

ENGLISH

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Lesson 1

Adventures in a Banyan Tree



Ruskin Bond is an Indian author of British descent. He was born to Edith Clarke and Aubrey Alexander Bond, in Kasauli, Punjab States Agency, British India on 19 May 1934. He was educated at the Bishop Cotton School, Shimla, from where he graduated in 1950. He played a major role in the growth of the children's literature in India. He was awarded the *Sahitya Academy Award* in 1992 for *Our Trees Still Grow in Dehra*, his novel in English. He was also awarded the *Padma Shri* in 1999 and the *Padma Bhushan* in 2014. His other major works include '*A Flight of Pigeons*', '*The Blue Umbrella*' and '*The Room on the Roof*' which won the '*John Llewelyn Rhys Prize*' in 1957. He lives now with his adopted family in Landour, Mussoorie, India.

Glossary:

1. **Harmony (n):** pleasant and peaceful agreement or friendship.
2. **Mesmerizing (adj):** very attractive
3. **Leisure (n):** free time
4. **Blended:** mixed
5. **Domain:** an area under one's control
6. **Magnificent (adj):** elegant, splendid, beautiful, deserving respect.
7. **Banyan tree:** a South Asian fruit tree with branches that produce roots that grow down into the ground to form extra trunks: ആൽമരം
8. **Tease (v):** make fun of
9. **A certain:** (phrase used to talk about indefiniteness) some.
10. **Countess of Desmond: (Katherine FitzGerald) 'Countess of Desmond'** is a nickname used by the English writers to denote her longevity.
11. **Curved:** bent
12. **Maze (n):** a complicated or confusing network of paths or passages.
13. **Nestling:** resting, being
14. **Nestling (n):** a young bird that has not yet learned to fly and still lives in the nest built by its parents.
15. **Familiar (n):** (here) a close friend or attendant in the form of an animal (especially of a witch).
16. **Sniffing:** taking air in quickly through the nose.
17. **Resent (v):** show dislike or be angry.
18. **Invasion (n):** attack or trespass; an entry to one's place or property without permission.
19. **To arm oneself with:** to carry weapons.
20. **Catapult (n):** a Y-shaped stick or piece of metal with a piece of elastic for shooting small stones.
21. **Delve (v):** search thoroughly to find something as if by digging.
22. **To help oneself:** to serve oneself as much food or drink as one wants.
23. **Helping himself:** (here) eating whatever he gets
24. **Headstrong (adj):** wilful; determined; without listening to others' advice or warning.
25. **Trusting:** believing
26. **Fig (n):** fruit
27. **Flock (v):** to assemble in large numbers; to come together.
28. **Bulbul:** a medium-sized song bird
29. **Rosy-pastor:** a sort of perching bird

30. **Greedy (adj):** having excessive desire or appetite for food
31. **Gossiping:** (here) chirping; chattering
32. **Squabbling:** quarrelling noisily
33. **Propping:** supporting; keeping in position
34. **Bole:** trunk of a tree
35. **Washing:** (here) clothes just washed or dried in the sun
36. **Vendor:** seller
37. **Grumble (v):** complain in a rumbling voice; murmur
38. **Hardy (adj):** strong
39. **Marigold (n):** a plant with bright yellow or orange flowers
40. **Insisted on:** persist in; demanded to do something forcefully.
41. **English garden:** a distinct style of landscaping or garden-making. The English garden usually includes a lake, lawns, groves of trees, beautiful architectural constructions, small bridges etc. to recreate an idyllic pastoral landscape.
42. **Last (v):** to continue or exist
43. **Breeze:** a gentle wind
44. **Drowsy (adj):** sleepy
45. **Pond:** pool; water reservoir natural or man-made
46. **Make for (Phrasal Verb):** move forward to a place
47. **Glide (v):** move smoothly without stopping or making any noise; to slither like a snake.
48. **Clump:** a small group of trees or plants growing together.
49. **Cactus:** any succulent plant with a thick fleshy stem with needle-like thorns but no leaves. കള്ളിമുൾച്ചെടി
50. **Emerged:** appeared
51. **Clearing:** open space
52. **Superb (adj):** very good; excellent
53. **Aggressive (adj):** vigorous; quarrelsome; angry and violent
54. **Sacs:** bags
55. **Fangs:** long and sharp teeth; the sharp teeth of a venomous snake, by which the poison is injected.
56. **Venom:** poison
57. **Hiss (v):** make a sibilant sound like 'sss...or shh...'
58. **Defiance:** bold resistance; opposition; a challenge to meet in a combat
59. **Forked (adj):** with one end divided into two parts; bifurcated
60. **Darting:** moving quickly
61. **Spectacled (adj):** wearing spectacles; having markings resembling spectacles.
62. **Bushed (v)** (here) spread out and made like a bush or clump
63. **Spine:** backbone; spinal column
64. **Fatal (adj):** deadly; causing death
65. **Combatant (n):** (here) fighters
66. **Spectator (n):** watcher; viewer; witness
67. **Wily (adj):** cunning, clever
68. **Urban (adj):** related to a town or city. (Opposite: **Rural:** connected to the countryside or village)
69. **Outcome:** result
70. **Content (adj):** happy or satisfied
71. **Had they been = If they had been**
72. **Defensive (adj):** protecting – not attacking. (Opposite: **Offensive:** attacking)
73. **Swaying:** moving
74. **Mesmerize:** capture the complete attention of; spellbind; hypnotize; (capture full attention and confuse)
75. **Glassy:** like glass

76. **Unwinking (adj):** steady; not winking; not closing and opening.
77. **Gaze (n):** steady look.
78. **Feint (n):** a deceptive or pretentious move.
79. **Out of the reach of :** away from (Opposite: (with)in the reach of = very near)
80. **Hurl (v):** throw something firmly; (here) rush towards swiftly
81. **Collide (v):** hit heavily
82. **Shrieking:** making a scream
83. **Glisten (v):** shine; glitter; (here) appear
84. **Bumped (v):** smashed; hit
85. **Take part:** participate
86. **Proceedings:** a series of actions, (here) the attacks or fights
87. **Perch:** a branch or an object on which a bird lands or alights
88. **Whipped:** beat with a whip, (here) hit or smashed forcefully
89. **Snout:** the nose and mouth part of an animal
90. **Thudding:** striking/hitting with a thud sound
91. **Flung (fling, flung, flung):** thrown
92. **Flutter (v):** make a series quick movements
93. **Remained on the fray:** not directly involved in the angry struggle or fight.
94. **Refrain from:** avoid doing something; be away from
95. **Snap (n):** an audible bite
96. **Writhe:** twist; wriggle; make painful twisting movements
97. **Lashed:** (here) moved (the tail) quickly and violently
98. **Avail (n):** help; use; benefit
99. **Ceased:** stopped
100. **Grimly (adv):** seriously
101. **Smelt:** smelled (the mongoose smelled along the snake's shivering body)
102. **Dropped:** came down
103. **Cautiously (adv):** carefully
104. **Hop (v) (hopped, hopped):** (a bird) move jumping on its both feet
105. **Peered:** looked carefully
106. **Descend (v):** move downward (Opposite: **ascend:** climb upward)
107. **Scraps:** (here) small pieces of food left over after the main use.
108. **Tame:** domesticate a wild animal etc.; keep at home; make friendly with human
109. **Patrol (v):** go watchfully around an area to see if there is any trouble or danger.
110. **Strange Case of the Grey Squirrel and the White Rat:** Maybe a humorous allusion to the famous gothic novel by R L Stevenson, "The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde".
111. **Anna (n):** a former monetary unit of India, equal to one sixteenth of a rupee. Four annas is equal to 25 paise.
112. **Knitting:** (here) materials like thread, cotton, wool etc. for making clothes, blankets etc.
113. **Glint:** shine or glitter
114. **Crammed:** filled to the point of overflowing
115. **Offspring:** the young ones; children

Answers to the scaffolding questions in the textbook

1. "...house and ground were of Grandfather's domain. But the magnificent old banyan tree was mine".
Why did the boy say so?
The grandfather, at the age of sixty-five, could no longer climb the banyan tree. But the boy had made a small platform halfway up the tree and would often spend his time on it reading books and enjoying different sights. The tree gave him endless pleasure.
2. How did the squirrel become a friend of the boy?
In the beginning the squirrel was resentful. But when it found that the boy did not carry a catapult or air-gun, it realized that the boy was not harmful and became friendly.
3. What did the friends of the squirrel think about his friendship with a human? What might have made them think so?
The friends of the squirrel probably thought that he might be headstrong and foolish to make friendship with a human. The reason why they thought so might be that humans would not be trustworthy and the friendship with them could be dangerous.
4. How was the banyan tree the noisiest place in the fig season?
During the fig season, birds of all kinds would flock into the tree and squabble with each other all the time making it the noisiest place.
5. How did the boy make the spring season funny?
Halfway up the tree, the boy had built a platform. Sitting there in the afternoon he would read his favourites books, and when he did not feel like reading, he would enjoy looking through the banyan leaves at the world below. Thus he made the spring season funny.
6. What was the incident that triggered a long lasting excitement for the boy in summer?
Once while he was sitting on the banyan tree, he could see a cobra and a mongoose fight to death in the garden just below him. This incident had enough excitement to last him through the summer.
7. How did the cobra regard his opponent? Were they true warriors?
The cobra regarded his opponent, the grey mongoose, to be a superb fighter, clever and aggressive. Both of them were champions in the fight with the qualities of a skilful and experienced warrior.
8. How did the mongoose manage to escape the from the snake's bite?
The mongoose managed to escape from the snake's bite by bushing his tail. The hair on his spine also stood up, and the thickness of the hair saved him from the snake's bite.
9. The cobra was a good fighter. Pick out one of his fighting techniques.
One of the cobra's fighting techniques was that it would sway slowly from side to side, trying to mesmerize the mongoose into making a false move.
10. The mongoose proved that he was clever. Can you cite any instance of his cleverness?
The mongoose moved forward quickly until he was within the cobra's reach, and he made a feint to one side. This clever attempt made the cobra strike, but he jumped neatly to one side misleading it from the aim. He jumped on the snake and bit it on the back and darted away out of its reach as swiftly as he could.
11. What were the reactions of the spectators when the cobra struck?
When the cobra struck, the spectators, the crow and the myna, hurled themselves at it. But they collided heavily in the mid-air and returned to the cactus plant shrieking at each other.
12. How did the crow push itself into trouble?
Both the crow and the myna dived at the cobra, but missed their aim. The myna flew on and reached its perch. The crow tried to pull up in mid-air and turn back. In the same second, the cobra whipped his head back and struck with great force, his snout thudding against the crow's body.
13. Why is the myna said to be wise?
The myna was wise because it remained on the fray and did not interfere again in the fight between the cobra and the mongoose.

