

1

Engine Trouble

Warm Up

Work in pairs and discuss.

- * What will you do if someone gifts you one of these on your birthday?



- * Where will you keep it and what will you do with it?

Read this text to find out what a man did when he won a **road engine** as a lottery prize.

There came down to our town some years ago (said the Talkative Man) a showman owning an institution called the Gaiety Land. Overnight, our Gymkhana Grounds became **resplendent** with banners, streamers and coloured lamps. Gaiety Land provided us with all sorts of fun and **sideshows**. In addition to this, there were lotteries and shooting galleries where for an **anna** you always stood a chance of winning a hundred rupees.

road engine: road roller

resplendent: bright and colourful

sideshows: separate small shows at a fair

anna: formerly a monetary unit of India and Pakistan; 16 annas made a rupee

There was a particular corner of the show which was in great favour. Here, for a ticket costing eight annas you stood a chance of **acquiring** a variety of articles—**pincushions**, sewing machines, cameras or even a road engine. On one evening, they drew a ticket number 1005, and I happened to own the other half of the ticket. Glancing down the list of articles, they declared that I became the owner of a road engine! Don't ask me how a road engine came to be included among the prizes. It is more than I can tell you.

I looked stunned. People gathered around and gazed at me as if I were some curious animal.

“Fancy anyone becoming the owner of a road engine!” some persons muttered and giggled.



It was not the sort of prize one could carry home **at short notice**. I asked the showman if he would help me transport it. He merely pointed at a notice which **decreed** that all winners should remove the prizes immediately on drawing and by their own effort. However, they had to make an exception

acquiring: here, winning

pincushions: soft pads for holding pins and needles

at short notice: with little warning or time for preparation

decreed: here, ordered

in my case. They agreed to keep the engine on the Gymkhana Grounds till the end of their season and then I would have to make my own arrangements to take it out.

My friends and well-wishers poured in to congratulate me on my latest **acquisition**. No one knew precisely how much a road engine would fetch; all the same they felt that there was a lot of money in it.

“Even if you sell it as **scrap iron**, you can make a few thousands,” some of my friends declared.

Every day I made a trip to the Gymkhana Grounds to have a look at my engine. I grew very fond of it. I loved its shining brass parts. I stood near it and patted it affectionately, **hovered about it**, and returned home every day, only at the close of the show. I was a poor man. I thought that my troubles were coming to an end. How ignorant we are! How little did I guess that my troubles had just begun.

When the showman took down his booths and packed up, I received a notice from the **municipality** to attend to my road engine. When I went there the next day, it looked **forlorn** with no one about. The showman had moved on, leaving the engine where it stood. It was perfectly safe anywhere!

I left it alone for a few days, not knowing what to do with it. I received a notice from the municipality, ordering that the engine should at once be removed from the ground as otherwise they would charge rent for the occupation of the Gymkhana Grounds. After deep thought, I consented to pay the rent, and I paid ten rupees a month for the next three months. Dear sirs, I was a poor man. Even the house which I and my wife occupied cost me only four rupees a month.

I was making myself **bankrupt** maintaining this engine in the Gymkhana Grounds. I really hoped some day there would come my way a **lump sum** and

acquisition: something that is obtained

manages the affairs of a city or a town

scrap iron: waste pieces of iron that can be recycled

forlorn: sad

hovered about it: stayed close to it

bankrupt: unable to pay debts

municipality: an administrative body which

lump sum: money paid at one time and not in smaller amounts or instalments

make amends for all this **deficit** and suffering. Fresh complications arose when a cattle show came **in the offing**. It was to be held on the grounds. I was given twenty-four hours for getting the thing out of the ground.

I became desperate; there was not a single person for fifty miles around who knew anything about a road engine. Meanwhile, the municipality was pressing me to clear out. I thought it over. I saw the priest of the local temple and managed to gain his sympathy. He offered me the services of his temple elephant.

I also engaged fifty **coolies** to push the engine from behind. You may be sure this drained all my resources. The coolies wanted eight annas per head and the temple elephant cost me seven rupees a day and I had to give it one feed. My plan was to take the engine out of the gymkhana and then down the road to a field, half a **furlong** off. The field was owned by a friend. He would not mind if I kept the engine there for a couple of months, when I could go to **Madras** and find a customer for it.

It was a fine sight: the temple elephant **yoked** to the engine by means of stout ropes, with fifty determined men pushing it from behind, and my friend Joseph sitting in the driving seat. A huge crowd stood around and watched in great **glee**. The engine began to move. It seemed to me the greatest moment in my life. When it came out of the gymkhana and reached the road, it began to behave in a strange manner. Instead of going straight down the road it showed a tendency to wobble and move zigzag. The elephant dragged it one way, Joseph turned the wheel for all he was worth without any idea of where he was going, and fifty men behind it clung to it in every possible manner and pushed it just where they liked.

