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# **Learn English Through Stories**

**A Series**

**A3**

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**<https://learn-by-reading.co.uk>**

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# The Good Fox



Fox wakes up and she is very hungry. She wants some food for her dinner. She walks through the forest to go to the town. Many stores in the town have food. She needs to find a store with food. She meets her friend, Crow. He is very hungry, also.



She walks by the toy store. She sees balls, dolls, and boats. She sees planes and trains. But, she sees no food. The fox is still hungry and now she is sad.



She walks by the clothing store. She sees shoes and shorts. She sees skirts and shirts. But, she sees no food. The fox is still hungry and now she is sadder.



She walks by the bookstore. She sees books about insects, animals, and birds. She sees books about monkeys and donkeys. But, she does not see any food. The fox is still hungry and now she was even sadder.



The fox walks by the meat market. She sees the butcher chopping the meat into thick slices. The fox wishes: she could have some meat. Meat costs money and the fox has no money. She is still very hungry and very sad.



She walks by the bread and cheese store. She sees a woman making cheese. The baker is making delicious bread. The fox wishes: she could have some bread and cheese. But, bread and cheese cost money and the fox has no money. What can she do?

She sees a farmer planting apple trees. He looks very tired. She thinks: I should go and help him. That will be the kind thing to do.



The fox runs to the field. She digs holes for the apple trees. She digs the holes very fast and in a very straight line. The farmer is very happy.

He says, 'Thank you so much. You look hungry. Go, buy some food.' And he gives her three coins.



She says, 'You're welcome.' She puts the coins in her mouth and runs back to town.

At the bread and cheese store, she buys bread and cheese. She pays the baker two coins.



At the meat market, she buys a thick slice of meat. She pays the butcher one coin.



She runs by the bookstore. The books about donkeys, monkeys, birds, and insects are still there.

She runs by the clothing store. The shirt, skirt, shorts, and shoes are still there.

She runs by the toy store. The train, plane, boat, and ball are still there.

She runs into the forest. She is still very hungry but now she is happy.

The fox runs to her den and sees her friend, Crow. He is sad and still very hungry.

She gives her friend the bread. She barks to call her kits.

They come out and eat the cheese. She eats the meat. Crow eats the bread.

Now, everyone is happy and not hungry, anymore. She is a very good fox.



**Moral: Be kind and help others**

**ਸਤੁ ਸੰਤੋਖੁ ਦਇਆ ਕਮਾਵੈ ਏਹ ਕਰਣੀ ਸਾਰ ।**

**Practice truth, contentment and kindness; this is the most excellent way of life.**

## 2. He is a Bus Driver



His name is Pakka Amlu. His dad's name is Posti. His wife's name is Khaskhas. He lives in a small village. The name of the village is Bhukki Khalo. He is a bus driver. He drives a school bus. He drives the bus five days a week. He drives the bus in the morning. He drives it in the afternoon. He picks up kids near their homes. Sometimes, he goes to the wrong village. He finds no kids for the school. Then he goes to the right village. He is often late. The children worry. He takes them to school. He picks them up at school. He takes them home. He does not make mistakes in the afternoon.



After school, he is hungry. He goes to McDonald's on his bicycle. He leaves his bike outside. He chains his bike to a lamp post. He goes in. He stands in line. He waits for his turn. He orders a double hamburger. He orders large fries. He orders a large Coca-Cola. He pays for the order. He gets the change. He gets the receipt. He waits for his meal. They call his number. His meal is ready. He picks up his meal.



He unchains his bike. He rides on his bike and goes towards his village. He sees a tree. He stops and sits under the tree. He takes something out of his shirt pocket. It is some kind of powder. He puts some of it on his palm. Then he throws it into his mouth. Then he drinks some Coca-Cola. He looks happy. He eats his meal and goes home.

His wife asks him, 'Where did you go after school?'

He lies, 'I was hungry. I went to a sweet shop to eat a samosa.'

She asks, 'Did you bring any for us.'

He gives her the McDonald's bag. The bag has some fries and half of the hamburger in it. His wife shares this food with their five children.

The name of his goat is Kali. He takes her to the field. Kali starts grazing happily. He sits under a tree and reads a book on family planning.



ਭੁੱਕੀ ਢਕਣੀ ਤੇ ਬਰਫ਼ਰ ਖਾਣੇ – ਕੀ ਬਣੂ ਦੁਨੀਆ ਦਾ ।

ਤੋਕੜ ਬਕਰੀ ਤੇ ਪੰਜ ਨਿਆਣੇ – ਕੀ ਬਣੂ ਦੁਨੀਆ ਦਾ ॥

### 3. The Umbrella



It is raining. The sky is grey.

Leena goes to the store. She looks at the umbrellas. She likes the red umbrella. It's very smart. It costs 300 rupees.

Leena is a student. She doesn't have much money.

I can give you 200 rupees for that umbrella.

OK, young girl. This is your lucky day. Give me 200 rupees. The umbrella is yours.

'This is my lucky day!' says Leena. She holds the red umbrella above her head. The rain falls on the umbrella.

Leena goes to a cake shop. She wants to buy some cakes. Her little brother loves cakes. She goes into the shop.

She leaves her red umbrella near the door.

It is quiet inside the shop.

Leena chooses three small cakes. She talks to the shop assistant.

A customer is leaving the shop. She is a young girl. She is holding a cake box.

Leena is going to leave the shop. But, where is her umbrella?

There is one umbrella near the door. It is not a red umbrella. It is not Leena's umbrella. This umbrella is old and black. It has a pattern of yellow ducks. It is not smart. Leena takes the umbrella.



'This is not my lucky day!' Leena says.

