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An Italian Who Travelled To China

Clauses with 'what', 'where', 'how', etc.

- Abdul : Come and see what I've made.
- Majid : Oh, I see. You've made a picture. Please tell me who it is.
- Abdul : Can't you recognise this man? I'll tell you where he lived.
You'll then know who he is. He lived in Italy.
- Majid : Ah! He is Leonardo da Vinci.
- Abdul : No, he is not. Shall I tell you what he is famous for? He was a famous discoverer.
- Majid : Vasco de Gama?
- Abdul : No, Vasco de Gama was a Portuguese. He wasn't an Italian, perhaps I should tell you which country he travelled to. He travelled to China. There were no quick means of transport then and the journey was full of dangers. I can't remember how he travelled. Perhaps he walked all the way.
- Majid : H'm. Travelled to China! H'm. I don't see why I should forget the name, I certainly have read about him, Mmmm.....
Megasthenese? No, he was a Greek, (pause)Yes, I get it. I know whose picture you've made. It's, Marco Polo, isn't it?
- Abdul : That's right. Why couldn't you guess earlier? I had to tell you where he lived, what he was famous for and which country he travelled to. Haven't you read what our history book says about Marco Polo?

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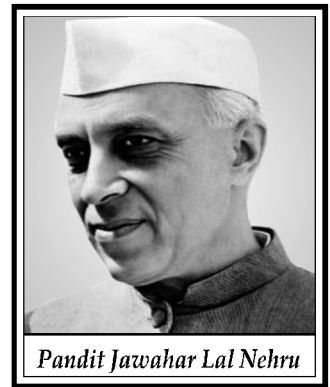
CHAPTER

The Ganga

–Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru (1889-1964)

◆ *About the Author*

Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru, The first Prime Minister of India, was the true builder of modern India. He was also a well known writer. His famous books are 'The Discovery of India', 'Glimpses of The World History' and 'Autobiography'. He was a man of international repute.



◆ *About the Lesson*

'The Ganga' is an extract from the last will and testament of Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru. He expresses his gratitude to the people of India for their love and affection. He is also grateful to his colleagues who were his fellow partners. Nehru wants that his body should be cremated after his death. He wishes that a handful of his ashes be immersed in the Ganga and the major portion of them be scattered over the fields.

[1]

I have received so much love and affection from the Indian people that nothing that I to do can repay even a small fraction of it and indeed there can be no repayment of so precious a thing as affection. Many have been admired, some have been revered, but the affection of all classes of the Indian people has come to me in such abundant measure that I have been overwhelmed by it. I can only express the hope that in the remaining years I may live, I shall not be unworthy of my people and their affection.

To my innumerable comrades and colleagues, I owe an even deeper debt of gratitude. We have been joint partners in great undertakings and have shared the triumph and sorrows which inevitably accompany them.

When I die, I should like my body to be cremated, if I die in a foreign country, my body should be cremated there and my ashes sent to Allahabad. A small handful of these ashes should be thrown in the Ganga and the major portion of them disposed of in the manner indicated below. No part of these ashes should be retained or preserved.

[2]

My desire to have a handful of my ashes thrown in the Ganga at Allahabad has no religious significance, so far as I am concerned. I have no religious sentiment in the matter.

I have been attached to the Ganga and the Jamuna rivers in Allahabad ever since my childhood and, as I have grown older, this attachment has also grown. I have watched their varying moods as the seasons changed and have often thought of the history and myth and tradition and song and story that have become attached to them through the long ages and become part of their flowing waters.

[3]

The Ganga especially is the river of India, beloved of her people, round which are intertwined her racial memories, her hopes and fears, her songs of triumph, her victories and her defeats. She has been a symbol of India's age-long culture and civilization, ever-changing, ever-flowing, and yet ever the same Ganga. She reminds me of the snowcovered peaks and the deep valleys of the Himalayas, which I have loved so much and of the rich and vast plains below, where my life and work have been cast.

[4]

Smiling and dancing in the morning sunlight, and dark and gloomy and full of mystery as the evening shadows fall; a narrow, slow and graceful stream in winter and a vast roaring thing during the monsoon, broad bosomed almost as the sea and with something of the sea's power to destroy, the Ganga has been to me a symbol and memory of the past of India, running into the present and flowing on to the great ocean of the future.

