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One fine day king went around to find what was happening in his kingdom. While he was taking a round, he saw an old farmer planting a tree in his field.

The king met him and said, “Why do you work in the field at this age? You are quite old now. By the time these plants will grow big and bear fruits, you may not be alive. Why are you planting them?”

The farmer humbly replied, “My majesty, the trees which are bearing fruits now were not planted by me, they were actually planted by my father, who is no more in this world. His sons and daughters are having their fruits,” replied the farmer.



“These plants which I am planting now will provide fruits to my children. Therefore, I am planting as many trees as I can.”

Plants and trees are our friends. They provide fresh and pure air which keeps

us alive. They also provide shade during sunny days. Men and animals take rest under the shade of trees. Birds make their nests on the trees.

We get plenty of fruits from trees. Mango, banana, apple, peach, orange and other fruits come from trees.

Trees also supply us wood. Chairs, tables and other furniture items are made out of wood.

Plants provide us food. We get wheat, gram, rice, pulses and vegetables from plants. It can be said that our life is based on plants and trees.

We should not unnecessarily cut down the tree. We should take care of them. We should grow more and more plants in our kitchen-garden, within our school compound and at other nearby places. It is a sin to cut the trees.

It is our responsibility to keep our environment clean by keeping our river's water clean and looking after the trees which we have planted.

Let's Give a Thought

- We should also think about others while taking any action and try to be selfless.
- To breathe fresh and pure air, we should plant more and more trees.



Keep in Mind

- ◎ Pure and fresh environment is provided to us by plants.
- ◎ Keep our river's water clean.
- ◎ Stop others from polluting the environment.
- ◎ Look after the trees we have planted.

Exercise

A. Multiple Choice Questions (MCQs).

Tick (✓) the correct answer.

- Birds make their nest on :
(a) Tree (b) Road
(c) Bushes (d) House
- What should we grow more and more ?
(a) Fear (b) Plants
(c) Thorn (d) None of these
- What do we get from the trees ?
(a) Fresh air (b) Shade
(c) Fruits (d) All of these
- Which of these fruits do we get from trees ?
(a) Mango (b) Apple
(c) Guava (d) All of these

B. Write 'T' for True and 'F' for False statements.

- The king forcefully stoped the farmer from planting tree.
- Plants and trees are our friends.
- The king asked farmer to destroy the trees.

4. We should cut trees unnecessarily.
5. It is our responsibility to keep our environment clean.
6. Men and animals take rest under the shade of trees.



C. Answer the following questions.

1. What did the king find while walking in his kingdom ?
2. How do we get fresh and pure air ?
3. Why was the old farmer planting the new trees ?
4. How are trees useful to birds and animals ?
5. What are the advantages of trees for us ?

D. Fill in the blanks with correct words given in the box.

sunny taking alive unnecessarily Trees

1. We should not cut the trees.
2. Trees provide shade during days.
3. provide fresh and pure air which keeps us
4. The king was a round of his kingdom.



Time To Do

Why is it necessary to grow more trees? How can we protect trees ?

Write a few lines.

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Teacher's Note

Tell the students about the importance of plants and trees in the life of human beings. Also, tell them how trees are basic and important source of our life.

2

The Mother Tongue


Vijaya Nagar was once ruled by king Krishnadeva Raya. One day a learned man made a visit to that great king's royal court. He was showing off his knowledge by saying the king that he had already travelled around the whole world and therefore he had mastered many languages. He also boasted that nobody here knew as many languages as he knew.



Hearing this, the king asked the learned man to answer the questions of the people of his court in their own languages.

The people of the royal court asked different questions in different languages. What a surprise ! The learned man replied all the questions in the same languages.

The king was very impressed by hearing this.



