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2. The angry old man burnt _____
- (a) all the of king sons, except Bhagiratha
 - (b) all the of king sons
 - (c) Bhagiratha
3. King Sagara sent _____ to look for his horse.
- (a) Bhagiratha
 - (b) all his sons, except Bhagiratha
 - (c) all his sons
4. At the end of the story the Ganga was a river _____
- (a) only in the heaven
 - (b) only on the earth
 - (c) on the earth as well as in the heaven
5. Give another name of the river Ganga _____
- (a) The Revati
 - (b) The Saraswati
 - (c) The Bhagirathi

2. Collect other such stories about the river Ganga and share with your class.

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2. The Art of Whitewashing

It was Saturday, a holiday. There was no school and no homework to do. Tom was very happy. But just then aunt Polly called him and said, "Look here, Tom! Today you're not going out to play. I want you to whitewash this whole fence. Take this bucket of whitewash and this brush, and set to work immediately."

Tom looked at the fence and then at the bucket. Such a big fence and such a lot of whitewash ! Tom felt very sad.

Suddenly a brilliant idea came to his mind. He took up his brush and started the work silently.

Soon he saw Ben coming that way. Ben had a nice red apple in his hand. Tom's mouth watered but he continued to whitewash.

Ben wanted to make fun of Tom. He walked up to him and said,

"Hello Tom, What is this ? Work even on a holiday?"

"Work !" said Tom, "What do you call work ?" "Why, isn't that work ?" asked Ben with a smile.

Tom returned to his whitewashing and replied, "Well, may be it is, may be it is not. All I know is that it delights Tom Sawyer."

Tom carefully swept his brush like an artist. Then he stepped back and looked at the paint. He added a touch here and a touch there. Ben watched all this. He was getting, more and more interested. At last he said, "Tom, may I whitewash a little ?"

"No, no!" he said. "Aunt Polly is very particular about this fence.

Everybody cannot paint the wall the right way."

"Is that so ?" asked Ben in surprise. "Tom, I'll be very careful. Please let me try just a little."

"Ben, I don't mind," Tom said, looking to be very kind, "but you don't know aunt Polly. She will kill me. She wants me and me alone to do it."

"I'll be careful, Tom. Please let me try. I'll give you half my apple."

"No, no, Ben. I am afraid ... "

"Tom, I'll give you the whole apple."

Tom gave Ben the brush and took his apple. Ben set to work in the hot sun. Tom sat down happily in the shade of a tree and ate the apple. He kept telling Ben again and again, "Ben, look at that part of the fence. You haven't done it rightly. Do it again or aunt Polly will be angry."

Poor Ben sweated in the sun for a long time!

When Ben was tired, Tom allowed Billy to whitewash. Billy gave a kite to Tom. when Billy was tired, Johnny got his turn for a pair of marbles. Thus, every boy paid a price to get a chance to whitewash the fence. They came to laugh at Tom but Tom made them work.

By afternoon, the whitewash was over. They whitewashed the fence three times. Tom earned a number of playthings. He got twelve marbles, a tin soldier, a dog collar, the handle of a knife and a big key without a lock.

At last when the whitewash was over, Tom proudly went inside the house and said, "Aunt Polly, may I go out to play now ?"

"How much whitewashing have you done"

"All of it. I have finished the whitewash".

"What! Finished? Let me see".

Aunt Polly went outside. She was really surprised. The whole fence was nicely whitewashed.

"Well Tom !" she said, "Your work is excellent. Now you can go and play. Come back home early."

Aunt Polly took out the best apple from the basket and gave it to Tom.



Exercise

Underline the word with different meaning.

e.g. **unhappy, sad, alone, sorry**

- (1) paint, touch, colour, whitewash
- (2) proud, particular, careful, attentive
- (3) idea, plan, thought, bright
- (4) properly, proudly, rightly, well
- (5) toy, brush, playing, marble
- (6) naughty, happy, delighted, pleased

Fill in the blanks using the forms of the word groups given below:

Make fun of, step back, pay a price, get a chance, get the turn, set to work, come to my mind.

- (1) Don't make a rush. Everybody will _____ to look through this telescope.
- (2) Yesterday Mini stepped on a banana skin and fell down. But nobody _____ her.
- (3) Only thirty people are allowed to see the Kutub Minar at a time. We are sixty. So some of us _____ on the second day.
- (4) The king built a palace. One thousand men were _____ by him.
- (5) When I went to the stage, I forgot everything. Nothing _____.
- (6) He put his finger in the electric plug. He was injured badly. He _____ for his foolishness.

Answer these questions.

1. Who was Polly? What work did she give to Tom?

2. Who came first? What was in his hand?

3. Who whitewashed the fence?

4. What did Ben, Billy and Johnny give to Tom?

5. Write the sentences which made you laugh.

3. Killer Plants

When we go to a garden or a forest, we like to touch plants. They look beautiful but some plants are dangerous. Do you know about Killer plants ?

The pitcher plant is a killer plant. It grows in the hot parts of Asia.

The cover and the rim of the plant are bright red. The plant also produces sweet juice. Insects are attracted to this plant and try to drink the sweet juice. They climb over the rim of this plant. The shape of the rim is like a pitcher. The inside walls of the pitcher are very slippery. The insect falls into the liquid. But the insect does not eat the liquid. The liquid eats the insect. Thus, it becomes the food of the plant.

The Sundew is another insect-eating plant. The upper part of each leaf is covered with thousands of little hair. This part produces a liquid. The liquid on the hair looks like dew drops. These drops are sticky. The insect is stuck to one of the hair. Soon all the other hair start bending. They wrap up the insect inside them. The sticky fluid eats the insect and digests it. It takes about two days to complete this job. Once again the hair open. Dew drops are produced. The plant is ready to welcome a new guest.

Exercise

Read these sentences. Write P in the box if the sentence is related to the pitcher plant. Write S if it is related to the Sundew plant.

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|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> It digests an insect within two days. | <input type="checkbox"/> It has a sweet liquid. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Its leaves are covered with tiny hair. | <input type="checkbox"/> It has a sticky liquid. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> It is very smooth inside. | <input type="checkbox"/> It folds the insect into its leaves. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Its edges are red. | <input type="checkbox"/> The insect slips down into it. |

