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Worthy Conduct

Once a teacher went to the class-room and asked a student the following questions—

- *Should we commit a theft?*
- *Should we feel jealous of others?*
- *Should we insult others?*
- *Should we cheat others?*

The student replied all the questions in negative. The teacher then called each individual student turn by turn and asked the same questions. The teacher was surprised to hear the reply of the students because all the students gave reply in negative.

The teacher was happy because the children of modern era were well aware of the moral and social values of life and was amazed that in spite of the knowledge of all the rules and conduct, their life style and way of behavior differed .

The children adopt those things in their life as they notice around them. That becomes the principle of inspiration and conduct for them which they are unable to change when they grow older. Thus it becomes the moral duty of all elders that before children, we act in such a way as we expect from them. When we don't lie before children, then they will always speak truth. When elders don't back-bite and feel jealous of others, then our children will copy us and would respect all. As it is rightly said, 'when the old cock crows, the young ones learn.'

One thing we must remember, if children are aware of right and wrong, then it becomes our moral duty to do only right things and avoid doing the wrong. We should do such things in life that in the eyes of society, we should not feel ashamed of ourselves.

—Vimlesh Ahuja





- Shyam Sunder Garg

A Mug of Water

Once, a king was roaming in the forest and he felt thirsty. He saw an earthen pitcher of water outside the hut of a blind man and ordered his soldier to fetch water for him. The soldier said to the blind man, "O blind man, give me a mug full of water".

The blind man said, "Go away, I don't give water to soldiers". At this, the king sent his commander to fetch water. The commander said, "O blind saint, please give me a mug full of water, I am very much thirsty".

The blind man said, "I beg your pardon my dear commander, I can't give you water."

The commander also returned without taking water. At last, the king decided to bring water himself. At first, the king bowed to the blind man, greeted him and then said, "O saint, I am feeling very thirsty, I shall be highly grateful if you can give me a mug full of water."

The blind man offered a seat to the king to sit and said, "I respect you, O king. Not to speak of water, I am at your service. Kindly tell me if I can be of any use to you."

The king quenched his thirst with cold water and humbly asked, "You cannot see, even then recognized the soldier, the commander and myself?"

The blind man said, "The conduct reveals the status of a person and it is best judged when the person speaks."



SAMPURAN AVTAR BANI

Ik Tu Hi Nirankar - 135

IH NIRANKAR VADDE TON VADDA IS DA PARAVAR NAHIN;
 JOGI JATI GIANI KOI JANAN IS DI SAR NAHIN.
 SURAJ CHANN SITARE SARE HUKAM IHDE VICH REHNDE NE;
 VAYU JEEV AKASH VI IS DE HUKAM 'CH UTHDE BEHNDE NE.
 PANI AG TE DHARTI IS DA MANNDE NE FARMAN SADA;
 KAN KAN SRISHTI DA HUNDA EY ESE TON QURBAN SADA.
 IH CHAHE TAN CHHIN DE ANDAR SARI SRISHTI MET LAE;
 CHAHE JAD VISTAR CH KAR LAE CHAHE JAD SAMET LAE.
 NASHVANT IH MAYA SARI BAQI KEVAL SUCHA TOON;
 KAHE AVTAR BINA GUR POORE HO NAHIN SAKDA UCHA TOON.

Thou Formless One

The Formless One - Nirankar is greatest of the great and His vastness cannot be encompassed;

Hermits, ascetics and the wise men fail to comprehend Him.

The sun, the moon and the stars, all remain in His divine command;

The air, the conscious being and Aakash also act as per His command.

The earth, the water, and the fire always obey His command;

Every particle of the universe is ever grateful to Him.

God can destroy the whole universe in a moment, if He so wills;

He can expand or wind it up, whenever He so wills.

The entire world is liable to destruction, only Thou art the eternal pure;

Avtar says without the perfect True Master, Thou cannot get exalted.





O! GREAT WORLD

You are wide enough
Having peaks and mountains,
Journeys are tough.
But Do you know?
You are controlled.
You are in the hands of one,
From stars to moon and moon to sun.
Little weeds and wild forests,
Endless rain, that never rests.
You are the whole creation of God,
Almighty and formless lord.
Air, land and rivers that flow,
Along with breeze and winds that blow,
All they move into whistle of one.
This is the God and no other one.
Humans, animals, beasts and birds,
Number system and beautiful words.
Joy, sorrow and remorse,
Are blessed by God of course.
So, never do think of egoism,
For you have no heroism,
You are nothing but God's puppet,
Formlessness is His epithet.

By: Amarpreet Kaur, Mohali





— Pushkar Dwivedi

Raju, was sitting sad and disheartened on the stairs of his house. His annual examination was drawing near. He was feeling very nervous and disappointed while thinking about the exam. He thought, "How will I clear the exam, what should I do? I do not find any way out to clear the exams."

Raju had failed in 2 subjects each during quarterly and half-yearly exams. He was weak in Mathematics and English.

He was anxious how he would clear the 7th standard and get promoted to 8th standard. His father had also cautioned him that if he failed in the exam, he would not be allowed to play or meet and roam about with his friends.

The biggest worry for Raju was that if he did not clear the exam, his father would not take him to Nainital and Mussoorie. He was very much upset to think about this.

Then he took a deep sigh by looking downwards when he saw an ant carrying a dead shrimp climbing on the door-step. But it fell every time it tried. Raju was constantly watching this ant. A small ant had fallen twice from the door step while climbing over it with the dead shrimp many times heavier than its own weight. But the ant became successful in climbing the door step for the third time. Raju was very happy over the efforts made by the ant and its ultimate success.





The Hands of Christ

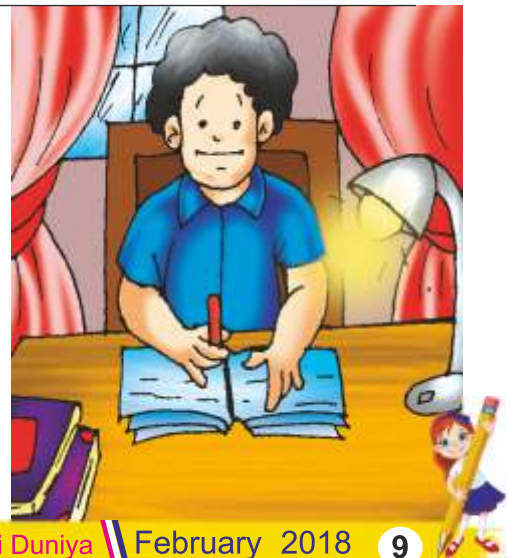
In a small French country village during World War II, there was a beautiful marble statue of Jesus with His hands outstretched before Him, standing in the courtyard of a quaint little church. One day a bomb struck too close, and the statue was dismembered. After the battle was over and the enemy had passed through, the citizens of the village decided to find the pieces of their beloved statue and reconstruct it. It was no work of art by Michelangelo or Bernini, but it was a part of their

lives, and they loved it just the same. And so they gathered the broken pieces and reassembled it. Even the scars on the body added to its beauty. But there was one problem. They were unable to find the hands of the statue. 'A Christ without hands is no Christ at all,' someone lamented. 'Hands with scars — yes. But what's a Lord without hands? We need a new statue.' Then someone else came along with another idea, and it prevailed. A brass plaque was attached at the base of the statue which read "I HAVE NO HANDS BUT YOUR HANDS."

—Himanshu, Delhi



Immediately, an idea struck Raju's mind, "When a small ant can put efforts and climb the step carrying such a big shrimp, then he can also work hard and put efforts for his studies to come out successful in the exam. Thus he can please his father and can fulfil all his desires." Raju was very much pleased in his heart and swiftly moved to his room for studies where all his reading material was."



Precious Words of Baba Hardev Singh Ji Maharaj

- ★ Knowledge is light and ignorance is darkness.
- ★ Man is the supreme creation of God. He has to maintain his dignity.
- ★ The wealth of character is bigger than the entire worldly wealth.
- ★ Human energy should be utilized in human welfare and not wasted in destruction.
- ★ The elders show us the path; we have to tread on those ourselves.
- ★ God realization should be the prime human objective.
- ★ Wisdom lies in finishing our work on daily basis.
- ★ Today's human is awake towards myth and not truth. Human awakening towards humanity is utmost necessary.
- ★ Before finding faults in others, we should introspect.
- ★ A good mother is equivalent to hundred teachers, so she should be respected at all costs.
- ★ The greed destroys our wisdom, wisdom destroys modesty, modesty lost destroys religion and religion lost destroys the human completely.
- ★ As every golden thread is costly; so is every moment of time.
- ★ The wounds of sword can be healed, but the wounds made by words are hard to heal.
- ★ The wealth earned through honesty gives pleasure throughout whereas that earned through dishonesty is always painful and disturbing.
- ★ Let all the human beings on this earth learn to live in harmony and oneness.
- ★ The goodness vanishes in selfishness as the river vanishes in the ocean.
- ★ Love and forgiveness is much stronger than hatred in the world.
- ★ We can please God only when we accept the human beings also.
- ★ Only the humble ones can be considered great in the field of religion.
- ★ Ego is like a stone in the shoes which always discomforts.



- ★ We remember the saints, worship them. We should not limit ourselves to remember them but follow their teachings also.
- ★ To torment others is an easy task like cutting a tree within few seconds, but to please a person is like keeping patience, self-restraint and being alert necessary to nurse a newly planted tree.
- ★ The winners are not those who have never faced defeat rather they are those who never commit mistake to leave the ground with the fear of being defeated.
- ★ The real basis of life full of ecstasy is the equilibrium and if this thing is kept in mind, your present and future will always remain brighter.
- ★ Infighting in a boat is more dangerous than the tempest outside
- ★ If Knowledge and its execution combine, the earth will decidedly become heaven.
- ★ Love people and use things instead of using people and loving things.





