

Grade VI

Lesson 1. Who did Patrick's Homework

PROSE

Summary of the chapter

Patrick does not Like to do his Homework:

Patrick always disliked doing his homework. He finds it boring and instead of doing his homework, he used to play basketball and football. His teachers were fed up with him.

Patrick Met a Tiny Man, who Changed his Life:

One day, he was surprised to see his cat playing with a little doll, but he later found it was not a doll, but a tiny man, wearing a woollen shirt with old - fashioned trouser and a high tall hat. The man told Patrick's wish if he saves him. Patrick became the tiny man was the solution of his problems.

Doing his homework was the biggest problem for Patrick. He asked the tiny man to do the homework till the end of the semester. His semester ends after 35 days.

The tiny Man Find the Task Difficult:

The man started doing his homework, however, he did not want to do it. The elf was annoyed, He started doing Patrick's homework, but he faced difficulties. He did not know what to do and needed Patrick's help. He asked for a dictionary and later told Patrick to find the meaning of a word.

Similarly, the tiny man finds it difficult to solve mathematical problems. He finds it hard to do addition, subtraction, division and fraction. He also does not have any idea about human history and finds it mysterious.

Patrick Started Working Hard Freeing the Tiny Man

The tiny man got irritated and ordered Patrick to visit a library as he needed more and more books. The man has become a trouble for Patrick and kept on complaining about one or the other things. As a result, Patrick was working very hard and was studying till late nights and going to school every day.

Finally the last day of school arrived and according to the agreement the tiny man could go to place, There was no homework left, everything was done so the tiny man was free.

Drastic Change in Patricks Behaviour

Everybody was surprised as Patrick got 'A' in all the subjects. The teachers were happy and appreciated Patrick's efforts. His parents could not believe what has happened, they were shocked. People witnessed a sea change in Patrick's behaviour. He became a model child as he started cleaning his room, did other work, and was cheerful. He was not rude to anybody. Patrick thought that the tiny man was responsible for this change. He thought that the man did all these things for him. He did not understand that he himself did everything.

NCERT Corner

Working with the Text

Answering the following questions. [Refer to that part of the text whose number is given against the question. This applies to the comprehension questions through out the book.

1. What did Patrick think his cat was playing with? What was it really?

Patrick thought that his cat was playing with a little doll, It was not a doll. But a tiny man (elf) wearing woollen shirt with old-fashioned trouser.

2. Why did the little man grant Patrick a wish?

The little man granted Patrick wish because he saved the tiny man from the cat.

3. What was Patricks wish?

Patrick wanted the little man to do all his homework till the end of the semester for 35 days.

4. In what subjects did the little man need help. To do Patrick's homework

The little man needed help in finding the meaning of a word from the dictionary. He needed help in English, Mathematics and History.

5. How did Patrick help him?

Patrick worked harder and visited the library many times. He was working till day nights and was going to school with his eyes puffed and bleary.

6. Who do you think did Patrick's homework - the little man. Or Patrick himself? Give reasons for your answer.

Patrick himself did his homework because the tiny man made him to do it. He told Patrick to find the meaning of a word from a dictionary and help him in history and solve mathematics problems. Patrick had to help the elf again and again.