14. Who won the battle? What made the myna peer into the bushes?
 The mongoose won the battle. The myna peered into the bushes because the mongoose had dragged the dying cobra into the bushes gripping it round the hood.
15. What prevented Grandfather from taming the mongoose?
 The grandfather knew that a wild mongoose was better than a domesticated one to keep snakes away from the garden. So, he never tried to tame the mongoose.
16. Why would grandmother forgive the mongoose for stealing the eggs?
 The grandmother would forgive the mongoose for stealing the eggs because it had not harmed the hens, and it would keep snakes away from the house.
17. Who was the new friend of the squirrel? How did they enjoy their friendship?
 The new friend of the squirrel was a white rat, which the grandfather had bought from the bazaar. They enjoyed their friendship by going on little excursions among the branches of the banyan tree.
18. How did the boy come to know that the squirrel was building a nest?
 At first the squirrel started building the nest in the boy's pockets. He found straw and grass falling out of his pockets when he changed his dress.
19. What was the wonder that nature had kept for them in the nest?
 In the nest there were three white baby squirrels! Rats and squirrels are related to each other, and nature made it possible for them to have offspring.

Additional questions and answers based on the passages of the story

20. Identify the word from the first passage, which means 'an area under one's control'.
 Answer: 'domain'.
21. If she hadn't fallen while climbing an apple tree,----- . (live longer)
 Complete the sentence using the bracketed words appropriately.
 Answer: If she hadn't fallen while climbing an apple tree, **she would have lived longer**.
22. Identify the word from the first passage, which means 'a confusing network of paths and passages'.
 Answer: 'maze'.
23. 'In the spring, when the banyan tree was full of small red figs, birds of all kinds would flock into its branches'.
 Identify the Noun Phrase in the subject position, the Head Noun that acts as the subject, and the subordinate clause in the sentence.
 Answer: NP in the subject position: birds of all kinds
 Head Noun as the subject: birds
 The subordinate clause: when the banyan tree was full of small red figs.
24. What were some of the books that made up the boy's bag of mixed reading?
 Answer: Treasure Island, Huckleberry Finn, The Mowgli Stories, Novels of Edgar Rice Burroughs and Louisa May Alcott.
25. What were some of the sights he would see sitting on the tree when he was not reading?
 Answer: Sometimes he would see his grandma hanging up or taking down the washing, cooks quarrelling with a fruit vendor, or the grandfather grumbling at the Indian marigold in the garden.
26. 'In a clearing beneath the tree, in bright sunshine, they came face to face'.
 Identify the Prepositional Phrases and the Verb Phrase in the sentence.
 Answer: Prepositional Phrases: In a clearing; beneath the tree; in bright sunshine
 Verb Phrase: came face to face in a clearing beneath the tree, in bright sunshine.
27. 'The mongoose bushed his tail'. Here the word 'bush' is used as a verb. Construct another sentence using 'bush' as a noun.
 Answer: The mongoose dragged the dying snake into the nearby bush.

28. 'The banyan tree was also the setting for what we were to call the 'Strange Case of the Grey Squirrel and the White Rat'.

What was the strange case?

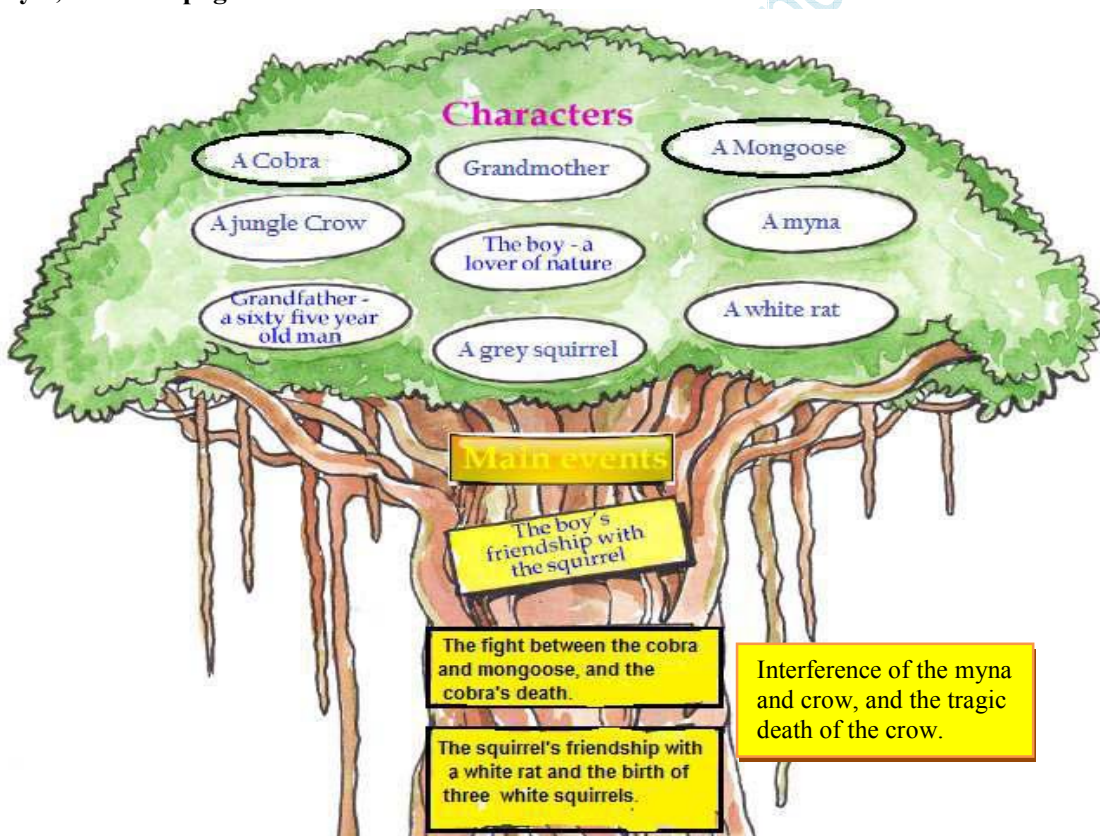
Answer: The white rat became the father of three little white squirrels. That was the strange case.

29. The following table contains some significant words from the story and their definitions in the jumbled order. Match them suitably.

A	B
1. Delve (v)	A) hypnotize
2. Squabble (v)	B) shine
3. Aggressive (adj)	C) a deceptive or pretentious move.
4. Defiance (adj)	D) twist as in pain
5. Mesmerize (v)	E) throw with great force
6. Feint	F) a pleasant shady place under trees
7. Hurl (v)	G) quarrel noisily
8. Glisten (v)	H) a challenge to meet in a combat
9. Writhe (v)	I) vigorous or quarrelsome
10. Bower	J) search thoroughly to find something as if by digging

Answers: 1-J, 2-G, 3-I, 4-H, 5-A, 6-C, 7-E, 8-B, 9-D, 10-F

Activity 1, textbook page 15



Settings:

It was a warm April afternoon; the boy was sitting on the platform he had built halfway up on the banyan tree. A huge black cobra came out from a clump of cactus to the garden beneath the tree. At the same time, a mongoose also came out from a bush and stayed face to face ready for a fight.

Activity 2, textbook page 16

The boy was very much thrilled of his acquaintance with the squirrel. He wrote a letter to his friend telling him about his new friend. Help him to complete the letter.

Ivy Cottage
Landour Cantt
Dehradun

28 Apr 1997

Dear Sravan,

Hope you are enjoying your vacation there. I am doing the same here, at grandpa's house. I got a new friend here. Do you know who the new friend is? A little, cute squirrel grey in colour!

In the beginning he was a little resentful towards me. But now, finding that I am not harmful, he is very friendly and familiar with me even to take food from my hands. You know in our garden there is a magnificent banyan tree, which is older than my grandpa. I often spend my free time on the tree, and the squirrel will also be there with me sometimes in my pocket.

