

English

(Honeycomb) (Chapter – 7) (The Invention of Vita-Wonk) (Class – 7)

Comprehension Check

Question 1:

Choose the right answer.

- (i) Mr Willy Wonka is (a) a cook, (b) an inventor, (c) a manager.
- (ii) Wonka-Vite makes people (a) older, (b) younger.
- (iii) Mr Wonka wants to invent a new thing which will make people (a) younger, (b) older.

Answer 1:

- (i) Mr Willy Wonka is *an inventor*.
- (ii) Wonka-Vite makes people *younger*.
- (iii) Mr Wonka wants to invent a new thing which will make people *older*.

Question 2:

Can anyone's age be a minus number? What does "minus 87" mean?

Answer 2:

No, nobody's age can be a minus number. Here, "minus 87" signifies that the person had to wait a long duration of eighty-seven years before he could make a comeback. He took a strong dose of Wonka-Vite and had therefore, disappeared.

Question 3:

Mr Wonka begins by asking himself two questions. What are they?

- (i) What is _____?
- (ii) What lives _____?

Answer 3:

- (i) What is *the oldest living thing in the world*?
- (ii) What lives *longer than anything else*?

Working with the Text

Question 1:

- (i) What trees does Mr Wonka mention? Which tree does he say lives the longest?
- (ii) How long does this tree live? Where can you find it?

Answer 1:

- (i) The trees that Mr Wonka mentioned were the Douglas fir, the oak, and the cedar. According to him a tree called Bristlecone pine lives the longest.
- (ii) He said that this tree lives for over 4000 years. It can be found upon the slopes of Wheeler Peak in Nevada, U.S.A.

Question 2:

How many of the oldest living things can you remember from Mr Wonka's list? (Don't look back at the story!) Do you think all these things really exist, or are some of them purely imaginary?

Answer 2:

Mr. Wonk's list had some exceptions which included the 4000-year-old Bristlecone pine, the toe-nail clipping from a 168-year-old Russian farmer, an egg laid by 200-year-old tortoise that belonged to king of Tonga, the tail of a 51-year-old horse, the whiskers of ears old cat called crumpets, the tail of 207 years old giant rat from Tibet and many more are, according to me, this list was are purely imaginary.

Question 3:

Why does Mr Wonka collect items from the oldest things? Do you think this is the right way to begin his invention?

Answer 3:

Mr Wonka wanted to create age and he wanted to invent something that would make people older. He collected items from the oldest things for his invention. It was probably the correct way to begin with his invention as he wanted to make people older and therefore, the use of old things seems appropriate.

Question 4:

What happens to the volunteer who swallows four drops of the new invention? What is the name of the invention?

Answer 4:

Oompa-Loompa was the brave twenty-year-old volunteer who swallowed four drops of the new invention, as soon as he swallowed it he began wrinkling and shrivelling up all over. His hair started dropping off and his teeth started falling out. Before Mr Wonka knew it, the volunteer had suddenly become an old man of seventy-five. The name of the invention was Vita-Wonk.

