத்து வைப்பதிலும், மக்களிடமிருந்து வாழ்த்துப் பெறுவதிலும், நான் பயணம் செய்யவிருக்கும் கப்பலை நினைத்துக்கொண்டும் இருந்ததில் நான் எளிதில் இவற்றையெல்லாம் மறந்துவிட்டேன்."
'Yes', he said. 'It's twenty-five years, but it may still be there. Unless someone else found it...'	"ஆமாம்", என அவர் கூறினார். "25 வருடங்கள் கடந்துவிட்டன. ஆனால் அது இன்னமும் இங்கேயே இருக்கும், வேறு எவரும் பார்க்காத வரை...."
'Would you like to go and look?'	"அங்கு சென்று நீங்கள் பார்க்க விரும்புகிறீர்களா?"
'I can't climb trees any more.'	"என்னால் இனிமேல் மரங்களில் ஏற முடியாது."

'If you can't, I will go and see. You just sit here and wait for me.'	"உங்களால் முடியாதெனில், நான் சென்று பார்க்கிறேன். நீங்கள் இங்கேயே அமர்ந்து எனக்காக காத்திருங்கள்."
'I've found it!' she cried. 'I've found some - thing!'	"நான் அதை கண்டுபிடித்துவிட்டேன்" என அவள் கூச்சலிட்டாள். "நான் ஒன்றை கண்டுபிடித்துவிட்டேன்"
And now, barefoot, she ran breathlessly towards him, in her outstretched hand a rusty old medal. He took it from her and turned it over on his palm.	இப்பொழுது அவள் வெறுங்காலுடன் தனது நீட்டிய கையில் துருப்பிடித்த ஒரு பதக்கத்தை எடுத்துக்கொண்டு மூச்சிறைக்க அவரை நோக்கி ஓடி வருகிறாள். அவளிடமிருந்து அதனைப் பெற்றுக்கொண்டு தனது உள்ளங்கையில் அதனை வைத்து திருப்பிப் பார்த்தார்.
'Is it the Iron Cross?' she asked eagerly.	"இதுதான் அந்த இரும்புச் சிலுவையா?" என்றாள் ஆவலாக.
'Yes', he said, 'this is it.'	"ஆமாம்", "இது தான் அது", என்றார் அவர்.
'Now I know why you came. You wanted to see if it was still in the tree.'	"நீங்கள் ஏன் இங்கு வந்துள்ளீர்கள் என்பது எனக்கு இப்பொழுது தெரிந்துவிட்டது. நீங்கள் வைத்துச் சென்ற சிலுவை இன்னும் மரத்திலேயே உள்ளதா என பார்க்க வந்துள்ளீர்கள்."
'You may be right. I'm not really sure why I came. But you can keep the Cross. You found it, after all.'	"நீ சொல்வதுகூட சரியாக இருக்கலாம். நான் ஏன் இங்கு வந்தேன் என்பது எனக்கு உறுதியாகத் தெரியவில்லை. ஆனால் நீயே இந்த சிலுவையை வைத்துக்கொள். நீதானே இதனைக் கண்டுபிடித்தாய்."
<b>PAGE – 31</b> 'No, you keep it. It's yours.'	"இல்லையில்லை. நீங்களே இதனை வைத்துக்கொள்ளுங்கள். இது உங்களுடையது."
'But it could have remained in the tree for another twenty-five years if you hadn't climbed up to look for it.'	"ஆனால் நீ மட்டும் மரங்களில் ஏறி இதனை கண்டுபிடித்திருக்காவிட்டால், மேலுமொரு 25 ஆண்டுகள் இச்சிலுவை மரத்திலேயே தான் இருந்திருக்கும்."
'But if you hadn't come back again....'	"ஆனால், நீங்கள் திரும்பவராமல் இருந்திருந்தாள்..."
'On the right day, at the right time, and with the right person', he said, getting up and placing the medal in her hands. 'It wasn't the Cross I came for. It was my youth.'	"சரியான நாளில், சரியான தருணத்தில், மேலும் சரியான நபரிடம் தான்" என்ற அவர், அந்த சிலுவை பதக்கத்தை அவளின் கைகளிலேயே வைத்தார். "நான் இந்த சிலுவையைத் தேடி வரவில்லை. நான் என் இளமைக்காலத்தை மீளப்பெறவே வந்தேன்."
She didn't understand that, but she walked with him to the gate, Where the road turned, he looked back and waved to her. Then he quickened his steps and moved briskly towards the bus stop. There was sprightliness in his step, and something cried aloud in his heart.	அவளால் அதனைப் புரிந்துகொள்ள முடியவில்லை. ஆனால் அவள் அவருடன் வாசல் கதவுவரை நடந்து சென்றாள். சாலை திரும்புமிடத்தில் அவர் திரும்பிப் பார்த்து கையை அசைத்தார். பின்னர் அவர் வேகமாக பேருந்து நிறுத்தம் நோக்கி அடியெடுத்து வைத்து நடந்தார். அவர் நடையிலே ஒரு உயிரோட்டமிருந்தது. அவர் மனதில் ஏதோவொன்று உரக்கக் கத்திற்று.
The mango scented summer breeze made the blood course in his veins, and he forgot, for a moment, that he couldn't climb trees any more....	கோடைக்காலத் தென்றலில் மிதந்து வந்த மாம்பழ வாசம் அவரது நாளங்களுக்குள் இரத்த ஓட்டத்தை துரிதப்படுத்திய தருணத்தில் தன்னால் இனிமேல் மரம் ஏற முடியாது என்பதனை அவர் மறந்தார்....

