

PROSE

The Night the Ghost Got In

- James Grover Thurber

SUMMARY

'The Night the Ghost Got In' is a short story written by James Thurber. It is a fictionalized account of a night in his childhood.

On the night of November, 17 1915, Thurber was taking a bath. He heard some footsteps. It was around 1 in the morning. He thought that it must be his father and brother, Roy. They had gone to Indiana and were expected back at any time. When he put his head out of the door, he did not see anyone. He wrapped a towel around his waist and walked out into the hallway. He heard footsteps again. He woke his brother, Herman, to help him find out what was going on. They did not see anyone and did not hear anything anymore, so they went back to their rooms and closed the doors.

Their mother was awakened by the slamming of the doors and wanted to know what was going on. She believed there were burglars in the house and threw a shoe into the window of the neighbour's house. The neighbour was very angry. When he came to know that she had done it to wake him up to call the police he was calm. She asked him to call the police. The police arrived with few reporters, and things just went wild. The grandfather ended up shooting one of the policemen in the arm, thinking that he was a deserter. They found no evidence and left. The next morning at breakfast, the family did not think the grandfather would remember anything. But he sat down and asked what the cops were doing in the house last night.

GLOSSARY

B.P.No. 34

hullabaloo (v)	— lot of loud noise made by people who are excited.
patrolman (n)	— a patrolling police officer.
attic (n)	— a space or room inside or partly inside the roof of a building
slammed (v)	— shut a door or window forcefully and loudly.
gruffly (adv.)	— sadly
intuitively (adv.)	— without conscious reasoning, instinctively
whammed (v)	— struck something forcefully
bevelled (v)	— reduced to a sloping edge
rending (v)	— tearing to pieces
yanked (v)	— pulled with a jerk

zither (n)	– a musical instrument consisting of a flat wooden sound box with numerous strings stretched across it, placed horizontally and played with fingers
guinea pig (n)	– a domesticated tailless South American rodent originally raised for food
hysterical (adj.)	– affected by wildly uncontrolled emotion
creaking (v)	– making a squeaking sound when being moved
indignant (adj.)	– feeling or showing anger or annoyance at what is perceived as unfair treatment
holster (n)	– a holder made of leather for carrying handgun
rafter (n)	– a beam forming part of the internal framework of a roof
deserter (n)	– a person who leaves the armed force without permission.

ADDITIONAL

advent	– arrival	gruffly	– abruptly, angrily
caused	– affected	intuitively	– automatically
quick-cadenced	– noise of quick walk	frothing	– foaming
rapidly	– quickly	enormously	– extremely, very
faint	– feeble	hoarse	– rough
plate-rail	– a bar to stop the falling of the plates	whooping	– screaming
trod	– walked	emerged	– appeared.
burglar	– thief	intervene	– interfere
tiptoed	– crept (without making noise)	retreat	– withdrawal
hissed	– whispered	indignant	– angry
despondent	– hopeless	reluctant	– unwilling
beagle	– dog with short legs	distinctly	– clearly
ceased	– stopped	obviously	– clearly
alarm	– terror	phony	– deceiving
gripped	– grasped	poke	– dig,
instantly	– suddenly	wispy	– thin
aroused	– woke up	gazed	– stared
ventured	– volunteered	blaspheming	– cursing
		glared	– frowned

EXERCISE WITH ANSWER

10

Model : 1

Choose the appropriate synonym of the word underlined.

1. Its advent caused my mother to throw a shoe through a window.
a) informed b) affected c) asked d) compelled
2. I could see the faint shine of plates on the plate-rail.
a) feeble b) bright c) thick d) big
3. 'Past!' I hissed, in the dark, shaking him.
a) kissed b) said c) whispered d) shouted
4. He wanted to go back to bed, I gripped his arm.
a) removed b) advised c) asked d) grasped
5. Herman rushed to his room and slammed the door.
a) banged b) opened c) broke d) made
6. She picked up the shoe and whammed it through a pane of glass.
a) meant b) threw c) received d) bought
7. Bodwell was at the window in a minute, shouting frothing little.
a) easing b) talking c) running d) foaming
8. Police were all over the place; doors were yanked open.
a) jerked b) holed c) gunned d) slowly
9. He believed that General Meade's men were beginning to retreat and even desert.
a) tell b) show c) withdraw d) keep
10. The night had been distinctly a defeat for them.
a) only b) clearly c) merely d) immediately
11. I can see their viewpoint – phony.
a) clearly b) immediately c) slowly d) deceiving
12. He gazed at me a long time as if I were a slot machine.
a) stared b) shouted c) jumped d) hated

Answers

1. b	2. a	3. c	4. d	5. a	6. b	7. d	8. a	9. c	10. b	11. d	12. a
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EXERCISE for SELF EVALUATION

Choose the appropriate synonym of the word underlined.

1. Its advent caused my mother to throw a shoe through a window.
a) sight b) venture c) arrival d) talk Ans :
2. There were the steps of a man walking rapidly around the dining-table downstairs.
a) quickly b) slowly c) unnoticed d) stealthily Ans :
3. At regular intervals a board creaked, when it was trod upon.
a) seen b) kept c) left d) walked Ans :
4. After the walking had gone on for perhaps three minutes, I tiptoed to Herman's room.
a) suggested b) crept c) gave d) offered Ans :
5. 'Aw', he said, in the low, hopeless tone of a despondent beagle.
a) doubtful b) careful c) hopeless d) happy Ans :
6. The steps has ceased.
a) started b) broke c) created d) stopped Ans :
7. Herman looked at me in some alarm:
a) doubt b) terror c) happiness d) means Ans :
8. Instantly the steps began again, circled the dining-room table like a man running,
a) suddenly b) slowly c) happily d) sadly Ans :
9. The slamming of the door aroused mother:
a) irritated b) watered c) woke up d) kicked up Ans :
10. She peered out of her room.
a) slept b) laughed c) shouted d) looked Ans :
11. Herman ventured out of his room.
a) volunteered b) stayed c) looked d) jumped Ans :
12. 'Nothing,' he said, gruffly, but he was, in colour, a light green.
a) loudly b) softly c) angrily d) quickly Ans :
13. 'Burglars!' she shouted, intuitively.
a) sadly b) automatically c) slowly d) softly Ans :
14. The thrill of heaving a shoe through a window glass had enormously taken her fancy.
a) quickly b) slowly c) happily d) extremely Ans :
15. 'Open up!' cried a hoarse voice.
a) rough b) sweet c) slight d) loud Ans :
16. 'There were two or three of them,' mother said, 'whooping and carrying on slamming doors.'
a) laughing b) crying c) screaming d) jumping Ans :

10

The Night the Ghost Got In

17. A half-dozen policemen emerged out of the darkness of the front hallway upstairs.

- a) disappeared b) appeared c) slipped d) acted Ans:

18. Five or six cops sprang for the attic door before I could intervene or explain.

- a) convince b) wait c) tell d) interfere Ans:

19. The cops must have realized at once that the indignant white-haired old man belonged to the house,

- a) angry b) soft c) waiting d) shouting Ans:

20. The cops were reluctant to leave without getting their hand on somebody besides grandfather;

- a) willing b) unwilling c) ready d) happy Ans:

21. They obviously did not like the layout;

- a) quietly b) doubtfully c) clearly d) sadly Ans:

22. They began to poke into things again.

- a) dig b) throw c) receive d) keep Ans:

23. A reporter, a thin-faced, wispy man, came up to me.

- a) thick b) broad c) huge d) thin Ans:

24. The cops followed him, the one grandfather shot holding his now- bandaged arm, cursing and blaspheming.

- a) reading b) cursing c) shouting d) laughing Ans:

25. Over his third cup of coffee, he glared at Herman and me.

- a) frowned b) looked c) laughed d) mocked Ans:

26. I could hear a rending of wood and a flash of glass on the floor of the hall.

- a) carrying b) throwing c) tearing d) keeping Ans:

ANTONYMS

advent × departure

began × ended

remember × forget

rapidly × slowly

faint × bright

expected × unexpected

ceased × started

instantly × gradually

palely × brightly

demanded × requested

quieted × shouted

enormously × small

hoarse × soft

heavy × light

thick × thin

emerged × disappeared

retreat × advance

evidently × doubtfully

reluctant × willing

Prose

UNIT 2

40

EXERCISE WITH ANSWER

Choose the appropriate antonym of the word underlined.

