



CLASS – 10

ENGLISH

Footprints without Feet

CH-1 : A Triumph of Surgery

Part – 1

**Tricki's Condition and
Mrs. Pumphrey's Concern**

Arpita Sharma

OVERVIEW

1. Tricki's Condition and Mrs. Pumphrey's Concern

2. Tricki's Treatment at the Surgery

3. Tricki's Recovery and Mrs. Pumphrey's Gratitude





James Alfred Wight (3 October 1916 – 23 February 1995), better known by his pen name James Herriot, was a British veterinary surgeon and author.

"A Triumph of Surgery" is a story about a dog named Tricki and his owner, Mrs. Pumphrey (a wealthy lady). The author covers the theme of love between a pet and its owner, and how too much love can sometimes lead to spoiling.



BEFORE YOU READ

Tricki, a small dog, is pampered and overfed by his rich mistress.

He falls seriously ill and his mistress consults a veterinary surgeon. Does he perform an operation?

Does the dog recover?

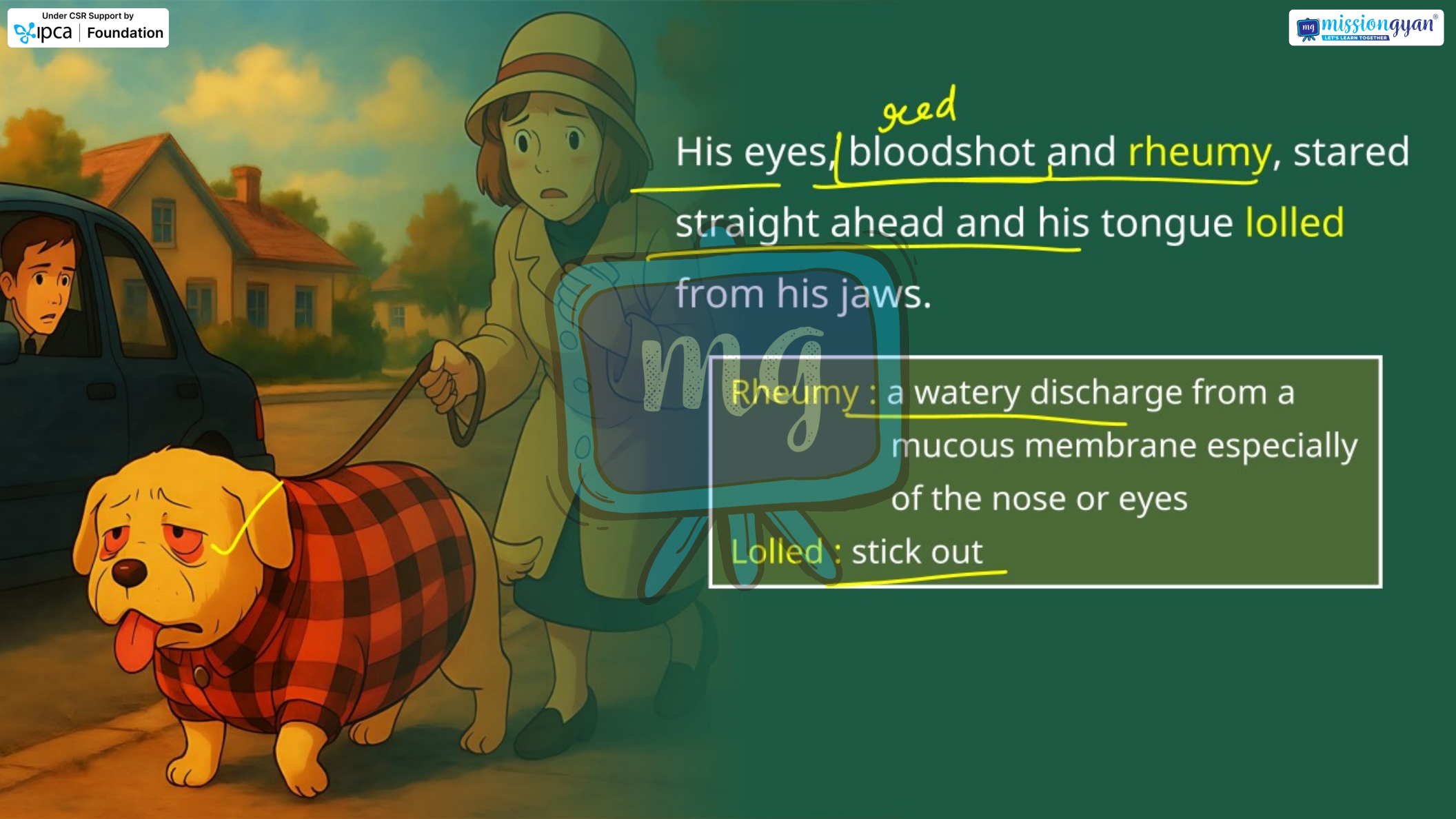




I was really worried about Tricki this time. I had pulled up my car when I saw him in the street with his mistress and I was shocked at his appearance. He had become hugely fat, like a bloated sausage with a leg at each corner.



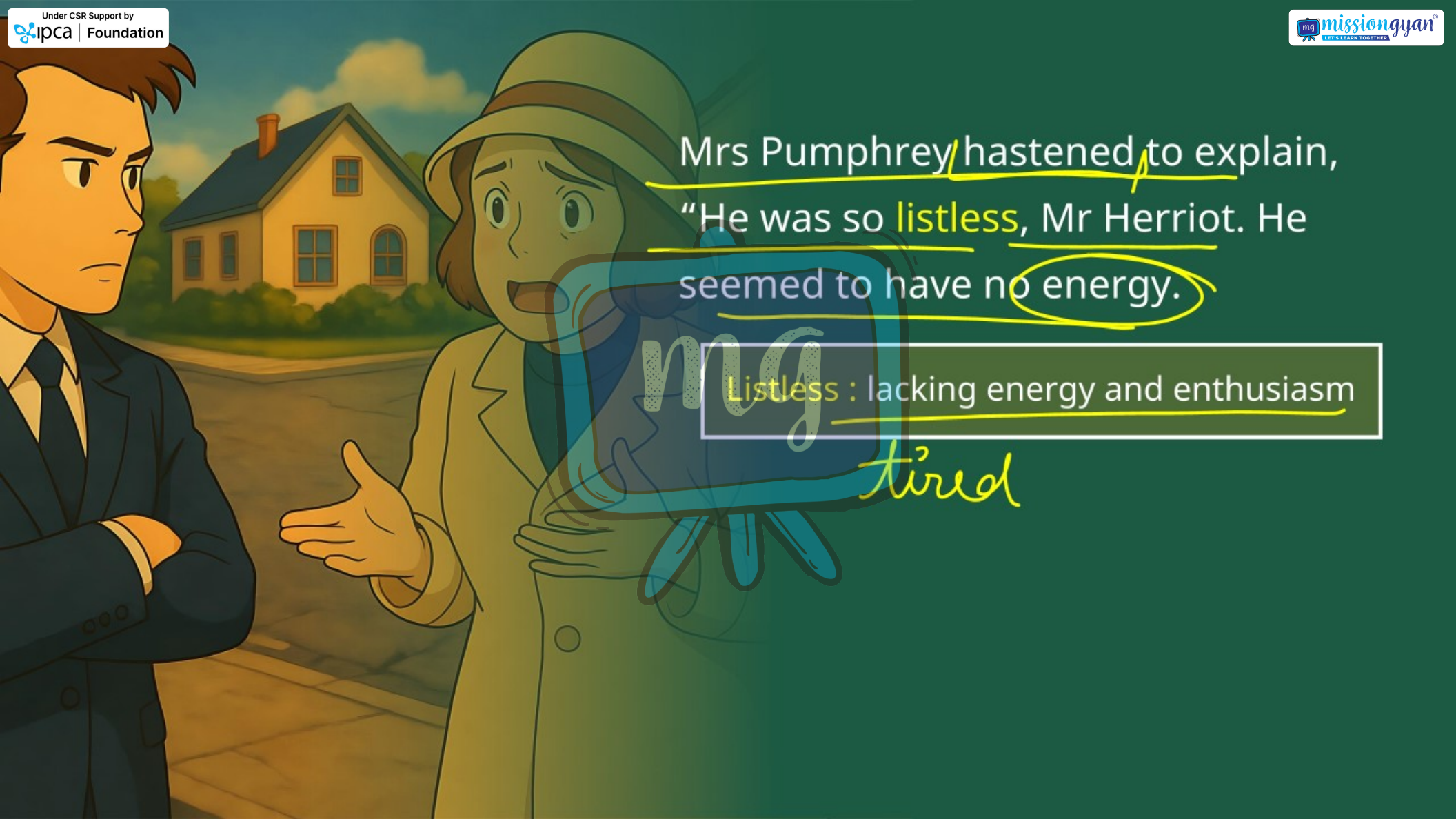
Appearance : presence



His eyes, ^{ged} bloodshot and rheumy, stared straight ahead and his tongue lolled from his jaws.

