

Once there lived twin brothers named Ajay and Bijay in a village. Their father had passed away, therefore, their mother had to work hard to support the family. They stayed in their uncle's house. They were so poor that they had to give up their studies after fifth standard. They were ten years old when they started working in a garage.

In spite of all the difficulties they always kept smiling. Because of this quality, they were liked by everybody. "Whenever I went for the servicing of my car, it used to take about two hours. The boys would bring a chair for me and I would read the newspaper sitting under the shade of a tree. They never said no or grumbled about any work they were told to do. I had seen children in many well-off families with grumpy faces and no happiness. If you asked them to do any work, they gave you hundreds of reasons to avoid it," said the woman. She further said, "I used to really appreciate their enthusiasm. Sometimes, I took snacks and some old shirts for them and they took the clothes with great joy. Once, I took few story books for them. Their faces turned pale when I gave them the story books. For the first time ever, I saw a trace of unhappiness on their faces." They said, "Madam, it takes a lot of time for us to read as we are

not used to reading. Will you tell us the story?"

You are working all the time, then how can I tell you the story here.

"About 4 O'clock, we get some spare time. If you come here to have your car serviced, we can sit with you and listen to the story," said Ajay. "I could not say no, I remembered how my own children always insisted me to tell them stories at night. Therefore, I agreed."

"I started telling them stories on Saturday at 4 O'clock. It became a



routine for me. They were very attentive when I told the stories and waited eagerly for me. This went on for many months. Then I decided to get a driver and stopped driving the car myself. My driver took the car for servicing and after that, I did not meet Ajay and Bijay for a long time.

After almost a decade, my driver complained about a problem with the car. I told him to get it repaired. When my driver came back from the garage, he told me that after repairing the car, the mechanic asked about me. He asked me if I knew the owner of Good Luck Garage."

I have not heard the name. Is it a new garage? I asked the driver.

"It is neither too old nor too new. This young man is very sincere. It seems he has known you for a long time. He asked if you were still teaching in the college," my driver told me.

"I could not remember anyone I knew who could be owning a garage now. Since my driver did not even know his name, I was unable to guess. I thought, he might be one of my old students. Later, when my driver told me again that the owner of the garage had asked about me, I felt I should go and meet this man who showed such keen interest in me.

The next day I went to Good Luck Garage. The garage was fairly modern and well equipped. There was a glass cabin where I assumed the owner might be sitting. As soon as I entered, a

handsome young man in a fine dress greeted me."

"Madam, please come and sit in the cabin," said the youngman. I sat on the sofa in his office. It was a nice functional office. The youngman looked vaguely familiar to me. I knew I had met him some where but could not recall where I had met him. I wondered if I had taught he is boy. The youngman returned with a mug of coffee and a glass of water.

"Madam, you have changed a lot. You look old and tired," said the young man.

I asked him to tell his name.

I saw a dimple in his cheek when he smiled at me. And then I recognized him he was one of the two kids who used to work in the garage a decade back. I asked him, "Are you Ajay or Bijay?" "I am Ajay, Madam," said the young man in a soft voice.

I was very happy to see the poor loving boy owning a new garage of his own and patted on his back.

"Madam, I'm very grateful to you for your help in those days."

What help did I give? I asked the young man.

"Oh Madam! Do you remember the stories you told me and my brother?"

No, I don't remember, I said.



He closed his eyes and sat down in front of me and started telling his own story that made him a millionaire.

This time, the roles had got reversed. I was the listener and he was the storyteller.

The young man started; "Once, some of the elders said to us, If you want to do something in life, you must go to the town beyond the desert. Pick up stones from the desert and carry them to that town. Some buyer or other will pay you for those rare stones. One morning, we started our journey. We carried food and water with us. In the beginning, the sand was cool and the sun not yet hot. We did not feel tired, but after some time the sun shone over our heads and the sand started to get hot.



After a long walk we thought we had reached the edge of the desert. So we ate up all our food and drank up the water. But soon we realized we had walked only half the way.

We began collecting stones to sell in the town. After a while our bags were full of stones and very heavy. Bijay felt it was too heavy to carry, so, he threw away the stones and decided to go back. Our elders had advised us to cross the desert and go to the town.

Bijay did not listen and went back. I continued to walk towards the town. It was a difficult journey, collecting stones and traveling all alone, with no water to drink. Still faith and hope kept me going. After walking for a long time, I reached the town. It was evening by the time I reached the town and took a shelter in a *dharmashala*.

When I got up next morning, I opened my bag. I was amazed to see that all the stones had become big diamonds! Thus, we became millionaire.

Drops of tears were shedding from my eyes. The young man continued....

After that I decided to study and completed an Automobile Diploma. We set up this garage of our own. By the grace of God we have been successful.

Before leaving the garage, I took the snacks given by the young man and got into the car patting his back once again. I noticed the young man who was looking at me in an emotional and grateful manner."

