

**IT SO HAPPENED .....**  
**SUPPLEMENTARY READER IN ENGLISH**  
**CLASS VIII**  
**CHAPTER-1 HOW THE CAMEL GOT HIS HUMP**

-Rudyard Kipling

**INTRODUCTION**

Here is a story which underlines the message that work is the key to sound health and happiness. Those who have nothing much to do, grow humps on their back. Their curve in their spine deforms the body. This rule applies to children as well as grown – ups. The camel, says the story has got a hump on its back. It is because in very early times be used to escape work. He lived in the desert doing nothing while the horse, the dog and the ox had to work double time. The three animals first complained of it to their master man but he took no action. Then they complained of it to the Djinn of the desert. The camel got the hump as a punishment.

**INTRODUCTORY QUESTIONS-**

**Ques.1 What sort of animal is camel?**

**Ans.** There are two chief kinds of camels.

- The Arabian camel, also called dromedary, which has one hump
- The Bactrian camel, which has 2 humps.

**Ques.2 what is hump?**

**Ans.** The hump is a large lump of fat that provides energy if food is hard to find.

**Ques.3 what do you think the story is going to be about?**

**Ans.** About the camel and its hump.

**NEW WORDS-**

Whishing  
Presently  
Rolled  
Remonstrated  
Reflection  
Saddle  
Prickles

**WORD MEANING**

<b>Word</b>	<b>Meaning</b>
1. Djinn	A spirit with strange powers
2. In the beginning	At the start

3. Howling	long loud cry
4. Prickles	Thorns
5. Saddle	Seat on horse's back
6. Trot	Move at medium pace
7. Fetch	Go and bring
8. Yoke	Wooden bar put across the neck of animals
9. Sorry for you	Feel sad about you
10. Chewing the cub	Move jaws and teeth to grind food
11. Idle	one who does not work
12. Remonstrated	Argued with
13. Dust cloak	loose outer garment of dust
14. Reflection	Image
15. Puffing up	Rising, swelling
16. Hump	Lump on the back

#### VERY SHORT QUESTION ANSWER

**Ques.1 what tasks, do you think, were assigned to the dog and the ox?**

**Ans.** The dog was assigned the task of fetching and carrying. The ox was made to plough the fields.

**Ques.2 why did the camel live in the middle of the desert?**

**Ans.** The camel lived in the middle of the desert because it didn't want to work.

**Ques.3 The camel said, "Humph" repeatedly. How did it affect him?**

**Ans.** The word 'Humph' annoyed the Djinn. He turned 'humph' into the hump on the camels back.

**Ques.4 "... he has never yet learnt to behave." In the light of this, what is the writer's opinion about the camel?**

**Ans.** The writer is of the opinion that the camel has not changed its nature and habits to this day.

**Ques.5 Can this story be factually true?**

**Ans.** No, the story is not factually true. It is just an imaginary one.

**Ques.6 There are broadly two categories of workers- those who prefer to do today what they can do tomorrow, and those who prefer to do tomorrow, what they can do today. Where do you belong?**

**Ans.** I generally want to do today what I can do tomorrow. I don't like to put off till tomorrow what I can do today.

## SHORT QUESTION ANSWER

**Ques.1 what made the dog, the horse and the ox very angry?**

**Ans.** The dog, the horse and the ox were angry because man, their master, told them to work double time to make up for the camel's idleness.

**Ques.2 How did the Djinn know the horse was complaining against the camel?**

**Ans.** The Djinn was the master of deserts. So he was able to know easily who the animal with a long neck and long legs was.

**Ques.3 The Camel was looking at his own reflection in the pool. What does it suggest to you about the camel?**

**Ans.** This statement suggests that the camel loved its own image in the pool. Perhaps he considered himself handsome looking.

