



## Lesson- 3

### The Boy with a Catapult

#### SOLUTIONS:

#### Comprehension

1. Answer the following questions:

i) 'Our class had an odd assortment of boys.'

Describe the different types of boys found in the class.

Ans: The narrator's class was a mixture of different types of boys. Among them was Harbans Lal who, when asked a difficult question, would take a sip from his inkpot because he believed it sharpened his wits. If the teacher boxed his ears he would cry for help. But the oddest fellow in the class was Bodh Raj. They were afraid of him because if he pinched anyone's arm the arm would swell up. He was utterly callous. He would catch a wasp with his bare fingers, pull out its sting, tie a thread round it and fly it like a kite. He was also vindictive and took pleasure in hurting others. Even his mother called him a rakshasha.

ii) Why was it believed that if a scorpion stung Bodh Raj, the scorpion would fall dead?

Ans: If a scorpion stung Bodh Raj, the scorpion would fall dead. Bodh Raj's blood was believed to be so full of venom that even snake-bite had no effect on him.

iii) What were the strange things that filled up Bodh Raj's pocket?

Ans: Bodh Raj's pocket was filled up with the strange things like a live parrot, an assortment of eggs, or a prickly hedgehog.

iv) What is a 'goh' according to Bodh Raj?

Ans: According to Bodh Raj a goh is a kind of reptile about a foot long. It has many feet and claws.

v) Why did Bodh Raj came to the Author's bungalow often?

Ans: The Author lived in an old styled bungalow in the outskirts of the city. It had brick floors, high walls, a slanting roof and a garden full of trees and shrubs. Bodh Raj found the garden to be a good hunting ground. The trees had many nests, monkeys roamed about, and under the bushes lived a pair of mongooses.

vi) Why did the Author take Bodh Raj to the godown?

Ans: The author's mother wanted Bodh Raj to clean the godown that had been made very filthy by the birds. He could remove the nests that had been built by the birds without harming them.

vii) 'The Kite has been coming here every day' What made Bodh Raj say these words?

Ans: Because Bodh Raj noticed broken wings, straw and bits of bird flesh littered on the floor of the godown. He realised that the kite must have ravaged the nest often.

viii) What did Bodh Raj feed the chicks?

Ans: Bodh Raj fed the chicks with drops of water and also he brought a bag of seeds to feed them.



## Exercise in Language

Look at the pairs of words

Pretty-beautiful

End-finish

These pairs have almost similar meanings. They are called Synonyms.

From the box below, pick out the synonyms of the words given

right	assist	begin	banish
false	shout	freedom	haste

wrong	<u>false</u>	correct	<u>right</u>
help	<u>assist</u>	cry	<u>shout</u>
exile	<u>banish</u>	commence	<u>begin</u>
liberty	<u>freedom</u>	hurry	<u>haste</u>



DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (S)  
Government of Manipur