

PROSE

UNIT
2

10

The Night the Ghost Got In

- James Grover Thurber

WARM UP

B.P.No. 29

Use the following tongue twisters in a 'Game of Telephone', where each student whispers the phrase to the next. The student who finishes the last says it aloud to the class. Let the students fill in the table given with what they listen to. They can get the help of their teacher.

1. Six sleek swans swam swiftly southwards.
2. Four furious friends fought for the phone.
3. Green glass globes glow greenly.
4. Six slimy snails sailed silently.
5. Scissors sizzle, thistles sizzle.
6. He threw three free throws.
7. ommy Tucker tried to tie Tammy's Turtles tie.
8. I wish you were a fish in my dish.
9. Five frantic frogs fled from fifty fierce fishes.
10. Big black bugs bleed blue black blood but baby black bugs bleed blue blood.

Six sleek swans	swam swiftly southwards
Four furious friends	fought for the phone
Green glass globes	glow gently
Six slimy snails	sailed silently
Scissors sizzle	thistles sizzle

Hope you ended with a delightfully tangled whole new tongue twisters.

SUMMARY

Introduction

"The Night the Ghost Got In" is a short story by James Thurber, written as a fictionalized account of a night he remembers as a child when a misunderstanding about footsteps in the kitchen turned into a mess involving a wounded police officer and a broken window. The story took place on the night of November 17, 1915.

Mysterious Footsteps

The story begins with the young James Thurber, who is the narrator, hearing footsteps as he takes a bath. It is around one o'clock in the morning, and everyone is asleep, his brother in a bedroom down the hall, his mother upstairs, and his grandfather in the attic. At first, James thinks that the footsteps might belong to his father and brother, who had been travelling to Indianapolis and were supposed to be back late in the evening. The footsteps go around and around the dining room table, and James quickly realizes that it isn't his father and brother. He assumes then that there is a burglar downstairs. He wraps a towel around his waist and immediately gets out of the bath to investigate.

Seeking Assistance from Herman

James wakes up his brother Herman, who is dead asleep in his bed upstairs. Herman is notoriously jumpy, and James has to reassure him that he isn't an intruder before Herman calms down enough to listen. James tells Herman that there are footsteps downstairs that might belong to a robber. The two boys wait at the top of the stairs, listening for the sound of the steps.

The Brothers on Heels

After waiting for a few moments, the boys hear the footsteps and are alarmed. Suddenly, the pace of the steps quickens and sounds as if they are coming up the stairs, headed straight for the terrified boys. James and Herman run back to their rooms and slam the doors behind them. James holds his door shut with his knee for a while before peering back out to see what came after them. Nothing is there.

Awakening of Their Mother

The slamming of the doors wakes Herman's mother, who comes downstairs concerned and confused. The boys tell her they heard footsteps downstairs, and she immediately assumes there are burglars in the house. She grabs a shoe and tosses it out the closest window, breaking the window of the neighbour next door, a man named Bodwell. Bodwell comes to the window furious. After some initial confusion, he begins to understand that there are no burglars in his own house and that he should call the police.

Police Enquiry and Grandfather's Reaction

The police arrive promptly and swarm the house, opening cupboards and drawers searching for intruders. James, who is still only wearing a towel, is thoroughly questioned by an officer who considers him a suspicious character. His mother tells him to put clothes on, and the investigation continues. The police then come to the room of James's grandfather. When the police come through the attic door, they immediately realize that James's grandfather is a part of the family. His grandfather is convinced that the police are deserters, and after some yelling, shoots one of the officers with his gun.

Surprise at Breakfast

Ultimately, the police find no burglars in the house and are confused as to how one of their men is wounded. The family returns to their respective bedrooms. The next morning, the grandfather comes down to breakfast looking cheerful and well-rested. James, Herman, and their mother all think that the grandfather has forgotten the whole scene. The story ends with the grandfather asking, with a smirk on his face, what on earth the police had been doing raiding the house the night before.

GLOSSARY

B.P.No. 34

- hullabaloo (n)** - lot of loud noise made by people who are excited.
- patrolman (n)** - a patrolling police officer.
- attic (n)** - a space or room inside or partly inside the roof of a building
- slamming (v)** - shutting a door or window forcefully and loudly.
- gruffly (adv.)** - sadly

- intuitively (adv.)** - without conscious reasoning, instinctively
- whammed (v)** - struck something forcefully
- bevelled (v)** - reduced to a slopping edge
- rending (v)** - tearing to pieces
- yanked (v)** - pulled with a jerk

- zither (n)** - a musical instrument consisting of a flat wooden sound box with numerous strings stretched across it, placed horizontally and played with fingers guinea
- pig (n)** - a domesticated tail less South American rodent originally raised for food
- hysterical (adj.)** - affected by wildly uncontrolled emotion
- creaking (v)** - making a squeaking sound when being moved indignant(adj.) - feeling or showing anger or annoyance at what is perceived as unfair treatment

- holster (n)** - a holder made of leather for carrying handgun
- rafter (n)** - a beam forming part of the internal framework of a roof
- deserter (n)** - a person who leaves the armed force without permission.

ADDITIONAL

- advent** - arrival
- quick-cadenced** - quick rhythmic flow of steps (here)
- creaked** - harsh, high-pitched sound
- trod** - trampled
- peered** - looked

- gripped** - held tightly
- flung up** - thrown up
- whammed** - struck forcefully
- tinkled** - caused to make a light sound
- engraver** - someone who cuts designs

enormously	-	hugely
prevented	-	stopped
commendably	-	appreciably
hoarse	-	rough and harsh
rending	-	splitting
crisscrossed	-	formed a pattern of intersecting lines or paths
stabbed	-	pierced
closets	-	a tall cupboard with doors
zither	-	a musical instrument
snapped	-	broke
retreat	-	withdraw
indignant	-	extremely angry
cowardly	-	not courageous
rafters	-	beams forming part of the internal framework of a roof
reluctant	-	unwilling
obviously	-	clearly
wispy	-	feathery
lowdown	-	mean/unfair

EXERCISE WITH ANSWER

Model : 1

Choose the appropriate synonym of the word underlined.

-raised such a hullabaloo of misunderstandings.
 a) agreement b) fuss c) calm d) harmony **Ans : b)**
- Its advent caused my mother to throw a shoe.
 a) leave b) departure c) arrival d) end **Ans : c)**
- They began about a quarter past one O'Clock in the morning, a rhythmic, quick cadenced walking.
 a) noisy b) unmeasured c) measured d) loud **Ans : c)**
-a rhythmic, quick cadenced walking around the dining room table.
 a) confused b) irregular c) flow d) collapse **Ans : c)**
- I tried to quieten her.
 a) private b) calm c) furious d) confuse **Ans : b)**
-was busily rubbing myself with a towel
 a) strip b) caress c) reveal d) dull **Ans : b)**



7. I could see the faint shine of plates. a) vague b) bright c) certain d) clear **Ans : a)**
8. I suspected next that it was burglar. a) interrogate b) sure c) doubtful d) confuse **Ans : c)**
9. I tiptoed to Herman's room. a) tread b) plod c) face d) confront **Ans : a)**
10. 'AWP', he said, in the low, hopeless tone. a) rosy b) bright c) cheerful d) desperate **Ans : d)**

EXERCISE for SELF EVALUATION

Choose the appropriate synonym of the word underlined.

1. He said, in the low hopeless tone of a despondent beagle. a) encouraged b) elated c) spirited d) dejected **Ans :**
2. I gripped his arm. a) misconception b) release c) grasp d) misunderstanding **Ans :**
3. Instantly, the steps began again. a) definitely b) frankly c) slowly d) immediately **Ans :**
4. The light still shone palely. a) faintly b) brightly c) powerfully d) distinctively **Ans :**
5. Herman rushed to his room and slammed the door. a) assist b) shut c) open d) push **Ans :**
6. She peered out of her room. a) fall b) disappear c) look d) block **Ans :**
7. Herman ventured out of his room. a) try b) risk c) follow d) rush **Ans :**
8. 'Nothing' he said, gruffly. a) soft b) polite c) pleasant d) impolite **Ans :**
9. She shouted, intuitively. a) emotional b) taught c) mediated d) calculated **Ans :**
10. and whammed it through a pane of glass. a) lose b) bang c) praise d) tap **Ans :**

Model : 2

Paragraph - 1

(a) Advent of a stranger frequently to our street caused so much of confusion and chaos among our villagers. Everyone (b) suspected the man was a criminal who had escaped from prison. Sacred, some of them ran and (c) slammed their doors. In his appearance, he looked (d) despondent and he was walking (e) palely.

- | | | | |
|----------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| a) i) going back | ii) emergence | iii) hiding | iv) inborn |
| b) i) doubted | ii) undoubted | iii) respected | iv) disrespected |
| c) i) opened | ii) closed | iii) slum | iv) unbolted |
| d) i) happy | ii) disappointed | iii) correspondent | iv) joyful |
| e) i) happily | ii) sadly | iii) joyfully | iv) shrilly |

Paragraph - 2

The building looked (a) commendably fantastic. Every day the Singaporean, our relative who had returned from Singapore, who would ride his horse which drew his (b) wagon. His house was (c) enormously tall in our village. This year when he returned he painted his house (d) streaks of green, which started (e) gleaming up in the neighbourhood.

- | | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|------------|
| a) i) appreciably | ii) discouragingly | iii) commandingly | iv) sadly |
| b) i) fruit | ii) mango | iii) vehicle | iv) dragon |
| c) i) small | ii) hugely | iii) individually | iv) tiny |
| d) i) lines | ii) strikes | iii) box | iv) top |
| e) i) dark | ii) dim | iii) shining | iv) night |

Paragraph - 3

My brother was (a) tromping from office. He seemed exhausted. When he reached home he did not come to the dining room. He (b) shot up to the attic. After some time we heard him (c) ransacking the attic for something. By the time I had reached the attic to see what he was doing, he had brought down all the articles from the (d) closets. The attic looked really shabby. Seeing all the mess, my mother became (e) indignant.

