



# Crunchy English Reader

Main Course Book



VIII

According to the National Education Policy (NEP)



# Crunchy English Reader

An Integrated Course in English

Main Coursebook

VIII



- By -

**Mrs. Vinita Jain**  
MA (University of Delhi)  
ELT Course Designer

**Mrs. Harsh Ahuja**  
B.Ed (MD University)  
ELT Course Designer



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*Corporate Office : 516-517, Lane 16, Joshi Rd, Karol Bagh, New Delhi - 110005, Mob. 09212111747*

*Regd. Office : 22, Jawahar Park, P.B. 36, Saharanpur-247 001 (U.P.)*

*Mob : 9027891426*

*Email : [navprakashanbin@gmail.com](mailto:navprakashanbin@gmail.com) ; [salesnbpindia@gmail.com](mailto:salesnbpindia@gmail.com)*

*Website : [www.bansalpublishers.com](http://www.bansalpublishers.com)*

# Preface...



**Crunchy English Reader**, *an Integrated Course in English* is a series of carefully graded text books intended to guide the students. It is a series of 8 books for classes I to VIII. In this series students are guided to work out language related problems in a practical manner through activities and writing after imagining. The book in this series mainly focus on interactive language. This series is innovative resource which will give them a sense of achievement and extend their English reading in as natural way as possible.

## Key Features of Course books of the Series

- ◆ Text helps in enhancement of students' aptitude for language. A pre-reading before each text is intended to make the learner conscious of the theme concerned.
- ◆ **Warm up** to check the students eye-sense from the picture.
- ◆ **Test your knowledge** section contains objective type questions that forces the students to read between the lines, interpret, analyse and arrive at conclusion.
- ◆ The section '**Vocabulary**' as well as offering them opportunities for vocabulary expansion.
- ◆ Grammar under the section '**Grammar Skills**' has been presented in a systematic manner using the contexts in the texts. Abstract explanations have been kept to a minimum. Interesting and meaningful grammar practice help the learners to have a better command over English.
- ◆ The section '**Writing Skills**' is extremely important for learners. The tasks in this section are both interesting and challenging. These tasks provide learners guidance and prompts to produce a range of functional and imaginative written texts.
- ◆ The section '**Speaking Skills**' offers highly interesting classroom material by encouraging learners to do oral tasks that highlight the use of English in dynamic and functional contexts.
- ◆ The section '**Listening Skills**' helps children to add to their own ideas to increase social awareness and to become accustomed to correct usage and to listen for desired information.

We hope that **Crunchy English Reader**, *an Integrated Course in English* will encourage pupils to become more successful language learners by attempting extrapolatory questions and hence by becoming better thinkers. Not only this but a sense of self-worth will also be developed in learners. Besides this series will engage learners effectively as well as cognitively.

—Publisher



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# The Machine

## Pre-Reading



Have you ever heard a word – ‘Mechanization’? What does it mean?

Yes, mechanization is the process of using machines into an industry to replace human labour. It has a great impact on output of product.



## Warm Up

We use several machines to do different types of task. Match given machines with their inventors :

- |                   |                          |
|-------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Computer       | a. J. Gutenberg          |
| 2. Printing Press | b. B. Thimonnier         |
| 3. Sewing Machine | c. Charles Babbage       |
| 4. Calculator     | d. Sir William Armstrong |
| 5. Microwave oven | e. Blaise Pascal         |
| 6. Crane          | f. Percy Spencer         |



## Read and Enjoy

Let's read the story of a poor woman who never felt defeated with her difficulties. She faced all her difficulties with a brave heart.

Jaya's **poverty** had added to the number of years in her age. She looked older than she was. Like every day, it was the time to leave for work. Looking over her **crippled** husband lying in one corner of the room, she made her way out of the house.

Twenty years ago her husband was a healthy man and worked in a cloth mill. He fulfilled all essential needs of his family. His family consisted of his young wife, a son and a daughter. But one fateful day all this happiness **vanished** into thin air. He met with an accident at the mill and lost his right leg and his left hand had become **immobile** permanently. The man who had **ambitions** to educate his children and make them "big" people was now too helpless to feed them even.

But Jaya was a brave lady. She took the bull by the horns. She never felt defeated when **confronted** by difficulties. She was not literate; hence she could not get the job in place of her husband. The mill had promised that her son would get the job when he grew eighteen years of age. So, she picked up domestic jobs like cooking, cleaning and washing.

Jaya saw her young, fair daughter standing in a corner. She was now twenty-two.

Jaya stared at the photograph of her young son hanging on the front wall. She turned and **uttered** in a hushed voice, "I'm going."

Jaya was walking in the street yet her mind was wandering all about. She was lost in the **nostalgia**. With time, her son completed his matriculation and intermediate. He had done well in all examinations. During the course of his studies, he was lending her a helping hand by working on a garment shop as a salesman.

### Idiom

**pull by the horns - deal with difficult situation with courage**

### Let's Talk

*Education is the key to turn a weakness into strength. Agree or disagree. Discuss.*



### WORD-MEANING

**poverty** - the state of being poor, **crippled** - disabled, **vanished** - disappeared, **immobile** - motionless, **ambitions** - aspiring, **confronted** - to face difficult situation/person, **uttered** - to say something, **nostalgia** - a sad feeling mixed with pleasure



He was earning only a little money, but he was determined to utilise this for his further studies. He always said that he would become an officer, and not a worker, in the mill. He often said to her, "Let me grow and complete my studies. You will not have to work as a housemaid then.

You will live an easy life. I will do everything to keep you happy."

When he turned eighteen, he joined his father's mill and continued to study in the night. He loved his mother very much. He wanted his mother to stop doing the work of a maidservant, but she wished to continue, after all her daughters had to be married. She tried to save every paisa she could, and promised her son that she would leave her job after his sister's marriage. But her son was not in the favour of marrying his sister at this time, because he wanted her to marry when he would have become an officer. That will help get a better boy for her.

But last year all hell broke on Jaya. She lost her son too in an accident when the machine developed some snag. He was **electrocuted** to death. **Destiny** had been very harsh on her. "How can I live on this tragedy?" thought Jaya. Perhaps the thought of her young daughter kept her alive.

Mechanically walking Jaya stopped in front of the house where she washed clothes. As she stepped into the house, she found her master, Sushil, and his family in the lobby opening up a new pack. It was a new washing machine.

At this, her glowing eyes dampened as she could foresee her dark days ahead. She had been washing clothes at this house for many years. Sushil turned towards Jaya and said in a serious voice, "Jaya, you have served us for a pretty long time **diligently** and honestly and we value it, but we will not be able to help you anymore. We don't need your services now." . She tried to conceal her **damp** eyes. She said in a trembling voice, "Master, you know I have a daughter of marriageable age. If you turn me out, I will have nowhere to go for my livelihood."

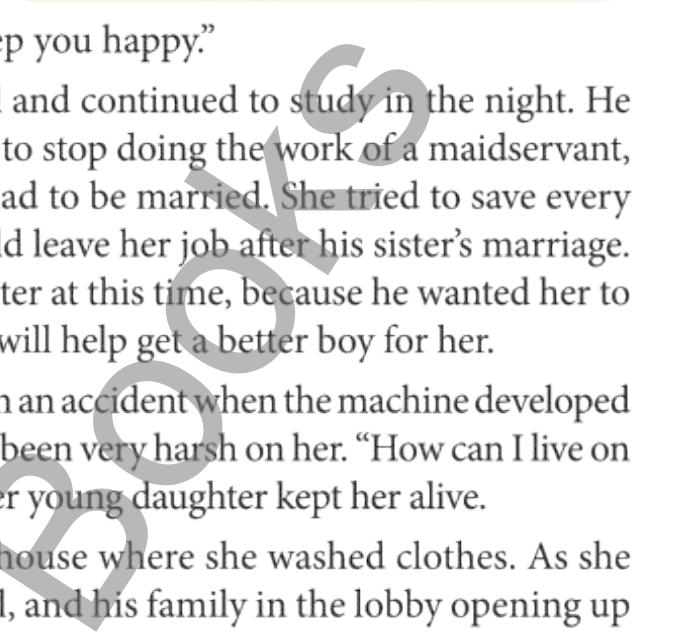
"But you work at two more houses too," said Sushil.

"Yes, I worked. But two weeks ago, at one house I cooked and they have bought a microwave oven and they no more need my services. At another, they have bought a vacuum-cleaner which cleans quicker and cleaner than I can."

"Oh, still we can't help. We are sorry. You see this machine costs far less than you do." Saying so, Sushil took out his wallet and paid her dues and fifty rupees over that as a tip.

### Be Moral

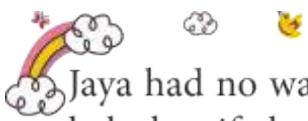
*How do you help your parents? Doing part-time job to help a family is a good act or not?*



### WORD MEANING

**electrocuted** - injured by electricity current, **destiny** - future, **diligently** - constant effort, **damp** - moist





Jaya had no way out but to walk away. The parting words of Sushil's wife that they would help her if she needed, could not provide her any solace. She had lost her job, the only means to support her family. And getting another job would be much difficult.

Sushil was going to celebrate his fiftieth birthday next week, and he had bought this washing machine as a part of this celebration. He worked in a large private company as a senior clerk.

After Jaya walked out, he too got ready for his office. He entered his office holding a box of sweets. He wanted to celebrate his buying the new washing machine with his colleagues. He sat down at his desk because he wanted to offer sweets first to his manager. He was awaiting his promotion too, so he could not help but think that this happy opportunity might as well be an even happier opportunity to celebrate. With a broad smile, he knocked and entered the cabin. He wished in a bright loud voice, "Good morning, sir."

"Please be seated," said the manager in a grave voice.

"Have this sweet first, sir."

"That's for later," said the manager seriously.

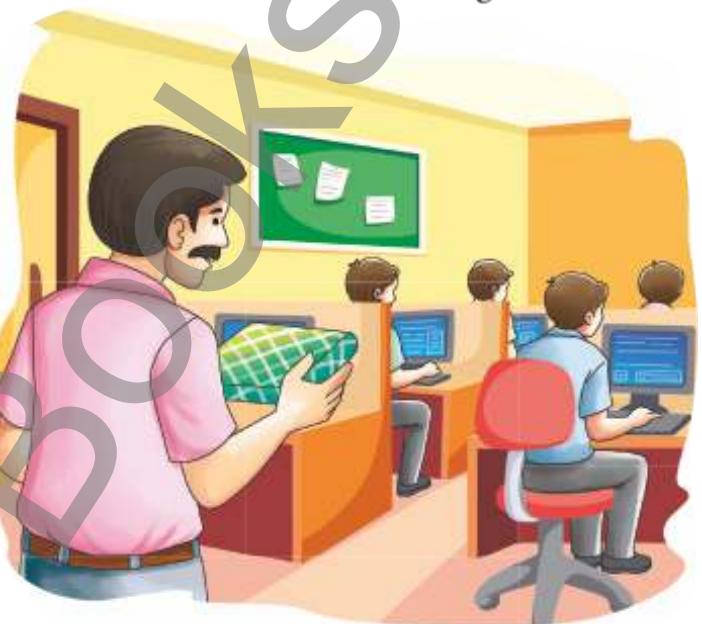
Sushil sat down before the manager, but he could guess something unpleasant in the manager's voice. "Have I committed some mistake?" This was the first thought that arose in his mind. His joy had dampened a bit.

"I have called you in to discuss something serious," the manager's tone was sufficient to perplex Sushil. "Mr Sushil," continued the manager, "You are one of the employees whom this company cherish the most. You have served the company for a pretty long time honestly and diligently, and the company values it. The company doesn't need your services any more."

Sushil felt as if the carpet was being pulled away from under his feet. He felt his heart sinking. He said in a trembling voice, "Sir, I have a daughter of marriageable age. If you turn me out, I will have nowhere to go for my livelihood."

"We can't help. The chairman has decided to computerise the company. If you remember, the company had advised all employees to learn computer. All those employees who did not pay heed to this advice are being laid off."

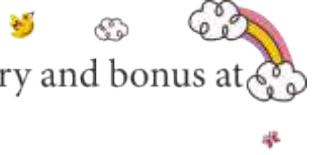
"Sir..." any word failed to come out of Sushil's mouth.



#### Think Out of Box

*Do you think machines development become a most important part of unemployment in India? Discuss.*





The manager handed him over an envelope, "But you will get a month's salary and bonus at the end of one month. Please come then and collect your payment."

Sushil stood up from his chair, he was feeling **giddy**. The manager too stood up and shook his hand.

Sushil did not know whether to offer sweets to the manager or not. He came out of the office empty-handed and headed for his house. His own words uttered for Jaya that same morning were ringing in his ears. One machine had given him joy, and another had **snatched** it all.

### WORD-MEANING

**giddy** - dizzy, **snatched** - grabbed

## Test Your Knowledge

### A. Tick (✓) the correct answers :

1. Jaya's daughter's age was :  
(a) twenty three  (b) eighteen   
(c) twenty two
2. Whom did Sushil want to offer sweets first?  
(a) his director  (b) his colleagues   
(c) his manager
3. Sushil brought a :  
(a) refrigerator  (b) television   
(c) washing machine
4. Jaya's son wanted to become an :  
(a) pilot  (b) doctor   
(c) officer
5. In the office, Sushil was replaced by a \_\_\_\_\_.  
(a) girl  (b) computer   
(c) boy
6. Jaya did :  
(a) office job  (b) household jobs   
(c) Both (a) and (b)





## 2 Faithful Jayant

### Pre-Reading



What is faith? Many people assume that following the principle's of one's religion is faith. But is this really true?

Faith is a believe, trust and loyalty to God. It is not based on one's religion. All religions recognise human beings as equal and respect for human dignity.



### Warm Up

According to you, is being religious equal to having faith? What is your concept of God? Why do we pray to God? Can we call "Nature" the manifestation of God? Write your views on these issues.

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## Read and Enjoy

Let's read the story of a poor woman who never felt defeated with her difficulties. She faced all her difficulties with a brave heart.

Let's read the story about a faithful servant, a beautiful princess and a prince. The faithful servant saved his master at the cost of his own life.

There lived an old, sick king. Jayant was his **faithful** servant. The king said, "My faithful Jayant, I am **worried** about my son. If you do not promise me to be his guardian, I cannot close my eyes in peace."

Then Jayant answered, "I will never leave him. I will always serve him truly, even if it costs my own life." "After my death, you must show him the palace. But not the room where there is the **portrait** of the princess of the Golden Palace... if he sees her picture, he will fall in great love and will undergo great troubles," and the king expired.

One day the faithful Jayant showed prince his inheritance, there was only one room which he did not open. The young king tried to open the door by force. The faithful Jayant said, "I promised your father before he died that you shall not see the contents of this room." But the prince insisted on seeing what was inside the room and Jayant had to **relent**. And as the prince saw the portrait which was so beautiful, he asked, "Whose picture is this?" "She is the daughter of the king of the Golden Palace," replied Jayant. "Oh, Jayant! I cannot live without her. My life is set upon the search for her."

Jayant said to the king, "Everything which she has around her is of gold, goldsmiths made all beautiful things." Then they sailed over the city where the daughter of the king of the Golden Palace lived.

