

ENGLISH

CHAPTER 8: A GAME OF CHANCE



A GAME OF CHANCE

~Summary~

by Arthur Wright

Eid fair was held in **Rasheed's village** every year. Here, **tradesmen** had a wonderful time to sell their goods. This time Rasheed went to the fair with his **uncle** and **Bhaiya**. A few friends of his uncle met there and took him with them.

Rasheed's uncle left him to look around the fair with the Bhaiya and instructed him **neither to buy anything nor to go too far** in his absence. Rasheed gave him a **promise** to do the same. Rasheed and Bhaiya roamed around and stopped before the **Lucky Shop**. The shopkeeper of the Lucky Shop was asking everybody to try their luck just paying 50 paise.

Rasheed noticed an old man selling the clock he had won back to the shopkeeper for Rs. 15. Then the next customer to the lucky shop was a boy. He won a comb but sold it back for 25 paise. He also won a fountain pen, a wristwatch and a table lamp. The shopkeeper gave all the things to the boy, and he went happily. All that attracted Rasheed, and he also thought of attempting his luck. In every round, he received an object with a little value.

Rasheed **lost** all his money because he was **tempted** to play and ultimately got **cheated** because of his **innocence**. He and Bhaiya came back to the place where his uncle had left them. Soon, uncle came, and Bhaiya told the whole thing to him. Seeing that Rasheed was **upset**, his uncle took him to a shop and bought him an umbrella, some biscuits, sweets, and some other little gifts.

When they went back home, his uncle explained to him that the game was not a matter of good luck or bad luck. The **winners** in the lucky shop were friends of the **shopkeeper**. The shopkeeper was making money by **cheating**. He was using the fake winners to **attract** people towards the game. He also advised Rasheed to forget about his misadventure with the lucky shop and not to go around telling others about it.

~Conclusion~

Rasheed realises his fault and his mistake teaches him a valuable lesson. He learns that greed can make one foolish. He understands that he lost his money due to his own foolishness and not due to bad luck.

NCERT SOLUTIONS

Questions (Page No. 103-104) (Working with the Text)

Question 1. Complete the following sentences from memory choosing a phrase from those given in brackets.

- a. _____ was held at the time of the Eid festival.
(A big show, A big fair, A big competition)
- b. Tradesmen came to the village with all kinds of goods_____.
(to display, to buy, to sell)
- c. Uncle told me _____ while he was away.
(not to buy anything, not to go anywhere, not to talk to anyone)
- d. The owner of the Lucky Shop wanted everybody present _____
_____.
(to play the game, to win a prize, to try their luck)
- e. The first time I took a chance I got _____.
(a bottle of ink, two pencils, a trifle)
- f. Uncle told me that the shopkeeper had made _____.
(a fool of me, a good profit, friends with many people)

Answer:

- a. **A big fair** was held at the time of the Eid festival.
- b. Tradesmen came to the village with all kinds of goods **to sell**.
- c. Uncle told me **not to buy anything** while he was away.
- d. The owner of the Lucky Shop wanted everybody present **to try their luck**.
- e. The first time I took a chance I got **two pencils**.
- f. Uncle told me that the shopkeeper had made **a fool of me**.

Question 2. Answer the following questions.

- a. Why do you think Rasheed's uncle asked him not to buy anything in his absence? (3)
- b. Why was the shop called 'Lucky Shop'? (4)

- c. An old man won a clock and sold it back to the shopkeeper. How much money did he make? (5)
- d. How many prizes did the boy win? What were they? (6)
- e. Why was Rasheed upset? (7, 8, 9)
- f. In what way did the shopkeeper make a fool of Rasheed? (11)

Answer:

- a. Rasheed's uncle asked him not to buy anything in his absence because he was aware that the shopkeepers could cheat him and take away all his money by tricking him.
- b. The shop was called 'Lucky Shop' because it would tempt everyone to try their luck and win prizes.
- c. The old man earned 15 rupees by selling the clock back to the shopkeeper.
- d. The boy won four different prizes each time. These included a comb, a fountain-pen, a wrist watch and a table lamp.
- e. Rasheed was upset because he hoped to win a big prize at the Lucky Shop, but he continued trying his luck again and again. However, every time he just got a trifle. He played until he finished all his money. Seeing this, some people were laughing at his bad luck, but nobody showed him any sympathy.
- f. The shopkeeper tempted Rasheed to try his luck and made him believe that good luck can get him good things just like the old man and the other boy who had won in the lucky draw. Seeing this, Rasheed tried his luck again and again until he lost all his money and won just a trifle every time. This way the shopkeeper tricked Rasheed and made a fool out of him.

Questions (Page No. 104-106)

(Working with the Language)

Question 1. The words given against the sentences below can be used both as nouns and verbs. Use them appropriately to fill in the blanks.

- i.
 - a. The two teams have ————— three matches already. (play)
 - b. The last day's ————— was excellent.
- ii.
 - a. She has a lovely ————— . (face)
 - b. India ————— a number of problems these days.

iii.

- a. He made his _____ in essay-writing. (mark)
- b. Articles _____ 'sold' are reserved.

iv.

- a. The police are _____ the area to catch the burglars. (comb)
- b. An ordinary plastic _____ costs five rupees.

v.

- a. He gave a _____ in answer to my question. (smile)
- b. We also _____ to see him smile.

vi.