As a result of all this confused dragging, the engine ran straight into the opposite compound wall and **reduced a good length of it to powder**. At this

deficit: shortage

in the offing: likely to happen soon

coolies: here, unskilled workers (not used anymore)

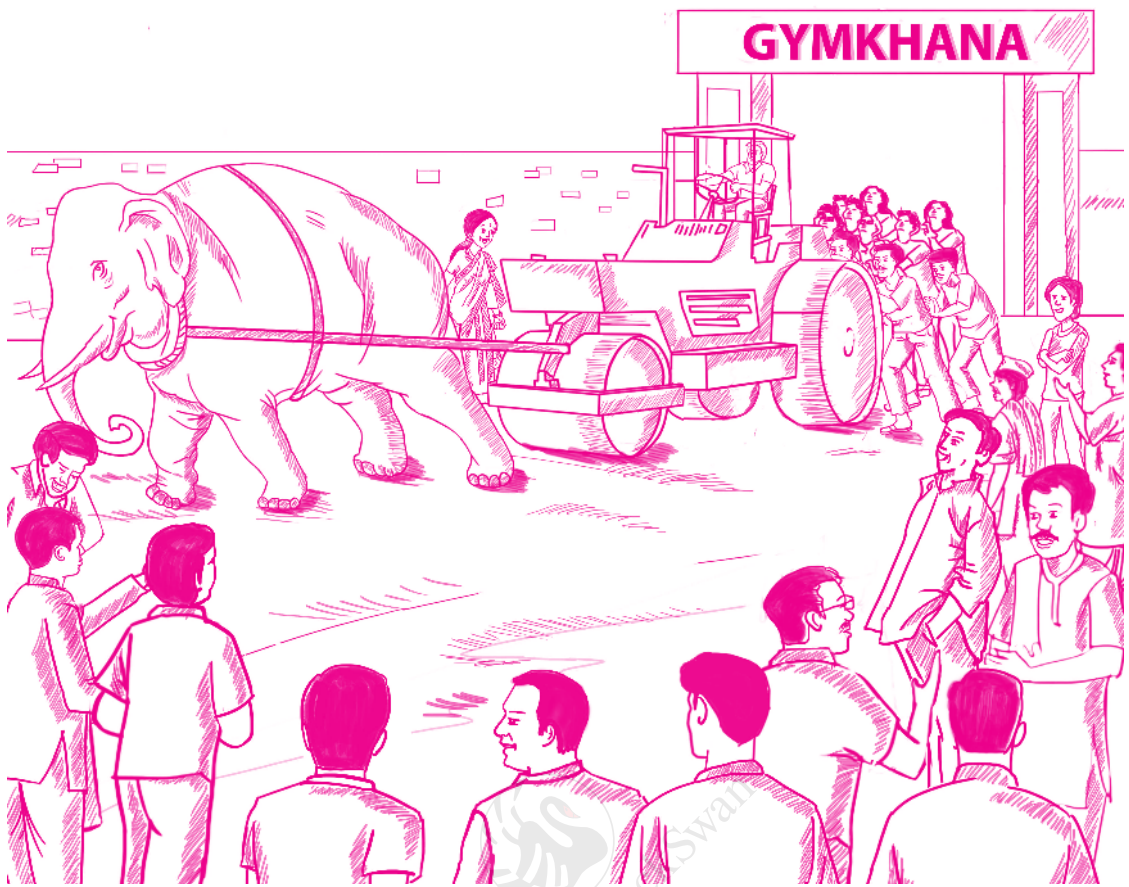
furlong: an eighth of a mile

Madras: earlier name for Chennai, capital of Tamil Nadu

yoked: tied

glee: delight

reduced a good length of it to powder: broke a big part of the wall



the crowd let out a joyous yell. The elephant, disliking the behaviour of the crowd, trumpeted loudly, strained and snapped its ropes and kicked down a further length of the wall. The fifty men fled in panic, the crowd created a **pandemonium**. Someone slapped me in the face—it was the owner of the compound wall. The police came on scene and marched me off.

When I was released from the **lock-up**, I found the following consequences awaiting me: (1) Several yards of compound wall to be built by me. (2) Wages of fifty men who ran away. They would not explain how they were **entitled to** the wages when they had not done their job. (3) Joseph's fee for steering the engine over the wall. (4) Cost of medicine for treating the knee of the temple elephant, which had received some injuries while kicking down the wall. Here again the temple authorities would not listen when I pointed out that I didn't

pandemonium: total confusion

entitled to: deserving of something

lock-up: jail; place in a police station where prisoners are kept temporarily

engage an elephant to break a wall. (5) Last, but not least, the demand to move the engine out of its present station.

