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Padasalai

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குறிப்பு:

மதிப்பெண்களுக்கு (Marks) மட்டுமே **வினாத்தாள் திட்ட வரைவு** (Blue Print) முறை பின்பற்றப்படுகிறது. **வினா எண்களுக்கு (Question Numbers) வினாத்தாள் திட்ட வரைவு (Blue Print**) முறை கிடையாது. எனவே அந்தந்த பிரிவுகளில் (Part) குறிப்பிடப்பட்டுள்ள **வினாக்களில் தலைப்புகள்** அந்தந்தப் பிரிவுகளில் **எந்த வினா எண்களில் (Question Number)வேண்டுமானாலும்** கேட்கப்படலாம். **Question Numbers – நிலையானது அல்ல.**



Prose-1 THE PORTRAIT OF A LADY

(ஒரு பெண்ணின் உருவப்படம்)

Khushwant Singh



ஆசிரியர் குறிப்பு



குஷ்வந்த் சிங்

குஷ்வந்த் சிங் ஒரு வழக்கறிஞர் மற்றும் எழுத்தாளர். அவர் மத்திய அரசாங்கத்தின் வெளியுறவுத்துறை பணிகளில், 1947--ம் ஆண்டு, சேர்ந்தார். தனது, மதச்சார்பின்மை, நையாண்டி மற்றும் கவிதை ரசனை ஆகியவற்றுக்காக இவர் புகழ் பெற்றவர். அவர், பல இலக்கிய பத்திரிக்கைகள், இரண்டு செய்தித்தாள்கள் மற்றும் சஞ்சிகைகளில் பணியாற்றியவர். இவருக்கு 1974--ம் ஆண்டு, பத்ம விபூஷண் விருது வழங்கப்பட்டது. " விஷ்ணுவின் அடையாளம்", " சீக்கியர்களின் வரலாறு ", "பாகிஸ்தானுக்குச்செல்லும் ரயில்"," வெற்றிக்கான மந்திரம்", "இந்தியர்களாகிய நாமும், மரணமும் எனது வீட்டுவாசற்படியில் " போன்றவை இவர் எழுதிய நூல்களாகும்.

சிறுகதையின் சாராம்சம் :

சிறுவனை வளர்த்து உருவாக்குவதில், அந்த சிறுவனின் பாட்டிக்கு எவ்வளவு அக்கறை என்பதை இந்தச்சிறுகதை நமக்கு சொல்கிறது. அந்த சிறுவனுக்கும் (குஷ்வந்த் சிங்) , அந்த பாட்டிக்கும் இடையே உள்ள உறவு ரொம்ப அற்புதமானது. அந்த பாட்டி ரொம்ப மத ஆசாரம் கொண்டவராக இருக்கிறார். எப்போதும், ஜெபம் செய்து கொண்டிருக்கிறார். அந்த சிறுவன், ஒரு கிராமத்தில் வளரும் போது, அவர் , அவனது வளர்ச்சியில் எடுத்துக்கொள்ளும் அக்கறை ரொம்ப அலாதியானது. வார்த்தைகளில் விவரிக்க முடியாதது. அந்தப்பெண்ணுக்கு படிப்பறிவு இல்லாமல் இருக்கலாம். ஆனால், அத்தகைய பெண் தான், அந்த சிறுவனின் மீது மட்டற்ற பாசத்தை பொழிகிறாள். அதற்கு பிரதிபலன் ஏதுமில்லை. சொல்லால் எழுத முடியாத பாசம் அது. அநேகமாக பழைய தலைமுறை ஆட்களிடம் மட்டுமே இத்தகைய பாசம் இருக்கும் போலும். இந்தக்கதையின் இன்னொரு அம்சம், சிறுவன், அவனது பாட்டி , மற்றும் அவர்களுக்கும், விலங்குகளுக்கும் உள்ள உறவு, பாட்டி தர இருக்கிற ரொட்டித்துண்டுகளுக்காக சிட்டுக்குருவிகள் அவரிடம் வருகின்ற நிகழ்வு உயிர்களிடத்தில் அவருக்கு உள்ள அன்பைச்சொல்லும் நிகழ்ச்சி இது ரொம்ப நெகிழ்ச்சியான உறவு. ஒரு பெண்ணின் குணச்சித்திரம் என்ற இந்தக்கதையின் கடைசி பத்தியில், இதன் கதாசிரியர் குஷ்வந்த் சிங், தனது பாட்டியின் இறப்பை விவரிப்பதில், நம்மை கண்ணீர் சிந்த வைத்து விடுகிறார். கல்வியறிவில்லாத ஒரு வயதானவரின் மெய்யான அன்பு எத்தகையது என்பதையும், பிரதிபலன் கருதாத உண்மையான பாச உணர்வுகளையும் தனது சொற்சித்திரத்தால், நம் கண் முன்னே கொண்டு வந்து நிறுத்துகிறார். இதுவே அவரது எழுத்தின் வீரியமாகும்.

PROSE TRANSLATION

Here is the story that brings out the bond between the author and his loving grandmother.

இந்தக் கதை எழுத்தாளருக்கும், அவருடைய அன்பான பாட்டிக்கும் இடையிலான அன்பான உறவை வெளிப்படுத்துகிறது.

PROSE PAGE-1:

My grandmother, like everybody's grandmother, was an old woman. She had been old and wrinkled for the twenty years that I had known her. People said that she had once been young and pretty and had even had a husband, but that was hard to believe. My grandfather's portrait hung above the mantelpiece in the drawing room. He wore a big turban and loose fitting clothes. His long, white beard covered the best part of his chest and he looked at least a hundred years old. He did not look the sort of person who would have a wife or children. He looked as if he could only have lots and lots of grandchildren. As for my grandmother being young and pretty, the thought was almost revolting. She often told us of the games she used to play as a child. That seemed quite absurd and undignified on her part and we treated it like the fables of the Prophets she used to tell us.

தமிழாக்கம்

எல்லாருடைய என்னுடைய பாட்டிகளைப்போலவே, பாட்டியும் வயதானவராக இருந்தார். எனக்கு தெரிந்து, கடந்த இருபது வருடங்களாக அவள் வயதானவராகவும், சுருக்கங்கள் விழுந்தவராகவும் காலத்தில் இருந்து வந்தார். அவர் ஒரு இளமையாகவும், ரொம்ப அழகாகவும் இருந்தார் பலரும் என்று பேசிக்கொண்டார்கள். அவளுக்கு புருஷன் இருந்ததாகவும் சொன்னார்கள். ஆனால், அதை நம்புவது கடினமாக இருந்தது. என்னுடைய தாத்தாவின் புகைப்படம் வரவேற்பறையில், மாடத்திற்கு நேர் மேலே தொங்கிக்கொண்டிருந்தது. அவர், ஒரு பெரிய தலைப்பாகையும், தொள தொள உடைகளும் அணிந்து கொண்டிருந்தார். அவரது, நீளமான, வெள்ளைத்தாடி, அவரது நெஞ்சின் பெரும்பகுதியை மறைத்துக்கொண்டிருந்தது. அவர் நூறு வயதானவராக தெரிந்தார். அவரைப்பார்த்தால், ഥതെബി, பிள்ளைகள் உடையவரைப்போல தெரியவில்லை. அவர் ஏதோ, ஏராளமான பேரப்பிள்ளைகளை உடையவர் இருந்தார். இளமையான, அழகான எனது பாட்டியுடன் ஒப்பிட்டுப்பார்த்தால், அது ஏதோ முரண்பாடாகத்தெரிந்தது. அவர், சிறு பிள்ளையாய் விளையாடிய போது இருந்த விளையாட்டுகளைப்பற்றிச்சொல்லுவாள். ரொம்ப அது முட்டாள்தனமாகவும், கௌரவமற்றதாகவும், தெரிந்தது. அவர் சொன்ன தீர்க்கதரிசிகளின் கதைகளைப்போலவே நாங்கள் அவைகளையும் கருதினோம்.

PAGE-2:

She had always been short and fat and slightly bent. Her face was a criss-cross of wrinkles running from everywhere to everywhere. No, we were certain she had always been as we had known her. Old, so terribly old that she could not have grown older, and had stayed at the same age for twenty years. She could never have been but she was always beautiful. She hobbled about the house in spotless white with one hand resting on her waist to balance her stoop and the other telling the beads of her rosary. Her silver locks were scattered untidily over her pale, puckered face, and her lips constantly moved in inaudible prayer. Yes, she was beautiful. She was like the winter landscape in the mountains, an expanse of pure white serenity breathing peace and contentment.

My grandmother and I were good friends. My parents left me with her when they went to live in the city and we were constantly together. She used to wake me up in the morning and get me ready for school. She said her morning prayer in a **monotonous** sing-song while she bathed and

பாட்டி எப்போதும் குட்டையாகவும், குண்டாகவும், கொஞ்சம் கூனல் விழுந்தவராகவும் இருந்தார். அவரது முகத்தில், எங்கும் சுருக்கங்கள் தெரிந்தன. அவர் நாங்கள் பார்த்த போது எப்படி இருந்தாரோ, அப்படியே இருந்தார். அவர், இனி மேல் முதிர்வு அடையாதபடி அதிக வயதானவளாக இருந்தார். அதே வயதில், இருபது இருந்தார். அவர், அதை விட அழகாக இருந்திருக்க முடியாதபடி, எப்போதும் அழகாக இருந்தார். தூய வெள்ளை உடையை உடுத்திக்கொண்டு, இடுப்பில் ஒரு கை பிடித்து தாங்கிக்கொண்டு, இன்னொரு கையில், ஜெப மணி மாலையை ஏந்தியபடி, வீடெல்லாம் தட்டுத்தடுமாறி நடப்பார். அவரது வெள்ளை முடிக்கற்றைகள், சுருக்கம் விழுந்த முகமெங்கும் அலங்கோலமாக பரவிக்கிடக்கும். அவர் தொடர்ந்து தன் உதடுகளால் முணுமுணுத்தபடி ஜெபம் ஆமாம், அவர் அழகானவர் தான். பண்ணிக்கொண்டிருப்பார். அவர், மலைகளில் தெரியும் கார் கால நிலவெளி போன்ற தூய வெள்ளையில், பரந்த சமாதானத்தையும், மன சாந்தியையும் கொண்டிருந்தவர்.

நானும், என் பாட்டியும் நல்ல நண்பர்கள். எனது அப்பா, அம்மா, என்னை என் பாட்டியின் பொறுப்பில் விட்டு விட்டு நகரத்துக்குச்சென்று விட்டனர். நானும், பாட்டியும் எப்போதும் கூடவே இருந்தோம். அவர் சீக்கிரமே, காலையில் துயிலெழுந்து என்னை பள்ளிக்கூடத்துக்கு அனுப்ப தயார் செய்வார். என்னைக்குளிப்பாட்டி விடும் போதும், எனக்கு உடை உடுத்தும் போதும், தனது ஒரே குரலில், ஏற்ற இறக்கமான காலை

dressed me in the hope that I would listen and get to know it by heart; I listened because I loved her voice but never bothered to learn it. Then she would fetch my wooden slate which she had already washed and plastered with yellow chalk, a tiny earthen ink-pot and a red pen, tie them all in a bundle and hand it to me. After a breakfast of a thick, stale chapatti with a little butter and sugar spread on it, we went to school. She carried several stale chapattis with her for the village dogs.

My grandmother always went to school with me because the school was attached to the temple. The priest taught us the alphabet and the morning prayer. While the children sat in rows on either side of the verandah singing the alphabet or the prayer in a chorus, my grandmother sat inside reading the scriptures. When we had both finished, we would walk back together. This time the village dogs would meet us at the temple door. They followed us to our home growling and fighting with each other for the chapatti we threw to them.

When my parents were comfortably settled in the city, they sent for us. That was a turning-point in our friendship. Although we shared the same room, my grandmother no longer came to school with me. I used to go to an English school in a motor bus. There were no dogs in the streets and she took to feeding sparrows in the courtyard of our city house.

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As the years rolled by, we saw less of each other. For some time she continued to wake me up and get me ready for school. When I came back she would ask me what the teacher had taught me. I would tell her English words and little things of western science and learning, the law of gravity, Archimedes' Principle, the world being round etc. This made her unhappy. She could not help me with my lessons. She did not believe in the things they taught at the English school and was distressed that there was no teaching about God and the scriptures. One day, I announced that we were being given music lessons. She said nothing but her silence meant disapproval. She rarely talked to me after that.

ஜெபத்தை செய்வார். நான் அதைக்கேட்டு, அந்த ஜெபத்தை மனப்பாடம் செய்வேன் என்ற நம்பிக்கையில் அப்படி செய்வார். அவரது குரல் எனக்கு பிடிக்கும் என்பதால், அவரது ஜெபத்தை நான் கேட்டேன். பிறகு, அவர், என்னுடைய மர சிலேட்டையும், மஞ்சள் நிற குச்சியையும், சிறிய மை வைக்கும் மண் கூடு, ஒரு சிவப்பு நிறப்பேனா ஆகியவைகளையும் ஒரே கட்டாகக்கட்டி என்னிடம் கொடுப்பார். சுவையற்ற சப்பாத்தியின் மேல், வெண்ணையையும், சர்க்கரையையும் பரப்பி, அதை காலை உணவாக உட்கொண்டு விட்டு, நாங்கள் பள்ளிக்குச்செல்வோம். அவர் நிறைய சுவையற்ற, காய்ந்து போன சப்பாத்திகளை கிராமத்து நாய்களுக்காக வைத்திருந்தார்.

என்னுடைய பாட்டி, நான் பள்ளிக்குச்செல்லும் போது, எப்போதும் என்னுடன் கூடவே சென்றார். ஏனெனில், வந்து அந்தப்பள்ளிக்கூடம், கோயிலோடு ஒட்டியே இருந்தது. அந்தக்கோவிலின் அர்ச்சகர், எங்களுக்கு காலையில் பிரார்த்தனையையும், எழுத்துக்களையும் கற்றுத்தந்தார். பிள்ளைகள், வராந்தாவில் , வரிசையாக அமர்ந்து எழுத்துக்களையோ அல்லது பிரார்த்தனையையோ ஒரே கோஷமாக சொல்லிக்கொண்டிருக்கும் போது, எனது பாட்டி, கோவிலின் உள்ளே அமர்ந்து மக நூலை வாசித்துக்கொண்டிருப்பார். நாங்கள் இருவருமே முடித்ததும், நாங்கள் நடந்தே வீட்டுக்கு திரும்புவோம். இம்முறை, கோவிலின் வாசலில், கிராமத்து நாய்கள் எங்களை எதிர் கொள்ளும். அவை, நாங்கள் வீடு சென்று அடையும் வரை, நாங்கள் அவைகளுக்காக எறிய இருக்கின்ற சப்பாத்திகளுக்காக, ஒன்றோடொன்று சண்டையிட்டுக்கொண்டும் பலமாக குரைத்துக்கொண்டும், எங்களையே பின்தொடர்ந்து வரும்.

எனது பெற்றோர், நகரத்தில் கொஞ்சம் வசதியானவர்களாக ஆன பின்பு, எங்களை அங்கு வரச்சொன்னார்கள். அது , எனக்கும் பாட்டிக்கும் இடையிலான உறவில் ஒரு திருப்பு முனையாக அமைந்தது. அறையில் தங்கிக்கொண்டாலும், பாட்டி நாங்கள், ஒரே பள்ளிக்கு வரவில்லை. நான் ஆங்கிலப்பள்ளிக்கு மோட்டார் ஒரு வண்டியில் சென்றேன். தெருக்களில் நாய்கள் இல்லை. என் பாட்டி, இருந்த சிட்டுக்குருவிகளுக்கு வீட்டின் எங்கள் முற்றத்தில் உணவளிப்பதை வழக்கமாக்கிக்கொண்டார்.

