
Hindu Religious Studies

Class Three

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Preface

For improving the existing quality of Primary Education in Bangladesh, National Curriculum and Textbook Board (NCTB) in collaboration with PEDP-2 initiated an extensive program for development of curriculum and teaching learning materials in 2002. In the light of this program the curriculum, textbooks and other teaching learning materials of Primary levels have been prepared, revised and evaluated.

The textbook entitled, Hindu Religious Studies has been prepared on the basis of attainable competencies for the students of Class Three. The subject matter of the textbook is derived from the basic issues of the religion familiar to the children through their family practices. This will facilitate our young learners to know how they can make best use of this religious knowledge & values in their day-to-day life.

The contents of the book are analyzed and explained in such a manner with practical examples, illustrations and system of planned activities, that students are inspired to study the subject with a keen interest.

This book is originally published in Bangla. From this year NCTB is publishing the English version of the textbook. English is the language of choice in today’s globalized world. To facilitate the verbal and written communication skills of our future citizens and suitably prepare them for international competition, we decided to translate the original Bangla textbooks into English. It's pleasant to note that the number of English medium schools in Bangladesh is increasing very fast. In this context NCTB decided to publish all the textbooks of Primary level in English. This was a big endeavour for us. Despite our all efforts the first edition may not be totally error free. However, in the future editions we shall try to remove all errors and discrepancies.

Finally, I would like to express my heartfelt thanks and gratitude to those who have made their valuable contributions in writing, editing, evaluating and translating this book. I sincerely hope that the book will be useful to those for whom it has been prepared.

Prof. Md. Mostafa Kamaluddin
Chairman
National Curriculum and Textbook Board
Dhaka
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Chapter One

The Creator and his Creation

Wonderful is this earth. It is full of beauty. There are hills and mountains in some areas. Some areas are plains and some are deserts. Again you can see rivers and seas in other parts. The blue sky is above our head. Birds sing from the branches of trees. Many kinds of animals live here.

Who has created all these things? There must be one Creator behind it. A carpenter makes chairs and tables. A mason builds a building. In the same way everything needs a Creator. We have a creator. He has created this beautiful world.
What's the name of this Creator? He has many names. Some call Him Ishwara. Some call Him God, some call Him Allah. As the same water is called 'jal' or 'pani'.

We are Hindus. The Hindus call the Creator Ishwara. Vagaban is also His another name. Man, nature, animals, water, air, mountains, oceans and every object of nature are created by Ishwara. Why has Ishwara created all these? He has created all these to show His glory. All His work is His glory. Creation gives Him pleasure.

Ishwara is infinite, eternal. His creation is full of variety. Endless is His greatness. Ishwara is all powerful. He is present everywhere. He sees everybody. But we cannot see Him. We can see all His creation. We can see His image in His creation. We find Ishwara in His creations.

Ishwara has created us. So to please Ishwara, we have to worship Him. We should be devoted to Him. But how to worship Him? How to show our devotion to Him? Ishwara is present everywhere. To love all things is to love Ishwara. So to worship Ishwara we have to love His creation. This will please Ishwara. And will do good for the world.

**Exercise**

1. Put a tick mark (✓) beside each right answer.
   a. This world has a lot of beauty/merits/demerits.
   b. The Hindus call the Creator Ishwara/Allah/God.
   c. A building is made by a blacksmith/mason/tailor.
d. Chairs and tables are made by a blacksmith/mason/carpenter.
e. The aim of creation of Ishwara is to get pleasure/to suffer/to show power.

2. **Fill in each of the gaps in the following sentences with an appropriate word or words:**
   a. A carpenter makes --------------.
   b. A mason builds --------------.
   c. -------------- all powerful.
   d. He is present --------------.
   e. -------------- is present in all creation.

3. **Match the phrases in column A with those in column B:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A</th>
<th>B</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Beautiful is</td>
<td>birds sing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'Jal' is known to some as</td>
<td>to love Ishwara</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In the branches</td>
<td>Creates us</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ishwara</td>
<td>this world</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To love all is</td>
<td>Pani</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4. **Answer the following questions briefly:**
   a. How is our earth?
   b. What does a carpenter make?
   c. Who has created this earth?
   d. What do the Hindus call the Creator?
   e. Who is present in all the creation?
Service Towards Living Beings

Service towards living beings is a good quality of human kind. It is part of religion. It broadens our mind. It gives us pleasure. Our religion refers to service. We should take care of our parents. This is called filial duty. We should serve our superiors. We should love our neighbours.

Our religion refers to love for life. We have been asked to love the living beings. We know that trees, plants, animals and birds are all created by Ishwara. In nature, we see many kinds of animals, birds and trees. They serve us in many ways. Ishwara helps humankind through all these. All the creation of earth represents Ishwara.

Service towards living beings is called love for life. It is part of our religion. It has been said, "Jatro jiva: tatro Shiva". It means
where there is life there is Shiva. Here Shiva means Ishwara. Ishwara lives in all His creation. To love and serve all creation is to love and serve Ishwara.

Swami Vivekananda has asked people to love the living beings. He says "To pray to Ishwara means to love all His creation". In the words of Vivekananda—

*He who shows kindness to living beings Loves Ishwara most.*

So we will have to take care of birds and animals. We should love them. Trees and plants should be sown and protected. We should take care of them properly. If we serve living things of nature, Ishwara will be pleased with us. And that will do good both for us and the universe.

**Exercise**

1. **Put a tick mark (✓) beside each right answer:**
   a. Service is a quality/defect/disease of human.
   b. Service makes our mind broad/hard/sad.
   c. We have to/don't have to/occasionally have to serve our parents.
   d. To love all living beings is to love Ishwara/to love
   e. Humankind/to love gods
   f. Trees and plants should be planted/should not be planted/should be cut down.
2. **Fill in each of the gaps in the following sentences with an appropriate word or words:**
   a) Service makes our mind ..................................................
   b) It is part of our religion ........................................ the living things.
   c) Where there is life there is ..............................................
   d) All the creation of earth represents...................................
   e) To love all creation is to love..............................................

3. **Match the phrases in column A with those in column B**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A</th>
<th>B</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Our religion</td>
<td>a virtue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Service is</td>
<td>serve us</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Animals and birds, trees and plants</td>
<td>there is Shiva</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To love all creation</td>
<td>refers to love for life</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Where there is life</td>
<td>is to love Ishwara</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4. **Answer the following questions in brief:**
   a) What is service to human beings?
   b) What do you mean by "Jatro Jiva tatro Shiva?"
   c) What do animals trees and plants do to us?
   d) What has Vivekananda said about service to living beings?
   e) Why is service to living beings necessary?
We know that there is God. He has created all things. We feel Him through his creation. We love Him by loving His creation.

God is all powerful. He does good to us. He is most kind to us. So we have to remember Him. We must bow down to Him. In prayer, we bow down to God and ask for something. God is the supreme master of the earth. So we tell Him what is there in our mind. Prayers have particular times.

Prayers keep our body and mind healthy and pure. Prayers can make us honest and pious. Prayers make a man humble. In prayer we bow down to Ishwara. Prayers make us polite and modest. We have to be polite and modest.

Poet Rabindranath Tagore says in his poem 'Prayer' :

Let me bow down my head at thy feet
Let all my pride melt into tears.
Prayers have some definite rules for sitting. There are some postures of sitting known as asana. One has to wash one's face and hand, wear clean clothes and then take one's seat for prayers.

During worship, we need to keep our head, shoulder, and spine straight. Sitting in shukhasan or padmasan is the usual way to worship. We can also offer our prayers standing. We pray with folded hands. Prayers can be done alone or together with others.

Here are two Vedic mantras:

1. **Prayer to God**
   
   Ashoto ma sadgomoya.  
   Tomosho ma jyotirgomoya.  
   Mrittorma amritonggomoya.  

   Meaning: Take me from dishonesty to honesty. Take me from darkness to light. Take me from death to heaven.

2. **Prayer to devi Saraswati**

   Saraswati mohavage bidye komololochone  
   Bishwarupe bishalakshi bidayang dehi nomohostu te.
Meaning: Oh highly fortunate Saraswati, the beauty of the universe, the lotus-eyed, large-eyed goddess of education, who wears all forms, give me knowledge. I bow to you.

Exercise

1. Put a tick mark (3) beside each right answer:
   a. Prayer makes our body healthy/unhealthy/broken.
   b. We should pray two/three/four times a day.
   c. We keep our head high/low/trembling, when we pray to God.
   d. Prayer makes our mind happy/unhappy/weak.
   e. "Devi Saraswati, give me wealth/knowledge/power."

2. Fill in each of the gaps the following sentences within an appropriate word or words:
   a. We feel God through --------------.
   b. A shoto ma --------------.
   c. We should be polite and ---------.
   d. Sitting in sukhasana or---------- one has to pray.

3. Match the phrases in column A with those of column B:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A</th>
<th>B</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>One has to pray</td>
<td>there is Ishwara</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We know that</td>
<td>sunrise</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One definite time of prayer is</td>
<td>peaceful</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prayer makes our mind</td>
<td>we must bow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To Ishwara</td>
<td>in sukhasan</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4. **Answer the following questions in brief:**
   a. What are the particular times of prayers?
   b. What are the effects of prayers?
   c. Which asana is necessary for prayers?
   d. Who do we bow down to in prayers?
   e. What will be the position of the head, the shoulder and the backbone during prayers?

5. **Answer the following questions:**
   a. Write the hymns for prayer to Devi Saraswati with English translation.
   b. What has Rabindranath Tagore said in his poem 'Prarthana' (Prayer)?
Chapter Two

Mantras, Verses, and Devotional Poems

A boy and a girl reciting hymns and verses

Mantras and verses:

(1) ong, shoho nabbatu, soho nou bhunakto, soho birjong korbabhoi.
tejoshmi nabdhi-tomoshtu, ma bidyishahboi.
ong shantih shantih shantih.
Shantipath, Kothoponishad

Meaning: May God save us equally. May God give us the light of education equally. May we get the strength of acquiring education equally. May the education we have got be powerful. May we avoid malice for others. Peace be on you, peace be on you, peace be on you.

(2) tvamaksaram paramang veditavyam
tvamasya visvasya param nidhanam.
tvam aavyayah sasvata-dharma-gopta
sanatanas tvam purusho mato me.  
Srimad Bhagavad-gita, 11/18

**Meaning:** You are the only the power. You are the only matter to know. You are the one and only shelter of this universe. You are the oldest. You have no destruction. You are the maintainer of the eternal religion. This is my opinion.

(3) Sharbamongal mongallyea shibey sharbartha shadhikey.  
Shornyea trombakey Gouri Narayani nomohoshtutey.  
Chandee, 11/10

**Meaning:** You are the person who does well being for everyone and deserves the same. You fulfill the desires of everybody. You provide shelter for everybody. Oh Gouri, Narayani, I salute you.

(4) Mata me parvati devi pita devo maheswara  
bandhabah shivavoktashcho swadesho bhubanatrayam  
Shankaracharya

**Meaning:** My mother is the goddess Parvati, my father is the god Maheswara, my friends are the followers of Shiva and my country is the universe.

**Bangla devotional poem**

(1)

I will join your song Give me the Vina
I will hear your message Give me the sacred hymns
I will offer me in thy service Give me the divine power
I will see your face Give me the firm devotion
I will bear thy blow Give me huge patience
I will carry your flag Give me steady calmness
I will be part of the whole world
Give me that lofty soul
I will make myself destitute
Give me that blessing of love
I will accompany you
Give me your right hand
I will join in your battle
Give me your armour
I will be awakened by your truth
Give me that call
I will break the bondage of happiness

Bless me, o my lord.

Gitabitan, Rabindranath Tagore

(2)

Clean my sinful heart
With your blissful hand
And make me pure
Let your holy light remove
My folly and blemish.
Lord, rescuer of all dangers
Stand against clever means
Let reach at your feet
Saving me from perils of mad desires.

(Abridged)

Rajanikanta Sen

**Exercise**

1. Recite the verse on peace of *Kathoponishad* given in the text.
2. Write the verse of *Srimad Bhagavad-gita* from memory.
3. Write the verse of *Chandee* from your memory.
4. Recite the verse of Shankaracharya.
5. Recite a Bangla devotional poem.
We know that God is one and has no paralleled. He has no shape. But He can take any shape He likes.

God's power is endless. He has many qualities. God expresses His qualities through different devas (gods) and devis (goddesses). Therefore, devtas (gods and goddesses) are the visible shapes of God.