- | | | | |
|------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|----------------|
| a) i) jumping | ii) stamping | iii) pumping | iv) roaming |
| b) i) sped | ii) slowed down | iii) shot down | iv) decreased |
| c) i) searching | ii) packing | iii) dismissing | iv) collecting |
| d) i) cupboards | ii) bench | iii) table | iv) camera |
| e) i) silent | ii) decent | iii) angry | iv) indigo |

Paragraph - 4

If people keep on (a) intervening in our privacy how would we feel? Certainly we would feel upset about them, for we don't like people disturbing our privacy (b) unannounced. This year when I was preparing for exam, lot of my friends came to call me for the cinema. I was (c) reluctant and simply refused. When I did so, they all (d) gazed at me, but I didn't bother. One of my friends (e) grabbed my hand and dragged me out, but I didn't relent.

- | | | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|----------------|---------------|
| a) i) interfering | ii) interval | iii) climax | iv) avoiding |
| b) i) informed | ii) uninformed | iii) allowance | iv) bounced |
| c) i) willing | ii) unwilling | iii) attendant | iv) accepting |
| d) i) stared | ii) glanced | iii) glimpse | iv) danced |
| e) i) left | ii) held | iii) robbed | iv) dribbled |

ANTONYMS

muster	×	scatter
despondent	×	cheerful
suspected	×	trusted
ceased	×	continued
gripped	×	loosened
palely	×	powerfully
intuitively	×	artificially
lightly	×	hard
prevented	×	unstopped
commendably	×	blame – worthy
hoarse	×	pleasant
unannounced	×	announced
retreat	×	advance
cowardly	×	courageously
reluctant	×	willing
distinctly	×	commonly
obviously	×	unclearly
lowdown	×	fair
deserter	×	loyalist

EXERCISE WITH ANSWER

Model : 1

Choose the appropriate antonym of the word underlined.

- 1. None of you bothered to leave a bottle.**

a) agitated b) distressed c) vexed d) relaxed **Ans : d)**
- 2. The cops were reluctant to leave**

a) afraid b) hesitant c) uncertain d) willing **Ans : d)**
- 3. A reporter, a thin-faced wispy man.**

a) slender b) frail c) strong d) weak **Ans : c)**
- 4. The reporter looked at me with mingled suspicion and interest.**

a) blend b) mix c) unalloyed d) merge **Ans : c)**
- 5. He gazed at me.**

a) glanced b) observed c) stared d) admired **Ans : a)**

EXERCISE for SELF EVALUATION

Choose the appropriate antonym of the word underlined.

1. holding his now - bandaged arm, cursing and blaspheming.
 a) heresy b) abuse c) obeisance d) curse **Ans :**
2. **I told her he was a deserter.**
 a) defector b) escapee c) loyalist d) traitor **Ans :**
3. **She is all excited.**
 a) eager b) enthusiastic c) thrilled d) indifereant **Ans :**
4. **The cops must have realized at once.**
 a) grasp b) neglect c) understand d) discern **Ans :**
5. the indignant white - haired old man belonged to the house.
 a) annoyed b) calm c) furious d) fuming **Ans :**
6. **'Back, Ye cowardly dog!' roared grandfather.**
 a) bank b) mumble c) yell d) brawl **Ans :**
7. **He fetches the officer.**
 a) carry b) obtain c) transport d) drop **Ans :**
8. **The others beat a retreat**
 a) evacuation b) withdrawal c) flight d) advance **Ans :**
9. **The slamming of the doors had aroused mother.**
 a) dulled b) slumber c) awakened d) angered **Ans :**
10. **'Open up!' cried a hoarse voice.**
 a) dry b) blatant c) harsh d) smooth **Ans :**

Model : 2

Choose the appropriate antonym of the word underlined.

Paragraph - 1

One day people entered my house (a) unannounced. (b) Obviously I felt (c) indignant with them and (d) suspected their motive. At once I (e) prevented them from entering my room unannounced and asked to respect my privacy.

- | | | | |
|------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|---------------|
| a) i) uninformed | ii) informed | iii) pronounced | iv) formed |
| b) i) unclearly | ii) clearly | iii) darkly | iv) cloudy |
| c) i) angry | ii) fuming | iii) calm | iv) disturbed |
| d) i) doubted | ii) trusted | iii) disbelieved | iv) respected |
| e) i) stopped | ii) ceased | iii) permitted | iv) pushed |



Paragraph - 2

A friend of mine asked his neighbour, "Where is your father?" He said (a) gruffly, "I don't know." "What happened, your voice sounds (b) hoarse?" He was (c) reluctant and started (d) retreating from us. Hearing our conversation, his neighbours from inside the house were peering out of the window and later glaring (e) despondently at us.

- | | | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| a) i) pleasingly | ii) bad-temperedly | iii) grumpily | iv) roughly |
| b) i) rough | ii) pleasant | iii) throaty | iv) worse |
| c) i) unwilling | ii) treating | iii) willing | iv) unenthusiastic |
| d) i) withdrawing | ii) beating | iii) advancing | iv) backing |
| e) i) doubtfully | ii) sorrowfully | iii) sadly | iv) hopefully |

Paragraph - 3

One night when I got up to go to washroom, I heard the front door of the house (a) yanked open. I was awfully frightened and started (b) nervously walking back to my bedroom (c) slamming the door. I became (d) hysterical. Hearing the sound, my grandma thought a thief had entered the house and started walking (e) lightly upstairs to call me.

- | | | | |
|----------------------|--------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| a) i) pulled | ii) pushed | iii) drew | iv) poked |
| b) i) calmly | ii) disturbed | iii) angrily | iv) beautifully |
| c) i) closing | ii) opening | iii) breaking | iv) weaving |
| d) i) panic-stricken | ii) disturbed | iii) upset | iv) quiet |
| e) i) softly | ii) delicately | iii) heavily | iv) brightly |

ADDITIONAL

Root Words	Synonyms	Antonyms
rapidly	hastily	slowly
expected	awaited	unexpected
ghost	devil	angel
despondent	miserable	cheerful
gripped	clutched	released
sprawling	stretching	contracting
ventured	adventure	idleness
quieten	calm	disturb
extension	expansion	reduction
banging	slam	-
hysterical	agitated	peaceful
desert	abandon	stay
cursed	imprecation	blessed
reluctant	unwilling	willing

frank	blunt	secretive
fresh	new	old
glared	stare	blink
demanded	appeal	deny

10

The Night the Ghost Got In

TEXTUAL QUESTIONS and ANSWERS

a. **Where was the author when he heard the noise?**

B.P.No. 30

The author was in the bathtub taking a bath when he heard the noise.

b. **What did the narrator think the unusual sound was?**

The narrator thought that there was a burglar downstairs hearing the steps of a man walking rapidly around the dining table downstairs.

c. **What were the various sounds the brothers heard when they went downstairs?**

B.P.No. 31

The brothers heard footsteps like a man running and walking up the stairs two at a time. At regular intervals creaking of a board was heard.

d. **Who were the narrator's neighbours?**

The narrator's neighbours were the Bodwells - Mrs and Mr Bodwell.

e. **How did the Bodwells react, when a shoe was thrown into their house?**

B.P.No. 32

Mr. Bodwell was at the window in a minute furiously shouting and shaking his fist and Mrs. Bodwell suggested they should sell the house and go to Peoria.

f. **What did the Bodwells think when they heard the mother shout?**

When the Bodwells heard the mother shout they thought that there were burglars in their house and called the police for them.

g. **What was the grandfather wearing?**

B.P.No. 33

The grandfather was wearing long flannel nightgown over long woollen pants, a night cap, and a leather jacket around his chest.

h. **What conclusions did grandfather jump to when he saw the cops?**

Grandfather jumped to conclusion when he saw the cops that they were deserters from Meade's army, trying to hide away in his attic. He grabbed a zither's gun and shot them.

i. **Were the policemen willing to leave the house?**

B.P.No. 34

No, they were not willing to leave without getting their hand on somebody besides the grandfather, because the night had been a defeat for them.

j. **What made the reporter gaze at the author?**

As the author wore one of his mother's dress, which looked funny, the reporter gazed at the author. When the author said they had ghosts, the reporter gazed at him a long time.

Prose

UNIT 2

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A. Answer the following questions in a sentence or two.**1. Why was the narrator sorry to have paid attention to the footsteps?**

The narrator was sorry because he didn't just let it keep on walking, and go to bed.

2. Why did Herman and the author slam the door?

When the steps began circling the dining-room table like a man running and started up the stairs towards them, they were frightened. So they slammed the door.

3. Who woke up the mother?

The author and Herman woke up their mother when they slammed the doors.

4. What do you understand by the mother's act of throwing the shoe?

The mother's act of throwing the shoe indicates that she was also frightened of going downstairs and calling the police. Hence she threw the shoe in order to catch the attention of the Bodwell to call the police.

5. Why do you think Mrs. Bodwell wanted to sell the house?

I think Mrs. Bodwell wanted to sell the house and go back to Peoria because she might have thought the house was haunted, or constant nuisance to the neighbours.

6. How did the cops manage to enter the locked house?

The cops managed to enter the house by putting their shoulders to the big heavy front door with its bevelled glass and broke it open.

7. Why were the policemen prevented from entering grandfather's room?

The policemen were prevented from entering the grandfather's room because he believed that General Meade's men, under steady hammering by Stonewall Jackson, were beginning to retreat and even desert.

8. Who used the zither and how?

The grandfather used the zither because he believed that the police were deserters from the army who were trying to hide away in his attic. Since he didn't like this, he fired on them with the zither's gun in the darkness.

9. Mention the things the grandfather imagined.

The grandfather first imagined that General Meade's men, under steady hammering by Stonewall Jackson, were beginning to retreat and even desert. Secondly when they got to the attic, he thought the police were deserters from the army who were trying to hide away in his attic. Since he didn't like this, he fired on them with the zither's gun in the darkness.


ADDITIONAL
Answer the following questions in a sentence or two.**1. When did the ghost get into their house?**

The ghost got into their house on the night of November 17, 1915.

