

# English Weaves Grade 8 Answer Key



# Chapter 1 A Real Actor's Part: An Unsung Hero

#### Warm Up

Encourage students to participate in the activity. Play the audio/video and ask them to observe how the dialogue is delivered by the actors.

#### **Read and Answer**

1.

Nishikanto Ghosh - neighbour who brought news of the

shooting

Naresh Dutt – the youngest brother-in-law Chanchal Kumar – the actor doing the hero's part

Baren Mullick – director of the film Gogon Pakrashi – Patol Babu's teacher

Patol Babu – the man who wanted to be a famous

actor

Sosanko – the man in charge of casting

- 2. a) Nishikanto Ghosh recommended Patol Babu for the movie's part because he thought that he was perfectly suited for the role and matched the description his brother-in-law gave: fiftyish, short, bald-headed.
- b) Patol Babu wanted to know his dialogue because he wanted to learn his lines beforehand. He felt it would be foolish if he muffed in the presence of so many people.
- c) Initially, Patol Babu was taken aback when he heard that he only had to say "Oh". But then he remembered the words of advice given by his mentor Gogon Pakrashi that as an artist, one should always make the most of the opportunity and squeeze the last drop of meaning out of the lines. This helped Patol Babu perform his role well.
- d) i) Action
- ii) Cut!
- e) Chanchal Kumar thought that Patol Babu had done his job really well.
- f) Naresh Dutt thought Patol Babu was a strange fellow because Patol Babu left the place without taking his money.

#### Think and Answer

1.

What Patol Babu did	What it tells us about him
Patol Babu mixed up his wife's orders. And he quite forgot about the brinjals.	He was very excited and happy about being offered the role in the movie.
He took ginger juice that night.	He took ginger for a clear throat. He wanted his voice to be fine for a perfect dialogue delivery. It shows that he believed in being meticulous.



He was punctual in reporting for the shoot.	This shows Patol Babu took his work very seriously and did not like to keep others waiting for him.
Patol Babu wanted to learn his lines well in advance.	Patol Babu was a perfectionist and believed in doing his best.
Though disappointed, he practised "Oh" to perfection.	He was an optimist and a perfectionist.
He made a suggestion that was accepted.	He knew his work well and thought well before
He did his part very well.	He was a good actor.
He needed the money badly but left without waiting for payment.	Patol Babu He felt that some amount of money was nothing, when measured against the intense satisfaction of a small job done with perfection and dedication. This shows he was very passionate about acting.

- 2. Sosanko said that Patol Babu had a 'regular speaking part' because he got a chance to speak a monosyllable in a Baren Mullick film while there were hundreds of people waiting in line to stand in a corner in one of his films. He further said that most people only appeared as extras and did not get to speak a single word in his films. But I don't agree that this could qualify as a speaking part because the dialogue was almost negligible.
- 3. Though Patol Babu had a very small role, he thought of ways that he could best execute it in. He practised giving the exclamation in different ways. He finally settled on saying "Oh!" with a mix of 60 parts of irritation and 40 parts of surprise. He also planned his move well and asked for a newspaper so the collision would look very real. The true actor could indeed make a mark with just one syllable.
- 4. Patol Babu was a practical man who came to terms with whatever life has to offer. He never gave up hope when all odds were against him in his career and valued the advices given to him by his mentor. Even though he had a small role to play, he remembered and followed the advice of his mentor and played the role to perfection.
- 5. Personal satisfaction is more important than financial rewards. Satyajit Ray has beautifully portrayed that a job well done is far more satisfying than the monetary gain we receive for the job through the character of Patol Babu. The main character Patol Babu realized that personal satisfaction could not be measured and weighed by money, and so he
  - acted in the film out of passion and left without taking his money.
- 6. a) i. The small role Patol Babu was offered in a film was the first step on the ladder for him. By this he meant his first step to success. He told his wife that this role



would mark his rise to fame and fortune.

- ii. This shows that Patol Babu was excited and confident about this new step in his life.
- iii. The contextual meaning of 'fame and fortune' means the luck and success the acting would bring to Patol Babu.
- b) i) Patol Babu repeated the word 'Oh' over and over again to bring different meanings of the word.
- ii) After repeating the dialogue again and again he realized that a single word 'Oh' could be spoken with different inflections and each of them conveyed a different meaning.
- iii) 'Inflection' refers to the way that the sound of your voice goes up and down when you speak.

#### **Word Work**

1.

Idioms and phrases		Meanings
by the way	_	incidentally, not of much importance
break the news	_	make something known
count the chickens before they are hatched	_	thinking of gains before work is done
pull one's leg	_	make fun of
make the most of something	_	get the maximum out of
make a mark	_	become famous by doing something impressive
cut someone short	_	stop someone while speaking
pass out	_	faint
see stars before the eyes	_	feel very confused

- 2. a) made a mark
  - b) make the most of it
  - c) broke the news, By the way
  - d) saw stars before the eyes, passed out
  - e) cut him short

#### **Listen Live**

- a) F
- b) T
- c) F
- d) F
- e) F
- f) T
- g) T

## **Go Grammar**

1. a)

**Imperative** 

Declarative

Interrogative

Declarative

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# **Imperative**

- b) Interrogativ
- e Declarative

Declarative

**Exclamatory** 

Interrogative

Declarative

Interrogative

Exclamatory

- 2. a) She is happy now.
  - b) It was foolish of him to throw away his chances like that.
  - c) How clever of him to solve the problem so quickly!
  - d) Shut the door.
  - e) How kind of you to invite us!
  - f) Wasn't it smart of the girl to note down the number of the robber's vehicle and alert the policeman?
  - g) How clever of her to solve the riddle so quickly!
  - h) She has finished her homework.
- 3. a) You have spent enough time fixing this old tape recorder.
  - b) There is no use of asking him to help us.
  - c) Mother told you to carry enough woollen clothes.
  - d) No one wants to die young.
  - e) You can buy me a packet of chips for twenty rupees.
  - f) We have had enough troubles.