God creates. God nurtures. God destroys too. God creates as Brahmma. He nurtures as Vishnu. He destroys with the shape of Shiva. He destroys for the well being of the humankind.

There are many gods and goddesses for example Brahmma, Vishnu, Shiva, Durga, Kali, Saraswati, Lakhxmi, Ganesh, etc. All gods and goddesses are different forms of God. We learn about gods and goddesses from the Veda and the Purana. the Veda is the main religious book of the Hindus. The Purana is also our religious book. Other religious books also speak about gods and goddesses.

Gods have supernatural power. Man cannot do everything. But gods have power to do everything. But this power of gods is the power of God, the Clmighty. Gods are luminous. Their light is the light of God.

We worship many gods and goddesses. Our mind becomes pure when we worship them. They are also satisfied when we worship them. It makes us happy. Idols of the devtas are kept in the temples and houses. We should do pronam when we see the idols.
**Description of some Gods and Goddesses**

**Brahmma** - Brahmma is the god of creation. He creates everything in this world. Brahmma has four faces and four arms. His body is lighted with fire. Hangsha (Duck) is his carrier and he sits on the red lotus. Brahmma loves red flowers. This is why we need red flowers for worshipping Brahmma.

**Vishnu** - Vishnu brings up the whole world and the creatures of this world. The colour of his body is like the moon light. Vishnu has four arms. He has Shankho (a conch-shell), Chakro (a revolving disk), Goda (a mallet) and Padma (a lotus) in his four arms. Vishnu's carrier is Gorur, a bird. We must call him before any worship. We can worship Vishnu any day but we cannot worship him without the tulsi-leaves. The worshippers of Vishnu are called Vaishnava.

**Shiva** - Shiva destroys. But he also helps in the well-being of human beings. And it is for their well-being he destroys all
evils. The colour of his body is snow-white. His hair is coiled. He wears the tiger-skin. The ox is his carrier. The worshippers of Shiva are called Shaiva.

**Durga** - Durga is the goddess of power. She killed the devil, Durgam. This is why her name is Durga. She removes the distress of humankind. Also for this, she is called Durga. Her body has the colour of the Atoshi flower. Her face is as beautiful as a full moon. She has ten arms that carry ten kinds of weapons. The lion is her carrier. She destroys all evils. 'Durga Puja' is our great festival. It is held in the season of Autumn.
Kali - Kali is the goddess of power. She destroys all the wicked people. The colour of her body is black. Her dangling deep-red tongue is well visible. Kali has four arms. To punish the wicked, she has a Kharag in her hand. But good people must not be afraid of Kali. Kali protects good people. The worshippers of Kali are called Shakta.

Saraswati - Saraswati is the goddess of knowledge. She is snow-white. She has a book in one hand and a vina (a kind of musical instrument) in another hand. So she is called vina pani. She sits on the back of a white duck. Saraswati Puja is held on the panchami tithi (fifth lunar night) of the 'suklo pakhhko' (the fortnight during which the moon is increasingly visible till it attains fullness in the Bangla month, Magha.) Students especially worship Saraswati and celebrates Saraswati Puja.

Lakshmi - Lakshmi is the goddess of wealth. She is white. Her carrier is an owl. She has her seat in every house. People worship Lakshmi every day. People read 'panchali' (some sort of religious verses) and worship her, especially on Thursdays. 'Kojagori Lakshmi Puja' is celebrated in the month of Autumn.
Exercise

1. Put a tick mark (✓) beside each right answer:
   a. Brahma loves red flowers/ white flowers/blue flowers.
   b. Vishnu's carrier is the owl/ the pea-cock/the gorur.
   c. Worshippers of Shiva are called Vaishnava/Shakta/Shaiva.
   d. Gods and goddesses are completely different from God/are the brothers and sisters of God/ are different forms of God.
   e. Saraswati is the goddess of knowledge/power/destruction.

2. Fill in each of the gaps in the following sentences with an appropriate word or words:
   a. God can take any ...............................................................
   b. The god who creates is called ..........................................
   c. The god who nurtures is called ........................................
   d. The god who destroys is called ..........................................
   e. The worshippers of Vishnu are called ...............................
   f. Kali ............................................... the evils.
   g. Lakshmi is the goddess of ................................................

3. Match the phrases in column A with those in column B:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A</th>
<th>B</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. God is one and</td>
<td>Nurtures world</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. The visible shapes of God are</td>
<td>an owl</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Brahma is</td>
<td>gods and goddesses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. The carrier of Lakshmi is</td>
<td>has bo parallel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. Vishnu</td>
<td>the god of creation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4. **Answer each of the following questions in one word:**
   a. How many faces does Brahma have?
   b. What is the carrier of Shiva?
   c. Kali is the goddess of which power?
   d. Saraswati is the goddess of what?
   e. How many arms does Durga have?

5. **Answer the following questions in brief:**
   a. Who are gods and goddesses?
   b. Write the names of some gods and goddesses.
   c. Describe the god Brahma.
   d. Describe the goddess Durga.
   e. Describe the goddess Saraswati.
Temples and Religious Places

Temples

Temples are the houses of gods and goddesses. Idols of gods and goddesses are kept there. In temples, people worship and pay homage to them. So, temples are sacred places. People keep the images of gods and goddesses there and worshipped them.

Temples are named according to the names of gods and goddesses. For example are Shiva Temple, Kali Temple, Durga Temple, Krishna Temple, Vishnu temple, etc. In Shiva Temple the idol of Shiva is kept. idol of Kali is kept in Kali temple, the idol of Krishna is kept in Krishna Temple. In this way, different idols are kept in different Temples.

Temples are sacred places. Our body and soul become pure when we visit any temple. Devotees visit temples to worship gods and goddesses. They also pay homage to them. They express their wishes to them. Our mind is full of respect when we see the idols of different gods and goddesses. There are many great temples at different places. For example, the Dhakeshwari Temple in Dhaka, the Kantajir Temple in Dinajpur, the Kali Temple of Kalighat in Kolkata, or the Temple of Jagannath in Puri.

The following is the description of Dhakeshwari Temple:

Dhakeshwari Temple

Dhakeshwari Temple is situated in Dhaka. It is a very old temple. The idol of Durga is kept there. This idol is known as
the goddess Dhakeshwari. Every day in the morning, afternoon and evening, people worship the goddess and pay homage to her. Every year different types of Puja, such as, Durga Puja, Kali Puja, and Saraswati Puja are held here.

Holy Places

Holy places are places of pilgrimage. Our sins are washed away when we visit any holy place. People visit such places also to earn piety. There are many holy places for the Hindus. Some of them are Chandranath, Langolband, Goya, Kanshi, Brindaban, Mathura, Nabadeep, etc.

Chandranath - Chandranath is a famous holy place in Bangladesh. It is situated in Chittagong. The Temple of Chandranath is on the top of a hill. Chandranath Dham is its
other name. A great fair is held there at the fourteenth day of the dark half of the month of Magha. This day is called as Shiv Choturdashi. Many people from different places and countries gather there at this fair.

**Langalbandh** - Langalbandh is another holy place in Bangladesh. It is situated on the bank of the river Buriganga in Narayanganj. It is a very old place. People from inside and outside the country visit this holy place. They take a bath there. There are many ancient temples in Langalbandh. People come and worship in these temples every day.

![People are taking a bath in Langalbandh](image)

**Goya** - Goya is situated at Bihar in India. This holy place is very famous. It is on the bank of the river Folgu. Here Pindo (a religious custom people observe for dead ancestors) is offered.
To offer Pindo in Goya is a great responsibility of the eldest son of a family.

**Kashi** - Kashi is in the northern part of India. Venarash is another name of Kashi. Temples of Shiva and Annyapurna are famous here.

**Mathura** - Mathura is also situated in the northern part of India. Mathura is the birth place of Sri Krishna. And so, it is a very famous religious place.

**Brindaban** - Brindaban is near Mathura. Sri Krishna spent his childhood here with his playmates. Brindaban is also known as Brajadham. The inhabitants of this place are called Brajabashi. Brindaban is a famous sacred place for the Vaishnabas as well.

The soil and water are pure in any religious place. We can wash away our sins by taking a bath in these places. We will visit the temples and sacred places.

**Exercise**

1. **Put a tick mark (3) beside each right answer.**
   a. The number of gods and goddesses are one/ two/ many.
   b. The names of Temples are given according to the names of gods-goddesses/ country/ person.
   c. In Kali temple, there is the idol of Kali/ Krishna/ Ganesh.
   d. Brindaban is called Puridham/ Nabadipdham/ Brajadham.
   e. Langalband is situated on the bank of the river Jamuna/ Ganga/ Brahmaputra.
2. **Fill in each of gaps in the following sentences with an appropriate word or words:**
   a. A temple is ....................
   b. When we visit a temple, our mind becomes .....................................
   c. Dhakeshwari Temple is situated in ..................................................
   d. In a temple people ............................................................
   e. ................................... is a holy place.

3. **Match the words in column A with those in column B:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A</th>
<th>B</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A another name of Kashi is holy</td>
<td>Earth, water - everything of a sacred place is sacred place is birth place</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Offering Pindo in Goya</td>
<td>Earth, water - everything of a sacred place is birth place</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motherura is Sri Krishna's</td>
<td>Earth, water - everything of a sacred place is birth place</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A sacred place of Bangladesh is holy</td>
<td>Earth, water - everything of a sacred place is birth place</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Langalbandh is the great responsibility of a son</td>
<td>Earth, water - everything of a sacred place is birth place</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vanarash</td>
<td>Earth, water - everything of a sacred place is birth place</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4. **Answer the following questions in brief:**
   a. What is a temple?
   b. What do the devotees do in a temple?
   c. What is a sacred place?
   d. Where and to whom is Pindo offered?
   e. Where is Brindaban? Why is it famous?
   f. Where is Langalbandh? Why do people from inside and outside the country visit this place?

5. **Answer the following questions:**
   i. Describe Dhakeshwari Temple.
   ii. Describe Brindaban and Langalbandh.
Heaven and Hell

Heaven

Heaven is the place of eternal happiness. Heaven is the abode of all gods and goddesses. Pious people go to heaven after death. Heaven is also the place of eternal joy. Spring is the only season here. There is a beautiful garden here. Its name is Nandan Kanon. In this garden a beautiful flower Parijat blooms. There is also a tree named Kalpa Brikhkha in this garden. People get anything they wish from this tree. Indra is the king of heaven.

Hell

Hell is the place of eternal sorrow. It is the city of sin. Sinful people are punished in hell. Sinful people are those who do crime in this world. Sinful people fall in hell after their death. Jam is the king of hell. This is why hell is called Jamaloy. In hell, Chitragupta writes about the good and bad activities of a man. He never spares any sinner. Sinners must be punished here for their misdeeds. Only religion can save us from the misery of hell. Doing right work is religion. On the other hand, doing bad work is irreligion. We will be able to go to heaven, if we do good work. We will fall in hell, if we do evil work. So, we must do good work.
Exercise

Put a tick mark (3) beside each right answer:
   a. Heaven is earth/planet/home of gods and goddesses.
   b. The only season in heaven is Summer/Autumn/Spring.
   c. The name of the garden in heaven is Nandankanon/Mayakanon/Premkanon.
   d. Hell is the place of eternal happiness/eternal sorrow/eternal joy.
   e. The king of hell is Yama/Indra/Ravana.

2. Fill in each of the gaps in the following sentences with an appropriate word or words:
   a. Heaven is the place of ......................
   b. The name of the king of heaven is ..........................
   c. No one can be .......................... for his misdeeds.
   d. Only religion can save us from the suffering of .................
   e. We must do ....................................... work.

3. Write 'T' if the statement is true and 'F' if it is false:
   a. In the garden of heaven the flower golap blooms.
   b. Heaven is called Jamaloy.
   c. Pious people go to heaven after death.
   d. Sinful people are rewarded in the hell.
   e. Doing bad work is irreligion.

4. Answer the following questions:
   a. What is heaven?
   b. What things are there in heaven?
   c. Where is Kalpabrikhkho? What does it produce? Who can enjoy its benefits?
   d. What is hell?
   e. What does Chitragupta do?
Chapter Three

The Ramayana and the Mahabharata

Religion does good to us. It arouses faith in God in our mind. The book that tells about religion is called a religious book or scripture.

General books deal with knowledge. It can be any kind of knowledge. It tells about the earth and human beings. Religious books deal with all these. Moreover, it tells about Ishwara. It also tells about the well beings of human life. It tells about the services to living beings. Religious books are full of advice. Sometimes it narrates different myths and stories. They also show us directions to better life. The name of our religion is Sanatana. It is also called Hinduism. The main religious book of the Hindus is the Veda. They have some other religious books as well. These are the Upanishad, the Purana, the Ramayana, the Mahabharata, etc. There are many stories and myths in the Ramayana and the Mahabharata. They teach us religion and show us the right ways of life.

