



What Makes Us Humans ?

(The scene is a desolate road on a wintry night.) Harish, the thief, looks like any other young man of his age. But he carries a gun—and it makes him different.

Harish *(to himself)* : I must start searching for my target at once. I am running out of money.

Harish spots a decent looking house and immediately decides to steal the valuables. *(The scene shifts to the house.)* Harish jumps inside the house through an open window. Suddenly, he sees light coming from one of the rooms. He takes out his gun and enters the room. He finds an old man lying in his bed. Harish stands near the bed and points his gun at the man. There is a sense of pain upon the face of the man. He is in his night suit and looks older than his age.

Harish : Hands up ! Don't shout..... Don't move.

(The old man opens his eyes and looks at Harish confused by the sudden happenings. He manages to raise only one of his hands.)

Old man : *(in a tired and feeble voice)* : Take whatever you want. But please allow me to put my hand down.

Harish *(confused)* : What's wrong with you ?

(The old man begins his story painfully.)

Old man : “Look ! Here I am all alone to take care of myself. I can't even move my hands. I am suffering from rheumatism.”

(Tears of pain roll down the cheeks of the old man.)

(Harish drops the gun and sits down beside the old man.)

Harish *(in a gentle voice)* : I am extremely sorry for causing you the pain. Please be comfortable. I share your pain, sir. I am suffering from rheumatism myself. I am in the initial stage.

Old man : Oh.... Uhhh ! Then you will suffer like me in the old age.

Harish : Sir, I am taking the medicines as prescribed by the doctor. But the pain and swelling are terrible.

Old Man : I know exactly how it feels ! Always take bath with hot water. Never miss your medicines. Take regular walks.

Harish (eagerly) : Sir, what can I do for you to make you feel comfortable ?

Old man : Can we go out for a little walk ?

Harish : Sure ! Let me help you get dressed.

(Soon Harish and the old man are down walking along the road.)

Old Man : I am so thankful to you, son. I could take this walk only because of you.

Harish (happily) : I am glad that I could be of some help to you.

Old Man (as they are nearing a tea-stall) : Would you like to have a cup of hot tea with me ? It always helps to minimise the pain !

(Harish nods in acceptance. The scene shifts to the tea-stall. The old man looks for his wallet to pay the money.)

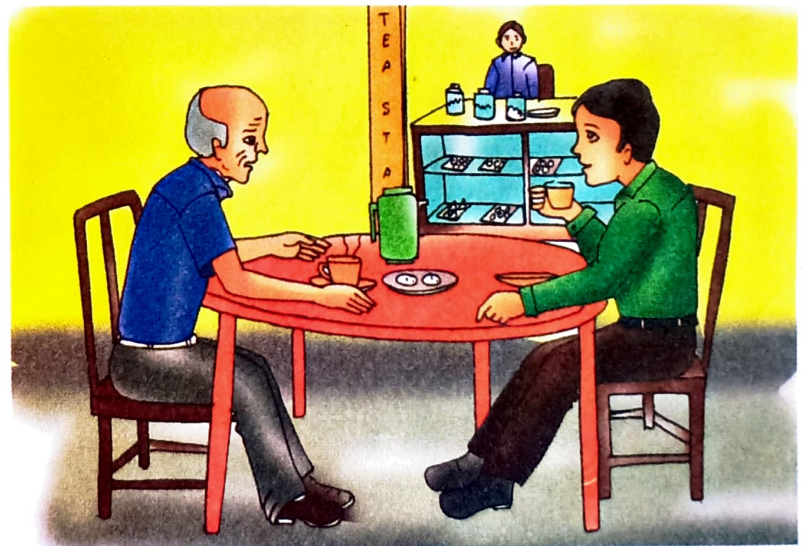
Old Man : Oh....I forgot my wallet at home. I am so sorry !

Harish (smiling at the old man) : I shall pay the money for tea tonight. Next time when we come here, it will be your turn !

(The old man smiles at

Harish. Harish enjoys the best cup of tea of his life with the old man.)

(Adapted from O. Henry's "Makes the Whole World Kin")



New words

desolate wintry decent feeble rheumatism acceptance
wallet swelling glad comfortable nods tonight valuables shift
confused painfully suffering extremely prescribed terrible minimise

About the Author

O Henry is the pen name of William Sydney Porter (September 11, 1862–June 5, 1910). He is an American short story writer. His short stories are famous for their characters, intelligence and surprise endings. Some of his famous short stories are “**The Gift of the Magi**”, “**What You Want**”, “**The Girl and the Habit**”, “**An Unfinished Story**” etc.

For the Teacher only

The students are expected to learn the different uses of the simple present tense and adjective.

Comprehension :

1. Answer the following questions in complete sentences.
 - a) Who is Harish ?
 - b) What is the old man suffering from ?
 - c) What does the old man forget at home ?
 - d) Who pays the money for tea that night ?
2. Write whether the following statements are true or false.
 - a) Harish carries a gun with him.
 - b) The man looks older than his age.
 - c) The man suffers from tonsillitis.
 - d) The man lives with his family.

