

He was unhappy and he was discontent.

A wise man told him about the glory of diamonds.

Oral Activity

You've listened to the story. Now, work in pairs and discuss the advantages and disadvantages of travelling abroad. You may use the hints given in the box for your understanding.

Advantages	Disadvantages
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Earn more money	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cut off from your roots
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Social status	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Living away from parents
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• More opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Brain drain / Intellectual loss

C Reading

I Will Do It

He was short. He was sharp. He was the brightest boy in his class. His seniors used to ask him to solve their difficulties in science. He could have gone unnoticed in a crowd, but once you asked him a question related to Physics or Maths, there was a spark in his eyes. He could grasp theories of science faster than the speed of light.



He came from a poor but educated family. His father was a high-school teacher and an avid reader of English literature. He, like all the boys in his class, was trying to get admission into some engineering college. The brighter ones wanted to study in the Indian

Institutes of Technology, or the IITs. There was an entrance test for IIT. This boy, along with his friends, applied to appear for the test. They did not have any special books or coaching. All these IIT aspirants would sit below the shade of a stone *mandap* close to Chamundi Hills in the sleepy town of Mysore. He was the guide for the others. While the others struggled to solve the problems in the question paper, he would smile shyly and solve them in no time. He sat alone below a tree and dreamt of studying at IIT. It was the ultimate aim for any bright boy at that age, as it still is today. He was then only sixteen years old.

The D-Day came. He came to Bangalore, stayed with some relatives and appeared for the entrance test. He did very well but would only say 'OK' when asked. It was the opposite when it came to food. When he said 'OK' it implied 'bad', when he said 'good' it implied 'OK', when he said 'excellent' it implied 'good'. His principle was never to hurt anyone.

The IIT entrance results came. He had passed with a high rank. What a delight for any student! He was thrilled. He went to his father who was reading a newspaper.

‘Anna, I have passed the exam.’

‘Well done, my boy.’

‘I want to join IIT.’

His father stopped reading the paper. He lifted his head, looked at the boy and said



with a heavy voice, 'My son, you are a bright boy. You know our financial position. I have five daughters to be married off and three sons to educate. I am a salaried person. I cannot afford your expenses at IIT. You can stay in Mysore and study as much as you want.'

Indeed it was a difficult situation for any father to say 'no' to his bright son. But circumstances were like that. It was common then for the man to be the single earning member with a large family dependent on him.

His father was sad that he had to tell the bitter truth to his son. But it could not be helped. The boy had to understand reality.

The teenager was disappointed. It seemed his dreams had burnt to ashes. He was so near to fulfilling his fondest hope, yet so far. His heart sank in sorrow.

He did not reply. He never shared his unhappiness or helplessness with anybody. He was an introvert by nature. His heart was bleeding but he did not get angry with anybody.

The day came. His classmates were leaving for Madras (now Chennai). They were taking a train from Mysore to Madras. They have shared good years in school and college together. He went to the station to say goodbye and good luck to them for their future life.

At the station, his friends were already there. They were excited and talking loudly. The noise was like the chirping of birds. They were all excited and discussing their new hostels, new courses etc. He was not part of it. So, he stood there silently. One of them noticed and said, 'You should have made it.'

He did not reply. He only wished all of them. They waved at him as the train slowly left the platform.

He stood there even after he could no longer see the train or the waving hands. It was the June of 1962 in Mysore city. Monsoon had set in and it was getting dark. It had started to drizzle. Yet he stood there motionless.

He said to himself, without anger or jealousy, 'All students from the IITs study well and do big things in life. But it is not the institution; ultimately it is you and you alone who can change your life by hard work.'

Probably he was not aware that he was following the philosophy of the Bhagavath Gita: 'Your best friend is yourself and your worst enemy is yourself.'

Later he worked very hard, and focused on one thing, never bothering about his personal life or comforts. He shared his wealth with others. He never used the help of any caste, community or political connections to go up in life.

A son of a school teacher showed other Indians it was possible to earn wealth legally and ethically. He built a team of people who were equally good.

He became a pioneer of India's software industry and started the Information Technology wave. Today he has become an icon of simplicity, uncompromising quality and

fairness, apart from being a philanthropist. He really believes in the motto, 'Powered by intellect and driven by values'.