The Ramayana

The Ramayana is one of the holy books of the Hindus. It tells us the stories of Rama. The book that narrates the stories of Rama is called the Ramayana.

The Ramayana is written in Sanskrit. A muni (sage) named Balmiki wrote it in Sanskrit. Later on Krittibash translated it into Bangla. The Ramayana is divided into seven episodes.
(parst). Each episode is called a kanda. These episodes are
1. Adi Kando
2. Ayodhya Kando
3. Aronnya Kando
4. Kishkindhya Kando
5. Shundor Kando
6. Juddho Kando
7. Uttar Kando

The story of the Ramayana

1. **Adi Kando (The old episode)**

Many many years ago, there was a king in Ayodhya. His name was Dashoratha. He had three queens - Koushalya, Kaikekee, and Sumitra. Rama was Koushalya's son. Kaikeyee's son was Bharata. And Shumitra had two sons - Lakshmana and Satrughna.

At that time the devils were very harmful. They disturbed religious activities. A hrishi (sage) called Bishwamitra saw their evil deeds. Then he came to Ayodhya and took Rama and Lakshmana with him. On the way, a monster, Taraka, chased them. Rama killed her with his arrow. Rama and Lakshmana were great heroes since their boyhood.
At that time Janaka was the King of Mithila. Hrishi Bishwamittra took Rama and Lakshmana to Mithila. Sita was the daughter of King Janaka. She was unmarried. There was a condition for her marriage.

Janak had a bow (dhanu/dhanuk). He got it from Shiva. Bow is called as Dhanu or dhanu. One of the ames of Shiva is 'Horo'. That was why the that bow was called Horodhonu (a bow given by Horo or Shiva). The conditions for Sita's matiriage was: She would marry only him who could break (split) the bow. Many men tried to break it. nobody could succeed. Rama succeeded. So a marriage took place between Rama and Sita.

This news went to Ayodhya. King Dashoratha and two of his sons came to the place of King Janak. King Janak had another daughter. She was Urmila. King Janak had a brother. His name was Kushadhwaja. He had also two daughters - Mandabi and Shrutokirti. King Dashorotha arranged marriages for all of his four sons. Sita was married to Rama, Urmilla to Lakshman. Mandobi to Bharata, and Shrutokirti to Satrughno.

2. Ayodhya Kando (Ayodhya episode)

King Dashoratha returned to Ayodhya with his four sons and daughters-in-law. Some days passed away. Gradually King Dashorath became old. He decided to make Rama the crown prince. Usually the eldest son is the crown prince. The same thing happen in Ayodyua. But Kaikeyee objected. Her maid,
Manthara, gave her some evil advices.

Once, Dashoratha promised Kaikeyee two boons. In other words, he wanted to fulfill two wishes of Kaikeyee. Now Manthara suggested Kaikeyee to ask for the boons. What were the boons? Firstly, Bharat would be the king. And secondly, Rama had to be banished from the kingdom for fourteen years. He would be staying in forests during that period.

Dashorotha was upset when he heard this. But if he did not fulfill her boons, it would be breaking his promise. To keep a promise is part of religion.

Rama came to know about all these. He wanted his father to keep his promise. He left home for the forest. His wife, Sita, and younger brother, Lakshmana, accompanied him. Dashorotha could not bear this shock. He died. At that time Bharata was in his uncle's home. Hearing the news, he came back to Ayodhya. Then he went to Rama. He tried to bring him back. But Rama did not agree. Finding no other way, Bharata collected Rama's shoes and came back home. He put those shoes on the throne. Then, sitting beside the throne, he ruled the country.

3. Arannya Kando (Forest episode)

Ram, Lakshmana, and Sita were living in a forest. They had less than a year to fulfill fourteen years of their exile. Then, suddenly a misfortune came. In those days, the king of Lanka was Ravana, a notorious devil. Lanka was an island in the middle of
the sea. It was very difficult to enter there. One day, Ravana came from there in disguise and robbed Sita.

4. **Kishkindhya Kando (Kishkindhya episode)**

Kishkindhya was the country of the monkeys. After much wandering, Rama and Lakshmana came to Kishkindhya. They made friendship with Shugrib, a monkey-warrior. At that time Bali was the king of Kishkindhya. Bali was the elder brother of Shugrib. But these two brothers had long enmity. Rama helped Shugrib. Bali was killed. As a result, Shugrib became the king. In return, Shugrib ordered his monkey force to go to different places. Their job was to find his friend's wife, Sita.

5. **Shundar Kando (The beautiful episode)**

The monkeys had a famous hero. His name was Honuman. Honuman went to Lanka. He was moving from one place to another. At last, he found Sita in Ashokbon. Honuman set fire to the golden houses there, destroyed Lanka and killed many devils.

6. **Juddho Kando (The war episode)**

Hanuman came back from Lanka. He gave the news of Sita to Ram. But how to reach Lanka? Going to Lanka needs crossing the ocean. After much thinking, an idea came. Rama built a bridge on the ocean with the help of the monkey-soldiers. It could float on the ocean. Ram crossed the ocean with his companions. He reached Lanka and attacked it. Bivishana, the younger brother
of Ravana, told his brother to set Sita free. But Ravana did not agree. Bivishona left Ravana and took Ram's side.

There was a dangerous war between Rama and Ravana. Many monsters died in that battle. Ravana was defeated. He was killed by Rama. Rama came back to Ayodhya with Sita and Lakshmana. Bharata returned the kingdom to Rama. Rama became the king of Ayodhya. Bharata became the crown prince.

7. **Uttar Kando (The post war episode)**

Some days passed happily. Rama loved his people very much. He used to neglect his own happiness for the good of the people. At one stage, he exiled (sent away) Sita from Ayodhya to make his people happy. By this time, Sita became pregnant.

In the forest, there was a hermitage of Balmiki Muni. Sita took shelter there. Some days later, Sita gave birth to two sons at a time. They were named Lava and Kusha. They were twin brothers.

Lava and Kusha grew up in the forest. Long after, the sons met their father, Rama. Sita came back to Ayodhya with her sons. But again she was hurt by the attitudes of the royal court. She requested Mother Earth to give her shelter. Then the earth was divided and a throne came out for her. Sita ascended the throne and entered the underworld.
Exercise

1. Put a tick mark (3) beside each right answer:

a. Hinduism is the other name of
   1. Vaishnab religion.  
   2. Shaiba religion.  
   4. Shakto religion.

b. The main story of the Ramayana is about
   1. Shiva.  
   2. Durga.  
   4. Rama.

c. Who wrote the Ramayana in Sanskrit?
   1. Krittibash.  
   2. Balmiki.  
   4. Chaitannya Dev.

d. Who had been successful in breaking the Horodhonu?
   1. Rama  
   2. Lakshmana  
   3. Bharata  
   4. Shatrughna

e. How many episodes are there in the Ramayana?
   1. Four  
   2. Six  
   3. Seven  
   4. Ten

f. Sita is the daughter of
   1. King Dashoratha.  
   2. Hrishi Bishwamitra.  
   3. King Janak.  
   4. King Shibi.
g. **Who gave evil advice to Koikeyee?**
   1. Koushalya  
   2. Dashoratha  
   3. Sita  
   4. Monthora  

2. **Answer the following questions in one word.**
   a. How many queens did king Dashoratha have?  
   b. Who killed the monster, Taroka?  
   c. Who did Lakshmana marry?  
   d. For how many years did Rama go into exile?  
   e. How many sons did Rama and Sita have?  

3. **Fill in each of the gaps in the following sentences with an appropriate word or words:**
   a. The book that tells about religion is called ......................
   b. .................................. books contain ideas of God.
   c. Hrishi .................... took Rama and Lakshmana to Mithila.
   d. Dashoratha wanted to fulfill two ................. of Kaikeyee.
   e. Bharata came back to Ayodhya with Rama's ......................
   f. Ravana robbed ...................................................
   g. The bridge could float on ........................................

4. **Answer the following questions in brief:**
   a. What do you mean by a religious book?
   b. What is the difference between a general book and a religious book?
c. What is the main scripture of the Hindus?
d. How did Rama cross the sea with his companions?
e. Why did Rama go into exile?

5. **Answer the following questions:**
   1. Explain in brief what a scripture is.
   2. How many episodes are there in the Ramayana? Write their names.
   3. When Rama started for his exile, what did Bharata do?
   4. Narrate in brief the story of the old episode of the Ramayana.
   5. Narrate in brief the story of the Ayodhya episode.
The Mahabharata

The Mahabharata was written by Krishna Dwaipayana Bedbyash. He is popularly known as Byashdev. We hear elderly people saying:

The story of the Mahabharata is like nectar
So Kashiram Dash narrates, the pious listen to.

As a matter of fact, Byashdev wrote the original Mahabharata in Sanskrit. And it was translated into Bangla by Kashiram.

The Mahabharata is also divided in many episodes. Each episode is called a 'Parbo'. The Mahabharata has altogether 18 episodes. These are:


Adi Poro (The old episode)

Many many years ago, there was a king in Hashtinapur. His name was Shantanu. He was the king of the Kuru clan.

King Shantanu first married Ganga. He had a son and his name was Debabroto. Debabroto promised that he would never marry. For this strong (nLwe) determination people called him Vishma.
Later, King Shantanu married Satyabati. She had two sons - Chitrangod and Bichitabirjo. Chitrangod died early. So Bichitrobirjo became the king. On behalf of him, Vishma ran the state.

Bichitrobirjo had two wives - Ambika and Ambalika. Ambika's son was Dritorashtro and Ambalika's son was Pandru. Pandru was younger and Dhritorashtro was elder. But Dhritorashtro was born blind. That is why, Pandru though younger, became the king.

The wife of Dhritorashtro was Gandhari. They had one hundred sons and a daughter. Some of their sons were Durjodhona, Dushashana, Bikornaa, etc. Durjodhon was the eldest son. The name of their daughter was Dushwala.

Pandru had two wives - Kunti and Madri. Kunti had three sons - Judhishthir, Vima, and Arjuna. Madri had two sons - Nakul and Sohodev. Altogether these five brothers were called the 'Panchapandavas'.

Since Dhritorashtro was from Kuru clan, their sons were called 'Kourava'. Though the sons of Pandu were also from Kuru clan, they were called 'Pandava' after their father's name. Pandru died before his sons grew up. Then the Pandavas grew up along with the sons of Dhritorashtro. They used to study and play together. Together they learnt the art of using weapons. Dron was their teacher for this art.

The princes finished their education and training on arms. Judhishthir became the crown prince. But Durjodhon could not accept it. Out of jealousy, he decided to kill the Pandavas. He
was inspired to do these evil things by his maternal uncle, Shokuni. Together they decided to kill the Pandavas by fire. The Pandavas were fortunate enough. They could somehow survive. They used to move secretly.

But they could not go on in this way. Their heroism became known in different ways. At that time the king of Panchal was Dhrupod. His daughter was Droupodi. The Pandavas showed their valour in the shawambar shoba (where a girl chooses her own husband) of Droupodi. Eventually, everybody came to know that the Pandavas were alive.

At last Dhritorashtrtro donated half of his kingdom to the Pandavas. He also allowed them to live in Khandabproshtho.

**Shoba Porbo (The game episode)**

In Khandabproshtho, the Pandavas were keeping well with their kingdom. But Durjodhon played a new trick. He made a plan with his uncle, Shokuni, and friend, Korno. According to their plan, they invited Judhishthir to play pasha (gambling). There was a condition in this game. It was: the losing party would be exiled for twelve years. In addition, they would have to spend another year in hiding. That means nobody would know about their identity. If anybody could know, they had to spend another twelve years in exile. Judhishthir lost the game. Accordingly, the Pandavas went to exile. Droupodi also accompanied them.

**Bonporbo (The forest episode)**

The Pandavas were wandering from one forest to another. They visited many holy places. In the mean time, Arjuna set out for collecting arms. At one stage, he got Pashupat arms from Shiva.
He also visited heaven. There Indro gave him some other arms as well. During this period, Vima fought many wars. Thus they killed many rakshashes (devils) and daityos (demons).

Thus the time for exile was over. Then they entered Birat City. The city was named Birat after the name of its king, Birat.