ஆண்டுகள் கடந்து செல்லச்செல்ல, நாங்கள் மிகவும் அரிதாக ஒருவரையொருவர் பார்த்துக்கொண்டோம். சில சமயங்களில், அவர் என்னை எழுப்பி விட்டு, பள்ளிக்குச்செல்ல தயார் செய்வார். நான், திரும்பி வந்ததும், பள்ளி ஆசிரியர் என்ன கற்றுத்தந்தார் என்று என்னிடம் கேட்பார். நான் , அவர் சொல்லித்தந்த ஆங்கில வார்த்தைகளையும், மேனாட்டு விஞ்ஞான விஷயங்கள் சிலவற்றையும், அதில் கற்றுக்கொண்டதையும் சொல்லுவேன். புவியீர்ப்பு விசை, ஆர்கிமிடீஸ் சித்தாந்தம், உலகம் உருண்டை போன்றவற்றைச்சொல்லுவேன். இது அவரை வருத்தப்பட வைக்கும். என்னுடைய பள்ளிப்பாடங்களிடம் உடன்பாடு கிடையாது. ஆங்கிலப்பள்ளியில் அவருக்கு கற்றுத்தரப்பட்டவற்றை அவர் நம்பவில்லை. கடவுளைப்பற்றியும், மத நூல்களைப்பற்றியும் சொல்லித்தராதது பற்றி அவருக்கு உண்டு எங்களுக்கு இசை வகுப்புகள் என்று சொன்னேன். அவர் எதுவுமே சொல்லாமல், அமைதியாக ஏற்றுக்கொண்டார். அதற்குப்பின்பு ரொம்ப அரிதாகவே என்னுடன் பேசினார்.

When I went up to University, I was given a room of my own. The common link of friendship was **snapped**. My grandmother accepted her seclusion with resignation. She rarely left her spinning- wheel to talk to anyone. From sunrise to sunset she sat by her wheel spinning and reciting prayers. Only in the afternoon she relaxed for a while to feed the sparrows. While she sat in the verandah breaking the bread into little bits, hundreds of little birds collected round her creating a veritable bedlam of chirruping. Some came and perched on her legs, others on her shoulders. Some even sat on her head. She smiled but never shooed them away. It used to be the happiest half-hour of the day for her.

When I decided to go abroad for further studies, I was sure my grandmother would be upset. I would be away for five years, and at her age one could never tell. But my grandmother could. She was not even sentimental. She came to leave me at the railway station but did not talk or show any emotion. Her lips moved in prayer, her mind was lost in prayer. Her fingers were busy telling the beads of her rosary. Silently she kissed my forehead, and when I left I cherished the moist imprint as perhaps the last sign of physical

But that was not so. After five years I came back home and was met by her at the station. She did not look a day older. She still had no time for words, and while she clasped me in her arms I could hear her reciting her prayers. Even on the first day of my arrival, her happiest moments were with her sparrows whom she fed longer and with frivolous **rebukes**.

contact between us.

In the evening a change came over her. She did not pray. She collected the women of the neighbourhood, got an old drum and started to sing. For several hours she thumped the sagging skins of the **dilapidated** drum and sang of the home- coming of warriors. We had to persuade her to stop to avoid overstraining. That was the first time since I had known her that she did not pray.

நான், பல்கலைக்கழகத்துக்கு சென்ற பின்பு, எனக்கென்று தனி அறை தூப்பட்டது. எனக்கும், என் பாட்டிக்கும் இருந்த உறவு துண்டிக்கப்பட்டது. என் பாட்டி தன்னுடைய தனிமை நிலையை வேறு வழியின்றி விரக்தியோடு ஏற்றுக்கொண்டார். யாரிடமாவது பேசும் பொழுதும் கூட, அவர், ராட்டை இயந்திரத்திலிருந்து எழுந்திருக்கவே இல்லை. காலை முதல் பொழுது போகும் வரை, அவர், ராட்டையில் அமர்ந்தபடி ஜெபம் செய்து கொண்டே இருந்தார். பிற்பகலில், அவர், சிறிது தளர்வடைந்து, சிட்டுக்குருவிகளுக்கு உணவளித்தார். வீட்டு வராந்தாவில் அமர்ந்தபடி, அவர் ரொட்டியை சிறு சிறு துண்டுகளாக உடைத்த போது, பறவைகள், அவரைச்சுற்றி அமர்ந்து கிரீச்சிடும் நூற்றுக்கணக்கான சத்தத்தோடு, பெரிய சந்தடியை ஏற்படுத்தும். சில பறவைகள் அவரது தலையில் வந்து அமரும். அவர் சிரிப்பாரே தவிர, அவைகளை விரட்ட மாட்டார். அந்த அரை மணி நேரமே, அவரது நேரமாகும்.

நான், மேல்படிப்பிற்காக வெளிநாடு செல்ல முடிவெடுத்த போது, என் பாட்டி மிகவும் திகைத்துவிடுவார் என்று உறுதியாக நினைத்தேன். நான், ஐந்தாண்டுகளுக்கு வெளிநாட்டில் இருக்க வேண்டும். அவரது வயதில், அந்த பிரியும் உணர்வை ஒருவராலும் சொல்ல ஆனால், என் பாட்டியால் முடியும். முடியாது. ஆனால், அவர், அது கொள்ளவில்லை. அவர், என்னை குறித்து, மனக்கிளர்ச்சி கூட வழியனுப்புவதற்காக ரயில் நிலையத்திற்கு வந்தார். ஆனால், என்னிடம் பேசவில்லை. உணர்ச்சிகள் வெளியே எதுவும் எதையும் காட்டிக்கொள்ளவில்லை. உதடுகள் ஜெபம் அவரது பண்ணிக்கொண்டிருந்தன. அவரது மனம் , ஜெபத்தில் ஆழ்ந்திருந்தது. விரல்கள், ஜெபமாலையின் மணிகளை அவரது உருட்டிக்கொண்டிருந்தன. அவர், அமைதியாக எனது கலையில் முத்தமிட்டார். அந்த முத்தத்தின் ஈரமான முத்திரையை, எங்களுக்குள் இருந்த உடல் பந்தத்தின் கடைசி அடையாளமாக நினைவு கூர்ந்தேன்.

ஆனால், அது அவ்வாறு கடைசியானதாக அமையவில்லை. ஐந்தாண்டுகள் கழித்து, நான், தாய் நாடு திரும்பினேன். என்னை , என் பாட்டி ரயில் நிலையத்தில் சந்தித்தார். ஒரு நாள் கூட அதிகமான வயதானவர் போல அவர் தெரியவில்லை. அவர்,, என்னை தனது கைகளுக்குள் இறுக்கிக்கொண்ட பொழுது, அவர் ஜெபம் பண்ணிக்கொண்டிருப்பதை என்னால் கேட்க முடிந்தது. நான் வீடு திரும்பிய முதல் நாளில் கூட, அவர் தன்னுடைய சிட்டுக்குருவிகளோடு அதிக நேரம் செலவழித்து , அவற்றிற்கு உணவளித்து , அவைகளை அற்பமான விஷயங்களுக்காக கண்டித்தார்.

அன்று மாலை வேளையில், அவரிடம் ஒரு மாறுதல் வந்தது. அவர் ஜெபம் பண்ணவில்லை. அவர், தன் சுற்றுப்புறங்களிலிருந்த பெண்களை ஒன்று சேர்த்து, ஒரு பழைய டமாரத்தை பாடத்தொடங்கினார். அவர், , போர் வீரர்கள் சொந்த ஊர் திரும்பும் தோலைக்கொண்ட பாடல்களை, தொய்ந்து போன உடைந்த ஒரு டமாரத்தை அடித்தபடி நெடு நேரத்துக்கு பாடினார். அவர், அதிகம் தளர்வுறக்கூடாது என்பதற்காக , பாடுவதை நிறுத்துமாறு அவரிடம் வேண்டிக்கொண்டோம். அவரைத்தெரிந்து கொண்ட நாளிலிருந்து , அவர் ஜெபம் பண்ணாமல் இருந்ததை அப்போது தான் நான் கடைசி (முறையாகப்பார்த்தேன்.

The next morning she was taken ill. It was a mild fever and the doctor told us that it would go. But my grandmother thought differently. She told us that her end was near. She said that, since only a few hours before the close of the last chapter of her life she had omitted to pray, she was not going to waste any more time talking to us.

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We protested. But she ignored our protests. She lay peacefully in bed praying and telling her beads. Even before we could suspect, her lips stopped moving and the rosary fell from her lifeless fingers. A peaceful **pallor** spread on her face and we knew that she was dead.

We lifted her off the bed and, as is customary, laid her on the ground and covered her with a red shroud. After a few hours of mourning we left her alone to make arrangements for her funeral. In the evening we went to her room with a crude stretcher to take her to be cremated. The sun was setting and had lit her room and verandah with a blaze of golden light. We stopped half-way in the courtyard. All over the verandah and in her room right up to where she lay dead and stiff wrapped in the red shroud, thousands of sparrows sat scattered on the floor. There was no chirruping. We felt sorry for the birds and my mother fetched some bread for them. She broke it into little crumbs, the way my grandmother used to, and threw it to them. The sparrows took no notice of the bread. When we carried my grandmother's corpse off, they flew away quietly. Next morning the sweeper swept the bread crumbs into the dustbin.

மறுநாள், அவர் சுகவீனப்பட்டார். அவருக்கு கொஞ்சம் காய்ச்சல் இருந்தது. மருத்துவர், அந்தக்காய்ச்சல் போய் விடும் என்று சொன்னார். ஆனால், என் பாட்டியோ, தனது முடிவு நெருங்கிவிட்டது என வேறு விதமாய் எண்ணினார். அவர், இன்னும் சில மணி நேரத்தில், தனது வாழ்நாளின் கடைசி அத்தியாயத்தில் இருப்பதால், எங்களிடம் பேசிக்கொண்டு அந்த நேரத்தை வீணாக்காதபடிக்கு, தான் தவற விட்ட அந்த ஜெபத்தை செய்யப்போவதாக சொன்னார்.

நாங்கள் அதைத்தடுத்தோம். ஆனால், எங்களது தடைகளையெல்லாம் அவர் நிராகரித்து விட்டு, தனது படுக்கையில் படுத்துக்கொண்டு, ஜெபமாலையை உருட்டிக்கொண்டு ஜெபம் பண்ணிக்கொண்டிருந்தார். நாங்கள் சந்தேகப்பட்டதிற்கும் உதடுகள் ஜீவனற்ற (ழன்பாக, அவரது நின்றன. அவரது விரல்களிலிருந்து , ஜெபமாலை கீழே விழுந்தது. அமைதியான, நோயுற்ற வெளிறிய சாந்தம் அவரது முகத்தில் பரவியது. அவர் காலமாகி விட்டார் என்று எங்களுக்குத்தெரியும்.

நாங்கள், அவரை படுக்கையிலிருந்து உயர்த்தி, வழக்கப்படி , தரையில் கிடத்தி, அவர் மேல் ஒரு சிகப்பு துணியால் மூடினோம். சில மணி நேர துக்கத்துக்குப்பிறகு, நாங்கள் தனிமையில் விட்டு, ஈமச்சடங்குகளுக்கான விட்டு அவரது ஏற்பாடுகளைச்செய்ய ஆரம்பித்தோம். மாலையில், அவரது எடுத்து தகனம் செய்வதற்காக , ஒரு ஒழுங்கற்ற தூக்குப்படுக்கையை எடுத்துக்கொண்டு நாங்கள், அவரது அறைக்குள் சென்றோம். மறைந்து துரியன், அவரது அறையையும், கொண்டிருந்த வராந்தாவையும், பொன்னிற வெளிச்சத்தில் ஒளியூட்டியிருந்தது. அங்கு செல்லும் போது, முற்றத்தின் வழியிலேயே நாங்கள் நின்று விட்டோம். பாதி வராந்தாவிலும், சிவப்புத்துணியால் விறைப்பாக மூடப்பட்டுக்கிடந்த அவரது இறந்த உடல் இருந்த அறையிலும், தரை முழுக்க ஆயிரக்கணக்கான சிட்டுக்குருவிகள், அங்குமிங்குமாக நின்றிருந்தன. ஒரு ஆரவார சத்தமும் கிடையாது. நாங்கள் பறவைகளுக்காக அனுதாபப்பட்டோம். அவைகளுக்காக என் அம்மா, ரொட்டித்துண்டுகளைக்கொண்டு வந்தார். என் பாட்டி அவற்றை உடைக்கும் விதமாகவே, அவர், அதை உடைத்து, அவைகளை பறவைகள் முன்பு போட்டார். அந்த சிட்டுக்குருவிகள், அவைகளை கண் கொண்டு கூட பார்க்கவில்லை. நாங்கள், என் பாட்டியின் உடலை எடுத்துச் சென்ற பிறகு, அவை மிக அமைதியாக பறந்து சென்றன. அடுத்த நாள் காலையில், தூப்பு வேலை செய்யும் வேலைக்காரி அந்த ரொட்டித்துண்டுகளை பெருக்கி எடுத்து குப்பைத்தொட்டியில் போட்டாள்.







Joint Family



Wrinkled Face



Grandpa's Portrait

DOLPHIN PROSE









Mantelpiece

Preparing chappatti

Street Dogs Waiting

Feeding the sparrows

SYNONYMS

WORD	SYNONYM	தமிழ் அர்த்தம்
absurd	inconsistent / illogical	தொடர்பற்ற
bedlam	noisy confusion	கூச்சல் குழப்பம்
bond	link	பந்தம்
cherish	value ; esteem / admire / care	மதித்தல்
dilapidated	damaged	பழுதடைந்த
distressed	suffered	துன்பப்பட்ட
earthen	made of soil	மண்ணால் ஆன
expanse	widespread	விரிவடைந்த
fables	tales/stories	சிறுகதை
growling	barking, roaring	உறுமுதல்
hobbled	walked unsteadily	தள்ளாடி நடத்தல்
ignored	paid no attention	புறக்கணித்தல்
lifeless	without life	உயிரற்ற
monotonous	unchanging/boring	மாற்றமில்லாத
oversagging	to sink, droop from pressure	முழ்குதல்
pallor	unhealthy pale appearance	வெளிறிய
perched	sat/rested	ஓய்வு
pretty	beautiful	அழகான
puckered (SCERT-1)	to contract the face into wrinkles	சுருக்கம் (Model Paper - 1)
rebukes	scoldings	கண்டித்தல்
recite	narrate	விவரித்தல்
revolting	horrible; sickening	அதிர்ச்சியூட்டுகின்ற
scriptures	holy book	புனித நூல்
seclusion (SCERT-2)	isolation	தனிமை (Model Paper - 2)
sentimental	over-romantic	உணர்ச்சிவயப்படுகிற
shroud	cloth used to wrap a dead person	சவச்சீலை (கோடி)
snapped	broke/cut	துண்டிக்கப்பட்ட
stale	old, decayed	மக்கிப்போன
undignified	shameful	வெட்கும்படியான
wrinkled	shrank / crumpled	சுருங்கிப்போன

ANTONYMS

WORD		ANTONYM	தமிழ் அர்த்தம்
absurd	X	logical	தொடர்புடைய
bedlam	X	calm	அமைதியான
bond	X	release	சுதந்திரம்
cherish	X	neglect	புறக்கணித்தல்
dilapidated	X	smart / intact	மிடுக்கான
distressed	X	comfort	ஆறுதலான
earthen	X	other worldly	புறவுலக
expanse	X	shrink	சுருங்கிய
fables	X	truth	உண்மை
growling	X	tolerating	சகித்துக்கொள்ளல்
hobbled	X	walked steadily	நிதானமாக நடத்தல்
ignore	X	appreciate	உற்சாகமூட்டுகின்ற
lifeless	X	lively	உயிருட்டமான
monotonous	X	amusing	அறிவுப்பூர்வமான
oversagging	X	rise	உயரே எழும்புதல்
pallor	X	healthy	ஆரோக்கியமான
perched	X	strained/ moved	ஓய்வின்றி
pretty	X	ugly	அசிங்கமான
puckered	X	smooth	வெளிப்படையான
rebukes	X	praising	பாராட்டுதல்
recite	X	withhold	நிறுத்துதல்
revolting	X	passive / tolerating	அடங்கிப்போகிற
scriptures	X	trade edition	வர்த்தகமயமான
seclusion (SCERT-3)	X	companionship	துணையுடன் (Model Paper - 3)
sentimental	X	cynical	குறைகாணுகின்ற
snapped	X	joint	இணைக்கப்பட்ட
stale	X	amazing	திகைப்பூட்டுகின்ற
undignified	X	dignified	மதிக்கத்தக்க
wrinkled	X	smooth	மென்மையான
veritable	X	unreal, fake	உண்மையில்லாத

SHORT ANSWERS

- 1. Answer the following questions in one or two sentences based on your understanding of the story.
- a) Describe the grandfather as seen in the portrait. (QTY-18), (HY-18)

The grandfather had **a long white beard**. He **wore** a **big turban** and **loose fitting clothes**. He **looked** atleast 100 **years** old, as if he could have lots of grand children.

b) Why was the author left with his grandmother in the village?

