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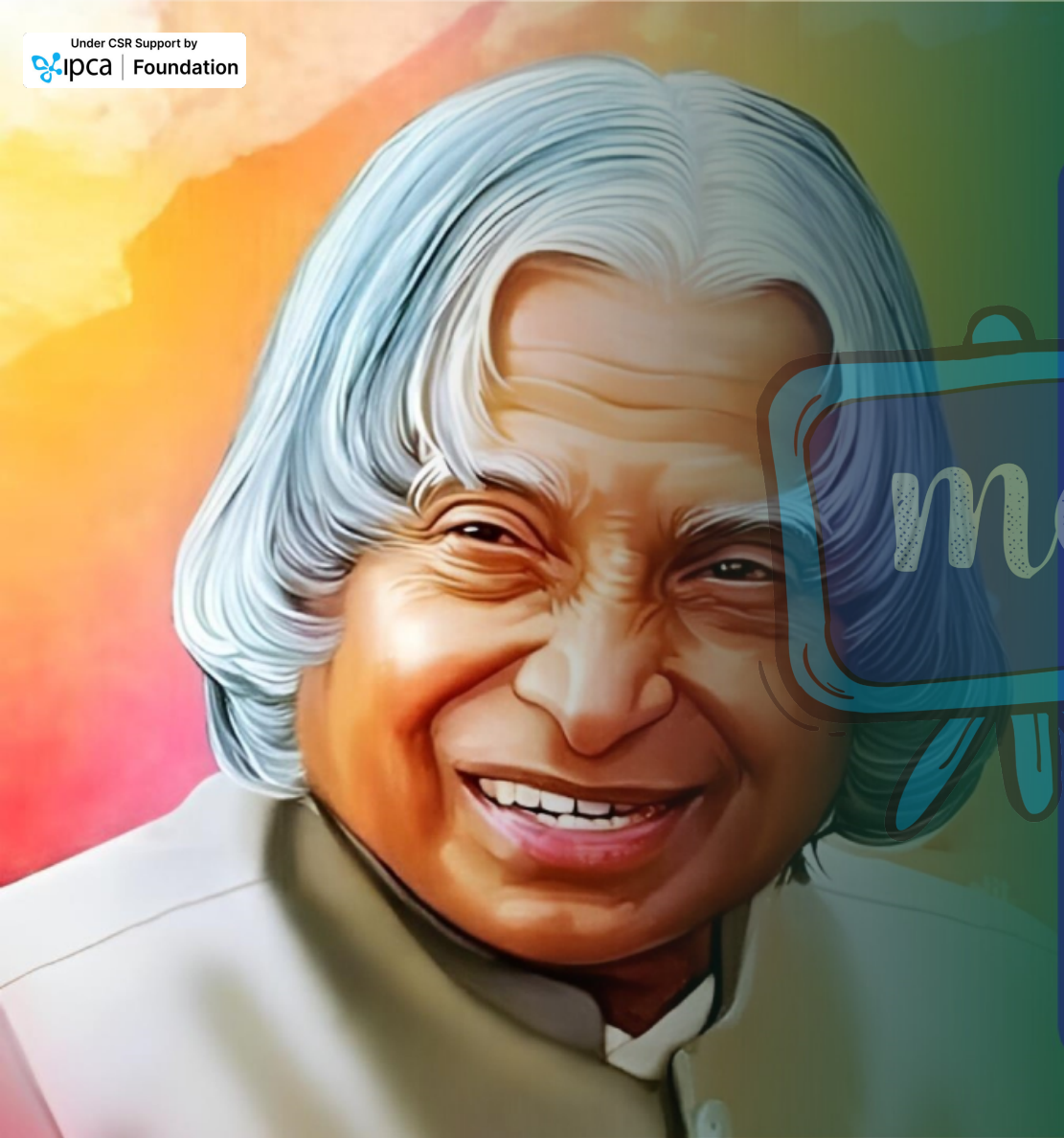