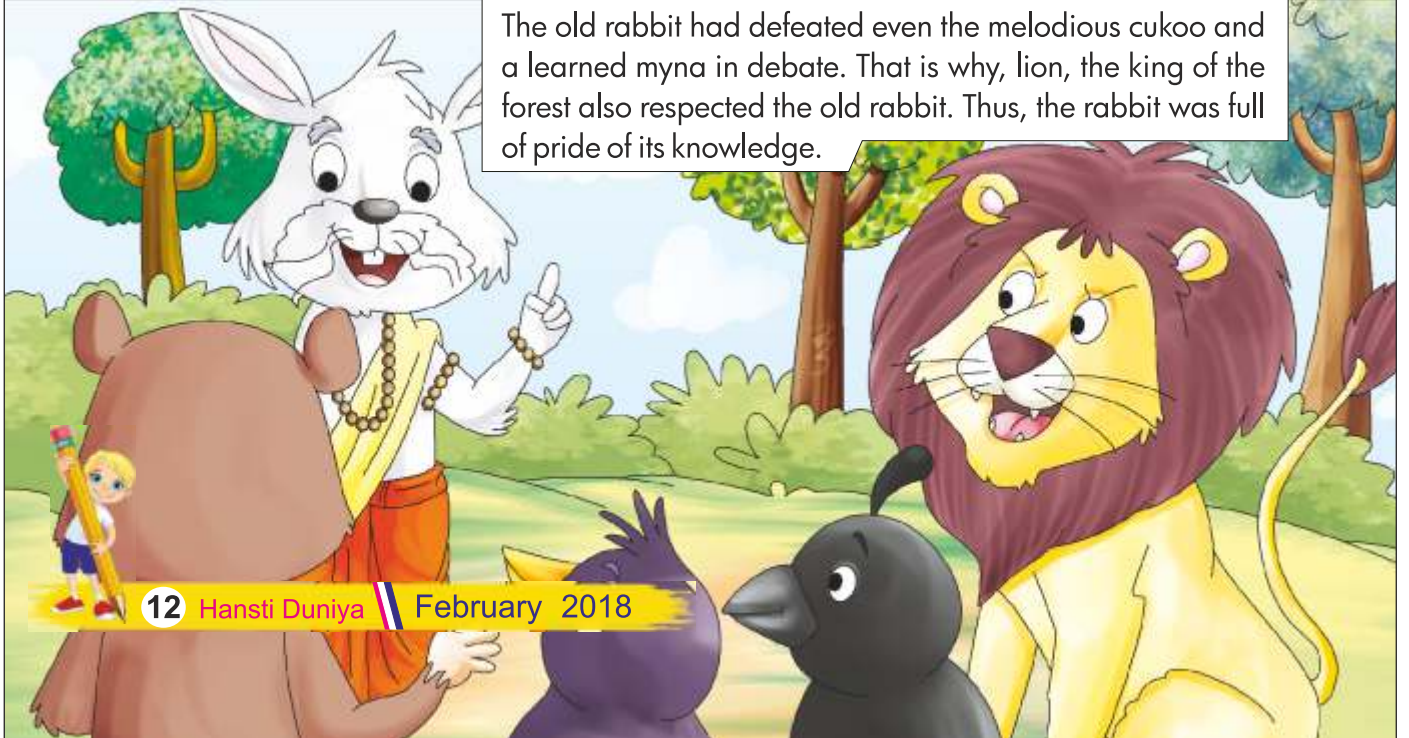
Grandpa

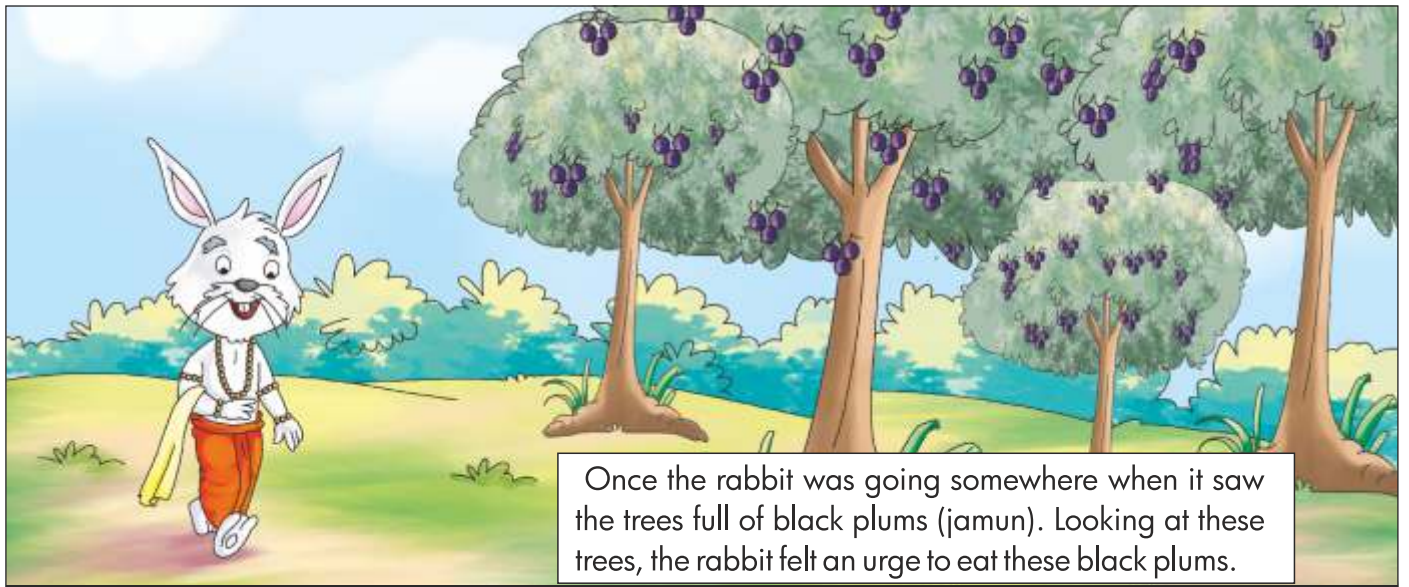
Story & Illustration — Ajay Kalara

Once there lived an old rabbit in Sundarvan. It was knowledgeable. All the birds and animals in the forest respected it for its wisdom.



The old rabbit had defeated even the melodious cuckoo and a learned myna in debate. That is why, lion, the king of the forest also respected the old rabbit. Thus, the rabbit was full of pride of its knowledge.



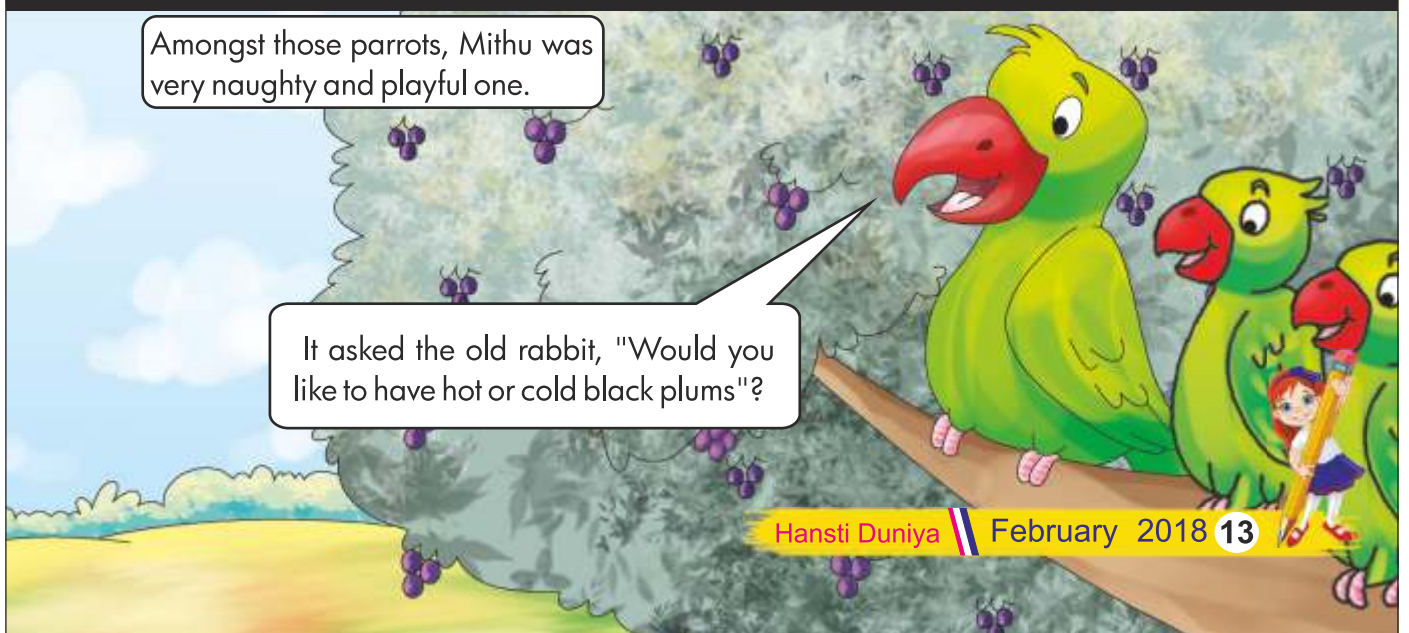


Once the rabbit was going somewhere when it saw the trees full of black plums (jamun). Looking at these trees, the rabbit felt an urge to eat these black plums.



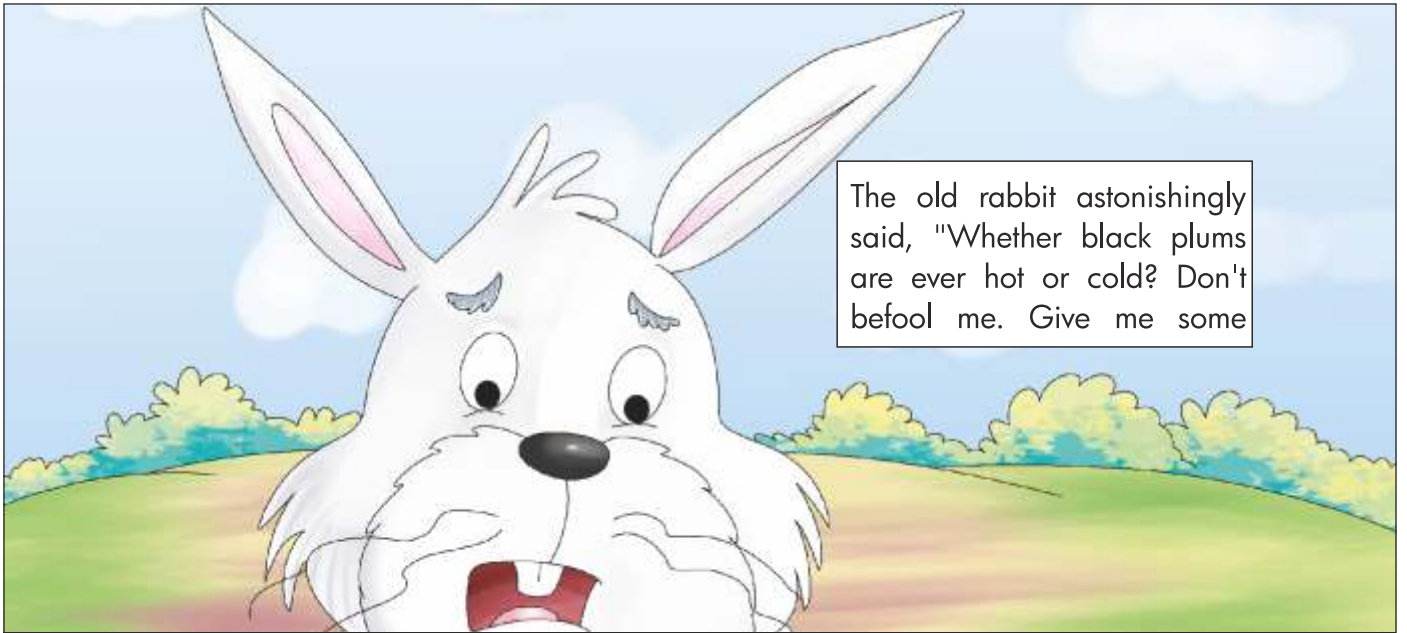
The rabbit saw a group of parrots eating black plums (jamun) in a big black plum tree.

The old rabbit addressed these parrots as grandchildren and asked to drop some black plums (jamun) for it also.

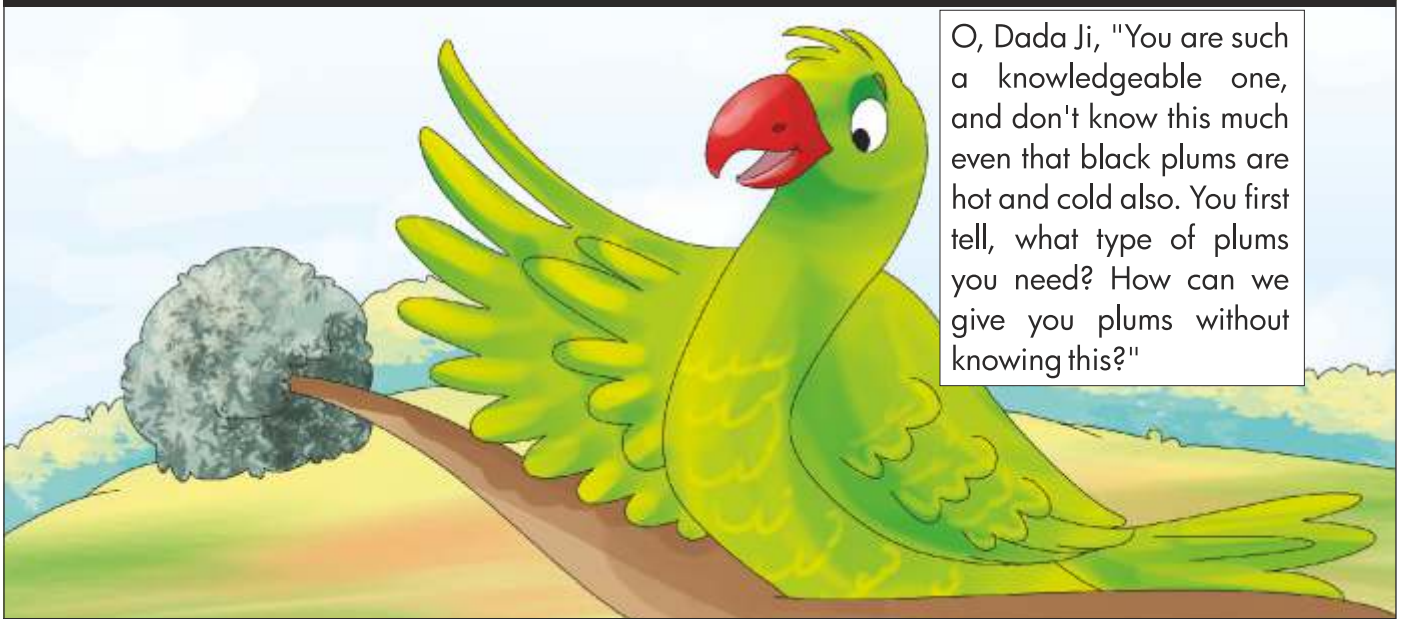


Amongst those parrots, Mithu was very naughty and playful one.

