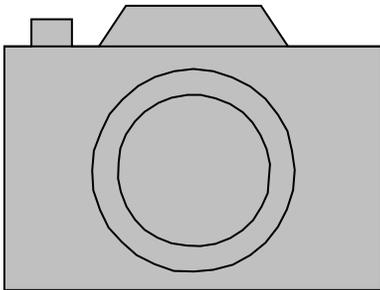


READING: COMPREHENSION 2

Reading

Comprehension 2

Pre Activity
Pair Work – Using Memory



Photographing Mother

Discuss the following in pairs:-

What are the ways to remember the past?

Is it important to recall pleasant memories?

What is nostalgia?

A bittersweet longing for things, persons or situations of the past.

Try to recall an unpleasant\ happy memory from your childhood.
Then based on your memory try and answer the following:

1. Who/what is the memory about?
 - a. Your mother
 - b. Your friend
 - c. You with your father
 - d. Your sibling
2. Do you recall the place?
 - a. Your home
 - b. Your school
 - c. Your favourite restaurant
 - d. Your friend's place
3. What were you wearing on that day?
 - a. Your school uniform
 - b. Your sister's dress
 - c. You can't recall
 - d. You can't tell
4. Do you want to relive that day?
 - a. Not sure
 - b. Absolutely
 - c. Would let it be the way it is
 - d. Turn it upside down

What does this picture remind you of?



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3. What is the attitude of the photographer?

ACTIVITY 1
DIFFICULT WORDS

Read aloud the following words:

Showy
Embroidered
Sweet-tongued
Fussing
Draped
Silver-tongued
Grief
Blink

Think of at least one word that comes close to the meaning of the word.

[Hints: Gaudy, smooth-talking, pamper, covered, glib, sad]

ACTIVITY 2
CHOOSE THE CORRECT OPTION

Why do the sons want to make amends?

- 1. They want to have their names in the will.**
- 2. They are regretful of the past.**
- 3. They want to gain respect in society.**

The narrator of the poem is describing the photographer's studio in very complimentary words. Do you think:-

- 1. He seems defensive.**
- 2. He is guilty for doing this so late**
- 3. He is interested in style and décor.**

ACTIVITY 3
COMPREHENSION

- 1) What is the purpose of the visit to the Photographer?
- 2) What is the attitude of the sons towards their mother?
In the past
Recently
- 3) What have been the struggles of the mother's life?
- 4) Why can't she smile?
- 5) Why does she cry?

Think about the poem and formulate the answers in short paragraphs

The following hints should help you:

Old age...neglected mother...ill...poverty...dependence...too late...regret

ANSWER: -----

India is a multicultural country. It has a number of castes and communities. Do we know about each of them? Do you think it's all right to judge people on the basis of their caste? We are going to read about a girl who is trying to face a traumatic situation and survive.

ACTIVITY 4
READING ALOUD

Understanding Drama:-
Her Name is Bharati (From Fluency 2)

Her Name is Bharati

February 26, 2008 by [theatrecapital](#)

Rajesh.P.I directed the students of Jyoti Nivas College in Joydeep Bhattacharya's "Her name is Bharati". The script focuses on a traumatic incident involving a woman who is brutally assaulted by a mob, and the impact it has on the lives of a family of four who are onlookers. A very powerful script, the students who were mostly first-timers to the theatre did a splendid job and successfully staged it at Abhinaya, a national level theatre competition. It was one among 6 plays which was chosen for the final round.

Posted in [Act in a play](#), [Acting](#), [Bangalore](#), [College Theatre](#), [Creativity](#), [Drama](#), [India](#), [Jyoti Nivas](#), [Script Peoples Theatre](#), [Theatre](#), [Theatre Workshop](#), [Theatre-in-Education](#), [theatre blog](#), [theatre workshops in Bangalore](#) | [Trackback URI](#) | [Comments RSS](#)

Let's Remember:

Reading a play is different from reading prose.
It is important to make the voice expressive while reading the part they play.
It is important to listen to other characters as much as read out one's own.
Listening helps in many ways and improves the quality of reading.

Understanding Drama: Her Name is Bharati

Kajol: She is from the other slum. They'll burn her today, or maybe stone her to death.

Mandira: But why?

Kajol: She is a wicked woman, no morals.

[Kajol goes in. Kuri, with sleepy eyes, comes out to the balcony.]

Mandira: Kuri, go back to your room!

Kuri: Why?

Mandira: Because I don't want you to see this.

Kuri: What if I do?

Mandira: Stop being stubborn, now! Just go back to your room!

Kuri: Maybe I can go out and have a closer look. Try and stop me!

Mandira: Kuri! This isn't a fun show! Its terribly serious!

Kuri: That's exactly why I wanted to see it!

Anuttam: I see one or two familiar faces over there in the crowd.

In this way, at the end of this reading session, we can try and attempt a few questions:

Who is Kajol talking about?

What is wrong with the woman?

Why is Kuri not ready to go back to her room?

COMPREHENSION

The play deals with various issues such as caste, gender and class. The social hypocrisy of the upper middle class is also highlighted by the play and the cowardice behind the veneer of bravado is satirized.

The redeeming factors are the older generation in their passive participation and the younger generation in their active involvement. There is a powerful role of silence in the play and this too should be highlighted. The power of silence is personified in the character of Bharati.

EXERCISE 1 READ TO DESCRIBE

Make a list of words which have been used to describe 'Bharati' in the play:

For instance:

Frail -- My friend Pushpa is **frail** in her looks and needs to do some exercise.

Witch – There are witches who have a **golden** heart.

Answers

Dark, Wretched, Thief, Adulteress, Witch, Slut

PART 2

The play mentions the phrase 'civilized society' more than once.

What is the play teaching us about 'civilized society'?

Give two features of a civilized society.

Choose the correct options from the following:

Civilized society is one in which everyone is:-

1. politically correct
2. outspoken
3. Silent

Think of your own definition of 'Civilized Society'.

ANSWER: A Civilized society is one in which each of us is -----
----- . We respect our fellow----- and expect the same
from ----- . There is no discrimination in society on the basis of --
-----, ----- or ----- .

Can you think of the words you must fill in to get the meaning of
civilized society?

There is a jumble of words here out of which you have to choose the
correct ones:

Normally, beings, humans, cultured, them, caste, behaving, gender

sane, race, civilization



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on 31 January 2011

WHAT HAVE YOU LEARNT?

- Poetry is read aloud to enjoy it fully.
- Difficult words in a poem must be understood.
- Comprehension helps to understand the poem
- Thematic interpretation is one way of understanding a poem
- Reading a play is different from reading poetry
- Words are crucial when it comes to description
- Society is one subject which a play generally deals with