CLASS – 9

ENGLISH

Beehive

CH-6 : My Childhood

Part – 2

Challenging Social Norms

ARPITA SHARMA

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OVERVIEW

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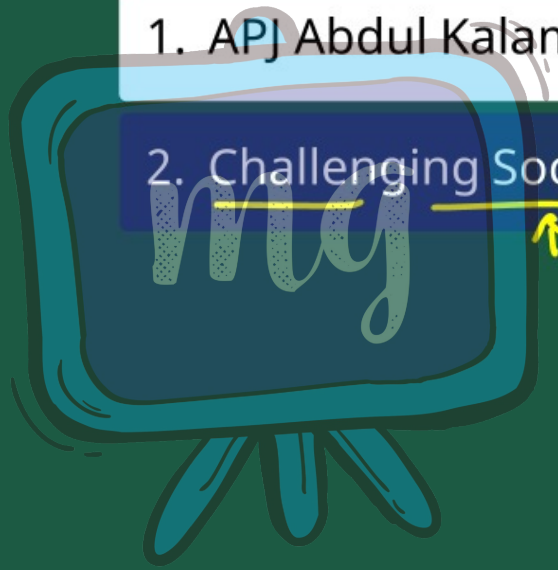
1. APJ Abdul Kalam's Childhood In Rameswaram
2. Challenging Social Norms



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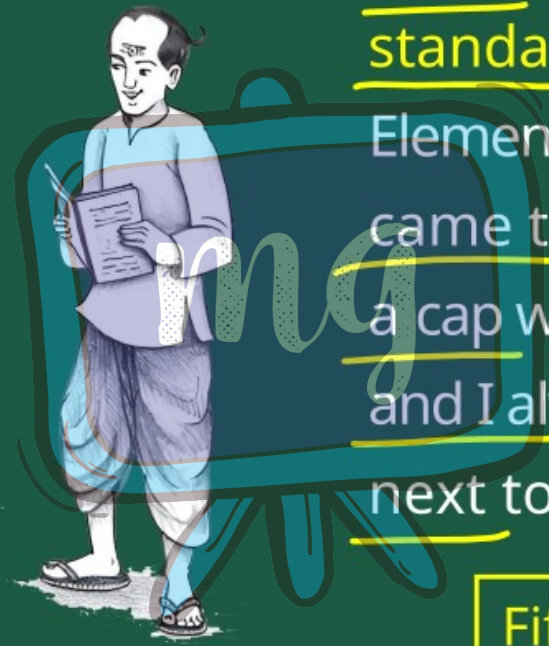

6. One day when I was in the fifth standard at the Rameswaram Elementary School, a new teacher came to our class. I used to wear a cap which marked me as a Muslim, and I always sat in the front row next to Ramanadha Sastry,

Fifth	:	पांचवा
Standard	:	कक्षा
Front	:	सामने/आगे

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who wore the sacred thread. The new teacher could not stomach a Hindu priest's son sitting with a Muslim boy. In accordance with our social ranking as the new teacher saw it,

Front	:	सामने/आगे
Sacred	:	पवित्र/धार्मिक
Could not stomach	:	सहन ना कर पाना
In accordance	:	के अनुसार
Social	:	सामाजिक
Ranking	:	पद

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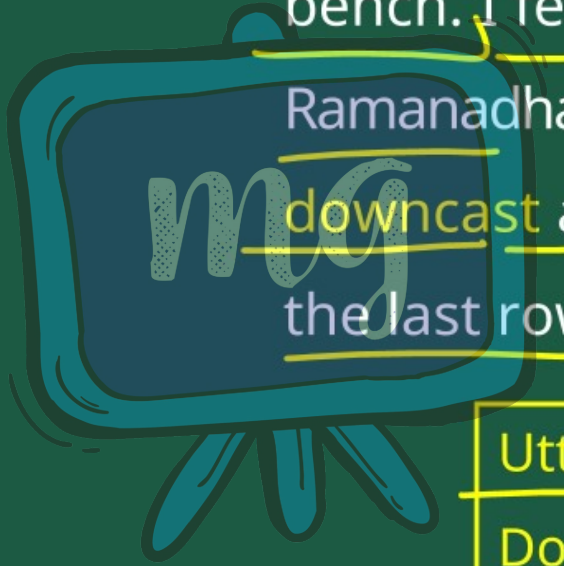
I was asked to go and sit on the back bench. I felt very sad, and so did Ramanadha Sastry. He looked utterly downcast as I shifted to my seat in the last row.



