

# *Don*

## BigWin

# ENGLISH

# 8

UPDATED EDITION

- ★ Based on Latest Syllabus
- ★ Tamil Translation for All Units
- ★ All Exercises with Explanations in Tamil
- ★ Unit Question Papers
- ★ Model Question Paper (latest pattern)



 **Don Publications (P) Ltd.**

**Don**

**BIG WIN SERIES**

**ENGLISH**

**2024-2025**

**FULLY REVISED EDITION**

**8**



- Based on the Latest Syllabus
- Tamil Translation for All Units
- All Exercises with Explanations in Tamil
- Unit Question Papers
- Model Question Paper (latest pattern)
- As per New Full Year Book



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**Don****Big Win Series****ENGLISH****8<sup>th</sup> Standard***As per the latest syllabus*© **Don Publications (P) Ltd.**

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## PREFACE

This **Don** English Work book (Big Win Series) for the VIII Std. students is brought out entirely on the basis of new syllabus and this book is prepared as per the Tamil Nadu Government latest blue print and question pattern.

In this book all the units pertaining to Prose, Poetry and Supplementary Reader have been dealt carefully and accurately to aid the students in achieving high marks. For all the units, adequate translation in Tamil is given to make the understanding better.

For all the competencies, to understand the topic, explanations are given in Tamil. Enough exercises graded from simple to hard have been provided so as to train the students of average standard as well as to cater the needs of the bright students.

We expect your feedback and encouragements to improve this book.

**S.A. Suresh Kumar MCA., MBA.,**  
for **Don Publications (P) Ltd.**

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## 8<sup>th</sup> ENGLISH

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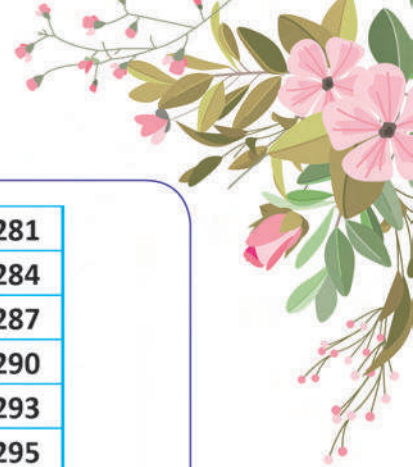
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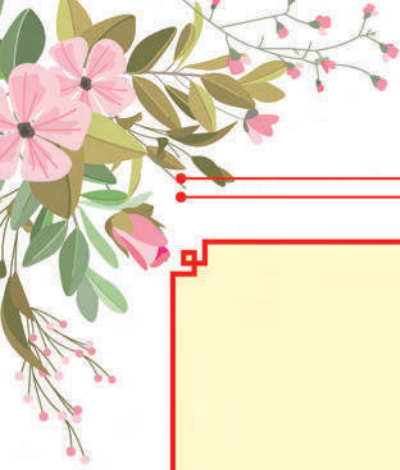
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## Memoriter Poem

### Special Hero

When I was a baby,  
you would hold me in your arms.  
I felt the love and tenderness,  
keeping me safe from harm.  
I would look up into your eyes,  
and all the love I would see.

How did I get so lucky,  
you were the dad chosen for me.

There is something special  
about a father's love.

Seems it was sent to me  
from someplace up above.

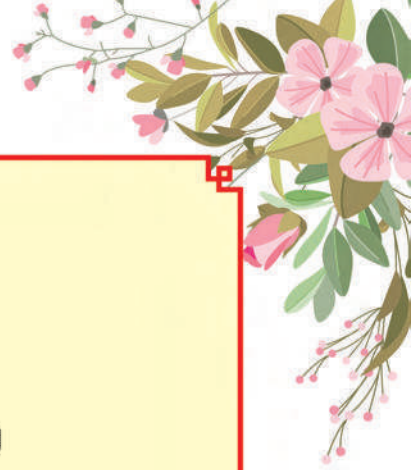
Our love is everlasting,  
I just wanted you to know.  
That you're my special hero  
and I wanted to tell you so.

- Christina M Kerschen

### Making Life Worth While

Every soul that touches yours -  
Be it the slightest contact -  
Get there from some good;  
Some little grace; one kindly thought;  
One aspiration yet unfelt;  
One bit of courage  
For the darkening sky;  
One gleam of faith  
To brave the thickening ills of life;  
One glimpse of brighter skies -  
To make this life worthwhile  
And heaven a surer heritage.

- George Eliot



## **A Thing of Beauty**

A thing of beauty is a joy forever  
Its loveliness increases, it will never  
pass into nothingness; but will keep  
A bower quiet for us, and a sleep  
Full of sweet dreams, and health, and quiet breathing  
Therefore, on every morrow, are we wreathing  
A flowery band to bind us to the earth,  
Some shape of beauty moves away the pall  
From our dark spirits. Such the sun, the moon,  
Trees old, and young sprouting a shady boon  
For simple sheep; and such are daffodils  
With the green world they live in : and clear rills  
That for themselves a cooling covert make  
'Giants the hot season; the mid forest brake,  
Rich with a sprinkling of fair musk - rose blooms;  
An endless fountain of immortal drink,  
Pouring upto us from the heaven's brink

*John Keats*

## **Lessons in Life**

Having a friend is like planting a flower  
Show love and kindness it one day will bloom  
Let's be aware as we walk on this planet  
Even the tiniest creature needs room.

Lessons in life aren't always so simple  
Nothing you're given will ever come free  
Even the smallest of gifts deserves "thank you"  
I respect you and you respect  
I think of you and you think of me.

Remember everyone here is important  
When you're forgotten it makes you feel sad  
Know that you matter and you make a difference  
Let no one shame you or make you feel bad.

Lessons in life aren't always so simple  
Nothing you are given will ever come free  
Even the smallest of gifts deserves "thank you"  
I respect you and you respect  
I think of you and you think of me.

*Bridgette Bryant & Daniel Ho*



# Unit 1

## THE NOSE-JEWEL

C. Rajagopalachari

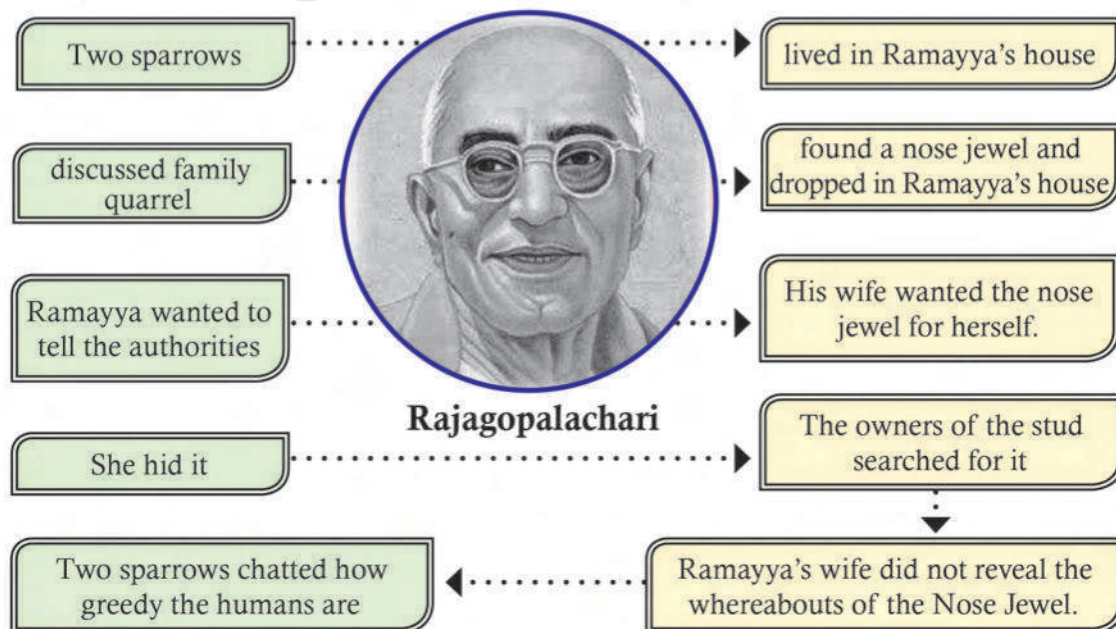
PROSE

### Warm Up

What are the life lessons that you can learn from the birds? Match the birds with the characters given in the box and fill in the blanks.

| Arise and awake, Beautiful, Unity, Focused, Melodious, Time conscious               |                 |                                         |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------------------|
| Qualities of birds                                                                  |                 | Life lessons I can learn from the birds |
|    | Time conscious  | Be on time to school                    |
|    | Arise and awake | Do your duty                            |
|    | Unity           | Strengthens you                         |
|   | Beautiful       | Gives us joy                            |
|  | Focused         | Bring success                           |
|  | Melodious       | Peaceful mind                           |

### Mind Map



**Listen to the teacher reading the section.**

Ramayya was a simple man living in the town. He lived with his wife in a nice house made of tiled roofs. He was not rich but he could take care of his family.

Two sparrows built a nest in a nice spot in the roof of Ramayya's house and the mother-bird laid her eggs in it.

"My dear," began the male sparrow.

"And what do you want now?" asked his wife.

"Why does the lady of this house always quarrel with her husband?"

"How am I to know?" said the female bird. "Let us mind our own business."

"You are always **self-centred**," said the male sparrow and added, "Should we not help this poor Ramayya?"

The female sparrow said with **disdain**, "Let me see what help you can do for him. Please do not talk about what does not concern us. See that the cat does not come near our nest. That would be enough for you and me."

Somewhere in the **muck-heap** lay a diamond nose-jewel. The male bird picked it up and came to the nest with the shining stud in his beak and said to his wife: "Look! Do you like this?"

The wife-bird replied, "What am I to do with diamond nose studs or with ear-rings? Find some **grub**; the young ones are hungry."

The bird dropped the diamond stud on the floor and went out in search of little worms for the young ones.

Ramayya's wife noticed the jewel as she was sweeping the floor. She picked it up with delight and wore it.

Ramayya questioned her angrily, "How did you get hold of this diamond-stud?" "I found it lying here yesterday and took it. That is all."

**இந்த பகுதியை ஆசிரியர் வாசிப்பதை கவனமாக கேளுங்கள்.**

ராமையா ஒரு எளிமையான மனிதன். ஒரு நகரில் வசித்து வந்தான். அவன் தன் மனைவியுடன் ஓடுகள் வேயப்பட்ட ஒரு அழகான வீட்டில் வசித்தான். அவன் பணக்காரனாக இல்லை. ஆனால் அவனால் தன் குடும்பத்தை சமாளிக்க முடியும் நிலையில் இருந்தான்.

இரண்டு குருவிகள் ராமையாவின் வீட்டின் கூரையில் ஒரு அருமையான இடத்தில் ஒரு கூடு கட்டி அதில் தாய்ப்பறவை தன்னுடைய முட்டைகளை இட்டு இருந்தது.

"என் அன்பே", என்று ஆண்குருவி துவங்கியது.

"உனக்கு என்ன வேண்டும் இப்போது?" என்று கேட்டது மனைவி குருவி.

"ஏன் இந்த வீட்டில் உள்ள பெண் எப்போதும் தன் கணவனிடம் சண்டை போட்டுக் கொண்டு இருக்கிறாள்?"

"எனக்கு எப்படி தெரியும்?" பெண் குருவி பதில் சொல்லி விட்டு "நாம் நமது வேலையைப் பார்ப்போம்" என்றது.

"நீ எப்போதும் **சுயநலமாக** இருக்கிறாய்," ஆண் குருவி கூறிவிட்டு, "மேலும் இந்த ஏழை ராமையாவிற்கு நாம் உதவி செய்ய வேண்டாமா?" என்று கூறியது.

பெண் குருவி **வெறுப்புடன்** கூறியது, "உனக்கு என்ன உதவி அவருக்கு செய்ய முடியும் என்பதை நானும் பார்க்கிறேன். தயவுசெய்து நமக்கு சம்பந்தம் இல்லாததைப் பற்றி பேசாதே". அங்கே பார் அந்த பூனை நமது கூட்டிற்கு அருகில் வரக்கூடாது. உனக்கும் எனக்கும் அது போதும்".

தூரத்தில் ஓரிடத்தில் **சேற்றுக் குவியலில்** ஒரு வைர மூக்குத்தி கிடந்தது. ஆண் பறவை அதை கொத்திக் கொண்டு கூட்டிற்கு தன் அலகில் மினுமினுக்கும் தோடோடு வந்து தனது மனைவியிடம் சொன்னது "பார்! இது உனக்கு பிடித்திருக்கிறதா?"

மனைவி பறவை பதிலளித்தது, "இந்த வைர மூக்குத்தியையும் காது வளையத்தையும் வைத்துக் கொண்டு நான் என்ன செய்ய முடியும். குஞ்சிகள் பசியாக இருக்கிறது. அதற்கு சில **உணவை** தேடு".

அந்த பறவை வைரதோடை தரையில் போட்டது. பின்னர் தன் குஞ்சுகளுக்கு சிறிய புழுக்களைத் தேடிச் சென்றது.

