



The Honest Woodcutter

Long ago, there lived a woodcutter in a small village. He was sincere in his work and very honest. Every day he set out into the nearby forest to cut trees. He brought the woods back into the village and sold them out to a merchant. Thus he earned his living. He was satisfied with the little money he earned and lived happily.



One day while cutting a tree near a river, his wooden axe slipped out of his hand and fell into the river. The poor woodcutter became sad at this sudden incident. He did not have another axe with him. This was the only axe that he had. He immediately realized that the loss of that only axe meant lots of trouble for him. He was so full of sorrow that tears rolled down his cheeks. He sat on the ground, covered his face with hands and burst into a loud cry. He kept crying for a long time.

All of a sudden, the woodcutter heard someone calling him by his name. The kind voice asked him to stop crying. He raised his face. He saw no one. He was surprised and frightened too. The afternoon sun was about to set. He again looked around him. His eyes caught sight of a beautiful girl in the middle of the river. The woodcutter immediately recognised the water-fairy. When the water-fairy asked him the reason of his sorrow, he narrated the whole incident to her.

After knowing that, the fairy asked him not to worry and dived into the river. She told him that she would bring his axe from the bottom of the river. The woodcutter was very happy. After some time she reappeared in the surface of the water with a golden axe. The woodcutter told her with a heavy heart that it was not his axe. The fairy again dived into the river and popped up with a silver axe this time. Again the woodcutter sadly told her that this was not his axe. This time the fairy smiled at him and promised to bring him his wooden axe.

Some time later the fairy appeared with the golden, the silver and the wooden

axe. The woodcutter cried with joy to see his own axe. He stretched out his hands to receive the axe. The fairy gave him all the three axes. The woodcutter at first declined to take the golden and silver axes. But the fairy told him that she wanted to reward him for his honesty. She was very happy to find the fact that the woodcutter was not at all greedy. Greed is a vice.

Word Note :

water-fairy : a fairy that lives in water

popped up : appear or occur suddenly

vice : immoral or wicked behaviour

Remember the Words

sincere honest nearby woods earned happily axe slipped realized trouble
sorrow tears cheeks burst surprised frightened middle immediately rolled down
narrated worry bottom surface golden heavy popped up silver sadly appeared joy
stretched reward honesty greedy all of a sudden declined dive vice

For the teacher only

The students are expected to learn the use of some determiners and sentence patterns

Comprehension :

1. Answer the following questions in complete sentences.
 - a) How was the woodcutter?
 - b) What did he bring from the forest?
 - c) What happened to his axe?
 - d) Who appeared before him suddenly?
 - e) What did the water-fairy give him as a reward?
2. How did the woodcutter find his own axe?
3. Write whether the following statements are true or false.
 - a) The woodcutter sold the woods to a merchant.
 - b) The water-fairy was a beautiful girl.

- c) At first the water-fairy gave the woodcutter the silver axe.
- d) The water-fairy did not give the woodcutter his own axe.
- e) Greed is a vice.

Grammar and Usage :

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A.

Determiners

The use of **few, a few, the few**

1. The determiner '**few**' has a negative force. It indicates almost none.

Examples : Few men are free from faults.

(Almost no men are free from faults.)

Few men came to help me.

Few villagers came forward to help the beggar.

2. The determiner '**a few**' has a positive meaning. It indicates some.

Examples : I met a few friends in the birthday party.

(I met some friends.)

Mr. Das spoke a few words in the meeting.

I spent a few days in Delhi last year.

3. The determiner '**the few**' indicates all, though not many.

Examples : I have read the few storybooks that I have in my library.

(I have read all the storybooks of my library
but they may not be many in number.)

The few words that our principal spoke were inspiring.

I gave Rina the few books on Assam History that I had.

The use of **little, a little, the little**

1. The determiner '**little**' has a negative force. It indicates almost nothing.

Examples : There is little milk in the cup.

(The cup is almost empty.)

He has **little** hope of passing in the examination.

There is **little** chance of his returning.

2. The determiner 'a little' has a positive meaning. It indicates some though not much.

Examples : There is a **little** water in the glass.

(There is some water in the glass.)

A **little** knowledge is a dangerous thing.

He spent a **little** time in arranging the meeting.

3. The determiner 'the little' indicates not much but the whole of it.

Examples : I drank **the little** water in the glass.

(I drank the whole water in the glass though it was not much.)

She spent **the little** money which she had in buying this dress.

The little information that the police gathered was sufficient.

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The use of 'much' and 'many'

1. The determiner 'much' indicates quantity. It is used with an uncountable noun.

Examples : I spend **much** time in studying science fiction.