Moral: If there's a will there's a way. Hard work pays rich dividends.



# Co-Scholastic Assessment

A.	Multiple Choice Questions (MCQs)
	Tick (✓) the correct option.

- 1. Who were Ajay and Bijay?
  - (a) Sisters
  - (c) Animals
- 2. Where did Ajay and Bijay work?
  - (a) Factory
    - (c) Field
- 3. At what time did they listen the stories?
  - (a) 2 o' clock
  - (c) 6 o' clock
- 4. The stones gathered by Ajay turned into
  - (a) gold
  - (c) diamonds

(b) silver

(b) Twins

(d) Beggars

(b) Garage

(b) 4 o' clock

(d) 8 o' clock

(d) Shop

(d) none of these

## B. Write 'T' for True and 'F' for False statements.

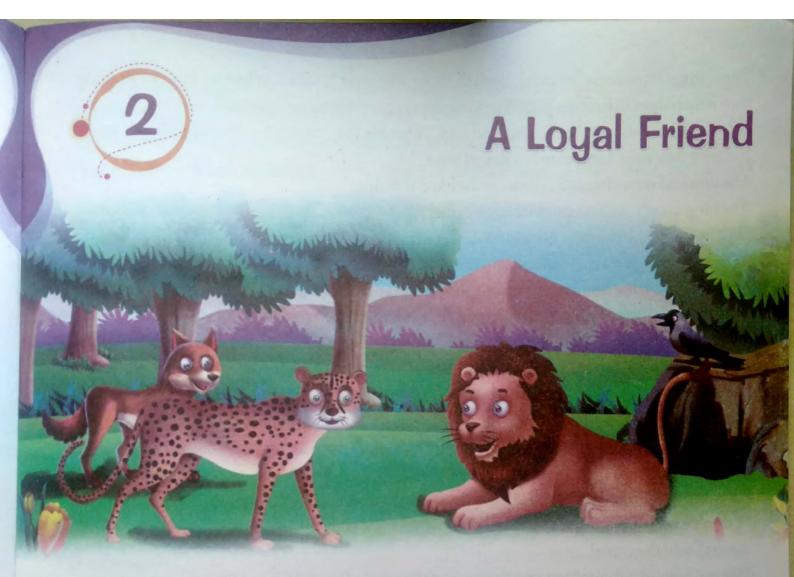
- 1. Ajay and Bijay were very rich.
- 2. They loved to listen stories.
- 3. Ajay and Bijay became millionaires at last.
- 4. Ajay didn't invite the lady who used to tell him story.

# Scholastic Assessment

### C. Answer the following questions.

- 1. Who were Ajay and Bijay? Where were they working?
- 2. Whom did they listen stories from?
- 3. Where did the two brothers go to collect stones?
- 4. How did Ajay become a millionaire?
- 5. What is the moral of the story?

D. Fil	in the blank	s with the wor	ds given i	n the box.			
	grumbled	millionaire	poor	greeted	garage		
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Once there lived a fierce and strong lion in a forest. As he was the king of the forest, he received gifts from every corner of the forest.

One day he thought, "Being the king of the forest, I must have some ministers to help me." Then, first of all he called a fox. The lion said, "You are known to be very wise and clever. I want you to be my Home Minister."

"Thank you for this honour, Your Majesty," said the fox. Then the lion called a leopard and said, "You are known to be very alert and swift-footed. You'll be my Defence Minister."

"Thank you, Your Majesty," the leopard said.

Finally the lion called a crow and said, "You can fly high in the sky, so you'll be my Minister for External Affairs."

"I am grateful to you for this honour, Your Majesty," the crow said.

The lion said to all of them, "Discharge your duty sincerely, for this I will not only give you food but also protect you from all dangers."

These three ministers always followed the king wherever he went. When he went for hunting, they helped him to find the prey. The king always gave them enough to eat.

One day the crow came to the king and said, "Your Majesty, have you ever eaten camel's meat? It is very delicious. I ate some in a desert once."

The lion had never hunted a camel, so he liked the idea.

The king asked, "Where can we hunt a camel?"

"While flying, I saw a fatty camel in a desert which is few miles away from here," said the crow. "Then we must hunt that camel," said the lion.

Next morning, the lion and his three ministers set off for the desert. They reached the desert, after travelling many miles. It was terribly hot and the lion's paws scorched in the heat.

"Now, I have become tired. I have no strength to walk anymore. Let's go back to the forest. I don't want camel's meat," roared the lion. Infact, they all were badly tired and hungry.

But the three ministers wanted to have the camel's meat and they could eat it only if the lion went with them and killed the camel.

So the clever fox thought of a plan. He said, "O king! Please wait here for some time and let me use my wits."

He went to the camel and said, "Hurry up, friend! Our king has invited you to his court."

"I don't know any king. I know only my master for whom I have to carry loads across the desert," said the camel.

