

Introduction : This is a simple and heart-warming story about a small-time thief and the man he robs, and what finally happens.

WARMING UP!

Q. 1. (a) In the story given on page 7 of the textbook, which words/phrases can be replaced by the following ones?

Words/Phrases	Ans.
(i) became aware	realized
(ii) always	invariably
(iii) very upset and helpless	desperate
(iv) cheating	foul means
(v) without working for it	unearned
(vi) a sudden change	a turning point
(vii) gain/achieve	acquire

(b) Summarize the incident in 6 to 8 lines making Lokesh the narrator :

Begin with : I was always a class topper ...

Ans. I was always a class topper in tests and examinations. However, I have to accept that I invariably used false means to gain those high marks. Once, on the day of the History examination, Farhan became desperate as he had come prepared for Maths, instead of History. I offered to let him copy from my answer sheet, but Farhan refused, saying that he did not want to score a single unearned mark, and that cheating was for cowards. This was the turning point in my life, and from that day I gave up cheating and learnt to work hard for whatever I wanted.

READING SKILLS, VOCABULARY AND GRAMMAR

(Note : Some Wh-questions from the textbook are converted into activity-based questions.)

Q. 1. Read the following passage and do the activities :

A1. Simple Factual Activities :

(1) Choose the correct alternatives from the given options and rewrite the sentences :

(March '19)

(The answers are given directly.)

(appealing, casually, flattery, well-oiled)

(1) I followed casually.

(2) Anil talked about the well-oiled wrestlers.

(3) I gave him my most appealing smile.

(4) A little flattery helps in making friends.

*** (2) Complete the following :**

(The answers are given directly.)

(1) The narrator is quite successful at stealing.

(2) The 'I' in the story refers to the narrator, who called himself Hari Singh.

(3) Anil kept Hari as a cook because he wanted someone to cook for him. He perhaps also felt sorry for Hari.

PASSAGE - 1 (Textbook pages 8, 9)

I was still a thief when I met Anil. And though only 15, I was an experienced and fairly successful hand.

Anil was watching a wrestling match when I approached him. He was about 25 — a tall, lean fellow — and he looked easy-going, kind and simple enough for my purpose. I hadn't had much luck of late and thought I might be able to get into the young man's confidence.

"You look a bit of a wrestler yourself," I said. A little flattery helps in making friends.

"So do you," he replied, which put me off for a moment because at that time I was rather thin.

"Well," I said modestly, "I do wrestle a bit."

"What's your name?"

"Hari Singh," I lied. I took a new name every month. That kept me ahead of the police and my former employers.

After this introduction, Anil talked about the well-oiled wrestlers who were grunting, lifting and throwing each other about. I didn't have much to say. Anil walked away. I followed casually.

"Hello again," he said.

I gave him my most appealing smile. "I want to work for you," I said.

"But I can't pay you."

I thought that over for a minute. Perhaps I had misjudged my man.

I asked, "Can you feed me?"

"Can you cook?"

"I can cook," I lied again.

"If you can cook, then may be I can feed you."

Glossary : **flattery** - insincere praise. **modestly** - in a humble way, without boasting. **grunting** - making low, rough, guttural sounds. **appealing** - attractive in a way in order to get attention.

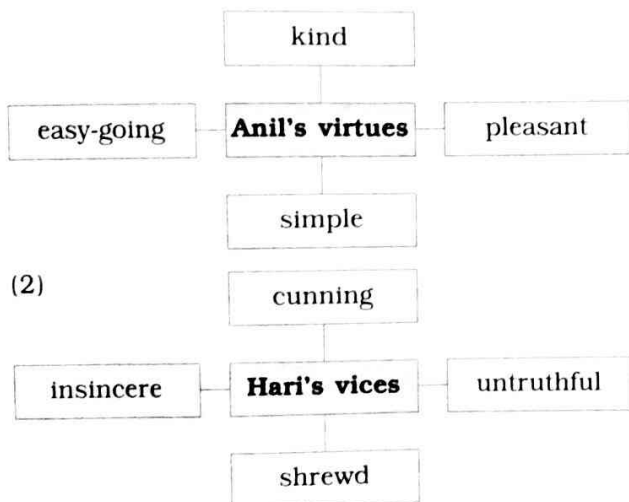
Note : Here we have given the complete passage. Henceforth, only the beginning and ending words of the passage will be given. Students may refer to the textbook for the complete passages.

