

It was nightfall. Father Wolf and Mother Wolf lay with their four cubs in a hill cave.

“Something is coming uphill,” said Mother Wolf, *twitching* one ear. “Get ready.”

The bushes *rustled* a little in the *thicket*, and Father Wolf came out and became ready for his leap.

“Man !” he *snapped*. “A man’s cub. Look !”

Directly in front of him, holding on by a low branch, stood a naked brown human baby who could just walk. He looked up into Father Wolf’s face, and laughed.

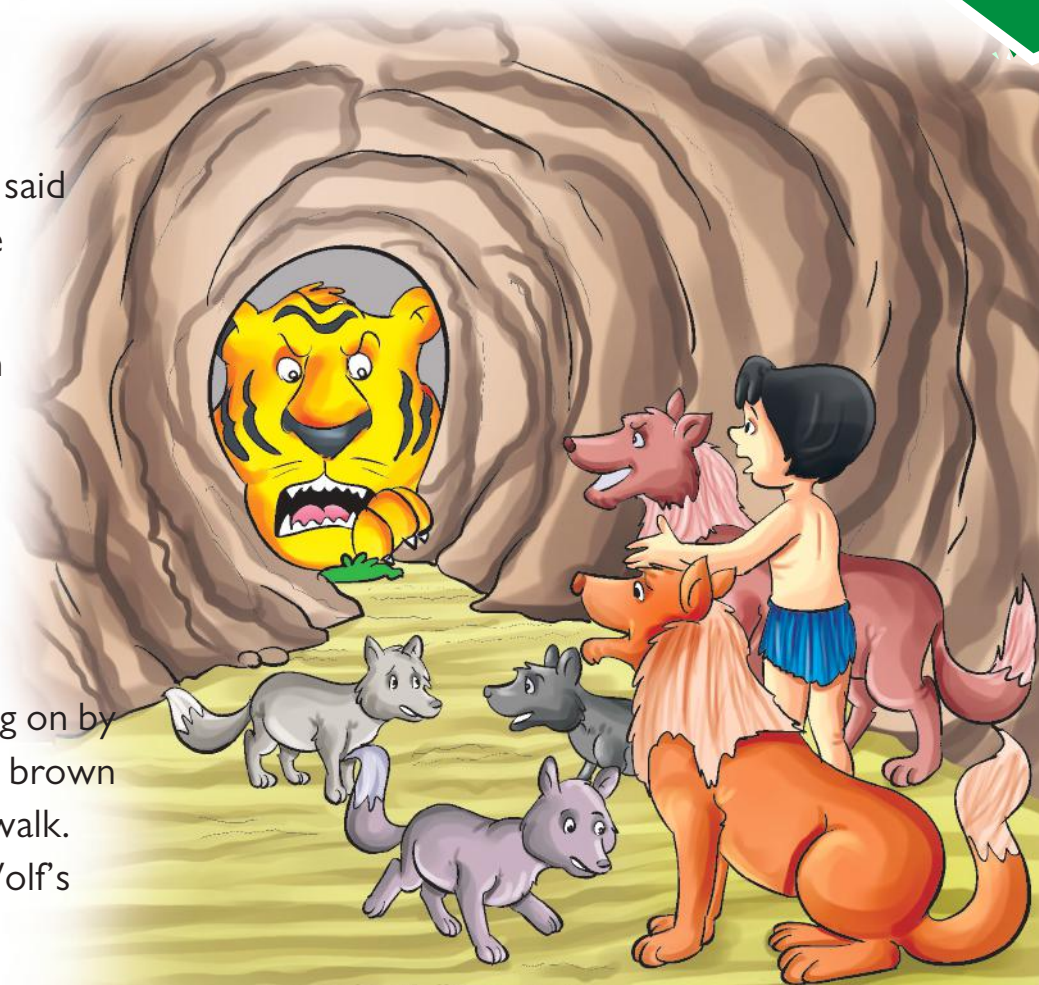
“Is that a man’s cub ?” said Mother Wolf. “I have never seen one. Bring him here.”


Though Father Wolf’s jaws closed tight on the child’s back, not a tooth even *scratched* the skin as he laid him down among the cubs.