2. What time did the narrator hear the footsteps? What was the pattern of the footsteps?

He heard the footsteps about a quarter past one o'clock in the morning. It was rhythmic, quick-cadenced walking around the dining-room table.

3. What did the narrator first think about the footsteps?

The narrator first thought about the footsteps as the steps of a man walking rapidly around the dining-table.

4. What did Herman do when he was aroused by the narrator?

When he was aroused, Herman followed him upstairs.

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

B.P.No. 35

1. Describe the funny incident that caused the confusion in the house.

Prose	The Night the Ghost Got In
Author	James Grover Thurber
Theme	Dramatic fuss about mysterious sounds

The narrator says that on the night of November 17, 1915 the ghost got into their house. It caused so much of confusion and misunderstandings. He immediately roused his brother Herman saying there was something downstairs. After sometime they heard the footsteps. They got frightened and rushed inside rooms and slammed the doors. Their slamming of the doors aroused their mother and after enquiring them, she suspected a burglar in the house. She wanted to call the police. Since the phone was downstairs, she made a quick decision of throwing a shoe through a pane of glass. The glass broke. She tried to convey to the neighbours there was a burglar in the house. But Mr. Bodwell was furious with her. He called the police, thinking that there was a burglar in his house. When the police arrived, they broke open the door and made a thorough search but they did not find anyone. Their noisy footsteps and operations made the grandfather think that they were General Meade's men beginning to retreat and even desert. However, when they got to the attic, Grandfather thought that the police were deserters from Meade's army, trying to hide away in his attic. He at once took his zither gun and fired at them in which one police man was shot in the arm.

2. Narrate the extensive search operation made by the policemen in the house.

Prose	The Night the Ghost Got In
Author	James Grover Thurber
Theme	Dramatic fuss about mysterious sounds

The narrator says that on the night of November 17, 1915 the ghost got into their house. It caused so much of confusion and misunderstandings. He immediately roused his brother Herman saying there was something downstairs. After sometime they heard the footsteps. They got frightened and rushed inside rooms and slammed the doors. Their slamming of the doors aroused their mother and after enquiring them, she suspected a burglar in the house. She wanted to call the police. So she threw a shoe at the glassed window at the neighbour's house and Mr. Bodwell called the police. When the police arrived, they broke open the door and made a thorough search with their lights all over the living room, dining room, into the hallways, up the front stairs and up the back. Other police men downstairs opened the doors, drawers, windows, beds, suitcase and boxes and they did not

find anyone. Their noisy footsteps and operations made the grandfather think that they were General Meade's men beginning to retreat and even desert. However, when they got to the attic, Grandfather thought that the police were deserters from Meade's army, trying to hide away in his attic. He at once took his zither gun and fired at them in which one police man was shot in the arm.

ADDITIONAL PARAGRAPHS

Answer the following questions in about 100-150 words.

- How did the narrator prevent the police men from going to the attic?

Prose	The Night the Ghost Got In
Author	James Grover Thurber
Theme	Dramatic fuss about mysterious sounds

When the police arrived at the narrator's house, they broke open the door and made a thorough search with their lights all over the living room, dining room, into the hallways, up the front stairs and up the back. Other police men downstairs opened the doors, drawers, windows, beds, suitcase and boxes but they did not find anyone. They thought the lady was frightened and at the time they all heard a creaking in the attic. Actually Grandfather was turning over in bed. Before the narrator could intervene or explain, five or six cops rushed to the attic door. He realized that it would be bad if they entered Grandfather's room unannounced, or even announced. The reason was that he was going through a phase in which he believed that General Meade's men, because of the attack by Stonewall Jackson, were beginning to retreat and even desert. But they did not listen. They entered and Grandfather believed that the police were deserters from Meade's army, trying to hide away in his attic. When they did so, Grandfather took his zither gun and fired at them in which one police man was shot in the arm.

- How did Grandfather behave the next morning?

Prose	The Night the Ghost Got In
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When the cops rushed to Grandfather's attic, he realized that it would be bad if they entered Grandfather's room unannounced, or even announced. The reason was that he was going through a phase in which he believed that General Meade's men, because of the attack by Stonewall Jackson, were beginning to retreat and even desert. But they did not listen. They entered and Grandfather believed that the police were deserters from Meade's army, trying to hide away in his attic. When they did so, Grandfather took his zither gun and fired at them in which one police man was shot in the arm. Then he fired once or twice more in the darkness and went back to bed. The next morning Grandfather was fresh and was full of jokes at breakfast. They thought at first he had forgotten all about what had happened. But he had not. Over his third cup of coffee, he stared at the narrator and Herman and asked them why the cops were wandering round the house the previous night. He complained that none of them remembered to keep a bottle of water beside his bed. He complained that he felt very thirsty.

3. Describe the incidents that led to the rousing of the mother and the calling of the police.

Prose	The Night the Ghost Got In
Author	James Grover Thurber
Theme	Dramatic fuss about mysterious sounds

The narrator hearing the fool steps of man suspected that it was a burglar. He immediately roused his brother Herman saying there was something downstairs. After sometime they heard the footsteps. They got frightened and rushed inside rooms and slammed the doors. Their slamming of the doors aroused their mother and after enquiring them, she suspected a burglar in the house. She wanted to call the police. But the phone was downstairs and no one tried to go downstairs because they were frightened. She then made a quick decision of throwing a shoe through a pane of glass. The glass broke into the bed room of the Bodwell. She tried to convey to them that there was a burglar in the house. But Mr. Bodwell was furious with her, screaming and shaking his fist. He called the police, thinking that there was a burglar in his house.

VOCABULARY

B.P.No. 35

Slang Expression

Slang is a type of language consisting of words and phrases that are regarded as very informal and more common in speech than writing. They are typically restricted to a particular context or group of people.

C. Look at the following expressions from the text. With the help of your teacher rewrite them in standard English. One has been done for you.

B.P.No. 35

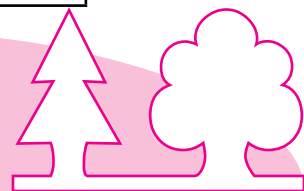
1. 'Musta got away –whatt'd he like?	Must got away-what was he like?
2. 'Looky here, Joe	Look in here, Joe.
3. 'No sign o' nothing'`	No sign of anything.
4. 'Back t' the lines ye goodaam'	Back to the lines you good man (godown)
5. 'What was the idée of all them cops tarryhootin' round the house last night?'	What was the idea of all of the cops tarry hooting-loitering round the house last night?

Singular and Plural Forms

In this lesson, we find plural forms such as furniture, houses, windows, burglars, boxes, shelves, policemen. You may notice that the words have taken up different suffixes to form plurals. This is because English words have different origins.

D. Complete the given tabular column with the suitable plural forms.

Singular	Plural	Singular	Plural
chair	chairs	formulas	formulae / formulas
box	boxes	child	children
Eskimo	Eskimos	deer	deer
lady	ladies	loaf	loaves
Radius	Radii	hero	heroes



SPEAKING

B.P.No. 36

E. Listen to the story and answer the following.

1. The rich man was from....

- a) Nagaland b) Thailand c) Finland

Ans : b) Thailand

2. Where did Chulong catch the bird?

Chulong caught the bird in the bush.

3. Why did Chulong catch the bird?

Chulong caught the bird because he wanted to make money.

4. What will happen to the bird in imprisonment?

In imprisonment, the bird will lose its beauty and its sweet voice.

5. What did the bird suggest Chulong, in exchange for its freedom?

The bird suggested setting it free and in return it would teach him three simple useful rules.

6. Does Chulong want to earn money honestly?

No, Chulong does not want to earn money honestly.

7. What were Chulong's plans for the the bird?

Chulong's rules for the bird were that it should profit him first and only then will he release him.

8. Who is wise according to you?

According to me the bird is wise.

9. Is the bird a crow?

No, the bird is not a crow.

10. What are the three rules given by the bird?

The three rules given by the bird are as follows: never believe everything others say, never be sad about something you do not have and never throw away what you have in your hand.

SPEAKING

B.P.No. 36

F. Quiz: Who am I?

Sample questions to ask. Answers must be 'yes' or 'no' only.

- Are you a male (female)?
- Are you a famous personality?
- Are you a singer (dancer, actor)?
- Are you a historical figure?

- Are you young (old)?
- Are you alive now?
- Does your name start with '___' ?
- Is he/she ___ ?

G. Use this passage to play the game. You can collect information on other famous personalities and play too.

B.P.No. 36

Charlie Chaplin was born on April 16, 1889, in London England. His birth name was Charles Spencer Chaplin, though he had many nicknames growing up such as Charlie, Charlot, and The Little Tramp. His father, Charles Chaplin, and his mother, Hannah Chaplin, were inducted into the music hall of fame, leading the way to his exposure even as a young boy. His first onstage moment was when he was 5 years old; he sang a song that was intended to be sung by his own mother; she had become ill at the time of the performance, so little Charlie Chaplin stood instead and performed for his mother.

Charlie Chaplin came to the United States in 1910, at the age of 21. He was brought to New York, which was known to be a great place to start out for anyone trying to become a professional actor. Two years later, in 1913, Chaplin signed his very first contract at Keystone and it was no time before he headed to Hollywood. His first movie premiered in 1914, "Making a Living," and went on to make over 35 movies total in that year alone. Charlie Chaplin grew to become one of the most popular and successful actors of all time. The moment that really kicked off his long career was in 1921 when he starred in, and produced, his first full length film called "The Kid." From then on, most people all over the world knew Charlie Chaplin and loved his movies. He had a great career and life, dying on December 25, 1977, in Vevey, Switzerland. He had apparently died of natural causes in his sleep from old age.

- Are you male?
Yes, I am male.
- Are you from London?
Yes, I am from London.
- Are you a famous personality?
Yes, I am a famous personality.
- Are you a singer?
No, I am not a singer.
- Are you fondly called Charlot and The Little Tramp?
Yes, I am fondly called Charlot and the Little Tramp.
- Are you the boy who sang when you were 5 years old?
Yes, I am the boy who sang when I was 5 years old.
- Are you a professional actor?
Yes, I am a professional actor.
- Are you the actor in the movie 'Making a Living'?
Yes, I am the actor in the movie



- Are you the producer of the first full length film called 'The Kid'?
Yes, I am the producer of the first full length film called 'The Kid'.
Yes, You are Charlie Chaplin.

