

## A Jackal Judge

Once upon a time, a hunter put a large cage in the jungle to catch a tiger. He put a sheep in it to attract the big cat. He waited whole night for the tiger to come. But the tiger did not come. So he went home to come again in the evening. By chance the tiger fell in a pit. Anyhow he came out by morning. He saw the sheep and moved to eat it. As he entered the cage, the door was *automatically* closed.

The tiger tried to get out through the bars. He rolled and bit the bars with rage when he failed.

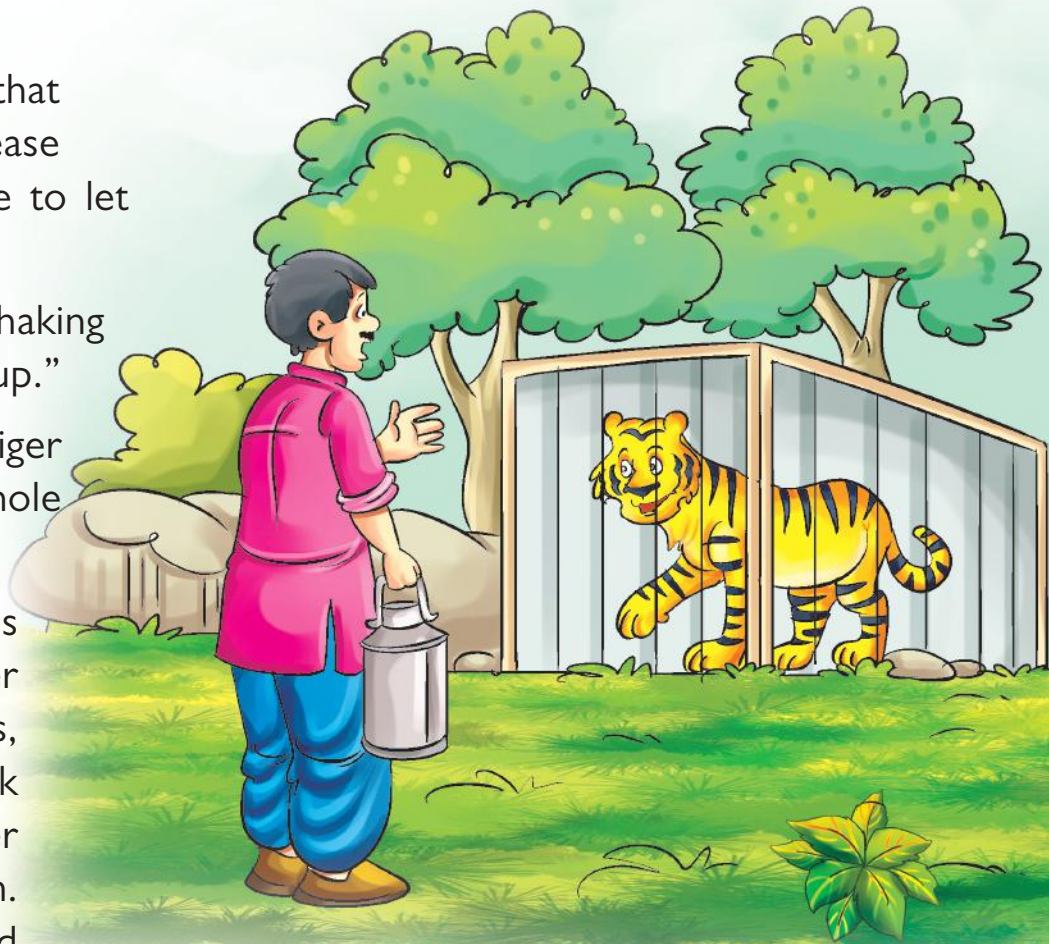
A milk vendor passed that way. The tiger cried, "Please open the door of this cage to let me out."

"No, sir," replied the man shaking with fear. "You will eat me up."

"I will not, I promise," the tiger said. "I will serve you my whole life."

The vendor started on his way. But when the tiger began to *sob* with tears, the gentleman's heart took *pity*. He returned. The tiger promised again and again. At last, the vendor opened the door of the cage.

As the tiger came out, he seized the vendor. The poor man cried, "You promised not to eat me, sir."



“What a fool you are ! Other man like you put this cage to trap me. I will eat all of you.”

The man **pleaded** for long. After long request and weeping of the man, the tiger **consented** to **abide** by the decision of the first three creatures other than man. They will decide about the rightness of the tiger’s action.

The man asked a nearby tree, but the tree replied, “What is right and what is wrong you men can tell better. I give shade and fruits to you all but in return you break my branches to feed your cattle.”

Then the man and tiger went further till they saw a buffalo turning a well-wheel. When the buffalo was asked about the rightness of the tiger’s action, she said, “What rightness ? While I gave milk, men fed me on cotton seed and oil cake. But now they yoke me here, and give me dry leaves only.”

They moved to find a third creature. On the way, they met a jackal who greeted the tiger and called out, “ Why, what’s the matter ? This man looks miserable !”

The man told him all the story. The jackal said, “How **confusing** ! Tell me again.”

The man repeated but the jackal shook his head. He said sadly, “I will go to the cage and then perhaps I shall be able to understand.”

All the three reached the cage. The man told the whole story all over again.

“Let me see..... . How did it happen ? You were in the cage and the tiger came .....

“Pooh !” **interrupted** the tiger, “I was in the cage.”

