

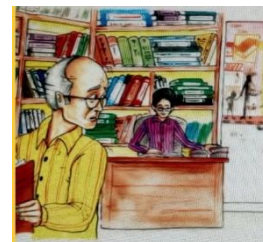


# INDIAN SCHOOL AL WADI AL KABIR

<b>Class: VIII</b>	<b>Department: ENGLISH</b>	<b>Date of submission: OCTOBER -2024</b>
<b>Worksheet No:14</b>	<b>Topic: BEPIN CHOUDHURY'S LAPSE OF MEMORY</b>	<b>Note: TO BE DONE IN ENGLISH PROSE NOTEBOOK</b>

## ✓ SUMMARY OF THE STORY:

Bepin Choudhury's Lapse of Memory is a humorous story about a man, Bepin Choudhury. He is the protagonist of the story who thinks he is sick. He meets people who tell him about an incident that he does not remember at all. This confuses Bepin a lot because he feels only one memory is missing. He remembers everything well, but not what the other gentlemen convince him of. Thus, it is convincing enough for him that he has gotten a lapse of memory. The whole story follows all the events and his journey to find out the truth. However, we come to know at the end that it was all made up. His old friend played a practical joke on him out of spite. Bepin did not help his friend in need, so his friend did all this. It was all set up *all* along, and Bepin was always fine.



## ✓ MESSAGE FROM THE STORY:

In "Bepin Choudhury's 's Lapse of Memory," the author explores themes of memory, identity, and the complexities of human relationships. The central message of the story revolves around the fragility of memory and its impact on personal identity and relationships.

1. **Fragility of Memory:** The story underscores how memory can be unreliable and easily distorted. Bepin Choudhury's 's memory lapse leads to confusion and misunderstanding, highlighting the vulnerability of memory as a tool for understanding ourselves and others.
2. **Impact on Identity:** Bepin's memory lapse raises questions about identity. When he forgets crucial details about his own life, including his own identity, it prompts reflection on how memories shape our sense of self and how losing them can affect our understanding of who we are.
3. **Complexity of Relationships:** The story also examines the dynamics within relationships when faced with memory loss. Bepin's wife and the doctor struggle with how to handle his condition, revealing the challenges and emotional turmoil that come with caring for someone experiencing memory problems.
4. **Acceptance and Support:** Another message is the importance of acceptance and support in difficult circumstances. Despite Bepin's memory lapse, there is an underlying sense of compassion and empathy from those around him, highlighting the human capacity for understanding and care in the face of adversity.

*Overall, "Bepin Choudhury's Lapse of Memory" encourages readers to contemplate the intricacies of memory, identity, and relationships, emphasizing empathy and understanding in dealing with the challenges of memory loss.*

✓ WORD BANK

S.No.	WORD	MEANING
1.	idle chat	unnecessary, routine conversation
2.	meek	quiet; humble
3.	utter disbelief	complete surprise
4.	(his) head reeled	he was shocked and confused
5.	losing his mind	becoming mad
6.	intimate	very personal and private
7.	bracing	stimulating
8.	going nuts	going mad / crazy
9.	getting into people's hair	interfering with and annoying people
10.	sleuthing	investigating (an event)
11.	carry on	continue
12.	conscientious	careful and correct
13.	head was in a whirl	confused and unable to think clearly
14.	gather his wits together	make an effort to become calm and think clearly.
15.	having a rough time	having a lot of problems
16.	turning up like a bad penny	appearing at a place where one is not welcome
17.	didn't beat about the bush	came straight to the point
18.	off and on	now and then
19.	throw your mind back	think back and recall a past event
20.	must see about consulting	(here) may have to consult
21.	tranquilliser	a medicine to reduce stress and anxiety
22.	procured	got (with a little difficulty)
23.	came round	regained consciousness
24.	in retribution of	as a punishment for

✓ Comprehension Check (Pg. No.58)

**1. Why did the man stare at Bepin Babu in disbelief?**

**Ans:** The man was surprised because he believed he had met Bepin in Ranchi, but Bepin denied any such memory, causing the disbelief.



**2. Where did Bepin Babu say he went in October '58?**

**Ans:** Bepin claimed that he spent his Puja holidays in Kanpur with a friend during October '58.

**3. Mention any Three (or More) things that Parimal Ghose knew about Bepin Babu.**

**Ans:** Parimal knew that Bepin slipped near Hudroo Falls and injured his leg, preferred food prepared by a bawarchi, and that his wife had passed away 10 years ago.

