



ACADEMIC WORLD SCHOOL™

BEMETARA

Class- VIII

Subject- ENGLISH



The Happy Prince



Read the vocabulary chart made with the word 'sorrow'. Then complete the one on 'happiness'.

Word: sorrow	Definition: A feeling of deep distress caused by loss, disappointment, or other misfortune suffered by oneself or others
Synonym: grief	Antonym: joy
Sentence: When he lost his brother, he needed time to work through his sorrow.	

Word: happiness	Definition:
Synonym:	Antonym:
Sentence:	

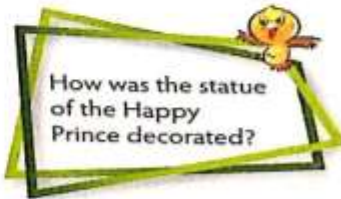
People do different kinds of things to be happy. Let us read about the statue of the Happy Prince and a little bird to find out what made them happy.

High above the city, on a tall column, stood the statue of the Happy Prince. He was gilded¹ all over with thin leaves of fine gold. For eyes he had two bright sapphires², and a large red ruby glowed on the hilt³ of his sword.

'Why can't you be like the Happy Prince?' said a sensible⁴ mother to her little boy who was crying for the moon. 'The Happy Prince never dreams of crying for anything.'

'He looks just like an angel,' said the schoolchildren as they walked past the statue in their bright scarlet⁴ coats and their clean white dresses.

One night, there flew over the city a little Swallow.



How was the statue of the Happy Prince decorated?

¹gilded: covered with a thin layer of gold or gold paint ²sapphire: gemstone of a deep blue colour ³hilt: handle of a sword ⁴scarlet: bright shade of red

His friends had gone away to Egypt six weeks ago, but he had stayed behind, for he was in love with the most beautiful Reed¹.

'Shall I love you?' said the Swallow, who liked to come to the point at once, and the Reed made him a low bow².

This is a ridiculous attachment³, said the other Swallows. Then, when the autumn came, they all flew away. After they had gone he felt lonely and began to pine⁴ for his ladylove.

'Will you come away with me?' he said finally to her; but the Reed shook her head, she was so attached to her home.

'You have been trifling with me,' he cried. 'I am off to the Pyramids. Goodbye!' and he flew away.

All day long he flew, and at night-time he arrived at the city.

'Where shall I stay?' he said. 'I hope the town has made preparations.'

Then he saw the statue on the tall column.

'I will stay there,' he cried; 'it is a fine position, with plenty of fresh air.'

'I have a golden bedroom,' he said softly to himself as he looked around. Just as he was putting his head under his wing a large drop of water fell on him. 'What a curious thing!' he cried. Then another drop fell, and he decided to fly away.

But before he had opened his wings, a third drop fell and he looked up. He saw that the eyes of the Happy Prince were filled with tears, and the tears were running down his golden cheeks. The little Swallow was filled with pity.

'Who are you?' he said.

'I am the Happy Prince.'

'Why are you weeping then?' asked the Swallow.

'When I was alive and had a human heart,' answered the statue, 'I did not know what tears were. I lived in the Palace of Sans-Souci⁵, where sorrow is not allowed to enter. Now they have put me up here so high that I can see all the ugliness and all the misery of my city. My heart is made of lead⁶ but I cannot choose but weep.'

¹reed: thin, tall plant which grows near water ²attachment: (here) love or affection ³trifling with: not treating with respect or seriousness ⁴sans-souci: (French) without worry, carefree ⁵lead: a sort of metal

Why did the Swallow stay behind? How did he feel after his friends flew away to Egypt?



Who is a seamstress?

'Far away' continued the statue in a low, musical voice, 'far away in a little street there is a poor house. One of the windows is open and through it I can see a woman seated at a table. Her face is thin and worn⁷, and she has coarse, red hands, all prickled by the needle, for she is a seamstress. In a bed in the corner of the room her little boy is lying ill. His mother has nothing to give him but water, so he is crying. Little Swallow, will you not take her the ruby on the hilt of my sword?'

'My friends are waiting for me in Egypt,' said the Swallow.

'Swallow, Swallow, little Swallow,' said the Prince, 'will you not stay with me for one night, and be my messenger? The boy is so thirsty, and the mother so sad.'

'I don't think I like boys,' answered the Swallow. 'Last summer, near the river, there were two rude boys who were always throwing stones at me.'

But the Happy Prince looked so sad that the little Swallow was sorry. 'It is very cold here,' he said; 'but I will stay with you for one night, and be your messenger.'

'Thank you, little Swallow,' said the Prince.

