

**AL KHOZAMA INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL, DAMMAM, K.S.A**

**Affiliated to CBSE – New Delhi, Affiliation No. 57300019**



**WORKSHEET - 2**

**FIRST TERM EXAMINATION**

**SUBJECT: ENGLISH**

**GRADE: VII**

---

**1. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:**

**The Gift of the Magi**

**By O. Henry**

One dollar and eighty-seven cents. That was all. And sixty cents of it was in pennies. Pennies saved one and two at a time by bulldozing the grocer and the vegetable man and the butcher until one's cheeks burned with the silent imputation of parsimony that such close dealing implied. Three times Della counted it. One dollar and eighty- seven cents. And the next day would be Christmas.

There was clearly nothing to do but flop down on the shabby little couch and howl. So Della did it. Which instigates the moral reflection that life is made up of sobs, sniffles, and smiles, with sniffles predominating.

While the mistress of the home is gradually subsiding from the first stage to the second, take a look at the home. A furnished flat at \$8 per week. It did not exactly beggar description, but it certainly had that word on the lookout for the mendicancy squad.

In the vestibule below was a letter-box into which no letter would go, and an electric button from which no mortal finger could coax a ring. Also appertaining thereunto was a card bearing the name "Mr. James Dillingham Young."

The "Dillingham" had been flung to the breeze during a former period of prosperity when its possessor was being paid \$30 per week. Now, when the income was shrunk to \$20, though, they were thinking seriously of contracting to a modest and unassuming D. But whenever Mr. James

Dillingham Young came home and reached his flat above he was called "Jim" and greatly hugged by Mrs. James Dillingham Young, already introduced to you as Della. Which is all very good.

Della finished her cry and attended to her cheeks with the powder rag. She stood by the window and looked out dully at a gray cat walking a gray fence in a gray backyard.

Tomorrow would be Christmas Day, and she had only \$1.87 with which to buy Jim a present. She had been saving every penny she could for months, with this result. Twenty dollars a week doesn't go far. Expenses had been greater than she had calculated. They always are. Only \$1.87 to buy a present for Jim. Her Jim. Many a happy hour she had spent planning for something nice for him. Something fine and rare and sterling--something just a little bit near to being worthy of the honor of being owned by Jim.

There was a pier-glass between the windows of the room. Perhaps you have seen a pier-glass in an \$8 flat. A very thin and very agile person may, by observing his reflection in a rapid sequence of longitudinal strips, obtain a fairly accurate conception of his looks. Della, being slender, had mastered the art.

Suddenly she whirled from the window and stood before the glass. her eyes were shining brilliantly, but her face had lost its color within twenty seconds. Rapidly she pulled down her hair and let it fall to its full length.

When Della reached home her intoxication gave way a little to prudence and reason. She got out her curling irons and lighted the gas and went to work repairing the ravages made by generosity added to love. Which is always a tremendous task, dear friends--a mammoth task.

Within forty minutes her head was covered with tiny, close-lying curls that made her look wonderfully like a truant schoolboy. She looked at her reflection in the mirror long, carefully, and critically.

"If Jim doesn't kill me," she said to herself, "before he takes a second look at me, he'll say I look like a Coney Island chorus girl. But what could I do--oh! what could I do with a dollar and eighty- seven cents?"

At 7 o'clock the coffee was made and the frying-pan was on the back of the stove hot and ready to cook the chops.

Jim was never late. Della doubled the fob chain in her hand and sat on the corner of the table near the door that he always entered. Then she heard his step on the stair away down on the first flight, and she turned white for just a moment. She had a habit for saying little silent prayer about the simplest everyday things, and now she whispered: "Please God, make him think I am still pretty."

The door opened and Jim stepped in and closed it. He looked thin and very serious. Poor fellow, he was only twenty-two--and to be burdened with a family! He needed a new overcoat and he was without gloves.

Jim stopped inside the door, as immovable as a setter at the scent of quail. His eyes were fixed upon Della, and there was an expression in them that she could not read, and it terrified her. It was not anger, nor surprise, nor disapproval, nor horror, nor any of the sentiments that she had been prepared for. He simply stared at her fixedly with that peculiar expression on his face.

Della wriggled off the table and went for him.

"Jim, darling," she cried, "don't look at me that way. I had my hair cut off and sold because I couldn't have lived through Christmas without giving you a present. It'll grow out again--you won't mind, will you? I just had to do it. My hair grows awfully fast. Say `Merry Christmas!' Jim, and let's be happy. You don't know what a nice-- what a beautiful, nice gift I've got for you."

"You've cut off your hair?" asked Jim, laboriously, as if he had not arrived at that patent fact yet even after the hardest mental labor.

