

2. Daydreams



Once there lived a couple who spent a lot of time in idle talk. One day, the husband said, “I have always wanted to keep cows. If, by chance, I get some extra money from somewhere, I am going to buy a few cows.”



“But that means a lot of work. You have to feed the cows, walk them, bathe them, milk them – cows need a lot of looking after. One cow would be enough. There’s no need to buy more cows,” said the wife.

“But think of all the milk we’ll get if we buy more,” said the husband.

“That’s true.” The wife agreed. “There will be so much milk that we can even have plenty of dahi and butter and ghee. Wouldn’t it be lovely! How lucky that I have all these earthen pots kept aside. I’ll use one of the pots for milk, one for dahi, one for butter. The ghee, I’ll put in another jar. And I’ll use this remaining pot to send milk to my sister.”

“Send milk to your sister! Who said you could send milk to your sister!”

“There will be plenty of milk, if we have so many cows. Why shouldn’t I send it to my sister?”

“Because we are going to sell it in the market – that’s why. I will decide what to do with all that milk. And not a drop of it goes to your sister, remember!”

“I’ll see how you can stop me from sending a pot full of milk to my dear sister. I do all the hard work running after the cows so naturally I will decide what happens to the milk. Just try stopping me!” the wife exclaimed.



“Is that so!” shouted the husband. “Watch this, then!” He began to lift and smash the earthen pots one by one. His wife began to scream.

Gopal Bhand, who was passing by, heard all the commotion and

rushed inside. When he heard what had happened, he picked up a stout stick that stood in a corner and began to swish it through the air and pound it on the floor. The husband and wife were both astounded to see his antics.

“What are you doing?” they enquired.

“Move aside,” said Gopal Bhand. “I have to drive away your greedy cows. You have let them wander and now they have ruined my field of beans and cucumbers! Oh, my lovely field of beans and cucumbers!”

“But you don’t have a field of beans and cucumbers!” said the husband. As soon as he said that, Gopal Bhand stopped wielding the stick and looked at him with raised eyebrows. The husband and wife understood what he was trying to tell them. Can you tell what he wanted to say?

Things to do :

1. Read the following words aloud and copy them in your notebook.

* idle * enough * exclaimed * commotion
* astounded * antics * wander * wielding

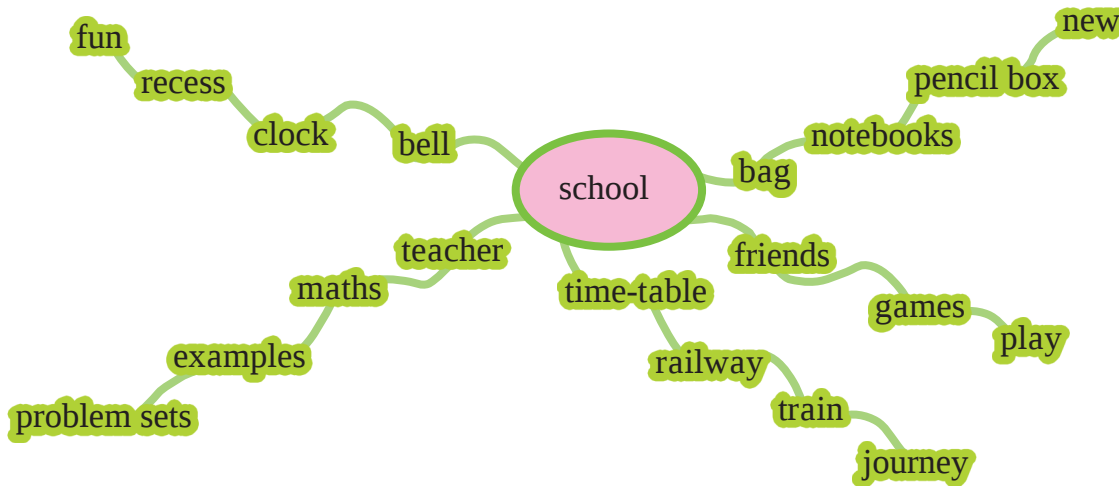
2. Answer the following questions.

- (1) What did the husband want to buy?
- (2) What plans did the wife make?
- (3) What did the husband want to do with the extra milk?
- (4) What did Gopal Bhand say he was doing?
- (5) Did Gopal Bhand have a field?
- (6) What did Gopal Bhand want to tell the husband and wife?
- (7) What is the difference between a ‘dream’ and a ‘daydream’?

3. Activities

- (1) Form groups of three and read the conversation in the story aloud.
- (2) Write about your own daydream in short.
- (3) Begin with a word and write as many other related words or ideas that occur to you in the form of a concept chart or concept map. You can choose a word from those given here or you may choose any other suitable word.

* school * home * food * medicine



4. Group Work

Discuss in groups of 5, the occasions on which you can use each of the following expressions. List at least 3 occasions each.

* That's true ! * Wouldn't it be lovely ! * Just try stopping me !

5. Language Study (See pages 84-88.)

- (1) A phrase is a meaningful group of words, for example, 'one day', 'some extra money', 'a few cows', 'all the milk'.

From the story, find at least three phrases each that begin with or include each of the **articles** -

* a * an * the.

- (2) Choose 'a' or 'an' correctly and fill in the blanks.

* earthen pot * cow * jar * sister
* stout stick * lovely field * eyebrow

- (3) Write the plural forms of the following.

* cow * pot * jar * sister * market
* drop * stick * corner * field * cucumber