

**CLASS – 10**

**ENGLISH**

**First Flight**

**CH-7 : Madam Rides the Bus**

**Part – 3**

**The World Unveiled**

**ARPITA SHARMA**



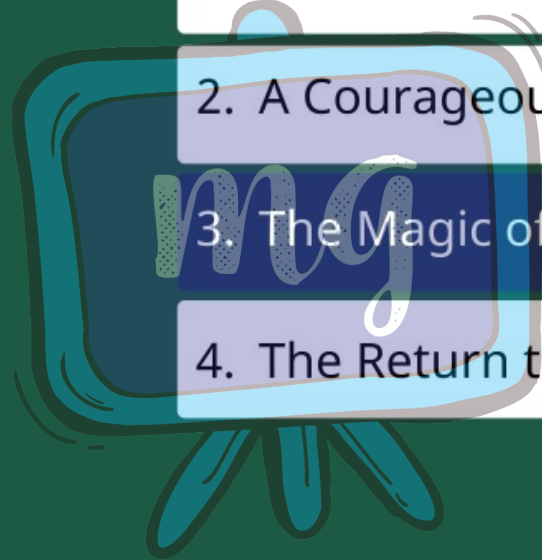
# OVERVIEW

1. A World Beyond the door

2. A Courageous step

3. The Magic of Discovery

4. The Return to Home



### III

Her first journey what - careful,  
painstaking, elaborate plans she  
had to make for it! She had thriftily  
saved whatever stray coins came her

Painstaking	:	परिश्रम के साथ
Thriftily	:	किफायत से
Stray	:	अलग-अलग

way, resisting every temptation to

buy peppermints, toys, balloons,

and the like, and finally she had

saved a total of sixty paise. How

difficult it had been, particularly that

day at the village fair, but she had

**Resisting** : विरोध करना

**Temptation** : इच्छा

resolutely stifled a strong desire to  
ride the merry-go-round, even  
though she had the money.

After she had enough money saved,  
her next problem was how to slip  
out of the house without her  
mother's knowledge. But she  
managed this

✓ **Resolutely Stifled** : दृढ़तापूर्वक दबा दी गई

without too much difficulty. Every day after lunch her mother would nap from about one to four or so.

Valli always used these hours for her 'excursions' as she stood looking from the doorway of her house or sometimes even ventured out into

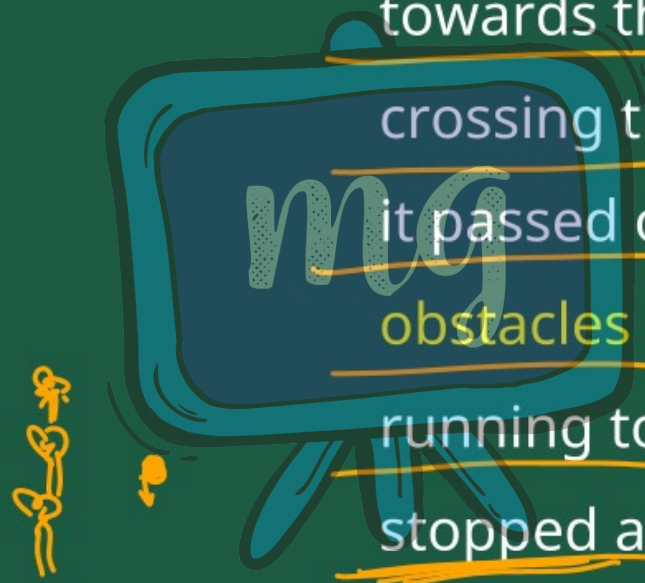
- ✓ Excursions : सैर-सपाटा
- ✓ Ventured out : जोखिम भरी यात्रा

the village; today, these same hours  
could be used for her first excursion  
outside the village.

