

# THE TRUTH

## LESSON OVERVIEW

L.No.	Title of the Lesson	Skills			Grammar/Figures of speech	Life Skills
		Listening/speaking	Reading	Writing		
22	The Truth (Poem)	Reading the poem aloud with proper intonation	Silent reading with understanding	Personal letter-of apology	Metaphor, Alliteration, Internal rhyme	Empathy, caring

### SUMMARY

The title, 'The Truth', suggests that truth is the greatest virtue. Being truthful is very important. But truth generally is bitter. Therefore, if one has to speak the bitter truth it should not be spoken in harsh and unpalatable words, for harsh and bitter words can deeply hurt the listener. They leave a long lasting impact. The pain caused by unpleasant words is much more unbearable and lasting than a physical injury. The poet suggests that one should speak the truth but in a mild and polite language.

### PRINCIPAL POINTS

- Harsh and impolite language causes more hurt than physical injury
- Truth, if stated in harsh words, becomes counterproductive, i.e. the purpose of stating something truthful is defeated.
- Physical injury caused by a stick or sword gets healed with the passage of time but mental and emotional hurt caused by bitter words leaves an everlasting impact.
- One should mind one's language.

### LET'S LEARN NEW EXPRESSIONS

**Hurt:** In the present context, 'hurt' means mental and emotional pain.

**Words are ghosts that haunt me:** It means that the mental pain caused by harsh words has a very lasting impact.

**ENHANCE YOUR PERFORMANCE**

**Writing a letter of apology to your friend**

A letter to a friend is written in an informal way but if it is an apology then we must use polite words and expressions so as not to hurt him more.

You have already studied the format and structure of an informal letter. Ensure that you use a proper format and relevant content.

You can use short forms in an informal letter.

**The figures of speech/literary devices** used by the poet are:

**Metaphor:** It compares two things that are not very similar but they have a single quality or feature that they both share, e.g. word swords.

**Alliteration:** It is the repetition of the initial sound in words, e.g. ‘Sticks and stones break my bones, bats and bricks’.

**Internal rhyme:** There are words in the same line which rhyme with each other, e.g. sticks and stones may break my bones.

**TEST TYPES**

**1. MCQ/objective type question (inference)**

Choose the most appropriate meaning of the following phrase from the options given below:

The expression **bent and curved sword** as used in the poem implies:

- A. sarcastic
- B. crooked
- C. scheming
- D. bold

**2. VSA (recall)**

Fill in the blanks with appropriate words:

Bitter words are ..... than the injury caused by a sword.

**3. SA (understanding)**

What care should we take when speaking a bitter truth?

**4. LA (extrapolatory)**

Which type of hurt is more painful? How do people sometimes cause such a pain? What can be done to minimise such pain?