It asked the old rabbit, "Would you like to have hot or cold black plums"?

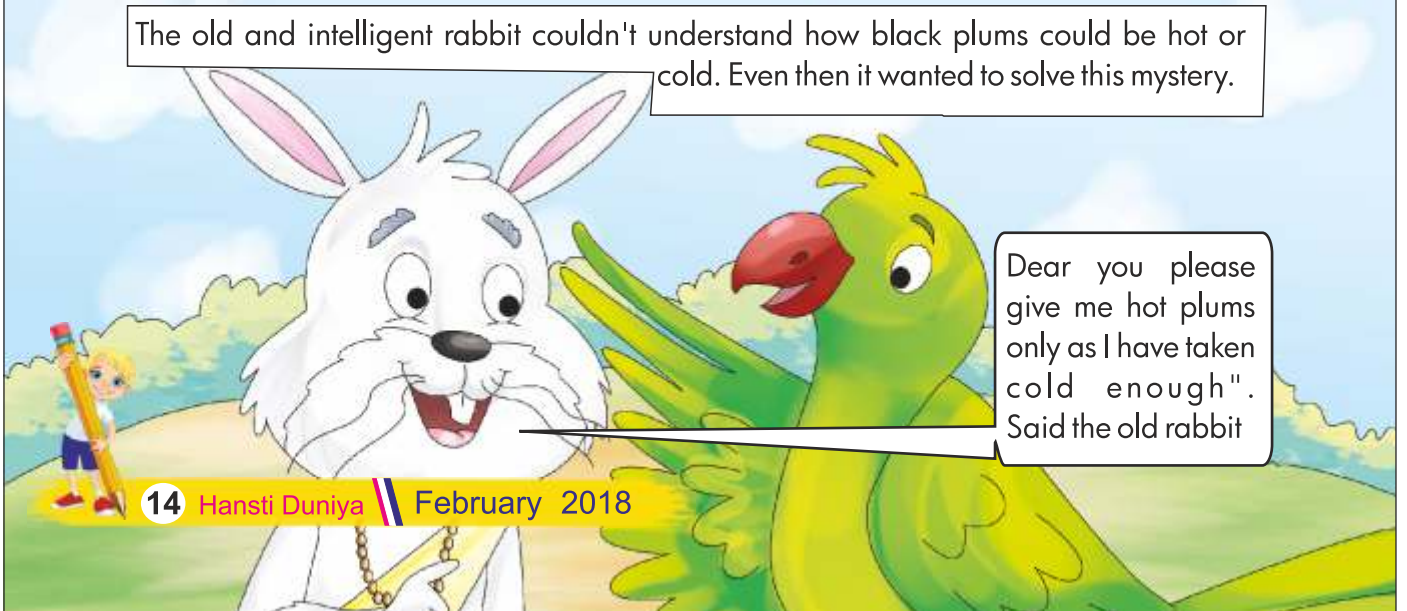


The old rabbit astonishingly said, "Whether black plums are ever hot or cold? Don't be fool me. Give me some




O, Dada Ji, "You are such a knowledgeable one, and don't know this much even that black plums are hot and cold also. You first tell, what type of plums you need? How can we give you plums without knowing this?"

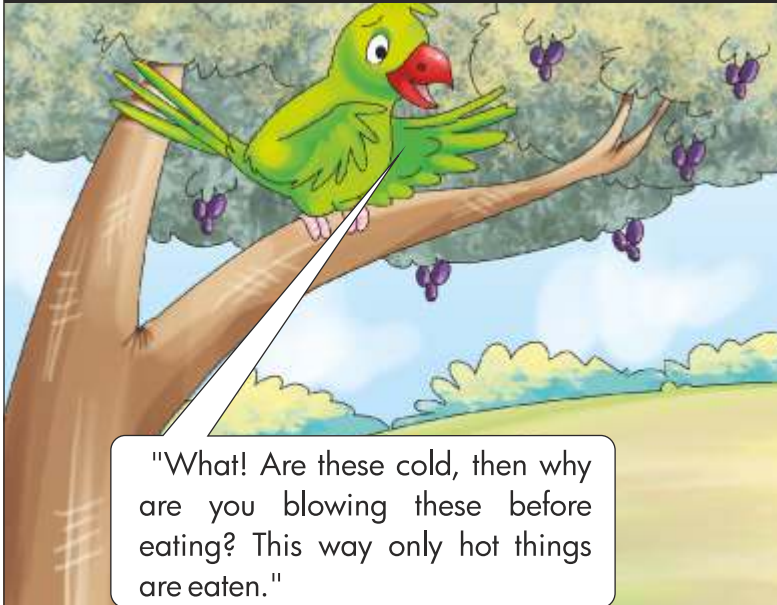
The old and intelligent rabbit couldn't understand how black plums could be hot or cold. Even then it wanted to solve this mystery.




Dear you please give me hot plums only as I have taken cold enough". Said the old rabbit



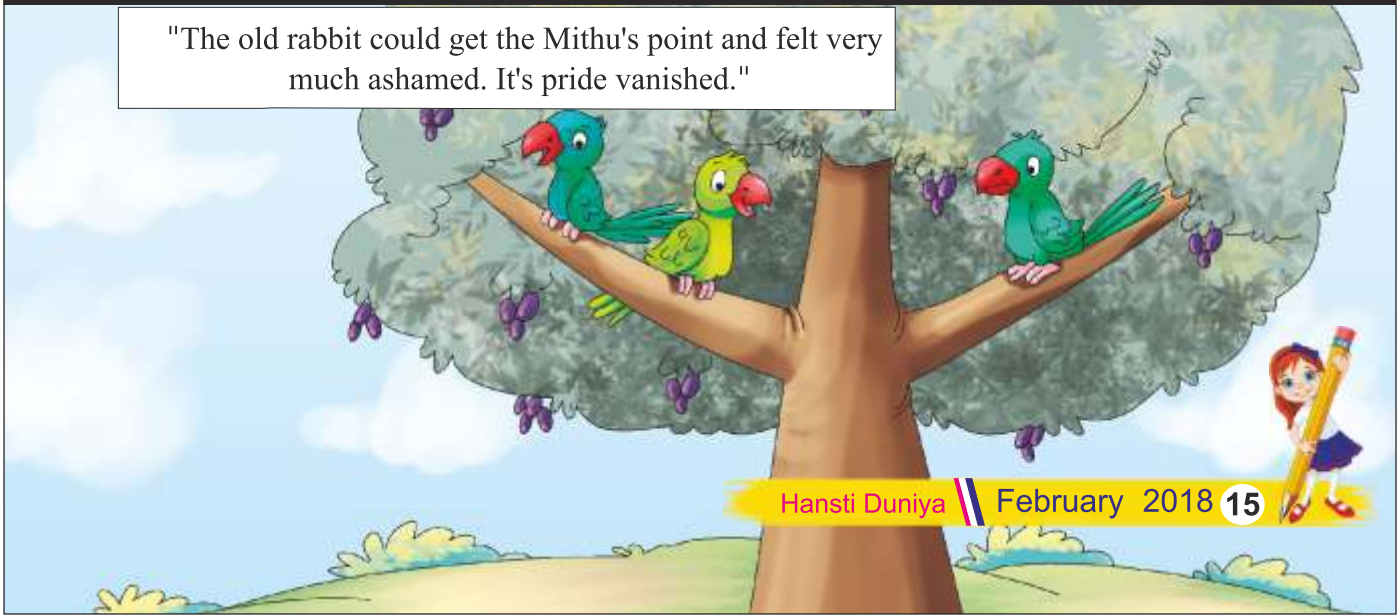
Hearing this, the young Mithu shook one branch and the ripe black plums (Jamuns) fell on the ground. The old rabbit picked up the black plums (Jamun) and started eating those by blowing dust.



Dear, "These are ordinary cold black plum (jamuns) only."



"What! Are these cold, then why are you blowing these before eating? This way only hot things are eaten."



"The old rabbit could get the Mithu's point and felt very much ashamed. It's pride vanished."

Improve your



Choose the right option –

- There is no hard and _____ rule for solving these numericals.
a) FAST b) SOFT
- Other exercises _____ energy; Yoga is designed to preserve it.
a) CONSUME b) INCREASE
- A post without remuneration is known as _____.
a) FREELANCING b) HONORARY
- I _____ a lot of time reading.
a) SPEND b) PASS
- She suffered from the poverty of her apartment, the _____ walls, the worn chairs and the faded stuffs.
a) HUMBLE b) SHABBY
- What is the plural of Shampoo?
a) SHAMPOOES b) SHAMPOOS
- Find out the emphatic pronoun in this sentence:
HE HIMSELF DID THIS.
a) HE b) HIMSELF
- Flamingoes usually reside at a particular _____.
a) HABITAT b) SHELTER

Answer Sheet

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8

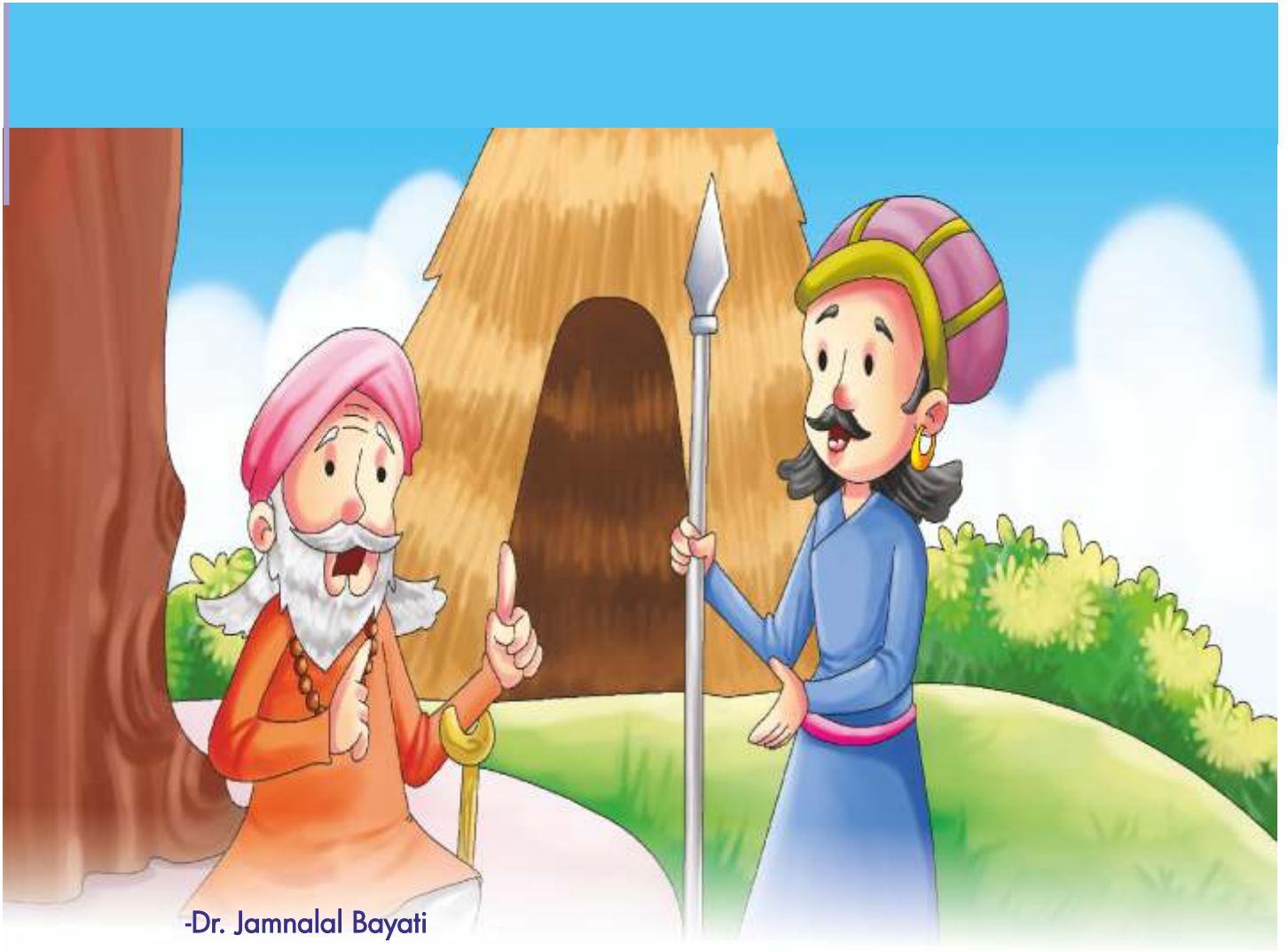


Judge your position from the table given below:

All correct – Excellent Grammar

5 – 7 correct – Average Grammar

Below 5 correct – Go through the Grammar book everyday.