1. Its advent caused my mother to throw a shoe through a window of the house next door.
a) arrival b) departure c) keeping d) hiding **Ans : b)**
2. I could see the faint shine of plates on the plate-rail.
a) bright b) gloomy c) quick d) slow **Ans : a)**
3. The steps had ceased.
a) stopped b) slipped c) started d) broken **Ans : c)**
4. I supposed at first that it was my father or my brother Roy, who had gone to Indianapolis but were expected home at any time.
a) inexpected b) accepted c) ready d) unexpected **Ans : d)**
5. But finally he quieted down and called the police for us over an extension phone by his bed.
a) shouted b) calmed c) left d) kept **Ans : a)**
6. Finally the cops put their shoulders to our big heavy front door with its thick bevelled glass and broke it in:
a) thick b) light c) huge d) attractive **Ans : b)**
7. Finally the cops put their shoulders to our big heavy front door with its thick bevelled glass and broke it in:
a) dirty b) clean c) thin d) slopped **Ans : c)**

Answers						
1. b	2. a	3. c	4. d	5. a	6. b	7. c

EXERCISE for SELF EVALUATION

Choose the appropriate antonym of the word underlined.

1. They began about a quarter past one o'clock in the morning,
a) ended b) started c) called d) shouted **Ans :**
2. Grandfather was in the attic, in the old walnut bed which, as you will remember, once fell on my father.
a) remind b) remain c) keep d) forget **Ans :**
3. They were the steps of a man walking rapidly around the dining-table downstairs.
a) quickly b) slowly c) promptly d) swiftly **Ans :**
4. Instantly the steps began again, circled the dining-room table like a man running,
a) immediately b) suddenly c) slowly d) calmly **Ans :**

10

The Night the Ghost Got In

Prose

UNIT 2

42

5. The light still shone palely down the stairs.

- a) brightly b) lightly c) heavily d) happily Ans :

6. 'What on earth re you boys doing?' she demanded.

- a) ordered b) fascinated c) interested d) requested Ans :

7. The thrill of heaving a shoe through a window glass had enormously taken her fancy.

- a) in a big way b) in a small way c) happily d) sadly Ans :

8. 'Open up!' cried a hoarse voice.

- a) rough b) thick c) soft d) quick Ans :

9. A half-dozen policemen emerged out of the darkness of the front hallway upstairs.

- a) appeared b) disappeared c) came d) keep Ans :

10. General Meade's men were beginning to retreat and even desert.

- a) advance b) withdraw c) march d) hide Ans :

11. Grandfather had evidently jumped to the conclusion that the police were deserters from Meade's army,

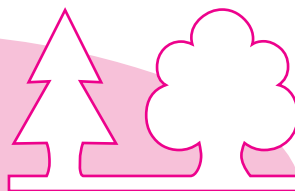
- a) clearly b) surely c) willingly d) doubtfully Ans :

12. The cops were reluctant to leave without getting their hand on somebody besides grandfather;

- a) unwilling b) willing c) sad d) natural Ans :

ADDITIONAL

Root Words	Synonyms	Antonyms
rapidly	hastily	slowly
expected	awaited	unexpected
ghost	devil	angel
desponent	miserable	cheerful
gripped	clutched	released
sprawling	stretching	contracting
ventured	adventure	idleness
quieten	calm	disturb
extension	expansion	reduction
banging	slam	-
hysterical	agitated	peaceful
desert	abandon	stay
cursed	imprecation	blessed
reluctant	unwilling	willing
frank	blunt	secretive



fresh	new	old
glared	stare	blink
demanded	appeal	deny

TEXTUAL QUESTIONS and ANSWERS

a. Where was the author when he heard the noise?

B.P.No. 30

The author was in the bath room when he heard the noise.

b. What did the narrator think the unusual sound was?

First he thought it was the noise created by his father and his brother who must have returned from Indianapolis. Then he thought it must be some burglar. Again he thought it must be a ghost

c. What were the various sounds the brothers heard when they went downstairs?

B.P.No. 31

They heard the sounds of someone walking.

d. Who were the narrator's neighbours?

Mr. and Mrs. Bodwell were the narrator's neighbours.

e. How did the Bodwells react, when a shoe was thrown into their house?

B.P.No. 32

Bodwell shouted angrily and said that he would sell the house and go back to Peoria.

f. What did the Bodwells think when they heard the mother shout?

When Bodwell heard the mother shout he thought that some burglars had entered his house.

g. What was the grandfather wearing?

B.P.No. 33

The grandfather was wearing a long flannel nightgown over long woolen pants, a nightcap, and a leather jacket around his chest.

h. What conclusions did grandfather jump to when he saw the cops?

When the grandfather saw the cops he concluded that they were deserters.

i. Were the policemen willing to leave the house?

B.P.No. 34

No, they were not willing to leave the house without getting their hand on somebody besides the grandfather, because the night had been a defeat for them.

j. What made the reporter gaze at the author?

As the author wore one of his mother's dress, which looked funny, the reporter gazed at the author. When the author said they had ghosts, the reporter gazed at him a long time.

A. Answer the following questions in a sentence or two.

B.P.No. 34

1. Why was the narrator sorry to have paid attention to the footsteps?

As he paid attention to the footsteps he made a big confusion in his family. His misjudgment even brought police to his house. So the narrator was sorry to have paid attention to the footsteps.

10

The Night the Ghost Got In

Prose

UNIT 2

44

2. Why did Herman and the author slam the doors?

Herman and the author did not see anyone and did not hear anything anymore, so they went back to their rooms and slammed the doors.

3. What woke up the mother?

Slamming of the door woke up the mother.

4. What do you understand by the mother's act of throwing the shoe?

The mother wanted to call the police for help but she could not use her phone as it was downstairs. She had to wake up her neighbour to call the police. She had no other way rather than throwing the shoe at their window glass to wake them up.

5. Why do you think Mrs. Bodwell wanted to sell the house?

Mrs. Bodwell thought that her neighbour had broken the window glass to trouble them. She did not want to tolerate such behaviour. So she wanted to sell the house.

6. How did the cops manage to enter the locked house?

The cops broke open the door and entered the house.

7. Why were the policemen prevented from entering grandfather's room?

The grandfather was sleeping in the attic. He was against the deserters. If he saw the cops he would think they were the deserters and he would act in a wild way.

8. Who used the zither and how?

Roy had won the zither in a pool tournament. It was used by the guinea pig to sleep.

9. Mention the things the grandfather imagined.

The grandfather imagined that the cops were the deserters from meade's army, trying to hide away in his attic.

ADDITIONAL

Answer the following questions in a sentence or two.

1. Where was the mother sleeping?

The mother was sleeping in a room upstairs.

2. Whom did the author inform about the footsteps first?

The author woke up his brother Herman and informed him about the footsteps first.

3. What was the reaction of the mother when he heard about the footsteps?

When the mother heard about the footsteps she said that there must be some burglars

4. Why couldn't the mother phone up to the police?

The mother could not phone up to the police because the phone was downstairs and they were afraid to come to that place.



5. How did the police come to the house?

The police came in a Ford sedan, two motorbikes and a patrol wagon with some reporters.

6. What did the grandfather did with a policemen?

The grandfather smacked alongside of the head of a policeman and he opened fire and hit another policeman's shoulder

7. What did the grandfather complain to the author and his brother the next day morning?

The grandfather complained that none of them bothered to leave a bottle of water beside his bed.

B. Answer the following questions in about 100-150 words.

B.P.No. 35

1. Describe the funny incident that caused the confusion in the house.

Prose	The Night the Ghost Got In
Author	James Grover Thurber
Theme	Dramatic fuss about mysterious sounds

In the confusion we stay with each other, happy to be together, speaking without uttering a single word.