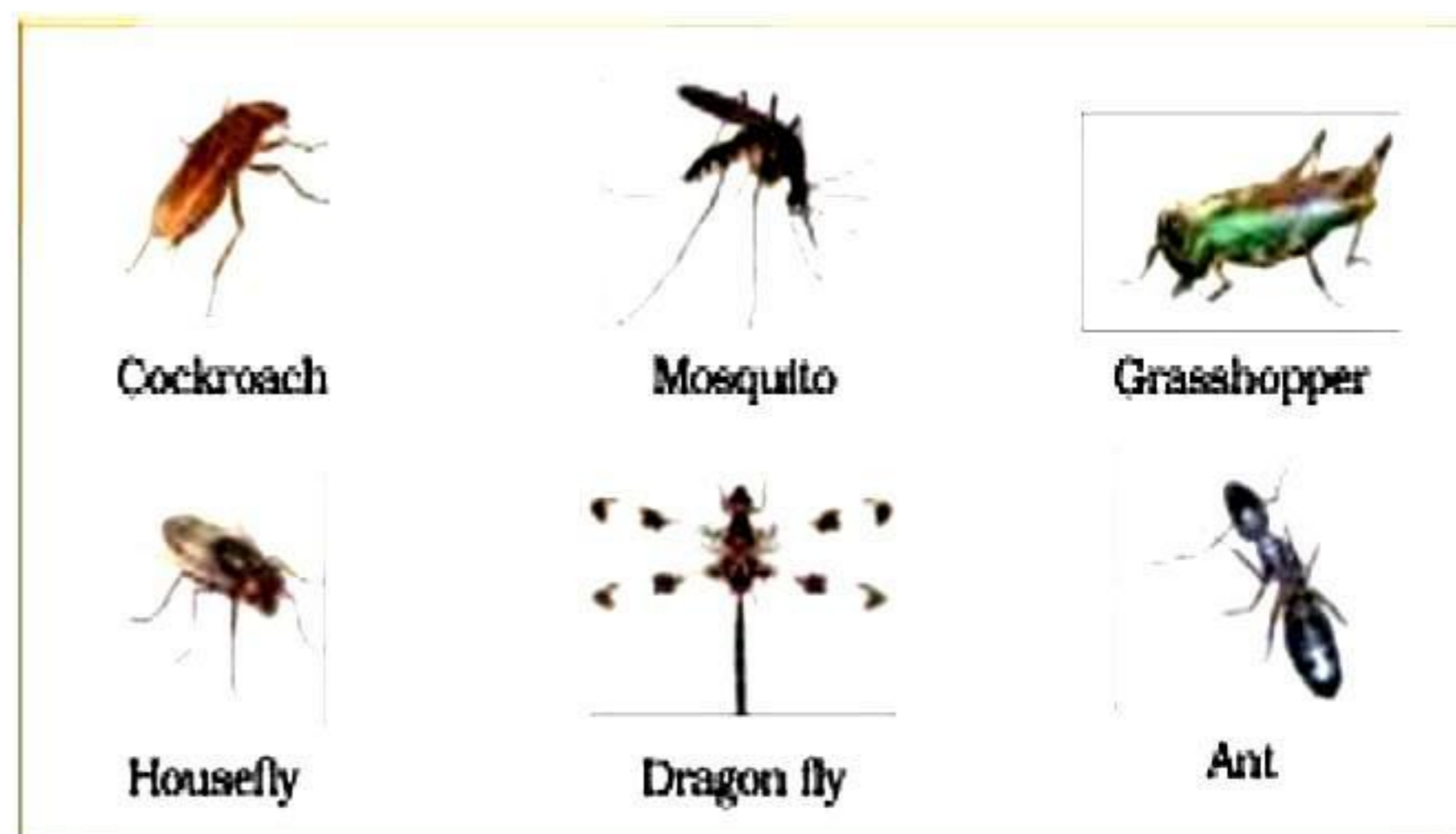
Working with Language

Question 1:

What do you call these insects in your language?
How do these insects effect your health? Have a discussion in the class.

Answer 1:

Cockroach	-	Tilchttta
Mosquito	-	Machchar
Grasshopper	-	Tiddi
Housefly	-	Makkhi
Dragon fly	-	BadiMakkhi
Ant	-	Chinti



These insects are carrier of microorganisms which makes us unhealthy. Mosquito is responsible for so many diseases increasing the body temperature. Similarly, the housefly spread the unhealthy particles in our food, etc.

Question 2:

Fill in the blanks in the recipe given below with words from the box.

Shred	cooker	times	tomatoes	half	onion	oil
-------	--------	-------	----------	------	-------	-----

Easy Palak-Dal**INGREDIENTS**

- One _____
- One cup *dal*
- Two thin green chillies
- _____ a teaspoon red chilli powder
- Eight small bunches of *palak*
- Two _____
- Salt to taste

Wash and cut the vegetables; _____ the *palak*. Put everything in a pressure _____. Let the cooker whistle three _____, then switch it off. Fry a few cumin seeds in _____ and add to the *palak-dal*.

