



## Leonardo da Vinci

Before you read :

- \* Have you seen the world famous painting *Mona Lisa* ?
- \* Can you name any other paintings of Leonardo da Vinci ?
- \* Do you know the names of some other famous artists like Leonardo da Vinci ?

It was 15 April, 1452. At the third hour of the night, about 10 pm, a boy was born in Vinci, a small village near Florence, Italy. No one could ever imagine that one day this boy would become such a genius. He is not comparable with anyone till today. Do you know who he is ? He is none other than Leonardo da Vinci.

Leonardo spent his early years with his grandparents in Vinci where he received only the basic education at an 'abacus school'. Primarily he was self-taught. Although he did not have much formal schooling, he learnt from experience and experiment. Right from a young age, Leonardo loved animals and nature. He never ate meat. He bought caged birds and set them free.



Leonardo da Vinci (1452-1519)

When Leonardo was 15, his father Ser Piero da Vinci recognized his artistic abilities. One day a peasant, who worked in Vinci, made a wooden shield and asked Piero to take it to Florence and have it painted. Piero gave the task to Leonardo. Leonardo created a terrifying image of a dragon-like monster on the shield. Piero was astonished to see it so real. This shield was perhaps Leonardo's first recorded piece of art. His talent for combining fantasy with observation was displayed in this work.

Leonardo's father sent him to apprentice under a noted sculptor and painter Andrea del Verrocchio of Florence. This was the learning period of Leonardo. He



*The Last Supper*

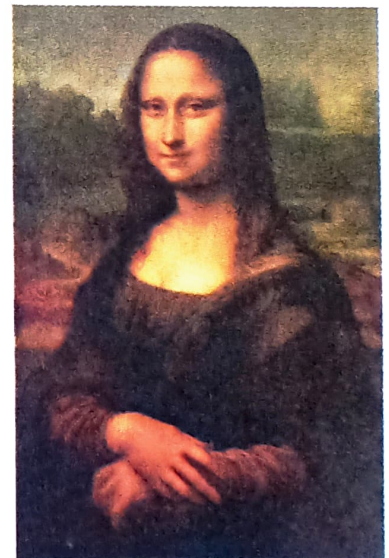
refined his paintings and sculpting techniques under Verrocchio's guidance.

Later, Leonardo moved to Milan where he created one of his masterpieces 'The Last Supper'. In 1499 he went to Venice and then to

Florence. In Florence he painted another masterpiece 'Mona Lisa'. It is a portrait of a rich merchant's wife. This portrait is famous for the mysterious smile of the lady. This portrait is now preserved at the Louvre Museum in Paris, France.

Though Leonardo is mostly known as an artist, his prodigious talent deals with a vast range of subjects. He was an anatomist, a scientist, an engineer, an inventor, a musician, a cartographer and what not ! This diversity of Leonardo's creativity is the result of his curiosity. He observed things minutely and documented them in detail on paper with tiny notes. His notebooks include pictures, his designs and notes related to them.

As an anatomist, Leonardo dissected animals and human cadavers to find out their mechanism. His notes and drawings of his findings have helped scientists to understand human anatomy better. Leonardo also designed machines like the bicycle, helicopter, submarine and the military tank, flight machines, bridges etc. which were never built. But he filled his notebooks with his observations and neatly drawn illustrations of his ideas. He was also a musician in the sense that he designed a lot of instruments including drum, bells and woodwinds. As a cartographer, Leonardo was engaged in drawing maps for civil and military purposes. It is unbelievable how Leonardo created bird's-eye views of cities and landscapes centuries before when there were no aerial photography and high-tech techniques of cartography.



*Mona Lisa*

Leonardo moved to France in 1516 where King Francis I offered him a stipend and the freedom to create whatever he wished. He completed a series of drawings during this time. He died on May 2, 1519 at the age of 67.