**Birat Porbo (The Birat episode)**

The Pandavas did not express their real identity in Birat City. There they hid the arms on a Shomibriksha. Durjodhona sent his secret agents to different places. They looked for the Pandavas at different places but failed to find them. At that time the king of Trigorto was Susharma. Susharma came to Birart to steal cows. Durjodhona and his brothers also came to Birat for the same purpose. But with the help of the Pandavas, the king of Birat succeeded. Gradually, the time of exile for the Pandavas was nearing to an end. And somehow their identity became known. Arjuna had a son. His name was Avimonnu. The King of Birat arranged the marriage of his daughter, Uttara, with Avimonnu.

**Uddyog Porbo (The war preparation episode)**

Judhishthir fulfilled all the conditions of his exile and hiding. Now he demanded a peaceful solution of the whole matter. He expected that Durjodhona would return his kingdom. If not, he would be happy with five villages. But Durjodhon said, 'Without war I won't give the slightest part of ground'. He was very adamant. He was unwilling to spare even the land enough for pushing the tip of a needle without any war. Sri Krishna,
Vishma, Dhritarashtra, Gandhari - everyone failed to make Durjodhona understand. All efforts for peace failed. Both the Pandavas and the Kouravas took preparation for war.

**Vishma Porbo (Vishma episode)**

There was a huge stretch of land called Kurukhsetro. That place was decided as the battlefield. Arjuna became the chief of the Pandava army. Vishma became the chief of the Kourava army. In the battlefield, Arjuna saw his grandfather, Vishma, and his weapon trainer, Dron before him. He also saw his cousins and their sons there. Everybody was ready for a battle. He realized that he had to fight, with and kill all these dear ones. Arjuna became emotional. He told the coachman of his chariot, "Who will I share the joys of royalty with after killing all these near and dear ones? I won't go for this battle." At that time Sri Krishna gave him some advice. That was about knowledge, work and devotion. All this advice is collected in the Srimodvagbat-gita. Hearing this advice, Arjuna cooled down. He also regained his spirit of war.

It was a horrible battle. During the battle Vishma was wounded by the arrows of Arjuna. He fell down from his chariot. But he had so many arrows in his body that his body did not fall down on earth. He was lying on the arrows (shor). This is why it is called the 'shoroshajjya (death on the couch of arrows) of Vishma.
The summary of the last episodes of the Mahabharata

After the shoroshajjya of Vishma, the battle continued only for a few days. Altogether it lasted for eighteen days. Nearly, all the heroes and soldiers of both the sides died. Finally, when Durjodhona was killed by Vima, the battle ended. Then started mourning for the dead, shading tears and heaving sighs all around. Vishma gave advice to Judhishthir from his shoroshajjya. Judhishthir calmed down with all this advice on religion and state affairs. Dhritorashtra, Gandhari, Bidur and Kunti left their homes and were self-exiled. Judhishthir made an aswamedh jaggna (a kind of huge religious ceremony to sacrifice horses). He came to know that everyone in his Jodu clan fought with each other and was killed.
Judhishthir became very sad. He handed over his kingdom to Porikhshit. Porikhshit was the grandson of Arjuna and son of Avimonn. Judhishthir left his kingdom and started a journey towards heaven. His four brothers and his wife, Droupodi, accompanied him.

It was the last journey. It is called the mahaprosthana (a journey for ever). On the way, all his brothers and Droupodi died. Judhishthir alone reached heaven alive.

All of us should know the stories of the Mahabharata. It will bring piety to us.

**Exercise**

1. **Answer the following questions:**
   a. Who is the writer of the Mahabharata?
   b. How many episodes are there in the Mahabharata?
      Write the names of the first six episodes.
   c. Narrate the Adi Porbo in brief.
   d. Narrate the story of the Vishma Porbo in brief.
   e. How many sons did Dhritarashtra have? What were they called?
   f. How many sons did Pandu have? What were they called?
   g. What was the name of the only daughter of Dhritarashtra?
   h. What is 'living in hiding'?
   i. Where did the Pandavas go after the exile was over?
   j. When the Pandavas wanted their kingdom back, what was Durjodhona's reply?
   k. Why did not Arjuna want to go for the battle?

2. **Write 'T' beside the true answers and 'F' beside the false answers:**
   a. Shantanu was the king of the Jodu clan.
   b. Shantanu had a son named Debabroto.
c. Krishna cooled down with the advice from Arjuna.
d. The uncle of Judhishtir was Shokuni.
e. The Kurukkshetra battle lasted for eighteen days.
f. Kashiram Das translated the Mahabharata in Bangla.

3. **Fill in the gaps with the appropriate words from the right box:**

| a. Byashdev wrote the original Mahabharata in | Sanskrit |
| b. Dhritorashtro was | pasha |
| c. Judhishtir lost his kingdom by playing | sorn blind |
| d. | Droupodi |
| e. The wife of Dhritorashtro | Gandhari |
| f. There was a battle between the Pandavas and the Kauravas in | Vishma |
| g. In Kurukkhsetra battle, the chief of army of the Pandavas was | Porikkshit |
| h. Judhishtir went for mohaprosthana through | Sri Krishna |
| i. | Kurukksetra |

4. **Answer the following questions in one word:**

a. Who wrote the Mahabharata?
b. How many episodes are there in the Mahabharata?
c. What was the name of Debabroto after he made a strong promise?
d. What was the name of the second wife of Shantanu?
e. Who advised Arjuna at the battlefield?
f. After the battlefield was over, what ceremony did Judhishtir organize?
g. Finally where did Judhishtir go bodily?
Every morning we brush our teeth after we get up. We also wash our hands and face. We wear clean clothes. We comb our hair. To keep us tidy in this way is called 'cleanliness'.

If we keep clean, our body and mind are fresh. Everybody loves people with fresh body and mind.

What is wrong if we are not clean? Bad smells come from our mouth and body. It causes diseases. People around hate us. Friends keep their distance from us. Everybody neglects us. Nobody likes this situation. So, we need to build the habit of cleanliness.

Cleanliness makes our mind pure. It is part of religion as well. We need to keep us clean before any prayer.
Therefore, every morning we must wash our hands and mouth. We will brush our teeth. We can also take a bath. We will wear clean clothes. We will comb our hair.

We must wash our feet and face when we come from outside. If necessary, we will again take a bath. Before going to bed, again we will brush our teeth. Then we will go to sleep, remembering God.

Without being clean, we should not do anything. We will never forget this. And we will always remain clean.

Exercise

1. Put a tick mark (3) beside each right answer:
   a. We should brush our teeth
      1. every day.  2. sometimes.  3. in alternative days.

   b. If we are not clean, our friends will
      1. Love us.  2. keep us at distance.  3. give us chocolates.

   c. After we get up in the morning
      1. we will study.  2. we will eat.  3. we will clean our teeth.

   d. Before we go to sleep, we will
      1. brush our teeth  2. we eat again.  3. play again again.

2. Fill in each of the gaps in the following sentences with an appropriate word or words:
   a. We get up in the morning every day and brush............. .
   b. To keep us clean is called .......................... .
c. Everybody ........................ who keep themselves clean.

d. Cleanliness is part ......................................

e. If you are not clean, ............................... comes out from the body and the mouth.

f. If we are clean, our mind and body are ...........................

3. **Answer the following questions in brief:**

   a. What are the benefits of cleanliness?
   b. What should you do to keep clean?
   c. What happens if you are dirty?
   d. Explain 'Cleanliness is part of religion'.
Truthfulness

Our parents and teachers are our elders. They tell us to follow the paths of truth. They tell us to speak the truth. We also know that we should always speak the truth.

The word 'truthfulness' comes from 'true'. A true thing lasts for ever. It does not end. Truth also means God, because God remains everywhere will remain everywhere. Nobody likes a liar. But everybody likes a truthful person. Where there is truth, there is God. Truth is religion. If you want to be a follower of God, you should be truthful. Again, if you want to be dear to all, you have to be truthful. You have to choose the paths of truth. Truthfulness is to always speak the truth and follow the paths of truth. In other words, to always keep to the path of truth is truthfulness. If you are truthful, you can be successful in anything. Truth always wins. But a lie is always defeated.

Here is a story about truthfulness:

The truthfulness of Prohlad

Long long ago, there was king of the devils. His name was Hironnyakashipu. He a follower of Vishnu. Rather, he considered him as his enemy. King Hironnyakashipu had a son. His name was Prohlad. He was just opposite to his father. He became a follower of Vishnu and started worshipping him. He used to sing in praise of Vishnu.

Strange! A Vishnu worshipper in devils' kingdom! And he was none but the crown prince! Absurd, because the king himself
was anti-Vishnu. How dare such a small boy do so! The king became furious. He called on Prohlad.

Prohlad came. King Hironnyakashipu asked, "Prohlad, are you a follower of Vishnu?"

Prohlad: You are right, Father.

Hironnyakashipu: But, don't you know that I am not at all a follower of Vishnu? You have to give up your belief.

Prohlad: Don't say like this, Father. Vishnu is none but Ishwara himself.

Hironnyakashipu was very annoyed. But, after all, Prohlad was his son and he loved him very much. So, firstly he tried to change Prohlad with affection. Then, he tried to do so with the help of his teachers. But Prohlad was determined. He did not change his mind.

King Hironnyakashipu became more angry. He finally decided to kill Prohlad.

Then some devils hit him with swords but Prohlad did not die. Afterwards, he was sent to a house of poisonous snakes. But the snakes did not bite him. They rather started dancing around him, raising their hoods.

Prohlad was given poisonous foods. He ate them but nothing happened. Next he was placed under the feet of an elephant. The elephant picked him up with its trunk and placed him on its back.

Also his body was tied with pieces of stones and thrown into the sea. But he was floating like a raft. Prohlad did not drown.
After all these incidents, the king again called him. Prohlad came, chanting the names of Vishnu.

**King:** How dare you chant the name of Vishnu after such punishments!

**Prohlad:** Forgive me, Father. Vishnu is Ishawara. I can't leave my Ishawara.

**King:** Then I will kill you with my own hands. I want to see who saves you.

**Prohlad:** Vishnu will save me, Father.

**King:** Vishnu! Your Ishawara! Do you think that he will come here to save you?

**Prohlad:** He doesn't need to come down here. He is present everywhere.

**King:** Is your Ishawara present here?

**Prohlad:** Oh, definitely.

**King:** Look at this transparent pillar. Do you think your Ishawara is present there as well?

**Prohlad:** Yes, Father. Of course, he is there too.

Hironnyakashipu became red in anger. He hit that column and broke it down. Immediately, a dangerous thing happened. A lion-man came out of that broken column. It was terrific. He started roaring and howling terribly. Virtually the lion-man was Ishawara himself in disguise. It had the head of a lion. And its body was like a human being. That lion-man killed Hironnyakashipu.
Vishnu in disguise of a lion-man killing Hironnyakashipu

Prohlad suffered a lot. But he did not leave the path of truth. Finally truth won.

We'll have to be like Prohlad. We'll have to practise truthfulness. Never will we leave the path of truth.

We'll speak the truth. We'll follow the path of truth.
Exercise

1. Put a tick mark (3) beside each right answer:
   a. Everybody loves
      1. all.  2. anybody.  3. a truthful person.  4. a liar.
   b. How can we be successful in any activity?
      1. if we are clever enough  2. if we tell lies
      3. if we spend enough money  4. if we are truthful
   c. What was the name of the king of the devils?
   d. Who became a follower of Vishnu in the kingdom of the devils?
   e. Ishwara killed Hironnyakashipu in derth of
      1. a man.  2. a devil/monster  3. Nrishingho.  4. a dwarf.

2. Fill in each of the gaps the following sentences with an appropriate word or words:
   a. We also know that we should speak .......................... .
   b. Truth means ..........................................................................................................
   c. To speak the truth and to follow the path of truth is.......  
   d. We'll have to be like ............................................. .
   e. ............................................... is always defeated.
   g. Where there is truth, there ........................................... .
3. **Answer the following questions in one word:**
   a. What is the benefit of being truthful?
   b. What did in Prohlad become?
   c. Where did Ishwara come from of Nrishingho?
   d. Who saved Prohlad?
   e. What did not Prohlad give up after a lot of torture?

4. **Answer the following questions:**
   a. What is truthfulness?
   b. Who did Prohlad follow?
   c. Why did Prohlad's father get angry with Prohlad?
   d. What did the snakes do when Prohlad was sent to a snake-house?
   e. Narrate the story of Prohlad's truthfulness in brief.
Politeness and Gentleness

Politeness

The word 'polite' refers to lowering down. We cannot lower down or bend a strong branch of a tree. But a tender branch can easily be bent.

