Chapter 3 – Two Stories About Flying

Let's Begin:

You have read two stories about flying. 'His First Flight' is about how a young bird learns to fly and 'Jilack Aeroplane' is a mystery.

1. Read the story, 'His First Flight' again. Working in groups of four, answer the following questions selecting the correct option.

Question 1.
The young seagull was afraid of flying because _____.
(a) he felt his wings would not support him
(b) other bird knew to fly very well
(c) the sea was very large
(d) his mother and father threatened him

Answer:
(a) he felt his wings would not support him

Question 2.
Why did his family taunt him about his cowardice?
(a) He went with his sisters and brothers.
(b) He was not listening to them.
(c) He was not accepting their request to fly with them.
(d) He was not liked by them at all.

Answer:
(c) He was not accepting their request to fly with them.

Question 3.
How did the young seagull start flying?
(a) His mother showed him the fish and moved away from him to make him fly.
(b) His brothers and sisters trained him to fly.
(c) He was hungry and he moved to fly in search of food.
(d) He did not learn to fly at all.

Answer:
(a) His mother showed him the fish and moved away from him to make him fly.

Question 4.
Which of the following statements is not true of the young seagull?
(a) He was lazy and did not want to fly.
(b) He wanted to fly, but was afraid of flying.
(c) His mother, father, brothers, and sisters helped him to fly.
(d) His hunger made him fly.
Answer:
(a) He was lazy and did not want to fly.

Question 5.
Say whether the following statements about the seagull are true or false.
(a) The young seagull liked to fly with his brothers and sisters. ( )
(b) The young seagull was hungry so he started to fly. ( )
(c) He was scared of flying first. ( )
(d) He flew on his own to get the food. ( )

Answer:
(a) True
(b) True
(c) True
(d) True

2. You have another story, 'The Black Aeroplane' in the lesson. Read the story again and develop at least five multiple choice questions based on the story. Work in pairs and ask your partner to answer them. The questions may be based on the events, persons, reasons and causes of the events, and results in the story.

Multiple Choice Questions:

Question 1.
The author was flying his old Dakota aeroplane from _____.
(a) France back to England
(b) England back to France
(c) France back to Russia
(d) France back to India

Answer:
(a) France back to England

Question 2.
The author knew that he could not fly up and over the storm clouds because

_____.
(a) he had started feeling dizzy
(b) he didn't have enough time on his hands
(c) he didn't have enough fuel to fly around them to the north or south.
(d) he was warned not to do so

Answer:
(c) he didn't have enough fuel to fly around them to the north or south.

Question 3.
How far behind was Paris when the author saw the storm clouds?
(a) 120 kilometers
(b) 180 kilometers
(c) 250 kilometers
(d) 150 kilometers

Answer:
(d) 150 kilometers

Question 4.
The pilot of the Black Aeroplane turned slowly to the north in front of Dakota aeroplane _____.
(a) so that it would be easier for the author to follow him
(b) so that it would be easier for the author to clearly see the storm clouds
(c) so that the author could see the two long straight lines of light in front of him
(d) so that he could move past the author

Answer:
(a) so that it would be easier for the author to follow him

Question 5.
The woman at the control room was _____ to hear the author's questions.
(a) angry
(b) disappointed
(c) surprised
(d) scared

Answer:
(c) surprised

Reading Comprehension:

Text – I
Let's now read the story of a bus conductor and his passengers with a dog. The story is written by A. G Gardiner.

All about a Dog:
It was a bitterly cold night, and even at the far end of the bus the east wind that raved along the street cut like a knife. The bus stopped and two women and a man got in together and filled the vacant places. The young woman was dressed in sealskin, and carried one of those little Pekinese dogs that women in sealskin like to carry in their laps. The conductor came in and took the fares. Then his eyes rested with old malice on the beady eyed toy dog. I saw trouble brewing. This was the opportunity for which he had been waiting and he intended to make the most of it. I had marked him as the type of what Mr. Wells has called the Resentful Employee, the man with a great vague grievance against everything and a particular grievance against passengers who came and sat in his seat while he shivered at the door.
"you must take that dog out," he said with sour venom.
"I shall certainly do nothing of the kind. You can take my name and address," said the woman, who had evidently expected the challenge and knew the reply.
"You must take the dog out- that's my orders."
"I won't go on the top in such weather. It would kill me," said the woman.
"Certainly not," said her lady companion, "You've got a cough as it is."
"It's nonsense," said her male companion.

