



INDIAN SCHOOL AL WADI AL KABIR

Class: VI	Department: ENGLISH	Date of Submission: April 2025
WORKSHEET NO: 1	Topic: THE UNLIKELY BEST FRIENDS	Note: To be written in the notebook



The Unlikely Best Friends

I. Summary:



It is a heartwarming tale about friendship bonding. Gajaraj, an elephant living in the royal stables, enjoyed comfort and care from his mahout but felt lonely without friends. One day, a tired and hungry stray dog wandered into the stable. Gajaraj, moved by compassion, shared his food with the dog. The dog gratefully accepted the meal and soon became Gajaraj's friend. They spent a joyful day together: Gajaraj showered in the elephant pond while the dog watched, and they played games like splashing water. Gajaraj even gave the dog rides on his back, which delighted them both. Their friendship was

abruptly interrupted when the dog's owner recognized him and took him away. Gajaraj and the dog were devastated by their separation. Gajaraj, in his sorrow, refused to eat, which worried his mahout deeply. Meanwhile, the dog, now back with his owner, also refused to eat, clearly missing his friend. Unable to bear seeing the dog unhappy, the farmer decided to let him return to Gajaraj. The dog raced back to the stable and was joyfully reunited with Gajaraj, who swung him happily with his trunk. The mahout and the farmer, witnessing the deep bond between the two animals, were moved. They also shared a meal, celebrating the reunion and the enduring friendship between Gajaraj and the dog. The story highlights the power of friendship and the deep emotional connection between animals, showing how companionship can bring joy and meaning to life.

II. Word Bank

1. booth: rectangular space
2. stables: living spaces for animals
3. interacted with: communicated with
4. strayed: came by mistake
5. munching: chewing
6. wagged: moved from side to side



7. convey: communicate
8. crumbs: small pieces of food
9. accompanied: went with someone
10. plunging: jumping in
11. trunk: long nose
12. splashed: threw
13. yelped: cried
14. delighted: happy
15. hugged: held closely
16. disappeared: was not seen
17. realise: understand
18. winced: shrunk back in pain or distress
19. chores: daily duties
20. slight: a little
21. indigestion: upset stomach
22. tummy: stomach
23. sprang: jumped
24. joyous: happy
25. swing: move side to side or back and forth
26. relieved-thankful
27. satisfaction: happiness

III. Answer the following questions.

1. Why did the farmer hug Buntree?

Ans: The farmer hugged Buntree as he was glad to see Buntree. The farmer has been looking for Buntree since he disappeared from his house.

2. Do you think Buntree will leave Gajaraj and go home with the farmer?

Ans: No, Buntree is unlikely to leave Gajaraj and go home with the farmer voluntarily. The story shows that Buntree and Gajaraj share a deep bond and have become inseparable friends.

3. Why did Gajaraj not eat his food?

Ans: Gajaraj did not eat his food because he was feeling sad and lonely after Buntree, the dog, was taken away from him. He missed his friend deeply, and this emotional distress affected his appetite.

4. Who were friends at the end of the story?

Ans: At the end of the story, the friends were:

- Gajaraj (the elephant)
- Buntree (the dog)
- The mahout (elephant trainer)
- The farmer

The story concludes with the reunion of Gajaraj and Buntree, who continue their friendship. Additionally, the mahout and the farmer also form a friendship as they bond over their shared concern for Gajaraj and Buntree's happiness.

5. How did the mahout come to know that Gajaraj was sad?

Ans: The mahout noticed that Gajaraj was not eating his food, which was unusual behavior for the elephant. Despite checking Gajaraj's physical condition and finding nothing wrong, the mahout suspected that Gajaraj might be feeling sad due to the absence of Buntree, his only friend.

6. Why was Gajaraj sad despite living in royal comfort?

Ans: Gajaraj was sad because he had no friends. Despite being well looked after by the king and his caretaker, the mahout, Gajaraj longed for companionship beyond his interactions with them.

7. How did the mahout care for Gajaraj, and why was he not considered a friend?

Ans: The mahout took care of Gajaraj by serving him food and giving him daily baths in the elephant pond. He was a kind caretaker but not considered a friend because their relationship did not involve companionship beyond basic care. Gajaraj desired emotional connection and companionship that the mahout, despite his kindness, could not provide.

8. Why do you think Buntree licked the farmer's hand?

Ans: Buntree licked the farmer's hand as a gesture of gratitude and affection. The farmer had shown kindness and understanding by allowing Buntree to return to Gajaraj, which made Buntree happy. Licking the farmer's hand was Buntree's way of expressing thanks and acknowledging the farmer's compassion.

9. What was 'unlikely' about the friendship of Gajaraj and Buntree?

Ans: The friendship between Gajaraj and Buntree was unlikely because they were different species – an elephant and a dog. Normally, elephants and dogs do not interact closely in natural settings. However, their friendship blossomed due to their shared circumstances and the emotional bond they developed through their interactions and mutual care.

10. Give two examples to show that Gajaraj was very happy to have a friend.

Ans:

- Gajaraj shared his food with Buntree when the dog was hungry, showing his generosity and care.
- Gajaraj playfully splashed water on Buntree during their bath together, indicating their playful and joyful interactions.

IV. Read the following lines and answer the questions that follow.

(a) Despite royal comforts, Gajaraj was sad because he had no friends. The mahout, or elephant trainer, was the only one he ever interacted with. The mahout was a kind man who served Gajaraj food and gave him a bath in the elephant pond daily. He was a good caretaker, but not a friend.