“How little ! How naked, and ..... how bold !” said Mother Wolf softly.

The baby was pushing his way between the cubs to get close to the warm hide.

“Ahai ! He is taking his meal with the others. And so this is a man’s cub,” Mother Wolf exclaimed.





“And see, he looks up and is not afraid,” Father Wolf added.

The moonlight was blocked out of the mouth of the cave for Shere Khan’s great square head and shoulders were thrust into the entrance.

“A man’s cub went this way,” said Shere Khan, the tiger. “Its parents have run off. Give it to me.” The mouth of the cave was too narrow for a tiger to come in by.

“The Wolves are free people,” said Father Wolf. “They don’t take orders from any one except the Head of the *Pack*. The man’s cub is ours. It came to the cave itself.”

“Am I to stand nosing into your dog’s den for my hunt ? It is I, Shere Khan, who speak !”

The tiger’s roar filled the cave with thunder.

Now the Mother Wolf sprang forward, her eyes faced the *blazing* eyes of Shere Khan.

“And it is I, who answers. The man’s cub is mine. He shall not be killed. He shall live to run with the Pack and to hunt with the Pack; and in the end, look you, he shall hunt thee ! Now get away.”

“Each dog barks in his own yard ! We will see what the Pack will say to the *fostering* of man’s cub. The cub is mine, and to my teeth he will come in the end.”

Saying this Shere Khan *departed*.

The Mother Wolf spoke to the baby, “Assuredly I will keep you. Lie still, Mowgli, the little frog, I will call thee. The time will come when thou will hunt Shere Khan as he has hunted thee.”

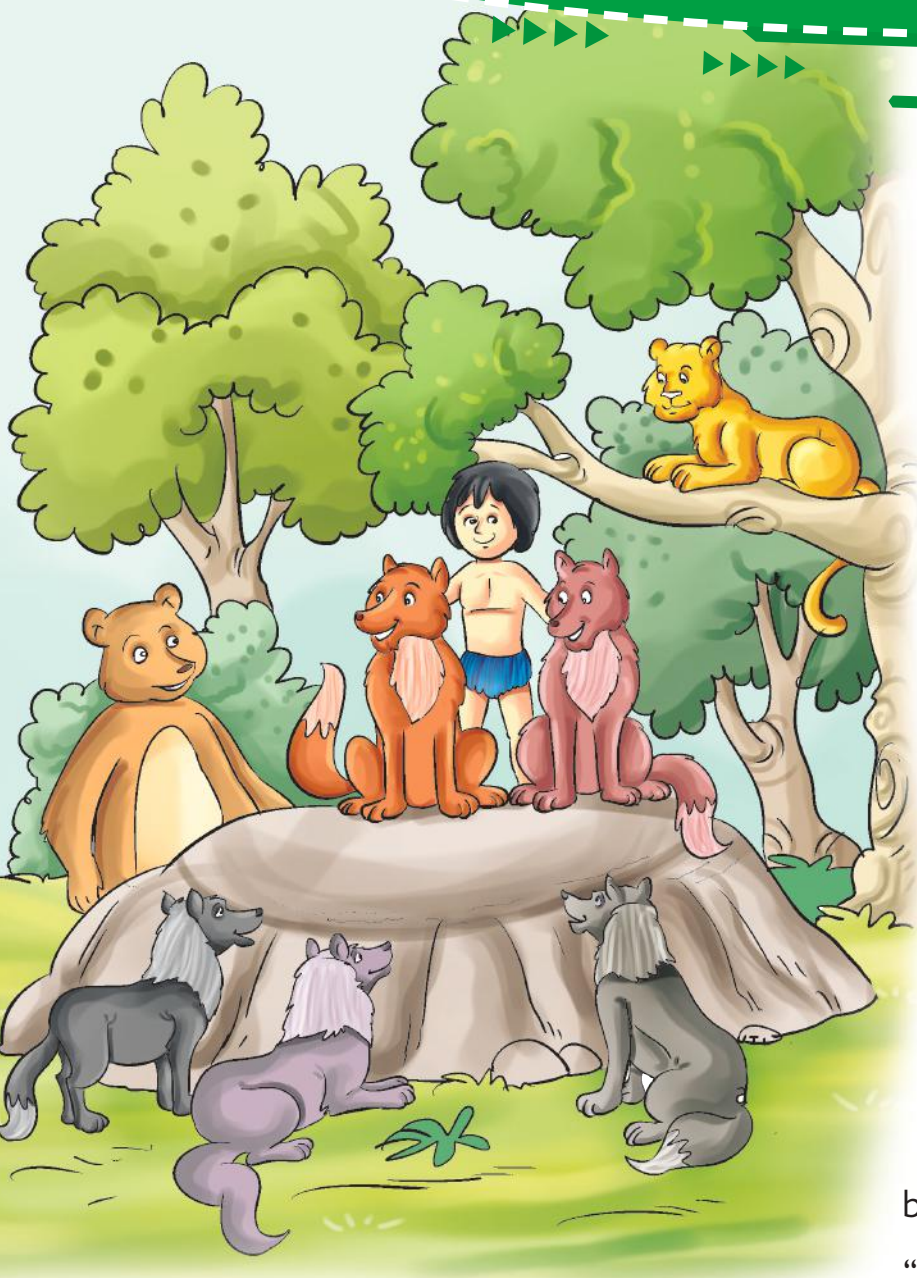
After a month, the Father Wolf pushed “Mowgli, the frog,” as they called him, into the centre of the Pack’s meeting.