After some time, the scholar challenged each and everybody present in the royal court to find out his mother tongue. He also declared that he would touch the feet of the person who could tell his mother tongue and if no one could find it out then, “I would consider myself more learned than anyone present in King Krishnadeva Raya’s royal court”, He added in a boastful manner,

Now, the king was highly tensed. It was a question of his royal honour and dignity. A number of learned people in the court asked him a number of questions. But all the efforts were in vain. All the scholars in the royal court failed to disclose his mother tongue. The scholar became very proud.

There was a clever and tricky courtier named Tenaliram in the king’s court. After everybody’s unsuccessful attempt, the king told Tenaliram to disclose the proud scholar's mother tongue.

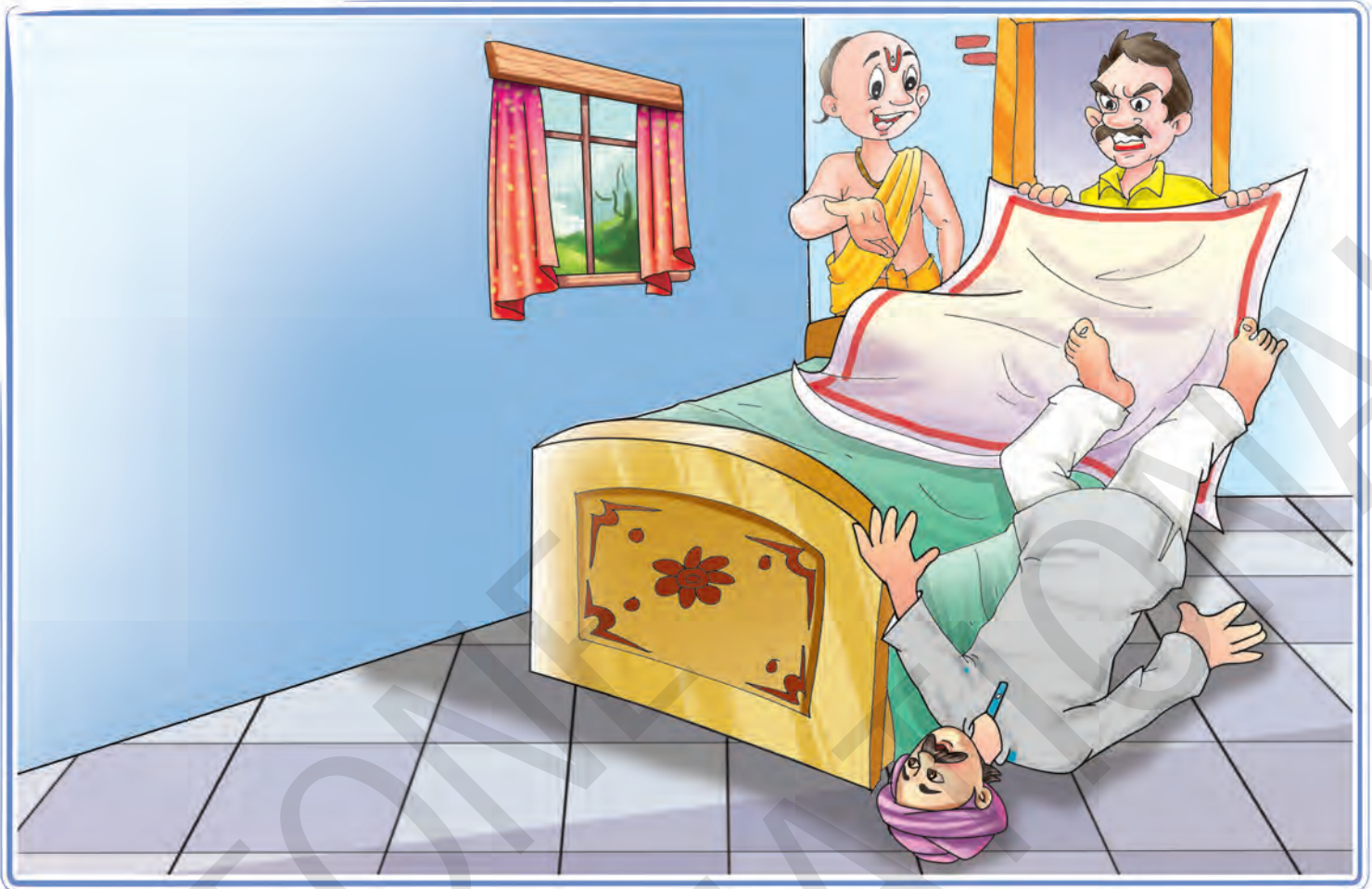
“Your Majesty! He is a very great and learned man and has mastered many languages. Please give me time of one day. Then I can disclose his mother tongue,” he replied.