ராமையாவின் மனைவி தரையை பெருக்கும் போது அந்த நகையைக் கண்டாள். அவள் மகிழ்ச்சியுடன் எடுத்து அணிந்து கொண்டாள்.

ராமையா கோபத்துடன் கேள்வி கேட்டார். "எப்படி உனக்கு இந்த வைர மூக்குத்தி கிடைத்தது?" "நான் நேற்று அங்கு கீழே கிடந்ததை கண்டு பிடித்தேன் அதை எடுத்துக் கொண்டேன். அவ்வளவு தான்."

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>"We should go and deliver it to the village <b>magistrate</b>. If tomorrow the police should come and search our house, it will be <b>disgrace</b> to us?"</p> <p>In Meenakshi Ammal's house nearby, the talk went thus: "I forgot and left it in the bathroom. Kuppayi, the servant woman must have swept it out. She is very careless and <b>ignorant</b>."</p> | <p>"நாம் உடனே சென்று கிராமத்து <b>நீதிபதியிடம்</b> கொடுத்து விட வேண்டும். போலீஸ் வந்து நம் வீட்டைச் சோதனையிடும். அது நமக்கு <b>அவமானமாக</b> இருக்கும்." அருகிலுள்ள மீனாட்சி அம்மாளுடைய வீட்டில் இவ்வாறு பேச்சு ஓடியது. "நான் மறந்து அதை குளியலறையில் வைத்து விட்டேன். குப்பாயி - வேலைக்காரி அதை பெருக்கி இருக்க வேண்டும். அவள் மிகவும் கவனக்குறைவானவள் மற்றும் <b>அறிவில்லாதவள்</b>".</p> |
| <p>The mother, Meenakshi Ammal, <b>consoled</b> her little girl saying, "Let us search and find it. Don't tell Father yet. He would go into a rage if he knew that you had lost the diamond nose-stud."</p> <p>"What is the secret you are whispering?" asked Ramanatham.</p>                                                                                        | <p>மீனாட்சி அம்மாள் - அம்மா அவளுடைய சிறிய குழந்தையை <b>ஆறுதல்படுத்தினாள்</b>. "நாம் தேடி அதைக் கண்டுபிடிப்போம். அப்பாவிடம் சொல்லி விடாதே". இல்லாவிட்டால் அவர் நீ வைர மூக்குத்தி திருகை தொலைத்தது தெரிந்தால் கடுமையாக கோப்படுவார். "நீ அழுது கொண்டிருப்பதற்குரிய ரகசியம்" என்ன? என்று ராமநாதன் கேட்டான்.</p>                                                                               |
| <p>The loss of the jewel had to be admitted. Soon the whole village knew about it. The maid-servant Kuppayi was <b>suspected</b> by everyone to have stolen it.</p> <p>The police came and searched her hut, but could find nothing.</p>                                                                                                                             | <p>நகை தொலைந்தது ஏற்றுக் கொள்ளப்பட்டது. உடனே அந்த கிராமம் முழுவதும் அதைப் பற்றி தெரிந்துவிட்டது. வேலைக்காரி குப்பாயியை எல்லோராலும் அவள்தான் அதை எடுத்து இருப்பாள் என்று சந்தேகப்பட்டனர்.</p> <p>போலீஸ் வந்து அவளது குடிசையைத் தேடினர். ஆனால் எதையும் கண்டுபிடிக்க முடியவில்லை.</p>                                                                                                        |
| <p>Ramayya's heart was in a <b>flutter</b>. Ramayya's wife put the stud away in her box. She soon developed a severe fever and was <b>confined</b> to her bed. No one thought of searching their house.</p>                                                                                                                                                          | <p>ராமையாவின் இதயம் படபடவென <b>துடித்தது</b>. ராமையாவின் மனைவி அந்த நகையை ஒரு பெட்டிக்குள் வைத்தாள். அவளுக்கு உடனே கடுமையான காய்ச்சல் ஏற்பட்டு படுக்கையில் <b>முடங்கினாள்</b>. ஒருவருக்கும் அவளுடைய வீட்டை தேடும் எண்ணம் வரவில்லை.</p>                                                                                                                                                    |
| <p>The he-sparrow said, "Look at the fun, my dear, the lady of this house is scared and is down with fever."</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | <p>ஆண் குருவி கூறியது, "அங்கே பார் வேடிக்கையை. என் அன்பே, அந்த பெண் வீட்டில் பயமும் அதனால் காய்ச்சலில் விழுந்து கிடப்பதையும்".</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <p>"Nice fun indeed!" said the she-sparrow. "The poor woman is in a <b>panic</b>. The fever may be the end of her."</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | <p>"நல்ல வேடிக்கை தான் உண்மையிலேயே". "அந்த ஏழைப் பெண் <b>பயத்தில்</b> இருக்கிறாள். அந்த காய்ச்சலே அவளுக்கு முடிவாக அமைந்து விடும்."</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <p>"And a good thing too," said the <b>cruel</b> male sparrow. "It is all your doing you brought and threw it here and tempted her," said the female bird.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                       | <p>"அதிலும் ஒரு நல்லது இருக்கிறது" என்று <b>கொடூரமான</b> ஆண் குருவி கூறியது. "இது எல்லாம் உன்னுடைய செயல்களால்; நீ எடுத்து வந்து இங்கே வீசி விட்டாய். அவளை தூண்டிவிட்டாய்" என்று கூறியது பெண் குருவி.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <p>The male bird answered <b>gravely</b>, "Did I tell her to steal the thing? This is bound to happen when human are being greedy."</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | <p>ஆண் குருவி மிகவும் <b>தீவிரமாக</b> பதிலளித்தது "நான் அவர்களை திருடச் சொன்னேனா? மனிதர்கள் பேராசையாகும் போது இவ்வாறு நடைபெறுகிறது."</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |

"Rightly said, we should never be greedy for what belongs to others". "Come, let us go now and bring some worms for the young ones." And the two flew out. Ramayya and his wife spend the rest of life in fear of being caught. The diamond Nose Jewel may still be with them, but the fear of getting caught was even more.

"சரியாகச் சொல்லப்பட்டது. நாம் மற்றவர்கள் பொருளின் மீது ஒருபோதும் பேராசைப்படக் கூடாது". "வா, நாம் இருவரும் சென்று நமது குஞ்சிகளுக்கு சில புழுக்களை கொண்டு வருவோம்" - இரண்டும் பறந்து சென்றன. ராமையாவும் அவனது மனைவியும் அவர்களது மிஞ்சிய வாழ்க்கையை பயத்துடன் கழித்தனர். வைரமூக்குத்தி நகை அவர்களிடம் இன்னும் இருக்கலாம். ஆனால் அந்த பயம் மேலும் பற்றிக் கொண்டது.

### Gist of Lesson

Two sparrows, the so called creatures with no thinking ability, discussed the greediness of the human beings. Ramayya's wife accidentally got the diamond nose jewel; it was not hers, but she kept it for herself.

### பாடச்சுருக்கம்

இரு சிட்டுக்குருவிகள், இரண்டு அல்லது மூன்று நிலையில் மட்டுமே அறிவுள்ளவைகள் மனிதர்களின் பேராசையைப் பற்றிக் கூறுகின்றது. இராமையா என்பவருடைய மனைவி தனக்கு தற்செயலாகக் கிடைத்த 'வைர மூக்குத்தியை' பேராசை காரணமாக தன்னிடம் இருக்கட்டும் என்று மறைத்து வைக்கின்றாள்.

### Text Book Glossary

|     |                    |   |                                                                             |                               |
|-----|--------------------|---|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1.  | self-centred (adj) | = | concerned with the self                                                     | தன்னலமுடைய                    |
| 2.  | disdain (n)        | = | feeling of contempt or scorn                                                | ஏளனம்                         |
| 3.  | muck-heap (n)      | = | heap                                                                        | சாணக்குவியல்                  |
| 4.  | grub (n)           | = | food                                                                        | உணவு                          |
| 5.  | magistrate (n)     | = | a judicial officer with limited authority to administer and enforce the law | குற்றவியல் நீதிபதி            |
| 6.  | disgrace (n)       | = | the state of being dishonoured, or covered with shame                       | இகழ்ச்சி; அவமானம்             |
| 7.  | ignorant (adj)     | = | unaware                                                                     | அறியாமை                       |
| 8.  | consoled (v)       | = | comforted (someone) in the time of grief / disappointment                   | துன்ப வேளையில் ஆறுதல் கூறுவது |
| 9.  | suspected (v)      | = | believed to be a cause or at fault                                          | ஐயங்கொள்ளுதல்                 |
| 10. | flutter (v)        | = | to flap or wave quickly but irregularly                                     | சிறகடித்தல்                   |
| 11. | confined (v)       | = | restricted, kept in a limited space or area                                 | அடைத்து வைத்தல்               |
| 12. | panic (adj)        | = | frightened                                                                  | அச்சமுற்ற                     |
| 13. | cruel (adj)        | = | merciless or heartless                                                      | கொடூரமான; கருணையில்லாத        |
| 14. | gravely (adv)      | = | in a grave or serious manner                                                | கடுமையான முறையில்             |



## The Nose-Jewel

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### List of Synonyms

|    |            |   |            |                         |
|----|------------|---|------------|-------------------------|
| 1. | quarrel    | = | fight      | சண்டை                   |
| 2. | scared     | = | feared     | பயம்                    |
| 3. | business   | = | work       | வேலை                    |
| 4. | indeed     | = | infact     | உண்மையில்               |
| 5. | enough     | = | sufficient | போதுமான                 |
| 6. | delight    | = | happy      | சந்தோஷம்                |
| 7. | consoled   | = | comforted  | தேற்று                  |
| 8. | whispering | = | murmur     | தாழ்ந்த குரலில் பேசுதல் |
| 9. | rage       | = | anger      | ஆத்திரம்                |

### A. Choose correct synonyms for the italic words:

BOOK TASK Page No. 6

#### Textual:

- Nice fun *indeed*.  
a) *infact*                      b) doubtful                      c) fine
- The poor woman is in a *panic*.  
a) *fear*                          b) grid                          c) crash
- The mother *consoled* her little girl.  
a) pretended                      b) *comforted*                      c) left
- You are always *self-centred*.  
a) *egostic*                      b) generous                      c) heroic
- What is the secret you are *whispering*?  
a) rumour                      b) *murmuring*                      c) louder

#### Additional:

- The lady of this house always *quarrels* with her husband.  
a) fights                      b) hits                      c) peace
- "Let us mind our own *business*"  
a) work                      b) life                      c) busy
- That would be *enough* for you and me.  
a) sufficient                      b) insufficient                      c) greedy
- She picked it up with *delight*.  
a) happy                      b) sad                      c) sorrow
- He would go into a *rage*.  
a) angry                      b) smile                      c) anger
- The lady of this house is *scared*.  
a) feared                      b) panicked                      c) endangered

7. The male bird came to the nest with a *shining* stud.
  - a) dull
  - b) glittering
  - c) lightening
8. Find some *grub*; the young ones are hungry.
  - a) fruits
  - b) grain
  - c) food
9. We should go to the village *magistrate*.
  - a) advocate
  - b) member
  - c) judge
10. She soon developed a *severe* fever.
  - a) high
  - b) normal
  - c) regular

### List of Antonyms

|    |          |                 |   |           |                      |
|----|----------|-----------------|---|-----------|----------------------|
| 1. | delight  | மகிழ்ச்சி       | × | sad       | வருத்தம்             |
| 2. | disgrace | ஏளனம்           | × | honour    | மரியாதை              |
| 3. | careless | கவனமின்மை       | × | careful   | கவனத்துடன்           |
| 4. | secret   | இரகசியம்        | × | explicit  | வெளிப்படையான         |
| 5. | confine  | அடைத்து வைத்தல் | × | release   | விடுவித்தல்          |
| 6. | whisper  | அமைதியாக        | × | shout     | சத்தமாக              |
| 7. | dropped  | கைவிடப்பட்ட     | × | picked    | எடுத்துக்கொள்ளப்பட்ட |
| 8. | concern  | அக்கறை          | × | unconcern | அக்கறையின்மை         |

### B. Choose correct antonyms for the italic words:

#### Additional:

1. Ramayya was not *rich*.
  - a) affluent
  - b) poor
  - c) poverty
2. The lady of this house *always* quarrels with her husband.
  - a) often
  - b) sometimes
  - c) occasionally
3. See that the cat does not come *near* our nest.
  - a) next
  - b) vicinity
  - c) far
4. Ramayya's wife picked the diamond jewel up with *delight*.
  - a) happy
  - b) joy
  - c) sad
5. If tomorrow, the police should come and search, it will be a *disgrace* to us.
  - a) dishonour
  - b) graceful
  - c) honour
6. "I *forgot* it and left it in the bathroom.
  - a) thought
  - b) remembered
  - c) recalled
7. She is very *careless*.
  - a) mindful
  - b) careful
  - c) watchful
8. She is *ignorant*.
  - a) unwise
  - b) wise
  - c) illiterate
9. The mother, Meenakshi Ammal, *consoled* her little girl.
  - a) comforted
  - b) shouted
  - c) rebuked
10. The poor woman is in a *panic*.
  - a) fear
  - b) confusion
  - c) calmness



## The Nose-Jewel

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### C. Answer the following questions:

#### Textual Questions:

BOOK TASK Page No. 7

**1. Where did the sparrows build the nest?**

The sparrows built the nest in a nice spot in the roof of Ramayya's house.

