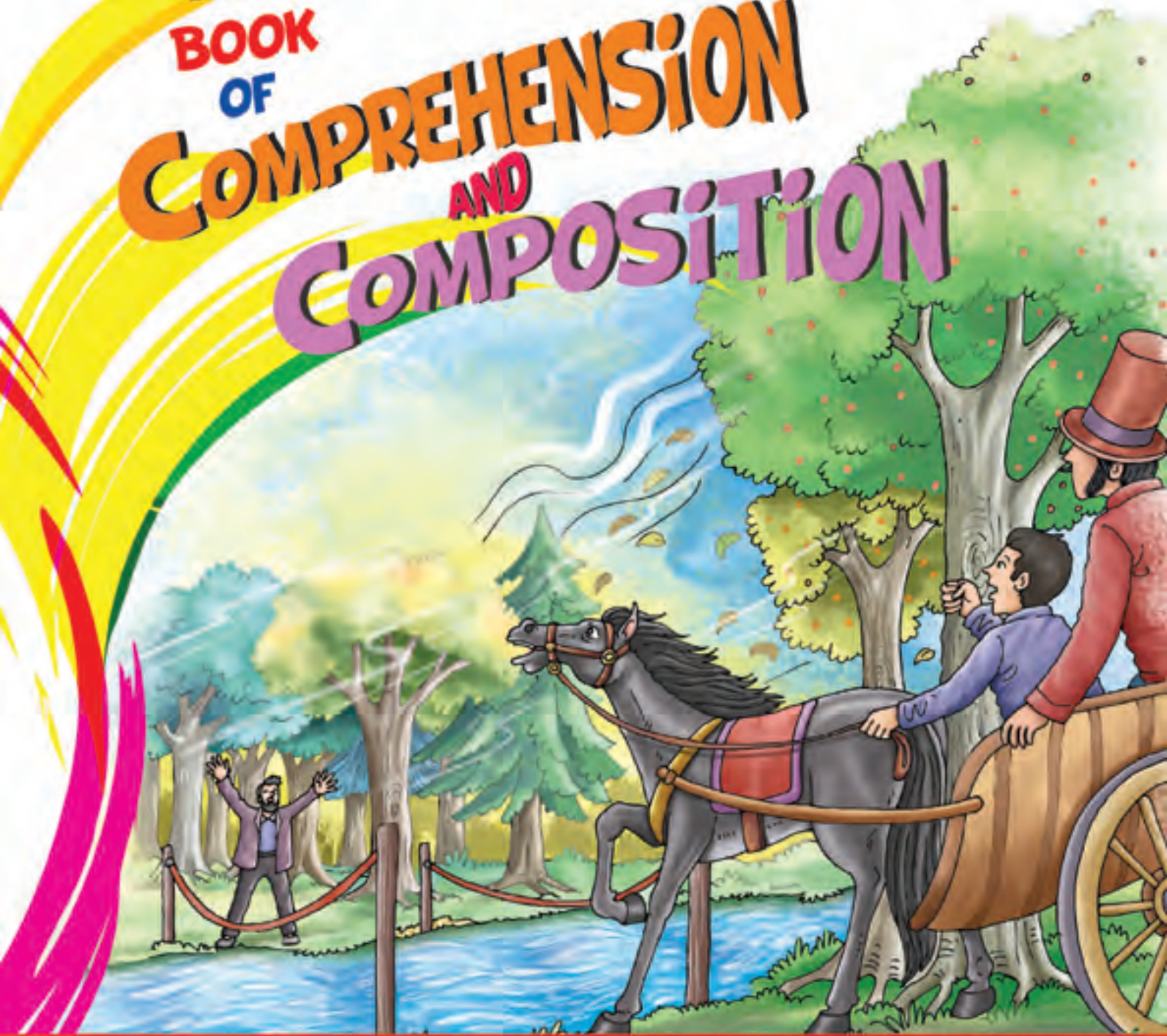



MY **3**<sup>RD</sup>  
BOOK  
OF  
**COMPREHENSION**  
AND  
**COMPOSITION**





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# INTRODUCTION

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In today's world of YouTube, mobile game apps, and streaming entertainment, and in the world of augmented and virtual realities to come, parents and teachers often wonder how to get students to read. I often get asked why I spend my years writing books, because surely no one reads any more.

Every generation worries that their children don't read, forgetting how their parents scolded them for not reading enough in their youth. The Greek philosopher Aristotle once complained that his next generation did not read either, so these concerns are not something new. Of course, parents in Aristotle's time didn't need to worry about WhatsApp and the IPL. But the good news is, while there may be a hundred new and wonderful things that claim children's time, the love of reading is fundamental to the human experience and is never going to go away.