A2. Complex Factual Activities :

*** (1) Complete the web diagrams :**

(The answers are given directly.)

Ans. (1) (March '19)



*** (2) Give reasons :**

The narrator changed his name every month.

Ans. The narrator was a thief. He changed his name every month to fool the police and his former employers.

A3. Activity based on Vocabulary :

(1) Find similar meanings from the passage for the following : (March '19)

(The answers are given directly.)

- (1) endearing - appealing
- (2) miscalculated - misjudged
- (3) humbly - modestly
- (4) awful - terrible.

*** (2) Insert the appropriate word/phrase given below, in the sentences that follow :**

(flattery, appealing, by fits and starts, dashed to, undetected, spirits rose)

(1) Do not stoop to just to gain something from someone.

(2) When the baby saw its mother, it gave an smile.

Ans. (1) Do not stoop to flattery just to gain something from someone.

(2) When the baby saw its mother, it gave an appealing smile.

A4. Do as directed : (March '19)

(1) I can't pay you.

(Rewrite making it affirmative.)

Ans. I am unable to pay you.

(2) "I want to work for you," I said.

(Change into indirect speech.)

Ans. I said that I wanted to work for him.

A5. Personal Response :

*** (1) Think and write in your own words :**

Why did Anil employ Hari as a cook, even though he could not afford to pay him?

Ans. Anil wanted someone to cook for him. He felt that perhaps Hari could cook for him, and in return he could feed him, as he could not afford to pay him. Anil was also kind-hearted and probably felt sorry for Hari.

(2) 'We should learn from our own mistakes.' Explain. (March '19)

Ans. First of all, we should accept and understand that we have made a mistake. Then we should analyse and find out what went wrong. Everyone makes mistakes, but we should learn a lesson from them so that we do not repeat them. Only then will we be able to progress and become good human beings. However, learning from the mistakes of others is probably a better option.

Q. 2. Read the following passage and do the activities :

A1. Simple Factual Activity :

Write whether the following sentences are True or False :

*** (1) In the beginning, Anil taught Hari to cook and write his name.**

Ans.

True

(2) Anil writes for magazines for a living. True

(Practice Activity Sheet 1)

(3) Hari liked working for Anil. True

(4) Anil kept a small bundle of notes in a cupboard. False

(Practice Activity Sheet 1)

PASSAGE - 2 (Textbook page 9)

He took me to under the mattress.

Glossary : by fits and starts (phr) - intermittently; irregularly. tuck - to push into a small space.

A2. Complex Factual Activities :

***(1) Complete the following :**

(The answers are underlined directly.)

(1) Hari was grateful because Anil was teaching him to read, write and add numbers, and all this would be useful to him in his life.

(2) Hari continued making money by cheating Anil while buying the day's supplies.

***(2) Describe the favours Anil did for the narrator.**

Ans. Anil took Hari to his room and told him that he could sleep on the balcony. Even though the meal that Hari cooked that night was terrible, Anil allowed him to live with him. He later taught Hari to cook and write his name. He also ignored the fact that Hari made a little money by cheating him while buying the day's supplies.

***(3) What proves that the narrator still practised deceit?**

Ans. The narrator cheated his employer Anil while buying the day's supplies. This proves that he still practised deceit.

A3. Activities based on Vocabulary :

***(1) Find from the passage the collocations for the following :**

(1) dog (2) sentences

Ans. (1) stray dog (2) whole sentences

***(2) Insert the appropriate word/phrase given below, in the sentence that follows :**

(flattery, appealing, by fits and starts, dashed to, undetected, spirits rose)

The artist completes his paintings by

Ans. The artist completes his paintings by fits and starts.

A4. Activities based on Contextual Grammar :

***(1) Frame a Wh-question to get the underlined answer :** (Change the first person pronoun to second person pronoun if necessary.)

I made tea in the morning.

Ans. When did you make tea?

(2) Pick out the verbs from the following sentences and write their tense :

(1) Anil gave it to a stray dog and told me to be off.

Ans. gave, told - simple past tense.

(2) It seems he wrote for magazines - a queer way to make a living.

Ans. seems - simple present tense; wrote - simple past tense.

(3) Add a question tag:

Anil kept worrying about his next cheque.

(Practice Activity Sheet 1)

Ans. Anil kept worrying about his next cheque, didn't he?