Leena walks to the town centre.

A young man speaks to her. 'Hello!' He smiles.

Leena does not know this young man. She walks away quickly.

The young man is following Leena. She walks into a crowd of people.

The young man follows the black and yellow umbrella.

'Hello! Wait!' A young man says.

Leena turns. She looks at the young man. She is angry. She says, 'Go away!'

The young man is sad.

'Muria, I'm sorry!' he says. 'I'm very late.'

'I'm not Muria,' Leena shouts.

'You are not Muria?' says the young man. He points at the black umbrella with yellow ducks. 'That's her umbrella.'

'Oh,' says Leena. 'Who is Muria?'

'I don't know Muria,' says the young man. 'I'm going to meet her. We are going to have coffee. It is my cousin's idea. Muria works with my cousin.'

'I am not Muria!' says Leena again.

'My cousin has a photo of Muria,' says the young man. 'She's tall. You're tall. Her hair is short and dark. Your hair is short and dark. In the photo, she has an umbrella. It's a black umbrella with yellow ducks. You have a black umbrella with yellow ducks!'

Leena looks up at the old umbrella. 'Muria is a thief,' she thinks. 'She has my new red umbrella.'

Leena is angry again.

'Please don't be angry,' says the young man. He looks at his watch. 'It's three o'clock. Muria goes to work at 2.30. I can't meet her now. It's too late.'

He smiles at Leena. 'Let's have coffee together,' he says.

Leena thinks for a moment. 'OK,' she says. 'Let's go to my aunt's café.'

The young man smiles again. 'That will be great,' he says.

He says, 'My name is Charan – Charan Sandhu. I'm a law student – third year.'

Leena say, 'I'm Leena – Leena Bassi. I'm a student too. I'm studying science.'



Leena sits in the café with Charan. They drink coffee. They talk. They laugh and talk. Suddenly Leena jumps up.

‘Oh, no!’ she says. ‘It’s late. I must go home. I must study. I’m going to have an exam tomorrow.’

‘Good luck! Will you meet me again?’ Charan says.

‘Yes. That will be nice.’ Leena says.

It is almost dark. The town centre is quiet.

Leena sees a tall young girl. The young girl has short dark hair. She has a smart umbrella. It is a red umbrella.

The young girl is Muria!

Muria sees the old black umbrella with yellow ducks. She is worried. Suddenly, her face is red.

‘Don’t worry,’ says Leena. ‘Keep my red umbrella. I like this umbrella. It’s a lucky umbrella. This is my lucky day!’

The rain falls on the umbrellas. Leena smiles. Then she runs home.

Leena thinks and laughs:

Muria, Muria – what is your fate;

You steal other people’s umbrellas;

But, the consequence is you lose your date.

ਰੋਰੀ ਕਰਕੇ ਛਤਰੀ – ਮੋਕਾ ਗਵਾ ਲਿਆ ਬੀਬਾ ਨੇ ।

ਦੂਜੇ ਪਾਸੇ ਮਿਹਰ ਖੂਬੀ ਦੀ – ਝੜੀ ਲਾਈ ਨਸੀਬਾ ਨੇ ॥



## 4. How Should We Behave?

It is the winter holidays. Meena is visiting her nana ji and nani ji. The weather is bad. It is cold and dark. Nani is busy doing some of her university work. Nani is a psychologist.

Meena is sitting alone. She does not want to watch TV. She goes to the kitchen to get a drink. She sees a handwritten list stuck on the fridge door. It is about how we should behave. She reads it. Then she copies it in her exercise book.

The list goes like this:

*Always be nice.  
Be kind to others.  
Don't let others feel left out.  
Think about others' feelings.  
Don't be mean.  
Use kind words.  
Help out when you can.  
Sharing is Caring.  
Always say 'Please'.  
Don't forget to say 'Thank you.'*

Then Meena learns her homework story.

### The Crow and the Pitcher



In a spell of dry weather, when the Birds could find very little to drink, a thirsty Crow found a pitcher with a little water in it. But the pitcher was high and had a narrow neck, and no matter how he tried, the Crow could not reach the water. The poor thing felt as if he must die of thirst.

Then an idea came to him. Picking up some small pebbles, he dropped them into the pitcher one by one. With each pebble, the water rose a little higher until at last, it was near enough so he could drink.

**Moral: One should use their intelligence when in a difficult situation.**

ਜਿਨਾ ਸੂਝ ਸੂਝਤ ਗਿਆਨ - ਉਹਨਾ ਆਉਂਦੀ ਜੁਗਤ ਫਿਆਨ ।

## 5. Picture Dictionary Page



**aquarium** A glass tank to keep fish in.  
(अक्वेरीअम) You can watch the fish swimming around. जलकुण्ड ।



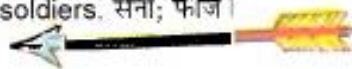
**arm** The part of your body between  
(आर्म) your hand and shoulder. भुजा ।



**armchair** A chair with sides. You rest  
(आर्म चेयर) your arms on the sides. हलथेदार कुर्सी ।



**army** Lots of soldiers. सेना; फौज ।  
(आर्मी)



**arrow** A stick with a point at one end  
(ऐरो) and feathers at the other. तार ।



**artist** A person who paints and draws  
(आर्टिस्ट) pictures. कलाकार; चित्रकार ।



**astronaut** A person who flies in a  
(ऐस्ट्रानॉट) spacecraft. अन्तरिक्ष यात्री ।



**astronomer** A person who studies the  
(ऐस्ट्रोनमर) stars. खगोल शास्त्रा ।



**axe** A sharp tool with a handle. You  
(एक्सा) chop wood with an axe. कुल्हाड़ी ।