Utterly	:	बिल्कुल
Downcast	:	उदास
Shifted	:	बदलना

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The image of him weeping when I shifted to the last row left a lasting impression on me.



Image	:	ख्याल
Weeping	:	रोना
Lasting	:	स्थायी
Impression	:	प्रभाव/छाप

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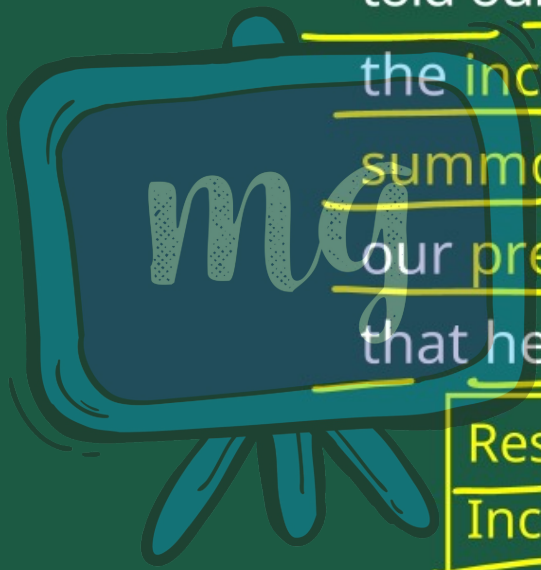
7. After school, we went home and told our respective parents about the incident, Lakshmana Sastry summoned the teacher, and in our presence, told the teacher that he should not spread the



Respective	:	अपने-अपने
Incident	:	घटना
Summoned	:	बुला भेजा
Presence	:	उपस्थिति
Spread	:	फैलाना

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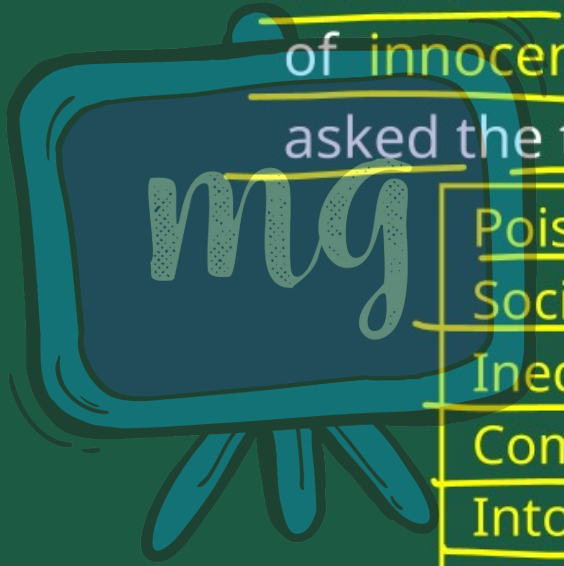
poison of social inequality and communal intolerance in the minds of innocent children. He bluntly asked the teacher to either apologise



Poison	:	जहर
Social	:	सामाजिक
Inequality	:	असमानता
Communal	:	साम्प्रदायिक
Intolerance	:	असहिष्णुता
Innocent	:	मासूम
Bluntly	:	दो टूक
Apologise	:	क्षमा मांगना

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or quit the school and the island. Not only did the teacher regret his behaviour, but the strong sense of conviction Lakshmana Sastry conveyed ultimately reformed this young teacher.