A5. Personal Response :

Anil knew he was being robbed ; yet he did not say anything. What would you have done in Anil's place?

Ans. Cheating and robbing small amounts can lead to bigger problems. If I was Anil, the moment I knew that I was being robbed, I would have told the person to be off. Hari could not give the excuse that he was stealing because he was not being paid a salary, for he knew from the beginning that Anil could not pay him.

Q. 3. Read the following passage and do the activities :

A1. Simple Factual Activities :

(1) Write whether the following statements are Right or Wrong :

(1) Hari felt that it was very easy to rob a careless man. **Ans.**

(2) Anil was a very trusting person. **Wrong**

(3) The narrator used to cheat Anil on the shopping. (Practice Activity Sheet 1) **Right**

(4) After stealing the money, the narrator quickly crawled out of the room. **Right**

(Practice Activity Sheet 1)

I had been working a week or two.

Glossary : **unlined (here)** - showing no signs of any worry or anxiety. **live like an oil-rich Arab** - live in luxury.

A2. Complex Factual Activities :

(1) Complete the web :

(1) I had not done anything in my line of work.

Ans. It means that Hari had not stolen anything for some time.

(2) It's time I did some real work.

Ans. It means that Hari thought that it was time he stole something significant.

Explain the underlying meaning in the given statements :

(3) I'm out of practice.

Ans. It means that Hari thought he was losing practice in robbing.

(4) I could live like an oil-rich Arab for a week or two.

Ans. It means that Hari felt that he could live in luxury for some time.

(2) Complete the following sentences with the help of the given passage : (Practice Activity Sheet 1)

(The answers are underlined directly.)

(1) The narrator was thinking of catching the 10.30 express to Lucknow.

(2) When Anil was sleeping peacefully, his face was clear and unlined.

(3) The narrator slid his hands under the mattress to search for the notes.

(4) The narrator thought that if he didn't take the money, Anil would only waste it on his friends.

(3) Explain how Hari justified his intention of stealing the money.

Ans. Hari thought that he was out of practice and that it was time that he stole something really significant. He also felt that it was alright to take the money for Anil did not pay him a salary. Besides, according to Hari, if he, Hari, did not take the money, Anil would only waste it on his friends.

A3. Activities based on Vocabulary :

(1) Find from the passage the collocation for the following :

* (1) man (2) opportunity

Ans. (1) greedy man (2) every opportunity

(2) Write the adjective forms of the following words :

- | | |
|-----------------|---------------|
| (1) opportunity | (2) pleasure |
| (3) sleep | (4) situation |

- Ans.** (1) opportune (2) pleasant
(3) sleepy/sleepless (4) situational

(3) Cross the odd man out :

(Practice Activity Sheet 1)

(The answers are underlined directly.)

(1) blanket, magazine, ~~man~~tain, mattress.

(maintain is a verb; the others are nouns)

(2) rob, take, ~~time~~, search.

(time is a noun; the others are verbs.)

(3) queer, small, greedy, ~~pleasure~~.

(pleasure is a noun; the others are adjectives)

(4) quickly, mostly, ~~money~~, peacefully

(money is a noun; the others are adverbs.)

A4. Activities based on Contextual Grammar :

***(1) Frame a Wh-question to get the underlined**

answer : (Change the first person pronoun to second person pronoun if necessary.)

I drew them out, without a sound.

Ans. How did you draw them out?

(2) He was the most trusting person I had ever met. (Rewrite using 'never'.)

Ans. I had never met a more trusting person than him.

(3) I had not done anything in my line of work.

(Rewrite without 'not')

Ans. I had yet to do anything in my line of work.

When I reached
 from the rain.
 Glossary : **dashed** - ran quickly. **deserted** -
 isolated; without many people. **drizzle** - light rain.

(4) Rewrite the following sentences by adding the correct tail tag from those given in the brackets : (Practice Activity Sheet 1)

(does he?, didn't he?, isn't it?, wasn't he?, doesn't he?, is it?)

- (1) Anil was sleeping peacefully.
- (2) He doesn't even notice he's been robbed.
- (3) It's difficult to rob a careless man.

Ans. (1) Anil was sleeping peacefully, wasn't he?
 (2) He doesn't even notice he's been robbed, does he?
 (3) It's difficult to rob a careless man, isn't it?

A5. Personal Response :

* (1) What could have caused the scars on Hari's face?