Answer 2:

- One *onion*
- One cup dal
- Two thin green chilies
- *Half* a teaspoon red chili powder
- Eight small bunches of palak
- Two *tomatoes*
- Salt to taste

Wash and cut the vegetables; *shred* the palak. Put everything in a pressure *cooker*. Let the cooker whistle three *times*, then switch it off. Fry a few cumin seeds in *oil* and add to the palak-dal.

Speaking

Question 1:

Using Do for Emphasis

Charlie asks, "What did happen?"

This is a way of asking the question "What happened?" with emphasis.

Given below are a few emphatic utterances. Say them to your partner. Let your partner repeat your utterance without the emphasis. Your partner may also add something to show she/he disagrees with you.

YOU: I did study.

PARTNER: You studied? I don't believe you.

Look at your marks!

YOU: I did go there.

PARTNER: You went there? Then...

YOU: I do play games.

PARTNER: ...

YOU: He does read his books.

PARTNER: ...

YOU: You do say the most unbelievable things!

PARTNER: ...

YOU: The earth does spin around.

PARTNER: ...

YOU: We all do want you to come with us.

PARTNER: ...

YOU: Who does know how to cook?

PARTNER: ...

YOU: I do believe that man is a thief.

PARTNER: ...

Answer 1:

YOU: I did go there.

PARTNER: You went there? Then *what you did?*

YOU: I do play games.

PARTNER: *You payed? I don't believe you. Look at your body.*

YOU: He does read his books.

PARTNER: *I took part in interschool competition.*

YOU: You do say the most unbelievable things!

PARTNER: *Anything can happen.*

YOU: The earth does spin around.

PARTNER: *I can prove myself.*

YOU: We all do want you to come with us.

PARTNER: *I can teach you to cook. I know how to cook every kind of food.*

YOU: Who does know how to cook?

PARTNER: *What happened? How did you lose your book?*

YOU: I do believe that man is a thief.

PARTNER: *All right, I shall show you.*

Writing

Question 1:

- (i) Make a list of the trees Mr Wonka mentions. Where do these trees grow? Try to find out from an encyclopaedia. Write a short paragraph about two or three of these trees.
- (ii) Name some large trees commonly found in your area. Find out something about them (How old are they? Who planted them? Do birds eat their fruit?), and write two or three sentences about each one of them.

Answer 1:

- | | | |
|------------------|---|----------------------|
| (i) Douglas fir | - | North America |
| Oak | - | Asia & North America |
| Cedar | - | California |
| Bristlecone pine | - | U.S.A. |

Douglas fir: Douglas-firs are medium-size to extremely large evergreen trees, 20–100 metres tall (although only coast Douglas-firs reach such great heights). The leaves are flat, soft, linear, 2–4 centimeters long, generally resembling those of the firs, occurring singly rather than in fascicles; they completely encircle the branches, which can be useful in recognizing the species. As the trees grow taller in denser forest, they lose their lower branches, such that the foliage may start high off the ground. Douglas-firs in environments with more light may have branches much closer to the ground.

Oak: Oak trees are mostly deciduous except a few oak trees that are evergreen. They are tall and have a thick trunk. Scrub oaks do not grow very tall and have a thin network of branches.

- (ii) Work of creativity, so do yourself.

Question 2:

Find out something interesting about age, or growing old, and write a paragraph about it. Following are a few topics, suggested as examples.

- The age profile of a country's population — does it have more young people than old people, or vice versa? What are the consequences of this?
- How can we tell how old a tree, a horse, or a rock is?
- What is the 'life expectancy' of various living things and various populations (how long can they reasonably expect to live)?

Answer 2:

- The age profile of a country depends on the country's development. As the country develops, the population increases. This group is of the people who are in the age of above 60. This scenario leads to need of more age old securing schemes, pension benefit as well as medical facilities. In this group we have less working or non-working population.
- We know that all such things as tree, a horse, a rock is made up of carbon. Half-life of carbon is 7600 years. So by using technique of radio-carbon isotope dating, we can find out how old a particular specimen is.
- Life expectancy of various living things depend on the species to which it belongs. A few creatures have life expectancy of few minutes, hours or day. At times life expectancy may be upto 200-300 years. The average life expectancy is 60-70 years for human beings.