### HARD WORDS

S.No	Hard Word	Meaning	தமிழ் அர்த்தம்
1.	verge	edge	ஓரம்
2	granite	a very hard, igneous rock	கருங்கல்
3	altered	rearrange	அடுக்கு
4	disembodied	spiritual	ஆத்மீகமான
5	colonel	a rank of officer in the army	படைப்பகுதி முதல்வன்
6	turnstile	A mechanical doorway	சுழல்நிலை பயண பாதை
7	dizzy	faint	மயக்கமான
8	brigadier	major general	படை தலைவர்
9	hollyhocks	a tall plant with large showy flowers.	ஒரு வகை செந்நிற பூ
10	witty	clever	அறிவாற்றல்
11	pruning	trimming a tree	கிளை நறுக்கி திருத்தம் செய்
12	chiming	make melodious ringing sounds	மணியொலியிசை
13	cranking	give a bend to	சுழல்
14	breathlessly	nervously	பதற்றத்துடன்
15	quickened	hurried	வேகப்படுத்து
16	sprightliness	energy in action or expression	விரைவான செயல்
17	vein	part of the blood circulation	ரத்தநாளம்
18	soldier	fighter	படை வீரன்
19	prosperous	wealthy	செழிப்பாக
20	barefoot	wearing nothing on the feet.	வெறுங்காலுடன்

### SYNONYMS

Word	Synonyms	Word	Synonyms
disembodied	- spiritual, unbodied, intangible	appraising	- assessing
prosperous	- flourishing	slithered	- slid
outstretched	- extended	briskly	- rapidly
understand	- know	climb	- ascend
swing	- sway	breeze	- air flow
bare foot	- without shoes	bug	- germ
drenched	- wet	eagerly	- willingly
eddies	- whirl	gallantry	- courage
lissome	- slim, thin	offence	- crime
pruning	- clipping	selflessness	- self sacrifice
sprightliness	- energetic	treasures	- precious things
witty	- humorous		



