



A small talking dog was a big success when it came to a theater. It told jokes, sang songs and did a lot of other funny items on the stage.

But while it was singing a song, a bigger came into the theater, stopped, listened for a few moments and then ran up and jumped on the dog small talking dog and carried it off the stage. Just as the two animals were disappearing behind the curtains at the side of the stage, the small talking dog said, "I am sorry about this, everybody! This is my mother. She doesn't want me to be an actor. She wants me to become a doctor."



Mr. Jones was very fond of climbing on mountains, so one year he went to Switzerland for his holidays. He was climbing a **peak** (hill) with his guide.

"Be careful here", the guide said. "This is a dangerous place. You can easily fall, and if you do, you will fall straight down a very long way. But," he continued calmly, "if you do fall here, don't forget to look to the right while you are going down. There is a quite



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extraordinary beautiful view there -much more beautiful than the one you can see from here."



Lal could not read or write. Once he received a letter. He ran to Khan's house with the letter in his hand. Khan was a clever man. He could read and write. He was sitting on a bed in the courtyard.

Lal : Will you read out his letter to me, please?

Khan : Who is it from?

Lal : I don't know. The postman has just given it to me. Please open it and read it.

(Khan opened the letter and read out two or three lines.)

Lal : Oh, please stop. Don't read it. It's a secret from my friend. I don't want anyone to read it.

Khan : Don't worry, Lal. I'll put my fingers in my ears and then read out your letter to you. You'll hear the words, but I won't hear them.

Lal : That's fine. You're a wise man. Please put your fingers into your ears and read out the letter to me.



A warrior killed his master. He **repented** (પસ્તાવો કર્યો) immediately but the deed was done and he knew that if he was caught he would be put to death. So he ran away.

He reached a remote village that was separated from the rest of the world by a mountain. The murderer decided to repent for his sin by singlehandedly cutting a road through the mountain to connect the village with the rest of the world.

He worked from **dawn to dusk** (morning to evening) and in four years had made halfway into the mountain. One morning when he was hard at work in the tunnel, a young man called out to him to come out. He was the son of the man who was murdered. He wanted **revenge** (બદલો, વેર વાળવું).

"I deserve to die," said the former warrior. "Kill me by all means but wait until I've completed this tunnel."

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The young man agreed to wait. He watched **fascinated** (amazed) as day after day the warrior laboured at a seemingly impossible task. The young man began to develop respect for his enemy's determination. Eventually he found himself helping the man -digging side by side with him and carrying out the stone.

Years passed and then one day the two men broke through to the other side. The mountain was conquered at last and the centuries-old **isolation** (aloofness, [အကွာအဝေး]) of the village ended.

"Now, I am ready to die," said the warrior, kneeling before the young man. "**Cleave** (split) my head in two."

The youth **raised** his sword so that his father's death could be avenged. But he could not bring himself to do it. Slowly he lowered his sword.

"You're a murderer," he said. "But I've learnt much from you in these last few years. How can I kill my teacher?"

And he put his sword back and walked away.

### Do it Yourself

**Q.1 (A) Understand the difference of meaning in the following pairs:**

- |               |                 |                   |
|---------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| (a) fare-fair | (b) list-enlist | (c) effect-affect |
| (d) ear-year  | (e) saw-sow     | (f) pill-peel     |

**(B) Find the words which have the following meanings :**

- |                  |               |                     |
|------------------|---------------|---------------------|
| (a) fighter      | (b) obviously | (c) strong decision |
| (d) disconnected | (d) varandah  |                     |

**Q.2 (A) Answer these questions :**

1. Why did people like the small dog ?
2. Was the big dog actual mother of the small dog ? Why did the small dog say that "this is my mother ?"
3. What was dangerous about the hill on which the mountaneer was climbing ?

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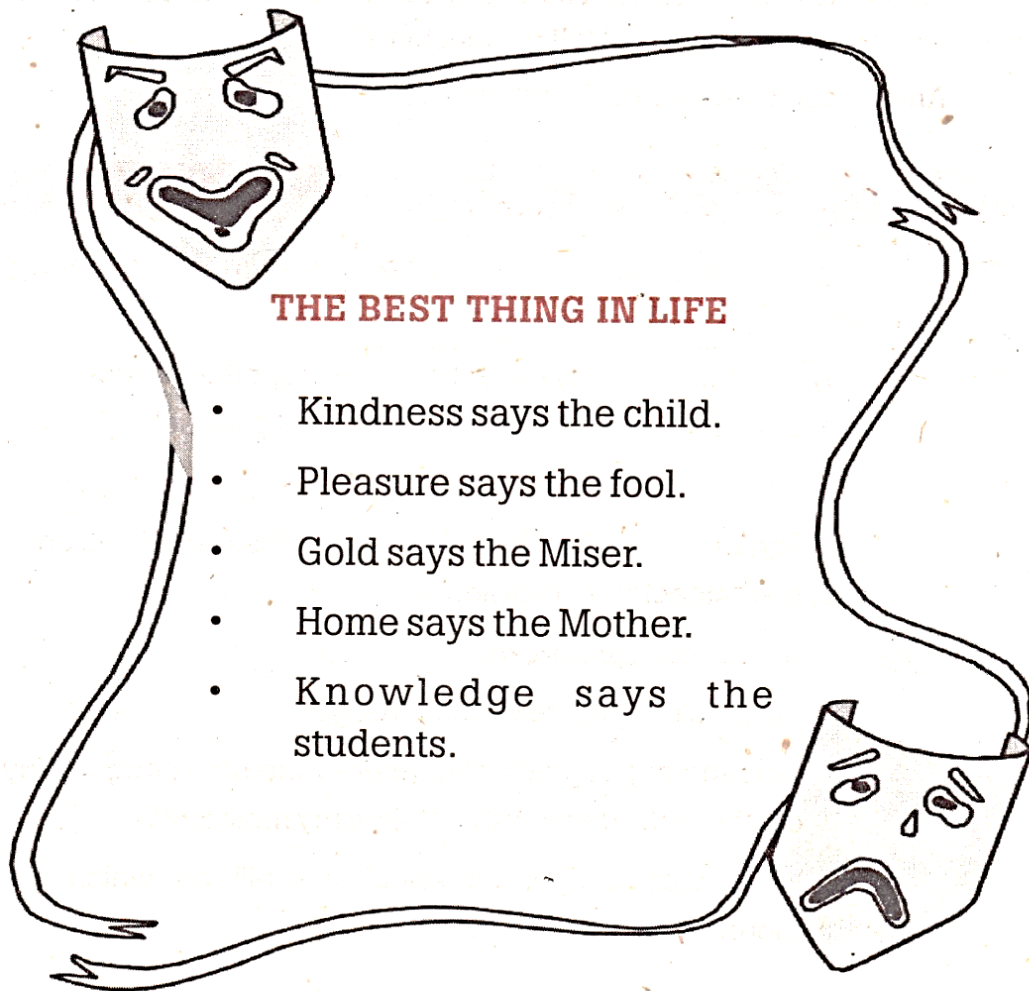




4. Do you think Khan would know the secret ? How ?
5. What did the warrior do to wash away his sin ?
6. Why did young man kill his father's murderer ?

**(B) What came to your mind when you read these words or sentences :**

1. "She wants me to become a doctor."
2. "Look to the right when your are going down."
3. "Please, put your fingers into your ears and read the letter."
4. "How can I kill my teacher ?"



**THE BEST THING IN LIFE**

- Kindness says the child.
- Pleasure says the fool.
- Gold says the Miser.
- Home says the Mother.
- Knowledge says the students.

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