We don't have **much** money with us.

How **much** water do you need?

2. The determiner 'many' indicates number. It is used with countable plural noun.

Examples : I have **many** friends.

Many people turned up in the meeting.

How **many** children do you have?

Activity 1

Fill in the blanks with few, a few, the few, little, a little, the little, much, many.

- i) Give the girl ---- oranges.
- ii) ---- men who gathered there brought the injured boy to the hospital.
- iii) There is ---- hope of his brother's returning.

- iv) Please give me ---- water as I am very thirsty.
- v) The cat drank ---- milk which I stored in the mug.
- vi) The president felt ashamed of himself as ---- members of his club were present.
- vii) ---- girls applied for the post.
- viii) Kunika needs ---- money as she is going to buy a dictionary.
- ix) The project is taking ---- time.
- x) She worked here for ---- years.
- xi) Today I am feeling ---- better.
- xii) ---- of his friends did not go to attend the meeting.

B.

Sentence Patterns

Seven basic sentence patterns with examples :

SV : I play.

SVO : Sunit writes stories.

SVC : My mother is a teacher.

SVA : He came yesterday.

SVOO : Sumitra gave me a pen.

SVOC : They made me captain.

SVOA : He completed his homework quickly.

Activity 2

Construct two sentences for each of the following structures.

SV, SVO, SVC, SVA, SVOO, SVOC, SVOA

Activity 3

Find out the pattern of the following sentences.

- i) She is crying loudly.
- ii) They are playing football.
- iii) The boy is sad.
- iv) Minakshi made her happy.

- v) Birds fly.
- vi) He bought a car yesterday.
- vii) He gave me a chocolate.
- viii) I am an engineer.

Activity 4

Fill in the blanks with subject (S), object (O), complement (C), verb (V), or adverb (A) as instructed with the help of the words given in the box.

He	wrestles	Hindi	made	sad
a car	a doctor	has	fast	us

- i) I am learning ----.(O)
- ii) ---- writes slowly.(S)
- iii) The sick man is ----.(C)
- iv) Manish ---- his mother happy.(V)
- v) A wrestler ----.(V)
- vi) Grandmother tells ---- stories.(O)
- vii) The Rajdhani Express runs ----.(A)
- viii) The monkey ---- a long tail.(V)
- ix) Bikash is driving ----.(O)
- x) My grandfather was ----.(C)

Writing Activity :

Essay Writing

Essay is an attempt at writing on a given topic at full length in correct and beautiful language.

Descriptive essays describe persons, things, places, animals, plants etc.

The Cow

The cow is a domestic milch animal. It is a quadruped with divided hoofs. It has two horns, two long ears and a long tail with a tuft of black hair. It has a hump on its back near the neck. Cows are of different colours.

The cow lives on grass. It also eats leaves of small plants, hay and straw. A cow quickly swallows up her food. During its rest it brings back the food into the mouth and chews it. Cows are tame animals.

The cow is a very useful animal. It gives us milk. We get butter, ghee, curd, cream, cheese from milk. Cow dung is a good manure for the soil of paddy fields. The hide (skin) of a dead cow is used for making leather.

Cows give birth to calves. Male calves grow up into oxen and work in paddy fields. They also draw carts and plough. Female calves grow up into cows.

Write an essay on The Television with the help of the lines given in the box.

medium of	twentieth century	great gift
entertainment and education		important inventions
mass communication	our eyesight	
popular	modern science	John Logie Baird
different programmes	very useful	different corners

The Television

The television is one of the most ----- of the ----- . It is a ----
-- of ----- . It was invented by ----- . Today it is as ----- as a radio. Television
is a good source of both ----- . We can watch many ----- like films, talk
shows, news, quiz, programmes on science and technology, songs, music etc. every day
on television. It is a powerful ----- . Through television we
can see the events that take place in ----- of the world. The television
is a ----- medium of communication. But if we watch it continuously it
can affect ----- .



Build Up Your Vocabulary

Related words :

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Market : shop, shopkeeper, fish market, fishmonger, butcher, greengrocer, confectioner, grocery, vegetables, fruits

Classroom : blackboard, duster, chalk, bench, desk, table, chair, students, teacher

Football : goal, goalkeeper, goalpost, kick off, net, forward pass, foul

Kitchen : cylinder, gas stove, pressure cooker, frying pan, knife, kettle, dish, garbage bag, grinder, sauce pan

Badminton : racket, net, shuttlecock, centre line, service court, doubles, singles

Museum : gallery, pottery, sculpture, artefact, curator, portrait, paintings, statues

Now write some related words of the following :

bank airport computer aeroplane

