

12 UNIT

THE OLD MAN AND HIS GRANDSON

Student Learning Outcomes

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

- translate the paragraph into Urdu.
- apply rules for use of articles in speech and writing.
- analyze and understand common prefixes and suffixes.
- recognize and use hyphen to indicate the division of word at the end of line.
- use summary skills to write summary.
- write precis of the passage.

Pre-reading

- Who is the oldest person in your home?
- How do you spend time with him / her?
- How should we treat elderly and old people?

Once there lived a very old man with his son, daughter-in-law and grandson in a town. He was almost deaf. His back was slightly **bent**, his eyesight was weak and his knees shook when he walked. Sometimes he had a running nose and he coughed very badly. When he had these fits of coughing he often **spilled** his soup or water on the tablecloth.

The son and the daughter-in-law found it **disgusting** when the old man made a **mess** of his food. As the old man was doing this too frequently, they could not stand it any longer. Finally they ordered him to sit in a corner behind the kitchen stove. There they served him his food on a small **earthen plate**. Henceforth, the old man did not even get enough food to satisfy his hunger. He sat there feeling very sad and lonely. He looked at the table where the others were enjoying their tasty meal. Tears rolled down his cheeks. Often he wished for death.

One day, his hands shook so much that he could not even hold his

plate. It crashed on the floor and broke into many pieces. The daughter-in-law **scolded** him. He **sighed** but said nothing. Then the daughter-in-law bought him a cheap wooden bowl. Now he had to eat from that.

Some weeks later, just before dinner, the grandson was sitting on the floor. He was busy sticking bits and pieces of wood together.

The couple were very **curious**.

"What are you doing son?" asked the father.

"I'm making a bowl," the boy replied.

"What is it for?" asked the mother.

"It's for you and father. When I grow up, you will be able to eat from this bowl."

For a long time his parents looked at each other, **embarrassed** and worried. They felt very **guilty**. Then they burst into tears. At once, they rushed to the old man. They begged to be forgiven for their cruel treatment of him. Soon they led him back to the table.

From then onwards, the old man always shared their table. Even when he spilled his food, he never heard another word about it.

Reading and thinking skills:

Comprehension

Activities

1. Answer the following questions.

- i) Describe the physical condition of the old man.
- ii) Why did his son and daughter-in-law send the old man to eat in the kitchen?
- iii) Why did the old man feel sad and lonely?
- iv) What happened to the earthen plate?
- v) Why the son and daughter-in-law regret what they had done to the poor old man?

2. Re-read the lesson and complete the following sentences by choosing the correct option.

- i) There are _____ people in the story.
(a) five (b) two (c) three (d) four

- ii) The old man often _____ his soup or water on the table cloth.
 (a) poured (b) spread
 (c) spilled (d) threw
- iii) The old man was _____ to sit in the kitchen.
 (a) asked (b) advised
 (c) ordered (d) requested
- iv) He was first given his food on an _____ plate.
 (a) glass (b) earthen
 (c) china (d) metal
- v) The boy was trying to make a _____ bowl:
 (a) glass (b) steel (c) tin (d) wooden

3. Match the meanings of the following phrases.

Column (A)	Column (B)
• burst into tears • cruel treatment • earthen plate • made a mess • slightly bent	• created disorder • plate made of clay • little curved • harsh treatment • started crying

Critical thinking

How should we treat elderly and old people living in our homes?

Grammar

Translate the following paragraph into Urdu.

The son and the daughter-in-law found it disgusting when the old man made a **mess** of his food. As the old man was doing this too frequently, they could not stand it any longer. Finally they ordered him to sit in a corner behind the kitchen stove. There they served him his food on a small earthen plate. Henceforth, the old man did not even get enough food to satisfy his hunger. He sat there feeling very sad and lonely. He looked at the table where the others were enjoying their tasty meal. Tears rolled down his cheeks. Often he wished for death.

Articles

Activity

Fill in the blank by putting 'a', 'an' or 'the.'

- i) He is not _____ honorable man.
- ii) _____ reindeer is a native animal of Norway.
- iii) Alladin had _____ wonderful lamp.
- iv) He returned after _____ hour.
- v) I first met him _____ year ago.
- vi) Yesterday, I met _____ European tourist.
- vii) _____ Indus river irrigates different areas of Pakistan.
- viii) English is _____ easy language.
- ix) Islamabad is _____ costly place to live in.
- x) _____ Sun shines brightly.

Information!

- The words hour, honest and heir begin with vowel sound, so 'an' is used before them.
- The words university and union begin with consonant sound 'yu', so 'a' is used before them.

Prefixes and Suffixes

A Prefix is a word part that is added before a word. 'Pre' means before. For example, the prefix Un- added to the word fair (unfair) Changes the word's meaning to 'unfair.'

A Suffix is a word part that is added after a word. Sometimes a suffix will tell you what part of speech a word is. For example, many adverbs end in the suffix -ly.

Examples

Root words	Prefix	New words
freeze	anti	antifreeze
operate	co	cooperate
active	in	inactive
hale	ex	exhale
most	fore	foremost

Root words	Suffix	New words
agree	able	agreeable
child	ish	childish
care	less	careless
learn	ed	learned
improve	ment	improvement

Activity

Make words by using the given prefixes and suffixes.

Prefixes

inter-

im-

astro-

micro-

post-

pre-

re-

Suffixes

Words

-ful

-ness

-ly

-ion

-ish

-ily

--ess

The Hyphen

We use hyphen to divide a word at the end of a line. We always divide a word between its syllable and in such a way that the reader will not be confused about its meaning or pronunciation. It is used at the end of line not at the beginning of the line.

Remember!

- We do not divide a word of one syllable hence hyphen is not used e.g. sports.
- Prefixes and suffixes make natural division, like in-active, care-less

For example:

1. Abdur Rahman said, "he would not work under such miserable condition. (miserable)
2. A student must know the structures and vocabulary for better understanding of English.
3.

Incorrect	Correct
lib-rary	li-brary
su-pport	sup-port
an-tifreeze	anti-freeze
mother-in-l-aw	mother-in-law

Activities

1. If the following words are used at the end of a line, where will you use hyphen to divide the words.

Readjust - important - intelligent - remarkable - suitable - paragraph - biography - dictionary

2. Write down the precis of the given paragraph.

Teaching is the noblest of professions. A teacher has a sacred duty to perform. His responsibility is to mould the character of the young children. Apart from developing their intellect, he can inculcate in them qualities of good citizenship, remaining neat and clean, talking decently and sitting properly. These qualities are not easy to be cultivated, only he who himself leads a life of simplicity, purity and discipline can successfully cultivate these habits in his pupils.

A teacher may grow old in age but not in spirit. His contact with youth keeps him happy and cheerful. There are moments when he is disturbed by domestic worries but the delightful company of innocent children makes him overcome his despair mood.