



# SNS COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

Kurumbapalayam (Po), Coimbatore – 641 107



## AN AUTONOMOUS INSTITUTION

Accredited by NBA – AICTE and Accredited by NAAC – UGC with 'A' Grade  
Approved by AICTE, New Delhi & Affiliated to Anna University, Chennai

## READING

“To learn to read is to light a fire; every syllable that is spelled out is a spark.”

— Victor Hugo, *Les Miserables*

## COMPREHENSION

### PRE READING

**Pre reading** is the process of skimming a text to locate key ideas before carefully reading a text from start to finish. Also called previewing or surveying. Pre -reading provides an overview that can increase reading speed and efficiency.

### POST READING

**Post-reading** strategies provide students a way to summarize, reflect, and question what they have just read. It is the core of good comprehension.

### ACTIVITY

#### Pre-Reading Activities:

The pre - reading activities to incorporate are:

- Guessing the story from the chapter headings and predicting what will happen from the pictures.
- Choose new and difficult vocabulary from the story and would write them on the board pre teach them or review it with the students. After explaining the vocabulary words ask questions about the chosen words .Students will be asked to use vocabulary in their sentences.
- Choose random sentences from the story and will write the sentences on the board not in the order they appear in the story. Learners will be asked to discuss in group how they think that these sentences will be placed in the correct order.
- When they will read the story they can see how the sentences appear in it.

#### While Reading Activities

- While reading the students will be asked questions based on text and will ask them to predict what will happen next.
- When learners are reading the story they will be asked to find information from the paragraphs.
- While reading the text students will be asked to identify previously discussed vocabulary words.
- They are asked to read the text in pairs.



# SNS COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

Kurumbapalayam (Po), Coimbatore – 641 107



## AN AUTONOMOUS INSTITUTION

Accredited by NBA – AICTE and Accredited by NAAC – UGC with 'A' Grade

Approved by AICTE, New Delhi & Affiliated to Anna University, Chennai

### Post- Reading Activities

- After reading the questions based on the text students will be asked to predict what will happen next.
- Once students read the text they will be asked to think of different endings in group and each group will be asked to share their endings in class.
- Students will be asked to summarize the story in their own words.
- Students will be divided into pairs and each pair will be asked to talk about their favorite character in the story.

### Passage – 1

The issue of road rage requires serious attention. Day by day, it is becoming a great concern. Call it the negligence of the government or the rashness of the drivers, the underlying fact is that at the end of the day, the common man is the one who suffers the most. The commoner driving a two-wheeler who is hit by a speeding SUV, even though the former was following the traffic rules, has nowhere to go in order to seek redressed for his grievances or his injury. A recent case in point is the accident caused by the speeding luxury car owned by HemaMalini. A family of four driving a modest Alto was hit by the over speeding car driven by the actress's driver. It resulted in the death of the youngest child of the family and several injuries to the other family members. To add insult to injury, Malini posted negative comments on a famous social networking website.

Part of the problem lies with the attitude and mentality of the driver behind the steering wheel. The car is a personal vehicle and one possesses the freedom to drive it independently and at one's own will. But one must understand that the road on which one drives is open to the public. This blurring of the dichotomy between the public and the private leads to reckless behaviour on the roads. Respect for the elderly and pedestrians, so common in countries abroad, is a thing of rarity to be found in our land. A little consideration to road rules and adoption of simple safety measures such as fastening of the seat belt, can go a long way in reducing this menace.

### Questions:

1. Suggest a suitable title to the passage.
2. Why does the common man suffer grievously in instances of road rage?
3. What should the driver understand?
4. What is the solution to this problem of road rage?

### Passage 2 - Opera

Opera refers to a dramatic art form, originating in Europe, in which the emotional content is conveyed to the audience as much through music, both vocal and instrumental, as it is through the lyrics.



# SNS COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

Kurumbapalayam (Po), Coimbatore – 641 107



## AN AUTONOMOUS INSTITUTION

Accredited by NBA – AICTE and Accredited by NAAC – UGC with 'A' Grade

Approved by AICTE, New Delhi & Affiliated to Anna University, Chennai

By contrast, in musical theater an actor's dramatic performance is primary, and the music plays a lesser role. The drama in opera is presented using the primary elements of theater such as scenery, costumes, and acting. However, the words of the opera, or libretto, are sung rather than spoken. The singers are accompanied by a musical ensemble ranging from a small instrumental ensemble to a full symphonic orchestra.

