

Don't Give Up

Phoebe Cary

If you've tried and have not won,
Never stop for crying;
All that's great and good is done
Just by **patient** trying.

Though young birds, in flying, fall,
Still their wings grow stronger;
And the next time they can keep
Up a little longer.

Though the **sturdy** oak has known
Many a **blast** that **bowed** her,
She has risen again, and grown
Loftier and prouder.

If by easy work you beat,
Who the more will prize you?
Gaining victory from defeat—
That's the test that tries you!



patient calm, uncomplaining
sturdy strong
blast storm
bow bend
lofty very high

Believe it or not, it was a wrong answer in a quiz that led me to a holiday in Kaziranga. The answer was not given by me but by a member of another quiz team.

"What's that animal?" asked the quizmaster, showing the picture of a large creature in a grassland. "Hint: It lives in the Kaziranga National Park."

Harsh, in his excitement to score, blurted out, "Hippopotamus! That's a hippo!"

The question passed to our team. "It's a one-horned rhinoceros," I said.

We won the quiz to **thunderous applause** from the audience. That evening, I told my parents about it. When they heard about the picture clue, my mother said, "And to think we have never taken you to Kaziranga!"

"What's stopping us?" grinned my father. "Let's go there!"

We packed dull-coloured clothes so that we would blend in with the trees and shrubs. You see, we did not want to alarm the wildlife. I took my jungle boots. "Don't forget your hat and binoculars." reminded Ma.

Two days later, we were at Kaziranga, in Assam. A huge sign over the gateway announced, "Welcome to Kaziranga National Park." It was the second weekend of November. The best time to be at this **World Heritage Site** is from November to April.

An elephant safari is a good way to tour the park. Early in the morning, we **scrambled** onto the back of an elephant, swaying through the park for an hour. As we went ahead, a wild boar **scuttled** across our path. The mahout, or our elephant's caretaker, was also our guide. He spoke softly, pointing out a monitor lizard sprawled across the branches of a tree that had fallen to the ground. He showed us different birds. "At least

once a month, you can spot a tiger here," he said. My heart raced at the thought of seeing a tiger up close.

monitor lizard

thunderous applause loud clapping
World Heritage Site a natural or man-made place recognised as having great international importance, and therefore protected by UNESCO
scramble to climb somewhere using one's feet and hands
scuttle to run with short, quick steps



"Ooty will cool my children down," Mother had said before leaving us at our grandparents' house. My brother Aravind and I knew what she had meant. She wanted us to stop quarrelling all the time. Our quarrels sometimes turned into fights. We had tried to **convince** her that our fights were a way of **letting off steam**, but she remained unconvinced.

Ooty was a world apart from our home town in the plains. The scent of pines hung in the fresh mountain air. And the mountains themselves were laden with mist. Ooty was the world of chattering tourists, outsized flowers and our grandparents.

In the evenings, the mist **descended** from the mountains and surrounded our grandparents' cottage in the **outskirts** of Ooty. The pine forest, the **haunt** of many monkeys, faded into the mist. A roaring wood fire in the **hearth** kept us warm.

Most houses in Ooty had **switched** to electric heating, but Grandpa was old-fashioned in his ways. His brother had a modern cottage on the other side of town. However, they had **fallen out** and hadn't spoken to each other for years. Pity we couldn't visit him. I got to know all this from Grandma, who was as fond of talking as she was of us.