Akela, the leader of the wolves said, “The law of the Jungle lays down that if there is any dispute as to the right of a cub to be accepted by the Pack, he must be spoken for by at least two members of the Pack who are not his father and mother.”

“Who speaks for this cub ?” said Akela. “Among the Free People who speak ?”

There was no answer and Mother Wolf got ready for what she knew would be her last fight, if things came to fighting.

Then the only other creature who is allowed at the Pack council — Baloo, the Brown



Bear who teaches the wolf cubs the Law of the Jungle, came forward.

He said, "I speak for the man's cub. Let him run with the Pack, and be entered with others. I myself will teach him."

"We need yet another," said Akela.

A black shadow dropped down into the circle. It was Bagheera, the black Panther.

"I will give one big hunt, newly killed, nearby; if you will accept the man's cub," said Bagheera. "The Law of Jungle says that the life of a new cub can be bought for a price."

The whole Pack agreed.

"It was well done," said Akela. "Men and their cubs are very wise. He may be a help in time."

"Take him away," Bagheera said to Father Wolf. "and train him as *befits* one of the Free People.

## Word Treasure

*twitch* : make a small sudden movement

*rustle* : noise of leaves

*thicket* : a group of small bushes and trees

*scratch* : cut someone's skin

*pack* : a group of wild animals

*blazing* : shining brightly

*foster* : to take someone else's child into your family

*depart* : leave

*snap* : say something angrily





## EXERCISE TIME

### Comprehension Skills

#### A. Tick (✓) the correct option :

1. A \_\_\_\_\_ came uphill near the Wolf family's cave.  
a. dog  b. human baby  c. frog
2. Who demanded the baby from the Wolf family ?  
a. another wolf  b. a tiger  c. lion
3. The Mother Wolf called the human baby later as :  
a. a puppy  b. a bear's cub  c. a little frog
4. Who spoke for the wolf "the man's cub is mine" ?  
a. Akela  b. Shere Khan  c. Bagheera

#### B. Fill in the blanks with the correct option :

orders, roar, rustled, Shere Khan, baby

1. The bushes \_\_\_\_\_ a little in the thicket.
2. There stood a naked brown human \_\_\_\_\_ who could just walk.
3. The wolves don't take \_\_\_\_\_ from anyone except their Head.
4. The tiger's \_\_\_\_\_ filled the cave with thunder.
5. The time will come when thou shall hunt \_\_\_\_\_.

#### C. Write 'T' for true or 'F' for false statements :

1. Each dog barks in his own yard.
2. The leader of the wolves was Mowgli.
3. The Father Wolf pushed Mowgli.
4. A dog came uphill near the wolf family's cave.
5. 'Akela,' said for the wolf "The man's cub is mine".

