



GYAN BHARATI SCHOOL
Saket, New Delhi
Affiliated to C.B.S.E
Presents

THE HAPPY PRINCE

The Happy Prince, Chapter – 5
Moments- Supplementary Reader in English for class IX, NCERT
Class: IX
Subject: English

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We would like to express our sincere gratitude to the people who have helped us in the process of bringing this graphic novel to life.

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SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Moments – English Language and Literature textbook for Class IX



INDEX

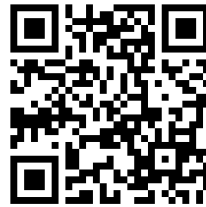


S No.	TOPIC	Page No.
1	DISCLAIMER	5
2	PREFACE	6
3	LEARNING OUTCOMES	7
4	CHARACTERS IN THE STORY	8 - 10
5	NOVEL	11 - 42
6	CROSSWORD TIME	43

DISCLAIMER

This book is published as a reading material to enable the learners in developing compassion for all beings, understanding the true meaning of happiness and realize the value of charity.

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PREFACE



This graphic novel adaptation of “The Happy Prince” by Oscar Wilde emphasises on the importance of charity, kindness and generosity. Through its beautiful illustrations, captivating characters and corresponding dialogues filled with deep allegorical meaning, it illustrates an honest and endearing friendship between the Prince and the Swallow. The Prince is acutely aware of all the misery present in the world, and urges the Swallow to perform acts of kindness and generosity towards all those living in his town. There is much to learn from this story – in terms of content, moral lessons as well as human values which enrich our lives with so much meaning and purpose.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Grade: 9

Topic: The Happy Prince

Subject: English Language and Literature

- ❖ The readers will be able to appreciate the value of charity and compassion.
- ❖ The readers will be sensitized towards the effects of apathy as presented in the text.
- ❖ The readers would be able to identify the true meaning of happiness and sacrifice.
- ❖ The readers' ability to engage in independent reflection, critical thinking, extrapolation and inquiry will be enhanced.

CHARACTERS IN THE STORY

THE HAPPY PRINCE

**A majestic statue with sapphires for eyes and ruby on the sword hilt.
He is covered in gold. He is happy, he can't change his expression
as he is set in stone but he has unhappy eyes that weep.
His statue is placed on a tall column in the middle of the city.
It is a symbol of the city's grandeur and opulence.**



THE SWALLOW



The faithful companion of the Happy Prince.

THE SEAMSTRESS



A poor lady who is overworked and tired.

THE PLAYWRIGHT



A young man who looks rather pale and malnourished.

THE MATCHGIRL



A young girl with an innocent face who is selling matchsticks.

High above the city, on a tall column, stood the statue of the Happy Prince. He was covered with thin leaves of fine gold, for eyes he had two bright sapphires and a large red ruby **adorned** his sword hilt.



A swallow was flying to join its friends in Egypt. He flew the entire day and decided to rest under the statue of the Happy Prince for the night.



I have a golden bedroom. This is a fine position with plenty of fresh air.

Just as the swallow was putting his head under his wing a big drop of water fell on him. He was amazed to see that it was a clear night with the stars shining and yet it was raining.

...Then another drop fell. The swallow was getting annoyed and he decided to take off and look for a good chimney pot.



What a curious thing! Rain drops without clouds!



What is the use of this statue if it cannot keep the rain off?

The swallow looked up, ready to take flight and just then he saw the most puzzling sight. The Prince was crying. He looked so beautiful on the moonlit night that the swallow felt pity for him and decided to ask the reason for his tears.

I am the Happy Prince.

Who are you and why are you weeping?





WHAT DO WE KNOW? WHAT HAVE WE LEARNT!

Put a ✓ on all the beautiful things that adorned the Happy Prince:

A Diamond Crown

Sapphire eyes

Jewels on the belt

Emerald studded collar

Gold leaves on the body

Silver brooch

A stunning necklace

Ruby on the sword hilt

The Prince shared the reason behind his misery with the swallow.