I think it was on the third evening after our arrival that she recited the famous rhyme about the monkey, her voice rising above the crackle of the wood fire. The silly monkey came to visit the hills of Ooty, but the policeman on duty chased it over the hills of Ooty. The silly monkey thanked the policeman for showing it around Ooty! When he heard the rhyme, Aravind said **cheekily**, "The rhyme is about you."



convince to make someone believe that something is true

let off steam get rid of strong emotion, like anger

descend come down

outskirts parts of a city or town that are farthest from its centre

haunt meeting place

hearth the floor of a fireplace

switch change over

fall out quarrel and cut off relations

cheeky impolite in a funny way

F. Rewrite the sentences correctly. (Hint: Only proper nouns begin with capital letters.)

1. I have visited three Countries—nepal, sri lanka and bangladesh.
2. My Birthday is on wednesday, but I will have a Party on sunday.
3. The hill station of ooty is in the State of tamil nadu.
4. Bihu, pongal, makar sankranti and lohri are harvest festivals.
5. Tourists from around the world come to see the taj mahal in agra.
6. The ganga flows from the majestic himalayyas.

G. Fill in the right collective nouns: brood, herd, bunch, flock, colony, bundle.

G

Binu has a big farm with many animals. Every morning, he carries a big _____ of hay to feed his _____ of cows and buffaloes. He leaves his _____ of sheep and goats to graze in the open field. A _____ of ants have made an anthill in the field. The big fat hen has a _____ of chickens. After feeding his animals, Binu sits under a tree with a _____ of bananas.

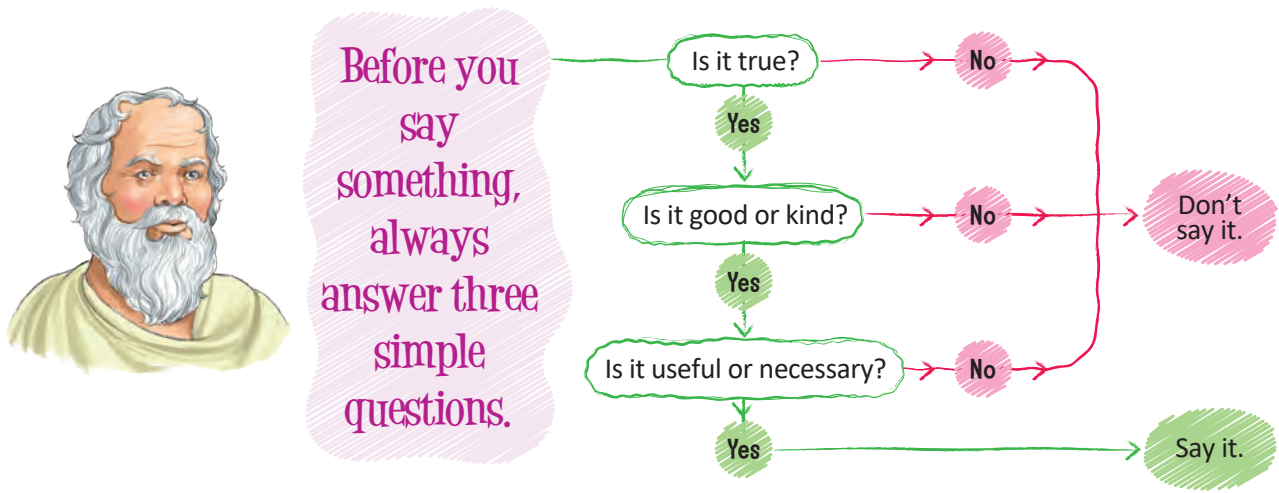
A **collective noun** is a name for a group of people, animals or things.

H. Cross out (✕) the odd one.

- | | | | | |
|----------------|---------|---------|-----------|-----------|
| 1. A herd of | cows | deer | elephants | birds |
| 2. A bunch of | keys | flowers | lions | grapes |
| 3. A bundle of | sticks | hay | cats | books |
| 4. A fleet of | fish | cars | buses | ships |
| 5. A flock of | pigeons | sheep | trees | goats |
| 6. A gang of | thieves | singers | robbers | criminals |



- K. It is said that Socrates, a wise man of ancient Greece, taught 'the triple filter test'. Look at the chart below and complete the story about the triple filter test.



Long ago, in _____, there lived a _____ called _____.