Rheumy : a watery discharge from a mucous membrane especially of the nose or eyes

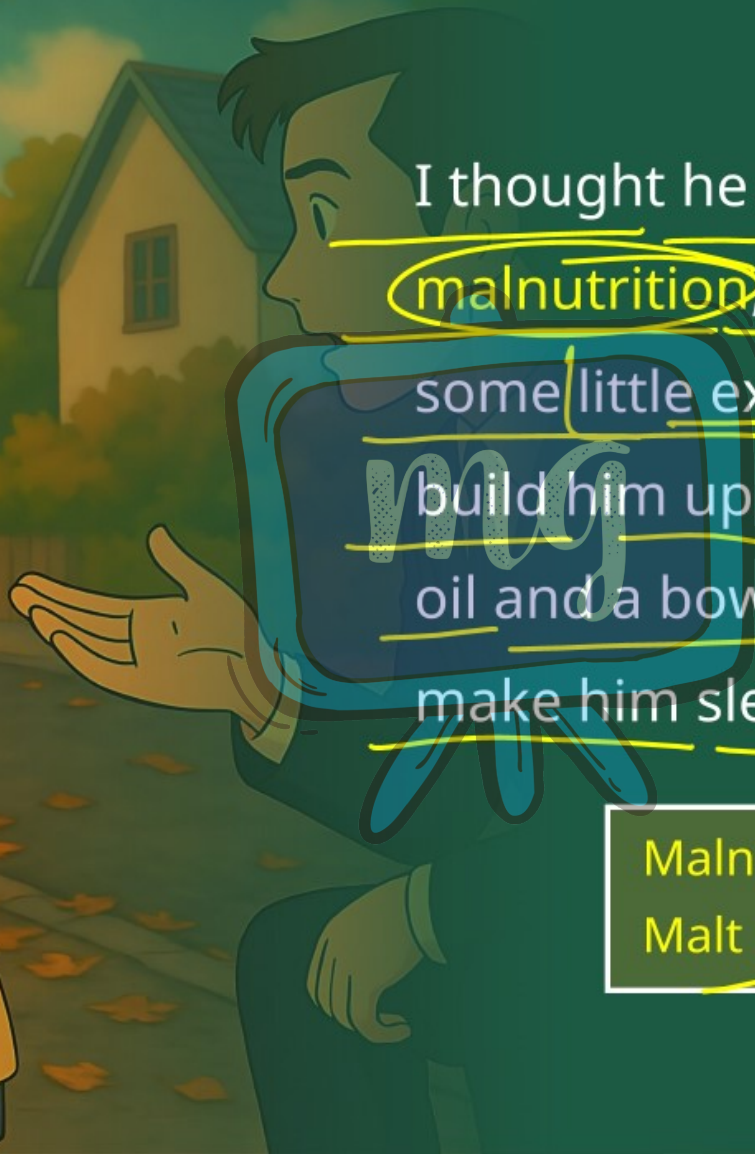
Lolled : stick out



Mrs Pumphrey hastened to explain,
"He was so listless, Mr Herriot. He
seemed to have no energy."

