



# ENGLISH PRACTICE BOOK

Veda Bhushan IV Year / Purva Madhyama - I Year / Class IX

**MAHARSHI SANDIPANI RASHTRIYA VEDA SANSKRIT SHIKSHA BOARD**

(Established and Recognized by the Ministry of Education, Government of India)

विश्वे देवा वसवो रक्षतेममुतादित्या जगृत यूयमस्मिन् ।  
मेमं सनाभिरुत वान्यनाभिर्ममं प्रापत् पौरुषेयो वधो यः ॥

O! Ye existing Vishvadevas, protect this person,  
Like-wise ye Aditya-s, watch over him:  
Him let not one related nor one unrelated –  
Him let not any deadly weapon of men reach



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Basics of English Grammar	
	Revision of previous lessons
1.	Interjection and its use
2.	Helping Verbs
3.	Subject Verb Agreement
4.	Voice-Active and Passive
5.	Question Tags
6.	Phrases and Idioms
7.	Application Writing (Leave)
8.	Paragraph Writing – (The Ramayana, The Gita, Mahatma Gandhi, The Himalayas, Trees, Music, Yoga, Books, My Family, Freedom Fighters, Poets, etc.).



# Interjections

## What Are Interjections?

An interjection is a word or phrase used to express a feeling or to request or demand something. While interjections are a part of speech, they are not grammatically connected to other parts of a sentence.

Interjections are common in everyday speech and informal writing. While some interjections such as “well” and “indeed” are acceptable in formal conversation, it’s best to avoid interjections in formal or academic writing.

## Examples of Interjections

**Hurrah!** We won the match.

**Wow!** That is a beautiful dress indeed.

**Oh my God!** That was unexpected.

**Whoa!** That guy is unbelievably huge.

**Wow!** That bird is huge.

**Uh-oh.** I forgot to get gas.



## Examples of Interjections

Interjection	Purpose	Example
Alas	To express sadness or pity	<b>Alas!</b> That was so unfortunate.
Ah	To express realisation or surprise	<b>Ah,</b> the magic show at the end was a total surprise!
Eh	To enquire or ask for something to be repeated	<b>Eh!</b> I didn't quite get it. Can you please repeat it?
Dear	To express pity or surprise	<b>Oh dear!</b> I feel really bad for what happened to you.
Hey	To express surprise or call for attention	<b>Hey!</b> Look out for the car.
Hurray	To express joy	<b>Hurrah!</b> We finally cleared the test.
Oh	To express pain or surprise	<b>Oh!</b> I have a really bad headache.
Ouch	To express pain	<b>Ouch!</b> You stepped on my toes.
Phew	To express relief, exhaustion, disgust	<b>Phew!</b> That was an extremely long presentation.
Uh	To express hesitation	<b>Uh!</b> I don't think I want to be a part of this.
Well	To introduce a remark	<b>Well,</b> what you just did was wonderful.
Wow	To express your admiration for something	<b>Wow!</b> Your new bike is amazing.
Yippee	To express joy	<b>Yippee!</b> Tomorrow is a holiday.



## How and When to Use Interjections?

- When a short interjection is used in the beginning of a sentence, it should be followed by a comma.
- When an interjection forms a sentence by itself, the interjection can be followed by a full stop, a question mark or an exclamation mark.
- When an interjection is used in the middle of a sentence, the interjection has to be preceded and followed by a comma.
- In a conversation, interjections are sometimes allowed to stand alone.
- It is better if you do not use too many or any interjections in a formal context.

*As interjections are a grammatically independent part of speech, they can often be excluded from a sentence without impacting its meaning.*

## Primary interjections

A **primary interjection** is a word or sound that can only be used as an interjection. Primary interjections do not have alternative meanings and can't function as another part of speech (i.e., noun, verb, or adjective).

Primary interjections are typically just sounds without a clear etymology. As such, while they sometimes have standard spellings, a single interjection may be written in different ways (e.g., “um-hum” or “mm-hmm”).

Examples: Primary interjections in a sentence

**Ugh!** That's disgusting.

**Um-hum.** I think that could work.



We won the game. **Yippee!**

## Secondary interjections

A **secondary interjection** is a word that is typically used as another part of speech (such as a noun, verb, or adjective) that can also be used as an interjection.

Examples: Secondary interjections in a sentence

Goodness! That was a close one.

Shoot! My exam has been canceled.

Awesome! Do that trick again.

## Volitive interjections

A **volitive interjection** is used to give a command or make a request. For example, the volitive interjection “shh” or “shush” is used to command someone to be quiet.

Examples: Volitive interjections in a sentence

**Shh!** I can't focus when you're singing.

**Psst.** Pass me an eraser.

**Ahem.** Please pay attention.

## Emotive interjections

An **emotive interjection** is used to express an emotion or to indicate a reaction to something. For example, the emotive interjection “ew” is used to express disgust.

Curse words, also called expletives, are commonly used (in informal contexts) as emotive interjections to express frustration or anger.

Examples: Emotive interjections in a sentence

**Ew.** I'm not eating that.





**Yay!** I'm so excited to see you.

**Yum!** This food is delicious.

## **Cognitive interjections**

A **cognitive interjection** is used to express a thought or indicate a thought process. For example, the cognitive interjection “um” can express confusion or indicate that the speaker is thinking.

Examples: Cognitive interjections in a sentence

**Um**, can you explain it once more?

**Wow!** I wasn't expecting that.

**Eureka!** I've solved the puzzle.

## **Greetings and parting words**

**Greetings and parting words/phrases** are interjections used to acknowledge or welcome someone or to express good wishes at the end of a conversation.

Examples: Greetings and parting words/phrases in a sentence

**Hey!**

**Hello!** It's good to see you.

**Bye!**

**See you soon!** Drive safe.

## **Fill in the blanks with appropriate interjection**

(Alas! Hurray! Hello! Ah! Oh!)

