

Lesson - 7

A MOTHER'S LOVE

A. WARMER

1. What does your mother do for you?
2. How will you take care of her when she grows old?

- ◆ *Can a mother ever think bad for her son? Read this story and find out yourself.*

Mahua is a small village on the bank of the Punpun River. There lived a poor widow. Her name was Sita. She had only one son named Ratan. Sita was very poor. But she loved her son very much. She wanted him to study and become a great man. She used to work as a housemaid and grow vegetables in her backyard to pay for her son's studies. It was a hard work, but she never complained. Unfortunately, Ratan was never interested in his studies. He left school midway. Sita was very sad. She had



some silver bangles. She sold them and opened a small shop for Ratan.

Ratan was good at business and sold many things of general use. Gradually, he was able to

save some money. When Sita saw that his business had grown, she got him married. Ratan was very happy with his wife, Bela. But he started neglecting his mother. Sita helped Bela with cooking, washing and other household work. After a year Bela gave birth to a son. Sita was very happy to have a grandson. She doted on the child and sang many songs to him everyday. But Sita's health began to fail day by day. Ratan had no time for her. He did not take her to any doctor.

Once, it rained heavily. The water of the Punpun River entered the village. The flood washed away many animals, trees and houses. The people were forced to leave the village. Ratan's house was on high land, but it was surrounded by water. His shop was damaged and the roof of his house leaked. After his marriage, Ratan had given Sita a small cot outside the house to sleep and he lived inside with his wife. One night when he came back to his house, he found Sita shivering and coughing, but he remained



silent. He went inside his small room and found that Bela was sleeping with the child in her arms. The bed was wet. Suddenly it thundered and it began to rain. The roof leaked and the child started crying. Bela got up and covered the child with her sari.



Her clothes were wet. Ratan had a strange feeling. He was moved deeply to see this sight. This reminded him of his childhood days. He instantly went to his mother.

“Maa! Please forgive me. I've been very unkind to you. I forgot my duty. I don't know what to say.” Ratan said sobbing.

On hearing Ratan's voice, Bela came out on to the verandah. She saw Ratan in Sita's arms. Both were weeping. Sita said, “Don't cry my child. How can a mother be angry with her own son? You have all my blessings and love.”

At this, Bela's eyes were also filled with tears. She went near them and sat down. It was a happy family reunion.

GLOSSARY AND NOTES

bank	: (बैंक), किनारा	the land alongside a river
widow	: (विडो), विधवा	a woman whose husband is dead
housemaid	: (हाउसमेड), घरेलू दाई	a female domestic help
backyard	: (बैकिर्याड), आँगन	open space behind a house
complain	: (कॉम्प्लेन), शिकायत	to bring a formal change
unfortunately	: (अनफॉर्चुनेटली), बद् किस्मती से	unlucky
midway	: (मिडवे), बीच मे	in the middle
gradually	: (ग्रेजुअली), धीरे-धीरे	slowly
dote	: (डोट), गोदना	show excessive love
surround	: (सराउण्ड), के चारो ओर होना	encircle
remained	: (रिमेन्ड), शेष या बाकी रहना	did not speak
shiver	: (शिभर), ठिठुरना	tremble
thunder	: (थन्डर), गरज	shouted
forgive	: (फॉरगिभ), क्षमा करना	pardon
sob	: (सॉब), सिसकना	cry
reunion	: (रियूनियन), दोबारा एक होना	unite again

B. COMPREHENSION

B.1 Think and Tell

B.1.1 Answer the following questions :

1. Who was Sita?
2. Where did she live?
3. When did Sita get Ratan married?
4. Who wanted Ratan to become a great man?
5. What was the name of Ratan's wife?

B.2 Think and Write

B.2.1 True or False

1. Based on the story write 'true' or 'false' next to each sentence given below:

1. Sita wanted her son to open a shop.
2. Ratan left her school mid way.

3. Sita sold her gold bangles and helped Ratan to open a shop.
4. Sita did not help Bela in any household job.
5. The flood washed away Ratan's house.
6. Sita forgave Ratan for his mistakes.