[5]

And though I have discarded much of past tradition and custom and an anxious that India should rid herself of all shackles that bind and constrain her and divide her people and suppress vast numbers of them and prevent the free development of the body and the spirit. Though I seek all this yet I do not wish to cut myself off from that past completely. I am proud of that great inheritance that has been, and is, ours, and I am conscious that I too, like all of us, am a link in the unbroken chain which goes back to the dawn of history in the immemorial past of India. That chain I would not break, for I treasure it and seek inspiration from it. And, as witness of this desire of mine and as my last homage to India's cultural inheritance, I am making this request that a handful of my ashes be thrown into the Ganga at Allahabad to be carried to the great ocean that washes India's shores.

The major portion of my ashes should, however, be disposed of otherwise. I want these to be carried high up into the air in an aeroplane and scattered from that height over the fields where the peasants of India toil, so that they might mingle with the dust and soil of India and become an indistinguishable part of India.

I have written this Will and Testament in New Delhi on the twenty-first day of June in the year Nineteen Hundred and Fifty-four.

|| Glossary ||

Fraction	अंश	a small part
Precious	बहुमूल्य	valuable, costly
Abundant	प्रचुर	copious, ample

Measure	मात्रा	quantity
Overwhelmed	बहुत खुश	overjoyed
Comrades	साथी	fellows, companions
Colleagues	सहकर्मी	co-workers
Gratitude	कृतज्ञता	a sense of obligation
Undertakings	कार्य	huge task
Triumphs	विजय	victories
Inevitably	अनिवार्य रूप से	invariably
Cremated	दाह संस्कार किया जाय	burnt into fire
Ashes	राख	remains of body after burning into fire
Disposed of	निपटाया जाय	done away with
Indicated	दिखाया गया, दर्शाया गया	shown, mentioned
Retained	बचा कर रखा जाय	kept behind
Preserved	सुरक्षित रखा जाय	kept safe
Handful	मुट्ठी भर	a little
Significance	महत्त्व	importance
Concerned	सम्बन्धित	related to
Sentiment	भावना	emotion
Attached	लगाव रहा, जुड़ गये	annexed
Varying	बदलते हुए	changing
Myth	पौराणिक कथाएँ	fiction
Tradition	परम्परा	old customs
Interwined	गुँथी हुई	interwoven
Racial	जातिगत	pertaining to castes
Symbol	प्रतीक, चिह्न	a token
Culture	संस्कृति	refinement
Cast	ढाला गया	moulded
Gloomy	उदास, अंधकारयुक्त	sorrowful, dark
Mystery	रहस्य	secret
Vast	विशाल	huge, widespread
Broad-bosomed	चौड़ी छाती (पाट) वाली	with great width
Discarded	त्याग दिया	forsaken
Anxious	चिन्तित, आतुर	desirous worried
Rid herself	छुटकारा पाया	liberated
Shackles	जंजीरें, बंधन	chains, bondages
Constrain	कैद करना	confine
Suppress	दबाना	overpower
Prevent	रोकना	check
Seek	खोजना	search for
Inheritance	उत्तराधिकार में प्राप्त सम्पत्ति	obtained in succession
I am conscious	मुझे अहसास है	I am aware
Dawn	भार, प्रारम्भ काल	initial phase/stage
Treasure	बहुमूल्य मानना	to treat as valuable

Inspiration	प्रेरणा	urge, encouragement
Witness	साक्षी	evidence
Homage	श्रद्धांजलि	tribute
Cultural	सांस्कृतिक	related to refinement
Shores	सागर तट	coasts
Otherwise	भिन्न तरीके से, अन्यथा नहीं	in a different manner
Scattered	बिखेरा	thrown here and there, strewn, diffused
Peasants	कृषक	farmers, tillers
Toil	परिश्रम करना	labour
Mingle	घुल-मिल जाना	mix up, absorbed
Indistinguishable	अभिन्न	unidentifiable
Will	वसीयतनामा	a statement in writing saying how somebody wishes to distribute his property after his death
Testament	इच्छापत्र	will

|| Exercise ||

↳ COMPREHENSION

(A) Read the following passages and answer the questions given below:

(a) I have received.....indicated below.

Or To my innumerableretained or preserved.

1. Write the name of the lesson from which the above noted passage has been taken and also give the name of the writer.
2. What does the author owe to his comrades and colleagues?
3. What is the desire of the writer after his death?
4. Where should his ashes be sent?
5. Point out those words used in the passage which have the following meanings :

(a) Countless

(b) Put to fire, burnt into fire.