The author was left with his grandmother in a village as his parents went to live in the city.

c) Where did the author study in his childhood?

In his childhood, the author studied in a school attached to the temple.

d) Why did the grandmother accompany the author to school? (SCERT-1) (Model Paper - 1)

The grandmother accompanied the author to school because **the school was attached to the temple**.

e) What made the dogs follow the grandmother after school hours?

The dogs followed the grandmother after school hours for the chapattis she threw to them.

f) Why didn't the grandmother feel sentimental when the author went abroad for higher education?

The grandmother accepted the fact and she was serious about the author's education.

g) What was the happiest time of the day for grandmother?

The happiest time of the day for grandmother was the **feeding time of the sparrows in the** afternoon for half an hour.

- 2. Answer the following questions in three or four sentences each.
- a. Describe the author's grandmother. (HY-18)
 - (i) The grandmother was a deeply religious woman. (ii) She was affectionate and caring.
 - (iii) She had **perfect control** over her **emotions**.
- (iv) She used to feed animals and birds.
- b. What was the daily routine of the grandmother at home? (HY-18)
 - (i) Prepare the author for school.
- (ii) Accompany him to school.
- (iii) Feeding the sparrows in the afternoon.
- v) Murmuring the prayger song.
- (iv) Feeding the dogs with chapatti after school hours.
- c. How is school education in the village different from that in the city?

Village School	City School
Alphabet and Multiplication tables were taught.	English, Science and Music were taught.
Teaching about God, Scriptures and Moral	No teaching about God, Scriptures and
values.	Moral values.

- d. The grandmother appreciated the value of education. Give instances in support of your answer.
 - (i) The grandmother was **not** formally **educated**.
 - (ii) But she was serious about the author's education.
 - (iii She could **not agree** herself to the **western way of Education** that there was no teaching about God and scriptures.
 - (iv) But she didn't show her disapproval and accepted the fact.
- e. The grandmother was strong-minded. Justify.
 - (i) The grandmother was a picture of contentment.
 - (ii) She was highly religious and conservative.
 - (iii) She had strong personal likes and dislikes.
 - (iv) She did not show her emotions when the author decided to go abroad for higher studies.

- f. How did the grandmother spend the last few hours of her life?
 - (i) Grandmother herself **declared** that her end was near.
 - (ii) She continued praying without wasting any more time.
 - (iii) She peacefully prayed with the rosary.
 - (iv) Her lips stopped moving and rosary fell down from her fingers.
 - (v) She died peacefully.
- 3. Answer the following in a paragraph of 100-150 words each.
- a) The grandmother played a vital role in the author's formative years. Give your own example of how elders have a positive influence on the younger generation. Include examples from the story also. (QTY-18)
- b) Attempt a character sketch of Khushwant Singh's grandmother. (SCERT-3) (Model Paper 3)

PARAGRAPH FOR GIFTED STUDENTS

Synopsis

- * Introduction
- **★** Grandma The Queen of her domain
- **★** City snatches the bonding
- **★** Isolation A silent killer
- * Conclusion

INTRODUCTION:

Khushwant Singh, a brilliant Indian author, is widely known for his sarcastic stories that condemn the traditional practices of the Indian society. But in 'The portrait of a Lady' we can feel the awe and admiration he had for his aged grandma. The emotional outpour reveals the author's genuine feeling for his grandma. The author compares the life in rural and urban India to make his readers to understand the value of relationships. The dear departed grandma leaves a void in her grandson's life.

GRANDMA - THE QUEEN OF HER DOMAIN:

The author's grandma had a divine beauty in her silver locks, wrinkled face and spotless white attire. Her aged appearance that the author cannot believe that she would have been young and pretty once.

An expanse of pure white serenity breathing peace and contentment.

This is how he described his beloved granny. The old lady took charge of the author when his parents went to live in the city. Grandma ensured that the boy cultivated good habits. She took care of his education. She was with him at school which was attached to the temple. She fed street dogs with chapattis on their way back to home. Grandma was the queen of her village house.

Nothing can equate a granny's love for her grandchild.

CITY SNATCHES THE BONDING:

The turning point of the relationship occurred when the family settled in city. Grandma was forced out of her grandchild's world. She confined herself to the spinning wheel, her prayers and feeding the sparrows with bread crumbs. The link of friendship got snapped completely when the author was given a separate room. When he decided to go abroad, the old lady was unusually silent and there was no display of emotions.

ISOLATION - A SILENT KILLER:

Grandma had been an active personality in her village. She was engrossed in the upbringing of the author. But later when they moved to the city, life became monotonous. The boy didn't need her support any more. She lost her authority amidst the chaotic city life. Education in English, no teaching about God and scriptures and

music lessons for the boy distressed the old lady. Slowly she got isolated from the family. She was a silent spectator of the events that unfolded before her. The only companion in her isolated world were the sparrows. The happiest moments of her were the feeding time of her sparrows. Even after five years of separation, the old lady gave a cold hug to the author and remained silent. When he returned home.

Silence speaks when you listen with patience.

The isolation had killed her feelings for her family.

CONCLUSION:

Grandma predicted her death and waited with prayers. She died peacefully. The most surprising attendants of her funeral were the sparrows. The little birds' empathy examined the tale of care and affection of the old lady. The old lady's selfless love was appreciated and reciprocated by the sparrows that they even ignored their bread crumbs. The author has given us a fine portrait of a lady who appeared to be an embodiment of values and boundless affection. Such personalities have become a rare specimen in this materialistic world.

Silence can break the heart when love rules the relationship.

PARAGRAPH FOR AVERAGE STUDENTS

Title : The Portrait of a Lady
Author : Khushwant Singh

Characters : Author and his grandmotherTheme : Appreciate genuine Relationship

The grandmother was a lady of high principles and simple living. As a small boy, the author had to live with her in a village. His parents had moved to the city. The grandma and the boy developed a very strong bond of affection. She took care of his education. She got disturbed when they moved to the city. She adapted to the new life style. The boy was in English medium. There was no lesson about God and scriptures. She disliked it.

Their bond further damaged when the boy moved to the university and then abroad. She didn't show any emotion. She kept herself occupied with the spinning wheel, chanting prayers and feeding sparrows. The author returned from abroad after five years. He was received in silence. Grandma predicted her death and passed away peacefully. To everyone's surprise her funeral was attended by the sparrows.

Never isolate people

PARAGRAPH FOR LATE BLOOMERS

- **★** The author **loved** his **grandma**.
- **★** He stayed with her when he was small.
- * Grandma took care of his education.
- **★** They **moved** to the **city**.
- **★** Grandma became **silent**.
- ***** Their **friendship ended**.
- **★** The author went **abroad**.
- **★** Grandma **fed sparrows** and **chanted prayers**.
- **★** The author **returned** after **five years**.
- **★** She died and the sparrows attended the funeral.

- 3. Answer the following in a paragraph of 100 150 words each
- a) The grandmother played a vital role in the author's formative years. Give your own example of how elders have a positive influence on the younger generation. Include examples from the story also.

Being the youngest child of the family, I've always been fortunate to grow under the guidance of elders. My grandma, like Kushwant Singh's granny, has always instilled in me certain virtues like piety, compassion towards animals, obedience etc. My grandpa insisted on starting our day with the newspaper. This has helped me for winning several quiz competitions. My aunty has always fascinated me with her stories. She introduced me to the great epics - Ramayana and Mahabaratha. Rama and Krishna became my role models. Childhood has become a memorable one and it laid the foundation for a successful future. My elders have played a vital role to mould me a good human being.

b) As young Khushwant Singh, write a letter to your parents describing your daily routine along with your thoughts and feelings about staying in the village. (PAGE-5)

No 42, Harmander Singh Street,

Hadali,

Khushab District, Punjab.

Dear Papa,

How are you? Hope that you are all fine. I am safe here. I'm in the care of my granny. She is a wonderful person. She is too religious. I can never see her without saying her prayers. She wakes me up early in the morning. She prepares me for the school. She prepares hot chapattis. I eat them along with butter and sugar. Then she takes me to school. The school is attached to the temple. Granny sits there and reads scriptures. I learn my lessons. When we

both finish, we return home. On the way, some village dogs chase us. She throws them stale chapattis which they eat. Granny is always saying her prayers rolling her rosary. She is too tender. I'm too lucky to have a granny who is gentle as a flower. Kindly take care of your health.

Yours lovingly, Sairam.

Address on the cover:

To

Mr. A. Sathyanarayanan,

No 99, Kamarajar Nagar,

Madurai - 10.

c) Animals are capable of empathy. Substantiate this statement with examples from the story as well as your own experience.

Man is related with nature. Man keeps pet animals and shows his affection towards them. Throughout in the history of mankind, we can find the relationship of mankind with animal kingdom. The grandma and the author moved to the city. The author had his education in an English school. The grandma always said her prayers. In the afternoon, she relaxed for sometime. She fed the sparrows. She gave them little bits of bread. The little birds became her friends. When she died, her dead body was kept in a room in the courtyard. There were thousands of sparrows everywhere. They were on the floor. The author's mother gave them bread crumbs. But, the sparrows never even looked at them. There was no noise also. When the grandma's body was carried away, the sparrows flew away. The next day, the sweeper swept all the bread crumbs and put them into the dustbin. The birds had such a keen sense. They knew the human emotions. They could understand about grandma's passing away. This incident explains that the animals are capable of empathy.

TEXTUAL EXERCISES

a) Read the following words and choose the correct antonyms from the options given:- (Pg.6)

Words	Options				
moist	a. marshy	b. arid	c. slimy	d. sultry	
frivolous	a. serious	b. sad	c. furious	d. happy	
omitted	a. isolated	b. rejected	c. contracted	d. included	
protest	a. promote	b. apprehend	c. accept	d. project	
serenity	a. simplicity	b. anxiety	c. absurdity	d. stupidity	
scattered	a. sprinkled	b. multiplied	c. gathered	d. covered	
monotonous	a. interesting	b. tiresome	c. fragrant	d. satisfying	

b) Fill in the blanks choosing the appropriate compound word from those given in the box. (Pg.6)

Reeta hurried along the road, dressed in her <u>spotless</u> new dress towards the bus stop. Before <u>sunset</u>, she had to reach the house of her <u>grandmother</u>. But the first <u>half</u> - <u>hour</u> of her travel was slow due to traffic jam. Her <u>home</u> <u>coming</u> would be regarded with joy. She was <u>overstraining</u> herself to reach the place. When she finally stepped into the <u>courtyard</u>, she was received with a big hug by her kind aunt. She was in time to join the <u>sing song</u> at the village, for a <u>gentle folk</u>.

c) Match the words in column A with their pairs in column B to form compound words and write them in column C. (Pg.6)

\mathbf{A}	В	C
mantel	lashes	piece
eye	wheel	lashes
water	gate	proof
bee	knob	hive
toll	piece	gate
door	proof	knob
spinning	hive	wheel

d) Frame meaningful sentences of your own using the following expressions from the story. Use a dictionary if required.

i) the thought was almost revolting

<u>The thought</u> that I have to bribe the officers to get my plan approval <u>was almost revolting.</u>

ii) an expanse of pure white serenity

The snow clad Himalaya is **an expanse of pure white serenity** and it instills peace in its on lookers.

iii) a turning point

My friendship with Vinu became <u>a turning point</u> in my life.

iv) accepted her seclusion with resignation

Though my grandma hates loneliness, she <u>accepted her seclusion</u> in an old age home <u>with</u> <u>resignation.</u>

v) frivolous rebukes

My mom showers her <u>frivolous rebukes</u> on me whenever I demand a motorbike.

Homophones:-

Form two derivatives from each of the following words. (Pg.7)

e.g. honest- dishonest, honesty

1.	manage	- manager, management, managed
2.	differ	- difference, different, differed
3.	beauty	- beautiful, beautify, beauteous
4.	peace	- peaceful, peaceless, peacefulness
5.	arrange	- arrangement, arranged, arranger
6.	collect	- collector, collectable, collectability
7.	approve	- approval, approved, approves
8.	narrate	- narrator, narrated, narration
9. class - classmate, classed, classic		- classmate, classed, classic

f) Homophones:

Fill in the blanks with suitable homophones: (Pg.7)

- i) brake / break
- a) We have a short **break** between the sessions.
- b) The car skidded to a halt when I applied the brake.

ii) waste/waist

- a) Shivani wears a belt around her waist.
- b) We should never misuse or waste natural resources.

iii) principle/principal

- a) Oxygen is the <u>principal</u> element present in the earth's crust.
- b) Both these machines work on the same **principle**.

iv) bread/bred

- a) Turtles should be **bred** in a healthy environment.
- b) I like to have toasted **bread** for breakfast.

v) lesson/lessen

- a) This medicine will **lessen** your pain.
- b) Finally, the manager learnt a **lesson** the hard way.

vi) pale/pail

- a) The child looks very sick and pale.
- b) I need a pail of water to wash these cups.

vii) through/threw

- Ravi picked the banana peel and <u>threw</u> it in the dustbin.
- b) The soldiers had to pass **through** a dark tunnel.

viii) corps/corpse

- a) The **corpse** was covered with a shroud.
- b) A five-day annual training camp for the senior cadets of the National Cadet **corps** has been organised.

Listening

Read the following statements and the given options. Now, listen to your teacher read aloud a passage or play it on a recorder. You may listen to it again if required, to help you choose the right options. (Pg.8)

1. According to Napoleon 'Good mothers make good

	, ,		J
	a) housewives	b) jobs	
	c) nations	d) ideas	
2.	Mothers exhibit	love.	
	a) unauthorized	b) unapproved	
	c)unacceptable	d) unconditional	
3.	moth	ers care much for thei	r children.
	a) Adapted	b) Adopted	
	c) Adoptive	d) Adaptable	
4.	is the m	ost important thing in	the world.
	a) Wealth	b) Power	

c) Love d) Influence 5. Love should be extended to

a) friends b) relatives c) countrymen d) creatures

Speaking Activity (Pg-8)

a) Work in pairs and arrive at five points that bring out the benefits and challenges of living in either a nuclear family or a joint family. Share your views with your class.

too.