#### D. Answer the following questions :

1. Who came uphill near the Wolf family's cave ?
2. Who spoke for the man's cub to be entered in the Pack ?
3. Who demanded the baby from the Wolf family ?
4. How did the Father Wolf call the human baby first ?
5. How did the Mother Wolf call the human baby later ?

## Fun with Words

### E. Circle the right word :

1. His *back/bag* was broken.
2. I think it's in the *code/coat/coach*.
3. The *officer's/office's* here.
4. I'll *collect/correct/connect* it tomorrow.
5. We should clean the *cat/cot/cut* first.
6. I got a good *price/prize* for it.
7. I think that's the *west/worst/waist*.
8. You'll have to *wash/watch* the baby.
9. I don't think it's *far/fair/fur*, you know.
10. The *word/world* is so big.

## Essential Grammar

When *this/these, that/those* are not followed by nouns, they are used as demonstrative pronouns.

*This* is a nice hotel but it is very expensive.

*These* are my gloves.

*That* was a really nice meal.

*Those* are your books.

When *this/these, that/those* are followed by nouns, they are used as demonstrative adjectives.

*This* hotel is expensive but it is very nice.

*These* gloves are mine.

*That* meal was really nice.

*Those* books are yours.

*This* and *These* point out to a noun/nouns near in space, time or thought.

This picture is mine. (*This* used for *one* picture)

These pictures are ours. (*These* used for *more than one* picture)

*That* and *Those* point out to a noun/nouns farther away.

That apple is yours. (*That* used for *one* apple)

Those apples are theirs. (*Those* used for *more than one* apple)

**F. Fill in 'this / that / these / those' :**

1. \_\_\_\_\_ flowers in this vase are very attractive.
2. Would you please help me carry \_\_\_\_\_ shelf over there?
3. Look at \_\_\_\_\_ stars twinkling in the sky.
4. Is \_\_\_\_\_ chair on the other side of the verandah yours?
5. \_\_\_\_\_ brooch on my coat costs five dollars.
6. \_\_\_\_\_ rooms at the far corner are reserved.

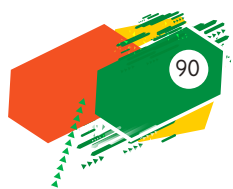
**Essential Writing**

**G. Number the sentences in correct order to make the story :**

- The fox and the monkey started for the Leo's place.
- Feeling hungry he rushed fast towards Leo's place.
- The fox reached the feast in time.
- The monkey kept swinging on a tree.
- The dinner was over.
- Once Leo gave a grand feast.

**H. Now, write the story below :**

Handwriting practice area with 15 horizontal lines on a yellow background.



## Essential Speaking

### I. Work in pair. Ask and answer the questions :

**salesman** : Good evening, madam.

**customer** : Good evening. I want to send a birthday card to my niece. Do you have a variety ?

**salesman** : Yes, we do. Please see these cards.

**customer** : What is special in them ?

**salesman** : This is beautiful engraved in red blossoms.

**customer** : It looks nice. What is its price ?

**salesman** : Twenty rupees only.

**customer** : Please show me that one.

**salesman** : It has four folios. It is well designed in multi-colour on the covers. You can write your messages etc. on the inner folios.

**customer** : Have you some poem or message printed on it ?

**salesman** : This is next one. We have a large selection in the messages and poems. Please try these ones.

**customer** : These look attractive but I like simple design and simple message.

**salesman** : Then please see those cards in the showcase on your backside.

**customer** : They look good but I am not feeling them very creative.

**salesman** : I have a special card of my choice. This is for only best friend.

**customer** : Vow ! I like it, 'My best friend, I love you most'. This is the message I want to send.

**salesman** : Should I pack it, madam ?

**customer** : Of course. How much should I pay ?

**salesman** : Fifteen rupees only.

**customer** : Here you are.

**salesman** : Thank you, madam. Please come again. We have a large selection of cards for every occasion.

## Fun to Do

### J. Collect some animals pictures and paste on a chart paper on one side. On other side, paste their homes and youngones there. Write any four lines on eachone.