1. \_\_\_\_\_ what are you doing there?
2. \_\_\_\_\_ He is dead.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ we have won the game.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ Have they gone?
5. \_\_\_\_\_ I got such a fright.



## Identify the Interjections in the following sentences

Oh! I was wrong.

Ah! I have broken my cycle.

Aha! It is very tasty.

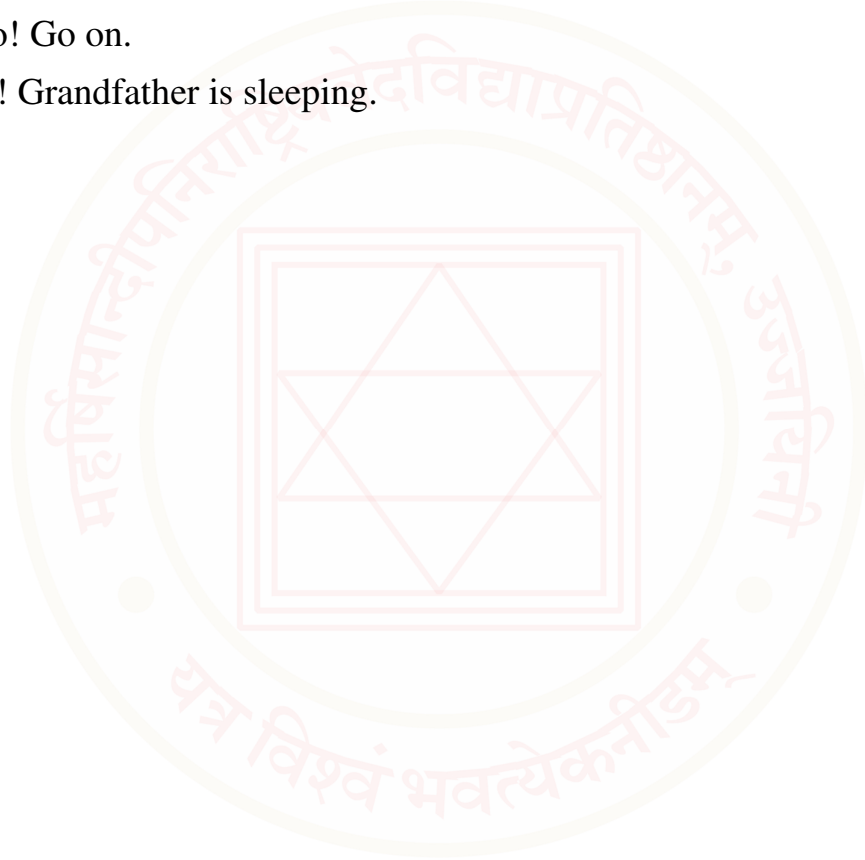
Ah! His grandmother is no more.

Hurrah! We won the match.

Well done! Go ahead.

Bravo! Go on.

Hush! Grandfather is sleeping.





## Helping Verb

Helping verbs have no meaning on their own. They are necessary for the grammatical structure of a sentence, but they do not tell us very much alone. We usually use helping verbs with [main verbs](#). They "help" the main verb (which has the real meaning). Helping verb divided into two basic groups:

### Primary helping verbs (3 verbs)

These are the verbs *be*, *do*, and *have*. Note that we can use these three verbs as helping verbs **or** as main verbs. We use them in the following cases:

#### **be**

to make continuous tenses (He **is** watching TV.)

to make the passive (Small fish **are** eaten by big fish.)

#### **have**

to make perfect tenses (I **have** finished my homework.)

#### **do**

to make negatives (I **do** not like you.)

to ask questions (**Do** you want some coffee?)

to show emphasis (I **do** want you to pass your exam.)

### Modal helping verbs (10 verbs)

We use modal helping verbs to "modify" the meaning of the main verb in some way. A modal helping verb expresses necessity or possibility, and changes the main verb in that sense. These are the modal verbs:

can, could

may, might



will, would,

shall, should

must

ought to

Here are examples using modal verbs:

I **can't** speak Telgu.

Jeevan **may** arrive late.

**Would** you like a cup of coffee?

You **should** see a doctor.

I really **must** go now.

**Fill in the blanks with suitable helping verbs.**

(is, are, was, were, has, have, had, am

1. "You ..... a brilliant writer."
2. Lord hanuman ..... the power of wind.
3. I ..... sleeping, when you came yesterday.
4. You ..... playing yesterday when I saw you.
5. We ..... a tasty lunch yesterday.
6. We ..... travelling to Puri last year.
7. I ..... studying English.
8. He ..... talking on the phone.
9. We ..... having dinner right now.
10. It ..... your fault.



# What is Subject Verb Agreement

A subject is the doer of a sentence. In other words, subject refers to the person or thing that is doing the action the verb. A verb describes an action, state, or an occurrence. The subject tells us who performed this action denoted by the verb or who or what is responsible for the state or occurrence denoted by the verb. Therefore, subject and verb of a sentence should always match, and this association between the subject and verb is called the subject verb agreement.

## Rules in Subject Verb Agreement

### Main Rule of Subject Verb Agreement:

Subject and verb must always agree in numbers. Single subjects should take single verbs, and plural subjects should take plural verbs.

### Rule 1:

When the subject is made of two or more nouns or pronouns, and is connected by *and*, the verb is plural.

*The man and the woman were looking at the baby.*

*He and his friends know the answer.*

### Rule 2:

When the two subjects joined by *and* refer to the same noun, the verb is singular.

*This bed and breakfast was owned by a retired teacher.*

*Rice and curry is his favorite food.*

### Rule 3:

When two singular subjects are connected by *or*, *either/or*, or *neither/nor* the verb is singular.