The benefits of living in a joint family are

- (i) The children of the family grow under the guidance of the elders.
- (ii) Elders don't feel lonely when they grow old.
- (iii) Working members support the family and take care of the other members.
- (iv) Tradition and culture gets transferred from one generation to the other.
- (v) Good values like tolerance, patience, sharing etc get instilled in our mind.
- b) Build a conversation of eight to ten sets of exchanges, with your grandmother discussing the incidents that happened your school that day.

Grandmother: Come my child, you look so tired.

Me : Yes patty, I need a glass of water now, at

once

Grandma: Here take it. What happened?

Me : Oh patty, we practise for our sports day

every evening.

Grandma: I see. You will enjoy a lot in the ground

daily then.

Me : Patty, its not play time. We are drilled in

the ground.

Grandma : So sad my honey. Are you there in any

event?

Me : Yes patty, I'm there in March Past and

Bamboo drill.

Grandma: Take some extra water bottle with you.

Have a bath as soon as you reach home.

Me : Ok patty I shall move now.

c) Every member contributes to forming a happy family. Share your views for a minute or two with your class.

A family needs the cooperation of every member for its happy functioning. The father and mother are like the wheels of the cart called family. The wheels should work in unison for the family to progress. Both of them have an equal and vital role to run the family. They have to bridge the generation gap between the elders and the kids.

The elders stabilize the emotional imbalance with their experiences. They are like the anchors that support a ship even in cyclones. The children of the family have to follow the footsteps of the elders. They are the torchbearers of the culture and tradition of the family.

Reading Pg.10

Answer the following:

a) How does laughter help one to cope with stress?

Laughter helps one to cope with stress by unleashing a rush of stress busting endorphins.

b) Which word in the text (para 2) means the same as 'dedicated?

Committed.

c) Why do you think voluntary laughter provides the same physiological as well as psychological benefits as spontaneous laughter?

Our body cannot distinguish between voluntary and spontaneous laughter. So both have the same physiological as well as psychological benefits.

d) 'Laughter is the best medicine'. Explain.

Laughter augments physiological development. It has other medically beneficial effects including cardiovascular health and mood. So Laughter can be called as the best medicine.

e) Given below is a set of activities. Which of these are followed in the 'Laughter Yoga' technique?

★ clapping

★ body movements

★ breathing exercises

★ eye contact

f) 'Laughter therapy also plays a crucial role in social bonding'. How?

Laughter therapy aims to get people laughing in groups. This not only reduces stress but also makes people more committed as well as improve their interpersonal skills. It has been proved to be good for depressed patients. So laughter plays a crucial role in social bonding.

Grammar

a) Read the paragraph below and fill in the blanks using 'a, an', or 'the'. (Pg.11)

It is said that 1. <u>the</u> computer is 2. <u>an</u> electronic extension of the human brain. Therefore, in principle, 3. <u>a</u> computer can do all those activities which 4. <u>a</u> human brain can do. Today computers are found to be 5. <u>the</u> most useful devices as knowledge providers. 6. <u>Another</u> important field of application of computer is the development of robots. 7. <u>The</u> internet has brought 8. <u>a</u> drastic change in communication systems.

b) In the following paragraph, insert 'a, an', or 'the' wherever necessary and rewrite the sentences. (Pg.11)

In our family, we have planned to take <u>the</u> children to zoo, <u>the</u> next Sunday. <u>A</u> van has been arranged and we are sure to have <u>a</u> comfortable journey. <u>The</u> Zoo is <u>an</u> interesting place for children who enjoy watching animals and want to know more about them. Even youngsters love to visit <u>the</u> zoo.

c) Fill in the blanks with appropriate determiners. (Articles have been included)

Once the emperor gave a bag of seeds to his council of ministers and said that he would give them six months' time to grow the seeds. Whoever does a good job will be made the **next** emperor of that empire. **All** the ministers took their task seriously. After six months **many** ministers had small plants in their pots. A **few** had very large plants. **Some** had medium sized plants. The emperor entered the hall. He was **much** amused to see **those** plants. He called the **first** minister and asked him what he did with the seed. **That** minister explained the process he adopted to make **his** plant grow. The emperor called **every** minister to explain what he did. Only **one** minister had come with an empty pot. They laughed loudly at the foolishness of **this** minister. But the Emperor applauded him and made him

the <u>next</u> Emperor. Do you know why? He had given them boiled seeds which will not grow. Only <u>that</u> minister was honest.

d) Fill in the blanks with appropriate determiners. (Page..11)

- i) They came early but there was <u>a little</u> (little/ a little) work to do.
- ii) Anand invited <u>a few</u> (few/ a few) friends for the birthday party.
- iii) The teacher gave **every** (all / every) student a separate topic for the assignment.
- iv) Most of (Most of/Many) the water overflowed from the tank.
- v) Each one of my **friends** (friend/ friends) wished me on my birthday.
- vi) Vijay had **no** (no/ any) idea about the problem.
- vii) Adhi had taken <u>many</u> (much /many) photos during the programme.
- viii) <u>Some</u> (Some/Few) girls who attended the class informed the others about the test.

a) Fill in the blanks with the correct form of the verbs in brackets and read the completed passage aloud. (Pg.14)

The people of India, as a whole, (1) <u>are</u> (be) warm-hearted and hospitable. Any calamity in any part of the world immediately (2) <u>arises</u> (arise) their charity and generosity and a committee (3) <u>is</u> (be) promptly (4) <u>set</u> (set) up to collect funds to help the distressed. The most endearing quality in them (5) <u>is</u> (be) the respect they show for the work done in any capacity. They (6) <u>believe</u> (believe) in what we (7) **call** (call) the dignity of labour.

b) Now, use the verbs given in brackets in the following sentences in their correct forms. (Pg.14)

- I <u>like</u> (like) to spend time with my friend, whenever I am (be) free.
- 2. He **is** (is) likely to miss the train. He **is running** (run) up to the station.
- 3. At the moment they <u>are waiting</u> (wait) at the bus-stop. But I <u>do not know</u> (not know) their plans for the journey.
- 4. They firmly **believe** (believe) in the existence of God.
- 5. We <u>hear</u> (hear) a lot of noise because the new buildings <u>transmit / are transmitting</u> (transmit) sound vacant.

- 6. She always (make) makes excuses for coming late.
- 7. The Prime Minister (leave) is leaving / will leave for America to meet the delegates tomorrow.
- c) You are a commentator for a 5000 metre running race. Use simple present and present continuous tenses and complete the commentary from the beginning to the end of the race. Read the completed passage aloud.

The 5000 metre race <u>is</u> about to begin. Lined up at the starting point, from left to right, <u>are</u> John of Great Britain, Peter of Nigeria and Jeeva of India. The runners <u>are warming</u> up for the great event. Now they (1) <u>are taking</u> (take) their positions on the track. They (2) <u>are</u> (be) all ready for the start. There (3) <u>goes</u> (go) the starter's gun! Yes, the race has begun. John (4) <u>is leading</u> (lead) with Jeeva (5) <u>close</u> (close) behind him.

d) Read the extract from Kayal's diary entry regarding her Nepal Trek, and fill in the blanks with the correct tense form of the verbs given in brackets. (Pg.14)

DAY 1: We <u>left</u> (leave) Anna International Airport in Chennai two days ago catching a direct flight to Kathmandu in Nepal. We <u>spent</u> (spend) a day sightseeing. Kathmandu is full of people, rickshaws and the smell of sandalwood. I've never <u>been</u> (be) on a trip like this before. So I'm really excited.

DAY 2: It <u>was raining</u> (rain) when we reached Pokhara, Nepal's second largest city, and saw the snowy peaks of the Himalayas for the first time. We <u>reached</u> (reach) Pokhara after a hair- raising six-hour bus journey along very narrow roads with a lot of hairpin bends. The bus <u>was</u> (be) so full that one person had to share the driver's seat.

DAY 3: We have <u>begun</u> (begin) our trek at last. We are at about 900 metres and the weather is warm and humid. For lunch we had chips and yak cheese sandwiches. I didn't like them very much. I am thrilled that <u>pitched</u> (pitch) we tents for our camps in the dense forests.

DAY 4: Yesterday a landslide <u>blocked</u> (block) our path and we had to use ropes to get over it. This morning we walked along the river Kali Gandaki through dense forests of oak trees and we pitched our camp at Tukuche below the Annapurna mountain range. The main danger in addition to landslides, is 'yak attack'. Yaks <u>are</u> (be) not dangerous

but you have to be careful if you meet a herd of them because they can push you off the sides of the mountain.

DAY 5: We met a lot of children on our trek through the villages. They <u>were playing</u> (play) in the pool of muddy rain water as we left the place. We have already climbed 2,400 metres. Up here, it never <u>rains</u> (rain) and there are no trees. It <u>is</u> (be) windy and dusty and I am always thirsty.

DAY 6: Yesterday we <u>went</u> (go) up to the mountainside of the township of Mukthinath, at 3,600 metres. The thin air with less oxygen there <u>left</u> (leave) us breathless. We <u>felt</u> (feel) that we couldn't go any further. We drank a lot of extra fluids to prevent altitude sickness.

DAY 7: We turned around today and started to descend to Jomosom. As we went down, the oxygen filled our blood again and we seemed to <u>fly</u> (fly) instead of walking.

DAY 8: We went back to Pokhara in a small plane yesterday. It <u>was exciting</u> (excite) when we flew between the mountain peaks. We <u>arrived</u> (arrive) in Kathmandu this afternoon and we <u>spent</u> (spend) our last few hours shopping. We leave for Chennai tomorrow. We've had a trip of a lifetime.

- e) In the following passage, circle the verbs in simple present tense and underline the verbs in simple past. The first one has been done for you.
- i) Unless one is upright there is no use in being a charming fellow. Sometimes it is better to be honest than attractive. It is no use being rich either. These are the great truths of modern life which Shyam never realized. He never said an ill-natured word in his life. He was always polite and spoke softly to everybody.
- `ii) That night he <u>strolled</u> into the Palette Club about eleven o'clock, and <u>found</u> Trevor sitting by himself in the long room. "Well, Alan, <u>did</u> you <u>get</u> the picture finished all right? " he <u>said</u>, as he <u>lit</u> his cigarette. "<u>Finished</u> and <u>framed</u> my boy!" <u>answered</u> Trevor, "and by-the-bye, you have made a conquest. That old model you <u>saw</u> is quite <u>devoted</u> to you. I <u>had</u> to tell him all about you who you <u>are</u>, where you <u>live</u>, what your income <u>is</u>, what prospects you <u>have</u>."
- iii) "And now **tell** me how Laura **is** The old model **was** quite **interested** in her." "You **don't mean** to say you **talked** to him about her?" said Hughie. "Certainly I **did**. He **knows** all about the relentless colonel, the lovely Laura, and the £10,000." "You **told** that old beggar all my private affairs?" **cried** Hughie, looking very red and angry. "My

dear Alan," cried Hughie, "I shall probably find him waiting for me when I(go) home."

- Fill in the blanks using Past perfect tense forms of the verbs:
- I had never seen (see) such a beautiful sunrise before I came here.
- ii) We were not able to stay overnight as we had not reserved (reserve) the tickets in advance.
- iii) Nirmala had been (be) to the concert several times.
- iv) Mariappan knew Pudukottai so well because he had lived (live) there for five years.
- v) Yusuf understood the problem because he had **experienced** (experience) the situation earlier.
- vi) Catherine did not have any cash because she had lost (lose) her purse.
- vii) My father had been (be) to Mumbai once before.
- viii) The cat had chased (chase) the bird before it flew out of the yard.
- ix) Edith had visited (visit) several doctors before she found out what the problem was with her knee.
- x) If we had called (call) the manager ahead, we would not have needed to wait so long for a table.
- g. Read the following news report and underline the past perfect tense form of the verb and circle the simple past tense form of the verb.

INDIA BEAT PAKISTAN TO WIN BLIND CRICKET **WORLD CUP**

Chasing a huge target of 308 runs, India **romped** home in the penultimate over of the match to defeat Pakistan and win the Blind Cricket World Cup. India **started** off their chase in a cracking manner, but had lost two quick wickets. Sunil Ramesh (rose) to the occasion as he **played** a great knock to help India **beat** Pakistan and had scored 93 runs. Earlier India (won) the toss and had decided to bowl first. Pakistan amassed, a huge score of 307 for eight in 40 overs. Their openers had given them a brisk start which the later batsmen eapitalized on.

- h. Read the following extract and fill in the spaces with the right form of verbs and complete the passage. The first one is done for you.
- The poet **stops** to hear the maiden singing while she (1) was cutting (cut) and (2) binding (bind) the grain. The song of the lady (3) **fascinated** (fascinate) the poet, who (4) stood (stand) there to listen to the song. The girl (5) sang (sing) a sad song.
- ii) During the monsoon, a tender slightly warm breeze (1) was blowing (blow) on a cloudless afternoon. A sort of fragrance (2) rose (rise) from the wet grass and trees in the sunlight. It (3) **seemed** (seem) as if the warm breath of the

exhausted earth (4) was falling (fall) against one's skin. A sweet voiced bird somewhere (5) was chirping (chirp) repeatedly.

Read the news item that appeared in a daily and fill in the blanks with suitable forms of the verbs given in brackets.

Ever since social networking sites entered our lives, they (1) have been serving (serve) as platforms where users could use the virtual space offered by these social media. However, recent incidents (2) have caused (cause) many to question the freedom to express views on various issues and in some cases, it (3) has become (become) a platform. Social Contact (4) has dangerous transformed (transform) people. They (5) have developed (develop) an addiction to it.

- Read the following passage and correct the errors you come across.
- Rajan slowly settled down in his retired life. His pension plus what his wife brought from the household work helped them meet their requirements. Life was easy until one Sunday. His granddaughter Madhu came crying. The clay doll in her hand had broken into two. Rajan pacified her and promised to mend it. This small repair work became the founding stone of a very prosperous venture of making clay dolls which earned him a great respect.
- ii) Games and sports helps in recreation. Soccer, cricket, lawn tennis or wrestling are eagerly watched by millions of fans all over the world. It helps one get a temporary relief from the tension of the day. The dedication displayed by all the players in the field indicates the mental and spiritual development of the players.

Writing Pg.17

- i) Prepare a notice to be displayed on the noticeboard of your school for the students of Class 11, informing them about the educational tour that has been arranged for them the next month
- a. Notice

GGHSS, Srivilliputtur

Notice

Date: 20 Ap.2018

Educational Tour

Our School has arranged an educational tour to visit Delhi next month. Students those who are interested may give their names to the organizer mentioned below.

Hema

(Tour - incharge)

ii) Write a notice about the inauguration of a laughter club in your school.

RSPM Hr. Sec. School, Rajapalayam. Inauguration of Laughter Club

24th January 2018

This is to inform all the students (VI to XII) of our school that 'Laughter Club' of our school will be inaugurated on the 26th of January. Everyone is cordially invited for the ceremony.

(Sd/-) Lakshana

(SPL)

b. Message

You are the Sports Captain of your school. Write a message to the Physical Director, requesting him to be present during the football team selection scheduled for tomorrow.

3 p.m., 15 Mar.2018

Sir,

You are requested to be present the football team selection tomorrow in our school ground at 6 a.m.

