

## A Letter to Teachers

Dear teachers,

Greetings from Shriram Foundation.

October marks the season of festivals. It is celebration time and schools too must look fresh, festive and colourful. Take the opportunity to discuss the significance of festivals, tell students stories behind the festival and find out how each festival is celebrated in different parts of the country. Make students see how the variety in festivals, traditions, beliefs and customs makes our country vibrant and wonderful. To build national pride, it is important to start by knowing and experiencing the country and its richness.

We also observe the birthday of Mahatma Gandhi, the Father of our Nation, this month. The values of honesty, ahimsa, simplicity and self-reliance that he stood for are valid and important as much today as they were during his time. It is our responsibility to pass these on to the next generation.

As always we look forward to hearing from you. You could send us short notes on your celebrations with photos to our email id, [m100.shriramfdn@gmail.com](mailto:m100.shriramfdn@gmail.com).

Warm regards  
Editor



*Mrs. Asma is reading out a poem in class. She notices a boy in the back playing with his pencil box. He is not paying attention. Without saying a word or even stopping the reading, she gently walks up to him and stands beside him. She looks straight at him while she continues to read. He drops the pencil box and pays attention.*

*Your position and location in class are signals for your students. If you are standing close to a chart or the board, you are showing how important it is at that moment. Students also recognize its importance and pay attention to it. If you stand near a student who is disturbing the class or is inattentive, you will get his attention.*

## Theme for the Month

*Thematic tasks and celebrations are exciting and fun for the whole school. They also provide opportunities for learning outside the textbook framework. Every class can undertake one or more of the tasks given here.*

The Indian Air Force has been an essential part of the defence systems of the nation along with the Indian Navy and Army.

Every year, October 8 is celebrated as Indian Air Force Day.

Show the children a video of the aircrafts and helicopters of IAF performing stunts. Talk to them about how the IAF protects Indian airspace and conducts aerial warfare during a conflict.





**World  
Sight Day  
October 13**

Every year, the second Thursday in October is observed as World Sight Day. It is dedicated to raising awareness about preventable blindness and vision impairment.

This year it falls on October 13.

Conduct games or activities that allow children to experience temporarily what it's like to be visually impaired to broaden awareness about blindness. Eg. Blindfold them and have the students reach into a bag with many small items in it. Call out the names of objects and make them identify them.

Point out to your students that the number five on a phone pad usually has a tactile marking that blind people use as a reference point when dialing. Also, share with them how the Indian rupee notes are identified by them. Ask them to look right above the national emblem on the left side to look for the identification mark - used by the blind to know the denomination. Eg. the small rectangle on a Rs.20 note. Make the students close their eyes and feel it.

Ask your children to exercise their eyes every day, to take breaks from TV as continuous staring is bad for the eyes, drink adequate water and to get enough rest by keeping their eyes closed. All these lead to increased eye strength, but the most important key for better vision is eating the right foods. Tell your students that eating certain foods like green vegetables, carrots, eggs, fish, garlic can improve their eyesight.

**PUZZLES**

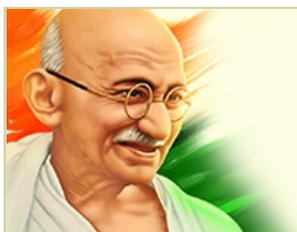
*Fruit Math Equation*

Here are 3 fruits – Apple, Banana and Coconut, each combined to form equations. Each fruit corresponds to a value. Find the value that each fruit represents and find the solution of the final equation. Remember to look at the bananas and coconuts carefully!!!

	+		+		=	<b>30</b>
	+		+		=	<b>18</b>
	-				=	<b>2</b>
	+		+		=	<b>?</b>

**Wise Words**

Here are some proverbs, sayings and quotations from all over the world to inspire you. You may write or display them on your blackboards or notice boards, explain and discuss them with your students.



