



Learn English Through Stories

A Series

A10

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1. Crackers

Seema is very hungry. She goes to the kitchen. She opens the cabinet. There are a lot of snacks. The laddoos are too sweet. The Jalebis are too sweet. The potato chips are too salty. The Bhujia is too hot.

Seema opens the fridge. The ice cream is too watery. The kiwi fruit is too sour.



Kiwi Fruit

Seema thinks about other snacks. The cereal is too bland. It has no taste. Seema is sad. She can't decide what to eat.

Her dad comes home. He gives her a packet of crackers.



Seema opens the fridge again. She takes the cheese out. She grates the cheese.



She puts a cracker on the plate. She spreads some cheese on it. She puts the second cracker on the top. Her cheese and crackers sandwich is ready. She takes a bite. It is lovely. It is perfect. The crackers are perfect. Seema is happy.

Her dad gives Seema another box. What is in the box? Seema opens the box.



Firecrackers

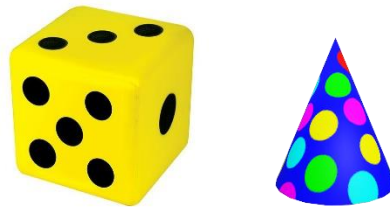
Her dad gives her one more box. What is in the box? Seema opens the box.



Party Crackers

Seema pulls a cracker with her dad. It made a loud noise. Dad says, "This noise sometimes drives me crackers, I mean, it makes me crazy."

Seema finds three things in the cracker: a dice, a party hat, and a joke.

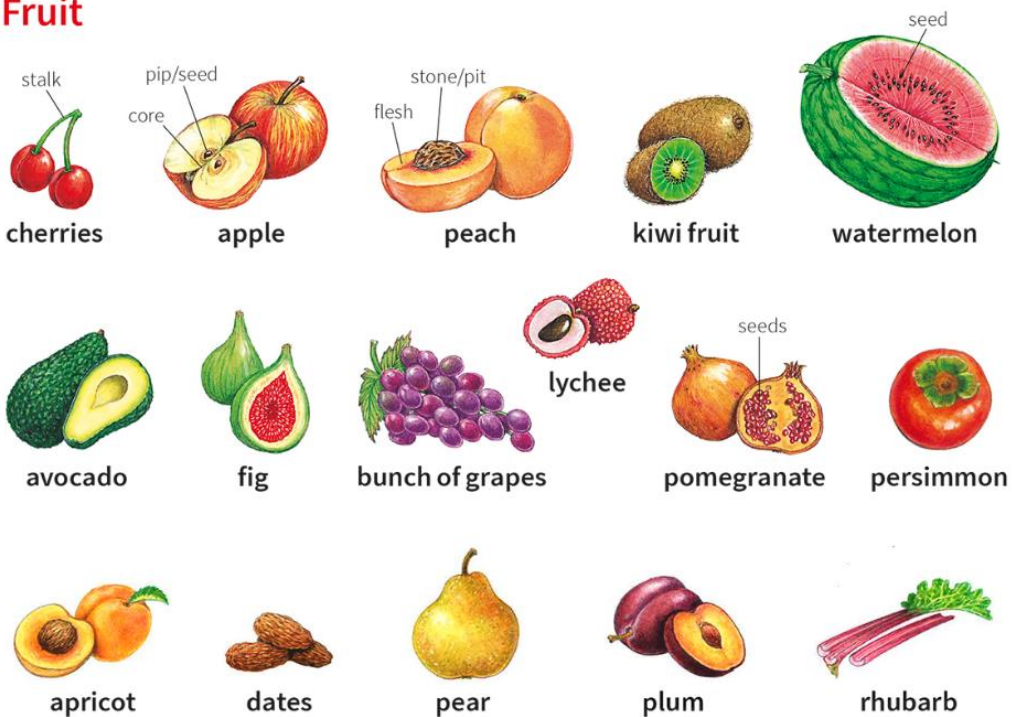


Seema says to her dad, "Dad, I've got a joke for you. It's a real cracker. I mean it is really funny."

She tells the joke. They both laugh like crackers...

Seema goes to her bedroom and looks at the fruit chart.

Fruit



2. Do It Yourself (DIY)

Hi, I am Vinod.

When I was young, my mother did everything for me.



Now I wash my own clothes. I fold all my clothes neatly.

I love to do my work on my own. I am a **DIY kid**.

Now I wash my own dishes. I dry them with a kitchen towel.

I put them back in the kitchen cabinet. I am a **DIY kid**.

Okay... Let me introduce my friends and their hobbies.

Hi, I am Rosy.



I learnt to ride a bicycle when I was 9 years old.

I ride my bicycle every day. I enjoy cycling. I go to the market on my bike.