Thereupon, Jayant took some of the golden cups, and went straight to the king's palace. When he came into the castle-yard, he showed her contents to the maid. Then she exclaimed, "Oh! What beautiful golden things!" "The king's daughter must see these gold things". When the king's daughter saw the golden cups; she liked them all and said, "I will purchase them all." Jayant said, "What I have here is nothing compared to what is there in our ship". Out of **curiosity** she said, "Take me to the ship. I will go myself and look at your master's **treasure**."



### Let's Talk

What do you mean by 'being faithful'?

### WORD-MEANING

**faithful** - loyal, **worried** - tensed, **portrait** - paintings, **relent** - to finally agree to something,  
**curiosity** - interest, **treasure** - valuables





Faithful Jayant took her to the ship with great joy. When she stepped on board, faithful Jayant unmoored the ship. Meanwhile the king showed the princess all the golden treasure. After seeing, she wished to depart. But when she came on deck, she **perceived** that they were far from the shore. "Ah," she exclaimed in fright, "I have been betrayed." The king said, "I am not a merchant...but a king. It is true that I have carried you off. But, that is because of my overwhelming love for you." When the princess heard these words, she felt reassured. She willingly became his bride. On their **voyage** on the high sea, Jayant saw three cranes in the air that came flying towards them. The first one said, "The king is carrying the daughter of the king of the Golden palace and said", What matters that? When they go on shore, a fox-coloured horse will spring towards them on which he will mount and as soon as he is on it, it will jump up with him into the air. The second one asked, "Is there no escape?"

"Oh yes, if anybody takes out the firearms which are in the **holster** and with them shoots the horse dead then the young king will be saved. But who knows that? And if anyone knows it and tells him, such a person will be turned into stone from the toe to the knee."

Then the second one spoke again, "I know more...even if the horse is killed, the young king cannot still retain the bride for, when they come into the castle, a beautiful bridal shirt will lie there upon a dish and seem to be woven of gold and silver, but it is nothing but sulphur and pitch and if he puts it on, it will burn him to his marrow and bones." Then the third crane asked, "Is there no escape?"

"Oh yes," answered the second. "If someone takes up the shirt with one's gloves on and throws it into the fire so that it is burnt, the young king will be saved. Whoever knows it and tells him will be turned into stone from the knee to the heart."

Then the third crane spoke, "I know still more...even if the bridal shirt be consumed, still the young king cannot retain his bride. For, after the wedding, a dance will be held and while the young queen dances, she will suddenly turn pale and fall down as if dead and if someone does not raise her up and takes three drops of blood from her right arm and throw



### Be Moral

*Is it ok to break someone trust and faith in you?*

### WORD-MEANING

**perceived** - recognized, **voyage** - journey, **holster** - holder for carrying a gun



them away, she will die. The one who knows it and tells it, will be turned into stone from the toe to the crown."

After that they flew away and faithful Jayant who had perfectly understood all they had said, he thought to save his master, even if he destroys himself.

As soon as they came on shore, it happened just as the crane had foretold, an **immense** fox-coloured horse sprang up. "Capital!" said the king... "this shall carry me to my castle" and he tried to mount... but the faithful Jayant drew the firearms out of the holster and shot the horse dead. Now they went into the castle and there stood a dish in the hall and the splendid bridal shirt lay upon it. The young king went up to it and wished to take it up. But faithful Jayant pushed him away and taking it up with his gloves on, bore it quickly to the fire and let it burn.



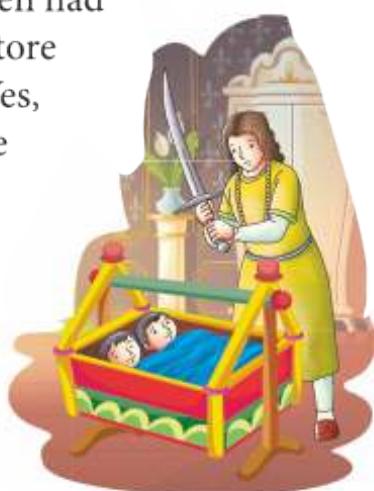
Soon after this, the wedding was celebrated and the bride began to dance. All at once she grew pale and fell as if dead to the ground. Then the faithful Jayant sprang up three drops of blood out of her right arm, threw them away, but when the young king saw this he, became very angry and called out, "Throw him into **prison**!"

The next morning faithful Jayant was brought before the king. He said, "Everyone condemned to die may once before his death speak. Shall I also have that privilege?"

"Yes," answered the king. Jayant narrated the conversation of the cranes which he had heard at sea. Jayant had fallen down at the last word and was turned into stone.

The king put the stone statue near his bed. After some time, the queen had two twins. Once he looked up at the statue and said "Ah, could I restore you to life, my faithful Jayant!" The statue began to speak, saying, "Yes, you can make me alive again, if you, with your own hand, cut off the heads of both your children and sprinkle me with their blood."

The king was **terrified** when he heard that he must kill his two dear children. But he remembered his servant's great fidelity, drawing his sword; he cut off the heads of both of his children with his own hand. And as soon as he sprinkled the statue with the blood, Jayant stood again alive and said: "Your faith shall not go unrewarded..."



#### WORD-MEANING

immense - huge, prison - guardhouse, jail,  
terrified - scared





and taking the heads of the two children, he set them on again and anointed their wounds with their blood and thereupon they healed again as if nothing had happened.

Now the king was full of happiness and he saw the queen coming. He said to her, "My dear queen, we can restore his life, but it will cost us both our little sons whom we must sacrifice." The queen was horrified. She said, "We have to sacrifice our sons."

Then he said, "God be praised!" And then he told her what had happened. Afterwards they lived happily together to the end of their life.

### Think Out of Box

*What will you do to maintain the faith and trust in yourself? Can we sacrifice for others belief?*

### Test Your Knowledge

As per NEP 2020

#### A. Tick (✓) the correct answers :

1. Jayant became a \_\_\_\_\_ statue.  
(a) stone  (b) ruby   
(c) marble
2. The queen gives birth to \_\_\_\_\_.  
(a) none  (b) a single child   
(c) twins
3. The three \_\_\_\_\_ came flying.  
(a) cranes  (b) peacocks   
(c) birds
4. King wanted Jayant to be the \_\_\_\_\_ of his son.  
(a) helper  (b) guardian   
(c) teacher
5. Prince fell in love with the daughter of the king of \_\_\_\_\_ palace.  
(a) Golden  (b) Diamond   
(c) Silver
6. Jayant was a faithful :  
(a) servant  (b) king   
(c) peon





## Love For Nature

### Pre-Reading



Our Earth is a unique planet. Many things like air, water, trees etc make life possible on the Earth. All trees are very important as they absorb one-third of global emission every year.

Yes, but we are continuously destroying trees. In this way we are creating big threats to many valuable species.



### Warm Up

These are the leaves of different types of trees. Identify them and write their names under their pictures :





## Read and Enjoy

Let's read the story of a boy who was emotionally attached with his grandfather and neem tree. This story expresses a man's true love for nature.

Shyamal was looking affectionately at Nimai from his bed. He had been in bed with typhoid for a month and Nimai had been his favourite companion throughout. He could hardly think of a more enchanting scene than the handsome and elegant Nimai standing erect, holding his head high against the background of the shining blue sky. He could almost hear his grandfather's voice in the murmur of the small green leaves, narrating how Hindus believe that a few drops of heavenly nectar fell on the neem tree, which is why it can free people from diseases.

Yes, Nimai was the name of a tree. Possibly, their house was the only one in the world where a tree had a name of its own, and what name could a neem tree have in a Bengali home but Nimai?

### Let's Talk

Trees are disappeared from our surroundings. Why? What are its effects?

Shyamal's grandfather had planted the tree on the day of their *griha pravesh* when the family had first entered the newly-built house. Although Shyamal had not been born then, he felt he could see the afternoon vividly. He could see his then younger Grandpa entering the house with a triumphant smile, bearing the neem plant, which he had collected from the old gardener of his office, in his hand. He had to undertake a lot of trouble to find the old man's house, but he didn't mind it at all.

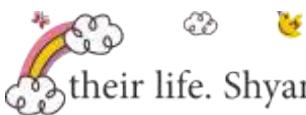
Shyamal could see his Grandpa planting it near the gate, his hands full of mud and Grandma standing near him blowing the conch-shell to extend an auspicious welcome to the new life. Since then, Nimai had been an indispensable part of



### WORD-MEANING

**affectionately** - in a way that shows love, **elegant** - stylish, **erect** - upright in posture, **murmur** - a low and continuous background sound, **victorious**, **griha pravesh** - a ceremony that is observed when a family moves into a new house, **vividly** - clearly, **auspicious** - favourable, **indispensable** - something that is very important





their life. Shyamal had seen his Grandpa sitting under his favourite tree early morning till almost midday, in every season. It was the place for his morning *upasana* (prayer). The neighbourhood remembered his gentle, rhythmic voice in *surya pranam* (salutation to the sun). He even had his morning tea and breakfast there.

In summer, he sat under the tree as the afternoon breeze started to blow. How he loved to see the neem flowers bloom in March and April, the air carrying its light fragrance and the greenish - yellow fruits ripening between June and August! For hours, he sat there reading writing, thinking or just gazing at the numerous thin young leaves playing in the gentle wind; the birds coming and going; the squirrels running up and down its branches.

After retiring as the director of a multinational company, Shyamal's grandfather had found the greatest pleasure in reading books on India's culture, literature and on India's vast wealth of trees and plants. He could talk endlessly on the applications of each and every part of the neem tree in Indian medicine; how the seed oil and soap made from it could be used effectively for various skin diseases like ulcer, ringworms and also to cure **rheumatism**; how the bark could be used as **tincture**. People said it was beneficial against malaria as well. Grandpa always used the fresh tender twigs to clean his teeth and the children of the house learnt to do so as well. Grandma and Mother kept dried neem leaves in books and clothes to protect them from insects. Neem begun, or leaves of neem fried with small pieces of brinjal, was a favourite dish of the whole family and was eaten as a prevention for **pox**.

When Grandpa had smallpox in his childhood, his mother had comforted his burning skin with neem leaves. He often told Shyamal, his most obedient listener, that the neem leaves often reminded him of his mother's affectionate touch.

The shade of the tree was the place where the old man had enjoyed happiness and borne sorrows. After the birth of his grandsons and granddaughters, their *namakarana* (naming) ceremonies and birthday parties had been celebrated there. His love for nature was reflected in the names of his grandchildren: Banani, Banashree and Shyamal.



#### WORD-MEANING



**rheumatism** - a disease that causes joint pain, **tincture** - a solution made of a medicinal substance, **pox** - a disease that causes marks on the skin





## Be Moral

In the age of this new technology we are spending less time with our elders. Don't you think it is a big loss? \*

When his uncles had married, the new brides had been welcomed under the tree.

On Diwali, the first lamp had always been lit there.

Shyamal would forever remember the day when the news came that his grandma had died of a heart attack in his uncle's house in Mysore. The old man didn't utter a word, but had resorted to his Nimai.

He had sat there the entire day like a statue, perhaps trying to gather the strength to bear the heart-breaking loss of his oldest companion, who had departed forever.

And his end too, had come suddenly and silently. Grandpa had been sitting outside even after it was dark and Shyamal's mother had sent him to call his grandfather. At first Shyamal had thought that Grandpa was **dozing** and tried to wake him up. Grandpa, your time for chatting with Nimai is up. His grandfather's had bent down on his chest at Shyamal's touch, and suddenly the child realized that his time had come to an end indeed, even as leaves from the tree fell on the old man's lap.

Shyamal was completely lost in his thoughts looking at thin and shiny leaves. It had always been his favourite pastime. He was a **sentimental** and thoughtful boy, much like his grandfather, but his **materialistic** father had never liked this.

Shyamal's mother came in with the news of the day. 'Well, son, I have a surprise for you. Do you know our new car is coming today?'

This was great news indeed and the boy was highly excited. He jumped down from his bed and announced, 'I am not going to lie here any more. This evening itself, I am going on a long drive with Papa.'

When the first rush of excitement was over, his mother tried to break

### Think Out of Box

What things fascinate you most when you are in the park?



the next news to Shyamal cautiously, 'Your Papa says that we have to cut Nimai down as we are going to need a garage for the new car.'

### WORD-MEANING

**dozing** - sleeping lightly, **sentimental** - emotional, **materialistic** - founders for money and material possessions





Shyamal could not believe his ears. He turned pale because of the **severity** of the shock. When he was finally able to speak, his voice sounded weak, Mummy, how could you ever think of that? Would you ever think of killing me or **Banani** just because of lack of space? Don't you remember Grandpa at all? The fourteen years old boy's voice was lost in uncontrollable sobs.

Mother considered the situation beyond her control and called Father. There was a long argument between father and son, but the son could not be moved an inch. 'How on Earth could you think of that? I can still feel Grandpa's presence when I am under that tree.'

'But, this is just your imagination. Your grandfather was my father. I, too, loved him. We can remember him in a hundred other ways. Moreover, where do we keep the car?'

But, Shyamal was uncontrollable and **immovable**. Father went out in his worst mood saying that 'he did not know how his son could prefer a neem tree over a new car. Anyway, the tree-cutters would come the next morning.'

Only God knows how the boy felt that day. But one of the strangest events of his life happened that evening. The sky had become dark with heavy, black clouds. Just as it was time for his father to return, it began thundering outside, and big raindrops started to fall.

The scent of wet Earth reminded Shyamal of his grandfather and how he used to fill his chest with long breaths of this fragrance.

### From the Real World

*The first Earth day was celebrated on 22 April, 1970, and the first Environment Day on 5 June, 1972. Earth days makes people aware about pollution, global warming and encourages people to action for the safety of planet Earth. Environment day makes people aware about population growth, wildlife crime, marine pollution as well as global warming.*

*Find out when Environment day hosted in India.*

Shyamal was thinking that this would be the last rain of Nimai's life, when a very bright flash blinded him for a second. All the lights went off instantly and an enormous sound almost deafened him. Shyamal could only see that Nimai was burning and his father was heard screaming from somewhere near the gate. All this was too much for the boy's already weak body and mind to handle and he **lost consciousness**.

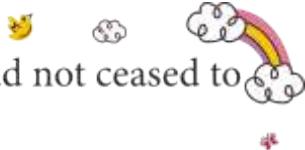
When he recovered, he found everybody, including his father, by his side. To his great surprise, his father was in tears. Gradually, he came to know that a streak of lightning had struck the tree. Had Nimai not been there, his father was sure to have been struck, as he

### WORD-MEANING



**severity** - seriousness, **immovable** - incapable of being moved from one's opinion, **lost consciousness** - fainted

had been getting out of the car at that time. Even as he was dying, Nimai had not ceased to extend his service to his master's family.



Next morning, Shyamal was not in his room. A slip of paper on his table said that he was going out with their old servant, Prasad.

As the hours passed, his parents grew more and more anxious. Shyamal's father, uncles and friends went looking for him at his friends' houses, hospitals and police stations, but nobody could get any news. The fourteen years old boy and the old servant seemed to have vanished from the city.

It was almost 10:30 at night. Every room of the house was lit and full of people, but nobody talked. Mother could not cry any more. She was staring vacantly at the burnt remains of Nimai.

