



# Learn English Through Stories

A Series

A2

**Adapted and modified by  
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# 1. My Family and I



My name is Hardeep Singh Sandhu. I live in a joint family. There are eight members in our family:

**Grandfather:** He is fifty-nine years old. He was in the army. He is very kind. But he is always rumbling and grumbling.

**Grandmother:** She is also fifty-nine years old. She is a homemaker. She likes to read newspapers. She is a good cook.

**Father:** He is thirty-five years old. He is a car dealer. He buys and sells cars. Sometimes, he makes a lot of profit. Sometimes, he loses as well.

**Mother:** She is thirty-two years old. She works in a bank. She puts on a lot of makeup. Sometimes, her lipstick sticks to her teeth.

**Uncle:** My chacha is twenty-six years old. He is unemployed. He wants to go to Canada. But he's got no money.

**Aunt:** My bhua is twenty-two years old. She is studying B.Ed. She thinks she is very clever. But my mum says: She is half mad.

**Sister:** She is seven years old. She goes to school. Sometimes, she annoys me. She takes my things. If I say anything to her, she cries.

**Myself:** I am eight years old. I also go to school. I'm always happy. Sometimes, I ride a bicycle. Once I fell from my bike and bruised my knees.

Grandfather says: You become stronger after an injury.

ਬਾਬੇ ਕੀੜਾ ਵਿਆਖਿਆਨ ਖਾਕੇ ਸੱਟਾ ਮੁੰਡੇ ਹੁੰਦੇ ਨੇ ਜਵਾਨ।

ਬਾਬੇ ਦਾ ਢਿੱਡ ਕਰਦਾ ਰਹਿੰਦਾ ਗੁੜ ਗੁੜ ਨੀ।

ਬਾਬੇ ਦਾ ਬੁਝਾ ਕਰਦਾ ਰਹਿੰਦਾ ਬੁੜ ਬੁੜ ਨੀ।

ਜਿੱਦਾ ਵੀ ਆਂ ਅਸੀਂ ਰਹਿੰਦੇ ਜੁੜ ਜੁੜ ਨੀ ॥

## 2. She Works in a Bank



Her name is Lakshmi. She is thirty-one years old. She dresses very smartly. Sometimes, she wears a salwar-kameez. Sometimes, she wears a matching sari and blouse. She rides a 'Scootery'. Sometimes, she wears a pair of black glasses.

She works in a bank. She is a cashier. She talks to customers. She puts money in their accounts. She takes money out of their accounts. She accepts cash from them. She gives cash to them. They stand in line to see her. She stands behind the counter to serve them.



One day, she goes to a shopping mall. She likes a dress in a clothing store. She takes it to the dressing room. She tries it on. She stands in front of the mirror. She looks at the front of the dress. She turns and looks at the back. The dress fits her well. She takes it off. She puts on her salwar-kameez. She goes to the counter. She pays the bill and leaves.

She comes home late.

She says to her husband:

Hello, my: honey, honey, honey;

All day long, I count: money, money, money.

Her husband says to her:

Okay, My motti, motti, motti;

I'm hungry, make: rotti, rotti, rotti.

Her husband's name is Mauji. He is a good-for-nothing husband.

Sometimes, she sings a Punjabi song:

ਡੱਕਾ ਕਦੇ ਨਾ ਦੋਰਾ ਕਰਦਾ। ਮੈਂ ਕਰਾ ਨੋਕਰੀ ਬਾਹਰ। ਨਾਲੇ ਕਰਾ ਮੈਂ ਕੰਮ ਵੀ ਘਰਦਾ॥

### 3. Grandfather Catches a Cold



My grandfather's name is Jakaam Laal. He goes for a walk every morning. He gets up early in the morning. He goes to the park. It is very cold. He is not wearing his warm jacket. He is not wearing his scarf. He is not wearing his socks. He is wearing his old flip-flops. It starts raining.

He comes home. He catches a cold. He has a runny nose. He sneezes. He takes a tissue. He blows his nose. He coughs. He takes another tissue. He wipes his face. He puts on his warm jacket. He puts on his socks. He puts on his boots. He puts on his scarf. He puts on his cap.



He goes to a chemist. He buys cough syrup. He buys medicine for a cold. He comes home. He drinks a spoon of syrup. He takes the medicine. He sits on the sofa. Grandmother gives him a cup of hot tea. He sneezes. The cup falls from his hand. He spills the tea on his old jacket. He is ill and sad.

Grandmother comes to the room.

Grandmother: Happy birthday.

Grandfather: Whose birthday?

Grandmother: Who is sixty today?

Grandfather: Oh, my God! I forgot. Today is your birthday.

Grandmother: It is also your birthday.