-Dr. Jamnalal Bayati

A Daring Sage

Nadir Shah was very notorious for his cruelty among the masses. He used to tease his people by oppressing them one way or the other. Once he sent his messenger to call a sage. The messenger went to the sage and said, "The king has called you, come along with me."

The sage said, "Why has he called me?"

The messenger said, "The king wants to ask and know something from you."

The sage said, "If the king wants to ask or know something, he should come to me. When I need or I have to take something, then I shall go to the king. At present neither I require nor do I need anything. You go and tell your king that the sage has refused to come to you. If he needs or wants to ask something, then he should himself come to me."



Hearing sage reply, Nadir Shah was furious. He felt insulted and was full of anger. He is the first such sage who has disobeyed me and conveyed to me that I should go to him if I need or want to ask something from him.

After few days when Nadir Shah cooled down, he reached the hut of the sage and said, "I had sent my messenger and called you."

The sage said, "Yes, a person had given me your message and I also had sent my reply through him."

Nadir Shah said, "So, you are ignoring the king, mind you."

"I have nothing to say to the king", said the sage.

Both the king and the sage remained silent for 10-15 minutes and continued to glance each other. Ultimately, the king broke the silence.

"I have come to know that you have conquered over the sleep. I want to know that method and the solution." said Nadir Shah.

"What will you do with that method?"

I want to get triumph over all the nations of the world with the help of my forces by keeping myself awake day and night.





The sage took a deep breath and then spoke with confidence and courage- "That method cannot be told to you. Instead I want you to keep sleeping not only during night but during the day even, so that you can minimize your atrocities on the people to enable them to live peacefully. There lies yours as well as welfare of people ."

Nadir Shah was completely lost. The anger was clearly visible on his face. He took out his sword from the sheath and challenged the sage and shouted at him, "Sage! It's enough, beware now. Your death is at hand, you deserve a death sentence."

The sage courageously said, " I know that you have come here not to give me anything. This body will merge with earth today or tomorrow. If you finish it today only, what difference is it going to make? Whether a sage remains on this earth or not, it hardly makes any difference." Oh merciless pauper! You take away this body just now and pacify your hunger and lust.

Nadir Shah turned into stone and was speechless. He couldn't utter a single word before the daring attitude of a sage. He put his sword back into the sheath and moved backward.



CROSS WORD

– Vikas Arora (Rewari)



1		2		3		4
		5	6			
7						
		8		9		
10			11			12
13		14				
		15				

Left to Right →

- Masculine: _____, Feminine: TIGRESS
- A layer in the earth's atmosphere containing high concentration of ozone is called the _____ layer.
- The sacred Muslim pilgrim shrine situated in Mecca.
- A Muslim festival celebrated in the end of the fast of Ramadan.
- Antonym of Poor.
- A town of Rajasthan famous for Dargah of Sufi saint Khwaja Moinuddin Chishti.
- Head of a Municipal Corporation of a city.

Up - Down ↓

- The word that comes last in the dictionary: TALK, TAIL, TAKE, TALE.
- A model of earth mostly found in Geography lab.
- Venue of 2016 Summer Olympics : _____ de Janeiro, Brazil.
- Writer of poems.
- Old name of Democratic Republic of the Congo.
- Form adjective from the word 'DIRT'.
- The planet which is nearest to earth.
- Unit of time equal to 60 minutes.
- Synonym of Silent.



H.D. Answers

—Evan T Reginold, Delhi

Q. When was the first Nirankari Samagam held?

A. In 1948, many saints reached Delhi from far and wide on the occasion of Bhog ceremony of Sh. Sajjan Singh, the youngest son of Shehanshah ji. That marked the beginning of Samagam.

—Suraj (Canada)

Q : What is world's greatest wonder?

A : Forgetfulness about death..

—Ramavdha Yadav (Jhujhunu)

Q : Does God Almighty have any scientific existence?

A : The perpetual system of nature we look around itself proves His existence scientifically.

— Sakshi Gulati, Chandigarh

Q : Why is stress given on Divine character?

A : When we talk about the appealing message of the Mission, we expect the masses to join us. When they join us, let them discover that our speech is not at variance with our character.

—Prmod Mishra (Azamgarh)

Q. What is the basis of a religion?

A. Humanity based on Divine knowledge.

—Avneesh Gulati, Chandigarh

Q. : How can we repay the debt of Satguru for imparting invaluable Divine knowledge?

A. By spreading the message of Satguru globally.



—Sunil Nagpal, Delhi

RAMAKRISHNA PARAMAHANSA JAYANTI

Ramakrishna Paramahansa (1836-1886 C.E.) was a famous Saint in the 19th century India. He was born on 18 February 1836 in a very poor but devoutly religious Brahmin family in the village of Kamarpukur, Hooghly district of West Bengal, India. He became a priest of the Dakshineswar Kali Temple, dedicated to the goddess Kali. He is famously known as Ramakrishna Paramahansa among his devotees.

He was married to Sarada Devi who later became his spiritual counterpart. Swami Vivekananda was one of his famous disciples. In honor of his Guru, Swami Vivekananda founded Ramakrishna Math which works for the welfare of others and spread the spiritual movement known as Ramakrishna Movement worldwide. Belur Math is the headquarters of Ramakrishna Math and Mission.

Sri Ramakrishna Deva's birth and his merely 50 years of life have shown the world the attitude it must take to fulfill the purpose of human birth. He said, "The sole aim of human birth is to realize God". It may be very difficult for many to understand and accept this, but then we are not so fully developed human beings yet to realize its significance. He also said, "A man cannot live without God just as a lamp cannot burn without oil." There are very few who can understand such statements but that does not make the statement untrue.

Those that have come to Sri Ramakrishna's shelter, we believe, and this was told by Sri Ramakrishna himself, are in their last birth. One of his great characteristics is that anyone examining his life and teachings closely, cannot have any trace of doubt in his mind about the existence of God or about the relationship between man and God.

Sri Ramakrishna also proved in his life by practicing many different faiths and many traditions in one religion itself and proved to himself and to the world, first-hand, that all these are true and valid paths to the same Eternal and Universal Truth. He said, "As many faiths, so many paths". If this message was not given at the right time and were not spread and popularized in the lives of the common people, we can not imagine

what the world's sorry state would have been with so many different opinions and faiths. Though communal clashes do take place even now, because of various reasons, many times not religious at all, most of those who fight know, in the heart of their hearts, that probably the other view may also be true. Most of such clashes now do take place for reasons political or for no reason at all.

To celebrate the birthday of such a great master is very important for the whole world as it would remind it what its journey is and what its destiny must be.



PhD Degree Convocation of Delhi University

Delhi, 18 November, 2017

94th convocation of Central University, Delhi concluded in the august presence of Shri Ramnath Kovind, the honourable President of India where 578 students were presented PhD degrees. In this convocation programme, Shri Ajit Singh Ji, a staunch sewadar of Sant Nirankari Mission was also presented with a PhD degree. Shri Ajit Singh Ji successfully completed his research work in Musical Department under the directions of Dr (Prof.) Rajeev Verma.

Dr. Ajit Singh, who is the resident of village Barsi said that his interest for music developed in Nirankari Mission's Bal-sangats organized from time to time in branch Hansi (Haryana). He completed this research work with the blessings of Satguru Mata Ji while carrying out the services of the Mission. He said that this research-work is completed due to the blessings he received from the Satguru, so he submitted this degree in the lotus feet of Satguru Mata Savinder Hadev Ji Maharaj.



Poem : Des Raj Sharma , Delhi

Words of Wisdom

Listen— if you want to be a good child
Be always gentle and never grow wild

Love all with a smile and never hate
For men with loving hearts become great

Be always cheerful and leave all worry
Go slow and steady and show no hurry

Hurt not others but win each heart
Shun not the struggle but play your part

Sit not idle, be up and doing
March ahead, your goals pursuing

Avoid bad words and nasty thins
For each bad act, a punishment brings



Tell no lies and always speak the Truth
In case you want to be a wonderful youth

Avoid being greedy, for greed is a sin
That way you can save your skin

Do not be angry, for anger destroys wisdom
An angry king loses both war and kingdom

Give one and all a beautiful smile
And to keep fit, daily walk a mile



— Sanjay Tandon

The Missing Shoes

"Practice moderation in speech, for most misunderstandings and factions arise out of carelessly spoken words. When the foot slips, the wound can be healed. But when the tongue slips, the wound it causes in the heart of another will fester for life."

Tamang and Kapin were two brothers who had a shoe shop. They had a couple of old and faithful craftsmen, who specialized in hand made shoes. For many years these brothers had a monopoly in the local shoe market. Their handmade Chinese shoes were comfortable and durable too. One day, ten pairs of trendy brown leather moccasins were delivered by the head craftsman at the shop counter. They were made of snake leather and were quite expensive.

Tamang had gone out for the day and Kapin was looking after the shop. Just before closing time, a customer bought a pair of the latest trendy brown moccasins. Soon Kapin closed the shop and went