The conductor pulled the bell and the bus stopped. "This bus doesn't go until that dog is brought out." And he stepped on to the pavement and waited. It was his moment of triumph. He had the law on his side and the whole bus full of angry people under the harrow. His embittered soul was having a real holiday.

The storm inside rose high "Shameful!" "He's no better than a German." "Why isn't he in the army ?" "Call the police. Let's all report him." "Let's make him give us our fares back." Everybody was on the side of the lady and the dog.

That little animal sat blinking at the dim lights in happy unconsciousness of the rumpus of which he was the cause. The conductor came to the door, "What's your number ?" said one, taking out a pocket- book with a gesture of terrible things.
"There's my number," said the conductor imperturbably. "Give us bur fares back."
"You can't leave us here all night." "No fares back," said the conductor.

Two or three passengers got out and disappeared into the night. The conductor took another turn on the pavement, then went and had a talk with the driver. Another bus, the last on the road, sailed by indifferent to the shouts of the passengers to stop, 'They stick by each other the villains," was the comment.

Someone pulled the bell violently. That brought the driver round to the door, "Who's conductor of this bus ?" he said and paused for reply. "None coming," he returned to his seat, and resumed beating his arms across his chest. There was no hope in that quarter. A policeman strolled up and looked in at the door. An avalanche of indignant protests and appeals burst on him. "Well, he's got his rules, you know," he said. "Give your name and address." "That's what he's been offered, and he won't take it." "Oh," said the policeman, and he went away and took his stand a few yards down the street, where he was joined by two more constables.

And still the little dog blinked at the lights, and the conductor walked to and from the pavement, like a captain on the quarterdeck in the hour of victory. A young woman, whose voice had risen high above the gale inside, descended on him with an air of threatening and slaughter. He was immovable as cold as the night, and as hard as the pavement. She passed on in a fury of impotence to the three policemen, who stood like a group of statuary on the street watching the drama. Then she came back, imperiously beckoned to her 'young man' who had sat a silent witness of her rage, and vanished. Others followed. The bus was emptying. Even the dashing young fellow who had demanded the number and who had declared he would see this thing through if he sat there all night, had taken an opportunity to slip away.

Meanwhile the Pekinese party was passing through every stage as of resistance to abject surrender. "I'll go on the top." said the sealskin lady at last. "You mustn't." "I will." "You'll have pneumonia."

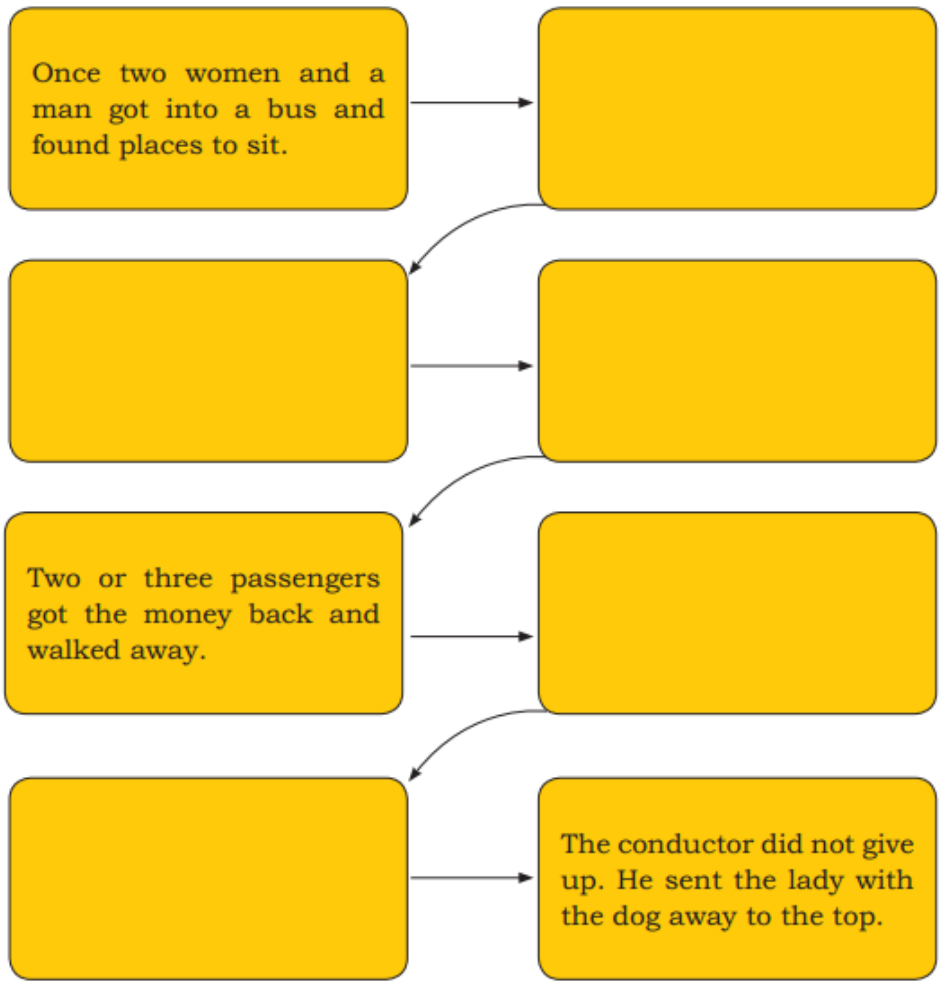
"Let me take it." (This from the man) "Certainly not." She would die with her dog. When she had disappeared up the stairs, the conductor came back, pulled the bell, and the bus went on. He stood sourly triumphant while his conduct was savagely discussed in his face by the remnant of the party.