**CHOOSE THE BEST SYNONYMS**

1. It was **disembodied** voice at first.  
a) **spiritual** b) kind c) closest d) quarrel
2. Moments later a girl stood framed between dark red **hollyhocks** staring at the man.  
a) a type of block b) a **type of plant** c) a type of bricks d) a type of pillar
3. He should have been a **brigadier** by now.  
a) a rank in hospital b) rank in office c) **rank in army** d) rank in home
4. Going round and round until he was quite **dizzy**.  
a) **faint** b) sleep c) happy d) tired
5. He **muttered** to himself.  
a) **whispered** b) helped c) laughed d) smiled
6. In her **outstretched** hand a rusty old medal.  
a) fold b) close c) tight d) **unfold**
7. There was **sprightliness** in his step.  
a) **activeness** b) laziness c) sleepy d) tiredness
8. He remembered other times - the music of a piano, the **chiming** of a grandfatherclock.  
a) noise b) silent c) **ding dong** d) loudness
9. His grandfather **cranking** up the old car.  
a) **start** b) shout c) close d) clean
10. He did not look very **prosperous**.  
a) energetic b) kind c) **wealthy** d) cowed

**ANTONYMS**

Word	Antonyms	Word	Antonyms
<b>prosperous</b>	X poor	<b>swing</b>	X still
<b>outstretched</b>	X folded	<b>brave</b>	X coward
<b>cranking</b>	X stop	<b>drenched</b>	X dried
<b>excited</b>	X depressed	<b>muttered</b>	X shouted
<b>prune</b>	X maximize	<b>valuable</b>	X worthless
<b>climb</b>	X descend	<b>lissome</b>	X clumsy
<b>constant</b>	X inconstant	<b>dizzy</b>	X steady, clearhead
<b>eagerly</b>	X indifferently	<b>lissome</b>	X clumsy
<b>offence</b>	X defense	<b>slither</b>	X stay
<b>witty</b>	X foolish	<b>sprightliness</b>	X deadliness

**CHOOSE THE BEST ANTONYMS**

1. The **old** house built with solid blocks of granite.  
a) **new**                      b) damaged                      c) country                      d) big
2. Moments later a girl stood framed between **dark** red hollyhocks staring at the man.  
a) **pale**                      b) bright                      c) light                      d) dim
3. It was on the **tip** of his tongue to make a witty remark.  
a) edge                      b) peak                      c) **bottom**                      d) cap
4. As they walked across the grass he spotted a stone bench **under** a mango tree.  
a) down                      b) lower                      c) beneath                      d) **over**
5. They were **silent** for some time.  
a) **argued**                      b) mum                      c) noise                      d) talkative
6. 'I don't want to go **inside**.'  
a) a side                      b) beside                      c) **outside**                      d) downside
7. Going round and round until he was quite **dizzy**.  
a) faint                      b) **brisk**                      c) happy                      d) tired
8. In her **outstretched** hand a rusty old medal.  
a. **fold**                      b) close                      c) tight                      d) unfold
9. There was **sprightliness** in his step.  
a) activeness                      b) **laziness**                      c) sleepy                      d) tiredness
10. He couldn't **climb** the tree any more.  
a) decline                      b) decrease                      c) **get down**                      d) drop

**CHOOSE THE BEST OPTION**

**B. Based on your understanding of the story, answer the following questions by choosing the correct answer.**

- i. The story **I Can't Climb Trees Anymore** highlights the importance of \_\_\_\_\_.  
a) old age.                      b) **youth**  
c) adulthood                      d) middle age
- ii. The house which was visited by the man \_\_\_\_\_.  
a) remained unchanged      b) was totally changed  
c) **was slightly repaired**      d) was given a facelift
- iii. Who said, "A blessing rests on the house where the shadow of a tree falls"?  
a) **grand mother**                      b) grand father  
c) uncle                      d) the narrator
- iv. The author came back to the house because he \_\_\_\_\_.  
a) wanted to see the jackfruit tree.                      b) **was looking for his lost youth.**  
c) wanted to look again at his old house                      d) wanted to buy the house
- v. He gifted \_\_\_\_\_ to the little girl  
a) **an iron cross**                      b) a bronze medal  
c) marbles                      d) old coins

TEXTUAL QUESTIONS

**C- Answer the following questions in a sentence or two.**

**1. Explain: “Blessings rest on the house where the shadow of a tree falls”-**

It was told by the narrator’s grandmother. It tells the importance of trees to a house. The tree yields fruits and gives shade.

**2.What did the writer observe about the house?**

The writer observed that the solid blocks of granite in the house was not altered.

There were fewer trees remained.

