

# VIVEKAM SR. SEC. SCHOOL

DEPARTME  
NT OF  
ENGLISH

*The  
Ingenious  
Finesse*



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# From the Editor's Desk

*Ms. Venita Christiana J*  
**Vice Principal**

Warm greetings!

In the fast-paced life that we are stuck in, we have shed many of our beautiful qualities, qualities that make us human. We should learn to take time to look around us, to slow down and empathize with the world around us. Our generation and the ones to come are challenged to face a lot of natural phenomena that we've been responsible to create, like the global warming, the depleted ozone, the rise in sea level and the temperature and many more.

We can still make our lives beautiful by trying to be more human. **Acknowledge and understand your own emotions.** Pay attention to your feelings and how they impact your thoughts and actions. Journaling or talking to a trusted friend can help with this. **Recognize and empathize with the emotions of others.** Actively listen to people, observe their body language, and try to understand their perspective. **Communicate your emotions effectively.** Use appropriate language and nonverbal cues to express your feelings clearly.

**Engage in activities that spark your interest:** This could be anything from learning a new skill to exploring a new hobby. **Be open to new experiences:** Step outside your comfort zone and try new things. **Think critically and ask questions:** Don't be afraid to challenge assumptions and seek deeper understanding.

**Reflect on your values and beliefs. Find ways to contribute to something larger than yourself.** Volunteer your time, support a cause you believe in, or work towards a personal goal that aligns with your values. **Celebrate your achievements.** Take time to acknowledge your progress and accomplishments, no matter how small they may seem. Remember, becoming "more human" is a journey, not a destination. It involves continuous learning, self-reflection, and the willingness to grow and evolve.

We invite your valuable insights in the form of articles for the magazine. Your contributions show the reach of our magazine and our magazine shall help your insights to reach wider readers.

# Beauty of English Language - II

A contribution from  
**Mr.Vinod Sukheja**  
**The Director**  
**Subhash Dey's Academy**

The words you use say a lot about you. Your correct collocations find favour with friends, co-workers, and students. Let's use a witty, irreverent approach to helping our students write with greater clarity and confidence.

Read the description of a village in a guidebook. Six of the adjectives in the collocations have become muddled up. Put them in the right places to correct the text.


## **Lower Brookfield**

This winding village deep in the heart of the Eastmoreland countryside, is generally considered to be the prettiest in the region and is well worth a visit. Set in picturesque hills, with cows and sheep grazing in the fields, It's a half-hour drive from the nearest town. The journey itself is a pleasure, driving along breathtaking country lanes and through a marvellous area of cobbled woodland, then climbing to the top of a hill. Stop there for a moment to savour the ancient scenery before dropping down into the valley where lower Brookfield is situated. Stroll through the rolling streets and admire the architecture.

Diction is the correct choice of words. When a writer makes a diction error, they show themselves to be either sloppy or ignorant. Not good. While it's true that if a word is misused often enough, its meaning may evolve so that the mistake becomes accepted usage. There are some words you need to be careful of. I will give you a quiz on them tomorrow.

Here is the unjumbling of the jumbled collocations.

1. Cobbled streets or country lanes.
2. Winding lanes or streets.
3. Picturesque or ancient village.
4. Picturesque or breathtaking scenery.
5. Ancient woodland.

The background features a gradient from light yellow at the top to a deeper orange at the bottom. Overlaid on this are several thick, wavy, horizontal bands in shades of yellow and orange, creating a sense of movement and depth. The text is centered in the upper half of the image.

# *Teachers' Articles*

# Prayer Changes Things

Ms. Mary Florence  
Department of English

There were two farmers who went to the nearest town to sell their produce. After a profitable sale, they set out to their village. They had to go across a forest. It was getting dark and they lost the trail leading to their village. They sat down frustrated and started putting forth ideas of how they might find the trail. It was concluded that praying to God might help them. The problem was that they did not know how. It had been many years since they prayed. Finally they told God that they were going to say the A, B, C's and he has to pick up the letters to frame a prayer. Was their prayer heard? Did they find the trail? It's left to your own imagination. Personally I believe God would have heard what they said and showed them the way. My opinion is that God hears implicit and humble prayers which are loaded with trust.