I really could not find any means of paying these bills. When I went home, my wife asked, "What is this I hear about you everywhere?" I took the opportunity to explain my difficulties. She took it as a hint that I was again asking for her jewels, and she lost her temper and cried that she would write to her father to come and take her away.

I was **at my wit's end**. People smiled at me when they met me in the streets. I was seriously wondering why I should not run away to my village. I decided to encourage my wife to write to her father and arrange for her **exit**. Not a soul was going to know what my plans were. I was going to put off my **creditors** and disappear one fine night.

I made preparations to leave the town in a couple of days, leaving the engine to its fate, with all its **commitments**. However, Nature came to my rescue in an unexpected manner. You may have heard of the earthquake of that year, which destroyed whole towns in Northern India. There was a **reverberation** of it in our town too. We were thrown out of our beds that night, and doors and windows rattled.

Next morning, I went over to take a last look at my engine before leaving the town. I could hardly believe my eyes. The engine was not there. I looked about and raised a hue and cry. Search parties went round. And the engine was found in a disused well nearby, with its back up. I prayed to heaven to save me from fresh complications. But when the owner of the house came round and saw what had happened, he laughed heartily and beamed at me, "You have done me a service. It was the dirtiest water in that well and the municipality was sending notice to close it, week after week. I was dreading the cost of closing, but your engine fits it like a **cork**. Just leave it there."

"But, but..."

at my wit's end: at a loss as to what to do next; overwhelmed

exit: act of leaving a place

creditors: people one owes money to

commitments: duties and responsibilities

reverberation: echoing sound

cork: an object used as a stopper for a bottle

“There are no buts. I will withdraw all complaints and charges against you, and build that broken wall myself, but only leave the thing there.”

“That is hardly enough.” I mentioned a few other expenses that this engine had brought on me. He agreed to pay for all that.

When I again passed that way some months later, I peeped over the wall. I found the mouth of the well neatly cemented up. I heaved a sigh of great relief.

R K Narayan

Rasipuram Krishnaswami Narayan (1906–2001) is best known for his stories set in the fictional town of Malgudi in South India. In a writing career of over sixty years, Narayan received his first major award from Sahitya Akademi in 1958 for his novel, *The Guide*, and was also honoured with Padma Bhushan in 1964.

The events in this story depict a perfect tragicomic situation—where the writer blends the tragic situation of the central character with a hint of comedy.

Reading

A. Answer these questions.

1. How did the people behave when they got to know that the speaker had won a road engine?
2. What did the showman tell the speaker about transporting the prize?
3. Was the speaker happy with the prize at first? Give reasons.
4. What expenses did the speaker have to bear because of the road engine?
5. Why was the speaker put in jail?
6. How did the speaker try to escape paying his bills?
7. How did the earthquake help the speaker?

- B. These sentences from the text show the speaker's feelings at different points in the story. Complete this table by mentioning the event which had made the speaker feel that way.**

| feeling | event |
|--|-------|
| 1. I looked stunned. | 1. |
| 2. I thought that my troubles were coming to an end. | 2. |
| 3. I was at my wit's end. | 3. |
| 4. I looked about and raised a hue and cry. | 4. |
| 5. I heaved a sigh of great relief. | 5. |

C. Think and answer.

1. Show how the title is in keeping with the story.
2. Can you think of any other way the speaker's problem could have been solved?

D. Appreciating the text.

1. **Irony** means an event or situation that seems opposite to what one expects and is often amusing as a result. How does the speaker bring forth the irony in this text? Does it make the text more amusing?
2. Write five adjectives to describe the speaker. Choose incidents or lines from the story to support your choice of adjectives.

Writing

Imagine that you were there at Gaiety Land when the speaker won the road engine in the lottery. Write a letter to your uncle narrating the incident, mentioning how the speaker and the others had reacted and why you found it amusing.

Vocabulary

Complete these sentences with the expressions from the box that match with the meanings in the brackets.

| | | |
|-----------------|----------------|--------------|
| hue and cry | odds and ends | high and low |
| high and mighty | back and forth | far and wide |

1. They searched _____ for the gold ring but could not find it anywhere. (in many different places)
2. Feeling nervous, she kept forgetting things and had to go _____ at least five times. (to and fro)
3. Though he won a prestigious award, he did not behave in a _____ manner. (arrogant)
4. She raised a _____ when she could not find the necklace on the dresser. (loud noise)
5. The children sold _____ at the garage sale and bought a cycle with that money. (miscellaneous things)
6. The news spread _____ and soon the king heard about the magician. (over a large area)

Values

In the text, the speaker thinks of running away to avoid the problems he was facing.