When I was alive and had a human heart, I was shielded from tears and pain. No sorrow was allowed to enter my palace. My courtiers called me happy prince and happy indeed I was. I had a wonderful life devoid of misery.



Now that I am dead, they have made a statue of mine and set me here. My eyes are now open to all the things I was protected from earlier. I can see the suffering of my city and though my heart is made of lead, I can't help but feel sorry for them.

The Prince continued his tale of **woe**.



Far away in a little street there is a poor house. One of the windows is open and I can see a woman embroidering flowers on a satin gown. She is exhausted and her son is sick. Her son is asking her to give him oranges but the poor lady has nothing to give him but river water and so he is crying.

Woe: Extreme sadness



A king with a crown and a swallow bird on his chest against a starry night sky. The king has a golden crown with olive branches, blue eyes, and a golden tunic with a fleur-de-lis. A small blue and orange swallow bird is perched on his chest. The background is a dark blue night sky with white stars.

I wish to help you
but I can't. My
arrival is awaited
in Egypt.

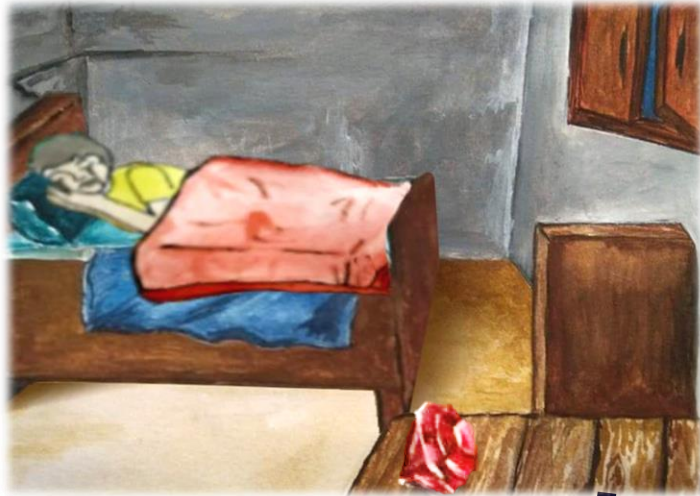
Swallow, Swallow,
little Swallow, will you
take the ruby from my
sword hilt and give it
to the seamstress?
Please stay with me
tonight!

The swallow agrees to stay the night purely out of the goodness of his heart.

A swallow with a blue back, orange throat, and yellow belly is perched on the left shoulder of a king. The king has a golden crown with olive branches, blue eyes, and wears a golden tunic with a fleur-de-lis and a necklace with a large dark stone. The background is a dark blue night sky with white stars.

I will stay for the night and do as you command. I shall pluck your ruby and take it to the seamstress.

It's cold there, the boy is sick and the mother is very tired. The ruby will help them.



Although it's cold, I
feel a very warm
feeling radiating
through my body.



The swallow did as the Prince had requested him to do
and kept the ruby at the table of the seamstress. He came
back to share his experience with the Prince.

The next day the swallow woke up
in high spirits!



Tonight, I
go to Egypt!

He returned to the Prince at night.



Do you have any
commissions for
Egypt?

Swallow, Swallow,
little Swallow, will
you stay with me
one night longer?



Commissions: requesting work



Dear Swallow, far across the city I see a young man living in a **garret**. He has large, dreamy eyes filled with the ideas that he wishes to put on paper. He is trying to finish a play for the Director of the Theatre, but he is too cold to write anymore. There is no fire in the grate and no food in his house. He is going to faint due to hunger.

Garret: A very small, uncomfortable room at the top of the house.



The plight of the playwright tugged at the swallow's heart.



I will stay with you a night longer. Should I go and give another ruby to the playwright?

Alas! I have no other Ruby. My eyes are all that I have left. They are made of rare sapphires brought from India a thousand years ago. Take one of those and give it to the playwright. He will sell it to the jeweller and buy food and firewood with the money. He will be able to finish his play too.