Ashok (SPL)

c. Do you exercise regularly? If you do, which of these following activities do you prefer? Discuss and share with your partner a few lines about your preference.

a) walking

b) working out in a gym

c) swimming

d) cycling

a) Walking

I prefer walking. It is one of the best exercises and also least expensive forms of exercise. It reduces stress and tones the body. It also helps to lose weight. A walk in the morning is very beneficial for health. It keeps our body

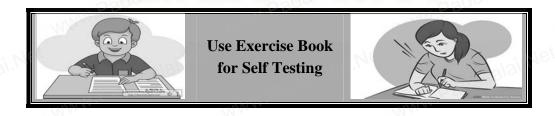
healthy and fit. The cool fresh air inhaled in the calm morning keeps us energetic and happy through out the day.

Task: (PAGE-19)

You are Mani/ Megalai of Class XI, President of the English Club of your school. Draft a speech on the topic 'Reading Maketh a Complete Man' to be delivered in the school assembly.

Good morning everyone! Respected Principal, teachers and friends; I am Megalai of Class XI and I stand before you to share a few thoughts on the topic 'Reading Maketh a Complete Man'.

'Reading Maketh a Complete Man' is a popular saying of Francis Bacon. We do not realise the fact that our minds are moulded by the books we read. In fact, we have several means by which we acquire knowledge today — the radio, the TV, the newspapers and magazines, the internet etc. But reading books is the most ancient and the most effective of them all. Reading a book is different and it is an activity which gives us immense pleasure. We are never alone when we have the company of books. In the modern world we have tiny time. When we have a little leisure, we watch TV, gossip or run to parties, clubs or other social activities. We are afraid to be alone with ourselves, afraid to sit quietly and think. We are happy with others but not with ourselves. Reading a book on such an occasion gives us the comfort of good company and true pleasure. Books are the greatest treasure of mankind and the habit of reading them is the source of pleasure. He who is in the habit of reading books should buy books for himself. He should start collecting books in his youth. The books collected and arranged properly in a room not only decorate the room but also make the presence of their authors felt. Books contain in them eternal truths and are better friends than those of flesh and blood as they not only entertain but also guide us.





Poem-1

ONCE UPON A TIME

(முன்னொரு காலத்தில்) Gabriel Okara



ஆசிரியர் குறிப்பு

"Once Upon A Time" by Gabriel Okara



கேபிரியல் ஆகரா

கேபிரியல் (1921 --) . இவரது முழுப்பெயர் Gabriel Imomotimi ஆகரா Gbaingbain Okara ஆகும். இவர் ஒரு நைஜீரிய கவிஞர். இவர் ஒரு புதின எமுக்காளரும் இவரது கவிதைகள், அநேக மொழிகளில் பெயர்க்கப்பட்டுள்ளன. இவரது "The Call of the River Nun" என்ற கவிதை நூல், நைஜீரிய கலை விழாவில் இலக்கியத்துக்கான விருது வென்றுள்ளது. இவரது சில கவிதைகள், Black Orpheus என்ற புத்தகத்தில் வெளி வந்துள்ளது. இவர், 1960 - ல் ஸ்தாபித்துக்கொண்டார். இவருக்கு தன்னை ஒரு தேர்ந்த எழுத்தாளராக காமன்வெல்த் நாடுகளின் கவிதை விருதும் தரப்பட்டுள்ளது. ஆகராவின் கவிதைகள், அன்றாட வாழ்வின் யதார்த்தத்திலிருந்து, சந்தோஷமான தருணங்களுக்கு மாறி, மீண்டும் அது யதார்த்தத்துக்கே திரும்புகிறது. ஆகரா, தன்னுடைய உரைநடையிலும், கவிதைகளிலும் ஆப்பிரிக்க சிந்தனை, நாட்டார் கிராமிய வழக்கு, படிமம் போன்றவற்றை புகுத்துகிறார். இவரது முதல் நாவல் " The Voice ", ஒரு மொழியியல் ரீதியான பரீட்சார்த்தமான முயற்சி. இவரது பிற்கால கவிதைகள், "The Fisherman's Invocation" (1981), "An Adventure to Juju Island "(1992) ஆகியனவாகும்.

இக்கவிதையின் மையக்கருத்து :

தங்கள் பெற்றோர், மற்றும் ஆசிரியர்களின் நடவடிக்கைகளைக்கவனித்து, பிறகு, வாழ்வின் ஒழுக்க நெறிகளை பிள்ளைகள் கற்றுக்கொள்கின்றன. ஆனால், கவிஞர் கேபிரியேல் ஆகரா, குழந்தைகளிடமிருந்து, கள்ளம் கபடமற்ற, தூய உள்ளத்துடன் இருப்பதை தான், கற்றுக்கொள்வதாகக்கூறுகிறார். அதுவே இக்கவிதை. இது இயல்பான, எளிய வசன நடையில் உள்ளது. இதில், கவிஞரே தன் பிள்ளையிடம் நேரடியாக பேசுவது போல உள்ளது.

POEM LINES	தமிழாக்கம்
Once upon a time, son They used to laugh with their hearts And laugh with their eyes: But now they only laugh with their teeth While their ice-block-cold eyes Search behind my shadow.	என் மகனே, ஒரு காலத்தில், அவர்கள் உள்ளத்திலிருந்து சிரித்தார்கள். கண்கள் மூலமாக சிரித்தார்கள். ஆனால், இப்பொழுதோ, வெறும் பொய்யாக பல்லைக்காட்டியபடி மட்டும் சிரிக்கிறார்கள். அவர்களது நேசமில்லாத கண்கள், உள்ளொன்று வைத்து புறமொன்று பேசுகின்றன.
There was a time indeed They used to shake hands with their hearts But that's gone, son Now they shake hands without hearts While their left hands search My empty pockets.	அவர்கள், உள்ளன்போடு கை குலுக்கிய ஒரு காலம் இருந்தது. ஆனால், அது இப்போது போய் விட்டது, என் மகனே! இப்போது, அவர்கள், இருதயப்பூர்வமாய் இல்லாமல், கை குலுக்குகின்றனர். அவர்களின் இடது கைகள், என்னுடைய காலி பாக்கெட்டுகளை துழாவுகின்றன.
"Feel at home!", "Come again": They say, and when I come Again and feel	"உங்க வீடு மாதிரியே நினைச்சுக்குங்க !" , " மறுபடியும் வாங்க !" என்கின்றனர் அவர்கள். ஆனால், மீண்டும் நான் அங்கு போனால்,

dasalan.	Padasalai
11 th ENGLISH	POEM DOLPHI
At home, once, twice There will be no thrice - For then I find doors shut on me.	ஒரு முறை, இரு முறை மூன்றாவது முறை போக முடியாது. ஏனெனில், அவர்களின் கதவு நான் வராதபடிக்கு சாத்தப்பட்டிருக்கும்.
So I have learnt many things, son I have learned to wear many faces Like dresses – home face Office face, street face, host face Cocktail face, with all their conforming smile	எனவே, நான் பலவற்றையும் கற்றுக்கொண்டேன் , என் மகனே ! பல முகங்களை அணிந்து கொள்வது எப்படியென்று, உடைகளைப்போலவே வீட்டில் ஒரு முகம், அலுவலகத்தில் ஒரு முகம், வீதியில் ஒரு முகம், விருந்து தருபவராய் ஒரு முகம், கலவையான முகங்கள். அசையாது சித்திரத்தில் உள்ள முகம் போல எல்லாமே, சந்தர்ப்பங்களுக்கேற்ப அணியும்
Like a fixed portrait smile. And I have learned too To laugh with only my teeth And shake hands without my heart	ஏமாற்றுக்கார முகங்கள். நானும் இப்பொழுது பல்லைக்காட்டியபடி மட்டுமே சிரிக்கவும், இருதயப்பூர்வமாய் இல்லாமல் கைகுலுக்கவும் கற்றுக்கொண்டு விட்டேன்.
I have also learned to say "Goodbye" When I mean "Good-riddance": To say "Glad to meet you" Without being glad; and to say "It's been Nice talking to you", after being bored.	" குட் பை" என்று சொல்லும் போது, அது " விடுதலை அடைந்தேன் " என்று அர்த்தமாகும் அளவுக்கு சொல்ல கற்றுக்கொண்டு விட்டேன். " உங்களை சந்திச்சதுல சந்தோசம்" என்று சந்தோசம் இல்லாமல் சொல்லுகிறேன். அலுப்பான பேச்சைக்கேட்டு விட்டு, பிறகு, "உங்களிடம் பேசிக்கிட்டிருந்தது நல்லா இருந்துச்சு!" என்று சொல்லுகிறேன்.
But believe me, son I want to be what I used to be When I was like you. I want To unlearn all these muting things Most of all, I want to relearn How to laugh, for my laugh in the mirror Shows only my teeth like a snake's bare fangs	எனவே, என்னை நம்பு என் மகனே ! உன்னைப்போலவே, நான் எவ்வாறு முன்பு இருந்தேனோ, அவ்வாறு ஆக விரும்புகிறேன். இந்த மௌன பாவனைகளை மறந்து விட விரும்புகிறேன். எல்லாவற்றையும் விட, எப்படி சிரிப்பது, என்பதை மறக்க விரும்புகிறேன். என் சிரிப்பு, என் பற்களை , ஒரு பாம்பின் விஷப்பற்கள் போலவே
So show me, son How to laugh; show me how I used to laugh and smile Once upon a time when I was like you.	எனவே, எப்படி சிரிப்பது, என்பதை எனக்கு காட்டு என் மகனே ! நான் முன்னொரு காலத்தில், உன்னைப்போல் இருந்த போது, எப்படி சிரித்தேனோ, எப்படி புன்னகைத்தேனோ, அதை எனக்கு காட்டு !







Poem by Gabriel Okara

Fake Smiling

Shutting Doors







Teeth of a Snake (fang)

Wearing Masks

Smile like a Kid

APPRECIATION QUESTIONS

- 1. Once upon a time, son, they used to laugh with their hearts
- a) What mood of the poet does the above line reflect?

The line reflects the poet's **nostalgic mood** about his **childhood**.

- b) Explain 'to laugh with their hearts'

 People used to smile with genuine emotions.
- 2. but now they only laugh with their teeth, while their ice-block-cold eyes

(QTY-18) (SCERT-1)

search behind my shadow

a) Explain- laugh with their teeth.

People **laugh** with **fake feelings** nowadays.

b) Why is their eyes cold?

People lack the warmth and cordiality in relationships. So their eyes are cold.

c) Why does the poet say 'search behind my shadow'?

The poet says that people **feign fake emotions**.

- d) Who are 'they?'

 They are the people of modern times.
- e) Identify the figure of speech used here. Metaphor.

- 3. but that's gone, son.

 Now they shake hands without hearts
- a) What is gone?

The time when people were sincere and caring in their dealings is gone.

- b) How do they shake their hands now? Why?

 People shake hands without warmth because they show fake emotions.
- 4. While their left hands search my empty pockets.
- a) What does the right hand do?

The right hand is **shaking hands in a fake gesture**.

b) Explain- left hands search my empty pockets.

It explains the **dual nature** of people. They are **not true to relationships**.

- 5. there will be no thricefor then I find doors shut on me.
- a) Why does the poet feel that there will be no thrice?

People **lie on their guests inviting** them for a **visit again**.

b) I find doors shut on me- what do you understand from the poet's words?

People are **not ready to welcome** him the **third time**.

6. So I have learned many things, son. I have learned to wear many faces

a) How has the poet learnt so many things?

He has learnt so many things from his bitter experiences with the society.

b) Why does he have to wear so many faces?

The poet has to wear so many faces to suit to the different occasions.

c) What are some of the faces he has started to wear?

Some of the faces the poet has to wear are home face, office face, street face, host face, etc.

7. cocktail face, with all their conforming

smiles

like a fixed portrait smile.

a) Explain cocktail face.

Cocktail face refers to a face capable of showing mixed emotions.

b) Why do people have a fixed portrait smile?

People have a fixed portrait smile to suit different occasions for social acceptance.

- 8. I have also learned to say, 'Goodbye', when I mean 'Good-riddance'
- a) Explain the word play by the poet in the above lines.

"Good bye" means **real happiness** in **parting** a person. Good riddance means the **relief in getting rid of an unwanted visitor**.

b) Who has taught him to say good bye when he actually means good riddance?

The society has taught him.

- 9. I want to unlearn all these muting things.

 Most of all, I want to relearn
- a) What are the muting things that the poet wants to unlearn?

Fake feelings, deceit, malice and ulterior motives are the muting things.

b) What does he want to relearn?

He wants to relearn how to laugh.

c) From whom does he want to relearn?

He wants to relearn **from his son**.

10. for my laugh in the mirror shows only my teeth like a snake's bare fangs!

a) What is the meaning of fangs?

Fangs are the **teeth of a venomous snake** used to inject poison.

b) What does the poet compare with the fangs?

The poet compares **his teeth** with the fangs.

c) What compels him to make this comparison?

His behavior compelled him to make this comparison.

11. show me how

I used to laugh and smile once upon a time when I was like you.

a) Why has the poet lost his laugh and smile?

The poet has lost his laugh and smile because of the **negative changes** that have **crept into him** as he grew up.

b) How was the poet once upon a time?

The poet used to **laugh and smile with** real happiness once upon a time.

- 12. 'I have learned to wear many faces like dresses'- (SCERT-2)
- a) State the figure of speech in the above line. Simile.
- b) Who does the term 'I' refer to?
 I refers to the poet Gabriel Okara.
- 13. "I have learned to wear many faces. Like dresses - home face" (SCERT-3)

a) What has the poet learned?

The poet has learnt to show fake expressions to others.

b) Mention the figure of speech employed in this line.

Simile.

- 13. "Feel at home," "come again." (Mar.19)
 They say.....
 - a) Who are 'they'?

They are people who utter fake words of welcome to the poet.

b) Do 'they' really mean it?

No, they don't really mean it. The words don't come from the depth of their hearts.

POETIC DEVICES

FIGURE OF SPEECH:

1. While their ice-block-cold eyes search behind my shadow

- Metaphor

2. Cocktail face, with all their conforming smiles like a fixed portrait smile

- Simile

3. For my laugh in the mirror shows only my teeth like a snake's bare fangs!

- Simile

4. I have learned to wear many faces like dresses

- Simile

5. When I mean 'Good-riddance'

- Oxymoron

6. I find doors shut on me.

- Euphemism

7. They used to laugh with their hearts

- Metonymy

8. They shake hands without hearts

- Metonymy

9. But now they only laugh with their teeth

- Metonymy

ALLITERATION:

1. They used to laugh with their hearts

 \rightarrow they-their

2. They used to shake hands with their hearts

→ hands-hearts, they-their

3. Cocktail face, with all their conforming smiles

→ cocktail-conforming

4. And shake hands without my heart

→ hands-heart

5. I want to be what I used to be

→ want-what

6. When I was like you. I want

→ when-was-want

7. To unlearn all these muting things.

 \rightarrow these-things

8. So show me, son

 \rightarrow so-son

RHYME SCHEME & RHYMING WORDS:

1. There was a time indeed

They used to shake hands with their hearts

But that's gone, son

Now they shake hands without hearts

a) Rhyming words : hearts-hearts

b) Rhyme scheme : abcb

EXPLAIN WITH REFERENCE TO THE CONTEXT - ERC

Poem: "Once Upon A Time" by Gabriel Okara

Clue words:

Once upon a time, laugh with their teeth, ice-block-cold eyes, cocktail face, laugh with their hearts, doors shut on me, Good-riddance, snake's bare fangs, portrait smile, unlearn, relearn

- 1. Once upon a time, son They used to laugh with their hearts
- 2. But now they only laugh with their teeth While their ice-block-cold eyes
- To say "Glad to meet you" 6. How to laugh, for my laugh in the mirror Shows only my teeth like a snake's bare fangs!