**3.What was the local superstition about trees?**

The local superstition about trees was that ‘A blessing rests on the house where the shadow of a tree falls’.

**4.What did the narrator do with the turnstile when he was a boy?**

When he was a boy, the narrator used to swing on the turnstile.

**5. Who is the owner of the house now?**

A colonel is the owner of the house now.

**6.Why did the narrator return to his old house?**

The narrator returned to his old house to find his lost youth.

**7.How did he get back the iron Cross?**

The little girl climbed up the jackfruit tree and got back the iron cross.

**8.Who did the house belong to originally?**

The house belonged to the writer’s grandmother originally.

**9. What did he do with the old iron Cross?**

He kept the old iron cross in the jackfruit tree.

**10. Where had he left his childhood treasures?**

He had left his childhood treasures in the jackfruit tree.

around - சுற்றி remained - அப்படியே இருந்தது swing - ஊஞ்சல் turnstile - சுழலும் வாயிறு கதவு climbed up - ஏறினார் jackfruit tree- பலா மரம்

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

**1.Who is the girl in the story?**

The girl is the daughter of the colonel who is the owner of the house.

**2. What kind of relationship did the man have with that house?**

The man’s grandmother was the owner of the house before twenty four years.

**3.What was the specialty of the stone bench?**

Stone bench was the place where his grandma used to sit and take rest.

**4.Why did the middle aged man feel young today?**

The middle aged man felt young today because he **came to his ancestral house, where he enjoyed his childhood.**

**5. Which was the favorite place for the man?**

**Jackfruit tree** was the favorite place for the man.

**6. Why the man stepped very fast?**

The man stepped very fast **to reach the bus stop.**

**7. What smell he had while leaving the place?**

The man smelled **the mangoes from the mango tree** while he was leaving the place.

ancestral house - பரம்பரை வீடு childhood - குழந்தைப் பருவம் reach - சென்றடைவது

### PARAGRAPH QUESTIONS

#### I. THINK AND WRITE

**Based on the story and your own ideas write your answers in about 80 to 100 words each**

**1. Imagine yourself as the writer. Narrate the story of your visit to your ancestral house.**

Oneday, I went to my ancestral house. When I was young, it was owned by my grandmother. Before 10 years, it was sold. After that I didn't get a chance to visit. Now it had changed a lot. While we used, there was no fence. Now a fence was raised. The house was painted in green. They have constructed a floor upstairs. The only thing remained there was the trees around the house. The neem tree, coconut tree and the teak tree remained there still. I was happy. I felt as if I found my old friend.

**b. The man who came to the house gave the cross as a gift to the girl. Why did he do this? What do you think would have happened if he had taken back the cross with him?**

The man who came to the house gave the cross as a gift to the girl because, the girl was very kind. While the narrator was watching the house, the girl invited him to come inside the house. They walked inside the garden. They talked about the trees. So, he liked her and gave her the cross. Instead of that, if he hadn't given the cross to her, he might have been ambitious. The cross was the symbol of his youth. It was lost for ever. It was a memory. If he had that cross with him, he would always long for the youth.

**C. What are the benefits of growing and preserving trees? Use ideas from what you have read so far and your own ideas.**

There are many benefits in growing and preserving trees. The trees give us oxygen to breath, fruits to eat and shade to take rest. Each and every parts of the trees are useful. They are the landmark of the house. The children like to play in the trees. They are their secret place to hide. Moreover, they are their true friends.



**Lesson : I can't climb trees any more**

**Author : Ruskin Bond**

**Genre : Auto biography**

**Theme : Recollecting childhood memories**



A man visited **his ancestral house**. He had lived there twenty five years ago. While watching the house a young girl of that house came there. She was the **daughter of a Colonel**. With her help he visited the garden. He **remembered his grandparents** and the jack tree. He **used to keep his valuable things in the jack tree**. He searched for **an old rusty metal cross**. That girl found it for him. He **returned it to her** and went out of the house **with a heavy heart**. He **regretted for losing his youth**.