**Ques.4 What, according to the Djinn, was the use of the 'hump'?**

**Ans.** The camel's hump contained food material. It helped the desert animal go without any food for three days.

**Ques.5 What according to you, is the story about? Consider the following:**

**(i)** How the world began.

**(ii)** Why everyone should do his/her share of work seriously.

**(iii)** How animals are important to humans.

**(iv)** How the camel got his hump.

**Ans.** In my opinion the story tell us that every one of us should do his /her share of work seriously. We are sure to get a hump on our back. Idleness leads to deformity.

**Ques.6 What did you do over the weekend? Were you generally active or idle? Please check your back before starting to discuss or answer the question.**

**Ans.** Honestly speaking, I did not do much work. I relaxed and watched TV. Some of my friends came to see me. We spent quite a long time in chatting.

## LONG QUESTION ANSWER

**Ques.1 Who was the Djinn? How did he 'hump' the camel?**

**Ans.** The Djinn was the master of all deserts. The animals complained to him about the idleness of the camel. The Djinn spoke to the camel and advised him to work. But the camel said 'hump'. The Djinn told him not to repeat this word. Again the camel said 'hump' as soon as he said this, his beautiful back swelled into a 'hump'. This served the camel right.

### VALUE BASED QUESTION

**Ques.1 What according to you, "He who struggles is better than he who never attempts is correct.**

**Ans.** Because everybody should give a try, at least should attempt it once. Otherwise the regret of not attempting will remain forever.

**Ques.2 Why team work is important?**

**Ans.** Teamwork supports a more empowered way of working, removes constraints which may prevent someone doing their job for properly.

**Ques.3 Tell which value you learnt from the following-**

**Ans.** The Djinn saw that animals were unhappy and so he help them.  
Kindness, helping

### HOTS SOLVED QUESTION

**Ques.1 Why do we call camels humph as hump?**

**Ans.** We called camels humph as hump not to hurt his feeling; so that he will work with his hump on his back.

**Ques.2 Why did the Djinn help horse, ox and dog to make camel work?**

**Ans.** The Djinn agreed with other animals that it was unfair and went to see camel.

### ACTIVITY

**Role play** – on chapter 1 ' how the camel get his hump'?

Student	Role
1	Dieion
2	Camel
3	Ox
4	Dog
5	Hous
6	

## CHAPTER – 2 CHILDREN AT WORK

### INTRODUCTION

Millions of children in our country have to work. They are too to go to school or play. They have to earn something to help their families. But there are some children who run away from their unhappy homes. They face great difficulties. Most often they fall in wrong hands. Velu is an eleven – year old boy. He runs away from home because his father beats him. He goes to Chennai, he is alone and miserable. A girl, almost his age, helps him. She is a rag picker. She finds food for him and offers him work to do.

### INTRODUCTORY QUESTION ANSWER

#### Ques.1 What is child Labour?

**Ans.** Child Labour is work that harms children or keeps them away from attending school. Underage children work at all sorts of jobs around the world.

#### Ques.2 Why do children start working in early age?

**Ans.** Children start working because their families are extremely poor and some start because of unhappy homes.

#### Ques.3 Who are rag pickers?

**Ans.** A person who picks up rags and other waste material from the sheets, refuse heaps etc. for a livelihood.

### NEW WORDS-

Wobbly  
Bumping  
Grimace  
Squinted  
Squashy  
Thumped  
Stupidly  
Scratched

### WORD MEANING

Word	Meaning
1. Pulled in	Arrived at
2. Wobbly	Unsteady
3. Porter	Coolie
4. Jiggery	Crude sugar
5. Bumping	Pushing
6. Sack	Jute bag

7. Stupidly	like an idiot
8. Strange	Unknown
9. Snatched	Took by force
10. Grimace	Twisted expression on the face due to pain
11. Making his	making him dizzy
12. Squinted	Glanced side ways
13. Squashy	Crushed
14. squeezed him	Hunger
15. Gulped down	Swallowed
16. Crookedly	not straight
17. Thumped	Beat, stroke
18. Scratched	Ribbed with nail

