



INDIAN SCHOOL AL WADI AL KABIR

Class: VIII	Department: ENGLISH	Date of submission: September 2026
Worksheet No: 16	Topic: THE MAGIC BRUSH OF DREAMS	Note: To be written in notebook

SUMMARY

The Magic Brush of Dreams tells the story of Gopi, a poor village girl who receives a magical paintbrush from a stranger with instructions to use it only for the needy. She uses the brush to bring food, clothes, and tools to life for her fellow villagers. When a greedy Zamindar demands that she paint him gold, jewels, and a fortress, Gopi courageously refuses. He imprisons her, but Gopi cleverly paints a road, a swift horse, and a rushing river to escape his guards, returning home to celebrate victory with her village.



Word Bank

WORD	MEANING
Twig	A small, thin branch or shoot off a tree or bush
Grin	Smile broadly or widely showing happiness or excitement
Fortress	A large, strong building or castle built for protection and defense
Comply	To obey or act according to a command, request, or rule
Seize	To take hold of something forcibly, suddenly, or by official power

I. Read the given extracts and answer the questions that follow.

1. *But on a stone there sits a man,
A brush is in his hand.
He looks around. He calls to Gopi.
“Come here!” he whispers. “Hush!
We mustn’t let the village know
About this magic brush. ”*

*He slips the brush into her hand
And tells her to be sure,
“Paint not for the wealthy ones,
But only for the poor.*



(i) Fill in the blank by selecting the correct option from those given in the brackets.

The man is whispering and telling
Gopi to keep the brush a secret reflects his _____
(careful and secretive/magical and delightful) nature.

Ans. careful and secretive.

(ii) What is the significance of the man slipping the brush into Gopi's hand?

Ans. It shows that he trusts Gopi and believes she will use the magic brush wisely and with kindness.

(iii) Complete the following sentence with a suitable reason.

The most likely reason the man instructs Gopi to ‘Paint not for wealthy ones but only for the poor’ is because he wants the brush to be used for helping those in need, not for greed or selfish gain.

(iv) Select the most appropriate title for the extract from the two given below.

- A. The Secret of the Magic Brush
- B. Gopi's Special Gift

Ans. A. The Secret of the Magic Brush



*2. And soon the news spreads far and wide,
Through forests, fields, and plains,
Until the Zamindar himself
Hears of these magic gains.
“I order you to paint for me,
A fortress tall and grand.
Paint treasures, jewels, and riches rare,
Enough to rule this land.*

(i) Complete the following sentence with the correct reason.

The news of Gopi's magic brush spreads ‘through forests, field, and plains’ because of its miraculous ability to turn drawings into real things that help people. .

(ii) Why does the poet refer to things painted by Gopi's paintbrush as ‘magic gains’?

Ans. Because everything Gopi paints with the brush becomes real and brings joy or relief to others, especially the poor, making it seem magical and valuable.

(iii) Which of the following statements given below is false? Rectify the false statement.

A. Gopi's magic brush draws the attention of the powerful Zamindar.

B. The Zamindar requests Gopi to paint a grand fortress and jewels.

Ans. B. The Zamindar requests Gopi to paint a grand fortress and jewels.

Rectification: The Zamindar orders, not requests, Gopi to paint a grand fortress and jewels.

(iv) What does the Zamindar's demand for a grand fortress and jewels reveal about his character?

Ans. It reveals that the Zamindar is greedy, selfish, and obsessed with power. He only wants to use the magic brush for personal wealth and control.

II. Answer the following questions.

1. Explain why Gopi made the right decision by refusing to paint for the Zamindar.

Ans. Gopi made the right decision because the Zamindar was greedy and wanted to misuse the brush for personal gain. Gopi remained loyal to her promise to use the brush only for the poor and needy.

2. Gopi threatens to draw a beast to scare away the Zamindar. Justify her action. How would you have dealt with the situation differently?

Ans. Gopi's action was justified because she was protecting herself and stopping the Zamindar from misusing the brush. She used her cleverness to scare him away without hurting anyone. If I were in her place, I might have done the same or tried to convince the villagers to stand up against the Zamindar together.

3. What is the significance of Gopi celebrating with the villagers at the end of the poem?

Ans. It shows that goodness and kindness win in the end. It also highlights Gopi's love for her village and her selfless use of the brush to bring happiness to others.