I buy fresh vegetables and bring them home. I make my own vegetable soup.

I mend my bike myself. I think I am a **DIY kid**.

Hi, I am Hema.



I am a swimmer.

I swim in the morning. I swim in the afternoon. I swim in the evening.

I swim every day: Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

I swim with grown-ups. I compete with them. Often, I beat them. One day, I would like to compete in the Olympics.

Hi, I am Jaggu.



I grow my own vegetables.

I dig the ground. I sow the seeds. I water the plants. I am a **DIY kid**.

Hi, I am Ritu.



I **sew** my torn clothes. I hem the border. I am always keen to stitch.

I am a **DIY kid**. One day, I would like to be a professional tailor.

Hi, I am Raju.



I am good at cooking. I like slicing, cutting or chopping fruits and vegetables.

I prepare a few simple dishes myself. Everybody likes my cooking. One day, I would like to be a professional cook.

3. Meena

It is Diwali today. Dad gives Meena a toy. The toy is in the box. Meena takes off the lid. She sees the toy. It is a car. The car is red. The car makes noises. The car moves fast. Meena likes the gift. She hugs her dad.



Diwali is a Hindu festival held in honour of Lakshmi, the goddess of wealth. It is celebrated in October or November with the lighting of lamps in homes and temples and with prayers to Lakshmi. Sikhs also celebrate Diwali. The sixth Guru, Hargobind was released on this day from Gwalior prison.

Meena goes out to play. She runs around. She falls down. It hurts. She cries. She gets up. She goes to her dad. He takes her to a nurse. The nurse is nice. She looks friendly. The nurse gives her a lollipop. It tastes good. The nurse gives her a bandage. She is okay now. She comes back home with her dad.



It is a warm, sunny day. Meena goes to school. She is in her class. The teacher is teaching maths. Meena is tired. She wants to play. She wants to see the sun. She likes slides. She also likes swings. She does not like maths. She stares at the clock. The clock moves slowly. She continues to wait.

Meena comes home. She starts playing video games. Dad is not at home. He has gone to work. The video game makes a lot of noise. Mum gets mad. Mum thinks Meena is always playing. Meena doesn't do her homework. Mum gives Meena a list of jobs. She has to clean the floor. She has to put all her toys in the toy box. She has to feed the dog. Meena is not happy.

4. The Rabbit and His Friends



A rabbit lives near a farm. Last year, he lost his family and lives alone. But he's got many friends. He always plays with his friends. They talk and have fun with each other. He is happy. His days are passing happily. He thinks he is very lucky. He's got so many friends.

One day, when he is playing on the riverbank, he sees a lion. The lion is at some distance. But the lion is slowly moving towards him. The rabbit gets scared. Then he thinks, "I should ask my friends for help. I am sure they will help me. We play together. We laugh together..."

He runs towards his friend the horse. The horse is grazing nearby. The rabbit cries for help and says, "Dear Friend, please help. The lion is coming towards me. I'm scared. Please help..."

The horse says, "Dear Friend, I would love to help you but I'm busy. The farmer has sent me to do work in the field..." Saying this the horse runs away.

Then the rabbit sees his friend the bull. The bull is resting under a shady tree. The rabbit says to his friend, "Dear Friend, please help. I'm in danger. The lion is coming towards me. I'm scared. He is going to eat me. Please help. You have big, sharp horns. Please scare the lion away with your horns..."



A bull pulling a plough

The bull stands up and says, "I could make him run away but I'm very busy. I was a little tired so I was resting. The farmer is sowing seeds. I have to pull the plough..." Saying this the bull slips away.

Now the rabbit sees his friend the goat. The goat is browsing the leaves of a plant. The rabbit says to the goat, "Dear Friend, please listen, I'm in deep trouble. The lion is advancing towards me. I'm in fear for my life. Please help

me. If you let me get on your back and run from here, we can be saved. Oh please...”



A goat browsing

The goat thinks for a moment then says, “My dear Friend, I would love to help you. But if you are on my back, I can’t run very fast. The lion will approach us and kill both of us. I run and see if somebody else can give you help...” Saying this the goat flees.

Then the rabbit sees his friend the deer. The deer is eating the shoots of a tree. The rabbit approaches him and says, “Dear Deer Friend, please help me. I’m in difficulty. The lion is approaching and will eat me soon. If you carry me on your back and run away from here, we can avoid untimely death. Oh please help...”



A deer eating shoots

He clears his throat and says, “Dear Friend, I would love to help you. As they say: a friend in need is a friend indeed. But I’m sorry. I’m very busy today. It’s my daughter’s 16-month-old birthday party. I’m getting things ready for her party. I’m collecting tree shoots for deer babies. And I’ve got so many other things to do. You very well know when there is a party in the family, there is so much to arrange...” Saying this the deer runs away fast.