READING

B.P.No. 38

H. Read the incident again and answer the following questions.

1. What was the writer always asked to do whenever he planned to go abroad?

The writer was asked to buy a vaccine for a course or special brand of ceramic paint or some Cartier lighter refills.

2. What did Gilson want the writer to bring for him?

Gilson wanted the writer to bring for him a tie with small embroidered G.

3. When did the writer remember the fact that he had to buy something for Mr. Gilson?

The writer remembered the fact that he had to buy something for Mr. Gilson only on Tuesday morning when their airport bus was waiting outside the hotel.

4. Why were the other passengers in the flight gazing at the writer?

The other passengers in the flight were gazing at the writer because they all were seated with their seatbelts fastened and were ready to take off and departure time has been delayed because of him.

5. What was the humour element in the above incident?

When the writer boarded the train, one who knew the story asked him whether he had found his tie. He replied that he had found. But when he reached for the paper bag to show the ties, he was disappointed because he had left it behind in the taxi.

I. Suggesting titles:

Title summarises the story. Each paragraph is a part of the story. Look at the following expressions and find out the paragraphs that best suit these expressions.

- Oh, No! But it happens!
Para: "Oh, so you're going abroad?..."
- Don't let out your travelling dates.
Para: Now, two months before a trip....
- Anyway, people will be people.
Para: When I reached the airport, I paid the taxi driver....
- Search begins
Para: But I couldn't find it....
- Things are not that easy.
Para: The salesman was unbearably slow....

6. Hurry invites worry.

Para: On the street I looked around. The taxi had vanished....

J. Look at the following situations the writer was in. He could have avoided the situation and saved himself. Glance through the write up again and comment on what the writer should have done in the following situations.

- **Gilson asked the writer to bring a tie.**

The writer should have refused saying that it was a special flight and they were staying Saturday through Tuesday.

- **On the day of arrival, the writer had no time to think about the tie.**

The writer should have boarded the bus and gone to the airport, without having to worry about the tie. He could give Gilson an excuse this time.

- **The writer remembered about the tie when the bus was leaving for the airport.**

The writer should have left for the airport, without having to worry about the tie.

- **The writer walked down in search of the shop.**

The writer should not have gone alone to the shop. When he got off the bus to search ties in the nearby shops, he could not find it. Then he should have got a taxi to the airport immediately.

- **The writer rushed out with the tie in a paper bag.**

I think the writer should have held the paper bag in his hand itself. He should not have left it behind in the taxi. If he had done so, he would not have forgotten the bag.

K. State whether the following statements are true or false.

- | | |
|---|--------------------|
| 1. The narrator searched for three days to buy ceramic paint. | Ans : False |
| 2. The author was going to New York. | Ans : True |
| 3. Gilson asked the narrator to buy a tie. | Ans : True |
| 4. The taxi driver took away the narrator's suitcase. | Ans : False |
| 5. Departure was delayed because of the author. | Ans : True |
| 6. The author left the ties in the taxi. | Ans : True |

WRITING

B.P.No. 39

How to Write a Good Speech.

1. Have an inspiring OPENING and ENDING.
2. Appropriate (suitable) TONE of VOICE.
Eg: sincere for a serious issue, humour for comedy etc.
3. Adapt speech for PURPOSE and AUDIENCE.
Eg: teenagers, mixed audience, teachers, children etc.



4. Organise IDEAS logically and do not confuse the audience.
5. Use EMOTIVE language to CONVINCe your audience that what you are saying should be listened to.
Eg: Even if they put us in chains, torture us and leave us to bleed we will not move. Blood will be our victory!
6. Use RHETORICAL QUESTIONS – asking a question for persuasive effect with out expecting are play (because the answer is obvious)
Eg: Was he not a good man? (knowing that the audience agree anyway)
7. Make sure you are writing in the CORRECT PERSON
Eg: I believe that ... I knew him well ...
8. Use interesting facts and figures.
Eg: 200000 people... with diagrams or charts to help your audience visualize it.

M. Write a speech for your school Literary Association Celebration with the given lead.

B.P.No. 40

Hello everyone! I am Febin of Class X standing before you to deliver a speech on 'Literary Association Celebration'.

We have all gathered here for the Literary Association Celebration. The purpose is to inculcate among students a love for language and enhance their literary skills. It also aims at promoting communication skills of students and helping in team work, ability to speak and emote before an audience thereby increasing the emotional quotient of the students. When students participate in literary competition their passion to acquire higher order skills such as prose, poetry, drama etc keeps on intensifying. All the students from Class I to XII are the members of this association. The activities like elocution, creative writing, interview, monoacting, stand-up comedy, debate, literary quiz and so on are well-integrated with the curriculum to help students in higher academic achievements. It also shapes one's inner self, creative thinking and overall personality of the students. Hence I sincerely request all the students to become part of the Literary Association and mould themselves as successful personalities. Thank you.

GRAMMAR

B.P.No. 40

Articles:

a, an and **the** are called articles.

- We use a or an with singular nouns only.
Eg: **A** girl, **An** orange
- We use a with singular nouns and adjectives which begin with a consonant sound.
Eg: **A** computer, **A** unit (yu+nit), **A** wonderful artist
- We use an with singular nouns and adjectives which begin with a vowel sound.
Eg: **An** artist, **An** M.L.A. (em.el.a), **An** honest shopkeeper

NOTE

- Words beginning with consonant letters do not always begin with consonant sounds. Similarly words beginning with vowel letters do not always begin with vowel sounds.
Eg: honour (sounds like – onour), European (sounds like yu-ropean)
- We use the when a person, an animal, a plant, a place, a thing is mentioned for a second time.
Eg: I bought a book this morning. I am reading the book now.
- We use the when it is clear to the listener or reader which person, animal, place, or thing we are referring to.
Eg: The judge found him not guilty.
- We use the when there is only one such thing.
Eg: The earth goes round the sun.
- We usually use the before ordinal numbers.
Eg: I live on the third floor.
- We use the before some proper nouns such as :
Eg: The Indian Ocean, The Arabian Sea
- We use the before names of most buildings, landmarks, monuments and natural wonders.
Eg: The Park Hotel, The Taj Mahal
- We use the before names of places containing of
Eg: The Republic of China.
- The names of places ending in plurals.
Eg: The Andaman and Nicobar Islands, The Netherlands.
- Some proper nouns are not preceded by an article.
 - ◆ the names of continents - Africa, Asia.
 - ◆ the names of countries - Belgium, India.
 - ◆ the names of towns and cities - Tokyo, Chennai.
 - ◆ the names of streets - Ritchie Street.
- Some nouns can be counted and they are called as countable nouns; some cannot be counted and they are called uncountable nouns.
We use a or an only before countable nouns.
Eg: A leaf fell off the tree. (countable)
Rain can cause flooding (uncountable)
- We use the with uncountable nouns, when it is clear to the reader which things we are referring to. We do not use the with uncountable nouns when we are talking in general. (Uncountable nouns do not take the plural forms).
Eg: The rice in this super market is good. Rice is the staple food of Asians.



- The word some can be used with both countable and uncountable nouns in the following ways.
Eg: I want some apples.
I want some papers.

Nagarajan and Dhanalakshmi want to buy a new house. They have come to see a house for sale. Complete the conversation below by adding a, an or the. B.P.No. 42

- Nagarajan : Well, here we are, No.8, Kaveri Street. I think this is the house we saw online. What do you think of the location?
- Dhanalakshmi : It is in a nice neighbourhood. And it's close to the railway station.
- Nagarajan : And the bus stop is not too far away.
- Dhanalakshmi : How many rooms are there?
- Nagarajan : There are three rooms, a kitchen and a balcony.
- Dhanalakshmi : There is a lawn behind the house, right?
- Nagarajan : That's right the lawn is actually quite large. Did you see any photos of the living room, online? What does it look like?
- Dhanalakshmi : The living room looks great. It looks bright and airy. It has a nice view of the hills. But the kitchen looks a little small.
- Nagarajan : And, I remember you said there isn't a store room, right?
- Dhanalakshmi : No, but there is an attic, where we can store things.
- Nagarajan : I hope this house is the better option.
- Dhanalakshmi : Lets wait for the real estate agent. She said, she would be here at three o'clock.
- Nagarajan : Look there she is!

Few articles are missing in the given passage. Edit the passage given below by adding suitable articles wherever necessary.

My neighbourhood is a very interesting place. My house is located in an apartment building downtown near many stores and offices. There is a small supermarket across street, where my family likes to go shopping. There is also a post office and a bank near our home. In our neighbourhood there is a small, Green Park where my friends and I like to play on weekends and holidays. There is a small pond near the park and there are many ducks in the park. We always have a great time. In addition there is an elementary school close to our home where my little brother studies in the third grade. There are so many things to see and do in my neighbourhood that's why I like it. It's really a great place.

Prepositional Phrases

These prepositions are formed by two-word or a three-word combination such as **according to, along with, at the time of, because of, owing to, instead of etc.** These kinds of prepositions are used frequently in our day to day life.

Examples

Preposition	Meaning	Example
according to	as stated by, on the authority of	According to the weatherman, we can expect more cold weather this week.
along with	together with	We have to give importance to Physical Education along with all the academic subjects.
because of	on account of	We stayed at home because of the bad weather.
owing to	because of	I can't accept your invitation owing to a previous engagement.
instead of	in place of, substituting for	I wish I were going to the party instead of my brother.
in the event of	in case of	The match will be stopped in the event of heavy rain.

C. Refer to the dictionary to find out the meaning of the following prepositions and match them with the correct meaning.