**2. Why did the bird drop the diamond stud?**

The bird dropped the diamond stud because the wife – bird asked the husband bird to bring food for the hungry young ones.

**3. What were the words of Meenakshi Ammal to her daughter?**

Meenakshi Ammal told her daughter to search for the nose – stud that had been lost. She further informed her daughter not to tell her father about the loss of the diamond nose – stud.

**4. Who was suspected of stealing the diamond nose stud?**

The maid – servant Kuppayi was suspected of stealing the diamond nose stud.

**5. What did Ramayya's wife do with the stud?**

Ramayya's wife put the stud away in her box, keeping it for herself.

**6. What happened to Ramayya's wife at the end?**

Ramayya's wife, being scared of being caught by the police, fell down with fever.

#### Additional Questions:

**7. Where did the diamond nose – jewel lie?**

It lay somewhere in the muck – heap.

**8. Who took it for the first time?**

The male – sparrow bird took it for the first time. It put it in the nest.

**9. What did the wife bird say?**

The wife bird said that the stud was of no use. The male or husband bird should bring in some grub or food since the young ones in the nest were hungry.

**10. Who noticed the jewel and when? What did she do?**

Ramayya's wife noticed the jewel when she was sweeping the floor. She picked it up with delight and wore it.

**11. What is the opinion of Ramayya seeing the stud shining on his wife's nose?**

Ramayya told his wife that the diamond nose jewel should be handed over to the village magistrate.

**12. Did both of them give the nose jewel to the magistrate? If no, what did they do?**

No, they did not hand over the jewel to the magistrate but kept it for themselves.

**13. Were they in fear of being caught by the police?**

Yes, they were in fear of being caught by the police.

### Paragraph Questions:

#### D. Answer the following questions in 100 words:

#### Textual Questions:

BOOK TASK Page No. 7

**1. Why did the sparrow throw the nose jewel into Ramayya's house?**

Ramayya lived in a tiled - roof house where two sparrows had built a nest. The mother bird laid eggs in it. The male bird was interested in the affairs of the house owner. The female bird said it was their prime duty to take care of their young ones and not bother about others. Accidentally the

male bird picked up a shining stud and showed it to the female bird. She said that it was useless and asked him to bring food for the young ones. Thereby the male bird dropped the stud on the floor and went in search of food.

### 2. Explain how Ramayya's wife reacted when she saw the nose jewel?

The male bird brought a shining stud from a heap. Since he was asked to bring food for the young ones, he dropped it on the floor. Ramayya's wife found the shining stud while sweeping. She wanted to keep it for herself. The loss of the jewel was reported. The police came and searched the house of the maid - servant Kuppayi of Meenakshi Ammal's house. Till the end Ramayya's wife did not reveal the possession of the stud and kept it for herself.

#### Additional Question:

### 3. Describe the story in your own words, revealing its theme:

C.Rajagopalachari, a great thinker wanted to reveal the greediness of human beings through this story 'The Nose Jewel'. Two sparrows lived in a nest on the roof of Ramayya's house. He was a simple man with a living of 'hand to mouth existence'. Once the male sparrow brought a diamond stud from a heap. The female bird told her husband that it was of no use to them or their young ones. The male dropped it on the floor of Ramayya's house. While sweeping, Ramayya's wife found it and wanted to keep it for herself. It was made known to the village and the police searched the maid servant, Kuppayi's house. But the police could not find it. Being stricken with fear of getting caught, Ramayya's wife lost her peace of mind.

## TEXTUAL EXERCISES

### Read and Understand:

BOOK TASK Page No. 6

#### C. Fill in the blanks:

1. The sparrows built their nests in the roof of Ramayya's house.
2. The diamond jewel was lying in the muck - heap.
3. The diamond jewel belonged to Meenakshi Ammal.
4. Kuppayi was the servant maid of Meenakshi Ammal.
5. Ramayya and his wife lived with the fear of being caught by the police.

#### D. Say the following statements are True or False:

- |                                                      |       |
|------------------------------------------------------|-------|
| 1. Two sparrows built a nest on a tree top.          | False |
| 2. Kuppayi swept out the diamond jewel.              | False |
| 3. Ramayya gave the diamond jewel to the magistrate. | False |
| 4. Ramayya's wife put the stud away in her box.      | True  |
| 5. The Police searched Ramayya's home.               | False |

### Vocabulary:

#### HOMOPHONE

#### a. Pick out the correct homophone:

1. I am not allowed to drink soda. (aloud, allowed)
2. The wind blew the leaves. (blue, blew)

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## Don

- BOOK TASK Page No. 8

1. Every morning my father likes to look at the \_\_\_\_\_ on the grass.  
a) due                      b) dew

2. Chennai is the \_\_\_\_\_ of Tamilnadu.  
a) capitol                b) capital

3. I was very \_\_\_\_\_ last weekend because my friends went to the village without informing me.  
a) bored                  b) board

4. The cat caught the \_\_\_\_\_ of a mouse.  
a) scent                   b) cent

5. The \_\_\_\_\_ rises in the east.  
a) son                     b) sun

## BOOK TASK Page No. 9

1. ECG - Electro Cardio Gram.
2. ILO - International Labour Organisation.
3. SCERT - State Council of Educational Research.
4. IIT - Indian Institute of Technology.
5. ISRO - Indian Space Research Organisation.
6. FIR - First Information Report.
7. UNESCO - United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organisation.
8. UNICEF - United Nations Children's Educational Fund.
9. NASA - National Aeronautics and Space Administration.
10. AIDS - Acquired Immuno Deficiency Syndrome.
11. ADHD - Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder.
12. UFO - Unidentified Flying Object / United Food Organisation.
13. FAQ - Frequently Asked Questions.

**BOOK TASK Page No. 10**

1. Why do birds sing?
  - a) To locate one another
  - b) To warn other birds
  - c) To find a mate
  - d) *All of the above*
2. Birds perch very high so that \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a) other birds can hear them
  - b) other birds can see them
  - c) they can hide there
  - d) *Both a and b are correct*
3. The health of a bird can be determined \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a) by the length of its song
  - b) by the complexity of its song
  - c) by the volume of its song
  - d) *Both a and b are correct*

4. Shorter bird vocalizations are \_\_\_\_\_.  
 a) territorial songs      b) mating songs      *c) warnings*      d) none of the above
5. Young birds perfect their songs by \_\_\_\_\_.  
 a) natural instinct      *b) listening and interaction*  
 c) practice      d) Both b and c are correct
6. Fitness is \_\_\_\_\_.  
*a) health*      b) danger      c) a song      d) a warning.
7. How do variations in the basic song help the birds?  
 a) recognize other members      b) Maintain health  
 c) Increase the length of their song      *d) Communicate with one another*

### Writing:

**Write complaining letters, on the topics given below:**

BOOK TASK Page No. 15

- a. To the Police Commissioner about the noise caused by the loud speaker in a music shop near your school.**

From:

The Students of VIII,  
Govt.Hr.Sec.School,  
Kumbakonam

To:

The Police Commissioner  
Kumbakonam [city]

Sir,

Sub : Nuisance caused by loud speaker - regarding.

Near my school, there is a musical shop. We are unable to hear our teacher teaching and also we are unable to learn our lessons. The owner uses the loud speakers and plays songs. Please take necessary steps to curb the menace of loud speakers.

Thanking you,

Headmaster's  
Stamp & Signature

Yours truly,  
The Students of VIII  
G.H.S.School,  
Kumbakonam

- b. To the Postmaster General on non – receipt of book parcel.**

From

The Students of VIII standard,  
Govt.Hr.Sec. School,  
Kumbakonam.

To

The Postmaster General,  
Chennai.

Sir,

Sub: Non – receipt of book parcel – regarding.

We have purchased books from the the Higginbothams book shop. We had sent money by money order. The book shop authorities said that they had already sent the books by post. But so far we have



### The Nose-Jewel

*Don*

not received the book parcel. So, we request you, Sir/Madam to see that the parcel be handed over to us in time.

Thanking you,

Headmaster's  
stamp & signature

Yours truly,  
The Students of VIII,  
Govt.Hr.Sec. School,  
Kumbakonam.

### c. To the Transport Manager, TNSC on non- stopping of buses near your school bus stop.

From:

The Students of VIII standard,  
Govt.Hr.Sec. School,  
Kumbakonam.

To:

The Transport Manager,  
TNSC,  
Kumbakonam Division,  
Kumbakonam.

Sir/ Madam

Sub: Non – stopping of buses near our school bus stop – regarding

Many students are coming from far off villages to study in our school. There is a bus stop near our school. But usually, due to heavy traffic, the bus goes off and stops a few metres away from the school.

We request you, Sir/ Madam, to tell the conductors and drivers to stop the buses in front of the school. It will be convenient for the students carrying heavy baggage. This we submit for your kind consideration.

Thanking you,

Headmaster's  
stamp & signature

Yours truly,  
The Students of VIII,  
Govt.Hr.Sec. School,  
Kumbakonam

### Write letters on the topics given below:

BOOK TASK Page No. 16

#### a. Write a letter to your father asking permission to go on an educational tour.

Tirunelveli  
22-06-20xx

My dear father,

Hope this letter finds you all in good health. I'm fine. Our school has arranged an educational tour to Chennai next month. I would like to join the tour. Please send me a permission letter addressed to the HM.

With love,

Yours loving son,  
xxx

Address on the envelope:

To

Mr. V. Mohan,  
26, 2<sup>nd</sup> Cross Street,  
Veerabahu Nagar,  
Tirunelveli - 627 006.

stamp

## b. Write a letter to your friend about your summer holidays.

Madurai  
2-6-20xx

My dear Raj,

I have just returned after spending my vacation in Ooty. The flower show was very beautiful and attractive. Tourists from different regions had come there. The weather was pleasant, so we could visit several places around. The sight seeing was wonderful. I enjoyed a lot and it was a memorable one.

With love,

Your dear friend,  
xxx

Address on the envelope:

|                       |       |
|-----------------------|-------|
| To                    | stamp |
| Master R. Sundar,     |       |
| 27, North Car street, |       |
| Tirunelveli Town.     |       |
| Pin - 627 006.        |       |

## c. Write a letter to your sister advising her to take part in cultural programme in her school Annual Day celebration.

Trichy  
8-8-20xx

Dear Suja,

I have come to know that your School Day is going to be celebrated next month. I would like you to join the cultural programme as you are good at singing and dancing. Participation is more important. It helps you to improve your hidden skills. Do give your name willingly.

With lots of love,

Your dear brother,  
xxx

Address on the envelope:

|                       |       |
|-----------------------|-------|
| To                    | stamp |
| Ms. V. Sujata,        |       |
| 72, South Car Street, |       |
| Tirunelveli Junction. |       |
| Pin: 627 006.         |       |

## Grammar (G):

## a. Pick out the words from the list and put them appropriately in the table:

BOOK TASK Page No. 18

[David, Madurai, parrot, happiness, book, thought, green, tiger, Trichy, computer, Narayanan, fan, sister, Kalam, woman, pencil, Bharathi, problem, brother, Mumbai, swan, elephant, Vijay, solution, success, school, convent.]

| Persons   | Places  | Things   | Animals  | Ideas/feelings |
|-----------|---------|----------|----------|----------------|
| David     | Madurai | computer | elephant | thought        |
| Vijay     | Mumbai  | pencil   | tiger    | happiness      |
| Kalam     | Trichy  | book     | swan     | success        |
| Narayanan | School  | fan      | parrot   | problem        |
| Bharathi  | Convent | green    |          | solution       |
| sister    |         |          |          |                |
| woman     |         |          |          |                |
| brother   |         |          |          |                |

## The Nose-Jewel

Don

## b. Read the following paragraph and pick out the different types of nouns and put them in the table:

BOOK TASK Page No. 19

Hobby is an activity we enjoy doing in our free time. It keeps us busy in our leisure time. People choose their hobby on the basis of their interests and personality. Do you know what Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam's hobby was? **Ans: Playing the Veena**

| Proper Noun           | Common Noun | Collective Noun | Abstract Noun |
|-----------------------|-------------|-----------------|---------------|
| Dr. A.P.J Abdul Kalam | activity    | –               | interest      |
| –                     | –           | People          | personality   |
| –                     | –           | –               | time          |
| –                     | hobby       | –               | basis         |

## c. Fill in the blanks with suitable collective nouns:

choir, shower, bowl, flock, cup, pair, swarm, bunch, herd, bottle

1. a herd of cows
2. a flock of birds
3. a choir of singers
4. a bottle of milk
5. a cup of tea
6. a swarm of ants
7. a bunch of grapes
8. a bowl of rice
9. a pair of shoes
10. a shower of rain

## PRONOUN

## a. Change the underlined words with correct pronoun:

BOOK TASK Page No. 20

(they, he, her, him, it, she)

1. I saw Mr. Balu this morning and gave Mr. Balu my homework.
2. Muthu likes computer games but he doesn't play computer games very often.
3. My aunt lives in Trichy but, my aunt often comes to visit my family.
4. Neil Armstrong was born in 1930. Neil Armstrong landed on the moon in 1969.
5. He helped the old lady. He gave the old lady food.