- a. He said he _____ to be invited to the party. (hope)
- b. We gave up _____ of his joining the party.

vii.

- a. The boys put up a good athletic _____. (show)
- b. The soldiers _____ great courage in saving people from floods.

viii.

- a. You deserve a _____ on the back for your good performance.
(pat)
- b. The teacher _____ the child on the cheek to encourage her.

Answer:

i.

- a. The two teams have **played** three matches already.
- b. The last day's **play** was excellent.

ii.

- a. She has a lovely **face**.
- b. India **faces** a number of problems these days.

iii.

- a. He made his **mark** in essay-writing.
- b. Articles **marked** 'sold' are reserved.

iv.

- a. The police are **combing** the area to catch the burglars.
- b. An ordinary plastic **comb** costs five rupees.

v.

- a. He gave a **smile** in answer to my question.
- b. We also **smiled** to see him smile.

vi.

- a. He said he **hoped** to be invited to the party.
- b. We gave up **hope** of his joining the party.

vii.

- a. The boys put up a good athletic **show**.
- b. The soldiers **showed** great courage in saving people from floods.

viii.

- a. You deserve a **pat** on the back for your good performance.
- b. The teacher **patted** the child on the cheek to encourage her.

Question 2. Notice the use of 'there' in the following sentences.

- **There** was a big crowd at the fair.
- **There** were many things I'd have liked to buy.

Now rewrite the following sentences using 'there' in the beginning. Look at the following examples.

- I can do nothing to help you.
 - **There** is nothing I can do to help you.
 - A man at the door is asking to see you.
 - **There** is a man at the door asking to see you.
- a. This park has beautiful roses.
 - b. Your story has no fun in it.
 - c. We have no secrets between us.
 - d. My village has two primary schools.
 - e. This problem can be solved in two ways.

Answer:

- There are beautiful roses in this park.
- There is no fun in your story.
- There are no secrets between us.
- There are two primary schools in my village.
- There are two ways to solve this problem.

Question 3. Fill in the blanks in the paragraph below with words from the box.

huge	big	foolish	interesting	tiny	unlucky	last
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There was a _____ Eid fair in our village. We could buy anything from a _____ toy to a _____ camel. I went to the fair on its _____ day with Uncle and Bhaiya. We went to the Lucky Shop. It was very _____. I tried my luck but did not win any prize. Later, Uncle told me that I was more _____ than _____.

Answer:

There was a **huge** Eid fair in our village. We could buy anything from a **tiny** toy to a **big** camel. I went to the fair on its last day with Uncle and Bhaiya. We went to the Lucky Shop. It was very **interesting**. I tried my luck but did not win any prize. Later, Uncle told me that I was more **foolish** than **unlucky**.

Questions (Page No. 106-107)

(Speaking and Reading Aloud)

Question 1.

- Suppose you are Rasheed. Describe in your own words your visit to the fair. Do not refer to the Lucky Shop.
- Read aloud the two paragraphs that describe the boy and the old man at the Lucky Shop.
- Listen to these children. What are they talking about?



Answer:

- a. One fine day, my Uncle took me to a huge Eid fair. Our domestic help, Bhaiya also went along with us. My uncle met his friends in the fair and asked me to roam around with Bhaiya. He warned me not to buy anything or go too far from that place. I promised to listen to his words. Bhaiya and I went from one shop to another and enjoyed watching various things kept on those shops. Soon, my Uncle returned and he bought me various gifts from different shops. It was a wonderful visit to the Eid fair.
- b. Activity to be done by yourself.
- c. There is a conversation going on among three children. The first boy asks the other two boys whether they like tea or coffee. The second boy mentions that he doesn't like coffee, but he prefers tea. On the other hand, the third boy mentions that he prefers coffee over tea.

Question 2. Work in pairs. One of you is an agent and the other is a client looking for accommodation in a hotel. Talk to each other. Use the clues given below.

<i>Agent</i>	<i>Client</i>
What sort of accommodation would you prefer?	I'd prefer a _____ _____
Would you like your own room or would you like to share a room?	I'd like _____ I don't think I'd like _____ _____
Would you like a room with a television?	Yes, I do want _____ _____
Do you need to hire a car?	No, thanks. I don't need _____ No, I'd prefer _____
What sort of location are you interested in?	I'd like to stay in _____ _____
Have you any other requirements?	Yes, I must have _____ Yes, give me _____ No, no other requirements.

Answer:

- a. I'd prefer a small but cozy accommodation.
- b. I'd like to have a room of my own with a separate bed and bathroom.

I don't think I'd like to share my room with anyone.

- a. Yes, I do want a room with a television in it.
- b. No, thanks. I don't need a hired car.

No, I'd prefer a car of my own instead.

- a. I'd like to stay in a fancy locality.
- b. Yes, I must have a balcony attached to my room.

Yes, give me your contact number for further correspondence.

No, no other requirements.

Questions (Page No. 108)

(Dictation)

Question 1. Some words are given below. Listen carefully to the word from the list the teacher speaks, and write against it another word that has the same pronunciation but different spelling. The first is an example.

fair	fare
buy	
one	
which	
two	
no	
here	
see	
there	
hare	
nun	

Answer:

fair	fare
buy	by
one	won
which	witch
two	too
no	know

here	hear
see	sea
there	their
hare	hair
nun	none

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