Preposition	Meaning	Answer
due to	as a substitute for	because of
except for	in the interest of	with the exception of
with reference to	irrespective of	referring to
in spite of	added to	disregarding the difficulty
in addition to	because of	added to
in place of	referring to	as a substitute for
regardless of	with the exception of	irrespective of
for the sake of	disregarding the difficulty	in the interest of

D. Fill in the blanks by choosing the most appropriate prepositional phrase from the given options.

- Everything falls to the ground _____ earth's gravitational pull.

a. in addition to b. because of c. cause of **Ans: (b)**
- The trial was conducted _____ the procedure of law.

a. in accordance with b. due to c. despite of **Ans: (a)**
- There is a temple right _____ my house.

a. in back of b. apart from c. in front of **Ans: (c)**
- As a _____ of his hard work, he achieved the target.

a. instead of b. result of c. apart from **Ans: (b)**
- Failure is often the _____ negligence.

a. effect of b. consequence of c. reason of **Ans: (b)**
- Children are given toys _____ sweets on Children's Day.

a. on top of b. in addition to c. due to **Ans: (b)**
- The parents must be informed _____ any indiscipline conduct of their wards.

a. because of b. in case of c. in spite of **Ans: (b)**



8. He didn't turn up _____ his busy schedule.

- a. consequence of
- b. due to
- c. except for

Ans: (b)

9. Global warming is _____ the green house emission.

- a. an effect of
- b. in spite of
- c. in addition to

Ans: (a)

10. _____ several warnings, he continued to swim.

- a. Due to
- b. In spite of
- c. Because of

Ans: (b)

E. Edit the following passage by replacing the underlined incorrect words with correct prepositional phrases.

Janu is studying in class X. In the event of the teachers she is a disciplined student. In addition to her poverty, she is always neat. Many students like her in case of her simplicity. According to her studies, she also participates in sports. She gets on with everyone in case of age and gender in the school. In opposition to taking leave, she ensures that she completes the work given before she goes to school next day.

According to

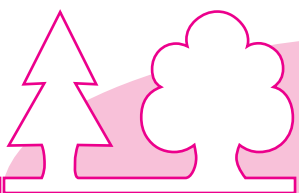
in spite of

because of

In addition to

regardless of

In case of



POEM

The Grumble Family

- Lucy Maud Montgomery

SUMMARY

Complaining Street

The poet gives a vivid picture of neighbourhood scenes. He says that there is a family on Complaining Street in the city of Never-Are-Satisfied, beside which runs the River of Discontent. Nobody likes to meet them.

Name of Grumble

They growl at all sorts of things. Whatever they come across, everything looks as if something is not okay. And whether their station is high or low, everything is known by the name of Grumble.

Queerest Things in Complaining Street

If the people on Complaining Street see the sun shining, they will complain that it is too hot, whereas if the weather is cold, they complain it is too cold. And if everything pleased them, they would grumble that there is nothing to grumble about. According to the poet, the queerest thing is that none of them would acknowledge that they belong to the family of Grumble, because a Grumbler will never accept that he is connected to it.

Beware the Trap

The poet regrets saying that if anyone stays among them too long, he will learn their ways, their attitudes, behaviours and mannerisms. Before he even thinks of the fact that he is into a trap, he is adopted into the family of Grumble. It is the worst thing.

Be Wise, Never Grumble

So it would be wise if we do not wander into Complaining Street. We should never growl at whatever we do. If not, we will be considered Grumblers.

Wear Smile and Song

We must learn to walk with a smile and a song on our faces, even when things go wrong. If we do so, we will never belong to the family of Grumble.

GLOSSARY

B.P.No. 47

discontent (adj.)	–	dissatisfaction with one's circumstances
amiss (adj.)	–	not quite right
growl (v)	–	make a low guttural sound in the throat
grumble (n)	–	a complaint about something in a bad-tempered way
gloomy (adj.)	–	to appear depressing or frightening
queerest (adj.)	–	the strangest or the most unusual
acknowledge (v)	–	accept or admit the existence or truth of
terrible (adj.)	–	extremely bad or serious
wandering (v)	–	walking or moving in a leisurely or aimless way

Poetry Appreciation Questions.

B.P.No. 47

A. Read the following lines from the poem and answer the questions given below.

1. *There is a family nobody likes to meet;
They live, it is said, on Complaining Street.*
 - a. **Where does the family live?**
The family lives on Complaining Street.
 - b. **Why do you think the street is named as 'Complaining Street'?**
The street is named as Complaining Street because the people who live there keep on grumbling.
2. *They growl at that and they growl at this;
Whatever comes, there is something amiss;*
 - a. **What does the word 'growl' mean here?**
The word 'growl' literally means to make a low guttural sound in the throat. But here it means that they keep on complaining about this and that.
 - b. **Why do they find everything amiss?**
They find everything amiss because their hearts are full of self defeatism and pessimism.
3. *Nothing goes right with the folks you meet
Down on that gloomy Complaining Street.*
 - a. **What is the opinion about the folks you meet down the street?**
The folks have the habit of complaining about all the things they come across. Hence nothing is right.
 - b. **What does the word 'gloomy' mean here?**
The word 'gloomy' means to appear depressing or frightening.

10

The Grumble Family

4. *The worst thing is that if anyone stays**Among them too long, he will learn their ways;*a. **What is the worst thing that can happen if anyone stays with them?**

The worst thing that can happen if anyone stays with them is that he will learn their bad ways.

b. **What are the ways of the Grumble family?**

The Grumble family always complains about something or the other. Nothing is right in front of their eyes. If anyone stays among them, he will learn his attitudes, behaviours and mannerisms.

5. *And so it were wisest to keep our feet**From wandering into Complaining Street;*a. **What is the wisest thing that the poet suggests?**

The wisest thing that the poet suggests is that we should stay away from these people.

b. **What does the phrase 'to keep our feet from wandering' refer to?**

The phrase refers to the fact that we should stay away from these complaining people. Their attitudes, behaviours and mannerisms will affect us.

6. *Let us learn to walk with a smile and a song,**No matter if things do sometimes go wrong;*a. **What does the poet expect everyone to learn?**

The poet expects to walk with a smile and a song even if things go wrong.

b. **What should we do if things go wrong sometimes?**

We should wear a smile and go with a song even if things go wrong.

ADDITIONAL

A. **Read the following lines from the poem and answer the questions given below.**1. *They growl at that and they growl at this;**Whatever comes, there is something amiss.*a. **Who does 'They' refer to?**

'They' refers to the family members of Grumble.

b. **What do you mean by 'growl'?**

'Growl' means roar, like an animal.

2. *The weather is always too hot or cold;**Summer and winter alike they scold.*a. **What do they complain about the weather?**

They complain that the weather was always very hot or cold.

b. **Why do they scold the climate?**

Because, the climate never satisfies them.

Poem

UNIT 2

70

3. *The worst thing is that if anyone stays
Among them too long, he will learn their ways;*
- Who does 'he' refer to?**
'He' refers to the neighbour.
 - Explain 'their ways'.**
It means that they are grumbling against every thing.
4. *Lest we be mistaken for Grumbles, too.*
- Who does 'we' refer to?**
'We' refers to the public (People).
 - Why may we be mistaken?**
If we join with the Grumble, we may be mistaken by others.
5. *And then, be our station high or humble,
We'll never belong to the family of Grumble.*
- What does 'station' refer here?**
'Station' here refers to position or status in the society.
 - Write down the words in alliteration.**
high, humble.

Literary Devices

- Complaining Street, Never, Rive - **Personification**
- Alliteration**
growl, grumble let, learn
long, learn smile, song
- Rhyming Scheme :** aabb
Rhyming Words : this, amiss cold, scold
 humble, gumble meet, sheet

B. Answer the following question in about 80-120 words.

B.P.No. 48

- Write a paragraph on 'The Grumble Family and their attitude towards other folks.**

Poem	The Grumble Family
Poet	L.M. Montgomery
Theme	Contented mind is a continual feast

The poet gives a vivid picture of neighbourhood scenes. He says that there is a family on Complaining Street in the city of Never-Are-Satisfied, beside which runs the River of Discontent. Nobody likes to meet them. They growl at all sorts of things. Whatever they come across, everything looks as if something were not okay. And whether their station is high or low, everything is known by the name of Grumble. If the people on Complaining Street see the sun shining, they will complain that it is too hot, whereas if the weather is cold, they complain it is too cold. And if everything pleases them,

they would grumble that there is nothing to grumble about. According to the poet, the queerest thing is that none of them would acknowledge that they belong to the family of Grumble, because a Grumbler will never accept that he is connected to it. The poet regrets saying that if anyone stays among them too long, he will learn their ways, their attitudes, behaviours and mannerisms. Before he even thinks of the fact that he is into a trap, he is adopted into the family of Grumble. It is the worst thing.

2. **If you were to live in the Complaining Street, how would you deal with the people who grumble?**

Poem	The Grumble Family
Poet	L.M. Montgomery
Theme	Contented mind is a continual feast

If I were in the Complaining Street, I would go to them and teach them the values and ethics of life. I would tell them that for every problem there is a solution. I would not avoid them. Rather I would take it as a challenge to mend the ways of the members of the Grumble family. I would first give them psychological counseling and teach them about how to stop all kinds of gossip. I would also make them understand that complaining or growling will cause serious health issues. I would enact street plays to make them realize their mistakes.

3. **From the poem 'The Grumble Family' what kind of behaviour does the poet want the readers to possess?**

Poem	The Grumble Family
Poet	L.M. Montgomery
Theme	Contented mind is a continual feast

The poet gives a vivid picture of neighbour hood scenes. He says that there is a family on Complaining Street in the city of Never-Are-Satisfied, beside which runs the River of Discontent. Nobody likes to meet them. They growl at all sorts of things. Whatever they come across, everything looks as if something is not okay. And whether their station is high or low, everything is known by the name of Grumble. If the people on Complaining Street see the sun shining, they will complain that it is too hot, whereas if the weather is cold, they complain it is too cold. And if everything pleases them, they would grumble, that there is nothing to grumble about. The poet regrets saying that if anyone stays among them too long, he will learn their ways-their attitudes, behaviours and mannerisms. Before he even thinks of the fact that he is into a trap, he is adopted into the family of Grumble. It is the worst thing. So it would be wise if we do not wander into Complaining Street. We should never growl at whatever we do. If not, we will be considered Grumblers.