**Antonym**  
vanished - living

Suddenly, somebody shouted, 'He is coming.' Everybody rushed out. Shyamal could be seen at a distance, followed by Prasad. The boy had walked a long way as was apparent by his sweating forehead and dust-covered knees. But all this was forgotten because of the big, triumphant smile on his face. In his hands, he held a small neem plant like a precious jewel.



Everybody tried to question him at once, but he only answered his mother, 'Mummy, I found Grandpa's old gardener's house, with the help of Prasad uncle. I brought this plant in Nimai's place.' Shyamal's face was illuminated by the **lustre** that his grandpa had passed on to him.

—Jyanti Adhikari

#### WORD-MEANING

**lustre** - the brightness





## 4 The Special Prize

### Pre-Reading



Sometimes without knowing the person or situations we make snap judgments and decisions.

This is called perception. But it is wrong, we must first try to find reality. There are multiple points views about a person or any situation.



### Warm Up

"Our thoughts become our words, our words become our actions and our actions define our character."

Explain this in the given lines.

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## Read and Enjoy

Let's read the story to know how our actions can change the perception that others hold about us.

"What a naughty boy! He deserves to be **thrashed**. I have also received reports of his getting into fights with other boys. Send for him." "Mohan! Hey, Mohan!" the headmaster shouted for the **chowkidar**. Mohan guessed from the growl in the voice that the headmaster was very angry. He rushed in **apprehensively** and asked, "Yes, sir?"

"Hurry and get Tanay of class V," the headmaster ordered.

Let me introduce Tanay to all of you. He is the second son of Rahul, the clerk of Pachumani village. Although rather thin he is strong, somewhat dark and has bright eyes. He is quite good at studies, but both at home and outside, there is no end to his pranks. He is always getting into trouble. But it must be admitted that he is never the first one to pick up a quarrel. But if anybody offends him he never hesitates to give back as good as

he gets. He is the leader of his age-group and is always ready to take up the **cudgels** on their behalf. He is popular and respected by his companions.

After completing primary school at the village, Tanay had gone for a year to a High School, 25 miles away and stayed with his uncle. Now he is back home and is studying at Jnanpeeth High School, a mile and a half from his village. He had only been at Jnanpeeth a month and already there was a complaint against him. Harit, the shopkeeper of

Pachumani village had complained to the

Headmaster that Tanay and a number of other boys had without **provocation** thrown stones at his shop the previous evening. Tanay had been the ring leader.

Tanay came in with the chowkidar and after

### Let's Talk

Discuss some methods of dealing with injustice?

### WORD-MEANING



**thrashed** - to beat hard, **chowkidar** - guard or doorman, **apprehensively** - with anxiety or tension,  
**cudgels** - clubs used as weapons, **provocation** - aggravation or incitement





glancing **timidly** at the Headmaster stood with head lowered. Swinging his cane the Headmaster demanded, "You are Tanay. Aren't you?" "Yes, sir", Tanay replied politely. "Do you know this gentleman?" the Headmaster asked pointing at the shopkeeper. "Yes sir. He lives in our village."

"Well, is it true that last evening you and your friends threw stones at his shop? Tell me the truth, or I will **flog** the skin of your back."

"Yes sir. It is true that I threw stones at his shop with Rohit and others."

"Why? Why did you do that, you rascal? answer me," the Headmaster thundered.

"Sir, this man cheats. He charges higher prices and gives less. Moreover, he has introduced a new kind of paper-bag which is padded at the bottom. The day before yesterday we bought a kilo of dal from him. When we weighed the contents at home, it turned out to be only 800 grams. The padding in the bag weighed 50 grams, he had short-weighted 150 grams. It is common knowledge in the village. When I questioned him about it yesterday, he abused me and chased me out of his shop. That is why I and the other boys threw stones at his shop."

The Headmaster looked at the shopkeeper, his face was **crimson**. The Headmaster thought for some time, then turning to Tanay he said, "Even so, what you did was not right. It is wrong to harm the property of others. If the shopkeeper is dishonest it is for the government or the village panchayat to take up the matter. It is none of your business. Hold out your hand!" Tanay received five strokes of the cane. When he returned to his class, his classmates looked at him sideways and **sniggered**.

There was another incident a few days later. It concerned a fierce ox which was menacing the locality. It had gored several people. If anyone approached it with a **stave** it would charge at them. Everyone was terrified of it. The **effrontery** of the animal aroused Tanay's spirit. "Wait you big bully! I will tame you," he mumbled. During the school-break he brought a stave

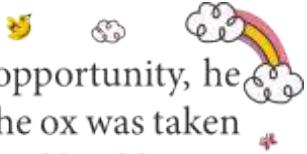


#### WORD-MEANING

**timidly** - shyly, **flog** - beat severely with a whip, rod or cane, **crimson** - a dark red colour,

**sniggered** - a disrespectful quiet laugh, **stave** - a crosspiece between the legs of a chair, **effrontery** - arrogant behaviour that is not right





and a piece of string and slowly approached the ox. Waiting for the right opportunity, he jumped on to its back and put the string in his mouth as if bridling a horse. The ox was taken by surprise but the moment it felt the weight on its back it started **stampeding** and **buckling**. It broke into a gallop hoping to throw the **tormentor** off its back. Meanwhile, the school-break was over and class had resumed but Tanay was busy taming the ox. He managed to keep himself on the back of the tossing, buckling **bronco**, holding the string firmly. He patted the ox's back. That further **enraged** the animal. It crashed into the school compound and then into the room of class VII. The teacher and students were **petrified** and scattered in all directions, shoving and pushing their way out of the classroom. In the **stampede** many of them stumbled and fell. The teacher, Rashmi Sahara managed to escape unhurt by running outside. Several glass panes were broken by the horns of the wildly prancing animal. Finally, the **dazed** ox ran **bellowing** desperately into the school field and fell on its side. A few seconds later it jumped up and ran for its life, without a backward glance. So, there was another complaint lodged against Tanay, this time by the teacher Rashmi Sahara. The Headmaster flew into a rage. The boy was a menace and a trouble-maker. Not only the students but also the school building had suffered. The Headmaster **summoned** Tanay again.

Tanay appeared with Mohan the chowkidar. On seeing him the Headmaster's temper boiled over, "You are a wicked boy! Why did you lead the ox into the classroom? Speak up!" the Headmaster demanded **brandishing** his cane.

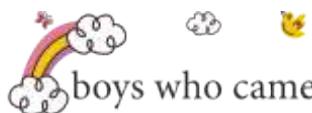
Tanay replied, head lowered, "Sir, I didn't lead the ox into the classroom. I was only riding on its back to tame it, and it suddenly ran into the room." "Who asked you to ride an ox during school hours? Hold out your hand."

Tanay received 15 strokes of the Headmaster's cane. His classmates again sniggered and **ridiculed** him. He was branded the bad boy of the school. Soon afterwards a notice was circulated in the school. It read: Tanay of class V has been given 15 strokes for riding an ox into class VII and upsetting the teacher and students, also for causing breakage of glass panes, he has been further fined ₹ 2500/- to pay for the damage. The notice concluded that Tanay would be expelled from school if he committed any such offence in future. A few

#### WORD-MEANING

**stampeding** - walk heavily with a sound, **buckling** - fold or collapse, **tormentor** - someone who disturbs/torments you, **bronco** - an unbroken/untamed bull/horse, **enraged** - extreme anger, **petrified** - extremely afraid, **stampede** - panic, prancing - to walk in a proud way, **dazed** - the feeling of distress/confusion due to some mishap, **bellowing** - a loud sound by an animal, **summoned** - ask to come for an official matter, **brandishing** - move or swing back and forth aggressively, **ridiculed** - using language or behaviour to humiliate someone





boys who came out of their classes on the pretext of spitting outside, made faces at Tanay.

On the same evening the Headmaster had returned home, had his tea and was taking a **stroll**. This was his daily routine. **Dusk** was falling as he was on his way back when he saw the school's bad boy. Tanay was holding an old beggar-woman's hand, while on his head he carried her begging basket. Walking along side jeering at him were two boys of his class, Narendra, the one who came first and Mahesh. The old woman had fever. It had come on her during her begging round. She could hardly walk.

On seeing the **plight** of the old woman Tanay had lifted her basket on his head and was taking the old woman's hand said, "Granny, hold on to me. I'll walk you home."

When Narendra and Mahesh saw the Headmaster they saluted him and looked at Tanay with a **derisive** smile, pleased that the Headmaster was witnessing himself one of Tanay's misdeeds. When the Headmaster questioned the old woman, she told him how Tanay had come forward to help her. Her voice was trembling as she pointed to Tanay and said, "Had this dear boy not been there, I would still have been lying on the road. May God shower him with blessings. The other two there also saw how ill I was but far from lending a helping hand they have been making fun of this dear boy. How heartless they are." The old woman started panting for breath. The Headmaster scolded Narendra and Mahesh and sent them away. He asked Tanay to take the old woman to her home.

Two weeks later the Headmaster was returning home from his walk. On the road he saw the ox lying with a broken leg and kneeling besides it was Tanay rubbing some medicine on its injured leg and bandaging it. There were tears in Tanay's eyes. He was startled when the Headmaster came and stood near him. He saluted the Headmaster with folded hands. The Headmaster asked, "What are you doing here, Tanay?" "Sir, some wicked boys have broken the ox's leg. It is in great pain. Sir, is it not wrong to hurt dumb animals?" Tanay asked sadly.

"Didn't you ride this same ox the other day, saying that it was wicked and needed

taming? How has it become so good in your eyes today?" "Well, sir, it was very wicked. But since the day I rode it, it has reformed. It has not only stopped attacking people but

#### WORD-MEANING



**stroll** - a leisurely walk in a public place, **dusk** - the time of day immediately following sunset,  
**plight** - an unpleasant situation, **derisive** - unkind



also makes way for them. So they shouldn't have hurt it. It is in agony. I have chewed a few medicinal leaves and dressed his leg wound with the pulp. I have heard father say that it is very good for injuries, sir," Tanay said, his heart full of sympathy for the ox and his eyes **brimming** with tears. The Headmaster stood **engrossed** in thought. Then he looked at Tanay's face and affectionately patted him. Without a word, he started on his way home. His eyes were moist.

It was the prize-giving day of Jnanpeeth High School. The President of Gauhati College had been invited to preside over the function. This time the Headmaster Rachit Barucha had decided to award a special prize to the student with the best character. Two books - the biographies of Mahatma Gandhi and Swami Vivekanand, were to be given as prizes. In the classroom students were discussing the special prize. In class V, Narendra laughed **jeeringly** and said loudly to Bhavesh, sitting next to him, "Do you know, Bhavesh, that the special prize for the best character is being awarded to Tanay?" The boys roared with laughter. Tanay's face grew red with humiliation and shame. He wished the ground would swallow him up.

### Be Moral

*Should we become judgmental of people based only on one or two interactions?*

The function started. After the welcome of the President, the Secretary's report was read. This was followed by a cultural programme. Then the President delivered his speech and a few others spoke as well. Next came, the prize distribution. The awardees glowed with pleasure and pride. Then was the time for the announcement of the special prize. Everyone waited expectantly. Addressing the assembly the Headmaster announced, "Honourable President and respected ladies and gentlemen, it has been decided to give the special prize for the best character to Shriman Tanay Hazari Lal of class V."

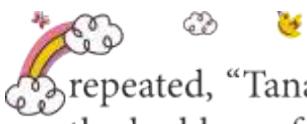
The teachers and students were **dumbfounded**. The faces of Narendra and Bhavesh were a sight to see. Tanay could not believe his ears. He could not muster the courage to get up to go on the stage and receive the prize. The Headmaster



### WORD-MEANING

**brimming** - be completely full, **engrossed** - consume all of one's attention, **jeeringly** - in a disrespectful mocking manner, **dumbfounded** - to be struck speechless due to surprise





repeated, "Tanay Hazari Lal, class V." His head reeled; could it be true, that he, known as the bad boy of the school, was being called up to receive the best-character award? Tanay stood up, went to the President, did namaskar and received the prize. The Headmaster then narrated how Tanay had helped the old beggar woman and nursed the injured ox. He also gave Tanay ₹ 500/- from his own pocket. The hall **resounded** with applause. Tanay's eyes **glistened** with tears of joy.

#### WORD-MEANING

**resounded** - echo with sound, **glistened** - be shiny as if wet.

### Test Your Knowledge ..... As per NEP 2020

#### A. Tick (✓) the correct answers :

1. How has the author described Tanay?  
(a) fat but weak and fair complexioned  
(b) thin but strong and with bright eyes  
(c) thin, weak and dark complexioned
2. For what was Tanay punished for the first time?  
(a) for running away from school  
(b) for beating up other kids  
(c) for throwing stones at a shop
3. How did Tanay justify himself for throwing stones at the shopkeeper?  
(a) the shopkeeper was cheating customers  
(b) the shopkeeper spoke badly with everyone  
(c) the shopkeeper was selling heavy shopping bags
4. For what did Tanay get punishment, for the second time?  
(a) for riding a horse in school hours  
(b) for misbehaving with Rashmi Sahara ma'am  
(c) for riding an ox in the school/classroom
5. What nickname was given to Tanay by his schoolmates?  
(a) the intelligent boy of the school  
(b) the bad boy of the school  
(c) the menace and wicked boy





5

# True Friendship

## Pre-Reading



True friends make our life happy, enjoyable and easy.

True friends improves our lives and keeps us connected. They support us and push to succeed.



## Warm Up

Look at the picture of Sri Krishna and Sudama. Write a few lines about their friendship.

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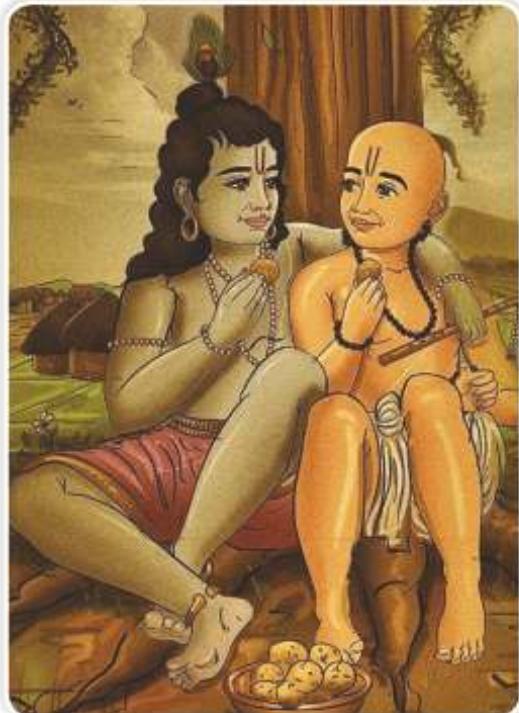
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## Read and Enjoy

Let's read the story which tells us that true friendship is rare and should be treasured.