### Write it

Answers may vary. Accept all reasonable answers.

Here is a sample,

# Little Flower School, Kochi

20 September 2023

#### NOTICE

# **Drama Society Auditions**

Attention Students,

The Drama Society is excited to announce auditions for our upcoming play, "Mother" by Victor Hugo. We invite all talented and enthusiastic students to participate in the auditions for various roles in the play. This is an excellent opportunity to showcase your acting skills and be a part of an unforgettable theatrical experience.

Roles Available:



- 1. Jean Valjean
- 2. Cosette
- 3. Inspector Javert
- 4. Fantine
- 5. Marius Pontmercy
- 6. Eponine
- 7. Enjolras
- 8. Supporting Characters (multiple roles)

# About the Play:

"Mother" is a timeless classic by Victor Hugo that delves into themes of love, sacrifice, redemption, and social injustice. Set against the backdrop of 19th-century France, the play follows the intertwining lives of various characters as they navigate through life's trials and tribulations.

Audition Details:
Date: [Insert Date]
Time: [Insert Time]
Place: [Insert Venue]

All interested students must prepare a short monologue of their choice (1-2 minutes) and be ready for a cold reading from the script. Please sign up for auditions outside the Drama Club room and ensure you arrive at least 15 minutes before your designated audition time.

We look forward to seeing your talent and passion for acting at the auditions!

Best Regards,
[Your Name]
(Student In-Charge, Drama Society)

We look forward to seeing your talent and passion for acting at the auditions!



# Chapter 2 A Trip to Mysore

#### Warm Up

Answers will vary. Here are some pointers: for pleasure, to learn about a new place, to understand its culture, meet new people, for work, to find out about history and architecture

#### **Read and Answer**

- 1. a) The writer felt that Mysore and Bangalore were similar because both the cities were slow-paced and had lots of trees and vegetation.
  - b) The writer visited Mysore during Dussehra, and we get to know this as she visited a 'Dussehra Exhibit' and called it a crowded outdoor merchant fair.
  - c) The Mysore Maharaja's palace was similar to the Sistine Chapel, Alhambra, and Hermitage because like the Alhambra, the Sistine Chapel, and the Hermitage as the rooms here too were incredibly lavish, detailed, and rich. There were silver and carved rosewood doors, stained glass ceiling, mirrors positioned to show infinite reflections, marble floors, a hallway of Moorish style archway doors, a painted copper ceiling, art and decorations depicting Dasara Parade scenes, inlaid ivory woodwork, a golden howdah in which the Maharaja would sit (atop an elephant), and a gold throne. The palace contained, among its many rooms, a marriage pavilion, a wrestling courtyard, a public durbar hall, and a private durbar hall.
  - d) Yes, the writer enjoyed the food served during the visit. This is known by the way she described her meals. She ordered sweet, fresh pineapple juice, a pot of coffee, toast and jam for breakfast. Fresh pineapple juice at room temperature was sweet and light, with none of the acidic flavour of the canned one and it was entirely delicious. She also talks of the meals which typically comprised rice or fresh chappatis with cut fruit and spiced vegetable dishes with a variety of flavours. It also included freshly made curd. Infact, she ate three meals a day and felt great.
  - e) The word 'extricated' means to get someone out of a place in a difficult or an unpleasant situation. The writer uses this word because when they drove to the Brindavan Gardens, they were stopped by a literal sea of humanity in their tracks. First, they had to stop-and-go traffic for a couple of miles while getting to its huge parking lot. Then their driver struggled through the parking lot to a point where they couldn't proceed any further by vehicle. They walked half a mile to the entrance area where there were long queues to purchase tickets. The driver had somehow managed to get the car from their stopping point and repositioned it towards the exit road of the garden.
  - f) When the writer turned on the shower, a palm-sized black spider quietly skittered out from behind the shower stool. It climbed halfway up the wall to watch her. Yes, she was convinced by Basil who told them about the intricacies of termite and wasp societies. The writer even asked Basil about the black furry shower spider to which Basil replied that it was just a common house spider.

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- 2. a) i) The expression 'braved the crowds' means dealt with a large number of people gathered closely together.
  - ii) The writer was at Maharaja's Palace.
  - iii) An audio tour provides a <u>recorded</u> spoken commentary to a <u>visitor attraction</u> such as a <u>museum</u>. They are also available for <u>self-guided tours</u> of outdoor locations, or as a part of an organised tour. It provides background, context, and information on the things being viewed.
  - b) i) The writer shopped at a small shopping square near the beautiful temple and monasteries.
  - ii) The store sold Tibetan handcrafts like bronze Buddhas, meditation bowls and bells, and clothing.
  - iii) The statement tells us that the writer was very fond of artistic and cultural handcrafts and he loved buying these.
  - c) i) The writer uses the expression 'literal sea of humanity' to depict the large number of people present in that area.
  - ii) The writer enjoyed her visit to the Brindavan Gardens by driving through an increasingly beautiful sunset. However, they were stopped by a large crowd of people which was an unpleasant situation.
  - d) i) The writer had gone for a jungle walk and had joined a few other tourists who had ventured across the river to wash an elephant in the warm muddy water.
  - ii) The writer said this when he was enjoying splashing and rubbing his elephant, when he turned around and saw three other elephants.
  - iii) 'Crowd' here refers to the number of elephants around the river.
  - e) i) The writer calls the downpour well-timed because it usually gets very hot in Mysore in the afternoon, but the rain brought the temperature down.
  - ii) Though the rain made the temperature comfortable, it made the ground slippery and made it difficult for her to walk.
  - iii) The writer described coffee, peppers, mangoes, papayas, coconuts, areca/betel palms, turmeric, chilies, cardamom, citrus, oranges, and toddy palms as expensive crops as these things are rare and sold at high prices in the land she came from.