The swallow began to cry.



Swallow, swallow,
little Swallow, do as I
command you.

Dear Prince, I
can't do that. I
can't take out your
eyes!



The swallow entered the garret through a hole in the roof and found the playwright sitting and working on his play. He was in deep thought and therefore did not hear the soft flutter of swallow's wings and was surprised to notice the rare sapphire in front of his eyes.



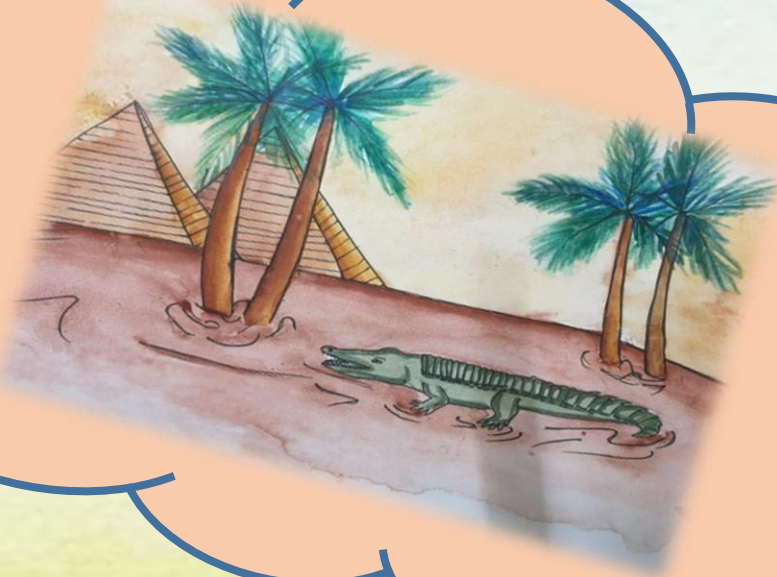
The next night, the swallow went back to the Prince.

The background is a deep blue night sky filled with white stars of varying sizes. On the right side, a Prince is depicted from the chest up. He has a fair complexion, reddish-brown hair, and is wearing a golden crown adorned with olive branches. He is dressed in a golden tunic with a large, ornate golden cross on the chest and a dark necklace with a circular pendant. On the left side, a Swallow bird is shown in profile, facing right. It has a bright blue body, a yellow-orange throat and breast, and a long, dark tail. Two speech bubbles are present: a yellow one from the Prince and a light blue one from the Swallow.

**Swallow, Swallow,
little Swallow, will
you not stay with me
one night longer?**

**I have come
to bid you
goodbye!**

The swallow did not wish to remain in the city anymore. He wanted to go to Egypt.



It is winter. The snow will be here soon. I want to be in Egypt where warm sun rays fall on green palm trees and crocodiles laze around in the mud.



