

Will Power

Look at the photograph and answer the following questions.



1. What is the man doing in the picture?
2. How is he different from other persons?
2. What do you learn from his life?

Now your teacher will tell you the story of a school boy, who did not want to go to school because of his disability. Listen carefully and answer the following questions. (Note : Listening text is in Appendix-1)

1. Why didn't Rahul want to go to school?
2. 'Disability is not a curse.' What do you mean by this?



Will Power

Exactly three hundred years after the death of the great scientist Galileo, Stephen William Hawking was born in Oxford, England on 8th January, 1942. Little did his parents know that Stephen would be hailed as one of the greatest scientists of this century.



After schooling, Stephen joined University College, Oxford and studied Physics. After obtaining a first class degree in Natural Sciences, he went to Cambridge to do research. Since 1979, he has held the post of professor of Mathematics, the one held by Isaac Newton in 1663.



At the age of 17, Stephen started noticing that he was becoming increasingly clumsy and even fell down a couple of times, for no reason. Shortly after his 21st birthday, he was taken to hospital and made to undergo a number of tests. He was shocked, when he realized he had an incurable disease, a type of sclerosis, which weakened his muscles. The physicians predicted an early death for him.

He went back to Cambridge and carried on his research. He was not able to make much progress. He

thought that he might not live for long and that his PhD would never be completed. However he finished it.

As his scientific reputation increased, his disability got worse. Even feeding himself and getting in and out of bed became difficult. In 1980, he had to rely upon nurses. In 1985 he



underwent an operation in the wind-pipe. After this, he needed 24 hours nursing care. Before the operation, his speech was not clear, but at least he could communicate. But after the operation, he lost his ability to speak. However, a computer programme specially devised for him, helped him communicate. Using this programme, a book has been written, and dozens of scientific papers have been presented. Many scientific talks have also been given.

He was awarded medals, prizes and twelve honorary degrees. From the life of Stephen Hawking, it is understood that one need not lose hope. His life is an example that disability need not prevent one from reaching great heights. While Stephen William Hawking inspired the whole world with his uncrushable spirit and will power, do you know, who inspired him reach such great heights? He was none other than his Mathematics teacher, Dikran Tahta.



Glossary

hailed (v)	:	praised publicly
sclerosis (n)	:	a medical condition in which a part inside the body becomes hard
reputation (n)	:	fame, popularity
rely (v)	:	depend
honorary degree: (noun phrase)	:	a degree that is awarded in recognition of one's service to a particular field



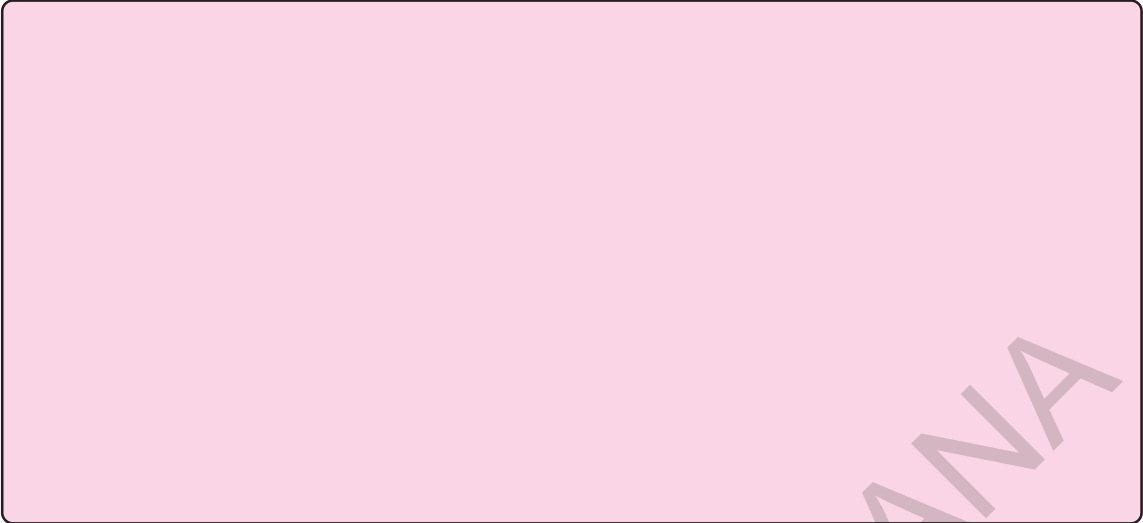
Comprehension

I. Answer the following questions.

1. What similarity do you find in Stephen Hawking and Isaac Newton?
2. How did Stephen communicate after he lost his ability of speech completely?
3. Do you know any other person who fought against his/her destiny?
4. What do you learn from Stephen's life?

II. Say whether the following statements are True or False. Correct the false statements and write them in the space provided.

1. Stephen can undoubtedly be considered one of the greatest scientists of this century.
2. Stephen Hawking and Isaac Newton were the Professors of Mathematics at Cambridge University at the same time.
3. The physicians predicted an early death for Stephen.
4. Stephen Hawking could not complete his Ph.D because of his illness.
5. After the operation, Stephen's speech became clear.



III. Read the following sentences and tick (✓) the correct choice.

1. Stephen Hawking has been *healthy/not healthy* throughout his life.
2. Stephen’s illness *prevented/did not prevent* him from having a very happy family life.
3. Stephen *defied/obeyed* his misfortune.
4. Stephen *proved/did not prove* that one can overcome crises with grit and determination.