*Neither Aman nor his son answered the phone.*

#### **Rule 4:**

When the compound subject contains both a singular and a plural noun joined by *or* or *nor*, the verb agrees with the part of the subject that is closer the verb.

*My sisters or my mother is going to make me a dress.*

*My mother or my sisters are going to make me a dress.*

#### **Rule 5:**

The words and phrases between the subject and verb have no effect on the agreement.

*My aunt, who lives in China invited me to her wedding.*

#### **Rule 6:**

Indefinite pronouns each one, everyone, everybody, anybody, anyone, nobody, somebody, someone, and no one should be used with singular verbs.

*Nobody knows the correct answer.*

*Is anyone home?*

#### **Rule 7:**

When the subject is a unit of measurement, time or money, the verb tends to be singular.

*Twenty years is a long time.*

*Five miles is not a long distance.*

*Ten dollars is a lot of money.*

#### **Rule 8:**

When a sentence begins with a ‘there is’ or ‘there are,’ the subject follows the verb. The verb should always agree with this subject.



*There is a question.*

*There are twenty students in my class.*

### **Rule 9:**

Collective nouns (group, team, pack, herd, etc.) often take a singular verb since they are considered as a single unit.

*Their family is very conservative.*

### **Rule 10:**

If each, every or no comes before the subject, the verb is singular.

*No fighting is allowed.*

*Every child has a right to education.*

Note-

The main verb of a sentence must always agree with the noun in that sentence. The basic rule of subject verb agreement is that verb and subject must always agree in number; when the subject is singular, the verb must be singular and when the subject is plural, the verb must be plural. In addition, there are some rules that must be adhered to in subject verb agreement.

The verb must be singular when,

- every or no comes before the subject
- the subject is a collective noun
- the subject is a unit of measurement
- the subject is an indefinite pronoun
- two singular subjects are connected by *or*.



# Active & Passive Voice

## What is Voice of a verb?

The voice of a verb expresses whether the subject in the sentence has performed or received the action.

### Example:

- The teacher opens the door.
- The door is opened by the teacher.

## Types of Voices of Verb

Verbs have two voices-

- (i) Active Voice
- (ii) Passive Voice

**Active Voice** – When an action performed by the subject is expressed by the verb, it is an active voice. Active voice is used when more straightforward relation and clarity is required between the subject and the verb.

### Active Voice example:

- Hens lay eggs.
- Birds build nests.

**Passive Voice** – When the action expressed by the verb is received by the subject, it is passive voice. Passive voice is used when the doer of the action is not known and the focus of the sentence is on the action and not the subject.

### Passive Voice Examples:

- Eggs are laid by hens.
- Nests are built by birds.

## Active And Passive Voice Rules for Conversion of Sentence

### Conversion of Active and Passive voice examples

- Rita wrote a letter. (Subject + Verb + Object)
- A letter was written by Rita. (Object) + (auxiliary verb) + (past participle) + (by subject).



- She cooks food. (Subject + Verb + Object)
- The food is cooked by her. (Object) + (auxiliary verb) + (past participle) + (by subject)

## **Rules of Active – Passive Voice in English Grammar – Part 1**

### **Rules for Active – Passive Voice Conversions**

**Rule 1.** Identify the (S+V+O) Subject, Verb and object in the active sentence to convert to passive voice

#### **Example:**

He drives car. (Subject – He, verb – Drives, object – Car)

**Rule 2.** Interchange the object and subject with each other, i.e. object of the active sentence become the subject of the passive sentence.

#### **Example :**

Active voice : She knits sweater. (Subject – She, Verb – Knits, Object – Sweater)

Passive Voice : The sweater is knitted by her. (Object sweater is interchanged with the subject She).

**Rule 3.** In passive voice sometimes the subject is not used, i.e. the subject in passive voice can be omitted if the sentence without it gives enough meaning.

#### **Example:**

Milk is sold in litres

**Rule 4.** Change the base verb in the active sentence into the past participle i.e., third form verb in a passive sentence i.e. preceded by (By, With, to, etc.). Base verbs are never used in passive voice sentences.

#### **Example:**

- Active voice: She prepares dinner.
- Passive voice: The dinner is prepared **by** her.
- Active voice: She knows him.
- Passive voice: He is known **to** her.
- Active voice: Juice fills the jar.
- Passive voice: The jar is filled **with** juice.





**Rule 5.** While conversion of Active voice sentence to Passive voice sentence, the pronoun used in the sentence also changes in the following manner.

Active Voice Pronoun	Passive Voice Pronoun
I	Me
We	Us
He	Him
She	Her
They	Them
You	You
It	It

**Rule 6.** Use the suitable helping or auxiliary verb (is/am/are/was, etc.). The rules for using auxiliary verbs in passive voice sentences are different for each tense.

**Example:**

- The letter **is** written by her.
- A book **was** not bought by her.
- Chocolates **are being** eaten by them.

### Forms of Active and Passive Voice for All Tenses

- **Simple Present Tense**

Active Sentences	Passive Sentences
He writes an essay.	An essay is written by him.
Sheena does the housework.	The housework is done by Sheena.
She cares for the rabbit.	The rabbit is being cared for by her.
Jay always plays the guitar.	The guitar is always played by Jay.



- **Present Continuous Tense**

<b>Active Sentences</b>	<b>Passive Sentences</b>
They are eating bananas.	The bananas are being eaten by them.
Bhim is drawing a diagram.	A diagram is being drawn by Bhim.
Samta is playing the piano.	A piano is being played by Samta.
She is waiting for Reema.	Reema is being waited for by her.

