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Class-X

English

First Flight

Chapter-5



Lucio Rodrigues

Glimpses of India

Part - 2

Neha Rajvanshi

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Bolinhas : नारियल बिस्किट



Not enough can be said to show how important a baker can be for a village. The lady of the house must prepare sandwiches on the occasion of her daughter's engagement. Cakes and bolinhas are a must for Christmas as well as other festivals.

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Absolutely : पूरी तरह से
Essential : आवश्यक
Peculiar : अजीब



Thus, the presence of the baker's furnace in the village is absolutely essential.

The baker or bread-seller of those days had a peculiar dress known as the kabai. It was a singlepiece long frock reaching down to the knees.

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In our childhood we saw bakers wearing a shirt and trousers which were shorter than full-length ones and longer than half pants. Even today, anyone who wears a half pant which reaches just below the knees invites the comment that he is dressed like a pader!

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Profitable : लाभदायक
Starved : भूखा मरना

The baker usually collected his bills at the end of the month. Monthly accounts used to be recorded on some wall in pencil. Baking was indeed a profitable profession in the old days. The baker and his family never starved.

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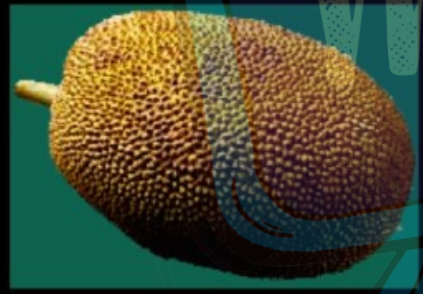
Plump physique : मोटा शरीर
Testimony : सबूत



He, his family and his servants always looked happy and prosperous. Their plump physique was an open testimony to this. Even today any person with a jackfruit-like physical appearance is easily compared to a baker.

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COMPREHENSION

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Question 1. What are the elders in Goa nostalgic about?

Answer : They (The elders in Goa) are nostalgic about the Portuguese days and the famous loaves of bread.

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Question 2. Is bread-making still popular in Goa? How do you know?

Answer : The loaves of bread are still popular in Goa. The thud and jingle of the traditional baker's bamboo can still be heard in the morning. The society is still having the mixers, the molders and the bakers. It is still a very important part in the culture and society of Goa.

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Question 3. What is the baker called?

Answer : The baker is called pader in Goa.

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Question 4. When would the baker come everyday? Why did the children run to meet him?

Answer : The baker would come twice every day. Once in the morning to deliver the loaves of bread and secondly, in the evening on his return after selling his stock.

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The children ran to meet him to take the special bread bangles he had made for them.