

Gajanan And Tomy

Once upon a time, there was a **royal** elephant named Gajanan that used to reside on the premises of the king's palace. The king loved Gajanan very much, so the elephant was cared, well-fed and well-treated by everyone in the palace. There was a dog named Tomy which used to live in the neighbourhood of the elephant's shed. He was very weak and **scrawny**. He was always **enthralled** by the smell of the rich food being fed to the royal elephant.

One day, Tomy could not resist himself from the smell of the food, and somehow, he sneaked into the elephant's shed. He ate the rich and tasty food that fell from Gajanan's mouth. He liked that food so much that it became his daily routine to come over there into Gajanan's shed to eat the tasty and delicious food. For days, Gajanan did not notice the weak dog as he was busy enjoying the delicious food. Slowly but surely, Tomy became bigger and stronger by eating such rich food which was full of nutrients in adequate amount. Soon Tomy came under the notice of the elephant.

Now, Gajanan and Tomy became good friends. Gajanan used to enjoy the



company of Tomy and started sharing his food with him. Both of them also started sharing time with each other. They ate together, slept together and played together. While playing, Gajanan would hold Tomy in his trunk and swing him back and forth. It didn't take long, when neither of them was happy without the other. They became great friends and didn't want to get separated from each other at any cost.

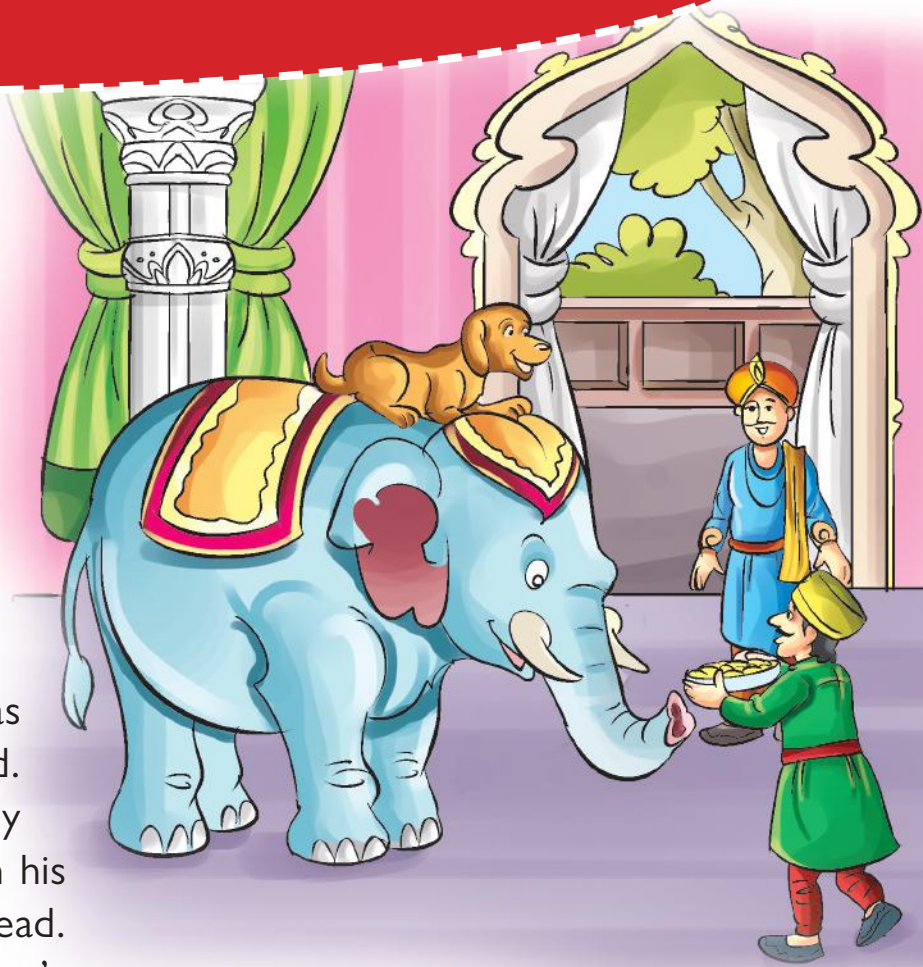
Then one day, a man saw Tomy and asked the *mahout*, "I want to buy this dog. What price do you ask for this dog?" Though the mahout didn't own the dog but he was greedy by nature. He sold the dog and made a handsome amount out of this deal. The man took Tomy to his hometown, which was quite far away. Gajanan became very gloomy after this incident. He could not bear the absence of his friend and started *neglecting* everything. He didn't want to do anything without his dear friend, so stopped eating, drinking and even bathing. Eventually, the mahout reported this to the king; though he didn't tell anything about Tomy. The king had a wise minister, who was known for his understanding of birds and animals. He had an ability to resolve any problem related to animals. At once, the king ordered the minister, "Go to Gajanan's shed and find out the reason for Gajanan's *miserable* condition." The intelligent minister went to Gajanan's shed and found him very sad. He looked the elephant all over and asked the mahout, "There is nothing wrong with his body but he looks so sad? I think he has lost one of his dearest friends. Could you explain if this elephant shared a close friendship with anyone?"

