

Lesson 6

THE OLD MAN AND HIS GRANDSON

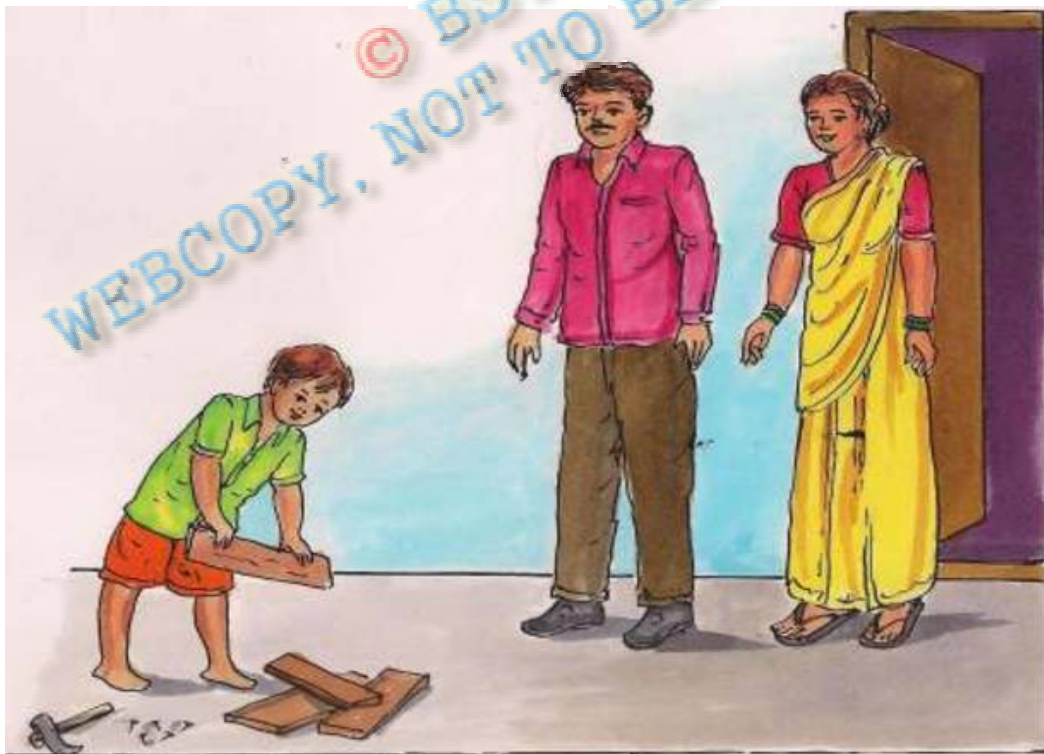
A. WARMER

1. Do your grandfather and grandmother live with you?
2. How old are they? Do they go out to work somewhere? How do you help them?
3. Make a list of things that you like to do with them?

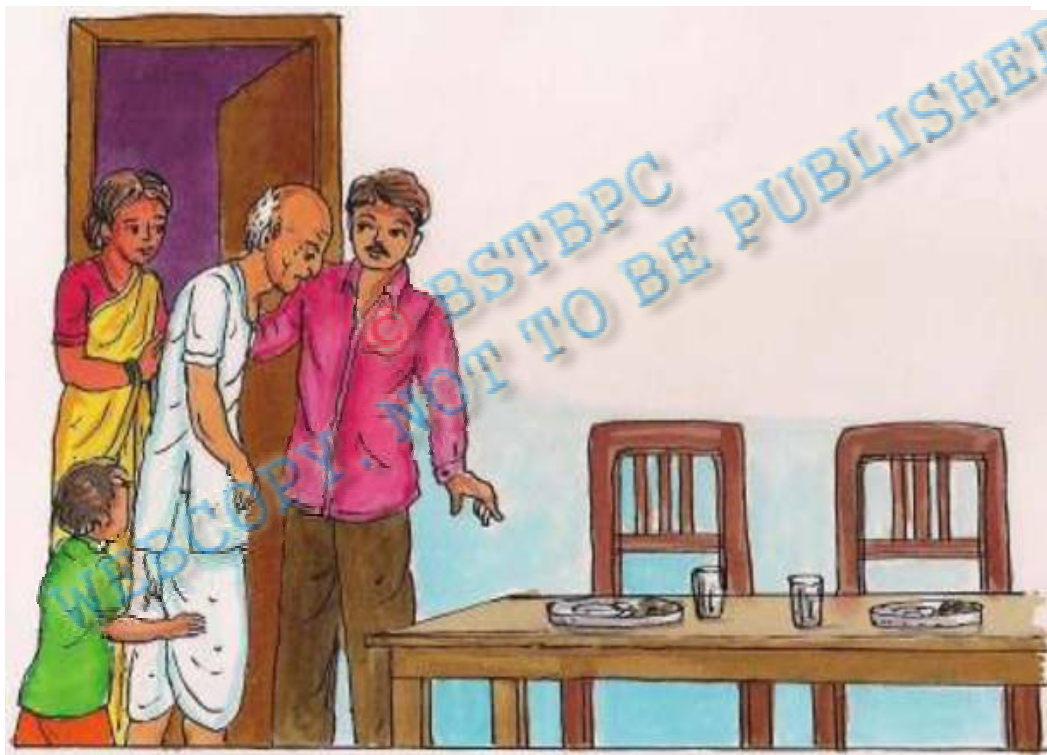


There was an old man. His eyes had become dim, he could not hear properly and his knees trembled. When he sat at the table,

he had difficulty in holding the spoon. He spilled the soup on the tablecloth or let it run out of his mouth. His son and daughter-in-law were disgusted at this. They made the old man sit in the corner behind the stove in the kitchen. They gave him his food in an earthenware bowl, and not even enough of it. The old man used to look at the table with his eyes full of tears. Once, his trembling hands could not hold the bowl, and it fell to the ground and broke. His son and daughter-in-law scolded him, but he said nothing and only sighed. Then they bought him a cheap wooden bowl, out of which he had to eat.