The bus rolled on now cutting across  
a bare landscape, now rushing  
through a tiny hamlet or past an odd  
wayside shop. Sometimes the bus  
seemed on the point of gobbling up

- ✓ Hamlet : छोटा गाँव
- ✓ Gobbling : तेजी से खाना/ निगलना

another vehicle that was coming towards them or a pedestrian crossing the road. But lo! somehow it passed on smoothly, leaving all obstacles safely behind. Trees came running towards them but then stopped as the bus reached them



- ✓ Pedestrian : पैदल यात्री
- ✓ Obstacles : बाधा

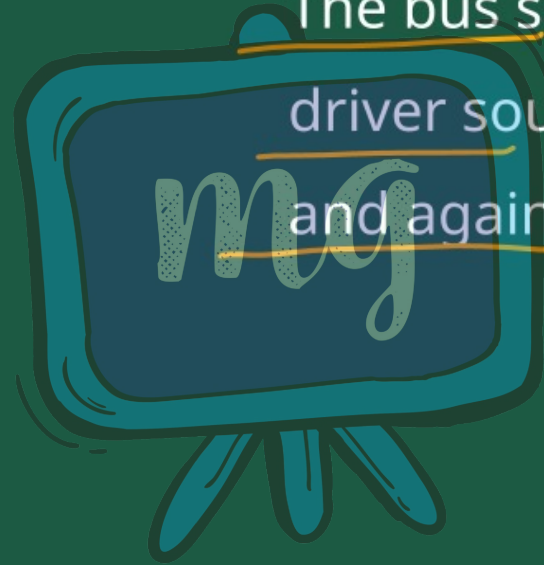
and simply stood there helpless for a moment by the side of the road before rushing away in the other direction.

Suddenly Valli clapped her hands with glee. A young cow, tail high in the air, was running very fast, right in the middle of the road,



the road, right in front of the bus.

The bus slowed to a crawl, and the  
driver sounded his horn loudly again  
and again. But the more he honked,



the more frightened the animal  
became and the faster it galloped -  
always right in front of the bus.

Somehow this was very funny to  
Valli. She laughed and laughed until  
there were tears in her eyes.

"Hey, lady, haven't you laughed  
enough?" called, the conductor.

"Better save some for tomorrow."

Galloped : तेज गति

At last the cow moved off the road.

And soon the bus came to a railroad

crossing. A speck of a train could be

seen in the distance, growing bigger

and bigger as it drew near.

Then it rushed past the crossing gate

with a tremendous roar and rattle,

✓ Speck : छोटा बिन्दु

✓ Tremendous : अत्यधिक

✓ Rattle : खड़खड़ाना

shaking the bus. Then the bus went on  
and passed the train station. From there

it traversed a busy, well-laid-out  
shopping street and, turning, entered a  
wider thoroughfare.

Such big, bright-looking shops!

- ✓ Traversed : पार करना
- ✓ Thoroughfare : मुख्य सड़क/आम रास्ता

What glittering displays of clothes  
and other merchandise! Such big  
crowds!

Struck dumb with wonder, Valli gaped at  
everything.

Then the bus stopped and everyone  
got off except Valli.

✓ Merchandise : बिक्री की वस्तुएँ

✓ Gaped : मुँह खोल कर एकटक देखना

"Hey, lady," said the conductor,  
"aren't you ready to get off? This is  
as far as your thirty paise takes  
you."

"No," Valli said, "I'm going back on  
this same bus." She took another  
thirty paise from her pocket and  
handed the coins to the conductor.

"Why, is something the matter?"

"No, nothing's the matter. I just felt like having a bus ride, that's all.

"Don't you want to have a look at the sights, now that you're here?"

"All by myself? Oh, I'd be much too afraid."

Greatly amused by the girl's way of speaking, the conductor said,

✓ Amused : खुश होना

"But you weren't afraid to come in the bus."

"Nothing to be afraid of about that," she answered.

"Well, then, why not go to that stall over there and have something to drink? Nothing to be afraid of about that either."

"Oh, no, I couldn't do that."

"Well, then, let me bring you a cold drink."

"No, I don't have enough money.  
Just give me my ticket, that's all."

"It'll be my treat and not cost you  
anything."

