



Grade VI

Lesson 7. Fair Play

PROSE

Summary of the chapter

Jumman and Algu were Friends

Jumman Shaikh and Algu Choudhry were good friends. Both were respected in their village. Jumman had an aunt who gave her property to him, thinking he would look after her. This worked well for few years, but later the situation changed. Jumman and his family became indifferent to her. His aunt tolerated this insult for few months. She asked for a monthly allowance so that she could have her own kitchen.

Jumman's Aunt Approached the Panchayat

Jumman did not agree to her demand and this made his aunt very angry. She decided to take her case to the village panchayat. The old lady took advice of other villagers. Some people sympathised with her, others laughed at her and few others advised her to make it up with her nephew and his wife.

The lady came to Algu Choudhry and sought his help. He said he could not go against his best friend. The lady invited him to the panchayat.

Jumman and his Aunt Explained their Case

The panchayat was held under an old banyan tree. The old lady nominated Algu as the head Panch to give verdict in the case. The old lady explained her case. Algu asked Jumman to give version of the case.

Jumman said his aunt gave her property 3 years back. I promised to support her as she lived. There have been a couple of quarrels between his wife and his aunt. It is not possible for him to give her a monthly allowance.

Jumman was cross-examined by Algu and others. Algu later announced that Jumman must pay his aunt a monthly allowance or else the property will go to her. Jumman became Algu's enemy and wanted his revenge.



Algu Witnessed a Bad Phase in Life

One of his fine pair of bullocks died and he sold the other to Samjhu Sahu. He was cart driver of the village. Sahu was supposed to pay the price of the bullock in a month's time. But the bullock died within a month.

Algu wanted his money from Sahu, but he got very annoyed and angry. Sahu refused to pay his money and told Algu to use his bullock for a month and then return it. Algu decided to refer the case to the panchayat.

Algu Approached the Panchayat

Algu approached the panchayat

The panchayat was held and Sahu was told to nominate the head Panch. Sahu proposed the name of Jumman. Algu turned pale. Jumman became the head Panch and realised his responsibility as a judge and importance of his office. He thought not to allow his personal feelings to come in the way of doing justice.

Both Algu and Sahu gave their versions of the case. They were cross-examined. Jumman announced that Sahu should pay Algu the price of the bullock because it was healthy at the time of sell. Algu cannot be blamed for the death of the bullock. Algu appreciated the judgement.

Jumman came to Algu and embraced him. Jumman said he has realised the importance of being a Panch. A Panch has neither friend nor enemy. He knows only justice. One should not deviate from the path of justice and truth.

NCERT Corner

Working with the Text

A. Match the sentences under I with those under II

I

1. Jumman and Algu were the best of friends.
2. Jumman's aunt transferred her property to him.
3. The aunt decided to appeal to the panchayat.



4. Algu was unwilling to support the aunt.
5. Jumman was very happy to hear Algu's name as head Panch.

II

- (a) He believed that his friend would never go against him.
- (b) She wanted justice.
- (c) In the absence of one, the other took care of his family.
- (d) The condition was that he would be responsible for her welfare.
- (e) The bond of friendship between him and Jumman was very strong.

Ans.

Part I

Part II

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| 1. Jumman and Algu were the best of friends. | (a) In the absence of one, the other took care of his family. |
| 2. Jumman's aunt transferred her property to him. the panchayat. | (b) The condition was that he would be responsible for her welfare |
| 3. The aunt decided to appeal to the panchayat. | (c) she wanted justice. |
| 4. Algu was unwilling to support the aunt. | (d) The bond of friendship between him and Jumman was strong. |
| 5. Jumman was very happy to hear Algu's name as head Panch. | (e) He believed that his friend would never go against. Him |

B. Who says this to whom and why?

1. "My wife knows best how to run the house."

Jumman told this to his aunt. He did not want to give the old lady any allowance. He just wanted to get rid of her.

2. "But is it right, my son, to keep mum and not say what you consider just and fair?"

The old aunt told these words to Algu Choudhry. Algu was not ready to speak anything against his friend Jumman.

3. "What have you to say in your defence?"

Algu asked it to Jumman after being nominated as the head Panch. He wanted to do justice and both Jumman and the old lady were equal before him.



4. "I can't pay you a penny for the wretched beast you sold me."