Then the engine struck work, and the conductor went to help the driver. It was a long job and presently the lady with the dog stole down the stairs and re-entered the bus. When the engine was put right, the conductor came back and pulled the bell. Then his eyes fell on the dog, and his hand went to the bell-rope again. The driver looked around, the conductor pointed to the dog, the bus stopped, and the struggle recommenced with all the original features – the conductor walking the

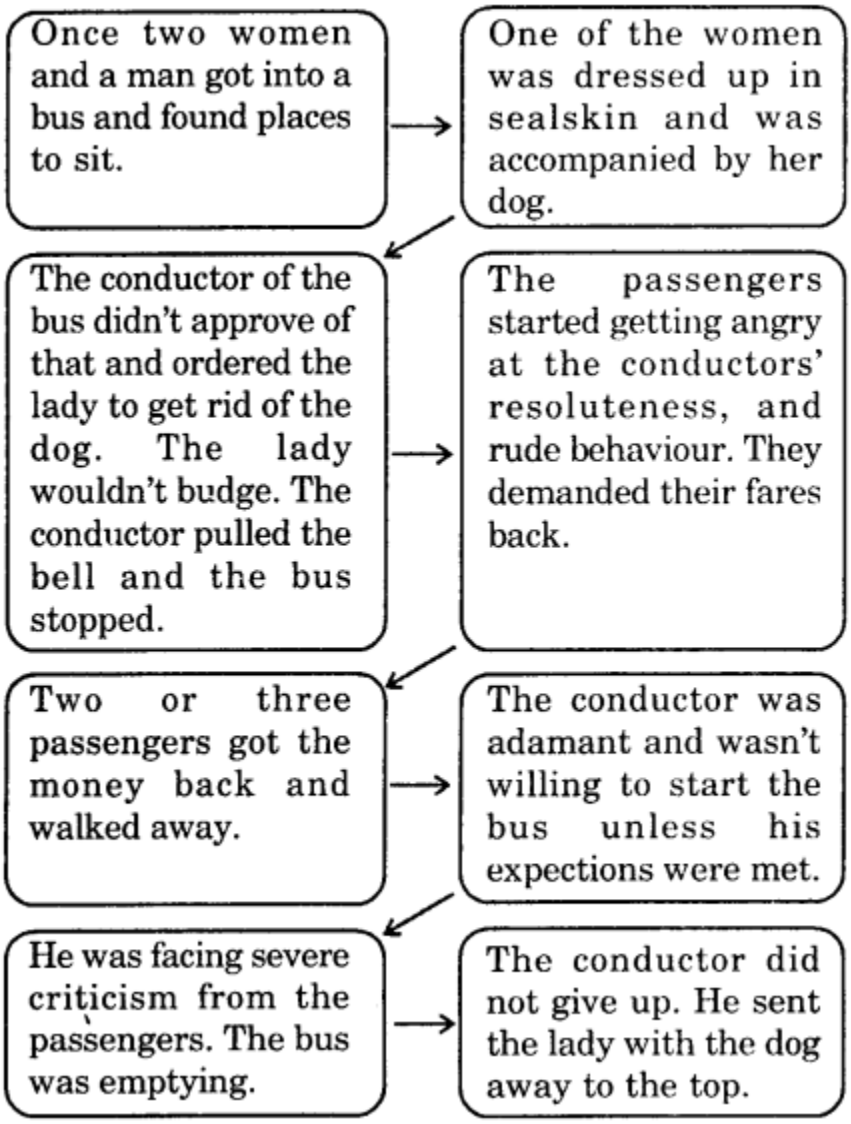
pavement, the driver smacking his arms on the box, the little dog blinking at the lights, the sealskin lady declaring that she would not go on the top and finally going.