Valuable - விலைமதிப்பற்ற rusty - துரப்பிடத்த heavy heart - கனத்த மனதுடன்

### PARAGRAPH FOR SLOW LEARNERS

- An old man watches his old house.
- A girl of that house allows him in.
- She is the daughter of a colonel, the owner.
- He remembers his grandparents.
- He finds a rusty iron cross in the jack tree.
- He returns it to her.
- He goes out with heavy heart.

### TEXTUAL EXERCISES

**A. Based on your understanding of the story, indicate either 'T' (True) or 'F' (False) against the columns.**

T/F

1. The narrator had hidden a few old coins in the tree.  
False.
2. The jack fruit tree was still there. True
3. As a boy the narrator used to swing on the turnstile.  
True
4. The narrator had sold the house. True
5. A girl came out of the house. True
6. The narrator's grandfather used to sit on the stone bench. False
7. The narrator was able to remember the music of a piano. True
8. The narrator was able to climb the jack fruit tree.  
False
9. The purpose of the visit of the narrator was to buy his ancestral house back. False
10. The narrator climbed over the wall easily. False

**D. Match the words in column A with the meanings in column B by drawing a line as shown.**

	A	B
1	pruning	trimming a plant
2	chiming	emit a sound
3	drenched	soaked
4	dizzy	shaky
5	prosperous	flourishing
6	sprightliness	lively
7	treasure	a collection of precious things
8	rusty	ancient

**E. Read these shortened forms of words and write the full form for the remaining words and complete the table given below.**

won't : will not

I'd : I had / I would

I'll : I will

i	you'd	you had/ you would
ii	they've	They have
iii	he'd	He had/ he would
iv	wasn't	was not
v	he's	He is
vi	aren't	are not
vii	isn't	is not

viii	doesn't	does not
ix	wouldn't	would not
x	can't	can not

**F. Now choose the correct option and put a thick mark (✓) above it.**

1. The poet used to play in the house when she was **young** / lazy.
2. The flowers mentioned in the poem are **roses** / holly hocks.
3. The poet used to go home for tea / **lunch**.
4. **Muffins** / grapes were the favourite food of the poet.
5. Life was **beautiful** / happy when the poet was young.
6. There was plenty of time to **gaze** / walk in the field.



### SPEAKING

**G. You are visiting the primary school where you studied classes I to IV, after six years. You get a chance to go to your standard two classroom and you are permitted to sit at the same place where you used to sit.**

- i. What would you remember?
- ii. Describe your feelings at that time.
- iii. Who do you miss very badly, your friends or teachers?
- iv. Share your thoughts with the class.



### WRITING

**H. On seeing these pictures, you would have gone down your memory lane. Write a paragraph in about 50 words describing your favorite sport when you were young.**

My favourite sport is football. I love the game of football. It is a fun game to watch and play. The game promotes physical and mental fitness. I love to be physically fit. And also football brings people together. My love for the game is immense. All my life I have been playing football, from the backyard to high school. It also has provided me with a lot of memories that I will never forget; One such memory is winning a match at my junior level in High school.



### Creative writing

**J. Write a letter to your friend describing your ancestral house.**

2 June 2018,  
Madurai,

Dear Friend,

Hai, How are you? I am fine. Hope the same with you. Recently, I visited my ancestral house which is in the village. The field around were full of smiling corn fields of wheat and gram. That was a beautiful sight. Some birds were flying about happily chirping. I woke up early in the morning. Had breakfast with milk and loitred around watching all my way. Women were drawing water and humming sweet songs. At some distance was the village tank. There, women were seen washing clothes and spreading them out in the sun to dry. I stayed in the village for ten days and then came back full of memories. I was given and affectionate farewell. I hope when you had read, you would also be able to visualize our village and our house. If you wish, I will take you along with me next time.

Yours lovingly,

XXXX

Address on the envelope

To

XXXX

XXXX

XXXX

**K. Given below are four headlines and information about four young National Bravery Award winners.**

Match the headline to the passages and write it in the space provided.