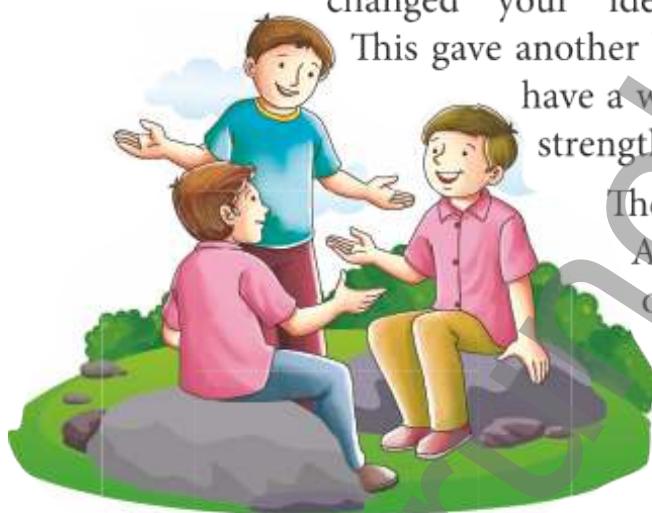
It was the hour of **twilight** on the day of the Holi festival. A group of village boys gathered under a neem tree, who were playing, throwing dust at one another.

Amit and Emad came walking arm-in-arm and joined them. Both were wearing new clothes stitched that very day, identical in every respect: colour, size and material. The boys were in the same class, at the same school and lived in houses facing each other at the corner of the street. The boys' parents were farmers **owning** about the same size of holdings and occasionally had to borrow money from the moneylender to tide over difficult times. In short, the two boys had everything in common except that Amit had both parents living and three brothers, whereas Emad had only his father.

The two boys came and sat on the pavement. Seeing them identically dressed, one of the boys asked, "Hey Amit, Emad, have you changed your identities?"



This gave another boy a mischievous idea. "Why don't the two of you have a wrestling match to see whether you are also equal in strength or whether one is tougher than the other," he said.



The first boy thought this a good idea and added, "Yes, Amit, Emad, let's see which of you can get the better of the other." "Come on!" shouted another boy. "It's only for fun." Emad looked at Amit. "No," said Amit firmly. "My mother will thrash me."

His fear was well founded. As he was leaving home, his mother had warned him, "You made such a **fuss** to get new clothes! If you tear or dirty them, you know what is coming to you." It's true that Amit had **bullied** his parents. When he heard that Emad was getting a new shirt, he had insisted that he should get one exactly like

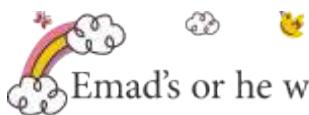
### Be Moral

*Childhood friendship is devoid of selfish interests and is pure. What do you say about this?*

### WORD-MEANING

**twilight** - time of day immediately after sunset, **fuss** - worry unnecessarily, **bullied** - frighten with threats





Emad's or he would not go to school. His mother had tried to reason with him, "Son, Emad has to work on the farm; his clothes are worn out. Yours are still as good as new." "Who says so?" Amit had cried, widening a tear in his shirt with his finger.

His mother tried another **gambit**. "Emad was given a thrashing by his father before he was given his new clothes. Would you also like a thrashing?" Amit refused to be put off. "Okay," he said **defiantly**. "Tie me up! Beat me! But you have to give me a shirt like Emad's." "All right," replied his mother washing her hands off him. "Go and ask your father."

Amit knew that if his mother had said no his father was not likely to agree. But he was not the one to give up so easily. He refused to go to school, refused to eat and refused to come home at night. Finally, his mother gave in and persuaded his father to buy him new clothes. Then she brought Amit from Emad's father's cowshed where he had been hiding.

Having left home smartly dressed Amit was **loath** to do anything that would spoil his clothes. In any case, he was most reluctant to wrestle with Emad. Just then one of the **rowdies** of the gang put his arms around Amit's neck and said, "Come on, let's have a wrestling match." He dragged Amit on to the open ground. Amit tried to wriggle out of the boy's grasp and said, "Look Kallu, I do not want to wrestle. Leave me alone." Kallu refused to let go and pushed Amit to the ground. The other boys shouted in glee, "Amit has lost, Kallu has won! Kallu has won! Hurrah, hurrah!"

Emad lost his temper. He took Kallu by the hand and said, "Come on, I'll fight you." Kallu hesitated, but the other boys egged him on. The two boys **grappled** with each other. Emad tripped Kallu and sent him **sprawling** on to the ground. Kallu began to howl. The boys realized that what had started as a joke had become a serious affair. Afraid that Kallu's parents might beat them, they scattered and ran away in different directions.



### Think Out of Box

What do you think is the value of playing such physical contact sports like wrestling?

### WORD-MEANING

**gambit** - a move in a game/conversation, **defiantly** - in a rebellious manner, **loath** - unwilling to do something/unwilling, **reluctant**, **rowdies** - someone who disturbs public peace by being loud and rough, **grappled** - to grip or seize, **sprawling** - an ugly posture with arms and legs spread about



Amit and Emad also left the arena. They had hardly gone a few steps when Amit's eyes fell on Emad's shirt. Its pocket and a six inch strip were torn. They stopped dead in their tracks overcome with fear. They examined the tears in the shirt. As if this was not enough, they heard Emad's father shouting from his house, "Where is Emad?"

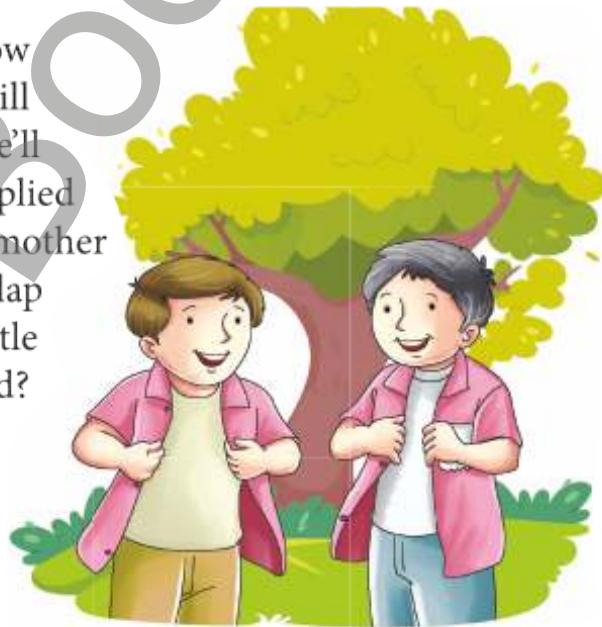
The boy's hearts stopped beating. They knew they were going to have it. No sooner Emad's father saw his torn shirt, he would skin him alive. He had borrowed money from the moneylender, spent a lot of time choosing the cloth and having it stitched. Again Emad's father shouted, "Who's crying? Where is Emad?" Suddenly Amit had a brain-wave. He dragged Emad to one side. "Come with me," he said. As they entered the lane between the two houses, Amit started unbuttoning his shirt. "Come on, take off your shirt. You wear mine," he ordered. "What about you? What will you wear?" asked Emad. "I'll wear your shirt," replied Amit. "Hurry up before anyone sees us."

Emad began unbuttoning his shirt but could not follow what Amit was getting at. "Exchange shirts? How will that help? Your father will thrash you." "Of course, he'll thrash me. But I have a mother who'll protect me," replied Amit. Emad had often seen Amit hide behind his mother when his father wanted to beat him. He had to take a slap or two from his mother, for sure! But what was a gentle slap from a mother compared to the father's heavy hand? Amit's heart was **pounding** with fear. But he was in luck. It was Holi and it was only natural that there should be some rough play. When she saw his torn shirt his mother only **frowned**, and forgave him. She took a needle and thread and repaired the torn shirt.

The boys got over their fear and set off again arm-in-arm to see the Holi bonfire outside their village. A boy who had noticed the exchange of shirts spoilt the fun by **taunting** them, "So you have interchanged, huh?" Fearing that the boy had seen them exchange their shirts, Amit and Emad tried to **slink** away. By then other boys also knew what had happened and set up a chant, "Adal-Badal, Adal-Badal." The two boys tried to slip away but the gang followed them yelling, "Adal-Badal, Adal-Badal." Fearing that the story might reach their fathers' ears, the two friends ran towards their homes.

### WORD-MEANING

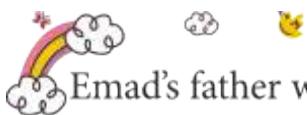
**pounding** - rapid strong heartbeats, **frowned** - facial expression of dislike or displeasure,  
**taunting** - to incite by mocking, **slink** - walk stealthily



### Let's Talk

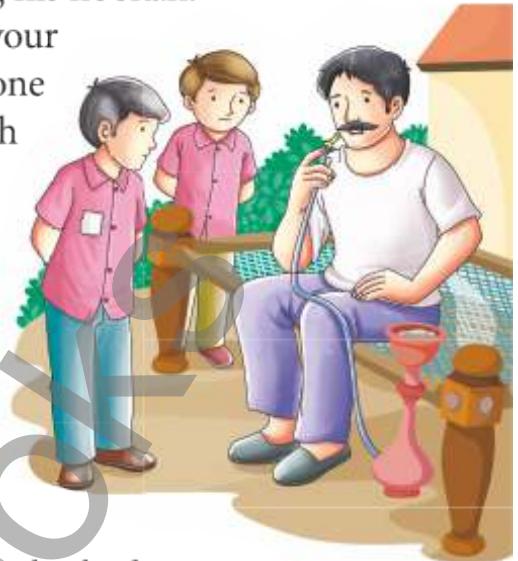
What according to you is the significance of burning a bonfire for celebrating Holi?





Emad's father was sitting on a cot in the front yard, smoking his hookah.

He called out to the boys. "Why are you running away from your friends? Come and sit near me," he ordered. His gentle tone worried the boys. "It is just as we feared. He knows the truth and is only pretending to be kind," they thought. Emad's father, a Pathan, picked up ten years old Amit in his arms. He called out, "Vamini Bhabhi, from today your son Amit is mine." Vamini Bhabhi came out of her home, laughed and said, "Hussain Bhai, you can't even look after one son, how will you cope with two?" "As from today, Vamini Bhabhi, I am ready to bring up twenty-one if they are like Amit," said Hussain in an emotionally choked voice.



The Pathan cleared his throat and told Vamini Bhabhi that he had seen the two boys go into the lane. "I decided to see what the boys were up to," he said. The other women of the neighbourhood also gathered round to hear what the Pathan was saying. What he had to say didn't take long. He told them how the boys had exchanged their shirts and said, "Emad asked Amit, "What if your father beats you?" and do you know what your Amit replied? He said, "But then I have a mother." With tears in his eyes, Hussain said, "How true! Amit's reply has changed me. He has taught me what is truly worthwhile."

The women were moved by the tale of Amit and Emad's affection for each other. Just then, the boys who were returning from the Holi bonfire, surrounded Amit and Emad. They chanted, "Amit-Emad, Adal-Badal, Bhai Adal-Badal." This time Amit and Emad were not upset. On the **contrary** they were happy to be called Adal-Badal. The story of Adal-Badal spread through the village. It reached the village Headman who announced: "From today we will call Amit Adal and Emad Badal."

The boys were very happy, soon not only the village but even the skies **resounded** with the cries, "Amit-Emad, Adal-Badal, Adal-Badal!"

### From the Real World

We all heard about true friendship of Lord Krishna and Arjuna. Lord Krishna always teach, guide, support and show correct way to Arjuna.

Do you think true friends are those who only share similar values and interests?

True friends are those who stand by us and support us in every path of life, who guides us and correct us when we are wrong and help us to live flawless life.

### WORD-MEANING

**contrary** - opposed in nature, **resounded** - echo with sound





# Climate Change

## Pre-Reading



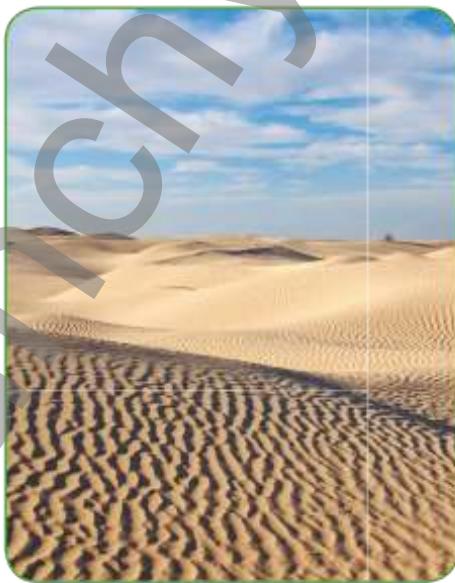
The entire world is facing the threat of climate change. For a better future for next generation we must prepare our Earth. We must keep it free from any kind of pollution.

We all want a good future. The impact of climate change is seen on economy, health of people and wildlife as well. We must work together to solve this problem.



## Warm Up

Write the type of climate you see in these areas (dry, humid, cold) :





## Read and Enjoy

Let's read the article about climate change, its causes, impacts and solutions. This is the major problem of countries all around the world.

Look out through your window. Is it raining, cloudy or sunny outside? Whatever condition is, it is today's weather. Rainy, snow, windy or hot, they are all weather that changes over weeks, hours, days and even minutes.



Weather is day to day condition in the atmosphere. Climate is long term weather of an area. It is a region's general weather pattern that happens over a course of 25 to 30 years. It is **favourable** climate that makes life possible on the Earth. The climate of an area affects the kind of plants that grow there. Plants growth depend on **precipitation** and temperature. As a result we get variety of food in our meals.

### Let's Talk

Do you know why do different crops need type of climate to grow?

We can see different types of climate on the Earth. Climate classification was developed in 19th century by Russian-German climatologist, Wladimir Köppen. It was based on the temperature, the amount of precipitation and the times of year when precipitation occurs. He divided climate into five types — tropical, dry, temperate, continental and polar. This classification is based on local vegetation because climate and vegetation are intricately linked.



The type of climate we experience today was **predicted** by many scientist many years back. In 1896, Swedish scientist Svante Arrhenius explained that if quantity of CO<sub>2</sub> in the atmosphere were to drop by half the current amount, than the Earth's surface temperature could drop by four degrees. If the **concentration** were to double then it would warm by four degrees. He also predicted about the influence of human activity on climate change. He was **renowned** with Nobel Prize for Chemistry in 1903. He suggested that human caused **emissions** of CO<sub>2</sub> from burning fossil fuels would raise global temperature. In his article, published in 1896, he warned that if CO<sub>2</sub> level increases the Earth would experience

### WORD-MEANING

**favourable** - suitable, **precipitation** - rain or snow that falls, **predicted** - said that an action would happen, **concentration** - the relative amount of particular substances contained with a solution in a particular volume of space, **renowned** - known, **emission** - the discharge of something





warming of between 5 and 6°C. He also cleared that human industrial activity was the main source of CO<sub>2</sub> into the atmosphere. But unfortunately, all his studies were ignored.

### Be Moral

*There are many things present in nature that are overuse. Discuss why we should put a limit on our consumption.*

Charles David Keeling, an American scientist, also proved that the level of carbon dioxide was increasing in the atmosphere due to burning of fossil fuels. He predicted that such a rise might cause global warming. Today scientist say that if greenhouse gas level continue to rise at present level the Earth's global average temperature will rise to 4°C during the 21st century. They say that human activities are 95% responsible for climate change. Greenhouse gases trap heat and make the Earth warmer. Burning more and more fossil fuels like oil and coal which release CO<sub>2</sub> increase greenhouse gases in the atmosphere. Carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, ozone and chlorofluorocarbons are greenhouse gases. Human activities are adding too much of these gases to the atmosphere and as a result they let sunlight pass through the atmosphere but prevent the heat that the sunlight brings from leaving the atmosphere. During the day sun warms up the Earth and during the night the Earth releases heat back into the air. Some of the heat that Earth releases is **trapped** by the greenhouse gases in the atmosphere. That's why Earth is getting warmer day by day. Too much of these gases can cause Earth's atmosphere more warm. Warmer temperature are causing changes to the aspects of climate such as rain, snow and clouds. They are also causing changes to other parts of the Earth such as oceans, ice, marine life, and human beings. In future we will see much more rain and risk of flood due to warm temperature.