"Cut it off and sold it," said Della. "Don't you like me just as well, anyhow? I'm me without my hair, ain't I?"

Jim looked about the room curiously.

"You say your hair is gone?" he said, with an air almost of idiocy.

"You needn't look for it," said Della. "It's sold, I tell you--sold and gone, too. It's Christmas Eve, boy. Be good to me, for it went for you. Maybe the hairs of my head were numbered," she went on with sudden serious sweetness, "but nobody could ever count my love for you. Shall I put the chops on, Jim?"

Suddenly she whirled from the window and stood before the glass. Her eyes were shining brilliantly, but her face had lost its color within twenty seconds. Rapidly she pulled down her hair and let it fall to its full length.

Now, there were two possessions of the James Dillingham Youngs in which they both took a mighty pride. One was Jim's gold watch that had been his father's and his grandfather's. The other was Della's hair. Had the queen of Sheba lived in the flat across the airshaft, Della would have let her hair hang out the window some day to dry just to depreciate Her Majesty's jewels and gifts. Had King Solomon been the janitor, with all his treasures piled up in the basement, Jim would have pulled out his watch every time he passed, just to see him pluck at his beard from envy.

So now Della's beautiful hair fell about her rippling and shining like a cascade of brown waters. It reached below her knee and made itself almost a garment for her. And then she did it up again nervously and quickly. Once she faltered for a minute and stood still while a tear or two splashed on the worn red carpet.

On went her old brown jacket; on went her old brown hat. With a whirl of skirts and with the brilliant sparkle still in her eyes, she fluttered out the door and down the stairs to the street.

Where she stopped the sign read: "Mme. Sofronie. Hair Goods of All Kinds." One flight up Della ran, and collected herself, panting. Madame, large, too white, chilly, hardly looked the "Sofronie."

"Will you buy my hair?" asked Della.

"I buy hair," said Madame. "Take yer hat off and let's have a sight at the looks of it."

Down rippled the brown cascade.

"Twenty dollars," said Madame, lifting the mass with a practised hand.

"Give it to me quick," said Della.

Oh, and the next two hours tripped by on rosy wings. Forget the hashed metaphor. She was ransacking the stores for Jim's present.

She found it at last. It surely had been made for Jim and no one else. There was no other like it in any of the stores, and she had turned all of them inside out. It was a platinum fob chain simple and chaste in design, properly proclaiming its value by substance alone and not by meretricious ornamentation--as all good things should do. It was even worthy of The Watch. As soon as she saw it she knew that it must be Jim's. It was like him. Quietness and value--the description applied to both. Twenty-one dollars they took from her for it, and she hurried home with the 87 cents. With that chain on his watch Jim might be properly anxious about the time in any company. Grand as the watch was, he sometimes looked at it on the sly on account of the old leather strap that he used in place of a chain.

Out of his trance Jim seemed quickly to wake. He enfolded his Della. For ten seconds let us regard with discreet scrutiny some inconsequential object in the other direction. Eight dollars a week or a million a year--what is the difference? A mathematician or a wit would give you the wrong answer.

The magi brought valuable gifts, but that was not among them. This dark assertion will be illuminated later on.

Jim drew a package from his overcoat pocket and threw it upon the table.

"Don't make any mistake, Dell," he said, "about me. I don't think there's anything in the way of a haircut or a shave or a shampoo that could make me like my girl any less. But if you'll unwrap that package you may see why you had me going a while at first."

White fingers and nimble tore at the string and paper. And then an ecstatic scream of joy; and then, alas! a quick feminine change to hysterical tears and wails, necessitating the immediate employment of all the comforting powers of the lord of the flat.

For there lay The Combs--the set of combs, side and back, that Della had worshipped long in a Broadway window. Beautiful combs, pure tortoise shell, with jewelled rims--just the shade to wear in the beautiful vanished hair. They were expensive combs, she knew, and her heart had simply craved and yearned over them without the least hope of possession. And now, they were hers, but the tresses that should have adorned the coveted adornments were gone.

But she hugged them to her bosom, and at length she was able to look up with dim eyes and a smile and say: "My hair grows so fast, Jim!"

And then Della leaped up like a little singed cat and cried, "Oh, oh!"

Jim had not yet seen his beautiful present. She held it out to him eagerly upon her open palm. The dull precious metal seemed to flash with a reflection of her bright and ardent spirit.

"Isn't it a dandy, Jim? I hunted all over town to find it. You'll have to look at the time a hundred times a day now. Give me your watch. I want to see how it looks on it."

Instead of obeying, Jim tumbled down on the couch and put his hands under the back of his head and smiled.

