



COURSEBOOK – LESSON - ADRIFT AT SEA

NAME _____ CLASS-V/ SEC - _____ WEEK- 14/12/2020 to 18/12/2020

Learning Outcomes:

Each child will be able to:

- *read and understand the story.*
- *comprehend the text and answer at least three questions based on it.*

Step 1: Read the text 'Adrift at Sea' from My New Canvas Coursebook and underline important words and ideas.

(Please note the scanned pages of the lesson have been added towards the end of this E-lesson)

Step 2: Revise the text through the notes given below.

Step 3: Here is the link of the movie 'Life of Pi' which is based on this beautiful novel written by Yann Martel:-

<https://youtu.be/dfqT87THcMM>

Yann Martel's 'Life of Pi', which is an international bestseller, is the story of a young boy named Piscine Molitor 'Pi' Patel, who survives a harrowing shipwreck and months in a lifeboat with a large Bengal tiger named Richard Parker.

The beginning of the novel covers Pi's childhood and youth. His family owns and runs a zoo in their hometown in India, and his father is emphatic about being aware of the wildness and true nature of animals, namely that they are not meant to be treated like or thought of as people. Early in Pi's life, his father realizes that his son's naiveté about the tiger in their care may put Pi in danger.

When Pi is a teenager, his family decides to immigrate to Canada on a cargo ship named Tsimtsum. A terrible storm occurs during the voyage, and when Pi, excited to see the storm, goes onto the ship's deck, he is tossed overboard and into a lifeboat. The ship sinks and Pi is left alone on a lifeboat in the Pacific Ocean. Feeling shattered after losing his whole family, Pi wondered why he was the only one left alone and if he could bear this loss. Soon, he notices the Bengal tiger named, Richard Parker in the ocean. Feeling ecstatic to see at least someone besides himself alive from his extended family, Pi sets out to save Richard Parker. Now, only Pi and Richard Parker survive on the lifeboat.

How Pi and Richard Parker survive in the Pacific Ocean makes up the rest of the novel. Pi realizes he must survive the elements while adrift in the lifeboat—and that Richard Parker will almost certainly eat him. He considers a variety of survival options and concludes that he must tame the tiger. Although he is unable to fully train and domesticate Richard Parker, by blowing a whistle and rocking the lifeboat enough to make the tiger seasick, Pi is able to subdue him and secure his own territory on the lifeboat. He begins having a conversation with Richard Parker in which they mutually fantasize about the kinds of foods they would like to eat. Pi fixates on vegetarian delicacies, and Richard Parker continues to revise the recipes with meat as the main ingredient. At first Pi is morally outraged at the idea of eating meat, but then he realizes that it is Richard Parker's preference.

Let's recapitulate the lesson through the following exercises:-

(Please note that Ques 1 and 2 are to be done orally)

Ques 1. Complete the given sentences:-

- This story takes place in the _____ Ocean.
- Pi noticed _____ struggling to stay at the surface of the water.
- The narrator used a _____ to attract and guide Richard Parker.
- Pi took the _____ and threw it in Richard Parker's direction.
- The narrator grabbed an _____ and thrust it at Richard Parker.

Ques2. Find words from the story that convey the following meanings.

- A state of not dying ever - _____
- A waterproof plastic sheet - _____
- A person who worries too much - _____
- injured - _____
- very large (often frightening) - _____

[Please Note:- Ques 3 and 4 are to be done in English notebook.]

Ques3. With reference to the context answer the given questions :-

I. "Don't you love life?"

- a. Who said this and to whom?
- b. Where were they?
- c. What was the speaker trying to do?

II. "I would hit him on the head!"

- a. Whom does 'him' in the above line refer to?
- b. Who is 'I' here?
- c. Why would 'I' hit 'him'?

Ques4. Answer the following questions in short (40 – 50 words):-

- a) What had happened to the narrator's family?
- b) Was the narrator injured during the crisis?
- c) "I am to suffer hell without any account from heaven?" What made the narrator say this?
- d) How did the narrator address his immediate family members (his mother, father and brother)?
- e) The narrator decided to save Richard Parker initially, but then changed his mind. Give a reason for this action of his.
- f) What did the narrator choose to do in the end?

WORDLY WISE

Dear children.... This week we are going to learn the next five words as part of our Wordly Wise exercise. Given below are some sentences. Read them carefully and try to infer the meaning of the highlighted words. Then match the words given in **Column A** with their respective meaning in **Column B**.

(Please Remember:- This work is to be done in the Vocabulary Notebook)

1. He **endured** the workload to the best of his capacity.
2. The number of students **dwindled** from thirty to three by the end of the day.
3. The thief was **panting** when the police caught him.
4. The flowers soon **revived** in water.
5. Alexander's face was glowing with the joy of **triumph**.

COLUMN A (Words)

1. dwindled
2. revived
3. triumph
4. endured
5. panting

COLUMN B (Meanings)

- a. victory
- b. breathing heavily
- c. to suffer patiently
- d. became active again
- e. grew less in number

Vocabulary Enrichment

Children, in this section we are familiarising you with the words which convey something that is more than ordinary. We need to replace these with a single word to make the language more compact and richer. Let's look at the words for this week.

very loud : roaring- The music was quite unpleasant and roaring .

very empty : desolate- She felt desolate when her best friend moved away.

very serious : grave- The state government expressed grave concern at growing COVID-19 cases.

very scared : petrified- I'm petrified of being alone.

very confused : perplexed- Amya's symptoms perplexed the team of doctors.

