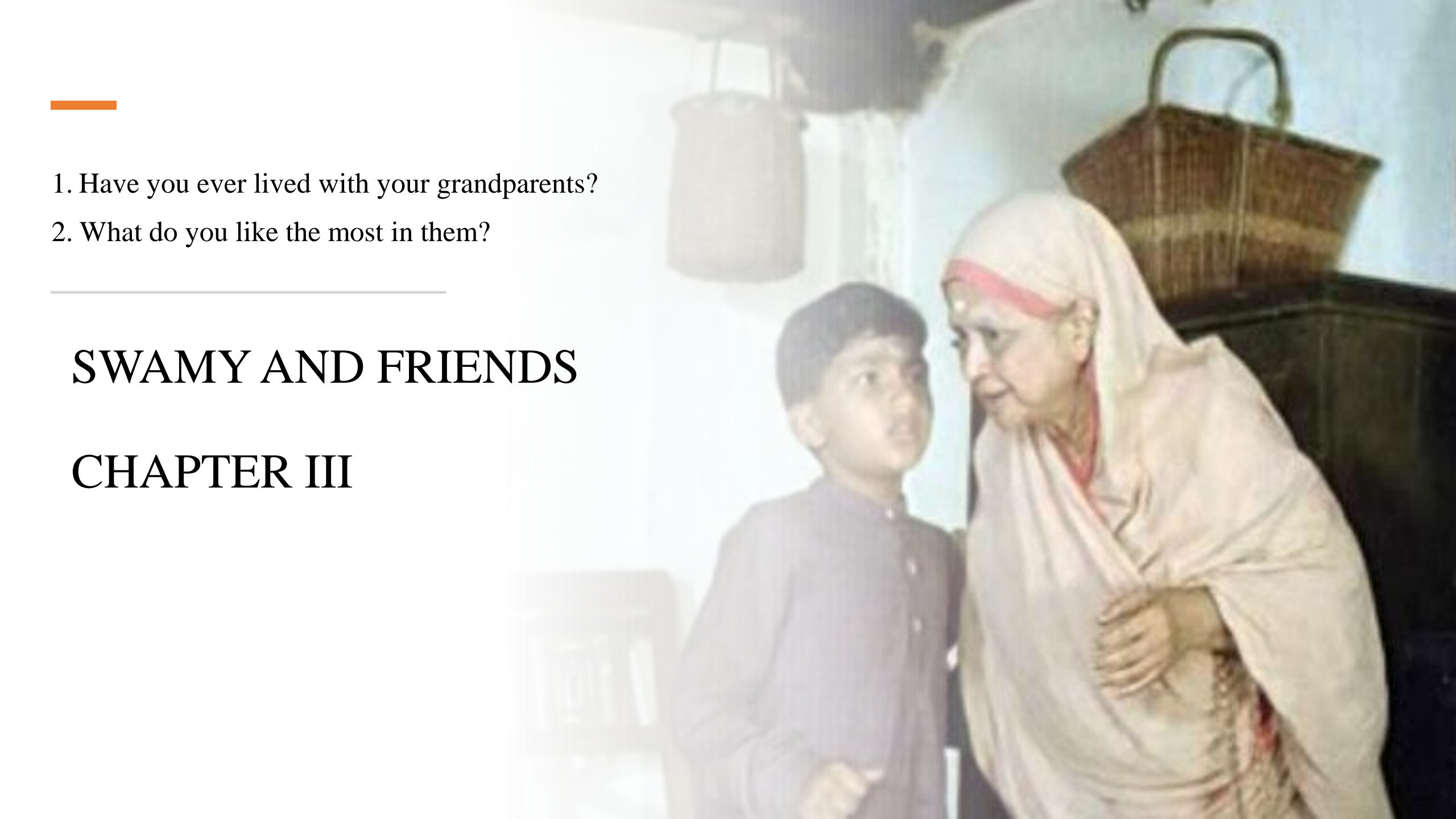


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1. Have you ever lived with your grandparents?  
2. What do you like the most in them?
- 

# SWAMY AND FRIENDS

## CHAPTER III

## Read out aloud at a slow tempo

- In the ill-ventilated dark passage between the front hall and the dining-room, Swaminathan's grandmother lived with all her belongings, which consisted of an elaborate bed made of five carpets, three bed sheets, and five pillows, a square box made of jute fibre, and a small wooden box containing copper coins, cardamoms, cloves, and areca-nut. After the night meal, with his head on his granny's lap, nestling close to her, Swaminathan felt very snug and safe in the faint atmosphere of cardamom and cloves. 'Oh, granny!' he cried ecstatically, 'you don't know what a great fellow Rajam is.' He told her the story of the first enmity between Rajam and Mani and the subsequent friendship. 'You know, he has a real police dress,' said Swaminathan. 'Is it? What does he want a police dress for?' asked granny. 'His father is the Police Superintendent. He is the master of every policeman here.' Granny was impressed. She said that it must be a tremendous office indeed. She then recounted the days when her husband, Swaminathan's grandfather, was a powerful Sub-Magistrate, in which office he made the police force tremble before him, and the fiercest dacoits of the place flee. Swaminathan waited impatiently for her to finish the story. But she went on, rambled, confused, mixed up various incidents that took place at different times.

# ACTIVITY

- List the things which Swaminathan's grandmother had in her wooden box. What do you think a grandmother today is likely to have as things of her personal use?
- The table below contains a list of nouns and some adjectives. Use as many adjectives as you can to describe each noun. You might come up with some funny descriptions!

Nouns	Adjectives
grandmother, grandfather, rajam, office, box	strict, great, wooden, old, tremendous

## Read out aloud at a slow tempo

That will do, granny,' he said ungraciously. 'Let me tell you something about Rajam. Do you know how many marks he gets in Arithmetic?' 'He gets all the marks, does he, child?' asked granny. 'No, silly. He gets ninety marks out of one hundred.' 'Good. But you must also try and get marks like him. . . You know, Swami, your grandfather used to frighten the examiners with his answers sometimes. When he answered a question, he did it in a tenth of the time that others took to do it. And then, his answers would be so powerful that his teachers would give him two hundred marks sometimes. . . . When he passed his F.A. he got such a big medal! I wore it as a pendant for years till—When did I remove it? Yes, when your aunt was born. . . . No, it wasn't your aunt. ... It was when your father was born. ... I remember on the tenth day of confinement. . . . No, no. I was right. It was when your aunt was born. Where is that medal now? I gave it away to your aunt—and she melted it and made four bangles out of it. The fool! And such flimsy bangles too! I have always maintained that she is the worst fool in our family. ...'

# ACTIVITY

Do any of these words use all of the four ending? -----

	-ed	-ing	-er	-est
Try	Tried	Trying	X	X
Answer				
Tasty				
wise				
Clean				