Working with Language

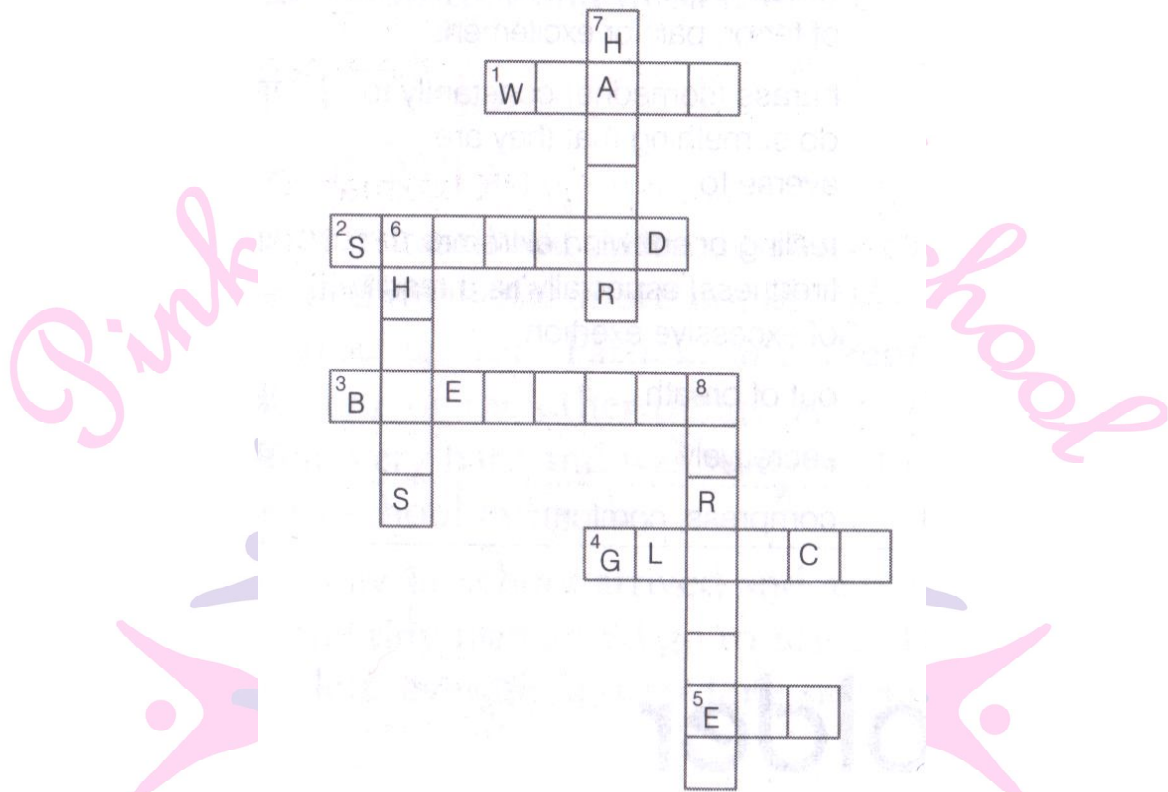
A. Fill in the blanks in the sentences below with the words or phrases from the box.
(You may not know the meaning of all the words. Look such words up in a dictionary, or ask your teacher)

Out of luck semester	Mystery between you and me	True to his word	Chores look up
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1. Some people find household a bore. But I like to help at home
2. Who stole the diamond is still a
3. Thiswe are going to have a class exhibition
4., the elf began to help Patrick
5. Can you this word in the dictionary?
6. I started early to be on time, but I was there was a traffic jam !
7. She says she's got a lot of books, butI think most of them are borrowed.

1. Chores	2. Mystery	3.semester	4. True to his words
5. Look up	6. Out of luck	7. between you and me	

B. Use the clues to be given below to complete this crossword puzzle



Across

1. Very tired
2. had an angry look on the face
3. short trousers
4. a fault in a machine that prevents it from working properly
5. A small and naughty boy- fairy

Down

6. work that must be done everyday, often boring
7. a basket with a lid
8. gave a short, high-pitched cry

Across:

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1. Weary	2. Scolded	3. Breaches	4. Glitch	5. Elf
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Down:

6. Chores	7. Hamper	8. Shrieked
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Speaking

A. In the story Patrick does difficult things he hates to do, because the elf pretends he needs help. Have you ever done something difficult or frightening, by pretending about it in some way? Tell your class mate about it.

Yes, once I was told to participate in a play to be performed on the occasion of the Annual Day of the school in front of teachers, principal and parents.

I was afraid because I had never performed in front of such a large audience. However, my parents and teachers helped and encouraged me and I played my part perfectly.

Or

Say what you feel about homework. (The words and phrases in the boxes may help you). Do you think it is useful, even though you may not like it? Form pairs and speak to each other. E.g. You may say." I am not fond of homework." Your partner may reply, "But my sister helps me with my lessons at home and that gives a boost to my marks."

(not) be fond or	(not) take to	(not) develop a liking for	(not) appeal to	(not) be keen on	(not) have a taste for
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Support		Assist	With	The	Aid	Of	
Help	Be	A	Boon	Give	A	Boost	to

Rita : I don't want to wash my clothes.

Sabita : But my mother helps me to do it and it gives me support.

Rita : I am not happy with the idea and dislike it.

Sabita : It is not unfair. It is good to do some household chores. It will help you in future.

Rita : That means, you have developed a liking for it

Sabita : Yes, I love to clean my clothes.