Snow and ice melt when the climate warms over the past 100 years mountains glaciers in all around the world has decreased in size.



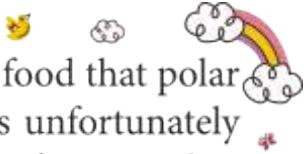
Greenland is situated between the Arctic and Atlantic oceans. It is almost entirely covered with ice. Due to rising temperature the ice sheet in Greenland melting faster and country's landscape is changing. Climate is warming rapidly in the north polar region.

Sea ice and thickness is decreasing in the Arctic Ocean. The population of animals and number of plants are also changing in the Arctic. Sea

ice is a critical habitat for a variety of animals such as polar bears,

**WORD-MEANING**  
trapped - caught





seals, and penguins. The population of these animals is declining. All of the food that polar bears eat come from the sea. They hunt for food on floating sea ice that is unfortunately **shrinking** each year. The ice sheet of Greenland has last over 5,000 gigatons of ice over last four decades. Sea levels are rising many millimetres. Melting ice sheets and glaciers are adding trillions of tons of freshwater into our oceans. Scientists estimate that if the entire Greenland ice sheet were to melt global sea level would rise about 7 metres. They estimate that entire coastal cities could be underwater within 50 years like Miami in US and Osaka in Japan. They further estimate that entire island nations in the Pacific could completely disappear.

### Think Out of Box

*Think of any two ways you can follow to prevent the emission of CO<sub>2</sub> into the atmosphere.*

### From the Real World

IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change) is an intergovernmental body of the United Nations. It provides regular scientific assessments on climate change. It has three working groups. It was established in 1988 by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and World Meteorological Organization (WMO). It is governed by 195 member states.

*Discuss how these bodies help to cope environment threats.*

Warm sea surface temperature is affecting too many marine organisms like kelp and corals. Many of the coral animals die because of warm water.

To **tackle** this problem, In Paris in 2015, world leaders from 197 countries signed the Paris Agreement. They pledged to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. They set their own targets on how much CO<sub>2</sub> they would emit. But CO<sub>2</sub> level did not stop.



Though climate change is affecting us, natural disasters are becoming more and more **intense** and frequent with **devastating** consequences, floods, droughts in different parts of the world, creating a situation that is real **threat** to human beings, we are not doing enough.

We need to change everything about the way we run our world. Experts say it is all of us that can change the world. The global population has tripled in the past 70 years.

### Synonym

pledge - vow

### WORD-MEANING

**shrinking** - becoming smaller in size, **tackle** - make determined efforts to deal with, **intense** - extreme  
**devastating** - damaging, **threat** - the possibility that something unwanted will happen





Population growth along with increasing consumption, tends to increase emissions of climate changing greenhouse gases. Population pressure increases emission through the burning of fossil fuels, increased material extraction, **deforestation**, industrial, agricultural and other manufacturing process.

Trees absorb carbon dioxide and **regulate** the climate. When trees are cut down they release their stored carbon dioxide into the atmosphere. Fertilizers that are added to crops are a major contributor of non-CO<sub>2</sub> greenhouse gas emission. When farmers add nitrogen containing fertilizers to their field, some of nitrogen is taken up by plants but another portion is lost to the environment. This seeps into the soil and taken away into the rivers and other water bodies by rain.



If we don't slow this warming down it could mean **catastrophe**. Although there are many challenges we can overcome this problem.

- Use of renewable energy is the best way to stop using fossil fuels. These include technologies like solar, wind, tidal and geothermal power.
- By reducing the use of petrol and diesel vehicles like aeroplane, ships, car etc. Bicycle or public transport can be used instead of car or bike.
- By avoiding products with a lot of packaging. It can reduce garbage by 10 per cent.
- By improving farming practices and investing in **efficient** form of agriculture.
- By protecting forest because trees suck huge amount of carbon dioxide. So, we must plant more and more trees.
- By turning off electronic devices when those are not in use.
- By protecting oceans as they observe large amount of carbon dioxide.
- By reducing the use of plastic.
- By buying things that can be reused.
- By consuming less products from animals.
- By composting organic waste.

#### WORD-MEANING

**deforestation** - the action of cleaning a wide area of trees, **regulate** - to control, **catastrophe** - an event that cause great damage, **efficient** - effective





## 7 The Exchange

### Pre-Reading



We cannot imagine our school life or work place without any friend. Friendship is the most beautiful relation of our life. True friends always stand by us at the time of need and help in making decisions.

These are the friends who come first to help at the time of need. Friends remove loneliness and reduce stress. Everyone needs a good friend.



### Warm Up

Tick (✓) the ways you treat your friend :



Write your friend's qualities.

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## Read and Enjoy

Let's read the story of six boys how enmity amongst them turned into friendship by the effort of a one boy.

ONE AFTERNOON three weeks later, Swaminathan stood before Mani's house and gave a low whistle. Mani joined him. They started for Rajam's house **speculating** on the way what the surprise (which Rajam had said he would give them if they saw him that afternoon) might be.



"I think," said Swaminathan. "Rajam is merely joking. It is **merely** a trick to get us to his house."

He was very nearly pushed into a gutter for this doubt.

"Probably he has bought a monkey or something," Swaminathan **ventured** again. Mani was gracious enough to admit that it might be so. They thought of all possible subjects that might surprise them, and gave up the **attempt** in the end.

Their thoughts turned to their enemies. "You know what I am going to do?" Mani asked. "I am going to break Somu's waist. I know where he lives. He lives in Kabir Street, behind the market. I have often seen him coming out at nights to a shop in the market for betel leaves. I shall first fling a stone at the municipal lamp and put it out." "You have no idea how dark Kabir Street is.... I shall wait with my club, and as soon as he appears. He will **sprawl** in the dust with broken bones.... Swaminathan **shuddered** at the thought." And that is not all, said Mani, "I am going to get that Pea under by heel and press him to the Earth. And Sankar is going to hang by his **tuft** over Sarayu, from a peepul branch....."

They stopped talking when they reached Rajam's house. The gate was bolted, and they got up the wall and jumped in. A servant came running towards them. He asked, "Why, did you climb the wall?" "Is the wall your property?" Mani asked and burst into laughter.

But if you had broken your ribs the servant began.

"What is that to you? Your ribs are safe, are they not?"

Swaminathan asked **ungracious**ly and laughed.

### Let's Talk

*Jealousy kills all the good qualities of a person. Don't you think so?*

### WORD-MEANING

**speculating** - forming an opinion about something without knowing detail, **merely** - only, **ventured** - exposed to a chance of damage, **attempt** - effort, **fling** - throw, **sprawl** - spread arms and leg while lying down, **shuddered** - trembled with fear, **tuft** - bunch of hair, **ungracious**ly - wickedly





"And just a word more," Mani said, "Do you happen to be by any chance the Police Superintendent's son?"

"No, no," replied the servant.

"Very well then," replied Mani, "We have come to see and talk to the police Superintendent's son." The servant **beat a hasty retreat**.

They banged their fists on Rajam's door. They heard the clicking of the latch and hid themselves behind the pillar.

Rajam peeped out and shut the door, again.

They came out, stood before the door, and wondered what to do. Swaminathan applied his mouth to the keyhole and mewed like a cat. Mani pulled him away and putting his mouth to the hole barked like a dog. The latch clicked again, and the door slightly opened. Mani whispered to Swaminathan. "You are a blind kitten. I will be a blind puppy."

Mani fell down on his knees and hands, shut his eyes tight, pushed the door with his head, and entered Rajam's room in the role of a blind puppy. Swaminathan crawled behind him with shut eyes, mewing **for all he was worth**.

### Be Moral

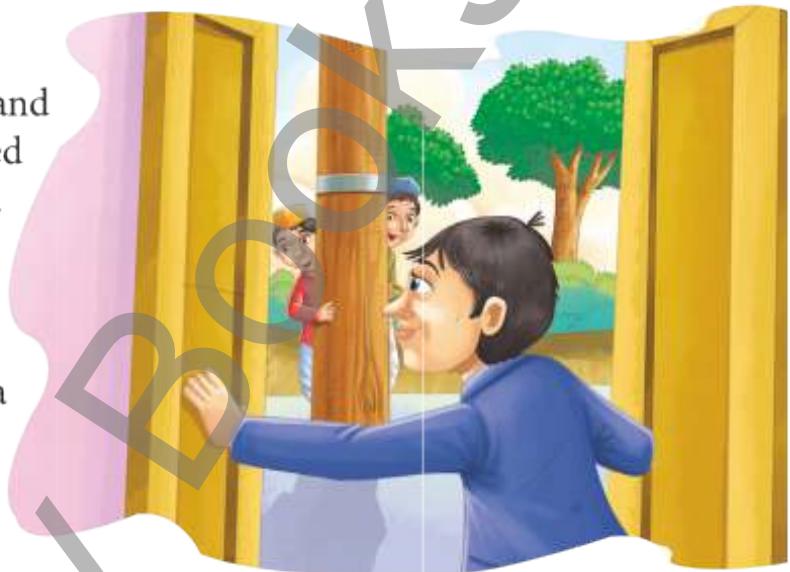
*Conversation gap spoils relationship. Express your views on the reasons of conversation gap.*

They moved round and round the room, Rajam adding to the interest of the game by mewing and barking in answer every few seconds. The blind puppy brushed its side against a leg, and thinking that it belongs to Rajam, softly bit the calf muscle - imagine its confusion when it opened its eyes and saw that it was biting its enemy. Somu! the blind kitten nestled close to a leg and scratched it with its paw. Opening its eyes it found that it was **fondling** a leg that belonged to its enemy, Sankar.

Mani remained **stunned** for a moment, and then **scrambled** to his feet. He looked around, his face **twitching** with shame and **rage**. He saw the Pea sitting in a corner, his eyes

### WORD-MEANING

**beat a hasty retreat** - withdraw quickly, left quickly, **for all he was worth** - with as much effort as he could put, **fondling** - caressing lovingly, **stunned** - shocked, **scrambled** - moved quickly but with difficulty, **twitching** - making sudden movement with the part of body, **rage** - anger





twinkling with mischief, and felt **impelled** to take him by the throat. He turned round and saw Rajam regarding him steadily, his mouth still **quivering** with a smothered **grin**.

As for Swaminathan he felt that the best place for himself would be the darkness and **obscurity** under a table or a chair.

"What do you mean by this, Rajam?" Mani asked.

"Why are you so wild?"

"It was your fault," said Mani **vehemently**, "I didn't know—" He looked around.

"Well, well, I didn't ask you to crawl and bark, did I?"

Somu and company laughed. Mani **glared** round. "I am going away, Rajam. This is not the place for me."

Rajam replied, "You may go away, if you don't want me to see you or speak to you any more."

Mani **fidgeted** uneasily. Rajam took him aside and soothed him. Rajam then turned to Swaminathan, who was lost in **bottomless misery**. He comforted and flattered him by saying that it was the best imitation of a cat and dog that he had ever witnessed in his life. He admitted that for a few minutes he wondered whether he was watching a real cat and a dog. They would get prizes if they did it in fairs. If Swaminathan and Mani would be good enough to repeat the fun, he would be **delighted**, and even ask his father to come and watch.

This was soothing Swaminathan and Mani felt proud of themselves. And after the round of eating that followed, they were perfectly happy, except when they thought of the other three in the room.

They were in this state of mind when Rajam began a lecture on friendship. He said impressive things about friendship, quoting from his book the story of the dying old man and the **faggots**, which proved that union was strength. A friend in need was a friend indeed. He then started giving hair-raising **accounts** of what hell had in store for persons who fostered enmity. According to Rajam, it was written in the Vedas that a person who **fostered enmity** should be locked up in a small room after his death. He would be made to stand, stark naked, on a pedestal of red-hot iron, there were beehives all around with bees as big as lemons.

If the sinner stepped down from the pedestal, he would have to put his foot on immense scorpions and centipedes that crawled about the room in hundreds— (A shudder went through the company.)

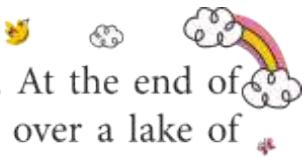
### WORD-MEANING

**impelled** - forced, **quivering** - shaking slightly, **grin** - a broad smile, **obscurity** - the state of being unknown, **vehemently** - in a forceful manner, **glared** - stared angrily, **fidgeted** - moved restlessly, **bottomless misery** - a situation that causes great suffering and unhappiness, **delighted** - happy, **faggots** - sticks of wood tied together, **accounts** - descriptions, **fostered** - encouraged, **enmity** - hostility

### Think Out of Box

What did you present your friend on his/her last birthday?





The sinner would have to stand thus for a month, without food or sleep. At the end of a month he would be transferred to another place, a very narrow bridge over a lake of boiling oil. The bridge was so narrow that he would be able to keep only one foot on it at a time. Even on the narrow bridge there were plenty of wasp nests and cactus, and he would be goaded from behind to move on. He would have to balance on one foot, and then on another, for ages and ages, to keep himself from falling into the steaming lake below, and move on indefinitely.....

The company was greatly impressed. Rajam then invited everyone to come forward and say that they would have no more enemies. If Sankar said it, he would get a bound note book. If Swaminathan said it, he would get a clock work engine, if Somu said it, he would get a belt; and if Mani said it, he would get a nice pocket knife, and the Pea would get a marvellous little pen.

He threw open the cupboard and **displayed** the prizes. There was silence for some time as each sat **gnawing** his nails. Rajam was sweating with his peace making efforts. The Pea was the first to rise. He stood before the cupboard and said, "Let me see the fountain pen," Rajam gave it to him.

**Antonym**

**silence - noise**



The Pea turned it round and round and gave it back without any comment.

"Why don't you like it?" Rajam asked. The Pea kept staring into the cupboard and said, "Can I have that box?" He pointed at a tiny box with a lot of yellow and black designs on it and a **miniature** Taj Mahal on its lid. Rajam said, "I can't give you that, I want it." He paused.

He had two more boxes like that in his trunk. He changed his mind, "No. I don't want it. You can take the box if you like."

In a short while, Mani was sharpening a knife on his palm, Somu was trying a belt on. Sankar was fingering a thick bound notebook and Swaminathan was jealously clasping a green engine to his bosom.

—R K Narayan  
(*Swami and Friends*)

**WORD-MEANING**



**displayed** - showed or demonstrated, **gnawing** - biting or chewing, **miniature** - looking short, small figure





## Deeper the Roots, Taller the Tree

### Pre-Reading



*Everyone said that "change is the law of nature", but are we aware of the fact that many people become uncomfortable due to change.*

*We have also observed that people are ready to change when they see their greed being fulfilled in a better way due to the change.*



### Warm Up

*Find out about it and explain it in detail. What is "black money"?*

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## Read and Enjoy

Let's read the story of a barber who tells us all about balancing need and greed.

A barber lived with his wife in a small house in the city. He was good at his work, and had been appointed barber to the king. Once a week he was required to attend on the king, trim his hair and beard and give his head a massage. This was light work, and left the barber with plenty of time to think. And what did he think of?