3

J.			
Name of the	What the writer saw	What the writer	What the writer learnt
place	there	did there	
palace grounds	The beautiful palace	The writer	She learnt that the ritual of
	grounds were full of	visited the	praying to God there was
	people in a festive	temple.	familiar, although the
	mood. The writer also	She then visited	surrounding was very
	saw an on-site temple.	a 'Dussehra	different from a Christian
		Exhibit which	church.
		was a crowded	



	T		1
		outdoor	
		merchant	
Palace	The write saw Mysore paintings in the palace. The palace contained, among its many rooms, a marriage	She took an audio tour	She saw that like the Alhambra, the Sistine Chapel, or the Hermitage, the rooms were incredibly lavish, detailed, and rich. There were silver and
	pavilion, a wrestling courtyard, a public durbar hall, and a private durbar hall		carved rosewood doors, stained glass ceiling, mirrors positioned to show infinite reflections, marble floors, a hallway of Moorish style archway doors, a painted copper ceiling, art and decorations depicting Dasara Parade scenes, inlaid ivory woodwork, a golden howdah in which the Maharaja would sit and most amazing- a gold throne.
Ranganathittu	She saw hundreds of Nigerian ibis, cormorants, herons, bats, and several crocodiles and monkeys.	The writer took a peaceful boat ride—a man rowed them around a calm lake full of little wooded islands.	She learnt about the animals and birds in the sanctuary and also found out how paddy and coconut was grown.
Dubare elephant camp	She saw two groups of wild elephants: a single male, and two females with a baby. She also sighted wild bison, spotted deer, and birds	She had lunch at Dubare and went for safari.	She learnt about a rescue centre home for 'tame' elephants that are no longer needed for work.
jungle nature walk	She enjoyed walking through the teak and rosewood jungle,	She went for a walk there. She rubbed a teak	She learnt about the intricacies of termite and wasp societies. She also



	which was fairly open. She saw no snakes but lots of spiders which reminded me to ask about that gargantuan black furry shower spider.	leaf into her hands, which turned them red.	learnt about the medicinal properties of many native plants. She also learnt how teakwood keeps its oil.
visit to the reservoir	She went for a spectacular sunset walk. She saw how still waters reflected the Western Ghats. Distant lightning and thunderclouds followed her back.	She took a jeep ride to a reservoir for a sunset walk. She watched in awe as the sky deepened from golden pink to dark crimson.	She learnt about the beauty of nature.

#### Think and Answer

- 1. Jean Hasser was a retired town planner from Napa Valley, California, and a travel enthusiast. She was in India during the autumn of 2010 for her daughter's wedding reception. Way back in the 1960s, she had stayed in Bangalore. A visit to Mysore was something she definitely wanted to do. This shows that the writer was a foreigner visiting India.
- 2. The writer liked everything she saw. Some instances stating this are:
  - a. She loved the beautiful palace grounds which were full of people in a festive mood.
  - b. She went to the Maharaja's Palace and felt it was spectacular.
  - c. She went to the lovely Ranganathittu bird sanctuary where we saw hundreds of Nigerian ibis, cormorants, herons, bats, and several crocodiles and monkeys.
  - d. She loved all the meals and called them delicious.
  - e. She enjoyed the beautiful drive to Dubare Elephant Camp Jungle Lodge on the banks of River Cauvery.
  - f. She enjoyed walking through the teak and rosewood jungle.
  - g. She loved the jeep ride to a reservoir for a spectacular sunset walk.
  - h. She liked it so much that she felt it was a visit that she would remember forever.
- 3. Answers will vary. Here are some pointers. Tourist guides offer a lot of information, but they do not share personal experiences. The tone of these guides is informational, but the tone of this passage is conversational and full of personal experiences.

#### **Word Work**

1.



Α	В	Compound Word	Grammatical function
Up	grade	upgrade	verb
Out	door	outdoor	adjective
Door	knob	doorknob	noun
Real	estate	real estate	noun
Coffee	mug	coffee mug	noun
mother	land	motherland	noun
Book	store	bookstore	noun
Well	being	well-being	noun
Night	train	night train	noun
Waist	coat	waistcoat	noun

- 2. a) I can't come for the play. I have to **babysit** my sister.
- b) Follow-up activities have been scheduled for June and July.
- c) The river sparkled in the **moonlight**.
- d) Look at the fireflies!
- e) The queue at the **ticket counter** snaked all the way to the end of the street and round the corner.
- f) Did you see that **smartly dressed** woman sitting in that corner?

# **Listen Live**

1.

