



**ACADEMIC WORLD SCHOOL™**  
BEMETARA

**CLASS – VI**  
**SUBJECT – ENGLISH**

# 1 The Miracle



Imagine you have got a chance to create a brand of chocolate. In the given space, design and draw the wrapper of your chocolate, give it a name and write a slogan for it.

Imagine finding a lucky golden ticket in a chocolate bar, one which would get you as many bars of chocolates as you wanted to. Let us read what happens when Charlie goes to buy a bar of chocolate.

Charlie entered the shop and laid the damp fifty pence on the counter.

'One Wonka's Whipple-Scrumptious Fudgemallow Delight,' he said, remembering how much he had loved the one he had on his birthday.

The man behind the counter looked fat and well-fed. He had big lips and fat cheeks and a very fat neck. The fat around his neck bulged<sup>1</sup> out all around the top of his collar like a rubber ring. He turned and reached behind him for the chocolate bar, and then he turned back again and handed it to Charlie.

<sup>1</sup>bulged: stuck out in a round shape



Charlie grabbed it, quickly tore off the wrapper and took an enormous bite. Then he took another ... and another ... and oh, the joy of being able to cram<sup>2</sup> large pieces of something sweet and solid into one's mouth! The sheer blissful<sup>3</sup> joy of being able to fill one's mouth with rich solid food! You look like you wanted that one, sonny, the shopkeeper said pleasantly.

Charlie nodded, his mouth bulging with chocolate.



What did Charlie buy?  
Why did he grab it?

Identify the group of words that describes how Charlie felt when he ate the chocolate bar.

The shopkeeper put Charlie's change on the counter. 'Take it easy,' he said. 'It'll give you a tummy ache if you swallow it like that without chewing.'

Charlie went on wolfing down the chocolate. He couldn't stop. And in less than half a minute, the whole thing had disappeared down his throat. He was quite out of breath, but he felt

marvellously, extraordinarily happy. He reached out a hand to take the change. Then he paused. His eyes were just above the level of the counter. He was staring at the silver coins lying there. The coins were all five-penny pieces. There were nine of them altogether. Surely it wouldn't matter if he spent just one more.

'I think,' he said quietly, 'I think ... I'll have just one more of those chocolate bars. The same kind as before, please.'

'Why not?' the fat shopkeeper said, reaching behind him again and taking another Whipple-Scrumptious Fudgemallow Delight from the shelf. He laid it on the counter.

Charlie picked it up and tore off the wrapper ... and suddenly ... underneath the wrapper ... there came a brilliant flash of gold<sup>4</sup>. Charlie's heart stood still.

<sup>2</sup>cram: push or force into a small space <sup>3</sup>blissful: happy <sup>4</sup>a brilliant flash of gold: a bright sparkle of golden colour

'It's a Golden Ticket!' screamed the shopkeeper, leaping about a foot in the air. 'You've got a Golden Ticket! You've found the last Golden Ticket! Hey, would you believe it! Come look at this, everybody! The kid's found Wonka's last Golden Ticket! There it is! It's right here in his hands!'



It seemed as though the shopkeeper would collapse in a fit. 'In my shop, too!' he yelled. 'He found it right here in my own little shop! Somebody call the newspapers quick and let them know! Watch out now, sonny! Don't tear it as you unwrap it! That thing's precious!'

In a few seconds, there was a crowd of about twenty people clustering<sup>5</sup> around Charlie and many more were pushing their way in from the street. Everybody wanted to get a look at the Golden Ticket and the lucky finder. 'Where is it?' somebody shouted. 'Hold it up so all of us can see it!' 'There it is, there!' someone else shouted. 'He's holding it in his hands! See the gold shining!'

'How did he manage to find it, I'd like to know?' a large boy shouted angrily. 'Twenty bars a day, I've been buying them for weeks and weeks!'

'Think of all the free stuff he'll be getting too!' another boy said enviously<sup>6</sup>. 'A lifetime's supply!'

'He'll need it, the skinny little shrimp?!' a girl said, laughing.

Charlie hadn't moved. He hadn't even unwrapped the Golden Ticket from around the chocolate bar. He was standing very still, holding it tightly with both hands while the crowd pushed and shouted all around him. He felt quite dizzy<sup>7</sup>. There was a peculiar floating sensation<sup>8</sup> coming over him, as though he were floating up in the air like a balloon.