ADDITIONAL PARAGRAPH

1. **What is the underlying theme of the poem?**

Poem	The Grumble Family
Poet	L.M. Montgomery
Theme	Contented mind is a continual feast

The underlying theme of the poem is that we should never allow the pessimism of others to keep us from reaching the heights of victory. Many times we come into contact with people who have nothing good or positive to say. All of their comments are negative and critical and their focus is only on the bad. If they see the sun shining, they will complain that it is too hot. If they see the snow falling, they will complain that it is too cold. Their first instinct is to find something to complain and murmur about, but that is the opposite of how God wishes for us to act. Always we should try our best to be an optimist who sees the good and not the bad. We should communicate with words that bring honour and glory to God and do not fall for the lies of the others who encourage us to murmur and complain and only see the bad that comes our way.

10

C. Answer the following.

B.P.No. 48

1. *And whether their station be high or humble,...*

Pick out the alliteration from the above line.

High, humble. In these words the sound /h/ is repeated.

2. **Pick out the other examples for alliteration from the poem.**

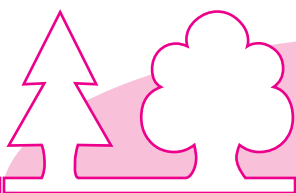
summer, scold; growl, grumble; long, learn; smile, song.

3. *The weather is always too hot or cold;
Summer and winter alike they scold.
Nothing goes right with the folks you meet
Down on that gloomy Complaining Street.*

Pick out the rhyming words and identify the rhyme scheme of the above lines.

Rhyming words: cold, scold & meet, Street.

The rhyme scheme of the above lines : aabb.



SUPPLEMENTARY

Zigzag

- Asha Nehemiah

SUMMARY

Dr. Krishnan's Clinic

Dr. Ashok T. Krishnan's clinic usually sounded more like an ancient Chinese torture chamber than a child specialist. This was because the tiny children kept on crying so loudly and sobbing.

Uncle Somu's Account about Zigzag

One evening Uncle Somu asked the doctor whether he could leave the zigzag in his clinic when he left for Alaska. An African witch doctor gifted it to him. In the noise he was not properly heard by his friend. He thought he had said yes, but he actually said no. No one in his family had any clue about what zigzag meant until Krishnan explained that it was a bird. Everyone liked to have the zigzag except Mrs. Krishnan.

Increasing Curiosity for Zigzag

Mr. Krishnan loved the bird because it could talk and sing in about twenty-one different languages—mostly African languages. When it sang, it moved the listeners to tears. His son Arvind and his daughter Maya were curious to see the bird.

Arrival of Zigzag with Visu

Uncle Somu's old cook, Visu brought the zigzag. It was a foot and a half tall and its bald head was fringed with a crown of pink feathers, while the rest of its plumage was brown. He said its full name was Ziggy-Zagga-king-of-the-Tonga. He talked beautifully and could even recite French Poetry. But to Arvind's surprise the zigzag did not even utter a single word, though they tried speaking to him in English, Hindi, Tamil and French. It would certainly talk and sing, Visu felt.

Zigzag's Snoring and Mrs. Krishnan's Reaction

Zigzag flew and perched on the curtain rod and went off to sleep. He began to snore. It grew louder and louder. They tried to wake him up. But it was all in vain. He slept undisturbed and snored on. When they could not stop zigzag's snoring, they shut themselves in the bedroom and Mrs. Krishnan was about to stuff her ears with a roll of cotton wool.

Orangey Streaks

When their maid Lakshmi switched on the fan on which zigzag had left some fruits and nuts they started raining down. There were papayas and bananas. One slice of over-ripe papaya came whizzing off the fan and splashed all over Mrs. Krishnan's unfinished masterpiece, *Sunset at Marina*. She was

annoyed with the bird. She wanted to get rid of the bird. When Dr. Krishnan took zigzag to his clinic, zig-zag burst out speaking for the first time loudly 'you there in the blue T-shirt, don't you jump on the sofa. And you in the red dress, don't swing on the curtain.' The usually-noisy atmosphere was transformed into a calm, orderly place. After all the patients had left, Mr. Krishnan would appreciate Zigzag and praise him a lot.

The Masterpiece-Sunset at Marina

Just then Mrs. Krishnan called and informed him that her painting had been bought for Rs. 5000 by the art critic Jhunjhunwula. She did not want her to exhibit Sunset at Marina. She loved Mrs. Krishnan's new technique. She simply loved those streaky orangey bits. They decided to take Zigzag home.

GLOSSARY

B.P.No. 56

aboriginal (adj.)	-	native, local
sarcasm (n)	-	use of irony to mock or convey contempt
fringed (v)	-	bordered
plumage (n)	-	a bird's feather collectively
sludgiest (adj.)	-	wet mud
grumpiness (adj.)	-	bad tempered
squirt (n)	-	spray
coyote (n)	-	a wolf like wild dog native to North America
streaks (n)	-	line, strap
tantrum (n)	-	outburst, flare-up
crinkly (adj.)	-	wrinkly

A. Identify the speaker / character.

- | | |
|--|---------------------------|
| 1. 'Even though I clearly said no!' | Ans: Mr. Krishnan |
| 2. 'The one that spits deadly poison straight into its opponent's eyes.' | Ans: Daughter Maya |
| 3. 'Remember the tiny penknife he gave me last year.' | Ans: Daughter Maya |
| 4. 'It's Somu's thoughtless ways that reduce me to tears' | Ans: Mrs. Krishnan |
| 5. 'Come in, Zigzag, come in dear!' | Ans: Cook Visu |

B. Read the story again and write how these characters reacted in these situations:

- You're both quite mistaken.
Dr. Krishnan tried to convince them about zigzag.
Mrs. Krishnan was horrified.
- It's Somu's thoughtless ways that reduce me to tears.
Mrs. Krishnan was annoyed with Zigzag.
Dr. Krishnan was optimistic about Zigzag singing.

3. Just wait till zigzag settles down in this new home.
Visu wanted the family to be patient with Zigzag.
Aravind and Maya were eager to hear Zigzag sing.
4. Zigzag hardly ever sleeps.
Somu is hopeful about Zigzag's talking and singing.
Dr. Krishnan is hopeful that it will talk and sing.
5. You are an absolute treasure.....
Dr. Krishnan is very happy about Zigzag.
Zigzag is also expressive and happy.

C. Complete the given tabular column.

Arrival of zigzag	Somu requested Dr. Krishnan to take care of his pet.	Mrs. Krishnan was not <u>interested in keeping zigzag in the house.</u>	She was worried about her <u>painting.</u>
Life of Zigzag at Dr. Krishnan's residence	Zigzag perched on the curtain rod and <u>went on to sleep.</u>	When their maid switched on the fan <u>the fruit and nuts fell off.</u>	Mrs. Krishnan was annoyed and called Mr. Krishnan to <u>contact Somu about what has to be done.</u>
The email about Zigzag	Dr. Krishnan left an email for Somu	Somu's reply surprised the Krishnans.	The reply was <u>that he had never heard Zigzag snore. in fact, Zigzag hardly sleeps.</u>
Zigzag at the clinic	When Zigzag entered the clinic he <u>transformed the noisy scene into a calm, orderly place.</u>	Gone was Zigzag's bored and grumpy expression. The bird looked happy and alert.	After the family knew that zigzag must be kept busy <u>they took him to their house. just on trial for another week</u>

D. Answer the following question in one or two sentences:

B.P.No. 57

1. Why did Dr. Ashok's cousin call him?

Dr. Ashok's cousin called him to ask if he could keep Zigzag in his clinic when he left for Alaska.

2. Mention at least two expressions which show that Mrs. Krishnan was not willing to have Zigzag at home.

The two expression are i) 'absolute nuisance' and ii) 'rare insect eating plant'

3. What other various pets did Somu have?

The other various pets that Somu had were beetle, boomerang and snake.



4. What was Mrs. Krishnan busy with?

Mrs. Krishnan was busy with painting a picture for exhibition.

5. What commotion did the boomerang cause in the neighbourhood?

Boomerang cut through all the TV aerials in the neighbourhood, caused permanent damage to several cars in the parking lot and knocked out their watchman.

6. What happened when Somu left Zigzag with the Krishnans?

Zigzag kept on sleeping and snoring. It refused to talk or sing.

7. How did Zigzag communicate with the Krishnans?

They tried to communicate in different languages as the bird was supposed to speak in twenty-one languages. But the bird kept on snoring, and refused to speak.

8. What was the e-mail message sent to Somu by Dr. Krishnan?

The e-mail message that was sent to Somu by Dr. Krishnan was asking him for clear instructions on how to stop Zigzag from snoring.

9. What did Aravind confess?

Aravind confessed that the aboriginal boomerang Uncle Somu had brought them all the way from Australia was a great hit with everyone.

10. Why did Mrs. Jhunhunwalla buy the painting?

Mrs. Jhunhunwalla bought the painting because she loved the new technique of painting.

ADDITIONAL

Answer the following question in one or two sentences:

1. What did Maya take about Zigzag for at first?

Maya took it for Uncle Somu's giant green-and-gold fighting beetle.

2. What correction did Aravind give to Maya?

Aravind said that the beetle was called Spitfire.

3. What did Dr. Krishnan say about Zigzag?

He said that the bird could talk and sing in about twenty-one different languages-mostly African languages.

4. Who brought Zigzag from Uncle Somu's home?

Old cook Visu brought Zigzag from Uncle Somu's home.

5. What is the full name of Zigzag?

The full name of Zigzag is Ziggy-Zagga-king-of-the -Tonga.

6. What did Mrs. Jhunhunwala comment on the snoring?

When she heard the snoring she telephoned Mrs. Krishnan and asked her whether she could sing softly when she took her singing lessons.

