

**Bepin Choudhury's Lapse of Memory PT2-8TH ENGLISH  
BY MANJEET KAUR PAL**

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**1. Who was Chunilal? What did he want from Bepin Babu?**

**Ans:** Chunilal was an old schoolmate of Bepin Babu. He had been having a rough time lately and had been coming to see Bepin Babu for a job. Bepin Babu knew that he could not help him in this regard which he had told him

**2. Why was Dr Chanda puzzled? What was unusual about Bepin Babu's loss of memory?**

**Ans:** Dr Chanda was puzzled because he had never dealt with a case such as Bepin Babu's. It was outside his field of experience. The unusual thing about Bepin Babu's case was that he remembered everything in his past except for one particular incident. Dr Chanda said that Bepin Babu must have been to Ranchi. However, due to some unknown reason, the entire episode had slipped out of his mind.

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**1. Had Bepin Babu really lost his memory and forgotten all about a trip to Ranchi?**

**Ans:** No, Bepin Babu had not really lost his memory and forgotten all about a trip to Ranchi. It was a trick played by Chunilal. He did it as Bepin Babu didn't help him to get a job.

**2. Why do you think Chunilal did what he did? Chunilal says he has no money; what is it that he does have?**

**Ans:** Chunilal did what he did because Bepin Babu did not help him at a time when he had no money and required a job. However, Bepin Babu did not do anything for him. So he wanted to punish him by rekindling haunting memory of his fall near Hudroo.

Chunilal seems to be a good writer with very fertile imagination. That is what he believes would help him to tide over his bad phase.

**Working with Text**

**1. The author describes Bepin Babu as a serious and hardworking man. What evidence can you find in the story to support this?**

**Ans:** The author has described Bepin Babu as a serious and hardworking man. He worked daily in his office. It was a big firm and he was doing a responsible job. He had been with the firm for twenty-five years. He had a reputation for being a tireless, conscientious worker.

**2. Why did Bepin Babu change his mind about meeting Chunilal? What was the result of this meeting?**

**Ans:** Chunnilal had come to visit as usual to remind him about his job whom Bepin Babu avoid to meet. But that day he changed his mind and met Chunilal. He thought that it might be possible that the latter remembered something about the Ranchi trip. Chunilal confirmed that Bepin Babu had been to Ranchi.

Not able to get any solution to his problem, Bepin Babu decided to see a specialist doctor for the treatment of his memory loss.

**3. Bepin Babu lost consciousness at Hudroo Falls. What do you think was the reason for this?**

**Ans:** Bepin Babu lost consciousness at Hudroo Falls because that was the last place from where he could gather some evidence of coming to Ranchi. But it seems he failed to recollect any memory there. That may be reason behind his losing consciousness after he had a fall. He had broken his hip.

**4. How do you think Bepin Babu reacted when he found out that Chunilal had tricked him?**

**Ans:** After finding out that Chunilal had tricked him, Bepin Babu must have been filled with remorse for his 'unfeeling behaviour' towards an 'old friend down on his luck'. He would have realised that he had indeed been a victim of forgetfulness as he had forgotten the meaning of friendship in a time of 'affluence'.

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**Working with Language**

**1: Fill in the blanks below using 'had to/' 'have to/' 'has to'.**

(i) I \_\_\_\_\_cut my hair every month.

(ii) We \_\_\_\_\_ go for swimming lessons last year.

(iii) She \_\_\_\_\_tell the principal the truth.

(iv) They \_\_\_\_\_take the baby to the doctor.

(v) We \_\_\_\_\_ complain to the police about the noise.

(vi) Romit \_\_\_\_\_ finish his homework before he could come out to play.

(vii) I \_\_\_\_\_ repair my cycle yesterday.

**Ans:** (i) I have to cut my hair every month.

(ii) We had to go for swimming lessons last year.

(iii) She has to tell the principal the truth.

(iv) They had to take the baby to the doctor.

(v) We have to complain to the police about the noise.

(vi) Romit had to finish his homework before he could come out to play.

(vii) I had to repair my cycle yesterday.

**3: Study the sentences in the columns below.**

<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>
I saw this movie yesterday.	I have seen this movie already.
Bepin Babu worked here for a week last year.	Bepin Babu has worked here since 2003.
Chunilal wrote to a publisher last week.	Chunilal has written to a publisher.
I visited Ranchi once, long ago.	I have visited Ranchi once before.

**Compare the sentences in the two columns, especially the verb forms. Ans the following s about each pair of sentences.**

(i) Which column tells us the Bepin Babu is still working at the same the place?

(ii) Which column suggests that Chunilal is now waiting for a reply from the publisher?

(iii) Which column suggests that the person still remembers the movie he saw?

(iv) Which column suggests that the experience of visiting Ranchi is still fresh in the speaker's mind?

**Ans:** (i) Column B

(ii) Column A

(iii) Column B

(iv) Column B

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**4: Given below are jumbled sentences. Working in groups, rearrange the words in each sentence to form correct sentences.**

**You will find that each sentence contains an idiomatic expression that you have come across in the lesson. Underline the idiom and write down its meaning. Then use your dictionary to check the meaning.**

**(i) Stop/and tell me/beating about/what you want/the bush**

**Answer: \_\_\_\_\_**

**Idiom: \_\_\_\_\_**

**(ii) don't pay/if you/attention/you might/the wrong train/to the announcement/board**

**Answer: \_\_\_\_\_**

**Idiom: \_\_\_\_\_**

**(iii) The village/tried/the crime/on the young woman/to pin**

**Answer: \_\_\_\_\_**

**Idiom: \_\_\_\_\_**

**(iv) Bepin Babu/orders to/telling people/under/loved/doctor's/eat early/that he was**

**Answer: \_\_\_\_\_**

**Idiom: \_\_\_\_\_**

**(v) the student/The teacher/his eyebrows/when/said that/all their lessons/raised/they had revised**

**Answer: \_\_\_\_\_**

**Idiom:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Ans: (i)** Stop beating about the bush and tell me what you want.

Idiom: beating about the bush - avoiding the main topic, not coming straight to the point

**(ii)** If you don't pay attention to the announcement, you might board the wrong train.

Idiom: pay attention - listen carefully

**(iii)** The villagers tried to pin the crime on the young woman.

Idiom: pin the crime - place the responsibility of the crime

**(iv)** Bepin Babu loved telling people that he was under doctor's orders to eat early.

Idiom: under doctor's orders - in complete necessity

**(v)** The teacher raised his eyebrows when the students said that they had revised all their lessons.

Idiom: raised his eyebrows - expressed doubt/surprise