

Sportsmanship

Poem

Read and Enjoy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✧ This poem by Joey Dille teaches us an important life skill: the art of winning with grace. Very often, failure can make us feel bad, but success can be troublesome too. Many people become very proud and arrogant when they succeed and behave badly with those who have not succeeded. This arrogance can lead to their own downfall. Therefore, this poem teaches us not to become proud and arrogant when we win. ✧ The first stanza is an instruction to the winner of a sport or game. He/She is given the winner's prize – a trophy. The winner is standing on the winner's stand in the euphoria of winning, smiling happily at the trophy, quite unaware of everyone else. The poet tells the winner to stop grinning at the trophy because there are other people around who are likely to feel bad about losing. ✧ In the second stanza, the poet elaborates this idea. He asks the winner to imagine that he/she is the loser and the person who has lost is the winner. Then this expression of happiness and pride would be on the other person's face. Then it would be the present winner who would be looking sad. ✧ In the third stanza, the poet tells the winner what to do. The winner should shake hands with the other person who was defeated in the game, and tell them that 'it's okay' and that perhaps on some other day, he/she would win. This is what is meant when he says that this is the way 'a good sport' should behave. ✧ The poet urges the winner to remove the grief of loss from the defeated person by making him/her smile and laugh. In fact, he says, the winner 'should go that extra mile', that is, the winner should make an extra effort by saying to the loser, "Someday, you'll be just like me." He means that it is possible that the winner might lose and the one who is defeated now might then be the winner. This will encourage the loser and not make him/her feel so bad. ✧ The poem is written in four stanzas of three lines each. But they are arranged in two pairs. Each pair of stanzas has, therefore, six lines. The rhyme scheme is aabccb. This poem teaches us how to have a true sportsman's spirit and how to remain humble even when we are successful and not hurt the feelings of others.
Think and Answer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✧ Exercises A and B: Do the exercises orally first and then ask the students to write the answers in their books. Check and assess their work individually.
Appreciating the Poem	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✧ Exercise A: Explain the exercise. The same word can have different meanings and, therefore, its usage changes. Use your own examples to explain this. For example: Fair – Meera is very fair. The judge was very fair to both people. Cast – The fishermen cast their nets. The cast of the play was very good. Rest – Please rest for two days after the fever comes down. Shall I complete the rest of the story? Spell – Do you know how to spell pneumonia? The old woman cast a spell on the girl. ✧ Ask the students to use the dictionary and write two sentences using each of the given words in the exercise. The meaning of the words should be different in the two sentences. Check and assess their work individually.
Word Wise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✧ Expand further on the previous section. Explain how the same words can be used as both nouns and verbs. Use the above examples to show how each of the words is used as a noun and as a verb.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✧ Exercises A and B: Do the exercises orally first. Then ask the students to write the answers. Check and assess their work individually. ✧ Exercise C: The students can be asked to do this on their own. Announce the answers aloud and let them check their work themselves.
Dictionary Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✧ Explain the entire exercise using the same words as are given. Use the dictionary. Go through it slowly, giving the students time to absorb the details. Show them how we find words by consulting the guide words at the top of each page – the first and last words on the two pages. Explain the phonetic symbols and the manner in which dictionaries give multiple meanings. Also explain the abbreviations like n, adj, etc. ✧ Exercise A: Ask the students to find the meanings of the words and write them down. Then take up the dictionary and announce the answers and let them check their work, keeping their dictionaries handy.
Write Well	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✧ Exercise A: Ask the students to do this on their own. It is advisable to check and assess their work individually.
AIL Activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✧ Exercise A: Ask students to bring the materials or supply them from the school. This can be done under the guidance of the teacher.