So the Swallow picked out the great ruby from the Prince's sword and flew away with it in his beak over the roofs of the town. He passed by the cathedral tower, where the white marble angels were sculptured⁸.

He passed by the palace and heard the sound of dancing. A beautiful girl came out on the balcony. 'I hope my dress will be ready in time for the dance,' she said; 'I have ordered flowers to be embroidered on it; but the seamstresses are so lazy.'

At last he came to the poor house and looked in. The boy was tossing⁹ feverishly on his bed, and the mother was so tired, she had fallen asleep.

In he hopped and laid the great ruby on the table beside the woman's thimble¹⁰. Then he flew gently round the bed, fanning the boy's forehead with his wings.

'How cool I feel,' said the boy. 'I must be getting better; and he sank into a delicious slumber¹¹.

Then the Swallow flew back to the Happy Prince and told him what he had done.

'It is curious,' he remarked, 'but I feel quite warm now, although it is so cold.'

'That is because you have done a good deed,' said the Prince.

⁷worn: tired ⁸tossing: moving restlessly ⁹thimble: hard cup worn for protection on the finger while sewing ¹⁰slumber: sleep

When day broke, the Swallow flew down to the river and had a bath. 'What a remarkable phenomenon,' said the Professor of Ornithology¹² as he was passing over the bridge. 'A swallow in winter!' And he wrote a long letter about it to the local newspaper. Everyone talked about it, though it was full of words that they could not understand.

'Tonight I go to Egypt,' said the Swallow, and he was in high spirits at the prospect. He visited all the public monuments and sat a long time on top of the church steeple¹³.

Wherever he went the sparrows chirped, and said to each other, 'What a distinguished¹⁴ stranger! So he enjoyed himself very much.'

When the moon rose, he flew back to the Happy Prince. 'Have you any work that I can do for you in Egypt?' he cried. 'I am just starting.'

'Swallow, Swallow, little Swallow,' said the Prince, 'will you not stay with me one night longer? They are waiting for me in Egypt,' answered the Swallow. 'Tomorrow my friends will fly up to the Second Cataract¹⁵.'

'Swallow, Swallow, little Swallow,' said the Prince, 'far away across the city I see a young man in a garret¹⁶. He is leaning over a desk covered with papers and in a tumbler by his side there is a bunch of withered violets. He is trying to finish a play for the Director of the Theatre, but he is too cold to write any more. There is no fire in the grate¹⁷, and hunger has made him faint¹⁸.'

'I will wait with you one night longer,' said the Swallow, who really had a good heart.

'Alas! I have no ruby now,' said the Prince; 'my eyes are all that I have left. They are made of rare sapphires, which were brought from India a thousand years ago. Pluck out one of them and take it to him.'

'Dear Prince,' said the Swallow, 'I cannot do that,' and he began to weep.

'Swallow, Swallow, little Swallow,' said the Prince, 'do as I command you.'

So the Swallow plucked out the Prince's eye, and flew away to the young man's garret.

The young man had his head buried in his hands, so he did not hear the flutter of the bird's wings. When he looked up, he found the beautiful sapphire lying on the withered violets.

The next day the Swallow flew down to the harbour. 'I am going to Egypt,' he cried, but nobody minded¹⁹, and when the moon rose he flew back to the Happy Prince.

What was the problem with the young man in the garret?

Why did the Swallow finally decide to stay with the Happy Prince?

'I have come to bid you goodbye,' he cried.

'Swallow, Swallow, little Swallow,' said the Prince, 'will you not stay with me one night longer?'

'It is winter,' answered the Swallow, 'and the chill snow will soon be here. In Egypt, the sun is warm on the green palm-trees and the crocodiles lie in the mud and look lazily about them. Dear Prince, I must leave you, but I will never forget you. Next spring I will bring you back two beautiful jewels in place of those you have given away.'

'In the square below,' said the Happy Prince, 'there stands a little match girl, selling matches. Her matches have fallen in the gutter, and they are all spoiled. Her father will scold her if she does not bring home some money, and she is crying. Pluck out my other eye, and give it to her, and her father will not scold her.'

'I will stay with you one night longer,' said the Swallow, 'but I cannot pluck out your eye. You would be completely blind then.'

'Swallow, Swallow, little Swallow,' said the Prince, 'do as I command you. So he plucked out the Prince's other eye and flew down with it. He swooped past the match girl.

He dropped the jewel into the palm of her hand and she ran home laughing.

Then the Swallow came back to the Prince.

'You are blind now,' he said, 'so I will stay with you always.'