"I've got my rules," said the conductor to me when I was the last passenger left behind. He had won his victory, but felt that he would like to justify himself to somebody. "Rules," I said," are necessary things, but there are rules and rules. Some are hard and fast rules, like the rules of the road, which cannot be broken without danger to life and limb. But some are only rules for guidance, which you can apply or wink at, as common sense dictates, like that rule about the dogs. They are not a whip, put in your hand to scourge your passengers with, but an authority for an emergency. They are meant to be observed in the spirit, not in the letter, for the comfort and not the discomfort of the passengers. You have kept the rule and broken its spirit. You may mix your rules with a little goodwill and good temper." He took it very well and when I got off the bus he said "Good night" quite amiably.

Now, complete the box narrating the story in the correct sequence.



Answer:



Vocabulary:

Question 1.
Making adverbs: bitterly, imperturbably, violently, and evidently are some words you have come across in the story. These are adverbs. A few words are given below. Make adverbs of these words and use them in sentences of your own. (Take care of the spelling when you convert these into adverbs.)
(a) Angry _____
(b) Vague _____
(c) Indignant _____
(d) Threatening _____

(e) Hurry _____

Answer:

(a) Adverb : Angrily
Sentence : The agitated husband shouted at his wife angrily.

(b) Adverb : Vaguely
Sentence : He vaguely remembered the memories of his childhood.

(c) Adverb: Indignantly
Sentence : Mr. Sharma behaved indignantly because of the unjust treatment of the police towards him.

(d) Adverb: Threateningly
Sentence : The police constable moved threateningly towards the robber.

(e) Adverb : Hurriedly
Sentence : The victim was rushed hurriedly to the emergency ward.

Question 2.
Now, look at the word given below in italic.
He was immovable.

'im' is the prefix added to the word 'movable'. The prefix 'im' made 'immovable' an antonym of 'movable'. Now, make more words with the prefix im- which are antonyms.

Answer:

	Prefix	**Word**	**Antonym**
1.	im	mobile	immobile
2.	im	patient	impatient
3.	im	polite	impolite
4.	im	mature	immature
5.	im	measurable	immeasurable
6.	im	modest	immodest

7.	im	moral	immoral
8.	im	mortal	immortal

Question 3.
In groups of five, create a word-web or collocation chart of words with prefixes 'il' and 'in'.

Answer:

Example 1:

Prefix	Word	New word
il	logical	illogical
il	literate	illiterate
il	legal	illegal
il	legible	illegible
il	legitimate	illegitimate
il	limitability	illimitability

Example 2:

in	secure	insecure
in	sincere	insincere
in	sensitive	insensitive
in	adequate	inadequate
in	accurate	inaccurate
in	ability	inability
in	accessible	inaccessible

Grammar:

A. Phrasal verbs:

The sentence below is taken from the text you have read. The phrase in italic is a

phrasal verb. A phrasal verb is a combination of words (a verb + a preposition, for example check in or a verb + an adverb, for example break down). When they are used together, they usually take on a different meaning to that of the original verb.

… Walk away from the old Dakota.
walk away is a phrasal verb which means to move away from.

Find out the meaning of the following phrasal verbs and use them appropriately in sentences.

Answer:

Phrasal verbs	Word-meaning	Sentence
(a) walk in	to enter inside a place	Two burglars walked in the bar armed with big guns.
(b) walkout	to suddenly leave a person who needs you	Her husband had walked out on her a year before.
(c) take away	to remove something	The protestors were arrested and taken away by the police.
(d) take up	to start doing something regularly as a habit, job or interest	Shamita took up a job as a receptionist at a medical store.
(e) take in	to understand and remember something that you hear or read	With the expressions on her face, I could make out that she didn't take in much of what I said to her.
(f) take out	to kill somebody or destroy something	The night bombing raid took out the bridge.
(g) give away	to tell information or facts that should be kept secret	Raian broke his friend's trust by giving away information of his marital disharmony.
(h) give in	to stop competing or arguing and accepting that you cannot win	Maria Sharapova refused to give in and went on to win the set.
(i) give up	to stop doing something you are trying hard to do	We have given up trying to persuade Ram to get rid of his bad habits.
(j) put in	to spend a particular amount of time doing something, or make a	The winning team put in a lot of efforts to clinch the title.

	particular amount of efforts doing something	
(k) put away	to save an amount of money	With her meagre income, she tried hard to put away for her future needs.
(l) put out	to make something stop burning/extinguish	It took the fire fighters approximately 3 hours to put out the huge fire.