If you find yourself in a difficult situation, will you try to ignore it or blame someone else for it? Or will you address the situation and try to solve the matter in the best way possible?

We need to address our problems, analyse the situation and try to resolve the matter. If need be, we can always seek help from others.



1

Living Dreams



Warm Up

If you dream and you allow yourself to dream, you can do anything.

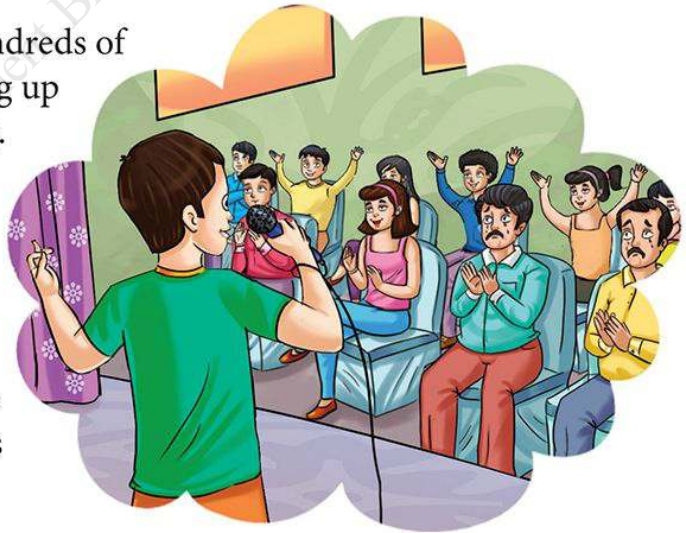
These words were spoken by Clara Hughes, a Canadian cyclist and speed skater. A six-time Olympic medalist in cycling and speed skating, she is the only athlete in history to win multiple medals in both the Summer and Winter Olympics.

Discuss with the class.

- ☞ Do you dream about what you want to be in the future?
- ☞ Besides dreams, what else would you require to make your dreams come true?



Damu was standing on a stage. Hundreds of students from school were looking up at him in adoration. Damu was singing. The knotted rope in his hands was the mike and the dotted floor tiles were the **audience**. In the crowd, Damu could see his father and his uncle. Both were crying, **overwhelmed** by Damu's talent. Both were regretting the times they had scolded the boy. Damu's golden voice had **struck a chord**!



What is Damu doing?

audience: people assembled to watch an event like a concert, film and so on

overwhelmed: here, became very emotional

struck a chord: caused someone to feel sympathy, emotion, or enthusiasm

“Oh my gosh!”

Damu leapt a few inches as if he had been shot.

“Leave this boy for a few minutes and he’s off dreaming! I am so fed up with you. **Amma** told you to tidy the house. Have you done that?” It was Smriti **chechi**.

Just one year at her in-laws’ place had changed Smriti chechi completely! She wanted everything to be spic and span. Even her laughter had changed into an irritating tinkle. The excitement of getting to see his sister after a whole year had quickly **soured**. She had been untidier than me, thought Damu bitterly, as he walked off in a huff.

Outside, the sun blazed on the white sand and the heat hit him. Damu wondered if he should turn back. Then he decided not to. Damu found himself walking towards the shore. Walking a little farther, he spotted his father, Sudhakaran, and uncle, Arvindan, repairing the nets. He quickly turned back.

Why did Damu turn back?

Arvindan said, “You had better do something about that boy of yours or you’re going to regret it.”

“You think I haven’t tried? You’ve beaten him too...but it’s no use,” sighed Sudhakaran.

“Sorry to interrupt, but have you tried talking to him?” came a voice from a nearby boat. It was Naushad, the **octogenarian** fisherman.

Why does the speaker mention Naushad’s age?

“What Naushad-**valiyachan!**” said Sudhakaran. “Do you take me for a fool? I don’t like beating the boy. I’ve talked and talked to him. He is always talking to himself. Sometimes when I see him like that, I don’t know whether I should laugh or cry,” said Sudhakaran wearily. “Says he does not want to be a fisherman; wants to study and become a rocket scientist. A rocket scientist! Everything is like some fantasy land to him.”

“There’s nothing wrong in studying or wanting to be a rocket scientist,” said Naushadappan.