He thought of gold. All the time he thought of gold. He dreamt of gold. He wished for gold. He saw courtiers going in and out of the palace, all laden with gold. Why couldn't he have as much gold as they did? It isn't as though the barber was poor. The king was **generous**, and gave him a good salary, enough for a comfortable living. But the barber was never satisfied.

One day he told his wife, "We must save hard so we can buy a whole lot of gold. You can then wear a gold necklace and bangles, like the wife of a rich man of the city." So the barber and his wife saved up as much money as they could. When they had saved up enough they went to the **goldsmith** and bought a gold necklace and gold bangles for the wife. She now wore them whenever she went out, so everyone could see how rich they were.

### Let's Talk

*Why do you think the people wanted more when he was already living a comfortable life?*

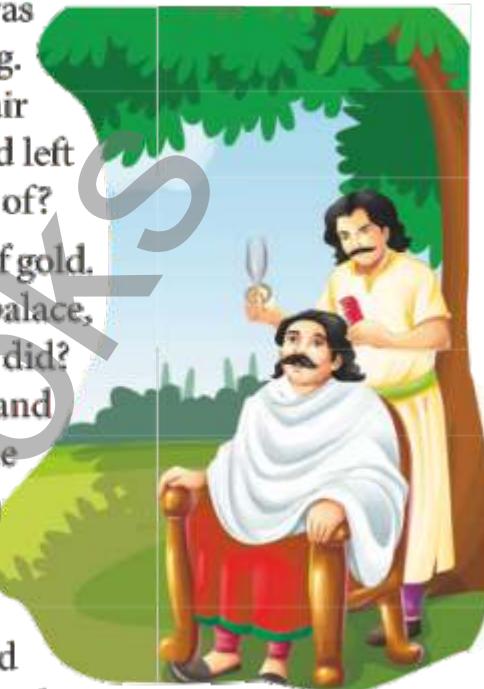
But the barber was still not satisfied. He wanted still more gold. He was always thinking of ways and means of getting more gold.

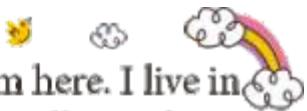
One day he went for a walk into the forest that lay outside the city. After a while he sat down under a tree to rest. He was thinking how happy he would be if only he had more gold. All at once he heard a voice that seemed to come from up in the tree, "Barber," said the voice, "Why do you look so sad? Is anything the matter?"

The barber was startled to hear a voice in the middle of the forest. He looked up among the branches of the tree, searching for the owner of the voice but saw nobody. Perhaps the voice had only been his imagination.

### WORD-MEANING

**generous** - willing to give and share, **goldsmith** - an artisan who makes jewellery and other objects out of gold





But next moment the voice came again. "You cannot see me, barber, but I am here. I live in this tree. I have the power to fulfill the desires of people. Don't be afraid. Tell me if you would like something from me."

The barber **mustered** up courage enough to say, "O unknown being, there's only one thing I want. I want gold. Gold. I want all the gold I can get. There's nothing in the world I want except gold."

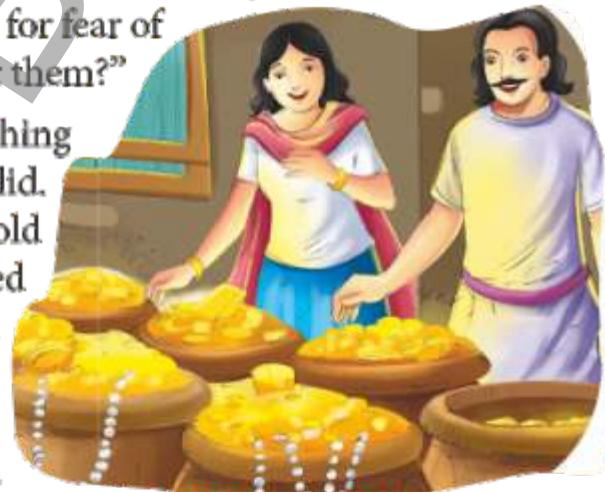
"Would seven jars of gold be enough?"

"Seven jars! Oh, I'd be so happy! Even the king doesn't have that much."

"Very well, you'll get your gold. Go home. You will find seven jars of gold waiting for you."

The barber couldn't believe his ears. Was he dreaming? No, the voice had been real all right. He was so excited that he ran all the way back home and reached there quite out of breath.

He found his wife waiting **anxiously** at the door. "Thank heavens you are back," she cried. "I don't know what is happening. Come in and see." She **dragged** him inside and showed him seven large jars standing on the floor. "One moment there was nothing, and next moment these jars were all there. I was too scared to open them, for fear of what they might contain. Do you know anything about them?"



"Don't worry, I'll show you what's inside," he said. Pushing his wife aside, he went to the first jar and raised the lid. His eyes began to shine. The jar was brimming with gold coins. So many, he couldn't believe his eyes. He opened the second jar. And the third... Like the first, he found jar after jar full of gold coins. But when he opened the seventh jar, his face fell with disappointment. He **clutched** at his hair and started **yelling**, "I've been cheated! He's cheated me! He **distinctly** told me seven!"

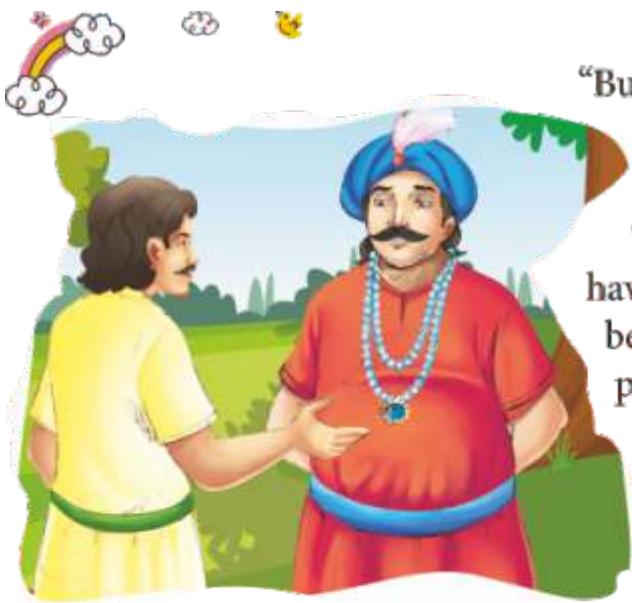
And these are only six. The seventh is only half full. Oh, what cheats some people are!"

His wife just couldn't understand what he meant. When he had calmed down a little, she asked him what had happened. "There was someone up in a tree in the forest who promised to give me seven jars of gold. I couldn't see him, but only heard his voice. And just see what he has done! Can you believe it... How **stingy** some people can get!"

#### WORD-MEANING

**mustered** - gather or bring together, **anxiously** - with unease and apprehension, **dragged** - pull against some force, **clutched** - the act of grasping or clasping, **yelling** - utter a loud cry of pain or excitement, **distinctly** - clear to the mind, easily differentiated, **stingy** - unwilling to spend resources





"But we still have so much!" his wife tried to console him.

"Wait, I'll count everything and tell you how much we have."

"Oh no, I couldn't bear it," the barber said. "We must have seven jars full of gold. We must fill up the seventh before counting what we have. We must save every single pie that we can so as to fill that jar."

The barber and his wife fell to saving every single **cowrie** that they could, even to the extent of denying themselves proper food and clothes. Everything that they saved was converted into gold coins and put into the seventh jar. They sold the wife's ornaments and the gold coins thus received also went into the jar. But still the seventh jar could not be filled.

### Think Out of Box

*After having so much wealth some people still live like a beggar and save for future life. Do you think they are destroying their present life and happiness?*

The barber and his wife began to eat even less. They became thinner and thinner and their clothes hung loose around them. In spite of their wealth, they both looked miserable. The king noticed it and one day he asked the barber, "What is the matter with you? You look so sad, and so thin. Indeed you're growing thinner by the day. Are you ill?"

"No, Your Majesty, I'm not ill. I'm worried about money, that's why you see me like this."

"Is that so? Why didn't you tell me earlier? I don't like to see you looking so sad." And the king told his **treasurer** to double the money that the barber was paid every month.

But even this did not help. The barber and his wife **redoubled** their efforts to save more. They both reduced their food even further. Everything they could save went into the jar in the shape of gold coins, but still the jar would not be filled.

One day, after the barber had attended to the king, the **latter** asked him to take a seat. The barber sat down on the floor before the king. "What happened?" asked the king. "You used to be so cheerful and full of life. I don't like to see you in such a sorry state. Tell me, you haven't by any chance received the seven jars, have you?"

### WORD-MEANING

**cowrie** - shell of a tropical marine animal used as currency in ancient times, **treasurer** - an officer responsible for receiving and distributing funds, **redoubled** - become much greater in intensity/size/amount, **latter** - referring to the second of two things/persons or the last of several

The barber was astonished to hear this. "But...but Your Majesty, how did you guess?" he asked.

"I too was once given the seven jars," the king replied. "I heard a voice up in a tree offering them to me. I accepted the jars. But when I opened them, I found the last one half empty. I **suspected** it was some kind of a trick, so I went back to the forest and asked the spirit in the tree whether I could spend the gold that was in the jars."

"And what did he tell you?" the barber asked eagerly.

"There was no answer. So I returned home and thought over it. I could make out that the half empty jar stood for greed. However much one may get, the jar of greed can never be filled. That was a trap for me, to make me desire more and more gold. Since the jar can never be filled, my desire for gold would never be satisfied."

The barber was all attention. "And what did you do then?" he asked.

"Once I realized that all this was meant to make me a slave of greed, it became very simple, 'I don't want any of your gold. Take your jars back.' And sure enough when I reached back home, the jars were gone." The barber was thinking hard. "I now see the truth of what you have said, Your Majesty. This **craving** for more and more gold has ruined me. But what can I do about it now?"

 "It is still not too late," the king told him. "Give those jars back before a bigger misfortune befalls you. As it is, you have been reduced to a skeleton by those jars."

The barber was now really scared. He hurried to the forest and asked the spirit in the tree to take back the seven jars of gold.

Although the barber and his wife lost their wealth but they **regained** their health and cheerfulness gradually.

### From the Real World

We cannot sustain ourselves, unless we contribute to the society in some way or the other. I strongly feel if even one person does his bit towards social good, there will be some change? Kalyanasundaram says this. What is your opinion about his saying?

Kalyanasundaram has not greed towards wealth and he donate his money and staff to poor people.

### WORD-MEANING

**suspected** - believed likely (possible), **craving** - have a great desire for, **regained** - recover the use of or find back





# Women, Who Created History

## Pre-Reading



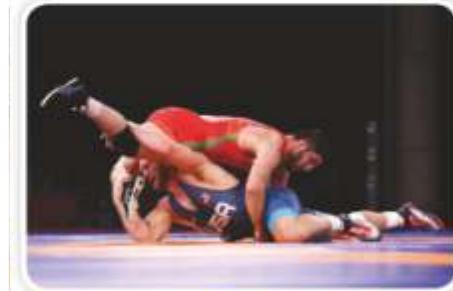
*Being an athlete is a very tough task. An athlete has to take great care of his/her body. He/She must be very conscious about his/her body because his/her body is most of the time at the risk of injury.*

*An athlete has to take care of his/her health. He/she has to take good food. As fatigue is very common, so good sleep is also very necessary.*



## Warm Up

*Look at the pictures of athletic games and write their names under the pictures :*



## Read and Enjoy

Let's read the story about some female athletes who Wrestling in India was always considered the game for men through which they showed strength and power. Women were never even imagined having stout physical appearance and muscles. The same assumption was with boxing. These are no more the male dominated sports because women have proved that it was mere a delusion about their endowment that was filled in them. Inspite of many restraints and hurdles in their way they have proved these are not the games only for men. In every field they have proved their endowment well and have made country feel proud of them.



### Let's Talk

Do you know any girl who is struggling hard in sports?

Let's read about some of the women who created history in these areas.

Geeta Phogat, who is known as the first Indian female wrestler to have qualified for the Olympic Summer Games, was born on 15 December, 1988, in Balali village of Charkhi Dadri district, Haryana.



Geeta is the first woman to win gold medal in the Commonwealth Games for India in the wrestling. It was her father Mahaveer Singh Phogat who put a task before her to be a woman wrestler. As he himself was a wrestler he wanted his kites to take part in arena and he put efforts to train his children to be wrestlers. Geeta completed her early education from Deeksha Bhiwani School and graduation from MDU University, Rohtak, Haryana.

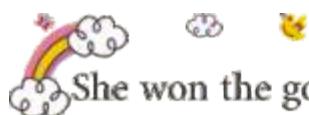
When she was very young her father used to take her to arena where she had to face the criticism and mockery of the society for it was not the game for girls. But her father was completely devoted towards his goal that was to train her for commonwealth games. And the daughter fulfilled her father's dream and answered all his efforts by winning gold medal in the Commonwealth Wrestling Championship held in Jalandhar, Punjab, in 2009.

### WORD-MEANING



**stout** - heavy build, **assumption** - a thing that is accepted as true without proof, **male dominated** - controlled by men, **delusion** - a false belief, **endowment** - talent, **restraints** - to limit or control, **hurdles** - problems, **criticism** - act of finding faulty, **mockery** - insulting action or speech, **devoted** - very faithful





She won the gold medal in women's wrestling at the Commonwealth Games held in New Delhi.

### Be Moral

*We can solve out any problem if we think in a wise and reasonable way. Do you help your friends in the same way when they face problem?*

In 2012, she won the bronze medal in the World Wrestling Championships in Canada.

She won silver medal in 2013, in the Commonwealth Wrestling Championships held in Johannesburg and bronze medal in 2015, in the Asian Wrestling Championships in Doha.

Let's know about another woman wrestler, Sakshi Malik, who was born on 3 September, 1992, in Mokhra Village in Rohtak district of Haryana. She was inspired by her grandfather who was also a wrestler. When Sakshi was twelve years old she started her training under Ishwar Dahiya in Rohtak. She won several medals during her teenage. The villagers used to point finger against her when she wrestled with boys. But Sakshi did not stop and continued her **intensive** training.

Though her father was a bus conductor and mother was a supervisor at a local health clinic, they supported Sakshi and motivated her. They arranged a coaching for her. Sakshi wanted to quit her studies for she was feeling herself unable to manage sports and studies both together. But her parents did not allow her quit studies that proved a tremendous support for Sakshi late in her life and career.

Her coach also faced **protest** from the people of society but he did not stop his work as a coach for Sakshi. Finally, by winning Olympic medal for India she answered her city that if a person has set a goal for himself or herself no one has right to raise finger against that person.

Sakshi has achieved several awards and medals on the international stage. She won a silver medal in 2009, in the Asian Junior World Championship and a bronze medal, in 2010, in the World Junior Championship. In 2014, in the Commonwealth Games, in Glasgow she won silver medal. In 2018, in the Commonwealth Games, she won the bronze medal.



### WORD-MEANING

**intensive** - using great energy and effort, **tremendous** - very great, **protest** – an action or statement that express disapproval



In 2016, she received Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna award, the highest sporting honour in India and in 2017, Padma Shri Award, the fourth highest civilian award in India.