One day, a man came running to him saying, "I want to tell you something about ... "

Socrates stopped him and said, "Before you say something, answer three _____ . First, is what you are going to say _____ ?

Second, is it _____ ? Third, is this information _____ ?"

Socrates continued, "If what you want to say is neither _____ , nor _____ , nor _____ , please don't say it!"

- L. Look at this picture and discuss what the three wise monkeys tell us. Then write a paragraph to describe the same.



G. Look at the sentences. Fill in the verbs, as shown.

Verb	Present perfect tense	Simple past tense
bake	1. I <u>have baked</u> a cake.	I <u>baked</u> a cake on Sunday.
buy	2. She _____ a new phone.	She _____ a new phone last year.
break	3. My car _____ down.	My car _____ down yesterday.
learn	4. I _____ to drive.	I _____ to drive when I was 18.
visit	5. I _____ Goa only once.	I _____ Goa last year.
eat	6. She _____ an apple.	She _____ an apple at night.

We often use the **present perfect tense** when it is not important when something happened.

The **simple past tense** is usually used to talk about an action that took place at a certain time in the past.

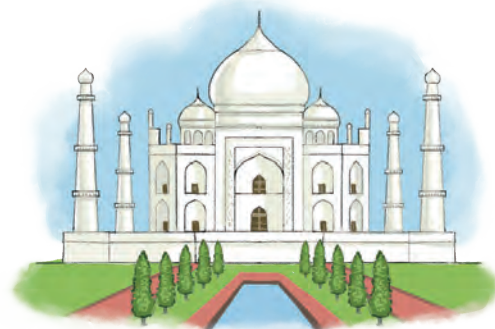
H. Change the statements in the present perfect tense into questions, as shown.



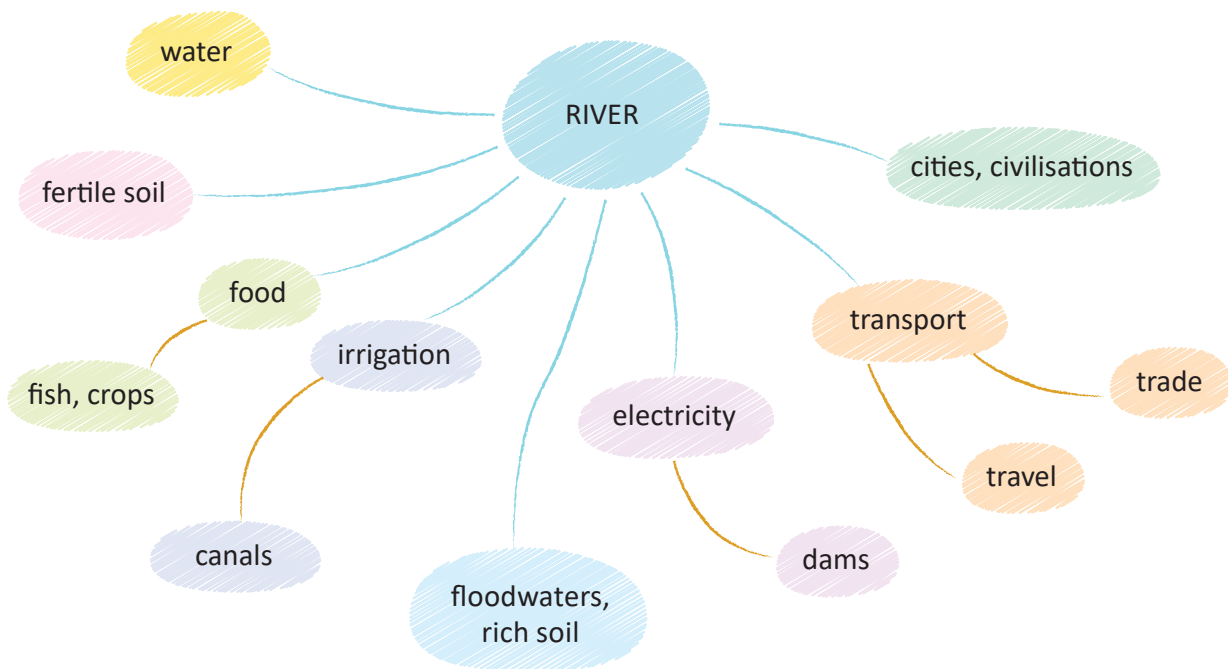
- | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. Amar has made tea. | <u>Has Amar made tea?</u> |
| 2. They have gone home. | 6. The exam has started. |
| 3. She has missed the bus. | 7. The rain has stopped. |
| 4. We have stored some water. | 8. Jo has studied the lesson. |
| 5. He has won the match. | 9. Anas and Vir have come to meet us. |