Working with the Poem

Question 1:

Why was Dad sure he wouldn't fall?

Answer 1:

Dad was sure that he wouldn't fall because he considered himself to be a climber and so climbing the trees was a child's play for him.

Question 2:

Which phrase in the poem expresses Dad's self-confidence best?

Answer 2:

The phrase in the poem expresses Dad's self-confidence best is 'Child's play, this is!'

Question 3:

Describe Plan A and its consequences.

Answer 3:

Plan A was to use a ladder for climbing the tree and bringing the cat down but the ladder slipped and dad ended up falling in the flower bed.

Question 4:

Plan C was a success. What went wrong then?

Answer 4:

Plan C was a success because dad could successfully jump and reach the tree but he landed directly on the cat. The cat started yelling and ran to the ground but poor old dad got stuck on the tree.

Question 5:

The cat was very happy to be on the ground. Pick out the phrase used to express this idea.

Answer 5:

The phrase used to express this idea is 'Pleased as Punch to be'.

Question 6:

Describe the Cat and Dad situation in the beginning and at the end of the poem.

Answer 6:

The cat had got stuck on the tree and dad decided to help her by making different plans so that he could bring it down in the beginning. But by the end of the poem the cat sprang and ran to the ground safely but dad got stuck on the tree.

Question 7:

Why and when did Dad say each of the following?

(i) Fall?

(ii) Never mind

(iii) Funny joke

(iv) Rubbish

Answer 7:

- (i) Dad said 'Fall?' when Mum gave him a warning him that he might fall while climbing the tree. He said so in a mocking way.
- (ii) Dad said 'Never mind' when he slipped from the ladder and fell down for the first time. He said it to show that nothing had happened to him and he was absolutely fine.
- (iii) Dad said 'Funny joke' when Mum gave him a warning that he might fall again. But he was over confident of being successful with his Plan B so, he spoke like that.
- (iv) Dad said 'Rubbish' when Mum asked him not to try it again and stop as he will break his neck if he will take a chance again, after the failure of his Plan B. He said so as he was sure that his Plan C will definitely work and he will be able to climb the tree easily.

Question 8:

Do you find the poem humorous? Read aloud lines which make you laugh.

Answer 8:

Yes, I find the poem is humorous. It tells us about the different funny incidents which happened when dad tried to climb the tree. Moreover, Dad over ambition and over confidence of climbing tree added humour to the poem. The dialogues have been written in a funnier way.

Working with the Poem

Question 1:

Answer the following questions.

- (i) Pick out the line that suggests that the child is afraid of snakes.
- (ii) Which line shows a complete change of the child's attitude towards snakes? Read it aloud.
- (iii) "But mother says that kind is good..." What is mother referring to?

Answer 1:

- (i) The line which suggests that the child is afraid of snakes is 'I saw a snake and ran away...'
- (ii) 'I'll stand aside and watch him pass,
And tell myself, "There's no mistake, It's just a harmless garden snake!"'
- (iii) The mother is referring to a garden snake which is harmless.

Question 2:

Find the word that refers to the snake's movements in the grass.

Answer 2:

The word that refers to the snake's movements in the grass is 'wiggles'.

Question 3:

There are four pairs of rhyming words in the poem. Say them aloud.

Answer 3:

- 'Away' - 'say'
- 'Good' - 'food'
- 'Grass' - 'pass'
- 'Mistake' - 'snake'

Question 4:

A snake has no legs or feet, but it moves very fast. Can you guess how? Discuss in the group.

Answer 4:

A snake has no legs or feet, but it moves very fast as it crawls over the grass with the help of the scales present on its body.

Question 5:

Can you recall the word used for a cobra's long sharp teeth? Where did you come across this word first?

Answer 5:

Cobra's long sharp teeth are being referred to the two bows or forks. They are ready to chase the poet. This very thought makes him frightened. These sharp teeth are called fangs which is a hollow tube attached to a poisonous gland present in the snake's mouth on one side. I came across these words when my teacher taught me about them. They are very dangerous and sharp like knife.