When I mean "Good-riddance":

3. Cocktail face, with all their conforming smiles Like a fixed portrait smile.

4. There will be no thrice-

For then I find doors shut on me.

7. To unlearn all these muting things Most of all, I want to relearn

Context:

Poem: Once Upon A Time **Poet:** Gabriel Okara

Explanation:

The poet Okara talks painfully about the negative changes in the society to his son. He is unhappy about the fake emotions that rule the adult world. He feels sad that he too has changed with time. He wants to unlearn the bad qualities and relearn the good qualities. He asks his son to show him how to laugh the way he used to laugh when he was a kid.

Comment:

The child is the father of man.

1. Once upon a time, son, (QTY-18) they used to laugh with their hearts

(text exercise)

and laugh with their eyes:

Context

Poem: Once Upon ATime

Poet: Gabriel Okara

Explanation

The poet is nostalgic about how people used to be in his childhood. He tells his son that people smiled with warm, sincere and genuine emotions that could be seen in their eyes. Lips spoke the language of the heart without any pretention.

Comment

Values vanish with modernization.

2. There will be no thrice (text exercise)

Context

Poem: Once Upon ATime

Poet: Gabriel Okara

Explanation

The poet warns his son about the degradation of values in the modern society. People utter words of welcome and exchange pleasantries but those words come only from the tip of their tongues and not from the depth of their hearts.

None is ready to be a host for the third time even if they pretend to be happy outwardly.

Comment

Pretention can never withstand the test of time.

3. I have learned to wear many faces

like dresses (text exercise) (SCERT-1)

Context

Poem: Once Upon A Time

Poet: Gabriel Okara

Explanation

The facial expressions of the people are tailored for social acceptance and are not genuine. They wear masks suitable for various situations like people choose their dresses. The narrator too in his anxiety to fit into social expectations has started showing fake expressions. He confesses to his son that he has done it against his will.

Comment

Be genuine in your thoughts, words and deeds.

4. I want to be what I used to be (text exercise) Context

Poem: Once Upon A Time

Poet: Gabriel Okara

Explanation

The poet repents to his son for being fake with his emotions. He has become a victim of social acceptance against his will. And now he wants to become a child again to enjoy real happiness. He is ready to give up his fake qualities and relearn the genuine qualities. He yearns for his childhood innocence.

Comment

The child is the father of man.

5. for my laugh in the mirror shows only my teeth like a snake's bare fangs!

Context

Poem: Once Upon A Time

Poet: Gabriel Okara

Explanation

The poet tells his son when he laughs before the mirror, he sees no expression. His teeth resemble the fangs of a snake. He is scared of these negative changes in him. So, he asks his son to help him to become trustworthy and honest like a child.

Comment

Be genuine to experience real happiness.

6. I want to unlearn all these muting things. Most of all, I want to relearn

Context

Poem: Once Upon A Time

Poet: Gabriel Okara

Explanation

The poet fakes his expressions. He admits that he does all these against his will. He says he wants to become a child again and laugh genuinely. So he wants to unlearn the unreal things and relearn how to laugh as he had done once upon a time.

Comment

It needs courage to confess your falsities.

7. I have also learned to say, 'Goodbye', when I mean 'Good-riddance'

Context

Poem: Once Upon A Time

Poet: Gabriel Okara

Explanation

People utter words of welcome and exchange pleasantries, but those words come only from the tip of their tongues and not from the depth of their hearts. When the presence of a person is not so pleasurable his leave taking becomes a great relief in the heart but the lips don't reveal the fact in the goodbye.

Comment

Speak from your heart to retain good relationships.

8. Cocktail face, with all their conforming smiles like a fixed portrait smile.

Context

Poem: Once Upon A Time

Poet: Gabriel Okara

Explanation

The poet compares people's faces to smiles in a portrait. Like a portrait, the smiles are actually fake and stiff. They are trying to fit to certain social expectations. The poet thinks about how fake he too has become with the fixed expression for different occasions, with an unnatural smile plastered across his face

Comment

Reality gets revealed with time.

9. Now they shake hands without hearts while their left hands search my empty pockets.

Context

Poem: Once Upon A Time

Poet: Gabriel Okara

Explanation

People shake hands without warmth or happiness because they show fake emotions nowadays. While the right hand is shaking hands in a fake gesture, the left hand is busy in another mean act of analyzing the person for personal benefits. The line clearly explains the dual nature

of people nowadays. They are not true to relationships and are exploiting others for their personal gains.

Comment

True relationships are real assets.

10. while their ice-block-cold eyes search behind my shadow.

Context

Poem: Once Upon A Time

Poet: Gabriel Okara

Explanation

People lack the warmth and cordiality in relationships. So their eyes are cold and unwelcoming. The poet feels that words are never spoken to his eyes as people don't actually feel what they say. They present fake emotions.

Comment

Eyes are the indicators of the mind.

Answer the following questions in about 100-150 words each.

- 1. Explain the things the poet has learnt when he grew into an adult. (HY-18)
- 2. This poem is nothing but a criticism of modern life. Justify this statement. (SCERT-3)
- 3. 'Face is the index of the mind.' Does this adage concur with the views of the poet?
- 4. How does Gabriel Okara criticise the modern life in his poem "Once upon a Time"? (Mar.19)

PARAGRAPH FOR GIFTED STUDENTS

Poem: Once Upon A Time

Poet : Gabriel Okara

Theme: Child is the father of man

The poet Okara has beautifully interpreted the circular structure of human life where the child wishes to experience the freedom of adulthood while the adult yearns for the innocence of childhood. The poem is in a narrative form where the poet talks with his son about the malice of the society and wishes to learn the art of real happiness from him.

The poet says that the world of his childhood was filled with warm, sincere and genuine feelings for others. Their cordial handshakes conveyed the message of trust, honesty and togetherness. But nowadays, he laments that the expressions of the adult society have become alarmingly negative. Hearts have stopped speaking while eyes have become 'ice-blocks'. People have started exploiting others for their personal gains. They have even become reluctant to show true hospitality over people.

Since innocence has become a fading aspect of the society, the poet too has learnt to adapt to the social demands. With an artificial smile plastered across the face, the poet is a proud owner of several masks that could be worn to suit occasions. He has also mastered the art of duplicity in words and actions. When his lips say goodbye, it's actually 'good-riddance' from his heart.

The poet repents to his son for being a fake with his emotions. He has become a victim of social acceptance against his will.

But believe me, son. I want to be what I used to be

And now he wants to become a child again to enjoy real happiness. His image in the mirror with the fangs of a snake scares him a lot. So he wants to unlearn the falsities he has mastered and relearn the genuine qualities of childhood. He requests his son to guide him in his quest.

INNOCENCE IS NOT LEARNT, IT'S A STATE OF MIND

PARAGRAPH FOR AVERAGE STUDENTS

The poem 'Once Upon A Time' portrays a rare situation. An adult (father) wants to learn from a child (son). The father realizes that the social pressure has injected falsity into his emotional system. He regrets his life style which is filled with fake feeling, deceit, malice and ulterior motives. He has forgotten to laugh with his heart. He has also developed ice-block-cold-eyes. The world of the grownups has moved away from trust, warmth and hospitality. Their facial expressions are tailored for social acceptance. They are not genuine. They wear masks suitable for various situations. They hide reality. The poet too becomes sneaky and deceitful to fit into social expectations. But he confesses for his activities. Now he is ready to give up his fake qualities and relearn the genuine qualities. He requests his son to show him how to laugh the way he used to laugh, when he was a kid like him.

PARAGRAPH FOR LATE BLOOMERS

- The poet talks to his son about the adult world.
- There is **no truth in words** and **actions**.
- The poet feels very sad.
- ➤ He has also **changed with others**.
- > He too shows fake emotions.
- ► He wants to relearn the good qualities.
- He asks his son to help him to laugh like a child again.

TEXTBOOK EXERCISES

- 1. Based on your understanding of the poem answer the following questions in one or two sentences each:
- i. What do you associate with the title of the poem? The title makes us associate the poem with a fairy tale which has a happy beginning and ending.
- ii. What is the relationship between the narrator and the listener?

The narrator is the father and the listener is his son.

iii. What happens to the poet when he visits someone for the third time?

The poet feels that the person turns hostile and he becomes an unwelcomed guest if he visits the third time.

- iv. Pick out the expressions that indicate conflicting ideas.
- They used to laugh with their hearts and now they only laugh with their teeth
- They used to shake hands with their hearts and now they shake hands without hearts
- I have also learned to say, 'Goodbye' when I mean 'Good-riddance'
- v. How does the poet compare his face with dresses?
 People choose dresses to suit the occasions.
 Similarly the poet says he changes his face according to the demand of the situation.

vi. What does the poet mean when he says 'good bye'?

The poet says that he is actually feeling a sense of relief when an unwanted visitor leaves the place

relief when an unwanted visitor leaves the place though his lips bid him goodbye.

vii. What pleasantries does the poet use to fake cordiality?

Goodbye, Glad to meet you, It's been nice talking to you are the pleasantries used by the poet to fake cordiality.

viii. What does he desire to unlearn and relearn?

The poet wants to unlearn the falsities he has mastered as a grown up and relearn the genuine qualities of childhood.

- ix. How is the poet's laugh reflected in the mirror?
 - When the poet laughs before the mirror, he sees no expression. His teeth resemble the fangs of a snake. He is scared of these negative changes in him.
- x. What does the poet long for?

The poet longs for his childhood innocence and happiness.

xi. Mention the qualities the child in the poem symbolises.

The child in the poem symbolizes innocence, purity, enthusiasm, happiness, and genuineness lacking in society.

2. Fill in the blanks choosing the words from the box given and complete the summary of the poem:

The poet Okara in this narrative monologue painfully condemns the (a) <u>duplicity</u> displayed by adults, both in their words and actions. Here, a father laments to his son about the negative changes that creep into the attitude and behaviour of humans, into (b) <u>adults</u>. He says that people used to be (c) <u>genuine</u> when they laugh and the honesty would be reflected in their eyes. But, people of modern times laugh (d) <u>superficially</u>. Their handshakes used to be warm and happy conveying a sense of togetherness, but nowadays the handshakes have become a mere (e) <u>falsity</u>. He warns his son that people are not trust-worthy and have become so selfish that they are concerned only about their own (f) <u>personal</u> benefits.

People utter words of welcome and exchange (g) pleasantries, but those words come only from the tip of their tongues and not from the depth of their hearts. Humans have learnt the art of changing their (h) facial expressions according to situations merely to ensure social acceptance. They wear(i) masks and exhibit multiple faces. The narrator admits that he has also changed into a hypocrite. However, he tells his son that though he (j) fakes his expressions, he does all these against his will. He says he wants to become a (k) child again and laugh genuinely. He wants to (1)unlearn the unreal things and (m) relearn how to laugh as he had done once upon a time. When he laughs before the (n) mirror, he sees no expression. His teeth are bare like that of the (o)fangs of a snake. So, he asks his son to show him how to laugh the way he used to laugh, when he was a kid like him.

3. <u>Interpret each of the following expressions used</u> in the poem, in one or two lines.

i. laugh with their eyes

Eyes will reflect warm, sincere and genuine emotions if the smile is a real one. Eyes speak the language of the heart without any pretention.

ii. shake hands without hearts

People utter words of welcome and shake hands, but those words come only from the tip of their tongues and not from the depth of their hearts.

iii. like a fixed portrait smile

An artificial smile that can be seen plastered across the face in a portrait to suit different occasions.

iv. hands search my empty pockets

Hands that try to exploit others for their personal benefits unmindful of the trust placed on them

v. to unlearn all these muting things

The poet wishes to give up the fake qualities he had gained during the process of growing up.

B. Read the lines given below and answer the questions that follow.

1. 'But now they only laugh with their teeth, While their ice-block-cold eyes...'

a. Who are 'they'?

(HY-18)

They refers to the people of modern times.

b. Explain: ice-block-cold eyes

Eyes that lack warmth and care.

- c. Identify the figure of speech used here. (HY-18)
 Metaphor
- 2. 'Most of all, I want to relearn

How to laugh, for my laugh in the mirror Shows only my teeth like a snake's bare fangs!'

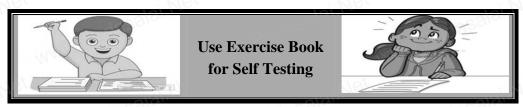
- a. Why does the poet want to relearn how to laugh?

 Because the poet is aware that he too has become deceitful like others.
- b. Whom does the poet want to relearn from?

 The poet wants to relearn from his son.
- c. Mention the figure of speech used here.
 Simile
- C. Explain the following lines with reference to the context. (Refer ERC section)

5. Listening Activity

- i) When the <u>furnace</u> needs to be repaired, they have to hire a man.
- ii) Father knows no word like fail.
- iii) It is certain that the father would restore the **confidence** of the family members.
- iv) The father will not be able to mend a broken chair.
- v) The children expect their **mother** to guide them in action.



SUPPLEMENTARY READER

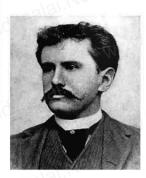


Supplementary-1 AFTER TWENTY YEARS

(இருபது வருடங்களுக்குப் பிறகு) O. Henry



ஆசிரியர் குறிப்பு



ஓ.ஹென்றி

ஓ ஹென்றி, ஒரு புகழ் பெற்ற அமெரிக்க சிறுகதை எழுத்தாளர். இயற்பெயர், வில்லியம் சிட்னி போர்ட்டர். ஆகும். இவர் நியூ யார்க் நகர மக்களின் வாழ்க்கையை மிக உணர்வுப்பூர்வமாக விவரித்தார். இவரது சிறுகதைகள் உலகமெங்கும் பிரசித்தி பெற்றவை. சந்தர்ப்ப சூழ்நிலை எவ்வாறு ஒருவனின் குணத்தை பாதிக்கிறது என்பதை இவரது கதைகள் சொல்கின்றன. இவரது கதைகளில் கடைசி வரியில் கதையின் முடிவு இருக்கும். இதற்கு ஹென்றி (முடிவு' என்று எழுத்தாளர்கள் பெயர் சூட்டியுள்ளனர். இவரது கதைகள், அறிவுப்பூர்வமானதாகவும், வார்த்தை ஜாலம் செய்வதாகவும் இருக்கின்றன. ஒ ஹென்றி, 1902--வருடத்தில் ßЩ யார்க் நகரத்தில் எழுதத்தொடங்கி, சிறுகதைகளை எழுதினார். 'நியூ யார்க் சண்டே' (The New York Sunday Magazine) இவர், வாரம் ஒரு சிறுகதை வீதம் ஒரு வருட காலத்துக்கு எழுதினார். ஓ. ஹென்றியின் கதை சொல்லும் உத்தியைப்பின்பற்றி, தமிழில், எழுத்தாளர் ஜெயகாந்தன் சிறுகதைகள் எழுதியுள்ளார். இவரது கதைத்தொகுப்புகள், The Four Million, The Gift of the Magi, The Cop and the Anthem, The Ransom of Red Chief, A Restricted Reformation and the Third Ingredient ஆகியனவாகும்.

