

STEALING AND ATONEMENT

LESSON OVERVIEW

L.No.	Title of the Lesson	Skills			Grammar/Figures of speech	Activity	Life Skills
		Listening/ speaking	Reading	Writing			
14	Stealing and Atonement	Talking about likes and dislikes	Prose (autobiographical pieces)	Short simple messages	Present and Past Participle	Role Play	Interpersonal relationship; Coping with stress; Courage to confess; Value of atonement and forgiveness

SUMMARY

In every country, there are some great men and women who have done a lot for their country. For India, Mahatma Gandhi was one such person who worked very hard to get freedom for India. As a child, Gandhiji and his friend tried to imitate a family member and took to smoking. They enjoyed the fun in blowing out clouds of smoke. They stole money from the servant's purse to fulfil their desire of smoking cigarettes. Gandhiji knew that to do anything, they had to take permission from their elders. Like all teenagers, they too wanted freedom. They felt that life was not worth living and they should die. Gandhiji and his friend obtained poisonous seeds but could not muster the courage to eat them. They went to a temple where they realised their mistake. They gave up the thought of suicide and decided never to smoke and steal. After some time, Gandhiji took some gold from his brother's armlet to repay his debt. He felt guilty for the act of stealing and wanted to confess about this to his father. Gandhiji knew that on hearing it his father would be pained. Still he wrote a letter in which he admitted his mistake and asked for punishment. He also requested his father not to punish himself. He saw his father in tears which were not only of pain but also of love and forgiveness. Gandhiji learnt his first lesson of Ahimsa.

PRINCIPAL POINTS

- Children learn by imitating their elders but they also want complete freedom.
- Seeking permission for everything poses problem to them.
- Frustration sometimes leads young children to commit suicide.
- Confession requires a lot of courage but releases the feeling of guilt.

- Forgiveness makes one feel that one's sins are washed away.
- Ahimsa changes everything it touches.

LET'S LEARN NEW EXPRESSIONS

While reading literature, readers often come across uncommon use of words or expressions where the intended meaning is different from their literal meaning.

Our want of independence began to upset us:

They felt unhappy because they had to seek permission for every small thing.

I have never desired to smoke and have always regarded the habit of smoking as barbarous, dirty and harmful:

Have realised that smoking is extremely harmful.

.....

ENHANCE YOUR PERFORMANCE

Writing messages

Messages are written when one cannot meet the person face to face but an important information is to be imparted. They are informal in style and tone.

Like any other task writing messages too have two essential features.

The format: It includes just the name of the person for **whom** the message is intended, the name of the sender/giver of the message, date.

Content: This includes important part of the information

Style:

- Written in informal style
- Written in phrasal forms or any short form
- Bullet points are preferred

GRAMMAR

THE GERUND

Look at the sentences given below:

1. **Singing** is his hobby.
2. **Playing** is my son's first love.
3. **Walking** is good for health.

We notice that the bold words in each sentence are formed from the root verbs by adding 'ing'. But they act as nouns and are called Gerunds. They are verbs at the root.

- sing + ing = singing
 play + ing = playing
 walk + ing = walking

THE PARTICIPLE

Look at the sentences given below:

1. She came **running** to me.
2. They saw an **interesting** movie.
3. **Trained** personnel can get employment easily.
4. **Running** water has less impurities.

The words in bold are not main verbs, they act as adverbs (e.g. sentence 1), and adjectives (e.g. sentences 2,3,4)

They are called Participles and function as Verbal adjectives.

TEST TYPES

1. MCQ/Objective type question (recall)

Complete the following statement by choosing the best option from the ones given below:

Gandhiji and his friend went to Ramji Mandir to

- A. act on the idea of suicide.
- B. give up the idea of suicide.
- C. compose themselves.
- D. pray to God and ask His forgiveness.

2. VSA (understanding)

Why did Gandhiji steal the gold?

3. SA (recall)

What was Gandhiji's father's reaction when he read the letter of confession?

4. LA (inference)

Gandhiji learnt a very important lesson from his father's behaviour.

What was it and how did it transform Gandhiji?