<sup>5</sup>clustering: standing close together <sup>6</sup>enviously: in a jealous way <sup>7</sup>shrimp: (here) a small, physically weak person <sup>8</sup>dizzy: (here) confused and unsteady <sup>9</sup>a peculiar floating sensation: a strange feeling as if one were flying

What does the group of words heart stood still mean?





His feet didn't seem to be touching the ground at all. He could hear his heart thumping away loudly somewhere in his throat.


At that point, he became aware of a hand resting lightly on his shoulder and when he looked up, he saw a tall man standing over him. 'Listen,' the man whispered, 'I'll buy it from you. I'll give you fifty pounds. How about it, eh? And I'll give you a new bicycle as well. Okay?'

'Are you crazy?' shouted a woman who was standing equally close. 'Why, I'd give him two hundred pounds for that ticket! You want to sell that ticket for two hundred pounds, young man?'

'That's quite enough of that!' the fat shopkeeper shouted, pushing his way through the crowd and taking Charlie firmly by the arm. 'Leave the kid alone, will you! Make way there! Let him out!' And to Charlie, as he led him to the door, he whispered, 'Don't you let anybody have it! Take it straight home, quickly before you lose it! Run all the way and don't stop till you get there, you understand?' Charlie nodded.

'You know something,' the fat shopkeeper said, pausing a moment and smiling at Charlie, 'I have a feeling you needed some luck. I'm glad you got it. Good luck to you, sonny.'

'Thank you,' Charlie said and off he went, running through the snow as fast as his legs could go<sup>10</sup>. As he flew past Mr Willy Wonka's factory, he turned and waved at it and sang out, 'I'll be seeing you! I'll be seeing you soon!' And five minutes later, he arrived at his own home.



Why do you think the people were so excited?

How do you think Charlie felt when people wanted to buy the ticket from him?

*Charlie and the Chocolate Factory (adapted)*

<sup>10</sup>as fast as his legs could go: as fast as he could run

**A. Write the meanings of the following words and frame sentences using them:-**

1. enormous
2. wolfing down
3. collapse
4. whispered
5. leaping

**B. Complete the following sentences:-**

1. Charlie entered the shop and laid the damp fifty pence on the counter and asked for  
.....  
.
2. Charlie went on wolfing down the chocolate because  
.....  
...
3. Charlie felt very dizzy because  
.....  
.
4. People were envious of Charlie because  
.....  
.
5. By finding the Golden Ticket, Charlie would get  
.....  
.

**C. Answer the following questions in not more than 25 -30 words.**

1. How much money did Charlie give to the shopkeeper and for what?
2. How did the shopkeeper understand that Charlie won 'The Golden Ticket' and what did he advice Charlie to do?
3. How do we understand that people were envious of Charlie?
4. Discuss the situation when people offered money to Charlie in exchange for the Golden ticket?
5. Why was the shopkeeper happy for Charlie?

**D. Answer the following questions in not more than 60 -80 words.**

1. Describe the shopkeeper.
2. Why do you think Charlie couldn't stop eating the chocolate?

# Summer Sun

Have you ever thought about the importance of the sun in our lives? There cannot be life without the sun. Let us read this poem about the sun.

Great is the sun, and wide he goes  
Through empty heaven without repose<sup>1</sup>;  
And in the blue and glowing days  
More thick than rain he showers his rays.

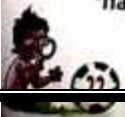
Though closer still the blinds<sup>2</sup> we pull  
To keep the shady parlour<sup>3</sup> cool,  
Yet he will find a chink<sup>4</sup> or two  
To slip his golden fingers through.

The dusty attic, spider-clad,  
He, through the keyhole, maketh glad;  
And through the broken edge of tiles,  
Into the laddered hayloft<sup>5</sup> smiles.

Oxford  
Areal

SCAN THIS IMAGE WITH AREAL  
See instructions on page 6

<sup>1</sup>repose: rest   <sup>2</sup>blinds: thick curtains   <sup>3</sup>parlour: a room to meet guests in   <sup>4</sup>chink: a crack; a narrow opening  
<sup>5</sup>hayloft: the upper floor of a farm building used for storing hay



Meantime his golden face around  
He bares to all the garden ground,  
And sheds a warm and glittering look  
Among the ivy's inmost nook<sup>6</sup>.