"Dell," said he, "let's put our Christmas presents away and keep 'em a while. They're too nice to use just at present. I sold the watch to get the money to buy your combs. And now suppose you put the chops on."

The magi, as you know, were wise men--wonderfully wise men--who brought gifts to the Babe in the manger. They invented the art of giving Christmas presents. Being wise, their gifts were no doubt wise ones, possibly bearing the privilege of exchange in case of duplication. And here I have lamely related to you the uneventful chronicle of two foolish children in a flat who most unwisely sacrificed for each other the greatest treasures of their house. But in a last word to the wise of these days let it be said that of all who give gifts these two were the wisest. O all who give and receive gifts, such as they are wisest. Everywhere they are wisest. They are the magi.

1. From where does Della get the \$1.87 according to the text?

- a. By haggling with merchants
- b. By shoveling sidewalks in front of stores
- c. By stealing the money from stores
- d. By working for the grocer, butcher, & vegetable man

2. Why is Della upset at the beginning of the story?

- a. She lost her job shoveling in front of the stores on her block.
- b. She has been fighting with Jim.
- c. She does not have enough money to buy a nice present for Jim.
- d. She was recently arrested by the mendicancy squad.

3. What are Jim and Della's most valued possessions?

- a. Jim's watch and Della's hat
- b. Jim's brief case and Della's jacket

c. Jim's shoes and Della's cooking pot

d. Jim's watch and Della's hair

4. Why does Della go to Madame Sofronie's?

a. To look for work

b. To sell her hair

c. To beg for money

d. To shovel Madame Sofronie's sidewalk

5. Which figurative language technique is used in the following sentence?

*"I couldn't have lived through Christmas without giving you a present."*

a. Metaphor

b. Personification

c. Hyperbole

d. Understatement

6. Which best explains why Jim is so stunned when he first sees Della?

a. He doesn't like how his wife looks with short hair.  
such a nice gift.

b. He is shocked that she bought him

c. He doesn't recognize his wife.

d. He bought her a gift that she can't use.

7. Which best describes the narrator's **tone** in this sentence from the last paragraph?

*"Being wise, their gifts were no doubt wise ones, possibly bearing the privilege of exchange in case of duplication."*



a. Humorous

b. Serious

c. Melancholy

d. Intolerant

8. With which statement would the narrator most likely agree?

a. Jim and Della's gifts were bad because they did not consider one another's needs.

b. Jim and Della's gifts were good because they will each get a lot of use out of their nice gifts.

c. Jim and Della's gifts were bad because they wasted their money on things that they can't use.

d. Jim and Della's gifts were good because they sacrificed so much for one another.

9. Which event happened **last**?

a. Della bought Jim a gift.

b. Della cried about only having \$1.87.

c. Della went to Madame Sofronie's

d. Della cut her hair.

10. Which statement best expresses the theme of this story?

a. Make sure that you give people gifts that they can actually use.

b. Spending time with the people you love is more important than getting them gifts.

- c. The best gifts involve sacrifice.
- d. Don't waste your money on expensive gifts.

**III) Read the following passage and choose the correct answer:**

Butterflies are some of the most interesting insects on the planet Earth. There are more than seventeen thousand different kinds of butterflies! Butterflies come in all shapes and sizes. Butterflies go through four main stages of life. The first stage is the egg stage followed by the larva stage. As a larva, or caterpillar, the future butterfly eats as much as possible. As it grows, it sheds its outer skin, or exoskeleton. This may happen four or five times. After a few weeks, the caterpillar enters the next stage of its life, the chrysalis stage. In the chrysalis, the caterpillar will liquefy into a soup of living cells. Then, it will reorganize into a butterfly and the metamorphosis is complete. In later parts of the chrysalis stage, you can see the forming butterfly through the chrysalis. When the butterfly emerges from the chrysalis, it pumps its wings to send blood through them so that it can fly. Most butterflies only live a couple of weeks, just enough time to drink flower nectar and to mate. Some, like the Monarch Butterfly, however, may live many months.

1. Which is true?
  - A. There is only one kind of butterfly in the world.
  - B. There are about a thousand different kinds of butterflies in the world.
  - C. There are more than a thousand different kinds of butterflies in the world.
  - D. There are less than a thousand different kinds of butterflies in the world.
2. In what stage does the metamorphosis happen?
  - A. Egg B. Chrysalis C. Butterfly D. caterpillar
3. Why does the butterfly shed its skin?
  - A. To defend itself against predators C. It is hungry
  - B. The butterfly is coming. D. It is growing
4. Tick ALL of the things that a butterfly does.
  - A. goes through metamorphosis B. mates
  - C. drinks nectar from flowers D. sheds its skin

