

A SILLY MASTER (STORY)

Students Learning Outcomes

On the completion of this unit, the students will be able to:

- scan the text to answer the comprehension questions.
- recognize the author's purpose and point of view.
- make connections between their own lives and the characters, events, motives, and causes of conflict in texts.
- write a story.
- use transitive and intransitive verbs.

Pre-reading

- When does someone require first aid?
- Have you ever given first aid to someone?

Once there was a very rich man, named Qasim. He had worked hard on his fields and Allah had given him a lot of wealth for his hard work. He had built a house in the city because he wanted his son and daughter to be well-educated. His two children were very young when they moved to the city. Qasim's children were so used to city life that they never went to the village again. Qasim earned a lot of money from his lands, but now most of the work was done by his servants. He depended on an old servant, Jamal for the management of his fields.

Jamal was very clever, but his master, Qasim, was cleverer. He could tell by going round his lands how much grain his fields were going to produce. He could easily estimate the expected income. He gave Jamal no chance to deceive him. In this way Qasim was earning a lot without doing anything.



Qasim's children were living a comfortable life. Naeem, his son, was a **simpleton**. He never took the trouble of going to the village to inspect the fields and the crops as his father gave him enough money for his personal expenses.

Qasim had grown old and fallen ill, and soon passed away. Naeem had to take the place of his father. His mother advised him to go to the village and check if everything was going on well. The cotton crop had been harvested and sold, but Jamal had sent them lesser amount than usual. Naeem's mother wanted that her son should personally inspect the fields as his father used to do.

Naeem did not want to go away from the city. He was so used to the comforts of city life that he felt uneasy when he had to go to the village. But his mother kept on advising him. So he went to the village and stayed with his manager, Jamal. It was the winter season and the evenings were especially very cold. Jamal had lit a fire in the room and Naeem was sitting by the fire place. Suddenly he heard a strange noise. The jackals were howling outside.

"What's the noise?" asked Naeem.

"It is the noise of jackals," replied Jamal.

"They are sitting outside and howling."

"I do not like this noise", said Naeem. "Please send them away."



Jamal went outside and returned after a few minutes and said, "Sir, they have come because you are here. You are their master. They are cold. They want you to give them warm blankets."

"But I did not bring any blankets from the city," said Naeem.

"In that case you can give them some money for the blankets. They will go to the shop and buy blankets with the money," said Jamal.

Naeem handed him a thousand rupee note for the jackals. Jamal put the money in his pocket and went outside. He threw some stones at the jackals and

they ran away. Naeem was now feeling tired. He went to bed and slept soundly that night.

The next night, the jackals came again when Naeem was sleeping. He was disturbed by the noise. He called Jamal and said, "The jackals are here again. I cannot sleep because they are howling loudly. Go out and talk to them. Why have they come back and are making so much noise?"

Jamal went out of the room, stayed there for a few minutes and came back again.

"They are hungry, sir," said Jamal. "They want some food. They are not cold because you gave them money to buy blankets. They are asking you for food because you are their master."

"But I have no food to give them. Can they buy food from the shops? Take these thousand rupees and tell them to buy food. Jamal again put that money in his pocket, went outside and scared the jackals away. The jackals ran away and Naeem was able to sleep peacefully.

The next night, Jamal was in his master's room when they heard the noise of jackals again. They were howling around the house.

"Listen to that noise," said Naeem. "These jackals are here again. I gave them money for blankets and food. What do they want now?"

Jamal went outside. He threw stones at the jackals and they ran away. When he came back, Naeem asked, "What did they want?"

"They did not want anything, sir, replied Jamal. "They had simply come to say, "Thank you."

Reading and thinking skills

Comprehension

1. Answer the following questions.

- i. Why did Qasim build a house in the city?
- ii. Why did Qasim trust Jamal?
- iii. Why could not Jamal deceive Qasim?
- iv. Was Naeem as clever as his father? If not, give some reasons.
- v. Why did Naeem's mother advise him to go to the village?

- vi. Why was Naeem hesitant to go to the village?
- vii. What did Naeem hear while sitting in the room?
- viii. How much money did Naeem give to Jamal to get rid of the Jackals on the first night?
- ix. What happened the next night?
- x. How did Jamal prove to be a clever servant?

2. Choose the correct option to complete the following sentences.

- i. Qasim had built a house in the city
 - a) because he wanted his son and daughter to be well-educated.
 - b) because he wanted his sons to be well-educated.
 - c) because he wanted his children to be farmers.
 - d) because he wanted his children to be illiterate.
- ii. Qasim earned a lot of money from his lands, but
 - a) now most of the work was done by his servants.
 - b) now some of the work was done by his servants.
 - c) now some of the work was done by his brothers.
 - d) now most of the work was done by his uncles.
- iii. Jamal was very clever, but his master,
 - a) Qasim was fool.
 - b) Qasim, was more clever.
 - c) Qasim, was cleverer.
 - d) Qasim was wise.
- iv. The cotton crop had been harvested and sold, but Jamal had sent them
 - a) lesser amount than usual.
 - b) more amount than usual.
 - c) least amount than usual.
 - d) most amount than usual.
- v. His mother advised him to go to the village and check
 - a) if animals were fine.
 - b) if everything was going on well.

- c) if Jamal was sick.
- d) if their house was sold.
- vi. Jamal had lit a fire in the room and
 - a) Qasim was sitting by the fire place.
 - b) Naeem was sitting in the lawn.
 - c) Naeem was sitting by the computer.
 - d) Naeem was sitting by the fire place.
- vii. The jackals were
 - a) howling outside.
 - b) barking outside.
 - c) crying outside.
 - d) sitting inside.
- viii. Naeem handed Jamal
 - a) a Ten rupee note for jackals.
 - b) a fifty rupee note for jackals.
 - c) a thousand rupee note for goats.
 - d) a thousand rupee note for the jackals.
- ix. Who had been deceiving Naeem?
 - a) Qasim had been deceiving Naeem.
 - b) Jackals had been deceiving Naeem.
 - c) Jamal had been deceiving Naeem.
 - d) Shopkeeper had been deceiving Naeem.
- x. "They did not want anything", sir, replied Jamal,
 - a) "They had simply come to say, sorry".
 - b) "They had simply come to buy tomatoes."
 - c) "They had simply come to frighten you."
 - d) "They had simply come to say, Thank you".

Critical Thinking

3. Write a paragraph on 'Think before you speak'.

Writing

4. Write a story about an unforgettable event of your life.

Grammar

Transitive and intransitive verbs

Transitive verbs

Transitive verbs are action verbs that have an object to receive that action.

Examples

- i. My mother taught me.
- ii. She read a story yesterday.
- iii. I wrote a paragraph.

Intransitive verbs

Intransitive verbs are action verbs that they do not have an object receiving the action.

Examples

- i. He jumped.
- ii. I laughed.
- iii. The baby cried.

5. Write five sentences each using transitive and intransitive verbs.