Little Girl Big Prowess

Unlucky Boy Saves Two

Lad Rescues Kin From Leopard

Smart Sense Saves Sibling

**1. Smart Sense Saves Sibling**

Fourteen – year –old Siya Vamansa Khode from Dharwad, Karnataka risked her own life to save her 2-year –old brother from certain death due to electrocution. In April 2015. Siya was playing hide and seek with her cousins when she decided to go to the rooftop. The toddler followed her; but after playing for a while she suddenly realized that her brother was nowhere to be seen to find him in contact with a live wire, she held him by his shirt (she knew touching him directly meant risking her own death) and pulled him away to safety. For her exemplary thinking, she was awarded the National Bravery Award.

**2. Lad Reuses Kin From Leopard**

When 15-years –old Sumit Mamgain's older cousin Ritesh was being dragged away by a leopard at Manoharpur in Uttarakhand, he told Sumit to run away and saved his life. But the brave lad decided to fight the leopard and save his cousin's life. Holding its tail, he hit it with a sickle. When the leopard charged towards him, he kept pelting stones at the animal till it finally ran away. For his exemplary courage, Mamgain was awarded the Sanjay Chopra Award.

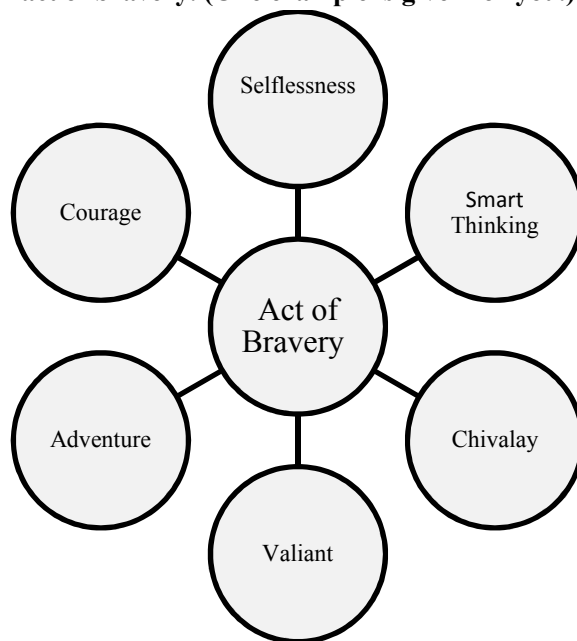
**3. Little Girl = Big Prowess**

On May 19, 2016, 9-year-old Tarh Peeju drowned while saving her friends Phasing Marry and Tarh Charu when they attempted to cross Pachin River in Naharlagun. A Class IV student at Alphabet Public School in Nirjuli, Tarh Jumped into the turbulent river and dragged both Marry and Charu to safety. However, she herself was submerged and swept downstream by the strong current of the river. Displaying unbelievable courage, Tarh sacrificed her life in saving her friends and was posthumously conferred the Bharat Award (the top honor at the National Bravery Awards).

#### 4. Unlucky Boy saves Two

On July 22, 2003, 11-year-old Kandha Kumar of Karur district in Tamil Nadu was returning home in his school van. The van broke down in the middle of an unmanned level crossing and seeing the train approaching, the van driver panicked and fled, leaving seven school children trapped. The class VII boy immediately jumped off the van and rescued two children. But, while he was trying to help other children, the train rammed into the van killing Kandha Kumar, three children and a helper. For his valiant act, he was awarded the National Bravery Award posthumously.

**I. In pairs, discuss what is common about all these incidents you have just read. Complete the chart below with the characteristic features of an act of bravery. (One example is given for you.)**



**M. Based on your reading answer the following questions in a sentence or two.**

**1. Is mountaineering a dangerous sport?. Why? (para 1)**

Yes, mountaineering is a dangerous sport.

**2. What is frostbite? (para 2)**

Frostbite is an injury that is caused by exposure of parts of the body to the cold. The cold causes freezing of your skin and underlying tissues. Your fingers, toes and feet are most commonly affected.

**3. What are the qualities of a good climber?**

As one climbs higher and higher, breathing becomes more and more difficult.

They should carry with them maps, compasses and other equipment. They must be in good physical condition and should possess courage, perseverance and power of endurance. They also carry first aid supplies food and extra clothing.

