

February 2022

03

March 2022

Wk	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	Wk	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
6		1	2	3	4	5	6	10	1	2	3	4	5	6	
7	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	11	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
8	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	12	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
9	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	13	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
10	28							14	28	29	30	31			

03

012-353 | 12-01-2022

2022

January

Wednesday

12

LOST SPRING (Stories of Stolen Childhood)

(by - Anees Jung)

About the Lesson:

- The story 'Lost Spring' describes the pitiable condition of poor children who have been forced to miss the joy of childhood due to the socio-economic condition that prevails in this man made world. These children are deprived of schooling and forced into labour early in life.

Theme: The plight of street children forced into labour early in life and denied the opportunity of schooling.

— Mind-Map —

Characters: (1) Saheb: He is a ragpicker from Seemapuri. The author Anees Jung finds him looking for some valuable things in garbage dumps every morning.

(2) Mukesh: He is a boy from a family of poor bangle-makers in Firozabad. He dreams of becoming a motor-mechanic instead of following his family-business.

Events: Author meets Saheb & his friends searching for 'gold' in the garbage dumps. She promises to open a school.

- Author notices the irony in his full name 'Saheb-e-Atom'. She asks them why they don't wear slippers.
- Author's acquaintance with barefoot ragpickers takes her to Seemapuri, home to Bangladeshi refugees from 1971.

Answers in about 40 words:

Part I - Saheb's story - (Sometime I find a rupee in the garbage)

Q1. What does Saheb look for in the garbage dumps?
What does 'gold' refer to?

Ans Saheb looks for useful items in garbage dumps which can be sold for money. The money can get him food, so it is like gold for him. Looking for 'gold' in garbage dumps is his (Saheb's) daily routine.

Q2. What explanation does the author offer for the children not wearing footwear?

- The author offers various explanations given to her by the children like not taking their slippers down from the shelf, not wearing footwear is a tradition, and so on. She feels these are just excuses to hide their perpetual state of poverty as they cannot afford footwear.

Q3. Why did Anees Jung ask Saheb about the school? What was its impact on Saheb?

- The author asks Saheb about school half-jokingly. She promises to start a school. Actually, the author was not at all serious about it, but Saheb was. The author feels embarrassed for the promise she could not keep.

Q4. Describe the irony in Saheb's name.

Saheb's full name was 'Saheb-e-alam' which means 'Lord of the universe'. Irony is that according to his name, he should be a king living a luxurious life. Unfortunately, he is a barefoot ragpicker who lacks even the basic needs.

Q:5 What job did Saheb take up? Was he happy?

Ans Saheb takes up a job at a tea-stall where he carries heavy milk canister and is paid 800 rupees and meals. Saheb is not happy. His face has lost the carefree look. He is no longer his own master.

Part II - Mukesh! ⇒

Q:6 Who was Mukesh? What was his ambition?

Ans Mukesh is a boy who belongs to a family of poor bangle maker in Firozabad. Every second family in Firozabad is engaged in bangle making for years. Mukesh doesn't want to follow this family business. His ambition was to be a motor-mechanic, and driving cars.

Q:7 Which industry was a boon and also bane for the people of Firozabad?

The glass industry was a boon and also bane for the people of Firozabad. It is boon because it gave them livelihood to survive.

It is a bane because it affected their health badly due to working close the furnaces used for making bangles.

Q:8 16 Sunday Mention the hazards of working in the glass bangle industry in Firozabad.

Ans The main hazard of working in glass factory is to lose eyesight over a period of time. Bangles are manufactured in glass furnaces with high temperatures in dingy cells without air & light. Other hazards are developing lung and brain related diseases.

Q.9 What is the city Firozabad famous for?

The city 'Firozabad' is famous for its glass and bangle-making industry. It is the center of India's glass-blowing industry where families have spent generations working around furnaces.

Q.10 What do the bangles symbolize?

Ans Bangles have immense value in Indian culture and tradition. Bangles symbolize Indian woman's 'suhag' and auspiciousness in marriage.