## Answers

him

it

she

He

her

**b. Change the possessive adjective into possessive pronoun:**

- |                              |                                         |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| 1. This is my pen.           | This pen is <i>mine</i> .               |
| 2. Shenbah missed her purse. | The missed purse was <i>Shenbah's</i> . |
| 3. Her speech is nice.       | The nice speech is <i>hers</i> .        |
| 4. My book is new.           | The new book is <i>mine</i> .           |
| 5. My bike is costly.        | The costly bike is <i>mine</i> .        |

VERB

**List out the transitive and intransitive verbs in following words:**

BOOK TASK Page No. 21

1. come – Intransitive verb
2. buy – Transitive verb
3. teach – Transitive verb
4. learn – Transitive verb
5. arrive – Intransitive verb
6. sing – Transitive verb
7. run – Intransitive verb
8. draw – Transitive verb
9. jump – Intransitive verb
10. write – Transitive verb





# Unit 1

## SPECIAL HERO

- Christina M Kerschen

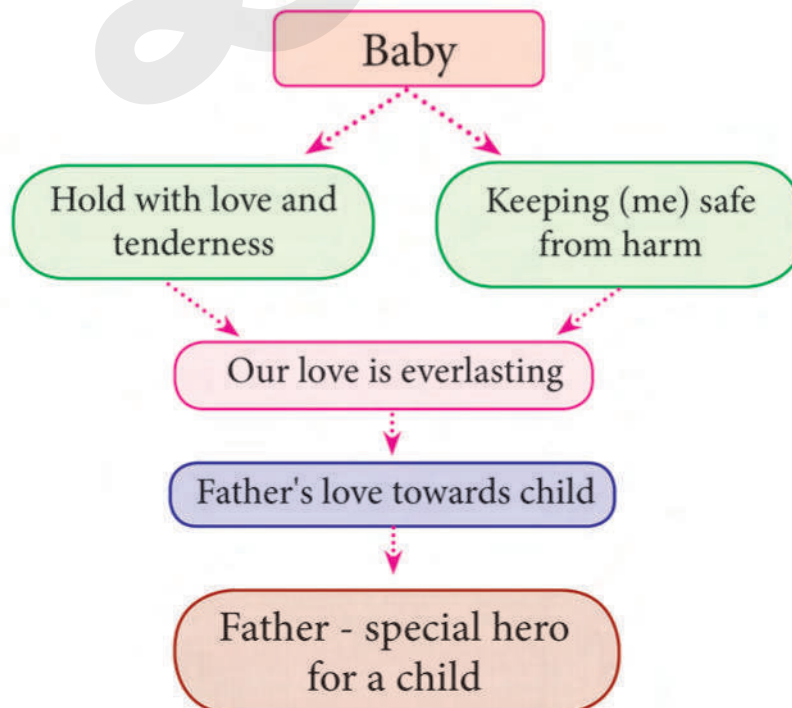
POEM

### Warm Up

What are the sacrifices made by your father for your family.

|                                                                                     |                                           |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
|    | Always busy                               |
|    | Considers the welfare of his children     |
|    | Doesn't give much importance to his needs |
|    | Helps everyone at home                    |
|  | A guide and a philosopher                 |

### Mind Map



**Special Hero**

When I was a baby,  
 you would hold me in your arms.  
 I felt the love and tenderness,  
 keeping me safe from harm.  
 I would look up into your eyes,  
 and all the love I would see.  
 How did I get so lucky,  
 you were the dad chosen for me.  
 There is something special  
 about a father's love.  
 Seems it was sent to me  
 from someplace up above.  
 Our love is everlasting,  
 I just wanted you to know.  
 That you're my special hero  
 and I wanted to tell you so.  
 - Christina M Kerschen

**என் பொழுதுபோக்கு**

நான் குழந்தையாக இருந்த போது  
 நீங்கள் என்னைப் பற்றிக் கொள்வீர்கள் உங்கள் கைகளில்  
 நான் உணர்ந்தேன் அன்பையும் மென்மையையும்  
 என்னை தீமையிலிருந்து பாதுகாப்பாக வைக்க  
 நான் பார்ப்பேன் உங்கள் கண்களில்  
 மொத்த அன்பையும் அதில் நான் பார்ப்பேன்  
 எப்படி அப்படி ஒரு அதிர்ஷ்டத்தைப் பெற்றேன்,  
 நீங்கள் எனக்காக தேர்ந்தெடுக்கப்பட்ட அப்பா  
 அதில் இருக்கிறது சில சிறப்புகள்  
 அப்பாவுடைய அன்பைப் பற்றி  
 ஒருவேளை அது எனக்காக அனுப்பப்பட்டதா  
 சில இடத்திலிருந்து மேலே  
 எங்கள் அன்பு என்றும் மாறாதது  
 நான் விரும்பினேன் நீங்கள் அறிந்து கொள்ள  
 அது நீங்கள்தான் என்னுடைய சிறப்பு கதாநாயகன்  
 நான் விரும்பினேன் உங்களை அப்படி அழைக்க  
 - கிறிஸ்டினா M. கொச்சென்.

**Gist of the poem**

The poet, Christina says when she was a baby her father held her with love and tenderness, protecting her from harm. She is able to see her father's love through his eyes. She says, she is lucky having chosen him as her dad. This love she gets from some place up above. The love between the child and the father is everlasting. So the poet considers her father as a special hero.

**பாடல் கருத்து**

கவிஞர் கிறிஸ்டினா இந்த கவிதையின் மூலம் அவர் குழந்தையாக இருந்தபோது தன் தந்தையின் அரவணைப்பு, பாதுகாப்பைப் பற்றி பெருமை பேசுகிறாள். தன் தந்தையின் கையில், கண்களில் அன்பை காண்கிறாள். உங்களைத் தந்தையாய் பெற்றதில் மகிழ்கிறேன் என்கிறாள். இந்த அன்பெனும் பிணைப்பு எங்கிருந்தோ வந்தது என்கிறாள். என்றென்றும் நிலைத்திருக்கும் இந்த அன்பு என்கிறாள் அவள். தந்தையே நீங்கள் தான் என்றென்றும் எனக்கு 'தனித்துவம்' பெற்ற 'நாயகன்' என்று பெருமிதம் கொள்கிறாள்.

**Text Book Glossary**

|    |                   |   |                                |                                         |
|----|-------------------|---|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| 1. | tenderness (n)    | = | gentleness and kindness        | கருணை; அன்பு                            |
| 2. | everlasting (adj) | = | lasting forever or a long time | என்றென்றும்; நீண்ட காலத்திற்கு          |
| 3. | special (adj)     | = | different from what is usual   | தனித்துவமான; வழக்கத்திலிருந்து மாறுபட்ட |



## SPECIAL HERO

Don

BOOK TASK Page No. 24

### Answer the following questions:

#### Textual Questions:

1. **Who is the speaker?**  
The poet is the speaker.
2. **Who is the special hero mentioned in the poem?**  
The father is the special hero mentioned in the poem.
3. **How did the child feel when it was held by its dad?**  
The child felt love and tenderness.
4. **'Seems it was sent to me  
from someplace up above'**  
**What do the above lines mean?**  
The poet clearly says one inherits one's own father from above.
5. **What did the child want to tell its dad?**  
The child wanted to tell its dad that he was a special hero to her.

### Appreciation Questions

#### Additional Questions:

1. **When I was a baby,**  
a) **Who is referred here as 'I'?**  
"I" refers to the poet.
2. **You would hold me in your arms,**  
a) **Who is referred here as 'you' and 'yours'?**  
Both the terms 'you' and 'yours' refer to the father or dad.
3. **I felt the love and tenderness,  
keeping me safe from harm.**  
a) **What was the child's feeling?**  
The child or the baby felt kindness and a protective attitude.
4. **I would look up into your eyes,  
and all the love I would see.**  
a) **Where does the baby see the father's love?**  
The baby sees the father's love through his eyes.
5. **How did I get so lucky  
You were the dad chosen for me.**  
a) **Did the baby feel happy about her father?**  
Yes, the baby felt happy about her father.
6. **There's something special about a father's love.**  
a) **What is the view about father's love?**  
The baby says 'father's love is always special or something different or 'peculiar'.
7. **Seems it was sent to me from some place up above.**  
a) **Where does the baby get his/her father's love?**  
It is said that 'from some place up above' meaning heaven.

8. 'Our love is everlasting,  
I wanted you to know.

a) What does the baby want to tell?

The baby wants to tell the love between the child and the father is perennial or everlasting.

9. That you're my special hero,  
and I wanted to tell you so.

a) Is the father a hero for the baby or child?

Yes, sure the father is not just a hero but a 'special hero'..

### Figure of Speech:

| No | Poem Lines                              | Figure of speech |
|----|-----------------------------------------|------------------|
| 1. | Keeping me <u>safe</u> from <u>harm</u> | Oxymoron         |
| 2. | There is <u>something special</u>       | Alliteration     |

### RHYMING WORDS AND SCHEME

| Poem Lines                                                                                                                        | Rhyming words  | Rhyme scheme                                                  |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. When I was a baby ,<br>You would hold me in your arms,<br>I felt the love and tenderness,<br>Keeping me safe from harm         | —              | a<br>b<br>c<br>d<br>The Rhyme scheme of the stanza is a b c d |
| 2. I would look up into your eyes ,<br>and all the love I would see.<br>How did I get so lucky,<br>You were the dad chosen for me | see, lucky, me | a<br>b<br>b<br>b<br>The Rhyme scheme of the stanza is a b b b |
| 3. There is something special<br>about a father's love.<br>Seems it was sent to me<br>from some place up above.                   | love , above.  | a<br>b<br>c<br>b<br>The Rhyme scheme of the stanza is a b c b |
| 4. Our love is everlasting ,<br>I just wanted you to know<br>That you're my special hero<br>and I wanted to tell you so           | know, hero,so  | a<br>b<br>b<br>b<br>The Rhyme scheme of the stanza is a b b b |

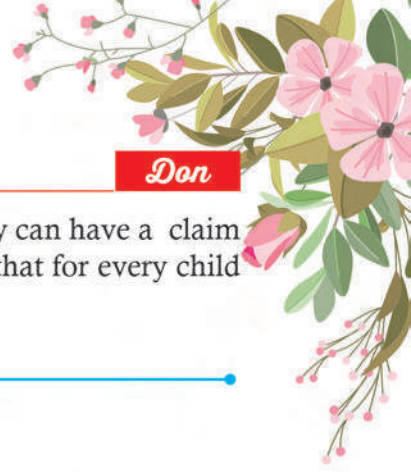
### Paragraph Questions:

#### Additional Questions:

1. Write a paragraph on the father's love as described in the poem.

According to the poet , the father first holds his baby in his arms with great love and kindness . He is very eager to save the baby from any harm. The father's love is reflected through his eyes.

According to the child, nobody can control their birth or their belonging to a particular family. But she is very lucky for having been chosen as a child to a particular father. The child feels that the father's



## SPECIAL HERO

Don

love is something special. His love and affection is given to us from above. Nobody can have a claim on it. The love between the father and the child is everlasting (ie). The child says that for every child the father is a special hero to them.

### TEXTUAL EXERCISES

*Read the poem aloud in pairs:*

**B. Find a line from the poem to match the statements given below and write it in the blank:**

BOOK TASK Page No. 24

1. He always saves me from harm
2. I am so lucky to get you
3. The affection between us has no end

*Keeping me safe from harm*

*How did I get so lucky You were the dad chosen for me*

*Our love is everlasting*

**D. Work in pairs and answer the questions below:**

1. *"There is something special about a father's love".*

Identify the alliteration in the given lines.