**4. What do climbers carry with them? (Para 4)**

The climbers carry with them first aid kits, food and clothing suitable to the weather.

**5. Where are the highest peaks in India? (Para 5)**

The highest peaks in India are in Himalayas? the mount Everest is the highest peak in the world which is in Nepal.



**N. Here is story about a holiday adventure. The paragraphs are jumbled. Rearrange them to form a meaningful story.**

**Healthy, wholesome, calorific**

A: Riya's family had a nice little holiday home near the sea – shore. The weather was fine and the children went swimming every day.

B: She saw water and dolphins all around. "How deep!" she thought.

C: One day Riya and Jody took a boat from the beach to a small island. It was a nice

D: "Did you see that! That dolphin saved your life!" shouted Jody when she was back in their boat. "I can't believe it". said Riya. And they rowed back to the beach as fast as they could.

E: Riya wanted to row back but she lost her balance and fell into the water. Jody started to cry and didn't know what to do, "Uh!" cried Jody. Riya couldn't swim! "Help! Help!" cried Jody.

F: While they were rowing along the coastline, a strong wind caught the boat and took it out to the open sea.

G: Her leg was caught in seaweed! Just then, a dolphin quickly came to rescue her. The dolphin took Riya on its mouth and took her up to the boat. It made a loud noise and swam away.

Finish the story on your own!

Riya and Jody narrated to their parents what had happened  
They were happy.

H: Last summer Riya spent her holidays together with her parents and her little brother. They went to the coast.

Put the texts in the correct order!

1= text : H  
2= text : A  
3= text : C  
4= text : B  
5= text : F  
6= text : E  
7= text : G  
8= text : D

Identify and write down the words!

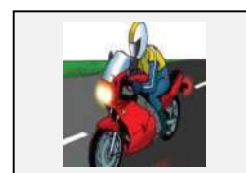
Beach seas and sun towel ocean swim wave umbrella  
sunglasses relax fun swimsuits boats suntan sea  
shells ice cream coast seaweed  
surfing beach, sea, sand, sun, towel, ocean,  
swim wave, umbrella, sunglasses, relax, fun,  
swim, suits, boat, suntan, seashells, ice cream,  
coast, seaweed, surfing.

**B. Give your opinion and compare the items in each picture using –er, more, less, or an irregular form. Use the words, You may form your sentences in more than one way.**

1.



2.





**Healthy, wholesome, calorific**

- a) Vegetables are healthier than pizza.
- b) They are wholesome food.
- c) Fast food items are more calorific

**eco - friendly, economical, safer**

- a) Cycle Riding is eco – friendly
- b) cycle is more economical than bike
- c) cycle riding is safer than bike riding

**educational, interesting, trendy**

- a) Radio is more educational than cell phone.
- b) Mobile is more interesting than Radio.
- c) Mobile phone using is trendy.

**safe, comfortable, quick**

- a) Train travel is safer than bus travel
- b) Train is more comfortable than bus
- c) Bus is quicker than a train

**cozy, costly, sturdy**

- a) Sofa is cozier than a stool
- b) Sofa is costlier than a stool
- c) Stool is more sturdy than a sofa

**D. Listen to the conversation between Leena and her mother and list down a few new words. Using a dictionary find out the meaning for those words.**

New Word	Meaning
Versatile	able to adapt to different activities
Kuritage	tradition
adventures	exciting experience

Savour	Enjoy
brooding	Deep thought
Bungee jumpin	Jumping from a Bridge

**F. Work with a partner. Match the words and pictures by writing the numbers in the space provided. Use and encyclopedia to find out more about these adventure sports.**

Name of the Sport	How it is played!
Hang Gliding	It is also known as powered paragliding. enables you to fly like a bird with the help of a powered paraglider.
Jet Skiing	A small machine like a motorcycle the can travel on the surface of water.
Rock Climbing	An activity in which participants climb up, down or across rocks or artificial rock walls.
Bungee Jumping	It is and activity that involves jumping from a tall structure while connected to a large elastic cord.
Scuba Diving	It is a form of underwater diving where the diver uses a breathing apparatus.
Kite Surfing	It is a wind powered surface watersport using a kite and a board to move across the water.
Para Motoring	It is an air sport in which a pilot flies a light, non-motorized, foot – launched.heavier-than-air aircraft.