### VERY SHORT QUESTION ANSWER

**Ques.1 What made him feel miserable?**

**Ans.** Velu was alone, tired and hungry. He didn't have a ticket also. So he felt miserable.

**Ques. 2 Velu travelled without a ticket. Why?**

**Ans.** Velu travelled without a ticket because he had no money.

**Ques.3 Why did he decide to follow the 'strange' girl?**

**Ans.** Velu agreed to go after the 'strange' girl because he was hungry and the girl promised to get food for him.

**Ques.4 Can Velu read Tamil and English? How do you know?**

**Ans.** Velu could not read sign boards in English. But he read the Tamil sign on the Central jail.

**Ques.5 (i). Where did the girl lead Velu to?**

**Ans.** The girl led Velu to a marriage hall.

**(ii). What did they get to eat?**

**Ans.** They got some food from the garbage bin. It was leftover food.

**Ques.6 What work did she do? (Think of a one-word answer).**

**Ans.** Rag picking.

**Ques. 7 (i) What material are the 'strange' huts made out of?**

**Ans.** The 'strange' huts are made out of tin sheets, bricks, wood and plastic.

**(ii). Why does Velu find them strange?**

**Ans.** Velu finds those huts strange because in his own village the huts were made of mud and palm leaves.

**Ques.8 Is Velu happy or unhappy to find work? Give a reason for your answer.**

**Ans.** Velu is not at all happy. He had never done such a dirty job in his village.

### SHORT QUESTION ANSWER

**Ques.1 Velu stood on the platform but he felt "as if he was still on a moving train." Why?**

**Ans.** Velu had run away from home. Being a small boy he was naturally tired, hungry and afraid of the ticket examiner. He lay down near the compartment door. He could not get over the feeling that his train journey was over.

**Ques. 2 How did he escape the ticket collector's attention?**

**Ans.** He escaped the ticket collector's notice because the ticket collector did not come to that unreserved compartment.

**Ques.3 "If you are not careful, you will soon be counting bars there," the girl said.**

**Ques. 1(i) What is she referring to?**

**Ans.** She is referring to Central jail

**ii. What does she mean when she says "If you are not careful."?**

**(She says something a little later which mean the same. Find that sentence.)**

**Ans.** She pointed out to Velu that doing wrong was not so important as escaping the police or getting caught.

The sentence is : 'You don't have to do anything . Just don't get caught , that's all'.

**Ques.4 Why had Velu run away from home?**

**Ans.** Velu had run away from home because of the misdeeds of his father, who used to snatch all the money from him and his sister. He also beat the children.

**Ques.5 What sort of things did Jaya and children like her collect and what did they do with those things?**

**Ans.** Jaya and other children like her collected paper, plastic, and glass etc. They sold all that to a kabadi or junk-dealer.

**Ques.6 Is Velu a smart boy? Which instances in the text show that he is or isn't?**

**Ans.** No, Velu is not a smart boy. He runs away from his home to escape his father's beatings. He felt miserable at the railway station. He found himself alone and hungry. He accepted rag picking because he wasn't 'fit for any other job.

## LONG QUESTION ANSWER

**Ques.1 Do you think Jaya is a brave and sensitive child with a sense of humour? Find instances of her courage, kind nature and humour in the text.**

**Ans.** Jaya is instead a brave and sensitive girl. She is mature for her age. She is sympathetic and kind. She sees Velu that he is alone and dejected. She can immediately see that he has run away from home and he is hungry. She tells that he can't find food if he keeps sitting there. Out of the kindness she wants to help him. She finds food in the garbage bin. She offers a banana and a vada to Velu. She tells him not to think he is a big hero. He should eat what he gets till he can have his own money to buy food. Later she offers him the only work almost that drags him to work to save him from starvation. She has a great sense of humour. When Velu is hesitated to cross the road she asks him, "What you were doing. Grazing cows?" She tells him to be careful otherwise 'he will be counting bars'. What a humorous way of telling him that he could go to Jail. When Velu decides to go after her and shouts to her she says, "So you have been following me around without even knowing my name?" There are several instances that tell us she is a brave and sensitive girl with a great sense of humor and a desire to help others.