Samjhu Sahu told these words to Algu. Algu sold his bullock to Sahu. The bullock died within a month. When Algu demanded his money, Sahu refused to pay him a penny.

5. "Victory to the Panchayat. This is justice."

Algu said these words to everyone sitting for the panchayat. Jumman gave his verdict in favour of Algu and asked Sahu to pay money to him. Therefore, Algu shouted in joy and welcomed the verdict.

C. Answer the following questions.

1. "There the situation changed." What is being referred to? (2)

The situation changed after a couple of years. After Jumman and his family started misbehaving with the old lady and became indifferent towards her. He and his wife began to ill-treat their aunt.

2. When Jumman's aunt realised that she was not welcome in his house, what arrangement did she suggest?

Jumman's aunt realised that she was not wanted in his house and asked for monthly allowance so that she could cook separately and not get insulted every day.

3. What was the villagers' reaction when the aunt explained her case to them? (4)

The old lady was seeking support from the villagers. Some of the villagers sympathised with her, other laughed at her and a few others advised her to make it up with her nephew and his wife.

4. Why was Jumman happy over Algu's nomination as head Panch? (6)

Algu and Jumman were best friends, therefore Jumman thought that Algu will give the verdict in his favour. So, he was happy over Algu's nomination as head Panch.

5. "God lives in the heart of the Panch," the aunt said. What did she mean? (6)

The aunt meant that a person who acts as a judge becomes free and fair. A judge is not biased and everybody is equal in front of him. He has to do justice irrespective of his emotions and feelings.

6. What was Algu's verdict as head Panch? How did Jumman take it? (7,8)

Algu heard the case and gave a fair verdict. He asked Jumman to either pay his aunt a monthly allowance or else the property goes back to her. Jumman was shocked to hear these words and became his enemy. He wanted his revenge.



7. Algu found himself in tight spot. What was his problem?

Algu was worried because one of his fine pair of bullocks died and he sold the other to Samjhu Sahu. Sahu was supposed to pay the price of the bullock, but he refused to pay as the bullock died within a month.

8. Why was Algu upset over Jumman's nominations as head Panch?

Algu was upset because Jumman was annoyed with him for the previous judgement. Jumman wanted his revenge and he got an opportunity to do so.

9. What was Jumman's verdict as head Panch?

Jumman said that Sahu has to pay Algu the price of the bullock as if suffered from no disease when Sahu bought it from Algu. This was the right decision and Algu appreciated it and said it was a victory of the panchayat.

10. Which of the following sums of the story best?

- (i) "I also know that you will not kill your conscience for the sake of friendship."
- (ii) "Let no one deviate from the path of justice and truth for friendship or enmity."
- (iii) "The voice of the Panch is the voice of God."

Give a reason for your choice.

Ans. "Let no one deviate from the path of justice and truth for the sake of friendship or enmity." This sums up the story best because the one who occupies the position of a judge becomes fair and free. He has to give fair judgement irrespective of his personal feelings.

Working with Language

A. Replace the italicised portion of each sentence below with a suitable phrase from the box. Make necessary changes, wherever required.

Look after	swallow	make it up	keep mum	go into	ease one's conscience
as ill luck	would have it	a tight spot	take chances	my heart sank	

1. The best way to avoid an unnecessary argument is to *remain silent*.
2. *Unfortunately*, the train I was trying to catch was cancelled.
3. He was been told not to take *risks* while driving a car through a crowded street.



4. The patient needs to be properly *taken care of*.
5. Why don't the two of you *end your quarrel* by shaking hands?
6. I was in a *difficult situation* till my friends came to my rescue.
7. When I saw a pile of dirty dishes, I *felt very disappointed*.
8. I will *examine* the matter carefully before commenting on it.
9. They criticised him in the meeting, but he *accepted without protest* all the criticism?
10. It will *free me* from worry to know that I had done nothing wrong.

Ans.

1. The best way to avoid an unnecessary argument is to keep mum.
2. As ill luck would have it, the train I was trying to catch was cancelled.
3. He was been told not to take chances while driving a car through a crowded street.
4. The patient needs to be properly looked after.
5. Why don't the two of you make it up by shaking hands.
6. I was in a tightspot till my friends came to my rescue.
7. When I saw a pile of dirty dishes, my heart sank.
8. I will go into the matter carefully before commenting on it.
9. They criticised him in the meeting, but he swallowed all the criticism.
10. It will ease one's conscience to know that I had done nothing wrong.