Above the hills, along the blue<sup>1</sup>  
Round the bright air with footing true<sup>7</sup>,  
To please the child, to paint the rose,  
The gardener of the World, he goes.



**R**obert Louis Stevenson (1850–1894) was born in Scotland. He was a lawyer who later decided to become a writer. Stevenson also loved to travel. He and his family travelled in their own ship across the Pacific Ocean and visited many islands. He spent the last years of his life on the island of Upolu, Samoa. He was known as *Tusitala*, which in the local language means *storyteller*. The popular novels *Treasure Island* and *Kidnapped* were written by him.



**Q1. Find the figures of speeches used in the poem “Summer Sun”**

**Q2. Answer the following questions in not more than 25 -30 words.**

1. Pick out the phrases in the poem that tell you
  - a. That the sun travels a great distance across the sky
  - b. That the sky is cloudless
2. Explain the second stanza (verse) of the poem.
3. In the 3 stanza, explain “dusty attic spider – clad” and laddered hayloft miles “.
4. Why do you think the sun is called the gardener of the world?
5. How did the sun enter the hay loft.

**Q3. Answer the following questions in not more than 60 -80 words.**

1. Read the poem once again. Close your eyes and imagine the beauty of a sunlit day. Talk about what you see in your mind. The poet sees the sun in the form of a human being. Pick out all the words and phrases in the poem which gives the sun a human character.
2. On a wet day, rain comes down in the form of heavy showers. Describe a sunny day in your own words.

## 2 The Cherry Tree



Can you identify these trees? Choose from the list given to you.

Gulmohar

Laburnum

Deodar

Banyan

Coconut



Have you ever planted a sapling or taken care of one in your garden? Is it easy to plant a tree? Read on and find out...

One day, when Rakesh was six, he walked home from the Mussoorie bazaar eating cherries. They were a little sweet, a little sour, small, bright red cherries, which had come all the way from the Kashmir Valley.

Here in the Himalayan foothills where Rakesh lived, there were not many fruit trees. The soil was stony and the dry cold winds stunted<sup>1</sup> the growth of most plants. But on the more sheltered slopes<sup>2</sup> there were forests of oak and deodar.

Rakesh lived with his grandfather on the outskirts<sup>3</sup> of Mussoorie, just where the forest began. Grandfather was a retired forest ranger. He had a little cottage outside the town.

Rakesh was on his way home from school when he bought the cherries. He paid fifty paise for the bunch. It took him about half an hour to walk home, and by the time he reached the cottage, there were only three cherries left.

'Have a cherry, Grandfather,' he said, as soon as he saw his grandfather in the garden.

<sup>1</sup>stunted: prevented (growth or development) <sup>2</sup>slopes: surfaces of land that are higher at one end than the other <sup>3</sup>outskirts: outer boundaries

Grandfather took one cherry and Rakesh promptly ate the other two. He kept the last seed in his mouth for some time, rolling it round and round on his tongue until all the tang<sup>4</sup> had gone. Then he placed the seed on the palm of his hand and studied it.

'Are cherry seeds lucky?' asked Rakesh.

'Of course.'

'Then I'll keep it.'



Where did Rakesh live?

What did Grandfather tell Rakesh to do with the cherry seed?

'Nothing is lucky if you put it away. If you want luck, you must put it to some use.'

'What can I do with a seed?'

'Plant it.'

So Rakesh found a small spade and began to dig up a flower bed<sup>5</sup>.

'Hey, not there,' said Grandfather. 'I've sown mustard in that bed. Plant it in that shady corner, where it won't be disturbed.'

Rakesh went to a corner of the garden where the earth was soft. He did not have to dig. He pressed the seed into the soil with his thumb and it went right in.

Then he had his lunch and ran off to play cricket with his friends, and forgot all about the cherry seed.

When it was winter in the hills, a cold wind blew down from the snows and went *who-who-who* in the deodar trees and the garden was dry and bare. In the evenings, Grandfather and Rakesh sat over a charcoal fire and Grandfather told Rakesh stories—stories about people who turned into animals, and in turn Rakesh would read to him from the newspaper, Grandfather's eyesight being rather weak. Rakesh found the newspaper very dull—especially after the stories—but Grandfather wanted all the news...

They knew it was spring when the wild duck flew north again, to Siberia. Early in the morning, when he got up to chop wood and light a fire, Rakesh saw the V-shaped formation<sup>6</sup> streaming northwards and heard the calls of the birds clearly through the thin mountain air.

