

Holi, the Festival of Colour

(Riddhi, Beli and Arki are talking about their coming holidays for Holi. “I am going to Shillong,” Riddhi says. “How nice! But I will stay here at home. I like the Holi festival very much. I like to enjoy this festival of colour with my friends. In our neighbourhood we celebrate Holi together.) It’s really great fun!” Arki tells about her plan. “What about you Beli?” Riddhi asks.



Beli’s face brightens up, “You know, Holi is my favourite festival. Every year we go to Barpeta to celebrate Holi”. “Barpeta? But why do you go to Barpeta only? Holi is celebrated everywhere in India, isn’t it?” Arki is curious to know. “Yes, Arki. You are right. But it is a special festival for the people of Barpeta. It is called *Doul Utsav*,” Beli says. Riddhi, who is listening to their conversation, is eager to know more about the festival. “Please tell me about *Doul Utsav*, Beli,” she says. Beli turns to Riddhi and says joyfully, “*Doul* is celebrated for three to five days in Barpeta. It is different from the Holi celebrated in other parts of India. *Doul Utsav* of Barpeta is closely related to *Kirtan Ghar*. During this festival *Mahaprabhu Doul Govinda* and *Kalia Thakur* are brought out from the *Manikut* of the *Kirtan Ghar* and some



rituals are performed. Then thousands of people take them in a procession with *Gayan Bayan*.” “Oh, really! Do you join the procession?” Riddhi asks. Beli replies, “Yes, I always do. During this *Doul Utsav* the air of Barpeta is filled with *Holi Geet*. *Bhaona* is also performed at night.” “I have never seen a *Bhaona*,” Arki says



sadly. Riddhi asks again, "But **Beli**, don't you play with *Phaku* during Holi?" do Riddhi. The last day of *Doul* is called *Suweri*. It is the day of colour. Every showers *Phaku* with joy and sings *Holi Geet*," **Beli** replies.

"Oh, I would love to go to Barpeta in this *Doul Utsav*. I will tell my parents today to take me there," Riddhi says. **Beli** is very excited. She says, "Oh! It will be very nice. We can enjoy together, Riddhi."

Word note :

- Kirtan Ghar : a place of worship.
- Mahaprabhu Doul Govinda : another name of Lord Krishna
- Kalia Thakur : another name of Lord Krishna
- Manikut : the inner part of the Kirtan Ghar
- Gayan-Bayan : a group of people traditionally singing devotional songs accompanied by *Taal* and *Khol*.
- Bhaona : a kind of drama based on the stories from Hindu mythology.
- Phaku : dry coloured powder.
- Holi Geet : songs specially sung on the occasion of Holi.

New Words

curious neighbourhood fun brighten up celebrate
 conversation rituals performed excited
 joyfully procession showers

For the teacher only

The students are expected to learn the different types of noun.

Comprehension :

1. Answer the following questions in complete sentences.
 - a) Who are talking about their holidays?
 - b) Who has planned to go to Shillong during the holidays for Holi ?
 - c) With whom does Arki like to enjoy Holi?
 - d) For how many days is *Doul* celebrated in Barpeta?
 - e) What kinds of songs are sung in Barpeta during Holi?
 - f) What is performed at night during Holi ?
 - g) What is *Suweri*?

2. Write whether the following statements are true or false.
 - a) Arki is planning to go to Shillong during her holidays for Holi.
 - b) *Doul* is celebrated for three to five days in Barpeta.
 - c) *Kirtan Ghar* is in Barpeta.
 - d) People of Barpeta play with *Phaku* during all the days of Holi.

Grammar and usage :

Activity 1

Some naming words are given in the box. Fill in the blanks using these words.

butcher	novelist	plumber	journalist	fishmonger	postman
greengrocer	confectioner	poet	tailor	barber	florist

- a) A sells fish.
- b) A stitches clothes.
- c) A writes novels.
- d) A mends taps and pipes.
- e) A writes for the newspaper.
- f) A sells sweet and pastries.
- g) A sells vegetables.
- h) A cuts hair.
- i) A writes poem.
- j) A sells flowers.

- k) A sells meat.
l) A delivers letters.

Daily Assam . Com

Activity 2

Find out the **proper nouns** and **common nouns** from the box given below and write them in two separate columns. One is done for you.

Proper Noun

Nepal

Common Noun

boy

Nilachal hill January Sahara the Himalayas temple
mountain Guwahati month Kamakhya Pranab
city desert Mrinalini river Brahmaputra school
India library teacher

A. Countable and Uncountable Nouns

There are some nouns which we can count.

Example : one *boy*; five *pens*; two *hours*; ten *seconds*
three *trees*; four *flowers*; eight *cows* etc.

These italicised nouns are called **Countable Nouns**.

There are some nouns which we cannot count.

Example : *water*; *air*; *tea*; *gold*; *sugar*; *music* etc.

These nouns are called **Uncountable Nouns**.

Countable Nouns have both singular and plural forms.
But Uncountable Nouns have only singular form.

Activity 3

Find out the **countable** and **uncountable** nouns and write them separately.

book, girl, oil, hair, ring, pencil, lion, coffee, salt, silver

B. Abstract Noun

An Abstract Noun is usually the name of a quality, state or an action which we normally cannot see or touch. Example: kindness; poverty; birth etc.

Activity 4

I. Match the **abstract nouns** with the **adjectives** given below.

Abstract Nouns	Adjectives
courage	confident
anger	beautiful
goodness	angry
kindness	good
strength	kind
honesty	strong
beauty	courageous
confidence	honest

II. Match the **abstract nouns** with the **verbs** given below.

Abstract nouns	Verbs
thought	behave
knowledge	think
death	know
education	succeed
behaviour	die
success	fail
failure	educate

III. Match the **abstract nouns** with the **common nouns** given below.

Abstract Nouns	Common Nouns
leadership	king
childhood	mother
kingship	agent
motherhood	child
friendship	leader
agency	friend

C. **Material Noun**

Material Noun names a thing (non-living) like material, substance or ingredient for making things.

Examples

wood cotton silver sand sugar stone rice paper

Activity 5

Find out the material nouns from the following box and write them.

country anger nylon salt honesty mountain
 water children book happiness steel wool
 brick gold milk

Writing Activity:

Look at the following picture and read the description given below it.

Example:

thorn colours beautiful sweet smell
 queen of flowers

This is a red rose. It is my favourite flower. There are different colours of roses like white, pink, red, yellow, orange etc. The rose plant has thorns. The rose is called the queen of flowers because it is very beautiful. It has a very sweet smell.

Now, describe the following pictures with the help of the words given in the box.

I.



beautiful tiffin box rectangular in shape blue in colour
bring tiffin to school made of plastic

This is a It is and
It is I always

II.



long big mango tree leaves roots
branches twigs ripe mangoes

This is a Its are narrow and
in shape. It has many Its are used in
'puja'. Its are strong. People love

Build up your vocabulary

Match the words in column A with those given in column B

Daily Assam . Com

A	B
sewing	wood
ploughing	pan
knitting	mountain
frying	wool
climbing	paddy field
sawing	car
driving	needle
playing	bus
cooking	pool
swimming	fish
fishing	football
living	rice
boiling	kite
flying	house
travelling	movie
cutting	water
wearing	frock
washing	knife
drawing	scenery
watching	dishes