B. The Passive:

Compare the two sentences given below:
Ramesh painted the walls.
The walls were painted by Ramesh.

The first sentence is in active form and the second sentence is in passive form. When the person doing the action (Ramesh) is the subject, we use the verb in the active voice. When the subject is what the action is directed at (the walls), we use the verb in the passive voice. In the first sentence, we talked about Ramesh but in the second sentence we talked about what happened to the walls.

In the passive sentence we use by+agent to add important information, that is by Ramesh. We can leave out by+agent if it does not provide any specific information.

Example:
All the students were given sweets yesterday.
My room is cleaned every day in the morning.
A large number of films on wildlife conservation have been made.

Use the words given below and frame sentences using the passive forms of the verbs.

Examples:

→ Rice / cultivate / Gangetic valley and coastal region. (Simple Present)
Rice is cultivated in Gangetic valley and coastal region.

→ The documents / sign / principal. (Present Perfect)
The documents have been signed by the principal.
(a) Taj Mahal / build / Shah Jahan. (Simple Past)
(b) Malaria virus / transmit / female Anopheles mosquito. (Simple Present)

(c) The case / solve / police and two persons arrest. (Present Perfect)
(d) Many houses / and lives / destroy / the volcanic eruption in Mt. Etna. (Simple Past)
(e) The ultraviolet rays / prevent / the ozone layer / entering the earth's surface. (Simple Present)
(f) The field / convert / playground. (Present Perfect)

Answer:
(a) Taj Mahal was built by Shah Jahan.
(b) Malaria virus is transmitted by female Anopheles mosquito.
(c) The case has been solved and two persons have been arrested.
(d) Many houses and lives were destroyed by the volcanic eruption in Mt. Etna.
(e) The ultraviolet rays are prevented by the ozone layer from entering the earth's surface.
(f) The field has been converted into a playground.

C. Unscramble the following sentences to make meaningful ones:
(a) records / flying / many / who / American aviator / was an / Amelia Earhart / set
(b) the first / across / woman / solo / to fly / the Atlantic Ocean / she / became
(c) a flight / July 1937 / the globe / Earhart / disappeared / to circumnavigate / somewhere / over the / Pacific / in /during
(d) was never / found / and / she was / officially declared / plane wreckage / lost / at sea / her
(e) century / her / disappearance / remains / of the / one of the / greatest / unsolved mysteries / twentieth

Answer:
(a) Amelia Earhart who was an American aviator set many flying records.
(b) She became the first woman to fly the Atlantic Ocean solo.
(c) In July 1937 during a flight to circumnavigate the globe, Earhart disppeared somewhere over the pacific.
(d) Her plane wreckage was never found and she was officially declared lost an sea.
(e) Her disappearance remains one of the greatest unsolved maysteries of the twentieth century.

Editing:

Question 1.
Use capital letters, commas, and full stops to edit this paragraph.

In some parts of our country, there are frequent reports about Unidentified Flying Objects (UFOs) which people claimed to have seen flying in the sky and which are believed to be space ships carrying aliens from other planets some people have given evidences to support their observations they said that they have found mysterious objects in paddy fields. Some others, after seeing a film on space said t: a they had seen unusual objects flying in the sky. Public panicked there were arguments and discussion. ail over the country. Police were on red aler. Many community centres were established people became more vigilant gradually the number of sightings reduced.

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Listening:

Question 1.
Do you like riddles? Riddles make us think and attempt to solve puzzles through various ways and means. Read this riddle out loud and find answers to it. You can also discuss with your friends. You will notice that we speak out what we think. This is known as Think-aloud protocol. As you solve the riddles, speak out all the ideas that come to your mind to solve it.

Riddle 1

A farmer returns from the market, where he bought a goat, a cabbage and a wolf (what a crazy market). On the way home he must cross a river. His boat is small and won't fit more than one of his purchases. He cannot leave the goat alone with the cabbage (because the goat would eat it), nor he can leave the goat alone with the wolf (because the goat would be eaten).
How can the farmer get everything on the other side in this river crossing puzzle?

Answer:
First the farmer will take the goat with him in the boat and drop him on the other side of the river. Then he will row back to the other side. Next he will take the

cabbage with him to the other side. He will drop the cabbage there and bring back the goat with him. On reaching the other side with the goat he will drop the goat there and take wolf with him to be dropped to the other side of the river. He' will leave the cabbage with the Tiger and then start his reverse journey. Finally on reaching the destination he will pick the goat and take it with him to the other side.