One day the young man and his wife were sitting in their drawing room. Suddenly, their little son, who was four years old, began to gather some pieces of wood. Then he started arranging them on the floor. "What are you doing there?" asked the father. "I am making a little bowl," answered the child, "for father and mother to eat from when I am big."



The man and his wife looked at each other for a while and began to cry. They realised how they have been ill-treating their father and setting a wrong example before their son. Realizing this, they took the grandfather to the table. From that day, they always let

him eat with them, and said **nothing** even if he spilled food on himself or on the table.

WORDS TO KNOW

dim (adj): (दिम) कमजोर **weak**

properly (adv): (प्रोपली) ठीक तरीक से **satisfactorily**

trembled (v): (ट्रेम्बल्ड) काँपते थे **shook**

disgusted (v): (डिस्गस्टेड) सब गये **fed up**

earthenware (n): (अर्थनवेयर) गिटी के बने हुए बरतन **pots made of clay**

bowl (n): (बोल) बरतन, कटोरा **container**

sighed (v): (साइड) कराहने लगा **expressed grief or sorrow**

B. LET'S THINK AND TELL.

B.1. State whether the following statements are true (T) or false (F):

1. The grandfather's son and daughter-in-law took special care of him.
2. The earthen bowl of the old man was broken so he was given a wooden bowl.
3. Finally, the son and his wife realised their misbehaviour.
4. The grandson of the old man was five years old.

B.2. Answer each of the following questions in one word only:

- (a) Where was the old man forced to sit?
- (b) In which pot was the old man given his food to eat?
- (c) Why was the daughter-in-law annoyed with her father-in-law?

C. LET'S THINK AND WRITE

Answer the following questions :

1. How was the old man treated by his children? **Discuss.**
2. Which action of the child **changed the behaviour** of his parents towards his grandfather?
3. How did the old man **feel at the treat**ment that he got from his son and daughter-in-law?
4. Where was the old man forced to eat his meals? Do you think he found it **easy to accept** the change imposed on him?

D. LET'S INCREASE WORD POWER

The puzzle given below has six words from the lesson. They may be located horizontally or vertically. Find out these words and write them down in the space provided:

- | | |
|----|----|
| 1. | 2. |
| 3. | 4. |
| 5. | 6. |

S	X	X	T	E	A	R	S
P	Y	R	R	M	S	E	B
I	E	O	E	O	D	A	B
L	M	T	M	O	U	L	O
L	R	S	B	L	L	I	W
E	E	U	L	D	D	S	L
D	D	R	F	Z	Z	F	L
X	U	S	D	O	E	D	O

E. LET'S LEARN GRAMMAR

Read the following sentences carefully:

1. I am making *a* little bowl.
2. There was *an* old man.
3. He spilled *the* soup on *the* tablecloth.

You will notice that the words **a**, **an** and **the** in the above sentences determine or modify something. We call these words **articles**.

There are two types of articles: *indefinite 'a'* and *'an'* or *definite 'the'*.

1. *'The'* is used to refer to specific or particular nouns; *'a'/'an'* is used to modify non-specific or non-particular nouns.

For example, if we say, "Let's read the book," we mean a *specific* book. If we say, "Let's read a book," we mean *any* book rather than a specific book.

2. ‘*The*’ is used to refer to a specific or particular member of a group. For example, “I just saw the most popular movie of the year.” There are many movies, but only one particular movie is the most popular. Therefore, we use *the*.

3. We use *a* when the noun we are referring to begins with a consonant sound. For example, we say “a book”, “a fan”, and “a picture”.

4. We use *an* before the nouns that begin with a vowel sound (a, e, i, o, u). It’s the sound that matters, not the spelling. For example, “an object”, “an elephant”, and “an ant”. But we say “a university” (because “university” begins with the consonant (ʃ) sound) and “an hour” (because “hour” has a silent h and this word is pronounced as “our”); i.e. vowel sound at the beginning.

5. The first time we speak of something, we use “a or an”, the next time we repeat that object, we use “the”: e.g.,

I live in a house. The house is quite old and has four bedrooms.

I ate in a Chinese restaurant. The restaurant was very good.

E.1. Fill in each blank with an appropriate article. Remember that sometimes a blank may not require an article. Put a cross (x) if no article is needed.

1. Can you tell me how to get to ___ railway station from here?
2. ___ school is closed today.
3. Gagan is ___ tallest person in our class.
4. What is ___ name of the next station?
5. ___ tea is good for you.

6. Would you like to see _____ film?
7. _____ apple a day keeps _____ doctor away.
8. Do you have _____ dictionary that I can borrow?
9. Madhu is wearing _____ blue dress with red shoes.
10. Jayita went to _____ shop to buy _____ bread.
11. Salman took _____ umbrella as it was raining heavily.
12. This is _____ easy question.
13. May I have your _____ phone number?
14. Tanu broke _____ cup when she was cleaning it.

F. LET'S TALK

Work in groups and discuss the following:

How should young persons treat the old?

G. LET'S WRITE

Write a paragraph on 'Benefits of living with grandparents'.

II. ACTIVITY

Old age homes are becoming very common in big cities. Find out:

Why do old people go and stay there? What sorts of services are provided in these homes?

