Chapter 1: Fables and Folk Tales

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Exercise 1.1 — Let us discuss (mid-story) — A Bottle of Dew

Q1 What did Rama Natha believe?

SOLUTION

Rama Natha believed there was a magic potion that could turn any object into gold.

He spent all his time trying to find out more about this potion, even though people cheated him repeatedly.

Answer: He believed in a magic potion that could turn any object into gold.

Q2 How did the sage help Rama Natha?

SOLUTION

The sage Mahipati told Rama Natha to plant banana plants and collect the morning dew from their leaves during winter.

He instructed Rama Natha to do this work himself and to collect five litres of dew, after which he would chant magic words over it.

This was actually a trick to make Rama Natha work hard on his own land.

Answer: The sage gave Rama Natha a task — to collect five litres of morning dew from banana plants he grew himself — which secretly made him work hard on his land.

Q3 Do you think Rama Natha will be able to collect the dew? Give a reason.

SOLUTION

Yes, Rama Natha will be able to collect the dew if he is determined and patient.

The sage said he could plant as many banana plants as he wanted, so by growing a large plantation and collecting dew every winter, he should be able to gather five litres over several years.

Answer: Yes, if he is patient and plants many banana plants, he can collect enough dew over the years.

Exercise 1.2 — Let us discuss (end-story) — A Bottle of Dew

Q1 Why was Rama Natha angry?

SOLUTION

Rama Natha was angry because when he sprinkled the dew on a copper vessel, nothing happened — it did not turn to gold.

He felt he had wasted six precious years of his life chasing what he now thought was a lie.

Answer: He was angry because the dew did not turn the copper vessel to gold, and he felt he had wasted six years of his life.

Q2 How did Rama Natha and Madhumati create wealth?

SOLUTION

Rama Natha worked hard tending his banana plantation for six years.

Madhumati gathered the banana crop, took it to the market, and sold it at a good price.

Over the years, their plantation grew larger and they earned a box full of gold coins through this honest hard work.

Answer: Rama Natha cared for the banana plants and Madhumati sold the fruit in the market. Together, their hard work over six years earned them real wealth.

Exercise 1.3 — Let us think and reflect — A Bottle of Dew

Q1 Read the passage: 'He spent all his time to learn about the magic potion. People cheated him often, promising to tell him about it, but he did not give up. His wife, Madhumati, was tired of this and also worried because she saw how much money Rama Natha was spending. She was sure that soon they would be without money.' (i) Complete the sentence with a suitable reason: Rama Natha did not 'give up' because _____. (ii) Read the column which shows 'what happened' and write the correct outcome: A. People promised to tell Rama Natha about the magic potion. B. Rama Natha was spending a lot of money. (iii) Write whether True or False: A. Madhumati was troubled about what her husband did. B. Rama Natha was very happy digging his fields. C. The sage wanted to show the right path to Rama Natha.

SOLUTION

(i) Rama Natha did not 'give up' because he strongly believed in the magic potion and was determined to find it.

(ii) Outcomes:
A. People promised to tell Rama Natha about the magic potion → Outcome: People cheated him, taking his money without giving him any real information.
B. Rama Natha was spending a lot of money → Outcome: Madhumati became worried that they would soon have no money left.

(iii) True/False:
A. True — Madhumati was troubled and worried about her husband's obsession.
B. False — Rama Natha never spent time working on his land before; he was not happy digging fields.
C. True — The sage played a trick on Rama Natha to show him that hard work, not magic, creates wealth.

Answer: (i) He strongly believed in the magic potion. (ii) A: He was cheated; B: Madhumati grew worried. (iii) A: True, B: False, C: True.

Q2 Read the passage: 'Carefully, he took the bottle to the sage. The sage smiled and muttered something over the water. Then he returned the bottle and said, "Try it out." Rama Natha sprinkled a few drops on a copper vessel and waited for it to turn to gold. To his surprise nothing happened!' (i) Choose the correct order of events: A. The sage smiled. B. Rama Natha gave the bottle to the sage. C. Rama Natha dropped a few drops of water on a copper vessel. D. He said something in a low voice over the water. E. Rama Natha waited to see if the magic worked. Options: (a) A, E, D, B, C (b) B, A, D, C, E (c) C, D, A, B, E (d) A, D, B, E, C. (ii) Fill in the blank with the correct word from the lines: Seeing that the plant had dried up, the gardener _____ some water on it. (iii) How might Rama Natha have felt when nothing happened to the copper vessel?