5. What is the third stage of life for a butterfly?

A. Butterfly B egg

C. chrysalis D. larva

6. What is the second stage of life for a butterfly?

A. Larva B. chrysalis

C. Egg D. butterfly

7. How many stages of life does a butterfly go through?

A. One B. Two C. Three D. Four

8. Which of the following is NOT true?

A. The butterfly may shed its skin 8 or 9 times

B. Butterflies must wait until blood drains into their wings before flying.

C. Most butterflies live a short time

D. Caterpillars turn into a liquid in the chrysalis

9. Pick up the opposite of “ same” from the passage \_\_\_\_\_

10. Pick out a compound word from the passage\_\_\_\_\_

### WRITING

1. Complete the given conversation.

Sonu : Hello Chintu. Where are you coming from ?

Chintu : (a) ..... My grandmother is admitted there.

Sonu : Oh. What happened ? (b) ..... now ?

Chintu : She is feeling better now. Actually she slipped in the bathroom and (c) .....

Sonu : (d) ..... say ?

Chintu: The doctor has plastered the arm and has advised her rest for a month.

Sonu : How long (e) ..... hospital ?

Chintu: Four days. She'll be discharged on Monday.

Sonu : Well. I wish she gets well soon.

2. Heavy rains in your city have caused floods. Write a letter to your cousin describing your city and the problems you are facing.

- Continuous rains have lashed your city for one week.
- Water has collected everywhere, some houses, cars and buses are partly submerged in water?
- There is shortage of food, water and petrol in the city.
- How you feel staying at home all the time?
- Electricity and Telephone wires have been damaged and you are virtually cut off from everyone.
- What the city administration is doing to help people?

3. Write a paragraph about an important person in history. Be sure to address the topic of the paragraph, such as that person's career, birthplace or prominent contribution. Use supporting sentences to expand on the topic chosen.

4. Write a paragraph about your bedroom at home. Be descriptive, and use adjectives to describe how the space looks and how you feel when you are in your bedroom.

## GRAMMAR

I. Glad, happy, pleased, delighted, thrilled and overjoyed are synonyms (words or expressions that have the same or nearly the same meaning). However, they express happiness in certain ways.

Use an appropriate word from the synonyms given in the following sentences. Clues are given in brackets.

- (i) She was \_\_\_\_\_ by the news of her brother's wedding. (very pleased)
- (ii) I was \_\_\_\_\_ to be invited to the party. (extremely pleased and excited about)
- (iii) She was \_\_\_\_\_ at the birth of her granddaughter. (extremely happy)
- (iv) The coach was \_\_\_\_\_ with his performance. (satisfied about)
- (v) She was very \_\_\_\_\_ with her results. (happy about something that has happened)

II. We use verbs of reporting to advise, order, report statements, thoughts, intentions, questions, requests, apologies, manner of speaking and so on.

1. Underline the verbs of reporting in the following sentences.

- (i) He says he will enjoy the ride.
- (ii) Father mentioned that he was going on a holiday.
- (iii) No one told us that the shop was closed.
- (iv) He answered that the price would go up.
- (v) I wonder why he was screaming.
- (vi) Ben told her to wake him up.

(vii) Ratan apologized for coming late to the party.

III. Some verbs of reporting are given in the box. Choose the appropriate verbs and fill in the blanks in the following sentences.

were            complainin    shouted        replied        remarked      ordered        suggested  
g

(i) "I am not afraid \_\_\_\_\_ the woman.

(ii) "Leave me alone, my mother \_\_\_\_\_.

(iii) The children \_\_\_\_\_ that the roads were crowded and noisy.

(iv) "Perhaps he isn't a bad sort of a chap after all. \_\_\_\_\_ the master.

(v) "Let's go and look at the school ground, \_\_\_\_\_ the sports teacher.

(vi) The traffic police \_\_\_\_\_ all the passers-by to keep off the road.

### LITERATURE

1. Retell how the trapped bird was saved.
2. What does Holmes say about Mr Wilson?
3. Why was Fleet Street full of red-headed people?
4. Why did Mr. Wilson accept the job?
5. According to Mr Wilson, what is Vincent Spaulding's only fault?
6. Why does Mr Wilson come to Holmes?
7. In what ways did Kezia's grandmother encourage her to get to know her father better?
8. Who were the people in Kezia's family?
9. What happens to the apple that Jonas and Asher play catch with?
10. What is the name of the boy who will be assigned to the rehabilitation center?
11. Why can't Jonas congratulate the boy on his accomplishments?
12. In chapter 4, where did Jonas meet up with Asher?
13. What is the name of the girl that Jonas likes who also is with Asher?
14. Did Kezia's father appreciate her gift? Why/Why not?