A few days ago, my grandpa brought home a white rat, which he bought from the bazaar. I often take it with me to the tree. Soon it made a friendship with the squirrel. Meanwhile a strange thing happened. My new friend built a nest in a hole in the tree. When we checked it, we found three little white squirrels! My grandpa says that he has not seen white squirrels ever before in his life. And, he also says that the white rat is the father of them.

I invite you to come to our home one day. We can spend enough time in the garden and on the banyan tree. You may come with your sister and parents. They will also be happy to see the rare and strange gift of nature – the white squirrels!

Convey my regards to all at home. I hope to see you soon.

Yours lovingly,

Sd/
Sharat.

Activity 3, textbook page 16

Observing the nature is really interesting. Each and every living being has its own characteristics. The boy in the story narrates certain features of some animals. List them out.

Squirrel	The squirrel was very young. It was small and grey in colour. It was very friendly and a careful observer. Finding the boy not harmful, it became very friendly with him.
Snake	The snake was a huge cobra, and it was black in colour. The cobra was a skilful and experienced fighter. It could move swiftly and strike with the speed of light. The sacs behind its sharp, long fangs were full of deadly venom.
Mongoose	The mongoose was three feet long and grey in colour. It was a superb fighter, clever and aggressive. It had a bushy tail. The long hair on its spine was thick enough to save him from the bites of snakes.

Activity 4, textbook page 17

The boy was thrilled with the fight between the cobra and the mongoose. You may also have the same feeling. Narrate the fight scene in your own words.

Battle of Champions

The boy was sitting on the platform halfway up the tree. He used to read books and enjoy sights down in the garden sitting there. One April afternoon, when everyone was indoors due to the warm breezes of the approaching summer, he was sitting up on the tree as usual. Suddenly he saw a huge, black cobra gliding into the garden beneath him out from a cactus clump. At the same time, a mongoose also emerged from the bush nearby and went straight for the cobra.

Both of them came face to face in a clearing beneath the tree on which the boy was sitting. The cobra defiantly darted his forked tongue in and out and raised three of his six feet off the ground. The mongoose bushed its tail, and the long hair on its spine stood up. They were ready to fight each other.

Two other spectators- a myna and a jungle crow- also came to the scene. The cobra tried to mesmerize his opponent into making a false move. But the mongoose knew the trick and did not fall into the trap. The mongoose moving forward, made a feint to one side. The cobra struck but missed the aim. Immediately the mongoose darted on the snake and bit on its back. At the same moment, the myna and the crow also dived at the cobra but collided themselves. The cobra started getting weaker and weaker as the mongoose attacked him vigorously and repeatedly. In the fight, the cobra whipped his head back and his snout thudded forcefully against the crow's body killing it. Then, the myna wisely refrained from anymore interferences.

Finally, the mongoose with a lightning snap had the cobra by his snout. He writhed for a while and gradually stopped struggling. The winning mongoose, gripping its enemy's hood, dragged it into the bushes. The myna, with a shrill cry of congratulation, flew away!

Activity 5, textbook page 17

'And amongst the wool were the three baby squirrels – all of them white!' The boy couldn't stop wondering about the white squirrels. If he scribbled down this unforgettable sight in his diary, how would it be?

10 April 2019

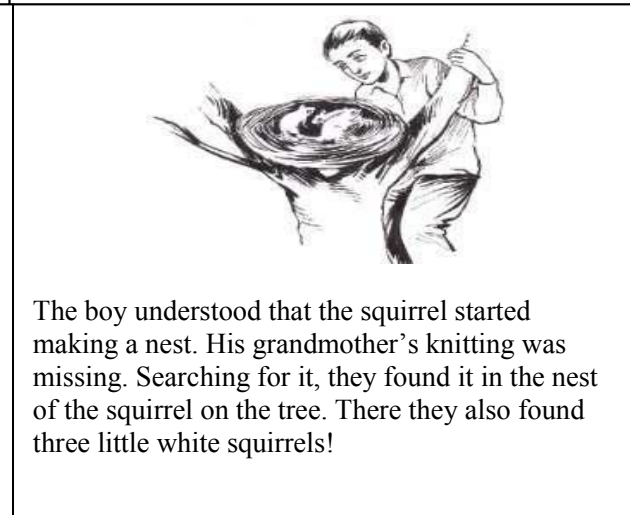
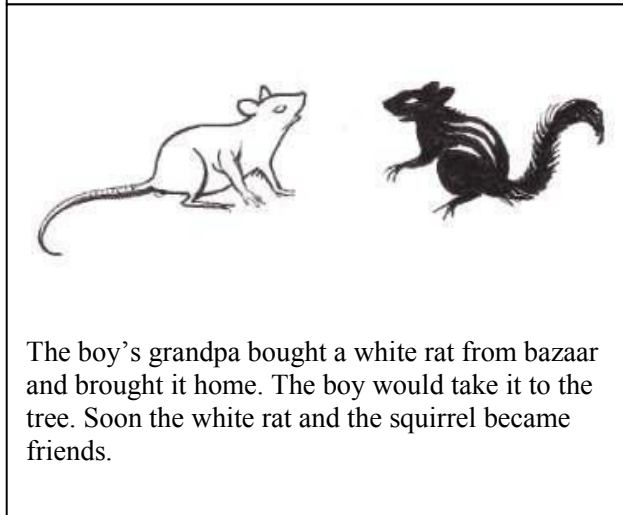
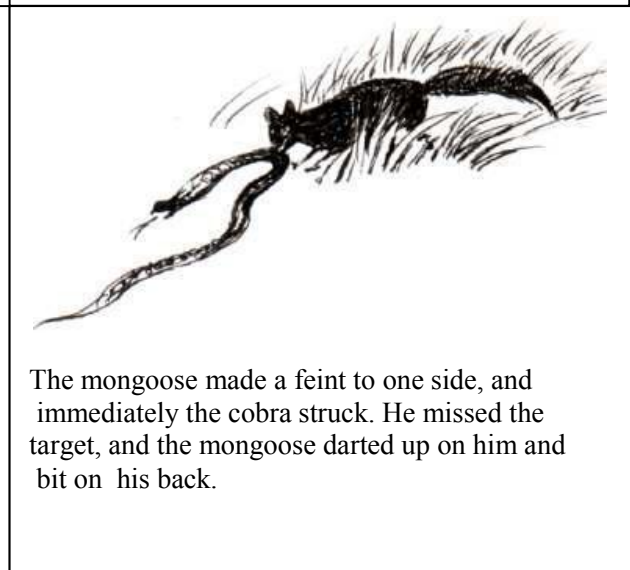
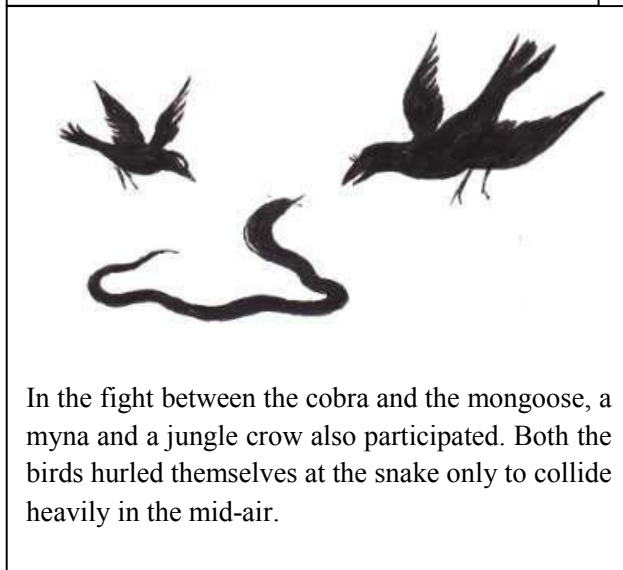
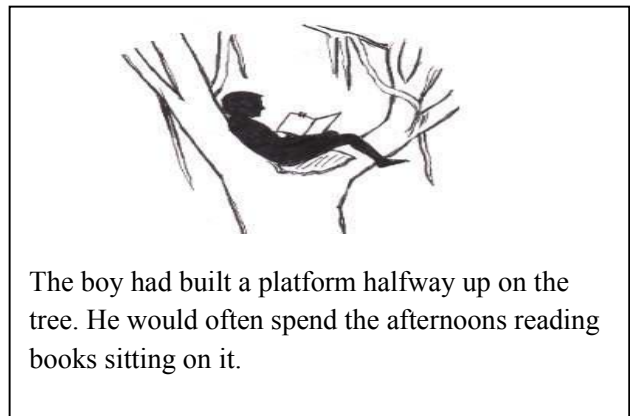
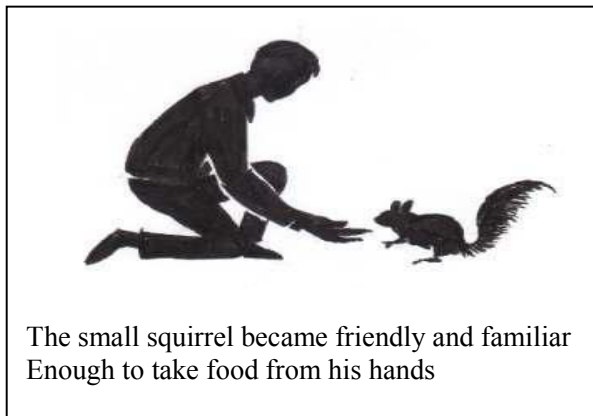
Tuesday

11:00 pm

What a wonderful sight! My grey squirrel has got white babies. I've never seen or heard of white squirrels before. Even grandpa doesn't know about white squirrels. Grandpa is really a nice person. He loves trees, birds, animals and everything in nature. I know he loves me too very much. Actually he might have bought the white rat for me. He said the rats and squirrels were related each other. It is right, as grandpa said, the father of the white baby squirrels is my white rat. How many varieties of creatures are there in nature! We should do everything to protect the nature and its creatures. I'm proud of my grey squirrel, white rat and the white baby squirrels. I will bring all my school friends here to show them these wonderful sights.