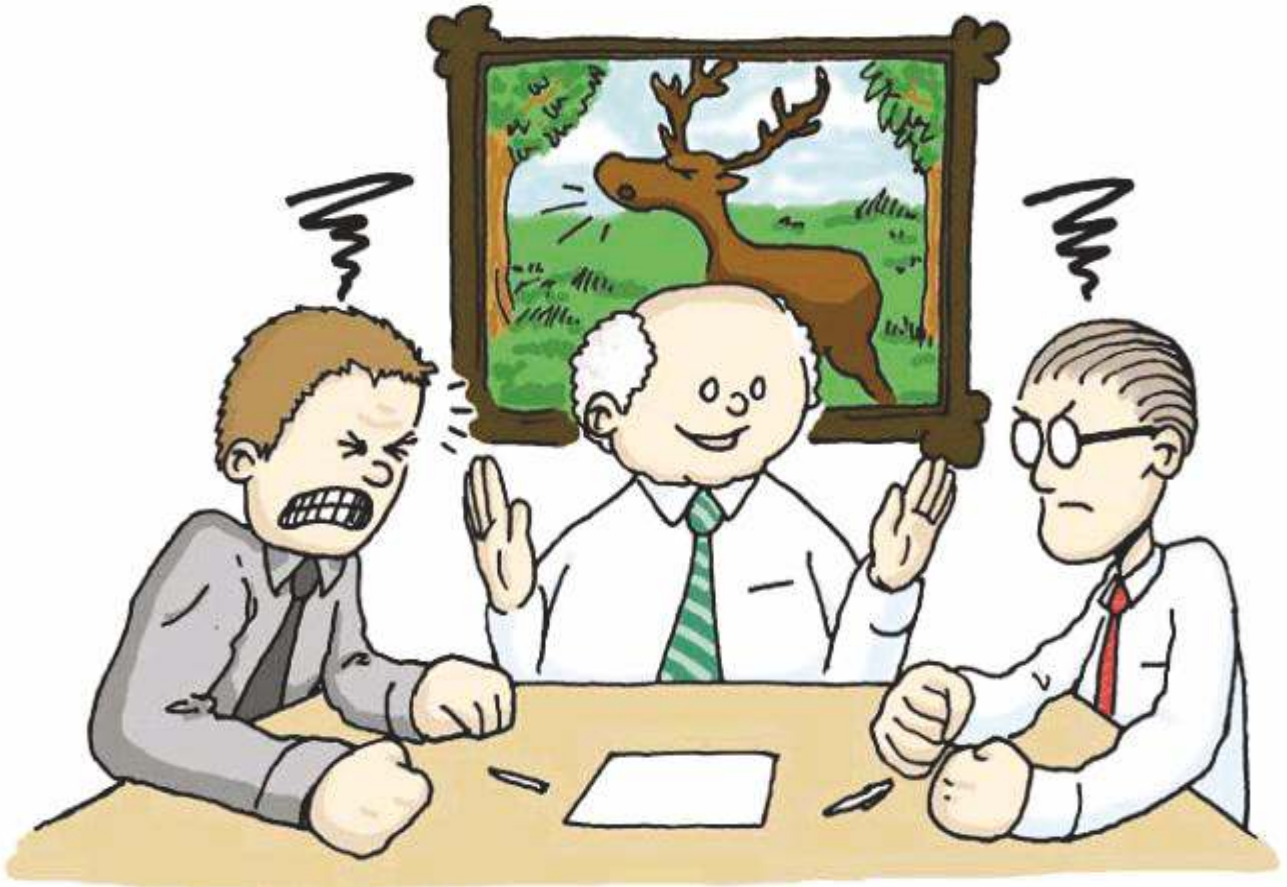
home. The following day was Kapin's weekly off and Tamang opened the shop in the morning. He saw the new lot of shoes standing smartly at the counter. He happened to read in the stock register that ten pairs of shoes had been delivered. The sales register said that one pair had been sold at 8 pm. But the counter had only eight pairs on it.

The following day Tamang asked his brother Kapin if he had forgotten to enter the sale of the missing pair into the sales register, or had he liked it so much that he had taken a pair for himself?

Kapin looked puzzled and replied that he had sold only one pair and he had not taken any for himself. Tamang got annoyed and said sarcastically, "Well I guess then a ghost entered into those shoes and walked away with them!"

With each passing day, there was an increment in bickering and mistrust between





the brothers. Soon the brothers came to such a juncture that they decided to split the business and Kapin offered to move out. He set up another shop across the road.

Eighteen years later, a gentleman walked into Tamang's shop and said, "My friend, are you the proprietor here?" "Yes, I am," said Tamang. "Have you been here for the last eighteen years?" "Sure," replied Tamang in surprise. "My friend, I have come here to make a confession. Eighteen years ago I came to this shop to look for a cheap pair of shoes, for mine was worn out beyond repair. You were at the rear end of the shop attending to a customer. At the counter were some expensive leather moccasins. I was desperate because my feet were so cold. I picked up a pair, slipped my feet into them and rushed out. But the guilt of the theft has haunted me all

these years. I have come to confess and also to pay for them, for today I can afford to do so."

Tears welled up in Tamang's eyes as realisation dawned on him. He said, "The man with the customer was not me, but my brother. Please come with me to the shop across the road and repeat your story. That shall be payment enough."

The man went across to Kapin's shop and repeated his story. He was amazed to see Kapin come out of the shop to hug a sobbing Tamang.

The mystery of the missing shoes was solved and it had just cemented back the bond between the brothers.

Misunderstandings are common amongst brothers and friends over issues, big and small. Cool headedness and large heartedness often succeed in solving the issues.



Overcome Fear

Fears are a drain on our mental energy and are main stumbling blocks to our progress. By the law of attraction, whatever we fear or doubt, we actually attract those conditions and circumstances around us and so we are further trapped in a vicious circle.

There are some people amongst us who constantly fear lest this or that should happen and thus keep their minds constantly in a state of agitation and turmoil.



Please remember there is nothing in this world which we really need to fear. Nothing is designed in the Universe to harm us. One of the best ways to remove fear is to intentionally face and stand before those very things you fear denying, mentally that they can do any harm to you, till such time when the fear is totally gone. The causes of your fear leap on you again and again until you overcome fear. It is a law that the more you fear a thing, the more it frightens you. However, if you don't fear and stand before it untouched and indifferent, the opposite happens i.e. the fear will go away from you. Also bear in mind this great truth that actual happening is never that fearful and painful as our thought or imagination of that happening.

Even incidents of so called ghosts, black magic, soul possession and various other influences affect only those persons who are mentally fearful, weak and remain sensitive to these things. These things can't touch strong-

minded persons.

Further, also gain strength by the knowledge that nothing happens by chance or by accident. For every happening, there is a reason.

Just face each challenge of life boldly with a positive outlook and firm faith in God, as only God can provide the real security to us.

Golden Words

- ★ To one who has faith, no explanation is necessary. To one without faith, no explanation is possible. —St. Thomas Aquinas
- ★ Well done is better than well said. — Bhagat Kotumal Ji
- ★ Be quick to sympathize and slow to criticize while dealing with the children. — Rev. D.S. Shauq.



National Bird Feeding Hobby

February is National Bird-Feeding Month celebrated in USA. It was created to educate the public on the wild bird feeding and watching hobby. Because of National Bird-Feeding Month, February has become the month most recognized with wild bird feeding promotions and activities. The month is an ideal time for promoting and enjoying the bird feeding as a hobby, which is home-based and nature-oriented.

Backyard bird feeding is an entertaining, educational, and inexpensive pastime enjoyed by children and adults alike. Bird feeding provides a much needed break from today's frantic stressful lifestyle. Young children are naturally drawn to the activities involved in feeding wild birds, which can serve as excellent educational tools. Children can identify different species of birds with a field guide and can learn about the birds' feeding and living habits. These observations can then provide excellent research opportunities for school project reports and for some a career option later.

Feeding wild birds in the backyard is an easy hobby to start and would not overtax the family budget. It can be as simple as putting a single feeder outside a window and filling it with bird seed mix. Parents can challenge an inquisitive child's mind as they explore together these factors in trying to encourage visits by their favorite birds.

The theme for 2011 was "Most Wanted - America's Top Ten Backyard Birds". In 2010, the theme was "Hatching Out – An Introduction to the Wild Bird Feeding Hobby". The themes help keep the tradition. The goal of this theme was to promote best bird alive while still making it interesting in today's life.

Compiled by -Shikha, Delhi



Chhatarpati Shiva Ji's Jayanti

Shivaji was born on 19th February, 1627, in Shivneri Fort, 60 kms north of Pune. He was named after the local Goddess Shivai, to whom his mother prayed for a son. His father Shahaji Bhosle was the chief of the Bijapur kingdom. He was however, not allowed to take charge of any fort. His mother had a great influence on him as he was introduced to Indian epics of Mahabharata, Ramayana and other holy books by her. Shivaji also gained a lot of knowledge from his father's unsuccessful attempts to gain power. He was inspired by his father's military tactics, peacetime diplomacy and also possessed knowledge of Sanskrit and Hindu scriptures.

Shivaji grew into a fearless military leader with trainings from commanders like Gomaji Naik and Baji Pasalkar. Young

Shivaji was motivated, enthusiastic and energetic. In his early days he was successful in inspiring local youths to follow his idealistic pursuits. At the age of 17, he attacked and captured Torna Fort of Bijapur and by 1647 he took control of Kondana and Raigad Forts. The Western Ghats along the Konkan Coast were also under his control by 1654.

In order to sabotage Shivaji's rise to power, Adilshah arrested Shahaji, his father by deceitful means and had armies sent against Shivaji and his elder brother Sambaji. To suppress Shivaji's control on the Bijapur kingdom, Afzal Khan was sent to destroy him. However, with his cunning tricks, Shivaji successfully stabbed Afzal Khan. Eventually Bijapur's armies



were routed in the famous battle of Pratapgarh in 1659 and Shivaji turned into a hero of the Marathas. Now, under the confident leadership of Shivaji, the Marathas successfully pushed back the Mughals and the sultanate kingdoms from his homeland.

Shivaji also fought with the Mughals, he attacked the army which was led by Shaista Khan under the Mughal emperor-Aurangzeb. However, Shivaji lost many men against a well-trained and disciplined Mughal army. Shivaji felt the need of finance to maintain an army and decided to loot the Mughal city of Surat. The Mughal emperor then sent Jai Singh to defeat Shivaji. After a few skirmishes, he thought it was wise to accept the emperor's sovereignty. But then he was soon house-arrested in Agra. With his intelligence, Shivaji successfully escaped from Agra and hid in his homeland and kept a low profile for some time. But then again he gradually rebuilt his empire and within six months he recovered much of his lost ground.

Shivaji extended his empire further towards south to Tamil Nadu and Karnataka. In order to regain one of his forts, Kondana, he appointed his most trusted general Tanaji Malusare. The battle that followed between the Marathas and the Mughals came to be known as the Maratha war of Independence where the



Marathas were successful in regaining the control of the fort.

'Chhatrapati Shivaji'

Shivaji was formally crowned as a Chhatrapati in 1674 at Raigad fort and henceforth came to be known as Chhatrapati Shivaji. The brave warrior died in 1680 but is still known for his courage and intelligence. He laid the foundation of a Hindu empire which lasted for over two centuries. Also, Shivaji will always be known as a source of inspiration and pride for generations for his courage and military acumen.

—Vinod Vohra, Delhi





Maha Shivratri

—Sudeep, Delhi

Lord Shiva in Hindu mythology stands for the source of immense power and is worshipped all across the country with fervent devotion. According to Hindu belief, Lord Shiva got married to Maa Parvati in Phalgun month of the Hindu calendar. The marriage of Shiva and Parvati represents the union of passive and dynamic energy and this powerful moment is celebrated as Maha Shivratri.

Variouly addressed by devotees as 'Mahadev' and 'Bholenath' revealing his different aspects, Lord Shiva is believed to release devotees from the karmic cycle if they please him by fasting, rituals and puja on the auspicious day of Maha Shivratri. It is also believed that Lord Shiva bestows a life of wealth and prosperity on the sincere devotee. Mahashivratri in India evokes strong associations of a woman's penance to earn her husband, epitomized by Maa Parvati's strict penance for Lord Shiva. This belief is reinforced by the fact that on Maha

Shivratri, married women consciously observe a day-long fast to pray for long life of their husbands.

The foremost of popular legends around Shivratri include how Lord Shiva held the poison Halahal in his throat without gulping it down, thus saving the world on this day. Maha Shivratri also coincides with the day when Lord Shiva performed the 'Tandav' dance - a dance that revealed the dynamic cycle of creation and destruction in the cosmic realm.

Devotees observe strict fast while some stay on fruit diet to mark the occasion of Mahashivratri. After an early dip of body in a holy water, devotees proceed with the ritualistic puja of Shivratri, which involves the simple practice of bathing the 'lingam' with milk, water, yoghurt, bael leaves, fruits, dhatura, betel leaves and incense. The Nandi, Lord Shiva's devotee and mount is also bathed with milk, water and



—Sneha, Delhi

Riddle Time

1. What can pass before the sun without making a shadow?
2. What has cities with no houses, rivers without water, and forests without trees?
3. What is it that someone else has to take before you can get it?
4. What can you touch, see and wake but can't hold?
5. I go from house to house, sometimes narrow, sometimes wide. And whether there is rain or snow, I am always outside. What am I?
6. I have many feathers to help me fly. I have a body and head, but I am not alive. It is your strength that determines how far I go. You can hold me in your hand, but I'm never thrown. What am I?



flowers. Partaking of the 'prasad' is considered most auspicious as it is imbued with the blessings of Lord Shiva.