In our society there are two kinds of human beings. Some people are unbending. They use harsh words. They are easily irritated. They do not love others. They don't honour others. On the other hand, some people are very calm and quiet. They speak in a nice way. They love others.

Flexible nature and refined behaviour are called politeness. Politeness is part of religion. It is a quality of the gentle and religious people. Everybody loves those who have polite behaviour. We will be polite with our elders. We will be polite with our classmates, friends and the younger ones. We will be polite with everyone.

Polite behaviour increases our honour. It increases our dignity. A poet has said, "If you want to be great, be small first".

Politeness makes life beautiful. We will make our life beautiful with polite behaviour.

Gentleness

Gentleness is good behaviour. It is also nice behaviour. We express gentleness through what we do, what we say and what we wear.
We do pronam to our elders. If we meet a friend, we ask, about his/her wellbeing. When our teacher enters the classroom, we stand up. We sit when our teacher asks us to do so. We express our gentleness through all these activities.

It is said in the Gita:
Do pronam to your elders. Ask questions politely. Serve him properly. In this way, take a good lesson from him and acquire knowledge.

We know a tree by its fruits. We identify people with their behaviour. A gentle person wishes others well. Even she/he maintains courtesy with someone she/he does not like.

Gentleness is one of the qualities of a religious person. It is a quality of a good person as well. Everybody loves gentle people.

We will behave in a gentle way with everyone. No matter if she/he is older junior or younger, a friend or a classmate. We will show good manners to all in our speech and activities, make-up and dress.

Judhishthir a showed gentleness field with his enemies even at the battle. Now listen to that story.

We know that there was a dangerous battle between the Pandavas and the Kouravas in Kurukhshetro. Judhishthira was the leader of the Pandavas and Durjodhona was the leader of the Kouravas. It was a battle between the cousins. Naturally, all the relatives were divided into two sides. Their grandfather, Vishma, was with the Kouravas. Drona, the arms instructor, and Vishma, also grandfater of the Indhishthira, were also with the
kouravas. Again, Drona was the arms instruction for both the Kouravas and the Pandavas.

Both the sides were prepared for the battle. Then suddenly Judhishthira did a strange thing. He bid down his arms. He went near the enemy side.

What had happened?

Everybody asked him not to go there. But Judhishthira did not listen to them. He went straight to Vishma and did pronam. Vishma wished him success. Then Judhishthira went to Drona and did pronam as well. Drona also wished him success.

Though Judhishthira was an enemy to Vishma and Drona, he respected them. He showed them courtesy. He did not forget courtesy even at the battlefield.

Why will he forget?

Gentleness is the quality of the religious people.

**Exercise**

1. **Tick (3) the right answers in the following sentences:**
   a. Politeness means being soft/difficult/liquid.
   b. With politeness we can make our life beautiful/ugly/weak.
   c. Gentleness is polished/impolite/rough behaviour.
   d. The leader of the Pandavas was Durjodhona/Judhishthira/Dushshashona.
   e. The arms in instructor for both the Pandavas and the
Kouravas was Vishma/Korna/Drona.

2. Fill in each of the gaps the following sentences with an appropriate word or words:
   a. A strong branch can not be ..........................................
   b. In our society there are .......................... kinds of people.
   c. If you want to be great, try to be ................................. .
   d. We do ........................................................... our elders.
   e. Though he was from the enemy side he showed ................................................

3. Answer in one word:
   a. What do you mean by polite nature and gentle behaviour?
   b. Who was the grandfather of the Kouravas and the Pandavas?
   c. How should you ask questions to your teacher?
   d. How did Vishma bless Judhishthira?
   e. What did Judhishthira not forget in the battlefield?

4. Answer the following questions:
   a. What is called gentleness?
   b. What are the traits of behaviour of a polite person?
   c. What should you do when a teacher enters a class?
   d. How can you know a tree and a human being?
   e. Narrate in brief how Judhishthira showed good behaviour at the battlefield.
Chapter Five

Respect for Elders

Many of you have cats in your home. Cats have kittens also. The mother cat suckles the kittens. She brings food from a distance and feed the kittens. The kittens grow up day by day. Then they become able to do everything.

After our birth, our mother nourishes us like the mother cat. We live on our mothers' milk. During childhood we remain helpless. We cannot walk. We cannot speak. We cannot even have our food. Our mother then nourishes us, cares for us. She takes us on her lap and makes us sleep.

A mother's love is like the shade of a bunyan tree. At times of sickness mother nurses her child the whole night. If her son goes to a far away place, she waits anxiously. None can be compared with a mother.

Father also helps to bring up his child. Both father and mother nourish a child and help him/her to grow up. Parents always wish us well. They help us in every work. They guide us to follow the right way. A grandfather, a grandmother, an uncle and an aunt are also members of our family. They also love us and help us to grow up properly.

Those who are elderly. They are respectable. We should obey them. We will obey the orders of our parents and elders. Our hapiness makes them happy. Our sorrow makes them unhappy. We will never hurt them. We will never disobey them.

As we grow up, we go to school. In school, the teachers teach
us. They love us. They give us advice. They wish us happiness. So the teachers are also respectable. We will show respect to them and listen to their advice. Shastra (scripture) says, 'Shradhaban lavote ganom'. It means the person who pays respect to others can gain knowledge. In holy books, there are many stories that tell about respect for parents, elders and teachers. The story of 'Matri Bhakati' of Ganesh (devotion of Ganesh to his mother) is given here in short.

**Devotion of Ganesh to his Mother**

Goddess Durga had two sons- Kartik and Ganesh. Kartik thought that he loved his mother more than his brother did. He
took pride in this. But Ganesh did not say anything. He always kept silent. Mother Durga knew their minds. One day she called them and said, "Who can go round the earth faster? I will give my jewelled chain to the winner."

Kartik became very happy when he heard this. He looked cynically at Ganesh and smiled silently. This is because his carriage was a peacock.

On the other hand, the carriage of Ganesh was a rat. Kartik thought that he would go around the earth and come back earlier than Ganesh, because he would ride on the peacock. Kartik started his journey. But Ganesh had no anxiety. He knew that Durga is the mother of the universe. There can be no universe other than one's mother. He folded his hands and went round his mother. He bowed to her. At this Mother Durga became very pleased. She decorated Ganesh with her jewelled chain.

**Exercise**

1. **Put a tick marks (3) beside each right answer:**
   a. Love of mother is like the shadow/leaves/branches of a banyan tree.
   b. In school our father/mother/teacher teaches us.
   c. Ganesh always talked much/kept silent/cried in anger.
   d. Mother Durga knew/did not know/thought about her sons.
   e. The jewelled garland was given to Kartik/Laxmi/Ganesh.
2. Fill in each of gaps in the following sentences with an appropriate word or words:
   a. Then the kitten grows up one --------.
   b. A mother nurses ------------ when he/she is sick
   c. Both ----------- nourish a child and help her/him to grow up.
   d. One who shows respect can gain ------
   e. Ganesh had no ------ in his mind.

3. Write 'T' if the answer is true and 'F' if it is false.
   a. A mother waits eagerly for her son when he goes away.
   b. A mother can be compared with others.
   c. A grandmother does not love us.
   d. Our elders feel pain in our suffering.
   e. Our school teachers do not love us.

4. Answer the following questions:
   a. Who takes care of and love us during our childhood?
   b. Who helps us in all our work?
   c. When do we begin our school life?
   d. How many sons did goddess Durga have?
      What are their names?
   e. What were the carriages of Kartik and Ganesh?

5. Answer the following questions:
   a. How does a kitten grow up?
   b. What was our condition when we were children?
   c. Tell in short the story of 'Matri Bhakati of Ganesh'.
   d. Who should we not hurt and disobey?
   e. What lesson do you get from reading the story Matri Bhakati of Ganesh'?
Keeping a Promise and Patriotism

Keeping Word

Sometimes we say that we must do this or that. It is called 'making a promise'. It is also called 'swearing' or 'giving one's word'.

For example, if you say, "I will give a book to my friend, Amal", then you are making a promise or giving your word. We also make a promise when we say, "I will always speak the truth. I will never tell any lie", etc.

If we make any promise, we should keep it. To keep a promise is part of religion. We can also prosper in life, if we keep our promises. It makes us worthy. Thus we can develop humanity. Always promise: "I will always do the right thing. I will never do anything bad." Then keep this promise. It makes life disciplined.

To keep a promise is a nice good quality. To be disciplined is also a virtue. A disciplined man succeeds everywhere. We should acquire this quality. But how? For this, you have always keep your word.

Here is an old story about a king. See how he kept his promise. This story is taken from a religious book.

Keeping a promise of Harish Chandra

Many many years ago, there was a religious king. His name was Harish Chandra. He had a habit of donating a lot. He was very careful in keeping his promise as well. His wife's name was
Shaiba. King Harish Chandra and Queen Shaibya had only one son. His name was Rohitashma.

During the period of Harish Chandra, there was a famous hrishi. His name was Bishwamitra. He used to live in forests and worship God. One day he wanted to test Harish Chandra's faith in religion. So, he went to King Harish Chandra's capital. He told him, "Please give me something."

**Harish Chandra:** Please tell me what you want.

**Bishwamitra:** Will you give me anything I want?

**Harish Chandra:** I promise that I will stishy your demand.

**Bishwamitra:** Then give me your kingdom.

**Harish Chandra:** Ok. From now on my kingdom is yours. Saying so, Harish Chandra gave his kingdom to Bishwamitra.

**Bishwamitra:** But where is my fee?

**Harish Chandra:** Please tell me what I should pay you as your fee?

**Bishwamitra:** Seven thousand gold coins.

**Harish Chandra:** Don't worry. I will give you the coins immediately from the treasury.

**Bishwamitra:** You have given me the kingdom. So, you have no right to take any money from the treasury now. That treasury is no more yours. Now it is my treasury.

Harish Chandra got the point. He took seven days to fulfill his pledge. Then he left his kingdom. Queen Shaibya and Prince Rohitashma accompanied him.

During this time, Harish Chandra tried his best to collect the money. But he failed. Finding no alternative, Queen Shaibya
took a job as a maid in a Brahmin's house. Rohitashma went with her. Harish Chandra also took a job under a chandal (member of a lower class). His job was to burn dead bodies at a crematory. Thus he earned seven thousand gold coins. He paid the money to the Muni and in this way he kept his promise.

But that was not the end of the story. One day Rohitashma went to a garden for picking flowers. Suddenly a snake bit him. Shaibya took him to a crematory for funeral. She was wailing there. It was the crematory where Harish Chandra used to work. Harish Chandra recognised his wife and son. He and his wife became stricken with grief at the loss of their only son. So, both of them decided to burn themselves with the dead body of their son.
At that time Hrishi Biswamitra arrived there. He was impressed by Harish Chandra's determination to keep his promise. Suddenly there were signs of life in Rohitashma's dead body. He became alive.

Bishwamitra told Harish Chandra, "You are a truly religious person. Take back your kingdom." Harish Candra got back his kingdom. Thus he became famous for keeping his promise.

**Exercise**

1. **Put a tick mark (3) beside the correct answers:**
   
a. To make a promise means
   1. to keep people  2. to be honest  3. to tell that you will do something.

   b. If you keep your promise, you will earn
   1. money  2. land and  3. humanity property

   c. Who kept a promise in the story?

   d. What did Bishwamitra demand as a gift from King Harish Chandra?
   1. seven thousand  2. the kingdom of  3. One thousand gold coins Harish Chandra elephants

   e. How did King Harish Chandra become famous?
   1. by conquering  2. by keeping  3. for patriotism many states promise
2. Fill in each of gaps in the following sentences with an appropriate word or words:

a. To keep a promise is a part ..............................................
b. If you keep a promise, you will earn ..............................
c. By keeping a promise Harish Chandra has ........................
d. I'll bring ........................................ from the treasury immediately.
e. The job of Harish Chandra was ..............................

3. Answer the following questions:

a. What do you mean by 'keeping a promise'?
b. How did Harish Chandra become famous?
c. Why did Bishwamitra demand the kingdom of Harish Chandra?
d. What had happened when Rohitashma was picking flowers?
e. Who was Shaiba?
f. How did Harish Chandra collect the fees for Bishwamitra?
Patriotism

Love for one's own country is called patriotism. We know that people have some special qualities. These are truthfulness, keeping a promise, love for mankind, etc. In a word, these qualities are called humanity. Patriotism is one of the ways to attain humanity.

Patriotism is part of religion. Shastra says, 'Janani janmabhumishcha swargadapi garioshi'.

This means that the mother and the birthplace are greater than heaven.