Quit	:	छोड़ना
Regret	:	पछतावा
Conviction	:	मजबूत विश्वास

Conveyed	:	पहुंचाना
Ultimately	:	अंत में
Reformed	:	सुधार

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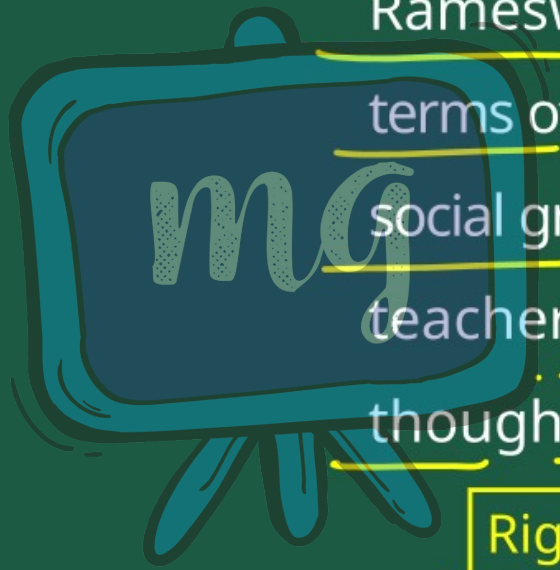
8. On the whole, the small society of Rameswaram was very rigid in terms of the segregation of different social groups. However, my science teacher Sivasubramania Iyer, though an orthodox Brahmin



Rigid	:	कठोर/कड़ा
Segregation	:	विभाजन
Orthodox	:	रुढ़िवादी

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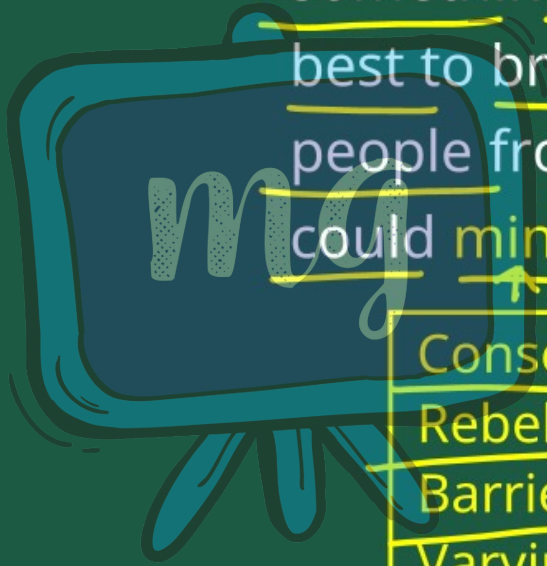
with a very conservative wife, was something of a rebel. He did his best to break social barriers so that people from varying backgrounds could mingle easily.



Conservative	:	रुढ़िवादी
Rebel	:	विद्रोही
Barriers	:	अवरोध/बाधाओं
Varying	:	भिन्न
Backgrounds	:	पृष्ठभूमि
Mingle	:	घुलना मिलना

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He used to spend hours with me and would say, "Kalam, I want you to develop so that you are on par with the highly educated people of the big cities."

Develop	:	आगे बढ़ना
On par	:	समान रूप में /बराबर
Highly educated	:	सुशिक्षित

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9. One day, he invited me to his home for a meal. His wife was horrified at the idea of a Muslim boy being invited to dine in her ritually pure kitchen.

Invited	:	आमंत्रित किया
Horrified	:	भयातुर
Dine	:	भोजन करना
Ritually pure	:	धार्मिक संस्कार के अनुसार शुद्ध