- **Present Perfect Tense**

<b>Active Sentences</b>	<b>Passive Sentences</b>
Has he done the work?	Has the work been done by him?
Have they left the apartment?	Has the apartment been left by them?
He created this masterpiece.	This masterpiece was created by him.
He reads the newspaper.	The newspaper is being read by him.

### **Simple Past Tense**

<b>Active Voice</b>	<b>Passive Voice</b>
Ria paid the bills.	The bills were paid by Ria.
The teacher called the student.	The student was called by the teacher.
She did not buy the fruits.	The fruits were not bought by her.

- **Past Progressive/Continuous Tense**

<b>Active Voice</b>	<b>Passive Voice</b>
They were waiting for him.	He was being waited for by them.
Astha was learning English.	English was being learnt by Astha.
She was playing kabaddi.	Kabaddi was being played by her.



- **Past Perfect Tense**

<b>Active Voice</b>	<b>Passive Voice</b>
She won the match.	The match had been won by her.
I had finished her work.	Her work had been finished by me.
He had missed the last metro.	The last metro had been missed by him.

- **Simple Future Tense**

<b>Active Voice</b>	<b>Passive Voice</b>
He will write a letter.	A letter will be written by him.
He will repair her cycle.	Her cycle will be repaired by him.
He shall start the meeting.	The meeting will be started by him.

- **Future Perfect Tense**

<b>Active Voice</b>	<b>Passive Voice</b>
Meena will not have changed the bedsheet.	The bed sheet will not have been changed by Meena.
They will have won the match.	The match will have been won by them.
Reena will have washed the skirt.	The skirt will have been washed by Reena.

**Note-** [except certain exemptions, no passive Voice formation for the following tenses can be formed, Present Perfect Continuous Tense, Past Perfect Continuous Tense, Future Perfect Continuous Tense and Future Continuous Tense]



## QUESTION TAGS

Question tags are short questions that are asked at the end of a sentence, usually in spoken English. The question tags turn a statement into a question. They are frequently used to verify information that we believe to be correct. Tag questions are made using an auxiliary verb (e.g., am, is, are, have, was, has, should, could etc.) and a subject pronoun (e.g., you, they, she, it etc.)

1. The tense of the statement and the question tag must match.  
For Example: Gungun is sleeping, isn't she?

2. Use the contracted version of "helping verb" and "not" for negative question tags. e.g. didn't, hadn't, won't etc.  
For Example: Rajesh was eating his lunch, wasn't he?

3. If the statement is positive, the question tag must be negative, and the opposite is the case. For Example:

- He will not do his work, will he?
- Rita will surely do her work, won't she?

4. Pronouns must always be used in question tags.  
For Example: Hina and Pratik are playing, aren't they?

### Rules of Question Tags

#### *Rule-1:*

If the sentence starts with let us/ let's, we use "shall we" in the question.

For Example:

- Let us go to the party tonight, shall we?
- Let's meet at the school, shall we?

#### *Rule- 2:*

There is no contracted form of "am not". We use aren't in the question tag.

For Example:



- I am fine, aren't I?
- I am right, aren't I?

**Rule-3:**

In Imperative sentences, the question tag “won't you” is used.

For Example:

- Come in, won't you?
- Help me in solving the problem, won't you?

**Rule-4:**

Plural verbs and plural pronouns are used when discussing individual collective noun members or when there is disagreement among the members of the collective noun.

For Example:

- The jury are divided in their opinion, aren't they?
- The audience have taken their seats, haven't they?

**Rule-5:**

Since each, every, everyone, everybody, no one, nobody, and none are singular words, they must be accompanied by singular verbs, singular pronouns, and singular adjectives; however, the words in their question tag must be in the plural for both the verb.

For Example:

**Incorrect**

- Everyone has left, hasn't he?
- None of your friends like me, does he/she?

**Correct**

- Everyone has left, haven't they?
- None of your friends like me, do they?

**Rule-6:**

Singular pronouns and singular verbs are used with collective nouns in question tags.

For Example:

- The committee was organizing the programme, wasn't it?

**Rule-7:**

Always create a question tag in line with the main part of the statement.

For Example:



I think, he is here, isn't he?

*Rule-8:*

“There” will be used for the pronoun in the question tag if the sentence's first word is “there.”

For Example:

- There is no water, is there?
- There were no good schools in the town, were there?

*Rule-9:*

Some words are negative in meaning. e.g., hardly, seldom, scarcely, rarely, barely etc. They will therefore use the affirmative question tag.

For Example:

- He hardly ate anything for days, did he?
- He found barely anything to do, did he?
- He is seldom angry, is he?

*Rule-10:*

“Will you/would you” is used in the question tag when someone is being offered something in an imperative statement or when they are being asked to do something.

For Example:

- shut the door, would you?
- Have some more tea, would you?

*Rule-11:*

In some cases, the sentence is lacking an auxiliary verb. The verb given in the sentence could be either in present simple or past simple (and is positive). We use don't, doesn't or didn't (as per the tense used in the sentence).

For Example:

- Rita eats cake, doesn't she?
- Rahul hides everything from us, doesn't he?

**Add tags to following sentences.**

1. You don't work here.



- 
2. He speaks Sanskrit.
  3. We are going to Kedarnath.
  4. It was raining yesterday.
  5. They have started Veda Patha.