Listless : lacking energy and enthusiasm

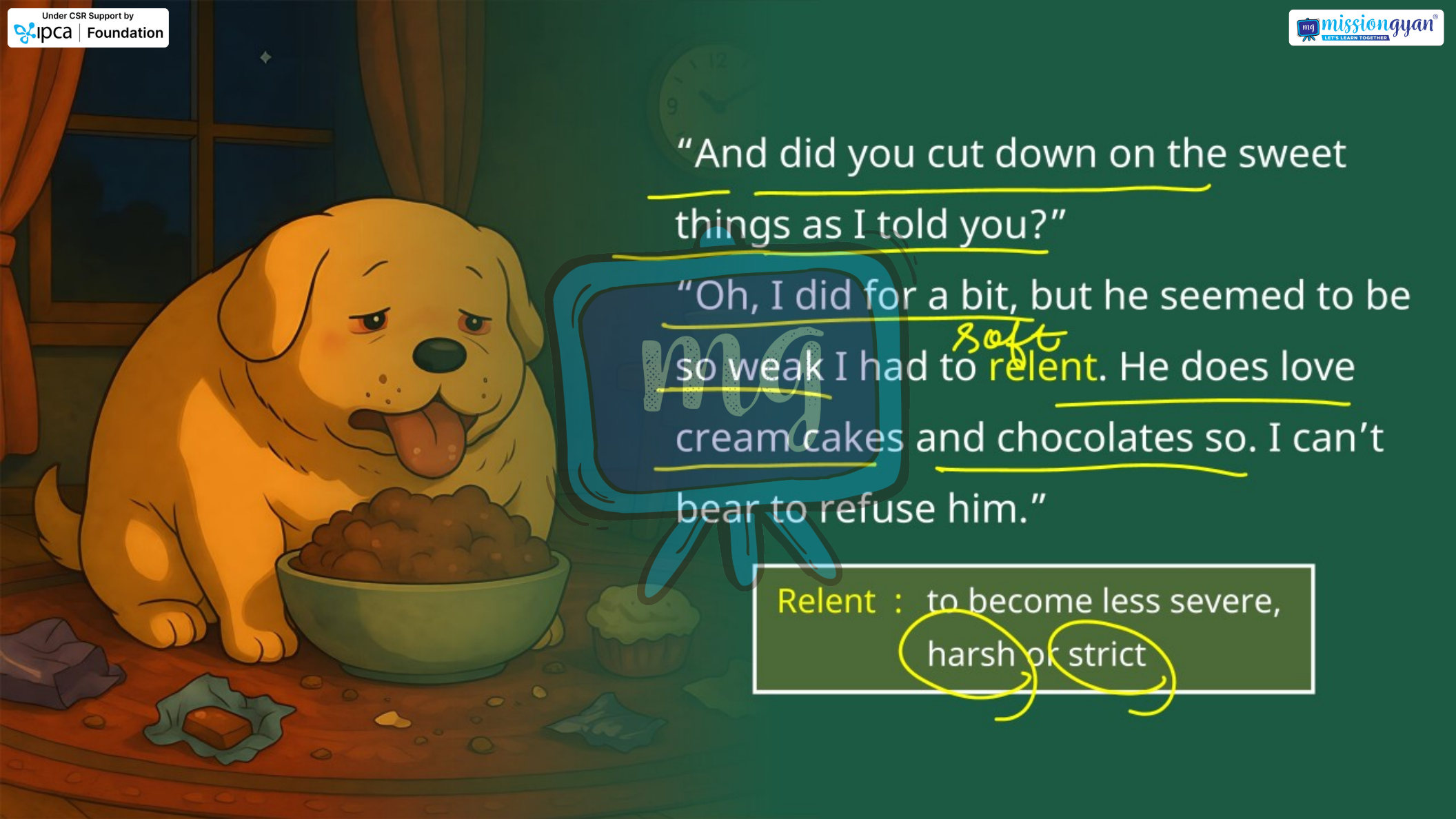
tired



I thought he must be suffering from malnutrition, so I have been giving him some little extras between meals to build him up, some malt and cod-liver oil and a bowl of Horlicks at night to make him sleep — nothing much really.”

Malnutrition : underfed

Malt : grain barley



“And did you cut down on the sweet things as I told you?”

“Oh, I did for a bit, but he seemed to be so weak I had to ^{soft}relent. He does love cream cakes and chocolates so. I can’t bear to refuse him.”

Relent : to become less severe,
harsh or strict

I looked down again at the little dog.

That was the trouble. Tricky's only fault

was greed. He had never been known

to refuse food; he would tackle a meal

at any hour of the day or night. And I

wondered about all the things Mrs

Pumphrey hadn't mentioned.



“Are you giving him plenty of exercise?”

“Well, he has his little walks with me as you can see, but Hodgkin, the gardener, has been down with lumbago, so there has been no ring-throwing lately.”

Lumbago : muscular pain in the lower part of the back (lumbar region)



I tried to sound severe : "Now I really mean this. If you don't cut his food right down and give him more exercise he is going to be really ill. You must harden your heart and keep him on a very strict diet."