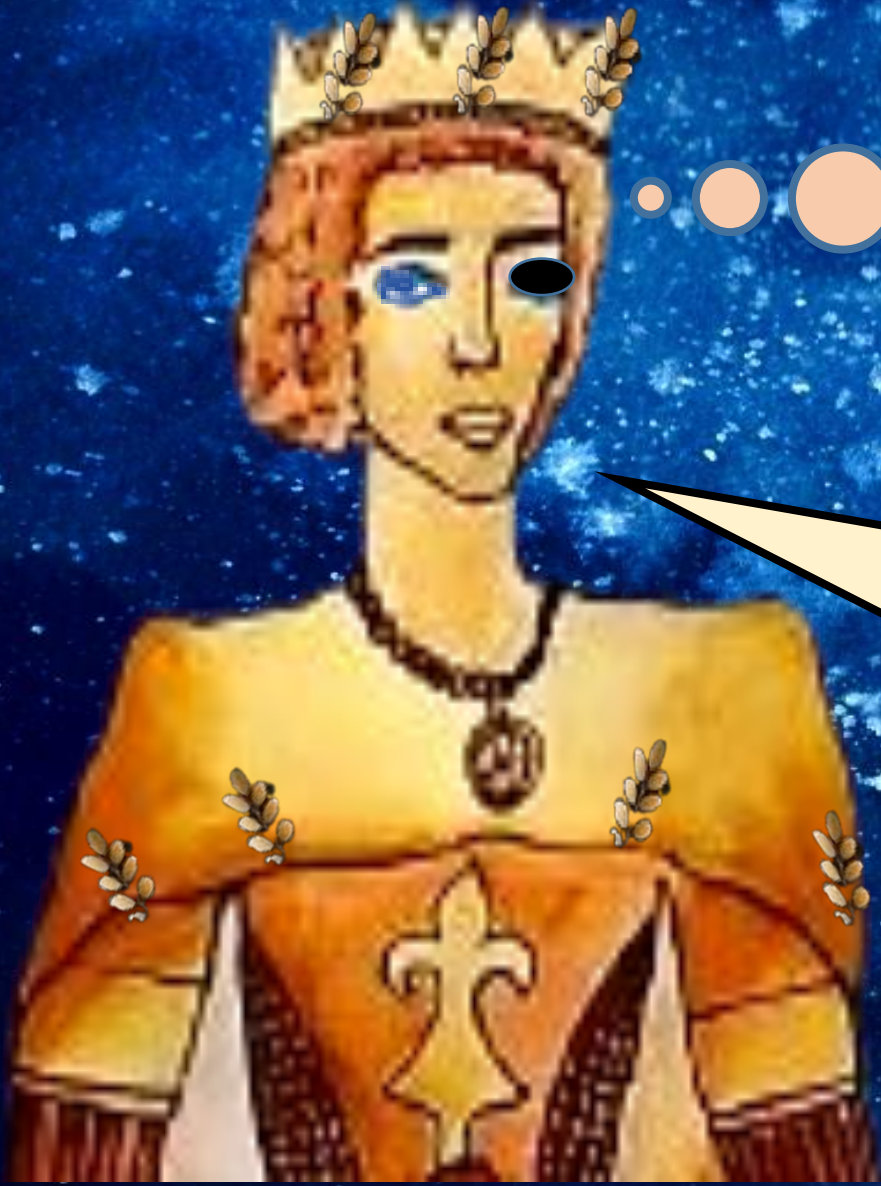


WHAT DO WE KNOW? WHAT HAVE WE LEARNT!

Choose the most appropriate option.

1. *The happy Prince sent the _____ for the poor seamstress.*
(i) ruby (ii) sapphire (iii) gold leaves
2. *The swallow took the Prince's _____ for the playwright.*
(i) emerald (ii) gold feathers (iii) sapphire eye
3. Choose the *best quality of the Prince* from the following:
(i) Compassionate (ii) Unforgiving (iii) Insensitive
4. *The swallow is planning to go to _____.*
(i) Ireland (ii) Australia (iii) Egypt

The swallow did not wish remain in the city anymore. He wanted to go to Egypt.



Dear Swallow, in the square below stands a little match girl. All her matches fell into the gutter and got spoilt. If she doesn't take any money home, her father will beat her mercilessly. She is crying. She is barefoot and has nothing to save herself from the harsh winter. Pluck out my other eye and give it to her.

A cartoon illustration set against a dark blue night sky filled with white stars. On the right, a queen with fair skin and reddish-brown hair wears a golden crown adorned with olive branches. She has a blue eye and a black eye, and wears a golden dress with a fleur-de-lis on the chest and a necklace with a circular pendant. On the left, a swallow bird with a blue back, orange throat, and yellow belly is perched. Two speech bubbles are present: a yellow one from the queen and a light blue one from the swallow.

Dear little Swallow,
do as I say.

I can stay with you
another night. But I
can't pluck out your
remaining eye. You
would become blind!

The swallow plucked out the other sapphire and flew away with it. He slipped the gem near the matchgirl so that she would be able to easily notice it.