1. It is pointed out in the reading that opera ----.
  - a) Has developed under the influence of musical theater
  - b) Is a drama sung with the accompaniment of an orchestra
  - c) Is not a high-budget production
  - d) Is often performed in Europe
  - e) Is the most complex of all the performing arts
2. We can understand from the reading that ----.
  - a) People are captivated more by opera than musical theater
  - b) Drama in opera is more important than the music
  - c) Orchestras in operas can vary considerably in size
  - d) Musical theater relies above all on music
  - e) There is argument over whether the music is important or the words in opera
3. It is stated in the reading that ----.
  - a) Acting and costumes are secondary to music in musical theater
  - b) Many people find musical theater more captivating than opera
  - c) Music in musical theater is not as important as it is in opera
  - d) An opera requires a huge orchestra as well as a large choir
  - e) Opera doesn't have any properties in common with musical theater

### Passage 3 – Dolphins

Dolphins are regarded as the friendliest creatures in the sea and them helping drowning sailors have been common since Roman times. learn about dolphins, the more we realize that their society is more than people previously imagined. They look after other dolphins when care for pregnant mothers and protect the weakest in the community, as scientists have suggested that dolphins have a language but it is much more probable that they communicate with each other without needing words. Could any of these mammals be more intelligent than man? Certainly the most common argument in favor of man's superiority over them that we can kill



stories of  
The more we  
complex  
they are ill,  
we do. Some



# SNS COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

Kurumbapalayam (Po), Coimbatore – 641 107



## AN AUTONOMOUS INSTITUTION

Accredited by NBA – AICTE and Accredited by NAAC – UGC with 'A' Grade

Approved by AICTE, New Delhi & Affiliated to Anna University, Chennai

them more easily than they can kill us is the least satisfactory. On the contrary, the more we discover about these remarkable creatures, the less we appear superior when we destroy them.

4. It is clear from the passage that dolphins ----.
  - a) Don't want to be with us as much as we want to be with them.
  - b) Are proven to be less intelligent than once thought.
  - c) Have a reputation for being friendly to humans.
  - d) Are the most powerful creatures that live in the oceans?
  - e) Are capable of learning a language and communicating with humans.
5. The fact that the writer of the passage thinks that we can kill dolphins more easily than they can kill us ----.
  - a) Means that they are better adapted to their environment than we are
  - b) Shows that dolphins have a very sophisticated form of communication.
  - c) Proves that dolphins are not the most intelligent species at sea.
  - d) Does not mean that we are superior to them.
  - e) Proves that Dolphins have linguistic skills far beyond what we previously thought.
6. One can infer from the reading that ----.
  - a) Dolphins are quite abundant in some areas of the world.
  - b) Communication is the most fascinating aspect of the dolphins.
  - c) Dolphins have skills that no other living creatures have such as the ability to think.
  - d) It is not usual for dolphins to communicate with each other.
  - e) Dolphins have some social traits that are similar to those of humans.

### Passage 4 - Unsinkable Ship

Naval architects never claim that a ship is unsinkable, but the passenger-and-car ferry Estonia in the Baltic surely should have happened. It was well designed and carefully maintained. It carried number of lifeboats. It had been thoroughly inspected the day of its Yet hours later, the Estonia rolled over and sank in a cold, stormy down so quickly that most of those on board, caught in their dark, cabins, had no chance to save themselves: Of those who managed to scramble overboard, only 139 survived. The rest died of hypothermia before the rescuers could pluck them from the cold sea. The final death toll amounted to 912 souls. However, there were an unpleasant number of questions about why the Estonia sank and why so many survivors were men in the prime of life, while most of the dead were women, children and the elderly.