'something special'

2. *Pick out the rhyming words from the poem*

1. see, lucky, me
2. love, above
3. know, hero, so





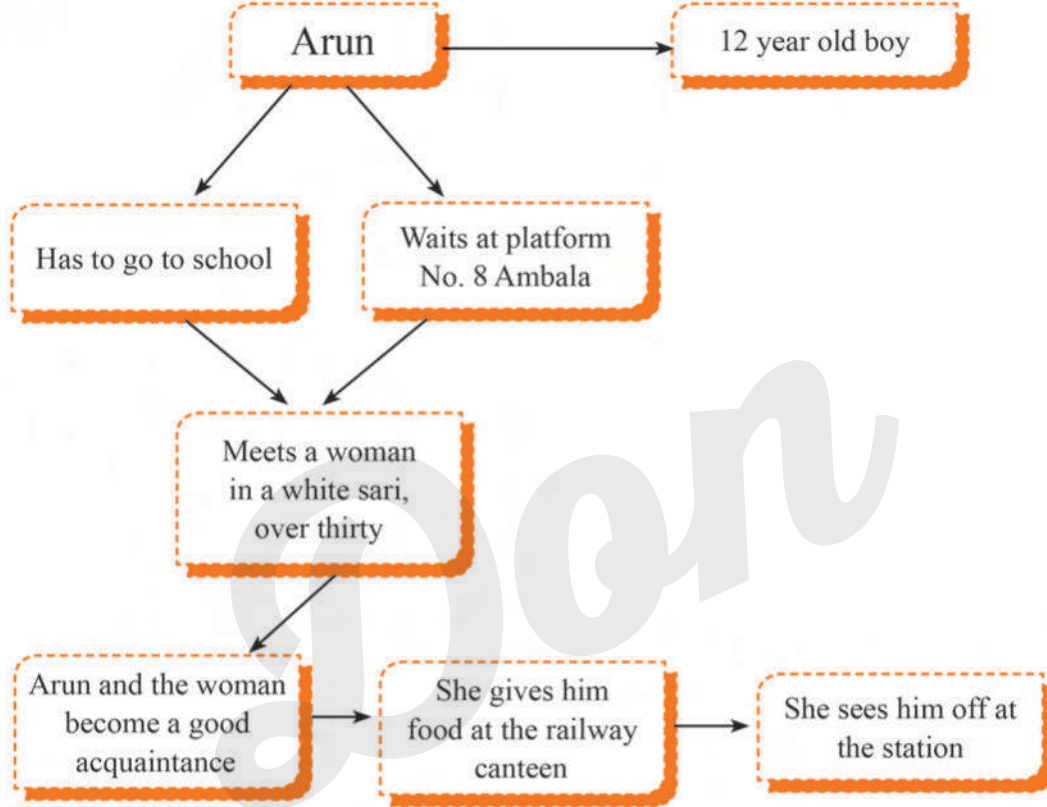
# Unit 1

## The Woman on Platform 8

Ruskin Bond

### SUPPLEMENTARY

#### Mind Map



#### Section - I

##### Listen to the teacher and read this section.

It was my second year at boarding school, and I was sitting on platform no. 8 at Ambala station waiting for the northern bound train. I think I was about twelve at the time. My parents considered me old enough to travel alone and I had arrived by bus at Ambala early in the evening. Now there was a wait till midnight before my train arrived. Most of the time I had been pacing up and down the platform, browsing at the bookstall, or feeding broken biscuits to stray dogs:

#### பகுதி ஒன்று

இந்த பகுதியை ஆசிரியர் வாசிப்பதை கவனமாக கேளுங்கள்.

ஒரு உறைவிடம் பள்ளியில் அது எனது இரண்டாவது வருடம் ஆகும். நான் வடக்கு நோக்கி செல்லும் ஒரு ரயில் வண்டிக்கு அம்பாலா ரயில் நிலையத்தில் எட்டாவது நடைமேடையில் உட்கார்ந்து கொண்டிருந்தேன். நான் நினைக்கிறேன் அந்நேரம் இரவு பன்னிரண்டு மணி. எனது பெற்றோர்கள் நான் தனியாக பயணம் செய்வதற்குரிய வயது என்று கருதிவிட்டார்கள் மற்றும் நான் பேருந்தில் மாலையில் சீக்கிரமாக அம்பாலாவிற்கு வந்து விட்டேன். இப்போது எனது ரயில் வண்டி வரும் வரை நடு இரவு வரை நான் காத்திருக்க வேண்டும். பெரும்பாலான நேரத்தை நான் நடைமேடையை மேலும் கீழும் பார்த்துக் கொண்டும், புத்தக கடையில் தேடிப்பார்த்தும், அல்லது உடைந்த பிஸ்கட் துண்டுகளை தெரு நாய்களுக்கு உணவளித்தும்,



## The Woman on Platform 8

Don

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| ....trains came and went, and the platform would be quiet for a while and then, when a train arrived it would be an inferno of heaving, shouting, agitated human bodies. As the carriage doors opened, a tide of people would sweep down upon the nervous little ticketcollector at the gate and every time this happened I would be caught in the rush and swept outside the station. Now tired of this game and of ambling about the platform, I sat down on my suitcase and gazed dismally across the railway tracks. | ....ரயில்கள் வருவதும் போவதும் நடைமேடை சில நேரம் அமைதியாகவும் அதன் பிறகு, ரயில் வந்தவுடன் நரக வேதனையுடன் கத்திக் கொண்டும் மனிதன் உடல்கள் போராடின. ரயில் பெட்டியின் கதவுகள் திறந்த உடன் அலைகடலென மக்கள் சிறிய வாயிலில் டிக்கெட் சேகரிப்பவரிடம் குவிவது, இது ஒவ்வொரு நேரத்திலும் நடைபெறுகிறது. இப்போது இந்த விளையாட்டையும் நடைமேடையில் அலைந்து திரிவதையும் பார்த்து களைத்து விட்டது. நான் ஆட்கேஸின் அருகில் கீழே உட்கார்ந்து கொண்டு ரயில் தண்டவாளத்தைப் பரிதாபமாகப் பார்த்தேன். |
| Trolleys rolled past me and I was conscious of the cries of the various vendors -the men who sold curds and lemon, the sweet meat. seller, the newspaper boy- but I had lost interest in all that went on along the busy platform, and continued to stare across the railway tracks, feeling bored and a little lonely.                                                                                                                                                                                                  | ரயில் நடைமேடைகளில் கையால் தள்ளப்படும் வண்டி என்னைக் கடந்து சென்றன. பல வியாபாரிகளின் சப்தங்கள் - தயிர் மற்றும் எலுமிச்சம்பழம், இனிப்புகள், இறைச்சி விற்கும் மனிதர்கள், விற்பவர்கள் - நாளிதழ்கள் விற்கும் பையன்கள். ஆனால் இந்த பரபரப்பான நடைமேடையில் தொடர்ந்து நடந்து கொண்டிருப்பதைப் பார்த்து எனது ஆர்வத்தை இழந்து விட்டேன். மற்றும் ரயில் தண்டவாளத்தையும் தொடர்ந்து பார்த்துக் கொண்டு சிறிய தனிமையுடனும் ரசனையின்றியும் இருந்தேன்.                                           |
| 'Are you all alone, my son?' asked a soft voice close behind me.<br><br>I looked up and saw a woman standing near me. She was leaning over, and I saw a pale face, and dark kind eyes. She wore no jewels, and was dressed very simply in a white sari                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 'நீ தனிமையில் இருக்கிறாயா? என் மகனே?' எனக்குப் பின்னால் சாந்தமான குரலில் கேட்டது. நான் மேலே பார்த்தேன். ஒரு பெண் என் அருகில் நின்று கொண்டு இருந்தாள். அவள் என்னை குனிந்து பார்த்தாள். நான் வெளிறிய முகத்துடன் கருமையான அன்பான கண்களுடன் இருப்பதைப் பார்த்தேன். அவள் நகை அணியவில்லை. வெள்ளை நிற சேலையில் எளிமையாக உடையணிந்து இருந்தாள்.                                                                                                                                       |
| "Yes, I am going to school," I said, and stood up respectfully; she seemed poor, but there was a dignity about her that commanded respect.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | "ஆமாம், நான் பள்ளி சென்று கொண்டு இருக்கிறேன்." நான் எழுந்து நின்று மிகவும் மரியாதையாக கூறினேன். அவள் ஏழையாக தோன்றினாள். ஆனால் அவளிடம் கண்ணியமும் மதிக்கும் தோற்றமும் இருந்தது.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| 'I have been watching you for some time,' she said 'Didn't your parents come to see you off ,'                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | நான் கொஞ்ச நேரமாக உன்னை கவனித்துக் கொண்டு இருக்கிறேன் என்று அவள் கூறினாள். உன்னுடைய பெற்றோர்கள் உன்னை அனுப்ப வரவில்லையா?                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 'I don't live here; I said. 'I had to change trains Anyway, I can travel alone.'                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 'நான் இங்கே வசிக்கவில்லை. 'நான் சொன்னேன் நான் எப்படிக் ரயிலில் மாற வேண்டும், என்னால் தனியாக பயணம் செய்ய முடியும்.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 'I am sure you can.' she said, and I liked her for saying that and I also liked her for the simplicity of her dress and for her deep soft voice and the serenity of her face.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | "உன்னால் முடியும் என்று நான் நம்புகிறேன்". அவள் அவ்வாறு கூறியதை நான் விரும்பினேன். மேலும் அவளுடைய எளிமையான உடையையும் ஆழமான மென்மையான குரலையும் அமைதியையும் மிகவும் விரும்பினேன்.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |

'Tell me, what is your name?' she asked  
'Arun.' I said.  
'And how long do you have to wait for your train?'  
'About an hour, I think. It comes at twelve o'clock.'  
Then come with me and have something to eat'

"என்னிடம் சொல் - உன்னுடைய பெயர் என்ன" அவள் கேட்டாள்.  
'அருண்.' நான் சொன்னேன்.  
'எவ்வளவு நேரம் உன்னுடைய ரயிலுக்காக காத்து இருக்கிறாய்?'  
'கிட்டத்தட்ட ஒரு மணி நேரம், நான் நினைக்கிறேன் அது 12 மணிக்கு வருகிறது.'  
"பிறகு என்னோடு வா. ஏதாவது கொஞ்சம் சாப்பிடலாம்."

I was going to refuse out of shyness and suspicion, but she took me by the hand, and then I felt it would be silly to pull my hand away. She told a coolie to look after my suitcase, and then she led me away down the platform. Her hand was gentle, and she held mine neither too firmly nor too lightly. I looked up at her again. She was not young. And she was not old. She must have been over thirty but, had she been fifty, I think she would have looked much the same.

ஒரு வித வெட்கத்தினாலும் சந்தேகத்தாலும் நான் மறுக்கப் போனேன். ஆனால் அவள் என் கையைப் பற்றிக் கொண்டாள். பின்னர் என்னுடைய கையை இழுப்பது மிகவும் முட்டாள்தனமானது. அவள் ஒரு கூலியை கூப்பிட்டு என்னுடைய பெட்டியை பார்த்துக் கொள்ளுமாறு கூறினாள். பின்னர் என்னை கீழே நடைமேடைக்கு அழைத்துச் சென்றாள். அவளது கைகள் மென்மையாக இருந்தது. அவள் அதிகமான வலுவுடனும் மெதுவாகவும் இல்லாமல் என் கைகளை பற்றிக் கொண்டாள். நான் மீண்டும் அவளைப் பார்த்தேன். அவள் இளமையாக இல்லை மற்றும் அவள் வயதானவளும் இல்லை. அவளுக்கு முப்பது வயதைக் கடந்து இருந்திருக்க வேண்டும். ஆனால் ஐம்பது இருந்திருக்கும் நான் நினைக்கிறேன். அதே மாதிரிதான் அவள் இருந்திருப்பாள்.

She took me into the station dining-room, ordered tea, samosas and jalebies, and at once I began to thaw and take a new interest in this kind woman. The strange encounter had little effect on my appetite. I was a hungry school boy, and I ate as much as I could in as polite a manner as possible. She took obvious pleasure in watching me eat, and I think it was the food that strengthened the bond between us and cemented our friendship, for under the influence of the tea and sweets I began to talk quite freely, and told her about my school, my friends, my likes and dislikes.

அவள் என்னை ரயில் நிலையத்தில் உள்ள உணவு விடுதிக்கு அழைத்துச் சென்று தேநீர், சமோசா மற்றும் ஜிளேபி ஆகியவை கிடைக்க உத்தரவிட்டாள். உடனே நான் அந்த அன்பான பெண் மீது புதிய ஆர்வம் உண்டானது. இந்த வினோதமான அதிரடி நடவடிக்கை என்னுடைய பசிக்கு சிறிய முடிவு கிடைத்தது. நான் ஒரு பசியில் இருக்கும் பள்ளி சிறுவன் மற்றும் நானும் முடிந்த அளவு பணிவாக முடிந்தவரை சாப்பிட்டேன். அவள் நான் சாப்பிடுவதை மகிழ்ச்சியோடு கவனித்துக் கொண்டிருந்தாள். நான் நினைக்கிறேன் அந்த உணவு எங்கள் இருவருக்கும் இடையே நல்ல உறவை வலுப்படுத்தியது என்று மற்றும் தேநீர் மற்றும் இனிப்பு ஆகியவற்றின் மூலம் எங்களது நட்பை மேலும் உறுதியாக்கியது. நான் சுதந்திரமாக பேச ஆரம்பித்தேன் மற்றும் என்னுடைய விருப்பு மற்றும் வெறுப்புக்கள் ஆகியவற்றைப் பற்றி அவளிடம் பேசினேன். நேரத்திற்கு நேரம் என்னிடம் கேள்வி கேட்டாள். ஆனால் கவனிப்பதையே விரும்பினாள்.

She questioned me quietly from time to time, but preferred listening; she drew me out very well, and I had soon forgotten that we were strangers. But she did not ask me about my family or where I lived, and I did not ask her where she lived. I accepted her for what she had been to me — a quiet, kind and gentlewoman who gave sweets to a lonely boy on a railway platform.