Ans. Hari was a thief. He probably had got into trouble and fights while robbing people. He could also have been in bad company and got into fights with his companions, or been caught by the police, and been beaten. This could have led to scars on his face.

(2) What will you do if you are robbed by someone you know very well?

(Practice Activity Sheet 1)

Ans. If I am robbed by someone I know very well, I will firstly thrash out the matter with the thief frankly. I will then cut off my friendship with him/her and take care to keep my belongings under lock and key. I will also keep a close watch on his/her actions.

Q. 4. Read the following passage and do the activities :

A1. Simple Factual Activity :

Choose the correct alternatives from the given options :

Ans.

- | | |
|--|--------------------------|
| (1) The Lucknow Express had picked up/not picked up speed. | <u>not picked up</u> |
| (2) Hari wanted to/did not want to stay at a hotel. | <u>did not want to</u> |
| (3) On discovering the theft, Anil would feel sad for the loss of his money/the loss of trust. | <u>the loss of trust</u> |
| (4) Hari had never bought/always bought a ticket in his life. | <u>never bought</u> |

A2. Complex Factual Activity :

* Give reasons :

(1) Hari hesitated to board the train.

Ans. Hari unconsciously felt that if he left Anil, he would lose something precious. That is why he hesitated to board the train which would take him away from Anil.

(2) Hari believed that friends were more trouble than help.

Ans. Hari was a thief. In his line of work, friends would probably try to borrow from him or give away his whereabouts to the police. Or perhaps they would create trouble for him to save themselves. Hence he felt that friends were more trouble.

A3. Activities based on Vocabulary :

* (1) Find from the passage the collocations for the following :

- (1) ticket..... (2)slowly (3)drizzle

Ans. (1) ticket office (2) walked slowly
 (3) light drizzle

* (2) Insert the appropriate word/phrase given below, in the sentence that follows :

(flattery, appealing, by fits and starts, dashed to, undetected, spirits rose)

I the school gate when I heard the school-bell ring.

Ans. I dashed to the school gate when I heard the school-bell ring.

* (3) Pick out 3 examples of code-mixing from the passage :

Ans. Examples of code-mixing are : bazaar, maidan, pyjamas.

A4. Activities based on Contextual Grammar :

* (1) Frame Wh-questions to get the underlined answers : (Change the first person pronoun to second person pronoun whenever necessary.)

- (1) I had made a study of men's faces.
- (2) The poor man showed acceptance.

Ans. (1) What had you made?
 (2) Who showed acceptance?

(2) Rewrite the following sentences as

(a) compound sentences (b) simple sentences :

(i) When I reached the station I did not stop at the ticket office.

Ans. (a) Compound sentence : I reached the station but did not stop at the ticket office.

(b) Simple sentence : I did not stop at the ticket office on reaching the station.

(ii) When the train had gone. I found myself standing alone on the deserted platform.

Ans. (a) Compound sentence : The train had gone and I found myself standing alone on the deserted platform.

(b) Simple sentence : The train having gone. I found myself standing alone on the deserted platform.

A5. Personal Response :

***What is face-reading? Can you read faces?**

Ans. Face-reading is observing the expressions and emotions on the faces of people and interpreting them correctly. I am observant and read faces quite well. I am trying to improve this ability.

Q. 5. Read the following passage and do the activities :

A1. Simple Factual Activities :

(1) Fill in the blanks with the correct options from the brackets :

(The answers are underlined directly.)

(1) Hari felt very nervous when he returned to the room that night. (*nervous/excited*)

(2) Hari slipped the notes under the edge of the mattress. (*bed/mattress*)

(3) Hari's heart sank when he thought that his theft had been discovered. (*undetected/discovered*)

(4) Anil was asleep when Hari returned to the room. (*awake/asleep*)

(2) Rearrange the sentences in the order of occurrence :

(1) He crept to the head of the bed.

(2) He slipped the notes under the mattress.

(3) He opened the door quietly.

(4) He went back to the room.

Ans. (4) He went back to the room.

(3) He opened the door quietly.

(1) He crept to the head of the bed.

(2) He slipped the notes under the mattress.

Anil's money
..... without any effort.

Glossary : **undetected** - unobserved. **heart sank** (*phr*) - (*here*) felt suddenly frightened. **spirits rose** (*phr*) - became very hopeful and optimistic.

A2. Complex Factual Activities :

*** (1) Complete the following :**

(The answer is underlined directly.)