The swallow flew back to the Prince.

Dear little Swallow, more
marvellous than anything is
the suffering of men and
women. There is no mystery
so great as misery!

You are blind now.
I will stay with you
and take care of
you.



While flying over the great city, the swallow noticed the rich people safe in their houses and the beggars on the streets.



A small illustration of a swallow bird with a blue back, orange throat, and yellow belly, perched on a thin branch.

Dearest swallow, I am covered with fine gold. You must take it off, leaf by leaf, and give it to the poor. The living always think that gold can make them happy.

A stylized illustration of a prince with a golden crown adorned with leaves, wearing a golden tunic with a fleur-de-lis and a necklace with a large pendant. He has a serious expression.

Oh Prince, I saw such wonderful sights! The rich making merry, the poor so helpless and pitiable, two little boys being scolded by a watchman.

After picking each leaf off the Prince, the swallow realised that the Prince looked dull and grey.

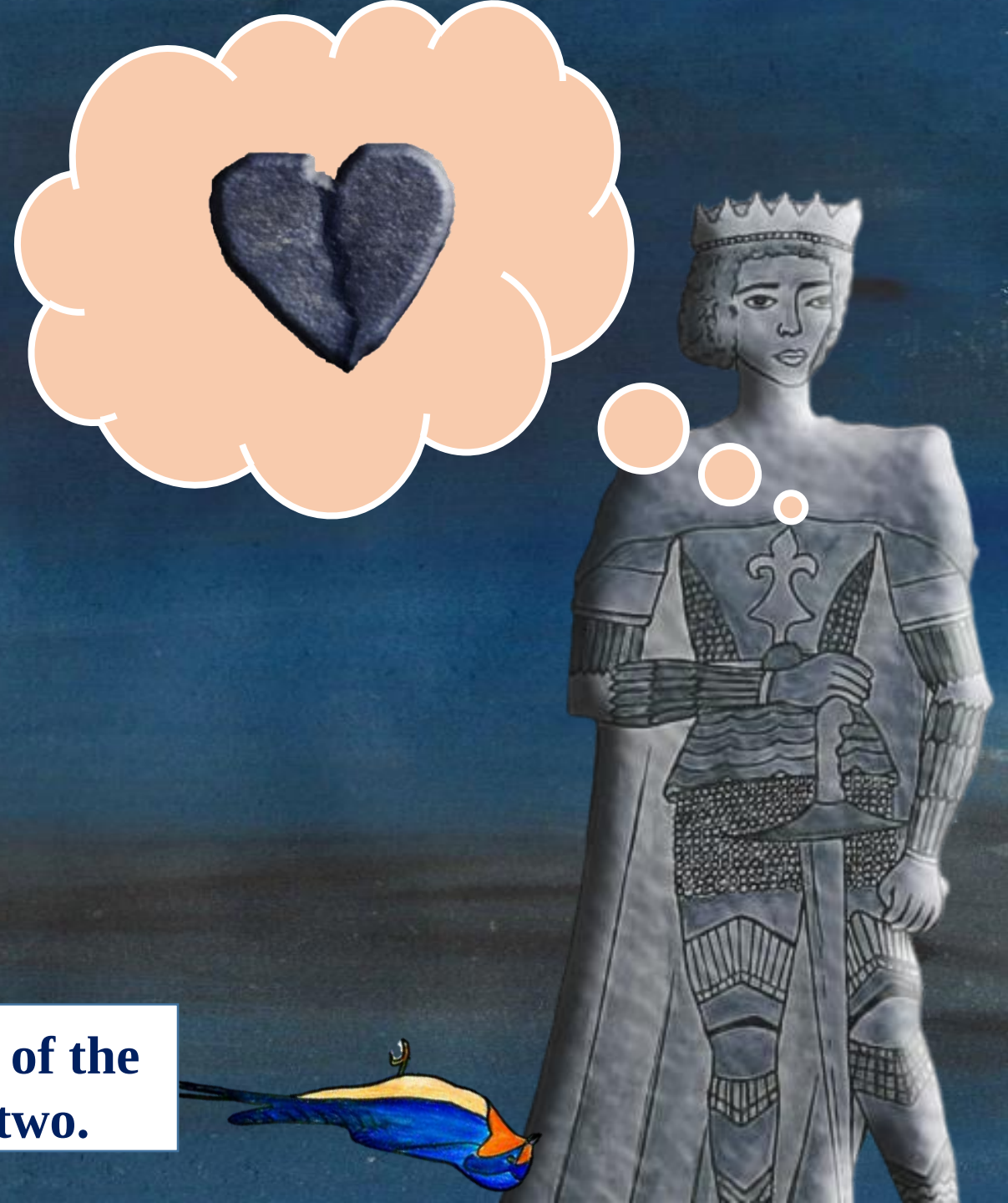


The swallow flew across the city and scattered the gold leaves over the homes of the destitute.



Slowly, snow began falling, followed by the frost. The colder it became, the more the swallow realised that he was going to die soon. With great difficulty, he flew back to the Prince.





The next day, as the Mayor was walking by, he noticed the shabby statue. He immediately called his team members to inspect the situation.

Dear me! This statue looks very shabby indeed!



We must take it down at once! The Prince looks like a beggar, even more so with the dead bird at his feet. We must **solemnly** declare that dead birds are not allowed to die here.



The Mayor and his team decided that as the statue was no longer beautiful therefore it was no longer useful. They tried melting the broken heart in the furnace, but to no avail.



The workmen threw the lead heart on a heap of garbage, next to the dead swallow.



WHAT DO WE KNOW? WHAT HAVE WE LEARNT!

Choose the most appropriate option.

1. *How does the Happy Prince look now?*

(i) Dull and Grey

(ii) Proud

(iii) Opulent

2. *What broke the Prince's heart?*

(i) The Mayor's comment (ii) The Swallow's Death (iii) Thankless people of the city