✓ Comprehension Check (Pg. No.61)



**1. Why did Bepin Babu worry about what Parimal Ghose had said?**

**Ans:** Parimal mentioned personal facts about Bepin, such as his wife's death, his brother's insanity, his bag of books, and his foot injury. These details convinced Bepin that Parimal knew him well, making him worry because he could not remember the Ranchi trip.

**2. How did he try to decide who was right - his memory or Parimal Ghose?**

**Ans:** Bepin checked the old injury mark on his right leg, as mentioned by Parimal, but he wasn't sure if it was from his childhood or from the Ranchi trip. This increased his confusion, so he decided to ask Dinesh Mukerji, who, according to Parimal, was with him in Ranchi. Bepin believed this would resolve his confusion.

**3. Why did Bepin Babu hesitate to visit Mr. Mukerji? Why did he finally decide to phone him?**

**Ans:** Bepin hesitated because he feared Mr. Mukerji's reaction. If the Ranchi incident was false, Mukerji might think Bepin had gone insane. However, after his unsettling encounter at the bookshop, Bepin became desperate to ease his anxiety and decided to call Mukerji, despite the potential embarrassment.

**4. What did Mr. Mukerji Say? Did it comfort Bepin Babu, or add to his worries?**

**Ans:** Mr. Mukerji confirmed Bepin's trip to Ranchi after checking his diary. This only added to Bepin's worries, as he still couldn't remember anything about the trip.

✓ Comprehension Check (Pg. No.64)

**1. Who was Chunilal? What did he want from Bepin Babu?**

**Ans:** Chunilal was an old schoolmate of Bepin Babu. He was going through tough times and wanted Bepin's help in finding a job.

**2. Why was Dr. Chanda puzzled? What was unusual about Bepin Babu's loss of memory?**

**Ans:** Dr. Chanda was puzzled because Bepin could remember everything except his trip to Ranchi. This selective memory loss was unusual and didn't fit any case the doctor had encountered before.

✓ Comprehension Check (Pg. No.66)

**1. Had Bepin Babu really lost his memory and forgotten all about a trip to Ranchi?**

**Ans:** No, Bepin hadn't actually lost his memory. Chunilal had played a trick on him to make him believe he had forgotten about the trip to Ranchi, as revenge for not helping Chunilal when he needed it.

**2. Why do you think Chunilal did what he did? Chunilal says he has no money; What is it that he does have?**

**Ans:** Chunilal wanted revenge because Bepin hadn't helped him when he was in financial trouble. Although Chunilal had no money, he had creativity and used it to trick Bepin by playing with his memories.



✓ Working with Text (Pg. No. 66)



1. **The Author describes Bepin Babu as a serious and hardworking Man. What evidence can you find in the story to support this?**

**Ans:** Bepin worked at a big firm for twenty-five years and had a reputation as a conscientious and hardworking individual.

2. **Why did Bepin Babu change his mind about meeting Chunilal? What was the result of this meeting?**

**Ans:** Initially, Bepin avoided Chunilal, but later he met him to discuss the Ranchi trip, which he could not remember. To Bepin's surprise, Chunilal confirmed the trip, leaving him even more confused and prompting him to consult a doctor.

2. **Bepin Babu lost consciousness at Hudroo Falls. What do you think was the reason for this?**

**Ans:** It seems that Bepin's fall at Hudroo Falls caused him to lose his memory, and he couldn't recall anything that happened after that fall. The injury might have affected his memory.

4. **How do you think Bepin Babu reacted when he found out that Chunilal had tricked him?**

**Ans:** Bepin likely felt a mix of regret and realization. He may have felt remorse for not helping Chunilal earlier, but at the same time, he would have realized that he had been the victim of a clever prank.

✓ Character Sketch

1. **Bepin Choudhury:** is an old man who had no children. He was living a lonely life after his wife's demise. He was working in reputed firm at responsible post and have few friends.  
Personality: He had keen interest in reading books. This is shown in starting of story, he stops his car every Monday in New market to buy books. He never wanted to waste his time in idle chatting.
2. **Parimal Ghose:** He is round faced, meek looking man who intrude Bepin Choudhury in book shop. He tried to make believe Bepin Babu that he had gone to Ranchi. He also provided many evidences that make Bepin rely on his statement.
3. **Chunni Lal:** He is school friend of Bepin Choudhary. He previously worked in travel agency but now in search of job. He kept visiting Bepin's house about the job but Bepin always disregards him. Bepin Babu had also not helped him financially at time of need so he tried to took revenge by frustrating Bepin's mind through his imaginative.
4. **Dr. Paresh Chandra:** He is a young physician with pair of bright eyes and a sharp nose. He is called by Bepin Choudhury to treat memory loss problem.



<https://youtu.be/2ebzOJYvKYk>

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