## Idioms

Idiom	Meaning
A blessing in disguise	a good thing that seemed bad at first
A dime a dozen	Something common
Beat around the bush	Avoid saying what you mean, usually because it is uncomfortable
Better late than never	Better to arrive late than not to come at all
Bite the bullet	To get something over with because it is inevitable
Break a leg	Good luck
Call it a day	Stop working on something
Cutting corners	Doing something poorly in order to save time or money
Easy does it	Slow down
Get out of hand	Get out of control
Get something out of your system	Do the thing you've been wanting to do so you can move on
Get your act together	Work better or leave
Give someone the benefit of the doubt	Trust what someone says
Go back to the drawing board	Start over
Hang in there	Don't give up



Hit the sack	Go to sleep
It's not rocket science	It's not complicated
Let someone off the hook	To not hold someone responsible for something
Make a long story short	Tell something briefly
Miss the boat	It's too late
No pain, no gain	You have to work for what you want
On the ball	Doing a good job
Pull someone's leg	To joke with someone
Pull yourself together	Calm down
So far so good	Things are going well so far
Speak of the devil	The person we were just talking about showed up!
That's the last straw	My patience has run out
The best of both worlds	An ideal situation
Time flies when you're having fun	You don't notice how long something lasts when it's fun
To get bent out of shape	To get upset
To make matters worse	Make a problem worse
Under the weather	Sick
We'll cross that bridge when we come to it	Let's not talk about that problem right now



Wrap your head around something	Understand something complicated
You can say that again	That's true, I agree
Your guess is as good as mine	I have no idea
A picture is worth 1000 words	Better to show than tell
Actions speak louder than words	Believe what people do and not what they say
Comparing apples to oranges	Comparing two things that cannot be compared
Costs an arm and a leg	Very expensive
Do something at the drop of a hat	Do something without having planned beforehand



# APPLICATION

## Leave Application

To,  
The Principal,  
Rashtriya Adarsh Veda Vidyalaya,  
Ujjain (M.P).  
Date-10/01/2023.

Subject: Application for leave.

Respected Sir,  
Most respectfully, I beg to state that I am not in a condition to come to the school since I am suffering from fever. I have been advised bed rest by our family doctor. Hence, kindly grant me leave from 10/01/2023 to 14/01/2023. I shall be grateful to you.

Thanking you,

Yours obediently,  
Naveen Shukla  
Class- XII



## One Day Leave Application

To,  
The Principal,  
Little Convent School,  
Ujjain (M.P)  
Date-10/01/2023

Subject: Leave application for one day.

Respected Sir,  
I am a student of class XII, at your school. This is to inform you that, I have to visit my grandfather's house due to some essential work along with my parents. Hence, I will not be able to come to school tomorrow. Kindly give me the leave for one day (date). I shall be highly grateful to you.

Thanking you,

Yours obediently,  
Harsh Sharma,  
Class-XII.



## Leave Application to School for Going Out of City.

To,  
The Principal,  
Little Convent School,  
Ujjain (M.P).  
Date-10/01/2023

Subject: Leave Application for going out of the city.

Respected Sir,  
I beg to state that, I am a student of class XII at your school. I am to attend the marriage of my cousin sister in Delhi and all of my family members are going to attend it. Hence, I am also leaving with them and will not be able to attend school from 12/01/2023 to 18/01/2023.

I request you to cordially grant me leave for seven days. After coming back, I will try to finish the syllabus covered in my absence with the help of my teachers and fellow classmates. I shall be really grateful to you.

Thanking you,

Yours obediently,  
Harsh Sharma,  
Class-XII.



**Write an application for a transfer certificate as you are shifting to another city with your family.**

To,  
The Headmaster,  
Mother Teresa Public School  
Mansarovar Garden,  
Delhi.  
Date-10/01/2023

Subject: Application for a transfer certificate.

Sir,  
With due respect and humble submission to state that, I am a student of your school, studying in class 11th. I would like to inform you that my father is a government servant. Recently he has been transferred from Delhi to Punjab. My family will be shifted there soon. As a result, it is impossible for me to continue my study in your reputed school. So, I need a transfer certificate to get myself admitted into a school in Ludhiana, Punjab. In the circumstances, I hope that you would be kind enough to issue me a transfer certificate.

Thanking you,

Yours obediently,  
Harsh Sharma,  
Class-XI.





## Write an application to the principal of your school for fee concession.

To,  
The Principal,  
Little Convent School,  
Ujjain (M.P).  
Date-10/01/2023

Subject: Application for fee concession.

Sir,  
Most respectfully I beg to state that I am a student of class 10th in your school. The financial condition of my family is very bad. My father's monthly income is Rs.1000/-. He has to support a family of six members. He is not in a position to pay my fees. But I have a keen desire to get an education as I am a brilliant student. Kindly grant me full fee concession and oblige.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully,  
Harsh Sharma,  
Class-X.



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# About Text Book



# Chapter - 1

## Prayer for Protection

(Atharvaveda 1.30)

### Theme of the lesson

In this chapter we find prayers from the Atharvaveda. It prays for the happiness and protection of people and a healthy long life is being wished for all. It shows the true essence of Vedas where peace and benevolence are profoundly present. A perfect scope for the teachers to show the magnificence of the Vedas.

### Interjection

O! God

### Helping Verb

are

### Answer the following questions

1. Who are the Devas mentioned in the chapter?
2. What is the first prayer made in the chapter?
3. What kind of happiness is being wished for the man in the chapter?
4. Elaborate the last prayer in the chapter.
5. What is the significance of a long and healthy life?
6. Explain the main theme of the chapter.

### Read Aloud and Learn

O! Ye existing Vishvadevas, protect this person,



---

Like-wise ye Aditya-s, watch over him:

Him let not one related nor one unrelated–

Him let not any deadly weapon of men reach.



## Chapter - 2

# Scientists on Knowledge Content in the Vedas

### Theme of the lesson

This chapter throws light on some of the eminent scientists who believed in the power of the Vedas. The connection between science and the Vedas can be seen from their perspective. The way these eminent persons turned to the Vedas to find their answers to the questions of life, inspires us to learn from the Vedas.

#### *Scientists-*

#### **Niels Bohr**

Danish physicist and Nobel laureate Niels Bohr was fascinated with Vedas. His remark, “I go to the Upanishad to ask questions,” reveals a lot about his respect for the ancient wisdom of India.