Day 1	Day 2
Visit the Chamundeshwari Temple located atop the Chamundi hills	Go to the Mysore Zoo
Visit the Railway Museum	Visit the Lalitha Mahal Palace
Visit the Brindavan Gardens	Visit Regional Museum of Natural History
Visit the Mysore Palace in the evening and don't miss the light and sound show	End with a visit to Karanji Lake

- 2. a) ii) weekend
  - b) ii) Mysore Palace
  - c) iii) Mysore Zoo
  - d) i) two



## **Go Grammar**

- 1. a) The weather is quite warm in Puducherry. Mid-position adverb
  - b) He probably won't be late. Mid-position adverb
  - c) Rajan drives carelessly. End-position adverb
  - d) There is hardly any money left in the coffers. Mid-position adverb
  - e) She carried the earthen pot carefully. End-position adverb
  - f) We travel abroad twice a year. End-position adverb
  - g) They are leaving soon. End-position adverb
  - h) The children came back from school in the afternoon. Mid-position adverb
  - i) Next, add the cream to the pasta. Initial-position adverb
  - j) They have moved in next doors. End-position adverb
  - k) We stayed indoors this Sunday. Mid-position adverb

2.

numbe	general	specifi	size	ag	shap	colou	origi	material	purpos	noun
r	opinion	С		е	е	r	n		е	
		opinio								
		n								
			smal					grass		patch
			1			bright	wild			poinsettia
	deliciou							vegetaria		S
	S							n		meal

3.

	number	general	specific	size	age	shape	colour	origin	material	purpose	noun
		opinion	opinion								
а		beautiful					blue	Delft			plate
b		valuable							wooden		artefact
С				light					titanium		frame
d				small			green		leather		suitcase
е		silly			young			American			teenager
f			flaky						whole-		parathas
									wheat		
g		nimble						Arabian			horses
h		bitter						Turkish	orange		marmalade

4. Answers will vary. Here are sample answers:

Numerous budget hotels
Delectable and mouth-watering street food

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Age-old Buddhist culture
Pristine and turquoise beaches
Impressive and renowned temples
cheap and different modes of travel

## Write It

- 1. a) curated
  - b) scenic
  - c) well versed in the local culture
  - d) impressive
  - e) an enthralling
  - f) strong

#### 2. Poster 1:

- a) Waste management, recycling and being a part of solution, not pollution
- b) Pollution control department
- c) Saturday, 25 July; 2 hours
- d) Mindmill Office Noida
- e) Waste management, recycling and being a part of solution, not pollution
- f) Nature champ volunteers
- g) Sign up @ www.mindmill.ngo/nature-champs
- h) Website registration

# Poster 2:

- a) Archaeology
- b) Harrop Heritage
- c) September–October 2020; 8 days (every Saturday for two months)
- d) PRCE Campus, Palampur
- e) Colours on Stone: India's rock art; Early farmers; First cities: Harappan Civilization; Pottery magic; Fun with fossils... and more
- f) School and college groups
- g) Dr Satish Kumar, Director, PRCE
- h) Email and phone
- 3. Answers will vary. Accept all reasonable answers. Here is a sample,

# [School Logo/Emblem]

# **Heritage Walk Through the Mysore Palace**

**Date**: [Insert Date] **Time**: [Insert Time] **Meeting Point**: [Insert Meeting Point]

Join Us for an Enchanting Journey!



# Discover the Rich History and Culture of Mysore Palace

- Explore the opulent architecture of the Indo-Saracenic style, blending Hindu, Muslim, Rajput, and Gothic styles.
- Admire the intricate craftsmanship of the palace's ceilings, doors, and pillars, showcasing exquisite woodwork and artwork.
- Learn about the royal heritage of the Wadiyars, who ruled Mysore for over 500 years, and their contributions to art and culture.

# **Highlights of the Heritage Walk**

- Visit the Durbar Hall, adorned with a stunning ceiling painting depicting scenes from Hindu mythology.
- Marvel at the intricate ivory carvings and stained glass windows in the Kalyana Mantapa (Marriage Pavilion).
- Explore the Private Durbar Hall, where the royal family conducted private ceremonies and meetings.

# **Fun Facts About Mysore Palace**

- The palace is illuminated with thousands of lights during the annual Dussehra festival, creating a mesmerizing sight.
- It is one of the most visited tourist attractions in India, attracting millions of visitors every year.
- The palace houses a remarkable collection of royal artifacts, including weapons, paintings, and jewelry.

# Important Information

- Wear comfortable footwear and clothing suitable for walking.
- Carry water and sunscreen for your comfort during the walk.
- Don't forget your camera to capture the breathtaking views and memories!

# **Limited Spots Available - Register Now!**

Contact: [Insert Contact Information]

Come experience the grandeur and history of Mysore Palace on this unforgettable heritage walk!

![Image of Mysore Palace] (Insert Image of Mysore Palace)

Organized by the History Club

# [School Name]

**Empowering Minds, Celebrating Heritage** 



# **Chapter 3 Shed in Space**

# Let's Enjoy

- a) i) The grandson is the speaker. He was speaking to his granddad.
- ii) A-OK meant all okay.
- iii) They were in the garden shed.
- b) i) He is the grandfather.
- ii) He is trying to know if they were ready for lift-off.
- iii) The mission control is in the garden shed.
- iv) The poet loved to play this game with his granddad and so joined his space mission.