How does one can express one's patriotism? One has to work for the development of one's country. He/She should work for the welfare of his/her country people. If the country is attacked, it must be protected. Patriotism is expressed through these kinds of work.

Here is a story of patriotism collected from the Mahabharata.

**Patriotism of Jana**

In ancient times there was a kingdom called Mahishmati. The name of the king was Neeldhawja. His queen was Jana. Neeldhawja and Jana had only one son. His name was Prabeer. Prabeer was a very brave prince.

Once Judhishthira, the pandavaraj, decided to perform the aswamedha jagna (horse sacrifice). It was a religious offering of the kings. Let me tell you the rules of the jagna.
Suppose a king wanted to perform an aswamedha jagna. Then he would let the horse go freely. Soldiers would follow the horse. The horse would wander from one place to another. If any king prevent the horse on its way, a battle would be start. The battle would take place between the two kings. The defeated king would be under the victorious one. If the horse was not stopped, it would go to another state. In this way, all the kings of different regions must be defeated. Then the horse would be turned back. The ceremony would come to an end with the sacrifice of the horse. This is known as the aswamedh jagna. The king who thus kept his promise, would be the king of kings. To allow the horse to go unchallenged mean to accept subordination. Those who loved freedom challenged it. Then started a battle between the two kings.

The horse of sacrifice of the Pandavas went to the kingdom of Mahishmati. Prince Prabeer stopped the horse. He kept it confined. King Neeldhawja became frightened at this.

The Pandavas were great heroes. Arjuna was their commander-in-chief. King Neeldhawaja wanted to free the horse but Queen Jana opposed him. Otherwise, She thought, the country would lose its independence. She supported the prince. So, there was a fierce battle between Prabeer and Arjuna, the chief of the Pandava-army. Prabeer fought the battle at the cost of his life. Arjuna was moved by the heroism of Prabeer. Arjuna might have been defeated. But Prabeer was defeated at last. Prabeer was killed at the hand of Arjuna.

Jana shocked but she did not break down. Jana was a patriot. Her son Prabeer was also a patriot. Her son died for the freedom of his country. It was a glorious death.
But king Neeldhawaja accepted defeat. He freed the Pandava horse of the aswamedh jagna. Jana was much grieved. To her, death was better than bondage. So she sacrificed her life in the water of the River Ganges.

Although Jana died she became immortal. Blessed was Jana. Blessed was the heroic son of the brave mother.

We will be like Prabeer, the heroic son of Jana. We will be patriot like Jana. We will love our country more than our life.

Exercise

1. **Put a tick mark (3) beside each right answer:**
   
a. The name of the king of Mahishmati was Arjnna/Neeldhawaja/udhishtithira.

b. Queen Jana was a patriot/coward/weak woman.

c. The name of Jana's son was Samir/Mahabir/Prabeer.

d. The name of the chief-of-army of the Pandavas was Vima/Arjuna/Shri Krishna.

e. The death for freedom is glorious/dishonoured/sorrowful.

2. **Fill in each of the gaps in the following sentences with an appropriate word or words:**

a. Love for one's own country is called ..............................

b. We have to work for the .................. of the country people.

c. Patriotism is part of ..............................

d. Janani janmabhumi shcha .............................. garioshi.
e. The king who keeps his promise of ................... sacrifice will be the king of the kings.

3. **Match the words in column A with those in column B.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A</th>
<th>B</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Great son</td>
<td>sacrifice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mahabeer</td>
<td>Arjuna</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patriot</td>
<td>of the great mother</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The ceremony of horse-</td>
<td>Jana</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4. **Answer in one word:**
   a. Where is the story of the patriot Queen Jana from?
   b. Who stopped the horse of aswamedha of the Pandavas?
   c. What is one of the ways to attain humanity?
   d. Where did Jana sacrifice her life?

5. **Answer the following:**
   a. What are the necessary qualities to attain humanity?
   b. What is the ceremony of horse-sacrifice?
   c. What kind of man was Prabeer? What did he do?
   d. Why was Jana shocked?
   e. Narrate the story 'Patriotism of Jana' in short.
Fellow Feeling

Fellow feeling means to take other people's joys and sorrows, pleasure and pain as one's own. Fellow feeling creates love for others.

We live in society. We live together with others. To live alone is very difficult. We help one another in time of danger. This is called fellow feeling. Here there is no caste and creed. Fellow feeling makes a society beautiful. Here there are many nations in the world. There are many religions. But the human being is the same. We all will help one another.

Different persons follow different religions. But all religions are true. All religions tell about the welfare of humankind. So we will show respect for all religions. We will love the followers of all the religious.

We will go to our classmates in their moments of joy and sorrow. We will go to our friends. We will go to our juniors. We will go to all. If necessary, we will help them. We will show fellow feeling for everybody. Fellow feeling is a great quality. Fellow feeling is a virtue.

Here is a story of fellow felling:

**Fellow feeling of Chitragreeb**

One day a flock of pigeons was flying in the sky. They saw a big forest while flying above. There was an open space in the forest.
A lot of grains of rice were scattered over there. They became greedy as they were hungry.

The group leader Chitragreeb told them, "Be careful. See all around. How come, there are grains of rice scattered in this lonely forest!" But they were very hungry. And the grains were tempting. The pigeons did not listen to the warning of Chitragreeb. What could the leader do! So he gave in. Then all of them sat together on the ground. And just then the mishap took place. All were caught in a net.

A hunter scattered grains of rice and spread a net. The pigeons became afraid of death. The group leader Chitragreeb assured them, "Don't be afraid. Don't lose your patience. Let us fly together with the net." They did exactly what they thought.

The pigeons flew away with the net. They went out of sight. Seeing this, the hunter went back to his own place.

Chitragreeb then told the other pigeons, "There is a rat who is my friend. His name is Hirannyaaka. Let us go to him. He will cut the net with his sharp teeth. We will be free."

All of them went to Hirannyaaka. Chitragreeb began to call him. Hirannyaaka came out of the hole. He saw that the flock of pigeons was caught in a net. Chitragreeb was also with them.

He felt sorry for his friend Chitragreeb. He said, "Dear friend, let me free you first, then I will free others." Chitragreeb
The rat, Hiannyaka, freeing the pigeons by cutting the net answered, "No, my dear friend. I cannot bear their pain. Please free them first."

Hirannyaka was moved by the fellow feeling of Chitragreeb. This was also an example of Hirannyaka's fellow feeling. He cut the net and made the other pigeons free. Then he freed the leader of the group Chitragreeb.
Exercise

1. Put a tick mark (3) beside each right answer:
   a. Fellow feeling creates in mind love/hatred/jealousy for man.
   b. All religions tell about man's history/welfare/danger.
   c. The leader of the pigeons was Haigreeb/Hirannya/Chitragreeb.
   d. If necessary we will help/be jealous/strike others.
   e. To live alone is very easy/very difficult/very dangerous.

2. Fill in each of the gaps in the following sentences with an appropriate word or words:
   a. We live in ............................................................
   b. Fellow feeling makes a society ..........................
   c. All religions tell about the welfare ....................
   d. We will love ........................................ man.
   e. The group leader Chitragreeb said, ..................

3. Answer in one word:
   a. What is a great quality?
   b. Who spread the net?
   c. What was the name of Chitragreeb's rat friend?
   d. What did the pigeons do with the net?
   e. What will we show to others?

4. Answer the following:
   a. What is fellow feeling?
   b. What should we do for our classmates and friends?
   c. What did Chitragreeb say to other pigeons when they found grains of rice in the forest?
   d. Narrate the story 'Fellow feeling of Chitragreb' in short.
Chapter Six
Lives of Great Men and Women

Usually people remain busy with their own affairs. They work for their own comfort and peace. But there are some people who are of different nature. They are not busy with their own affairs. They work for the well-being of others. They possess many great qualities. They are known to the world as great personalities. The names of Sri-Chaitanya, Lokanatha Brahmochari, Swami Vivekananda, Swami Pranavananda, Maa Anandamoyee can be quoted as examples. There are many great personalities in this world.

These great persons were once children like you. They showed many good qualities in their childhood. You can learn many things from their lives. You can also be great if you follow them. If you are great, you will be able to serve others. Here is the life story of three great saints.

Swami Vivekananda

Vivekananda is a famous name. He was a great saint, a great man. Vivekananda was born on 12 January 1863 in Kolkata. His childhood name was Narendra. The full name was Narendranath Dutta. He was the eldest son of Bhuvaneswari Devi and Viswanath Dutta. Viswanath Dutta was a successful lawyer. He was a scholarly person and knew many languages.
In his boyhood Narendranath's name was Vireshwar. But everybody called him Biley. Biley was restless. He was very stubborn too. He used to do whatever he said. He was different to deal with. He did not care even his elder sisters. If they tried to control him, he would run away. And if they followed him, he used to stand beside a dustbin and looked at them in amusement. He smiled and made faces and told them, "Get hold of me". Biley's sisters had nothing to do. Biley knew it very well that nobody would come near the dustbin. If they went near him they must have a bath.

Though Biley was a restless boy, he was very brilliant in his studies. He had a very sharp memory. If he heard anything only once, he would never forget that. Like his studies he proved his
skill in games, sports and music. He was the leader of his playmates. One of his favourite games was the game of 'Dhyana-Dhyana (meditation)'. One day something horrible happened. In the attic of the house Biley and his friends were playing the game of meditation. Suddenly there entered a snake. One of the boys saw it and shouted in fear. All the boys left the place. As they were going, they cried, "Biley, Biley, run away". Because of their loud cry the family members rushed there and saw a fearful scene. Biley was in deep meditation. And a poisonous cobra was standing before him. The snake spread its hood and was swaying slowly. Everybody seemed to lose their breath in fear. Then what happened to the snake. It lowered its hood and went away. Biley heard all these after he finished his meditation. He was not at all afraid.

Biley was very generous to monks and holymen. He loved the poor very much. Whenever he saw the poor, he ran his the house, brought whatever clothes he got there and distributed them among the poor.

Biley was as brave as truthful. One day a teacher was teaching in the class. Then Biley was talking with some of his classmates. At this the teacher became very angry. He asked everybody some questions on the lesson he was teaching. Nobody could give the right answer. But Biley had extraordinary memory. He was talking but at the same time listening to the lesson. So, he could answer all the questions correctly. The teacher asked everybody to stand up except Biley. Biley also stood up with his classmates. The teacher told him, "You don't have to stand." But Biley answered without fear. "No, I must stand as I have talked much." The teacher was very impressed.
When he grew up, Biley was named as Narendranath. He did brilliant results in the school and college examinations. He passed the B.A. final examination. He studied a lot about law and philosophy.

While Narendra was a college student, a change came into his mind. He began to think, "Is there any God?" Can anybody see God?" He put this question to many. But their answer could not satisfy him. One day he met the saint Sri Ramkrishna.

Sri Ramkrishna stayed in the temple of goddess Kali at Dakhineswara. There he performed his daily worship (puja). He practised meditation. One day Narendra visited him at Dakhineswara. He asked Shri Ramkrishna directly, "Have you seen God?" Shri Ramkrishna smiled and answered, 'Yes I see God as clearly as I see you.'

Narendra felt a strange love for Shri Ramkrishna. After a long time he found a real guru. Shri Ramkrishna also got a real disciple.

At that time, many people came to visit Shri Ramkrishna. Many spirited young men came to him to listen to his teachings. Narendranath was one of them.

Narendranatha took the sacred vows of sannyai. He was renamed Vivekananda. People also called him 'Swamijee'. Swami Vivekananda set out to see the unknown places of India. He wished to see the condition of his own country. He travelled all over India. He talked with everybody. He visited many homes. He found poverty, illiteracy and harmful he met everywhere.

The country was then ruled by the British. He felt that India was
going to be destroyed. The country should be saved. The people should be awakened. India must be a free land. Poverty and illiteracy must be removed. We should love the people of the country. Thus we can develop the country. He understood that none could live without self-confidence. The self-confidence of his country people must be brought back. The outside world should know the Indians.

He went to the United States in 1893. He attended the World Conference on Religions in Chicago. He gave lectures on Hinduism. There he was selected as the best speaker. He was then a young man of about 31 years. He appealed to all to avoid dispute and increase co-operation. He advised exchange of thoughts to stop destruction. He called for unity and peace, not difference of opinion.

He travelled many countries of the world. He delivered a speech in the City of London. He travelled to France, Italy and Rome as a speaker. In 1901 he came to Dhaka and gave a lecture. Many foreigners became his disciples. Of them the name of Margaret Noble was famous. She was initiated (accepted as a disciple) by Swamijee and was given the name 'Nivedita'.