People pray for protection, for receiving things that they are in need of, for getting healed from sicknesses, before having food, for finding a job and so on. Many a times people have been saved by prayers.

The prayer of a mother is the most powerful one they say. I for one have survived an accident where I went underneath a van and a bomb blast. The time of the occurrence of the mishaps? The prayer time of my mother. Thanks to God and her, I am kept alive and unscathed. So do we need to use endearing words while praying or inflict ourselves for God to answer our prayers? Definitely not. God's an altruist, I can say. The ambit of prayer is vast.

God is an all sovereign, omniscient and omnipotent, therefore, you can pray anywhere, anytime. Speak right from the depth of your heart. God listens to silent prayers too. So dear ones, pray and pray and keep praying all the time. This will lead you in the right path.



# Yoga: More Than Just Poses - Why It's Relevant in Today's World

## Mr.Gokul Chandar – PGT Economics

Yoga. You might picture someone pretzel on a mat. But yoga is far more than just physical postures. It's an ancient practice that combines physical movement, breathing exercises, and meditation for a well-rounded approach to wellness. Here's why yoga is relevant in today's world:

**Combats Stress:** Our fast-paced lives can be overwhelming. Yoga's focus on breath work and mindful movement helps reduce stress hormones and promotes relaxation.



**Boosts Body and Mind:** Yoga postures improve flexibility, strength, and balance. But it also benefits the mind, sharpening focus and improving mental clarity.

**Promotes Overall Well-being:** Yoga isn't just about the physical. It encourages self-awareness and a sense of inner peace, leading to a more positive outlook on life.

**Adaptable for All:** Yoga can be modified for any age or fitness level. Whether you're a beginner or a seasoned athlete, there's a yoga practice for you.

So, next time you hear "yoga," think beyond the poses. It's a powerful tool for managing stress, improving health, and finding inner peace – all of which are incredibly relevant in today's demanding world.

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*Students'*  
*Articles*

# IF I WERE TO BECOME INVISIBLE

Rithvik S – X CVR

## The Invisibility Phenomenon:

Humans have always been fascinated by the idea of invisibility. We have read many stories, fictions and even seen a movie named “Hollow Man” which touches upon the concept of invisibility. But, scientifically speaking, “Is invisibility a reality?” The technical answer is “Yes”. Invisibility can be achieved if a technological invention happens, which allows the light to pass through or around the matter so that it is not reflected back to the naked eye.

## The First Reaction:

If I wake up one day with the incredible power of invisibility, what would I do? The first reaction would be shock and fear followed by a realization. I probably would destroy the formula or technology to achieve invisibility so that it doesn't fall into wrong hands and be used for unlawful purposes. My next move would be to understand the powers and explore ways to utilize the power of invisibility for the betterment of the society.

## Possibilities of Good Deeds:

While there are innumerable possibilities with the power of invisibility, the following are the ones which would be at the top of my mind:

- \* Protecting the vulnerable
- \* Uncovering corruption and injustice
- \* A vigilante, striking fear among criminals
- \* An invisible savior for the people in need
- \* Uncover secrets and discover new frontiers

While I do all the above, it might not hurt if I can have my share of little fun like sneaking into movies for free, attending parties and playing pranks on my friends and family.

## Balancing Ethics and Power:

While the power of invisibility offers immense potential, it comes with significant ethical considerations. Privacy and security are most critical. My actions need to be guided by strict moral and ethical quote. I probably will create a 'kill switch' which I would handover to my most trustworthy person, giving them the power to terminate me 'The Invisible Man', when I go rogue or uncontrollable. 'Hollow Man' movie taught me this precaution.

