

3. The Man in the Train

WORKSHEET

1

COMPREHENSION

Read the following passage and answer the questions below:

Our life is a constant journey, from birth to death. The landscape changes, the people change, our needs change, but the train keeps moving. Life is the train, not the station.

That is what marks out the warrior: the knowledge that willpower and courage are not the same thing. Courage can attract fear and adulation, but willpower requires patience and commitment. Men and women with immense willpower are generally solitary types and give off a kind of coolness.

I learned long ago that in order to heal my wounds, I must have the courage to face up to them. I also learned to forgive myself and correct my mistakes.

If you spend too much time trying to find out what is good or bad about someone else, you'll forget your own soul and end up exhausted and defeated by the energy you have wasted in judging others.

If I had to give you one piece of advice, it would be this: don't be intimidated by other people's opinions. Only mediocrity is sure of itself, so take risks and do what you really want to do. Seek out people who aren't afraid to make mistakes and who, therefore, do make mistakes. Because of that, their work often isn't recognised, but they are precisely the kind of people who change the world and, after many mistakes, do something that will transform their community completely.

–Extracts from 'Aleph' Paulo Coelho

A Answer the following questions.

1. Why do you think the author compares life to a journey?

2. What does willpower require? How is it different from courage?

3. What must we do to heal our wounds?

4. If we spend too much time trying to find out what is good or bad about others, what happens?

5. Why does the author advise us not to be intimidated by other people's opinions?

B Fill in the blanks with suitable words from the extracts given above:

1. Life is the _____, not the _____.
2. What marks the _____ is the knowledge that _____ and _____ are not the same thing.
3. Men and women with _____ willpower are generally _____ types.
4. I learned to _____ myself and correct my _____.
5. Only _____ is sure of itself.

C If you had to select one of the extracts so that you can apply it to yourself to improve and transform yourself, which one would you select, and why?

GRAMMAR

A Write A for attributive use and P for predicative use of adjectives in the sentences below:

1. Pujara is a reliable batsman.
2. Arvind plays the sitar and is really talented.
3. Paresh has been rewarded as he is an honest employee.
4. Shubham is the most efficient worker at the factory.
5. Mr Sharma is tall and handsome.
6. Bhavana's voice is so melodious.

B Underline the adjectives in the following and write their kind:

1. Sonu Nigam is a very good singer.
2. Each person should love his country.
3. Prabha Shankar is my dearest friend.
4. What is meant by an attributive adjective?
5. Only four editors participated in this workshop.

C Make adjectives from the following nouns and verbs:

- | | | | |
|--------------|-------|------------|-------|
| 1. Friend | _____ | 2. Beauty | _____ |
| 3. Develop | _____ | 4. Care | _____ |
| 5. Wood | _____ | 6. Father | _____ |
| 7. Cultivate | _____ | 8. Charity | _____ |
| 9. Woman | _____ | 10. Law | _____ |

VOCABULARY AND WRITING

A The following pairs of words are often mixed up or misused. Make sentences with each pair of words bringing out their differences:

1. (a) possible: _____
(b) probable: _____
2. (a) price: _____
(b) value: _____
3. (a) return: _____
(b) revert: _____
4. (a) through: _____
(b) thorough: _____
5. (a) craft: _____
(b) crafty: _____
6. (a) expire: _____
(b) aspire: _____
7. (a) group: _____
(b) grope: _____
8. (a) born: _____
(b) borne: _____

B Write a letter to your friend about a new girl/boy in your class in about 150 words.

C Edit the following passage:

the sacred heart cathedral are oldest church in new delhi he is also the largest catholic church in the city it was build 70 years after st marys church was built