

7. Everyday Heroes

Tell the class about a member in your family, who you think is really great.



The Peacock Doctor

N A R A N B H A I
KARANGIA, a, 43-year-old farmer from Jamnagar, Gujarat is a devoted guardian of our national bird. If he learns that a peacock within 200 kilometres of his village is ill or injured, he rushes to the bird on his motorcycle with vitamin drops, medications and bandages. And if, after he has treated it, the bird can't be left in the wild, Karangia brings it home.



What do you think Karangia does after bringing the peacocks home?

Every year, after the harvest, when food for wild peacocks is scarce, Karangia sets up centers in villages where the birds are looked after and fed. And during a flood, a few years ago, Karangia spent two days looking for peacocks marooned on treetops. He saved a dozen.

"I love peacocks," says Karangia, "I want to help as many as I can."

The Noteworthy Singer



Abhijeet Bhattacharya a Hindi playback singer was returning home in suburban Mumbai late one evening when he saw people gathered around a man lying in a pool of blood. Asking his driver to stop, Abhijeet found the injured man unconscious and bleeding heavily.

A young, well-dressed couple in the crowd told Abhijeet that their car had hit the man. "They were upset and didn't know what to do," recalls Abhijeet. Taking charge, he told his chauffeur to drive the couple to the nearest hospital. Then, with the help of bystanders, he carefully placed the injured man in the couple's car and drove to the same hospital. Although required by law to treat accident victims immediately, doctors at the hospital were reluctant to admit the injured man. It took 10 minutes of wrangling for Abhijeet to get them to agree.

Only after making sure that the man was being attended to and that his relatives had been contacted did Abhijeet leave for home at around 1 a.m.

"Don't hesitate to help road accident victims," Abhijeet says. "You can save a life!"

The Kind Heart

VASANT KALBAG, a 79-year old retired businessman, encourages people to be kind. Doing small selfless acts, he believes, not only helps others-it boosts our health and longevity.

Kalbag realized this after he came across two websites-globalideas-bank.org and actsofkindness.org, both of which promoted the message that if only

people were kind to one another, the world would be a much better place.

Inspired by this simple but powerful idea, Kalbag started his own organization-Kindness Unlimited (KU) and built the kindness.unlimited.tripod.com website. Through it, Kalbag has built a network of KU members who keep in touch with him via e-mail and phone. And Kalbag e-mails all of them his bimonthly newsletter, recounting the kind deeds of the members.



Why does Vasanta Kalbag write about the kind deeds of people?

Kalbag also lectures school and college students on the importance of kindness. Swapna Hawaldar, a young software engineer says, "Thanks to Vasant Uncle, I no longer think twice about helping strangers."

"There's nothing as truly fulfilling as kindness," says Kalbag.

The Tidiness Expert

Rajkumar Sharma a Mumbai businessman always bemoaned the squalid condition of the lane he lived in. The garbage bins overflowed; streetlights never worked; the lane was full of potholes.

One day Sharma learnt of a Mumbai municipality beautification programme called Advanced Locality Management, which required all the residents of a street or colony to separate their wet and dry garbage. While the wet garbage was turned into compost to grow plants, ragpickers were hired to take away the dry variety. In return, the municipality gave priority to the street's problems. Sharma implemented the programme in his street with 600 odd residents. Today, his green and lovely lane is a model project that attracts urban experts from around the world. Sharma has also helped residents of many other areas in the city to start similar programmes.



Who is the tidiness expert in your family?

The Life Saver

AMALA MARY, a 48-year-old Tamil Nadu beedi worker, was at home cooking when she heard a deafening sound. She ran out to find that a part of the embankment on which her hut was built on, had collapsed, covering the rail tracks below with a huge mound of mud and debris. Just then she heard a train's whistle.



That meant a passenger train had left the station, two kilometres away. In a few minutes it would smash into the landslide.

What happened next? Guess.

Amala started running on the embankment towards the train. Then, scrambling down a muddy pathway onto the tracks, she continued to run. Luckily, she was wearing a red sari. She lifted its *pallu* and began waving it as she ran. When the engine driver saw Amala waving a red cloth, he slowed down. As the train neared her, Amala shouted, "Land-slide!" The driver applied the emergency brakes and stopped the train.

"There was a curve ahead," says driver B. Prabhakar, "so the landslide wasn't visible. Had it not been for Amala's warning, many people would have died."

"I'm happy I was able to prevent a tragedy," says Amala, who was given the Kalpana Chawla Award for Courage and Daring Enterprise.