கதைச்சுருக்கம்:

நியூயார்க் நகரின் தெருவொன்றில் இரவுப் பொழுதில் காவலர் ஒருவர் ரோந்து பணியில் ஈடுபட்டிருந்தார். அப்பொழுது அங்கே தனியாக நிற்கும் ஒரு நபரைக் காண்கிறார். அவர் தான் பாப் எனவும், தன் நண்பன் ஜிம்மியின் வருகைக்காக காத்திருப்பதாகவும், 20 ஆண்டுகளுக்கு முன்னர் அவர்கள் இருவரும் இதேநாள், இதே நேரத்தில், இதே இடத்தில் 20 ஆண்டுகள் கழித்து சந்திப்பதாக ஒப்பந்தம் செய்து கொண்டார்கள் எனவும், பின்னர் தான் மேற்கு நோக்கிச் சென்றுவிட்டதாகவும் தன் கதையை விவரிக்கிறார். காவலரும் அதனைக் கேட்டுவிட்டு அங்கிருந்து சென்றுவிடுகிறார். காத்திருத்தல் தொடர்கிறது. சிறிது நேரத்தில் அங்கு இன்னொரு நபர் வருகிறார். தான் தான் அந்த நண்பர் ஜிம்மி காத்திருந்தவரிடம் சொல்கிறார். இருவரும் கைகளைக் கோர்த்தபடி நடக்கின்றனர். இருவரும் வெளிச்சமான பகுதியை அடைந்த பொழுது புதிதாக வந்த நபர் தன் நண்பன் ஜிம்மி அல்ல என்பதை காத்திருந்த பாப் கண்டுபிடித்து விடுகிறார். அதற்கு புதிதாக வந்த நபர் தான் காவலர் எனவும், காத்திருந்தவரை கைது செய்துவிட்டதாகவும் தெரிவிக்கிறார். பின்னர் அவர் கையில் ஒரு சிறிய காகிதத்தை கொடுக்கிறூர். அதில் முதன் முதலில் அங்கு வந்து அவருடன் பேசிய காவலர்தூன் உண்மையான நண்பர் ஜிம்மி எனவும், மேலும் காத்திருந்தவர் காவல்துறையால் சிகாகோ நகரில் தீவிரமாக தேடப்படும் குற்றுவாளி பாப் என்பதை அவர் சிகரெட் பற்ற வைக்க தீக்குச்சியை உரசிய வெளிச்சத்தில் கண்டுபிடித்ததாகவும் மற்றும் தன் நண்பனை தானே கைது செய்ய மனமின்றி மற்றொரு காவலரை அனுப்பி வைத்ததாகவும் குறிப்பிடப்பட்டிருந்தது. இதனைப் படித்த பாப் அதிர்ந்து போனார்.

SUPPLEMENTARY READER

SUPPLEMENTARY TRANSLATION

STORY தமிழாக்கம் PAGE-27: The policeman on the beat moved up the impressively. The impressiveness was தெருவில் வசீகரமாக நடந்தார். அவருடை

avenue impressively. The impressiveness was habitual and not for show, for spectators were few. The time was barely 10 o' clock at night, but chilly gustes of wind with a taste of rain them had well nigh deepeopled the streets.

Trying doors as he went, **twirling** his club with many **intricate** and artful movements, turning now and then to cast his watchful eye adown the pacific thoroughfare, the officer, with his **stalwart** form and slight **swagger**, made a fine picture of a guardian of the peace. The **vicinity** was one that kept early hours. Now and then you might see the lights of a cigar store or of an all night lunch counter; but the majority of the doors belonged to business places that had long since been closed.

PAGE-28:

When about midway of a certain block the policeman suddenly slowed his walk. In the doorway of a darkened hardware store a man leaned, with an unlighted cigar in his mouth. As the policeman walked up to him the man spoke up quickly.

"It's all right, officer," he said, **reassuringly**. "I'm just waiting for a friend. It's an appointment made twenty years ago. Sounds a little funny to you, doesn't it? Well, I'll explain if you'd like to make certain it's all straight. About that long ago there used to be a restaurant where this store stands-Big Joe' Brady's restaurant."

"Until five years ago," said the policeman. "It was torn down then."

The man in the doorway struck a match and lit his cigar. The light showed a pale, square-jawed face with keen eyes, and a little white scar near his right eyebrow. His scarf pin was a large diamond, oddly set.

"Twenty years ago tonight," said the man, "I dined here at Big Joe Brady's with Jimmy Wells, my best chum, and the finest chap in the world. He

பாரா டூட்டிக்கு வந்திருந்த காவலர், அந்த அகன்ற தெருவில் வசீகரமாக நடந்தார். அவருடைய இந்த வசீகரம் ,அவருக்கு ரொம்ப பழக்கமானது. அது யாராவது பார்க்க வேண்டும் என்பதற்காக ஜம்பமாக நடப்பதல்ல. ஏனெனில், அங்கிருந்த ஆட்கள் ரொம்பக்குறைவு. அது இரவு பத்து மணி. மழையோடு, வீசிய குளிர்ந்த தூரைக்காற்று அங்கிருந்த ஆட்களை எல்லாம், கிட்டத்தட்ட விரட்டி விட்டது.

தன் கையில் இருந்த லத்தியை லாவகமாக, நேர்த்தியாக சுழற்றியபடி, ஒவ்வொரு கட்டிடத்தின் கதவுகளையும் தட்டி அவ்வப்போது அங்குமிங்கும் பார்த்தபடி, அகன்ற நெடுஞசாலை வீதியினை கவனமாக நோட்டம் விட்டுக்கொண்டு, அந்த காவல் அதிகாரி, கம்பீரமான, நம்பிக்கையான நடை நடந்த போது, சமாதானத்தின் காவலன் போலே தோன்றினார். வைகறைக்கு முந்திய பொழுது போல, அந்த துழல் தோன்றியது. அவ்வப்போது, சுருட்டு விற்கும் கடையிலிருந்து வரும் வெளிச்சமோ அல்லது இரவு சாப்பாடு விற்கும் கடையிலிருந்து வரும் வெளிச்சமோ தெரிந்தது. ஆனால், பெரும்பாலான வியாபார கடைகளின் கதவுகள் எப்போதோ அடைக்கப்பட்டி (நந்தது

ஒரு குறிப்பிட்ட கட்டிடத்தினைக்கடக்கும் போது, அந்தக்காவலர் தனது நடையின் வேகத்தைக்குறைத்தார். பல சாமான்களும் விற்கும் கடையிலிருந்து, ஒரு மனிதன் , பற்ற வைக்கப்படாத ஒரு சுருட்டை தன் வாயில் வைத்துக்கொண்டு, சாய்ந்து கொண்டிருந்தான். காவலர், அந்த மனிதனை நோக்கிச்சென்றதும், அவன் வேகமாக பேசினான்.

" ஒண்ணும் இல்ல, ஆபீசர். நான் என் நண்பனுக்காக இங்க காத்துக்கிட்டு இருக்கேன். இது, இருபது வருஷத்துக்கு முன்னாடி நாங்க முடிவு பண்ணிக்கிட்டது. இது உங்களுக்கு கொஞ்சம் வேடிக்கையா தோணும், இல்லையா?" அவன் உறுதியாகச்சொன்னான். "இது ரொம்ப சரியான விஷயம் தான் என்பதை நான் கொஞ்சம் விளக்கிச் சொல்கிறேன். ரொம்ப வருஷத்துக்கு முன்னாடி, இங்க இந்தக்கடை இருந்த இடத்துல ஒரு ஹோட்டல் இருந்தது. – "பிக் ஜோ ப்ராடிஹோட்டல்."

" அஞ்சு வருஷத்துக்கு முன்னாடி கூட அது இருந்துச்சு. பெறகு அதை இடிச்சுட்டாங்க." என்றார் காவலர்.

கடையின் கதவு அருகே நின்றிருந்த அந்த ஆள், ஒரு தீக்குச்சியைக்கிழித்து, சுருட்டைப்பற்ற வைத்துக்கொண்டான். துடிப்பான கண்கள் உள்ள ஒரு சதுர முகவாய்க்கட்டையும், வலது புருவத்தின் அருகே ஒரு சிறிய வெள்ளைத்தழும்பும் உள்ள ஒரு முகம் அந்த வெளிறிய வெளிச்சத்தில் தெரிந்தது. அவனது கழுத்தைச்சுற்றி இருந்த துணியில் குத்தியிருந்த பெரிய வைரம் பொருத்தமில்லாதது போலத்தெரிஞ்சது.

" இருவது வருஷத்துக்கு முன்னாடி, இதே மாதிரி ஒரு ராத்திரியில, நான் என்னோட ப்ரண்ட் ஜிம்மி வெல்ஸ் கூட இங்க "பிக் ஜோ ப்ராடி " ஹோட்டல்ல சாப்பிட்டேன். இந்த உலகத்துலயே and I were raised here in New York, just like two brothers, together. I was eighteen and Jimmy was twenty. The next morning I was to start for the West to make my fortune. You couldn't have dragged Jimmy out of New York; he thought it was the only place on earth. Well, we agreed that night that we would meet here again exactly twenty years from that date and time, no matter what our conditions might be or from what distance we might have to come. We figured that in twenty years each of us ought to have our destiny worked out and our fortunes made, whatever they were going to be."

"It sounds pretty interesting," said the policeman. "Rather a long time between meets, though, it seems to me. Haven't you heard from your friend since you left?"

"Well, yes, for a time we corresponded," said the other. "But after a year or two we lost track of each other. You see, the West is a pretty big **proposition**, and I kept hustling around over it pretty lively. But I know Jimmy will meet me here if he's alive, for he always was the truest, staunchest old chap in the world. He'll never forget. I came a thousand miles to stand in this door tonight, and it's worth it if my old partner turns up."

The waiting man pulled out a handsome watch, the lids of it set with small diamonds. "Three minutes to ten," he announced. "It was exactly ten o'clock when we parted here at the restaurant door."

"Did pretty well out West, didn't you?" asked the policeman.

"You bet! I hope Jimmy has done half as well. He was a kind of **plodder**, though, good fellow as he was. I've had to compete with some of the sharpest **wits** going to get my pile. A man gets in a **groove** in New York. It takes the West to put a **razor-edge** on him."

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The policeman twirled his club and took a step or two.

"I'll be on my way. Hope your friend comes around all right. Going to call time on him sharp?"

என்னோட நல்ல பிரண்ட் நானும் , அவனும் . இங்க நியூ யார்க்ல தான் வளர்ந்தோம். ரெண்டு பேரும், அண்ணன் தம்பி மாதிரி. எனக்கு அப்ப பதினெட்டு வயசு. ஜிம்மிக்கு இருபது வயசு. மறுநாள் காலைல, நான் சம்பாதிக்கறதுக்காக, மேற்கு நோக்கி பிரயாணம் பண்ணனும். ஜிம்மி வெல்ஸை , நியூ யார்க்கை விட்டு வெளியேத்த முடியாது. இந்த உலகத்துலயே அந்த ஒரு இடம் தான் இருக்குன்னு நினைச்சுக்கிட்டு இருந்தான். நாங்க ரெண்டு பேரும், இருவது வருஷம் கழிச்சு, இதே நாள்ல, இதே நேரத்துல, இதே இடத்துல சந்திச்சுக்கறதுன்னு முடிவு பண்ணினோம். எங்க நிலைமை எப்படி இருந்தாலும், தூரத்துல இருந்தாலும், நாங்க சந்திச்சுக்கறதுன்னு முடிவு செஞ்சோம். இருபது வருசத்துல, அது எப்படி சரி. எங்க தலைவிதிப்படி ஏதோ நடந்து , நடந்தாலும் நாங்க சம்பாதிச்சுருவோம்னு நினைச்சோம்."

" இது ரொம்ப சுவாரசியமா இருக்கே ! " என்றார் அந்தக்காவலர். " ரெண்டு பேரும் சந்திச்சுக்கிட்டப்பெறகு, ரொம்ப வருஷத்துக்கு பின்னாடின்னு நினைக்குறேன். நீ அங்க போன பெறகு, உன்னோட பிரெண்டைப்பத்தி விசாரிக்கலையா?"

தடவை நாங்க தொடர்பு வெச்சுக்கிட்டோம். "அது, ஆமா, ஒரு ஆனா, அதுக்கப்புறம், ஒண்ணு, ரெண்டு வருஷம் கழிச்சு, நாங்க எந்த விதத்துலயும் தொடர்பு வெச்சுக்கல. அதுல பாருங்க, மேற்குப்பக்கம் அப்படிங்கறது ஒரு விதமான கோட்பாடு மாதிரி. அங்க, நான், ரொம்ப சுறுசுறுப்பா வேலை செஞ்சுக்கிட்டு இருந்தேன். ஆனா, உசுரோட இருந்தா, இங்க வந்து, ஜிம்மி வெல்ஸ் என்னை வந்து சந்திப்பான்னு எனக்குத்தெரியும். ஏன்னா, இந்த உலகத்துலயே, அவன் எப்பயுமே ஒரு உண்மையான, உறுதியான ப்ரண்ட். அவன் என்னைய மறக்க மாட்டான். ஆயிரம் மைலுக்கு அங்கிட்டு இருந்து, இன்னிக்கு இந்த இடத்துக்கு இந்த ராத்திரியில வந்துருக்கேன் என்னோட பிரண்ட் இங்க வந்தான்னா, அது ரொம்ப பிரயோஜனமா இருக்கும்."

அங்கு காத்து நின்ற மனிதன், ,மேல் மூடியில் சிறு வைரங்கள் பதிக்கப்பட்ட ஓர் அழகிய கைக்கடிகாரத்தை தன் சட்டைப்பையிலிருந்து வெளியே எடுத்து, அதைப்பார்த்து விட்டு, " பத்தாக இன்னும் மூணு நியிஷம் இருக்கு," என்றான். " இதே ஹோட்டல் வாசல்ல தான், ராத்திரி பத்து மணிக்கு நாங்க பிரிஞ்சு போனோம்."

" நீங்க ரொம்ப நல்லா சம்பாதிச்சீங்க. இல்லையா ?" என்று கேட்டார் அந்த போலீஸ் காரர்.

" நீங்க பந்தயம் கட்டலாம். ஜிம்மி ஓரளவுக்காவது சம்பாதிச்சிருப்பான்னு நான் நம்புறேன். ரொம்ப மெதுவா வேலை செய்யுறவன் அவன். நல்ல ஆளு. ஆனா, ரொம்ப திறமையான ஆட்கள் கூட நான் போட்டி போட வேண்டியிருந்தது." நியூ யார்க்ல, ஒருத்தன் ஒரு மாற்றமும் இல்லாம், அதே மாதிரியான வேலையை திரும்ப திரும்ப செய்யுறான். ஆனா, மேற்குல, ஒருத்தன் வேலை செய்யுற போது, அவனை அது நெருக்கடிக்குள்ள தள்ளுது."

தன்னுடைய லத்தியை சுழற்றியபடி, அந்த போலீஸ்காரர், ஓரிரு அடி முன்னே சென்றார்.

"நான் புறப்படுறேன். உங்க நண்பர் வருவார்னு நினைக்கிறேன். அவரு சரியான நேரத்துக்கு வந்துருவார்!"