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**Word Notes :**

- Abacus School : It is a term applied to any Italian school or tutorial after the 13<sup>th</sup> century, whose commerce-directed curriculum placed special emphasis on mathematics, such as algebra, among other subjects.
- Milan : a city in Italy
- apprentice : one who works for an employer to learn a particular skill
- masterpiece : a great book, painting etc.
- illustration : a drawing or picture in a book, magazine etc., especially one that helps to understand something easily
- stipend : an amount of money that is paid regularly to somebody
- Louvre Museum : Louvre Museum is the national museum and art gallery of France. It is situated in Paris.
- anatomist : an expert in the scientific study of the structure of human or animal bodies
- cartographer : a person who draws or makes maps
- dissect : to cut up a dead person, animal or plant in order to study it
- cadaver : a dead human body
- submarine : a ship that can travel underwater
- woodwinds : the group of musical instruments mostly made of wood or metal and are played by blowing
- The Last Supper: a painting of Leonardo da Vinci. He began painting this in 1495. The painting represents the scene of the last supper of Jesus Christ with his disciples.
- Mona Lisa : a painting of Leonardo da Vinci. In 1503 he began painting the *Mona Lisa* and continued working on it for the rest of his life.
- Bird's-eye views : views of something from a high position, looking down.

## Remember the words

genius	recognized	artistic	shield	terrifying	astonished
fantasy	displayed	apprentice	sculptor	portrait	mysterious
preserved	prodigious	anatomist	inventor	curiosity	minutely
cartographer	diversity	creativity	dissected	cadavers	mechanism
submarine	illustrations	landscape	stipend	documented	sophisticated

## For the teacher only

The students are expected to learn the use of phrases and clauses in sentences and about the subject-verb agreement.

## Comprehension :

- Answer the following questions in complete sentences.
  - When was Leonardo Da Vinci born ?
  - Where did Leonardo spend his early years ?
  - Under whom did Leonardo's father send him to apprentice ?
  - Name the two masterpieces of Leonardo.
  - What did Leonardo created on the shield ?
  - Who was Mona Lisa ?
  - Where is Mona Lisa preserved now ?
- How do you know that Leonardo loved animals ?
- What did Leonardo do as an anatomist ?
- Match the following.

<b>anatomist</b>	one who creates things with clay, wood, stone etc.
<b>cartographer</b>	an expert in the scientific study of the structure of human or animal bodies
<b>sculptor</b>	one who designs buildings, bridges, monuments etc.
<b>engineer</b>	one who draws or makes maps

- Look up the meaning of the following words in a dictionary and write them.  
astonished, fantasy, portrait, prodigious, diversity

Phrases

A phrase is a group of words that does not make a complete sense. It is a part of a sentence. It does not have a finite verb. The group of words when used together have a different meaning altogether.

Examples :

- i) We are playing **in the field**.
- ii) He gets up early **in the morning**.
- iii) Her house is **on the bank** of the river.
- iv) **Price rise** is a very big problem for the common people.
- v) This chain is **made of gold**.
- vi) Mr Baruah lived in this village **once upon a time**.
- vii) I like to play cricket **in the evening**.
- viii) She enjoys swimming **in the river**.

There are different kinds of phrases.

- a) **Noun Phrase** : A noun phrase is a group of words that acts as a noun.

Examples :

- i) I have a **gold chain**.
- ii) **Playing chess** is my hobby.

- b) **Adjective Phrase** : An adjective phrase is a group of words that acts as an adjective which describes a noun or a pronoun.

Examples :

- i) I have a **coat of brown colour**.
- ii) She is a girl **with curly hair**.

- c) **Adverbial Phrase** : An adverbial phrase is a group of words that acts as an adverb.

Examples :

- i) She behaved **in a rude manner**.
- ii) We are sitting **in the classroom**.
- iii) I was playing cricket **at that time**.

d) **Prepositional Phrase** : A prepositional phrase is a group of words which acts as a preposition.

Examples :

- i) She is **in the room**.
- ii) **In spite of** his illness, he came to school.

### Activity 1

Find out the **phrases** in the following sentences and write them.

- i) I saw an elephant with very long tusks.
- ii) She is a girl of sweet voice.
- iii) He spoke in a brave manner.
- iv) This book is not available at present.
- v) To win a prize in the competition was not an easy task for me.
- vi) Drawing an elephant is impossible for Rohan.
- vii) Instead of wearing the blue frock I chose the red one.
- viii) He opted for Sanskrit in lieu of Hindi.

### Clauses

A clause is a shorter sentence within a bigger sentence. It must contain a finite verb.

Examples :

- i) **He said** *that he had finished his homework.*
- ii) **I know the man** *who is sitting in the corner.*
- iii) **I was sleeping** *when he came.*
- iv) **He did not go to school** *because he was ill.*

### Activity 2

Pick out the **clauses** from the following sentences and write them.