B. Look at the following phrases and their meanings. Use the phrases to fill in the blanks in the sentence given below.

Set up - put in place or start

Set aside - save or keep for a particular purpose

Set down - write or record

Set out - start on a journey

Set in - begin and seem likely to continue

1. Why don't you your ideas on paper?
2. A fund has been for the soldiers' families.
3. We should a little money every month.
4. You should buy some woollens before winter.....
5. They on the last stage of their journey.

Ans.

1. Why don't you **set down** your ideas on paper?

2. A fund has been **set up** for the soldiers' families.
3. We should **set aside** a little money every month.
4. You should buy some woollens before winter **set in**.
5. They **set out** on the last stage of their journey.

Speaking and Writing

A. Look at the following picture. One asks a question, the other answer it. Then the answer is noted in a form as shown below.

Pic1

Questions	Yes/No	Additional Response
1. Do you like to meet people?	Yes, I do, but not always.	I do have some friends, though.
2. Do you like the Area you like in?	No, I don't.	But I have no choice.

B. Work in small groups. Ask your partner the questions given below. If possible, ask him/her a reason for saying Yes or No. Then tick Yes/No, whichever is proper.

1. Do you have a separate room for sleep and study? Yes/No
2. Would you prefer to live in a joint family?
Yes/No
3. Do you get on with people? Yes/No
4. Do you like the area you live in? Yes/No
5. Do you find the place over crowded? Yes /No
6. Do you use public transport? Yes/No
7. Would you like a vehicle of our own? Yes/No
8. Do you like reading? Yes/No
9. Would you like to be a teacher/doctor/engineer/architect? Yes/No

Ans. Do it yourself.

C. Now that you have completed the above project, write a brief report stating what you did, how you did it and the conclusion.

Ans. My friend answered all my questions freely. She said that she would be happy to have a separate room for sleeping and studying. She likes to live in a joint family where



everyone helps each other. She likes to meet people and love the area where she lives. Her place is not overcrowded. She does not mind travelling through public transport. She does not want a vehicle of her own. She loves reading books. She wants to be a doctor in future.

Direction (NCERT Page 95)

Your teacher will speak the words listen below write against each a word of opposite meaning.

Examples: Liquid Solid

Hard Soft

1. Old.....
2. Wet
3. Open
4. Blunt
5. Forget

Ans.

1. Old New
2. Wet Dry
3. Open Close
4. Blunt Sharp
5. Forget Remember

Chapter Practice

Very Short Answer Type Questions

1. What kind of relation Jumman and Algu shared?

Jumman Shaikh and a Algu Choundhry were good friends. They took care of each other's family. Both were greatly respected in the village.

2. Where was the panchayat held?

The panchayat was held under an old Banyan tree in the village.

3. Who was Samjhu Sahu?



Samjhu Sahu was a cart driver of the village. Algu sold his bullock to him and he was supposed to pay in a month's time.

4. What happened 3 years ago in the story 'Fair Play'?

Jumman's aunt transferred her property to him 3 years ago. He was supposed to look after her.

5. What made Algu turned pale?

Algu turned pale because Sahu nominated Jumman to be the head Panch to decide his case.

6. Who had called the Panchayat?

Jumman's aunt had called the panchayat.

7. What arrangements were made between Jumman and his aunt?

According to panchayat, Jumman must give his aunt a monthly allowance or else the property goes back to her.

Short Answer Type Questions

1. How did Jumman and his family treat the old lady?

Jumman and his family were tired of the old lady and became indifferent to her. His wife was not happy to serve even the little food to her. Jumman's aunt swallowed these insults for a few months.

2. Why did Jumman want his revenge?

Jumman wanted his revenge because his best friend Algu gave the verdict in favour of his aunt instead of him. He was expecting that Algu will favour him as they were best friends.

3. Do you think Algu was happy after being nominated as Panch? Give a reason.

No, Algu was not happy after being nominated as Panch by the old lady because his best friend Jumman was involved in the case. Algu did not want to speak anything against his friend.