Activity 6, textbook page 18

A. The silhouettes of some scenes from the story are given here. Identify the scenes and give cutlines.



B. Based on the cutlines, prepare a narrative.

(See the narrative given under activity 4)

Activity 7, textbook page 19

- a. A single banyan tree creates such beauty and harmony. How will it be if we have such beauty everywhere? What should we do for the conservation of nature? Discuss.

Plant Trees and Preserve Nature

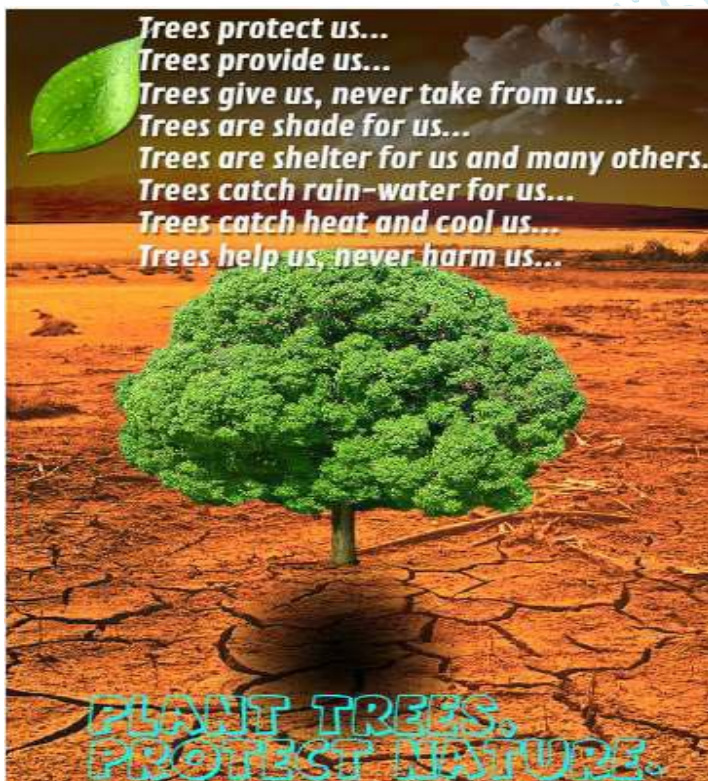
When we read the story, we understand how much a tree can contribute in preserving nature, its beauty, harmony and life. The single banyan tree is a dwelling place for many creatures, a resting place for the boy and a location of sustenance for birds, especially when the fig season comes.

As the Malayalam literary legend, Vaikom Mohammed Basheer said, all the creatures in this world are the 'rightful inheritors of the earth'. So, we the humans do not have a particular right to overuse or exploit the resources of the earth. We should consider our fellow creatures living in this world. When we cut and fell a tree, we are actually violating others' rights as well as damaging our own existence.

Nowadays, the large scale deforestation is a threat to nature. We fell trees in the name of infrastructural development to construct roads and buildings. With the increasing demand for wood fuels and building materials, the deforestation process has also increased. And, the result is hazardous. The depletion of trees decreased the rain-water catchment and increased the global warming.

In order to keep the natural eco-system intact and help life existence possible on the planet earth, it is necessitous for us to promote afforestation. We students should be motivated from stories of this kind, and take an oath to preserve and protect our nature by planting plenty of trees.

- b. Prepare a digital poster on the theme 'Conservation of Nature'.



Slogans on Nature Conservation

- Plant trees, Protect Nature.
- Root of our existence is on top of trees!
- Pollution everywhere, solution nowhere.
- Avoid plastic, save our planet.
- Say NO to pollutants to make life pleasant.
- Global warming is a warning: Carbon emission is a killing poison!
- Don't harm nature; let every creature be calm in future.
- Let rivers flow pure; make lives grow sure.

Activity 8, textbook 19

The story, 'Adventures in a Banyan Tree', portrays the happy childhood of the writer blended with the enchanting nature. Can the future generation enjoy such a beautiful life? Analyse the following pictures and pick out the environmental issues there.



Issue: Deforestation / Felling trees

Impacts: Increasing of global warming, air pollution. Undermining the ecosystem; birds and small animals lose their habitats. Endanger the existence of our future generation.



Issue: Accumulation of Plastic wastes

Plastic pollution is more dangerous and longer-lasting than any other pollutions. Plastic has toxic pollutant that can damage the environment, and cause water, air, land pollution making them toxic. Plastic will take hundreds of years to decompose, so the damage created by it is long-lasting.

Do you think there are serious threat to our earth? What are the possible solutions for these issues?

Afforestation:

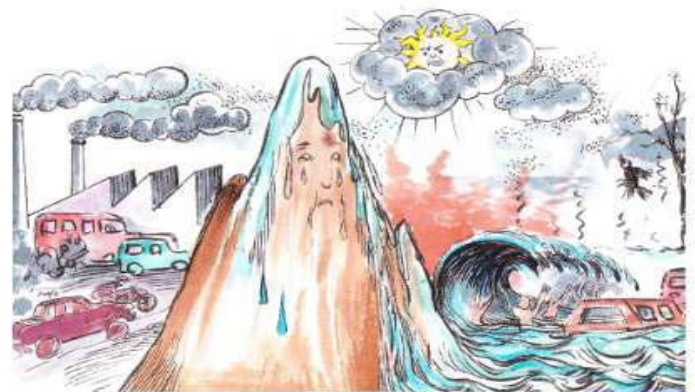
Afforestation and reforestations are two major solutions. Afforestation means to plant trees in barren areas and create new forests. Reforestation means to plant more new trees in the existing forests which have lost lots of trees for various reasons.

Avoid Plastic carry-bags and containers

We know plastic is an enemy of our nature. Still we use it abundantly in our daily life as carry-bags and containers. Plastic has toxic pollutants that can poison our water, land and air in a way lasting for centuries. The only solution is our strong determination to avoid plastic, and instead use only decomposable materials.

Control Carbon Emission

Carbon emissions from industrial factories, vehicles and other appliances is a major cause for rising the global warming and air pollution. Sophisticated methods should be adopted to reduce this threat.



Issue: Uncontrolled Carbon Emissions

The booming industrial and transport developments have affected our environment adversely. The uncontrolled carbon emissions from countless factories and vehicles pollute the atmosphere dangerously.

It adds to the global warming as well as polluting the breathing air. The increase in the atmospheric temperature, especially in the Arctic region, causes losing the sea ice and melting ice sheets. The excessive inflow of freshwater into seas undermine the marine ecosystem. The increasing global warming causes for sudden climate changes which affect the human beings as well as all other living species badly.

- Imagine that the English Club of your school has decided to conduct a seminar on the topic ‘Save the Earth.’ Prepare a notice proclaiming the subject and inviting all the teacher and students.

‘Save the Earth’

(Seminar conducted by the ABC school, Kochi)

Dear teachers and students,

Human encroachments into the world of nature have undermined the ecosystem, and their adverse effects have started threatening the existence of life on Earth. In this scenario, awareness on environment preservation and protection has become vital. So, the English Club of our school has decided to conduct a seminar on the topic ‘Save the Earth’ as detailed below.

All are invited to the programme and requested to participate actively in all sessions.

Date: 07 March 2020

Time: 10 a.m.

Venue: Multimedia Hall

Programme Details

Prayer: The school choir
Welcome Speech: The President, English Club
Topic Presentation: The Secretary, English Club
Keynote Address: The school Principal
Submitting Papers
General Discussions
Interactive Sessions
Vote of Thanks: The school Leader

Kochi
01 Mar 2020

Secretary,
English Club, ABC School

- Prepare a report of the seminar describing the programmes published in the notice.

‘Save the Earth’ – Seminar conducted by the ABC school, Kochi

Ashwin KS
The English Club Secretary,
ABC School, Kochi
10 March 2020

The ABC school, Kochi conducted a seminar on the topic ‘Save the Earth’ at the school’s multimedia hall on 07 March 2020. The sessions started at 10:00am with the prayer by the school choir. The club president welcomed all to the programme. The club secretary presented the topic of the seminar, and the school principal delivered the keynote address focusing on the necessity of saving the earth from all threats and protecting our environment from all pollutions.

In the seminar several papers were submitted and they opened ways for detailed discussions and the interactive sessions became very vibrant. The seminar expressed anxieties on climate changes and global warming and exhorted to find solutions. It was decided to conduct more awareness programmes on the importance of protecting nature and saving our earth from all human threats.

The school leader proposed vote of thanks and the seminar sessions concluded successfully.

Let's learn about words

Activity 1, textbook page 20

1. Pick out the words and phrases used to describe the fight of each warrior.

Snake	Mongoose
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Move swiftly • Strike with speed of light • Hissed defiantly • Darted his forked tongue in and out • Raised three feet of his six feet off the ground • Spread his broad spectacled hood • Swayed slowly from side to side • Tried to mesmerize the mongoose into making a false move. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Made a feint to one side • Darted swiftly • Refused to meet the glassy, unwinking eyes of the snake • Fixed his gaze at a point just below the cobra's hood • Bushed his tail • Raised the long hair on his spine • Bit the snake on the back

Activity 2, textbook page 21

Rewrite the passage using the synonyms of words underlined.