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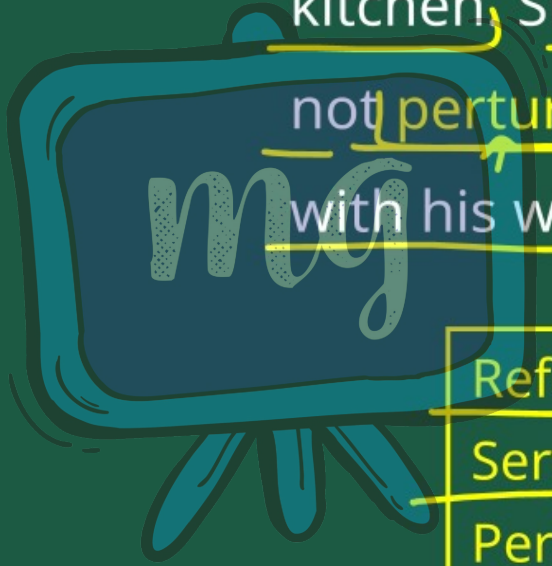
She refused to serve me in her kitchen, Sivasubramania Iyer was not perturbed, nor did he get angry with his wife, but instead, served



Refused	:	अस्वीकृत
Serve	:	भोजन परोसना
Perturbed	:	क्षुब्ध/रुष्ट
Instead	:	बजाए

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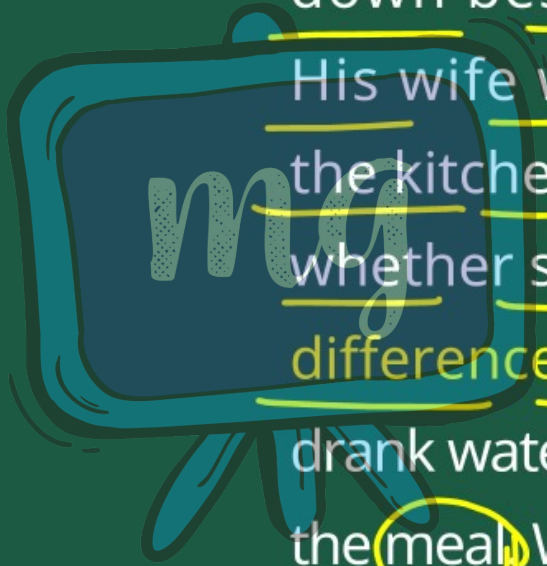
me with his own hands and sat down beside me to eat his meal. His wife watched us from behind the kitchen door. I wondered whether she had observed any difference in the way I ate rice, drank water or cleaned the floor after the meal. When I was leaving his house,



Observed : देखना

Difference : फर्क

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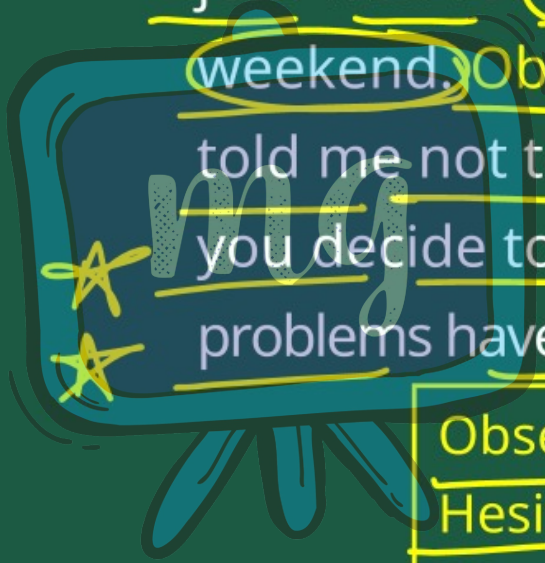
Sivasubramania Iyer invited me to join him for dinner again the next weekend. Observing my hesitation, he told me not to get upset, saying, "Once you decide to change the system, such problems have to be confronted."