Riddle 2

Three humans, one big monkey, and two small monkeys are to cross a river:
(a) Only humans and the big monkey can row the boat.
(b) At all times, the number of humans on either side of the river must be greater or equal to the number of monkeys on that side (or else the humans will be killed by the monkeys!).
(c) The boat only has room for two (monkeys or humans).
(d) Monkeys can jump out of the boat when it's on the river bank.
How will they cross the river ? Help them out.

Answer:
Firstly, one of the human, will row one of the small monkeys to the other side of the river in his boat. Then he will continue on its return journey. On reaching the other side, he will take another small monkey with him and start, his forward journey to the other side. After dropping the small monkey to that side he will start off for his reverse journey to the other side. On reaching the other side, he will pick one human and start off with him on his forward journey to the other side of the river. On reaching the other side, he will drop the man there and row back the small monkey to the other side.

On reaching the other side the man in the boat will pick one more human and start with him on his forward journey to the other side of the river. On reaching that side, the man in the boat will drop him on that side. Then he will start off for his reverse journey to the other side of the river. On reaching the other side, he will pick one small monkey and start off for his forward journey to the other side of the river. After dropping the small monkey that side he will start off for. his reverse journey to the other side. On reaching the other side, he finally picks up the big monkey and they both start off for their forward journey to reach the other side of the river.

Writing:

Article Writing

Question 1.

'Rules are meant to be observed in spirit not only in letter'. Explain what you understand by this statement. Write an article in about 120-150 words on how the rules can be effectively implemented in the society and citizens can follow it in the true spirit. You may use any of the ideas given in the box. Follow the stages involved in the process approach to writing.
(a) Use it in the context of gender (protection of women's rights / dowry/ female infanticide, etc.).
(b) In the context of environment (cutting of trees / poaching / pollution).
(c) Smoking in public / following traffic rules, etc. (add cartoons with fun facts, for example parking in front of no parking sign).
(d) In the context of value and self-discipline.

Answer:
'Rules are meant to be observed in spirit not only in letter'. This statement dictates and expects people to not only obey the literal interpretation of the letter (words) of the law but majorly the intentions of those who wrote the law. There are certain areas and situation where the stringent application of the law may have detrimental consequences. The main idea behind formulation of various laws/rules/regulations and their enforcement it to enforce discipline amongst the citizens. Laws are put in place for the convenience of the people and for safeguarding their interests. If the laws are observed only in letter and not in spirit, the whole purpose of law-making is lost.

Satisfactory application of laws should invariably result in peace and harmony in the nation and should not breed agitation and discontent amongst people. In the story. "All about a dog" the behaviour of the conductor was unreasonable and unjustified. His forcing the harmless little dog out of the bus at the cost of the passengers' convenience was inappropriate. It resulted into a of cascade unpleasant consequences.

As per my understanding dogs are not allowed inside a bus as they might cause inconvenience and rumpus. But the dog in the story was well behaved and didn't cause any nuisance to the passengers. So forgoing the strict observation of the letter of the law would have not been a serious breach. It is, however, mandatory that laws regarding the protection of women's rights, protection of environment, traffic rules are strictly enforced. Those who don't observe these rules must be penalised. In a nutshell, the laws that ensure value and self-discipline must be followed in the right spirit.

Story Writing:

Question 2.
You have read and experienced how the little seagull learnt to fly and then the story Of the mysterious black aeroplane. You have also read the story, 'All about a dog*. How were these experiences ? You may have also experienced some such situations in your life: learning to ride on a bicycle, watching a cat or any other animal trying to jump over the wall, your own bitter experience in a difficult situation, etc. Think of such an experience and write down the points and develop the ideas into an outline. Write your experiences like a short story.

Answer:
All the three stories mentioned in the question had a common theme. They all had an underlying message that hardwork invariably brings success. Despite the harsh circumstances, if one is determined and committed to a task he/she would definitely gain success at it. All the three stories were quite encouraging and motivating.

The relentless Beetle:

One rainy afternoon, I was sitting in my Verandah to enjoy the lovely weather outside. It was quite mesmerizing to sit in the lap of nature, noticing and admiring its beauty. Tiny drops of water on the leaves of the tree looked like shiny pearls. The birds with their young ones comfortably sheltered in the nest was a wonderful sight. Suddenly, out of the comer of my eye, I noticed something crawling along one of the concrete pillars of the verandah. It was a beetle, a tiny-little, brownish black creature. From what it appeared to me I made out that it was constantly trying hard to reach the middle of the pillar that led to a hole. That was may be its dwelling place. It was facing difficulty moving against the slippery wall.