**Ques.2 What one throws away as waste may be valuable to others. Do you find this sentence meaningful in the context of this story? How?**

**Ans.** This sentence is quite meaningful. People drink tea and coffee in the plastic cups and railway station and throw them away. People throw away papers bottles and cardboards etc. They have no use for them. But this 'waste' is valuable for many others. This waste can be recycled to make things useful again. So, thousand of rag pickers collect them and sell them to junk dealers. They make their living out of it. Children like Jaya collect them sell them to jam bazaar Jaggu who sells them to a factory. Even food which is not eaten in hotels and at feasts goes waste. It is dumped into garbage bins.

## HOTS SOLVED QUESTIONS

**Ques.1 What did velu see on Chennai central?**

**Ans.** Velu saw a large crowd on Chennai central. Announcements were made on the loudspeaker. He saw the porters going by with loaded trolleys. It was like a village fair.

**Ques .2 What did velu find on reaching the road?**

**Ans.** Velu found many vehicles plying non-stop. Dust and smoke flew at him from all sides. It made him feel dizzy.

**VALUE BASED QUESTION:-**

**Ques.1 Value of the chapter “children at work”.**

**Ans.** To show courage - To be courageous is a quality that enables a person to meet an adverse situation firmly.

**Ques.2 What are some ways you show courage?**

**Ans.-** Bravely deal with your daily challenges.

- Tell the truth regardless of the consequences
- Face your fears and work to overcome them.
- Admit your mistakes and learn from them.

**ACTIVITY:-**

From groups of 4-5 each group two image of child workers, a boy and a girl. Read out a short profile of the child workers, outlining where they come from, what kind of work they do.

**SOLUTION-**

The term ‘child labour’ suggests ILO, is best defined as work that deprives children of their potential and their dignity, and that is harmful to physical and mental development. It refers to work that is mentally, physically, socially or morally dangerous and harmful to children, or work whose schedule interferes with their ability to attend regular school, or work that affects in any manner their ability to focus during war and clubs and Boutros, school or experience a healthy childhood.

For much of human history and across different cultures. Children less than 17 years old have contributed to family welfare in a variety of ways. UNICEF suggests that poverty is the big cause of child labour. The report also notes that in rural and impoverished parts of developing and undeveloped parts of the world, children have no real and meaningful alternative. School and teachers are unavailable. Child labour is the unnatural result. A BBC report, similarity, concludes poverty and inadequate public education infrastructure are some of the cause of child labour in India.

Between boys and girls. UNICEF finds girls are two times more likely to be out of school and working in a domestic role .Parents with limited resources. Claims UNICE, have to choose whose school cost and fees they can afford when a school is available. Educating girls tends to be a lower priority across the world, including India. Girls are also harassed or bullied at schools. Sidelined by prejudice or poor curricula, according to UNICEF. Solely by virtue of their gender, therefore, many girls are kept from school or drop out, then provide child labour.

The presence of a large number of child labours is regarded as a serious issue in terms of economic welfare. Children who work to fail to get necessary education. They do not get the opportunity to develop physically, intellectually, emotionally and psychologically. In terms of the physical condition of children, Children are not long monotonous work because they become exhausted more quickly then adults. This reduces their physical conditions makes the children more vulnerable to disease. Children in hazardous working conditions are even in whose condition. Children who work, instead of going to school will remain illiterate which



limits their ability to contribute to their own well being as well as to community they live in. child labour has long term adverse effects for India.

To keep an economy prospering, a vital criteria is to have an educated workforce equipped with relevant skills for the needs of the industries. The young labourers today, will be part of India's human capital tomorrow. Child labour undoubtedly results in a trade-off with human accumulation.