Mahashivratri Celebrations

Frenzied energy and robustness of spirit is evident on the auspicious day of Shivratri. 'Om Namah Shivaya' and ringing of temple bells are constantly heard in temples from afar. The rituals and celebration continue till night time. Devotional songs, bhajans and mantras rend the air with spiritual vibrations. On the day of Maha Shivratri, constant recital of 'Shiv Chalisa' and 'Mahamrityunjaya

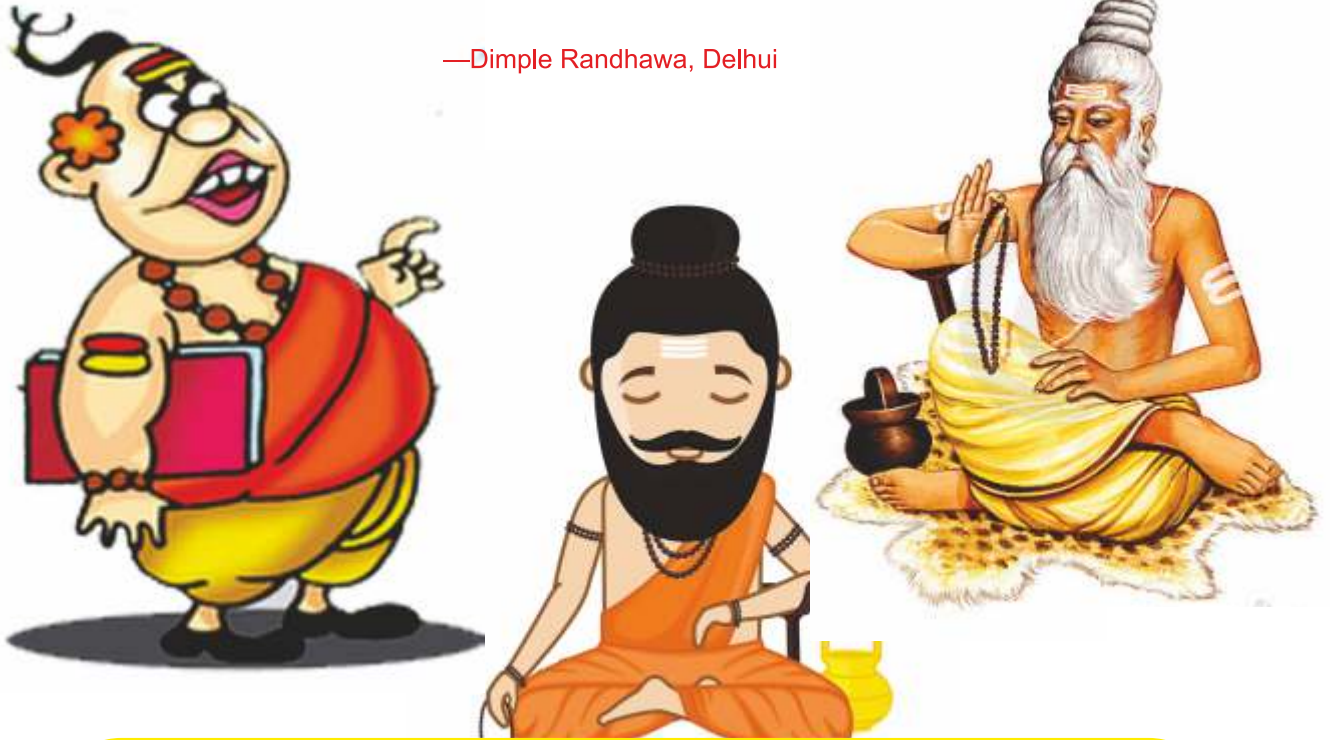
Mantra' using a Rudraksha Japa Mala is also believed to cleanse the soul. Special celebration is also organized at ashrams and spiritual centres dedicated to Shiva worship. On the day of Mahashivratri, dedicated cultural programmes are organized. Mahashivratri celebration keeps up the energetic tone throughout the night.

Riddle Time Answers

1. The wind, 2. A map,
3. A Photograph, 4. Shadow,
5. A path, 6. An arrow.



—Dimple Randhawa, Delhi



Dignity of Love

A woman came out of her house and saw three old men with long white beards sitting in her front yard. She did not recognize them. She said "I don't think I know you, but you must be hungry. Please come in and have something to eat." "Is the man of the house at home?", they asked. "No", she said. "He's out." "Then we cannot come in", they replied.

In the evening when her husband came home, she told him what had happened. "Go and tell them that I am at home and invite them in!"

The woman went out and invited the men in. "We do not go into a house together," they replied. "Why is it so?" she wanted to know. One of the old men explained: "His name is Wealth," he said pointing to one of his friends. Pointing to another one he said, "He is Success, and I am Love." Then he added, "Now go in and discuss with your husband which one of us you want in your home."

The woman went in and told her husband what was said. Her husband was overjoyed. "How nice!", he said. "Since that is the case, let us invite Wealth. Let him come and fill our home with wealth!"



But his wife disagreed. "My dear, why don't we invite Success?"

Their daughter-in-law was listening from the other corner of the house. She jumped in with her own suggestion: "Would it not be better to invite Love? Our home will then be filled with Love!"

"Let us heed our daughter-in-law's advice," said the husband to his wife. "Go and invite Love to be our guest."

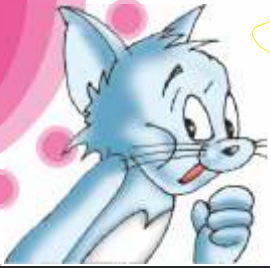
The woman went out and asked the three old men, "Which one of you is Love? Please come in and be our guest." Love got up and started walking towards the house. The other two - Wealth and Success also got up and followed him. Surprised, the lady asked Wealth and Success: "I have invited Love only, why are you two coming in?" The old men replied together: "If you had invited Wealth or Success, the other two of us would've stayed out, but since you have invited Love, wherever Love goes, we two also follow him. Wherever there is Love, Wealth and Success lie there only. our Satguru" Nirankari Babaji has constantly been working day and night to awaken the mankind from slumber and guiding peoples to live a peaceful and serene life with full of love. He always wishes us peace and mercy when there is pain in our life. He always wishes us a renewed confidence in our ability to work through them, when there is self-doubting. He always wishes us understanding, patience and renewed strength.

When there is tiredness, or exhaustion, he wishes us courage. We can never lose anything that belongs to us, nor can we possess what is not really ours. A person who has come into our life has come either to teach us something, or to learn something from us. If we follow Babaji's five commandments we can live peaceful life.

CROSSWORD SOLUTION

1 T	I	2 G	E	3 R		4 P
A		L		I		O
L		5 O	6 Z	O	N	E
7 K	A	B	A			T
		8 E	I	9 D		
10 M			11 R	I	C	12 H
13 A	J	14 M	E	R		O
R		U		T		U
S		15 M	A	Y	O	R





Kitty

Story & Illustration
—Ajay Kalara

Kitty, tomorrow we will go to Shimla. Why don't you also call your friends and invite them to accompany us?

Will you all go to Shimla with me?

Yes! Yes! We will all go, Kitty.



Wow! What a lovely place!
It's snow everywhere.

Yes child, it snows like this in Simla.



Why not to make a big snowman?

No, no, we shall make a snow house where all of us can sit and take burger, pizza and cold-drink etc.



Let us now all collect snow together.

Come kitty, let's make a snow house together.

I will make snowman only.



O Kitty! What are you doing here?
Go and make your snowman.



Look! How nice is my little snowman.



Kitty, now you help us in
making the snow house .

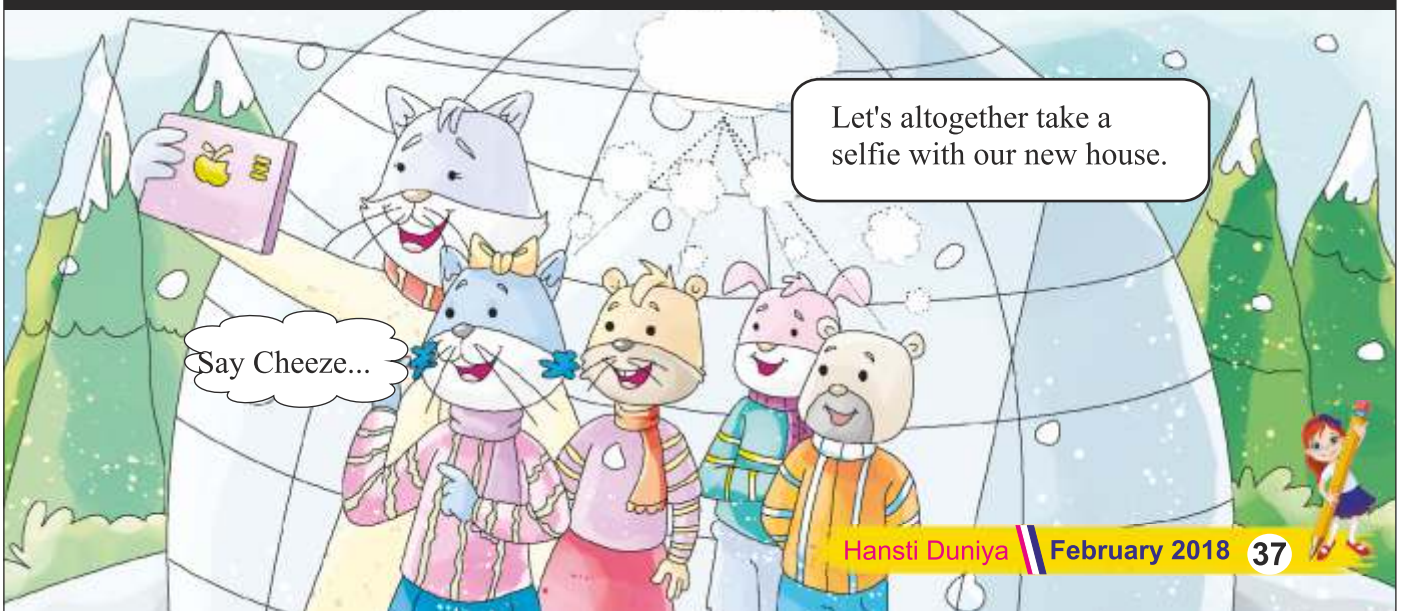




Alright, now I shall also help you.



Oh! Your snow house is very good.



Say Cheeze...

Let's altogether take a selfie with our new house.



- Kamla Devra

Grain Belongs to Hen



Once a Seth Ji was chewing some grains while sitting in his corridor when a sage crossed through his house and said to Seth Ji, “Can I get some alms”?

Seth Ji said, “Go away”.

The sage said, “Please give me a few grains to eat”.

Seth Ji said, “Grains are not free of cost. If these remain unconsumed, then I call and give to you”.

The sage said, “How can a person eat all the grains, when these bear the name of others also”.

Hearing this, Seth Ji got annoyed and said, “You consider yourself to be a great scholar. You see this grain is in my hand and tell me if it bears the name of someone else”.

The sage smilingly said, “It bears the name of a hen and it is that hen’s food”.

Seth Ji said, “Look, I will eat it, where is your hen”?

Saying this, as Seth Ji put that grain into his mouth, instead of going into the mouth, it slipped into his nose. As it stuck there, Seth Ji became breathless and shouted for help. The people gathered there and took him to a doctor. The doctor immediately removed that grain from his nose with the help of a tweezers.

As soon as the doctor threw that grain away after removing from Seth’s nose, the hen nearby immediately picked that grain and ran away. The sage was also there at that time and said, “Look, that hen’s name was written on that grain”.

Seth Ji felt ashamed and he begged pardon of the sage. He took the sage to his house and respectfully served him with meals.



Precious Stones

A man had been working all day and was tired. To reach home he had to cross a small river. There was no boat immediately available. So he sat down on the sand to wait for one. The sun had set and the moon was playing hide and seek with the clouds in the dark sky.