For every 3 steps forward it would fall 2 steps backwards. I knew the next few minutes of this activity were going to be exciting. I kept my eyes glued to each and every activity of the beetle. Despite the harsh circumstances that it was facing it didn't lose hope. It continued its efforts with the unrelenting vigour. It was determined in its efforts. Finally after a period of struggle for a couple of minutes the beetle managed to reach the hole. The whole experience was quite motivating for me. It added to my joys and made the whole atmosphere around me even more positive. I greatly admire the courage and relentless attitude of the little creature. That incident made be realise that learning can come in a variety of ways from sources beyond your imagination. I feel all of us must learn from such beautiful experiences and apply that learning in our daily lives to make is more successful.

Project:

Question 1.
You have learnt about the freedom struggles of many nations after the Second World War and the many leaders who spearheaded freedom movements in their countries. Based on the learning from history and political science, write about any two leaders from different nations.

Question 2.
Go around your neighbourhood and talk to people, particularly elders, and collect riddles and puzzles in their languages.

- Ask them how and why such riddles could have emerged.
- Collect at least 10 – 15 riddles and write them in an order with information.
- Find out more about the riddle.
- Present it to the class as a chart and oral presentation.

Answer:
A riddle is a statement, a question or a phrase having a double or veiled meaning, put forth as a puzzle to be followed.

(1) Enigmas – problems generally expressed in metaphorical or allegorical language that require ingenuity and careful thinking for their solution.

(2) Conundra – Questions relying for their effects in punning in either the question or the answer.

I, personally, am very fond of solving riddles for the fact that they nurture creativity and aid in sharpening the analytical skills. I have collected few riddles from the elders of my neighbourhood. As told by them these riddles were passed on from generation to generation by word of math. In the earlier times when people didn't have the modern gadgets at their disposal for entertainment this 'fun activity' of asking riddles from one another, sharing jokes came to their rescue. Unlike today's time people could be often seen spending quality time in each other's company engaging themselves in such recreational activities during their leisure time. Many of us must have had the pleasure of learning about such riddles from our grandparents in the comfort of our homes.

Riddle 1:

There were flocks of sparrows sitting on two different trees. One sparrow from one flock said to the other flock perching on the other tree, “if one of you come and join our flock, our number would become same as yours.” In reply a sparrow from the other flock said, “if one of you joins our fock our number would be twice as yours.” How many birds were there in each of the flocks ?
Answer:
There were 5 sparrows in one flock and 7 in the other one.

Riddle 2:

Two Hourglasses : You have two sand hourglasses, one that measures exactly 4 minutes and one that measures exactly 7 minutes. You need to measure out exactly 2 minutes to boil an egg. Using only these two hourglasses, how can you measure out exactly 2 minutes to boil your egg ?

Answer:
Flip over both hourglasses at the same time. After 4 minutes, the 4-minute hourglass will be done, and there will be 3 minutes left in the 7-minute hourglass. Immediately flip the 4-minute hourglass over again. After 3 more minutes, the 7-minute hourglass will be done, and there will be exactly 1 minute left in the 4-minute hourglass. Immediately flip the 7-minute hourglass over again. After 1 more minute, the 4-minute hourglass will be done again, and there will be exactly 6 minutes left in the 7- minute hourglass. Immediately flip over the 4-minute hourglass. After 4 more minutes, the 4-minute hourglass will be done again, and there will be exactly 2 minutes left in the 7-minute hourglass. At this point, put your egg in the boiling water. When the 7- minute hourglass is done, it will have been exactly 2 more minutes, and your egg will have boiled just right.

Riddle 3:

I have two rectangular wires.
Both of them have property that when I light the fire from one end, it will take 60 minutes to get completely burn.
However they do not burn at consistent speed (i.e., it might be possible 1st 20% burn in 50 minutes and 80% can burn in 10 minutes).
So how could I measure 45 minutes?