4. What happened when Jumman became head Panch?

Jumman realised his responsibility as judge and the dignity of his office after being nominated as head Panch by Sahu. He must not allow his personal feelings to come in the way of speaking the truth and doing justice.

Long Answer Type Questions

1. How did the bond of friendship between Jumman and Algu break?

Ans. Jumman's aunt approached the panchayat for justice and nominated Algu as the head Panch. Algu and Jumman were good friends so Jumman became happy. He was expecting the verdict to be in his favour.

Algu realised his responsibility as judge and cross-examined the case by all the angles. He announced that Jumman must pay his aunt a monthly allowance or else the property goes back to her. He gave the verdict against Jumman so the bond of friendship between them was broken. Jumman became his enemy.

2. What happened when the panchayat was held for the second time?

Ans. Algu referred his case to the panchayat. Sahu nominated Jumman as the head Panch. The moment Jumman became the Panch, he realised his responsibility as judge and dignity of his office.

He thought not to allow his personal feelings to come in the way of doing justice. Jumman cross-examined them and the case was considered deeply. He asked Sahu to pay the price of the bullock as it suffered no disability at the time of the deal. Algu cannot be blamed for the death of the bullock.

Value Based Questions

Do you think a judge should only know justice? Give reasons to support your answer.

Yes, a judge should only know justice. A judge is seated at high place where he must realise his responsibility. People come to a judge with lots of expectation and trust, therefore he must not allow his personal feelings to influence the Verdict.

He should not be biased towards any of the two groups. He should treat everyone equally and nothing should deviate him from the path of justice. An honest judge gives verdict on the basis of facts and after examining the case from all angles.

Extract Based Questions

Extract 1

Directions (Q. Nos. 1-6) Read the extract given below and answer the following questions.

Jumman had an old aunt who had some property. This she transferred to him on the understanding that she would stay with him and he would look after her. The arrangement worked well for a couple of years. Then the situation changed. Jumman and his family were tired of the old relative. Jumman became as different to her as his wife, who grudged even the little food that the old lady wanted every day. She swallowed these insults along with her food for a few months. But patience has its limits.

1. Who swallowed insults along with food?

Jumman's aunt swallowed insults as he and his family were not behaving properly with the old lady.

2. What kind of arrangement worked well for a couple of years?

Jumman's aunt transferred her property to him. She would stay with him and he was supposed to look after her. This arrangement worked well for few years.

3. Why did the atmosphere change in Jumman's house?

It changed because Jumman and his family members became indifferent towards the old lady. They were tired of her.

4. Who was the old relative in the above extract?

- (a) Jumman (b) Jumman's wife (c) Jumman's daughter (d) Jumman's aunt
(d) Jumman's aunt

5. Find synonym for the word 'arrangement'.

- (a) Deal (b) Enemy (c) Disability (d) Dynamic
(a) Deal

6. Give antonym for the 'limited'.

- (a) Stay (b) Unlimited (c) Dislimited (d) Loudly
(b) Unlimited

Extract 2

Directions (Q.Nos 1-6) Read the extract given below and answer the following questions.

Both Algu and Sahu stated their cases. They were cross-examined and the case was considered deeply. Then Jumman stood up and announced, 'It is our opinion that Sahu should pay Algu the price of the bullock. When Sahu bought the bullock, it suffered from no disability or disease. The death of the bullock was unfortunate, but Algu cannot be blamed for it.' Algu could not contain his feelings.

He stood up and said loudly over and over again. "Victory to the panchayat. This is justice. God lives in the voice of the Panch."

1. What did Jumman say about the bullock?

He said it was unfortunate that the bullock died, but it suffered from no disability or disease at the time of the deal.

2. What was the verdict?

Sahu was told to pay the price of the bullock to Algu. The verdict came in Algu's favour.

3. Who were cross-examined in the case?

Algu and Sahu were cross-examined in the case and it was considered deeply.

4. Write antonym for the word 'justice'.

- (a) Non-justice (b) Injustice (c) Fair (d) Honesty
(b) Injustice

5. Who said, "Victory to the panchayat?"

- (a) Sahu
(b) Jumman
(c) Aunt
(d) Algu Choudhry
(d) Algu Choudhry

6. Give synonym for the word 'deeply'.

- (a) Intensely (b) Abruptly (c) Continuously (d) Weekly
(a) Intensely