### Think Out of Box

*You have opted a career for yourself but your parents oppose it. What will you do?*

Boxing is one of the most popular sports in the world. Many Indian women have created history in boxing too one of them is Mary Kom who is the only woman to win the World Amateur Boxing Championship six times.

Mary Kom was born in Kagathei village, Moirang Lamkhai in the Churachandpur district of rural Manipur in India.

Her parents Mangte, Tonpa Kom and Mangte Akham Kom were tenant farmers. She used to help her parents in field and household chores. She completed her early education from Loktak Christian Model High School and St Xavier Catholic School. She completed her graduation from Churachandpur college. She was interested in volleyball, football and athletics. Dingko Singh, one of the finest boxers of India who won a gold medal in 1998, at the Bangkok Asian Games, inspired her most to try boxing. At the age of 15, she started training under Kosana Meitei in Imphal. She was quick at learning though at beginning her father was against her learning boxing but when he saw her never ending enthusiasm and devotion towards boxing he allowed her.



**Antonym**  
enthusiasm - apathy

### From the Real World

Commonwealth games (CWG) are the second largest sports competition in the world after olympics. These games are held once in four years period. About 71 countries participate in Commonwealth Games every year. These games started in 1930.

In 2014, Mary Kom became the first Indian female boxer who won gold medal in the Asian Games, at Incheon South Korea. She won women's World Amateur Boxing Championship five times, in 2002, 2005, 2006, 2008, 2010 and four times Asian Women's Championships in 2003, 2005, 2010 and 2012.

### WORD-MEANING

rural – relating to the country people or agriculture, enthusiasm - an energetic interest





In 2018, she won a gold medal at the Commonwealth Games. She is the first female boxer who won six world titles.

Mary Kom has received many awards Padma Vibhushan in 2020, Padma Bhushan in 2013, Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna award in 2009, Padma Shri in 2006, Arjuna Award in 2003 and many others.

Nikhat Zareen, who added beauty to history of India by winning the gold medal in the World Boxing Championship, was born on 14 June, 1996, in Nizamabad, Telangana. She completed her primary education from the Nirmala Hrudaya Girls High School in Nizamabad and Bachelor of Arts from AV College in Hyderabad. Her father Mohammad Jameel Ahmed trained her for boxing. For this Nikhat herself believes that her father deserves all the medals she has won. Her father had to face many criticisms from the society but continued giving her training.

Her father enrolled her name in the Sports Authority of India, Vishakhapatnam in 2009. There she was trained by Dronacharya awardee IV Rao. In 2011, she won a gold medal in the AIBA Women's Junior and Youth World Boxing Championship held in Turkey. In 2014, she won a silver medal in the Youth World Boxing Championship held in Bulgaria. In 2014, she won a gold medal in the third Nations Cup International Boxing Tournament held at Novi Sad, Serbia. In 2016, she won gold medal at the 16th Senior Woman National Boxing Championship held in Assam. In 2019, she won a silver medal at Thailand Open International Boxing Tournament in Bangkok. In 2022, she was again won a gold medal in the Women's World Championship held in Istanbul, Turkey and also won the third gold medal for India in Commonwealth Games. On 30 November, 2022 Nikhat Zareen received Arjuna Award.



### Test Your Knowledge ..... As per NEP 2020

#### A. Tick (✓) the correct answers.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ is considered the game for men.

- (a) Wrestling  (b) Boxing   
(c) Both (a) and (b)

2. Geeta is the \_\_\_\_\_ women to win a gold medal at the Commonwealth Games.

- (a) last  (b) first   
(c) second





## 10 The Happy Prince

### Pre-Reading



*What is 'Happiness' for you ? Do you agree that making others happy is true happiness, or not ?*



*Happiness is all about how much we are satisfied from our life. Yes, making others happy can improve our happiness. It is one of the most powerful way of helping ourselves.*

### Warm Up

*Find out a quotation which best describes, the way you think, what life is. Who said it and when ? Also describe its meaning.*



\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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## Read and Enjoy

Let's read the story of a Happy Prince and a bird Swallow. The bird helped the Happy Prince to fulfill all his desires.

In a country far away, there stood the statue of the Happy Prince. He was golden from head to foot. For eyes he had two bright **sapphires** and a large red ruby glowed on his sword-hilt.

One night there flew a little Swallow. His friends had gone away to Egypt. But he had stayed behind, for he was in love with the most beautiful city.

All through the day and at night-time he arrived at the big city. "Where can I stay here?" thought the little Swallow.

So she sat just between the feet of the statue of the Happy Prince.

"I have a golden bedroom," he says quietly, and as he begins to go to sleep, a large drop of water fell on him. Soon after another drop fell. He looked up, and saw, the eyes of the Happy Prince were filled with tears, and tears were running down his golden face and his face looked sad and grieved.

"Who are you?" asked the Swallow.

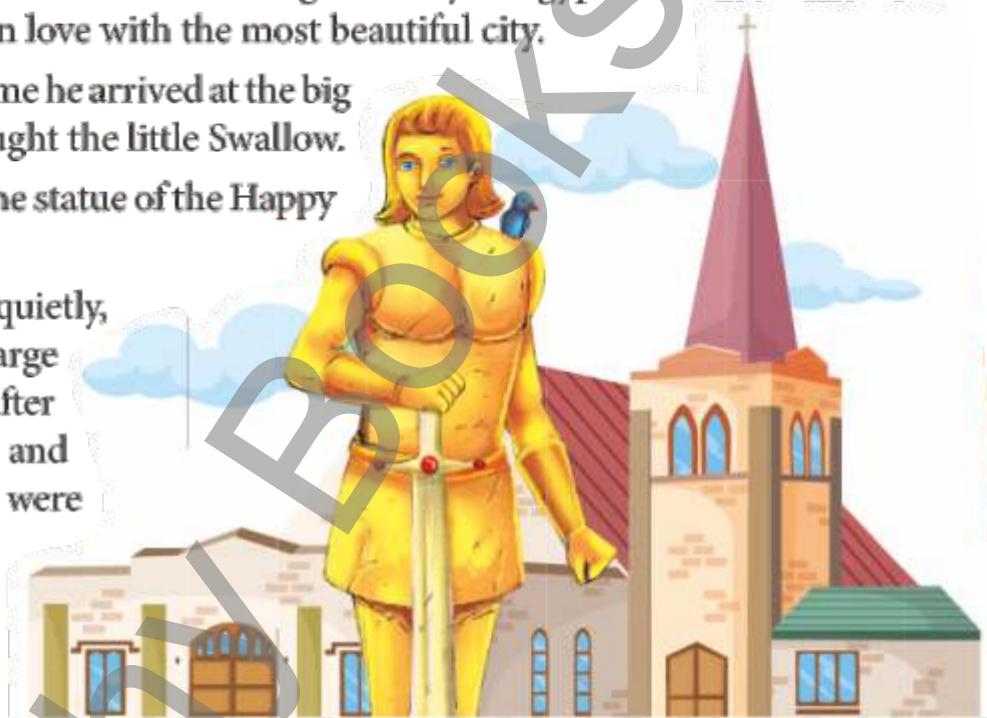
"I am a Happy Prince."

"Why are you **weeping** then?" asked the Swallow.

"When I was alive, I lived in the palace where **sorrow** is not allowed to enter. In the daytime, I played with my companions in the garden. My courtiers called me the Happy Prince, and I was indeed the Happy Prince, if pleasure be happiness. So I lived, and so I died. And now that I am dead they have set me up here."

Now, I can see all the ugliness and all the misery of my city. Far away there is a poor house. A little boy is lying ill with a fever, and is asking for oranges. His mother has nothing to give him but river water, so he is crying. Swallow, Swallow, little Swallow, will you please pull the ruby out of my sword? My feet are fastened to this pedestal and I cannot move."

"But my friends-the other Swallows are waiting for me in Egypt."

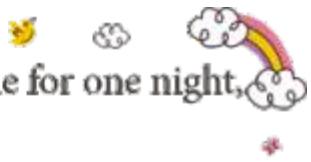


### Let's Talk

Why do you think there are statues of famous people?

### WORD-MEANING

sapphires - precious blue stone, weeping - crying, sorrow - sadness



"Swallow, Swallow, little Swallow," said the Prince, "Will you not stay with me for one night, the boy is so thirsty, and the mother is very sad."

The Happy Prince looked so sad that the little Swallow was sorry. "It is very cold here," he said; "but I will stay here with you for one night." "Thank you, little Swallow," said the Prince.

So the Swallow picked out the ruby from the Prince's sword, and flew away.

He came to the poor house. The boy was tossing feverishly on his bed, and the mother had fallen asleep. He laid the ruby on the table beside the woman's pot.

Then the Swallow flew back to the Happy Prince, and told him what he had done. He said, "I feel quite warm now, although it is so cold."

"That is because you have done a good action," said the Prince. And the little Swallow began to think, and then he fell asleep.

The next day in morning he flew down to the river and had a bath.

"Tonight I will go to Egypt," said the Swallow, and he was in high spirits. He visited all the public monuments, and sat a long time on top of the church steeple. When the moon rose he flew back to the Happy Prince.

"Swallow, Swallow, little Swallow," said the Prince, "Will you stay with me one more night?"

"All will be waiting for me in Egypt," answered the Swallow.

"Swallow, Swallow, little Swallow," said the Prince, "Far away across the city, I see a young man in a top storey. He is leaning over a desk, his hair is brown, and his lips are red. He is trying to finish a play for the theatre, but he's very cold and hungry, and he can't write any more."

### Think Out of Box

Ruby is a gemstone. What are gemstones? Find out the names of some other gemstones.

"I will stay with you one night," said the Swallow. "Shall I take him another ruby too?"

"Sadly! I have no ruby now," said the Prince, "Now I have only the sapphires in my eyes, they were brought from India. Pull out one of them and take it to him. He will sell it, and buy food and firewood, and finish his play."





"Dear Prince," said the Swallow, "I can't do that". But, the Prince insisted.

So the Swallow took out the Prince's eye, and flew away to the young man. The young man had his head and hands on the table, and when he looked up he found the beautiful sapphire lying on the table.

He cried, "This is from some great admirer. Now I can finish my play." The next day the Swallow flew down to the sea. First he saw big ship arriving from a far off country.

"I am going to Egypt!" cried the Swallow. When night came he flew back to the Happy Prince.

"I am here to say good-bye," he said.

"Swallow, Swallow, little Swallow," said the Prince, "Please stay with me one more night."

"It is winter," answered the Swallow, "And the chill snow will soon be here. In Egypt the sun is hot, Dear Prince, I must leave you, but I can't forget you."

But the Prince said, "In the town square, there is a little poor girl. She's selling matches. She has let her matches fall down, and they are all spoiled. Her father will scold her if she does not bring home some money, and she is crying. Pull out my other eye, and give it to her."

"I will stay with you one more night," said the Swallow, "But I cannot pull out your eye. You would be blind then."

"Swallow, Swallow, little Swallow," said the Prince, "Do this for me."

So he pulled out the Prince's other eye, and darted down with it and gave the jewel in the girl's hand. "What a lovely bit of glass," cried the little girl, and she ran home, laughing.

Then the Swallow came back to the Prince. "You are blind now," he said, "So I will stay with you always."

"No, little Swallow;" said the poor Prince, "You must go away to Egypt."

"I will stay with you always," said the Swallow, and he slept at the Prince's feet.

Next day he sat on the Prince's shoulder, and told him stories of what he had seen in distant lands.

"Dear little Swallow," said the Prince, "You tell me of **marvellous** things, but I want to know more about my city. Fly over my city, little Swallow, and tell me what you see there?"

### Be Moral

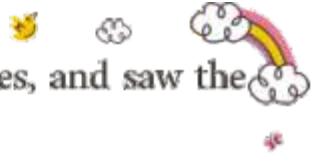
*Do you think we should sacrifice our precious things to make other people happy?*

So the Swallow flew over the great city, and saw the rich making merry in their beautiful

### WORD-MEANING

**marvellous** - extraordinary





houses, while the beggars were sitting at the gates. He flew into dark lanes, and saw the white faces of starving children.

Then he flew back and told the Prince what he had seen.

"I am covered with fine gold," said the Prince, "You must take it off, leaf by leaf, and give it to the poor."

Leaf after leaf of the fine gold, the Swallow picked off and gave to the poor, and the children's faces grew rosier, and they laughed and played games in the street. "We have bread to eat," they cried.

Then the snow came, and after the snow came the frost. The streets looked as if they were made of silver, everybody went about in furs, and the little boys wore scarlet caps and skated on the ice.

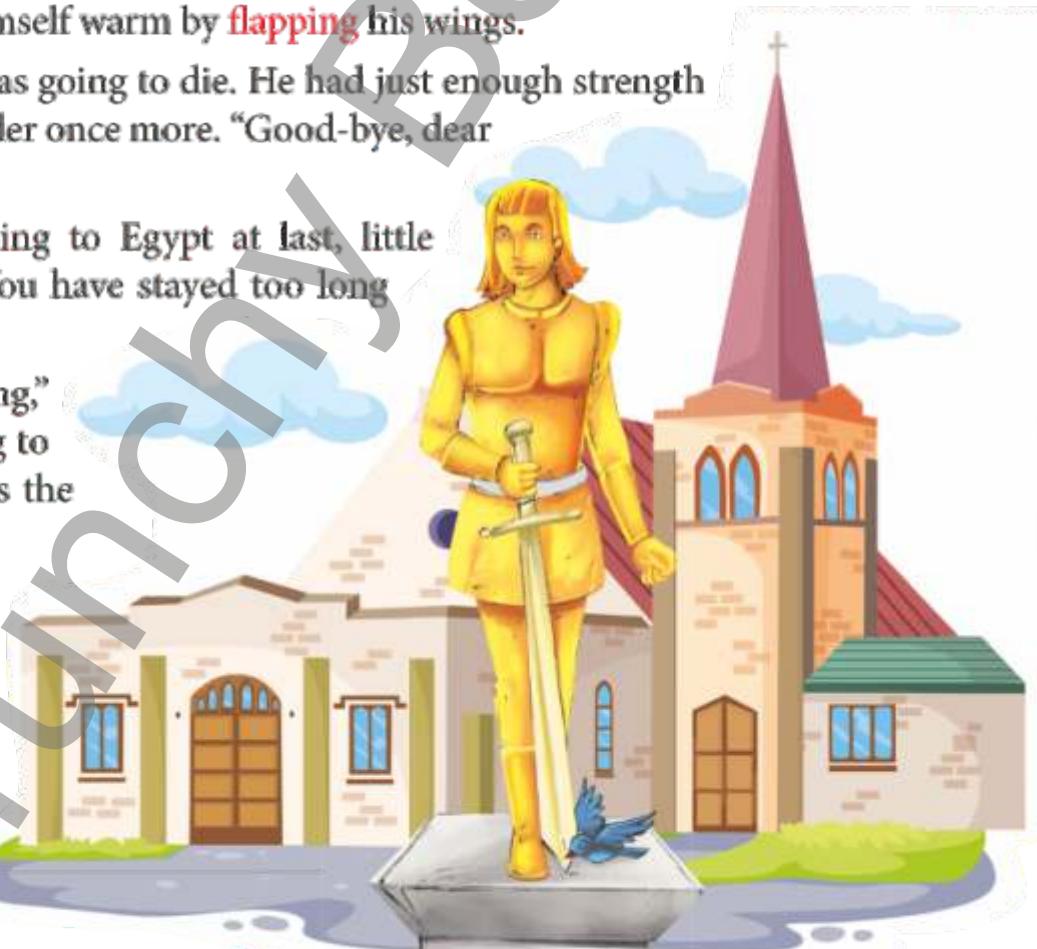
The poor little Swallow was dying from cold, but he would not leave the Prince. He loved him too much. He picked up crumbs outside the baker's door when the baker was not looking, and tried to keep himself warm by **flapping** his wings.