sinking of the never have the proper fatal voyage. night. It went flooding

7. One can understand from the reading that ----.



# SNS COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

Kurumbapalayam (Po), Coimbatore – 641 107



## AN AUTONOMOUS INSTITUTION

Accredited by NBA – AICTE and Accredited by NAAC – UGC with 'A' Grade

Approved by AICTE, New Delhi & Affiliated to Anna University, Chennai

- a) The lifesaving equipment did not work well and lifeboats could not be lowered.
  - b) Design faults and incompetent crew contributed to the sinking of the Estonia ferry.
  - c) 139 people managed to leave the vessel but died in freezing water.
  - d) Naval architects claimed that the Estonia was unsinkable.
  - e) Most victims were trapped inside the boat as they were in their cabins.
8. It is clear from the passage that the survivors of the accident ----.
- a) Helped one another to overcome the tragedy that had affected them all.
  - b) Were mostly young men but women, children and the elderly stood little chance.
  - c) Helped save hundreds of lives.
  - d) Are still suffering from severe post-traumatic stress disorder.
  - e) Told the investigators nothing about the accident.
9. According to the passage, when the Estonia sank, ----.
- a) There were only 139 passengers on board.
  - b) Few of the passengers were asleep.
  - c) There were enough lifeboats for the number of people on board.
  - d) Faster reaction by the crew could have increased the Estonia's chances of survival.
  - e) All the passengers had already moved out into the open decks.

## 2.2. INDUCTIVE READING

The term "inductive reading" refers to reasoning that takes information and makes a broader generalization that is considered for the fact that the conclusion may not be accurate.



specific  
probable, allowing

- Bob is showing a big diamond ring to his friend Larry. Bob has told Larry that he is going to marry Joan. Bob has bought the diamond ring to give to Joan.
- The chair in the living room is red. The chair in the dining room is red. The chair in the bedroom is red. All chairs in the house are red.
- Every time you eat peanuts, your throat swells up and you can't breathe. So, you are allergic to peanuts.
- All cats that you have observed purr. Therefore, every cat must purr.
- Two-thirds of the students at this college receive student aid. Therefore, two-thirds of all college students receive student aid.
- All of the girls in the class were blond, therefore all girls in this neighborhood are blond.
- Michael just moved here from Chicago. Michael has red hair, therefore people from Chicago have red hair.
- The children in that house yell loudly when they play in their bedroom. I can hear children yelling in that house, therefore the children must be playing in their bedroom.
- All chickens that we have seen have been brown; so, all chickens are brown.



# SNS COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

Kurumbapalayam (Po), Coimbatore – 641 107



## AN AUTONOMOUS INSTITUTION

Accredited by NBA – AICTE and Accredited by NAAC – UGC with 'A' Grade

Approved by AICTE, New Delhi & Affiliated to Anna University, Chennai

- All cars in this town drive on the right side of the street. Therefore, all cars in all towns drive on the right side of the street.
- John is an excellent swimmer. John's family has a swimming pool. John's sister Mary must also be an excellent swimmer.
- All basketball players in your school are tall, so all basketball players must be tall.
- All brown dogs in the park are small dogs. Therefore, all small dogs are brown.
- All children in the day care center like to play with Legos. All children, therefore, enjoy playing with Legos.
- Ray is a football player. All football players weigh more than 170 pounds. Ray weighs more than 170 pounds.
- All observed houses on the South Street are falling apart. Sherry lives on South Street. Her house is falling apart.

### 2.3. SHORT NARRATIVES

A short story is a piece of prose fiction that can be read in one sitting. Emerging from earlier oral storytelling traditions, the short story has grown to encompass a body of work so diverse as to defy easy characterization.

#### Example

##### The Arrogant Swans

In a faraway kingdom, there was a river. This river was home to many golden swans. The swans spent most of their time on the banks of the river. Every six months, the swans would leave a golden feather as a fee for using the lake. The soldiers of the kingdom would collect the feathers and deposit them in the royal treasury.

One day, a homeless bird saw the river. "The water in this river seems so cool and soothing. I will make my home here," thought the bird.

As soon as the bird settled down near the river, the golden swans noticed her. They came shouting. "This river belongs to us. We pay a golden feather to the King to use this river. You cannot live here."

"I am homeless, brothers. I too will pay the rent. Please give me shelter," the bird pleaded. "How will you pay the rent? You do not have golden feathers," said the swans laughing. They further added, "Stop dreaming and leave once." The humble bird pleaded many times. But the arrogant swans drove the bird away.

"I will teach them a lesson!" decided the humiliated bird.

She went to the King and said, "O King! The swans in your river are impolite and unkind. I begged for shelter but they said that they had purchased the river with golden feathers."

The King was angry with the arrogant swans for having insulted the homeless bird. He ordered his soldiers to bring the arrogant swans to his court. In no time, all the golden swans were brought to the King's court.





# SNS COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

Kurumbapalayam (Po), Coimbatore – 641 107



## AN AUTONOMOUS INSTITUTION

Accredited by NBA – AICTE and Accredited by NAAC – UGC with 'A' Grade

Approved by AICTE, New Delhi & Affiliated to Anna University, Chennai

“Do you think the royal treasury depends upon your golden feathers? You cannot decide who lives by the river. Leave the river at once or you all will be beheaded!” shouted the kings.