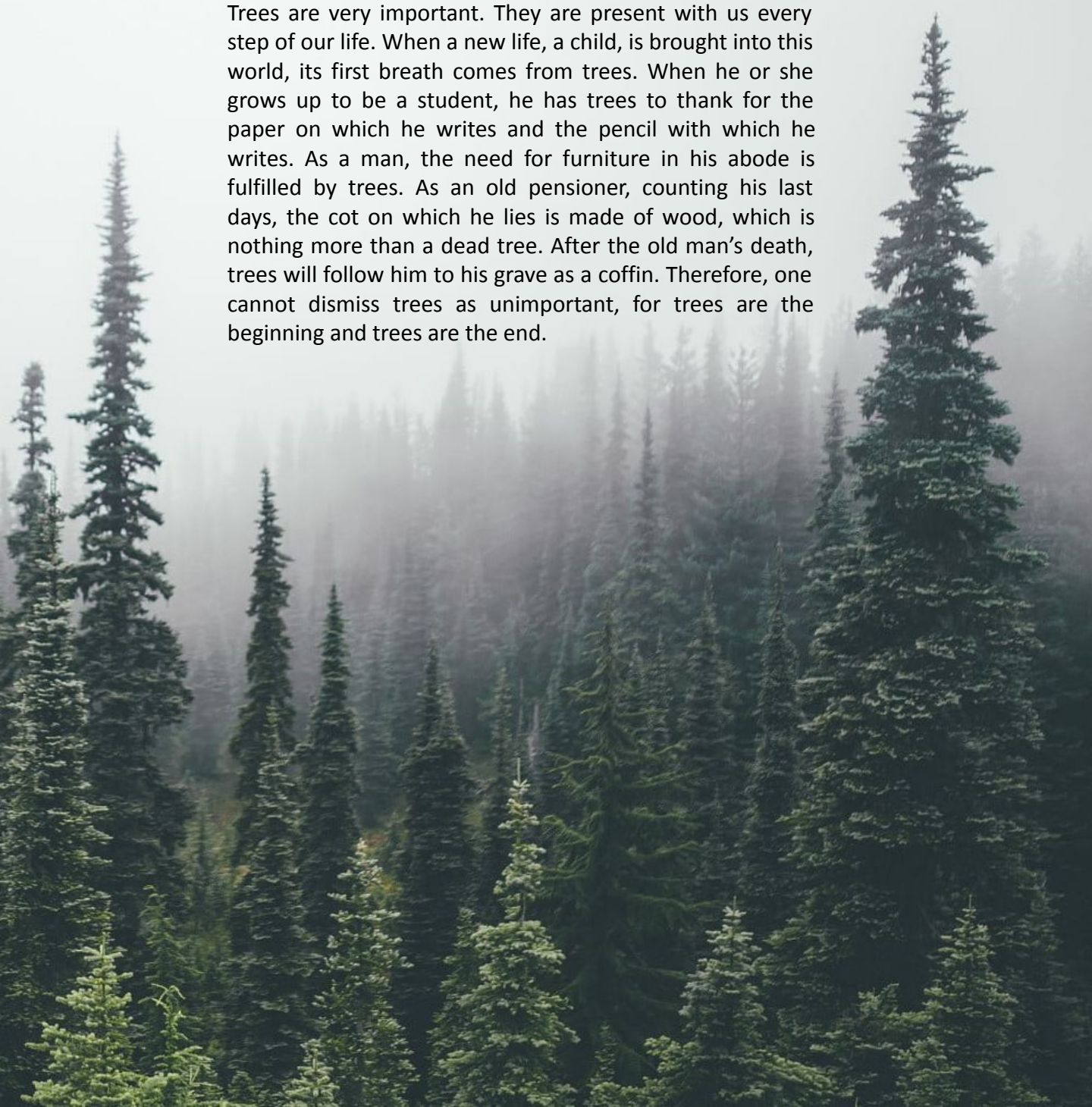
## The Bottom Line:

As they say, 'With great power comes great responsibility.' By focusing on helping others and upholding strong moral values, the power of invisibility could be a force for profound good in the world. So remember to do good, **I might be watching you!**

# FROM BIRTH TO DEATH, TREES ACCOMPANY US

Pranava A – IX CVR

Trees are very important. They are present with us every step of our life. When a new life, a child, is brought into this world, its first breath comes from trees. When he or she grows up to be a student, he has trees to thank for the paper on which he writes and the pencil with which he writes. As a man, the need for furniture in his abode is fulfilled by trees. As an old pensioner, counting his last days, the cot on which he lies is made of wood, which is nothing more than a dead tree. After the old man's death, trees will follow him to his grave as a coffin. Therefore, one cannot dismiss trees as unimportant, for trees are the beginning and trees are the end.