'The Night the Ghost Got In', is a short story written by James Thurber. It is a fictionalized account of a night in his childhood. On the night of November, 17 1915, Thurber was taking a bath suddenly he heard some footsteps. It was around 1 in the morning. He thought that it must be his father and brother, Roy. They had gone to Indiana and were expected back at any time. When he put his head out the door, he did not see anyone. He wrapped a towel around his waist and walked out into the hallway. He heard footsteps again. He woke his brother, Herman, to help him find out what was going on. They did not see anyone and did not hear anything anymore, so they went back to their rooms and closed the doors. Their mother was awakened by the slamming of the doors and wanted to know what was going on. She believed there were burglars in the house. Somehow with the help of the neighbour she informed the police. The police arrived with a few reporters and things just went wild. The grandfather ended up shooting one of the policemen in the arm, thinking that he was a deserter. They found no evidence and left.

If you're not confused, you're not paying attention.

2. Narrate the extensive search operation made by the policemen in the house.

Prose	The Night the Ghost Got In
Author	James Grover Thurber
Theme	Dramatic fuss about mysterious sounds

Confusion is a word we have invented for an order which is not yet understood

'The Night the Ghost Got In', is a short story written by James Thurber. It is a fictionalized account of a night in his childhood. The author was in the bathroom and around 1 in the morning he heard some steps. He and his brother searched here and there but no one was seen. So they closed

their room doors with a bang. The sound of the bang woke up the mother. When she heard about the footsteps she thought there must be some burglars. Somehow with the help of the neighbour she called the police and they came in a short time. The police broke open the door and entered the house. They could not find anybody. They opened all the drawers and windows and searched everywhere. They pulled beds from the walls and they removed the clothes from the closets. They saw the zither which was used by guinea pig to sleep. The cops were reluctant to leave without getting their hand on somebody besides grandfather; the night had been distinctly a defeat for them. Finally they could not find anybody.

Confusion is the welcome mat at the door of creativity.

ADDITIONAL PARAGRAPHS

Answer the following questions in about 100-150 words.

1. Narrate the story 'The Night the Ghost Got In' in your own words.

Prose	The Night the Ghost Got In
Author	James Grover Thurber
Theme	Dramatic fuss about mysterious sounds

If you look confused it is because you are thinking.

'The Night the Ghost Got In', is a short story written by James Thurber. It is a fictionalized account of a night in his childhood. The author was taking a bath. He heard some footsteps. It was around 1 in the morning. He thought that it must be his father and brother, Roy. They had gone to Indiana and were expected back at any time. He wrapped a towel around his waist and walked out into the hallway. He heard footsteps again. He woke his brother, Herman, to help him find out what was going on. They did not see anyone and did not hear anything anymore, so they went back to their rooms and closed the doors. Their mother was awakened by the slamming of the doors and wanted to know what was going on. She believed there were burglars in the house. Somehow with the help of the neighbour she informed the police. The police arrived with a few reporters and things just went wild. The grandfather ended up shooting one of the policemen in the arm, thinking that he was a deserter. They found no evidence and left.

The more I think the more I get confused.

2. How did Grandfather behave the next morning?

Prose	The Night the Ghost Got In
Author	James Grover Thurber
Theme	Dramatic fuss about mysterious sounds

Grandfather was fresh as a daisy and full of jokes at breakfast next morning.

When the cops rushed to Grandfather's attic, the author realized that it would be bad if they entered Grandfather's room unannounced, or even announced. The reason was that he was going through a phase in which he believed that General Meade's men, because of the attack by Stonewall Jackson, were beginning to retreat and even desert. But they did not listen. They entered and Grandfather believed that the police were deserters from Meade's army, trying to hide away in his attic. When they did so, Grandfather took his zither gun and fired at them in which one police man was shot in the arm. Then he fired once or twice more in the darkness and went back to bed. The next morning Grandfather was fresh and was full of jokes at breakfast. They thought at first that he had forgotten all about what had happened. But he had not. Over his third cup of coffee, he stared at the narrator and Herman and asked them why the cops were wandering round the house the previous night. He complained that none of them remembered to keep a bottle of water beside his bed. He said that he felt very thirsty and so he was looking for water in the dining room the previous day night.

Tension and expectation are inseparable.

3. Describe the incidents that led to the rousing of the mother and the calling of the police.

Prose	The Night the Ghost Got In
Author	James Grover Thurber
Theme	Dramatic fuss about mysterious sounds

'Burglars!' She shouted intuitively.
I tried to quieten her by starting lightly downstairs.

The narrator hearing the foot steps of someone suspected that it was a burglar. He immediately roused his brother Herman saying there was something downstairs. After sometime they heard the footsteps. They got frightened and rushed inside rooms and slammed the doors. Their slamming of the doors aroused their mother. After enquiring them, she suspected a burglar in the house. She wanted to call the police. But the phone was downstairs and no one tried to go downstairs because they were frightened. She then made a quick decision of throwing a shoe through a pane of glass. The glass broke into the bed room of the Bodwells. She tried to convey to them that there was a burglar in the house. But Mr. Bodwell was furious with her, screaming and shaking his fist. He called the police, thinking that there was a burglar in his house. The police arrived in a commendably short time.

If you look confused it is because you are thinking.

VOCABULARY

B.P.No. 35

Slang Expression

Slang is a type of language consisting of words and phrases that are regarded as very informal and more common in speech than writing. They are typically restricted to a particular context or group of people.

- C. Look at the following expressions from the text. With the help of your teacher rewrite them in standard English. One has been done for you.

1. 'Musta got away –whatt'd he like?	Must got away-what was he like?
2. 'Looky here, Joe	Look in here, Joe.
3. 'No sign o' nothing' `	No sign of anything.
4. 'Back t' the lines ye goodaam'	Back to the lines you good man (godown)
5. 'What was the idée of all them cops tarryhootin' round the house last night?'	What was the idea of all of the cops tarry hooting round the house last night?

Singular and Plural Forms

In this lesson, we find plural forms such as furniture, houses, windows, burglars, boxes, shelves, policemen. You may notice that these words have taken up different suffixes to form plurals. This is because English words have different origins.

- D. Complete the given tabular column with the suitable plural forms.

Singular	Plural
chair	chairs
box	boxes
eskimo	eskimos
lady	ladies
radius	radii

Singular	Plural
formula	formulae
child	children
deer	deer
loaf	loaves
hero	heroes

LISTENING

B.P.No. 36

- E. Listen to the story and answer the following.

1. The rich man was from....

a) Nagaland

b) Thailand

c) Finland

Ans : b) Thailand

2. Where did Chulong catch the bird?

Chulong caught the bird from a bush in his garden.

3. Why did Chulong catch the bird?

Chulong caught the bird because it was a strange bird and he wanted to make money by selling it.

4. What will happen to the bird in imprisonment?

The bird will lose its beauty and sweet voice in imprisonment.

5. What did the bird suggest Chulong, in exchange for its freedom?

The bird suggested that it would give him three simple rules in exchange of its freedom.

6. Does Chulong want to earn money honestly?

No, Chulong does not want to earn money honestly.



7. What were Chulong's plans for the bird?

Chulong's plans for the bird were to catch it and sell it for good money.

8. Who is wise according to you?

The bird is wiser than Chulong

9. Was the bird a crow?

No, the bird was not a crow.

10. What are the three rules given by the bird?

- Never believe anything others say
- Never be sad for something which you do not have
- Never throw away what you have in hand.

SPEAKING

B.P.No. 36

F. Quiz: Who am I?

Sample questions to ask. Answers must be 'yes' or 'no' only.

- Are you a male (female)?
- Are you a famous personality?
- Are you a singer (dancer, actor)?
- Are you a historical figure?
- Are you young (old)?
- Are you alive now?
- Does your name start with '___' ?
- Is he/she ___ ?

G. Use this passage to play the game. You can collect information on other famous personalities and play too.

B.P.No. 36

Charlie Chaplin was born on April 16, 1889, in London England. His birth name was Charles Spencer Chaplin, though he had many nicknames growing up such as Charlie, Charlot, and The Little Tramp. His father, Charles Chaplin, and his mother, Hannah Chaplin, were inducted into the music hall of fame, leading the way to his exposure even as a young boy. His first onstage moment was when he was 5 years old; he sang a song that was intended to be sung by his own mother; she had become ill at the time of the performance, so little Charlie Chaplin stood instead and performed for his mother.