I. Complete the negative statements using **not** or **never**, as shown.

- I have not finished my work yet. (finish)
- I _____ the Taj Mahal. (see)
- I _____ the medicine yet. (take)
- She _____ a truck. (drive)
- They _____ that movie yet. (watch)



J. How is a river useful to us? Look at the hints and complete the paragraph.



A river is a large water body that flows into a sea or an ocean. It is useful to us in many ways. A river provides us _____ for drinking, washing, etc. It provides _____, as people catch _____ from it. _____ are grown near rivers as the water helps them grow. Also, the _____ near rivers is _____ and good for growing crops. When a river floods, the _____ leave behind rich soil on the banks. People build _____ on rivers, which are used to generate _____. _____ are dug to carry river water to far-off places, where there are no rivers. This helps in irrigation. Rivers help people _____ to different places and carry on _____. Because of these advantages, people settled near rivers in ancient times, and built _____. Many civilisations, like the Indus Valley civilisation, grew along rivers.

K. How are humans harming rivers? How can we stop this? Use the audio and the notes to explain. 🔊

dumping of rubbish

plastic waste

chemicals from factories

keep rivers clean

sewage from homes and buildings

avoid wasting water

recycle water

stop cutting trees

L. Write a paragraph on forests by answering these questions.

1. What is a forest?

2. How are forests useful to us?

3. How do trees help us?

4. How do forests help reduce pollution?

5. How do forests help the soil?

6. What products do we get from forests?

M. Write a short essay on the tiger using these facts and figures.

INTRODUCTION

king of the jungle
belongs to the cat family
largest of the wild cats
found in the wild only in
parts of Russia, China and
South Asia, including India
India's national animal

FOOD HABITS

carnivores—eat only meat
hunt alone at night
prey on deer, antelope, buffalo, etc.

PHYSICAL FEATURES

can be more than 3 feet tall
and 10 feet long (including tail)
can weigh over 300 kg
shiny fur, light to deep yellow
or orange with dark stripes

OTHER FACTS

good swimmers
no two tigers have the same stripes
in danger of dying out
hunted for their fur and other body
parts used in making medicines
forests being cleared for human use
laws to protect the tiger

N. Most of the world's population of tigers is found in India. Find out the number of tigers in India at present. Which places in India have tiger populations?



