

Activity 4 (Textbook page 152)

Let us prepare a story map of Vanka.

Main characters

Vanka,
Konstantin Makarich

Supporting characters

Alyakhin
Alyakhin's wife
Other apprentices
Miss Olga
The dogs

Solution

Sending a letter
to 'grandad to
take him back
home.

Setting

Moscow/
A shoemaker's
workplace in his
house. / House of
landlord. / Street
with postbox.

Problem

Child labour.
Cruelty to children.
Vanka's thirst
for escape from
miserable life.

Vanka

■ Activity 7

(Textbook page 154)

An alternative ending to the story.

കഥയ്ക്ക് ഒരു മറ്റൊരു പരിവസ്ഥാനം.

Grandfather had a bad dream about Vanka. He saw his grandson crying out in pain, blood oozing out from a wound on his forehead. Three days after Vanka had posted the letter, grandfather arrived at the shoemaker's house. Vanka thought granddad had got his letter; but really he hadn't. Vanka felt highly relieved. Master did not allow Vanka to talk to his grandfather freely. But the oldman could guess the pitiful condition of his child. He told them that he wanted to take him back to the village. Vanka's joy knew no bounds.

OR

One evening, the master of Vanka's granddad was walking along a street in Moscow. Vanka was on his way back home after shopping from the market. Vanka could easily recognise the master.

"Master", he ran to the gentleman.

"Aren't you Vanka, grandson of Makarich?" he asked.

"Yes, sir, I am an apprentice of a shoemaker here..."

"Well, how are you?"

"Master, please save me from this hell. My life is most miserable here," he began to cry.

"Don't cry Vanka. I'll ask Makarich to take you back soon."

He patted on Vanka's shoulder.

As soon as the master reached home, he sent Makarich to rescue his grandson.