Þ	"I should say not!" said the other. "I'll give	" அப்படி இல்லன்னு சொல்ல மாட்டேன் !" என்றான்
000	him half an hour at least. If Jimmy is alive on earth	மற்றொருவன். நான் அவனுக்கு அரை மணி நேரம் தருவேன். ஜிம்மி,
WWW.Po	he'll be here by that time. So long, officer."	இந்த உலகத்துல உயிரோட இருந்தா, அந்த நேரத்துக்குள்ள இங்க
	Mas	வரணும். அவ்வளவு காலம் காத்திருந்தேன், ஆ்டீசர்."
	"Good-night, sir," said the policeman,	" குட் நைட் , சார் " என்ற போலீஸ்காரர், தனது வழியிலே பாரா
	passing on along his beat, trying doors as he went.	டுட்டி பார்க்க, ஒவ்வொரு கட்டிடமாக சென்றார். அந்த நேரம், குளிர்ந்த,
Pa	There was now a fine, cold drizzle falling, and the	மெல்லிய தூறல் விழுந்து கொண்டிருந்தது. ஸ்திரமில்லாமல்
WMM.	wind had risen from its uncertain puffs into a	வீசிக்கொண்டிருந்த காற்று, மாறி, ஒரே சீராக வீசத்தொடங்கியது அந்த
	steady blow. The few foot passengers astir in that	இடத்தில் கடந்து போய்க்கொண்டிருந்த சில பாதசாரிகள்,
	quarter hurried dismally and silently along with	வருத்தத்துடன் தங்கள் மேலங்கியின் காலர்களை தூக்கி
Δ.	coat collars turned high and pocketed hands. And	விட்டுக்கொண்டும், தங்கள் கைகளை உடைகளுக்குள்
IN PO	in the door of the hardware store the man who had	திணித்துக்கொண்டும் சென்றனர். பல தரப்பட்ட சாமான்களும்
MMM	come a thousand miles to fill an appointment,	D. C.
	uncertain almost to absurdity , with the friend of	அப்பாலிருந்து, தான் சொன்னபடி செய்ய வேண்டிய ஒரு
	his youth, smoked his cigar and waited.	சந்திப்புக்காக ஒருவன், தனது சுருட்டைப்புகைத்தபடி, கிட்டத்தட்ட
P.P.	Pac Pac	முட்டாள்தனம் போலாகும் அளவுக்கு, காத்திருந்தான்.
Muss	About twenty minutes he waited, and then a	அவன், இருபது நிமிடங்கள் அங்கு காத்திருந்தான். அதன்
	tall man in a long overcoat, with collar turned up to	பின்பு, ஒரு நீள மேலங்கியின் காலரை காது வரை உயர்த்திவிட்டபடி
	his ears, hurried across from the opposite side of	இருந்த ஒரு உயரமான ஆள் அங்கு, சாலையின் எதிர்
002	the street. He went directly to the waiting man.	முனையிலிருந்து, சாலையைக்கடந்து வந்தான். அவன், அங்கு
WWW.F	WWW.F	காத்திருந்த ஆளை நோக்கி நேராகச்சென்றான்.
1111	"Is that you, Bob?" he asked, doubtfully.	" நீங்க தான் பாப் ங்கவரா ? " என்று சந்தேகத்தோடு கேட்டான்.
	"Is that you, Jimmy Wells?" cried the man in	" நீங்க தான் ஜிம்மி வெல்ஸா ?" என்று அந்தக்கடையின் முன்னே
20.0	the door.	நின்று கொண்டிருந்த மனிதன் சத்தமிட்டு கத்தினான்.
WWW.P8	"Bless my heart!" exclaimed the new arrival,	" என் இதயத்துக்கு ஆசிர்வாதம் ! " என்று நிம்மதியை
	grasping both the other's hands with his own. "It's	வெளியிட்டான், அந்தப்புதிய ஆள். அவனின்
		கைகளைப்பிடித்துக்கொண்டான். "நான் பாப் தான். உறுதியா நான்
	Bob, sure as fate. I was certain I'd find you here if	பாப் தான். என் தலைவிதி மாதிரியே நான் பாப் தான். நீங்க உயிரோட
	you were still in existence. Well, well, well!	இருந்தீங்கன்னா , நீங்க எப்படியும் இங்க வந்துருவிங்கன்னு தெரியும்
S.A. WILL	Twenty years is a long time. The old restaurant's	நல்லது ! நல்லது ! இருபது வருஷம்ங்கறது ரொம்ப நீண்ட காலம். அந்த
Maria	Was	பழைய ஹோட்டல் போயிருச்சு. அது இங்க இருந்துருக்கும்னு நான்
p.	gone, Bob; I wish it had lasted, so we could have	விரும்பறேன். அப்படி இங்க அது இருந்திருந்தா, அங்க நாம டின்னர்
	had another dinner there. How has the West treated	சாப்பிட்டிருக்கலாம். யோவ், வயசாளி, மேற்குப்பக்கத்துல எப்படி
Da	you, old man?"	இருந்துச்சு ? "
WMM.	"Bully; it has given me everything I asked it	" ரொம்ப நல்லா இருந்தது. நான் கேட்டதெல்லாம் கிடைச்சது. நீ
	for. You've changed lots, Jimmy. I never thought	ரொம்ப மாறிட்ட ஜிம்மி. நீ இப்படி ரெண்டு, மூணு அங்குலம் உயரமா
	you were so tall by two or three inches."	வளருவேன்னு நான் நினைக்கவே இல்ல."
2	"Oh, I grew a bit after I was twenty."	" ஓ இருவது வயசுக்கு அப்புறமா நான் கொஞ்சம்
Pa	On, I grew a on ancer I was twenty.	உயரமாயிட்டேன். "
MM	"D.:	In
	"Doing well in New York, Jimmy?"	" நியூ யார்க்ல நல்லா இருக்கியா ஜிம்மி ?"
	"Moderately. I have a position in one of the	" ஏதோ பரவாயில்ல. இந்த நகரத்துல உள்ள
	city departments. Come on, Bob; we'll go around	அரசாங்கத்துறையில் நான் ஒரு பதவில் இருக்கேன். வா , பாப் ,
WWW.P	to a place I know of, and have a good long talk	எனக்குத்தெரிஞ்ச ஒரு இடத்துக்கு நாம போவோம் பழைய
Mas	about old times."	விஷயங்களைப்பத்தி நாம நிறைய பேசணும்."
a.	The two men started up the street, arm in	அந்த இருவரும், அந்த வீதியில், கை கோர்த்தபடி சென்றார்கள்.
	arm. The man from the West, his egotism	தனக்கு சுய முக்கியத்துவம் கொடுக்கும் மேற்குப்பக்கத்தில் இருந்து
. Pa	enlarged by success, was beginning to outline	வந்திருந்த அந்த ஆள், தனது வெற்றியினால் அடைந்த நிலையை
". WIN."	· Whan	· Mian · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·

the history of his career. The other, submerged in his overcoat, listened with interest.

rith interest. மேலங்கிக்குள், முகம் புதைத்திருந்த அந்த ஆள், அதை ஆர்வத்துடன் கேட்டுக்கொண்டிருந்தான்.

PAGE-30:

At the corner stood a drug store, brilliant with electric lights. When they came into this glare each of them turned simultaneously to gaze upon the other's face. The man from the West stopped suddenly and released his arm.

"You're not Jimmy Wells," he snapped. "Twenty years is a long time, but not long enough to change a man's nose from a Roman to a pug."

"It sometimes changes a good man into a bad one", said the tall man. "You've been under arrest for ten minutes, 'Silky' Bob. Chicago thinks you may have dropped over our way and wires us she wants to have a chat with you. Going quietly, are you? That's sensible. Now, before we go on to the station here's a note I was asked to hand you. You may read it here at the window. It's from Patrolman Wells."

The man from the West unfolded the little piece of paper handed to him. His hand was steady when he began to read, but it trembled a little by the time he had finished. The note was rather short.

"Bob, I was at the appointed place on time. When you struck the match to light your cigar I saw it was the face of the man wanted in Chicago. Somehow I couldn't do it myself, so I went around and got a plainclothes man to do the job."

அந்த சாலையின் முனையில், பளீரென்று எரிந்து கொண்டிருந்த மின்சார பல்பின் வெளிச்சத்தில் ஒரு மருந்துக்கடை இருந்தது. அந்த இருவரும் அந்தக்கடையின் வெளிச்சத்துக்கு வந்ததும், ஒருவரை ஒருவர் பரஸ்பரம் பார்த்துக்கொள்ள முகத்தை ஒரே நேரத்தில் ஒன்றாக திருப்பினார்கள். மேற்கிலிருந்து வந்திருந்த அந்த ஆள், திடீரென்று தனது கையை விடுவித்துக்கொண்டான்.

விவரித்து, தனது தொழிலைப்பற்றிச்சொல்ல ஆரம்பித்தான். தனது

"நீ ஜிம்மி வெல்ஸ் கிடையாது !" என்று அவன் நறுக்கென்று சொன்னான். "இருவது வருஷம்ங்கறது ரொம்ப காலம் தான். ஆனால், அந்தக்காலத்துக்குள்ள ,ரோமன்காரன் போன்ற நீளமான மூக்கு சின்னதாகாது."

"சில நேரங்கள்ல, கெட்டவனா ஆயிர்ரான்," நல்லவன் என்றான் உயரமான ஆள். பத்து நிமிஷமா அநேகமா செய்யப்பட்டுருக்க, 'ஸில்கி' பாப்., நீ இங்க தான் வந்துருக்கணும்னு சிகாகோ நகரத்துல இருந்து எங்களுக்கு அனுப்புனாங்க. அவங்க உன்னோட பேசணுமாம். நீ அமைதியா போய்க்கிட்டு இருந்தியா ? அது கொஞ்சம் அறிவுப்பூர்வமானது. இப்ப, நாம போலீஸ் ஸ்டேஷனுக்கு போறதுக்கு முன்னாடி, உன் கொடுக்கச்சொல்லி இந்த சின்னக்குறிப்பை தந்தாங்க. இங்க, இந்த ஜன்னல் வெளிச்சத்துல இதை நீ படிக்கலாம். டூட்டி வெல்ஸ் தந்தது."

மேற்கிலிருந்து வந்திருந்த அந்த ஆள், தன்னிடம் தரப்பட்ட அந்த சிறு காகிதத்தை விரித்து படித்துப்பார்த்தான். அதை வாசிக்க ஆரம்பித்த போது உறுதியாக இருந்த அவனது கை, அதைப்படித்து முடித்த போது, நடுங்க ஆரம்பித்தது. அந்த குறிப்பு ரொம்ப சின்னது.

"பாப், சொன்ன இடத்துல, சொன்ன நேரத்துல நான் அங்க இருந்தேன். நீ உன்னோட சுருட்டை பத்த வைக்க ஒரு தீக்குச்சியை கிழிச்ச போது, வெளிச்சத்துல பார்த்த, அந்த முகம், சிகாகோவுல தேடப்படுற முகம்னு தெரிஞ்சது. ஆனா, நானே உன்னைய கைது விரும்பல. அந்தப்பக்கமா போயிட்டு, செய்ய அதனால், நான் இதைச்செய்ய மப்டி ட்ரெஸ்ல போலீஸ்காரரை அனுப்பி ஒரு வெச்சேன்."



Police man - moving



Watch with diamond lid



Hotel – they met last







Man - the Pretender

The arrest

Shocking letter

Write an essay of about 200 words by developing the following hints: (HY-18)

- a) Jimmy wells and Bob-friends-Lived in Chicago-Bob-west to make fortune-Jim-New York promise to meet after 20 years-Jim saw Bob-wanted criminal-in Chicago-sent a substitute arrested Bob. (QTY-2018)
- **b)** A policeman-down the street-checking doors-a man standing-stops to talk-about the childhood friends who agreed to meet –after 20 years-his friend there shows up-how each of them has changed-The criminal arrested, and the undercover cop says-20 years-change a good man into a criminal.

ESSAY FOR GIFTED STUDENTS

SYNOPSIS

- * Introduction
- * Two friends and their strange appointment
- **★** After Twenty Years
- * Conclusion

INTRODUCTION:

O Henry weaves a beautiful plot and leads his readers to a surprising climax in his story 'After Twenty Years' In this modern world of jungle rules, we encounter two steadfast friends who make a ridiculous agreement to meet after twenty years at the same venue and time. Both the friends arrive at the spot and an emotionally intensified narration transcends us into the world of these two friends.

TWO FRIENDS AND THEIR STRANGE APPOINTMENT:

Bob and Jimmy were two thick friends. They were raised in New York. Bob was eighteen and Jimmy was twenty when they parted in their efforts to stabilize their careers. Bob moved to the West in search of fortune while Jimmy stayed back in New York. One day after dining at the Brady's restaurant, Bob and Jimmy who were just like brothers agreed to meet exactly after twenty years from that date and time.

Man proposes; God disposes

AFTER TWENTY YEARS:

O.Henry begins his narration from here and travels back later to make the readers understand the effects of the passage of time on people. Two young boys who set out into the world meet as grown ups with their lives in different paths. Bob waits near their meeting spot, the restaurant which has been torn down with a hardware store replacing it. A police man on patrol arrives at the spot a little later. Bob in his anxiety on looking at the cop clarifies his reason for standing at the spot. With his diamond pin and handsome watch, Bob seems to have done well in the West. The cop leaves the place after a brief chat. A tall man dressed in a long coat arrives after some time and calls out at Bob. It was Jimmy, who too had remembered their appointment. Bob shares his success story with his friend with pride and looks down on Jimmy who has settled down in a mediocre job. On seeing

Jimmy under a bright light, Bob finds out that there is a mistaken identity. This alerts the tall man who immediately takes Bob under arrest and hands over a note to him. It was sent by the real Jimmy, the policeman on patrol. He too had come to meet his friend on time. When he realizes that his friend has transformed into 'Silky' Bob, the most wanted criminal in Chicago, he leaves the spot without revealing himself. He later sends a plainclothes man to arrest Bob as he didn't want to do it. The shattered Bob leaves in silence as he had involved in less virtuous activities when he had fought for success in the West.

We have to present the accounts of our deeds at the court of time.

CONCLUSION:

Jimmy chooses to follow the correct path to become the law enforcer while Bob, who is more ambitious, takes the short cuts to become the law breaker. This stark contrast in their life style and the fate of their destiny teach us a very valuable lesson.

THERE ARE NO SHORTCUTS TO SUCCESS

ESSAY FOR AVERAGE STUDENTS

Story : After Twenty Years

Author : O.Henry

Characters: Bob, Jimmy, Plain clothes man

Theme: Virtue rules the vice

O. Henry talks about an agreement between two friends, Bob and Jimmy. They were raised in New York. They were like brothers. When Jimmy was 20, Bob was 18, they decided to move ahead to establish their careers. They also made an appointment to meet at the same venue, date and time after 20 years. Bob moved to the West. Jimmy stayed at New York. After 20 years Bob waits at the same venue for Jimmy. He too turns up but without revealing his identity. Bob has become the most wanted criminal of Chicago. Jimmy identifies him. Out of respect for their friendship, Jimmy doesn't arrest Bob. He sends a plain clothes man to do the job. Unaware of Jimmy's move, Bob gets arrested. The plain clothes man gives a note from Jimmy. On reading it, Bob gets shocked. Jimmy is a policeman. He has only made arrangements for Bob's arrest.

WAY JUSTIFIES THE MEANS

ESSAY FOR LATE BLOOMERS

- **★** Bob and Jimmy were friends.
- * They plan to meet at the same place, date and time after 20 years.
- ***** Jimmy becomes a cop and Bob becomes a criminal.
- **Bob waits** at the same place after 20 years.
- **★ Jimmy a policeman now, comes** there and leaves soon.
- *** Jimmy finds** out that **Bob** is a **criminal**.
- * He sends another man to arrest his friend.
- *** Bob reads** the **note** from Jimmy.
- **He is shocked** to know that the **policeman** was **his friend**, **Jimmy**.