#### **Erwin Schrodinger**

Schrodinger says, “This life of yours which you are living is not merely a piece of this entire existence, but in a certain sense the whole; only this whole is not so constituted that it can be surveyed in one single glance. This, as we know, is that sacred, mystic formula which is yet really so simple and so clear; tat tvam asi, this is you. Or again, in such words as “I am in the east and the west, I am above and below, I am this entire world.”



## Werner Heisenberg

“When a snake is seen in the place of a rope, only the snake is seen as real. But is it independently real?” This view is Advaitic in essence.

## Nikola Tesla

Tesla says, “All perceptible matter comes from a primary substance, or tenuity beyond conception, filling all space, the ‘akasha’ or luminiferous ether, which is acted upon by the life giving ‘Prana’ or creative force, calling into existence, in never-ending cycles all things and phenomena.”

## Albert Einstein

Einstein says “I maintain that the cosmic religious feeling is the strongest and noblest motive for scientific research”.

## Helping Verb

Is, was, are

## Answer the following questions

1. What is meant by Akasha and Prana?
2. Name the scientists mentioned in the chapter.
3. Who was Niels Bohr and what was his remark on Upanishads?
4. What does Erwin Schrodinger say in his book?
5. State Werner Heisenberg’s uncertainty principle.
6. What did Nikola Tesla say in his book Man’s Greatest Achievement?
7. Did Albert Einstein believe in ‘unity of the universe’? Give reasons for your answer.



## Chapter - 3

### Balai

- Rabindranath Tagore

#### Theme of the lesson

Rabindranath Tagore begins the story of 'Balai' by stating that in man, like the different ragas in a song, there are characteristics of different creatures in nature. He adds that in Balai, the notes of the plant kingdom are the most powerful ones. It was as though Balai was part of nature and he was alert to every aspect of nature. Balai was very different from other boys of his age. He didn't seem to belong to the modern age. If people had moved away from nature and had become more and more commercialised, Balai had feelings for all things in nature and was extremely attached to plants. The trees, flowers, sky, rain, grass were living creatures to him and he used to talk to them. He would get upset if anyone broke a branch or plucked a flower or even hit a tree. He was sad when the grass-cutter mowed the grass.

#### Interjection

"Balai, don't be **silly**! Those are weeds. How can you let them grow?"

**Alas!** Balai made a sad mistake by showing it to me.

"Come on, it really doesn't look that **bad**!"

#### Helping Verb

Is, am are, can, could, be, do, did, had





### Answer the following questions

1. What is the relation between Balai and the writer?
2. Why was Balai staying with his uncle?
3. Why 'human' has been compared to 'Raga'?
4. What would Balai do after a rainy night?
5. Why didn't Balai want the grass-cutter to cut the plants?
6. How do we know that Balai's aunt missed his presence at her place?
7. What traits in Balai do you admire most?

### Moral-

Nature's touch is required for the growth of our mind and body and it is shown in this story, to shape up our minds and our personalities.



## Chapter - 4

# The Enchanted Pool

- C. Rajagopalachari

### Theme of the lesson

"The Enchanted Pool," which is part of the "Mahabharata," is that rules must be followed and that people must listen. The person who follows societal norms and rules will be successful. And such warnings must be taken seriously since life is a test. This story which presents an incident where all four brothers of Pandavas were dead because they ignored a warning and were later revived by Yudhishtira by answering some questions correctly. The questions asked by the Yaksha and their answers give us immense knowledge.

### Interjection

“Stop! Nakula! Do not drink.

### Helping Verb

Is, am are, can, could, be, do, did, had

### Answer the following questions

1. What happened to Nakula when he drank the water?
2. How did Arjuna react to the voice?
3. What was the warning given by Yaksha to Yudhishtira?
4. Who accompanies a man in death?
5. What makes one a real Brahman? Is it birth, good conduct or learning?



6. What do we learn about Yudhishtira when he chooses Nakula over Bhima?

### **Read Aloud and Learn**

Yaksha asked: “What makes Sun shine every day?”

Yudhishtira replied, “The power of God.”

“What rescues man in danger?”

Yudhishtira quickly answered, “Courage.”

“What is more nobly sustaining than the earth?”

Yudhishtira said, “The mother who brings up the children.”

“What is faster than wind?”

“Mind”, Yudhishtira replied.

“What befriends a traveller?”

“Learning.”

“Who is the friend of one who stays at home?”

“The wife.”

“Who accompanies a man in death?”

“Dharma. That alone accompanies the soul in its solitary journey after death.”

“Which is the biggest vessel?”

“The earth, which contains all within itself, is the greatest vessel.”

“What is happiness?”

“Happiness is the result of good conduct.”

“What is that, abandoning which, man becomes loved by all?”



“Pride - for abandoning that man will be loved by all.”

“What is the loss which brings joy and not sorrow?”

“Anger - giving it up, we will no longer be subjected to sorrow.”

“What is that, by giving up which, man becomes wealthy?”

“Desire - getting rid of it, man becomes wealthy.”

“What makes one a real Brahman? Is it birth, good conduct or learning? Answer decisively.”

“Birth and learning do not make one a Brahman. Good conduct alone does. However, learned a person may be, he will not be a Brahman, if he is a slave to bad habits.

“What is the greatest wonder in the world?”

“Every day men see creatures depart to Yama’s abode and yet, those who remain, seek to live forever. This verily is the greatest wonder.”



## Chapter - 5

# Pippalada, the Great Sage of Atharvaveda

### Theme of the lesson

This chapter is about the great sage Pippalada, his birth, his parents, his revenge and his creation of Upanishad. The answers that we find in the chapter are a great source of knowledge.

