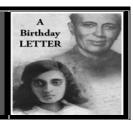
Unit-2



Prose – 2 A BIRTHDAY LETTER

(பிறந்தநாள் கடிதம்) Jawaharlal Nehru



SYNONYMS:-

| Word | Synonym / meaning | Meaning in Tamil |
|--|--|--------------------------------|
| sermon (n) | ceremony in which a priest gives a talk on | நீதிபோதனை / உபதேசம் / |
| | a religious or moral subject, discourse, | மதப்பிரசங்கம் |
| | preaching | |
| fascinated (adj.) | extremely <u>attracted</u> | வசீகரித்தல் |
| deed (n) | a brave or noble <u>act</u> | செயல் |
| starving (adj.) | suffering or dying from hunger | பட்டினியாக இருத்தல் |
| oppressed (adj.) governed in an unfair and cruel way and | | துன்புறுத்தல் / ஒடுக்கப்படுதல் |
| | prevented from having opportunities and | |
| | freedom, troubled | |
| sacred (adj.) considered to be <u>holy</u> and deserving | | புனிதமான |
| respect | | |
| serene (adj.) | peaceful and calm | அமைதியான |
| unruffled (adj.) | not nervous or worried, usually despite a | கலக்கமுறாத |
| | difficult situation, <u>calm</u> | |

ANTONYMS:-

| Word | | | Antonym | | |
|-----------|--------------------------|---|--------------------|---------------|--|
| good | நன்மை | X | bad | தீமை | |
| high | உயர்ந்த | X | low | தாழ்ந்த | |
| like | விருப்பம் | X | dislike | வெறுப்பு | |
| right | म्रजी | X | wrong | தவறு | |
| wide | அகன்ற | X | narrow | குறுகலான | |
| bored | சலிப்பூட்டும் | X | interested | ஆர்வமூட்டும் | |
| wise | அறிவுள்ள | X | fool | முட்டாள்தனமான | |
| hardly | குறைந்த | X | abundantly | மிகுதியான | |
| remember | நினைவுபடுத்திப்பார்த்தல் | X | forget | மறந்துபோதல் | |
| ordinary | சாதாரணமான | X | extraordinary | மிகச்சிறந்த | |
| heroic | வீரம் மிக்க | X | coward | கோழைத்தனமான | |
| love | அன்பு | X | hate | பகை | |
| trust | நம்பிக்கை | X | distrust, mistrust | அவநம்பிக்கை | |
| easy | எளிய | X | difficult | கடினமான | |
| fortunate | அதிர்ஷ்டமான | X | unfortunate | துரதிர்ஷ்டமான | |
| respect | மரியாதையான | X | disrespect | மரியாதையற்ற | |
| honour | பாராட்டு | X | dishonour | அவமதிப்பு | |
| worthy | மதிப்புடைய | X | unworthy | மதிப்பற்ற | |
| afraid | பயம் | X | unafraid | பயமின்றி | |

Questions within the lesson: (TB: 108&109)

1. From which prison did Nehru write this letter?

Nehru wrote this letter from Central Prison, Naini in Uttar Pradesh.

2. Did Nehru send any presents to Indira?

No. But he mentioned that his messages in the letter were his presents. They can be of the mind and spirit.

3. Which historical character inspired young Indira?

The historical character 'Joan of Arc' inspired young Indira.

4. What helps the ordinary men and women to become heroes?

When people became interested in a great cause, then history helps the ordinary men and women to become heroes.

5. Who is addressed as 'Bapuji'?

Mahatma Gandhiji is addressed as 'Bapuji'. It means father in Hindi.

6. What should the soldiers of India respect?

The soldiers of India should respect the honour of India which is a sacred trust.

A. Answer the following questions in one or two sentences: (TB-110)

1. Why could not Nehru send any presents to Indira?

Nehru could not send any presents to Indira because he was imprisoned in Central prison, Naini.