Of course, how children read might change entirely—we might move from paper to e-readers to digital scrolls to some form of headset in the future, and who knows what next. And what they're reading changes too. I grew up in a time when there was very little information about what to read next, and I had to rely on family and friends who loved books. Today's children have the opposite problem—so many books available, and so many recommendations from wildly different sources. Besides, there are innumerable articles on the Internet, forums, forwards...even new forms of fiction, such as fan fiction. Wildly popular stories fly in from everywhere around the world, and sometimes it's easy to forget the classics, forget the older stories that previous generations had in common.

All of this, fortunately, is fine. We live in a diverse and rapidly changing world, and the new generation is growing up to face all its uncertainties and wonders. And nothing will help a deeper understanding of their own lives and those of others, of their own worlds and the realities of people across the globe, than words on a printed page that fire up their imaginations and let them see through new eyes. After all, a person who reads lives a thousand lives, and a person who doesn't? Perhaps not even one whole one.

This excellent collection of short pieces—poetry and prose—will give young readers the keys to enter endless wonderful worlds, and start them off on journeys down roads that never end. I hope this book helps those who already read extensively find more words and worlds to love, and kindle the spark of a lifelong reading habit in those who are yet to discover the joys of reading.

  
Samit Basu

# CONTENTS

1. Phani's Doll		5
2. At the Camp		7
3. Heidi and Peter		10
4. <i>Betty at the Party</i>		12
5. Brave Children		14
6. The Thief and the Fox		16
7. Koala		18
8. Presence of Mind		20
9. How Many Donkeys?		23
10. Sleep		26
11. The Swallows		29
12. Beware from Beehind		32
13. <i>Grandma's Glasses</i>		35
14. Ashok's Kite		37
15. The Origin of the Pencil		40
16. Picking Blueberries		42
17. The Lesson		44
18. The Spinning Discs		47
19. Nek Chand's Secret Garden		50
20. <i>What is Pink?</i>		53
21. The Price of a Moustache		56
22. Strange Friendship		59
23. Marco's Memories		62
24. Black Beauty Saves His Master		65
25. Galileo Galilei		68
26. <i>Moon So Round and Yellow</i>		70
27. Wangari Maathai		72
28. <i>The Quarrel</i>		74
29. Dorothy and the Munchkins		76
30. Jim Corbett and Robin		78



A little girl, Phani, had a doll with long black hair and big black eyes. She loved it so much that she would treat it with great care. She would comb her hair and change her dress every day. She had a box full of dresses, stitched by her mother for her.

As time passed, the little girl grew up, moved houses, became an adult, married, had children and finally became a loving old woman, Phani Amma, with many grandchildren.

One day, she returned to her hometown and went to her old house. Among hundreds of old things, she found her doll. It still looked good as it always had been. She took the doll with her and gave it to her granddaughter, who loved it.

Every time Phani Amma saw her granddaughter playing with it, tears of joy would roll down her cheeks. She was glad that she had looked after the doll so well. Seeing it in the hands of her granddaughter, Phani Amma could enjoy the doll as much as she had when she was a girl.



# Comprehension

## A. Choose the correct options.

1. Phani treated her doll
  - a. carelessly.
  - b. carefully.
  - c. badly.
2. Phani returned to her hometown
  - a. after her marriage.
  - b. a few years later.
  - c. as an old lady.
3. Tears of joy ran down Phani's cheeks as
  - a. she remembered her childhood days.
  - b. she felt sad about being old.
  - c. she saw her grandchild enjoying herself with the doll.

## B. Answer the following questions.

1. Describe how, as a little girl, Phani cared for her doll.

.....

2. How did Phani's life change, as time passed?

.....

3. Where did Phani find her doll again?

.....

4. Why was Phani glad that she had looked after her doll very well?

.....

## C. Find words from the passage that mean the opposite.

- |                 |                |
|-----------------|----------------|
| 1. empty .....  | 2. new .....   |
| 3. sorrow ..... | 4. few .....   |
| 5. short .....  | 6. hated ..... |

## D. Make meaningful sentences by joining the words in the two columns.

A	B
1. Cars	a. played cricket yesterday.
2. The boys	b. dropped the tray of food.
3. My dog	c. are still sour.
4. These mangoes	d. run on petrol or diesel.
5. We	e. barked all night.
6. The waiter	f. took the morning train to Delhi.

# 6 Composition

- A. Describe your favourite toy. How would you like to look after it?

Last summer, my friend, Kaavya and I went on a great holiday to Fame Camp. We went because we play the guitar and we love singing. The camp was in Nainital and there were fourteen other boys and girls with us. We all stayed in tents. Kaavya and I were in a tent with two other girls, Surabhi and Drishti. It was great! The weather was lovely. It was sunny and hot.

Every morning, after breakfast, we had music lessons. We listened to different types of music and played different instruments. I tried playing the violin! Then we all had singing lessons. The teacher was fantastic. He taught us tricks that helped us sing better.

In the afternoon, we danced. Our teacher made a video and we watched it in the evening.





