

**ATOMIC ENERGY EDUCATION SOCIETY**

**CLASS X**

**SUBJECT: ENGLISH**

**Handout :- Madam Rides The Bus**

**Module-1/2**

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**Introduction**

- It is a story about an 8 year old girl's first bus journey into the world outside her village. It is also an introduction into the mystery of life and death.
- The little girl Valliammai sees the gap between our knowing that there is death and our understanding of it.

➤ **Valli's favourite Pastime**

- Her favourite pastime was standing in the front doorway of her house watching what was happening outside.
- Watching the streets gave her endless joy.
- She looked at the new set of passengers each time bus crossed by.
- Gradually a tiny wish crept into her mind she wanted to ride on the bus that passed every hour.

- Soon wish turned into a desire and therefore she made it a mission to full fill it.
- She started listening to the conversations between her neighbours who frequently travelled by a bus.
- Just like this she knew that the town is six miles away from her village and it took the bus forty –five minutes to travel one side.
- The one sided fare was 30 paise.
- She needed to save the money which was not easy as she had to resist the temptation of candy pepper mint and merry go round.

### ➤ **Valli's Ride**

- Finally she saved enough money and one fine day the brave 8 year old took the bus during it's not very busy hours.
- She refused to take any help from the conductor or fellow passengers.
- She behaved like an adult.
- The counductor of joking sort and thus refered to valli as grown up madam.

### ➤ **Valli an adult**

- Finally , Valli boarded the bus.

- Short heighted Valli would stand on her seat to be able to see clear from window while everyone advised her to sit for her own safety.
- Each time someone would poke their nose in her business Valli would get annoyed because she did not consider herself a child.
- She did not want to be friend with an elderly lady who was worried about her because she thought she was not socially capable enough.