

The Last Leaf

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

- ▶ Making the students understand the significance of hope - which makes things possible during difficult and trying times in life - through creative study and art-related and social activities.
- ▶ Learning about hope as a powerful motivator that helps individuals navigate the challenges and uncertainties of life.
- ▶ Understanding that hope can help people cope with difficult situations, such as illness, loss or hardship. It can give them a sense of purpose and meaning, even in the darkest of times.
- ▶ Understanding, also, how hope can provide the resilience and determination needed to overcome obstacles and achieve goals. Hope can foster positive relationships with others, and improve mental health as well. It can provide a sense of optimism and positivity that can help individuals cope with stress and negative emotions.
- ▶ Comprehension: Learning to read and understand the lesson or any passage and answer questions on it, including reference to the context.
- ▶ Grammar: Auxiliaries and modals and their usage; articles and determiners.
- ▶ Listening, understanding, reading, speaking, pronouncing and writing correctly.
- ▶ Building a vocabulary, spellings, meanings, solving a crossword, pronunciation of selected words, punctuation, writing an informal letter, sentence reordering, dictionary skills.

Get Going!

- ✧ Illness is a part of life and we should always help people when they fall sick or are unwell, especially our family members. Discuss the question with the class and then let the students make the list on their own. Then let them exchange the list with their partners and check the work.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✧ 'The Last Leaf' is a poignant short story by O. Henry that revolves around the themes of hope and perseverance in the face of adversity. The story follows two young artists, Sue and Johnsy, who share a studio apartment in Greenwich Village. Johnsy falls ill with pneumonia and becomes despondent, convinced that she will die when the last leaf on a vine outside their window falls. As the weather turns cold and the leaves start to drop, Johnsy's condition worsens. Despite Sue's best efforts to lift her friend's spirits, Johnsy loses all hope. However, the arrival of an artist named Behrman sets in motion a chain of events that leads to a heart-warming conclusion. The story illustrates the importance of hope and determination, even in the darkest of times. ✧ Ask the students to take turns to read aloud the lesson – explain it as they read and ask questions to check and assess their level of understanding. For example: What did the doctor mean when he said that if Johnsy has made up her mind not to live, medicines will not help her? Why is Johnsy convinced that she would die when the last leaf falls? What did the last leaf make Johnsy realise? What was Behrman's masterpiece and how did it save Johnsy? 	Read and Enjoy
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✧ Exercises A, B, C, D and E: Discuss the exercises. Then ask the students to write their answers in their books/notebooks. It is advisable to check and assess their work individually. 	Read and Understand
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✧ Depression is a common and serious medical illness. It is not discussed openly because people are embarrassed to talk about it. Depression is quite common in youngsters who have to face competition from others. If they are found wanting, it can lead to feelings of inadequacy and depression. ✧ Tell the students there is nothing to feel shameful about depression and the best way to fight this condition is to talk to others about it. Talking lightens the heart and clears the mind so that it can think positively. ✧ Exercise A: Discuss the question and then let the students write the answer. It is advisable to check and assess the students individually. 	Think and Answer
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✧ Use the blackboard to explain auxiliaries and modals. ✧ Explain the usage of auxiliaries independently and with other verbs. For examples: Hari was a good boy. Hari was going out. ✧ Similarly, explain modals and auxiliaries using the given examples as well as your own. For example: May I go out? Yes, you may go. 	Grammar Spot

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✧ Explain how the use of modals shows different purposes – seeking or giving permission, willingness, intention, insistence, obligation, possibility, capacity, ability, wish, etc. ✧ Use the given examples as well as your own, and ask the students to think of examples too. ✧ Exercises A and B: Do these exercises orally first and then let the students write down the answers. ✧ Reiterate the correct usage of articles [a/an/the] – they are indefinite and definite articles – ‘a’ is used before consonant sounds and ‘an’ before vowel sounds. ‘The’ is used before definite or particular nouns. ✧ Exercise D: Do this exercise orally and then ask the students to write it down. ✧ Using the blackboard, the given examples as well as your own examples, explain what determiners are – explain their types: articles; demonstrative; possessives; quantifiers; numbers; distributives; and others. Ask the students to make sentences orally using each determiner so that they understand the usage correctly. ✧ Exercise E: Do this orally first and then ask the students to write down the answers. ✧ Announce the answers aloud for Exercises A-E and let the partners check the work.
Word Wise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✧ Exercise A: Students can do the crossword on their own with the help of the given clues. Guide them, if required. Announce the answers and the partners can check.
Listen and Learn	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✧ Exercise A: Read the passage at least twice, or ask the students to read it. Then ask them to select the correct answers.
Converse and Connect	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✧ Exercise A: Ask the students at random to enact the given conversation. Check them for correct presentation and pronunciation.
Speak and Express	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✧ Exercise A: Discuss and explain the question. It has been proved that how you think has a great impact on the functioning of your body. Positive thoughts help in keeping the body healthy and negative thoughts can bring sickness or disease. ✧ Relate the question to the story in the lesson. Then, let the students speak. Assess them gently.
Pronunciation Practice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✧ Exercise A: Say each word aloud and ask the class to follow. Draw attention to the phonetic symbols. Ensure the students pronounce the words correctly.

<p>✧ Exercise A: Ask the students to do the exercise on their own. Then write the passage, correctly punctuated, on the blackboard. The students or their partners can check the work.</p>	Punctuation
<p>✧ Exercise A: Brush up on informal letter, which has already been discussed in the earlier classes. Then, let the students write the letter on their own. Check and assess their work individually.</p>	Write Well
<p>✧ Exercise A: Explain the exercise using the blackboard. Then let the students do the exercise. Announce the answers and let the students check their work.</p>	Sentence Reordering
<p>✧ Exercise A: Let the students look up the meanings to know the difference between the given words. Also, let them write the sentences. Then, do the exercise on the blackboard and let the students check their work in pairs.</p>	Dictionary Skills
<p>✧ Exercise A: Help the students get the information for doing the project. They can use newspapers, magazines, books and the Internet for this. Check and assess their work individually.</p>	Project Work
<p>✧ Exercise A: Guide the students by telling them about alternative systems of medicine. Provide them the chart or tell them to get it for the activity. Assess their work individually.</p>	AIL Activity (Experiential Learning)
<p>✧ Explain the question and the given options. Remember that a depressed person should never be ignored or left alone. He/she should be gently encouraged to speak about whatever it is that is troubling him/her. He/she needs someone who is willing to listen to his/her problems and provide solutions. The entire matter needs to be handled with great sensitivity.</p> <p>✧ Exercise A: Let the students do the exercise on their own and their partners can check the work.</p>	Values and Life Skills