SOLUTION

(i) The correct order of events is (b) B, A, D, C, E — Rama Natha gave the bottle to the sage, the sage smiled, muttered over the water, Rama Natha sprinkled drops on the copper vessel, then waited.

(ii) Seeing that the plant had dried up, the gardener sprinkled some water on it.

(iii) Rama Natha might have felt shocked, cheated, and very disappointed. After waiting six years and working so hard, he expected a miracle but got nothing — which would have made him both angry and heartbroken.

Answer: (i) (b) B, A, D, C, E (ii) sprinkled (iii) He felt shocked, cheated, and deeply disappointed.

Q3 What did the sage ask Rama Natha to do to make the magic potion?

SOLUTION

The sage asked Rama Natha to plant banana plants, water them regularly with his own hands, and collect the morning dew that formed on the leaves during winter.

He had to store the dew in a bottle until he had five litres, then bring it to the sage, who would chant magic words over it.

Answer: Plant banana plants, collect morning dew from the leaves every winter, store five litres in a bottle, and bring it to the sage.

Q4 Why did the sage ask Rama Natha to do everything himself?

SOLUTION

The sage wanted Rama Natha to work hard with his own hands so that he would naturally take care of his land and grow a successful plantation.
If someone else had done the work, Rama Natha would not have learnt the value of hard work and would not have benefited from the plantation's fruits.

Answer: So that Rama Natha would genuinely work on his own land and learn the value of hard work through personal effort.

Q5 How could Rama Natha have a big banana plantation after six years?

SOLUTION

Rama Natha started by cleaning his fields and planting rows and rows of banana plants.
He tended them carefully every season and planted more and more plants over the years.
His wife Madhumati also helped — she harvested the bananas and sold them in the market.
Because of this consistent hard work over six years, the plantation grew very large.

Answer: He cleaned his land, planted many banana plants, tended them carefully each year, and kept expanding — while Madhumati sold the fruit.

Q6 How did the sage make Rama Natha believe that there is no magic potion?

SOLUTION

The sage chanted over the bottle of dew and asked Rama Natha to try it on a copper vessel.
When nothing happened, Rama Natha was furious and said he had wasted six years.
At that moment, the sage called Madhumati forward. She came with a box full of gold coins — money earned from selling bananas over six years.
The sage then explained that it was Rama Natha's own hard work, not magic, that had created this wealth. This made the lesson clear and undeniable.

Answer: The sage let the dew fail as 'magic,' then revealed the box of gold coins Madhumati had saved — proving that hard work, not magic, made them wealthy.

Q7 Fill in the 'before and after' table about Rama Natha: What he did before meeting the sage (i) and (ii); What he did after meeting the sage (i) and (ii).

SOLUTION

Before meeting the sage:
(i) He spent his time searching for a magic potion and did not look after his land.
(ii) He gave money to people who cheated him, promising to reveal the potion's secret.

After meeting the sage:
(i) He cleaned his fields and planted rows of banana plants, tending them carefully.
(ii) He worked even harder on his plantation after understanding that hard work creates real wealth.

Answer: Before: (i) Chased the magic potion, neglected his land. (ii) Was cheated by people for money. After: (i) Planted and tended banana plants. (ii) Worked even harder on his plantation.

Exercise 1.4 — Let us learn — A Bottle of Dew

Q1 Use the correct words from the box (promised, remember, spending, huge, cheated, difficult, luck, market) to complete the paragraph. (Two extra words are not needed.)

'There was a farmer who had a _____ coconut plantation. He worked hard and did not depend on _____. Every day was _____ but he did not give up. One day, a man bought a bag of coconuts from him, and _____ to pay him the money the next day. Days passed and the man did not pay him anything. The farmer felt _____. About two months later, he met the same man and asked him about his money. The man said, "Oh! I had forgotten. Now, I _____ buying coconuts from you." And he paid the money.'

SOLUTION

huge — coconut plantation (large in size)
luck — he did not depend on luck but on hard work
difficult — every day was difficult but he persisted
promised — promised to pay the next day
cheated — the farmer felt cheated when the man did not pay
remember — 'I remember buying coconuts from you'

The two extra (unused) words are: spending, market.

