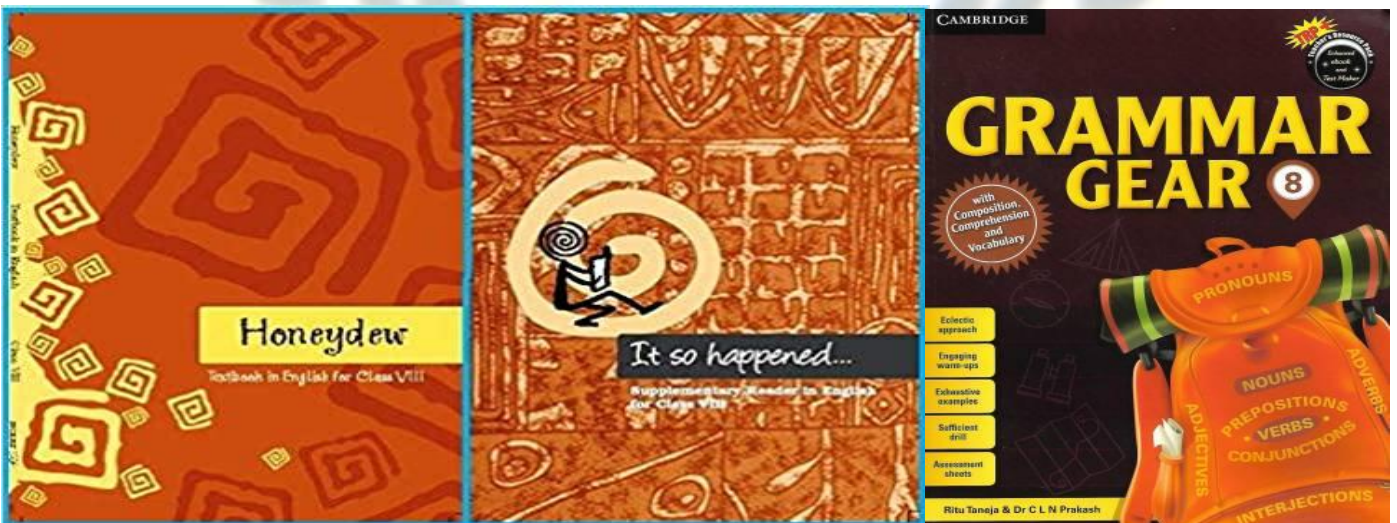




पुण्णा International School
Shree Swaminarayan Gurukul, Zundal

GRADE - VIII
English
April - May
Study Material
Year - 2022-2023



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GRADE - 8 ENGLISH (HONEYDEW)
UNIT 1. THE BEST CHRISTMAS PRESENT IN THE WORLD (PROSE)

➤ **ENHANCEMENT OF VOCABULARY**

1. Clumsily
2. Underneath
3. Curiosity
4. Greatcoat
5. Parapet
6. Sausage
7. Outstretched
8. Carols
9. Lopsided



➤ **WORD MEANINGS**

1. Scorch marks – burn marks
2. Restore – repair
3. Scruples – feelings that make you hesitate to do something wrong
4. Trenches – long deep ditches in the ground where soldiers hide from the enemy
5. Cello – A musical instrument like a large violin
6. Marzipan – A sweet covering on a cake made from sugar, eggs and almonds
7. Boarded up - Covered with wooden boards
8. Muddle headed – Confused

➤ **ANSWER IN SHORT**

Q 1. What did the author find in a junk shop?

Ans - The author found a nineteenth century roll-top desk in the junk shop. It was made of oak. It was in a very bad condition.

Q 2. Who had written the letter, to whom, and when?

Ans - Jim Macpherson had written the letter to his wife Connie Macpherson on December 26, 1914.

Q 3. How old was Mrs Macpherson now? Where was she?

Ans - Mrs. Macpherson was a hundred and one years old. She was in a nursing home in Burlington House.

Q4 . Why did the author go to Bridport?

Ans - The author went to Bridport because that was the address where Mrs. Macpherson lived. He wanted to give that letter back to her.

Q5 . Who did Connie Macpherson think her visitor was?

Ans - Connie Macpherson thought that her visitor was her husband, Jim.