**G. Complete the following table with information from the anecdote about Mr Scotti's short trip.**

Name	Nicholas Scotti
Occupation	<b>Journalist</b>
Reason for his trip	<b>To Visit his cousing</b>
Means of transport	<b>Plane</b>
Destination	<b>To Go To Cousing house</b>

**H. Circle the best option.**

1. In New York Mr Scotti left the plane because he thought he
  - a) had to change the plane.
  - b) was in Rome.**
  - c) had to phone his cousins
  - d) changed his mind.
2. He decided to find his cousins' home without their help. He asked the policeman for information in Italian because he
  - a) thought he was in Italy.
  - b) knew the policeman.
  - c) didn't speak any other language.**
  - d) liked the language.
3. On the next day, My Scotti was \_\_\_\_\_ at how the local people responded to his queries.
  - a) surprised**
  - b) unhappy
  - c) glad
  - d) upset
4. Circle three words that best describe Mr. Scotti  
Clever/**Unlucky**/ **Stupid**/ Successful/ **Miserable**/ Happy

**J. Look at the action words in bold. Identify whether they are either finite or non – finite verb.**

They want to try a new approach	Non In finite Verb
Trying is easy	Non – Infinite Verb

Having tried erything, he gave up	Finite Verb
All I can do is try.	Non-finite Verb
If she tried, she would succeed.	Finite Verb

**K. Read the following pairs of sentences.**

- Travelling might satisfy your desire for new experiences.
- The studyabroad program might satisfy your desire for new experiences.

Identify the subject in the first sentence **Travelling.**

- They do not appreciate my singing.
- They do not appreciate my assistance. Identify the direct object in the first sentence **My singing**
- My cat's favourite activity is sleeping.
- My cat's favourite food is salmon.

Identify the subject complement in the first sentence

**Sleeping**

- The police arrested him for speeding.
- The police arrested him for criminal activity.

Identify the object of the preposition in the first sentence for **speeding.**

**M. Now, work in pairs and help Dinesh and Divya complete the exercise given below.**

**Where are the astronauts headed to?**

**I. Write the gerund/infinitive form of the verbs in the blanks.**

1. The astronauts managed to complete (complete) their training in record time.
2. They learned how to survive (survive) in space without gravity.
3. The best astronaut almost quit Trying (try) to learn the complex information.
4. Their mission appeared to be (be) in jeopardy.
5. Then Marina encouraged him by saying, " It's no good to quit (quit) the project right at the and."
6. Being an astronaut will enable you to achieve (achieve) great success in life.
7. If you give up studying (study) now, our mission will be scrubbed.
8. Think of your fellow astronauts who wouldn't hesitate to help (help) you in time of trouble.
9. We astronauts must keep on preparing (prepare) for our space launch.
10. Some say it's no use of travelling (travel) to distant planets, because it takes too long.
11. But we really want to visit (Visit) other planets and find
12. Can you imagine walking (walk) up to a Martian and shaking hands and to say (say, "Hello, how are you?"
13. We really look forward to meet (meet) alien creatures and to find (find) out what they are really like.
14. Many scientists have warned us not to take (take) this dangerous journey, but we are not discouraged.
15. Travelling to far away planets involves risking (risk) our lives for the thrill of discovery.
16. However we won't delay to blast (blast) off into space.
17. Would you like to accompany (accompany) us on our journey if you could?
18. During our training we have got used to being (be) weightless and living (live) under difficult conditions.
19. Scientists admit to being (be) intensely curious about life on other planets.
20. I'm sure they would also enjoy travelling (travel) with our crew.
21. We told them to come (come) with us on our trip, but some of them think it is a waste of time to search (search) for life that doesn't exist.
22. We have been taught how to endure (endure) hardships during our training and now we can't afford wasting(waste) money.

**We're on our way!**