Answer: huge / luck / difficult / promised / cheated / remember. (Extra words: spending, market.)

Q2 Complete the meanings of the words in Column B, which are homophones of the Column A words: I → eye (meaning: __); your → you're (meaning: short form of 'you are'); dew → due (meaning: __); son → sun (meaning: __); one → won (meaning: __); ate → eight (meaning: __); see → sea (meaning: __).

SOLUTION

I → eye: the organ of sight in the body
your → you're: short form of 'you are'
dew → due: happening at some time in the future / owed
son → sun: the star at the centre of our solar system that gives light and heat
one → won: past tense of 'win'
ate → eight: the number 8
see → sea: a large body of salt water

Answer: eye = organ of sight; you're = short form of 'you are'; due = happening in the future / owed; sun = star giving light and heat; won = past tense of win; eight = the number 8; sea = large body of salt water.

Q3 Choose four pairs of homophones from the table and write a sentence for each pair that uses both homophones in the same sentence. (Example given: 'I ate eight bananas for breakfast today.')

SOLUTION

1. I / eye: I hurt my eye while playing cricket yesterday.
2. dew / due: The morning dew disappeared as the sun rose, and the bus was due at eight.
3. son / sun: The farmer's son played in the sun all afternoon.
4. see / sea: I can see the sea from the top of the hill.

Answer: Model sentences: (1) I / eye — 'I hurt my eye.' (2) dew / due — 'The dew was due to evaporate by noon.' (3) son / sun — 'The farmer's son worked under the hot sun.' (4) see / sea — 'I can see the sea.'

Q4 Match the phrases in Column A with the phrases in Column B using the connecting words (because, before, as soon as, as) to make meaningful sentences:
1. The children submitted their work (When?) → (connecting word: before/as soon as) → the bell rang / the deadline.
2. He did not want to try rock climbing (Why?) → (connecting word: because) → of his fear of heights.
3. The children ran towards the gate (When?) → (connecting word: as soon as) → the bell rang.
4. Nitin was late to school today (Why?) → (connecting word: as) → there was a traffic jam.

SOLUTION

1. The children submitted their work before the deadline.
2. He did not want to try rock climbing because of his fear of heights.
3. The children ran towards the gate as soon as the bell rang.
4. Nitin was late to school today as there was a traffic jam.

Answer: 1. The children submitted their work before the deadline. 2. He did not want to try rock climbing because of his fear of heights. 3. The children ran towards the gate as soon as the bell rang. 4. Nitin was late to school today as there was a traffic jam.

Q5 Read the tongue twisters: 'Bunty bhaiya bought a big bunch of bananas.' / 'A big bunch of bananas was bought by Bunty bhaiya.' Now create your own tongue twister and share it with your peers.

SOLUTION

Model tongue twister: 'Brave Bhola baked big brown bread by the bright blue brook.'

Tongue twisters repeat the same beginning sound (alliteration) to make them fun and challenging to say quickly.

Answer: Model: 'Brave Bhola baked big brown bread by the bright blue brook.' (Students create their own using repeated sounds.)

Exercise 1.5 — Let us discuss — The Raven and the Fox

Q1 Fill in the blanks by choosing the correct option.

Stanza 1: (i) Mr Raven is a _____ (bird/frog). (ii) The name of the fox is _____ (Raven/Reynard). (iii) Mr Raven had _____ in his beak (a piece of food/a bunch of leaves).

Stanza 2: (i) The Fox calls the Raven a _____ bird (foolish/good-looking). (ii) The Fox asks the Raven to _____ (dance/sing). (iii) The Raven and the Fox live in the _____ (trees/woods).

Stanza 3: (i) The Raven _____ that he croaked (remembered/forgot). (ii) The Raven opened its beak to _____ (eat/sing). (iii) The _____ fell down (food/Raven).

Stanza 4: (i) The Fox _____ at the Raven (laughed/looked). (ii) It is not _____ to be too proud of oneself (wise/unwise). (iii) The Raven learnt a _____ (lesson/teaching).