# THE EARTH AND US

Avni Anish – IX CVR

The earth is our home, our mother, the very reason for our existence. Since the very beginning, it was the earth that made life possible, giving the right climatic and environmental conditions for life to develop from a single-celled organism and evolve into the first living being to walk on this planet. We later evolved after a long time of being primal animals. As of now, we have evolved enough to be able to forget where we started, and turn our backs on our very own origins.

The present situation of the earth is in dire need of a makeover. If we don't put an end to this insatiable hunger for expanding industrialization and urbanization, it will ultimately cause our end too.

What we are doing to our mother planet is continuously and gradually making it worse. The successors that are to inherit this world from us would suffer because of our mistakes and our inability to recognize and rectify them. We can't lay back and just take all of nature's gifts to our advantage anymore, those ages are long gone. We have to step up and replenish those resources, nurture the environment and resurrect the world from its current state.

For the benefit of our future generations and to set a worthy example for them and correct the wrong doings of our predecessors, we must take action now and preserve our planet. We don't have a home if it isn't our mother earth. It is our job to safeguard it.



*Article from a  
Doctor of  
Tomorrow*

**Impressive read from the  
Doctors' Day Essay  
Competition**

# WHY I WANT TO BECOME A DOCTOR...

**Sri Meenakshi K S – X SR**

The saddest truth of life is 'Death' and the magical word is 'Hope'. When a person loses all hopes in life, he starts to pivot on death rather than facing the scary reality. According to me, only a doctor is blessed with the magical power to treat when we lose hope. To the world, heroes are those with capes but to me the ones with the stethoscopes are the real heroes. Next to mothers, doctors are the ones who sacrifice for their loved, known and even unknown people.

I wish to be the medicine that heals everyone's pain and suffering. I want to become one of the real heroes of the nation and life. I commit myself to work hard until I can call myself a doctor, ensuring that one day my parents and almighty would be happy to have faith and trust in me. "Dr" isn't just a name, to me it is a superpower. I shall one day make the meaning of Superpower come real.





# *Story Corner*

# STORY CORNER (ADOPTED)

## Thinking Out of the Box

Once upon a time, a merchant named Sam owed a huge sum of money to Tom, a money lender. The time came when the merchant ran out of the last chance given to him to give the money back.

Sam had a beautiful daughter who was very affectionate with her father. Tom asked the merchant to give all the money back failing which he will marry his beautiful daughter.

Tom was not at all good looking and was ill minded and so the merchant was in a dilemma. Tom proposed a new condition. There was a mix of black and white pebbles on the ground where they were standing. He would take two pebbles on both hands, one white and the other black.

If the daughter correctly chooses the white pebble, then Tom will write off all the debt and leave the marriage proposal too. But if she chooses the black pebble, he will write off the debt but will marry the daughter.

Tom bent down to pick the pebbles from the ground and the daughter noticed that he took black pebbles on both hands. The girl had three choices- to notify the same to her father which may provoke Tom, take the black pebble and sacrifice her life or simply refuse to take the pebble which might land her father into trouble. But what she did totally surprise Tom.

She took the pebble from his hand and 'purposely' let the pebble fall off from her hand to the ground. She then asked Tom to see which colour pebble was left in his hand to identify the colour she picked. Tom had no other choice but to show the black pebble in his hand and set both of them free.

**Moral:** Sometimes, life offers you situations which not only demands hard work and perseverance but some creative thinking which saves the situation.