Charlie Chaplin came to the United States in 1910, at the age of 21. He was brought to New York, which was known to be a great place to start out for anyone trying to become a professional actor. Two years later, in 1913, Chaplin signed his very first contract at Keystone and it was no time before he headed to Hollywood. His first movie premiered in 1914, "Making a Living," and went on to make over 35 movies total in that year alone. Charlie Chaplin grew to become one of the most popular and successful actors of all time. The moment that really kicked off his long career was in 1921 when he starred in, and produced, his first full length film called "The Kid." From then on, most people all over the world knew Charlie Chaplin and loved his movies. He had a great career and life, dying on

10

The Night the Ghost Got In

Prose

UNIT 2

50

December 25, 1977, in Vevey, Switzerland. He had apparently died of natural causes in his sleep from old age.

Questions:

- Are you a male?
- Are you a foreigner?
- Are you from US?
- Are you from London?
- Are you an actor?
- Are you living?
- Are you a comedian?

READING

B.P.No. 38

H. Read the incident again and answer the following questions.**1. What was the writer always asked to do whenever he planned to go abroad?**

The writer was asked to bring something like a vaccine, ceramic paint and tie.

2. What did Gilson want the writer to bring for him?

Gilson wanted the writer to bring for him a tie with a letter G on it.

3. When did the writer remember the fact that he had to buy something for Mr. Gilson?

When the airport bus was waiting outside the hotel he remembered the fact that he had to buy something for Mr. Gilson.

4. Why were the other passengers in the flight gazing at the writer?

The passengers were gazing at the writer because he was late to the flight and the flight was waiting for him.

5. What is the humour element in the above incident?

He faced much trouble and spent a lot to get the tie but he left it in the taxi and got onto the plane.

I. Suggesting titles:

Title summarises the story. Each paragraph is a part of the story. Look at the following expressions and find out the paragraphs that best suit these expressions.

1. Oh, No! But it happens!

"Oh, so you're going abroad? Can you bring me back.....?" I've been asked to bring back a vaccine for a course. Once I searched the suburbs of Paris for two days for a special brand of ceramic paint. Having spent a lot of money for Cartier lighter refills, I had them confiscated at the airport just before boarding because the gas might be dangerous in the air.

2. Don't let out your travelling dates.

Now, two months before a trip, I stop talking to people so they won't suspect I'm about to travel. But someone always catches me." I've heard you're going to New York, and I want you to get something for me. It's just a little thing you can find anywhere. I don't know exactly how much it costs, but it shouldn't be much. We'll settle up when you get back".

3. Anyway, people will be people.

What Gilson asked me to buy was, in fact a little thing: a tie. But not just any tie. He wanted a tie with a small embroidered G. Any colour would do, as long as it had his initial. Look, this is a special flight, I explained. We are only staying Saturday through Tuesday. On the day we arrived I didn't have time to think about the tie, but strolling around on Sunday I did see one shop window. They were cheap, just a dollar, but all the shops were closed.

4. Search begins

It was only when I saw our airport bus waiting outside the hotel that I remembered the tie. I told the group to go on. I would get a taxi to the airport. And so I went in search of a nearby shop where I had seen ties. But I couldn't find it. I walked further down the street-one, two, three blocks - all in vain. Back at the hotel, a bit anxious now, I took my suitcase, got a taxi and asked the driver to rush to the street where I had seen them. The driver stopped at each shop we passed so I could look from the window. The stores had all sorts of ties, but not the kind I was looking for. When I finally thought I had located the right shop, I decided to go in and check. The driver refused to wait. Parking was prohibited, he said. I promised to double the fare, jumped out and ran into the shop. Was I going to miss the plane just for a damned tie? The salesman was unbearably slow. When I realized that the smallest change I had was a ten dollar note, I grabbed ten ties of different colours so I wouldn't have to wait for change. I rushed out with the ties in a paper bag.

5. Things are not that easy.

On the street I looked around. The taxi had vanished, taking my suitcase. What is more, I was going to miss the plane. I ran to the corner, and hope flared up again: the taxi was waiting in the next street. Quick to the airport! As I settled down inside the taxi. I sighed with relief. Gilson was going to have enough initialized ties to last him a lifetime.

6. Hurry invites worry.

When I reached the airport, I paid the taxi driver the double fare and grabbed my suitcase. Panting, I boarded the plane under the reproachful gaze of the other passengers, all primly seated with their seat belts fastened. Ready to take off. Departure had been delayed because of me. "At least I hope you found your tie", said one who knew the story. "I did", I answered triumphantly. After making myself comfortable, I reached for the paper bag to show the ties. I had left it behind; in the taxi.

J. Look at the following situations the writer was in. He could have avoided the situation and saved himself. Glance through the write up again and comment on what the writer should have done in the following situations.

- **Gilson asked the writer to bring a tie.**
He should be firm to say no
- **On the day of arrival, the writer had no time to think about the tie.**
He should have tried to spend some time to search for the tie.
- **The writer remembered about the tie when the bus was leaving for the airport.**
He should not have gone in search of the tie. He should have taken the bus to the airport.

- **The writer walked down in search of the shop.**
He should not have gone in search of the tie at that time.
- **The writer rushed out with the tie in a paper bag.**
He should not have gone to the shop to buy a tie.

K. State whether the following statements are true or false.

- | | |
|---|--------------------|
| 1. The narrator searched for three days to buy ceramic paint. | Ans : False |
| 2. The author was going to New York. | Ans : True |
| 3. Gilson asked the narrator to buy a tie. | Ans : True |
| 4. The taxi driver took away the narrator's suitcase. | Ans : False |
| 5. Departure was delayed because of the author. | Ans : True |
| 6. The author left the ties in the taxi. | Ans : True |

WRITING

B.P.No. 39

M. Write a speech for your school Literary Association Celebration with the given lead.

B.P.No. 40

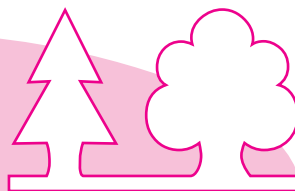
1. Opening	
2. Purpose	
3. Audience	
4. Language – Some Good Describing Words (Adverbs and Adjectives), Emotive Words, Imagery etc.	
5. Ending	

Distinguished Chief Guest, respected Principal, beloved Supervisor, Teachers, Parents and my dear friends! Good evening!

On this auspicious occasion I stand before you with extreme pleasure on behalf of English Literary Association of our School. First of all, let me express my deep gratitude to you all for selecting me President of ELA.

E L A has been a prestigious Association in our school since its inception. It has been working rigorously during the past few years focusing on the improvement of reading, writing, speaking and listening skills of the students. Our vision is to make our school a full-fledged English medium school where each student speaks and communicates through English. We know that it is a Herculean task still we aspire and labour for it. A Chinese proverb says "if you are planning for a year sow corns; if you are planning for a decade plant trees and if you are planning for a life time, educate people." Language is the medium through which educational process fulfills its aims. So it is highly essential that students should be able to handle language confidently. The E L A has been conducting many varied activities and competitions to improve the language skills of the students. "Practice makes a man perfect". We do believe in the proverb and constantly endeavour to achieve our aim.

To conclude, let me once again express my heartfelt gratitude to the management, teachers, and students who all honoured me by giving this great responsibility. I will try my level best to fulfill the visions and missions of E L A. Once again thank you one and all.



