

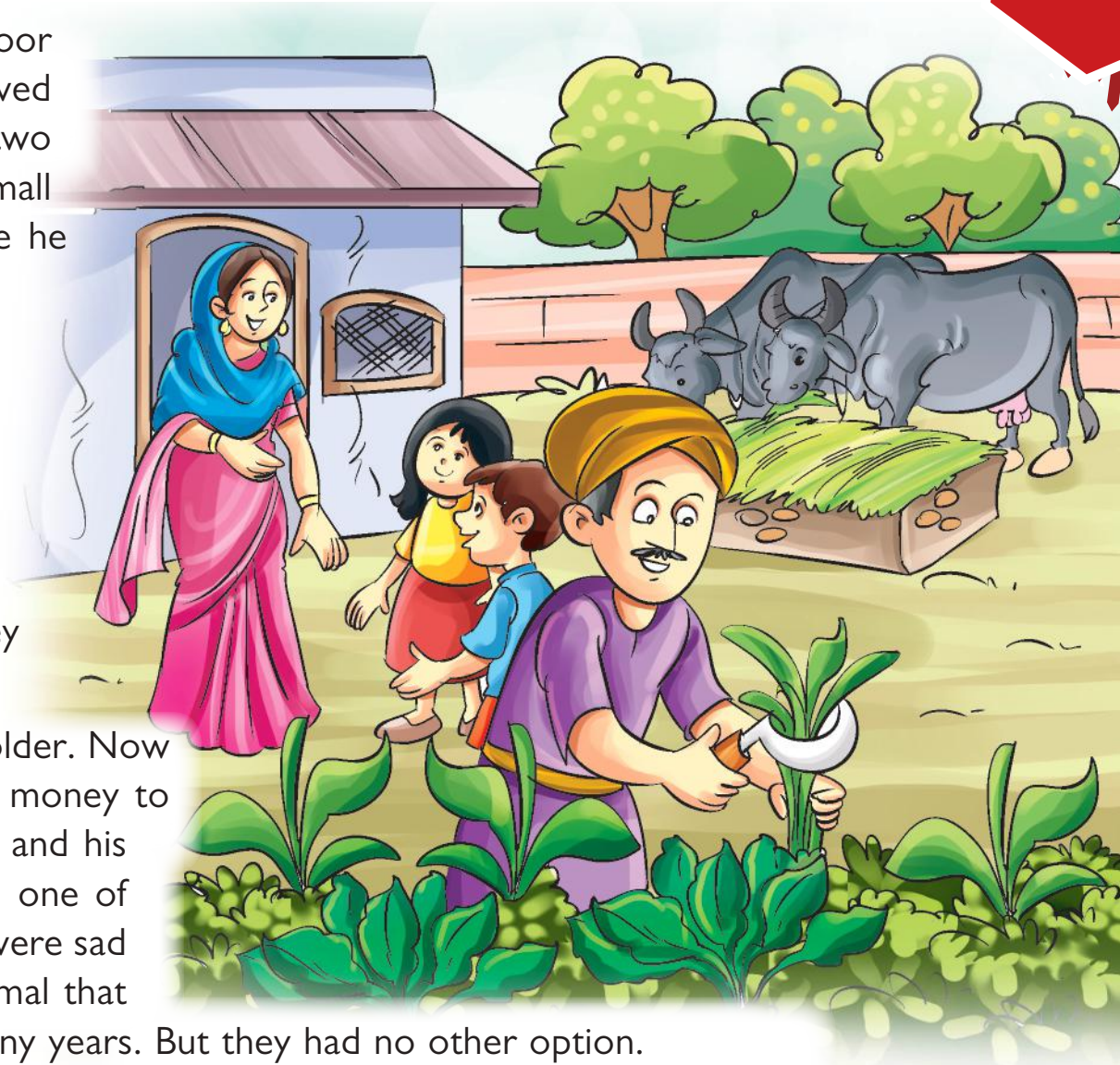
Reward of Kindness

Gopi was a poor village farmer. He lived with his wife and two children. He had a small piece of land where he grew vegetables. His two buffaloes gave milk to the family. Gopi and his family were happy. They always thanked God for what they had.