<sup>4</sup>tang: strong taste or flavour <sup>5</sup>flower bed: a portion of ground in a garden/yard or park where flowers are grown <sup>6</sup>V-shaped formation: a shape like the letter V, like the shape formed by a flock of birds flying together

One morning in the garden he bent to pick up what he thought was a small twig and found to his surprise that it was well-rooted. He stared at it for a moment, then ran to fetch Grandfather, calling, 'Dada, come and look, the cherry tree has come up!'

'What cherry tree?' asked Grandfather, who had forgotten about it.

'The seed we planted last year—look, it's come up!'

Rakesh went down on his haunches<sup>7</sup>, while Grandfather bent almost double and peered down at the tiny tree. It was about four inches high.

'Yes, it's a cherry tree,' said Grandfather. 'You should water it now and then.'

Rakesh ran indoors and came back with a bucket of water. 'Don't drown it!' said Grandfather.

Rakesh gave it a sprinkling and circled it with pebbles.

He looked at the tree every morning but it did not seem to be growing very fast. So he stopped looking at it—except quickly, out of the corner of his eye. After a week or two, when he allowed himself to look at it properly, he found that it had grown—at least an inch!

That year the monsoon rains came early and Rakesh plodded<sup>8</sup> to and from the school in raincoat and gumboots. Ferns sprang from the trunks of the trees, strange-looking lilies came up in the long grass, and even when it wasn't raining, the trees dripped and mist came curling up the valley. The cherry tree grew quickly in this season.

It was about two feet high when a goat entered the garden and ate all the leaves. Only the main stem and two thin branches remained.

'Never mind,' said Grandfather, seeing that Rakesh was upset. 'It will grow again: cherry trees are tough.'



<sup>7</sup>went down on his haunches: crouched close to the ground, balancing the body on his feet <sup>8</sup>plodded: walked with heavy steps

How did Rakesh and Grandfather know that it was spring time? Where did the wild duck fly in spring?

Towards the end of the rainy season new leaves appeared on the tree. Then a woman cutting grass cut the cherry tree in two.

When Grandfather saw what had happened, he went after the woman and scolded her; but the damage could not be repaired.

'Maybe it will die now,' said Rakesh.

'Maybe,' said Grandfather.

But the cherry tree had no intention of dying.

By the time summer came round again, it had sent out several new shoots with tender green leaves. Rakesh had grown taller too. He was eight now, a sturdy boy with curly black hair and deep black eyes. Blackberry eyes, Grandfather called them.

That monsoon Rakesh went home to his village, to help his father and mother with the planting and ploughing and sowing. He was thinner but stronger when he came back to Grandfather's house at the end of the rains, to find that the cherry tree had grown another foot. It was now up to his chest.

Where did Rakesh go during the monsoons? What did he do there? What does the word intention mean?

Even when there was rain, Rakesh would sometimes water the tree. He wanted it to know that he was there.

One day he found a bright green praying mantis<sup>9</sup> perched on a branch, peering at him with bulging eyes. Rakesh let it remain there. It was the cherry tree's first visitor.

The next visitor was a hairy caterpillar, who started making a meal of the leaves. Rakesh removed it quickly and dropped it on a heap of dry leaves.

'Come back when you're a butterfly,' he said.

Winter came early. The cherry tree bent low with the weight of snow. Field-mice sought<sup>10</sup> shelter in the roof of the cottage. The road from the valley was blocked, and for several days there was no newspaper and this made Grandfather quite grumpy. His stories began to have unhappy endings.

Which two visitors did Rakesh find on the cherry tree? What did he do with them?

<sup>9</sup>praying mantis: a small, green insect with long front legs and big eyes <sup>10</sup>sought: looked for



In February it was Rakesh's birthday. He was nine—and the tree was two, but almost as tall as Rakesh.

One morning, when the sun came out, Grandfather came into the garden. 'Let some warmth get into my bones,' he said. He stopped in front of the cherry tree, stared at it for a few moments, and then called out, 'Rakesh! Come and look! Come quickly before it falls!'

Rakesh and Grandfather gazed at the tree as though it had performed a miracle. There was a pale pink blossom at the end of a branch.

The following year there were more blossoms. And suddenly the tree was taller than Rakesh, even though it was less than half his age. And then it was taller than Grandfather, who was older than some of the oak trees.