3. The doll had long black **hair/hare** and big black eyes.
4. The birds rose **higher/hire** into the sky.
5. My grandpa is many **ears/years** older than me.
6. I do not like to be disturbed when I am **preying/praying**.

## Composition

- A. Imagine you are attending a summer camp for five days. Write a diary entry, narrating the activities of any one day.



It was very beautiful in the mountain that morning. The sun shone brightly on the green pastures filled with many blue and yellow flowers had opened. Heidi was wild with joy and ran from side to side. She picked bunches of flowers until her apron was full of them. Peter had a hard time looking after the herd of goats and keeping an eye on Heidi at the same time.

They soon reached the foot of a rocky mountain peak and Peter lay down on the sunny grass. Tired, he soon fell asleep and the goats climbed about among the bushes. Heidi sat beside Peter. A light breeze fanned her cheeks and those big mountains around her made her happy as never before. She looked up at the mountain tops till they all seemed to have faces and soon, they were familiar to her, like old friends.

Suddenly she heard a loud, sharp scream and looking up, she saw the largest bird she had ever seen, flying above her. With its wings outstretched, he flew in large circles over Heidi's head. She woke up Peter and then they both watched the bird breathlessly. It rose higher and higher into the sky, till it disappeared at last behind the mountain peak.

—Adapted from Heidi by Johanna Spyri



# Comprehension

## A. Complete the following sentences.

1. Heidi filled her .....
2. Peter found it difficult .....
3. Heidi imagined the mountain tops .....  
and they looked .....
4. While looking at the bird, both Heidi and Peter held .....

## B. Answer the following questions.

1. What made Heidi wild with joy? What happened as a result of this?  
.....
2. Why did Peter feel tired?  
.....
3. What made Heidi notice the bird? What kind of a bird do you think it was?  
.....

## C. In each sentences replace the highlighted words with one word from the passage.

1. The green grass **dazzled** in the sun light. ....
2. We welcomed our grandparents with **bouquets** of flowers. ....
3. When Virat Kohli sat next to me, I stared at him **open-mouthed**. ....
4. I watched the aeroplane till it **went out of sight**. ....
5. We were very tired by the time we reached the **top of the mountain**. ....
6. Viswanathan Anand is a **well-known** chess player. ....

## D. Rearrange these words to form proper sentences.

1. run about goats I to want able to be the like do
2. dressed herself jumped bed Heidi out of and
3. leaves falling are to the ground the orange and red
4. high can the eagles in sky very fly
5. the sheep after got Peter tired looking and the goats
6. apron flowers Heidi's was full of fresh

# Composition

## A. Imagine you have got lost in the mountains. Write a paragraph describing what you saw and how you felt.

'When I was at the party,'  
 Said Betty, aged just four,  
 'A little girl fell off her chair  
 Right down upon the floor.  
 And all the other little girls  
 Began to laugh, but me—  
 I didn't laugh a single bit,'  
 Said Betty seriously.  
 'Why not?' her mother asked her,  
 Full of delight to find  
 That Betty—bless her little heart!  
 Had been so sweetly kind.  
 'Why didn't you laugh, my darling?  
 Or don't you like to tell?'  
 'I didn't laugh,' said Betty,  
 'Cause I'm the one who fell.'



## Comprehension

A. Join the words in the two columns correctly.

A	B
1. The girl who fell 2. The party 3. Betty's mother 4. We should never	a. laugh at others. b. was rocking her chair. c. was for children. d. blessed her.



These are the stories of the children who know no fear.

Om Prakash Yadav stood with burn marks on his face. He had rescued his friends from their school van when it caught fire while the adult driver ran away. 'I could feel the burn on my body,' he said, 'but then I could hear the cries of my friends who were caught inside the van.'

Two young girls, Mittal Patadiya and Prasannata Shandilya, overcame robbers carrying knives. One would not let go despite being attacked herself and the other threw chilli powder into their eyes. Both have the same response: 'My mother was in danger.'

Anjali Singh Gautam carried her injured brother on her back through a gun battle. On her birthday, her village was attacked and Anjali's brother was hit by bullets. He was heavy since he was just a couple of years younger than her, but she carried him to safety. And seven-year-old Dungar Singh went back into his burning hut to rescue his disabled brother. 'I love him very much,' each of them said.

Uma Shankar, travelling to school by bus, watched with horror as a minibus overturned, trapping people, mostly children, under it. He leapt out to help them. He has a message for all of us: 'More people should step forward to help their fellow beings.'



## Comprehension

### A. Match the children with their brave deeds.

A	B
1. Om Prakash 2. Mittal and Prasannata 3. Anjali 4. Uma Shankar	a. Carried her brother to safety b. Saved his friends from a burning van c. Saved children from an overturned bus d. Overcame robbers carrying knives

# My 3rd Book Of Comprehension & Composition



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