In the spring, when the banyan tree was full of small red figs, birds of all kinds would flock into its branches, the red-bottomed bulbul, cheerful and greedy; gossiping rosy pastors, and parrots and crows, squabbling with each other all the time. During the fig season, the banyan tree was the noisiest place on the road.

- Answers: **small** = tiny, little / **flock** (v) = assemble; gather. Flock (n) = group / **greedy** (adj) = avid; avaricious, voracious / **gossiping** (adj) = backbiting; babbling / **noisiest** (ad) = most uproarious; most clamorous; most vociferous.

Now read the following sentence:

He had never tried taming it, because a wild mongoose was more useful than a domesticated one.

What function do the underlined words perform in this sentence?

- Answer: The underlined words are adjectives. They describe the nouns that follow them. [An adjective is a word that describes or qualifies a noun or pronoun.] (The adjectives 'wild' and 'domesticated' are antonymous as well).

Prepare more word cards picking words from the lesson.

Word	Category	Synonyms	Antonyms	Sentence with synonyms	Sentence with antonyms	Activity with the word
Foolish	Adjective	Silly, stupid, idiotic, witless	Wise	The myna decided to refrain from the fight, which was a wise decision.	The crow took a foolish step and got struck by the snake.	Wisely (adv) Foolishness (n) Suffixed
Hardy	Adjective	Strong, firm; healthy	Weak; unhealthy; Feeble; tender	Hardy plants can grow even in adverse climates.	Towards the end of the fight, the cobra became very weak .	Hardiness (n) Weakness (n) Suffixed
Emerge	Verb	Appear; arrive; emanate	Disappear Hide Fade	The magician emerged from the smoke.	While everyone was watching, he disappeared.	Emergence (n) Disappearance (n) Suffixed
Descend	Verb	Fall; drop; decline Come down	Ascend; climb	The plane finally descended into an unknown airport.	She ascended the stairs with much difficulty.	Descended (v) Ascended (v) Suffixed

Activity 3, textbook page 22

Adjective/Adverbs: Degrees of Comparison

Positive	Comparative	superlative
Old	older	oldest
Swift	Swifter	Swiftest
Good	Better	Best
Bad	Worse	Worst
Aggressive	More aggressive	Most aggressive

Note: There are three degrees of comparison for adjectives and adverbs in English as shown in the table above.

- The positive degree is used to compare between two things or persons with a quality on an equal level. We use the structure “**as...as**” to compare with the positive degree.

E.g. The banyan tree was **as old as** the house.
(Both the tree and the house are old in the same degree)

- The comparative degree is used to compare between two things or persons with a quality on a different level. The quality compared will be either less or more with one of the persons/things. The word ‘**than**’ is used in this type of comparisons.

E.g. The tree was **older than** the house.
(The quality of being old is not equal with the tree and house. The tree has the quality more than the house).

- The superlative degree is used to show that a person or thing has the highest or the lowest quality in a group of more than two persons/things. The determiner (definite article) ‘**the**’ is used with superlative degree forms.

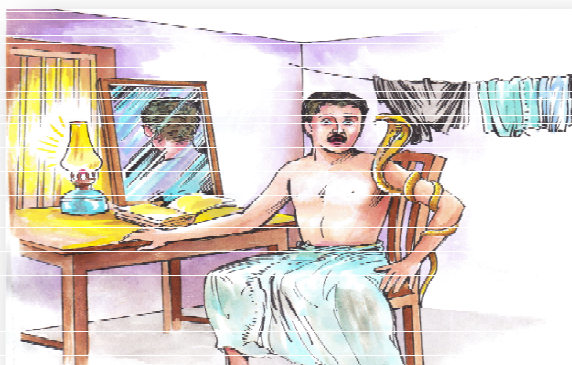
E.g. It was **the oldest** banyan tree in the town.
(The banyan tree is compared to all other trees in the town, and shows that it has the quality of being old in the highest degree among all other trees in the town).

Fill in the blanks suitably.

- No other animal is asas the crow. (clever, cleverer, cleverest)
Answer: Clever
- The grey mongoose was.....than the cobra. (aggressive, more aggressive, most aggressive)
Answer: more aggressive
- The banyan tree was the.....place on the road. (noisy, noisier, noisiest)
Answer: noisiest
- The cobra was a.....fighter. (skilful, more skilful, most skilful)
Answer: skilful
- The evening was.....than the morning. (hot, hotter, hottest)
Answer: hotter
- The myna was as.....as the crow. (contented, more contented, most contented)
Answer: contented
- It was the.....fight of the snake with the mongoose. (bad, worse, worst)
Answer: worst
- It was one of the.....vacations the boy had. (unforgettable, more unforgettable, most unforgettable)
Answer: most unforgettable
- Grandfather is the.....member of the family. (old, older, oldest)
Answer: oldest
- The mongoose darted in as.....as the cobra. (swiftly, more swiftly, most swiftly)
Answer: swiftly.

Lesson – 2

The Snake and the Mirror



Shri Vaikom Mohammed Basheer was born on 19 January 1908 at Vaikom, a princely state of Travancore. He was a noted writer and a freedom fighter. He wrote novels and stories in a very simple and open language and in a funny style. His most famous works are *Balyakala Sakhi*, *Pathummayude Aadu*, *Mathilukal*, *Nuppuppakkoru Aanendaarnnu*, *Janmadinam*, *Anargha Nimisham* etc. He was awarded the Padma Shri in 1982. When he was 86, the Bepore Sultwan – so was he called fondly – passed away on 05 July 1994.

Glossary:

1. **Coil (V):** to wind or reel
2. **Coil (N):** something wound
3. **Homoeopath (N):** a person who treats illness using homoeopathic methods
4. **Attentively :** carefully
5. **Kerosene:** a light fuel oil obtained by distilling petroleum
6. **Earning:** (here) income
7. **Meager :** inadequate, insufficient
8. **Possessed:** owned
9. **Solitary:** lonely, (here) single
10. **Hang (v) (pt; pp hung):** fix something at the top and leaving other parts free to move.
11. **Hang (v) (pt; pp hanged):** kill by dropping with a rope around the neck, or to die in this way.
12. **Tiled roof:** roof covered with tiles
13. **Gable:** the top end of the wall of a building, in the shape of a triangle, where it meets the sloping parts of a roof
14. **Traffic (n) :** (here) movement
15. **Lie down (pt lay, pp lain):** to be on a surface in a horizontal position as in a bed. (antonym: **Get up**)
16. **Tempted :** attracted, interested, inclined
17. **Admirer (n):** a person who admires.(**Admire:** respect and approve, (here) accept and enjoy)
18. **Take a look (pt took a look):** look
19. **Make a decision (pt made a decision):** decide
20. **Earthshaking (adj):** extremely important or great in effect.
21. **Light (V) (pt lit or lighted, pp lit or lighted):** burn
22. **Pace (V):** to walk with regular steps in one direction and then back again.
23. **Strike (v):** (here) feel or think (pt struck, pp struck)
24. **Plenty:** enough or more than enough, a large amount of.
25. **Resume (v):** start again after a pause, restart.
26. **Dull:** bad or boring
27. **Thud:** a sound produced when something heavy falls or hits something else.
28. **Wriggle (v):** twist and turn
29. **Simultaneous (adj):** happening or done at the same time.
30. **Slither (v):** to move like a snake.

19. He felt some pain in his left arm. It was as if by a rod made of molten fire crushing his arm and he felt drained of all strength of his arm.
20. The homoeopathic doctor asked this question himself. Such question are known as the Rhetorical Questions.
21. The snake stayed only four inches away from his face. If he moved it would bite him and there was no medicine in his room.
22. The funny thoughts came into his mind were whether the snake was admiring its own beauty, whether it was taking a decision about growing a moustache, using eye shadow and mascara or wearing a vermilion spot on its forehead.
23. '*Unwound*' is the word.
24. 'I knew nothing for certain'.
25. Perhaps the snake wanted to enjoy its reflection at closer quarters.
26. Everybody was very anxious to know how the shocking moments had ended. When they knew the snake left the doctor and he escaped without any harm, they all relieved.
27. He wished to marry a fat woman who would not be able to chase him. But actually he married a thin reedy woman with the gift of a sprinter.
28. a) Someone asked the doctor whether the snake had followed him when he had run.
b) The doctor replied that he had run till he had reached a friend's house.
29. The thieves cleared out everything except a dirty vest which they left behind as a final insult.
30. 'It was a snake which was taken with its own beauty.'

Let's revisit

➤ Activity 1, Textbook page 28

Pick out sentences from the story 'The Snake and the Mirror' and complete the table below. These sentences tell you the condition of the narrator. Some hints are given.

was afraid of the snake	was proud of his appearance	was no longer afraid of the snake
I was turned to a stone.	I looked into the mirror and smiled.	I didn't tremble. I didn't cry out.
I sat there like a stone image in the flesh. I tried to write in bright letters outside my little heart the words 'O, God'! The arm was beginning to be drained of all strength. Death lurked four inches away.	I believed in making myself look handsome. I picked up the comb and ran it through the hair. I took a close look at my face in the mirror. I would shave daily and grow a thin moustache to look more handsome. I would always keep that attractive smile on my face to look more handsome.	I didn't jump. It would not be correct to say merely I sat there holding my breath. But my mind was very active. I forgot my danger and smiled feebly at myself. I was no mere image cut in granite. I was suddenly a man of flesh and blood. Still holding my breath I got up from the chair.