The king agreed. As advised by Tenaliram, the guest scholar was given an excellent dinner at night. All the possible royal dishes were properly served to him. He ate to his heart's content. After the dinner, his bed was nicely laid outside the royal chamber. A very good thick mattress and a thick comfortable quilt was given to him for a sound sleep. As the scholar was tired, he slept deeply the moment he went to bed.

The next morning, one of the royal servants was passing by the place where the scholar was sleeping. He thought that someone had left the quilt and mattress outside by mistake. So he shook off the quilt with great force in a bid to dust it off and the scholar, with thud, fell down from his bed. He uttered some words when he fell down from the bed.

At the same time, Tenaliram told him that his mother tongue was Telugu.

Tenaliram then went to the king and told him about the same. The king questioned him, “How did you find out the mother tongue of the scholar.”



“My great Lord! It is very easy and simple. It does not matter how many languages a person knows but whenever he finds himself in trouble, he always thinks in his mother tongue. One’s mother is always called in one’s own native language! That is why we always call it the mother tongue!”

The king praised Tenaliram wholeheartedly for his wonderful intelligence and wit.

Let's Give a Thought

- We should not be proud of our intelligence.
- We should not underestimate others.



Keep in Mind

- ⊙ The learned man made a visit to the king Krishnadeva Raya's royal court.
- ⊙ He boasted that he had travelled around the whole world and had mastered many languages.
- ⊙ The scholar challenged each and everybody present in the royal court to find out his mother tongue.
- ⊙ When the royal servant shook off the quilt with great force, the scholar fell down from the bed and uttered some words.
- ⊙ Tenaliram found out the visiting scholar's mother tongue.

Exercise

A. Multiple Choice Questions (MCQs).

Tick (✓) the correct answer.

1. The scholar had travelled around the
(a) World (b) Mathura
(c) Kalinga (d) Vijaya Nagara
2. Who among the following guessed the scholar's mother tongue ?
(a) King (b) Tenaliram
(c) Servant (d) None of them
3. To disclose the scholar's mother tongue, Tenaliram requested the king to give him
(a) Two days' time (b) Five days' time
(c) Four days' time (d) One day's time
4. The scholar was proud of his
(a) Beauty (b) Tongue
(c) Voice (d) Knowledge of languages

B. Write 'T' for True and 'F' for False statements.

1. The scholar was given an excellent dinner at night.
2. The scholar challenged everybody in the king's court to find out his mother tongue.
3. Tenaliram got failed in disclosing the scholar's mother tongue.
4. The scholar's mother tongue was English.
5. The king praised Tenaliram wholeheartedly for his intelligence and wit.

C. Answer the following questions.

1. What was scholar mastered in?
2. What did the guest scholar challenge to everybody in the royal court?
3. Who was Tenaliram? Was he able to disclose the guest scholar's mother tongue?
4. What lesson did you learn from the story?

D. Fill in the blanks with correct words given in the box.

Knowledge Telugu Krishnadeva Raya clever

1. Vijaya Nagar was once ruled by
2. Tenaliram was a courtier.
3. The mother tongue of the scholar was
4. We should not boast of our



Time To Do

Ask your teacher about the different languages spoken in different states of our country and write them down in your notebook.



Teacher's Note

Teach the students to respect every language.

