

CLASS VIII

ENGLISH

Surgical Instruments Designed due to necessity

New Delhi: Necessity, they say, is the mother of invention. And Indian doctors have been quite creative when hamstrung by few or no tools to perform specific surgeries. They simply design it themselves at one-fourth the price they are sold abroad. In fact, some of their innovations are priced at as much as hundreds of dollars abroad. Take 47-year-old Dr Burjor P Banaji, pioneer of Lasik surgery in India. He's invented over a dozen surgical instruments. When this senior eye surgeon at Max Eye Care started Lasik, there were few surgeons doing it worldwide and no specific instruments were available either.

"As I want things super-perfect, I designed a whole slew of instruments that made my surgery more efficient," says Banaji. The most popular instruments are Banaji Lasik Shield and Banaji Lasik Spatula and Canulae. It was simple. "I had the designs in my head. Putting them down on paper was the simplest thing," he says. Instruments manufacturers and large multinationals in the US snapped them up. "They would send me computer generated drawings which I would correct and send back. Their level of execution was astounding. Within two weeks of the designs being finalised, the instruments were in the world market." His instruments are priced at hundreds of dollars each in the US, and are also sold in Switzerland, South America, Korea, Eastern Europe, Africa and Japan. They're available in India at a fraction of the price.

1. Answer these questions.

- How have some doctors dealt with the problem of "No tools to perform specific surgeries"?
- Who is Dr Burjor P Banaji?
- Describe the complete process of making instruments for specific surgeries.
- Name some of Banaji's surgical instruments.

2. Find words from the passage which mean the same as:

- amazing
- small part

Once, long ago, so I've been told,
When the world was only a few years old,
They didn't have any A B C,
Like the one that was planned for you and me.
There weren't any pens to nibble and bite,
And nobody knew the way to write,
Nobody learned the Capital G's,
Nobody learned to cross their ts.
And whether you dotted an "i" or not,
Didn't matter a jot,

Because there wasn't any "i" to dot.
Nobody's nib got bent or crossed,
Nobody's copybook got lost,
Ink-pots didn't get spilt or cracked,
And thumbs and fingers didn't get blacked.
They wrote things down in a prettier way,
For whatever it was they had to say,
They said it in pictures, crudely drawn,
A cat, or a mouse, or a unicorn.
Scratched on stone with a rusty nail,
And every picture told a tale.
What should we think of ourselves today,
If you and I were to write this way?
Just think of Papa's surprise and sorrow,
If he got a letter like this tomorrow.

1. Fill in the blanks.

In the first stanza the poet is describing the time when

..... and people had not learned
..... . At that time nobody had to be careful about crossing
..... or 'i's. People used to write by
..... on

2. "Scratched on stone" has the repetition of "s" sound. Find two phrases where you find the repetition of other sounds.

- a.
- b.

Read the novel 'Vikramaditya's Throne' and draw a Graphic Organiser to depict the main events in the novel. You can use half a sheet of Chart Paper for the same.

Writing Skill

Imagine that you are on a 'Time Machine'. Where would you go, what would you do and whom would you talk to ? Write your experience in about 120-140 words. Highlight all the articles that you use.

Write a letter to your friend abroad and tell her about the climate of your country. Tell him/her which is your favourite season and why. Also invite him/ her to visit India.

Make a personal dictionary for your use .Ensure that you have at least 10 words beginning with each alphabet. Write their meanings and use any 30 words in sentences of your own. Make sure that you don't have words which you already are familiar with.