GRAMMAR

B.P.No. 40

- A. Nagarajan and Dhanalakshmi want to buy a new house. They have come to see a house for sale. Complete the conversation below by adding a, an or the.**

B.P.No. 42

- Nagarajan : Well, here we are, No.8, Kaveri Street. I think this is the house we saw online. What do you think of the location?
- Dhanalakshmi : It is in a nice neighbourhood. And it's close to the railway station.
- Nagarajan : And the bus stop is not too far away.
- Dhanalakshmi : How many rooms are there?
- Nagarajan : There are three rooms, a kitchen and a balcony.
- Dhanalakshmi : There is a lawn behind the house, right?
- Nagarajan : That's right. The lawn is actually quite large. Did you see any photos of the living room, online? What does it look like?
- Dhanalakshmi : The living room looks great. It looks bright and airy. It has a nice view of the hills. But the kitchen looks a little small.
- Nagarajan : And, I remember you said there isn't a store room, right?
- Dhanalakshmi : No, but there is an attic, where we can store things.
- Nagarajan : I hope this house is a better option.
- Dhanalakshmi : Let's wait for the real estate agent. She said, she would be here at three o'clock.
- Nagarajan : Look there she is!

- B. Few articles are missing in the given passage. Edit the passage given below by adding suitable articles wherever necessary.**

My neighbourhood is a very interesting place. My house is located in an apartment building downtown near many stores and offices. There is a small supermarket across street, where my family likes to go shopping. There is also a post office and a bank near our home. In our neighbourhood there is a small, Green Park where my friends and I like to play on weekends and holidays. There is a small pond near the park and there are many ducks in the park. We always have a great time. In addition there is an elementary school close to our home where my little brother studies in the third grade. There are so many things to see and do in my neighbourhood that's why I like it. It's really a great place.

Prepositional Phrases

These prepositions are formed by two-word or a three-word combination such as **according to, along with, at the time of, because of, owing to, instead of etc.** These kinds of prepositions are used frequently in our day to day life.

10

The Night the Ghost Got In

Prose

UNIT 2

53

Examples

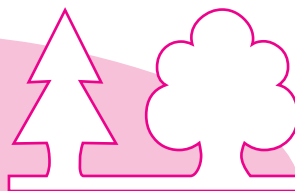
Preposition	Meaning	Example
according to	as stated by, on the authority of	According to the weatherman, we can expect more cold weather this week.
along with	together with	We have to give importance to Physical Education along with all the academic subjects.
because of	on account of	We stayed at home because of the bad weather.
owing to	because of	I can't accept your invitation owing to a previous engagement.
instead of	in place of, substituting for	I wish I were going to the party instead of my brother.
in the event of	in case of	The match will be stopped in the event of heavy rain.

- C. Refer to the dictionary to find out the meaning of the following prepositions and match them with the correct meaning.

Preposition	Meaning	Answer
due to	as a substitute for	because of
except for	in the interest of	with the exception of
with reference to	irrespective of	referring to
in spite of	added to	irrespective of
in addition to	because of	added to
in place of	referring to	as a substitute for
regardless of	with the exception of	disregarding the difficulty
for the sake of	disregarding the difficulty	in the interest of

- D. Fill in the blanks by choosing the most appropriate prepositional phrase from the given options.

- Everything falls to the ground _____ earth's gravitational pull.
a. in addition to b. because of c. cause of **Ans: (b)**
- The trial was conducted _____ the procedure of law.
a. in accordance with b. due to c. despite of **Ans: (a)**
- There is a temple right _____ my house.
a. in back of b. apart from c. in front of **Ans: (c)**
- As a _____ of his hard work, he achieved the target.
a. instead of b. result of c. apart from **Ans: (b)**
- Failure is often the _____ negligence.
a. effect of b. consequence of c. reason of **Ans: (b)**
- Children are given toys _____ sweets on Children's Day.
a. on top of b. in addition to c. due to **Ans: (b)**
- The parents must be informed _____ any indiscipline conduct of their wards.
a. because of b. in case of c. in spite of **Ans: (b)**



8. He didn't turn up _____ his busy schedule.

- a. consequence of b. due to c. except for

Ans: (b)

9. Global warming is _____ the green house emission.

- a. an effect of b. in spite of c. in addition to

Ans: (a)

10. _____ several warnings, he continued to swim.

- a. due to b. in spite of c. because of

Ans: (b)

E. Edit the following passage by replacing the underlined incorrect words with correct prepositional phrases.

Janu is studying in class X. In the event of the teachers she is a disciplined student. In addition to her poverty, she is always neat. Many students like her in case of her simplicity. According to her studies, she also participates in sports. She gets on with everyone in case of age and gender in the school. In opposition to taking leave, she ensures that she completes the work given before she goes to school next day.

According to

in spite of

due to

In addition to

regardless of

In case of



POEM

The Grumble Family

*- Lucy Maud Montgomery***SUMMARY**

'The Grumble Family' has been written by Lucy Maud Montgomery. The poet gives a vivid picture of neighbourhood scenes. She says that there is a family which nobody wants to meet. They live on 'Complaining' street in a city called 'Never-Are-satisfied'. The river of 'Discontent' runs beside it. They always complain about everything. They will never be satisfied and they are always discontented.

They find fault with everything. They grumble at everything whether they live a high or low life. The weather is always too hot or cold for them. They scold summer and winter in the same way. Nothing will go well with these people.

If they are pleased with something they will growl saying that they have nothing to grumble about. The funniest thing is that no member of the family will be ready to acknowledge the family. If someone stays with them for long he will also get their way of life. He will also start grumbling about everything. So it is better for us not to go near such a family.

Let us learn to live with a smile even if something goes wrong. We should never be the part of the grumble family whether our life is high or low.

GLOSSARY

B.P.No. 47

discontent (adj.)	- dissatisfaction with one's circumstances
amiss (adj.)	- not quite right
growl (v)	- make a low guttural sound in the throat
grumble (n)	- a complaint about something in a bad-tempered way
gloomy (adj.)	- depressing or frightening
queerest (adj.)	- the strangest or the most unusual
acknowledge (v)	- accept or admit the existence or truth of
terrible (adj.)	- extremely bad or serious
wandering (v)	- walking or moving in a leisurely or aimless way

Poetry Appreciation Questions.

B.P.No. 47

A. Read the following lines from the poem and answer the questions given below.

1. *There's a family nobody likes to meet;
They live, it is said, on Complaining Street.*
 - a. **Where does the family live?**
The family lives on Complaining Street.
 - b. **Why do you think the street is named as 'Complaining Street'?**
The street is named as Complaining Street because the people who live there always complain about everything.
2. *They growl at that and they growl at this;
Whatever comes, there is something amiss;*
 - a. **What does the word 'growl' mean here?**
'Growl' means bark or snarl. Here it means they find fault with everything.
 - b. **Why do they find everything amiss?**
They find fault with everything so everything seems to be amiss to them.
3. *Nothing goes right with the folks you meet
Down on that gloomy Complaining Street.*
 - a. **What is the opinion about the folks you meet down the street?**
Nothing goes well with the people who live on the complaining street.
 - b. **What does the word 'gloomy' mean here?**
'Gloomy' means darkness. Here it means unhappy
4. *The worst thing is that if anyone stays
Among them too long, he will learn their ways;*
 - a. **What is the worst thing that can happen if anyone stays with them?**
If anyone stays with them he will get the habit of complaining about everything.
 - b. **What are the ways of the Grumble family?**
The grumble family never gets satisfied. They always grumble about everything.
5. *And so it were wisest to keep our feet
From wandering into Complaining Street;*
 - a. **What is the wisest thing that the poet suggests?**
The wisest thing that the poet suggests is not to go near the complaining street.
 - b. **What does the phrase 'to keep our feet from wandering' refer to?**
'To keep our feet from wandering' means 'to keep off our feet from wandering near the complaining street'.

10

The Grumble Family

Poem

UNIT 2

57

10

The Grumble Family

Poem

UNIT 2

58

6. *Let us learn to walk with a smile and a song,
No matter if things do sometimes go wrong;*

a. **What does the poet expect everyone to learn?**

The poet expects everyone to lead a happy life with a smile.

b. **What should we do when things go wrong sometimes?**

We should smile and lead a happy life even if things go wrong sometimes.

ADDITIONAL

A. **Read the following lines from the poem and answer the questions given below.**

1. *In the city of Never-Are-Satisfied,
The River of Discontent beside.*

a. **Why is the city called 'Never-Are-Satisfied'?**

The poet talks about the people who are never satisfied in their life. So the city they live in is called so.

b. **Which river is talked about? Why?**

River of Discontent is talked about. Even the river which gives life-giving water is also discontented like the people around.