* * *

Amma: mother in Malayalam

chechi: sister in Malayalam

soured: here, turned unpleasant

octogenarian: a person who is between 80 and 89 years old

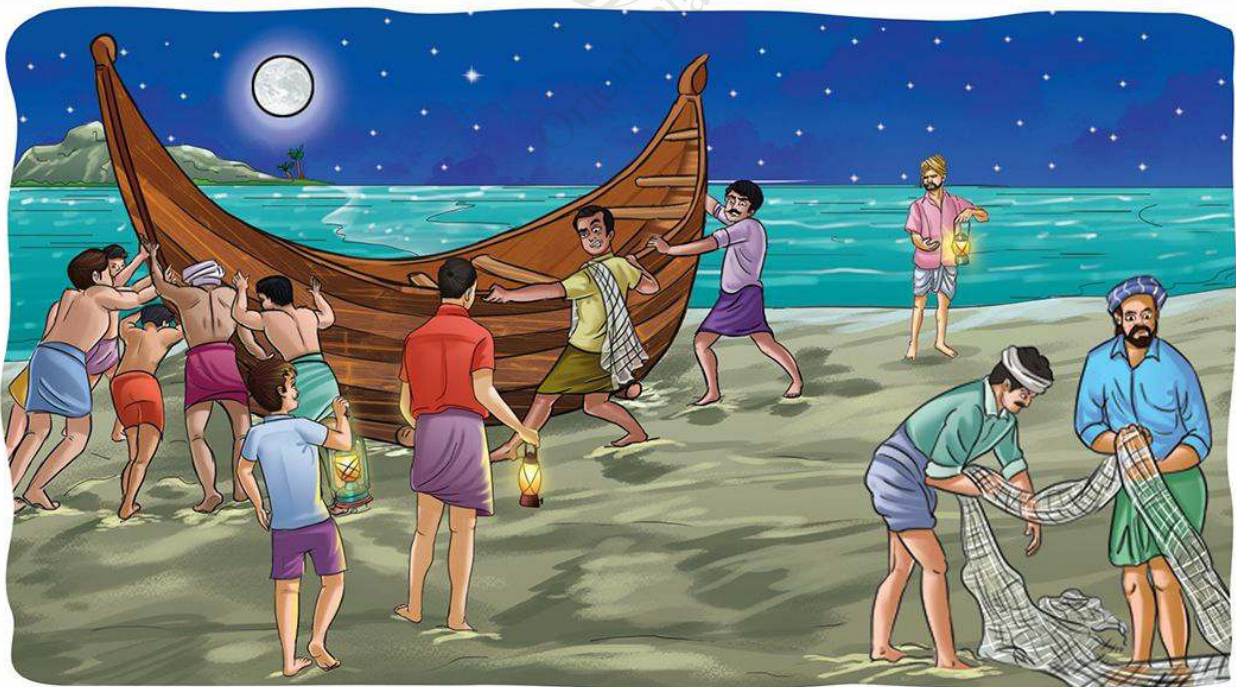
valiyachan: uncle in Malayalam

Damu was woken up at 3.30 a.m. With his eyes still gummed with sleep, he buttoned a shirt and followed his father. There was no point in protesting. No point in pretending to be dead and hoping that they would leave him and go. The family council had decided that they would have to be firm with him to make him ‘responsible’. A sample of it was the attempt to teach him his **vocation** by taking him fishing at the unearthly hours that fishermen are used to.

It was pitch dark outside. But there was a lot of hustle and bustle on the seashore with boats being dragged and lanterns dancing in the dark as the fisherfolk walked around. The light of the lanterns had set Damu off. The cave was lit by a light that seemed to come from the mountain of coins that were piled up. The coins threw a sharp light of their own that touched the ceiling of the huge cave. Damu **discarded** his lantern. There was no need for light here. Moreover, he needed both hands to shovel in as much gold as he could into.... A sharp poke on his head and he was back on the shore.

“Help your father push the boat,” said Sudhakaran.

Damu was happy to see Naushadappan on the boat—anyone better than these two bad-tempered men. They rowed far into the sea. Much to the surprise of Sudhakaran and Arvindan, Damu rowed very well. Little did they realise that



vocation: here, trade or profession

discarded: got rid of

Damu was participating in a snake boat race. He was neck to neck with the boat from the other district and it was a matter of life and death to him. If he won....

Was Damu actually taking part in a snake boat race?

“What do you see in the water?” a **quavering** voice roused Damu from his **reverie**.

“Water,” replied Damu.

“No, what do you really see?” insisted Naushad.

Damu shrugged his shoulder warily.

“I see different things when I look at water,” said the old man with a chuckle. “It really depends on where the sun is positioned. For instance, when it’s noon, then I don’t see the water. The glitter of the sun on the water seems like gold that I can collect. When I see the water when the sun is about to set, I feel warm. The water has absorbed the sun’s heat, robbed the sun of its fierceness and now its vast body is warm and heavy like sweet honey....”

“When I look at water, I can see that it’s living,” interrupted Damu delightedly. “Especially when I see the water at dawn...when the sun has not yet draped the colours on her, when the water is transparent...you can see fish, and dirt and leaves, and movement.”