The children grew older. Now Gopi needed more money to get them study. He and his wife decided to sell one of their buffaloes. They were sad to **part with** the animal that served them for many years. But they had no other option.

The next morning Gopi set out for the cattle market with his buffalo. On the way, he met a man with a horse. The man said, "Friend, I want to sell my horse. Would you like to exchange it with your buffalo?"

Gopi thought that was a good idea, and happily gave the man his buffalo. But soon he **discovered** that the horse was **lame**. He felt **disappointed** and continued walking.





Soon a man came with a cow. Gopi told the man what had happened. The man said, "Don't worry, take my cow and give the lame horse to me." Gopi was very happy with the man's kindness.

Soon Gopi *realized* that the cow was blind in one eye. He felt *disheartened*. He sat down under a tree unable to decide what to do.

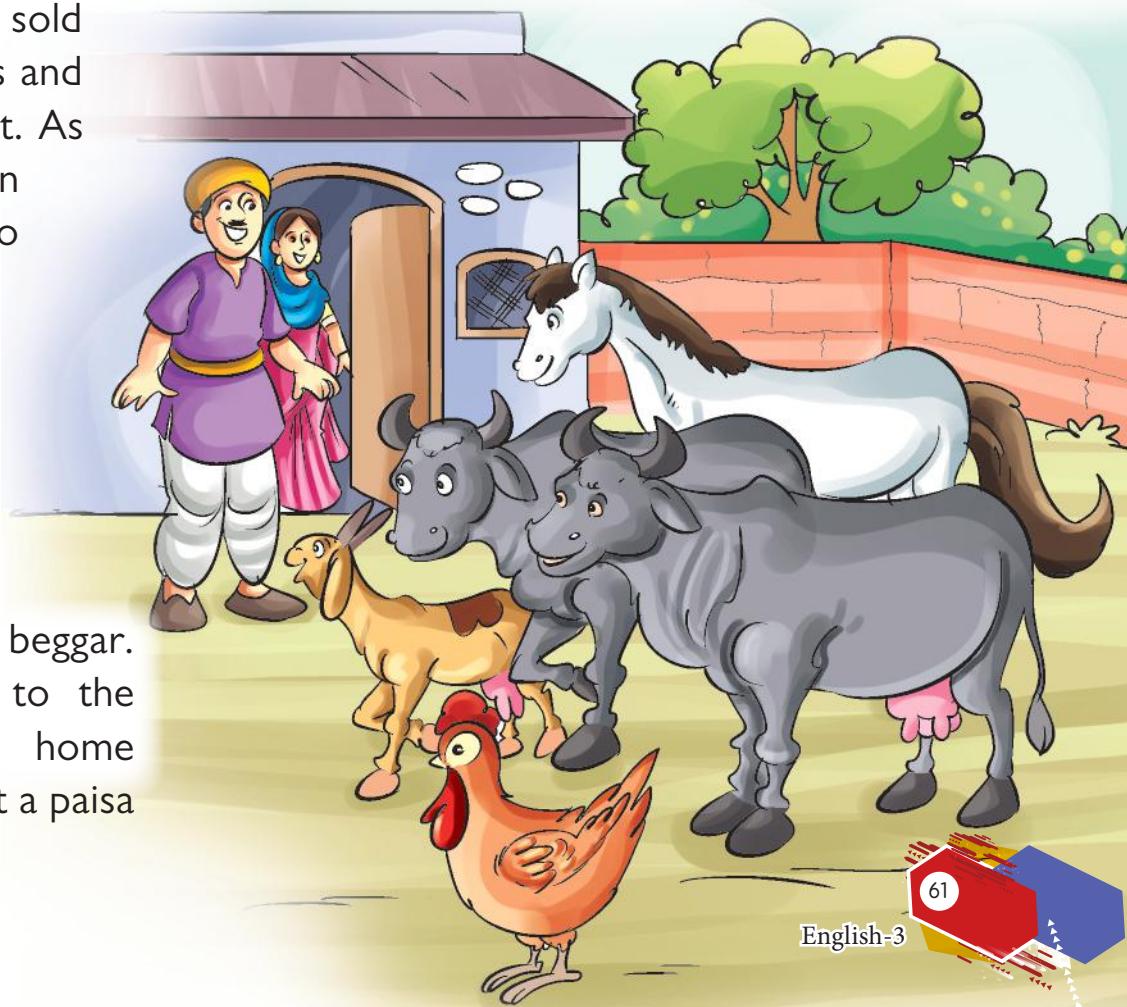
Then a man came that way with a goat. He offered to exchange the goat for Gopi's cow. Gopi agreed, but afterwards found out that the