St. Xavier's World School

## CHAPTER-3 THE SELFISH GIANT

### INTRODUCTION

The Giant had a large beautiful garden. But he was selfish. While he was away to visit a friend, children used to play in the garden. When the Giant returned, he was angry to see the children playing there. He built a high wall around the garden so that children could not come in. As a result, the trees refused to bear flowers and fruits, spring refused to visit his garden. Only the frost, the hail, the north wind and snow danced there the whole year. But once the selfish giant helped a little boy to sit on a tree branch, he noticed the miracle. The tree was laden with flowers even in winter. The boy was Christ himself. He bore nail marks on his palms and feet. He kissed the giant whose heart was changed. He let the children play freely in his garden. At last, the little boy took the giant to his own garden the paradise.

### INTRODUCTORY QUESTIONS:-

**Ques.1 what are giants?**

**Ans.** An imaginary or mythical being of human form but superhuman size or abnormally or extremely tall or large persons

**Ques.2 name the seasons in the year?**

**Ans.** Spring, summer, fall (autumn), winter

**Ques.3 what are the benefits of gardening?**

**Ans.** Impact the environment, it is good for mind and body, self satisfaction.

### NEW WORDS-

Blossoms  
Rattled  
Stretched  
Rubber  
Hastened  
Paradise  
Knelt

### WORD MEANING

Word	Meaning
1. Giant	Person of superhuman size
2. Peach	A sweet fruit
3. Blossoms	Buds
4. Cornish ogre	a giant of corn wall
5. Gruff	Harsh
6. Tress passer	those who enter wrongfully

7. Chimney-tops	Tops of the chimneys
8. Rattled	Gave short sharp sounds
9. Care mint	Window
10. Twittering	Chirping
11. Crying bitterly	weeping loudly
12. Stretched	Spread
13. Longed for	keenly desired
14. Armchair	Comfortable chair with arms
15. Admired	Praised
16. Rubbed	Passed hands over
17. Hastened	Hurried
18. Quite close	Very near
19. Dared	had the courage
20. Thou	You
21. Knelt	Went down on knees
22. Paradise	Heaven

### VERY SHORT QUESTION ANSWER

**Ques.1 Why is the Giant called selfish?**

**Ans.** The Giant was called selfish because he wanted to keep his garden reserved only for himself. He banned the entry of outsiders there.

**Ques.2 Was the Giant happy or sad over the state of the garden?**

**Ans.** The Giant felt sad to see the state of his garden. Different seasons brought no change in it.

**Ques.3 What did he realize on seeing it?**

**Ans.** He realized that he himself was to blame for the year round winter in his garden. He called himself selfish.

### SHORT QUESTION ANSWER

**Ques.1 On one occasion the children said: "How happy we are here!" Later they said: "How happy we were there!" What are they referring to in both the cases?**

**Ans.** In both the cases the children are referring to the Giant's garden. In the first sentence they say that they are enjoying in the giant's garden. But in the second sentence it is beyond their reach.

**Ques.2 When spring came, it was still winter in the garden. What does winter stand for or indicate here?**

**Ans.** Winter indicates that flowers did not bloom in the Giant's garden. The birds didn't sing. There was no sign of joy and greenery.

**Ques. 3 Winter has been presented like a story with its own characters and their activities. Describe the story in your own words.**

**Ans.** Winter has been portrayed as destroyer. It has its own characters. Snow and frost are the most prominent factors. Trees have been covered with white cloak. The trees look lifeless. North wind has come to stay there permanently. Hails settle on the roof.

**Ques.4 What effect did the linnet's song have over Hail and the North Wind?**

**Ans.** As an effect of the linnet's song the Hail stopped dancing over his head. Similarly the North Wind ceased roaring.

**Ques.5 Why was it still winter in one corner of the garden?**

**Ans.** Only in one corner of the garden there was winter still. The reason was that a little boy could not climb the tree like other boys. He stood under a tree weeping.

**Ques.6 Describe the first meeting of the little boy and the Giant.**

**Ans.** In the first meeting of the boy and the Giant, the Giant lifted him gently and put him in the branch of that tree. The tree suddenly broke into flowers and the birds began to sing. The child kissed the Giant

**Ques.7 The Giant lay dead, all covered with white blossoms. What does this sentence indicate about the once selfish Giant?**

**Ans.** This indicates that the Giant had been blessed by Lord Christ himself. He was neither cruel nor selfish so Christ forgave him and took him to paradise.

