



মণিপুরৰ শিক্ষা বিভাগ (সংস্কৃত)

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (S)

Government of Manipur

CLASS IX

ADDITIONAL ENGLISH

LESSON 3 - HIS FIRST FLIGHT

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SOLUTION

COMPREHENSION

EXERCISE 1

Fill in the blanks with suitable words from the lesson:

1. When he attempted to flap his wings, he became afraid.
2. He had been afraid to fly with them.
3. The two brothers and his sister had already flown away the day before.
4. The parents taught the young seagulls how to skim the waves.
5. The young seagull trotted back and forth from one end of the ledge to the other.
6. He stepped slowly out to the brink of the ledge.
7. His father was preening the feathers on his white back.
8. He uttered a low cackle.
9. The wind rushed against his breast feathers.
10. He was tired and weak with hunger and he could not rise exhausted by the strange exercise.

EXERCISE 2

Some of the statements below are 'true' and some are 'false'. Mark 'true' or 'false' at the proper places.

1. The young seagull was the youngest among the brothers and sisters. **FALSE**
2. The parents left the young seagull because they disliked him. **FALSE**
3. The nest of the seagull was on a very high ledge. **TRUE**
4. The young seagull could not fly because his wings were the shortest among them. **FALSE**
5. The parents left him in the nest twenty-four hours ago. **TRUE**
6. The parents and the young seagull were flying about for perfecting the art of flight. **TRUE**
7. The parents of the young seagull wanted him to fly. **TRUE**
8. The young seagull remained in the nest because he was afraid of flying. **TRUE**
9. The mother did not give him the fish because she wanted to make him fly. **TRUE**
10. When the young seagull fell downwards he felt dizzy. **TRUE**



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EXERCISE 3

Give short answers to the following questions:

1. Why did the brothers and sister of the young seagull leave him 'alone'?

Ans. The brothers and sister of the young seagull left him alone because he had been afraid to fly with them.

2. How did the brothers and sister fly away?

Ans. The brothers and sister flew away by running to the brink of the ledge and by flapping their wings.

3. How many brothers and sisters did the young seagull have?

Ans. The young seagull had two elder brothers and a little sister.

4. How did the parents of the young seagull respond when he wanted food?

Ans. The parents of the young seagull threatened to let him starve on the ledge unless he flew away.

5. How did the parents spend their time when the young seagull was watching them?

Ans. When the young seagull was watching his parents flying about with his brothers and sisters perfecting them in the art of flight, teaching them how to skim the waves, or how to dive for fish. His father was preening the feather on his white back, his brothers and sister are lying on the plateau dozing, while his mother was tearing at a piece of fish.

6. How did the other members of the young seagull's family spend the whole morning?

Ans. All morning, the other family members of the young seagull had walked about on the big plateau midway down the opposite cliff, taunting him with his cowardice.

7. Why did the seagull remain alone?

Ans. The seagull remained alone because he was afraid to fly while his family members had flown away.

8. Why did the seagull close his eyes?

Ans. The seagull closed his eyes pretending to be falling asleep.



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9. Why did the mother pull out in front of the seagull?

Ans. The mother pulled out in front of the seagull to make the young seagull to fly.

10. What happened when the seagull fell down from the ledge?

Ans. When the young seagull fell down from the ledge, he fell outward and downwards into space. The next moment he felt his wings spread outwards.

11. How did the young seagull settle on the sea water?

Ans. He dropped his legs to stand on the green sea. His feet sank into the green sea and then his breast touched it and he sank no further. He was floating on it.

12. What prize did the young seagull get for flying?

Ans. The prize the young seagull got for flying was that his family members gathered around him screaming and praising him and their beaks were offering him scraps of dog fish.

EXERCISE 4

Answer the following questions:

1. How did the parents try to make the young seagull fly?

Ans. The parents tried to make the young seagull fly by calling to him shrilly, upbraiding him, threatening to let him starve on his ledge unless he flew away.

2. How were seagull's brother and sister in the art of flight?

Ans. The seagull's brothers and sister were perfecting in the art of flight by learning how to skim the waves, of how to dive for fish. The seagull's elder brother even caught his first herring and devoured it, standing on a rock with his parents raising a proud cackle.

3. Why did the condition of the seagull on the ledge becoming desperate?

Ans. The condition of the seagull on the ledge was becoming desperate because he had not eaten since the previous nightfall. There was not a single scrap of food left. He even gnawed at the dried piece of spotted eggshell. And, he was all alone.



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4. Describe the behaviours of the seagull in the nest when he was alone.

Ans. When he was alone in the nest, he trotted back and forth from one end of the ledge to the other trying to find some means of reaching his parents without having to fly. He even stepped slowly out to the brink of the ledge and standing on one leg with other hidden under his wing, pretended to be falling asleep.

5. How did the seagull begin to fly?

Ans. The seagull was getting hungry and the sight of food had maddened him. He begged his mother to bring him over some food. His mother had picked up a piece of the fish and was flying across to him with it. But, when she was just opposite to him, abreast of the ledge, she halted. He waited a moment in surprise, wondering why she did not come nearer, and then, maddened by hunger, he dived at the fish. He, then, fell outward and downwards. He felt his wings spread outwards. This was how the seagull began to fly.

6. Describe what other seagulls did to show their happiness when the young seagull began to fly.

Ans. When the young seagull began to fly, his mother swooped past him, her wings making a loud noise. His father flew over him screaming. Then, his brothers and sister flew around him curvetting and banking and soaring and diving. Around him, his family were screaming, praising him and then beaks were offering him scraps of dog fish to show their happiness.

7. How did the young seagull begin to swim in the sea water?

Ans. The young seagull dropped his legs to stand on the green sea. His legs sank into it. He screamed with fright and attempted to rise again, flapping his wings. But he was tired and weak with hunger and he could not rise exhausted by the strange exercise of flying. His feet sank into the green sea and then his breast touched it and he sank no further. He was floating on it. This was how the seagull began to swim in the sea water.



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COMPOSITION

1. Write a short paragraph on your first attempt to do anyone of the following:

A) ride a bicycle

B) cooking

C) climbing a tree

D) swimming

Ans. When I passed my class 5 examination, my dad bought me a bicycle. I was thrilled and excited to see the bicycle. I hopped on and started pedalling but had a great fall and I got injured. Since then, it was just for keep. I was never able to ride it as I was afraid. One day, my dad told me that he would help me learn to ride the bicycle. Trusting him, I started riding the bicycle with my dad at the back holding and balancing the bicycle.

After sometime, I was gaining confidence and was able to ride without my dad's help. Though I had few falls and bumps, I enjoyed my ride. It was how I learned to ride a bicycle.

1. Write a paragraph describing any incident in your life when you were afraid or very scared.

Ans. When I was a little girl, I once fell into the pond while I was playing alone. Somehow, I clung on to the grasses growing at the bank of the pond and started calling out for help. Hearing the frantic call, my aunt came out running from inside the kitchen and pulled me up on the bank. If she was not there at the right time, I would have drowned. This was one of the incidents in my life when I was afraid out of my wits.

2. Describe the young seagull's first attempt to fly.

Ans. The young seagull had been afraid to fly. When he had taken a little run forward to the brink of the ledge and attempted to flap his wings, he became afraid. The great expanse of sea stretched down beneath, and it was such a long way miles down. He felt certain that his wings would never support him. So, he bent his head and ran away to the little hole under the ledge where he slept at night.