

Lesson 16

THE CROW

A. WARMER

- 1. How do you feel/react if someone asks you something again and again?*
- 2. Have you ever asked your parents any question repeatedly? How did they react?*



An eighty year old man was sitting on the sofa in his house

along with his forty five years old highly educated son. Suddenly a crow perched on their window.

The father asked his son, “What is this?”

The son replied, “It is a crow.”

After a few minutes, the father asked his son the second time, “What is this?”

The son said, “Father, I have just now told you, it’s a crow.” After a little while, the old father again asked his son the third time, “What is this?”

At this time some expression of irritation was felt in the son’s tone when he said to his father with a rebuff, “It’s a crow, a crow.”

A little later, the father asked his son the fourth time, “What is this?”

This time the son shouted at his father, “Why do you keep asking me the same question again and again? I have told you so many times that it is a crow. Are you not able to understand this?”

A little later, the father went to his room and came back with an old tattered diary. He had maintained it since his son was born. On opening a page, he asked his son to read that page. When the son read it, the following words were written in the diary:



“Today my little son asked me twenty three times what it was, and I replied to him all twenty three times that it was a crow. I hugged him lovingly each time he asked me the same question again and again for twenty three times.

I did not at all feel irritated I rather felt affection for my innocent child.”

While the little child asked him twenty three times “What is this?” the father had felt no irritation in replying to the same question all twenty three times and when today the father asked his son the same question just four times, the son felt irritated and annoyed.

WORDS TO KNOW

educated (participle adj.) :	(एड्यूकेटेड) शिक्षित पढ़ा लिखा	learned, well read
perched (v) :	(पेंचड) बैठा	sat
expression (n) :	(एक्सप्रेसशन) अभिव्यक्ति	feeling
irritation (n) :	(इरीटेशन) चिड़चिड़ापन	annoyance
rebuff (n) :	(रीबॅफ) झिड़कना, फटकारना	unkind refusal
tattered (participle adj.) :	(टैटःड) फटा पुराना	torn
maintained (v) :	(मैन्टेन्ड) संभाल कर रखा	kept
hugged (v) :	(हगड) गले लगा लिया	embraced
lovingly (adv.) :	(लॅविंगली) प्यार से	with love
affection (n) :	(अफेक्शन) स्नेह, प्यार	love
innocent (adj.) :	(इनोंसेन्ट) मासूम, भोला	not guilty
annoyed (adj.) :	(एनॉयड) परेशान हो गया, गुस्सा हो गया	angry

B. LET'S THINK AND TELL

B.1. Answer the following questions briefly:

1. What is age difference between the father and the son?
2. Did the father repeat the same question deliberately? Say Yes or No. Give one reason for your answer.
3. How did the old man maintain his record since his son's birth?
4. Who was more tolerant of the two- son or father?

C. LET'S THINK AND WRITE

C.1. Write in the brackets whether the following statements are true 'T' or false 'F':

1. The old man was illiterate. ()
2. The son was very respectful to his father. ()
3. The old man's diary was torn. ()
4. The son learnt from the diary that his father was very caring. ()
5. The father tolerated everything that the son did as a child. ()

C. 2. Answer the following questions in 50-60 words:

1. What made the old man bring his old diary and ask his son to read out a particular page?
2. What did the son learn about himself when he was a child? How did his father treat him? What difference does he notice in his behaviour towards his father? How, according to you, may he have felt after this?
3. Is it right to consider your old parents as a burden? Justify your answer.
4. Think of another suitable title for the story.

D. LET'S INCREASE WORD POWER

D.1. Find out words from the passage which have the following meanings:

- (a) unexpectedly
- (b) manner of expression

- (c) not different/identical
- (d) repeatedly
- (e) a large comfortable seat with back and arms
- (f) feeling of love

D.2. Fill in the blanks with missing vowels to form meaningful words:

ed - c - t - - n

m - - nt - - n

w - nd - w

irr- t- t -

-xpr -ss - -n

D.3. Fill in the blanks with suitable words given below. You may use one word more than once:

happy, kind, cared, selflessly, obedient

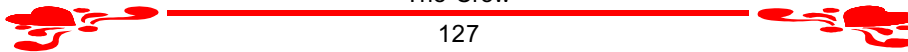
Our parents have for us since our childhood. They have loved us They have worked hard to make us It is our duty to keep them We should be and to them.

E. LET'S LEARN GRAMMAR

Read the following sentences:

1. *The father asked, "What is this?"*
2. *The son replied, "It is a crow."*

In sentence (1) the father is the speaker and in sentence (2) the son is the speaker. The words/ sentences within the inverted commas ("...") are the exact words of the speaker. They are called direct or reported speech. We can report what the speaker says without using the speaker's exact words as shown below:



The father asked what that was.

The son replied that it was a crow.

Such sentences are in the indirect speech. Look at another set of examples:

The father said to his son, "Read this page."

The father instructed his son to read that page.

E.1. Pick out some more examples of direct speech and indirect speech from the text and list them in the space provided below:

- 1. _____

- 2. _____

- 3. _____

- 4. _____

F. LET'S LISTEN AND WRITE

Teacher should read out text in given appendix and ask his/her students to fill in the blanks given below:

A mother went for shopping with her six year old..... There, they met an old, man who tried to them to buy from him. The little girl said, " Mummy , let's give that poor man some" "We're in a.....,"replied the mother . "And besides, it's not our" " She hastened past the poor man her little girl along. She went on to purchase dresses though she had of them. At night, with her mother

by her side, the young girl, 'Dear God! I thank you for all you have done for me.Mummy and Daddy.'" She further added, "Dear God, forgive Mummy who to help the poor man that it was not her problem. "The mother felt greatly of herself when she heard this.

G. LET'S WRITE

Your grandfather is very old. He has many habits most of which you like but there are some that bore and irritate you.

Describe in a short paragraph the good and bad habits of your grandfather.

H. ACTIVITY

H.1. Work in pairs and role play the conversation between the father and the son.

H.2. Ask and answer as given below:

What things do you like/dislike about your parents?

You may answer as below:

I like my parents' habit of buying me the things I like to buy.

I don't like my parents when they stop me watching the serials I like.