Mrs Pumphrey wrung her hands. "Oh I will, Mr Herriot. I'm sure you are right, but it is so difficult, so very difficult." She set off head down, along the road, as if determined to put the new regime into practice immediately.

Wrung : to press and squeez

Regime : prescribed course of exercise and diet



thick
woollen
cloth

I watched their progress with growing
concern. Tricki was **tottering** along in his

little tweed coat; he had a whole
wardrobe of these coats — for the cold
weather and a raincoat for the wet days.

He struggled on, drooping in his harness?

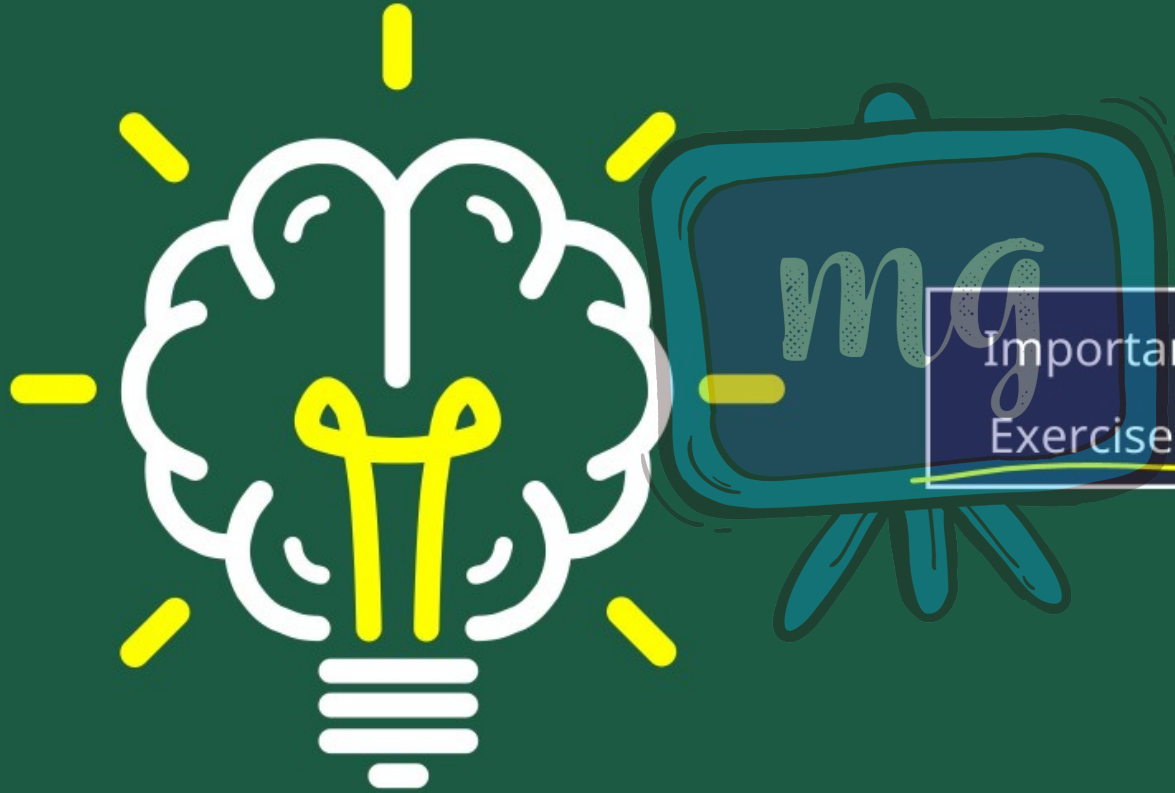
Tottering : walking unsteadily

I thought it wouldn't be long before I
heard from Mrs Pumphrey.

The expected call came within a few days.



LEARNING OUTCOME



Importance of Balanced Nutrition and
Exercise in Maintaining a Pet's Health

ASSESSMENT



1

Who is the author of the story "A Triumph of Surgery"?

- A James Herriot
- B Ruskin Bond
- C Robert Arthur
- D Victor Canning

ASSESSMENT

2 | In the story "I" refer to..... .

- A The author (Mr. Herriot)
- B Mrs. Pumphrey
- C Tricky
- D Joe

ASSESSMENT

3

What problem does Mrs Pumphrey think Tricky has?

- A Fever
- B Malnutrition
- C Allergies
- D Diarrhoea