

**INDIAN SCHOOL MUSCAT
PRIMARY SECTION**

Story No. 3 and 4	Name:
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Think Before You Speak

It was a sunny day. Everyone in the railway station was waiting for the train to arrive. Among the crowd, there was a group of friends, youngsters who were on board for vacation.

It was a busy station with juice shop, mobile restaurants, coffee and tea stalls, newspaper shop, restaurants, etc. The announcement regarding the arrival of the train was made and everyone prepared to get into the train.

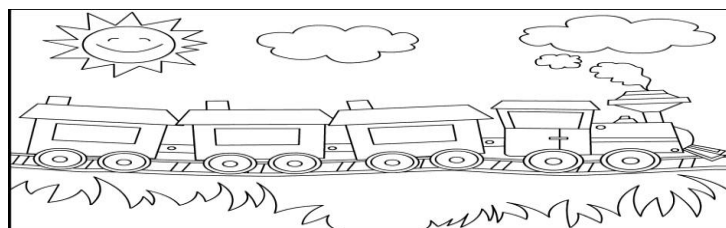
The group of friends made loud noise to welcome the train as it entered the station. They ran to get their reserved seats before anyone could get into the train. The empty seats were filled and the train whistled to move. An old man with a young boy aged around fifteen years came running and entered the train. The train started to move. They had their seats just adjacent to the friends' group.

The young boy was so surprised to see everything. He exclaimed to his father, 'Dad, the train is moving and the things are moving backwards.' His father smiled and nodded his head. As the train started moving fast, the young boy again screamed, 'Dad, the trees are green in colour and run backward very fast.' His father said, 'Yes dear' and smiled. A fruit seller passed selling apples and oranges. The young boy asked his dad, 'I want to eat apples.' His father bought him apples. He said, 'Oh! Apple looks so sweet than it tastes.' I love this colour.'

The group was watching all the activities of this boy. A friend from the group made fun of him and shouted, 'His son is mad, I think.'" The father of the young boy, replied to the friend-group with patience.

'My son was born blind. Only a few days before he was operated and got the vision. He is seeing various things for the first time in his life.'

The young friends became very quiet and apologised to the father and son.



Count Your Prayers

A voyaging ship was wrecked during a storm at sea and only two of the men on it were able to swim to a small, desert like island. The two survivors agreed that they had no other way but to pray to God. However, to find out whose prayer was more powerful, they agreed to divide the territory between them and stay on opposite sides of the island. The first thing they prayed for was food. The next morning, the first man saw a fruit-bearing tree on his side of the land and he was able to eat its fruit. The other man's land remained barren.

Soon the first man prayed for a house, clothes and more food. The next day, like magic, all of these were given to him. However, the second man still had nothing.

Finally, the first man prayed for a ship so that he could leave the island. In the morning, he found a ship docked at his side of the island. The first man boarded the ship and decided to leave the second man on the island.

He considered the other man unworthy to receive God's blessings since none of his prayers had been answered. As the ship was about to leave, the first man heard a voice from heaven booming, "Why are you leaving your companion on the island?"

"My blessings are mine alone since I was the one who prayed for them," the first man answered. "His prayers were all unanswered and so he does not deserve anything."

"You are mistaken!" the voice rebuked him. "He had only one prayer, which I answered. If not for that, you would not have received any of my blessings."

"Tell me," the first man asked the voice, "What did he pray for that I should owe him anything?"

"He prayed that all your prayers be answered."

For all we know, our blessings are not the fruits of our prayers alone but those of another praying for us.