2. What cannot be stopped even by the high walls of prisons?

Words of wisdom from a father cannot be stopped even by the high walls of prisons. They are the real presents to refine one's mind and spirit.

3. Why did Nehru dislike sermonizing?

Talking and discussing are the best ways to find out what is right and what is not right, what should be done and what should not be done. Whereas sermons don't pave the way to rectify our mistakes. So, Nehru disliked sermonizing. (*or*)

The best way to find what is wrong and right is by discussing. So, Nehru disliked sermonizing.

4. What does history tell us?

History tells us the great periods in the life of nations, of great men and women.

5. What do ordinary men and women usually think of?

Ordinary men and women usually think of their bread and butter, of their children and their household worries.

6. When do ordinary men and women become heroes?

When people are interested in a great cause, then history helps ordinary men and women to become heroes.

7. What does the phrase 'great drama' refer to?

The phrase 'great drama' refers to Indian freedom struggle.

8. Why are the freedom fighters under Gandhi not afraid of anything?

The freedom fighters under Gandhi had nothing to hide and no room for secrecy. They worked in the sun and in the light. Their transparency made them not afraid of anything.

B. Answer the following in about 80 - 100 words each.

1. Explain the important elements of Nehru's letter.

When Indira was about to turn 13 in 1930, Nehru started sending her more detailed letters. Even while he was in prison, he sent letters. They were the gifts of the mind and the spirit. Even the high walls of prison could not stop his valuable teachings to his child. He said that he disliked sermonizing and doling out good advice. Talking with his daughter alone was the best way to know what was right and what should be done. He reminded Indira's fascinated character 'Joan of Arc' and asked her to be ambitious. When ordinary people became interested in a great cause, then history helped them to become heroes. Bapuji had inspired our people to participate in the freedom struggle. His magic words stole million hearts and made them do great deeds, courageously. "We are fortunate to take some part ourselves in this great drama", Nehru said. He advised Indira not to do anything in secret. Nehru wished his daughter to grow up into a brave soldier in India's service. "Nehru's words are still inspiring. His words will always remain a timeless piece of advice!"

Nehru – "The Architect of modern Indian nation"

2. Imagine yourself as Indira and write a reply letter to your father, Nehru for the letter you received on your birthday.

Anand Bhavan, Allahabad. November 19, 1930.

My dear father,

On my birthday, I have received many presents. But of all, I consider your letter is my valuable gift of mind and spirit. It is not an ordinary letter to be read and put away. It is precious. You know dad, how I miss you. At this juncture, you are talking with me through letters. As you said in the letter, I imagine as if we really were having a talk. Your letters bring a fresh outlook and arouse a feeling of concern for people and interest in the world around. I realized your love to write about our wonderful country and delight in sharing everything to me. Really we are gifted to take part in this great drama under the tutelage of Babuji. I assure you dad, I won't do anything in secret. There is no need for me to hide anything. I will grow up into a brave soldier in India's service. Most children idolize their parents, but not all parents are as good companions as mine were. Take care and Good Bye, Dad with all my love.

Your loving daughter, Indira Priyadarshini

Paragraph for slow learners

- This is Nehru's letter to his daughter Indira from Naini prison.
- His letter was the gift of the mind and the spirit.
- He said that discussing with his daughter was better than sermonizing.
- He reminded Indira's fascinated character 'Joan of Arc'.
- He mentioned Bapuji's efforts in the freedom struggle.
- He advised Indira not to do anything in secret.
- Nehru wished his daughter to be a brave soldier in India's service.