The jackal **pretended** to tremble with fright, “But, sir, you could not be ..... the man could be in a cage .....

The tiger became **furious** at the jackal and spoke out, “You stupid jackal, I said I was in the cage.”

“But, sir, how did you get in ?” the jackal spoke slowly. “How ? Why..... through the door, of course !”

“Please don’t be angry, sir, but the door is small for your highness.”

The tiger lost **patience** and rushed into the cage. He shouted, “The door is big enough for me to.....”. As the tiger entered the cage, the door was automatically

closed. The jackal said, "How can a stupid jackal judge the fate of a tiger or a man ! I think this situation should not change."

Turning to the vendor, he said, "O man, what a fool you are ! Run away home now." The tiger *sighed*, sobbed and wept but in vain. He could see the hunter coming.

## Word Treasure

*automatically* : done by itself

*pleaded* : an emotional request

*abide* : accept or obey

*confusing* : unclear

*interrupt* : stop a person by saying something

*pretend* : fake expression

*sighed* : deep breath

*furious* : full of anger

*consented* : agreed



## EXERCISE TIME

### Comprehension Skills

#### A. Tick (✓) the correct option :

1. Who was inside the cage ?

a. jackal

b. vendor

c. tiger

2. Who solved the problem of the vendor ?

a. jackal

b. buffalo

c. lion

3. The tiger consented to abide by the decision of the first \_\_\_\_\_ creatures other than man.

a. one

b. three

c. two

4. Where did the jackal reach with the vendor and the tiger ?

a. the hill

b. the river

c. the cage

5. Who said these words, "I will serve you my whole life." ?

a. the tiger

b. the buffalo

c. the tree

6. The tiger lost \_\_\_\_\_ and rushed into the cage.  
a. interrupted  b. way  c. patience

**B. Fill in the blanks with the correct options :**

*men, branches, rightness, situation, rushed, automatically*

1. As he entered the cage, the door was \_\_\_\_\_ closed.
2. They will decide about the \_\_\_\_\_ of the tiger's action.
3. In return you break my \_\_\_\_\_ to feed your cattle.
4. While I gave milk, \_\_\_\_\_ fed me on cotton seed and oil cake.
5. The tiger lost patience and \_\_\_\_\_ into the cage.
6. The jackal thought, this \_\_\_\_\_ should not change.

**C. Write 'T' for true and 'F' for false statements :**

1. The hunter put a deer in the large cage.
2. The tiger was cried to open the door of the cage.
3. After long request and weeping of the man the tiger ate him.
4. The man repeated but the jackal believed him.
5. As the tiger entered the cage, the door was automatically closed.
6. The tiger sighed, sobbed and wept in vain.



**D. Answer the following questions :**

1. Who put the cage in the jungle ?
2. What did the tiger promise to the vendor ?
3. What did the tree say on the question of rightness ?
4. What did the buffalo say on the question of rightness ?
5. How did the jackal solve the problem of the vendor ?
6. Why did the tiger lose his patience ?

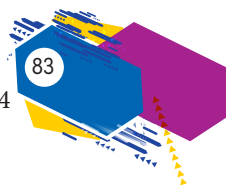
## Fun with Words

Here are some 'stupid' words.

A **stupid** person behaves in a way that shows very bad **judgement** and that is likely to cause problems.

Ex. : You **stupid** boy ! I've told you never to play with matches.

In American English we usually use '**dumb**' for stupid.



Ex. : He was **dumb** enough to believe her.

A **silly** person behaves in a way which is not at all sensible or serious.

Ex. : I think you're **silly** to worry so much about your hair.

An **idiot/fool** does something very stupid or embarrassing.

Ex. : You lost the tickets ? How could you be such a **fool** ?

### E. Fill in the right word in the blanks :

1. The children were running around and shouting and being very \_\_\_\_\_.  
(stupid/silly)
2. He told me a lot of lies and I was \_\_\_\_\_ enough to believe him.  
(stupid/silly)
3. Some \_\_\_\_\_ person in a fast car was trying to overtake me.  
(silly/idiot)

## Essential Grammar

We use 'this'/'that'/'these'/'those' without a noun or with a noun. When we use 'this/that/these/those' without a noun, they are **demonstrative pronouns**.

**This** and **that** are used for **one countable noun** or with **uncountable nouns**.

**These** and **those** are used for **plural countable nouns**.

**This** and **these** point the nouns, that are **in hand** or near to the speaker. (here)

**That** and **those** point the nouns, that are far from the speaker. (there)

Ex. : **This** is my bicycle.

**That** is my brother's bike.

**These** are nice flowers.

**Those** are birds.

### F. Fill in the blanks with 'this/that/these/those':

1. \_\_\_\_\_ is a pretty doll in my hand.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ are my books. Yours are over there.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ is an aeroplane in the sky.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ are my brother's shoes at the door.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ is his room downstairs, not here.

## Essential Writing

G. Look at the pictures and write a story. Give names to every child and the dog.



## Essential Speaking

H. Talk about shopping. Practice well in groups or pairs :

- A. **Vicky** : How much is this watch for ?  
**John** : It's for five hundred rupees.  
**Peter** : It's reasonable price.  
**Vicky** : How much is this shirt for ?  
**John** : It's for three hundred rupees.  
**Peter** : It's very costly.

## Fun to Do

I. Read the limericks :

1. There was a young Lady of Lynn,  
Who was so uncommonly thin  
That when she essayed  
To drink lemonade  
She slipped through the straw and fell in.