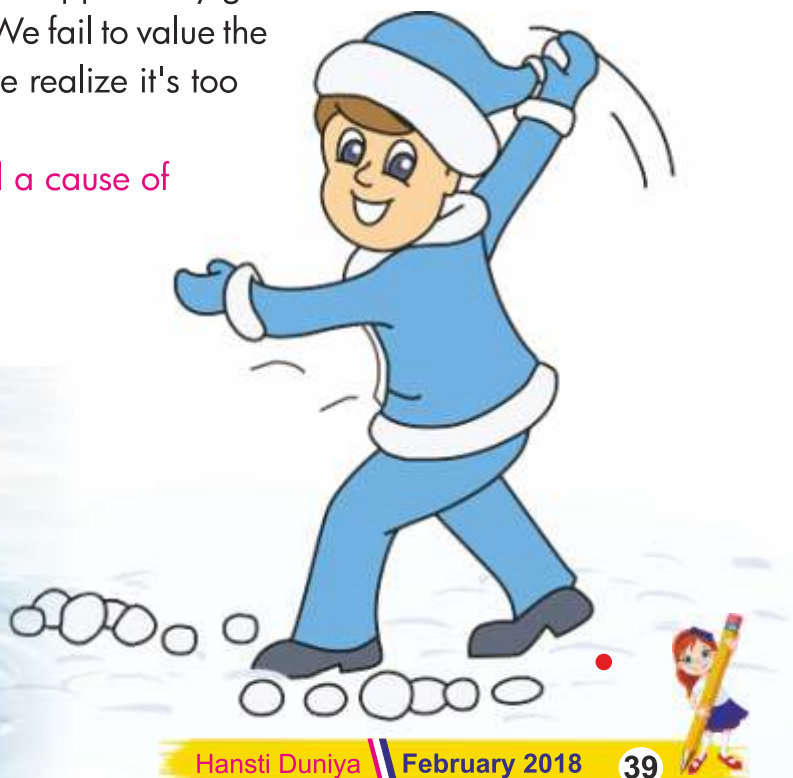
As he stretched himself on the warm sand, he felt a small cloth bag under his hand. He put his fist inside and found that the pouch was full of tiny pebbles. In the darkness of the night he tossed one pebble after the other into the water, in an attempt to while away his time. Dawn broke, but no ferry had yet come. In the first rays of the sun, he glanced into the palm of his hand, which held the last pebble from the pouch.

He was astounded to see in his palm, a sparkling white diamond! In a trice he realized what a blunder he had committed. In the dark blanket of the night, he had tossed a whole bagful of diamonds into the river!

Most of us are like that man. We toss away precious moments and opportunities that come our way during the course of our lives. By the time we realize the value of those, it's already too late.

We waste our lives in the dark, without realizing the value of this gift of human life that God has given to us. In the rigmarole of daily events we are so much blinded that we fail to recognize the opportunity given by the Lord to come closer to him. We fail to value the gifts He gives to us. By the time we realize it's too late!

Moral : Ignorance is a curse and a cause of repentance.



—Prteek, Gandhi Nagar

Laughing Time

Gaurav: Daddy, I got hundred marks in school today!

Father: That's wonderful ! For what did you get hundred marks?

Gaurav: 30 marks for Maths, 50 marks for English and 20 marks for Science. Altogether 100 marks !

Teacher: Tell me the name of any Microsoft Product.

Chotu : MS Execl

Pintu : MS Word

Bunty : MS PowerPoint

Chintu : After thinking a lot, "MS Dhoni"!

—Prateek Arora (Gandhi Vihar, Delhi)

Student : Is it true that law of gravity keeps us on earth?

Teacher: Yes, it is.

Student : What kept us here before Newton gave this law? Sir.

Teacher: What is the color of water?

Student: Sir, it is a colorless liquid, which becomes black, when I wash my hands in it.

Teacher : When was Rome built?

Student : At night, Sir.

Teacher : How do you know that?

Student : Well! Sir, everyone knows that Rome was not built in a day.

Customer : (To shopkeeper). There is a discrepancy in our account.

Shopkeeper : I cannot help now, you should have pointed it out earlier.

Customer : Alright, I am going. In fact, you have given me Rs200/- in excess.

Teacher: (To student). What is the difference between lightening and electricity?

Student: For lightening, we need not pay any bill. But for electricity, we have to pay the bill.





Boss : How long did you work during your last job?

Lokesh : 30 years.

Boss : What's your age?

Lokesh : 20 years.

Boss : You are 20 and you have experience of 30 years. How's that possible?

Lokesh : Overtime.

Child : "Mother, we will soon get rich".

Mother : "How"?

Child : "Today, my teacher taught me how to convert paise into rupees".

Manager : You are selected for the post. Do you want to ask something?

Piyush : Yes Sir, I have a request.

Manager : What is that?

Piyush : Sir, I need a six month vacation, twice a year.

Teacher : Do you love education ?

Sharda : Yes, I love education but without examination



Teacher : Can anyone give me an example of coincidence ?

Nitika : My mother and father got married on the same day same time.





★ Every woman wants his son to be obedient to his parents like Sharwan Kumar, But She does not like his husband to behave like Sharwan Kumar.

—Prateek, Gandhi Vihar, Delhi

★ Smile is electricity and life is a battery. Whenever you smile, battery gets charged and a beautiful day is activated.

—Samdarsh, Delhi

★ Your pain may give laugh to somebody. But make sure that your laugh should not give pain to anybody.

—Aditee, Uttam Nagar, Delhi

★ Nature runs a restaurant called 'KARMA'. It is a place where no need to place any order. You are automatically served what you deserve. —Anomal, (USA)

★ For a comfortable journey of life, just reduce the luggage of desires. —Rinku (England)

★ Hamari kismat ye hai ki ham khudako ek maante hai. Par, badkismati ye hai ki ham khuda ki ek bhee nahin mante. —Ashish, Jhunjhunu (Raj.)

★ "Do not make any close relation without full understanding; and do not break any close relation with small misunderstanding.

—Sudeep, Delhi

★ Alphabet 'A' doesn't appear in spellings of numbers ranging from 1 to 999. It appears for the first time in 'thousand'. *Moral: Success requires patience and faith.*

★ College is a place where a student ought to learn not so much how to make a living, but how to live.

★ Education today, more than ever before, must see clearly the dual objective: education for living and educating for making a living.

—Avneesh Gulati, Chandigarh



Result for the month of December Issue

First :

Pushkar Dhir Age : 11
B1/737, Bhai Kahan Singh
Street, Nabha, (Pb.)



Second :

Mihir Harshad Khatri Age : 11
R.N.3, Aleso colaco Bidg, Manickpur,
B/H Mseb office, Vasai Rd. (West)



Third:

Ishaana Sethi Age 06
6/281, Nirankari Colony
Delhi-110009



Consolation Enteries

Shreya, (Delhi)
Shrishti, (Delhi)
Avneet (Lucknow)
Himanshu, (Delhi)
Lakshita, (Dehradun)
Ankita, (Azamgarh, U.P.)
Arti, (CA-2)
Vrinda Bhutani
(Gautambudh Nagar, Delhi)
Anandita Khurana
(Jalandhar, Pb.)
Amrita
(Varansi)
Prateek
(Mumbai)
Richa
(Dehradun)
Ankur
(Delhi)
Radha
(Mukandpur Delhi)
Shraddha
(Delhi)
Karuna (Haasan, Bangalore)

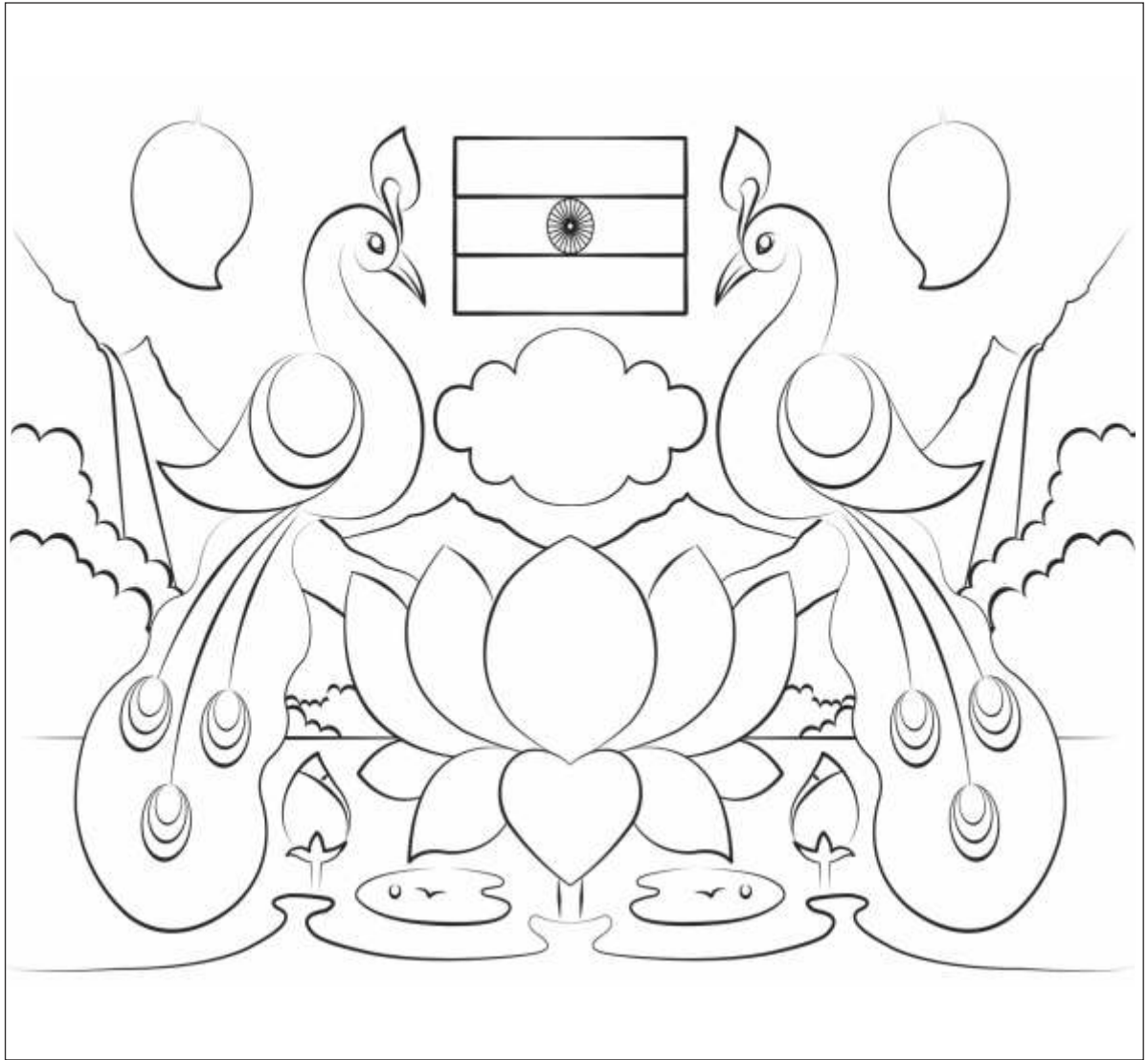
"Colour it" for February Issue

On page 44, a beautiful picture is given; colour it and send it to us latest by **Marh 20, 2018**. Office address: **HANSTI DUNIYA**, Nirankari Complex, Near Nirankari Sarover, Nirankari Colony. Delhi - 110009

The result will appear in **April 2018** issue. Full name and address should be mentioned clearly at the prescribed place. Children up to the age of 15 years only will be eligible to participate.



Colour it



Name Age

Address

.....



Winning Words

It is generally said : "Watches and women never agree, yet everyone believes his own." This tendency creates an attitude of sticking to one's own viewpoint, right or wrong. This difference in views leads to an effort to win an argument, unmindful of losing a person. With ego and selfishness spreading in all walks of life, normally, persons may not realise that they are difficult. Thus, taking things personally, everyone is living in his own dream and own version of life which culminates in rising tide of intolerance in society and becoming a social problem of deep concern.

The more successful one wants to become in life, the more difficult people he has to meet and cope with. Therefore, avoiding difficult people does not solve the problems in question. It is essentially learning the art of dealing with a difficult person that gives you smooth sailing. Once you master this art, difficult people will start liking you. It is not unusual that sometimes very small things go a great way in



handling difficult persons. These small things are the use of words "Please", "Thank you", "Sorry" and "Welcome". Whenever, we interact with each other, the use of these polite words substantially iron out the differences. Whenever we need help or some-thing from someone, it should not be a sort of claim 'but humble request with the use of word "Please". Once necessary help is extended, we should not fail to convey "Thank, you". If ever there is any slip on our part in dealing with a person, we should not hesitate saying "Sorry". Also, we should not pose as inaccessible. Whatever help we can render to someone, we should "Welcome" him.