அவள் என்னை அருகில் இழுத்ததால் விரைவில் நாங்கள் இருவரும் அன்னியர்கள் என்ற எண்ணத்தையே நான் மறந்துவிட்டேன். ஆனால் அவள் என்னிடம் என்னுடைய குடும்பம் அல்லது எங்கே நான் வசிக்கிறேன் என்று கேட்கவுமில்லை. நானும் அவளிடம் எங்கே வசித்தாள் என்று கேட்கவும் இல்லை. ஒரு அமைதியான, அன்பான, நாகரீகமுள்ள பெண்மணியாக இரயில்வே நடைமேடையில் ஒரு தனிமையான சிறுவனிடம் என்ன மாதிரியாக நடந்து கொண்டாளோ அதை நான் முழுமையாக ஏற்றுக் கொண்டேன்.

## The Woman on Platform 8

Don

After about half-an-hour we left the dining-room and began walking back along the platform. An engine was shunting up and down beside platform No.8 and as it approached, a boy leapt off the platform and ran across the rails, taking a short cut to the next platform. He was at a safe distance from the engine, and there was no danger unless he had fallen; but as he leapt across the rails, the woman clutched my arm. Her fingers dug into my flesh, and I winced with pain. I caught her fingers and looked up at her, and I saw a spasm of pain and fear and sadness pass across her face. She watched the boy as he climbed other platform, and it was not until he had disappeared in the crowd that she relaxed her hold on my arm. She smiled at me reassuringly, and took my hand again: but her fingers trembled against mine.

'He was all right,' I said, feeling that it was she who needed reassurance.

She smiled gratefully at me and pressed my hand. We walked together in silence until we reached the place where I had left my suitcase, one of my schoolfellows, Satish, a boy of about my age, had turned up with his mother

கிட்டத்தட்ட ஒரு அரை மணி நேரத்திற்கு பின் நாங்கள் உணவு உண்ணும் அறையை விட்டு வெளியே வந்தோம். பின்னர் நடைமேடையில் நடைப்பயிற்சியை தொடங்கினோம். ஒரு எஞ்சின் நடைமேடை எண் 8ன் அருகில் வந்து கொண்டிருந்த போது, ஒரு பையன் குதித்து ரயில் தண்டவாளத்தைத் தாண்டி அடுத்த நடைமேடைக்கு குறுக்கு வழியாக சென்றான். அவன் ரயில் எஞ்சினிலிருந்து பாதுகாப்பான தூரத்தில் இருந்தால் ஆபத்து இல்லாமல் போய்விட்டது. அவன் தண்டவாளத்தில் குதித்தவுடன் அந்த பெண் என் கையை இருக்கமாக பற்றிக் கொண்டாள். அவளது கைவிரல்கள் எனது தசையை அழுத்தியது. நான் அவளது முகத்தில் வலியும் வேதனையும் இருப்பதைப் பார்த்தேன். அவள் அந்தப் பையனை அவன் அடுத்த நடைமேடைக்கு தாவுவதை கவனித்தாள். அந்தப் பையன் கூட்டத்தில் காணாமல் போனது வரை பரபரப்பாக இருந்தாள். பின்னர்தான் எனது கையில் இருந்த அழுத்தத்தை குறைத்தாள். பின் என்னைப் பார்த்து புன்னகைத்தாள். பின்னர் மீண்டும் என் கையை மீண்டும் பற்றிக் கொண்டாள். ஆனால் அவளது விரல்களில் நடுக்கம் என் மீது அப்படியே இருந்தது.

"அவன் நன்றாக இருக்கிறான்" என்று நான் கூறினேன். அவளுக்கு ஒரு உறுதியான ஆறுதல் தேவை என்பதை உணர்ந்து கொண்டு.

அவள் என்னிடம் நன்றியோடு புன்னகைத்து எனது கையை அழுத்தினாள். நாங்கள் நான் எனது கைப்பெட்டியை எங்கே வைத்திருந்தேனோ அந்த இடம் வரை மௌனமாக நடந்து சென்றோம். எனது பள்ளி மாணவனின் ஒருவனான சதீஷ் என்னுடைய வயதில் உள்ள பையன் அவனது அம்மாவுடன் வந்து இருந்தான்.

## Section - II

Take turns and read this section aloud.

'Hello, Arun!' he called. 'The train's coming in late, as usual. Did you know we have a new Headmaster this year?'

We shook hands, and then he turned to his mother and said: 'This is Arun, mother. He is one of my friends, and the best bowler in the class.'

'I am glad to know that,' said his mother, a large imposing woman who wore spectacles. She looked at the woman who led my hand and said: 'And I suppose you're Arun's mother?'

## பகுதி இரண்டு

கழற்சி முறையில் இந்தப் பகுதி உரையை சத்தத்துடன் வாசிக்கவும்.

"ஹலோ, அருண்!" அவன் அழைத்தான். இரயில் வழக்கம் போல் தாமதமாக வருகிறது. "உனக்கு தெரியுமா இந்த ஆண்டு நமக்கு புதிய தலைமை ஆசிரியர் வந்து இருக்கிறார்?"

நாங்கள் கைகளை குலுக்கிக் கொண்டோம். அதன் பின் அவன் அவனுடைய அம்மாவிடம் சென்று "இதுதான் அருண், அம்மா. இவன் என்னுடைய நண்பர்களில் ஒருவன். எங்கள் வகுப்பில் சிறந்த பந்து வீச்சாளர்."

"அதைத் தெரிந்து கொள்வதில் நான் மகிழ்ச்சி அடைகிறேன்." அவளது அம்மா கூறினாள். பெரிய கம்பீரமான தோற்றம் கொண்டு கண்ணாடி அணிந்த பெண்மணி. அவள் என் கைகளைப் பிடித்திருந்த இந்த பெண்ணைப் பார்த்து 'நீங்கள் அருணுடைய அம்மாவாக இருக்கும் என்று யூகிக்கிறேன் என்றாள்.'

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| I opened my mouth to make some explanation, but before I could say anything the woman replied: 'Yes I am Arun's mother.'                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | நான் சில விளக்கங்களை சொல்ல முயற்சி செய்யும் நேரத்தில் நான் ஏதாவது சொல்வதற்கு முன்னால் அந்தப் பெண் பதிலளித்தாள். "ஆமாம், நான் அருணின் அம்மாதான்" என்று.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| I was unable to speak a word. I looked quickly up at the woman, but she did not appear to be at all embarrassed, and was smiling at Satish's mother                                                                                                                                                                                                       | என்னால் ஒரு வார்த்தை கூட பேச முடியவில்லை. நான் அமைதியாக அந்தப் பெண்ணைப் பார்த்தேன். ஆனால் அந்தப் பெண் சதீஷின் அம்மாவைப் பார்த்து சிரித்தபடி எந்த விதமான பதட்டமும் இல்லாமல் இருந்தாள்.                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Satish's mother said: 'It's such a nuisance having to wait for the train right in the middle of the night. But one can't let the child wait here alone. Anything can happen to a boy at a big station like this, there are so many suspicious characters hanging about. These days one has to be very careful of strangers.'                              | சதீஷ் அம்மா கூறினாள், "நடு ராத்திரியில் ரயிலுக்காக காத்திருப்பது ஒரு இம்சையாக இருக்கிறது" - ஆனால் ஒரு குழந்தையை தனியாக காத்திருக்க வைக்க முடியாது. இது போன்ற பெரிய இரயில் நிலையங்களில் ஒரு சிறுவனுக்கு எது வேண்டுமானாலும் நடக்கலாம். இங்கே பல சந்தேகமளிக்கக் கூடிய நபர்கள் சுற்றித் திரிவார்கள். இந்த நாட்களில் ஒவ்வொருவரும் அன்னியர்களிடம் மிகவும் கவனமாக இருக்க வேண்டும்.            |
| 'Arun can travel alone though,' said the woman beside me, and somehow I felt grateful to her for saying that. I had already forgiven her for lying; and besides, I had taken an instinctive dislike to Satish's mother.                                                                                                                                   | "அருணால் தனியாக பயணம் செய்ய முடியும். இருந்தபோதிலும்" என் அருகில் இருந்த பெண் கூறினாள் நான் அவ்வாறு சொன்னதற்கு நன்றியுடன் உணர்ந்தேன். நான் ஏற்கனவே அவள் பொய் சொன்னதை மறந்து விட்டேன். நான் சதீஷின் அம்மாவிடம் வெறுப்பை முதன்முதலாக உணர்ந்து கொண்டேன்.                                                                                                                                  |
| 'Well, be very careful Arun,' said Satish's mother looking sternly at me through her spectacles. 'Be very careful when your mother is not with you, and never talk to strangers!'                                                                                                                                                                         | "நல்லது. அருண் கவனமாக இரு." சதீஷின் அம்மா அவளுடைய மூக்குக்கண்ணாடி வழியே என்னைப் பார்த்தாள். "உன்னுடைய அம்மா உன்னுடன் இல்லாத சமயத்தில் நீ கவனமாக இருக்க வேண்டும் மற்றும் அன்னியரிடம் ஒருபோதும் பேசாதே".                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| I looked from Satish's mother to the woman who had given me tea and sweets, and then back at Satish's mother. 'I like strangers,' I said.                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | நான் சதீஷின் அம்மாவிடமிருந்து எனக்கு தேனீர் மற்றும் இனிப்பு கொடுத்த பெண்மணியைப் பார்த்தேன் அதற்குபின் சதீஷின் அம்மாவின் அருகில் சென்றேன். "நான் அன்னியர்களை விரும்புகிறேன்."                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Satish's mother definitely staggered a little, as obviously she was not used to being contradicted by small boys. 'There you are, you see! If you don't watch over them all the time, they'll walk straight into trouble. Always listen to what your mother tells you,' she said wagging a fat little finger at me. 'And never, never talk to strangers.' | சதீஷின் அம்மா நிச்சயமாக கொஞ்சம் தடுமாறி விட்டாள். சிறு பையன் இவ்வாறு குறுக்கிடுவதை சதீஷின் அம்மா பழக்கப்படாததால். "அங்கே தான் நீ இருக்கிறாய்." நீ பார்!. நீ அவர்களைப் பார்க்காவிட்டால், அவர்கள் நேரடியாக பிரச்சனை செய்ய வந்துவிடுவார்கள். எப்போதும் உங்கள் அம்மா சொல்வதை கவனி என்று கனத்த சிறிய விரலால் என்னை நோக்கி ஆட்டுவித்து "ஒருபோதும், ஒருபோதும் அன்னியர்களிடம் பேசாதே" என்றாள். |
| I glared resentfully at her, and moved closer to the woman who had befriended me. Satish was standing behind his mother, grinning at me, and delighting in my clash with his mother. Apparently he was on my side.                                                                                                                                        | நான் கோபத்துடன் அவளைப் பார்த்தேன். பின்னர் என்னோடு நட்புடன் இருக்கும் பெண் அருகில் சென்றேன். சதீஷ் அவனது அம்மாவின் அருகில் சென்று அவனது அம்மாவுடன் ஏற்பட்ட சண்டையை புன்னகையுடன் ரசித்தான். எதிர்பாராத விதமாக அவன் என் பக்கம் இருந்தான்.                                                                                                                                                |
| The station bell clanged, and the people who had till now been squatting resignedly on the platform began hustling about. platform began hustling about. 'Here it comes,' shouted Satish, as the engine whistle shrieked and the front lights played over the rails.                                                                                      | ரயில் நிலைய மணி அடித்தது. அதுவரை தங்களது லக்கேஜீடன் காலை நீட்டியும் அமர்ந்து இருந்தவர்கள் தீவிரமாக அலறி அடித்துக்கொண்டு எழுந்தனர். நடைமேடை பரபரப்பாகியது. 'இங்கே வந்துவிட்டது' சதீஷ் கத்தினான். எஞ்சின் விசில் சத்தம் உரத்த சத்தத்தில் நீராவியை வெளியிட்டபடி அலறியது மற்றும் முன் வெளிச்சம் தண்டவாளத்தில் பரவியது.                                                                     |



## The Woman on Platform 8

Don

The train mowed slowly into the station, the engine hissing and sending out waves of steam. As it came to a stop, Satish jumped on the footboard of a lighted compartment and shouted, 'Come on, Arun, this one's empty!' and I picked up my suitcase and made a dash for the open door.

ரயில் மெதுவாக கூட்டத்திற்கு நடுவே நிலையத்திற்குள் வந்தது. எஞ்சின் நீராவியை கக்கியபடி வெப்பத்தை வெளிப்படுத்தியது. அது வந்து நின்றவுடன், சதீஷ் படிக்கட்டில் ஏறி ஆளில்லாத பெட்டிக்குள் நுழைந்து "வா, அருண், இங்கே ஒரு இடம் இருக்கிறது" என்று கத்தினான். நான் என்னுடைய கைப் பெட்டியை எடுத்துக் கொண்டு திறந்த கதவில் மோதிக் கொண்டேன்.

We placed ourselves at the open windows, and the two women stood outside on the platform, talking up to us. Satish's mother did most of the talking.

நாங்கள் திறந்த ஜன்னல் அருகில் அமர்ந்து கொண்டோம். இரண்டு பெண்களும் வெளிப்புறம் நடைமேடையில் நின்று கொண்டு எங்களுடன் பேசினார்கள். சதீஷின் அம்மா மட்டும் தான் அதிகமாகப் பேசினார்கள்.