All of next day, he sat on the Prince's shoulder and told him stories of what he had seen in strange lands.

'Dear little Swallow,' said the Prince, 'you tell me of marvellous things, but more marvellous than anything is the suffering of men and of women. Fly over my city, little Swallow, and tell me what you see there.'

So the Swallow flew over the great city, and saw the rich making merry in their beautiful houses, while the beggars were sitting at the gates.

Under a bridge, two little boys were lying in one another's arms to try and keep themselves warm. Then he flew back and told the Prince what he had seen.

'I am covered with fine gold,' said the Prince, 'you must take it off, leaf by leaf, and give it to my poor.'

Leaf after leaf of the fine gold the Swallow gave to the poor and the children's faces grew rosier and they laughed and played games in the street.

¹²ornithology: science dealing with the study of birds ¹³steeple: tall conical structure on top of a building ¹⁴distinguished: noble in appearance ¹⁵cataract: (here) shallow and rocky part of the Egyptian river Nile ¹⁶garret: small room at the top of a house ¹⁷grate: frame of metal bars in which wood or coal is burnt ¹⁸faint: feeling weak and tired and likely to become unconscious ¹⁹minded: paid attention

What was the last task that the Happy Prince gave the Swallow?

Then the snow came and after the snow came the frost. Everybody went about in furs, and the little boys wore caps and skated on ice.

The poor little Swallow grew colder and colder, but he would not leave the Prince. But at last he knew that he was going to die. He had just enough strength to fly up to the Prince's shoulder once more. 'Goodbye, dear Prince!' he murmured.

'I am glad that you are going to Egypt at last, little Swallow,' said the Prince.

'It is not to Egypt that I am going,' said the Swallow. 'I am going to the House of Death.'

And he kissed the Happy Prince and fell down dead at his feet.

At that moment a curious crack sounded inside the statue, as if something had broken.

The fact is that the leaden heart had snapped right in two.

Early the next morning, the Mayor was walking in the square below with the Town Councillors²². As they passed the column he looked up at the statue: 'How shabby the Happy Prince looks!' he said. 'And there is actually a dead bird at his feet!' continued the Mayor. 'We must really issue a proclamation²³ that birds are not to be allowed to die here.'

So they pulled down the statue of the Happy Prince. Then they melted the statue in a furnace, and the Mayor held a meeting to decide what was to be done with the metal.

'What a strange thing!' said the overseer of the workmen at the foundry²⁴. 'This broken lead heart will not melt in the furnace.' So they threw it on a dustheap²⁵ where the dead Swallow was also lying.

'Bring me the two most precious things in the city,' said God to one of His Angels and the Angel brought Him the leaden heart and the dead bird.

'You have rightly chosen,' said God, 'for in my Garden of Paradise this little bird shall sing for evermore, and in my city of gold the Happy Prince shall praise me.'



From *The Happy Prince and Other Tales*

(Adapted and abridged)

Read the lesson 'The Happy Prince' and answer the following questions.

Q. 1. Find the meanings of the following words and frame a sentence on each word.

- a. swoop
- b. shabby
- c. monuments
- d. proclamation
- e. sculpture

Q.2 Complete the following Sentences

- a. The Swallow decided to rest on the shoulder of the statue of 'The Happy Prince' because
- b. The Swallow refused to help The Happy Prince because
- c. The statue of The Happy Prince was looking shabby as
- d. The Mayor of the city decided to
- e. The heart of The Happy Prince didn't melt in the foundry because

Q.3 Answer the following questions in 25 – 30 words.

- a. Why did The Happy Prince want to help Seamstress?
- b. How did the Swallow help the young man in garret?
- c. Why was the match stick girl crying?
- d. Describe the appearance of 'The Happy Prince' in your own words?
- e. Who was responsible for the death of Swallow and how?

Q.4. Answer the following questions in 60 -80 words.

- a. Do you think that helping the Happy Prince was a good decision by Swallow? Justify your answer by giving the references from the lesson.
- b. Write any incident of your life when you helped someone like The Happy Prince at the cost of your comfort.

Lines Composed in a Wood on a Windy Day

Why do you think nature inspires people to write poems?
What aspects of nature inspire you?
Let us read a poem written about a windy day in a wood.

My soul is awakened, my spirit is soaring
And carried aloft¹ on the wings of the breeze;
Around me the wild wind is roaring,
Arousing to² rapture³ the earth and the sea.

The long withered grass in the sunshine is glancing⁴
The bare trees are tossing their branches on high;
The dead leaves, beneath them, are merrily dancing,
The white clouds are scudding⁵ across the blue sky.