"He is a lion—he is our king and the king of the whole forest. He has killed your cruel master, so you are free now. He has invited you to come and live with him."

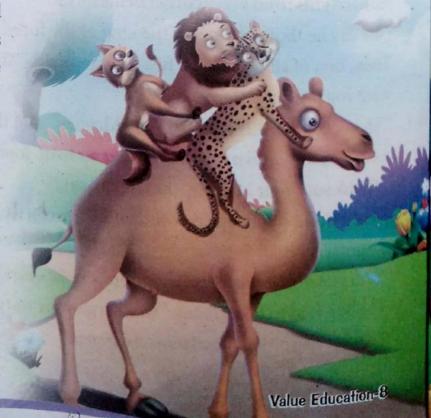
The camel at once agreed and followed the fox. When they reached the lion's camp, the crow and the leopard were greatly surprised. The lion was also pleased in spite of his burnt paws.

The camel went near the king.

The fox said, "We'll now return home."

The lion at once jumped on to the camel's back. The fox and the leopard sat behind him. The crow was flying ahead as a guide.

The fox, the leopard and the crow looked at the camel with greedy eyes. The lion



turned to the camel and said, "Friend, I must thank you for saving my life. You're welcome to live with us as long as you like. I promise you that I will protect you from all dangers."

The ministers said nothing but they were badly disappointed.

Now the lion was indeed feeling very hungry. But his paws were so badly burnt that he was not able to hunt.

He asked his ministers to go and get some food for him.

The ministers went, but not far. The fox suggested a clever plan and the others readily agreed. They came back to the king.

The crow stepped forward first in a depressed mood: "Your Majesty!" he said, "We have found no food. But we can't let you starve. I am your most faithful servant and you can eat me first. It will be my pleasure."

The fox pushed the crow aside and said, "O king! Please eat me first since I have more flesh than crow."

Then the leopard rushed in, saying, "I have even more flesh, Your Majesty."

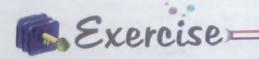
The camel was deeply moved by the loyalty shown by the three ministers. He, too, thought it his duty to offer himself for the lion's food. He said, "Your Majesty, these ministers are more useful to you than I am; so please, eat me instead."

The camel had hardly completed his sentence and all the three ministers pounced on him. But the lion stopped them immediately and said, "You all are my good and loyal subjects. I am deeply touched by your offers. I accept them all. But I shall eat you one by one, in the order you have offered yourselves."



The crow flew from there in no time. The fox and the leopard also ran away. The lion had a hearty laugh. He turned to the camel and said, "You are my most loving and loyal friend. You shall live with me throughout my life. No one will dare to harm you." They both lived together happily forever.

Moral: A true friend stands by your side in adversity.



Co-Scholastic Assessment		,
A. Multiple Choice Questions (MCQs)		
Tick (✓) the correct option.		
1. Who did the king need for his help?		
(a) Servants	(b) Ministers	
(c) Food	(d) Shelter	
2. Who suggested a clever plan?	a compared the state of the sta	
(a) Camel	(b) Fox	
(c) Leopard	(d) Crow	
3. Who was the king of the jungle?		
(a) Lion	(b) Leopard	
(c) Fox	(d) Camel	
4. Who was the External Minister?		
(a) Crow	(b) Camel	
(c) Fox	(d) Leopard	
5. In which order did the lion express his	desire to eat the animals?	
(a) As per size	(b) As per offer	
(c) Both of these	(d) None of these	
6. Which of these animals became the bes	st friend of the lion ?	
(a) Crow	(b) Camel	1
(c) Fox	(d) Leopard	1

R	Write '	T'	for '	True	and	T?	for	Falco	statements.
D.	AATTER		LOI .	TIUC	anu	T.	101	raise	statements.

- 1. The king wanted to have ministers to help him.
- 2. The lion appointed the fox as Home Minister.
- 3. Animals from all the corners brought gifts for the king.
- 4. All of the ministers promised to remain loyal.
- 5. The camel was a true friend of the lion.

# Scholastic Assessment

### C. Answer the following questions.

- 1. Why was the lion given gifts by all animals of the forest?
- 2. What did the crow say to the king about the camel?
- 3. Who was the most loyal?
- 4. What happened to the other three ministers and what did the lion say to the camel?
- 5. Why did the three ministers get disappointed when the lion said to the camel to feel safe?

### D. Fill in the blanks with the words given in the box.

ministers camel alert touched crow

- 1. The leopard is known as .................................. and swift-footed.
- 2. The \_\_\_\_\_ can fly high in the sky.
- 3. The three ...... always followed the king.
- 4. The lion had never hunted any .....
- 5. The lion said, "I am deeply ...... by your offers."



Each of you is supposed to speak out three sentences on 'true friendship' in your class.

# Teacher's Corner

Tell the students some other stories based on true friendship.