IV. Read the text and complete the table.

1942	Stephen Hawking was born in Oxford, England
1959	
1963	
1979	
1980	
1985	



Vocabulary

I. Tick(✓) the word that is nearest in meaning to the word underlined in the sentence.

- Stephen Hawking was hailed by everyone for his contribution to the field of science.
a) criticized b) praised c) scolded d) abused
- Stephen triumphed over his sickness because of his strong will.
a) won b) fought c) strengthened d) lost
- The ISRO's reputation was doubled when it successfully launched PSLV C21, its 100th Mission.
a) fame b) capacity c) strength d) burden

II. Find out the singular/ plural of the following words from the dictionary.

1.	phenomenon	
2.	formula	
3.	height	
4.	crisis	

III. Find out from the text the words that are opposite in meaning to the words given below.

Sl.No	Words	Opposites
1	ability	
2	better	
3	decrease	
4	curable	
5	regress	
6	easy	
7	permit	
8	crushable	



Grammar

Gender of Nouns

Words used for male animals, boys and men are called **masculine gender nouns**.

Example: son, king, brother

Words used for female animals, girls and women are called **feminine gender nouns**.

Example: daughter, queen, sister

Words used for both males and females are called **common gender nouns**.

Example: child, doctor, cousin

Things without life are said to be of neuter gender.

Example: table, fan, car

Here are a few nouns. Put them in the right columns.

woman	lion	spoon	father	wife	milkmaid
hero	book	lawyer	student	fox	television
teacher	heroine	peahen	pencil	actor	baby
husband	singer	shirt	bag		

Masculine gender nouns	Feminine gender nouns	Common gender nouns	neuter gender nouns
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			



One day Lalitha participated in a seminar. Look at her speech at the seminar on 'The Lives of Great People'.

Respected HM sir, teachers and fellow students! I am very happy to take part in this seminar. I would like to talk about the life of Stephen Hawking.

Do you know who Stephen William Hawking is? He is one of the greatest scientists of the world. He has received twelve honorary degrees and has been awarded many medals and prizes. He has written many books.

Of course, his achievements may be seen to be usual to everyone. What I want to tell you is that, he has achieved all these in spite of his prolonged illness. You know, he has been suffering from an incurable disease which has weakened his muscles since he was 17 years old. Though his doctors have told him that he would die soon, he hasn't stopped his research work. He has made remarkable contribution to the field of science even though he can not move or speak a word.

Undoubtedly, I feel that his life is a source of inspiration to every one of us. He was able to do all these only because of his strong will power. Hence, I believe through will power, one can achieve wonders in one's life. Thank you one and all for giving me this opportunity.

Answer the following questions.

1. How did Lalitha start her speech?
2. Which are the points she stressed and how are they organised?
3. How did she conclude her speech?

Work in groups.

- Select a great personality.
- Collect information about him/her from various sources.
- Prepare a speech focusing on his/her greatness and how he/she influenced others
- Plan a speech on the events of his/her life. (how to begin, how to organize the events in sequential order and how to conclude...)
- Discuss with your friends and make necessary corrections in your speech.
- Write your speech on a chart.
- Present your version before the class.



Conventions of Writing

Use capital letters, full stop (.), comma (,), spelling and inverted commas (“ ”) wherever necessary and rewrite the following sentences.

Nitin Jagan and Manisha went to the pet store. Nitin bot a big bag food for his dog. Jagan looked at the turtles and sade, i wish I could take one home!

Enrich your English

Tongue Twisters - Say these sentences as fast as you can.

- Sunshines on shop signs.
- Six sick snakes sit by the sea.
- A proper copper coffee pot.
- Sheena leads, Sheila needs.
- Tidy tiger tied a tighter tie to tidy her tiny tail.
- Peter piper picked a peek of pickled peppers.



B. Reading

Sing the following song.

We shall Overcome

We shall overcome, we shall overcome.

We shall overcome some day.

Oh, deep in my heart I do believe

That we shall overcome some day.

We'll walk hand in hand,

We'll walk hand in hand,

We'll walk hand in hand, some day.

Oh, deep in my heart I do believe

That we shall overcome some day.

We are not afraid, we are not afraid,

We are not afraid today.

Oh, deep in my heart I do believe

That we shall overcome some day.

We shall overcome, we shall overcome

We shall overcome some day

Oh, deep in my heart I do believe

That we shall overcome some day.

-Martin Luther King





Comprehension

Answer the following.

1. What does the poet want to express through the words, 'We shall overcome'?
2. What does the phrase, 'Walk hand in hand' suggest?
3. The poet is: (put tick (✓) against the one that you think is correct.)
a. hopeful b. worried c. afraid d. confident e. cheerful



Project Work

Group work.

- Identify the children with special needs and the nature of their category.
- Identify the area in which they excel.
- How are they able to do well inspite of the problems/challenges they face?
- Make a presentation to the class.



How well did I understand this unit?

Read and tick (✓) in the appropriate box.

*	Indicators	Yes	Somewhat	No
1.	I listened to and understood the listening text.			
2.	I read and understood the text;			
	a) Will Power			
3.	I talked about Hawking.			
4.	I understood and did the exercises on 'genders'.			
5.	I understood and recited the poem, 'We shall over come'.			