He earned a world victory and came back home. Countrypeople rejoiced at his victory. He advised his countrymen to struggle against injustice. He told them to free them from superstition. He asked them to be united. He explained that strength and courage is religion of man. Weakness is a kind of sin. Freedom is virtue and bondage is sin. Those who serve human beings they serve God most. Love for all living beings is the worship of God.
He boldly uttered:

God in various forms stands before your eyes.
Where do you look for Him?
Those who love the creatures of God
Are His greatest servants.

Later, he established Ramkrishna Math (monastery) at Belur in the district of Howrah. This Math was established with the ideology of service. It was the main centre of Ramkrishna Math and Ramkrishna Mission.

He had a lot of work to do. Vivekananda had no time to rest. His health was getting worse for hard work. On 4 July 1902 he died. He was not even 40 when he died.

Here are some messages of Swami Vivekananda:

1. Truth is the basis of all religions.
2. Benevolence is virtue. Oppression is sin.
3. True religion exists in honesty and honest work.
4. Don't forget that everyone is your brother? no matter whether they are members of low caste whether they are ignorant, illiterate, poor, coblers and sweepers. They have the same blood as yours.
5. Let the poor, ignorant, and distressed be your idol.
   Your service towards them is the true religion.
6. Faith ? faith in oneself, faith in God - is the only way of development.
7. First you are to gain power. Religion will come next. Be strong enough. This is my advice to my young friends.
Exercise

1. **Put a tick mark (3) beside each right answer:**
   a. While they were playing 'dhyan-dhyan' game, there entered a snake/ a rat/ a cockroach.
   b. When Biley grew up he was named Vireshwar/ Vivekananda/ Narendra.
   c. Vivekananda went to America in 1883/ 1893/ 1896.
   d. Freedom is weakness/virtue/bondage.
   e. Vivekananda died on 4 July /11 September/ 2 December/ 1902

2. **Fill in each of the gaps in the following sentences with an appropriate word or words:**
   a. Biley was very ....................
   b. One of the favorite games of Biley was ......................
   c. Biley was as ...................... as he was ......................
   d. No ............................. but co-operation.

3. **Answer the following questions:**
   a. Who was Vivekananda?
   b. When and where was he born?
   c. What are the names of his parents?
   d. What was Vivekananda's name in his childhood?
   e. What did Narendra ask Shri Ramkrsna at Dakhineswara?

4. **Answer the following:**
   a. Write in short the incidents of Biley's boyhood.
   b. What did Vivekananda realize as he set out to travel across India?
   c. Narrate the life story of Vivekananda in short.
   d. Write three messages of Swami Vivekananda.
Swami Pranavananda

Bajitpur is a village in the district of Madaripur. Formerly Madaripur was a subdivision of Faridpur district. Swami Pranavananda was born at Bajitpur on 29 January 1826. That was Wednesday and a day of the full moon in the month of Magha.

Pranavananda

His father's name was Vishnucharan and mother's name was Sarada Devi. Vishnucharan was a worshipper of Shiva. He worshipped long for Shiva. One day Shiva told Vishnucharan in a dream, "I am satisfied with you. Soon I will come as a son to your family". On the other hand, Sarada Devi had a strange dream. She saw that Shiva was lying on her lap as her child. After this Sarada Devi gave birth to a beautiful child. This very child became Swami Pranavananda in future.
The early name of Pranavananda was Jainath. After his birth the family had good days. The child brought good fortune for all. So his father Vishnucharan named him Jainath. He was born on Wednesday so his nick name was Budho. He was named Vinod on the day of Annaprashana (the ceremony of giving rice to a child for the first time).

From his childhood Vinod liked meditation. He used to be in meditation for hours. Sometimes he sat under a tree and sometimes in the crematory. He was very calm and quiet in nature. He never talked unnecessarily. He never gave any trouble to his family. Vinod never quarrelled with his playmates. His school teachers always praised him highly. Every year he got the prize from school for his good nature.

Boiled potato and rice was most often Vinod's meal. But he had a strong body. No wrestler could defeat him. His classmates were surprised. How could Vinod build such a strong body, eating only boiled potato and rice? Vinod told them, "Excess food and exercise alone cannot make a body strong. Temperance and discipline is essential for human life. Don't eat too much. Have your food when you are hungry. Never sleep by day. Fill your mind with holy thoughts. If you act accordingly, you will be healthy. Take great care to behave well. This can make a man godly."

Vinod was a student of Bajitpur High School. He was very popular with the students. Everybody called him Vinod da. Vinod organized an association of good boys. He was the leader
of the association. Together with other boys, he collected money and made a poor fund to help the poor. Vinod always tried to help the people in their sorrows and sufferings.

Vinod never thought of his own affairs. He thought about the poor and the helpless. He thought about how to free his motherland and its people. One day, he told these to the Headmaster Virendra Lal Bhattachariya. Virendra Lal understood that Vinod was an uncommon boy. He had infinite capacity. That must be used properly. The Headmaster took him to Gorakhpur in northern India. There he visited the place of Yogiraj Swami Gambhiranathjee. Gambhiranathjee was pleased to see Vinod. He said that the boy was a born yogi. Then Gambhiranathjee initiated accepted him as his disciple.

Vinod Brahmachari stayed for some highly time at Gorakhpur. After this, he went to Kasidham and stayed for more than a year. There he practised austerity. Then he came back to Bajitpur, his birthplace. Again he started practice of austerity. He attained success. It was the day of Maghi Purnima in 1916. That was also the birthday of Vinod. While in meditation, he declared a great message. "This is an age of great awakening. This is an age of great co-ordination. This is an age of great union. This is an age of great deliverance."

In 1924, a religious fair namely Ardha Kumbha Mela was held in Prayaga. Prayaga is the holy place of pilgrimage of Tribeni, (a place, where three rivers meet) in Allahabad. Here Vinod
Brahmachari took the sacred vows of sannyasa (sacrificing all worldly pleasures) from Swami Gobindananda Giri. After that, he was renamed Swami Pranavananda.

Pranavananda dedicated his life for the service of people. His aim was to develop the character of the young men. He wanted to unite the people of different sects and religions. For this purpose he established Pranab Math at Bajitpur. The Math was the centre of his work. Both religious programmes and social services would be started from this Math.

At that time often epidemics broke out in the country. Devastating storm and flood also occurred. Many people died. Many people became shelterless. Property was destroyed. Pranavananda helped distressed people through his Math. Hundreds of young workers joined him. Later most of them became sannyasis (monks).

First of all Pranavananda selected seven of his followers. They were all initiated by him. Along with them, he started his religious programmes and service for all. Welfare of mankind was his vow. Gradually many young men took the sacred vows of sannyasa (practice of the monks) from Pranavananda.

In 1923, he established 'Bharat Sevashrama Sangha' (service centres). Many schools and hostels, hospitals and charitable dispensaries were founded through the sevashrama. In most of the holy places of pilgrimage, Bharat Sevashrama had its
branches. The main duty of the workers of Sevashrama was to help the pilgrims. In many countries of the world, Bharat Sevashrama Sangha has been established. The dedicated workers here always render services to humanity.

Pranavananda said, "A country needs honest people for its development. And ideal student life can make honest people. He put emphasis on building good moral character of the students and the youths. He gave his message for the young: "You are the children of heaven. You have unlimited power within you. Don't be impatient. You are holy, you are pure."

Swami Pranavananda worked hard all through his life. He dedicated his life for the service of humanity. He never took a rest. He never cared for himself. But at certain stage his health broke down. He died at the Sevashrama in Kolkata on 8 January 1941. His dead body was brought to Bajitpur of Madaripur. He was buried at the Ashrama in Bajitpur. A big temple has been built there. Every year on the day of Maghi Purnima, a great festival is celebrated there. Also a big fair is arranged. Thousands of people attend this fair. Pranavananda is a great man to all. To devotees he is a Sadguru (a good religious teacher).

**Message of Swami Pranavananda:**

1. The person, who is firm in determination and unshaken in promise, always succeeds.
2. I will never change my determination, I will never break my
promise. He can achieve anything in the world, who follows this principle only.
3. Self-confidence, self-dependence, self-dignity are the great resources.
4. Energy, inspiration, and perseverance are the best friends of a person.
5. The first and foremost duty of a student is to build his/her character. Along with studies building moral character is a must. Otherwise nothing will be gained.

**Exercise**

1. **Put a tick mark (3) beside each right answer:**
   a. Swami Pranavananda was born on the day of Maghi Purnima/Poush Sankranti/Shukla Panchami.
   b. Vishnucharan was a worshipper of Kali/Krishna/Shiva.
   c. At the time of 'annaprashan' he was named Subodh/Promod/Vinod.
   d. Vinod most often took boiled patal/boiled bitter gourds/boiled potatoes and rice.
   e. Swami Pranavananda died in 1902/1931/1941 A.D.
2. **Fill in each of the gaps in the following sentences with an appropriate word or words:**
   a. The early name of Pranavananda was .................. .
   b. At the time of .................... he was named Vinod.
   c. From his childhood Vinod liked ...................... .
   d. He took his sacred vows of sannyasa from Swami ........ .
   e. You are the children of ......................... .

3. **Answer the following questions in brief:**
   a. When and where was Pranavananda born?
   b. What did Pranavananda's father hear and what did his mother see before his birth?
   c. Give a description of Vinod's childhood.
   d. During meditation what great message did Vinod declare?
   e. What are the main duties of Bharat Sevashrama Sangha?

4. **Answer the following questions:**
   a. Write three messages of Swami Pranavananda.
   b. Write a short description of the life of Pranavananda.
Ma Anandamoyee

Khewra is a village in the district of Brahmanbariya. Earlier, it was in the district of Comilla. Ma Anandamoyee was born on 30 April 1896 at Khewra. The day was Thursday.

Ma Anandamoyee is one of the saints of Bangladesh. Her real name was Nirmala. But she is known mostly by the name of 'Ma Anandamoyee'. Her father's name was Bipin Bihari Bhattacharya. Her mother's name was Mokhsmada Sundari. Bipin Bihari's forefathers lived at Biddyakut. Khewra was his maternal uncle's home.

Anandomoyee was the second child of her parents. Before her birth, her mother Mokhsmada Sundari had seen many dreams. She saw gods and goddesses from heaven coming to her. So the devotees believed that Ma Anandomoyee was a goddess sent from heaven. She came to this world as the mother of the universe.
We know that a baby cries as soon as it is born. But Anandomoyee did not cry. There was a pleasant smile on her face. When she heard any Kirtan (a kind of religious songs), her body rocked. Her eyes became closed. Everybody thought that she was sleeping. But this was a state of samadhi (meditation). Her father used to chant the name of Hari. One day, his daughter asked, "Well Father, you chant the sacred name of Hari. What is the benefit"? "His father was surprised at the question of his little daughter. He gave a simple answer: "If one remembers Hari, it brings peace in mind. Hari comes to his worshippers. When I call you with your name, Nirmala, you come running to meet me. Hari also comes in the same way. Then whatever you pray for, you will get that." After this, Nirmala started singing the name of Hari. As a result, heavenly light was reflected on her body.

Ma Anandomoyee was married at a tender age. Then she was a girl of thirteen. Her father-in-law's house was Atpara in Bikrampur. Her husband's name was Ramanimohan Chakravarty. Ramanimohan was an absent-minded person. Most people knew him by the name Bholanath. Anandomoyee behaved in her father-in-law's house in the same way as she did in her father's home.

Then her life of worship and devotion started. She practised all sorts of worship/religious activities. Sometimes she lost her sense while singing the name of Hari. She was given a lot of medical treatment. But all was in vain. At last everybody realized that Anandomoyee was not an ordinary woman. She was a 'Devi'. In the last phase of her life, she almost passed her days without food. In this way she overcame hunger and thirst.
Gradually, her name spread out everywhere. People came to her and was cured of illness. They began to call her 'Ma'-Ma Anandomoyee'.

Ma Anandomoyee spent many days of her life at Shahbag in Dhaka. Her husband Bholanath was then doing some job in Dhaka. The Temple of Devi Kali was next to Shahbag. Ma visited the temple regularly. The Temple of Ma Anandomoyee was established near it. At present there is a temple of Ma Anandomoyee close to Siddeshwari Kali Mandir. This is known as the Adi Mandir of Ma Anandomoyee.

There is an Asrama at Khewra, her birth place, after her name. There is also a school. The name of the school is Khewra Anandomoyee High School. There are many temples in different places of India named after her. She spent her last days of life in India. She died on 27 August 1982.