He is none other than Nagavara Ramarao Narayana Murthy, the founder of Infosys, a leading IT company in the world.

By Sudha Murthy



About the author

Sudha Murthy, the wife of N.R. Narayana Murthy, is an Indian social worker and author. Murthy began her professional career as a computer scientist and engineer. She is the chairperson of the Infosys Foundation. She has founded several orphanages, participated in rural development efforts, supported the movement to provide all Karnataka government schools with computer and library facilities, and established the 'The Murthy Classical Library of India' at Harvard University. Murthy also teaches Computer Science, she composed fiction, *Dollar Sose*. The present story is a selection from one of her most successful stories 'How I Taught my Grandmother to Read & Other Stories.'

Glossary

mandap (*n*) : a raised platform

D-Day (*n*) : a date on which something important is expected to happen; (From the name given to June 6, 1944, the day on which the U.S., British, and other armies landed on the beaches of northern France in the Second World War.)

Anna (*n*) : a word used to address a respectable elder or older male

icon (*n*) : a famous person or thing that people admire and see as a symbol of a particular idea, way of life, etc

philanthropist (*n*) : one who devotes his service or wealth for the love of mankind

Comprehension

I. Answer the following questions briefly.

1. What is the aim of a bright student?
2. 'His heart sank in sorrow.' Whose heart sank in sorrow? Why?
3. How did Murthy react when his father expressed his helplessness to send him to IIT?
4. The author calls Murthy an introvert. What action of Murthy substantiate this claim of the author about Murthy?
5. What, according to Narayana Murthy, can change the life of a person?
6. How does the motto 'Powered by intellect and driven by values' describe Murthy's life?
7. What message does the writer have for educated youth who reach at a high positions in the society by virtue of their education? Justify your view point with supporting evidence from the text 'I Will Do It'.

II. Given below are some sentences from the lesson. What do they tell us about Narayana Murthy's qualities? Use the adjectives given in the box to describe Murthy's character. You may also use some more adjectives you like.

bright	obedience	introverted	hardworking
simple	uncompromising	philosophical	encouraging

Sl No.	Sentences from the lesson	Aspects of Murthy's character
1.	His seniors used to ask him to solve their difficulties in science.	
2.	He respects the elders opinion.	
3.	While others struggle to solve the problems in the question papers, he would smile shyly and solve them in no time.	

4.	His principle was never to hurt anyone.	
5.	He did not reply. He never shared his unhappiness or helplessness with anybody.	
6.	He went to station to say goodbye and good luck to them for their future life.	
7.	He never used the help of any caste, community or political connections to go up in life.	
8.	He built a team of people who were equally good.	

Vocabulary

One-word Substitutes

Look at the underlined words in the following sentences from the lesson.

1. Today he has become an icon of simplicity, uncompromising quality and fairness, apart from being a philanthropist.
2. He became a pioneer of India's software industry and started the Information technology wave.

What is the meaning of 'philanthropist'? A philanthropist is one who devotes his service or wealth for the love of mankind.

Who is a pioneer? A pioneer is a person who is the first to study and develop a particular area of knowledge, culture, etc. that other people then continue to develop.

You have observed that the meaning of a group of words is substituted with a word as in sentences (1) and (2). Words which replace a group of words or a full sentence effectively without creating any kind of ambiguity in the meaning of the sentences are called one word substitutes. The main purpose of using one word substitutes is to express the idea precisely and accurately.

Let's look at some more one word substitutes.

Sl.No	Word	Meaning
1.	fatalist	a person who believes in fate
2.	centenarian	a person who is above hundred years
3.	omnipresent	one who is present everywhere
4.	mercenary	a person who can do anything for money
5.	misogynist	one who hates women
6.	monogamy	a practice of having one wife or husband
7.	autobiography	a life history written by oneself
8.	biography	a life history written by somebody else
9.	honorary	a position for which no salary is paid
10.	ambiguous	a sentence whose meaning is unclear

Tick (✓) the most appropriate one word substitutes for the following.