SOLUTION

Stanza 1: (i) bird (ii) Reynard (iii) a piece of food
Stanza 2: (i) good-looking (ii) sing (iii) woods
Stanza 3: (i) forgot (ii) sing (iii) food
Stanza 4: (i) laughed (ii) wise (iii) lesson

Answer: St.1: (i) bird (ii) Reynard (iii) a piece of food | St.2: (i) good-looking (ii) sing (iii) woods | St.3: (i) forgot (ii) sing (iii) food | St.4: (i) laughed (ii) wise (iii) lesson

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Q2 Match the words in Column A with their meanings in Column B:

1. perched 2. morsel 3. seek 4. pride 5. eyed 6. limb 7. woods

(i) a small piece of food (ii) looked with interest at something (iii) feeling that you are better than others (iv) sat on a branch (v) to look for something (vi) a smaller area of forest with similar kind of trees (vii) branch of a tree

SOLUTION

1. perched → (iv) sat on a branch
2. morsel → (i) a small piece of food
3. seek → (v) to look for something
4. pride → (iii) feeling that you are better than others
5. eyed → (ii) looked with interest at something
6. limb → (vii) branch of a tree
7. woods → (vi) a smaller area of forest with similar kind of trees

Answer: 1→(iv), 2→(i), 3→(v), 4→(iii), 5→(ii), 6→(vii), 7→(vi)

Exercise 1.6 — Let us think and reflect — The Raven and the Fox

Q1 Read: 'Sir Raven, you are a handsome bird. / Such feathers! If you would only sing, / The birds of these woods would call you King.' (i) 'Such feathers' refer to _____ feathers: A. shiny and beautiful B. black and dull C. grey and long D. short and unattractive. (ii) Why would the birds of the woods call the Raven 'King'? (iii) Why does the Fox address the Raven as 'Sir'?

SOLUTION

(i) A. shiny and beautiful — the Fox praises the Raven's feathers as extraordinary, implying they are striking and beautiful.
(ii) The Fox flatters the Raven by saying that if it could also sing, it would be so perfect that all the birds of the woods would declare it their King. It is false praise to trick the Raven.
(iii) The Fox addresses the Raven as 'Sir' to show respect and politeness. This is part of his flattery strategy to lower the Raven's guard so it would open its beak to sing, dropping the food.

Answer: (i) A — shiny and beautiful. (ii) The Fox said that if the Raven sang too, the birds would think it was perfect — it is false flattery. (iii) To show fake respect and flatter the Raven into dropping its guard.

Q2 Read: 'The Raven, who did not see the joke, / Forgot that his voice was just a croak. / He opened his beak, in his foolish pride–' (i) Why did the Raven open his beak? (ii) Complete: Fox : clever :: Raven : _____.

SOLUTION

(i) The Raven opened his beak to sing, because the Fox had praised him so much that he forgot his voice was only a croak. His pride made him want to show off, so he opened his beak — and the food fell out.
(ii) Fox : clever :: Raven : foolish

Answer: (i) To sing — the Fox's flattery made him forget his voice was a croak. (ii) foolish

Q3 Why does the Raven forget that his voice is just a croak?

SOLUTION

The Raven forgets because the Fox's excessive praise fills him with pride.
When we feel very proud and flattered, we stop thinking clearly.
The Raven became so pleased with the compliments about his feathers that he believed he could be King — and in that moment of pride, he simply forgot the reality that he could only croak.

Answer: The Fox's flattery made the Raven so proud that he stopped thinking clearly and forgot his voice was just a croak.

Q4 How does Reynard make the Raven sing?

SOLUTION

Reynard first praises the Raven's beautiful feathers and handsome appearance.
He then says that if the Raven could sing, all the birds of the woods would call him King.
This flattery fills the Raven with pride. Wanting to prove he is worthy of being King, the Raven opens his beak to sing — and drops the food.

Answer: Reynard praises the Raven's feathers and says the birds would call him King if he sang. The Raven, filled with pride, opens his beak to sing and drops the food.

Q5 Why does Reynard say that pride is not wise?

SOLUTION

Reynard says pride is not wise because the Raven's pride caused him to make a foolish mistake — he opened his beak to show off and lost his food.
When we are too proud, we stop being careful and can be easily tricked, just as the Raven was.

Answer: Pride made the Raven careless — he lost his food because of it. Being too proud stops us from thinking clearly and makes us easy to trick.