When we learn to listen and listen to learn, these basic etiquettes become part of our life and spell normalcy and humility which are the other names of divinity.

—C.L.Gulati



The Paper Boat

Poem : Rahul



Not a sea, or a river
Neither a stream, nor a canal;
Do you think I need a driver?

I can flow, free and calm
In the waters with no charm;
Without a passenger or a gate
I'm left to but my fate.

On I go a thousand miles
carrying on, with all smiles;
Never stop, I always say
Facing all the odds on way.

Vasant Panchami

—Harjeet Nishad, Delhi

Vasant Panchami: Monday 22
January 2018

Vasant Panchami has a specific meaning: Vasant means "spring," and Panchami means "the fifth day." Vasant Panchami falls on the fifth day of spring.

'Vasant Panchami' (also called Basant Panchami) refers to the following festivals: the religious Hindu festival of Saraswati Puja also called Shree Panchami; Sufi Basant observed in Sufi shrines; the seasonal spring festival of Vasant Panchami observed in many regions; the Basant Festival of Kites of the Punjab region; observance in Gurdwaras as a Sikh festival; the birthday of the Deo-Sun God in Bihar and a harvest festival. The festivals are celebrated on the fifth day of Magha.





Live the Present

Let go off the past and move for the future by making your present beautiful. It is a wonderful idea to enjoy the moment we are in to make the best out of what we have. If we keep looking back just pondering how we would have done better, or not done that, we will never be able to get out of the engulfed loop of the past because it was a phase that has gone and will never come back any more. Every experience is a learning, be it good or bad. If these are good we try to relive and recreate them, but if these are bad, we learn not to repeat them. If we keep looking back, we would never be able to move forward to grow in life and make our future a better phase because we were busy in ruining our present by thinking about the past. Enhancing our present by doing things with a positive attitude and spirit will definitely tread the path for the happiest future we can ever think of.



By: Nishtha Kawrani, Delhi



The Gift of Magic

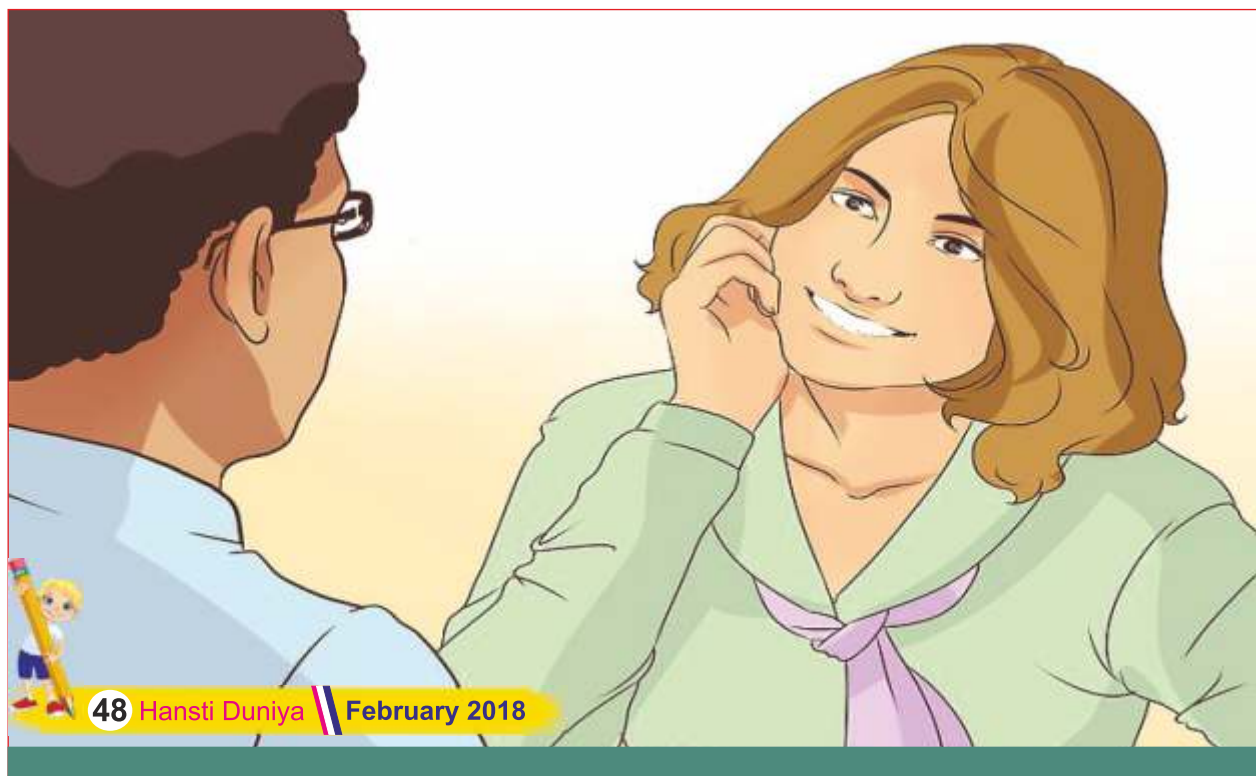
Once there lived a loving and devoted couple Jim and Delia who were very poor. But each had a priceless thing to claim. Jim had a gold watch and Delia had her long lovely locks of hair. Jim was getting only 20 pounds a month. They had to lead a tough life. In spite of poor income they loved each other dearly. This made up for their desire of money and they lived happily.

Delia wanted to buy a new Christmas gift for her husband. But she had saved only a dollar and eighty seven pence. So she decided to sell her valued locks of hair for twenty dollars. She at once bought a beautiful chain for golden watch of her husband that cost her twenty one dollars.

In the evening Jim came back home. He was surprised to see Delia. She had lost her beautiful locks of hair. She explained how she sold the hair to buy a strap for his watch. But she would continue to have him without her hair.

Jim handed over a packet to Delia. It contained a tortoise shell comb that he gave it as a Christmas present to Delia. But the comb was of no use to her as she had lost her hair. So, Delia wept as she could not use the comb. The same could be said of the chain as her husband had bought a comb by selling his gold watch, so the chain had become useless now.

These are the little ironies of life. Jim and Delia felt they had realized their aims, but it became useless. Money could not get happiness. Both sacrificed something important for each other. Love begets love and the reality of life is only true love.



Thoughts

- ★ The best preparation for tomorrow is doing your best today.
—H. Jackson Brown
- ★ If you are going to be thinking anything, you might as well think big.
—Donald Trump
- ★ The universe has no restriction. you place restriction on the universe with your expectations.
—Deepak Chopra
- ★ My father gave me the greatest gift anyone could give another person, he believed in me —Jim valvano
- ★ There is no excellent beauty that hath not some strangeness in the proportion. —Francis Bacon
- ★ There is a foolish corner in the brain of the wisest man. —Aristole
- ★ You must live in the present, launch yourself on every wave, find your eternity in each moment.
—Henry David Thoreau
- ★ It is not the strongest of the species that survive, nor the most intelligent, but the one most responsive to change. —Charles Darwin
- ★ Whenever you do things from your soul ,you feel a river inside, a joy.
—Rumi

Improve your Grammar

Answers:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
A	A	B	A	B	B	B	A

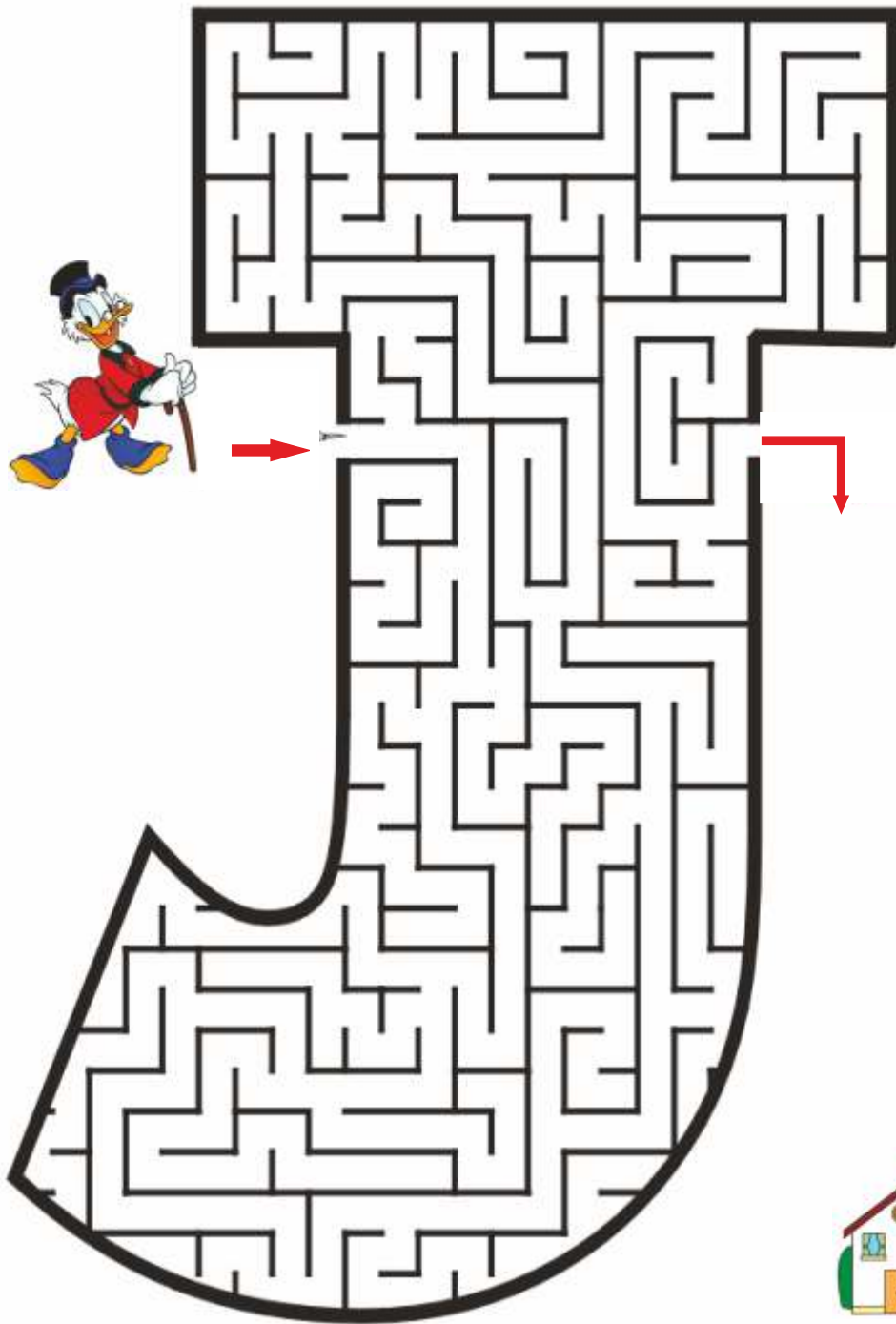
Q.No. Explanation

1. HARD AND FAST is an idiom that means 'definite'.
2. The word should be an antonym of PRESERVE. That is, SPEND or its synonym. Now, when food, fuel, energy or time are spent, we say they are consumed.
3. A post without remuneration is known as HONORARY whereas FREELANCING means earning living by selling work to several employers.
4. We use SPEND TIME to talk about the time you do an activity. The expression PASS THE TIME is different – it means doing something to make the time pass faster while you are waiting for something else.
Example: I look at the magazines to pass the time while waiting for my appointment at the dentist's office.
5. Since the apartment is in a poor condition, the walls must be shabby.
6. The plural of Shampoo is Shampoos, not Shampooes.
7. HIMSELF is an Emphatic pronoun whereas HE is a Personal pronoun. An Emphatic pronoun is a pronoun used for the sake of emphasis on nouns or pronouns.
8. The habitat of an animal is the natural environment in which it normally lives.



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