E. Answer the following questions in about 100-150 words:

1. Write in your own words the various commotions caused by Zigzag at Dr. Krishnan's residence.

Title	Zigzag
Author	Asha Nehemiah
Theme	Comic Commotions of a pet

When Uncle Somu brought Zigzag to Krishnan's residence, it did not respond to them. It was silent and then it flew and perched on the curtain rod and went off to sleep. He began to snore. It grew louder and louder. They tried to wake him up. But it was all in vain. He slept undisturbed and snored on. When they could not stop zigzag's snoring, they shut themselves in the bedroom and Mrs. Krishnan was about to stuff her ears with a roll of cotton wool. When their maid Lakshmi switched on the fan, some fruit and nuts which Zigzag had left on the fan started coming down rapidly. There were papayas and bananas. One slice of over-ripe papaya came whizzing off the fan and splashed all over Mrs. Krishnan's unfinished masterpiece, Sunset at Marina. She was annoyed with the bird. She wanted to get rid of the bird.

2. What was the turn of events when Zigzag was taken to the clinic?

Title	Zigzag
Author	Asha Nehemiah
Theme	Comic Commotions of a pet

When one slice of over-ripe papaya came whizzing off the fan and splashed all over Mrs. Krishnan's unfinished masterpiece, Sunset at Marina, Mrs. Krishnan was annoyed with the bird. She wanted to get rid of the bird. She called up Dr. Krishnan and conveyed to him what had happened. And when Dr. Krishnan took zigzag to his clinic, zigzag burst out speaking for the first time loudly 'you there in the blue T-shirt, don't you jump on the sofa. And you in the red dress, don't swing on the curtain.' The usually-noisy scene in the clinic was transformed into a calm, orderly place. After all the patients had left, Mr. Krishnan would appreciate Zigzag and praise him a lot. Just then Mrs. Krishnan called and informed him that her painting had been bought for Rs. 5000 by the art critic Jhunjhunwula. She did not want her to exhibit Sunset at Marina. She loved Mrs. Krishnan's new technique.

3. Narrate the story Zigzag in your own words.

Title	Zigzag
Author	Asha Nehemiah
Theme	Comic Commotions of a pet

Dr. Ashok T. Krishnan's clinic usually sounded more like an ancient Chinese torture than a child specialist. This was because the tiny children kept on crying so loudly and sobbing. One evening Uncle Somu asked whether he could leave the zigzag in his clinic when he left for Alaska. An African witch doctor gifted it to him. In the noise he was not properly heard by his friend. He thought he had said yes, but he actually said no. No one in his family had any clue about what zigzag mean, until Krishnan explained it was a bird. Everyone liked to have the zigzag except Mrs. Krishnan. Mr. Krishnan

loved the bird because it could talk and sing in about twenty-one different languages-mostly African languages. When it sang, it moved the listeners to tears. His son Arvind and his daughter Maya were curious to see the bird. Uncle Somu's old cook, Visu brought the zigzag. He said that its full name was Ziggy-Zagga-king-of-the-Tonga. To Arvind's surprise the zigzag did not even utter a single word, though they tried speaking to him in English, Hindi, Tamil and French. Zigzag flew and perched on the curtain rod and went off to sleep. He began to snore. It grew louder and louder. They tried to wake him up. But it was all in vain. When they could not stop zigzag's snoring, they shut themselves in the bedroom and Mrs. Krishnan was about to stuff her ears with a roll of cotton wool. When their maid Lakshmi switched on the fan on which zigzag had left some fruit and nuts they started raining down. There were papayas and bananas. One slice of over-ripe papaya came whizzing off the fan and splashed all over Mrs. Krishnan's unfinished masterpiece, Sunset at Marina. She was annoyed with the bird. She wanted to get rid of the bird. When Dr. Krishnan took zigzag to his clinic, zigzag burst out speaking for the first time loudly. The usually-noisy atmosphere was transformed into a calm, orderly place. Just then Mrs. Krishnan called and informed him that her painting had been sold for Rs. 5000. They decided to take Zigzag home.

ADDITIONAL PARAGRAPH

1. **Zigzag was the bird behind Mrs. Krishnan making her masterpiece. Substantiate.**

Title	Zigzag
Author	Asha Nehemiah
Theme	Comic Commotions of a pet

Mrs. Krishnan did not like to have the zigzag at their residence, though Mr. Krishnan loved the bird because it could talk and sing in about twenty-one different languages-mostly African languages. Uncle Somu's old cook, Visu brought the zigzag. Everyone in the family tried to make Zigzag talk and sing, but it was in vain. It flew and perched on the curtain rod and went off to sleep. He began to snore. It grew louder and louder. Mrs. Krishnan was about to stuff her ears with a roll of cotton wool. When one slice of over-ripe papaya came whizzing off the fan and splashed all over Mrs. Krishnan's unfinished masterpiece, Sunset at Marina she was annoyed with the bird. She wanted to get rid of the bird. Dr. Krishnan took zigzag to his clinic. Just then Mrs. Krishnan called and informed him that her painting had been bought for Rs. 5000 by the art critic Jhunjhunwula. She loved Mrs. Krishnan's new technique - those streaky orangey bits. Thus Zigzag was instrumental for Mrs. Krishnan in making her masterpiece.

ADDITIONAL EXERCISES

I. Fill in the blanks.

1. Dr. Ashok T. Krishnan's (i) usually sounded more like an (ii) than a (iii) clinic. This was because the (iv) who were (v) left out a variety of blood curdling yells and ear-splitting sobs.

- i) tiny children
- ii) his patients
- iii) clinic
- iv) ancient Chinese torture chamber
- v) child specialist's

Answer	
i)	clinic
ii)	ancient Chinese torture chamber
iii)	child specialist's
iv)	tiny children
v)	his patients

2. Somu might be your (i)....., but most of these so called "favourite" (ii) that he has given us were (iii)!' countered Mrs. Krishnan angrily. A talented artist, she applied a dab of (iv)onto her painting titled (v) at Marina.

- i) possessions
- ii) absolute nuisances
- iii) yellow-ochre paint
- iv) Sunset
- v) best friend

Answer	
i)	best friend
ii)	possessions
iii)	absolute nuisances
iv)	Yellow-ochre paint
v)	Sunset

3. 'But (i).....is different. (ii)says we are sure to love Zigzag,' soothed Dr. Krishnan, 'because the bird can (iii)in about (iv)different language –mostly African languages, of course. When it sings, it moves the (v)

- i) Somu
- ii) talk and sing
- iii) Somu
- iv) listeners to tears
- v) twenty-one

Answer	
i)	Zigzag
ii)	Somu
iii)	talk and sing
iv)	twenty – one
v)	listeners to tears

4. Bored eyes (i) momentarily as Zigzag picked up a (ii) But refusing to speak, he dropped one (iii) in a solemn wink and flew clumsily to (iv) on the (v) hanging from the ceiling.

- i) enormous chandelier
- ii) deposit the nut
- iii) wrinkled eyelid
- iv) walnut
- v) brightened

Answer	
i)	brightened
ii)	walnut
iii)	wrinkled eyelid
iv)	deposit the nut
v)	enormous chandelier

5. In total despair (i) to wake Zigzag, or at least stop him (ii), they shut themselves in the (iii) that was furthest away from Mrs. (iv) where Zigzag was creating the (v)

- i) snoring
- ii) bedroom

Answer	
i)	at their failure
ii)	snoring

- iii) krishnan's studio
- iv) at their failure
- v) terrible den

- | | |
|------|-------------------|
| iii) | bedroom |
| iv) | Krishnan's studio |
| v) | terrible den |

II. Identify the character.

- 1. 'Don't worry, children.' – **Visu**
- 2. 'I thought it was scientific fact that birds couldn't snore.' – **Maya**
- 3. 'May I take Zigzag to school, Papa?' – **Arvind**
- 4. 'Great hit indeed!' – **Mrs. Krishnan**
- 5. 'African witch doctor's birds don't obey scientific rules.' – **Aravind**

III. Match the following.

- 1. i) Dr. Ashok T. Krishnan – a) Maya
- ii) Nine-year old daughter – b) Old cook
- iii) Uncle – c) child specialist's clinic
- iv) Twenty one languages – d) Somu
- v) Visu – e) Zigzag

- 2. i) The beetle – a) streaky orangey bits
- ii) Snoring – b) Krishnan's clinic
- iii) Noisy sea of tears – c) the art critic
- iv) Mrs. Jhunjhunwula – d) Zigzag
- v) Papaya – e) Spitfire