➤ **ANSWER IN DETAIL**

Q 1. Why do you think the desk had been sold, and when?

Ans - The desk must have been sold when the house in which Connie Macpherson lived had caught fire. She was taken to a nursing home. All the burnt up things must have been sold by the neighbours after that.

Q 2. What is Connie's Christmas present? Why is it "the best Christmas present in the world"?

Ans - When the narrator came to see Connie and gave her the box, she mistook him for her husband Jim. She thought that Jim had come home for Christmas. This was Connie's Christmas present. It was the best Christmas present in the world for her because Jim had written in the letter that he would come home on Christmas. She had read that letter several times everyday to feel that he was near her. Now that he was finally there with her, she was extremely happy.

➤ VALUE BASED QUESTIONS

1. Why do Jim and Hans think that games or sports are good ways of resolving conflicts? Do you agree?

Ans - Jim and Hans thought that games or sports are good ways of resolving conflicts because nobody dies in matches. No children are orphaned and no wives become widows. Due to these reasons, games are good ways for resolving conflicts. Wars only lead to death and devastation.

➤ WRITING SKILL

Read the following telephone conversation between Neerja and Sonam. Sonam is about to leave home and will not be able to meet Rohit. She leaves a message for him.

Write the message, using not more than 50 words.

Neerja : It is Neerja here. Sonam, Do you know India International Trade Fair 2021 has started. I plan to visit it today.

Sonam : Oh! it is a wonderful idea. But why not make it tomorrow?

Neerja : No. Tomorrow I am busy. Let's make it today. Surinder is coming with me. You bring Rohit with you.

Sonam : He is not at home at present. But rest assured. He will be happy to be with us. He had expressed a desire to visit it earlier.

Neerja : Then it is settled. Please wait for us at Gate No.3 at 1.30 pm today. In case, you reach earlier, please wait for us. If we reach earlier, we shall look for you.

Sonam : Fine, It shall be all right. We shall reach in time.

Neerja : All right. Bye till then.

Sonam : Bye.

MESSAGE

15-04-21

Rohit,

We are visiting India International Trade Fair 2021 today. Neerja and Surinder shall wait for us at 1.30 pm at Gate No.3. I shall be back from office at 12 noon to go there. Please wait till then. I shall tell you everything.

Sonam

GRADE - 8 ENGLISH (HONEYDEW)
UNIT 1. THE ANT AND THE CRICKET (POEM)

➤ **SUMMARY**

This poem is a fable taken from Aesop's Fables. This poem is about an ant and a cricket. There was a cricket who loved to sing and dance during warm and sunny months of spring. He was short-sighted. He didn't bother to store food for the rainy season and cold winter.

When the earth was covered with ice and snow, he found that he had nothing to eat. There were no flowers and no leaves on the trees. He grew nervous. Starvation could be seen over his face.

Wet with the rain and shivering with cold, the hungry cricket went to an ant to get shelter and food.

He made it clear that he would return the borrowed grain the next day. The miserly ant said humbly that he was the servant and friend of the cricket. But as a matter of principle, the ants neither borrow nor lend. He asked why he never bothered to store something for the rainy day.

The cricket admitted that he had been careless and foolish. He enjoyed the beauties of summer and sang merrily. The ant then told him bluntly to go and dance all winter. He turned the poor cricket out.

➤ **ENHANCEMENT OF VOCABULARY**

1. Complain
2. Snow- covered
3. Starvation
4. Famine
5. Shelter
6. Mouthful
7. Sorrow
8. Wicket
9. Cricket



➤ **WORD MEANINGS**

1. Accustomed to - addicted to, in habit
2. A crumb - a piece
3. Shelter - home
4. Starvation - hunger
5. Quoth - quoted
6. Gay - happy

➤ **ANSWER IN SHORT**

1. The cricket says, "Oh! What will become of me?" When does he say it, and why?

Ans. The cricket says, "Oh! What will become of me?" when he realises that the winter had arrived. He says this because he realises that there was no food to be found either in the house or outside.

