St. Andrews Scots Sr. Sec. School

9th Avenue, I.P. Extension, Patparganj, Delhi 110092 Session 2024-2025 Notes

Class: IX Subject: English

Topic: How I Taught My Grandmother to Read

Q1. How did Sudha Murthy adapt her teaching methods to suit her grandmother's learning pace?

Ans. Sudha Murthy exhibited remarkable adaptability in her teaching approach. Recognizing her grandmother's unique learning pace, she patiently tailored lessons. Utilizing repetition, practical examples, and a supportive atmosphere, Sudha Murthy ensured comprehension and instilled confidence in her grandmother's ability to learn.

Q2. Avva or the narrator's grandmother was a wonderful student. Justify with the help of the story.

Ans. Avva showcased her excellence as a student by setting and achieving goals, adhering to deadlines, and enthusiastically engaging in reading, repetition, and recitation. Her commitment and hard work demonstrated her effectiveness as a learner.

Q3. How had the narrator planned to surprise her grandmother? How was she herself surprised?

Ans. The narrator planned to surprise her grandmother with the novel "Kashi Yatre." However, she was surprised when her grandmother, in turn, gifted her frock material and touched her feet, expressing unexpected gratitude.

Q4. Explain the symbolism of the grandmother touching Sudha Murthy's feet in the context of their relationship.

Ans. The grandmother touching Sudha Murthy's feet symbolized a powerful transformation in their relationship, transcending traditional generational roles. Sudha Murthy, usually considered the younger in the relationship, became a symbol of wisdom and guidance, prompting the grandmother to express her reverence through this traditional gesture. In Indian culture, touching someone's feet is a profound sign of respect, often reserved for elders, gurus, or revered figures. In this context, it signified the grandmother acknowledging Sudha Murthy as a source of knowledge and inspiration.

The act carried a deeper meaning, suggesting that the exchange of wisdom and experiences had created a unique connection between them. Sudha Murthy's role as a storyteller and the grandmother's receptivity to these stories transformed their dynamic into a beautiful interplay of learning and teaching. It showcased the universality of learning, where age and societal norms became secondary to the shared understanding and appreciation of wisdom.

Q5. "But I know it was not possible. If only I was educated enough..." Describe the circumstances that made the grandmother realize the importance of education.

Ans. In her youth, the grandmother, like many girls of her time, was denied the opportunity of formal education, as it wasn't deemed essential for girls. However, the realization of the significance of education dawned on her during a poignant moment. When her granddaughter shared "Kashi Yatre," a story that had been published as a magazine serial, the grandmother deeply connected with the protagonist. Regular reading sessions with her granddaughter became a cherished routine. Yet, when her granddaughter was absent, unable to read the story herself, the grandmother felt a void in her life. This experience served as a poignant awakening, leading her to acknowledge the profound impact and importance of education.