The rabbit can see that the lion is not very far away. Seeing no other option left he runs as fast as possible. He goes far away. He hides away in a hole to save his life.

That day the rabbit understands that he has lots of friends but there is no real friend. All of them are selfish. He understands that the only one he can trust is himself.

Moral: Trust yourself instead of trusting others.

5. Deceiver will be deceived



A rich man lives in a town. Whenever he goes to the market, he buys some food items. He comes home, sits quietly and enjoys his food.

He has a servant. The servant asks and eats a little of whatever the rich man brings from the market.

As usual, the rich man goes to the market one day and brings a pot of yoghurt for himself to eat. This time, he doesn't give even a little bit of this yoghurt to the servant, he decides to eat the whole thing himself. He enters the house thinking that the only way is to deceive the servant.

The servant sees the owner entering the home. He asks his owner "Sir, what is in the pot?" The owner immediately says, "I have bought lime. If you eat this, your stomach will burn, you will get pain in your stomach and you will die immediately. So, do not touch this for any reason. Go and plough the field for the rest of the day."

The servant clearly understands that his owner is deceiving him.

He thinks to teach him a proper lesson. He knows that the pot is full of yoghurt because of its smell.

The owner looked at the servant and says, "Finish the work that I have told you." The servant drove the cows and came home immediately. The owner immediately asked him, "Have you finished the work I told you?"

Immediately the servant looks at his owner and says, "Sir, I couldn't do any work. If one ox is ready, another ox runs away. How can I plough the field?"

The angry owner immediately slaps him on the back saying, "Are you playing games? I just ordered you to do the work."

That's all the servant looks at the owner and says, "Sir, no one has beaten me till this day. You have beaten me and I'm very upset. Now there is no use for me to live. I will give up my life by drinking that lime," he says and runs into the kitchen.

"No, don't drink it," says the owner, shouting behind him. By then, the servant has drunk all the yoghurt in the pot.

The owner thinks in his mind, “Thinking to deceive the servant, I have deceived myself.”

Moral: He who tries to deceive others will end up being deceived himself. So don't cheat anyone.

6. Dialogues

Buying a Textbook:

A: Hey, you're in my English class!

B: Yes, I am.

A: Did you buy the textbook yet?

B: No, it's really expensive.

A: How much is it?

B: The original price is over 500 rupees.

A: We could buy it from a former student.

B: We could also buy the used version.

A: That is a great idea!

B: I will give you the website to buy used books.

A: Thank you so much.

B: No problem at all.

Joining a Club:

A: Excuse me.

B: Hello! How can I help you?

A: I am interested in buying a membership card.

B: That's great! How did you hear about us?

A: A friend of mine has a membership with you.

B: What services are you interested in?

A: I would like to have access to the swimming pool.

B: Would you also like to work out in the gym?

A: Yes, I would.

B: Here is a listing of our prices.

A: I think this plan is best for me.

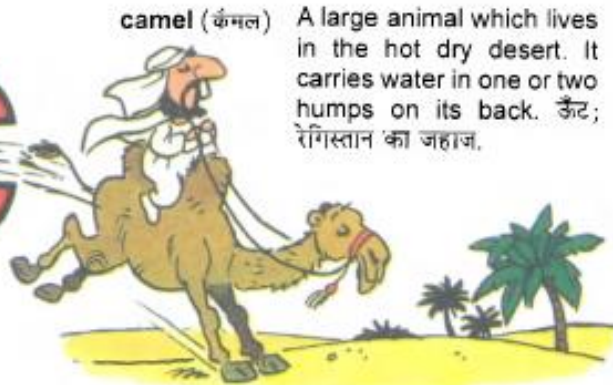
B: All right! Just fill out this paperwork, and that's all!

7. Picture Dictionary Page

C C



cabbage A green vegetable which we eat. बन्दगोभी; पत्ता गोभी.
(कैबेज)



camel (कैमल) A large animal which lives in the hot dry desert. It carries water in one or two humps on its back. ऊँट; रेगिस्तान का जहाज.



canary (कैनरी) A small yellow bird which sings. People often keep a canary as a pet. कैनरी चिड़िया.



cage A box or a room made from bars. Animals and birds can be kept in a cage. पिंजरा.
(केज)



candle (कैन्डल) A round piece of wax with string through the middle. The string burns and makes a light. मोमबत्ती.



cake A sweet food which is made from flour, butter, sugar and eggs. A cake is baked in an oven. आटा, अण्डा, मक्खन, चीनी को मिलाकर बनाया गया केक.
(केक)



canoe A small boat which you paddle. शिकारा नाव; डोंगी.
(केनो)



calf A young cow or bull. बछड़ा.
(काफ)



car A motor with four wheels. कार.
(कार)