Hari felt nervous because he wanted to return the money, but he was afraid that Anil might catch him doing it.

*** (2) Describe Hari's regrets as he pondered over his theft.**

Ans. As he pondered over his theft, Hari regretted that henceforth he could not cook Anil's meals, run to the bazaar or learn to write whole sentences any more. He regretted that he would not become a big man, clever and respected.

*** (3) Does Anil realise that he has been robbed?**

Ans. Yes, Anil realises that he has been robbed.

*** (4) 'And the smile came by itself without any effort.' Say why.** OR

*** Explain why Hari gave a genuine appealing smile.**

Ans. Hari regretted what he had done. He went back to Anil in order to get an education. He realised that Anil knew that he had been robbed. He was relieved and happy that Anil had decided to ignore what had happened and to teach him to write whole sentences. He gave him an appealing smile to ask forgiveness for what he had done.

*** (5) What tact had Anil used to change Hari's dishonest ways?**

Ans. Anil had ignored Hari's attempts at robbing him. He had then tempted him by saying that they would start writing sentences, for he knew that this was what Hari wished for wholeheartedly. Anil provided motivation for Hari to change his ways.

A3. Activities based on Vocabulary :

(1) Find from the passage the collocations for the following :

*** (1)** spirits **(2)** appealing

Ans. (1) spirits rose (2) appealing way

***(2) Insert the appropriate word/phrase given below, in the sentence that follows :**

(flattery, appealing, by fits and starts, dashed to, undetected, spirits rose)

(1) The crime went for 11 years.

(2) After the death of my pet dog, my when dad got me a new pup.

Ans. (1) The crime went undetected for 11 years.

(2) After the death of my pet dog, my spirits rose when dad got me a new pup.

A4. Activities based on Contextual Grammar :

***(1) Frame a Wh-question to get the person underlined answer :** (Change the first person pronoun to second person pronoun if necessary)

I hurried back to the room.

Ans. Where did you hurry back to?

(2) Rewrite using the modal auxiliary 'might'.

(1) He would probably have given me two or three rupees to go to the cinema.

Ans. He might have given me two or three rupees to go to the cinema.

(2) Whole sentences, I knew, could one day bring me more than a few hundred rupees.

Ans. Whole sentences, I knew, might one day bring me more than a few hundred rupees.

A5. Personal Response :

***(1) Why didn't Anil hand Hari over to the police? What effect would it have on Hari?**

Ans. Anil was probably too kind-hearted to hand Hari over to the police. He might also have thought that he could try to make an honest man of Hari. If he had handed Hari over to the police, Hari would probably have been very bitter and angry, and would have continued in his dishonest ways. Not handing him over to the police had a positive effect on Hari, and may have changed the way he lived his life.

***(2) Do you feel Anil's way of handling a thief like Hari was effective? Justify your answer.**

Ans. Yes. Anil's way of handling a thief like Hari was effective. Anil had realized that Hari really wished to learn to write whole sentences, get an education and become a big man. So by forgiving him and giving him the motivation to learn, he changed Hari, which no police action could have done.

***(3) When do people give fake smiles?**

Ans. People give fake smiles when they are not happy with the situation they are in, or they realize that the other person is trying to cheat them or they want to get something.

***(4) What is the moral of the story?**

Ans. The moral of the story is that if we are good, people are good to us in return. Even thieves respect goodness and kindness.

LANGUAGE STUDY ACTIVITIES

(based on vocabulary and grammar)

(A) A1. Do as directed (Simple Activities) :

(8 Marks)

(1) Use the following phrase in your own sentence : (1)

a touch of sadness

(2) Spot the error and rewrite the correct sentence : (1)

My hand find the edge of the mattress.

(3) Find out five hidden words from the given word : publisher (1)

(4) Pick out an infinitive from the lesson and use it in your own sentence. (1)

(5) Identify the type of sentence : (1)
"Can you cook?"

***(6) Complete the compound words from the story :** (Any two will be asked in the activity sheet) (1)

(i) oil (ii) fifty (iii) easy.....

(iv) tower (v) moon

(7) Write the present and past participles of 'rob'. (1)

(8) Punctuate : i asked can you feed me (1)
Ans.

(1) There was a touch of sadness in the face of the beautiful woman.

(2) My hand found the edge of the mattress.

(3) publisher - publish, brush, blush, plush, slurp.