A.

Simple Present Tense

Simple present tense is used to talk about habitual actions, everyday actions and universal truths.

Sentence structure of Simple Present Tense

Subject + base form of the verb

Riniki plays

They swim

Now look at the following table

	Singular		Plural	
First person :	I	sing	We	sing
Second person :	You	sing	You	sing
Third person :	He/She	sings	They	sing

When the subject is in the third person singular number, the verb takes *s/ es* in Simple Present tense.

Activity 1

Fill in the blanks with the correct simple present tense form of the verbs given in brackets.

- Rekha always (play) with her brother.
- Birds (fly) in the sky.
- My parents (work) in the same office.
- Indira (practise) Sattriya every day.

- e) The sun (rise) in the east.
- f) Gold (be) bright.
- g) Priya often (want) to buy new clothes.
- h) The earth (revolve) round the sun.
- i) Nitu usually (come) to school on foot.
- j) My sister (eat) vegetables regularly.
- k) Anita's grandfather (visit) her home every month.
- l) Generally he (open) his shop around 8 a.m.
- m) My uncle (watch) a film every Friday.

Activity 2

Complete the following sentences using the verbs given in the box.

swim(s)	speak(s)	eat(s)	play(s)
bark(s)	write(s)	draw(s)	buy(s)

- a) Grandma Bengali very well.
- b) I rice in the morning.
- c) Anita fast.
- d) Anish and Nisha basketball together.
- e) Susmita beautiful pictures.
- f) This dog at strangers.
- g) They short stories for magazines.
- h) Amit novels every month.

Activity 3

Find out as many verbs as you can from the crossword puzzle given below. You can take help of the CLUE BOX.

R	B	E	S	T	O	P	S
U	E	X	I	Y	Z	O	C
B	E	A	T	A	K	E	O
A	S	K	D	R	E	A	M
T	R	Y	R	U	E	G	E
H	I	T	A	N	P	O	T
S	E	E	W	S	I	T	S

CLUE BOX

- | | |
|----------------|-----------|
| 1. KEEP | 9. TAKE |
| 2. TRY | 10. DRAW |
| 3. RUB | 11. SEE |
| 4. RUNS | 12. GO |
| 5. READ | 13. TIE |
| 6. ASK | 14. SITS |
| 7. EAT | 15. STOPS |
| 8. COME | 16. BEAT |

B.

Adjective

Adjective describes a **noun** or a **pronoun** in a sentence.

Uses of Adjective

Read the following sentences

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. He is a good boy. | 3. It is a red flower. |
| 2. The boy is good . | 4. The flower is red . |

In sentences **1** and **3**, the adjectives **good** and **red** are placed close to and before the **nouns** *boy* and *flower*.

(These adjectives are said to be used **attributively**.)

In sentences **2** and **4**, the adjectives **good** and **red** come after the **verbs**.

(These adjectives are said to be used **predicatively**. These are the two uses of adjectives.)

Read the sentences carefully: Here the adjectives are used **predicatively**.

- a) That butterfly is colourful.
- b) The water in the glass feels hot.
- c) The man looks tired.
- d) He seems honest.

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Activity 4

Rewrite the following sentences using the adjectives predicatively.

- a) It is a beautiful morning.
The morning (ans : The morning **is beautiful**)
- b) She is a lazy girl on Sundays.
The girl on Sundays.
- c) He is a wonderful cook.
The cook
- d) It is a big room.
The room
- e) It is an amazing scenery outside.
The scenery outside
- f) That is a colourful umbrella.
That umbrella
- g) She is a brave girl.
The girl
- h) It is a long story.
The story
- i) They have a big house.
Their house
- j) She has a pleasant personality.
Her personality

Writing Activity

Complete the following story with the help of the words given in the box.

down tell should help indeed goes friends small town away around near
ground dead frightened climbs know intelligent stands hair through bear

Riju and Biju are two friends. They live in a small village. One day, they go to the town. On the way they pass through jungle. Suddenly they see a big bear on their way. It has long black hair on its body. Riju at once climbs up a tall tree. But Biju does not know how to climb a tree. He stands there for some time. He is a brave and an intelligent boy. So, he is not frightened. He knows that bears do not eat dead bodies. He lies down on the ground like a dead body. After some time the bear comes near him. It walks around him and smells him. Then it goes away. Now, Riju comes down from the tree. He asks Biju, "Biju, what did the bear tell you?" Biju says, "It told me that I should trust only those friends who help me in danger. A friend in need is a friend indeed. Then Biju goes away."

1. A lion lives in a den.
2. A snake lives in a hole.
3. A dog lives in a kennel.
4. A cow lives in a shed.
5. A horse lives in a stable.
6. A spider lives in a cobweb.
7. Honey bees live in a hive.
8. A bird lives in a nest.
9. A pig lives in a pigsty.
10. A rabbit lives in a burrow.
11. A hen lives in a coop.
12. A sheep lives in a fold.
13. A tiger lives in a lair / den.