The swans shivered with fear on hearing the King. They flew away never to return. The bird built her home near the river and lived there happily forever. The bird gave shelter to all other birds in the river.

### **The Ignorant Man**

There was a village in a kingdom. There was living a milkman. His name was Deenu. He had built his hut far away from his village, in the woods. He loved the quietness of the woods rather than the noisy atmosphere of the village. He lived in his hut with his two cows. He fed them well and took proper care of them. Every day he took the two cows to a nearby lake to bath them. The two cows gave more milk. With the milk that the two cows gave, he earned enough money to live happily.

Deenu was an honest man. Though he was content, at times he would be restless. “There is so much wrong and evil in this world. Is there nobody to guide the people?” this thought made his sad every now and then.

One evening, the ignorant man, Deenu was returning home after selling milk in the village. He saw a saint sitting under a tree and meditating. He slowly walked up to him and waited for the saint to open his eyes. He was happy to be with the saint for some time. He decided to wait there itself till the saint opened his eyes.

After a while, the saint slowly opened his eyes. He was surprised to see a man patiently sitting beside him.

“What do you want?” asked the saint humbly.

“I want to know what the path to Truth and Piety is. Where shall I find Honesty?” asked Deenu.

The saint smiled and said, “Go to the pond nearby and ask the fish the same question. She will give you the answer.”

Then as asked to do, the ignorant man, Deenu went to the nearby pond and asked the same question to the fish. The fish said, “O kind man! First, bring me some water to drink.” Deenu was surprised. He said, “You live in water. But you still want water to drink? How strange!”

At this moment, the fish replied, “You are right. And that gives you the answer to your question as well. Truth, Piety and honesty are inside the heart of a man. But being ignorant, he searches for them in the outer world. Instead of wandering here and there, look within yourself and you will find them.”

This gave an immense satisfaction to Deenu. He thanked the fish and walked home a wiser man. He changed the way in which he saw this world as well as himself. From that day, Deenu never felt restless.



# SNS COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

Kurumbapalayam (Po), Coimbatore – 641 107



## AN AUTONOMOUS INSTITUTION

Accredited by NBA – AICTE and Accredited by NAAC – UGC with 'A' Grade

Approved by AICTE, New Delhi & Affiliated to Anna University, Chennai

He took his best to carry this message to the rest of his fellow human beings. All his friends accepted him as their master and consulted him to overcome their mental problems. He led them properly.

### **The Magic Pot**

Once upon a time a farmer, Gopi, lived in a village. He had few acres of land. One hot afternoon, the poor farmer was digging his field. All of a sudden, his spade hit something. Then he continued his digging. "It is a big metal pot," said Gopi. It was big enough to boil rice for more than hundred people. "It does not seem to be of any use to me. I will dig deeper. May be I will find something else," thought Gopi. He continued to dig.

After he had dug for a long time, Gopi felt tired. "It is of no use. There is nothing in this field" he thought. Then at once, he threw the spade into the pot in frustration and sat under a tree to take rest for a while.

After a while, when he got up to leave, he could not believe his eyes. There were one hundred spades in the pot. "This is a magical pot. I will put this mango inside the pot and see what happens," Gopi thought. Then Gopi put a mango into the pot. To his astonishment, he found one hundred mangoes in the pot. Gopi carried the pot to his home and kept in a secret place so that no one would become aware of it.

After that, he put many things in that and everything became hundred folds. With that pot, he became a rich man. The King came to know of the pot and its whereabouts. The King was curious to know about it and he was a greedy King. "I want to find out the secret of the magical pot. If it is valuable, it should be in the King treasury," the King thought. Then at once, the King ordered his men to bring the farmer and his pot.

When the magic pot was brought to the King's chamber, he did not know what to do. The King thought, "Let me see what is there inside this pot which makes this pot so magical?" He peered inside. Inadvertently, he slipped and fell inside the pot. When he climbed out of the magic pot, he was shocked to find that there were one hundred Kings.

All the kings then started to climb the throne. They fought among themselves and died. The magic pot lay in the King's treasury. "The foolish King took away the magic pot from me out of curiosity and eventually he died. This magic pot has killed the King himself," said the farmer and he to be safe left the magic pot at the treasury of the King itself.