2. The ant tells the cricket to "dance the winter away". Do you think the word 'dance' is appropriate here? If so, why?

Ans. Yes, the word 'dance' seems quite appropriate in used in a sarcastic manner these lines. The cricket had fun during the happy and pleasant months of summer. The ant tells him that he might as

well have fun in the winter, without any food or shelter.

➤ **ANSWER IN DETAIL**

1. (i) Find in the poem the lines that mean the same as "Neither a borrower nor a lender be" (Shakespeare)

Ans. We ants never borrow; we ants never lend."

(ii) What is your opinion of the ant's principles?

Ans. The ant's principles seem quite fair. The ants are self sufficient and they have managed to do so because of sheer hard work. They consume what is required and store the remaining. Therefore, they are never required to borrow. For the same reasons, they do not wish to lend because that might lead to depletion of their resources.

➤ **EXTRACT BASED QUESTIONS**

Read the extract and answer the following questions

**At last by starvation and famine made bold,
All dripping with wet, and all trembling with cold,
Away he set off to a miserly ant,
To see if, to keep him alive, he would grant**

1. Who was suffering from starvation and famine ?

- (a) the Ant **(b) the Cricket**
(c) the poet (d) a man.

2. Why was he 'dripping with wet' ?

- (a) It was raining hard. (b) He had dived in a pond,
(c) He had no shelter. (d) He had taken a bath.

3. What did he expect to get from the miserly ant ?

- (a) good advice (b) food
(c) shelter **(d) food and shelter.**

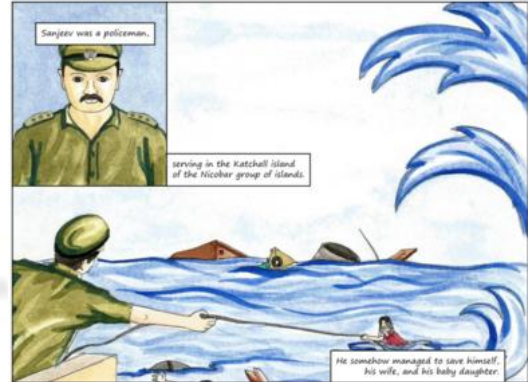
4. What does the word 'grant' mean ?

- (a) kind (b) generous
(c) take **(d) give.**

GRADE - 8 ENGLISH (HONEYDEW)
UNIT 2. THE TSUNAMI (PROSE)

➤ **ENHANCEMENT OF VOCABULARY**

1. Ignominious
2. Co-operative
3. Guest house
4. Overhead
5. Daze
6. Sea shore
7. Clinging
8. Fainted
9. Whirlpools
10. Landslides
11. Abandoned
12. Eyewitness



➤ **WORD MEANINGS**

1. Archipelago – A group of many islands and surrounding sea
2. Tremor – a slight earthquake
3. Chaos – complete disorder
4. Relief helicopters – helicopters bringing help for the people
5. Recede – move back from where it was
6. Traumatized – greatly shocked and distressed
7. Resort – a place where people go on holiday
8. Triggered – Caused
9. Hysterical – without any control over yourself
10. Refuge – Shelter or protection from danger
11. Withstood – endured without collapsing
12. Surge – force

➤ **ANSWER IN SHORT**

Q1. Why did Tilly's family come to Thailand?

Ans- Tilly's family came to Thailand because it was a part of their plan to celebrate Christmas.

Q2. How many people and animals died in Yala National Park?

Ans - As many as sixty people and only two water buffaloes died in Yala National Park.

Q 3. How do you think her geography teacher felt when he heard about what Tilly had done in Phuket?

Ans - Tilly had used what she had learnt in class. The teacher felt satisfied and pleased and was very proud of her.

Q 4. Do you think Tilly's mother was alarmed by them?

Ans- Yes, such an odd thing as sudden excessive swelling of the sea alarmed Tilly's mother Penny Smith but She had absolutely no idea whatsoever, of what was happening, what to do .

Q 5. Where had Tilly seen the sea behaving in the same strange fashion?

Ans- Before coming on vacation, Tilly saw the video of Tsunami in one of her geography classes.

➤ **ANSWER IN DETAIL**

Q1. Where did the Smith family and the others on the beach go to escape from the tsunami?