#### **Think and Answer**

- 1. The two ambitions of Granddad Lewis were to win the first prize for shallots at the village show, and to be a space commander. He was a dreamer. He was also a down to earth person who shared a wonderful relationship with his grandson.
- 2. Granddad would settle in a deck chair, focus on something distant in the sky and create an atmosphere of the spaceship. For the launch, he would check with his second commander (poet) and then start the countdown for the launch. He would also talk to mission control.
- 3. a) i) The words have been used for the sky and space.
- ii) Nobody could see the look in his eyes as he saw something in his imagination, all alone.
- b) i) Space ships rise and not the sheds.
- ii) The tone is funny to create a humorous effect. The idea of a space shed rising into space is funny.
- iii) It was a game which he enjoyed. That is the reason he participated with his grandfather on every Tuesday.
- 4. The grandson enjoyed the game of the imaginary spaceflight, so he joined him every Tuesday.
- 5. Granddad Lewis was a winner in the eyes of his grandson because he was able to create an image of a space shed, which the grandson carried with him even after he grew up.
- 6. a) This was a game shared by Granddad and the poet, a secret from others.
- b) In the make-believe game, they were in a space shed, which was being launched into space. So, Granddad was coordinating with the earth station.
- c) They were so lost in their game that they would not remember about the world at all.
- d) It is a grandson's way of giving the highest accolade to his granddad. He means that Granddad made the game of make-believe space shed almost believable for him. No one could have done it better.

#### **Poem Appreciation**

Answers will vary encourage students to think of adjectives on their own that can go with these words.

- 1. a) shallots small
- b) space vast
- c) orbit circular
- d) lawn mower heavy
  - © Proficiency Learning Solutions Private Limited 2020



2. 'Are we A-OK for lift off?'
Gripping the handles of the lawn mower I'd reply:
'A-OK.'

- 3. Sentences will vary. Encourage students to think creatively and write their own responses.
- a) race against time: a situation in which someone must do or finish something very quickly because they only have a limited amount of time to do it

With only two days before the election, they find themselves in a race against time.

b) a stitch in time saves nine: used for saying that it is better to solve a problem now, rather than leave it until later when it may be more difficult to deal with

The saying 'a stitch in time saves nine' is never more true than with a boat's paintwork: one must be immediately ready to touch up the chips that occur in order to prevent a bigger job later.

c) from time to time: sometimes, but not often *I still think of going to Paris from time to time*.

d) it's about time: used for saying that someone should do something soon

*Isn't it about time we got a new car?* 

e) do time: to be in prison

Robbers should do time for their act.



# Chapter 4 Princess September

# Warm Up

Answers will vary. Encourage students to explain the reason behind their answers well.

## **Read and Answer**

- a) The king named the princesses after the months of the year because he had many daughters, and the queen said that it confused her to have to remember so many names.
- b) Princess September was sad because her dear parrot had died.
- c) The queen asked the guards to take the dead parrot away and assured her daughter that they would get a new parrot for the princess the next day. When the princess refused to go anywhere, the queen got angry and said that she could go to bed without supper.
- d) Unlike her sisters' parrots, Princess September's bird can talk and sing many songs.
- e) The king likes Princess September's bird more than her sisters' parrot because it sings a song in praise of his kingdom.

### Think and Answer

- 1. The bird asked the princess to not tell anyone because it did not want others to keep it as a captive in cage because it was a special bird. The bird knew that Princess September had a kind heart.
- 2. Princess September's sisters wanted to buy a new parrot for her because they were jealous of her bird. They did not want her to have anything better than what they themselves had. It shows that they were selfish and full of jealousy.
- 3. Princess September was a compassionate person and we get to know it especially in scene 5 of the play when she became extremely upset to see that her bird was sad. She set it free without even thinking that she herself would not have a companion. She even refuses to keep another parrot as a pet when her sisters offer her once again.
- 4. The sisters felt jealous of the bird and tried to find ways to say that their parrots were equally good, if not better. The queen was indifferent to the bird and felt that it was only noisy. The king, on the other hand, was pleased with the bird and thought that it was very special.
- 5. a) i) Princess September said these lines to her mother, the queen.
  - ii) She was said because her parrot had died.
  - iii) She was asked to get ready for the party.
  - iv) She wasn't excused. In fact, she was told that if she didn't get ready, she would have to skip supper.
  - b) i) The gueen speaks these lines. You is Princess September.
  - ii) The queen wanted to punish Princess September for not being aloof and sad and not participating in the talks with the family.
  - iii) The queen did not like when the Princess did not obey her instructions and so whenever this happened, she punished her.



- c) i) Princess September was the speaker of these words. She said these to the little bird.
- ii) Princess September had put the bird (the listener) in the cage at the behest of her sisters. When this happened, the bird became very sad and stopped singing.
- iii) Here, the princess meant that she would not ever put the bird in the cage. However, freedom means not just physical independence but also independence to think and act on your own.

#### **Word Work**

- 1. a) carefree
  - b) enthusiastic
  - c) unhappy
  - d) impressed
  - e) grateful
  - f) frightened
  - g) upset
  - h) bored
  - i) surprised
  - j) embarrassed
- 2. a) boring, bored
  - b) excited, exciting
  - c) frustrated, frustrating
  - d) amazed, amazing
  - e) shocked
  - f) shocking

#### **Listen Live**

- a) Robin
- b) Monsoon months
- c) The robin thanked summer for bright days.
- d) He said that if he kept singing through winter, it would pass, and spring would come.
- e) The poem celebrates different seasons.