(4) I wanted to get a good book from the library.

(5) Interrogative sentence.

(6) (i) oil-rich (ii) fifty rupee (iii) easy-going

(iv) clock tower (v) moonlight.
(7) present participle-robbing; past participle-robbed.

(8) I asked, "Can you feed me?"

A2. Do as directed (Medium Level Activities) :

(8 Marks)

(1) Use the following word and its homophone in two separate sentences : knew (2)

(2) I took a new name every month.

(Change the voice beginning 'A new ...') (2)

(3) Anil talked about the well-oiled wrestlers.

(Rewrite using the past progressive tense of the verb.) (2)

(4) "Well," I said modestly, "I do wrestle a bit."

(Rewrite in reported speech.) (2)

Ans. (1) (i) The boy knew the poem very well.

(ii) The jacket was new and expensive.

(2) A new name was taken by me every month.

(3) Anil was talking about the well-oiled wrestlers.

(4) I modestly said that I did wrestle a bit.

(B) Do as directed (Challenging Activities) :

(4 Marks)

(1) Use the following word as a verb and a noun in two separate sentences : cook (2)

(2) Analyse the sentence :

I was still a thief when I met Anil. (2)

Ans. (1) (i) We cook fresh meals daily at home. (verb)

(ii) The new cook resigned from his job after just two days. (noun)

(2) Complex Sentence :

I was still a thief – Main Clause ;

when I met Anil – adverb clause of time.

WRITING SKILLS

Q. 1. Read the story carefully and complete the table : (The answers are given directly.)

Total no. of characters	Names	Ages	Physical appearance	Earned money by	Qualities
2	Anil	25	tall, lean, with a clear, unlined face	writing for magazines ; writing books	kind, simple, easy-going, pleasant, forgiving, tactful
	Hari	15	thin, with many scars on the face	stealing and cheating people	cunning, shrewd, insincere, untruthful, ambitious, grateful

Q. 2. Write a character sketch of Hari Singh with the help of the following points, using the paragraph format.

Hari Singh's background
His dishonesty
His aspirations
His courage to change himself

Ans. Hari Singh was fifteen years old, but already an experienced and fairly successful thief. He used to change his name frequently so as not to get caught by his former employers, whom he must have cheated, or by the police. He even cheated Anil when he went to buy the daily supply of groceries. However, he wished to get an education so that he could become a big and respected man, who would be able to achieve a lot.

He stole a large sum of money from Anil, but regretted it when he realized that in doing so he had lost his only chance of getting an education. He is courageous enough to return the money, even though he knows that he may be caught in the process. However,

his desire to change himself is so great that it motivates him and gives him courage to return to Anil.

Q. 3. Prepare a short character sketch of Anil.

Ans. Anil was a kind, simple and easy-going young man. He was tall and lean in stature and interested in sports like wrestling. He was not very rich, and could not afford to employ Hari as a cook. He had the patience and goodness to not only teach Hari to cook but also to read, write and add numbers. Though he knew that Hari was stealing little bits of money from him, he ignored this fact.

Anil was a writer who wrote for magazines and made money in fits and starts. He was a very trusting person. Even when he earned a large amount of money, he kept the money under his mattress and not under lock and key. He was generous and paid Hari when he got some money, even though he knew that Hari had tried to steal the money from him. He was forgiving, for he forgave Hari the theft and continued to be good to him.

Q. 4. Imagine that Anil catches Hari red-handed when Hari is stealing the money from under the mattress. Compose a short dialogue between the two, which reflects Anil's shock and Hari's repeated apologies.

Ans. Anil : Who's that? Hari? What are you doing?

Hari : Um..nothing; I was just seeing if your money was safe.

Anil : You mean you were trying to steal my money. You are dressed; you were planning to rob me and run away! Yes, that's it!

Hari : I'm sorry, Anil, I'm sorry.

Anil : How can you steal from the hand that feeds you? I thought you would have improved! Don't you want to read and write properly? Do maths?

Hari : I did not think about it. I'm sorry, really sorry.

Anil : Alright, I'll overlook this, providing you promise me never to steal again, from me or from anyone else.

Hari : Yes, yes, I promise. Will you really forgive me and continue to teach me?

Anil : Yes. I hope you keep your word.

Hari : Thank you. I'll keep my word. I promise. Sorry once again.

FURTHER READING

Read : Short stories and anthologies by Ruskin Bond.



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