B.2.2 Tick (✓) the option for each of the following:

1. It was a hard work, but she never complained. Why?

- (a) She enjoyed doing it.
- (b) She was not of complaining nature.
- (c) She knew she had to do the hard work in order to pay for her son's studies.

2. Ratan was able to save money because

- (a) He received money from his mother.
- (b) He was good at business.
- (c) He was a miser.

3. During the flood

- (a) Sita got wet, and started crying.
- (b) Bela got wet, and started crying.
- (c) The roof leaked and the child began to cry.

B.2.3 Answer in not more than 50 words :

1. How can you say that Sita loved her son very much?
2. What shows that Ratan became unkind to his mother after his marriage?
3. What made Ratan and Bela realise that they had been very unfair to their mother?

C. VOCABULARY

C.1 Go through the text again and find out the words that mean the following:

- I. A woman whose husband has died
.....
- II. Jewellery worn around the wrist
.....
- III. A situation in which people meet each other after a long time
.....
- IV. A loud noise that we sometimes hear in the sky during a storm
.....
- V. A woman servant whose job is to keep someone's house clean
.....

C.2 Rearrange the letters to find out words that make sense. Use these words in sentences of your own.

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D. GRAMMAR

D.1 Determiners

Read the following sentences from the lesson :

- (a) Mahua is a small village.
- (b) Her name was Sita.
- (c) She had some silver bangles.

Mark the use of 'a', 'her' and 'some' in the sentences given above. These words determine or specify the meaning of the words (noun) which they precede. Such words are called determiners. In other words, a determiner is a word that comes before a noun and shows its limits.

Examples:

a, an, the, two, both, this, that, my, your, some, any, each, every, little, few, many, much, a lot of etc.

'Some' is normally used in affirmative sentence; 'any' in negative and questions.

I have some money.

I have not any money.

Do you have any money?

Not any= No

I have not any pen= I have no pen.

D.1.1 Use a/an/the/ some/any wherever necessary :

I have cow. Cow is black. One day I needed milk. I went to cow and asked her, "I want milk. Do you have milk?" Cow said, " Yes, I have milk but I cannot give you milk.

D.2 Few/A Few/The Few

'Few', 'a few' and 'the few' are used with countable nouns. 'Few' means not 'a bit'. 'A few' means 'some', 'the few' means 'what soever it is'. 'We made few mistakes' means 'we made not many mistakes'. 'We made a few mistakes' means 'we made some mistakes.'

'We were punished for the few mistakes we made' means the number of mistakes was not very large but whatever it was, we were punished for it.

D.2.1 Correct the following sentences :

1. I have the few rupees to buy books.
2. Can you give me few apples to eat?
3. I have not many but I will give you few apples I have.
4. Only a little students are lazy.
5. Make few mistake.

E. LET'S TALK AND WRITE

E.1 Discuss in pairs the role of your father.

E.2 Write a paragraph on the tasks you do to help your mother.

F. TRANSLATION

E.1 Translate the following into your mother tongue :

I can eat some more mangoes.

I cannot eat any more bananas.

Are there any birds in the cage?

There are some birds in the cage.

I have a few mangoes and a little milk.

E.2 Translate the following into English :

बर्तन में थोड़ा दही है।

मेरे पास कुछ किताबें हैं।

तुम्हारे पास थोड़ा दूध है।

उसके पास कोई किताब नहीं है।

क्या आपके पास थोड़ा समय है?

G. LET'S PLAY

G.1 Mother Word Game :

All students of the class may play this game at a time. Write any long word such as, 'POSTMAN' on the blackboard and ask students to write down all the words they can make with the letters of the given word. You will get words such as **pot , mat, stamp, stop** etc. from Postman. Each letter should be used only once in a word. The student who makes the highest number of words is the winner.