I wish I could see how the ocean is lashing⁶
The foam of its billows⁷ to whirlwinds of spray;
I wish I could see how its proud waves are dashing,
And hear the wild roar of their thunder today!



Oxford
Areal

SCAN THIS IMAGE WITH AREAL
See instructions on page 8

Anne Brontë (1820–1849) was the youngest of the three Brontë sisters who were writers. Anne was educated at home by her aunt till the age of fifteen, when she joined school. Her elder sisters were Charlotte, who wrote *Jane Eyre*, and Emily, who wrote *Wuthering Heights*. Anne's first published book was a collection of poems which contained poems by all three sisters. The collection, called *Poems by Currer, Ellis and Acton Bell*, was published in 1846.



¹aloft: high in the air ²arousing to: creating an emotion ³rapture: feelings of extreme pleasure and happiness
⁴glancing: (here) shining or gleaming ⁵scudding: moving quickly across the sky ⁶lashing: hitting ⁷billows: waves



Read the Poem 'Line Composed in a Wood on a Windy Day and answer the following questions.

Q. 1. a. Find the rhyming scheme used in this poem.

b. Find the figure of speeches used in this poem. Give at least one example from the poem.

Q.2 Answer the following questions in one or two sentences.

- a. Why does the poetess say 'My soul is awakened'?
- b. What is glancing in the sunshine?
- c. Why the trees are called 'bare'?
- d. Who is dancing merrily?
- e. What are the white clouds doing?

Q.3. Answer the following questions in 60 -80 words.

- a. Describe the effect of wind on the earth as given in the second stanza.
- b. Describe the effect of wind on the sea as given in the third stanza.

6



Madam Marie Curie



Here are the names of some women who have been beacons of excellence in their respective fields. Discuss their achievements. Tick the names of the women scientists among them.

HELEN KELLER

JANE GOODALL

MARIE CURIE

AMELIA EARHART

MOTHER TERESA

VALENTINA TERESHKOVA

JANE AUSTEN

Madam Marie Curie was born on 7 November 1867, in Warsaw, Poland. She was unique in being both a physicist and a chemist, and was known for her pioneering research on radioactivity. Marie is also remembered in history as the first woman to win a Nobel Prize and also the first to win it in two fields—Chemistry and Physics.

Professor Skłodovska had four children and one of them was Marie. Marie wanted to study Science at the famous Sorbonne¹, but her father didn't have enough money. And, there weren't too many good institutes in Warsaw. But, in 1891, when Marie was 24, after a long struggle, she finally got what she wanted—Marie enrolled² in Sorbonne in Paris.

This is even better than a fairytale coming true ... It's like a new world has opened before me—the world of science and discovery!



¹Sorbonne: a prestigious university in Paris ²enrolled: officially joined a school, college or some such institution

Though Marie loved studying science and being in Paris, it was difficult to make ends meet.

I will study here in the library. It's warm and bright in here. I will also save on fuel for the lamp at home.



She ate very little and rented a small attic on the sixth floor of a building.

It's all I can afford. Besides, this is so close to the university that I can walk instead of taking a bus.



For three years Marie devoted her entire time and attention to studying. She decided to do her Masters not only in Science but in Mathematics too. And in 1893 she accomplished her mission.

In the order of merit...in the first position is... Marie Skłodowska!



At the age of twenty-six, Marie's passion for Science was still the driving force of her life.

Studying the magnetic properties of various steels is quite interesting. I hope that I am able to devote my entire life to Science.



She met a man equally passionate about the subject, a Frenchman by the name of Pierre Curie. He worked as a laboratory assistant at the Sorbonne. One day she heard him talking to his brother, Jacques.

I was quite fascinated by crystals and did some research on them. My brother and I also studied the generation of electricity by pressure which led to our discovery of Piezoelectricity.



Our research has helped us in our invention of the new apparatus—the Piezoelectric Quartz.

Soon Marie and Pierre realized that neither of them could find a better life companion than each other.

It is so nice to be able to talk about the subjects I care about so much with somebody so intelligent!

He is such a brilliant physicist and yet he is such a simple man!



On 25 July 1895, they got married. Their marriage turned out to be a unique partnership. Marie spent a lot of time doing research at Pierre's laboratory.



In the second year of their marriage, their first daughter Irene was born. Marie returned to the lab and began work on her doctorate.

The way the X-Rays can pass through objects is very fascinating.

And Henry Becquerel has also discovered similar rays being emitted from Uranium.



Perhaps this property of Uranium can be found in some other elements...I want to research on this some more.