Pippalada was a Vedic sage and a philosopher. He is known to have visualized Prashna Upanishad, which is among the ten mukhya (main) upanishads, commented by great Acharyas. He was an avatar (incarnation) of Lord Shiva, and son of sage Dadhichi, who donated his bones to Devtas (Gods) to provide them a material for making weapons and defeat the Asuras (Demons). He was the founder of Pippalada School of thought, which taught the Atharvaveda.

### Helping Verb

Is, am, are, can, could, be, do, did, had

### Answer the following questions

1. Who was Pippalada?
2. Who was Dadhichi?
3. What did Swarcha do after hearing about her husband's death?
4. How did Pippalada survive?
5. What did Pippalada do to take revenge from Devatas?
6. How did Prashna Upanishad come into existence?
7. According to Pippalada, who is 'Atman'?



## Chapter - 6

# To My Countrymen

Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam

### Theme of the lesson

“To my Countrymen” is an extract from Dr. A.P.J Abdul Kalam’s book “Ignited Minds”, where he has highlighted the importance and power of Imagination, which lies at the heart of the Youth and imagination is the only spirit of life, which makes all the difference between the winners and the losers. He said that ‘Students should get ready to transform India into a developed nation. Ignite your minds and think big.’

### Helping Verb

Shall, am are, can, could, be, do, did, had

### Answer the following questions

1. What, according to Dr. Kalam, is important in life to become a winner?
2. Which is bigger, the individual or the organization?
3. It helped us humble a mighty empire. Who does the phrase ‘mighty empire’ refer to?
4. What is Dr. Kalam’s view on the good progress we have made in the software sector?
5. Mention the states that are faring better than others in the country.
6. Which state is rich in mineral wealth and natural gas?
7. Where do you see insurgency and unrest among people?



## Chapter -7

# The Pleasure of Books

-William Lyon Phelps

### Theme of the lesson

“The Pleasure of Books,” William Lyon Phelps describes the joys of owning books, the bonds that can be formed with them, and the difference between possessing your own library and borrowing a novel....

### Helping Verb

Shall, am are, can, could, be, do, did, had

### Answer the following questions

1. Why has the habit of reading been mentioned as ‘the greatest resources of mankind’ by the writer?
2. Why has a borrowed book been compared to a guest?
3. What is the good reason stated by the writer for marking favorite passages in books?
4. Why should a man start collecting books in his youth?
5. Explain –“Books are of the people, by the people, for the people.”
6. What advantages do book-friends have over living friends?
7. Why are readers necessary for writers?



## Read Aloud and Learn

The habit of reading is one of the greatest resources of mankind.

But your own books belong to you; you treat them with that affectionate intimacy that annihilates formality. Books are for use, not for show; you should own no book that you are afraid to mark up, or afraid to place on the table, wide open and face down. A good reason for marking favorite passages in books is that this practice enables you to remember more easily the significant sayings, to refer to them quickly, and then in later years, it is like visiting a forest where you once blazed a trail.





## Poem - 1

# Give Me Strength

- Rabindranath Tagore

### Theme of the Poem

“Give Me Strength” is an inspirational poem. In this poem, the poet prays to God to strike at the core of his heart and remove the ignorance from there. He prays to God to give him strength so that he bears the joys and sorrows of life in the same spirit. It means that the poet wants to be stoic in his nature. He wants to be in the service of humankind with sincerity and humility. He wants to help the poor and never to bend before rude and disrespectful authority. He also prays for strength to raise his head above petty and ordinary things and surrender his strength before the will of God.

### Answer the following questions

1. What does the poet pray for?
2. What does the poet want to bear with strength?
3. What does ‘bend my knees’ signify?
4. What type of service does the poet want to make?
5. How does the poet want to treat the poor and the mighty?
6. What does the poet want to do with the strength finally?



## Read Aloud and Learn

This is my prayer to thee, my lord—strike,

strike at the root of penury in my heart.

Give me the strength lightly to bear my joys and sorrows.

Give me the strength to make my love fruitful in service.

Give me the strength never to disown the poor or bend my knees  
before insolent might.

Give me the strength to raise my mind high above daily trifles.

And give me the strength to surrender my strength to thy will with  
love.



## Poem -2

# Science and the Unknowable

- Aurobindo Ghosh

### Theme of the Poem

The poem brings out the basic question of existence of this universe and the source or root of its creation which has not been found by science. The poem has a spiritual theme.

### Helping Verb

Shall

### Answer the following questions

1. What is the form of science and what does it do?
2. According to the poet, why cannot the world be known 'without its depths'?
3. 'The visible has its roots in the unseen' – Explain.
4. Where do "the inner lines escape"?
5. What is the actual reality of the objects that we probe, according to the poet?
6. What are the characteristic traits of the 'Being'?
7. Give a brief summary of the poem.

### Read Aloud and Learn

Our science is an abstract cold and brief  
That cuts in formulas the living whole.



It has a brain and head but not a soul:

It sees all things in outward carved relief.

But how without its depths can the world be known? The visible  
has its roots in the unseen

And each invisible hide what it can mean

In a yet deeper invisible, unsown.



## Poem - 3

### Village Song

-Sarojini Naidu

#### Theme of the Poem

"The Village Song" is a poem by Sarojini Naidu about the mindset of two generations, represented by an old woman and her daughter. This poem is a folk song that describes the daily customs followed by Indian village women in fetching home their daily pitcher of water from a long distance. The poem is a comparison between the world of Human beings that abounds in material pleasures and the world of Nature that is contrary to it.

#### Interjection

Ram Re Ram!

O! If the storm breaks, what will betide me?

#### Helping Verb

Shall, should

#### Answer the following questions

1. What tempted the girl to tarry?
2. Which are the birds mentioned in the poem and what are they doing?
3. "Swiftly the shadows of night are falling"- Explain.
4. What lines from the poem suggest that it was already dark?
5. What is speaker's concern about her family members?
6. What is said about river Yamuna in the poem?



