

2.5 The Man who Thinks he can...

If you think you are beaten, you are.
If you think you dare not, you don't,
If you like to win, but you think you can't,
It is almost certain you won't.

If you think you'll lose, you're lost.
For out of the world we find,
Success begins with a fellow's will.
It's all in the state of mind.

If you think you are outclassed, you are.
You've got to think high to rise.
You've got to be sure of yourself before
You can ever win a prize.

Life's battles don't always go
To the stronger or faster man,
But soon or late the man who wins
Is the man who thinks he can.

- Walter D. Wintle

- **will** : Here, it means the power of a person's mind.
- **state of mind** : the way someone thinks, feels, etc. at that time
- **outclassed** : A person is outclassed when others are better than him or do better than him.
- **think high** : think of going up, doing better



Man thought he could fly.
That is why he invented
aeroplanes.



1. Answer the questions orally.

- (a) When are you beaten?
- (b) When are you afraid of doing something?
- (c) When will you not win?
- (d) When are you lost?
- (e) Where does success begin?
- (f) What should you do if you want to win a prize?
- (g) Do you always win the first time or do you have to try again and again?

2. Copy any four lines of your choice from the poem.

3. Say the following sentences aloud as if you are -

- * nervous
- * afraid
- * angry
- * happy
- * confident

We must win this match.

I want to learn this song.

I will finish my homework in time.

4. Form groups of five.

Discuss with examples how your 'state of mind' can help you to do something – how it helps you to try harder and better.

LEARNING
about
LANGUAGE

USING 'APOSTROPHE'

Note that the words in **A** are all short forms of the words given in **B**.

A	B
don't	do not
can't	cannot
won't	will not

A	B
you'll	you will
you're	you are
you've	you have

But **fellow's** and **life's** stand for **of a fellow** and **of life** respectively. The sign (') is called apostrophe.

It is used in short forms to show that some letters in the words have been dropped. The apostrophe is also used with 's' in phrases like **Meena's shoes**, **Mohan's ruler**, **a cat's paw**, etc.

Find at least 5 examples each of – (a) short forms and (b) 'noun + 's' from the book.