*"Be the change  
you want to see in the world."*

- M.K. Gandhi



*"A little consideration, a little  
thought for others,  
makes all the difference."*

- Eeyore

## Quiz

*Mahatma Gandhi, the Father of the Nation, had a crucial role to play in India's freedom movement. As citizens of free India, children must know about his life and times and the struggle for freedom from British rule. Making students familiar with these quiz questions and answers is a fun and easy way to build knowledge about Mahatma Gandhi. Let us observe Gandhi Jayanthi this October 2 with a quiz.*

1. Who first called Gandhiji 'Mahatma'?
2. Which is the birth place of Mahatma Gandhi?
3. What was the civil disobedience movement called where the British were asked to leave India?
4. Who is believed to be the spiritual guru of Gandhiji?
5. When do we celebrate the International Day of Non-Violence?
6. What is the name of Gandhiji's autobiography?
7. When did the Reserve Bank of India introduce the Mahatma Gandhi Series of banknotes?
8. What was Gandhiji fondly called during his childhood?
9. Which word did Gandhiji spell wrong at school when the School Inspector gave dictation?
10. Which mythological character impressed Gandhiji for life when he saw a play on his life?

## Science Experiment

### Things Needed

- |                 |                         |
|-----------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Half a lemon | 4. Paint brush          |
| 2. Water        | 5. White paper          |
| 3. Bowl         | 6. Light bulb or candle |

### How to do:

- i. Take one half of a lemon and squeeze its juice into a bowl.
- ii. Add a few drops of water to it and stir the mixture. This is your magic invisible ink.
- iii. Dip a paint brush into your magic ink and write a secret message on white paper.
- iv. Allow the ink to dry. As it dries, your message will disappear.
- v. Hold the paper near a bulb, flame/candle until the message reappears. Be careful not to put the paper too close if you are using a flame/candle.

### The Science behind it...

When you wrote your message with the magic ink on the paper, the carbon-based compounds in the lemon juice were absorbed into the paper's fibres. When you heated the paper, some of the chemical bonds broke down and freed the carbon. This carbon reacts with oxygen in the air (oxidation) and turns into a darker colour. But remember! Oxidation does not always require heat. This is why, some fruits like apple turn brown when it is cut and left out for too long.

## Secret Message



Did you know

1. A cow's moo sounds different depending on the region it comes from.
2. Bats always turn left when they fly out of a cave.
3. Zebras are actually white in colour with black stripes.
4. Flamingos can eat only when their heads are upside down.
5. Male monkeys go bald just like men do.
6. A snail can sleep for 3 years.
7. Puppies are born with no teeth and eyesight. They are also born deaf.

Animal Facts

8. Kangaroos cannot walk backwards.
9. It is the male penguins that take care of the eggs during incubation.
10. A giraffe can clean its own ears with its tongue which is 21 inches long.
11. Ants never sleep. There are more than 1 million ants in the world for every human being.
12. Elephants cannot jump. It is the only mammal that cannot jump.

Lets Learn English

"Walking barefoot is a must." Grandma told aunty firmly. She was right – the pilgrimage could traditionally only be done barefoot. But she was also wrong – in the way she had used the auxiliary verb, 'must'.

Never forget that *must* is an auxiliary verb. Do not use it as you would use a noun. In the example given above, the use of a before *must* indicates that the speaker has used it as a noun. Only nouns carry articles before them. So what should Grandma say?

You must walk barefoot. Or Walking barefoot is a rule.

The English language has many auxiliary or helping verbs. Here is a list: *be, have, do, can, could, may, might, must, ought to, shall, should, will, would.*

Of these the first three are helping verbs: they change their form to indicate the tense of the sentence.

The others (*can, could, may, might, must, ought to, shall, should, will, would*) are called modal auxiliaries. They come before the main verb in the sentence, but they themselves do not change. They indicate certain subtle emphasis or moods of the speaker/writer.

In this article we will take up a few of the modals.

The use of *must* shows a rule that needs to be followed. Here are other modals that perform the same function:

You *should* drink two glasses of milk every day. You *ought to* say sorry if you have made a mistake.

Like *must, should* also indicates compulsion. *Ought to* shows what is the right thing to do.

Now you know you ought to speak good English in class and you must practise speaking in English to become fluent, don't you?

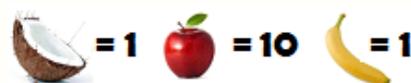


Answers

Quiz

- |                        |                              |
|------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Rabindranath Tagore | 6. My Experiments with Truth |
| 2. Porbandar, Gujarat  | 7. 1996                      |
| 3. Quit India Movement | 8. Manu or Moniya            |
| 4. Leo Tolstoy         | 9. Kettle                    |
| 5. October 2           | 10. Harishchandra            |

Puzzle



1/2 Coconut + Apple + 3 Bananas = 14