Q6 Give one reason why the teaching is quite a surprise.

SOLUTION

The teaching is a surprise because the Raven expected the Fox to simply admire him or move away.

Instead, the Fox turned around and gave the Raven a lesson about pride — teaching him that excessive pride leads to loss.

The Raven did not expect the fox to be both cunning and wise enough to deliver a moral lesson.

Answer: The Raven did not expect the Fox — a cunning trickster — to deliver a wise moral lesson about the dangers of pride after stealing the food.

Q7 Imagine someone praises you too much. How would you react?

SOLUTION

If someone praises me too much, I would feel happy but also a little careful.

I would think about whether the praise is genuine or if the person wants something from me.

The poem teaches us that too much flattery can be a trick, so it is better to stay calm and not let praise change our behaviour.

Answer: I would feel pleased but stay cautious — too much praise can be flattery meant to trick you, as the Raven learnt.

Exercise 1.7 — Let us learn — The Raven and the Fox

Q1 Write the rhyming words from the poem.
Stanza 1: (i) limb–him (ii) ___–___
Stanza 2: (i) word–___ (ii) ___–___
Stanza 3: (i) joke–___ (ii) ___–___
Stanza 4: (i) know–___ (ii) ___–___

SOLUTION

Stanza 1: (i) limb–him (ii) beak–seek
Stanza 2: (i) word–bird (ii) sing–King
Stanza 3: (i) joke–croak (ii) pride–eyed
Stanza 4: (i) know–glow (ii) unwise–surprise

Answer: St.1: limb–him, beak–seek | St.2: word–bird, sing–King | St.3: joke–croak, pride–eyed | St.4: know–glow, unwise–surprise

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Q2 Pick another example of alliteration from Stanza 2 of the poem. (Alliteration = repetition of a consonant sound at the beginning of words in a group.)

SOLUTION

In Stanza 2: 'The birds of these woods would call you King' — the /w/ sound repeats in 'woods' and 'would'.
This is the clearest alliteration in Stanza 2.

Answer: 'woods would' — both begin with the /w/ sound (Stanza 2, line: 'The birds of these woods would call you King').

Q3 Choose the correct opposites from the box (wise, happy, notice, humility, dim, flew, cried, remembered, silly) and complete the table. (Two extra words are not needed.)
1. perched 2. forgot 3. foolish 4. pride 5. laughed 6. ignore 7. glow

SOLUTION

1. perched → flew
2. forgot → remembered
3. foolish → wise
4. pride → humility
5. laughed → cried

6. ignore → notice
7. glow → dim

Extra (unused) words: happy, silly

Answer: 1. flew 2. remembered 3. wise 4. humility 5. cried 6. notice 7. dim (Extra: happy, silly)

Exercise 1.8 — Let us discuss (mid-story I) — Rama to the Rescue

Q1 Circle the odd one out:

1. The characters are: husband, wife, children
2. Who entered the house? guest, robber, Kotwal

SOLUTION

1. The odd one is 'children' — the story has only two main characters: the husband and the wife. There are no children in the story.
2. The odd one is 'guest' — the robber dug his way into the house, and the Kotwal Rama also entered (by diving through the hole). A guest never appears in the story at all.

Answer: 1. children (no children in the story — only husband and wife). 2. guest (both the robber and the Kotwal entered the house; a guest never appears).

Exercise 1.9 — Let us discuss (mid-story II) — Rama to the Rescue

Q1 Write whether True or False:

1. The man tells his plan to his wife.
2. The thief wants to know where they kept their jewels.

SOLUTION

1. False — it is actually the WIFE who tells the plan. When the man asks 'What should we do?', the wife replies 'I'll tell you. Listen…' and explains the clever Rama-calling scheme.
2. False — the thief thinks 'I wonder where they keep their MONEY' (not jewels). The word 'jewels' does not appear; he is after their money.

Answer: 1. False (it is the wife who tells the plan to the man, not the other way round). 2. False (the thief wonders about their money, not jewels).

Exercise 1.10 — Let us discuss (mid-story III) — Rama to the Rescue

Q1 What do you think will happen next in the story?

SOLUTION

The wife has planned to call out the name 'Rama' — softly if the thief is inside the house, a little louder if he is in the yard, and very loudly if he is in the street.