'No don't jump on and off moving trains, as you did just now,' she said. 'And don't stick your heads out of the windows, and don't eat any rubbish on the way.' She allowed me to share the benefit of her advice, as she probably didn't think my 'mother' a very capable person. She handed Satish a bag of fruit, a cricket bat and a big box of chocolates, and told him to share the food with me. Then she stood back from the window to watch how my 'mother' behaved.

"ஓடும் ரயிலில் குதிக்கக் கூடாது. நீ இப்போது அதுபோல் தான் செய்தாய்". ஜன்னலில் முகத்தை வைக்காதே, வழியில் கெட்டுப்போன எதையும் சாப்பிடாதே, அவள் அவளுடைய அறிவுரையின் பயனை எனக்கும் அளிக்கும்படி அனுமதித்தாள். அவள் எனது அம்மா ஒரு திறமையானவள் என்பதை அறியாமல். அவள் சதீஷிடம் ஒரு பை நிறைய பழங்கள், ஒரு கிரிக்கெட் மட்டை, ஒரு பெட்டி நிறைய சாக்லேட்டுகள் ஆகியவற்றை கொடுத்து அவனிடம் உணவை எனக்கு பங்கிட்டு கொடுக்கும்படி கூறினாள். பிறகு அவள் எனது அம்மா எப்படி நடந்து கொள்கிறாள் என்று கவனிக்க ஜன்னல் பின்னால் நிற்குகொண்டாள்.

I was smarting under the patronizing tone of Satish's mother, who obviously thought mine a very poor family: and I did not intend giving the other woman away. I let her take my hand in hers, but I could think of nothing to say. I was conscious of Satish's mother staring at us with hard, beady eyes, and I found myself hating her with a firm, unreasoning hate.

நான் சதீஷின் அம்மாவிடம் அன்பான குரலை புரிந்து கொண்டேன். அவள் தெளிவாக என்னை ஒரு ஏழை குடும்பம் என்பதை நினைத்து இருப்பதைப் புரிந்து கொண்டேன். நான் மற்றொரு பெண்மணியை விட்டுக் கொடுக்க விரும்பவில்லை. நான் அவளது கையை பற்றிக்கொண்டு பேசுவதற்கு ஒன்றுமில்லை என்று என்னால் நினைக்க முடிந்தது. சதீஷின் அம்மா கனத்த கோபமான கண்களுடன் என்னை பார்ப்பதை உணர்ந்துகொண்டேன். நான் எனக்குள்ளே காரணமில்லாத வெறுப்பும் அவர்கள் மீது உருவானதை அறிந்தேன்.

The guard walked up the platform, blowing his whistle for the train to leave. I looked straight into the eyes of the woman who held my hand, and she smiled in a gentle understanding way. I leaned out of the window then, and put my lips to her cheek, and kissed her.

காவலர் நடைமேடையில் நடந்து வந்து ரயில் புறப்படுவதற்காக விசில் அடித்தார். நான் நேரடியாக எனது கையைப் பற்றிய பெண்ணின் கண்களைப் பார்த்தேன். அவள் என்னைப் பார்த்து புரிந்து கொள்ளும் வகையில் புன்னகைத்தாள். நான் ஜன்னல் வழியாக எட்டிப் பார்த்து என் உதட்டால் அவளது கன்னத்தில் அவளுக்கு முத்தமிட்டேன்.

The carriage jolted forward, and she drew her hand away.

'Goodbye, mother!' said Satish, as the train began to move slowly out of the station. Satish and his mother waved to each other.

ரயில்பெட்டி அதிர்வுடன் நகர்ந்தது. அவள் கையை வெளியே எடுத்துக் கொண்டாள்.

"போய் வருகிறேன்" அம்மா! என்று சதீஷ் கூறினாள். ரயில் மெதுவாக நிலையத்தை விட்டு வெளியேறத் துவங்கியது. சதீஷும் அவனது அம்மாவும் ஒருவருக்கொருவர் கைஅசைத்துக் கொண்டனர்.

'Good-bye,' I said to the other woman,  
\*goodbye — mother ...'

நான் அந்த பெண்ணிடம் "போய் வருகிறேன் - போய் வருகிறேன், அம்மா"... என்று சொன்னேன்.

I didn't wave or shout, but sat still in front of the window, gazing at the woman on the platform. Satish's mother was talking to her, but she didn't appear to be listening; she was looking at me, as the train took me away. She stood there on the busy platform, a pale sweet woman in white, and I watched her until she was lost in the milling crowd.

நான் கையை அசைக்கவோ அல்லது கத்தவோ இல்லை. ஆனால் ஜன்னல் முன்னால் அமர்ந்து கொண்டு நடைமேடையில் இருந்த அந்த பெண்ணை பார்த்துக் கொண்டிருந்தேன். சதீஷின் அம்மா அவளிடம் பேசிக்கொண்டிருந்தாள். ஆனால் அவள் அதை கவனிக்கவில்லை. அவள் என்னைப் பார்த்துக் கொண்டிருந்தாள். ரயில் என்னை எடுத்துச் சென்று விட்டது. அவள் பரபரப்பான நடைமேடையில் அங்கேயே நின்றாள், ஒரு வெளிறிய வெள்ளை நிறத்தில் அந்த பெண்ணை அந்தக் கூட்டத்தில் மறையும் வரை கவனித்தேன்.

### Gist of Lesson

Arun, a boy of twelve, waits at the Ambala railway station. He is waiting to go to his boarding school. While waiting at the station, he meets a woman of thirty in a white sari. She asks his whereabouts and takes him to the canteen. Arun takes food there. Later the woman and Arun become acquainted; leading to the level of mother and son relationship. She sees him off at the railway station.

### கதைச் சுருக்கம்

அருண் என்ற பன்னிரண்டு வயது சிறுவன் தான் படிக்கும் உறைவிடப் பள்ளியில் சேர 'அம்பாலா' என்ற ஊரில் அமைந்த புகைவண்டி நிலையத்தில் காத்திருக்கிறான். அங்கு வெண்சேலை உடுத்திய முப்பது வயதைத் தாண்டிய பெண் அவனுக்கு உணவு வாங்கிக் கொடுத்து, தாயைப் போல் கவனித்து வழியனுப்பி வைக்கிறாள்.

### Text Book Glossary

|     |                   |   |                                                                                 |                                                                          |
|-----|-------------------|---|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1.  | inferno (n)       | – | region that resembles hell                                                      | நகரத்துக்கு ஒத்தப் பகுதி                                                 |
| 2.  | heaving (v)       | – | to raise or lift with force                                                     | சக்தியுடன் தூக்கு                                                        |
| 3.  | dismally (adv)    | – | cheerless                                                                       | சந்தோசமின்மை                                                             |
| 4.  | serenity (n)      | – | reverence                                                                       | அமைதி                                                                    |
| 5.  | encounter (v)     | – | brief meeting                                                                   | சிறு சந்திப்பு                                                           |
| 6.  | clutched (v)      | – | grasped (something) tightly                                                     | இறுக்கமாக பற்றிக் கொள்தல்                                                |
| 7.  | imposing (adj)    | – | grand and impressive in appearance                                              | மிடுக்கான மற்றும் கம்பீரமான தோற்றம்                                      |
| 8.  | embarrassed (v)   | – | felt awkward, self-conscious, or ashamed                                        | தர்மசங்கடமான நிலை – வெட்கப்படுதல்                                        |
| 9.  | nuisance (n)      | – | causing inconvenience or annoyance                                              | தொந்தரவு மற்றும் அசௌகரியத்தை உண்டாக்குதல்                                |
| 10. | staggered (v)     | – | walked or moved unsteadily, as if about to fall                                 | நிதானமின்றி கீழே விழுவது போல நடப்பது                                     |
| 11. | wagging (v)       | – | move rapidly to and fro                                                         | அங்கும் இங்கும் அவசரமாக நடப்பது                                          |
| 12. | resentfully (adv) | – | feeling or expressing bitterness or indignation at having been treated unfairly | பாரபட்சத்துடன் நடத்திக் கொண்டிருப்பதால் வெளிப்படுத்தும் வெறுப்பான உணர்வு |



## The Woman on Platform 8

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|     |                   |   |                                                                                                   |                                                                    |
|-----|-------------------|---|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 13. | grinning (v)      | – | smiling broadly                                                                                   | இளித்தல்                                                           |
| 14. | squatting (v)     | – | crouch or sit with one's knees bent and one's heels close to or touching the back of one's thighs | ஒருவரது முட்டியை மடித்து பின்னங்கால் தொடையைத் தொடும்படி உட்காருதல் |
| 15. | hustling (v)      | – | push roughly; jostle                                                                              | முரட்டுத்தனமாக தள்ளுதல்                                            |
| 16. | shrieked (v)      | – | uttered a high-pitched piercing sound                                                             | உயர்ந்த சப்தத்துடன் கத்துதல்                                       |
| 17. | mowed (v)         | – | moved slowly into the crowded station                                                             | கூட்டம் நிறைந்த நிலையத்திற்கும் மெதுவாக நகர்தல்                    |
| 18. | patronizing (adj) | – | treat in a way that is apparently kind                                                            | அன்பாக நடத்துதல்                                                   |
| 19. | obviously (adv)   | – | in a way that is easily perceived or understood; clearly                                          | எளிதாக புரிந்து கொள்ளும் வகையில் நடந்து கொள்ளுதல்                  |
| 20. | jolted (v)        | – | moved with sudden jerk                                                                            | திடீரென்று ஒரு அசைவுடன் நகர்தல்                                    |

### Identify the Character:

#### 1. Arun

I was sitting on platform No.8.

I am going to school.

About an hour, I think.

"He was alright", I said.

I like strangers.

#### 2. The woman

"Are you all alone, my son?"

"Tell me, what is your name?"

She was not young.

'Arun can travel alone though'

She stood there on the busy platform.

#### 3. Satish

"Hello, Arun!" he called.

The train's coming in late, as usual.

This is Arun, "Mother."

Come on, Arun, this one's empty; "Here it comes".

Good bye, mother.

#### 4. Satish's mother

And I suppose you're Arun's mother.

These days one has to be very careful of strangers.

Be very careful when your mother is not with you.

And never, never talk to strangers.

Don't jump on and off moving trains.

Don't stick your heads out of the windows.

**Identify the character.****Textual:**

1. I am glad to know that.
2. Are you all alone, my son?
3. Yes, I am going to school.
4. He is one of my friends.
5. Goodbye mother.

BOOK TASK Page No. 32

**Arun's mother****the stranger / woman in white****Arun****Arun****Satish****Choose the correct answer:****Textual Questions:**

BOOK TASK Page No. 31

1. Satish's mother handed to her son \_\_\_\_\_.  
a) bag of pencil                      b) bag of vegetables  
**c) big box of chocolates**              d) cricket ball
2. The train would come at \_\_\_\_\_.  
a) one o' clock              **b) twelve o' clock**      c) two o' clock              d) eleven o' clock
3. The strange lady gave \_\_\_\_\_ to Arun.  
a) coffee and vadai              b) tea and bajji  
**c) tea and samosas**              d) black tea and cake
4. Arun was sitting on platform \_\_\_\_\_.  
a) no.7              **b) no.8**              c) no.4              d) no.3
5. Satish and Arun were \_\_\_\_\_ year old boys.  
**a) 12**              b) 11              c) 13              d) 10

**Additional Questions:**

1. It was my \_\_\_\_ year at boarding school.  
a) third              b) second              c) fourth              d) fifth
2. I think I was about \_\_\_\_ at the time.  
a) thirteen              b) fourteen              c) twelve              d) eleven
3. My parents considered me \_\_\_\_ enough to travel alone.  
a) young              b) old              c) immatured              d) matured
4. I looked up and saw a \_\_\_\_ standing near me.  
a) woman              b) boy              c) man              d) girl
5. She must have been over \_\_\_\_.  
a) thirty              b) fifty              c) forty              d) twenty
6. As a \_\_\_\_ school boy I ate as much I could, being taken to the dining room by her.  
a) angry              b) smiling              c) hungry              d) starving



## The Woman on Platform 8

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7. I had soon forgotten that we were \_\_\_\_\_.  
a) relatives      b) strangers      c) enemies      d) friends
8. We reached the place where I had left my \_\_\_\_\_.  
a) tin-box      b) box      c) bag      d) suitcase
9. One of my \_\_\_\_\_, Satish, a boy of about my age, had turned up with his mother.  
a) school fellows      b) friends      c) classmates      d) neighbours
10. Satish's mother is a large-\_\_\_\_\_ woman.  
a) haughty      b) pride      c) posing      d) imposing
11. Satish's mother said; 'It is such a \_\_\_\_\_ having to wait for the train right in the middle of the night'.  
a) inconvenience      b) nuisance      c) annoyance      d) trouble
12. These days one has to be very careful of \_\_\_\_\_.  
a) newcomers      b) strangers      c) guests      d) foreigners
13. The station bell \_\_\_\_\_.  
a) sound      b) rang      c) clanged      d) struck
14. Satish's mother said, "Don't jump \_\_\_\_\_ moving trains".  
a) into      b) at      c) in      d) on and off
15. As the train began to move slowly out of the station, she stood there on the busy platform, a \_\_\_\_\_ woman in white.  
a) pale, sweet      b) colorless      c) feeble      d) rough