(i) Complete with one word:

mahout: kind: Gajaraj: _____

Ans: Sad

(ii) The mahout was a good caretaker because he gave _____ to Gajaraj and a _____ in the pond.

Ans: Food, Bath

(iii) What do you think is the difference between a friend and a caretaker?

While both friends and caretakers play important roles in the lives of others, the difference lies in their relationship, the roles they fulfill, and the emotional connection they share. Friends provide companionship, emotional support, and mutual understanding, whereas caretakers focus on meeting practical needs and ensuring the physical well-being of those under their care.

(b) “Are you missing your friend?” asked the farmer remembering the happy look on Buntree’s face while sitting on the elephant’s back. “I cannot see you go hungry,” said the farmer, “If you miss your friend so much, go to him.” The farmer removed the rope with which he had tied the dog.

(i) The farmer uses the word _____ to refer to the elephant.

Ans: Friend

(ii) How did the farmer know that Buntree was hungry?

Ans: The farmer noticed that Buntree had not touched his food since coming home with him. Hence, he could see that Buntree was hungry.

(iii) Why did the farmer remove the rope with which he had tied Buntree?

Ans: The farmer removed the rope because he empathized with Buntree’s longing for his friend, Gajaraj. Seeing Buntree unhappy and not eating, the farmer realized that Buntree’s happiness lay with Gajaraj. Therefore, he allowed Buntree to go back to his friend by removing the rope.

(iv) Complete with one word:

Gajaraj: Buntree: _____: farmer

Ans: Mahout



V. Criss-Cross Puzzle

Use the clues to fill in the words below.

Words can go across or down.

Letters are shared when the words intersect.

ACROSS

3. chewing

5. was not see

7. rectangular space

10. long nose

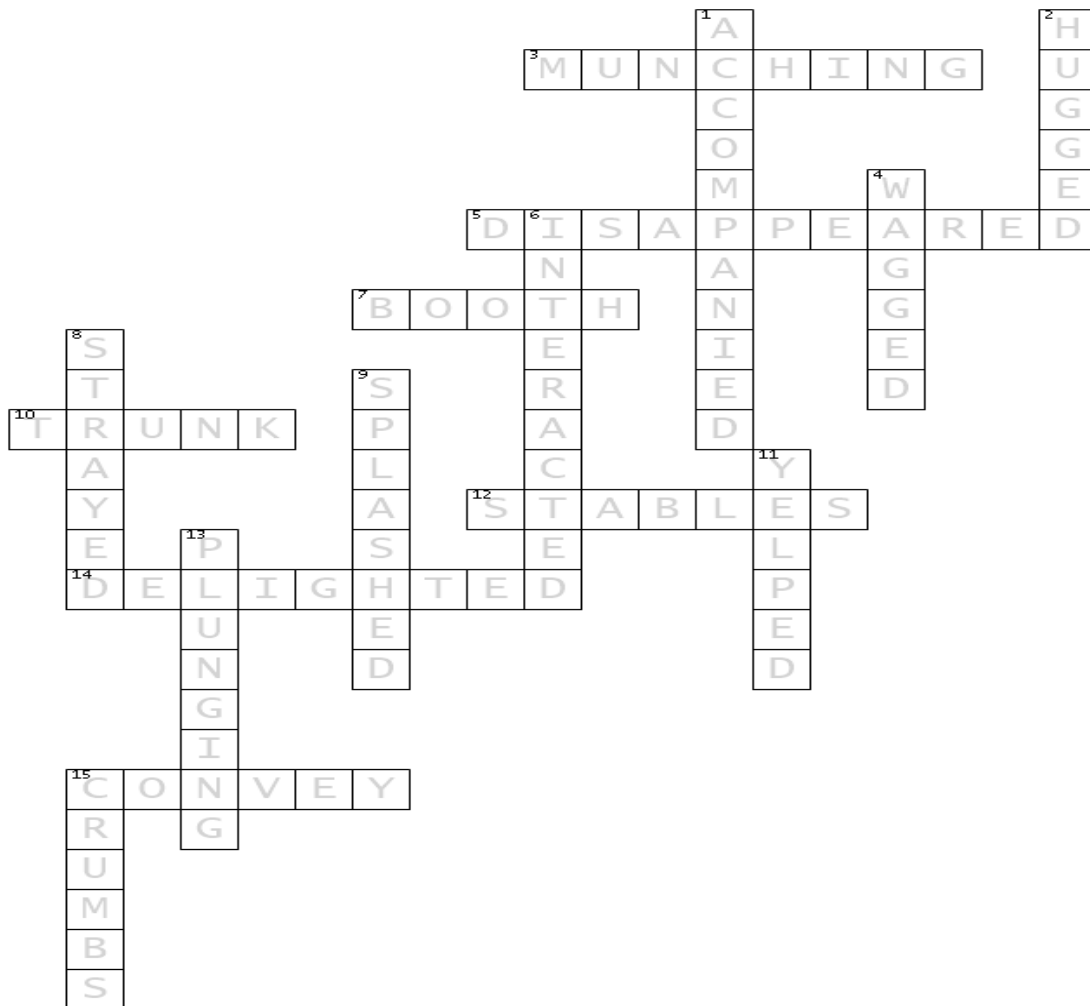
12. living spaces for animals

14. happy

15. communicate

DOWN

1. went with someone
2. held closely
4. moved from side to side
6. with: communicated with
8. came by mistake
9. threw
11. cried
13. jumping in
15. small pieces of food



Web Resources:

Video lesson: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gajDQ60ec_E