The man will shout 'Rama! Rama!' loudly enough for the Kotwal Rama to hear outside.

The Kotwal will run to the house, discover the hole the thief dug, and arrest the thief.

Answer: The man will call out 'Rama!' very loudly. The village Kotwal Rama will hear his name, run to the house, and catch the thief.

Exercise 1.11 — Let us discuss (Amar Chitra Katha) — Rama to the Rescue

Q1 Match the words in Column A with their meanings in Column B:
1. wonder 2. yard 3. chatter 4. instead 5. closely 6. perhaps
(i) in place of someone or something (ii) carefully (iii) an area outside a building
(iv) talk for a long time about unimportant things (v) maybe (vi) a feeling of surprise

SOLUTION

1. wonder → (vi) a feeling of surprise
2. yard → (iii) an area outside a building
3. chatter → (iv) talk for a long time about unimportant things
4. instead → (i) in place of someone or something
5. closely → (ii) carefully
6. perhaps → (v) maybe

Answer: 1→(vi), 2→(iii), 3→(iv), 4→(i), 5→(ii), 6→(v)

Q2 Fill in the story grid for 'Rama to the Rescue': Main Characters, Other Characters, Setting, Problem, Solution.

SOLUTION

Main Characters: The man (husband) and his wife.
Other Characters: Rama, the village Kotwal (policeman); the thief.
Setting: A house in a village, at night.
Problem: A thief digs his way into their house while the couple is awake. They cannot shout for help directly or the thief will escape.
Solution: The wife thinks of a plan — call out 'Rama' as if naming a future child. The man calls louder and louder until the Kotwal Rama hears, runs to the house, and arrests the thief.

Answer: Main: husband and wife. Others: Kotwal Rama, the thief. Setting: village house, night. Problem: thief digs in; they can't shout without alerting him. Solution: wife's plan — call 'Rama' as a baby name; Kotwal hears and arrests the thief.

Exercise 1.12 — Let us think and reflect — Rama to the Rescue

Q1 Read the dialogue: 'Man: What's the matter? What are you looking at? / Wife: Ssssh! Listen! / Man: Somebody is trying to get in. / Wife: I … I think he has got in … the noise has stopped.' (i) What makes the man say the first line? (ii) The wife says 'Ssssh! Listen!' — what does 'Ssssh' mean here? A. sleep B. help C. rest D. be silent. (iii) How can you tell that the wife was listening carefully?

SOLUTION

(i) The man woke up and saw his wife sitting up and staring with a worried look, so he asked what was wrong.
(ii) D. be silent — 'Ssssh' means 'be quiet / stop talking so we can listen.'
(iii) The wife tracked every sound: she first knew someone was trying to get in, then noticed the noise had stopped and concluded the thief was already inside — she reported each stage, showing she was listening very carefully.

Answer: (i) He saw his wife sitting up and staring anxiously, so he wanted to know what was wrong. (ii) D — be silent. (iii) She tracked every stage of the sounds — first someone trying to enter, then silence meaning he was already inside.

Q2 Read: 'Rama, the village kotwal, ran to the house from which he heard his name being called. Rama: Oh, Oh! Some thief has dug his way into this house.' (i) Fill in the blank: The villagers caught the thief and took him to the _____. (ii) What do the words 'Oh, Oh!' show here? A. surprise B. anger C. pain D. happiness. (iii) How can you tell that the kotwal was good at his job?

SOLUTION

(i) The villagers caught the thief and took him to the kotwal.
(ii) A. surprise — 'Oh, Oh!' shows the Kotwal's shock at seeing a thief had dug a hole through the wall to break in.
(iii) The Kotwal was good at his job because he ran immediately when he heard his name called, quickly spotted the hole the thief had dug, and arrested the thief without delay.

Answer: (i) kotwal (ii) A — surprise (iii) He ran the moment he heard his name, found the break-in hole at once, and arrested the thief — showing alertness and quick action.

Q3 Give one reason why the man and his wife were not able to fall asleep.

SOLUTION

The man and his wife could not fall asleep because they heard a suspicious noise — someone was trying to dig through the wall and break into their house.
The sound kept them alert and awake.

Answer: They heard the noise of someone breaking through the wall, which kept them awake and alert.