Ans- The Smith family and a few other families on the beach went to the swimming pool at the hotel initially. After a while, when the waves hit, the families ran for their lives and ended up on the third floor of the hotel to escape from the tsunami.

Q 2. What were the warning signs that both Tilly and her mother saw?

Ans - Normally a sea constantly follows the ebb and flow routine but on that day Tilly and her mother saw that the sea was continuously surging forward, which in itself is highly unusual.

➤ **WRITING SKILL**

You are Anita/Anish. You stay in a hostel and share a room with Mita/ Manish, your classmate. You have been detected with Typhoid fever. For this reason you have to be admitted in a hospital immediately. Draft a message telling your roommate why and where you are going and that you will be back in 7 days. Also request him/her to submit your English notebook for checking.

MESSAGE

5 May , 2020

3:00 pm

Mita

I am going to the hospital as I have been detected with Typhoid fever .I will be admitted in the hospital for 7 days. Please submit my English notebook for checking.

Anita

GRADE - 8 ENGLISH (HONEYDEW)
UNIT 2.GEOGRAPHY LESSON (POEM)

➤ **SUMMARY**

Poet watches the land from the sky. He finds it discovered the grounds spread in non attracting way.

As he reached more higher he saw the populated valleys and cities spread all over the country. Thereason was simple that the land and water attracted the people. Then he went up to six miles and the round earth appeared to have more water than land. From that light it was not easily visible thatthe hatred among made them in different to each other.

➤ **ENHANCEMENT OF VOCABULARY**

1. Sprang
2. Inevitability
3. Scaled
4. Haphazard
5. Populated
6. Delineated

➤ **WORD MEANINGS**

1. Inevitable – That cannot be avoided
2. Haphazard – without plan or order
3. Delineated - shown
4. Sprang – To rise , to move up
5. Miles – a unit of linear measure
6. Valleys - deep areas on land between mountain and hills

➤ **ANSWER IN SHORT**

Q1. What is the logic of geography about the populated land?

Ans - The logic is that the land and water attracted man. So the country is populated.

Q 2. Why the ground from the sky looked haphazard?

Ans - It looked haphazard because all the houses, factories and woods are scattered on the groundunplanned and disordered.

Q3. What were the facts which the poet watched from the six miles height?

Ans - There are two facts;

- (i). The earth is round.
- (ii). the earth has more water than land

Q4. Mention two things that are

- (i) **clear** from the height.
- (ii) **not clear** from the height.

Ans. (i) It becomes clearer from the height that the earth is round and that land and water attract man.

(ii) Even from the height it was not clear why men hate and kill each other and build walls across the city.

➤ **ANSWER IN DETAIL**

1. Comment on the title of the poem. The poem has been titled, "Geography Lesson" and has been titled quite suitably.

The poet learns a lesson from the geography. He was able to understand that the city that looked unplanned when viewed from the ground had been developed in accordance with the needs of the man. It was, therefore, not unplanned, but beyond the understanding of the common man.

Therefore, rather than continuously criticising their city, man should be thankful for the comforts that he has. Man should, on the other hand, try to derive answers to the mystery behind man's hatred and animosity towards another man.



GRADE - 8 ENGLISH (SR)
CH - 1. HOW THE CAMEL GOT HIS HUMP

➤ **ENHANCEMENT OF VOCABULARY**

1. Prickles
2. Saddle
3. Plough
4. Cud
5. Idleness
6. Humph
7. Dust-cloak
8. Sticks
9. Thorns



➤ **WORD MEANINGS**

1. Djinn – a Spirit that has supreme powers
2. Plough - a large farming implement with one or more blades fixed in a frame
Whistling – high-pitched sound by forcing breath through a small hole between one's lips or teeth
3. Dust-cloak – A loose outer garment
4. Remonstrated – Protested
5. Humph – now called as 'hump'; a rounded raised mass of earth or land ; a rounded protuberance found on the back of a camel
Reflection – the throwing back by a body or surface of light, heat, or sound without absorbing it.
6. Stroke – an act of hitting or striking someone or something
7. Prickles - a small thorn

➤ **ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS**

1. What tasks, do you think, were assigned to the dog and the ox?

Ans. The dog was given the task to fetch and carry things. The ox, on the other hand, was asked to plough the fields.