goat was sick. Sad and *confused*, Gopi next exchanged his goat for a hen.

It was evening. Gopi was hungry and tired. He sold the hen for a few rupees and bought some food to eat. As he was about to start, an old beggar walked up to him.

"I have not eaten anything for many days. Please give me something to eat," the beggar pleaded.

Gopi felt sorry for the beggar. He gave all the food to the beggar. Gopi returned home hungry, tired and without a paisa in his pocket.



Gopi's wife and children were not unhappy with him for losing the buffalo and making no money. His wife said, "You have done the right thing. One must never turn a hungry man away."

The family went to bed after dinner. When they woke up the next morning, they were **amazed** at what they saw. There stood in front of Gopi's house a line of animals : a young buffalo, a healthy horse, a cow, a goat and a hen. There was also a bag of gold coins.

After a few moments of surprise, they realized what had happened. Gopi's wife said, "I am sure the beggar you met was God in **disguise**. All this his **reward** for your kindness."

Gopi's family had no more worries, and they lived happily.

Word Treasure

part with : give away

lame : unable to walk

realized : came to know

confused : perplexed

disguise : false appearance

discover : find out

disappointed : sad

disheartened : disappointed

amazed : surprised

reward : award, gift



EXERCISE TIME

Comprehension Skills

A. Tick (✓) the correct option :

1. Gopi was a poor village _____.

a. man

b. woodcutter

c. farmer

2. The horse was _____.

a. strong

b. lamb

c. weak

3. There was also a bag of _____ coins.

a. silver

b. gold

c. iron

4. Gopi was _____ that the horse was lame.

a. disappointed

b. pleased

c. discovered

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

1. Gopi never thought about God.
2. Gopi felt sorry for the beggar.
3. The horse was blind in one eye.
4. Gopi's wife did not get angry with Gopi after he lost the buffalo.
5. The family went to bed before dinner.

C. What did Gopi get in exchange of following? Match the following to say your answer :

- | | |
|------------|-----------------|
| 1. buffalo | a. a few rupees |
| 2. cow | b. goat |
| 3. hen | c. cow |
| 4. horse | d. horse |
| 5. goat | e. hen |

D. Answer the following questions:

1. How many members lived in Gopi's house ? Who were they?
2. Why did Gopi need more money?
3. Who met him on his way first ?
4. What did he see in the next morning ?
5. What is the moral of this story?

Fun with Words

E. Insert the words in their proper places :

1. It is not _____ to speak _____ in the class. (allowed/aloud)
2. Some people don't _____ with their _____ hand. (write/right)
3. I can't _____ the teacher from _____. (here/hear)
4. _____ of the girls _____ a prize. (one/won)
5. The _____ _____ a salad. (maid/made)

Essential Grammar

F. Change the adjectives to adverbs and complete the sentences :

1. He (quick) _____ swam the first length of pool.

2. The sun shine (bright) _____ in summers.
3. He solved the sum (wise) _____ during the exam.
4. Come (quiet) _____ and sit.
5. She painted (beautiful) _____.
6. I said (clear) _____ to return my book.
7. They ran (fast) _____ to catch the train.

Essential Speaking

G. What will you say in the following situations ?

1. You want to borrow your friend's notebook.
2. You want a few flowers from your neighbour's garden.
3. You want to play with the children from the neighbouring village.
4. You are at a restaurant. Ask the waiter for another scoop of ice-cream.

Essential Writing

H. Look at the pictures and describe the incidents in your own words :