**SELF  
IMPROVEME  
NT  
AND  
GRAMMAR**

# Summer Word Scramble



KEIB

□	○	□	□
---	---	---	---

ACPM

□	□	□	□
---	---	---	---

ATHE

□	□	□	○
---	---	---	---

ANF

□	□	□
---	---	---

MEUSRM

○	□	□	□	□	□
---	---	---	---	---	---

DNSA

□	□	□	□
---	---	---	---

EHCBA

□	□	□	○	□
---	---	---	---	---

KIEH

□	□	□	□
---	---	---	---

TOSSRH

□	□	○	□	□	□
---	---	---	---	---	---

EIFR

□	□	□	□
---	---	---	---

LOPO

□	○	□	□
---	---	---	---

NSU

□	□	□
---	---	---

ELKA

○	□	□	□
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*Why does ice cream always get invited to the party?*





# Spin and Speak



## Personal Information

# Work-Approved Expressions for "You've Got That"

- Absolutely, you nailed it.
- Perfect, you've got it.
- Well done, you've got that down pat.
- Excellent job, you're on top of it.
- Bravo, you've grasped it perfectly.
- Spot on, you've captured it.
- Fantastic, you've hit the mark.
- Superb, you've mastered it.
- Terrific, you've understood it completely.
- Outstanding, you've got a handle on it.
- Impressive, you've got that figured out.
- Well played, you've aced it.
- Great work, you've got the hang of it.
- Wonderful, you've got that locked in.
- Remarkable, you've got that under control.
- Way to go, you've got that in the bag.
- Kudos, you've got it on point.
- Bravo, you've got that on lockdown.
- Hooray, you've got that on the dot.
- Excellent, you've got that completely sorted.

# SINCE & FOR



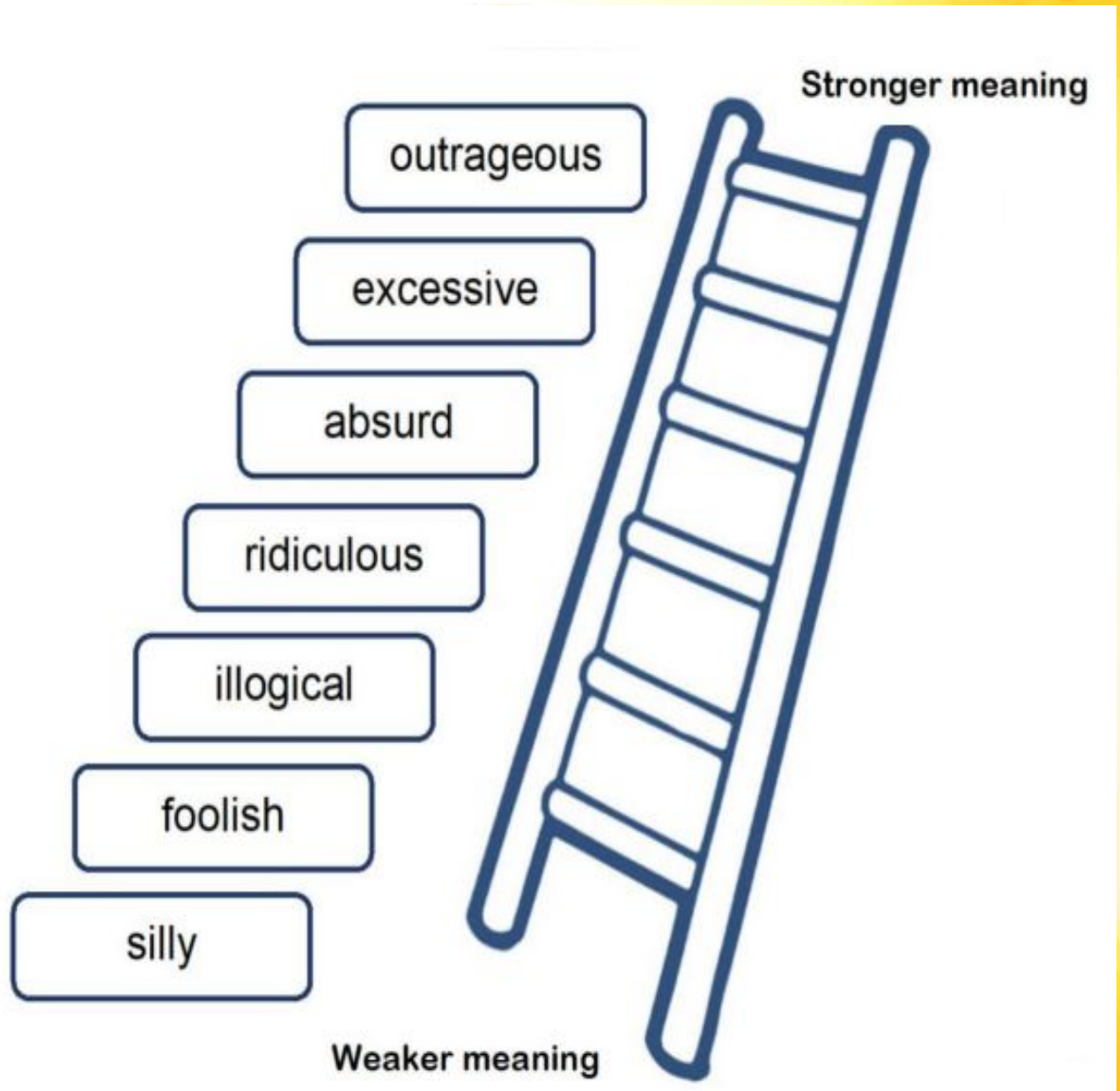
- We use **FOR** to talk about a length of time, a period of time.
- We use **SINCE** to talk about a point in the past, a specific point in time.

