

Exercise No 32

One of the fundamental facts about words is that the most useful ones in our language have many meanings. That is partly why they are so useful: they work overtime... Think of -all the various things we mean by the word "foot" on different occasions: one of the lower extremities of the human body, a measure of verse, the ground about a tree, twelve inches, - the floor in front of the stairs. The same is true of nearly every common noun or verb... considering the number of ways of taking a particular word, the task of speaking clearly and being understood would seem pretty hopeless if it were not for another very important fact about language. Though a word may have many senses, these senses can be controlled, up to a point, by the context in which the word is used. When we find the word in a particular verbal setting we can usually decide quite definitely which of the many senses of the word is relevant. If a poet says his verse has feet, it doesn't occur to you that he could mean it's a yard long or is three legged (unless perhaps you are a critic planning to puncture the poet with a pun about his "lumping verse"). The context rules out these maverick senses quite decisively.

Exercise No 33

The touring companies had set up their stages, when playing for towns-folk and not for the nobility in the large inn yards where the crowd could sit or stand around the platform and the superior patrons could seat themselves in the galleries outside the bedrooms of the inn. The London theatres more or less reproduced this setting, though they were usually round or oval in shape and stage was more than a mere platform, having entrances at each side, a curtained inner stage and an upper stage or balcony. For imaginative Poetic drama this type of stage had many advantages. There was no scenery to be changed, the dramatist could move freely and swiftly from place to place. Having only words at his command, he had to use his imagination and compel his audience to use theirs. The play could move at great speed. Even with such limited evidence as we possess, it is not hard to believe that the Elizabethan audience, attending a poetic tragedy or comedy, found in the theatre an imaginative experience of a richness and intensity that we cannot discover in our own drama.

Exercise No 34

The Greatest civilization before ours was the Greek. They, too, lived in a dangerous world. They were a little, highly civilized people, surrounded by barbarous tribes and always threatened by the greatest Asian power, Persia. In the end they succumbed, but the reason they did was not that the enemies outside were so strong, but that their spiritual strength had given way. While they had it, they kept Greece unconquered. Basic to all Greek achievements was freedom. The Athenians were the only free people in the world. In the great empires of antiquity — Egypt, Babylon, Assyria, Persia — splended though they were, with riches and immense power, freedom was unknown. The idea of it was born in Greece, and with it Greece was able to prevail against all the manpower and wealth arrayed against her. At Marathon and at Salamis overwhelming numbers of Persians were defeated by small Greek forces. It was proved there that one free man was superior to many submissively obedient subjects of a tyrant. And Athens, where freedom was the dearest possession, was the leader in those amazing victories. Greece rose to the very height, not because she was big, she was very small, not because she was rich, she was very poor, not even because she was wonderfully gifted. So doubtless were others in the great empires of the ancient world who have gone their way leaving little for us. She rose because there was in the Greeks the greatest spirit that moves in humanity, the spirit that sets men free."

Exercise No 35

Not all the rulers signed the Instrument of Accession at once. Afraid that the Socialist Congress Party would strip him of his amusements, flying, dancing girls and conjuring delights which he had only just

begun to indulge since he had only recently succeeded his father to the throne, the young Maharajah of Jodhpur arranged a meeting with Jinnah. Jinnah was aware that both Hindu majority and geographical location meant that most of the Princely states would go to India, but he was gratified by the thought that he might be able to snatch one or two from under Patel 's nose. He gave Jodhpur a blank sheet of paper.

'Write your conditions on that' he said, 'and I'll sign it' Elated, the Maharajah returned to his hotel to consider. It was an unfortunate- move on his part, for V. P. Menon was there waiting for him. Menon's agents had alerted him to what Jodhpur was up to. He told the young ruler that his presence was requested urgently at viceroy's House, and reluctantly the young man accompanied him there. The urgent summons had been an excuse, and once they had arrived, Menon had to go on a frantic search for Viceroy, and tell him what had happened. Mountbatten responded immediately. He solemnly reminded Jodhpur that Jinnah could not guarantee any conditions he might make, and that accession to Pakistan would spell disaster for his state. At the same time, he assured him that accession to India would flout automatically mean end of his pleasure. Mountbatten left him alone with Menon to sign a provisional agreement.

Exercise No 36

Generally, European trains still stop at borders to change locomotives and staff. This is often necessary. The German and French voltage systems are incompatible. Spain — though not Portugal — has a broad guage track. English bridges are lower than elsewhere, and passengers on German trains would need a ladder to reach French platforms, twice as high as their own. But those physical constraints pale in comparison to an even more formidable barrier — national chauvinism. While officials in Brussels strive for an integrated and efficiently run rail network to relieve the Continent's gorged roads and airways, and cut down on pollution, three member countries — France, Germany and Italy—are working feverishly to develop their own expensive and mutually incompatible high-speed trains.

Ex #32

The Uniqueness of Our Language

An important fact about language is that one word can have multiple meanings, all equally useful.

For example, ~~the~~ foot has around five diverse meanings. This can make ~~the~~ speeches impossible to understand. But,

another ^{key} fact ~~about our language~~ is that one can easily identify the meaning when it is used in a sentence. Thus, the context of speech conveys the definite meaning of any word without any ambiguity. (sixty-four)

Ex #33

Use of Imagination in Theatre Setups.

The tourist companies had set up the stage similar to the one in London theatres. The nobles could no longer enjoy the play from their balconies, rather it was open for all, with a hidden inner stage and an open upper stage. The stage had no background scenery, and the actors could freely move around. Both the performer and viewers used their imagination to visualize the setup.

~~The~~ similar setup was used in the Elizabethan plays, compelling the audience to imagine the scenario.

But, ^{contrarily} ~~unfortunately~~ our audience does not have a similar experience.

(ninety-four)

Ex #34

Sense of Freedom — The Basis of Greece's strength.

The Greeks were one of the greatest civilizations — ~~with~~ highly disciplined people among other uncivilized tribes. They ultimately lost to Persia only due to internal weaknesses. No one could ever defeat them due to their inherent sense of freedom. All other rich powerful states were alien to ^{concept of} freedom, while it became the foundation of Greece's strength. They proved that a single free man could defeat armies of subservient slaves. Greece rose to power neither due to its size nor its power and resources, but because the Greeks had the vital essence of freedom. (ninety-three)

Ex #35: The Dilemma of Accession of Princely States

Accession of princely states was a challenging task. Prince of Jodhpur was skeptical that his accession to Congress would mean an end to ~~his~~ the luxuries of throne he had just inherited. Therefore, he met with Jinnah, who was relieved knowing he might be able to win over a few states as most of them owing to location and population ~~to~~ would go to India. Jinnah stated that he would agree to all conditions Jodhpur would lay down. But, V.P Menon had been informed of his meeting with Jinnah, and was already waiting for him in his room. Menon took him to viceroy's office against Jodhpur's will and told him ^{about} the meeting. Viceroy affirmed that Jinnah would not be able to fulfill ~~the~~ ^{any} commitments and that his lifestyle would not be taken away after accession to India. ~~Thus~~ ^{thereafter}, **Bingo!** viceroy left him with Menon and an agreement.

(138)

day/date

Ex # 36

Incompatibility of European trains and tracks.

European trains require changing engines and staff at borders. This is because all countries - France, Germany, Spain, Poland and Britain - have different railtracks and engine requirements.

Not only are there physical barriers, but also nationalistic tendencies also act as a ~~barrier~~ ^{hurdle}.

Although, Brussels strives for a joint network to cut down pollution, but France, Germany and Italy are in race to develop new technology trains, that are superior to one another.

(seventy)