3. *Where can you find the heart of the Prince and the dead bird?*

(i) The Mayor's chamber

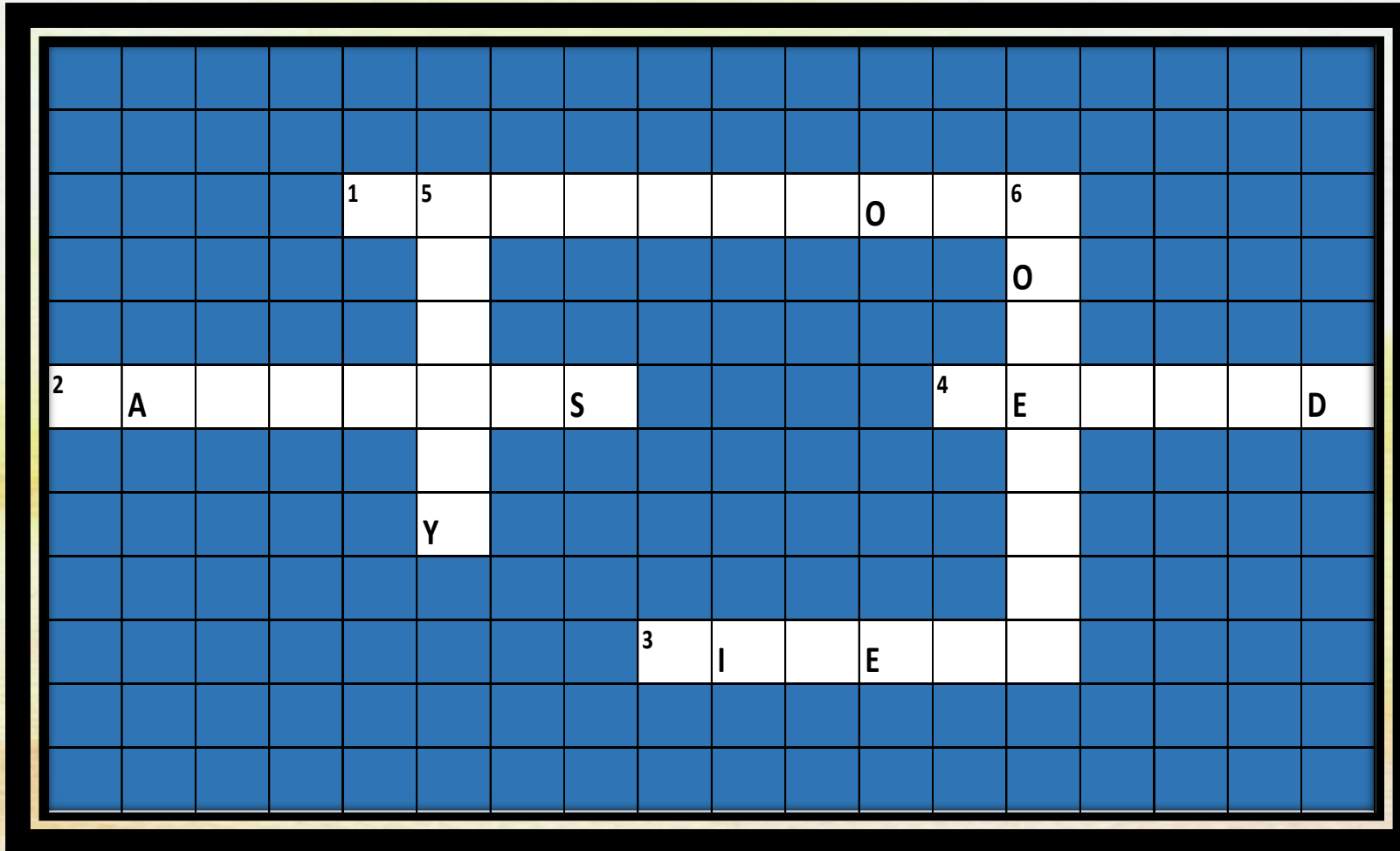
(ii) With the people

(iii) In the Garbage

God asked one of his angels to bring him the two most precious things from the city of the Happy Prince. The angel brought back the dead swallow and the leaden heart.



CROSSWORD TIME



CLUES

Some sentences from the novel have also been picked up. Identify the context to discover the word.

Across

1. Synonym of amazing.
2. The sun _____ heat and light. "I feel a very warm feeling _____ through my body."
3. A state or feeling of physical or mental distress. "There is no mystery greater than _____."
4. Robots are _____ of emotions. "I had a wonderful life _____ of misery."

Down

5. Lack of concern.
6. Synonym of sincerely and formally. "We must _____ declare that dead birds are not allowed to die here."



FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

We at the Gyan Bharati School sincerely hope that this graphic novel, **THE HAPPY PRINCE** will prove greatly beneficial to educators and students alike. I appreciate the effort of Mrs. Ankita Juyal Balooni and the team of students and teachers of our school, in preparing this graphic novel, based on the theme of compassion and benevolence from the English supplementary reader, **Moments** (NCERT) of class IX.

The popularity of the Graphic Novel is on the rise and it is steadily being recognised as a visual literacy tool for educating. I feel that a child's engagement with this genre whether as a writer, illustrator or a reader can bring about enhancement in learning, skill building and engagement with books, in a joyful manner. Surely, this format will help encourage the love for reading, develop comprehension and vocabulary and an understanding of grammar rules along with the much needed reading confidence in the reluctant reader.

The singular contribution of Ms. Trinu Jain in coordinating with the team of teachers in order to bring out this creative tool for learning is commendable.

I take this opportunity to express our gratitude while acknowledging the constant support and guidance provided by Mr. Sandeep Sethi (Director Education, MGIS Museum Trust) as he mentored our teachers on this journey of new learnings.

Mrs. Nishi Misra Manglik

(Principal, Gyan Bharati School, Saket)



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