4. Compare Gopi's use of the magic brush to how the Zamindar would have used it.

Ans. Gopi used the brush to help the poor and bring joy, while the Zamindar wanted to use it to get wealth and power for himself. Gopi's use was generous and kind, but the Zamindar's use would have been greedy and harmful.

5. What can be inferred about Gopi's character based on her refusal to follow the Zamindar's orders?

Ans. Gopi is brave, honest, kind, and determined. She values helping others over fear or pressure, and she stays true to her morals even when threatened.

6. Justify the appropriateness of the title of the poem.

Ans. The title “The Magic Brush of Dreams” is appropriate because the brush fulfills the dreams of poor people by turning helpful drawings into real things. It brings hope and change through kindness and imagination.

7. If you had the magic brush, how would you use it in today’s world?

Ans. I would use the brush to paint food for the hungry, homes for the homeless, medicines for the sick, and books for children without access to education. I would try to make the world a better place for those in need.

EXTRA QUESTIONS FOR REFERENCE

1. *That night the Zamindar lies in bed,
Dreaming of his gold,
While Gopi paints a winding road,
The road leads out of prison gates.
The horse, she swiftly urges
Gopi leaps on and gallops fast,
Through fields and many villages.*

a. How does Gopi's use of the magic brush reflect her resourcefulness?

Gopi's use of the magic brush reflect her resourcefulness as she paints an immediate escape route—a winding road out of prison and a fast horse—turning her creative talent into a practical means of escape.

b. Substitute the underlined phrase with the correct word from the extract.

The cheetah darted very quickly across the savannah, chasing its prey.

Ans. Swift/fast

2. Assertion (A): Upon returning to her village, the very first thing Gopi painted with her magic brush was a bowl of khichdi.

Reason (R): A mysterious man under the banyan tree had gifted Gopi the paintbrush and strictly instructed her to use it only for the poor.

(a) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true, and Reason (R) is the correct explanation of Assertion (A).

(b) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true, but Reason (R) is NOT the correct explanation of Assertion (A).

(c) Assertion (A) is true, but Reason (R) is false.

(d) Assertion (A) is false, but Reason (R) is true.

Ans. (b) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true, but Reason (R) is NOT the correct explanation of Assertion (A).

Competency based Question:

1. In *The Magic Brush of Dreams*, contrast Gopi's use of the magic brush with the Zamindar's demands. Analyze how Gopi's choices reflect ethical leadership and social responsibility, and explain what real-life lesson modern individuals can learn from her decisions when entrusted with power or resources.

Ans. In *The Magic Brush of Dreams*, Gopi uses her magical talent selflessly for essential community needs like food and tools, contrasting sharply with the Zamindar's greedy demands for gold and power. Demonstrating great moral courage and integrity, she risks imprisonment to uphold her ethical promise to help only the underprivileged. Ultimately, her actions show that talents, authority, and special resources are public trusts meant to uplift society rather than serve personal greed or exploitation.

LITERARY DEVICES

1. Rhyme Scheme & Meter:

The poem is written in simple four-line stanzas (quatrains), primarily following an ABCB rhyme scheme (e.g., hand/sand, hush/brush, sure/poor).

2. Imagery:

a. Visual Imagery: Descriptions like "pictures in the sand", "a bowl of khichdi", "winding road", "and galloping horse", and "a mighty river wide".

b. Tactile & Auditory Imagery: The "cold mud floor" of the cell, the "wind blows by", and words like "whispers", "roars", and "thunders".

3. Repetition- Anaphora:

Anaphora is a literary device where a word or phrase is deliberately repeated at the beginning of successive lines, clauses, or sentences.

Eg. The question "**Did you** gather wild beans, Gopi? / **Did you** fetch some rice?" is repeated to frame Gopi's return, highlighting the shift from her mundane chores to her magical discovery. Also '**Go and gather**' in stanza 1.

4. Contrast / Juxtaposition:

The stark contrast between Gopi (humble, generous, selfless) and the Zamindar (greedy, arrogant, abusive of power).

5. Symbolism:

The Magic Brush: Represents creative imagination, empowerment of the suppressed, and the ethical responsibility that comes with special power or art.

The River & Road: Symbolize freedom, quick thinking, and overcoming oppression.