Read the following sentences and punctuate them.

- The tree was older than the house.
- I saw a cobra and a mongoose fighting.
- What a spectacular sight!
- Will the mongoose kill the snake?
- Son, get down from the tree.
- Please answer me.
- Oh, what happy times those had been!
- What did man do to nature?

Discuss:

- Based on the punctuation marks, four types of sentences are identified.
- Two types of sentences set the end in a full stop.
- Two types of sentences that end with a full stop are assertive sentences (statements) and imperative sentences (commands or requests).
- We can identify four types of sentences with punctuation marks.
- The four types are: Assertive, Imperative, Interrogative and Exclamatory sentences.
- Assertive and Imperative sentences end with a **Full Stop**. Interrogative (question) sentences end with a **Question Mark**, and the exclamatory sentences end with an **Exclamation Mark**.

Now categorise these sentences under these heads in the following table

Statement (Statement sentences are called Assertive)	The tree was older than the house. I saw a cobra and a mongoose fighting.
Command/Request (Sentences that express command, order and request are called Imperative sentences.)	Son, get down from the tree. Please answer me.
Question (Sentences that ask questions are called Interrogative sentences)	Will the mongoose kill the snake? What did the man do to nature?
Exclamation (Sentences that express emotions and feelings are called Exclamatory sentences)	What a spectacular sight! Oh, what happy times those had been!

Interrogative, Exclamatory, Imperative, Assertive

Now, write two examples each for the sentence types you have identified.

1. Where did the boy build the platform?	Interrogative
2. How much did Grandpa pay for the white rat?	
3. What a big cobra!	Exclamatory
4. How dreadful the fight was!	
5. Please give me some water to drink.	Imperative
6. Don't go inside the bush.	
7. It was a full-blooded cobra.	Assertive.
8. The squirrel and white rat became friends.	

Activity 2, textbook page 35.

➤ **Negative Sentences**

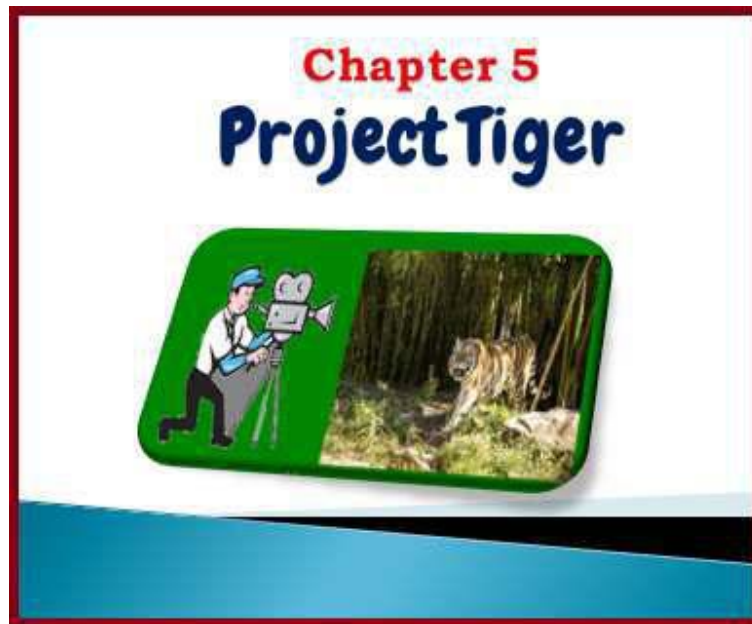
Normally negative sentences are created by adding **not** or its contracted form **n't** to the auxiliary verb in the sentence. If there is no auxiliary verb in the sentence, **do**, **does**, or **did** is used in accordance with the tense form of the main verb.

Example: 1. Grandpa **can** climb the tree. (Affirmative/positive)

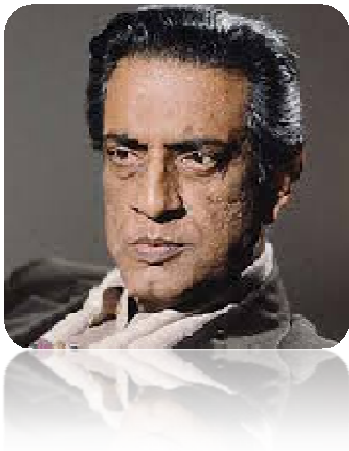
Grandpa **cannot** (can't) climb the tree. (Negative)

2. The mongoose lives in the garden. (Affirmative/Positive)

The mongoose **does not** (doesn't) live in the garden. (Negative)



About the Author: Satyajit Ray (1921 – 1992)



Satyajit Ray was an Indian filmmaker, screenwriter, graphic artist, music composer and author, widely regarded as one of the greatest filmmakers of the 20th century. He was born on 2 May 1921 in Kolkata. He directed 36 films, including feature films, documentaries and short films. Ray won many prestigious awards including the Dadasaheb Phalke Award, India's highest award in the field of cinema. He was awarded the Bharat Ratna in 1992. The great Indian legend Ray left this world on 23 April 1992 in Kolkata.

Glossary:

1. **Beat (v):** (here) defeat.
2. **Hollywood (n):** (Definition) an area in Los Angeles, California, that is considered the centre of the movie industry in the US.
3. **Impressive (adj):** appealing, attractive.
4. **Collie (n):** a sheepdog of a breed originating in Scotland, having a long pointed nose and long thick hair.
5. **Reverently (adv):** respectfully.
6. **Customary (adj):** habitual, usual, normal.
7. **Stand-in (n):** a substitute, a person who stands in for another. (Pl stand-ins)
8. **Quietly (adv):** calmly
9. **Protagonist (n):** the main character in a film, novel, story, play etc. (antonym: antagonist)
10. **Puzzle (v):** confuse, perplex

11. **Dwarf (n):** an unusually short person (antonym: giant)
12. **Amazement (n):** astonishment, surprise, perplexity
13. **On all fours:** with hands and knees on the ground. *Went down on all the fours* = crawled/moved on hands and knees.
14. **Drape (v):** cover
15. **Crawl (v)** creep; to move slowly on hands and knees.
16. **Dawn (v):** appear; become clear, understand. **Dawn (n):** daybreak, sunrise (antonym: dusk); *downed upon me* = I understood, it became clear to me.
17. **Raven (n):** a large bird of the crow family.
18. **Creator (n):** producer
19. **Get hold of:** obtain
20. **Admittedly (adv):** certainly, undeniably.
21. **That is to say:** in other words; or more exactly. (*That is to say, they could not do anything that might be seen as extraordinary.....isn't that pretty impressive?* = In other words, even if the ravens might not be able to do anything extraordinary, if they obey the command to perch quietly in a row, that is really an impressive result of a good training.)
22. **Managed to do something:** succeeded in doing something, especially something difficult.
23. **Was supposed to do:** was expected to do.
24. **Deal with:** handle (V)
25. **Banish (V):** expel, exile; send someone away from a country as an official punishment.
26. **Wander (v):** travel aimlessly.
27. **Freeze (v):** (here) become suddenly motionless or paralysed with fear or shock.
28. **Slightest (adj, superlative)** inconsiderable, not worth mentioning.
29. **Pay attention (v):** listen, watch; take notice of.
30. **Obvious (adj):** clear; easily understood. (antonym: Obscure)
31. **Likely (adj):** probable. **Likely (adv):** probably.
32. **As a matter of fact:** really, actually; in reality, in fact.
33. **Greeted warmly:** received or welcomed happily.
34. **Turned out to be:** became known to be; was disclosed to be
35. **Well built (adj):** having a strong physique; with strong body.
36. **Somewhat (adv):** rather, quite, almost.
37. **Scar (n):** a mark left on skin after a wound etc. healed.
38. **Forearm (n):** the part of a person's arm extending from the elbow to the wrist or the fingertips.
39. **Take place:** happen, occur.
40. **All the animal was required to do:** All that we wanted the animal to do.
41. **Pace gently:** walk gently, move calmly.
42. **Nodded:** moved head up and down as to agree.
43. **A couple of:** two
44. **In addition:** additionally, moreover.
45. **I couldn't help asking** (Can + not + help + verb-ing): I was unable to control myself from asking.
46. **Frown (v):** make a serious, angry or worried expression by bringing eyebrows closer so that lines appear on forehead. (നെറ്റിച്ചുളിക്കുക, മുഷിപ്പ് കാണിക്കുക)
47. **Go down the drain:** To fail; to be ruined or destroyed.
48. **Petrified (adj):** terrified, frightened
49. **Supposedly (adv):** hypothetically; in a way assumed as true.

