

**Read the following paragraph and answer the questions that follow:**

Once upon a time, king Brahmadatta wanted a place which would stand on a single pillar. He thought it would be one of the greatest wonders of the world. He needed a strong tree for the pillar. He sent hundreds of wood-cutters all over the forest to find such a tree.

The wood-cutters looked everywhere. At last, they found a tall and magnificent sal tree in the middle of the forest. The wood cutter got ready to cut down the tree. The tree grew very sad that it would die the next day. That night the tree spoke to the king in his dream. It said to him, "O King! Can you tell your wood-cutters to cut me in parts.

First my top branches then my middle branches and then the trunk?" The king was surprised. "Why?" he asked. The tree told him, "If they cut me at one stroke, I might fall on the other trees and hurt them. So cut me limb by limb. It will spare the other trees being hurt". The king was moved by the tree's kindness. He decided not to cut the tree to build his palace.

**Answer the following questions :**

1. What kind of a palace did king Brahmadatta wish to build?
2. What kind of a tree did the wood cutters find at last?
3. What did the tree want the king to do?
4. How did the tree want itself to be cut?
5. Find the opposite of the following words from the passage :  
(a) short                                  (b) weak
6. Find words which mean the same as:  
(a) large branch of a tree  
(b) the act of hitting