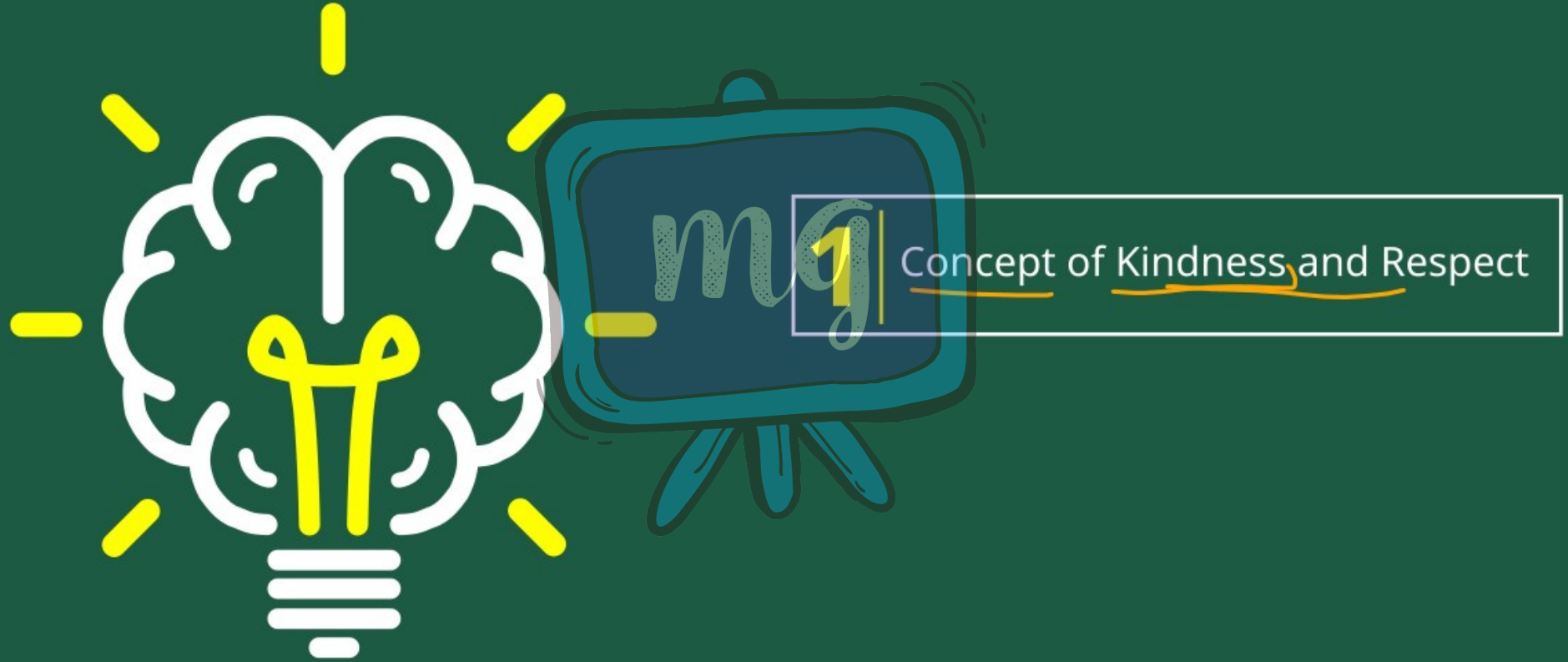
"No, no," she said firmly, "please, no."

The conductor **shrugged**, and they  
waited until it was time for the bus  
to begin the return journey.

Again there weren't many passengers.

✓ **Shrugged** : कंधे ऊपर करना

# LEARNING OUTCOMES



# ASSESSMENT



1

What was Valli's biggest challenge before taking the bus journey?

- A Saving enough money.
- B Convincing her mother.
- C Overcoming her fear.
- D Planning the bus route.

# ASSESSMENT



2 | What did Valli do when everyone else got off the bus in the town?

- A She panicked and cried.
- B She decided to explore the town.
- C She took another ticket for the return journey.
- D She asked the conductor for help.

# ASSESSMENT



3

What does the word "thriftily" mean in the context of the story?

A

Spending money carelessly.

B

Saving money carefully.

C

Earning money quickly.

D

Borrowing money easily.

# ASSESSMENT



4

Why did Valli refuse the conductor's offer of a drink?

- A She was not ready to take favours from anyone.
- B She was afraid to accept anything from strangers.
- C She wanted to save her money.
- D She was in a hurry to return home.