

LESSON 6.



Living Within Your Means

Yaiphabi was 11 years old she was a precocious little girl reading in class VII. She was a curious girl and had the desire to learn new things. Her family was quite a happy one with her parents and grandma. Yaiphabi's father worked in a government office. Her mother, though educated, was a home maker.

It was now the time for Yaiphabi's father to go to office. He checked the things he had to carry. He then looked for his mobile phone. He saw Yaiphabi playing with it. "Give me back my phone, my dear" said the father. He then said to his wife, "I have no money. Please bring me the debit card from the almirah." His wife brought the card and handed it to him.

When evening came, Yaiphabi's father returned home with a new mobile phone for his daughter. Yaiphabi was excited but she said enquiringly, "Dad, you said that you didn't have any money. How did you buy this?"

The father smiled and said, “Of course, I had no cash with me. So, I took the debit card and withdrew money from my account through ATM. Then I bought your mobile phone.

“Why do you buy it? You are going to spoil our sweet darling” interrupted grandma. “Must be expensive”, added his wife.

After hearing their concerns, Yaiphabi’s father calmly responded, “Mama, mobile phone has become a necessity nowadays for learners. But we only have to take care that she does not misuse it. Above all, she will no more ask for mine. And it is not a very costly one. I only bought the one I could afford. Again, if it does not serve the purpose, what is the use of it”. The two women kept quiet. They thought perhaps it was better so. By then Yaiphabi further queried, “But Daddy, why do you deposit your money in the bank? If you have the money with you, you need not go to ATM”. Yaiphabi’s father said to his daughter, “No, my dear, if the money is deposited in the bank, it is safe. I no longer have the disturbing thoughts of burglars and assailants. I can peacefully sleep at night. Moreover, the bank pay interest for the amount deposited. There are also many other advantages of it. You will come to know as you grow. And there is no problem when you need money. Even when you do not have enough money in your account, you can use credit card and withdraw

money like a loan. I then can repay with certain interest later. But, for the time being, I need not borrow the money unnecessarily”.

“Yaiphabi, you are asking too many questions. Your father just returned from work. Let him take some rest, said her mother.

Yaiphabi, realising her mother’s words, withdrew herself and happily thanked her father for the mobile. She was then absorbed in her new possession. Seeing the happiness of the girl, the people in the room looked at her with happy smiles.

Glossary:

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| precocious | - (of a child) developed or matured early. |
| curious | - eager to know, inquisitive. |
| queried | - questioned, asked. |
| burglars | - person to enter building illegally to steal, thieves. |
| assailants | - attackers. |

Comprehension:

Answer the following questions in a sentence or two:

- (i) How many members were there in the family of Yaiphabi?
- (ii) What did Yaiphabi's father bring when he returned home in the evening?
- (iii) What was Yaiphabi's grandma concerned about?
- (iv) How did Yaiphabi's father pay for the mobile phone he brought for his daughter?
- (v) What difference is there between debit and credit card?
- (vi) Why did Yaiphabi's father buy the mobile phone?
Why, according to Yaiphabi's father, did he deposit his money in the bank?