Naushad smiled in delight and said, “If you find water so beautiful, why don’t you like to be a part of it?”

“I don’t want to drag the boat every morning and go fishing. I hate it.”

Why does Naushad ask Damu about what he saw in the water?

Naushad was silent. Then he said, “Did you know that fish sleep with their eyes open?”

Damu’s face lit up with a smile. “Yes I do. They have no eyelids. So, obviously they can’t shut their eyes. Did you know that each eye of the fish sees different things?”

“No, I did not know that.”

When the boat returned, Sudhakaran had a very good **haul**. Naushad and Damu had put Sudhakaran and Arvandan on the oars and taken the nets.

quavering: shaking
reverie: daydream

haul: the number of fish caught

“There’s a whole universe down there,” Naushad told Damu. “Did you know there are more waterbodies on Earth than land? Can you imagine continents of fish, fish rulers, and perhaps different communities of fish?”

“If I take a fish from this sea, put it in a bottle and take it to another sea, then that fish would be **identified** instantly. A foreigner!”

As they talked, the oarsmen listened silently. Damu’s eyes were both alert and dreamy as he talked to Naushad. The words of the old man drew pictures in the eyes of the child. And the two caught fish—plenty of it.

Damu’s mother was astonished when she saw the amount of fish at the bed of the boat. “I caught them, Amma,” **crowed** Damu.

“Beginner’s luck,” muttered Arvindan. But he was smiling beneath his moustache. So was Sudhakaran.

Why does Arvindan smile secretly?

* * *

After everybody had gone to sleep, Damu’s mother started to do the dishes. Sudhakaran came and silently sat beside her.

Scrubbing sand and ash on a big metal pot, he said, “You were right. Your son is alright. And I don’t care if he doesn’t want to be a fisherman like his **achan**.”

Devaki smiled in the dark.

“Do you remember how we used to fight with our mothers to wash the dishes?”



Say true or false.

Devaki smiles because Sudhakaran is finally able to understand Damu.

identified: recognised

achan: father in Malayalam

crowed: said in a proud and slightly annoying way

Devaki smiled at the memory.

“We fought to sweep the floor, to mend the nets.”

“Yes, we were silly,” said Devaki.

“No, we were not silly. We did not see work as work. We saw it as an opportunity to play with water—yanking the hand pump was such fun; watching the water gush out from the tap was fun; scrubbing metal was fun and seeing it shine was fun.”

Devaki was listening.

“Today, an old man taught me a few lessons. I realised that I too was like Damu once. I had a vivid imagination and everything was fun only if I saw it ‘my’ way. Somewhere down the line, we grew up and forgot to be amazed by simple things like water and sun, dewdrops or a matchstick.”

Devaki and Sudhakaran washed the dishes in silence.

“I think he’ll make a good fisherman,” said Sudhakaran.

Adapted from Living Dreams by Vinitha Ramchandani



Vinitha Ramchandani is an editor and published author of more than eighteen books for children. She writes a fortnightly column, ‘Mumbai for Kids’, for *Mid-Day*. She loves telling stories and enjoys conducting imagination-building workshops for children.

This text is about a very imaginative boy and how he sees and is seen by the world.

Comprehension

A. Answer in brief.

1. Why were Damu’s uncle and father crying?
2. What is your idea of Damu’s father and uncle from their conversation?
3. Why was Damu woken up at 3.30 a.m.?
4. Why did Damu throw away the lantern?
5. How did Damu row? Who were surprised by it?
6. What reason did Damu give for not wanting to go fishing?

B. Read these lines from the text and answer the questions.

1. *“Leave this boy for a few minutes and he’s off dreaming!”*
 - a. Who said these words and to whom?
 - b. Describe what the listener was doing.
 - c. What did the listener do after this?
2. *“Sorry to interrupt, but have you tried talking to him?”*
 - a. Who said these words? Where was he?
 - b. What did the person mean?
 - c. What did the listener tell him?

C. Answer in detail.

1. Why did Damu leap up?
2. Why had Damu’s excitement at meeting his sister ‘quickly soured’?
3. How did Naushad and Damu feel about water?
4. How do you know that Damu’s uncle, father and mother were proud of his good haul?
5. Did Sudhakaran understand Damu better at the end of the story? How do we know that?

D. Think and answer.

Do you think Naushad understood Damu and knew how to get across to him? Give reasons for your answer.

E. Know your values.

At the end of the text, we see that Sudhakaran accepts Damu the way he is.

Imagine that there is a new student in your class, who has come from a different state and does not know your language and customs. Will you accept the person the way that person is and try to be friends? Or will you choose to keep your distance from them?

Everybody is different. It is important to accept these differences and take people for who they are. This will make you more broad-minded and you will learn many new things from them.