Observing	:	अवलोकन
Hesitation	:	झिझक
Upset	:	परेशान
System	:	प्रणाली
Confronted	:	सामना

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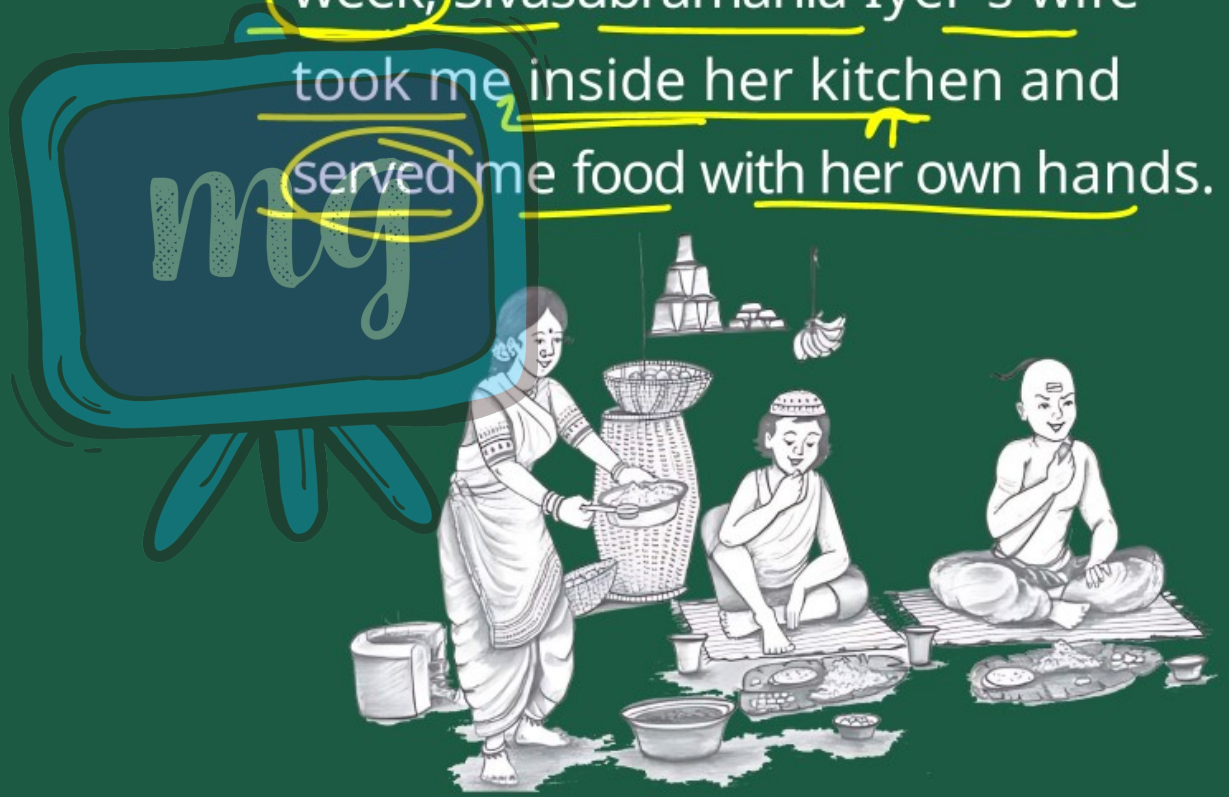
When I visited his house the next week, Sivasubramania Iyer's wife took me inside her kitchen and served me food with her own hands.



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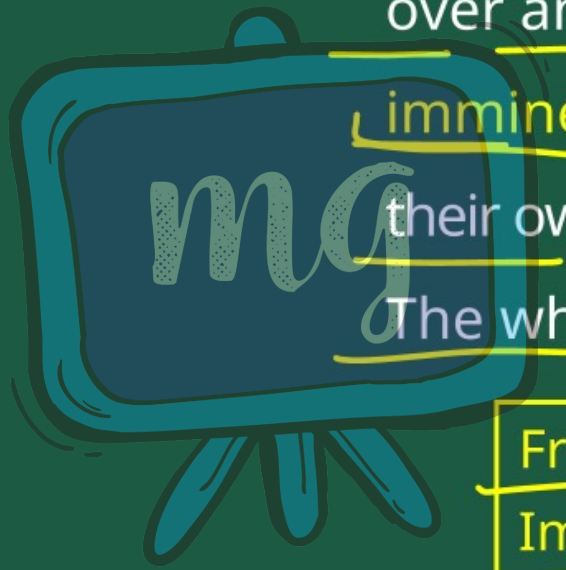
10. Then the Second World War was over and India's freedom was imminent. "Indians will build their own India," declared Gandhiji. The whole country was filled with