- i) Please give me the book which is on the table.
- ii) They were talking when he came.
- iii) He told me that he did not know about the incident.
- iv) I was absent because I was ill.
- v) I will not go out if it rains.
- vi) He is tall but his brother is average.

- vii) I know the reason why he came here.
- viii) You must hurry or you will miss the train.
- ix) He is not only intelligent but also brave.
- x) I know the place where he lives.

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## B. Subject-Verb Agreement

A subject takes a verb according to its number and person - singular verb for singular subject and plural verb for plural subject.

A verb has different forms for different tenses. Subject of the 1st person, 2nd person and 3rd person take different auxiliaries in different tenses and even in the same tense.

### Some rules to remember :

- \* Sometimes two nouns joined by 'and' become a compound noun of one item and it takes a singular verb.
  - 1) *A cup and saucer* **is** what he wants.
  - 2) *Bread and butter* **is** a good breakfast.
  - 3) *Rice and curry* **is** very cheap in this restaurant.
- \* The collective nouns always take a singular verb :
  - 4) *This pair of shoes* **was** bought at the fair.
  - 5) *This pair of scissors* **belongs** to my mother.
  - 6) *A pair of shoes* **costs** a lot of money in this shop.
  - 7) *That pair of gloves* **was** mine.
  - 8) *A regiment of soldiers* **is** guarding the area.
  - 9) *A swarm of locusts* **has** destroyed the crops.
  - 10) *A pair of spectacles* **is** on the table.
  - 11) *A swarm of mosquitoes* **is** hovering here.
  - 12) *A fleet of helicopters* **was** used for rescuing the flood affected people.
  - 13) *Our team of cricketers* **is** going to Delhi today.

14) *An epidemic of measles* has broken out in this village.

15) *The crew* was very excited to see the iceberg.

\* Some nouns look like singular but are always used as plural and take a plural verb.

16) The *police* are looking for the thieves.

17) Some *people* are dancing on the stage.

18) The *rich* are not always happy.

19) The *poor* are not always unhappy.

\* A plural noun indicating distance, weight, height, amount of money takes a singular verb.

20) Six feet of *land* is what a man needs.

21) *A hundred miles* is not a big distance nowadays.

22) *Ten thousand rupees* is a big amount for me.

23) *Eight kilograms of rice* costs Rs. 500 in this shop.

\* Some nouns are always used in singular and they take singular verbs.

24) *News* has come that the minister died an hour ago.

25) *Athletics* was the main attraction in the games.

26) *Mathematics* is his favourite subject.

27) His *luggage* has been kept in the guest room.

28) The *scenery* of Meghalaya is very charming.

29) The English *alphabet* has twenty six letters.

30) Her *hair* is long.

31) All the *information* I got yesterday is correct.

32) His *knowledge* of science is known to all.

### Activity 3

Correct the following sentences.

1. The *cattle* is grazing in the pasture.

2. The *folk* is coming back home from the concert.



3. We bought **some** new *furnitures*.
4. My friends gave me **all** the relevant *informations* about the quiz competition.
5. **Rice** *are* an important crop in our country.
6. **All** my **luggage** *are* in that room.
7. My **spectacles** *is* on the table.
8. His **shoes** *is* costly.
9. This **pair** of **shoes** *need* mending.
10. Her **socks** *is* white.
11. This **pair** of **socks** *are* lovely.
12. His **trousers** *needs* ironing.
13. This **pair** of **trousers** *were* bought from that shop.
14. The **news** *were* not true.
15. An epidemic of **measles** *have* broken out in the village.
16. A **species** *are* a class of plants or animals.
17. **Some** useful *equipments* for the kitchen was bought.

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### Phrasal Verbs

- Hold up** : The train was **held up** for two hours for the accident.
- Keep off** : They **kept off** the fire.
- Keep down** : He could not **keep down** his anger.
- Keep up with** : We must try to **keep up with** the changing world.

### Idioms

- Bag and baggage** : He left the place **bag and baggage**.
- Beat about the bush** : He did not know the right answer, he just **beat about the bush**.
- Bed of roses** : Life is not a **bed of roses**.

#### 1. Habit of Reading Books

It is said that books are a man's best friends. A person who has the habit of reading good books never feels bored or lonely. Good books always provide him company wherever he goes. Well-read people are knowledgeable, wiser and can work better for the development of society. Good reading habits keep us updated regarding the latest information about what is going on around the world. Good reading habit implies reading a lot of good books, newspapers, magazines, journals etc.