50. **Ferocious (adj):** violent, fierce.
51. **Invisible (adj):** cannot be seen by eyes. (antonym: visible)
52. **Flatten (v):** make flat.
53. **Tackle (v):** deal with, handle cleverly.
54. **Well-fed (adj):** fat.
55. **Robust (adj):** strong and healthy.
56. **Tripod (n):** a stand/support with three legs.
57. **Relatively :** comparatively
58. **Rod:** long straight bar or pole of wood or metal.
59. **Unfastened:** opened, untied.
60. **At once:** immediately; at the same time.
61. **Startled (adj):** shocked, bewildered.
62. **Taken aback:** frightened, shocked.
63. **The rest:** the remaining.
64. **Sedately (adv):** very calmly
65. **Dignified:** calm and respectful.
66. **Prance (v):** move/jump with high steps.
67. **Tremendous (adj):** huge, very big, having high degree.
68. **Enthusiasm (n):** passion, interest.
69. **Leap (v):** jump (leap, leaped/leapt, leaped/leapt)
70. **Drag (v):** pull forcefully.
71. **Desperately (adv):** (here) critically, dangerously, seriously.
72. **Clutch (v):** grasp or hold tightly.
73. **Futile (adj):** useless, fruitless; bringing no useful result.
74. **Staring:** looking
75. **Give it a go:** try doing something. **Give it another go** = try again; make a second attempt.
76. **Pay attention to:** take care of; be careful of; listen carefully or seriously.
77. **Afford:** be able to; have enough of something to spend.
78. **Argue (v):** dispute; engage in arguments.
79. **Clang (n):** a loud metallic sound. **Roar:** a deep loud cry of a lion, tiger etc. (both these words are *onomatopoeic*, i.e. the sound of the word represents or indicates its meaning.
80. **Charge at:** aggressively rush toward.
81. **Gathered:** assembled.
82. **Melt away:** melt into a liquid. **Melted away as if by magic** = magically disappeared.
83. **Burst of energy:** (here) violent and ferocious expression of anger.
84. **Amble (v):** walk at a slow, relaxed speed.
85. **Behaved (v):** (here) performed well.

Prepared by Mahmud K Pukayoor (englisheduspot.blogspot.com)



Questions Based on Textual Passages

Read the paragraph 1 of the memoir 'Project Tiger' and answer the following questions.

Q 1-5 (From SCERT Question Pool)

1. How does Hollywood excel others in making films?
2. How does Ray remember Rin-tin-tin?
3. "The trained dogs were famous stars in their own rights." Why does Ray say so?
4. Pick out the word which is opposite in meaning to the word 'notorious'.
5. "The **dog's** acting was more impressive than a **human's**." The words in bold are possessives. Write another sentence in the similar pattern.

Read paragraphs 2 and 3 of the memoir 'Project Tiger' and answer the following questions.

6. What did Ray realise when he saw a film shooting twenty years ago in Disney studio in Hollywood?
7. Why is it customary for the actors to be present when the lights are arranged?
8. Who is a stand-in?
9. What puzzled Ray when he was watching the film shooting?
10. "This job is done by their stand-ins". Rewrite this sentence beginning with "Their stand-ins".

Read paragraphs 4 and 5 of the memoir 'Project Tiger' and answer the following questions.

11. What was the strange thing Ray witnessed in the Disney studio?
12. What was the role of the dwarf in the shooting?
13. "Even this was made possible in Hollywood". What was that difficult thing made possible in Hollywood?
14. What do you understand about Alfred Hitchcock from the passage?
15. What is the main thread of the story of the film "Birds"?
16. How could Hitchcock manage to find out enough trained birds?

Read paragraphs 6 - 8 of the memoir 'Project Tiger' and answer the following questions.

17. What was pretty impressive about the trained ravens, according to Ray?
18. What is required to get good performance out of animals?
19. How did Goopy and Bagha reach in the forest?
20. "Goopy is banished by the king". "Bagha is also banished by the king".
Combine these two sentences using "Both...and".
21. What happens when they see a tiger in the forest?

Read paragraphs 9 and 10 of the memoir ‘Project Tiger’ and answer the following questions.

22. How did Ray manage to get a tiger?
23. Who was Thorat and how did he look like?
24. According to Ray, what was the tiger required to do in the shooting?
25. Change the following sentences into reported speech.

“How long will you need the tiger for?” asked the manager.

“Perhaps a couple of hours for the shooting”, Ray replied.

Read paragraphs 11 and 12 of the memoir ‘Project Tiger’ and answer the following questions.

26. Why did Ray think that all their plans would go down the drain?
27. What was the solution suggested by Thorat to set the tiger free?
28. Why did Ray suggest a collar made of tiger-skin be used?
29. *“The wire will be thin but strong”*. Here two adjectives of somewhat contrasting meaning are connected by the conjunction **‘but’**. Write another sentence of the same pattern.
30. *“Go down the drain”* means *“be wasted”*. Write a sentence using *‘go down the drain’* other than what you find in these passages.

Read paragraphs 13 - 15 of the memoir ‘Project Tiger’ and answer the following questions.

31. Why did Ray and team select Notun Gram village for the shooting?
32. How many people were present in the location totally?
33. Why were they surprised when the covering of the lorry was removed?
34. “I decided to play it safe”. What was Mr.Thorat’s safe play?
35. Why should the actors and the tiger be close to the bamboo grove and within yards of the camera?

Read the paragraph 16 of the memoir ‘Project Tiger’ and answer the following questions.

36. What were the arrangements made by Mr. Tharat’s men before releasing the tiger?
37. How was the tiger expected to behave and how did it actually behave?
38. What did Mr.Thrat’s startled and helpless face reveal?
39. How did Ray comment humorously on all these unexpected and fearful incidents?
40. Mr. Thorat called out to the tiger. Almost at once it responded and sprang out of its cage. Combine these two sentences using “as soon as”.

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Read paragraphs 17 and 18 of the memoir ‘Project Tiger’ and answer the following questions.

41. “This should have been the end of the story”. Why was it not the end of the story? OR, why did they have to shoot the scenes all over again?
42. Where did the second attempt of the shooting take place?
43. What happened when the door of the cage was opened?
44. What was the magic performed by the tiger?
45. How did the tiger behave in this second attempt of shooting?
46. The word “clang” is an example of onomatopoeia. Find out another onomatopoeic word from the same passage.

Answers to questions based on the textual passages

1. Hollywood excels others in making films with animals in them.
2. Ray remembers Rin-tin-tin from films in his childhood. The dog’s acting was more impressive than that of the human actors.
3. The dogs could do just about anything that their directors made them do. The money they earned was almost the same as what a real film star got.
4. ‘Famous’ is the word opposite in meaning to ‘notorious’.
5. Raghav’s painting was more beautiful than his brother’s.
6. Ray realized that the animal actors were treated very reverently.
7. The actors have to show the cameraman how they will walk or where they will stand in a particular shot.
8. A stand-in is usually a person who is physically similar to the real actor.
9. When the cameraman gave instruction to all the stars, they took their positions. But the protagonist the large dog did not move. This incident puzzled Ray.
10. ‘Their stand-ins do this job’.
11. A dwarf covered in a hairy dog-skin went down on all the fours on a chalk mark on the floor just like an animal and crawled from one mark to another. This dwarf was paid to be the stand-in of a dog actor.
12. The role of the dwarf was to be the stand-in of the protagonist dog.
13. To use nearly one hundred trained ravens in a film is really a difficult thing. But even this was made possible in Hollywood.
14. Alfred Hitchcock was the creator of some of the best suspense films in the history of cinema and he produced the film ‘Birds’.
15. Birds from all over the world start attacking humans. This is the story thread of the film “Birds”.
16. He placed notices in newspapers all over the United States asking people to contact him if they knew how to get hold of trained ravens.
17. If the trainer orders as many as fifty ravens to perch quietly in a row on a specified spot and if they obey this command instantly, it is pretty impressive.
18. If those who are dealing with animals are prepared to be patient, a good performance out of animals is possible.
19. Goopy and Bagha were banished by the king and thus they reached in the forest.
20. Both Goopy and Bagha are banished by the king.
21. When they see a tiger in the forest, they freeze in fear.
22. Ray contacted the manager of the Bharat Circus Company and arranged with them to get a tiger for the shooting.
23. Mr.Thorat was the ringmaster of the Bharat Circus. He was a well built man around forty years old. Although he was a South Indian, he looked like a Nepali.

24. Ray wanted the tiger to come out of bamboo grove into an open space, pace gently for a while, look at the camera if possible and then go back.
25. The manager asked Ray how long he would need the tiger for. Ray replied that perhaps for a couple of hours for shooting.
26. When Mr.Thorat told Ray that he had never before let the tiger out of its cage on its own, Ray became dubious about the success of the shooting and thought that their efforts would be wasted. It was not good to shoot and show the tiger with its trainer.
27. Thorat suggested that he would tie a thin but strong wire round the tiger's neck.
28. The thin wire round the tiger's neck wouldn't be visible to camera but it would flatten the hair on the tiger's neck. So Ray suggested using a tiger-skin collar and fix the wire to the collar.
29. Their product will be useful but costly.
30. 'You have prepared well for the examination. But if you lose confidence, all your **efforts will go down the drain**'.
31. They found a suitable bamboo grove to film the scenes in Notun Gram village.
32. There were about twenty five people in the location in addition to a few local people who got our permission to watch the shooting.
33. They were surprised to see two well-fed and robust tigers instead of one.
34. Mr.Thorat's safe play was that if one tiger didn't perform as required, they could use the other.
35. It was necessary for them to have at least one shot that showed Goopy, Bagha and the tiger together in the bamboo grove.
36. They fixed a five foot iron rod to the ground about thirty feet from the area where the tiger was supposed to walk. Then they fixed one end of a thin long wire to the tiger- skin collar that the tiger was wearing and the other end they tied firmly to the iron rod.
37. The tiger was expected to walk sedately in a dignified manner. But it started prancing around, leapt, jumped and rolled about dragging its trainer Mr.Thorat.
38. His startled and helpless face revealed that he was also as frightened as the rest of the others.
39. Ray commented that they all stood around foolishly watching a new and strange kind of circus which they got to see free of cost.
40. As soon as Mr. Thorat called out to the tiger, it responded and sprang out of its cage.
41. Once the tiger had calmed down, they took some shots. But later when they examined them, they realized that the camera had failed to work properly and the shots were too dark to distinguish things. So the story did not end there and they had to shoot everything all over again.
42. The second attempt of the shooting was in another bamboo grove closer to Calcutta in a village called Boral.
43. When the cage was opened, the tiger emerged with a loud roar and charged straight at the villagers gathered there.
44. The tiger charged at the villagers with a loud roar and the crowd of about hundred and fifty people melted away as if by a magic.
45. The tiger calmed down soon and behaved like an obedient child. It walked over to its spot, paced as it required to do and then ambled back to its trainer.
46. 'Roar' is another onomatopoeic word.