She gives him a present. He opens the present. It is a brand new jacket. He puts on the jacket. He goes to the mirror. He looks in the mirror. His face is red. His jacket is red. He goes upstairs. He brings Grandmother's present. He gives her the present. She opens it. It is a sari. Its colour is red.

Both Grandfather and Grandmother laugh.

They say: It is funny. The face is **red**. The jacket is **red**. The sari is **red**.

Our names are: Mr and Mrs **Laal**. **They say:**

**ਦੇਖੋ ਰਬ ਦੇ ਰੰਗ - ਦੇਖੋ ਰਬ ਦੀ ਚਾਲ - ਅਜ ਹੋ ਗਿਆ ਸਬਕੁਸ਼ ਲਾਲੋ ਲਾਲ॥**

## 4. She Calls Her Mother



She calls her mother. Her mother is sick. Mother has the flu. She is in bed. She is alone. Her husband died last year. There is nobody to take care of her. She does her cooking herself. She cleans the house herself. She does her shopping. She says that she is okay. But she is not okay. She says she feels better. But she does not feel better. She thanks her daughter for calling.

Her daughter lives in Canada. She's not got her own house. She is renting a room. Her husband does not live with her. She is alone. She works in a store. She works long hours.

Last week, she was ill. She had a chest infection. She is better this week. She did not mention it to her mother.

Air tickets are very expensive. She cannot visit her mother.

Five years ago, she passed her IELTS exam. She achieved a mix of six and seven bands. She got married. It was like a contract marriage. Her husband belongs to a rich family. She went to Canada on a study basis. Her husband went with her. She got her permanent residence card. Her husband got his permanent residence card. Then her husband left her.

Her husband has bad habits. He drinks too much. Sometimes, he gambles. He is always looking for a fight. He swears a lot.

ਕੀ ਕਰੀਏ ਅੰਮੀਏ ਨੀ, ਤੂੰ ਵੀ ਕੱਲੀ ਮੈ ਵੀ ਕੱਲੀ ।

ਇਹ ਦੁਖੜੇ ਜਿੰਦਗੀ ਦੇ, ਆ ਜਾਂਦੇ ਮੱਲੇ ਮੱਲੀ ॥

What can we do Mother? You are alone, I am also alone. These sufferings and distress of life come without a warning.

## 5. A Nice Teacher



Her name is Sohni-Mohni. She is a teacher. She always wears an orange-red coloured sari. Her blouse is always matching. She has long hair. Sometimes she has a plait and other times she let her hair loose.

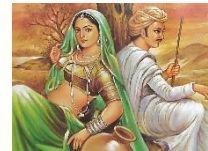
She teaches classes, six, seven, and eight. She says 'good morning' every day. She asks her students how they are doing. The students love her. She is good at her job. She explains everything well. She speaks good English. She is also very good at maths.

She does not live near the school. She travels a long distance every day. The school head worries; she might leave.

Her real name is not Sohni-Mohni. Only some students call her Sohni-Mohni, but not in front of her. Her real name is Deepika Kumari.

There is a tale (story), about why students call her Sohni. Once she told them the story of Sohni and Mahiwal. Since they started calling her Sohni Mohni.

*During the night time, Sohni was going to see her lover Mahiwal. She was swimming on the unbaked pitcher. The pitcher dissolved into the water. She was drowning in the river Chenab. Mahiwal tried to save her life but he could not. They both drowned in the Chenab.*



There is a famous Punjabi song.

**ਮੈਨੂੰ ਪਾਚ ਲਘਾਏ ਵੇ - ਘੜਿਆ ਮੈਨਤਾ ਤੇਰੀਆ ਕਰਦੀ ।**

**'Oh pitcher, I beg you, take me across the river.'**

A serious note:

Although she has completed her B.Ed. and M.A. she does not get a lot of money. Teachers should get more money. They work so hard.

**ਮੇਰੀ ਰੜਦੀ ਜਵਾਨੀ, ਮੇਰੇ ਨਵੇ ਨਵੇ ਖਾਬ, ਜਾਈ ਜਾਂਦੇ ਰੁੱਲ ਮੁੰਡਿਆ ।**

**ਇੱਥੇ ਜਿੰਨੀ ਮਰਜੀ ਕਰਲੇ ਪੜ੍ਹਾਈ, ਮਿਲਦੇ ਨਹੀ ਮੈਨਤਾ ਮੁੱਲ ਮੁੰਡਿਆ ॥**

## 6. A Village Library



Her name is Bhagshali. She is lucky. Her village has a library. It is a good library. It has all sorts of books: maths, English, Punjabi, Hindi, novels, children's stories, etc. It has also ten computers with internet.

The village has so many NRIs; they live in England, Canada, America, Australia, and many other countries. They support the library.