2. *And whether their station be high or humble,
They are all known by the name of Grumble.*

a. **What is mentioned in the above lines?**

Whatever is their life whether it is high or low they grumble at everything.

b. **When do we grumble normally?**

We grumble normally when we are discontented.

3. *The weather is always too hot or cold;
Summer and winter alike they scold.*

a. **How do they feel about the weather?**

They always feel either too hot or too cold.

b. **What do they scold?**

They scold the summer and winter alike.

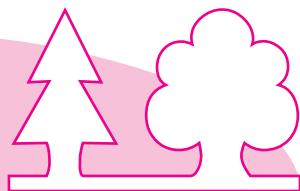
4. *But the queerest thing is that not one of the same
Can be brought to acknowledge his family name;*

a. **What is the queerest thing?**

The queerest thing is that no member of the family will be ready to acknowledge the family.

b. **Pick out the rhyming words from these lines.**

same – name



Literary Devices

1. Complaining Street, Never-Are-satisfied, River - **Personification**
2. **Alliteration**
growl, grumble let, learn
long, learn smile, song
3. **Rhyming Scheme :** aabb
Rhyming Words : this, amiss cold, scold
 humble, gumble meet, sheet

B. Answer the following question in about 80-120 words.

B.P.No. 48

1. Write a paragraph on 'The Grumble Family and their attitude towards other folks.'

Poem	The Grumble Family
Poet	L.M. Montgomery
Theme	Discontentment begets despair

*In the city of Never-Are-satisfied
The River of Discontentment beside*

L.M. Montgomery (1874 – 1942) was a Canadian author best known for a series of novels beginning in 1908 with Anne Green Gables. A prolific writer, She published over 100 stories between 1897 and 1907.

'The Grumble Family' has been written by Lucy Maud Montgomery. The poet gives a vivid picture of neighbourhood scenes. She says that there is a family which nobody wants to meet. They live on 'Complaining' street in a city called 'Never-Are-satisfied'. The river of 'Discontent' runs beside it. They always complain about everything. They will never be satisfied and they are always discontented. They find fault with everything. They grumble at everything whether they live a high or low life. The weather is always too hot or cold for them. They scold summer and winter in the same way. Nothing will go well with these people. If they are pleased with something they will growl saying that they have nothing to grumble about. The funniest thing is that no member of the family will be ready to acknowledge the family. If someone stays with them for long he will also get their way of life. He will also start grumbling about everything.

*The weather is always too hot or cold
Summer and winter alike they scold*

2. If you were to live in the Complaining Street, how would you deal with the people who grumble?

Poem	The Grumble Family
Poet	L.M. Montgomery
Theme	Discontentment begets despair

10

The Grumble Family

Poem

UNIT 2

60

If I were to live in the complaining street I may find it difficult to deal with such people. I am with a lot of positive ideas. Only those who have negative ideas will complain about people and situations. It is very clear that such people will never have a feeling of satisfaction. So I will be careful not to get involved in their way of life. If they come forward to grumble over something I will not accept it immediately. I will try to convince them that it is better to accept things as they come to us with a smile. We should avoid taking everything negatively. I will slowly tell them that life has ups and downs and we should be able to balance them carefully.

Attitude shows over altitude.

3. From the poem 'The Grumble Family' what kind of behaviour does the poet want the readers to possess?

Poem	The Grumble Family
Poet	L.M. Montgomery
Theme	Discontentment begets despair

*They growl at the rain and they growl at the sun;
In fact, their growling is never done.*

L.M. Montgomery (1874 – 1942) was a Canadian author best known for a series of novels beginning in 1908 with Anne Green Gables. A prolific writer, She published over 100 stories between 1897 and 1907.

'The Grumble Family' has been written by Lucy Maud Montgomery. She says that there is a family which nobody wants to meet. They live on 'Complaining' street in a city called 'Never-Are-satisfied'. The river of 'Discontent' runs beside it. They always complain about everything. They will never be satisfied and they are always discontented. The poet does not want the readers to follow this kind of life. She wants them to lead a life with contentment. The poet accepts that even in the grumble family the members do not want to attach themselves with the family. Let us learn to live with a smile even if something goes wrong. We should never be the part of the grumble family whether our life is high or low.

*Let us learn to walk with a smile and a song,
No matter if things do sometimes go wrong:*

ADDITIONAL PARAGRAPH

1. What does the poet L.M. Montgomery say in the poem 'The Grumble Family'?

Poem	The Grumble Family
Poet	L.M. Montgomery
Theme	Discontentment begets despair

*They growl at the rain and they growl at the sun;
In fact, their growling is never done.*

'The Grumble Family' has been written by Lucy Maud Montgomery. She says that there is a family which nobody wants to meet. They live on 'Complaining' street in a city called 'Never-Are-satisfied'. The river of 'Discontent' runs beside it. They always complain about everything. They will never be satisfied and they are always discontented. They grumble at everything whether they live a high or low life. The weather is always too hot or cold for them. They scold summer and winter in the same way. If they are pleased with something they will growl saying that they have nothing to grumble about. If someone stays with them for long he will also get their way of life. Let us learn to live with a smile even if something goes wrong. We should never be the part of the grumble family whether our life is high or low.

*Let us learn to walk with a smile and a song,
No matter if things do sometimes go wrong:*

Literary Devices

Anaphora

An anaphora is a technique where several phrases (or verses in a poem) begin with the same word or words.

e.g. They growl at the rain and they growl at the sun.

Epithet

An epithet is an adjective or phrase expressing a quality or attribute regarded as characteristic of the person or the thing mentioned.

e.g. grumble family

C. Answer the following.

B.P.No. 48

1. *And whether their station be high or humble,...*

Pick out the alliteration from the above line.

high – humble.

2. **Pick out the other examples for alliteration from the poem.**

They growl at that and they growl at this;

they – that

But the queerest thing is that not one of the same

thing – that

Let us learn to walk with a smile and a song,

smile, song

3. *The weather is always too hot or cold;
Summer and winter alike they scold.
Nothing goes right with the folks you meet
Down on that gloomy Complaining Street.*

Pick out the rhyming words and identify the rhyme scheme of the above lines.

Rhyming words: cold – sold; meet – street

The rhyme scheme of the above lines : aabb.



UNIT
2
SUPPLEMENTARY

10

Zigzag

- Asha Nehemiah

SUMMARY

The short story 'Zigzag' was written by Asha Nehemiah. It is about a pet which makes commotion at home. Dr. Ashok T. Krishnan was a child specialist. His clinic was always with the noise of children. One day he informed his wife that his friend Somu was going to Alaska and his pet bird Zigzag would be left with them for a few days. His daughter Maya and his son Arvind were interested to keep the bird. Dr. Krishnan explained to them that Zigzag was a lovely bird which was given to Somu by an African witch doctor. Mrs. Krishnan was not much convinced and she said that it would give a lot of problems to them. Somu had given them an insect eating plant, a pen knife and a boomerang. Mrs. Krishnan was not happy with any of the gifts given by Somu.

Dr. Krishnan assured that Zigzag would be different and they would love to have it. It could talk and sing in about twenty one different languages. Mrs. Krishnan was preparing paintings for an exhibition next week. Within a short time Zigzag was brought in by Visu the old cook. It was a strange bird with different coloured feathers. It was a foot and a half tall, its head had a crown of pink feathers and the rest of its plumage had different shades. Its curved beak was sunflower yellow. Visu talked high about Zigzag. He also reiterated that the bird could talk well.

Arvind started a conversation with the bird but the bird did not say a single word. When some nuts and fruits were brought for it, the bird picked some of them and flew to chandelier and fan. It kept the nuts and fruits on them. Then it perched on a curtain rod and slept. Not only that, it began to snore. The snoring was so loud that it affected everyone. They tried to wake him up but they failed to do so. So they went to their bed room and shut them up there. When Lakshmi came she put on the fan. All the nuts and pieces of fruits fell down. Some of them fell on the master piece of Mrs. Krishna, sunset at Marina. The painting had orange pulp; and shiny black seeds all over it. By the time some of the neighbours came in to complain about the snoring of Zigzag.