Grammar

As you know, a **phrase** is a group of two or more words that conveys a short, single piece of information. A **clause** consists of a larger piece of information. It has a subject and a verb.

A. Write whether these highlighted parts are phrases (P) or clauses (C).

1. Baichung Bhutia is **a great football player**. P
2. The entire area **has been cordoned off** for the meeting.
3. **The man with the blue suitcase** is my uncle.
4. She went for a walk **in the heavy downpour**.
5. We will get to know the results **in a few minutes**.
6. If you want to take part in the competition, **you have to register tomorrow**.

As you know, there are different kinds of sentences.

Declarative sentences give information or make a statement.

Interrogative sentences ask questions.

Imperative sentences give instructions or commands.

Exclamatory sentences express strong feelings.

Negative sentences use words like **no, never, not, none**, and so on.

B. In your notebook, rewrite these sentences as directed.

1. Please go to the bakery and get a loaf of bread. (**interrogative**)
Will you please go to the bakery and get a loaf of bread?
2. Can Ali swim across this river? (**declarative**)
3. Jenny wanted to go to Kochi last summer. (**negative**)
4. Yes, they came back early because they had to pack their bags. (**interrogative**)
5. I will return the library books tomorrow. (**imperative**)
6. The little boy sang beautifully. (**exclamatory**)

Vocabulary

Read this sentence.

☞ She wanted everything to be **spic and span**.

Spic and span means **neat and clean**. This is a **binomial expression**.

A **binomial expression** is a pair of words found together in a particular order, with a fixed meaning.

It usually has two words joined by a conjunction such as **and**, **or** and so on.

Complete these sentences with the binomial expressions from the box that match the words in brackets.

| | | |
|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| loud and clear | safe and sound | rise and shine |
| spic and span | pros and cons | up and down |

1. Ritu is very efficient. Her room is always _____. (**clean**)
2. The tiger paced _____ in its cage. (**went from one side to the other**)
3. Though there had been a landslide, Jack reached home _____ . (**unharmed**)
4. Ali weighed the _____ before deciding to move to Muscat. (**to consider both sides of an argument or a topic**)
5. Though the announcement was _____ they still ended up on the wrong platform. (**understandable**)
6. “ _____, Tej. It’s time to start getting ready for school.” (**get up from sleep and be lively**)

Listening

Listen to this conversation between Ms Sen and her students. After you listen, complete these sentences.

1. The class is talking about the _____ of hobbies and interests.
2. Unfortunately, hobbies are often considered a _____ of time.

3. Hobbies make us happy as they take us away from our _____ jobs.
4. While _____ hobbies keep us mentally fit, _____ activities make us physically fit.
5. Hobbies also help us to improve our _____ and our _____ in other spheres.
6. We can gain _____ about different things from hobbies like photography and birdwatching.
7. Hobbies like painting give us the joy of _____ something.

Speaking

Read this sentence.

☞ “**Sorry to interrupt, but** have you tried talking to him?” said Naushad.

Sometimes we need to make a point when someone else is speaking, without being rude or disrespectful. So, we need to learn how to **interrupt politely** when another person is speaking.

Words and phrases we can use to interrupt politely—

- ☞ Excuse me
- ☞ Pardon me
- ☞ I don't mean to interfere, but...
- ☞ May I interrupt for a minute?
- ☞ Can I add something here?
- ☞ I would like to add something here...

Work in groups of six and practise interrupting politely in these situations.

1. Your parents are planning a get-together to celebrate your grandmother's 80th birthday. You want to tell them your thoughts and what you like and dislike about the plans.
2. Your friends are discussing an upcoming camping trip. You want to share your ideas with them.
3. You are at the bank. You need information about how to open an account. The teller has been busy talking on the phone for some time.

Spelling

Look at these words.

∞ farther

∞ further

Though both the words are the comparative forms of the words 'far', **farther** refers to a **physical distance**, while **further** refers to an **abstract idea of distance**.

There are also other words that are often confused. Their spelling depends on usage and sometimes on slight variations in pronunciation.

Complete these sentences with the correct words.

| | |
|------------------|--|
| farther, further | 1. Go a little _____ and then turn left to go to the market. 2. Before going any _____, we need to know all the details of the project. |
| desert, dessert | 3. The caravan took twenty-one days to cross the _____. 4. I have overeaten and will not have any _____. |
| alter, altar | 5. The beautiful bride walked up to the _____. 6. I do not like the fit of this dress. Can you please _____ it? |
| accept, except | 7. Please _____ this token of gratitude. 8. All the boys _____ Neville went to the fair. |
| its, it's | 9. Turn the toy on _____ back to put in the battery. 10. This is my bag. _____ a gift from Rekha. |

Life Skills

During stressful times we often feel disappointed, sad, angry, anxious, jealous and afraid. To manage our emotions we need to—

- ∞ stay calm.
- ∞ quietly think about what has happened and take time before reacting.
- ∞ discuss our feelings with someone before acting on them.
- ∞ try to be kind and forgive the other person.