Bhagshali is determined to study hard. She goes to the library. She goes to the assistant. The assistant takes her to a computer. The assistant helps her to start. She watches two videos: how to find the LCD; English grammar tenses.

Then she looks at the shelves. She pulls out a book. She opens the book. She reads the first page. She laughs. The book is funny. She goes to the checkout desk. She gives the book to the librarian. She takes out her library card. She gives it to the librarian. The librarian gives her back the card and the book. She goes home.

Her mum gives her tea and a biscuit. She eats the biscuit and drinks the tea. She puts the cup and the plate in the kitchen. She starts reading her book. The name of the story is: **The Milkman's Cow**

It goes like this:

The milkman's cow is in a bad mood. It is sitting in the middle of the road. It refuses to move. The milkman says: Mata Ji, please get up. The children are waiting for their milk. Please get up. The cow moves its head: from left to right, right to left. It seems that the cow is saying: No thank you.

The milkman pulls its rope, but the cow does not move.

A policeman comes. The milkman and policeman pull the rope, but the cow does not move. Like this, more and more people (including some wrestlers) help the milkman, but the cow does not move...

Finally, a boy comes with a bundle of grass. He gives it to the cow. He pats the cow's head. The cow gets up and starts chewing.

Love and kindness are never wasted.

ਜਬਰ ਜੁਲਮ ਨੂੰ ਨਾ ਕਰ ਬੰਦਿਆ ਸਾਰੇ ਪਏ ਕੁਰਲਾਂਦੇ ।

ਪਿਆਰ ਮੁਹੱਬਤ ਕਰਲਾ ਬੰਦਿਆ ਕਦੇ ਵਿਅਰਥ ਨਾ ਜਾਂਦੇ ॥



## 7. Going to School



His name is Gooda. He is a good boy. He is six years old. His mum's name is Swaadi. She cooks tasty food. While he is getting ready for school, his mum gets his breakfast ready. He eats his breakfast. He says: The egg is really tasty. It is delicious.

He thanks his mum. He washes his hands. He has ten minutes spare. He checks his English homework.

Homework: How Does His Mum Fry an Egg?

He saw his mum doing it and then he writes:

She puts a little butter into the frying pan. Then she turns on the stove. She takes an egg out of the fridge. She cracks the egg into a small bowl. She puts the eggshells into the kitchen bin bag. She waits for the butter to get hot. She pours the egg into the pan. After about two minutes, she turns the egg over and cooks it for another two minutes. She turns off the stove. She takes the fried egg out of the pan. She puts the egg on a plate.



He picks up his school bag. He says goodbye to his mum and leaves his house.

Outside of his house, he waits for his school bus. The bus arrives. He gets on the bus. He sits down and says hello to his friends. He looks outside the window. He sees his school. The bus stops. He walks to the bus door. He thanks the bus driver. He leaves the bus.

Before school starts, he talks to his friend. He tells his friend: How to fry an egg.

His friend asks: Are you going to be a cook when you grow up?

Gooda says: No, but I am going to help my mum with cooking.



**ਜਿਸ ਨੇ ਜਨਮ ਦਿੱਤਾ – ਉਸਦੇ ਸਦਕੇ ਜਾਈਏ ।**

**ਫੁਰਸਤ ਜਦ ਹੋਵੇ – ਹੱਥ ਨਾ ਹੱਥ ਵਟਾਈਏ ॥**

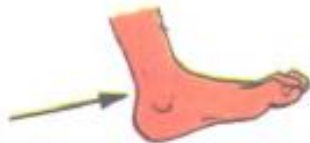
## 8. Picture Dictionary Page



**ambulance** (ऐम्ब्यूलस) A special kind of car which takes people to hospital when they are ill or hurt. रोगियों व घायलों को अस्पताल ले जाने वाली गाड़ी।



**anchor** (ऐंकर) A heavy piece of iron on a long chain. it keeps a boat still. लगर।

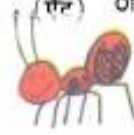


**ankle** (ऐंकल) Part of your body which joins your foot and leg. टखना।



**anorak** (ऐनोरैक) A jacket with a hood to keep you warm and dry. जैकट जो सिर और गर्दन को भी ढकती है।

**ant** (ऐंट) A very small insect. Hundreds of ants live together. चींटो।



**antelope** (ऐन्टीलोप) An animal which looks like a deer. हिरण जैसा पशु।



**ape** (एप) A large animal like a monkey without a tail. वनमानुष; पूँछविहीन बन्दर।



**apple** (एप्पल) A round fruit which people like to eat. सेब।



**apron** (एप्रन) A piece of cloth which you wear over your clothes to keep them clean. कपड़ों को साफ रखने के लिए उपरो वस्त्र।