7. Describe the atmosphere of the poem.

### Read Aloud and Learn

My mother will wait and weep,  
Saying, 'O safe may the great gods bring her,  
The Jamuna's waters are deep' ...  
The Jamuna's waters rush by so quickly,  
The shadows of evening gather so thickly,  
Like black birds in the sky...  
O! If the storm breaks, what will betide me?  
Safe from the lightning where shall I hide me?  
Unless Thou succor my footsteps and guide me,  
Ram Re Ram! I shall die.



## Poem -4

# Plant Tree

- Lucy Larcom

### Theme of the lesson

‘Plant a Tree’ by Lucy Larcom is a heartfelt and inspirational poem about the benefits of planting trees. The main themes of ‘Plant a Tree’ are nature and religion. The poet spends much more time alluding to the importance of nature than she does to God, but religion is a distinct part of this poem as well. ‘Plant a Tree’ is about the many ways that a tree benefits its environment. It can bring peace and joy while also promoting new life or youth and bringing one closer to God.

### Interjection

Of the bliss that shall inhabit thee!

Plant! life does the rest!

### Helping Verb

Shall, does

### Answer the following questions

1. What are the feelings mentioned in the poem?
2. Why planting a tree is planting a hope?
3. What does ‘Beautiful and strong’ mean in the poem?
4. How dream is related to trees?
5. ‘Vigour won for centuries’- Explain.



6. What message man should get from the bough of a tree?

7. How a person who plants a tree is rewarded?

### **Read Aloud and Learn**

He who plants a tree,

Plants a hope,

Rootlets up through fibers blindly grope;

Leaves unfold into horizons free.

So man's life must climb

From the clods of time unto heavens sublime

Canst thou prophesy, thou little tree,

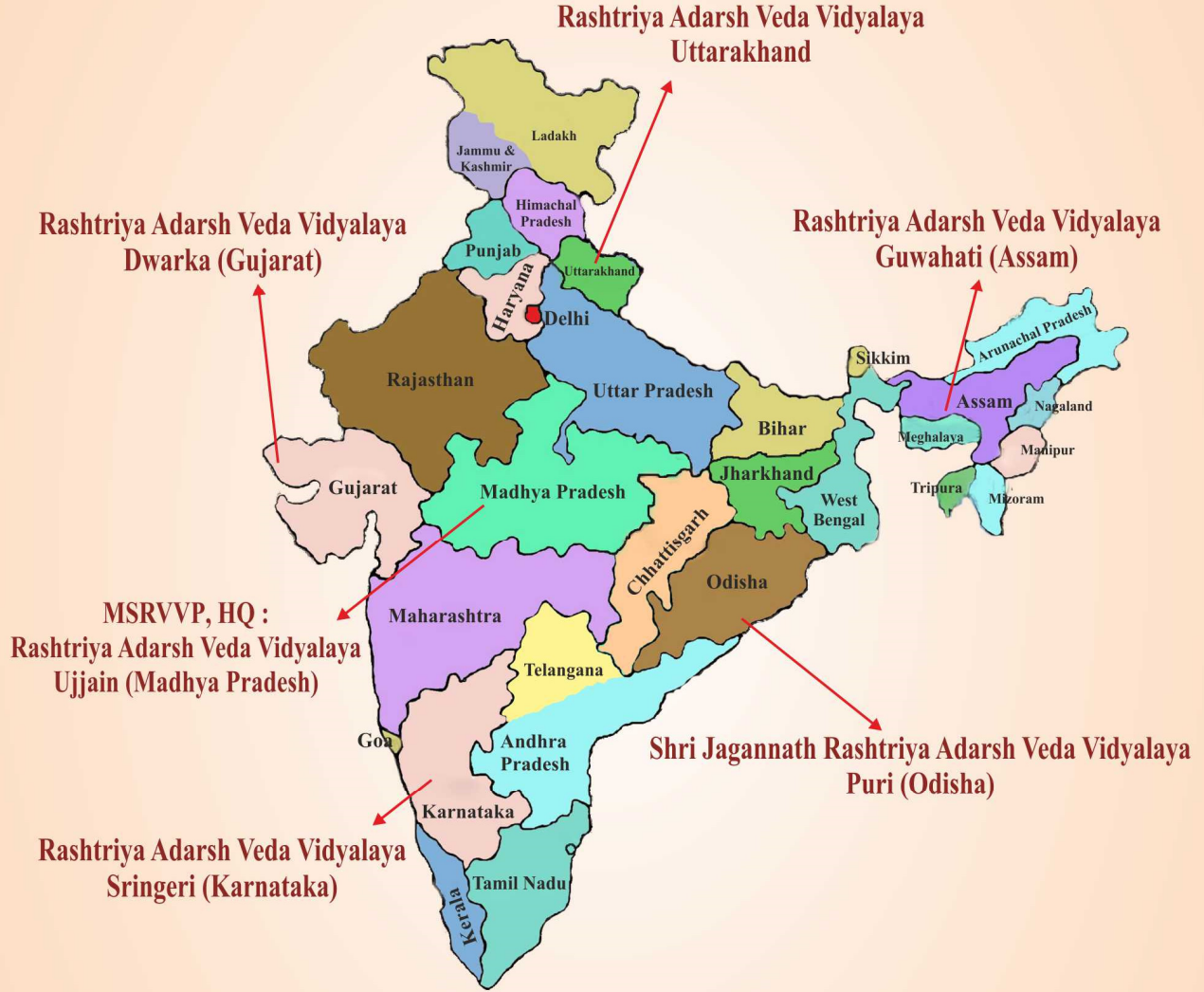
What the glory of thy boughs shall be?





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