It is very important to develop this habit in students. Students must realize that reading is highly enjoyable if one has a good book in hand. 15 to 20 minutes should be fixed in our daily routine for reading a good book that we really enjoy. We can carry a book with us whenever we go for an outing. For the reading purpose first we have to make a list of great books that matches with our age, profession, capability, interest etc. Frequent visits to a good library always serve us this purpose.

For the successful development of good reading habits we can refer to Francis Bacon. He says, "Some books are to be tasted, others to be swallowed and some few to be chewed and digested."

#### 2. Cleanliness

Cleanliness should be taken as the first and foremost responsibility to lead a healthy way of healthy life. All types of cleanliness are necessary for our good health. We should be highly aware of how to maintain cleanliness in our daily life. We should never compromise with cleanliness. It is as necessary as food and water for us. We should practise cleanliness from our childhood which can only be initiated by each parent as a responsibility. We should clean ourselves, our home, surrounding areas, society, community, city and environment on a daily basis. Many activities such as cleaning of school campus, classrooms, laboratories, poster making on cleanliness, waste segregation, essay writing, painting on cleanliness, poem recitation, group discussion, documentary videos etc., can promote cleanliness among students in schools.

Cleanliness brings us happiness and always inspires us to do good deeds. It provides us with freshness and joy of life.

### Activity

- a) Write an article on the topic **Water is precious, save water**. You can take help of the following points.

#### Points :

**What is water :** most important natural resource — essential for existence of life — cannot imagine life — 3/4 surface of the earth is covered —.

**Its use :** drinking, washing, agriculture, produce electricity — day to day chores —.

**Why should we save water ? :** quantity of clean water is very less — might create major issues in future —.

**How can we save water :** be careful in using — stop misuse — save from being polluted — use bucket instead of shower — join hands towards saving.

**Conclusion :** essential component of life — conserve for future safety — important for the survival of human beings, other species — preserve the biodiversity of a place —.

- b) Write an article on the topic **Reduce the use of plastic**. You can take help of the following points.

#### Points :

**What is plastic :** a synthetic material — low in cost — easily handled/light weight — serves many purposes — ease of manufacture — has replaced wood, stone, leather, glass etc.

**Disadvantage :** harmful for environment — low melting — short useful life of some products made of plastic — causes serious environmental risk — causes permanent harm to our metabolism —.

**How to reduce the use of plastic :** use eco-friendly material in place of plastic — wood, steel, cane, jute etc., can be used in some cases — use paper bags/canvas bags for carrying different goods in day-to-day shopping.



Prefix

(a letter or group of letters added to the beginning of a word to change its meaning)

- |  |                                      |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| i) anti + national = anti-national           | xiii) super + natural = supernatural |
| ii) anti + social = antisocial               | xiv) post + mortem = postmortem      |
| iii) auto + biography = autobiography        | xv) mis + use = misuse               |
| iv) co + operation = co-operation            | xvi) mal + nutrition = malnutrition  |
| v) un + natural = unnatural                  | xvii) fore+ tell = foretell          |
| vi) un + able = unable                       | xviii) fore + father = forefather    |
| vii) vice + president = vice-president       | xix) inter + school = inter-school   |
| viii) vice + principal = vice-principal      | xx) il + legal = illegal             |
| ix) un + willing = unwilling                 | xxi) im + possible = impossible      |
| x) ultra + modern = ultramodern              | xxii) in + ability = inability       |
| xi) ultra + violet = ultraviolet             | xxiii) ir + regular = irregular      |
| xii) to + night = tonight                    |                                      |
| xxiv) mis + understanding = misunderstanding |                                      |
| xxv) vice + chancellor = vice-chancellor     |                                      |

Suffix

(a letter or group of letters added to the end of a word to make another word)

- |                                   |                                   |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| i) read + er = reader             | x) work + er = worker             |
| ii) hunt + er = hunter            | xi) paint + er = painter          |
| iii) fight + er = fighter         | xii) speak + er = speaker         |
| iv) inform + ation = information  | xiii) exam + ation = examination  |
| v) confess + ion = confession     | xiv) process + ion = procession   |
| vi) agree + ment = agreement      | xv) arrange + ment = arrangement  |
| vii) improve + ment = improvement | xvi) judge + ment = judgement     |
| viii) punish + ment = punishment  | xvii) dark + ness = darkness      |
| ix) kind + ness = kindness        | xviii) complete + ly = completely |