Q4 What did the thief wish would happen? Did it happen?

SOLUTION

The thief wished the man and his wife would fall asleep so he could quietly steal their money.
It did not happen — the couple stayed awake, carried out their clever plan, and the Kotwal Rama came and arrested the thief.

Answer: The thief wished the couple would fall asleep so he could steal their money. It did not happen — they stayed awake and outsmarted him.

Q5 How did the man and his wife get help from the kotwal?

SOLUTION

The wife thought of a clever plan: pretend to talk about naming their baby 'Rama.'
The man called out 'Rama!' — softly if the thief was inside, louder if in the yard, and very loudly if in the street. He called out very loudly, and the Kotwal Rama heard his name.
The Kotwal ran to the house, found the hole the thief had dug, and arrested him.

Answer: The wife planned to call 'Rama' as a baby name. The man called loudly — the Kotwal Rama heard, ran to the house, found the thief's entry hole, and arrested him.

Q6 Do you think cleverness can help us solve our problems? Why do you say so?

SOLUTION

Yes, cleverness can definitely help us solve problems.

In this story, the man could not shout for help directly because the thief was inside the house. By cleverly calling the Kotwal's name as if discussing a baby name, they got help without alerting the thief.

Cleverness helps us find solutions when the obvious approach is not possible.

Answer: Yes — the man in the story used cleverness to call the Kotwal's name without alerting the thief, which solved the problem. Cleverness helps us find solutions when direct action is not possible.

Exercise 1.13 — Let us learn — Rama to the Rescue

Q1 Write the full words (with the missing letter restored) for the contracted words from the story:

1. I'm feeling so sleepy. → _____ feeling so sleepy.
2. It's a thief. → _____ a thief.
3. They're awake. → _____ awake.

SOLUTION

1. I am feeling so sleepy.
2. It is a thief.
3. They are awake.

Answer: 1. I am 2. It is 3. They are

Q2 Expand the following contracted words:

1. what's 2. I'll 3. I'd 4. we'll 5. that's 6. we're 7. don't 8. you'll 9. must've

SOLUTION

1. what's → what is
2. I'll → I will
3. I'd → I would (or I had)
4. we'll → we will
5. that's → that is
6. we're → we are
7. don't → do not
8. you'll → you will
9. must've → must have

Answer: 1. what is 2. I will 3. I would / I had 4. we will 5. that is 6. we are 7. do not 8. you will 9. must have

Q3 Study the sentences: 1. I am feeling so sleepy. [am + feel + ing] 2. What are you looking at? [are + look + ing] 3. Somebody is trying to get in. [is + try + ing] 4. They are saying something. [are + say + ing] 5. Perhaps, they are talking about their money. [are + talk + ing]. Choose the correct option: The sentences 1–5 refer to actions that _____. [are going on at the time of speaking / happened in the past / will take place in the future]

SOLUTION

The sentences 1–5 refer to actions that are going on at the time of speaking. These verbs (am feeling, are looking, is trying, are saying, are talking) all use the present progressive tense, which describes actions happening right now.

Answer: are going on at the time of speaking (present progressive tense)

Q4 Fill in the blanks using the present progressive tense:
1. I _____ in Grade 6. [am + study + ing]
2. My friend _____ a story book. [is + read + ing]
3. We _____ a board game. [are + play + ing]
4. I _____ a new language. [am + learn + ing]
5. The teachers _____ in the staff room. [are + sit + ing]
6. My mother _____ food in the kitchen. [is + cook + ing]

SOLUTION

1. I am studying in Grade 6.
2. My friend is reading a story book.
3. We are playing a board game.
4. I am learning a new language.
5. The teachers are sitting in the staff room.
6. My mother is cooking food in the kitchen.

Answer: 1. am studying 2. is reading 3. are playing 4. am learning 5. are sitting 6. is cooking

Q5 Study: 'I'd better listen closely.' — How does he listen? 'When he's in the house, I'll call out softly to him.' — How does she call out? 'Then I'll call out very loudly.' — How does she call out? What kind of words are 'closely', 'softly', 'loudly'?

SOLUTION

(i) He listens closely.
(ii) She calls out softly.
(iii) She calls out very loudly.

The words 'closely', 'softly', and 'loudly' are adverbs — they give more information about the verb (how the action is done).