## Passage Comprehension

**Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:**

1. It was my second year at boarding school, and I was sitting on platform No. 8 at Ambala station waiting for the northern bound train. I think I was about twelve at the time. My parents considered me old enough to travel alone and I had arrived by bus at Ambala early in the evening. Now there was a wait till midnight before my train arrived. Most of the time I had been pacing up and down the platform, browsing at the bookstall, or feeding broken biscuits to stray dogs. Trains came and went, and the platform would be quiet for a while and then, when a train arrived it would be an inferno of heaving, shouting, agitated human bodies. As the carriage doors opened, a tide of people would sweep down upon the nervous little ticketcollector at the gate and every time this happened I would be caught in the rush and swept outside the station. Now tired of this game and of ambling about the platform, I sat down on my suitcase and gazed dismally across the railway tracks.
  - i) Where was the narrator going?
  - ii) Where was he at that time?
  - iii) What did his parents consider about him?
  - iv) Why did he wait at the railway station?
  - v) What did he do while waiting for the train?
2. 'Are you all alone, my son?' asked a soft voice close behind me. I looked up and saw a woman standing near me. She was leaning over, and I saw a pale face, and dark kind eyes. She wore no jewels, and was dressed very simply in a white sari "Yes, I am going to school," I said, and

stood up respectfully; she seemed poor, but there was a dignity about her that commanded respect. 'I have been watching you for some time,' she said 'Didn't your parents come to see you off ,' 'I don't live here; I said. 'I had to change trains Anyway, I can travel alone.' 'I am sure you can.' she said, and I liked her for saying that and I also liked her for the simplicity of her dress and for her deep soft voice and the serenity of her face. 'Tell me, what is your name?' she asked 'Arun.' I said. 'And how long do you have to wait for your train?' 'About an hour, I think. It comes at twelve o'clock.' Then come with me and have something to eat.

i) What did the narrator hear?

ii) Whom did he see then?

iii) What was the reaction of the narrator seeing the woman?

iv) Why did Arun like the lady?

v) When was the train expected to arrive?

3. The train mowed slowly into the station, the engine hissing and sending out waves of steam. As it came to a stop, Satish jumped on the footboard of a lighted compartment and shouted, 'Come on, Arun, this one's empty!' and I picked up my suitcase and made a dash for the open door. We placed ourselves at the open windows, and the two women stood outside on the platform, talking up to us. Satish's mother did most of the talking. 'No don't jump on and off moving trains, as you did just now,' she said. 'And don't stick your heads out of the windows, and don't eat any rubbish on the way.' She allowed me to share the benefit of her advice, as she probably didn't think my 'mother' a very capable person. She handed Satish a bag of fruit, a cricket bat and a big box of chocolates, and told him to share the food with me. Then she stood back from the window to watch how my 'mother' behaved.

i) How did the train arrive into the station?

ii) What did Satish do as soon as the train arrived?

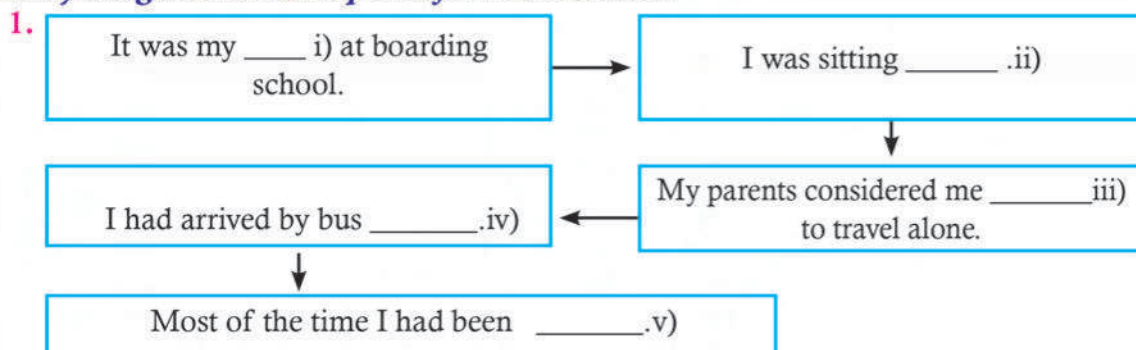
iii) What was the advice of Satish's mother?

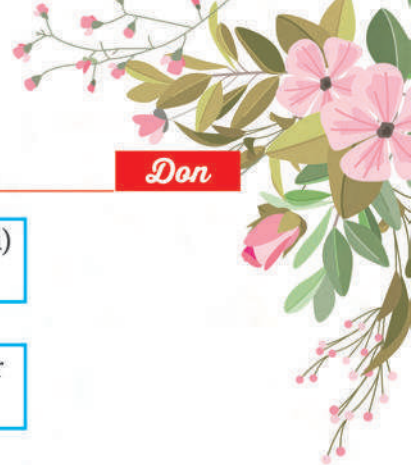
iv) What did Satish's mother think of Arun's mother?

v) What did Satish's mother give them?

### Mind Map:

Study the given mind map and fill in the details:





## The Woman on Platform 8

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2. I looked up and saw \_\_\_\_i) standing near me. → She seemed poor, but there was a \_\_\_\_ii) about her that commanded respect.  
↓  
She said "Didn't \_\_\_\_iv) come to see you off?" ← I have been \_\_\_\_iii) you for some time.  
↓  
She added, Tell me \_\_\_\_?v) she asked.
3. She took me into the station dining room, ordered \_\_\_\_i) → And at once I began to thaw and take \_\_\_\_ii) in this kind woman.  
↓  
I was a \_\_\_\_iv) school boy. ← The strange \_\_\_\_iii) had little effect on my appetite.  
↓  
I ate as much as I could in \_\_\_\_v) as possible.
4. The woman and I met \_\_\_\_i) Satish, a boy of about my age. → He had turned up \_\_\_\_ii)  
↓  
She asked the woman whether she is \_\_\_\_iv) ← She was a large \_\_\_\_iii) woman.  
↓  
But the woman did not appear to be \_\_\_\_v)

### Paragraph Questions:

#### Additional Questions:

#### 1. What is the scene at the railway station?

Arun, a boy of twelve takes the bus to Ambala railway station. He has to board the train bound for the northern side. He has to go to his boarding school. He waits for the train. He enjoys the hubub in the railway station. First, he paces up and down the platform, browsing at the book stall or feeding broken biscuits to stray dogs. The platform would be quiet for sometime and when the train arrives, the people will be rushing to get into the train, heaving and shouting.

Suddenly, Arun hears a soft voice and turns to greet a woman who is pale, without jewels, dressed simply in a white sari. She asks him whether he is alone. He replies positively and adds that he is going to school. She takes him to the canteen and gets him tea, samosas and jalebies. After that Arun feels a comfortable bond between him and the woman.

#### 2. Describe the Character of Satish's mother.

Satish's mother was an imposing woman who wore spectacles. She was an impatient lady. She was a very caring mother. She was aware of the present day's problems that children may have to face. She advised her son and his friend to be cautious of the things around them during their journey.

**3. Describe in your own words 'The Woman on Platform 8'.**

Ruskin Bond in his 'The Woman on Platform 8' tells about the feelings of a twelve year old boy. He enjoys waiting at the railway station roaming around the book stall. He sees the heaving, shouting of people while the train arrives. Suddenly, he is encountered by a woman who makes him comfortable by her words and actions. He feels the love of a mother in her. Then he meets his school fellow Satish with his mother. Satish's mother advises the young boys to be careful in their words and actions. Then the boys move on to the boarding school by train.

**TEXTUAL EXERCISES****B. Match the following:**

BOOK TASK Page No. 32

- |                     |                     |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| 1. woman in white - | a) mother of Satish |
| 2. train -          | b) boy of same age  |
| 3. bowler -         | c) dressed simply   |
| 4. Satish -         | d) waves of steam   |
| 5. spectacles -     | e) Arun             |

|             |     |     |     |     |     |
|-------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| <b>Ans:</b> | 1.c | 2.d | 3.e | 4.b | 5.a |
|-------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|

**D. Answer the following questions.**

BOOK TASK Page No. 32

**1. Where was Arun sitting?**

Arun was sitting on platform No 8.

**2. What was the expected arrival time of the train?**

The expected time of the train's arrival was by midnight.

**3. What was the sight Arun had seen on the platform?**

Arun had seen quietness for some time and when the train arrived, there was an inferno of heaving, shouting, agitated human bodies.

**4. What did the vendors sell?**

The vendors sold curd and lemon, sweetmeat, etc.

**5. How did the woman appear?**

The woman was dressed up very simply in a white saree, with no jewel on her neck and ear.

**6. Where was Arun travelling to?**

Arun was travelling to his boarding school.

**7. What did the woman buy for him?**

The woman bought tea, samosas and jalebies for him.

**8. What was the advice of Satish's mother?**

Satish's mother advised Arun not to talk to strangers. She further told both Arun and Satish not to jump on and off moving trains and not to stick their heads out of the windows and not to eat any rubbish on the way.

**9. What were Arun's last words?**

Arun said good bye to the woman who gave him food and hesitatingly wished her 'Good bye - mother'.

**10. What was the reaction of the woman at the end?**

She felt happy.



## The Woman on Platform 8

Don

BOOK TASK Page No. 33

### Sentence Rearrangement

- A. Miss Sullivan arrived at the Keller home when Helen was seven.  
 B. The deaf and blind Helen learned to communicate verbally.  
 C. But, eventually, Miss Sullivan's effort was rewarded.  
 D. Before Helen Keller was two years old, she lost her sight and her hearing.  
 E. Miss Sullivan worked closely with Helen, her new student.  
 F. At times the teacher became frustrated.  
 1. DEFACB 2. DAEFCB 3. ACFDEB 4. CFDABE 5. FDACEB

Ans : 2. DAEFCB

### Connecting to self:

Think you are in the following situation and write what would you do and why?

|                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|  <p>Will you ignore/take and give to its owner/ take and keep it yourself.</p>          | <p>I would take the money purse and see the address if any; eventually I would return it to its owner; if I could not find its owner, I would hand it over to the police of the nearby station.</p>                                                                  |
|  <p>Will you ignore/go and help him/ stand watching him feeling shy to help</p>        | <p>I would go and help him for it is a good sign of a matured person. If any one, is in trouble, we should lend a helping hand to him.</p>                                                                                                                           |
|  <p>Will you ignore/try to stop them fighting / be afraid and go away from there.</p> | <p>In order to reduce the feeling of enmity among the people, I would try to step in between the two who are fighting and tell them to stop. I would advise them that their fighting would physically and mentally affect not only them but also their families.</p> |



Time : 1.00 hr

## UNIT TEST - 1

Marks : 30

## SECTION - A ( Vocabulary )

## I. Choose the correct synonym to the words underlined :

2 × 1 = 2

- The mother consoled the little girl.  
a) pretended                      b) comforted                      c) left
- What is the secret you were whispering?  
a) rumour                      b) murmur                      c) louder

## II. Choose the correct antonym to the words underlined :

2 × 1 = 2

- She is very careless.  
a) mindful                      b) careful                      c) watchful
- She is ignorant.  
a) unwise                      b) wise                      c) illiterate

## III. Rewrite as directed :

4 × 1 = 4

Choose the correct homophones.

- The \_\_\_\_\_ rises in the east.  
a) son                      b) sun

Expand the following:

- UFO

Fill in the blanks with suitable collective nouns.

- a \_\_\_\_\_ of birds.
- a \_\_\_\_\_ of rice.

## SECTION - B ( Grammar )

## IV. Change the possessive adjectives into possessive nouns :

2 × 1 = 2

- This is her pen.
- My bike is costly.

## V. List out the transitive and intransitive words :

2 × 1 = 2

- learn                      12. jump

## SECTION - C ( Prose )

## VI. Answer in a sentence or two :

2 × 2 = 4

- Why did the bird drop the diamond stud?
- What happened to Ramayya's wife at the end?

8<sup>th</sup> Unit Test - 1

Don

## VII. Answer in a paragraph :

 $1 \times 3 = 3$ 

15. Why did the sparrow throw the nose jewel into Ramayya's house?

## SECTION - D (Poem)

## VIII. Quote from memory :

 $1 \times 3 = 3$ 

16. **From :** *I would look up .....*  
**To:** ..... *chosen for me.*

## IX. Appreciate the following questions :

 $2 \times 1 = 2$ 

- 'You hold me in your arms'*  
 17. Who is referred to here as 'you' and 'yours'?  
*'Keeping me safe from harm'*  
 18. Name the figure of speech used.

## SECTION - E (Supplementary Reader)

## X. Choose the correct answer :

 $2 \times 1 = 2$ 

19. Arun was sitting on platform \_\_\_\_\_.  
 a) No. 7                      b) No. 8                      c) No. 4                      d) No. 3  
 20. Satish and Arun were \_\_\_\_\_ year old boys.  
 a) 12                          b) 10                          c) 13                          d) 10

## SECTION - F (Writing)

21. Write a letter to your father asking permission to go on an educational tour.

 $1 \times 4 = 4$ 

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