(b) My desire to have.....vast plains below.

1. Write the name of the lesson from which the above noted passage has been taken. Who is the author of the passage?
2. Why is the author reminded of the snow-covered mountains on seeing the river Ganga?
3. Whose 'varying moods' etc. has the author referred to in the first paragraph of the passage?

4. How can it be said that the river Ganga represents India's culture and civilization?
5. Find out the words from the passage which have the following meanings :
(a) Changing (b) Large.

(c) The Ganga, especially.....has been cast.

1. Write the name of the lesson from which the above noted passage has been taken. Who is the author of the lesson ?
2. What does the Ganga symbolize?
3. Why is the Ganga beloved of the Indian People ?
4. What does the Ganga remind Pt. Nehru of ?
5. Which words in the passage mean :
(a) Victory (b) Mixed intimately.

(d) Smiling and dancing.....of the future.

1. Write the name of the lesson from which the passage has been selected. Who is the author of this lesson?
2. What does the Ganga look like during the monsoon?
3. What, according to the writer, is the scene of the Ganga like in the morning and when the evening shadows fall?
4. How does, according to the writer, the Ganga look during the winter?
5. What is the scene of the Ganga like during the monsoons?
6. Which words in the above noted passage give the synonyms of the following words :
(a) Sea (b) Ruin.

(e) And though I have.....inspiration from it.

1. Write the name of the lesson from which the above noted passage has been taken. Who is the author of this lesson?
2. What does the author want India to get rid herself of?
3. Why does the author not wish to cut himself off the past completely?
4. What is he conscious of, what does he mean by 'unbroken chain' whose 'link' he himself is?

5. Point out those two words in the passage which have the following meanings :
- Fetters
 - Ancient beyond memory.

(B) Long Answer Type Questions:

Answer the following questions in not more than 60 words each :

- Why does Nehru call the Ganga 'the river of India'?
 - Why was Nehru deeply attached to the Ganga and the Jamuna?
 - What were two important points which Nehru made in his 'will'?
 - What did Nehru desire to be done after his death?
- Or
- What did Pt. Nehru like to done to his body after his death?
 - Did Nehru consider Ganga a holy river? What is your own attitude to this river and why?
 - What were the views of Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru about the river Ganga and about the people of the country?
 - What is the significance of the Ganga for Nehru and for India?
 - What does Nehruji want India to get rid herself of?
- Or
- What do you come to know about Pt. Nehru after reading the lesson 'The Ganga'?
 - In what way, did Nehru desire his ashes to be disposed of ?

(C) Short Answer Type Questions:

Answer the following questions in not more than 25 words each :

- What was the most precious gift to Nehru?
- What does Pt. Nehru want to be done to his body after his death?
- What does Pt. Nehru seek from the past of India ?
- What did the Ganga remind Pandit Nehru of ?
- Why did Nehru want his ashes to be immersed into the Ganga?
- What traits of Nehru's character are brought out in the lesson ?
- What does the Ganga symbolize?
- What according to Pt. Nehru should India get rid of and why?
- Why was Pt. Nehru so much attached to the Ganga?
- Why did Nehru want the major portion of his ashes be scattered over the field of India?
- What was Nehru unable to repay to the Indian people?
- What did Nehru receive from Indian People?

(D) 1. *Select the most suitable alternative to complete each of the following statements :*

- (i) Pandit Nehru wants that his ashes should be sent to :
 (a) Agra (b) Allahabad (c) Delhi (d) Lucknow
- (ii) The Ganga especially is the river of :
 (a) India (b) Uttar Pradesh (c) Bihar (d) Allahabad

2. *Say whether each of the following statements is 'true' or 'false':*

- (i) Pandit Nehru has received much love and affection from the Indian People.
- (ii) Pandit Nehru has been attached to the Ganga and the Jamuna rivers in Allahabad, ever since his childhood.
- (iii) He does not consider the Ganga as the symbol of India's past tradition.

(E) *Vocabulary*

1. *Fill in the blanks with suitable words selected from the list given below :*

major, handful, attached, religious

- (i) My desire to have a.....of my ashes thrown in the Ganga at Allahabad has no.....significance.
- (ii) The.....portion of my ashes should be disposed of.
- (iii) He has been.....to the Ganga and the Jamuna rivers since his childhood.

2. *Give the opposite words of the following :*

innumerable, vast, major, small, holy.