Answer: (i) closely (ii) softly (iii) very loudly — all three are adverbs describing how the action is done.

Q6 Fill in the blanks with suitable adverbs from the box (warmly, gracefully, smoothly, beautifully, funnily, quickly, hurriedly). Two extra words are not needed.

1. He solved the mathematics problem _____.
2. The car moved _____ along the highway.
3. The musician played the guitar _____.
4. Shobha danced _____.
5. Rohit left the house _____.

SOLUTION

1. He solved the mathematics problem quickly.
2. The car moved smoothly along the highway.
3. The musician played the guitar beautifully.
4. Shobha danced gracefully.
5. Rohit left the house hurriedly.

Extra (unused) words: warmly, funnily.

Answer: 1. quickly 2. smoothly 3. beautifully 4. gracefully 5. hurriedly (Extra: warmly, funnily)

Q7 Fill in the blanks with suitable adverbs from the box (honestly, brightly, peacefully, sweetly, angrily, slowly, tirelessly). Two extra words are not needed. 'Once upon a time in a small forest, animals lived 1. _____. The wise old tortoise moved 2. _____ but always won the race against the proud rabbit. The ants worked 3. _____, gathering food for the winter. The kind-hearted lion ruled the jungle 4. _____, giving everyone a chance to speak. The birds sang 5. _____, making everyone in the forest happy.'

SOLUTION

1. peacefully — the animals lived peacefully
2. slowly — the tortoise moved slowly
3. tirelessly — the ants worked tirelessly
4. honestly — the lion ruled honestly (or 'fairly'; 'peacefully' is also possible but already used)
5. sweetly — the birds sang sweetly

Extra (unused) words: brightly, angrily.

Answer: 1. peacefully 2. slowly 3. tirelessly 4. honestly 5. sweetly (Extra: brightly, angrily)

Q8 Study the sentences from the story and choose the correct option:
1. 'Oh, hum! What a hard day it has been!' expresses a feeling of _____ (tiredness/joy).
2. 'Ah, at last, they've stopped their chatter!' expresses a feeling of _____ (wonder/relief).
3. 'What should we do?' and 'What should we name our child?' ask _____ (answers/questions).

SOLUTION

1. tiredness — 'Oh, hum! What a hard day!' is an exclamatory expression of exhaustion after a long day.
2. relief — 'Ah, at last, they've stopped their chatter!' shows the speaker is relieved that the noise has finally stopped.
3. questions — both sentences are interrogative sentences that ask questions.

Answer: 1. tiredness 2. relief 3. questions

Q9 Punctuate the following sentences and write whether they are exclamatory or interrogative:

1. Wow what an intelligent man he is
2. Oh how big the hole is
3. Do you like to read comic books
4. What is your favourite story

SOLUTION

1. Wow, what an intelligent man he is! — Exclamatory sentence.
2. Oh, how big the hole is! — Exclamatory sentence.
3. Do you like to read comic books? — Interrogative sentence.
4. What is your favourite story? — Interrogative sentence.

Answer: 1. Wow, what an intelligent man he is! (Exclamatory) 2. Oh, how big the hole is! (Exclamatory) 3. Do you like to read comic books? (Interrogative) 4. What is your favourite story? (Interrogative)

Exercise 1.14 — Let us explore — Rama to the Rescue

Q1 Find out from your teacher or parents what you would do in the following situations. Who will you call if: (a) you see fire (b) you see someone getting hurt (c) you see a wounded animal (d) you see someone suspicious (e) you find a lost child (f) you get lost

SOLUTION

(a) If you see fire — call the Fire Brigade at 101.
(b) If you see someone getting hurt — call the Police at 100 or an ambulance at 108.
(c) If you see a wounded animal — call a local animal rescue centre or inform an adult.
(d) If you see someone suspicious — inform a trusted adult or call the Police at 100.
(e) If you find a lost child — stay with the child and call the Police at 100 or take the child to the nearest police station.
(f) If you get lost — stay where you are, call a parent or trusted adult, or approach a policeman or shopkeeper for help.

Answer: (a) Call 101 (Fire) (b) Call 100/108 (Police/Ambulance) (c) Call animal rescue (d) Call 100 (Police) (e) Call 100, stay with child (f) Stay calm, call parent or find a policeman.