Word Meanings

noteworthy	important
injured	damage, a person who is physically hurt in an accident
chauffeur	a driver of a car
reluctant	unwilling to do, hesitant
leapt	to jump high across a long distance
scream	loud, piercing cry
to boost	to improve
longevity	long life
inspire	to create a positive feeling in a person
devoted	very loving or loyal
scarce	rarely found
bemoan	to express sorrow or sadness

squalid	extremely dirty
garbage	domestic waste
potholes	shallow holes in a road surface
deafening	extremely loud
collapse	to fall apart
marooned	stuck in a place with no chance of escape
wrangling	to argue angrily and usually for a long time
embankment	a slope made of stone used as road
mound	a large pile of earth
debris	pieces of wood, metal, bricks etc. that are left after some building has been destroyed
scrambling	to do something with difficulty

Reading Comprehension

A. Answer the following questions:

1. Why is Naranbhai Karangia called the “Peacock Doctor”?
2. What is the Advanced Locality Management Programme?
3. How has Sharma helped clean up his street?
4. How did the singer ‘Abhijeet’ help the couple and the accident victim?
5. What message do you get from the story “The Noteworthy Singer”?
6. Why does Vasant Kalbag promote ‘kindness’ among people?
7. How was Amala Mary able to prevent the rail tragedy?
8. What is the Kalpana Chawla award given for?

B. Some acts of the ‘heroes’ in the lesson are given below. Explain the result of their timely action:

Sr. No.	Step taken	Result
1.	Setup centres in villages for birds
2.	Instructed driver to take the injured man to hospital
3.	Encouraged people to be kind
4.	Implementation of Area Locality Management
5.	Stopped the train

Vocabulary

A. Complete the following sentences:

- (1) When Karangia that a peacock was ill or injured, he to the bird on his motorcycle. (learnt/rushed)



- (2) Abhijeet was home when he saw people around a man. (gathered/returning)
- (3) After making sure that the man was being to he took..... for home at 1 am. (attended/leave)
- (4) If only people were kind to one another, the world would be a place. by this simple but powerful idea, he started his own organisation. (inspired/better)
- (5) The garbage bins, street lights never, the lane was full of potholes on Sharmas street. (overflowed/worked)
- (6) Amala started on the embankment towards the train. Then, down a muddy path onto the tracks, she continued to run. (running/scrambled)

B. Write one word that describes the profession after reading the clues:

- (1) One who heals is a
- (2) One who runs a business
- (3) One who takes care of a business
- (4) One who sings for films
- (5) One who designs an internet site
- (6) One who cooks in a hotel
- (7) One who collects waste

chef, playback singer, businessman, manager, webmaster, rag-picker, doctor

Grammar



A. Select the phrases from the box and write what you enjoy/ do not enjoy doing:

Example: I enjoy playing with dolls.

playing with dolls, making kites, flying paper planes, floating paper boats, climbing up trees, teasing puppies, plucking flowers, drinking milk, painting picture, making faces, miming, pulling tails of cats, taking bath in cold water, studying, going to school, cleaning house, polishing shoes, doing home work, writing, painting, cooking food.

B. Change the sentences formed in exercise ‘A’ as given in example:

I enjoy playing with dolls.

Example: I enjoy to play with dolls.

Writing

A. Work in groups and write a story based on the details given below and give a Title to the Story.

Charu Sharma (age 10) and Chinmay (age 6) _____ Neha (mother) _____ board _____ ladies compartment _____ Mumbai local train. Two stations later _____ men enter compartment _____ one of them _____ threatens mother _____ handbag _____ knife in his hand. Charu, Chinmay _____ learnt karate _____ do not allow thief _____ to take away the bag _____ Charu bites thief _____ thief injures Chinmay in face _____ train slows down _____ thieves jump out of train _____ without bag _____ Charu, Chinmay _____ receive bravery awards. Mother thinks children need to be cautions. Children feel _____ they would repeat _____ if incident happens again.

B. The newspaper article given below has some errors. The errors have been mentioned below the news item. Write a formal letter to the editor of the newspaper pointing out the errors.

India Wins the World Cup

India won the Prudential World Cup after facing the West Indies in an exciting final match. India was all out for 217 and it looked like it would lose the finals. In an extraordinary display of team work, the Indian team bowled out the West Indies for 128 runs.

Amarnath, the Indian captain accepted the World Cup on behalf of his team members in the brightly lit Lords Stadium.

The errors are :

- (1) India was bowled out for 217. (Actual score 183)
- (2) Amarnath, the Indian captain. (Kapil Dev was the captain)

Now write a letter to the Editor:

The Editor
 Chhattisgarh Daily,
 Raipur
 Sir/Madam,
 Through your reader's opinions page, I would like to point out errors

Yours truly

Activity

A. I. Complete the table.

See Appendix-1 Lesson-7

Hudson's Eating Habits	
Breakfast	
Lunch	
Dinner	

- II.**
- When was Walter Hudson born?
 - What is special about Hudson?
 - At what age did Hudson die?
 - What happened to Hudson & the motor car when the family moved to Hampstead.

B. Read sentence aloud. Use clues given and speak in a sentence:

- White colour, long tail,
Eats mice
What am I?
- Tallest mountain, very cold
Situated in Nepal
Who am I?
- Ship of the desert, can
live without water for up to a month
Who am I?
- Small in size, music comes out of it.
Children like listening to it.
What is it?
- I go from house to house
and deliver letters.
Who am I?
- Cure animals, wear a white coat,
Work in a Hospital.
Who am I?



Project

Try to find a student in your school having some qualities you have read in the lesson and write about her/him in your note book.

