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TENDER HEART HIGH SCHOOL, SEC. 33 B, CHD.

CLASS : IX

SUBJECT : ENGLISH LITERATURE

CHAPTER - 4 THE HOME - COMING

PASSAGE 1.

- (i) Phatik Chakravorthi, the ringleader of the village boys, thought of a new plan to make mischief. The mischief was regarding a heavy piece of log which was lying on the mud-flat^{part} of the river waiting to be shaped into a mast for a boat.
- (ii) The log was lying on the mud-flat^{part} of the river. It was lying there for future use. It had to be shaped into a mast for a boat.
- (iii) Phatik decided that all the village boys would work together to displace the log from its original place. Then they would roll it away into the water river.
- (iv) The act of mischief by the village boys would anger and surprise the owner of the piece of heavy wood. Whereas the boys would have maximum fun by rolling it away into the water of the river.
- (v) It was Phatik's younger brother Markhan who posed an obstacle in carrying out the plan. He walked up to the log and sat down silently on the log so that the mischievous plan chalked out by Phatik and other boys of the village could not be executed.

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PASSAGE 2.

- (i) As all the boys pushed the log into the river water, Phatik's younger brother, Makhan fell into the mud. As the boys shouted with delight, Makhan got up, scratched Phatik's face, kicked him and went away home, crying. When he saw Makhan going home ^{and} crying badly he got really scared and wiped his face out of fear of his mother.
- (ii) The middle aged man, with grey hair and dark mustache, stepped on the shore. Phatik was not acquainted with this man but later on he discovered that this man was in fact his maternal uncle.
- (iii) The 'man' asked Phatik where the Chakravortis lived. The boy pointed in one direction vaguely as he continued to chew grass. No, his reply 'over there' wasn't satisfactory as how could the strange man identify the house this way.
- (iv) Phatik's behaved rudely with the stranger as he strongly felt neglected at home. He was of the opinion that everybody at home was biased against him. So his behaviour was rude with the members of his family and he repeated it with the stranger too although it was uncalled for.

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(V) A servant who was sent by Phatik's mother as MaKhan had reported the entire incident at home came down. He told Phatik that his mother wanted him home but he refused to move. The servant, a strong man, was forced to pick him up roughly and carry him away.

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PASSAGE 3

- (i) The grey haired stranger referred to here is Bishamber, the maternal uncle of Phatik who had gone to Bombay for doing some business when Phatik's mother had got married.
- (ii) Phatik's mother was angry because of Phatik's behaviour. He had beaten Makhan and pushed her aside when she tried to stop him.
- (iii) She welcomed her brother Bishamber warmly. She bowed to the ground and touched his feet respectfully. She was utterly elated on seeing her brother after a long time.
- (iv) While the stranger i.e. Bishamber was in Bombay, his sister i.e. Phatik's mother had lost her husband. This tragic incident has taken place in the absence of Bishamber.
- (v) Bishamber was a caring brother as when he came back to Calcutta he made enquiries about ^{the whereabouts of} his sister. When he learnt that she had lost her husband, he came to meet her.

PASSAGE 4

- (i) 'They' referred to Phatik and his maternal uncle Bishamber in the first line. They had just come from the village to Calcutta.
- (ii) Phatik met his aunt for the first time. She was not pleased to see him. She considers his arrival as an unwanted treat and an unnecessary addition.

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to her family. She found her own three boys quite enough to manage and completely despised his entry into her house.

(iii) Phatik's aunt thought she was already burdened with the responsibility of her own three sons. The addition of another boy terribly upset her. So she was unhappy.

(iv) According to Phatik's aunt her husband Bishamber should have thought carefully before taking such a big step of adding Phatik to her family of five. So according to her it was an act of indiscretion to bring him to her house in Calcutta without taking her into confidence.

(v) Phatik's aunt seems to be a lady of irritable nature. She is not ready to adjust herself to the new situation of looking after the fourth boy of fourteen. It is impossible to shower affection on a grown up boy than as on a little boy.

Passage 5.

(i) According to Tagore the biggest nuisance in the world of human affairs is a boy at the age of fourteen. It is so because neither he is an adult nor a child anymore. It is so because he is neither ornamental nor useful.

(ii) When a boy of fourteen talks like a grown up person, he is called impertinent. He is asked not to meddle with the affairs of grown up persons.

(iii) At the crucial age of fourteen he grows out of clothes with indecent haste i.e., his clothes

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get short and become tight. His voice becomes hoarse and it breaks and quivers. His face too becomes unattractive and suddenly grows angular.

Shortcomings of a boy of fourteen cannot be excused because he is expected to behave like a grown up person. Even the unavoidable lapses in his speech cannot be tolerated. Since he grows up physically, he is expected to grow up mentally at the same pace.

- (v) A young lad's heart basically craves for love and recognition. If anyone shows him love and consideration, he becomes his devoted slave. So a young lad longs for love, appreciation and recognition at this age.

PASSAGE 6.

- (i) If a boy of fourteen is continuously scolded, he feels insulted. It becomes difficult and torturous to live in a strange home with strange people.
- (ii) For a boy of fourteen, the height of bliss is to live in his own home. Moreover, receiving the kind looks of women in new home is like living in paradise.
- (iii) Phatik, being a sensitive boy of fourteen, soon realised that he was unwelcome in his aunt's house. It was insulting for him to be rebuked repeatedly by an elderly lady.
- (iv) Whenever Phatik's aunt asked him to do something, he used to get over-joyed and would overdo every work. Then his aunt would tell him not to act foolishly. She then used to rebuke him by

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warning him to pay attention to his lessons.

- (v) A boy of fourteen is habitual of living in his home according to his own specific interest. He is comfortable in dealing with his mother and other members of the family. Adjustment with new people in a new home becomes difficult for him. So knowingly or unknowingly he becomes a big nuisance for them.

Home Work

Kindly read the entire chapter thoroughly and do extract 7 and 8 in your fair English Literature note book and submit your copy on Thursday.

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