



Swami's Grandmother

Swaminathan's grandmother lived with all her belongings in the dark corridor between the front hall and the dining room of their home. Her belongings consisted of a bed made of five carpets, three bed sheets and five pillows. Swami felt safe in her room which smelt of cardamoms, cloves and arecanut.

Swami loved the time that he spent with his grandmother. After taking his dinner Swaminathan used to go to his grandmother's room and lie down resting his head on her lap. Swami's

grandmother loved to tell him stories from the past. But she mixed up her thoughts and Swami was clearly bored with the stories. Instead, Swami told her various stories about his friends in school. His grandmother listened to them with interest.

'Oh, Granny! You don't know what a great fellow Rajam is!' Swami said to his grandmother. He told her about Rajam— that he had a real police dress. Swami told her that Rajam got all the marks in arithmetic. Granny was impressed but she started telling Swami about his grandfather's intelligence. Swami's grandmother told him how his grandfather sometimes got 200 marks for the brilliant answers that he wrote in examinations. But then she started rambling. Swami told her about his friend Rajam. Rajam's father was the Police Superintendent. One day Rajam and his father were camping in the forest when two tigers attacked them. Rajam took up his gun and shot the tigers dead.

After telling her this story of Rajam's courage, Swami asked his grandmother if she liked it. Swami was not happy with his grandmother's response. To test her, he

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asked, "How many tigers were there?" He was angry as she could not answer him correctly. Swami rebuked her for not paying attention to the important story he was telling her. He felt that she was sleeping and dreaming when he took so much pain to tell her the story. But then his granny said, "He is a lovely little boy." She had never seen Rajam, but Swami was now pleased.

(Source: The Adventures of Swami and His Friends by R.K. Narayan)

New Words

belongings corridor bored response intelligence fellow rebuked cardamom clove arecanut various camping courage pleased rambling.

About the author: R.K. Narayan was born in Madras (Chennai) in 1906 and educated there and at Maharajh's College in Mysore. His first novel was **Swami and Friends** (1935). Some of Narayan's other novels are '**The Dark Room**' (1938), '**The English Teacher**' (1945), '**The Guide**' (1958), '**The Vendor of Sweets**' (1967) etc. In 2000 the Government of India conferred on him the Padma Vibhushan. R.K. Narayan passed away in 2001.

For the teacher only

The students are expected to learn the different kinds of 'preposition.'

Comprehension

- 1. Answer the following questions in complete sentences.
 - a) What did grandmother's room smell of?
 - b) Who was Rajam?
 - c) What was Rajam's father?
 - d) What were Rajam and his father doing when the tiger attacked them?
 - e) How did Rajam kill the tigers?

- 2. Write whether the following statements are true or false.
 - a) Swami loved the time that he spent with his grandmother.
 - b) Swami told his grandmother various stories about his friends.
 - c) Rajam's father was a doctor.
 - d) Swami's grandfather sometimes got 300 marks for his answers in examinations.

 \checkmark

Grammar and Usage:

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Preposition

Preposition is a word placed before a noun or a pronoun to show its relation to some other words in the sentence.

Example: He came *from* school.

(from shows the relation between he and school)

The book is *on* the table.

(on shows the relation between The book and the table)

Kinds of Preposition

| Preposition of time | Preposition of position | Preposition of direction |
|--|---|---|
| Prepositions that are related with time. e.g. in, on, at, since etc. | Prepositions that are related with the position of something or someone e.g. between, at, along, on, in | Preposition that shows the relation of a noun or pronoun with other words in terms of movement or direction. e.g. from, for, to, along etc. |

Read these sentences:

a) The foundation day of our school is celebrated on 1 January every year.

b) My sister was born in 2012.

- c)/ My mother goes to temple *on* Thursdays.
- d) Bimal will visit Delhi in October.
- e) The school bus leaves at 7.30 a.m.
- full I visited my friend's place during summer vacation.
- g)/ They were walking along the road.
- h) She is lying *in* her bed.
- i) I am going to her home.
- j) My brother left for office.



∠ Activity 1

Fill in the blanks with correct prepositions given in brackets.

- a) The books are the almirah. (on / inside / at)
- b) My best friend lives Punjab. (at / in / on)
- c) Are you coming our shop today? (to / from / for)
- d) The poet was walking the road. (to / in / along)
- e) The man went meet his son. (for / in / to)

Activity 2

Match the three parts and write five sentences from the table given below.

| A | В | C |
|-------------------------------|------|----------------------|
| My friend's pen fell | | all. |
| Pompi visits her grandparents | near | six in the morning. |
| | to | |
| Anup is nice | at | our school. |
| | in | |
| Stuti sits to study | off | the table. |
| There is a market | | December every year. |

Activity 3

Look at the picture and complete the sentences given below filling in the blanks with correct prepositions from the box.



through, around, under, out of, into

- a) A fly enters the room the door.
- b) It goes the chair.
- c) It flies the telephone.
- d) It goes the drawer.
- e) It goes the window.

Some more examples:

- a) I am afraid of lizards.
- b) The painting is hung on the wall.
- c) Our home is between two playgrounds.
- d) He is suffering from a fever.
- e) The ball is in the corner of the field.
- f) I go to school on foot.
- g) Priyanka comes to school by bus.
- h) I am fond of sweets.
- i) The old man was resting under the big tree.
- j) The bird is *in* the tree.

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Writing Activity

Sweta and Sukanya are good friends. Today on their way from school, they talk about Children's Day celebration in their school. They make plans to help some poor children they often meet on their way to and from their school. They feel that Children's Day will be successful if they can help the poor children.

want right give glad go clothes toys must

Complete their dialogues with the help of the words given in the box.



Sweta, we can ask our mothers to give us some extra tiffin.

Of course! We can also give some — and—too.

Then we — hurry.

You are — Sukanya.

My mother will be very — to know that I — to help them.

Surely. I have many.
I will be happy if I can—some of them to the poor children.

Ok, let us —.

Build Up Your Vocabulary Collective Noun

- 1. An album of photographs
- 2. A herd of cattle
- 3. A band of musicians
- 4. A pride of lions
- 5. A pack of dogs
- 6. A pack of thieves
- 7. A team of players
- 8. A bouquet of flowers
- 9. A forest of trees
- 10. A galaxy of stars













- 11. A flock of birds
- 12. A crowd of people
- 13. A loaf of bread
- 14. A fleet of sheep
- 15. A swarm of bees
- 16. A shoal of fish
- 17. A range of mountains
- 18. A bunch of keys
- 19. A parliament of owls
- 20. A train of camels