Make use of these new words while conversing with others.

12 Adrift at Sea

What comes to your mind when you think of the word 'adventure'? Imagine you are stuck in a boat in the middle of a stormy sea. What will you do?

This is an extract from the international bestseller Life of Pi. The novel is about a young boy named Piscine Molitor 'Pi' Patel, an Indian boy from Pondicherry. His father runs a zoo. The novel has two parts. The second part of the novel begins with the family moving to North America on a Japanese ship along with all the animals of the zoo. The ship, however, sinks and Pi is left alone on a lifeboat in the Pacific Ocean with a Bengal tiger named Richard Parker.

 The ship sank. It made a sound like a monstrous metallic burp. Things bubbled at the surface and then vanished.

Everything was screaming: the sea, the wind, my heart. From the lifeboat I saw something in the water.

I cried, 'Richard Parker, is that you? It's so hard to see. Oh, that this rain would stop! Richard Parker? Richard Parker? Yes, it is you!'

I could see his head. He was struggling to stay at the surface of the water.



Jesus, Mary, Muhammad and Vishnu, how good to see you, Richard Parker! Don't give up, please. Come to the lifeboat. Do you hear this whistle? TREEEEEE! TREEEEEE! TREEEEEE! You heard, right? Swim, swim! You're a strong swimmer. It's not a hundred feet.'

He had seen me. He looked panic-stricken. He started swimming my way. The water about him was shifting wildly. He looked small and helpless.

'Richard Parker, can you believe what has happened to us? Tell me it's a bad dream. Tell me it's not real. Tell me I'm still in my bunk on the Tsimtsum¹ and I'm tossing and turning and soon I'll wake up from this nightmare. Tell me I'm still happy. Mother, my tender guardian angel of wisdom, where are you? And you, Father, my loving worrywart? And you, Ravi, dazzling hero of my childhood? Vishnu preserve me, Allah protect me, Christ save me, I can't bear it! TREEEEEE! TREEEEEE! TREEEEEE!'

I was not wounded in any part of my body, but I had never experienced such intense pain, such a ripping of the nerves, such an ache of the heart.

He would not make it. He would drown. He was hardly moving forward and his movements were weak. His nose and mouth kept dipping underwater. Only his eyes were steadily on me.

'What are you doing, Richard Parker? Don't you love life? Keep swimming then! TREEEEEE! TREEEEEE! TREEEEEE! Kick with your legs. Kick! Kick! Kick!'

He stirred in the water and made to swim.

'And what of my extended family—birds, beasts and reptiles? They too have drowned. Every single thing I value in life has been destroyed. And I am allowed no explanation? I am to suffer hell without any account from heaven? In that case, what is the purpose of reason, Richard Parker? Is it no more than to shine at practicalities—the getting of food, clothing and shelter? Why can't reason give greater answers? Why can we throw a question further than we can pull in an answer? Why such a vast net if there's so little fish to catch?'

¹ a way of being present in one's absence

His head was barely above water. He was looking up, taking in the sky one last time. There was a lifebuoy in the boat with a rope tied to it. I took hold of it and waved it in the air.

'Do you see this lifebuoy, Richard Parker? Do you see it? Catch hold of it! HUMPF! I'll try again. HUMPF!'

He was too far. But the sight of the lifebuoy flying his way gave him hope. He revived and started beating the water with vigorous, desperate strokes.

'That's right! One, two. One, two. One, two. Breathe when you can. Watch for the waves. TREEEEEE! TREEEEEE! TREEEEEE!'

My heart was chilled to ice. I felt ill with grief. But there was no time for frozen shock. It was shock in activity. Something in me did not want to give up on life, was unwilling to let go, wanted to fight to the very end. Where that part of me got the heart, I don't know.

'Isn't it ironic, Richard Parker? We're in hell yet still we're afraid of immortality. Look how close you are! TREEEEEE! TREEEEEE! TREEEEEE! Hurrah, hurrah! You've made it, Richard Parker, you've made it. Catch! HUMPF!'

I threw the lifebuoy mightily. It fell in the water right in front of him. With his last energies, he stretched forward and took hold of it.

'Hold on tight, I'll pull you in. Don't let go. Pull with your eyes while I pull with my hands. In a few seconds you'll be aboard and we'll be together. Wait a second. Together? We'll be together. Have I gone mad?'

I woke up to what I was doing. I yanked on the rope.

'Let go of that lifebuoy, Richard Parker! Let go, I said. I don't want you here, do you understand? Go somewhere else. Leave me alone. Get lost. Drown! Drown!'

He was kicking vigorously with his legs. I grabbed an oar. I thrust it at him meaning to push him away. I missed and lost hold of the oar.

I grabbed another oar. I dropped it in an oarlock and pulled as hard as I could, meaning to move the lifeboat away. All I accomplished was to turn the lifeboat a little, bringing one end closer to Richard Parker.

I would hit him on the head! I lifted the oar in the air.

He was too fast. He reached up and pulled himself aboard.

Oh my God! Ravi was right. Truly I was to be the next goat. I had a wet, trembling, half-drowned, heaving and coughing three-year-old adult Bengal tiger in my lifeboat. Richard Parker rose unsteadily to his feet on the tarpaulin, eyes blazing as they met mine, ears laid tight to his head, all weapons drawn. His head was the size and colour of the lifebuoy, with teeth.

I turned around, stepped over the zebra and threw myself overboard.

an extract from Life of Pi written by Yann Martel

NEW WORDS

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