Freedom	:	आजादी
Imminent	:	करीब
Declared	:	घोषित
Filled	:	भर गया

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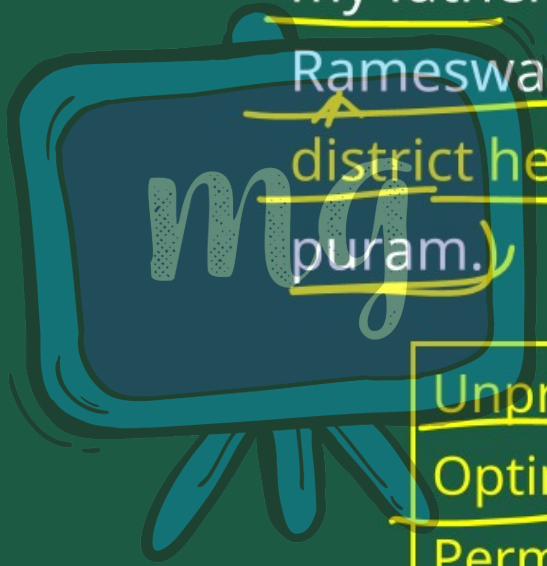
an unprecedented optimism. I asked my father for permission to leave Rameswaram and study at the district headquarters in Ramanatha-puram.



Unprecedented	:	अभूतपूर्व
Optimism	:	आशावाद
Permission	:	अनुमति
District	:	जिला
Headquarters	:	मुख्यालय

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11. He told me as if thinking aloud, “Abul! I know you have to go away to grow, Does the seagull not fly across the sun, alone and without a nest?”



Aloud	:	जोर से
Grow	:	आगे बढ़ना
Across	:	आगे को
Nest	:	घोंसला

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He quoted Khalil Gibran to my hesitant mother, "Your children are not your children. They are the sons and daughters of Life's longing for itself. They come through you but not from you. You may give them your love but not your thoughts. For they have their own thoughts."

Quoted	:	उद्धारण किया
Hesitant	:	दुविधा में

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LEARNING OUTCOME

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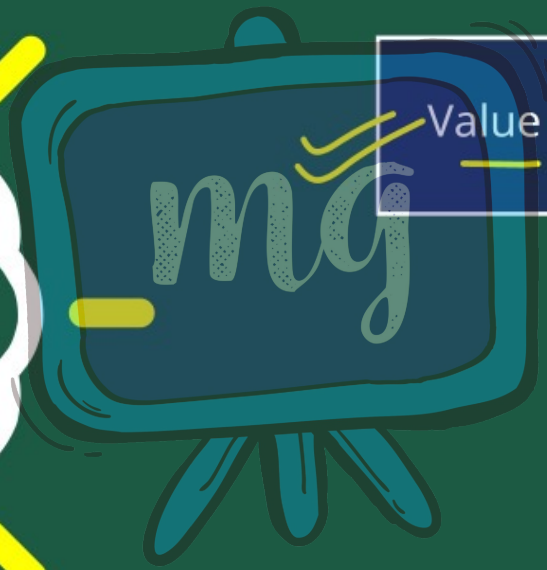

Value of Mentorship and Education

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ASSESSMENT

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1 Why did Kalam want to go to Ramnath-puram?

A To enjoy holiday.

B To settle there.

C For further studies.

D To sell newspapers.

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ASSESSMENT

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2 Sivasubramania Iyer was .....

A a new teacher.

B Kalam's headmaster.

C a priest.

D Kalam's Science teacher.

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ASSESSMENT

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3 India was filled with unprecedented optimism because .....

A India's freedom was imminent.

B India became free.

C Gandhi was the leader.

D the second World War was over.