#### **Go Grammar**

- 1. a) any
  - b) some
  - c) any
  - d) any, some
  - e) some
  - f) some
  - g) any
  - h) any
  - i) any
  - j) any



- 2. a) anything
  - b) anybody
  - c) somebody, anybody
  - d) something, anybody
  - e) Anybody
  - f) anybody
  - g) somewhere
  - h) anywhere
  - i) somewhere
  - j) anywhere
- 3. Any, any day, Anything, Anywhere, Anything, Any time, Anything, Anyone

#### Write It

Encourage students to think creatively and formulate their own answers. Follow the sample.

Somebody: Alex, a curious and adventurous boy

Wanted: Alex wanted to explore the woods and discover hidden treasures.

But: While exploring, Alex gets lost in the dense woods and couldn't find his way back home. So: He stumbles upon a talking-snake named Seraph, who offers to guide him out of the woods. At first, Alex is wary and distrustful of Seraph due to the snake's reputation in folklore as deceitful creatures.

Somebody: Seraph, the talking-snake

Wanted: Seraph wanted to prove to Alex that not all snakes are deceitful and dangerous. But: Alex's distrust and fear of snakes made it difficult for Seraph to gain his trust and help him. So: Seraph decides to show kindness and sincerity by assisting Alex in finding food, shelter, and guiding him through the perilous parts of the woods. Through their journey, Alex learns that appearances can be deceiving and that one should not judge based on stereotypes.

Somebody: Alex's family and friends who are worried about his disappearance

Wanted: They wanted Alex to return home safely.

But: Without knowing where Alex is, they couldn't help him or find him.

So: With Seraph's guidance and Alex's newfound trust in the talking-snake, they eventually reach the edge of the woods. Alex reunites with his family and friends, grateful for Seraph's help and wisdom.

Moral Message: The story teaches us not to judge others based on stereotypes or appearances. Sometimes, help and kindness can come from unexpected sources, and it's essential to keep an open mind and be willing to trust others based on their actions and intentions.



# Chapter 5 Looking Back at Life

# Warm Up

- a) The Diary of a Young Girl Anne Frank
- b) Wings of Fire A P J Abdul Kalam
- d) Boy: Tales of Childhood Roald Dahl

#### **Read and Answer**

- 1. a) His *barsati* opened on to the flat concrete of the building. There was no other construction on the roof, and a flight of stone steps ran up to it on the outside of the building, so it was quite private.
- b) One had to take a flight of twenty-two stone steps on the outside of the building to reach his door.
- c) He had no fan so he kept the doors and windows open day and night to let in whatever breeze might be coming down from the hills.
- d) A precarious abode is a home that is not securely held in place and seems likely to fall or collapse at any moment.
- e) She was the cleaning lady who came from one of the slums to sweep the rooms of the tenants.
- f) Late one night, Mr Bond was woken from deep sleep by a hideous howling right next to his bed. Switching on the light, he found a jackal right beside him, baying at the moon or the stars or some lost love on the rooftops. He got scared and decided to keep the front door closed at night after that.
- 2. In this story, Ruskin Bond describes the 'everyday theatre of the world' around him, as seen from his barsati. Complete the table with the scenes of this theatre.

Place and time	Description of an activity therein
The banyan tree	Squirrels were busy in the tree all afternoon, sparrows, crows, and other birds in the morning and evening, and flying foxes at night.
The broad path	Here he saw a 'boxwallah,' with a tin trunk on his head, selling everything from bread and biscuits from the bakeries to hair oil, safety pins and elastic for pyjamas; an ayah with a baby in a pram; the rent-collector, with the teeth and nostrils of a horse; the postman on his brand new Atlas bicycle; the fruits-seller calling his wares in high pitched, rather eccentric cries; a line of schoolgirls with red ribbons in their pigtails.
The street when it rained	At the first rumblings, women would rush outside to bring in the washing—and if there was a strong breeze, to chase a few



	garments across the compound. When the rain came, it came with a vengeance, making a muddy river of the path. A cyclist would come riding furiously down the path; an elderly gentleman would be having difficulty with a large umbrella; naked children would be frisking about in the downpour.
The night of the jackal	Late one night, Mr Bond was woken from deep sleep by a hideous howling right next to his bed. Switching on the light, he found a jackal right beside me, baying at the moon or the stars or some lost love on the rooftops. He gave a shout, and it ran away, down the steps and across the road, hotly pursued by all the dogs in the area barking furiously. Mr Bond says that the poor jackal had received a bigger fright than he had.

- 3. A pair of noisy mynahs—one of them bald after a fight—was frequently in and out of the room, paying no attention to Mr Bond as he sat at his desk or lay supine on his bed in vest and shorts. Sparrows were resting in the little skylight, and he dared not open it, for fear of knocking down their rather precarious abode. A chameleon circled the room in search of lost friends, and sometimes raised its head to look in from the threshold. Two or three lizards were always to be found clinging to the walls or ceiling, on prowl for moths or mosquitoes. Occasionally, one of these lizards would lose its foothold and land with a plop on desk, bed, floor, or his person.
- 4. The sweeper woman liked to gossip and had Mr Bond updated on events in the locality. Such as Mr Lal had got drunk and fallen down his stairs, breaking an arm. Mrs Saigal was down with typhoid. Someone's son had been caught cheating in his exams. Another boy had been caught shoplifting. An oncoming train had run over an elephant. Her stepfather's first wife was suing him. The circus was coming to town. The Prime Minister (Mr Nehru) was passing through, on his way to Mussoorie.
- 5. The sweeper woman and the author shared a friendly relationship. She found Mr Bond a good listener and told him stories and gossip. She shared her beliefs too with him, for example, she told him that it was lucky for the lizard to fall on some part of the body. When she had a backache, Mr Bond gave her a strip of aspirin tablets, after which he became her medical adviser.
- 6. The author always kept his door open during the day, and through it, one morning came Somi, a light-eyed Sikh boy of about twelve, as yet unbearded, wearing khaki shorts and chappals, looking at him as if he were an exotic and endangered bird. Then he laughed, and the author felt it was like a shower of rain on a hot summer day.