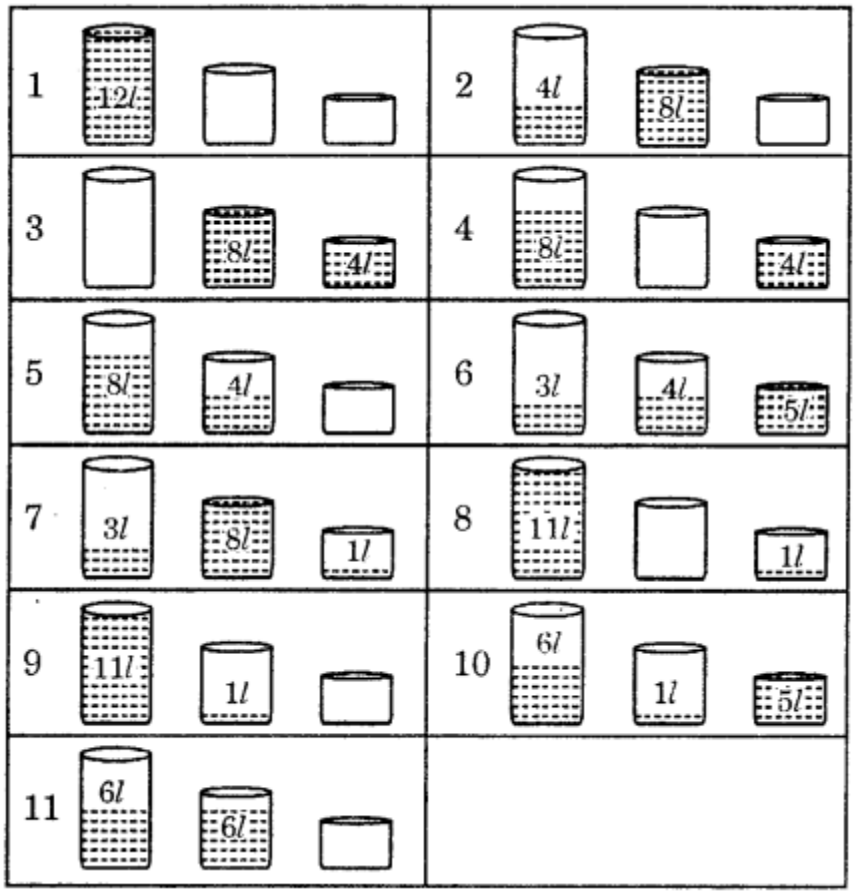
Answer:
Steps : (A) burn 1st wire from both end and 2nd wire from one end
(B) After 30 minutes (when 1st wire gets completely burned out), burn the second

wire from 2nd end as well
(C) when 2nd run completely gets burned, you know its 45 minutes.

Riddle 4:

You have a 12 liters jug full of water. You have two empty 8 liters and 5 liters jug. Now can you divide the water into two equal parts using these jugs?

Answer:



Riddle 5:

12th Floor Elevator: A man lives on the twelfth floor of an apartment building. Every morning he takes the elevator down to the lobby and leaves the building. In the evening, he gets into the elevator, and, if there is someone else in the elevator or if it was raining that day, he goes back to his floor directly. Otherwise, he goes to the tenth floor and walks up two flights of stairs to his apartment that is on the twelfth floor. Why?

Answer:
The man is a dwarf. He can't reach the upper elevator buttons, but he can ask people to push them for him. If it is raining, he pushes the buttons with his umbrella.

Riddle 6:
There was a man who was born before his father, killed his mother, and married his sister. Yet, there was nothing wrong with what he had done. Why?

Answer:
His father was in front of him when he was born, therefore he was born before him. His mother died while giving birth to him. Finally, he grew up to be a minister and married his sister at her ceremony.

Riddle 7:
Alexander is stranded on an island covered in forest. One day, when the wind is blowing from the west, lightning strikes the west end of the island and sets fire to the forest. The fire is very violent, burning everything in its path, and without intervention the fire will burn the whole island, killing the man in the process. There are cliffs around the island, so he cannot jump off. How can the Alexander survive the fire? (There are no buckets or any other means to put out the fire)

Answer:
Alexander picks up a piece of wood and lights it from the fire on the west end of the island. He then quickly carries it near the east end of he island and starts a new fire. The wind will cause that fire to burn out the eastern end and he can then shelter in the burnt area.

Riddle 8:
A man is discovered dead sitting at his desk, alone in the locked office. He did not commit suicide and there were no weapons in the room. The only clue is a sealed envelope on the desk in front of him.
How did he die ?

Answer:
The envelope glue was poisoned and when the man licked the envelope to seal it, he died.

Riddle 9:
In the backyard, there is a hollow stump that carries six ears of corn. If a healthy squirrel carries out only three ears each day, how many days will it take to empty the stump?

Answer:
Six days. Each day the squirrel will carry out the two ears on his head plus one ear of com.

Riddle 10:
Who makes it, has no need of it. Who buys it, has no use for it. Who uses it can neither see nor feel it. What is it?

Answer:
Coffin.