Pierre too advanced the research using an apparatus invented by him. They found not one but two such elements...

I will name this *Polonium* in honour of my native country, Poland!

...and this can be called Radium... Latin for 'ray'.



Yes, we will call it Radium...but we still need to isolate it in its pure form.

In the meantime, Marie was appointed as a Physics lecturer at a school for girls. But her research continued. It took four years and in 1902 she and Pierre successfully prepared a small quantity of pure radium.

Look Pierre... how it glows! What a lovely sight!

Yes. It looks like faint fairy lights!



Many practical uses of Radium were found, especially in the field of medicine. Marie shared her findings with the rest of her colleagues.

When exposed to Radium, diseased, tumour-forming cells are killed faster than the healthy ones!

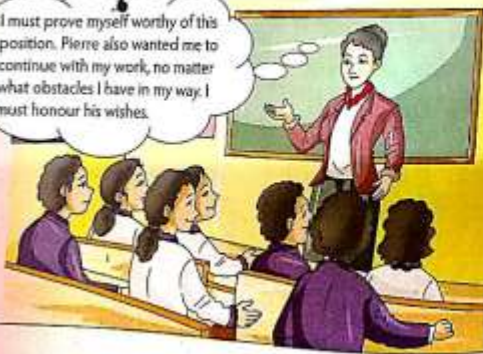


In 1903, both Pierre and Marie Curie were awarded the Nobel Prize in Physics for their important discovery. Marie chose not to patent her discovery. She wanted it to be freely used.



Marie and Pierre's second daughter, Eve, was born and soon after, Marie Curie was made the director of a lab in Sorbonne where Pierre was a professor. But things changed suddenly in 1906 when she lost Pierre in an accident. This was a terrible blow for Marie. Sometime after this, she was appointed professor in her husband's place— she was the first woman professor at Sorbonne.

I must prove myself worthy of this position. Pierre also wanted me to continue with my work, no matter what obstacles I have in my way. I must honour his wishes.



A single mother who had to manage work and home, she never neglected her children's education. She came up with an idea. Instead of going to school, the professors' children attended their lectures. Each professor took classes in their own subject.

This is so much better than attending school!

And lessons in such a simple manner... its fun!



Marie Curie taught them Physics, using experiments. She also made her pupils constantly apply their common sense when learning.

How can you keep water in this pot hot?

...or a blanket.?

We can wrap it in something like wool.?



We can simply cover it with a lid. That will prevent the heat from escaping quickly.

As a teacher, Marie insisted on performing experiments and learning, rather than using just textbooks.

In the years to come, despite failing health, Marie continued her research and won her second Nobel Prize in 1911, this time in Chemistry. She was the first person to receive two Nobel Prizes. Twenty-four years later, her elder daughter, Irene, too won a Nobel Prize for Chemistry just like her parents.



Madam Curie relentlessly served mankind. She set up mobile X-ray units during World War I to help wounded soldiers. She even donated her prize money and all her savings for this cause.

Excuse me, Madam... Will it be painful?

No, not at all! It is just like taking a photograph!



Her great desire was to set up a radium institute in Warsaw and her dream came true in 1925 when the whole country came together to create a fund for the institute.



After 40 years of research work, Marie had to battle constantly with her failing sight and hearing. It was because she was constantly exposed to Radium. Her hands had burns. She suffered from leukemia and her exposure to Radium made it difficult for her to combat her disease. On 4 July 1934, she passed away. The world was shocked when it read the news.

Few persons contributed more to the general welfare of mankind and to the advancement of science than the modest, self-effacing woman whom the world knew as Madam Curie.



Read the lesson 'Madam Marie Curie' and answer the following questions.

Q. 1. Find the meanings of the following words and frame a sentence on each word.

- a. apparatus
- b. passionate
- c. emit
- d. fascinate
- e. obstacles

Q.2 Complete the following Sentences.

- a. Marie curie wanted to take admission in Sorbonne university because
- b. 'To meet both the ends together' means
- c. Marie got her second Nobel Prize in
- d. Marie was impressed by Pierre because
- e. Marie completed her masters in

Q.3 Answer the following questions in 25 – 30 words.

- a. Why does the marriage between Marie and Pierre consider to be a unique partnership?
- b. How did Marie meet both the end together?
- a. Why was Marie a different sort of teacher?
- b. What challenges did Marie face after the death of her husband?
- c. How did Marie die?

Q.4. Answer the following questions in 60 -80 words.

- a. Write about the struggle that Marie went through in about 60 -80 words.
- b. What do we learn from the life of Marie Curie? Give instances from the lesson.