### **The Holy Snake**

Long ago, in a small village lived Vishnudutta, a poor Brahmin farmer. He worked hard but was not able to earn much. His son, Somadutta was always asking for more money. "Be satisfied with what you have, my son," Vishnudutta would say.

One day, Vishnudutta was resting in his field after work. Suddenly, he noticed a snake on the nearby mount. On seeing Vishnudutta, the snake coiled and sat up with a raised hood. "It looks so calm





# SNS COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

Kurumbapalayam (Po), Coimbatore – 641 107



## AN AUTONOMOUS INSTITUTION

Accredited by NBA – AICTE and Accredited by NAAC – UGC with 'A' Grade

Approved by AICTE, New Delhi & Affiliated to Anna University, Chennai

and peaceful. May be it is a deity,” thought Vishnudutta. He brought a bowl of milk from his house and offered it to the snake.

Next morning, when Vishnudutta came to collect the bowl, he found a gold coin in it. “I am sure this is a holy snake,” he thought. After that it became a regular practice for him to offer prayers and milk to the snake. And every morning he got a gold coin in the bowl near the mount. This made Vishnudutta a rich man.

Once, while Vishnudutta was away, his son Somadutta had to keep the bowl of milk near the snake. As usual, after some time, there was a gold coin in the bowl near the mount. Somadutta thought. “I guess there is a treasure of gold coins beneath this mount. If I can kill this snake and dig under the mount, I will get all the gold!” With gold on his mind, Somadutta tried to kill the snake. The snake bit Somadutta and managed to escape.

When Vishnudutta returned, his wife told him everything. “I always warned you against greed,” said Vishnudutta to his son. Then he ran towards the holy snake. With folded hands, he asked for forgiveness and offered milk to the holy snake.

But this time the holy snake did not accept it. “I spared your son’s life because of your kindness. You will have to pay for his greed. I shall not help you anymore,” said the snake and disappeared.

### **Fair Shares**

Ali and Abraham were brothers. Their mother died very early. Their father also died after some time. He left for his sons a cow and a date-tree.

Ali was cunning. He was greedy too. Abraham was kind and honest. He trusted his elder brother. They wanted to divide their father’s property. Ali said, “I will be very fair with you, Abraham. You take the front portion of the cow as your share. I will take the hind side of the cow. Each one gets his profit only from his share.” In the same way the tree was also divided. The upper part of the tree went to Ali. And the lower part of the tree went to Abraham.

Abraham fed the cow very well fresh grass and water. The cow became healthy. It gave lot of milk. Ali got the milk. He sold the milk and got a lot of money. But he did not share the money with Abraham. Abraham asked his brother about his share of money. Ali replied, “I got the milk from my portion of our cow. Hind part is mine as per the agreement. Each of us gets the benefits only from his part.” Abraham said nothing.

A wise man advised Abraham. He said something in the ear of Abraham. The next day Ali was milking the cow. Then Abraham beat the cow in the front portion. The cow started kicking. Ali shouted at Abraham. “You fool! Why do you beat the cow? Do not see me milking the cow?”

“The front portion of the cow is mine. I can do anything. That is our agreement,” said Abraham.

Ali could not say anything. Finally he agreed to share the money. Abraham said, “Not just money. You must also share the work of feeding and taking care of the cow too.” Ali agreed.



# SNS COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

Kurumbapalayam (Po), Coimbatore – 641 107



## AN AUTONOMOUS INSTITUTION

Accredited by NBA – AICTE and Accredited by NAAC – UGC with 'A' Grade

Approved by AICTE, New Delhi & Affiliated to Anna University, Chennai

With regard to the tree, Ali had taken upper part of the tree. He made holes on the upper part of the tree. A kind of sweet-smelling juice came out of these holes. The juice was collected in pots. These pots were kept near the holes. Ali sold the juice for money. But he did not share either the money or the juice with his brother.

Again the wise man advised Abraham. The next day Ali was on the top of the tree. He was fixing pots near the holes. At that time Abraham was cutting the lower part of the tree. Ali shouted at Abraham. But Abraham reminded Ali about the agreement. He said, "I can do anything with my part. You cannot question or stop me."

Ali now realized his mistakes. He said, "Abraham, I have been a bad brother to you. I feel ashamed of my selfishness. I ask your pardon. I promise to look after you well hereafter."

And so he did. Both the brothers lived happily. They shared the profit.