Ans: i-c ii-a iii-d iv-e v-b

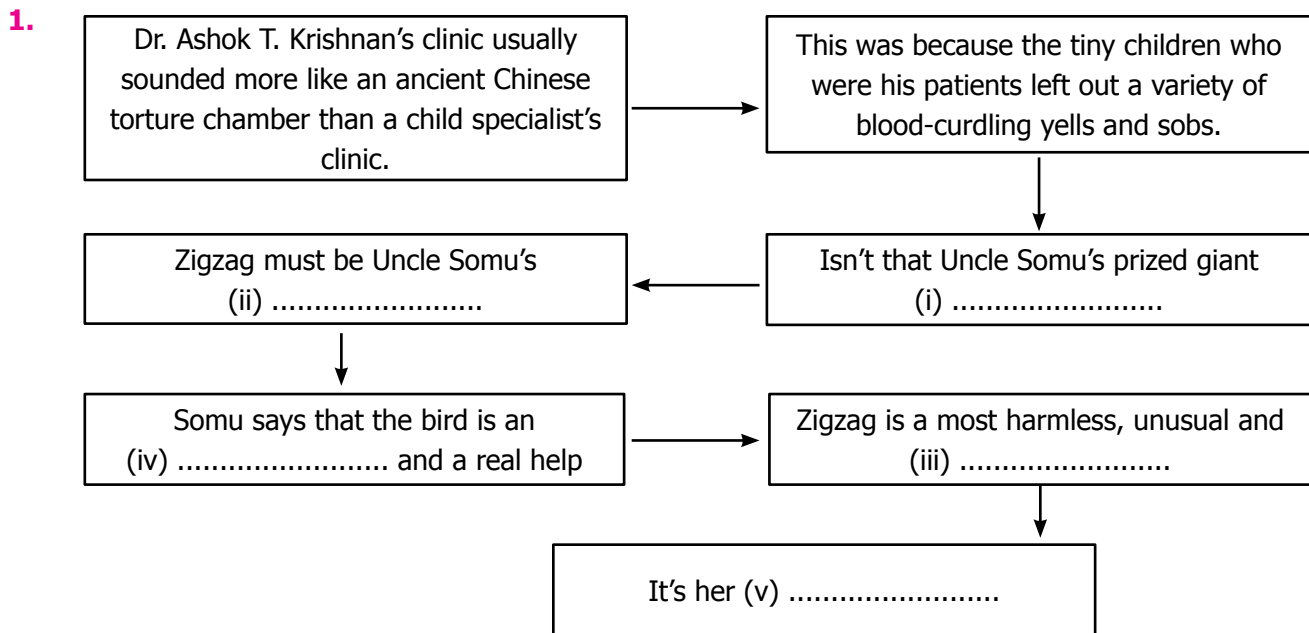
Ans: i-e ii-d iii-b iv-c v-a

IV. Multiple Choice Questions.

- 1. **Dr. Ashok T. Krishnan's _____ usually sounded more like an ancient Chinese torture chamber than a child specialist's clinic.**
 a) School b) clinic c) office d) lobby **Ans : b)**
- 2. **The one that spits deadly poison straight into its _____?**
 a) Friend's eye b) father's eye c) animal's eye d) opponent's eye **Ans : d)**
- 3. **"It's Somu's _____ ways that reduced me to tears!" Mrs. Krishnan said irritably.**
 a) Beautiful b) thoughtless c) thoughtful d) fantastic **Ans : b)**
- 4. **Its curved beak was _____**
 a) Red b) marigold-yellow c) sunflower-yellow d) violet **Ans : c)**
- 5. **Zigzag dropped one wizened _____ in another solemn wink.**
 a) eyelid b) nut c) ball d) fruit **Ans : a)**
- 6. **Hearts hammering, they rushed to the _____ to find Lakshmi dancing and clapping her hands excitedly.**
 a) House b) studio c) room d) apartment **Ans : b)**

7. Mrs. Krishnan _____ tragically and looked ready to shoot Zigzag.
 a) Laughed b) groaned c) cheered d) ordered **Ans : b)**
8. Maya complained that she heard a permanent rumbling sound in her _____
 a) Room b) ears c) house d) office **Ans : b)**
9. On the seventh day, Dr. Somu's _____ arrived.
 a) e-mail b) gift c) van d) car **Ans : a)**
10. 'She doesn't want me to exhibit _____ at marina.'
 a) Books b) sunset c) sunrise d) moon **Ans : c)**

V. Mind-map.

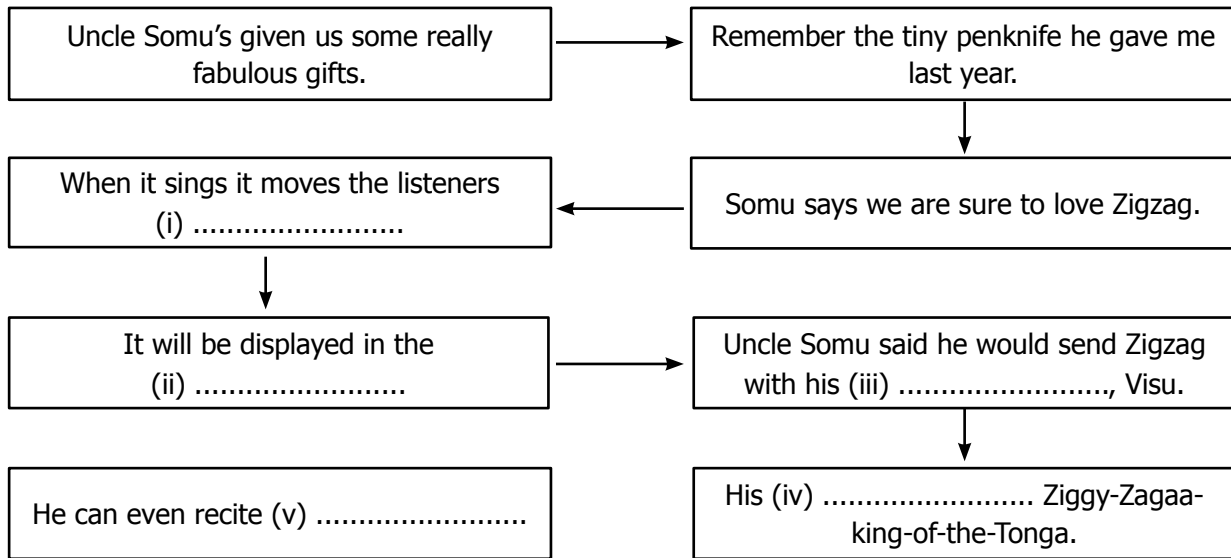


Answers

**i) green-and-gold fighting beetle ii) pet snake iii) lovable bird
 iv) absolute treasure v) favourite pet**



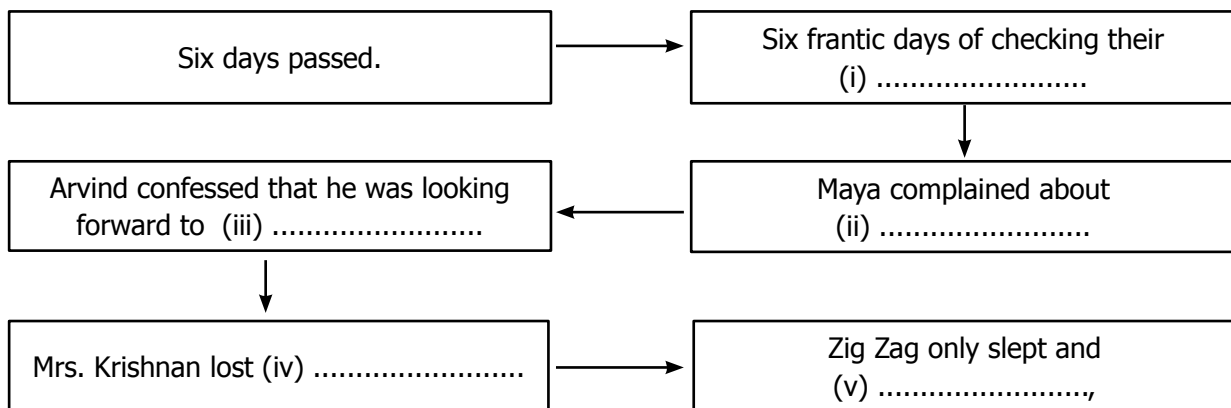
2.



Answers

i) to tears ii) science exhibition iii) old cook iv) full name v) French Poetry

3.



Answers

**i) e-mail day and night ii) a permanent rumbling sound in her coins
iii) going to a calm school iv) interest in painting v) snored**

VI. Comprehension.

Read the following passage and answer the questions given below.

- They froze in horror. Lakshmi had apparently switched on the fan on which Zigzag had left some fruit and nuts. Half-pecked fruit streamed of the fan, dampening even Lakshmi's enthusiasm as a guava landed on her cheek with a soft squish and one walnut hit her forehead with a loud smack. One slice of over-ripe papaya came whizzing off the fan and, as they watched it helplessly, it oh horrors splattered all over Mrs. Krishnan's unfinished masterpiece, sunset at Marina, spreading streaks of goey orange pulp and shiny black seeds all over it. Mrs Krishnan groaned tragically and looked ready to shoot Zigzag, but he was saved by the bell.

Questions :

1. Who switched on the fan?
2. What landed on Lakshmi's cheek?
3. What is Mrs. Krishnan's unfinished masterpiece?
4. What splattered on the unfinished masterpiece?
5. Who saved zigzag?

Answers :

1. Lakshmi switched on the fan.
 2. A guava landed on her cheek.
 3. Sunset at Marina is the unfinished masterpiece.
 4. One slice of over-ripe papaya splattered on the unfinished masterpiece.
 5. The bell saved Zigzag.
2. Six days passed. Six frantic days of checking their e-mail day and night. Six torturous days of having the deafeningly loud KNGRRDRRWHEEZE resound in their home, most nerve wrackingly. Maya complained that she heard a permanent rumbling sound in her ears even when she was miles away from home and that her ears ached all the time. Aravind confessed that, for the first time in his life, he was actually looking forward to going to school considering it was as calm as a monastery compared to their house. Mrs. Krishnan had lost interest in painting. Zigzag would sometimes wake up briefly when he wanted to eat some fruit.

Questions :

1. How many days did they check the e-mail?
2. What did Maya complain?
3. What did Aravind confess?
4. What had Mrs. Krishnan lost?
5. Why did Zigzag wake up?

Answers :

1. They checked for six days.
 2. Maya complained that she heard a permanent rumbling sound in her ears even when she was miles away from home and that her ears ached all the time.
 3. Aravind confessed that, for the first time in his life, he was actually looking forward to going to school considering it was as calm as a monastery compared to their house.
 4. Mrs. Krishnan had lost interest in painting.
 5. Zigzag woke up when he wanted to eat some fruit.
3. Never had a morning passed so quietly and peacefully for Dr. Krishnan. When the last patient had left, he called Zigzag to his room. Zigzag flew in and sat on the table. Scratching the bird under its beak, Dr. Krishnan sighed and said, 'Somu was right, after all. You are an absolute treasure. I never realized what he meant when he called you a great help. Why didn't you tell me you'd prefer to be at my clinic instead of snoring like that to show you were bored? What do we do now? No one wants you back at home now; they want me to leave you with Visu.'

Questions :

1. What did Dr. Krishnan do after the last patient had left?
2. How did Zigzag go to Dr. Krishnan?
3. What did Dr. Krishnan realize?
4. What does Dr. Krishnan say to Zigzag?
5. Who is an absolute treasure?

Answers :

1. Dr. Krishnan called Zigzag to his room.
2. Zigzag flew in and sat on the table
3. Dr. Krishnan realized that he was a great help.
4. Dr. Krishnan said no one wanted Zigzag back at home and wanted Dr. Krishnan to leave him with Visu.
5. Zigzag is an absolute treasure.



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10

Zigzag

Supplementary

UNIT 2

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