But Rakesh had grown too. He could run and jump and climb trees as well as most boys, and he read a lot of books, although he still liked listening to Grandfather's tales.

In the cherry tree, bees came to feed on the nectar in the blossoms, and tiny birds pecked at the blossoms and broke them off. But the tree kept blossoming right through the spring and there were always more blossoms than birds.

What does the word nectar mean?  
What does the word blossoms mean?

That summer there were small cherries on the tree. Rakesh tasted one and spat it out. 'It's too sour,' he said.

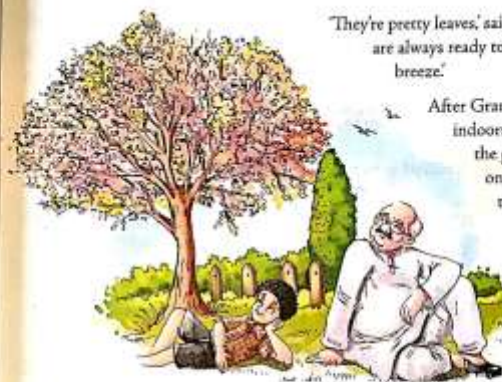
'They'll be better next year,' said Grandfather.

But the birds liked them—especially the bigger birds, such as the bulbuls and scarlet minivets—and they flitted<sup>11</sup> in and out of the foliage<sup>12</sup>, feasting on the cherries.

On a warm sunny afternoon, when even the bees looked sleepy, Rakesh was looking for Grandfather and couldn't find him in any of his favourite places around the house. Then he looked out of the bedroom window and saw Grandfather reclining on a cane chair under the cherry tree.

'There is just the right amount of shade here,' said Grandfather. 'And I like looking at the leaves.'

What made Grandfather unhappy in winter?  
What effect did this have on his stories?



'They're pretty leaves,' said Rakesh. 'And they are always ready to dance, if there's a breeze.'

After Grandfather had come indoors, Rakesh went into the garden and lay down on the grass beneath the tree. He gazed up through the leaves at the great blue sky and turning on his side, he could see the mountain striding<sup>13</sup> away into the clouds.

He was still lying beneath the tree when the evening shadows crept across the garden. Grandfather came back and sat down beside Rakesh, and they waited in silence until it was dark.

'There are so many trees in the forest,' said Rakesh. 'What's so special about this tree? Why do we like it so much?'

'We planted it ourselves,' said Grandfather. 'That's why it's special.'

'Just one small seed,' said Rakesh and he touched the smooth bark of the tree that had grown. He ran his hand along the trunk of the tree and put his finger to the tip of a leaf. 'I wonder,' he whispered, 'is this what it feels to be God?'

Rudnik Bond (b. 1934) is a writer, who was born in Kasauli, India. He now lives in Mussoorie. His first novel, *The Room on the Roof*, was published when he was 21, and was partly based on his experiences in Dehradun. Among his many stories, *Rusty's Adventures*, *The Panther's Moon*, *The Night Train at Deoli*, and *Our Trees Still Grow at Dehra* are the most popular story collections.



<sup>11</sup>flitted: moved lightly and quickly from one place or thing to another  
<sup>12</sup>foliage: the leaves of a tree or plant  
<sup>13</sup>striding: walking with long steps

## Q1. Write the meanings of the following words and frame sentences using them:-

1. dripped
2. sprinkling
3. ploughing
4. peering
5. stared

## Q2. Complete the following sentences:-

1. Thinking that cherry seeds were lucky, Rakesh decided to .....
2. Grandfather advised him to sow cherry seed in .....
3. The monsoon rain came early and Rakesh plodded .....
4. One day Rakesh found the cherry tree's first visitor.....
5. After Grandfather had come indoors, Rakesh went to the garden and gazed up through.....



**Q3. Answer the following questions in not more than 25 -30 words.**

1. Where did Rakesh get the cherry seeds? Why did he think of sowing it?
2. Why did Grandfather ask Rakesh to sow the cherry seed in the corner of the garden?
3. What was Rakesh's reaction on discovering the cherry twig?
  
4. "But the cherry tree had no intention of dying". "Do you agree with it? Support your opinion with examples.
5. What made Grandfather upset in winter?

**Q4. Answer the following questions in not more than 60 -80 words.**

1. Mention the two incidents that almost destroyed the cherry plant.
2. Describe Rakesh's love and care for the cherry tree.