

Girls' High School & College, Prayagraj

Worksheet No. 2

Session (2020-2021)

Class 3 (A-F)

English Literature

Ls.1 Mother Tongue

Instructions-

This worksheet is in continuation of the previous worksheet of Ls.1 Mother Tongue.

Parents are expected to ensure that the child must revise the worksheet 1 and then continue to read and understand the following paragraph from the lesson and follow the explanatory exercises –

Quick recap of the story -

1. Akbar was the greatest Mughal Emperor of India.
2. Birbal, a courtier in his darbar or court, became his most trusted friend and advisor.
3. A learned Pandit once visited the court of Emperor Akbar.
4. He claimed to know a number of languages.
5. He was so fluent that no one could find out what his mother tongue was.
6. He challenged everyone at the court to find out his mother tongue.
7. Akbar accepted the challenge and made him his honoured guest for the night.
8. When everybody failed, the challenge was taken up by Birbal.

Story ( continued )

The snoring Pandit had a visitor in his room late that night. After having had a **sumptuous** meal, the Pandit was fast asleep on a **luxurious** bed- soft and silky, such that he had never slept on in his entire life.

Birbal crept close to the Pandit, who was lying on his back. He had with him, a piece of straw in his hand. He bent quietly and tickled his left ear with the straw. The Pandit turned over to his left side and let out a loud snore, 'Khaaaa....khaaaa'. Birbal tickled him in his right ear. The Pandit **swatted** at his ear, let out another snore, 'Khaaaa.....zzzzzzz' and turned over.

Birbal continued to tickle the Pandit's ear from time to time and the Pandit kept on turning this way and that, swatting at his ears each time. By the time Birbal had tickled him for the seventh time, the Pandit was thoroughly disturbed and **irritated** and cried out in his sleep, " Who's dat....what's ...dat," in his mother tongue !

Birbal smiled, put the straw into his pocket and left as quietly as he had come.

The next morning the court was **in session** when the Pandit walked in. After being honoured by the king, he took his seat. Birbal, having taken permission from the Emperor, rose and addressing the king and all present, said, "O learned Pandit, you had challenged us to find out your mother tongue by this morning. Well, Sir, your mother tongue is Telugu. Am I correct?"

The Pandit looked quite **crestfallen** and quietly nodded. Birbal then said, "If the knowledge we have makes us proud, then that knowledge is of no use." The Pandit realized his mistake. He apologized to the king and departed.

The Mughal ruler then asked Birbal, "Tell us how you came to know his mother tongue?"

"Your Majesty, a man may know and speak many languages, but in times of difficulty, he will only speak in his mother tongue."

He then related to the Emperor and all the courtiers about how he had **sneaked** into the Pandit's chamber the night before.

Everyone was rolling with laughter as Birbal, with his usual sense of humour, described all that had taken place.

### **Explanatory exercises-**

#### **The parents should help the child to read, understand and learn the word- meanings and the question-answers related to the paragraph above .**

#### **Ex-1 Word- Meanings**

- 1.sumptuous – splendid, rich
- 2.luxurious - comfortable and expensive
- 3.swatted - hit with a sharp blow
- 4.irritated – annoyed , to feel angry
- 5.in session – meeting of the court
- 6.crestfallen - sad, disappointed
- 7.sneaked - crept in quietly
- 8.apologized – said sorry
- 9.departed – left
- 10.rolling with laughter – laughing a lot
- 11.tickle – lightly touch ( a person or a part of the body) in a way that causes itching or laughter
- 12.humour – the quality of being funny

**Ex-2 Short question- answers**

1.How did the Pandit react when Birbal gave the correct answer?

Ans- The Pandit looked quite crestfallen when Birbal gave the correct answer.

2.Why was everyone rolling with laughter?

Ans- Everyone was rolling with laughter as Birbal, with his usual sense of humour, described all that had taken place.

3.Why did Birbal smile?

Ans- Birbal smiled as he was able to find out the Pandit's mother tongue .

4.What did Birbal prove to the emperor and others?

Ans- Birbal had proved to the emperor and others that a man may know and speak many languages but in times of difficulty, he'll only speak in his mother tongue.

5.Why did the Pandit apologise to the king?

Ans- The Pandit apologized to the king as he realized his mistake.

**Note- The parents should help the child to do the following exercise from the above paragraph.**

**Ex-3 Choose the correct option-**

1.The ( **Pandit / Akbar**) had a visitor in his room late that night.

2.( **The Pandit / Birbal**) had a sumptuous meal.

3.( **Birbal / Akbar**) crept close to the Pandit.

4.The Pandit's mother tongue was ( **Telugu / Bengali**).

5.( **The Pandit / king** ) took his seat.

(3)

THE END