Mrs. Krishnan phoned to Dr. Krishnan and he came home immediately. He sent an email message to Somu asking him how to stop Zigzag from snoring. They waited for six days to get the answer. Mrs. Krishnan had lost interest in painting. Seventh day Somu's email answer came. He said that Zigzag would hardly ever sleep. If they could not manage it, they could give it to Visu. Mrs. Krishnan wanted to send the Zigzag immediately but it would be difficult to trace Visu. She had asked some experts to come home to select her paintings for the exhibition. She did not want Zigzag to be there by the time. So Dr. Krishnan took it to his clinic in his car and made it sit in his car.

Zigzag found its way to the clinic and started controlling the patients. It asked the people to sit in their places. Dr. Krishnan was surprised. The bird also looked happy. It was trained to do this job by

the witch doctor and Dr. Somu. His clinic was in perfect order. Dr. Krishnan was enjoying the presence of Zigzag. By the time, Mrs. Krishnan phoned to inform Dr. Krishnan that her sunset at Marina was bought by the art critic for Rs. 5000. The critic liked the touch of the orange colour. She was laughing happily. They decided to keep the Zigzag with them.

GLOSSARY

B.P.No. 56

aboriginal (adj.)	- native, local
sarcasm (n)	- use of irony to mock or convey contempt
fringed (v)	- bordered
plumage (n)	- a bird's feather collectively
sludgiest (adj.)	- wet mud
grumpiness (adj.)	- bad tempered
squirt (n)	- spray
coyote (n)	- a wolf like wild dog native to North America
streaks (n)	- line, strap
tantrum (n)	- outburst, flare-up
crinkly (adj.)	- wrinkly

A. Identify the speaker / character.

- | | |
|--|---------------------------|
| 1. 'Even though I clearly said no!' | Ans: Dr. Krishnan |
| 2. 'The one that spits deadly poison straight into its opponent's eyes.' | Ans: Maya |
| 3. 'Remember the tiny penknife he gave me last year'. | Ans: Arvind |
| 4. 'It's Somu's thoughtless ways that reduce me to tears' | Ans: Mrs. Krishnan |
| 5. 'Come in, Zigzag, come in dear!' | Ans: Visu |

B. Read the story again and write how these characters reacted in these situations:

- You're both quite mistaken.
Dr. Krishnan said that Zigzag was a harmless bird and it was a treasure of Somu.
Mrs. Krishnan felt very unhappy to keep Zigzag with them.
- It's Somu's thoughtless ways that reduce me to tears.
Mrs. Krishnan was very unhappy to have Zigzag with them.
Dr. Krishnan wanted to maintain Zigzag because he was asked by another doctor Dr. Somu
- Just wait till zigzag settles down in this new home.
Visu said that Zigzag could speak well. Arvind started a conversation with Zigzag but it did not open its mouth. Visu wanted to pacify the children.
Aravind and Maya were dejected that Zigzag did not speak a word.

10

Zigzag

4. Zigzag hardly ever sleeps.

Somu in his email message said that Zigzag did not sleep well. He was in Alaska so he asked Dr. Krishnan to give Zigzag to Visu.

Dr. Krishnan could not find Visu so he took it to his clinic.

5. You are an absolute treasure.....

Dr. Krishnan was happy to keep Zigzag in his clinic.

Zigzag was happy to receive the toffee from Dr. Krishnan.

C. Complete the given tabular column.

Arrival of zigzag	Somu requested Dr. Krishnan to take care of his pet.	Mrs. Krishnan was not <u>happy to keep the bird with them.</u>	She was worried about <u>her paintings.</u>
Life of Zigzag at Dr. Krishnan's residence	Zigzag perched on the curtain rod and <u>slept and snored.</u>	When their maid switched on the fan <u>the nuts and the pieces of fruits fell all over the floor.</u>	Mrs. Krishnan was annoyed and called Mr. Krishnan to <u>send Zigzag immediately to Visu</u>
The email about Zigzag	Dr. Krishnan	Somu's reply surprised the Krishnans.	The reply was <u>Zigzag would hardly sleep. They could send the bird to Visu.</u>
Zigzag at the clinic	When Zigzag entered the clinic he <u>started controlling the patients.</u>	Gone was Zigzag's bored and grumpy expression. The bird looked happy and alert.	After the family knew that zigzag must be kept busy they <u>wanted to keep it with them.</u>

D. Answer the following question in one or two sentences:

B.P.No. 57

1. **Why did Dr. Ashok's cousin call him?**

His cousin wanted to go to Alaska. He wanted Dr. Ashok to take care of his pet bird Zigzag.

2. **Mention at least two expressions which show that Mrs. Krishnan was not willing to have Zigzag at home.**

Mrs. Krishnan said that whatever was given by Somu were nuisances. She gave a sarcastic comment when Arvind praised the boomerang given by Somu

3. **What other various pets did Somu have?**

Somu had an green and gold fighting beetle and insect eating plant.

4. **What was Mrs. Krishnan busy with?**

Mrs. Krishnan was busy with her paintings for an exhibition

5. What commotion did the boomerang cause in the neighbourhood?

The boomerang sliced many TV aerials and damaged many cars.

6. What happened when Somu left Zigzag with the Krishnans?

Zigzag started sleeping and snoring when Zigzag was with the Krishnans.

7. How did Zigzag communicate with the Krishnans?

Zigzag communicated with the Krishnans with the movement of eyes.

8. What was the e-mail message sent to Somu by Dr. Krishnan?

Dr. Krishnan sent the email message to Somu asking him for clear instruction on how to stop Zigzag from snoring.

9. What did Arvind confess?

Arvind confessed that for the first time in his life he was actually looking forward to going to school to avoid the snoring of Zigzag.

10. Why did Mrs. Jhunhunwalla buy the painting?

Mrs. Jhunhunwalla was the art critic and she liked the orange stroke in the painting, sunset at Marina.

E. Answer the following questions in about 100-150 words:**1. Write a passage in your own words on various commotions caused by Zigzag at Dr. Krishnan's residence.**

about a pet – Zigzag – Visu the cook – strange bird – talk well – Arvind's conversation – failed – nuts and fruits kept on chandelier and fan – perched on curtain rod – snored – nuts and fruit pieces fell down – spoilt sunset at Marina – orange pulp and black seeds – complaints from neighbours

Title	Zigzag
Author	Asha Nehemiah
Theme	Comic Commotions of a pet

The short story 'Zigzag' was written by Asha Nehemiah. It is about a pet which made commotion at home. Zigzag was brought in by Visu the old cook. It was a strange bird with different coloured feathers. Visu talked high about Zigzag. He also reiterated that the bird could talk well. Arvind started a conversation with the bird but the bird did not say a single word. When some nuts and fruits were brought for it, the bird picked some of them and flew to chandelier and fan. It kept the nuts and fruits on them. Then it perched on a curtain rod and slept. Not only that, it began to snore. The snoring was so loud that it affected everyone. They tried to wake him up but they failed to do so. So they went to their bed room and shut them up there. When Lakshmi, the house maid came she put on the fan. All the nuts and pieces fell down. Some of them fell on the master piece of Mrs. Krishna, sunset at Marina. The painting had orange pulp and shiny black seeds all over it. By the time some of the neighbours came in to complain about that snoring of Zigzag.