3. (i) *Match the following words of 'List A' with their meanings in 'List B':*

List 'A'	List 'B'
Precious	Ample
Abundant	Annexed
Preserved	Secret
Attached	Huge
Mystery	Valuable
Vast	Kept safe

(ii) *Match the following words of List 'A' with their meanings in List 'B'—*

List 'A'	List 'B'
Sacred	Admire
Precious	reputation
Fame	holy
appreciate	valuable

(iii) *Match the following words of List 'A' with their meanings in List 'B'—*

List 'A'	List 'B'
gravity	worked hard
mystery	sufficient
toiled	seriousness
enough	secret

(iv) *Match the words of List 'A' with their meanings in List 'B'—*

List 'A'	List 'B'
vast	desirous
paused	bargaining
willing	huge
haggling	stopped

(v) *Match the words of List 'A' with their meanings in List 'B'—*

List 'A'	List 'B'
anxiety	burnt into fire
resemble	art of stone carving
cremated	to look like
sculpture	uncertainty and fear about the future

For further Reading :

'Discovery of India' by Pt. Nehru.

↳ Project Work

(a) The Ganga is a holy river of India. Find out the following information about the Ganga :

- (i) The place from where the Ganga rises.
- (ii) The place where the Ganga end.
- (iii) Name of all the states in which the Ganga runs.
- (iv) Pollution in the Ganga.

Make a **chart** to show all the above mentioned things and write a letter to the editor of a national daily expressing your concern about the threat to the bio-reserves.

(b) Trace out any four big towns located on the bank of the Ganga in U.P. and Uttarakhand. Then prepare a **list** of the causes how these towns are polluting the Ganga. Make also a **diary report**.

|| Worksheet-3 ||

Usage

↳ **ADJECTIVE CLAUSE**

An Adjective clause does the work of an Adjective.

Examples :

- I saw a boy **who was running on the road.**
- I bought a book **which was costly.**
- Bring me the book **that is lying on the table.**
- This is a girl **whom I have ever loved.**

|| Exercise ||

1. *Combine each set of simple sentences into one sentence by using an Adjective clause.*

1. I gave him a camera. The camera was very cheap.
2. Ram is a good boy. He belongs to a good family.
3. My father gave me a book. It was lost.
4. I have a watch. It gives correct time.
5. Aladin had a lamp. The lamp brought him anything, he desired.
6. I have a dog. It is very faithful.
7. I know the boy. His father is a doctor.
8. I saw a boy. He was blind.
9. Return the book. I gave you.
10. He is a student. I gave him my book.

2. *Complete the following sentences by filling in the gaps with who, whose, which, whom :*

1. This is the person.....brought this message.
2. She is the only girl.....I have ever loved.
3. The writer.....I like most is Premchand.
4. I do not know the man.....she was talking about.
5. Where is the book.....I lent you yesterday?
6. The man.....the police arrested this morning is a notorious person.

7. You may occupy any chair.....is lying vacant.
8. Send me the papers.....you want me to sign.
9. I dislike a man.....tells lies.
10. Please, get me the tools.....I need for the job.

3. *Combine each pair of sentences below turning the underlined sentence into a relative clause.*

Example :

- I live in a village.
- It has no electricity.

Ans. I live in a village which has no electricity.

1. A lady wrote this novel. She is expected here today.
2. Some men were injured in the accident. They are still in the hospital.
3. A boy sang the best. He won a medal.
4. We had bought an old car. It gave us no end of trouble.
5. He held a post in the bank. It was one of the top posts in it.
6. Buddha attained enlightenment under a tree. It is called the Boddhi tree.
7. He spoke on a subject. He had studied it very well.

↳ COMPREHENSION

Q. Read the following passage and answer the questions given below :

Florence Nightingale was born on 15th May, 1820 at Florence in Italy and her parents called her after the city where she was born. Her sole ambition was to be a nurse and so she gave-up all thoughts of marriage and personal happiness. She spent years visiting hospital after hospital. Day and night, she visited every bed in the hospital to see that no patient was neglected and that all were as comfortable as possible. However hard she might have worked all day, every night she would take her lamp and move from bed to bed. The 'Lady with the Lamp', the soldiers called her and that is the name by which the world has remembered her ever since.

↳ Questions :

1. When was Florence Nightingale born?
2. Why did her parents name her Florence Nightingale?
3. What did Florence Nightingale want to do ?
4. Why was Florence Nightingale called the "Lady with the Lamp"?
5. Give the passage a suitable title.