

6. Making the Right Moves: R Pragnanandhaa

WORKSHEET 1

COMPREHENSION

Read the passage below 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 _____.

WORKSHEET 2

GRAMMAR

- A. Complete the following passage using the verbs given in the box in the simple present tense.**

come turns stretches converge beckons moves
reaches closes slow move looks

The giant jetliner _____ towards the taxiway on to the airport apron. It _____ towards a space where a man in white overalls _____ with a pair of yellow table tennis bats. As it _____ its appointed place, the captain _____ the throttles and the engines _____ to a standstill. He _____ his arms and _____ forward to a walk in the fresh air. A fleet of vehicles and equipment _____ on the airliner. Long flights of steps _____ up to the doors. The first passengers _____ down the steps.

- B. Use the correct tense of the verbs given in the brackets as directed to fill in the blanks below.**

1. We _____ ourselves very much. [enjoy] [past perfect]
2. Sunita and I _____ to school today. [walk] [simple future]
3. She _____ her book at home every day. [forget] [present progressive]
4. The others _____ us shortly at the gate. [join] [future continuous]
5. INS Vikrant _____ from the harbour today. [sail] [simple past]
6. They _____ the road when it began raining. [cross] [past continuous]
7. Could the boys _____ to see the match? [go] [present perfect]
8. Please _____ this basket on the table. [put] [simple present]
9. They _____ dinner when the news came. [eat] [past perfect continuous]
10. The train _____ by the time the taxi reaches the station. [go] [future perfect]

11. My father _____ on his project for more than a week. [work] [present perfect continuous]

12. By the time they play against Kolkata, the Delhi team _____ for more than a month. [practise] [future perfect continuous]

WORKSHEET 3

VOCABULARY AND WRITING

A. Put the words below into the correct columns.

skyscrapers; rhinoceros; sprays; carts; university; lions; oxen; acid rain; cows; vehicles; orang-utans; dumps; fields; traffic lights; garbage; crocodiles; paddy; open drains; colony; elephants; polar bears; fumes; sheep; tractors; apartments; tigers; streets; toxic waste.

CITIES	POLLUTION	VILLAGES	WILDLIFE
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
6.			
7.			

B. Use the following suffixes to form two new words with each given word.

ly made ing ation hood ful dom

1. woman	(a) woman _____	(b) woman _____
2. home	(a) home _____	(b) home _____
3. man	(a) man _____	(b) man _____
4. tempt	(a) tempt _____	(b) tempt _____
5. free	(a) free _____	(b) free _____
6. hand	(a) hand _____	(b) hand _____

C. Write a description of your school in about 150 words.
