

# Punctuation

(2016)

- i) "It isn't fair!", shouted Martin. "Coach Lewis never lets me start the game!"
- ii) Maureen's three sisters, Molly, Shannon and Patricia are all spending the summer at their grandmother's beach house.
- iii) For the centrepieces, the florist recommended the following flowers: daisies, tulips, daffodils and hyacinths.
- iv) Lily is an accomplished gymnast; she won three medals in her last competition.
- v) Everyone was shocked when Max Smithfield — a studious, extremely bright high school senior — decided that college was not for him.

(2017)

A quaker was, one day, walking on country road. He was suddenly met by a highwayman, pointing a pistol. The man exclaimed, "Your money or your life!" "My Friend!", said the quaker,

"I cannot deliver my money for I should be helping thee in evildoing; however, exchange is lawful and I will give thee my purse for the pistol." The robber agreed on receiving the purse. The quaker at once held the pistol at the robber's head and said, "Now! friend, my purse back or the weapon may go off. Fire," said the robber, "there is no powder in the pistol."

(2018)

- i) There is a slavery that no legislation can abolish: the slavery of caste.
- ii) All that I am, all that I hope to be, I owe to my angel mother.
- iii) "Take away that bauble", said Cromwell, pointing to the mace which lay upon the table.

- iv) There is only one cure for the evils which newly acquired freedom produces, and that cure is freedom.
- v) History, it has been said, is the essence of innumerable biographies.

(2019)

A hungry lion slipped out of the forest, into a barnyard. One evening, when he saw a plump donkey, his mouth began to water. But just as he was ready to jump on the donkey, a rooster crowed. He was frightened and so turned away into the forest again. "Hey, look at that cowardly lion", the donkey brayed to the rooster, "I am going to chase him." And the donkey ran after the lion. "Wait!", the rooster shouted, "You don't know that." But it was too late. The lion had turned and killed the donkey. "Ah! my poor, stupid friend", the rooster said as he watched the lion eating the donkey, "the lion wasn't afraid of you but of my crowing."

(2021)

That familiarity produces neglect has been long observed. The effects of all external objects, however great or splendid, ceases with their novelty. The courtier stands without emotion in the royal presence, the music tramples under his feet, the beauties of the spring with little attention to their fragrance. And the inhabitant of the coast darts his eye upon the immense diffusion of waters without awe, wonder or terror.

(2022)

Unfortunately, we often miss a basic school lesson: Every big task consists of several small ones done precisely and perfectly. As a nation, we acutely need to learn the art of breaking down our moonlit goals into smaller accomplishable

tasks. It will reduce frustration, anxiety, depression in society, and embarrassment for the government machinery too as they don't have to defend their unkept promises.

(2023)

While taking a nap on the porch, one hot summer day, Hodga dreamed that a stranger promised to give him ten pieces of gold. The stranger placed them in Hodga's hand one by one until he reached the tenth piece which he hesitated to give him. "Come on! what are you waiting for?", said Hodga, "You promised me ten!" Just then he woke up. He immediately looked at his hand and saw that it was empty. He quickly shut his eyes again, stretched out his hand and said, "All right, I'll settle for nine."