C. Match the words with correct Synonym and Antonym from the table. (TB-111)

| QUESTION | | | ANSWER | | | | |
|----------|-------|-----------|---------|------|-------|----------|-----------|
| S.No | Word | Synonym | Antonym | S.No | Word | Synonym | Antonym |
| 1 | wide | privilege | freedom | 1 | wide | - broad | X narrow |
| 2 | noble | valiant | public | 2 | noble | - gentle | X ignoble |

| 3 | oppress | valuable | coward |
|---|---------|----------|-----------|
| 4 | honour | personal | ignoble |
| 5 | worthy | gentle | dishonour |
| 6 | private | broad | narrow |
| 7 | brave | subdue | unworthy |

| 3 | oppress | - subdue | X freedom |
|---|---------|-------------|-------------|
| 4 | honour | - privilege | X dishonour |
| 5 | worthy | - valuable | X unworthy |
| 6 | private | - personal | X public |
| 7 | brave | - valiant | X coward |

Grammar (TB-114)

| I. | Choose | the | Correct | Determiner. |
|----|--------|-----|---------|-------------|
| | | | | |

| 1. | Could you bring me tools I left in the garden? (this, those , these) |
|-----|---|
| 2. | earth revolves around the sun. (the, a, an) |
| 3. | I found one rupee coin in the playground while playing. (a, an, the) |
| 4. | There aren't students in the library. (much, many, a lot) |
| 5. | It was unforgettable experience. (a, an, the) |
| 6. | I haven't got pictures in my bedroom. (some, any , many) |
| 7. | He said that he wanted to become engineer. (a, an, the) |
| 8. | Kokila gave a pen to child in the classroom on her birthday. (any, all, each) |
| 9. | I've got to solve math problems before I go to sleep. (all, some, any) |
| 10. | India is largest democracy in the world. (a, an, the) |
| 11. | My father doesn't drink coffee. (much , many, a lot) |
| 12. | I always keep money in my wallet for emergencies. (any, every, some) |
| 13. | This year we are celebrating my sister's birthday. (a, two, second) |
| 14. | I have pencils with me. (a, three , third) |
| 15. | 'What is that noise?' I think it is airplane. (a, an, the) |

Reported Speech

J. Observe the following call-outs. Reporter (C) has reported the sentences of Speaker (A). Now, help Reporter (C) report the rest of the sentences of Speaker (A).

| A (Speaker) | B (Questioner) | C (Reporter) |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|---|
| I have to go. | What did he say? | He said that he wanted to go./ He said that he had to go. (say) |
| Can you hear me? | What did she say? | She asked if I (Reporter) could hear her. (ask) |
| Consult the doctor. | What did he say? | He advised you to consult the doctor. (advise) |
| I won't go to the party. | What did he say? | He said that he would not go to the party. (say) |
| When did you come? | What did she say? | She asked him when I (Reporter) had come. (ask) |
| Don't touch the wire. | What did she say? | She warned him not to touch the wire. (warn) |
| Did you sleep well yesterday? | What did he say? | He asked her if I (Reporter) had slept well the day before. (ask) |
| Please help me cross the street. | What did he say? | He requested her to help him cross the street. (request) |

K. Report the following sentences. (TB-119)

1. Banu said, "Do not spoil the eco-system."

Banu advised not to spoil the eco-system.

- 2. Pranav said, "Have you booked the tickets to Delhi?"
 - Pranav asked if he had booked the tickets to Delhi.
- 3. Rekha said to Tilak, "When are we leaving to our native?"
 - Rekha asked Tilak when they were leaving to their native.
- 4. Sujith said, "Ryan, you should get up early in the morning."
 - Sujith told Ryan that he should getup early in the morning.
- 5. Vivaan said to his mother, "Can you, please, buy me a hot-chocolate?"
 - Vivaan asked his mother politely if she could buy him a hot-chocolate.
- 6. "Tomorrow I have to take a test in English", said Sudar.
 - Sudar said that she had to take a test in English the next day.
- 7. Pragathi said to her sister, "I need your help to arrange the books in the shelf."
 - Pragathi told her sister that she needed her help to arrange the books in the shelf.
- 8. "Why don't you use crayons for colouring?" said Dhilip to his son.
 - Dhilp asked his son why he didn't use crayons for colouring.