

# 8. Outstanding Sportswomen

WORKSHEET

1

## COMPREHENSION

Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow.

Work was rather heavy in the Board High School....The teachers here were ruthless beings, not to speak of drill, three evenings a week, there were scout classes, compulsory games, etc., after the regular hours every day; and missing a single class meant half a dozen cane cuts on the following day...

All this rigour and discipline resulted in a life with little scope for leisure. Swaminathan got up pretty early, rushed through all his homework, and rose just in time to finish the meal and reach the school as the first bell rang. Every day, as he passed the cloth shop at the end of Market Road, the first bell reached his ears. And just as he panted into the class, the second bell would go off....

Except for an hour in the afternoon, he had to be glued to his seat right till four-thirty in the evening. He had lost the last bench habit. He sat in the second row, and no dawdling easygoing nonsense was tolerated there; you sat right under the teacher's nose. When the four-thirty bell rang, Swaminathan slipped his pencil into his pocket and stretched his cramped aching fingers. The four-thirty bell held no special thrill. You could not just clash out of the class with a howl of joy. You had to go to the drill ground and stand in a solemn line, and for three-quarters of an hour, the Drill Master treated you as if you were his dog. He drove you to march left and right, stand at attention, and swing the arms, and climb the horizontal and parallel bars, whether you like it or not, whether you knew the thing or not. For ought the Drill Master cared, you might lose your balance on the horizontal bar and crack your skull.

—'Swami and Friends' by R.K. Narayan

**A** Answer the following questions.

1. What was work like at Board High School?

---

---

2. What happened if the students missed a single class?

---

---

3. Where did Swaminathan sit in the class?

---

---

4. What did he do when the four-thirty bell rang?

---

---

5. How did the Drill Master treat the students?

---

---

**B** Fill in the blanks with suitable words from the passage.

1. The teachers here were \_\_\_\_\_ beings.
2. All this \_\_\_\_\_ and discipline resulted in a life with little scope for \_\_\_\_\_.
3. He had to be \_\_\_\_\_ to his seat right till four-thirty in the evening.
4. No \_\_\_\_\_ easygoing nonsense was tolerated there.
5. For \_\_\_\_\_ the Drill Master cared, you might lose your \_\_\_\_\_ on the horizontal bar and crack your \_\_\_\_\_.

## GRAMMAR

**A** Fill in the appropriate prepositions to complete the following sentences.

1. The truck fell \_\_\_\_\_ the ditch.
2. Kolkata is situated \_\_\_\_\_ the River Hugli.
3. The troops marched quietly \_\_\_\_\_ the forest.
4. The painter climbed \_\_\_\_\_ the ladder.
5. My sister was standing \_\_\_\_\_ me.
6. The book lay \_\_\_\_\_ the cushion.
7. The little boy sat \_\_\_\_\_ his parents.
8. The car went \_\_\_\_\_ the bridge \_\_\_\_\_ the river and \_\_\_\_\_ the city.

**B** Underline the prepositions and circle the adverbs.

1. Aunty has gone out to the market.
2. Millie sat down on the rickety chair.
3. Give the colour pencils to Soma later.

**C** Complete the sentences with the right conjunctions from the brackets.

1. Beethoven could not hear, \_\_\_\_\_ [and/yet] he composed music.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ [Although/Because] Sagar's parents were poor, they gave him a good education.
3. You can have \_\_\_\_\_ [either/both] coffee \_\_\_\_\_ [and/or] a cold drink.

**D** Make sentences with the following prepositional phrases.

1. through the gate: \_\_\_\_\_
2. into the basket: \_\_\_\_\_
3. across the field: \_\_\_\_\_

## VOCABULARY AND WRITING

**A** Each set of words below is from a profession. Write the profession to which they belong.

Profession	(a)	(b)	(c)
1. _____	court	client	case
2. _____	railway	drive	engine
3. _____	report	column	investigate
4. _____	hospital	stethoscope	prescribe
5. _____	water	tap	repair

**B** Make sentences using the following pairs of words bringing out the differences in meaning.

- (a) sweet: \_\_\_\_\_  
(b) suite: \_\_\_\_\_
- (a) later: \_\_\_\_\_  
(b) latter: \_\_\_\_\_
- (a) apprise: \_\_\_\_\_  
(b) appraise: \_\_\_\_\_
- (a) route: \_\_\_\_\_  
(b) root: \_\_\_\_\_
- (a) sight: \_\_\_\_\_  
(b) site: \_\_\_\_\_

**C** Edit the following passage correcting the capital letters, punctuation marks, spelling and grammatical errors.

why dont i like the telephone because i think it is a pest and a time waster it may create unecesary suspence and anxiety as when you weit for expected call that doesnt come have you never rushed dripping from the bath or chewing from the tabel only to be old that you have the rong number