2. What happened when Zigzag was taken to the clinic.

about pet – Zigzag – Visu the cook – strange bird – could talk well – Arvind conversation failed – nuts and fruits kept on chandelier and fan – nuts and fruit pieces fell down – spoilt sunrise at Marina – Dr. Krishnan took to clinic – controlled the patients – talked well – phone from Mrs. Krishnan – sunrise at Marina sold for Rs. 5000 – orange colour and black seed

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3. Narrate the story of Zigzag in your own words.

about pet – Zigzag – Visu the cook – strange bird – could talk well – Arvind conversation failed – nuts and fruits kept on chandelier and fan – nuts and fruit pieces fell down – spoilt sunrise at Marina – Dr. Krishnan took to clinic – controlled the patients – talked well – phone from Mrs. Krishnan – sunrise at Marina sold for Rs. 5000 – orange colour and black seed

Title	Zigzag
Author	Asha Nehemiah
Theme	Comic Commotions of a pet

The short story 'Zigzag' was written by Asha Nehemiah. It is about a pet which made commotion at home. Dr. Ashok T. Krishnan was a child specialist. One day his friend Somu asked him to keep his pet Zigzag for some days. Zigzag was brought in by Visu the old cook. It was a strange bird with different coloured feathers. He also reiterated that the bird could talk well. Arvind started a conversation with the bird but the bird did not say a single word. When some nuts and fruits were brought for it, the bird picked some of them and kept them on the chandelier and fan. Then it perched on a curtain rod and slept and snored. The snoring was so loud that it affected everyone. When Lakshmi, the house maid put on the fan. All the nuts and pieces fell down. Some of them fell on the master piece of Mrs. Krishna, sunset at Marina. The painting had orange pulp and shiny black seeds all over it. She could not tolerate it anymore. Dr. Krishnan had to come home. He could not convince his wife. So he took the bird to his clinic. He kept it in his car but Zigzag found its way to the clinic and started controlling the patients. Dr. Krishnan was surprised. The bird also looked happy. It was trained to do this job by the witch doctor and Dr. Somu. His clinic was in perfect order. By the time,

Mrs. Krishnan phoned to inform Dr. Krishnan that her sunset at Marina was bought by the art critic for Rs. 5000. The critic liked the touch of the orange colour. She was laughing happily. They decided to keep the Zigzag with them.

ADDITIONAL PARAGRAPH

1. Describe the bird Zigzag.

about pet – Zigzag – Dr. Krishnan a child specialist – Somu his friend – left Zigzag – a lovely bird – given by African witch doctor -Visu the cook – strange bird – different colour – could talk well – foot and a half tall – crown of pink curved beak sunflower yellow

Title	Zigzag
Author	Asha Nehemiah
Theme	Comic Commotions of a pet

The short story 'Zigzag' was written by Asha Nehemiah. It is about a pet which made commotion at home. Dr. Ashok T. Krishnan was a child specialist. His clinic was always with the noise of children. One day he informed his wife that his friend Somu was going to Alaska and his pet bird Zigzag would be left with them for a few days. His daughter Maya and his son Arvind were interested to keep the bird. Dr. Krishnan explained to them that Zigzag was a lovely bird which was given to Somu by an African witch doctor. Within a short time Zigzag was brought in by Visu the old cook. It was a strange bird with different coloured feathers. It was a foot and a half tall, its head had a crown of pink feathers and the rest of its plumage had different shades. Its curved beak was sunflower yellow. Visu talked high about Zigzag. He also reiterated that the bird could talk well in more than twenty languages.

ADDITIONAL EXERCISES

I. Rearrange the following sentences in coherent order.

- I.
 1. Zigzag was a special bird.
 2. Dr. Krishnan was a child specialist.
 3. Zigzag had colourful feathers.
 4. Somu decided to keep his pet bird Zigzag with Dr. Krishnan.
 5. It could speak well.

Answer: 2, 4, 1, 3, 5

- II.
 1. Zigzag kept the nuts and fruits on chandelier and fan.
 2. Arvind started a conversation but the bird did not speak.
 3. Visu, the cook brought Zigzag.
 4. They gave nuts and fruits to Zigzag.
 5. Maya and Arvind were happy to receive the bird.

Answer: 3, 5, 2, 4, 1

10

Zigzag

Supplementary

UNIT 2

68

- III**
1. The painting fetched Rs. 5000 because of the touch up given by the mistake of Zigzag.
 2. Dr. Krishnan's family did not like it.
 3. Mrs. Krishnan was happy with the act of Zigzag.
 4. Because of Zigzag the painting of Mrs. Krishnan was spoilt.
 5. Zigzag was brought to Dr. Krishnan's house.

Answer: 5, 2, 4, 1, 3

II. Identify the character.

- | | |
|---|-----------------|
| 1. 'Don't worry, children.' | – Visu |
| 2. 'I thought it was scientific fact that birds couldn't snore.' | – Maya |
| 3. 'May I take Zigzag to school, Papa?' | – Arvind |
| 4. 'Great hit indeed!' | – Mrs. Krishnan |
| 5. 'African witch doctor's birds don't obey scientific rules.' | – Aravind |
| 6. 'It's all because my patients were making much noise and crying.' | – Dr. Krishnan |
| 7. 'Isn't that Uncle Somu's prized giant green-and-gold fighting beetle?' | – Maya |
| 8. 'The beetle is called Spitefire.' | – Aravind |
| 9. 'She's bought it for herself, for Rs. 5000!' | – Mrs. Krishnan |

III. Comprehension.**Read the following passage and answer the questions given below.**

1. They froze in horror. Lakshmi had apparently switched on the fan on which Zigzag had left some fruit and nuts. Half-pecked fruit streamed off the fan, dampening even Lakshmi's enthusiasm as a guava landed on her cheek with a soft squish and one walnut hit her forehead with a loud smack. One slice of over-ripe papaya came whizzing off the fan and, as they watched it helplessly, it oh horrors splattered all over Mrs. Krishnan's unfinished masterpiece, sunset at Marina, spreading streaks of gooey orange pulp and shiny black seeds all over it. Mrs Krishnan groaned tragically and looked ready to shoot Zigzag, but he was saved by the bell.

Questions :

1. Who switched on the fan?
2. What landed on Lakshmi's cheek?
3. What is Mrs. Krishnan's unfinished masterpiece?
4. What splattered on the unfinished masterpiece?
5. Who saved zigzag?

Answers :

1. Lakshmi switched on the fan.
2. A guava landed on her cheek.
3. Sunset at Marina is the unfinished masterpiece.
4. One slice of over-ripe papaya splattered on the unfinished masterpiece.
5. The bell saved Zigzag.

IV. Passage for Comprehension.

1. Six days passed. Six frantic days of checking their e-mail day and night. Six torturous days of having the deafeningly loud KNGRRDRRWHEEZE resound in their home, most nerve wrackingly. Maya

complained that she heard a permanent rumbling sound in her ears even when she was miles away from home and that her ears ached all the time. Aravind confessed that, for the first time in his life, he was actually looking forward to going to school considering it was as calm as a monastery compared to their house. Mrs. Krishnan had lost interest in painting. Zigzag would sometimes wake up briefly when he wanted to eat some fruit.

Questions :

1. How many days did they check the e-mail?
2. What did Maya complain?
3. What did Aravind confess?
4. What had Mrs. Krishnan lost?
5. Why did Zigzag wake up?

Answers :

1. They checked the e-mail for six days.
2. Maya complained that she heard a permanent rumbling sound in her ears even when she was miles away from home and that her ears ached all the time.
3. Aravind confessed that, for the first time in his life, he was actually looking forward to going to school considering it was as calm as a monastery compared to their house.
4. Mrs. Krishnan had lost interest in painting.
5. Zigzag woke up when he wanted to eat some fruit.

2. Never had a morning passed so quietly and peacefully for Dr. Krishnan. When the last patient had left, he called Zigzag to his room. Zigzag flew in and sat on the table. Scratching the bird under its beak, Dr. Krishnan sighed and said, 'Somu was right, after all. You are an absolute treasure. I never realized what he meant when he called you a great help. Why didn't you tell me you'd prefer to be at my clinic instead of snoring like that to show you were bored? What do we do now? No one wants you back at home now; they want me to leave you with Visu.'

Questions :

1. What did Dr. Krishnan do after the last patient had left?
2. How did Zigzag go to Dr. Krishnan?
3. What did Dr. Krishnan realize?
4. What did Dr. Krishnan say to Zigzag?
5. Who was an absolute treasure?

Answers :

1. Dr. Krishnan called Zigzag to his room.
2. Zigzag flew in and sat on the table
3. Dr. Krishnan realized that Zigzag was a great help.
4. Dr. Krishnan said that Zigzag was an absolute treasure.
5. Zigzag was an absolute treasure.