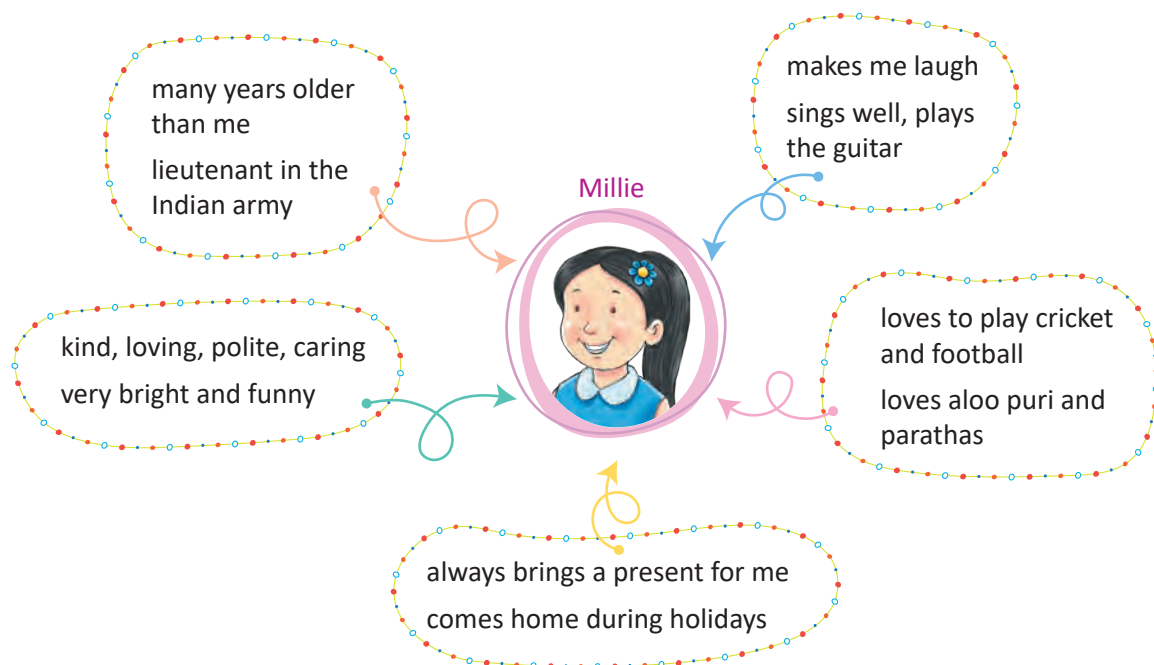
- K. Here is an account of Millie's morning in the third person (from another person's point of view). Rewrite it in the first person, that is, from Millie's point of view. (Hint: you will need to change the words in blue, as shown.)

It was a very special day for Millie. Her brother was coming home for the holidays after a long time. Millie woke up with a smile and jumped out of bed. She quickly made her bed, brushed her teeth, had a superfast bath and took out her best frock. It was brand new, and she had been saving it for this very day. She looked at herself in the mirror before going downstairs for breakfast. She greeted her mother, who said that she looked very nice.

It was a very special day for me. My brother was _____

- L. Can you guess who Millie's favourite person is? It is her brother, of course! Imagine you are Millie. Write a short essay on your favourite person. Use the hints below. You may start like this.

My favourite person is my brother. He is _____



- M. Write a short essay on your favourite person. These questions will help you.

Who is the person?
(name, relationship, etc.)

Why do you like this person?
(qualities)

Describe the person.
(age, what they do, where they live, etc.)

How has this person helped you or made you happy?

Do and Learn

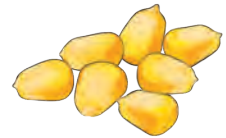
- A. Do you know how important seeds are? A lot of the food we eat consists of seeds! Seeds are of different types. Here are some of them. Can you name them?

Wheat, rice, maize (corn) and millets are generally called cereals or grains. They are the seeds of plants grown in crop fields.

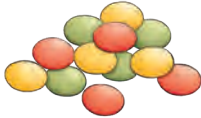


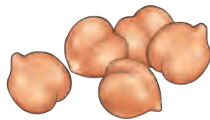


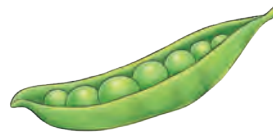


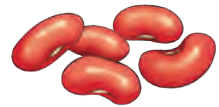


Peas, beans, grams and lentils are seeds that grow inside pods.









Nuts like almonds, walnuts, pistachio and cashew are called dry fruit. They are actually seeds contained within a hard shell.









- B. The seeds of cumin, coriander, cardamom, fennel, mustard, nutmeg, star anise, etc., are used as spices to flavour food. Go into your kitchen and identify these spices.