# **Think and Answer**

Answers to this section will vary. Encourage students to think critically and formulate their own

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#### responses.

- 1. Having his own room meant a lot of independence and privacy for the author. He could concentrate on his writing without being disturbed by others.
- 2. Such a belief is called superstition. Often, it arises from ignorance, a misunderstanding of science or causality, a belief in fate or magic, or fear of that which is unknown.
- 3. Creatures that came in Mr Bond's room: A pair of noisy mynahs—one of them bald after a fight, sparrows, a chameleon, and two or three lizards.

  People who came in his room: The sweeper woman and the boys from the neighbourhood: Somi, Haripal, Krishna, and Ranbir.
- 4. A shower of rain on a hot summer day makes one feel refreshed. This is how the author too felt when Somi came into the room and laughed heartily. The author who had very little companionship felt good to have a visitor in his room.
- 5. The author was very observant and loved the nature. In fact, he spent hours gazing at the activity in his house and outside it. For example, he talks about the banyan tree outside: There was a banyan tree just opposite. Squirrels were busy in it all afternoon, sparrows, crows, and other birds in the morning and evening, and flying foxes at night.

He did not like to disturb even the small animals or chase them out of his room: Sparrows were resting in the little skylight, and I dared not open it, for fear of knocking down their rather precarious abode.

He also was a considerate person who did not like to see others in pain: And she had a pain in her lower back that wouldn't go away. I gave her a strip of aspirin tablets (Aspro was the commercial name), and after that I became her medical adviser, listening to all her complaints and handing out Aspirin or Anacin, Oriental Balm, and occasional doses of Eno's fruit salts.

He welcomed visitors, both human and those not of the humankind: I would leave the front door open, even at night.

- 6. a) i) It stand for the banyan tree.
  - i) What does 'it' stand for?
  - ii) The author saw these creatures from his open window.
  - iii) He was highly observant and loved to look at the activities of the animals.
  - b) i) 'It' stands for the broad path that ran beside the building.
  - ii) The author noticed several activities like a 'boxwallah,' with a tin trunk on his head, selling everything from bread and biscuits from the bakeries to hair oil, safety pins and elastic for pyjamas; an ayah with a baby in a pram; the rent-collector, with the teeth and nostrils of a horse; the postman on his brand new Atlas bicycle; the fruits-seller calling his wares in high pitched, rather eccentric cries; a line of schoolgirls with red ribbons in their pigtails.
  - iii) Answers will vary.

#### **Word Work**

1. ready – readiness scarce – scarcity multiply – multiplication submit – submission appear – appearance

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silent – silence friend – friendship well – wellness captain – captaincy arrange – arrangement child = childhood

- 2. a) forgetfulness
- b) information
- c) existence
- d) replacement
- e) partnership
- f) Admission
- g) importance
- h) captaincy
- i) resistance
- j) complexities
- k) Addition, subtraction, multiplication, division
- I) organization, tidiness, appearance
- 3. Sentences will vary. Here are the words with suffixes.
- a) readiness, happiness, weakness, sadness, madness, forgetfulness
- b) responsibility, possibility, scarcity, sensibility, probability
- c) independence, importance, silence, appearance, resistance
- d) appointment, assignment, enjoyment, merriment, replacement
- e) information, decision, description, multiplication, admission
- f) priesthood, neighbourhood, childhood

#### **Listen Live**

- a) The author describes the weather as pleasant on the day. He says that the morning is gloriously fresh and spirited. A strong breeze is driving the clouds away, and the sun keeps breaking through.
- b) Mynahs, babblers and a whistling thrush
- c) The mynahs are very busy, very noisy, looking for a nesting site in the roof. The babblers are raking over fallen leaves, snapping up absent-minded grasshoppers. A whistling thrush is drying himself on the broken garden fence.
- d) ii) enchanting
- iii) whistle
- iv) crescendo
- v) haunting

#### **Speak Now**

Encourage students to speak in clear and cohesive manner.

# **Go Grammar**

- 1. a) The girl who called said that she wanted to speak to Jatin.
- b) The men who robbed the bank have been arrested.
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- c) The car, which was damaged in the accident, has been repaired. / The car that was damaged in the accident has been repaired.
- d) That's the bookshop where Lisa's sister works.
- e) The cheese sandwiches that are on the kitchen table are for you. / The cheese sandwiches, which are on the kitchen table, are for you.
- f) An old lady whose cat had got stuck in a tree called the fire brigade.
- g) Do you remember the day when we first came to this school?
- h) The woman whose daughter won first prize smiled proudly.
- i) The architect who designed this building is from Sweden.
- 2. a) whom
- b) who
- c) who
- d) where
- e) which
- f) when
- g) that
- h) why

#### Write It

Answers will vary. Encourage students to think creatively and formulate their own responses. Here is a sample,

The sun slowly dipped below the horizon, casting a warm golden glow over the serene beach. As I walked along the shore, the soft sand cushioned my feet, and the gentle breeze carried the salty scent of the ocean. Seagulls soared overhead, their cries blending with the rhythmic sound of waves crashing against the shore.

