

4. I Have a Dream

WORKSHEET

1

COMPREHENSION

Read the following story and answer the questions below:

The two budgies, Chalmers and Edme, looked through the bars of their cage. 'I wish I could get out of here, just for an hour,' Chalmers said. 'I'd love to fly out of the window and explore the world outside.'

'What if the cat got you? Erskine is always sitting on the floor watching us. I know he wants to eat us,' Edme said.

'He's a cat. He's lazy. All Erskine does is sleep. I'm sure he rarely goes outside,' Chalmers sighed. 'I wonder, if I used my beak, could I perhaps open the door of the birdcage?'

'Don't do that! Erskine could stick his paw in and catch one of us!' Edme feared.

'You come with me then. Both of us deserve to go outside for a while. It's a sunny day today, a rare thing in this part of Scotland. Let's take advantage of it and enjoy the outdoors,' Chalmers coaxed. Without waiting for an answer, he began to peck at the door with his beak. 'It worked!' he shouted, as the door swung open. 'We better hurry before Erskine comes into the room.' He flew out of the cage and right out of the living room window.

'Wait for me,' squawked Edme and followed him.

Sitting on a branch of a tree in the backyard, Chalmers sighed, 'Freedom! Just look around! Isn't it lovely?'

'I must admit it's rather lovely!' There are chrysanthemums over there. Aren't they beautiful? Oh! There's some daisies and look at the heather!' Edme laughed, 'Chalmers, it's wonderful out here!'

Yes, it is! Aren't you glad you came?' asked Chalmers. 'Look at the sky, and Edme, look over there. Aren't those robins?'

'They are the first birds I've seen, besides you. Let's just sit here for a while and enjoy everything around us,' said Edme, looking around.

The birds perched on the branch of the tree. Chalmers was a beautiful pale blue. He noticed that his colouring matched the sky. Edme was bright green, the same colour as the new spring leaves. Neither of them noticed that Erskine had come out of the house. He was stretching his legs and yawning. He noticed them in the tree. 'What's this?' he whispered. 'Is that Edme and Chalmers out of their cage?' The

cat ran inside to see and found the cage empty. He ran back outside. 'Well, well! I've been waiting a long time to catch those two budgies. Now's my chance!'

Erskine snuck over to the tree and began to climb up the trunk.

'Chalmers, we've been here long enough,' said Edme. 'I've got a bad feeling suddenly. Let's go inside.'

'What's wrong, Edme? We're perfectly safe here,' scoffed Chalmers.

Just then, Erskine climbed on to the branch with them and crept silently towards them. 'Chalmers! Look out!' Edme shouted. Chalmers looked around and flew into the air just as Erskine leapt towards him. Edme was already heading back to the birdcage.

'Wait for me!' squealed Chalmers, rushing after Edme into the birdcage, slamming the door and making sure it was locked.

Erskine sat on the tree limb. 'Drat! I almost had them!'

'Chalmers, I'm never leaving this cage again!' announced Edme, her heart pounding.

'We were almost eaten by that cat!! didn't even see him come out of the house, never mind climb the tree!'

'That cat is too sneaky!' breathed Chalmers. 'You're right, Edme.'

From then on the two budgies were happy inside the cage. They had plenty to eat and drink and were safe from Erskine!

Adapted from: Children's Stories – Margo Fallis

A. Answer the following questions.

1. Who were the two budgies?

2. What did Edme say about Erskine?

3. How did Chalmers manage to get them out of the cage?

4. Name two flowers and a bird they saw.

5. What did Erskine do?

B. Freedom brings responsibility. Were Chalmers and Edme responsible enough to handle their freedom? Give reasons for your answer.

C. Fill in the blanks with suitable words from the story:

1. Both of us _____ to go outside for a _____.
2. Let's take _____ of it and enjoy the _____.
3. Chalmers was a _____ bird.
4. Edme was _____ green, the same colour as the _____ leaves.
5. Edme was already _____ back to the birdcage.

WORKSHEET 2

GRAMMAR

A. Fill in the blanks with appropriate pronouns from the Help Box.

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1. _____ is your favourite cricketer?
2. This book is _____, and that one is _____.
3. Introduce _____ please.
4. The food which _____ like most is the curry, isn't _____?
5. I _____ took care of _____.
6. _____ loves his/her country.

B. Identify the pronouns and mention their antecedents in the following sentences.

1. Sardar Bhagat Singh sacrificed his life for our country.
2. The person who treats patients is called a doctor.
3. The thing which I bought at the emporium is valuable.
4. The object through which we are unable to see is called an opaque object.
5. Rip Van Winkle avoided his ill-tempered wife.

WORKSHEET 3

VOCABULARY AND WRITING

A. There are some common mistakes we make while speaking English. Correct them:

1. What is you good name?

2. I have just returned back from Mumbai.

3. You will be giving me the book, please?

4. Stop eating my head!

5. When the Akbar was emperor of India?

B. Select the correct words from the brackets to complete the sentences:

1. Madhur is a _____ reader. [vociferous/voracious]

2. Harsh's _____ caused the doctor some anxiety. [respiration/aspiration]

3. He _____ ever raises his voice and shouts. [harder/hardly]

4. Paras is making an _____ film this month. [animating/animation]

5. Smita has very _____ hair. [tall/long]

C. Imagine you are Chalmers or Edme of the story in Worksheet 1. What would you do if you were attacked by Erskine while sitting on the branch of the tree? Give reasons for your answer.