**Ques.8 The little child's hands and feet had marks of nails. Who does the child remind you of? Give a reason for your answer.**

**Ans.** The nail's marks on the child's hands and feet remind us of Lord Christ. He was put on a cross and nails were hammered into his palms and feet.

## **LONG QUESTION ANSWER**

**Ques.1 The Giant saw a most wonderful sight. What did he see?**

**Ans.** The Giant saw that through a little hole in the wall the children had entered into the garden. They were sitting in the branches of the trees. In every tree that he could see there was a little child. And the trees were glad to have the children back again that they had covered themselves with blossoms and were waning their hands gently above the child run's heads. The birds were flying and twittering with delight, and flowers were laughing.

**Ques.2 Describe their second meeting after a long interval.**

**Ans.** The second meeting of the boy and the Giant took place after many years. The Giant missed the little one but nobody knew where he lived. The Giant become old and weak. One winter morning he saw the same long lost boy. He ran down stairs to meet him. The boy had marks of injury on his palms and feet. The Giant was angry. He wanted to kill who had wounded

the child. But the child smiled and said, '..... are the wounds of love.' The Giant was filled with. He knelt down before the child and asked who he was. The child replied, "once you let me play in your garden. Today you'll come with me in my garden the paradise".

**Ques.3 Is there something like this garden near where you live? Would you like one (without the Giant perhaps) and why? What would you do to keep it in good shape?**

**Ans.** A park is a public place. It is like the lungs in human body. It gives us fresh air. The greenery is soothing to the eyes. A private garden, however, has to be used by the people with care and caution. The children must not spoil the flower beds and the grassy lawns even in a public park. I would never play football in a park nor let other children do so.

### **HOTS QUESTION ANSWER**

**Ques.1 Do giants exist in today's world?**

**Ans.** No, giants don't exist in today's world as it is a imagination and it leads to superstition.

**Ques.2 What effect did linnet's song over north wind?**

**Ans.** The north wind ceased roaring.

### **UNSOLVED QUESTION ANSWER**

**Ques.1 What according to you, if you would have been in place of other children's? What you would have been done?**

### **VALUE BASED QUESTIONS:-**

**Ques.1 Value of chapter 'The selfish Giant'.**

**Ans.** Kindness - Kindness and goodness can strength anybody's soul.

**Ques.2 Ask yourself these 3 questions. Keep it simple but don't discard an idea that seems Farfetched.**

**1.** What can I do? You have a skill that could benefit others. Everyone does. It may not seem obvious to you but there is someone that could really use your help with what you do best.

**2.** Who needs help?- take a good look at your community. There are opportunities to get involved everywhere.

**3.** Who is looking for the same things? To multiply your kindness effect, you can recruit others.

### **ACTIVITY-**

Visit a park near your house.

What is your experience by visiting there? Tell the things you observe.

**SOLUTION-**

Yesterday I and my friend went on a short picnic to an amusement park. We reached there at 10a.m. we were six of us. Even though we had reached on time there was a serpentine queue for the tickets. I took the entrance ticket. The first ride we took Was the fury wheel. It was big, all of us were yelling and crying! After that we went on a pony ride which calmed everyone. Then there was the big octopus ride, the individual seats revolved on its own and at the same time each hand of the octopus went in a circular motion. We went for two more rides The Ghost House and the Roller Coaster, which also took a toll of us. The dashing car was fun to be in! We dashed each other's car. Then we decided to have lunch. Each of us had brought some food to eat like sandwiches, fruit juices, pastas etc. Our mother took care that we don't eat from outside. After that were the rides which we all were waiting for the water rides. We went in all of them without any hesitation. The Wave Pool and the rain dance were my favourites. At last we saw a 5D movie. This movie took us through broken bridges, steep mountains, dilapidated houses etc. finally it was evening and the time to go. It was such an enjoyable and memorable day. All of us had met after a long time. We were all sad while returning home.