But at last he knew that he was going to die. He had just enough strength to fly up to the Prince's shoulder once more. "Good-bye, dear Prince!" he **murmured**.

"I am **glad** that you are going to Egypt at last, little Swallow," said the Prince, "You have stayed too long here."

"It is not to Egypt that I am going," said the Swallow. "I am going to the House of Death. Death is the brother of Sleep."

And he kissed the Happy Prince, and fell down dead at his feet. At that moment a strange crack sounded inside the statue, as if something had broken. The Prince's lead heart broke into two.



#### WORD-MEANING



flapping - moving, murmured - whispered, glad - happy





Early the next morning, the Mayor was walking with Town Councillors. As they passed the column, he looked up at the statue and said, "How **shabby** the Happy Prince looks!"

"And there is actually a dead bird at his feet," continued the Mayor. "We must make a new law. No birds can die in the town square."

So they melted the statue in a furnace.

"That's strange!" said the worker of the furnace. "This broken lead heart is not melting. We must throw it away." So they threw it on a dust-**heap** where the dead Swallow was also lying.

### From the Real World

Famous chef Vikas Khanna provided 50 tons of dry ration including rice, atta and dal, and food to the street food vendors, NGO's, orphanages, old-age homes and individuals during lockdown.

Do you think it brings true happiness to him?

Do you also help anyone in any way in the lockdown period?

In the crisis, smallest effort or help given to people bring smiles on their faces.

"Bring me the two most **precious** things in the city," said God to one of His **Angels**; and the Angel flew down and brought him the lead heart and the dead bird Swallow there.

"You have rightly chosen," said God, "Now this bird can happily sing in my garden, and the Happy Prince can live in my city of gold for ever too."

—Oscar Wilde

### WORD-MEANING

shabby - in bad condition, heap - untidily pile, precious - valuable, angels - a spirit who is believed to live in heaven with God

## Test Your Knowledge ..... As per NEP 2020

### A. Tick (✓) the correct answers.

1. The Happy Prince by Oscar Wilde promotes which virtue in the story?

(a) kindness

(b) humility

(c) friendly

2. Why did the Swallow stay with the Happy Prince?

(a) he and the Prince were friends

(b) he wanted to help the Prince





11

# Good Bye, Mr Chips

## Pre-Reading



Teachers are given high respect in the society. They are the creator of a strong and educated generation. They devote their whole life in gaining and distributing knowledge.

We must follow their guidance for the better future. They are the most prestigious people of the society who always hope for positive result from their students.



## Warm Up

You follow many rules in your school. Write at least one rule you follow in the given places :



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## Read and Enjoy

Let's read the story about a school teacher who devoted his whole life for the better future of his students.

In the middle of the nineteenth century, there was a very **prestigious** academic institution known as Brookfield. When Mr Chips joined as Latin teacher, there were five hundred **unprincipled** ruffians to whom the **baiting** of new masters was a fine art, an exciting sport and something of a tradition. **Decent** little boys individually, but, as a mob, just pitiless and **implacable**.

The sudden hush as Chips took his place at the desk on the **dais**, the scowl he assumed to cover his nervousness, were indicative of an **imminent** explosion.

Suddenly, someone dropped a desk lid. Quickly he must take everyone by surprise and establish his authority : 'You there in the fifth row—you with the red hair—what's your name?'

'Colley, sir.'

'Very well, Colley, you have a hundred lines to write.'

Thereafter, there was no trouble.

Years later, when Colley was an **alderman** of the city of London and a **baronet** and various other things, he sent his son (also red haired) to Brookfield. And one fine day Chips told him : 'Colley, your father was the first boy I ever punished when I came here twenty-five years ago. He deserved it then, and you deserve it now.'

How the class laughed; and how Sir Richard laughed when his son wrote the story in next Sunday's letter! Chips was **ingeniously** funny. His **reprimands** were gentle, and there was a touch of humour in the way he presented things, that quite often had the **errant** student laughing along with the rest of the class.



### WORD-MEANING



**prestigious** - having high respect, **unprincipled** - immoral, **baiting** - teasing, **decent** - modest, **implacable** - unable to be changed, **dais** - podium small place for speech, **imminent** - likely to occur any moment, **alderman** - a senior member of a town or city council, **baronet** - noble man, a member of the British nobility, lower in rank than a baron, whose title passes to his son when he dies, **ingeniously** - skillfully, **reprimands** - rebukes, **errant** - not behaving well





### Let's Talk

Have you ever been punished by your teacher in the class? Why and when?

And again, many years after that, there was an even better joke. For another Colley had just arrived and Mr Chips said, punctuating his remarks with the little that had by then become a habit with him.

'Colley, you are a splendid example of inherited traditions. I remember your grandfather he could never grasp the elements of grammar. And your father, too I remember him—he used to sit at that far desk by the wall—the biggest fool of the lot!'

Roars of laughter from the students made Mr Chips classes the happiest ones and the boys loved him. Brookfield was an old institution, established in the reign of Queen Elizabeth as a grammar school, and rebuilt with large additions in the reign of George I. Several notable families supported it and it supplied fair samples of the history-making men of the age: judges, members of parliament, colonial administrators, peers and bishops.

Mr Chips had by 1880 become an inseparable part of the institution. His humour was infectious and it had endeared him to **legions** of students, till he had become a legend himself.

Unlike other teachers, he did not isolate himself from the students. He liked to stroll across to the playing fields and watch the boys play. He would smile and exchange a few words with them when they touched their caps to him. He made a point of getting to know all the new boys and having them to tea with him during their first term. It was usual for older students to tell new ones: 'Decent old boy, Mr Chips! Gives you jolly good tea and walnut cake with pink icing.'

Gradually, Chips grew old with the institution and its tradition. It was in 1900 that Mr Meldrum, who had been the principal of Brookfield for three decades, died suddenly of pneumonia. In the interval before the appointment of a successor, Chips became Acting Head of Brookfield. There was a faint rumour that the Governors might make the appointment a permanent one, but Chips was not really disappointed when they brought in a young man of thirty-seven, with the kind of personality that could reduce the Big Hall to silence by the mere lifting of an eyebrow. Mr Chips was not in the running with that kind of person, and he knew it. The new principal was Mr Ralston.



### WORD-MEANING

legions - large numbers of people



Those were the years etched with sharply remembered pictures. Mr Chips had a row with Mr Ralston!

Funny thing, Mr Chips never took to him. Ambitious and efficient, Ralston had admittedly raised the status of Brookfield as a school, and for the first time in memory there was a long waiting list for admission. He was a live wire but you had to beware of him.

### Be Moral

*The institution where we study is like a temple for us. How do you try to raise the name of your institution?*

Chips served him quite willingly and loyally. He felt himself sufficiently protected by age and seniority from the fate of other masters whom Ralston had failed to like. Then suddenly, in 1908, when he had just turned sixty, came Ralston's **urbane** ultimatum: 'Mr Chipping, have you ever thought you would like to retire?'

Abruptly, Mr Chips flared up.

'But I don't want to retire, I don't need to consider it.'

'In that case, things are going to be a little difficult.'

'Difficult? Why difficult?'

'Since you force me to use plain words, Mr Chipping, you shall have them. For some time, you haven't been pulling your weight here. Your methods of teaching are **slack** and old-fashioned; your personal habits are **slovenly**; and you ignore my instructions in a way, which, in a younger man, I should regard as ran **insubordination**. It won't do, Mr Chipping.'

'But,' Chips began in sheer bewilderment, 'slovenly you said?'

'Yes, look at that dress you are wearing. I happen to know that dress of yours is a subject of continual amusement throughout the school.'

Chips knew it, too, but it had never seemed to him a very regrettable matter.

Ralston went on: 'And this question of Latin pronunciation. I think I told you that I wanted the new style used, but you prefer old methods!'

At last Chips got something which he could tackle in his own unique, jocular vein.

### WORD-MEANING



**urbane** - courteous and refined in manner, **slack** - dull, **slovenly** - untidy, **insubordination** - refusal to obey orders





"Well, I admit that I don't agree with the new pronunciation, a lot of nonsense, in my opinion. Making boys say "Kickero" at school when for the rest of their lives they'll say "Cicero"—if they ever say it at all. And instead of "vicissim"—God bless my soul—you'd make them say, "We kiss im"! And Chips chuckled, forgetting that he was in Ralston's study and not in his own friendly form room.

"Well, there you are, Mr Chipping—that's just an example of what I complain of. I aim to make Brookfield a thoroughly up-to-date school. Times are changing, whether you realise it or not. Modern parents are beginning to demand something modern!"

Suddenly, everything was exposed in a flash to Chips. Ralston was trying to run Brookfield like a factory—a factory for turning out **snob** culture based on money and machines. The old gentlemanly traditions of family and broad acres were changing, as doubtless they were bound to, but instead of widening, they were being narrowed down to the single issue of a fat banking account.

All this flashed through his mind in a instant of protest and indignation, but he did not say a word of it. He merely walked away. At the door he turned and said, 'I don't intend to resign and you can do what you like about it!'

Looking back upon that scene in the perspective of a quarter of a century, Chips felt sorry for Ralston. For it so chanced that a small boy had been listening outside the door during the entire conversation. He had been thrilled by it, naturally, and had told his friends. Some of these, in a surprisingly short time, had told their parents; so that very soon it was common knowledge that Ralston had insulted Chips and demanded his resignation.

The amazing result was a spontaneous outburst of sympathy and **partisanship** such as Chips, in his wildest dreams, had never **envisaged**. He found, rather to his astonishment, that Ralston was thoroughly unpopular; he was feared and respected, but not liked.

And in the issue of Chips, the dislike rose to a point where it conquered fear and demolished even respect. Even young masters, who felt that Chips was hopelessly old-fashioned, **rallied** around him because they hated Ralston's slave driving and they saw a champion in the old veteran.

#### Synonym

amusing - enjoyable

#### Think Out of Box

Is there any other person who guides you in your study? What do you do for him/her in return?

#### WORD-MEANING

**snob** - someone who think he/she is better than others, **partisanship** - showing support to one person or group,  
**envisaged** - imagine, **rallied** - brought together



And one day, the Chairman of the Governors, Sir John Rivers, visited Brookfield, ignored Ralston, and went direct to Chips. As they walked round the deserted cricket pitches, Sir John said, 'Chips, old boy, sorry to hear about your row with Ralston. We want you to know that the Governors are with you to a man. We don't like that fellow a great deal. Next time he throws his weight around, tell him to go to the devil. Brookfield, we know, won't be the same without you. Please don't resign.'

And so Chips stayed on, while Ralston left 'to better himself' at a bigger public school. By now Mr Chips was sixty-five and he had an attack of bronchitis which compelled him to resign. He received farewell presentations and made a speech, which was an **uproarious** one. There were several Latin quotations in it but the reference to the captain of the school was the most amusing one. He said that the captain was guilty of exaggeration in speaking about Chips' service to the school: 'But then, he comes from an exaggerating family.' The entire school stood gaping at Chips!

'I remember once having to thrash his father for it!'

Laughter was building up as everyone anticipated an anecdote in true Chips' style.

'I gave him one mark for a Latin translation, and he exaggerated the one into seven!'

Roars of laughter and **tumultuous** cheers! A typical Chips' remark everyone thought.

Chips continued: 'I remember lots of changes at Brookfield. I remember each and every thing. In fact, I remember so much that I often think I ought to write a book. Now, tell me what should I call it? Memories of Rods and Lines, eh?'

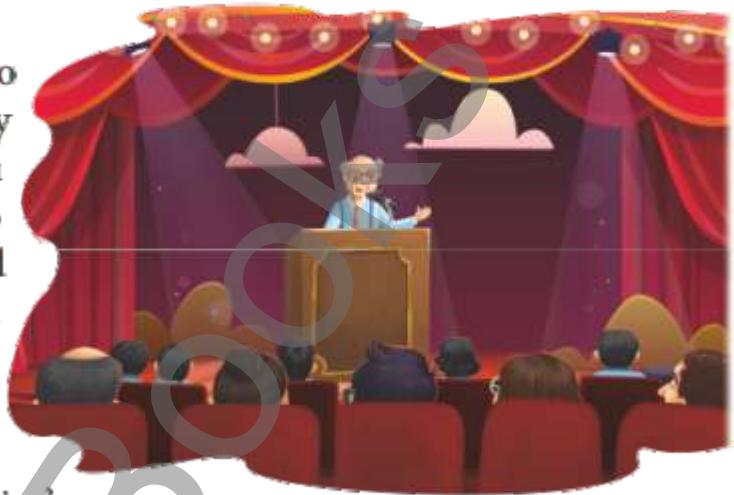
Another bout of cheers and laughter.

It was around 1933, when he had just turned eighty-five that Chips fell badly ill. The doctor gave him medicines to soothe his nerves. He fell into a kind of **somnolence**, that was partly sleep and partly wakefulness an in-between state full of dreams and faces and voice—old scenes, scraps of old times, cheers and laughter and over it all, the Brookfield bells.

Once he heard the doctor whispering: 'Poor old chap—must have lived a lonely sort of life, all by himself.'

#### WORD-MEANING

**uproarious** - extremely funny, **tumultuous** - loud and noisy, **somnolence** - the state of being almost sleep





## From the Real World

Dr Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan was a great teacher. Teacher's Day is celebrated on his birthday. He believed that 'A true teacher is one who helps us think for ourselves?'

In these any great teacher you know? Why do you feel he is great?

'Not always by himself. He did marry, but it was only for a year or two and then she died,' the attendant said.

'Pity, pity, he never had children,' said the doctor. At that, Chips opened his eyes as wide as he could and sought to attract the attention of the speakers.

'I thought I heard you say I never had any children, eh! But you know I have...'

And then the chorus sang in his ears in final harmony, more grandly and sweetly and comfortingly than ever: 'Pettifer, Pollet, Persons, Potts, Pullman, Purvis, Pym Wilson... come round me now, all of you, for a last word and a joke...my boys...'

And soon Chips was asleep.

Goodbye Mr Chips.

—James Hilton  
(Goodbye, Mr Chips!)

## Test Your Knowledge

As per NEP 2020

A. Tick (✓) the correct answers.

1. When Mr Chips joined Brookfield there were :
  - (a) five hundred more teachers
  - (b) five hundred ruffians
  - (c) five hundred decent students
2. Whatever Mr Chips told Colly he :
  - (a) told his father in letter
  - (b) told everyone in the class
  - (c) revealed it to his friends
3. Which of the following is correct about Mr Chips?
  - (a) he made students cry easily
  - (b) he punished students regularly
  - (c) he made students laugh



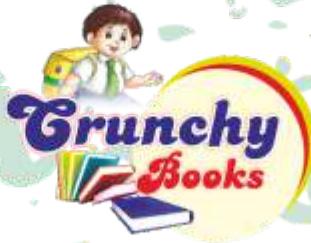
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