- Rita** : I will also try to develop a taste for washing clothes. Shall I do it with the help of a washing machine?
- Sabita** : Why not ! This will help you
- Rita** : I am keen in trying new ideas
- Sabita** : Good, keep it up.

Writing

A. This story has a lot of rhyming words, as a poem does. Can you write out some parts of it like a poem, so that the rhymes come at the end of separate lines?

e.g.

Patrick never did homework. "Too boring, " he said.

He played baseball and hockey and Nintendo instead.

The following are some rhyming lines

1. He had a little wool shirt with old-fashioned britches and a high tall not much like Witch's
2. Save me ! Don't give me back to that cat. I will grant you a wish. I promise you that.
3. He kicked his legs and doubled his fists and he grimaced and doubled his fists and he grimaced and scowled and pursued his lips.
4. Help me! Help me! He did say. And Patrick would have to help – in whatever way.
5. No, what's even better, look up the word and sound it out by each letter.
6. Here, sit down beside me, you simply must guide me.
7. Elves know nothing of human history to them it's a mystery.
8. So the little elf, already a shouter, just got louder.

B . Look at these sentences

- (i) "Too boring" he said
- (ii) Cleaned his room, did his chores.

When we speak. We often leave out words that can easily be guessed. We do not do this we do not do this when we write, unless we are trying to write as we speak(as in the story)

So, if we were to write carefully, we would say :

- (i) "Homework is too boring." he said
- (ii) He cleaned his room and did his chores.

No answer is required

C). Rewrite the following incomplete sentences carefully, so that the reader does not have to guess what is left out.

- (i) more and more books (ii) too difficult (iii) got up late, missed the bus
- iv) Solved the mystery.

(i) More and more books: Patrick must read more and more books to increase his knowledge

(ii) Too difficult; the sums are too difficult to be solved by Patrick.

(iii) Got up late, missed the bus., Patrick could not reach the school in time and not could appear in the exam because he got up late and missed the bus.

(iv) Solved the mystery; Only scientists could solve the mystery behind the expanding universe.

D. Look at this cartoon by Laxman. Read the sentence given below the cartoon. Discuss the following questions with your partner.



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chool

- **What is it about?**

The cartoon is about a child being overburdened with his homework. He is under pressure while doing his homework. He is under pressure while doing his homework. He is being monitored by his elders so that he can concentrate on his homework.

- **Do you find it funny? If so, why?**

No, I don't find it funny because it tells us about the problems in our education system. It is affecting the lives of our children and needs to be addressed. Too much homework is not good for a child's health.

- Do you think a cartoon is a serious drawing because it makes us aware about problems which persist in our society. The way it conveys its message is humorous, but it makes us think about the issue.

Chapter Practice

Very Short Answer Type Question

1. What did Patrick like to do instead of doing homework?

Patrick liked to play hockey, basketball and Nintendo instead of doing his homework. He found it very boring and wanted to avoid it.

2. Why did Patrick consider himself lucky?

Patrick considered himself lucky because he found a solution to all his problems. The little elf would solve all his problems.

3. Do you think the little elf was true to his words?

Yes, he was true to his words because he started doing his work without wasting much time as per his promise.

4. Why did the elf leave him?

Patrick's parents wondered because he got grade 'A' in all the subjects and his teachers were full of praise for him.

5. When did the elf leave him,?

The elf left him when the last day of school arrived as there was no more homework to be done.

6. Write about the appearance of the tiny man

The man was tiny in size and was wearing a woollen shirt with old-fashioned trousers and high tall hat like a witch.

7. What warning advice was given to Patrick by his teachers?

The teachers had advised Patrick to do his homework otherwise he would not be able to learn anything.

8. Was the elf happy about Patrick's request to do this homework?

No, the elf was not happy at Patrick's request, but as he had no choice, he agreed to do it.

Short Answer Type Question

1. What was the little man's reaction about Mathematics?

The elf liked Mathematics and never used time tables. In fact, he never needed it. The little man did not like addition, subtraction, division and fractions. He got angry and told Patrick to sit near him and help him solving the sums.

2. Write about the reaction of the little man when he came to know that he has to do Patrick's homework.

The little man's face wrinkled after he came to know that he has to do Patrick's homework till the end of the semester for 35 days. He kicked his legs. His face had expressions showing anger and disapproval. He said he has been cursed.

3. How did Patrick help the little man in doing his homework?

Patrick visited the library to get books and read them. He looked for words in a dictionary to find its meaning. Patrick was working harder and was studying till late nights. He was going to school regularly with his eyes puffed and bleary.