- A person or thing that cannot be corrected
a) unintelligible b) indelible c) illegible d) incorrigible
- A person of good understanding, knowledge and reasoning power
a) expert b) intellectual c) snob d) literate
- A person who knows many languages
a) linguist b) grammarian c) polyglot d) bilingual
- One who possesses many talents
a) versatile b) prodigy c) exceptional d) gifted
- Words inscribed on a tomb
a) epitome b) epistle c) epilogue d) epitaph

Project Work

You have read about Nick Vujcic, who has accomplished every seemingly impossible thing in life despite having the most difficult form of disability. You have read about Narayana Murthy, who is one of the most remarkable examples to win over the unbeatable difficulties. You may also have heard or read about some remarkable Indian women such as Sudha Murthy, Sudha Chandran, Kiran Bedi and many other women who have crossed all the hurdles to become successful.

Work in pairs and make a list of qualities you like in your partner. Exchange the list with your partner. Assess whether you want more words describing your own qualities in it. All qualities are present in all of us, though some are better developed than others. Qualities help us live well and solve problems that we may come across in our lives.

Check your personality

Read the following statements and indicate whether you agree or disagree to them. If you agree, tick (✓) 'Yes' and if you disagree, tick (✓) 'No'.

1. Your teacher has assigned you a task in English which you think is very difficult. But you have decided to try.

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
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2. You have participated in a team game. Your team has become victorious. You really felt bad when nobody recognized you.

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
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3. You always like to quarrel with others.

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
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4. You enjoy yourself when people tease and make comments on others.

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
-----	--------------------------	----	--------------------------
5. You believe that girls can do anything on a par with boys.

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
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6. Your teacher has given you very important notes for your exams. You have shared them with others in the class.

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
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7. You have several doubts in a subject. But you do not want to consult your teacher or your friends because of the fear that they will underestimate your ability.

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
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8. You would love to have a lot of friends.

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
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9. You get irritation when others find fault with what you have done.

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
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10. Your class room is very shabby. You advise your friends to keep it clean and tidy.

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
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11. Your friends are quarrelling in the class. Instead of pacifying them you encourage them to quarrel.

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
-----	--------------------------	----	--------------------------

12. You do not like to complain about anything or against anybody.

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
-----	--------------------------	----	--------------------------

13. You think, "Examinations are a nightmarish experience for me."

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
-----	--------------------------	----	--------------------------

14. You believe, "I have so much to learn from others."

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
-----	--------------------------	----	--------------------------

15. You say, "I am responsible for my deeds."

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
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If you tick 'Yes' to the statements, 1,5,6,8,10,12,14,15 and 'No' to the statements, 2, 3,4,7,9,11,13, you are a positive personality. Every 'Yes' or 'No' carries one mark each. For example, a person may say 'Yes' to three statements and 'No' to 2 of the above, his / her score will be 5/15. That means, he/she is 33% positive.

Self Assessment



How well have I understood this unit?

Read and tick (✓) in the appropriate box.

Indicators	Yes	Somewhat	No
Reading: I read and comprehended the text:			
A: Attitude Is Altitude			
B: Every Success Story Is Also a Story of Great Failures			
C: I will Do It			
Vocabulary: I was able to			
• identify the adjectives that describe Nick Vujicic.			
• pick out the examples from the text that support the attributes to Nick Vujicic.			
• identify the words that describe the positive or the negative attitude of a person.			
• choose the expressions which are nearest in meaning to the words given.			
• fill in the blanks with the words that match with the descriptions.			
• choose the most appropriate one-word substitutes.			
Grammar: I was able to			
• identify defining and non-defining relative clauses from the text.			
• circle the non-defining relative clauses and put a comma or a hyphen wherever necessary.			
• complete the sentences with defining or non-defining relative clauses.			

Indicators	Yes	Somewhat	No
Writing: I was able to			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • write the biographical sketch of Stephen Hawking. 			
Study Skills: I was able to			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • read the given story and identify its features. 			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • rewrite the story given by giving another ending. 			
Listening and Speaking:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I listened to the story given under listening and was able to arrange the sentences given in the proper order. 			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I listened to the story and was able to discuss in pairs the advantages and the disadvantages of travelling abroad. 			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I was able to speak about a woman on the occasion of the 'Women's Day'. 			
Project Work:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I was able to write a short Biographical sketch about the person who faced hardships/hurdles in life and became successful. 			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I was able to check my personality with the given check list. 			