

LESSON

4



RUSTOM CLEANS THE HOUSE

Stage 1.

Pre-reading

Activity 1.

Talking about the topic

The teacher asks :

- 1 Children, do you sometimes help your mother with the housework ?
- 2 What things do you do to help her ?
- 3 While trying to help your mother, do you sometimes do things which create problems for her ?

Tell the class about some of the things you did that created problems for your mother.

The teacher explains :

You are now going to listen to a small play about a boy who tried to help his mother at home but made matters worse.

Activity 2.

Listening to the play

The teacher reads out the play while the children listen with their books closed. The teacher first reads Scene 1 and asks a few questions to find out if the children have understood the story. This is done also for Scene 2.

RUSTOM CLEANS THE HOUSE

Characters :

Rustom *a boy (about nine years old)*

Parveen *Rustom's mother (about 35 years old)*

Feroze Uncle *a neighbour (about 70 years old)*

Scene 1 **The kitchen in Parveen's house**

Rustom (holding a plate in his hand) There, Mummy, I've cleaned the last of the breakfast dishes ! May I go and read my story-book now ?

Parveen Thank you, Rustom. You've been a big help ! Some friends of mine are coming for lunch and I don't know how I would have managed without your help. Now I have to sweep the floor and dust the furniture.



Rustom Would you like me to do the dusting, Mummy ?

Parveen No, I'll do it. You won't be able to reach the top of the cupboard anyway. You're too small !

Rustom Shall I make the salad then ?

Parveen Ah yes. You could prepare the salad for lunch. Wash all the greens. Slice the tomatoes. Peel and slice the cucumbers, but do taste each cucumber separately, to make sure it isn't bitter.

Rustom Yes, Mummy. I'll do just that.

Parveen Oh, Rustom ! One minute ! Just take this bag of garbage and throw it into the big dustbin outside our house.

Rustom Very well, Mummy.

Activity 3. Comprehension

Questions on Scene 1

1. Who is Rustom ?
2. What has he done for his mother ?
3. Why does Parveen thank him ?
4. Parveen asks Rustom to do two things. What are they ?
5. What is your impression about Rustom ? Is he a good son ? Why do you think so ?

Scene 2**Parveen's kitchen, 10 minutes later**

(Feroze Uncle stands outside the door, looking angry. Rustom tries not to look at him.)

Parveen What's the matter,
Feroze Uncle ?
You look rather
cross.

Uncle Feroze Yes, I'm very angry
with Rustom. Come
on, Rustom, tell
your mother what
you have done.

(Rustom is hiding
behind his mother.)

Parveen (taking Rustom by hand) : Come here, Rustom.
What's the matter ?

Rustom (with head bowed) Mummy, you told me to throw the
garbage into the dustbin outside our house,
didn't you ?

Parveen Yes, I did. What happened ?

Uncle Feroze I'll tell you what happened, Parveen. Instead of
walking down the stairs and emptying the



garbage into the dustbin, Rustom just leaned out of the window and threw the garbage out. And where do you think it landed ? Right on top of my head !

Parveen (filled with horror) Oh no !
Rustom, is this true ?

Rustom (sheepishly) Yes, Mummy. I was in a hurry to get back to my storybook. I'm so sorry !

Parveen It's no good saying 'Sorry' to me. Say 'Sorry' to Feroze Uncle.

Rustom Feroze Uncle, I'm really sorry for what I did. Please forgive me !

(A brief silence. Feroze Uncle comes into the house.)

Feroze Uncle (patting Rustom) Okay, Rustom, we'll forget about it this time. I know you'll never do such a thing again. Will you Rustom ?

Rustom No, Feroze Uncle. I promise.

Parveen Be more careful in future, Rustom.



Activity 4. Comprehension

Questions on Scene 2

1. Who is Feroze Uncle ?
2. Why is he angry ?
3. What does Rustom say to Feroze uncle to do ?
4. What does Feroze Uncle say to Rustom then ?
5. Do you think Parveen is a good mother ? Why do you think so ?

Activity 5. Reading aloud

After the children have listened to the play, the teacher asks for volunteers to read it out. One set of children can read out Scene 1 and another set can read out Scene 2.

Each scene should be read out twice, with different sets of children reading.

Stage 2. Reading

The teacher discusses the meanings of these words after trying to know how far the children have understood their meanings.

Activity 6. Knowing the keywords

<i>salad</i>	a mixture of vegetables which are cut and eaten raw
<i>greens</i>	green, leafy vegetables
<i>peel</i>	to remove the skin from a fruit or vegetable

garbage things that you throw away because they make the house look dirty (e.g. food that is left over after you have eaten)

cross angry or unhappy

lean out to bend the upper part of your body forward while standing

The children read the entire play silently after the key words have been introduced.

Stage 3. After reading

Activity 7. Comprehension

Questions

1. At which time of the day do the incidents in the play take place : morning, afternoon, evening or night ? How do you know ?
2. What has Rustom done for his mother ?
3. Why does his mother say that he shouldn't dust the furniture ?
4. What does his mother want him to do ?
5. What should he do to prepare the salad for lunch ?
6. Why does Rustom stand behind his mother when uncle Feroze comes to their house ?
7. How did the garbage land on Feroze Uncle's head ?
8. What does this story teach us ?

Activity 8. Vocabulary

Fill in the blanks using words from the story.

Parveen asked Rustom to _____ the cucumbers for the _____ that she was making for her friends. Then she asked him to take the _____ out. But Rustom was in a _____ to go back to his story book. He just _____ out of the window and _____ the garbage out. It _____ on Feroze Uncle's head. Feroze Uncle was very _____ with Rustom.

Activity 9 Writing

The sentences below tell you the story of Rustom, Parveen and Feroze Uncle. But they are not in the right order. Re-arrange them, in the right order, and copy them in your note book.

Parveen lived in a house with her son Rustom.

Rustom was in a hurry to return to his storybook.

They had a neighbour whom they called Feroze Uncle.

So he just threw the garbage out of the window.

Rustom promised never to repeat the mistake.

The garbage landed on Feroze Uncle's head.

One day Parveen asked Rustom to take the garbage out and throw it into the dustbin.

Feroze Uncle was very cross with Rustom.

Parveen asked Rustom to say 'Sorry' to Feroze Uncle.

Feroze Uncle forgave Rustom for his mistake.

Activity 10. Usage (asking people to do something)

The teacher explains :

Take a look at what Parveen said to Rustom when she asked him to prepare the salad.

“Wash all the greens. Slice the tomatoes. Peel and slice the cucumbers.”

We use this kind of language when we want to ask someone to do something. Your teacher often uses it in the classroom. For example :

- i. Stand up !
- ii. Open your books !
- iii. Write this word on the blackboard !

Your teacher could have said the same things in a different way. For example :

- i. I want you to stand up.
- ii. I am asking you to open your books.
- iii. I order you to write this word on the blackboard.

But the sentences that your teacher uses are very short. She leaves out words like “ I want you to ...”. Thus, “I want you to stand up.” becomes “Stand up !”

Notice that we use an ‘**exclamation mark**’ at the end of the sentence when we are writing.

Activity 11. Re-writing

Re-write the following sentences in the form of “orders” :

- i. I am telling you to come home at once.
- ii. I want you to dust the furniture.
- iii. I order you to stop talking.
- iv. You must do your homework everyday.
- v. You should water the plants in the garden.

Activity 12. Writing and speaking

Working in groups, the children try to write the story briefly without looking at the book. After each group has written the story, one member of the group reads it out to the class. All the groups complete this activity by turn.