Long Answer Type Question

1. How did Patrick manage to score good grades in the class.

Patrick worked hard to score good grades in the class. He thought that the elf was helping him doing all his homework. But the little elf made him read books, look for word meanings from the dictionary and solve his sums on his own. The elf did not like Mathematics. He had no idea about time table. He did not like addition subtraction, division and fractions. He told Patrick to help him.

The little man knows nothing about human history and it was mystery to him. He had problem in English too. In reality Patrick was doing his homework.

2. What kind of change occurred in Patrick's behaviour? What was his parents and teacher's reaction to the change?

There was a sea change in Patrick's behaviour. He became a model kid. He got grade 'A' in all the subjects and his classmates were amazed to see it. His teachers became happy and were full of praise for Patrick. His parents wondered and could not believe the change. He became more responsible towards his work and study. He cleaned his room, did his household chores. He was now a cheerful kid and was not rude to anyone. He had developed a whole new attitude.

Value Based Questions

1. What do we learn from the story 'Who did Patrick's homework'?

We learn from the story that one should always believe in one's own ability. Human beings have the potential of doing everything, but they always depend on others. Patrick was depended on the elf, but he made Patrick work hard and fetch good marks. Patrick was capable enough, but needed guidance and encouragement which was provided by the elf. One should always depend on one's own potential.

2. Do you think it's true that God helps those who help themselves? Give reasons.

Yes it's true because God cannot come for our rescue directly. We have to help ourselves. God only shows us the right path and we have to follow it with full devotion. Patrick met the elf who promised to help him in solving his problems. The tiny man showed him the way how to complete his homework on his own and followed the instruction. This is the only way to learn in life.

Extract Based Questions

Extract 1

Directions (Q.Nos. 1 -6) Read the extract given below and answer the following questions.

He yelled, "Save me ! Don't give me back to that cat. I'll grant you a wish, I promise you that. " Patrick couldn't believe how lucky he was! Here was the answer to all of this problem . So he said, "Only if you do all my homework till the end of the semester, that's 35 days. If you do a good enough job, I could even get A's."

1. Why did the little man tell Patrick to help him?

The little man told Patrick to help him because there was a cat who could have killed him.

2. Write about the reason behind Patrick's happiness.

Patrick was happy because he found solution to all his problems. He found somebody who could do his homework.

3. Who is he (he yelled) in the above extract?

- a) Patrick b) The little man (elf) c) Cat d) Teacher

(b) The little man(elf)

4. Find synonym for the word 'Promise'

- a) Homework b) Answer c) Pledge d) Man

(c) Pledge

5. Find antonym for the word 'lucky'

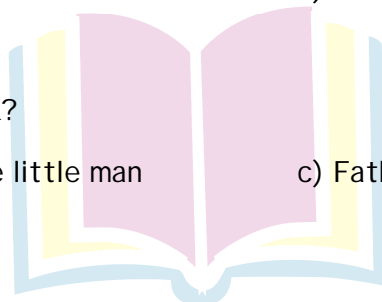
- a) Unhappy b) Semester c) Wish d) Unlucky

d) Unlucky

6. Who granted a wish to Patrick?

- a) Cat b) The little man c) Father d) Mother

(b)The little man



Extract 2

Directions (Q.Nos.1-6) Read the extract given below and answer the following questions.

Finally, the last day of the School arrived and the elf was free to go. As for homework, there was no more, so he quietly and slyly slipped out of the back door. Patrick got his A's; his classmates were amazed, his teachers smiled and were full of praise. And his parents? They wondered what had happened to Patrick.

1. Why the elf was free to go?

The elf was free to go because it was the last day of the school and end of the semester.

2. Patrick's teachers were praising him, give a reason

The teachers were praising Patrick because he got grade A in all the subjects. He worked hard and performed well in the class.

3. Write antonym for the word 'quietly'

- a) Loudly b) Continuously c) Desperately d) Simply

(a) Loudly

4. Find synonym for the 'praise'

- a) Matter b) intelligent c) Admire d) Weary

(c) Admire

5. "They wondered what had happened to Patrick." They here refer to

- a) Patrick b) the tiny man c) Teachers d) Parents

(d) Parents

6. What was the reaction of Patrick's parents about his performance?

Patrick's parents were amazed and wondered about what had happened to their son.



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