

SUPPORT MATERIAL

LESSON-2 A GIFT OF CHAPPALS

MODULE- 4

LET'S HAVE A QUICK LOOK AT WHAT WE HAVE LEARNT :

Rukku Manni questions three of them

- Mridu shivered and told Rukku Manni that they gave the chappals to the beggar
- Ravi gives example of Karna
- Rukku Manni brought Gopu Mama's hardly worn chappals
- Music teacher was happy

Music master looks for his chappals

- Tells that they were expensive and brand new
- He went all the way to mount road to buy them
- Lalli went inside to tell Rukku Manni the whole scene
- Patti said so many vendors come to the door

Summary:

Part I

Ravi and Meena were visited by Mridu. She left her slippers at the gate with a pair of slippers which is old and weary. Ravi then took her to the backyard. Behind a thick bitter – berry bush sat a kitten in a torn football sipping milk from a coconut shell.

They secretly kept the kitten as it might annoy their grandmother. Ravi commented on double standards of elders. He added that it was difficult for him to manage milk for Mahendran the kitten.

He concocted a story behind the name of the kitten. He told that the kitten is a descendant of Pallava lion, the emblem of Pallava dynasty, he had seen at Mahabalipuram.

He further added that it was a descendant of Mahabalipuram Rishi—cat and he kept on adding that cats are worshipped in ancient Egypt. He had admiration for himself during the conversation.

Then they heard a screeching sound of violin played by Lalli. Who had not learned it properly?

Part II

Lalli was learning to play violin from her music master who was bald-headed and with an old fashioned tuft. He was wearing a gold chain and a diamond ring. Lalli tried to learn notes but her tracks were annoying, whereas melodious tunes came out of master's expert hands. The attention from her was diverted.

A beggar was at their doorstep calling from the back verandah. He spread a cloth to settle himself under the neem tree. Ravi asked him to find another home for alms. Beggar pleaded for generosity from the ladies of the house.

Yet decided to move on seeing the stern behavior. He requested to allow him to sit until the burning heat of the sun to cool down, as it could hurt his already blistered feet. Seeing his pathetic condition, the children decided to provide him slippers.

They were considerate enough to give him their own slippers yet found them too small for him to wear. They found shabby looking, sturdy old chappals and gave those to him. He was obliged and moved. Actually, those were slippers of the music master.

To their surprise, when music—master came out and searched for his chappals. He called Lalli to help him in finding his slippers Rukku Manni and Lalli were embarrassed and looked around suspiciously.

The mother enquired from the children if anyone around the verandah. She got angry when she learned that the slippers were given away to the beggar. They confronted by the argument of exemplary sacrifice by Karna who gave his precious belonging.

Mother rebuked them by saying that he gave away what was his own. She hurriedly went inside to bring Gopu mama's slippers. The teacher gave disapproving look to the children. Everyone knew as that would be a temporary relief to the problem, as Gopu mama would disapprove of their acts too.
