



**Class VI – ENGLISH**

**Lesson – 1 – Mr. Toad’s Adventure (New Images)**

Dear Students

Welcome to the new academic session 2020-21 !

Before you go through this e-lesson, ensure that you have read the lesson ‘Mr. Toad’s Adventure’ from your book ‘New Images’ thoroughly. Mark the vocabulary words, find out their meanings and practice them.

The following lesson will help you understand the lesson and make it easier for you.

**I. INTRODUCTION –**

- The story ‘Mr. Toad’s Adventure’ is a short piece of writing taken from Kenneth Grahame’s novel ‘*The Wind in the Willows*’ published in 1908.
- Kenneth Grahame was a Scottish writer who is most famous for writing various stories for children.
- Mr. Toad is the main character in this story who has an undying passion and love for cars. This story shows how his passion for cars gets him into trouble.

**II. CHARACTERS –**

- **Mr. Toad** is the main character of the story.
- Mr. Toad loved driving cars and had a passion for driving.
- He was known as ‘Mr. Toad the terror, the traffic-queller, the Lord of the lone trail.’
- Mr. Toad seems to lack common sense, as he doesn’t think twice before stealing a car.
- He is so overcome by his passion for cars that he doesn’t follow any traffic rules and behaves arrogantly with the police.
- Mr. Toad fails to understand the gravity of his crime and there is a lack of seriousness in his actions. He seems to look at things casually.
- **Chubby Cop** – Catches Mr. Toad red handed over-speeding, drags him to the court of law and ensures he is punished.
- **Mr. Clerk** – The judge who announces the punishment for Mr. Toad. He is a little harsh in announcing the punishment for Mr. Toad’s crime.
- **Gaoler** – The jailer stationed outside Mr. Toad’s cell.

**III. THEME –**

- The story raises a question in the reader's mind – should one give in to all their desires and wishes, without thinking about the consequences?
- The story also throws light on the importance of following rules and regulations for one's own safety.

#### IV. EXPLANATION –

- **TITLE** - The story revolves around how Mr. Toad's 'adventure' turns into a 'misadventure.' Mr. Toad is sitting at an inn, where he is marveled by the sound of a motor car. He thinks of going on a small adventure and decides to drive the car. However, his happiness is short lived as he is so lost in enjoying his experience of driving that he doesn't follow any traffic rules. He is soon caught by the police and jailed for twenty years.
- **HYPERBOLE** - Hyperbole is a figure of speech which means using exaggerated statements or ideas that are not meant to be taken literally. It is often used to show contrast or to catch the reader's attention. Hyperbole adds emphasis; and a simple conversation, a speech or a song can be brought to life or become comical with the use of hyperbole. For example, *'Mr. Toad would die a thousand times over if he could drive a motor-car just once.'*

## V. SUMMARY -

Mr. Toad is sitting at an inn, and hears the familiar sound of a motor car. He isn't able to control himself and decides to have a look at it.

He is so marvelled by the car that he decides to drive it once and keep it back. Once he starts driving, he is so lost in his own world that he doesn't follow any traffic rules.



He's soon chased and caught by the police and questioned. He replies to the questions of the police arrogantly.

Mr. Toad is taken to a court of law for a trial where a severe punishment is announced for him.



Mr. Toad is given a punishment of twelve months for theft, four years for furious driving and fifteen years for cheeking the police, which adds up to twenty years.

Mr. Toad is loaded with chains and is dragged to the remotest dungeon of England. He shrieks and protests across the market place, but in vain.

## VI. ASSIGNMENT QUESTIONS –

*[To be attempted in the English notebook]*

- (i) Explain how Mr. Toad's 'adventure' turns into a 'misadventure.' [60-80 words]
- (ii) Describe Mr. Toad's journey from the court-room to the dungeon where he was imprisoned. [60-80 words]
- (iii) Identify two examples of 'hyperbole' from the story, apart from the one already given. [30-40 words]
- (iv) Analyse the character of Mr. Toad. Give suitable examples. [30-40 words]

## VII. FURTHER REFERENCE –

Kindly watch the following videos for a better understanding.

- Mr. Toad's love for cars - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zYUDMRcfLfU>
- Short summary of the story - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DHyHdJe2ZB8>

\*\*\*\*\*

BBPS PITAMPURA