- I have worked here **for** 8 years.
- You have played football **for** ten years.
- We have taught at this school **for** a long time.
- He has been a student **for** eight years.
- They've been married **for** 30 years.
- She has been in prison **for** 6 months.
- I haven't been on holiday **for** ages.

- He has lived here **since** 1993.
- They have been at the hotel **since** last week.
- I haven't ridden a horse **since** I was 9.
- You have worked here **since** you left your school.
- I haven't been on holiday **since** last year.
- **Since** his wife went away, he has been waiting for her.



# Word Cline for “Silly”



*Reading is  
never  
a waste of*

CLASSIC  
PROVERBS

**All that glitters is not gold**

*time.*  
Meaning: Something might not be as valuable as it seems to be.

**A picture is worth a thousand words**

Meaning: Explaining something is easier through a picture than by words.

**All good things come to an end**

Meaning: Nothing great lasts forever.

**Beggars can't be choosers**

Meaning: People dependent on others must be content with what is offered to them.

**A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step**

Meaning: It is necessary to take the first step to reach your goal.

**A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush**

Meaning: What you have is better than what you might get.

**Actions speak louder than words**

Meaning: What someone does means more than what they say they will do.

**An apple a day keeps the doctor away**

Meaning: Eating an apple daily keeps you healthy.

**An idle brain is the devil's workshop**

Meaning: Evil thoughts come to us easily when we are idle.

**Better safe than sorry**

Meaning: It is better to take precautions than to regret later.



# Literary Challenge

Identify as many poetic devices as possible  
from the following poem:

**Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening**  
BY ROBERT FROST

Whose woods these are I think I know.  
His house is in the village though;  
He will not see me stopping here  
To watch his woods fill up with snow.

My little horse must think it queer  
To stop without a farmhouse near  
Between the woods and frozen lake  
The darkest evening of the year.

He gives his harness bells a shake  
To ask if there is some mistake.  
The only other sound's the sweep  
Of easy wind and downy flake.

The woods are lovely, dark and deep,  
But I have promises to keep,  
And miles to go before I sleep,  
And miles to go before I sleep.

***Submit your answers to your respective English Teachers***



**FOR YOUR  
INFORMATION**

For your original articles, poetry, puzzles, crosswords, fun facts, comic strips, or any relevant write-up to be published in “The Ingenious Finesse”, kindly submit your original creations to your respective English Teachers.