The mahout was afraid of the *consequences*, so he revealed, "There was a dog that used to eat, sleep and play with the elephant. I have sold it to a stranger to make some money. But I didn't know its results, so please forgive me for this sinful act." The minister asked, "Where is the dog?" And the mahout replied, "I don't know". The minister went back to the king and said, "Your Majesty, as per my opinion, the royal elephant is not sick, but he is feeling lonely without his dear friend, the dog." The king said, "You're right because friendship is one of the most precious things in life. Do you know where that dog is?"

The minister replied, "The mahout has told that a stranger took the dog away by giving the mahout some money and he didn't know about his address." The king asked, "How can we solve this problem? Without his friend, my dearest elephant will die and I am not ready to bear his death. Can you bring back my elephant's

friend and make him happy again?” The minister suggested, “Your Majesty, make a declaration that whoever has the dog that used to live at the royal elephant’s shed will be punished”. The king did the same and the man who had taken the dog *instantly* appeared in the palace with the dog when he heard the announcement.

When got free, Tomy ran as fast as he could to reach Gajanan’s shed. Gajanan was so thrilled to see Tomy again and he picked his friend with his trunk and made him sit on his head. Tomy wagged his tail, while Gajanan’s eyes were full of tears and those tears were not of sorrow but of happiness. The king was satisfied to see his elephant happy once again. He also rewarded the minister for his wise judgement. Both, Gajanan and Tomy lived happily thereafter.



Word Treasure

royal : splendid

enthrall : captivate

neglecting : omission

consequence : effect

scrawny : skinny

mahout : driver of elephant

miserable : pitiable

instantly : at once



EXERCISE TIME

Comprehension Skills

A. Tick (✓) the correct option :

1. He also rewarded the minister for his wise :

a. judgement

b. plan

c. lesson

2. There was a dog named Tomy which used to live in the _____ of the elephant shed.
- a. premises b. neighbourhood c. corner
3. Gajanan didn't notice the weak dog as he was busy in enjoying the _____ food.
- a. delicious b. fried c. spicy
4. While playing, Gajanan would hold Tomy in his _____ and swing him back and forth.
- a. ears b. tail c. trunk
5. The man took Tomy to his _____, which was quite far away.
- a. village b. home town c. country

B. Write 'T' for true and 'F' for false statements :

1. We should take care of our pets.
2. We should not give a proper diet to our pets.
3. We should not separate friends from each other.
4. We should make efforts to keep our pets happy.
5. We should make a wise decision.

C. Answer the following questions :

1. What was the name of the elephant?
2. What was the name of the dog?
3. Did Gajanan and Tomy become friends?
4. Who sold the dog to a stranger?
5. Who gave the wise judgement?

Essential Grammar

D. Circle the other word for the words given aside :

- | | | |
|--------------|-----------|-------------|
| 1. expensive | valuable | priceless |
| 2. advised | said | requested |
| 3. log | branch | wood |
| 4. crowd | sad | |
| 5. vanished | disappear | unavailable |

precious
suggested
trunk
lonely
absence

E. Join the following sentences using suitable Conjunctions :

1. I do it. I like it.

2. Walk quickly. You will be late.

3. We were getting tired. We stopped for a rest.

4. Everybody likes her. She is an intelligent girl.

5. Kapil is handsome. He is foolish.

6. I will not help you. You have never helped me.

7. Chetan was tired. He continued his work.

8. I pray. You may live long.

Essential Writing

F. True friendship is the gift of God. Who is your best friend? Write a few lines on your friendship with him.