The devotees of Ma Anandomoyee were great in number. To them she appeared in different images. To some of her followers, she was Durga. To some she was Kali. And to some she was Krishna. She answered everybody's call. All of them were her children. The religious speech of Ma Anandomoyee is beautiful. She said that there are many paths and many opinions. But there should be a harmony. All paths lead to the ultimate truth. Her message was liberal. All religions and all men were equal to her. Holy and pure was her life.
**Messages of Ma Anandomoyee for the children:**

1. Utter the name of God. That will do good.
2. Laugh and play. Be playful.
3. If you follow all rules then a little naughtiness can be spared.
4. Listen to the words of elders and parents. Be very careful to your studies.
5. When you wake up in the morning, bow to God. Pray to Him: "God, I don't know where you are. Bless me so that I can get you".
6. If there is love and devotion for God in your heart, there is nothing to be worried.

**Exercise**

1. **Put a tick mark (3) beside each right answer.**
   a. Ma Anandomoyee was born on 30 March/30 April/30 May in 1896.
   b. The real name of Ma Anandomoyee was Sarala/Kamala/Nirmala.
   c. The name of Bipin Bihari's forefather's village was Bidyakut/Chitrakut/Khewra.
   d. The name of Ma Anandomoyee's husband was Brajomohan/Manomohan/Ramanimohan Chakravarty.
   e. Ma Anandomoyee died on 27 August/30 August/2 September in 1982.
2. Fill in each of the gaps in the following sentences with an appropriate word or words:
   a. He was mostly known as ____________.
   b. Ma Anandomoyee's father's name was ____________.
   c. ____________ was her maternal uncle's house.
   d. A nandomoyee was her parent's ____________ child.
   e. ____________ reflected on Ma A nandomoyee's body.

3. Answer the following questions in brief:
   a. Where was Ma Anandomoyee born?
   b. Before her birth what did A nandomoyee's mother use to see in her dreams?
   c. What was her image to her disciples?
   d. What happened to her when she heard kirtans?
   e. What did people call her?

4. Answer the following questions:
   a. What are the present institutions established after the name of Ma A nandomoyee?
   b. What did Ma A nandomoyee say in her religious talk/speech?
   c. Write her three messages for children.
   d. Write in short the life of Ma A nandomoyee.
Chapter Seven

Stories with Moral Lesson

We do a lot of work. But before we do something we have to think which is bad. We should do good work and avoid bad work. Now the question is which is good work and which is bad work? Some work is beneficial for oneself and also for others. So the work which is beneficial is good work. Some works is harmful. Harmful work is bad work. For example, to speak the truth is good work. To tell a lie is bad work. To serve living beings is good work. To give trouble to living beings is bad work.

We should be able to understand the difference between good and bad work. The power of differentiating between good and bad is called moral sense. The study of this moral sense is moral education.

Moral lesson is part of religion. Religion teaches us morality. If one follows moral law, then religion is protected. Morality makes a person with lofty character. Who is a person with lofty character. The person who is honest and religious is a person of lofty character. Such a person wishes to do good to all. A person of principle is a person of lofty character. There are many stories and fables with moral lessons. They give us moral guidance. We will read them. We will remember the lessons and follow them in our life.

Now let us read three moral tales.
There lived two friends in a village. One was pious so people called him Dharmabuddhi. The other was corrupt. People called him Papbuddhi. Once they went abroad for business. They made much profit for Dharmabuddhi’s honesty and intelligence. Then they started for their own land. They almost reached their village. They became tired for long travel. There was a big bunyan tree near their village. They sat under the shade of the bunyan tree.

Then Papbuddhi said, "It is not safe to go home with such a big amount of money. People will come to know about it. They will ask for money. Our lives may be in danger." Dharmabuddhi asked him, "Then what shall we do?"

Papbuddhi said, "Let us keep some money with us for our family. And bury the rest of the money under this tree. We will take money from this place in time of our need".

Dharmabuddhi agreed. They buried almost all the money under the bunyan tree. Then they returned home.

Some days passed. Dharmabuddhi needed some money. He went to the place together with Papbuddhi to bring money. They dug the place and found that there was no money. Papbuddhi said to Dharmabuddhi, "You have taken all the money". Dharmabuddhi said, "I have never committed any sin in my life. I don't tell lies. I haven't taken the money. It's you who have taken the money. Let me have my share."
Both of them quarrelled a lot of the money. At last both of them went to the king. They prayed for justice. The king listened to them and asked, "Do you have any witness?" They were silent. After a while the wicked Papbuddhi answered, "Yes, I have a witness. The bunyan tree will give evidence. It will tell who has taken the money. The king said, "All right. The judgment will be held tomorrow under that bunyan tree."

Next day the judgement was held. The king asked the bunyan tree to give evidence. The bunyan tree stated that Dharmabuddhi was the criminal. He had stolen the money. Everybody became surprised.

Dharmabuddhi lowered his head in anger and grief. He then said, "I always speak the truth. I follow the right way. I didn't do such hateful work. The bunyan tree has told lies. I will burn it."

Dharmabuddhi gathered some dry creepers and leaves. He set fire to the hollow of the tree.

Then some terrible thing happened. The father of Papbuddhi came out from the hollow. His whole body was burnt. He was tossing about in pain. He said, "I followed the evil plan of my son. I have told a lie. My son Papbuddhi compelled me to give false evidence. To save my son I took shelter in the hollow of the tree. Dharmabuddhi is not the real thief. Papbuddhi is the thief. He has stolen the money."

The father of Papbuddhi begged pardon from Dharmabuddhi. A little later he died.

Papbuddhi cried. He begged pardon from the king. But he was
not pardoned. He was given death sentence. For his mean nature he lost everything. He died even.
Therefore always remember:

**Honesty is Truth, Truth wins, Sinful acts always perish.**

**Exercise**

1. **Tick (3) the correct answer in each of the following sentences.**
   a. To serve living beings is good/bad/immoral work.
   b. A moral lesson is part of religion/not part of religion/basis of religion.
   c. There was a big mango tree/bunya tree/rose apple tree near the village.
   d. There was a lot of fight/lamentation/quarrel about the money.
   e. Dharmabuddhi raised/lowered/leant his head in anger and grief.

2. **Answer in one word.**
   a. Is speaking truth good or bad work?
   b. Where lived the two friends?
   c. For whose intelligence there was much profit in business?
   d. Who came out of the hollow of the tree?
   e. Who was given death sentence?
3. **Fill in each of the gaps in the following sentences with an appropriate word or words:**
   a. The work which is beneficial is _________ work.
   b. __________ makes man of lofty character.
   c. Once they went ________.
   d. At last both of them went to the ________.
   e. The king asked __________ to give evidence.

4. **Answer the following questions:**
   a. What is a moral sense?
   b. What is good work and what is bad work?
   c. Who is a man of lofty character?
   d. Why was there quarrel between Dharmabuddhi and Papbluddhi?
   e. What lesson do you get from the story 'Victory of virtue'.
   f. Write down the story 'Victory of Virtue' in short.
Friends in Need

There was a dense forest. A deer lived in that forest. There was a crow’s nest on a tree in the forest. A mouse lived in a hole under the tree. Also there was a beautiful lake in the forest. Crystal clear was its water. A tortoise lived in the lake.

The deer, the crow, the mouse and the tortoise were very close. They were very good friends. Four friends were passing their days happily.

Do you know what happened one day? The deer was caught in a hunter’s net. What a sad thing! The other three friends became very anxious. They were thanking how to save their friend, the deer.

The mouse said, 'Don't worry. Let us go forward.'
The crow took the mouse on his back and flew in the sky. They must reach the deer and save him. The tortoise also didn't remain silent. He also reached the place where the deer was trapped.

He found that the crow and the mouse had already reached. The mouse and the crow saw that the hunter was coming. The mouse cut the net with his sharp teeth. The deer became free and ran away swiftly. He entered the forest.

The deer was saved. But the tortoise was now in danger. The hunter saw it. He thought that as he missed the deer, he should at least get the tortoise. He caught and bound it. He went on taking the tortoise with him.

Again danger and anxiety! They must save their friend, the tortoise. The crow was very clever. A plan came into his mind. He told the deer, "The hunter will come across a lake on his way. You will lie dying on the bank of the lake. And do you know what I will do then? I will peck at your head".

The deer said, "Do it gently. So that I feel no pain". The crow said, "I will do it gently. You are my friend, aren't you? Then listen. The hunter will think that the deer ran away from the net but was not alive. So a crow is pecking at the dead deer. He will keep the tortoise on ground and go to the deer. Just then the mouse will do his work."

The mouse said, "Yes, I understand. Then I will cut the rope that tied our friend the tortoise." The crow said, "You are right. The tortoise will enter the lake. And the deer will run away."
Everything worked as though tout. The crow and the mouse saved their friend, the deer. Again the crow, the mouse and the deer saved their friend, the tortoise. The danger was over. The four friends again started to live happily.

We will remember: To help a friend in need is a virtue.

**Exercise**

1. **Put a tick mark (3 ) beside each right answer:**
   a. There lived a deer/tiger/fox in the forest.
   b. There was a beautiful house/lake/pond in the forest.
   c. The hunter's net was cut by crow/sparrow/mouse
   d. In the water of the lake lived a crocodile/a tortoise/a rui fish
   e. Four friends passed their days/happily/in sorrow/in a lot of pain.

2. **Fill in each of the gaps in the following sentences with an appropriate word/words:**
   a. The deer, the crow, the mouse and the tortoise were very -----------------------------------------
   b. There lived a mouse ------------------------- under the tree.
   c. But the ----------------------------------- was now in danger.
   d. A ---------------------------- came into his mind.
   e. To help a ------------------------ in need is a virtue.

3. **Answer in brief:**
   a. Who were the friends of the deer?
b. Who saved the deer?

c. Who was caught by the hunter when he missed the deer?

d. What did the deer do when he got free?

e. Where lived the four friends?

4. Tell the story 'Friends in Need' in short. What is the lesson that you get from the story?
Unity is Strength

There was a big forest. An elephant lived in the forest. The elephant was ferocious. He broke everything that he got before him. One day he broke a branch of a tree with his trunk. In that branch, there was a nest of a tuntuni (bird). As the branch fell down, the nest was also destroyed. The bird and its chicks cried out. The mother bird began to lament its great loss.

A woodpecker felt sorry for the tuntuni. He said to the tuntuni that the wicked elephant must be punished.

The tuntuni said, "We are very little. How can we punish such a giant elephant?" The woodpecker said, "A bee is my friend. Let us go to him". They went to the bee. The bee heard everything. Then he said, "A frog is my friend. He is very intelligent. Let's go to him." They three went to the frog. The frog heard them and thought a little. He then said, "Listen to me carefully. You must do exactly what I say". The tuntuni said, "All right. Now tell us what to do."

Frog: The bee has a very sweet voice. At noon, the elephant takes a rest. The bee then will be humming near him. The sweet sound will make the elephant drowsy. He may fall asleep. Then..

Woodpecker: Then, what?

Frog: Then you will peck at the elephant's eyes. You will make him blind.
**Bee:** And then?

**Frog:** The elephant will feel thirsty after some time. He will go in search of water. Then it's my duty.

**Tuntuni:** What will you do then?

**Frog:** Have you seen a big pit in the forest? I will go there and start croaking.

**Bee:** What will happen?

**Frog:** As the blind elephant will hear my croaking, he will think the lake is very near. So he will go forward in search of water. Then the elephant will fall into the ditch and die.

How little were the tuntuni, the woodpecker, the bee and the frog! But they could punish the giant elephant. Do you know how? Because of their unity.

We will remember: **Unity is strength.**
Exercise

1. Put a tick mark (v) beside each the right answer:
   a. There lived in the forest an elephant/a lion/a rhinoceros.
   b. A crow /woodpecker/peacock felt sorry for the tuntuni's misfortune.
   c. A friend of the bee was a mouse/monkey/frog.
   d. The elephant was made blind by the bee/tuntuni/woodpecker.
   e. The elephant died as he fell into a ditch/water/a pool.

2. Fill in each of the gaps in the following sentences with an appropriate word or words:
   a. The elephant was very ..........................................
   b. A frog is my ..........................................................
   c. The bee has a very .......................................... voice.
   d. .......................................... peck at his eyes.
   e. .......................................... is strength.

3. Answer in one word:
   a. What did the elephant break with his trunk?
   b. Who was the woodpecker's friend?
   c. Who made a plan to kill the elephant?
   d. Who asked to punish the wicked elephant?
   e. How does a frog cry out?

4. Narrate in brief the story "Unity is strength". What lesson do you get from it?