Textual Activities

Project Tiger

➤ (Activity 1, Textbook Page 57)

Satyajit Ray and his friends had to shoot the scenes involving the tiger twice at Notun Gram and Boral. Write the events that took place in both the places in a sequential order and then describe the shooting.

Shooting at Notun Gram	Shooting at Boral
1. Found a suitable bamboo grove in Notun Gram.	1. Found a bamboo grove near Calcutta in Boral.
2. A lorry arrived with two well-filled tigers.	2. Mr.Thorat brought again the tiger, the iron rod, the wire, the collar etc. in a lorry.
3. Arranged the camera and placed it facing the bamboo grove.	3. The village audience were told to stay seventy feet away from the camera.
4. Instructed the audience to stand behind away from the camera.	4. The villagers were not ready to stay away and we did not have time to waste by arguing with them.
5. Fixed an iron rod to the ground and tied one end of a thin wire to the iron rod and the other end to the tiger-skin collar that the tiger was already wearing around its neck.	5. Got the camera ready and signaled to Mr.Thorat to open the cage.
6. The cage of the tiger was opened.	6. Mr.Thorat opened the cage and the tiger charged at the villagers.
7. The tiger sprang out and started prancing around with tremendous enthusiasm.	7. The audience melted away as if by magic.
8. The trainer Mr.Thorat was startled and made futile efforts to bring it under control.	8. After a while the tiger calmed down and behaved like an obedient child.
9. When the tiger calmed itself some shots were taken.	9. The required shots were taken.
10. When checked later, found that the camera failed to work and the shots were too dark.	10. After two days when checked, found this time the camera also worked good and the shots were perfect.

Shooting at Notun Gram	Shooting at Boral
<p>Satyajith Ray and his team first found a suitable bamboo grove in Notun Gram. The trainer of Bharat Circus Mr.Thorat brought there two well-fed tigers in a lorry. Then they arranged the camera and placed it facing the bamboo grove. Before opening the cage of the tiger, the audience were instructed to stay away. They fixed an iron rod to the ground and tied one end of a thin steel wire to the rod and fixed the other end to the tiger-skin collar which the tiger was already wearing around</p>	<p>They found another bamboo grove near Calcutta in Boral. Once again Mr.Thorat brought the tiger, the iron rod, the steel wire, the tiger-skin collar etc in a lorry. There were more villagers there, and they were instructed to stay behind the camera at least seventy feet away. But nobody was ready to accept the instructions. They had no time to argue with the audience. They made all the arrangements and set the camera ready. Mr.Thorat opened the cage</p>

<p>its neck. Mr.Thorat opened the cage and the tiger sprang out and started prancing around with tremendous enthusiasm. They were shocked to see this unexpected behavior of the tiger and even Mr.Thorat was taken aback. He was helpless to bring it under control. After a while the tiger calmed down and they immediately took a few shots they needed. But when they returned to Calcutta and checked the scenes, they realized that the camera had failed to work and the scenes were too dark. They had to shoot the scenes all over again.</p>	<p>and the tiger fiercely charged at the crowd of about hundred and fifty people gathered there. But all of them melted away as if by magic when the tiger turned to them. In a short while, the tiger behaved gently and walked as they required like an obedient child. They soon shot all the scenes they needed. After two days when they returned to Calcutta, they realized that this time not only the tiger had behaved well but also the camera had worked in a good way. All the shots were in perfect order.</p>
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➤ **(Activity 2, Textbook page 57)**

Prepare a conversation between Ray and the circus company manager.

Ray: Good morning, sir. I'm Satyajit Ray.
Manager: Very good morning. Welcome sir; pleased to meet you!
Ray: If you don't mind, I would like a favour from you.
Manager: Always with pleasure. What can I do for your?
Ray: You've many trained tigers, haven't you? I need one.
Manager: You need a tiger! What's it for?
Ray: I'm going to shoot a new film in which there is a scene of the hero meeting a tiger.
Manager: How long will the shooting take?
Ray: It won't take very long. Perhaps two hours.
Manager: It's okay. You can have one or two tigers and the trainer, Mr. Thorath.
Ray: Very kind of you. Thank you very much!
Manager: You're welcome!

➤ **(Activity 3, textbook page 58) Prepare a notice advertising that Alfred Hitchcock wants a large number of ravens for his film 'Birds'**

<p>TRAINED RAVENS WANTED</p> <p>Hollywood 06 March 2019.</p> <p>Alfred Hitchcock, the film director, is in need of many varieties of trained birds for his new film 'Birds'. Those who have trained ravens and other birds may contact Hitchcock immediately.</p> <p>Phone:123456789 Email: mail@email.</p>

➤ Activity 4, textbook page 58)

Mr. Satyajit Ray wants to get permission from the Chairman of Animal Welfare Board of India for shooting a film in which a tiger is used. Prepare a likely letter.

**Flat No.14
Vasanth Vihar
Marcus Square
Calcutta.**

06 Mar 2019

**The Chairman
Animal Welfare Board of India
New Delhi.**

***Subject: Getting permission for using a tiger in a film shooting.**

Dear Sir,

I am Satyajit Ray, a film director from Calcutta. I have a plan to direct a film in which there is a scene of the main characters meeting a wild tiger in a forest.

I have already arranged with the Bharat Circus company to get a tiger with its trainer. I know the rules of Animal Welfare Board connected with treating animals. I and my team will follow those rules strictly and will not do anything harmful to the tiger.

I will be obliged and grateful to you, If you kindly grant me permission to shoot my film with the tiger.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully,

**Sd/
Satyajit Ray.**

***The subject caption is optional and can be omitted.**

➤ (Activity 5, Textbook page 59)

Ray begins his article with the topic sentence, 'No one can beat Hollywood when it comes to making films with animals in them'. How does Ray substantiate his arguments?

Ray substantiates his arguments that no one can beat Hollywood in making films with animals by citing examples from his personal experiences. He remembers certain films in which the main characters were dogs. He says that there was an Alsatian dog named Rin-tin-tin whose acting was more impressive than a human actor's. He also remembers another collie dog called Lassie. The directors could make Lassie play whatever role in a film. These animal actors were famous stars and had human stand-ins. The money they earned was not less than what a real film star got. In Hollywood what we think impossible has been made possible - making trained ravens act in films – as in the film 'Birds' by Alfred Hitchcock.

➤ (Activity 6, Textbook Page 59)

Points in favour of new generation films and film-makers	Points against new generation films and film-makers
1. Take all efforts to make films resemble real-life.	1. Lacking in the inborn artistic talents of actors.
2. Make films in maximum perfection due to high competition.	2. Compromise the quality for monetary benefits.
3. New generation films are technically hi-tech.	3. Exaggeration of scenes and situations
4. Production of films with various subjects and stories has increased.	4. Quantity of films increased, quality reduced.
5. Quality of acting and dialogue rendering has increased for fear of severe criticism.	5. The technology over-powered the ability of actors and artists.
6. Modern technologies help create perfection in graphics, pictures, colour and sound mixing etc.	6. Technological advancement dimmed the human artistic ability.

<p>We can say the new generation film-makers take all efforts to make their film resemble the real-life situations. They have high competition in the film field. So they make films in maximum perfection. The modern technology has made the new generation films technically hi-tech. In the new generation period, the film production has considerably increased, and more films on various subjects and stories are created. In modern times, opportunities for criticism are plenty. So, stereo type acting and dialogue rendering are seriously criticized and eliminated. In the modern time, film makers have more advanced technologies to make researches on various subjects, and to make perfection in terms of graphics, pictures, colour and sound mixing etc.</p>	<p>We can say that the new-gen films often lack the inborn artistic talents of actors. Due to high competition in the industry, new-gen film-makers often compromise the quality for monetary benefits. In modern films, exaggerated scenes and situations are created technically. The more the number of films produced, the less the quality of films in the new-gen period. The ability of actors and artists has become less important because of the artificiality created by modern technologies. Legendary actors with God-gifted talents have no big role in the new-gen films. Even an average director with average artists can create standard films with the help of modern technologies.</p>
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➤ (Activity 1, Textbook page 60, 61) **Film Terminology**

1. If you want to show the feelings of a character, what type of a shot will you choose?	Close up shot
2. If you want to show a character running, what camera movement will you use?	Dolly / Tracking
3. If your protagonist is walking disappointedly through a paddy field, which camera angle will you use?	High Angle
4. If you want to show a tall tree from bottom to top, which camera movement will you use?	Tilt
5. If you want to shoot a character saying something very casual, which shot would you prefer?	Medium shot

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