Discuss in class how you would manage your emotions and what you would do in these situations.

1. Your brother refuses to let you watch your favourite television programme.
2. You are playing a game of basketball in school. A person from the opposing team keeps bumping into you or elbowing you.
3. Though you worked very hard, your classmate has won the singing competition.

Writing

Here are some points to keep in mind while writing an email.

- ∞ Write a short and meaningful subject line.
- ∞ Avoid difficult fonts and do not use capital letters for the whole message.
- ∞ Align it to the left and stick to a simple format.
- ∞ Sign off appropriately.
- ∞ Follow the rules of grammar and punctuation.

Write an email to a friend on what you want to be when you grow up and how you will make your dream come true.

CLASS – VIII

ENGLISH

DATE: 01.06.2020

NAME: _____

ASSIGNMENT– UNIT 1

DAY: MONDAY

Engine Trouble

Answers for the text based questions:

1. The people got to know that the speaker had won a road engine; they gathered around the speaker and gazed at him as if he were a curious animal. Some of them also laughed at the peculiarity of the situation. His friends and well-wishers visited the speaker to congratulate him. They were sure that the road engine would fetch him a lot of money.
2. The showman told the speaker that winners were expected to remove their prizes immediately on drawing and by their own effort. However, he agreed to keep the engine on the Gymkhana Grounds till the end of the season after which the speaker would have to make his own arrangements to take it out.
3. No, the speaker was not happy with the prize at first. We know this because the text says he was stunned to hear he had won the road engine. Also, he was worried about how he would take home such a huge and unusual prize.
4. The speaker had to pay a monthly rent of ten rupees for three months to keep the road engine at the Gymkhana grounds. He also had to pay Joseph for steering the road engine and eight annas to each of the fifty coolies. The temple elephant cost him seven rupees a day and one feed along with the cost of the medicines for treating his injured knee. He also had to pay for the compound wall that the elephant had broken.
5. The speaker was put in jail for being the owner of the road engine that broke the compound wall of someone else's house and creating such chaos.
6. The speaker planned to send his wife to her father's home and then secretly run away from his hometown in order to escape paying his bills.

7. The earthquake helped the speaker as it caused the road engine to a fall into a disused well. The well was full of dirty water and the owner was glad that the road engine fitted it perfectly that he would not have to pay a great deal for closing the well. In fact he requested the speaker to let the road engine be in the well and also agreed to pay for some of the other expenses that the speaker had to bear because of the road engine.

THE INDIAN WEAVERS

I. Try to answer:

1. What is the stanzaic pattern of the poem?
2. What is its rhyming scheme?
3. How many rhyming couplets does the poem have?
4. List all the pairs of end rhymes in the poem.
5. Give three examples of alliteration from the poem.

II. Answer the following questions:

1. What three events are referred to in the poem? Can you guess the three stages of human life indicated by these events?
2. With what do the weavers compare the garments being woven by them?
3. Do you think the weavers are affected by what they are weaving? Give a reason for your answer.
4. Pick out the words, expressions or phrases from the poem that indicate different times of the day.
5. Is there a similarity between the break of the day and the birth of a baby? If yes, what is it?
6. Pick out two objects which the shroud is compared to its colour.
7. Which three stages of life that the poem speaks of? Can you relate them to the three stages of the day?
8. Identify and collect the words in the poem that indicate the changing mood of the poet?

9. The poet uses similes to draw a direct comparison between things. Identify the similes used in the poem and point out the common link between the two objects or things compared in each case.

SBIOA SENIOR SECONDARY SCHOOL, TRICHY-07

CLASS – VIII

ENGLISH

DATE: 10.06.2020

NAME: _____

MCB-ASSIGNMENT

DAY: WEDNESDAY

Living Dreams

I. Read the lesson and answer these questions:

1. Why were Damu's uncle and father crying?
2. What is your idea of Damu's father and uncle from their conversation?
3. Why was Damu woken up at 3.30 a.m.?
4. Why did Damu throw away the lantern?
5. How did Damu row? Who were surprised by it?
6. What reason did Damu give for not wanting to go fishing?

7. "Leave this boy for a few minutes and he's off dreaming!"

- a) Who said these words and to whom?
- b) Describe what the listener was doing.
- c) What did the listener do after this?

8. "Sorry to interrupt , but have you tried talking to him?"

- a. Who said these words and to whom?
- b. What did the person mean?
- c. What did the listener tell him?