2. Why did the camel live in the middle of the desert?

Ans. The camel lived in the middle of the desert because he did not wish to do any work. He merely ate sticks, thorns and prickles.

3. What made the dog, the horse and the ox very angry?

Ans. The dog, the horse and the ox became very angry with the camel because the man had asked the three animals to do camel's share of work along with their own. This means double work for the three of them.

4. How did the Djinn know the horse was complaining against the camel?

Ans. The description of the camel given by the horse. "long neck and long legs" made it easier for the Djinn to understand that the horse was talking about the camel. The Djinn was also in charge in charge of all deserts and was therefore familiar with all animals.

5. The camel said, "Humph" repeatedly. How did it affect him?

Ans. The Djinn explained to the camel how his 'humph' had turn into a hump on his back because he merely said 'humph' and did no work.

6. What, according to the Djinn, was the use of the 'humph'?

Ans. According to the Djinn, because of his hump, the camel could work continuously for 2-3 days. The hump on the camel's back was a storehouse of food and water.



GRADE - 8 ENGLISH (SR)
CH - 2. CHILDREN AT WORK

➤ **ENHANCEMENT OF VOCABULARY**

1. Porter
2. Suitcase
3. Loudspeaker
4. Miserable
5. Jaggery
6. Brownish
7. Stuffing
8. Snatch
9. Pinching
10. Glumly
11. Rubbish
12. Puddles
13. Ragpickers



➤ **WORD MEANINGS**

1. Pulled in – arrived
2. Wobbly – Unsteady
3. Grimace – Twisted expression
4. Glumly – sadly
5. Making his head spin – giving him a headache
6. Chutney – Run over
7. Squashy – crushed
8. Gulped down – Swallowed quickly
9. Tiffin – snacks
10. Panicked – was very worried
11. Crookedly – Not straight
12. Shove – Push
13. Blockhead – fool

➤ **ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS**

Q1. Velu stood on the platform but he felt “as if he was still on a moving train.” Why?

Ans - When Velu stood down on the platform his legs felt shaky on seeing the huge and unknown crowd as if he was still on a moving train.

Q2. What made him feel miserable?

Ans - Velu saw the crowd and understood that nobody is giving any notice to him. He does not know what to do and where to go.

Q3. Velu travelled without a ticket. Why?

Ans - Velu travelled without a ticket because he had no money to buy a ticket.

Q4. How did he escape the ticket collector's attention?

Ans - He escaped the ticket collector's attention because he didn't come to the unreserved compartment .

Q 5. Can Velu read Tamil and English? How do you know?

Ans - Velu can't read English because he failed to read the signboards in English. But was able to read the Tamil sign on the Central Jail.

Q 6. What material are the 'strange' huts made out of?

Ans -The strange huts are made out of all sorts of things like metal sheets, tyres, bricks, wood and plastic.

Q 7. Why does Velu find the huts strange?

Ans - Velu finds the huts strange because in his village the houses are made of mud and palm leaves.

Q8. Why had Velu run away from home?

Ans - Velu had run away from home because he couldn't stand his father beating him for one more day. His father would snatch away all the money he and his sisters earned and spend it on drink.

Q9. Why did he decide to follow the 'strange' girl?

Ans - He decided to follow the 'strange' girl because she had promised to find some food for him. He was very hungry and knew no way to get the food for himself.

Q10. What sort of things did Jaya and children like her collect and what did they do with those things?

Ans - Jaya and children like her collected paper, plastic, glass and such other things. They sold these things to Jam Bazaar Jaggu who later on sold them to a factory.

➤ ANSWER IN DETAIL

1. What one throws away as waste may be valuable to others. Do you find this sentence meaningful in the context of this story? How?

Ans. Yes, for people who cannot afford proper food, leftover and thrown away food is important for their survival. The rich people waste a lot of food, but this food supports Velu and Jaya and the children like them. Jaya is a ragpicker and as a ragpicker she collects trash which is of no use to many people. Velu, himself, fails to understand the worth of collecting rubbish, something that is very important to Jaya, Jam Bazaar Jaggu and other ragpickers.