To my left, a group of children built sandcastles, their laughter echoing in the air. The vibrant colours of their beach toys contrasted beautifully against the blue expanse of the sea. Further down the beach, a couple strolled hand in hand, their silhouettes framed by the setting sun. As I approached the water's edge, the cool touch of the ocean waves sent shivers down my spine. I closed my eyes and listened to the soothing melody of the sea, feeling a sense of calm wash over me. The salty taste of the ocean lingered on my lips as I breathed in the fresh sea air. In front of me, a majestic lighthouse stood tall against the fading light, its beacon casting a warm glow over the water. The red and white stripes of the lighthouse added a pop of colour to the tranquil seascape.

As the sky turned shades of pink and orange, I couldn't help but feel grateful for this moment of peace and serenity by the sea. The beauty of nature enveloped me, and I knew that this beach would always hold a special place in my heart.



# Chapter 6 The Way Through the Woods

# Let's Enjoy

- a) The road was last seen seventy years ago.
- b) Many trees cover the road today.
- c) The keeper of the woods can see where the old road ran.
- d) The whistles of the otter can be heard on late summer evening. The otter can be seen calling his mate. Also, the horse's feet tapping, the swish of the skirt, can be heard. Actually, there is no presence of such things, it's just poet's imagination.

#### **Think and Answer**

- 1. a) i) It is the road. By undone, the poet means that the road was destroyed.
- ii) The road was undone because of weather and rain. It is natural process.
- iii) The road wasn't present here seventy years ago and again signifies that the place is back to the original state.
- b) i) One has to listen carefully to hear the beat of the horse's feet.
- ii) It is safe to venture though the poet is not sure if there is even a road through the woods. He is clearly hinting here at a ghostly presence in the woods. The words misty solitudes make the reader feel that the phantoms are not a threat but a very real presence there.
- iii) It is not possible to see the horse because it is not physically present in the forest. That is one of the old memories of the poet.
- 2. The road (which is not seen, and which is now a part of wood itself) is full of activity and life. It is occupied by the ring dove that broods there and the burrowing badger which rolls in it playfully. The poet says that if anyone goes and visits the woods in the late summer evening, he or she will come to know that there is more to the road. The night air cools above the pools that are full of trout fish, and the otter calls out to its mate.
- 3. In the second stanza, Kipling introduces an element of mystery and intrigue while still employing carefully observed descriptive detail. The 'yet' at the start of the second stanza signals the introduction of new observations and information and creates a haunting conclusion to the poem. The drama and tension in the poem are heightened by the sudden auditory and visual impact of the 'beat of a horse's feet' and the 'swish of a skirt'. One could hear the trampling of a horse's hoof when the horse isn't physically present. Perhaps, it is a ghost from the past when the road was used by men on horseback. One could hear the swish of skirts moving amongst dew covered grass. From these sounds, one could tell the difference that these people move in easy walk as if they perfectly knew where the road lay, even when a living person wouldn't be able to distinguish it because it is no longer the road that was there seventy years back.
- 4. The word 'they' refer to the people who used to visit the road once upon a time. This is because only these people can perfectly walk on the road as they knew it well and were habitual to the road.
- 5. The poem mention of a road through the woods which was closed seventy years ago. For so many years, the weather and the rain have destroyed the road. Now, if anyone goes and visits the woods in the late summer evening, he or she will come to know that there is more to the road. One could hear the ghosts from the past when the road was used by men on horseback. From these sounds, one could tell the difference that these people move in easy



walk as if they perfectly knew where the road lay, even when a living person wouldn't be able to distinguish it because it is no longer the road that was there seventy years back. The poet still feels that there is surely no road through the woods.

6. The poet says that if one visits the road in the late summer evening, one could hear the trampling of a horse's hoof and the swish of skirts moving amongst dew covered grass. From these sounds, one could tell the difference that these people move in easy walk as if they perfectly knew where the road lay, even when a living person wouldn't be able to distinguish it because it is no longer the road that was there seventy years back.

# **Poem Appreciation**

1. The poet uses the word 'woods' eight times. The poem has a fatalistic tone; that the way things are is not positive, but it won't change now. The repetition suggests three things: It would be pointless to try to change anything, that the way things are will not change now and there is nothing anyone can do about some things in life.

2.

Lines from the poem	Explain the word picture	Which senses do these lines invoke?
It is underneath the coppice and heath, And the thin anemones.	A lot of plants have grown in the area	Sense of sight and smell (fragrance of the plants)
When the night-air cools on the trout-ringed pools Where the otter whistles his mate,	We think of a pond reflecting the moonlight in the otherwise quiet forest. The only sound is of otters whistling. We see trout swimming in the pond, forming a circle.	Sense of sight, sense of touch, sense of hearing
You will hear the beat of a horse's feet, And the swish of a skirt in the dew, Steadily cantering through The misty solitudes,	Though nothing can be seen, one can feel the presence of the ghosts.	Sense of touch (feel the dew), sense of sound (swish of a skirt, sound of horse's feet)

3. The poet creates mystery and intrigue while still employing carefully observed descriptive detail. He introduces new observations and information and creates a haunting conclusion to the poem. The drama and tension in the poem are heightened by the sudden auditory and visual impact of the 'beat of a horse's feet' and the 'swish of a skirt'.