



**NOT TO BE
PRINTED**

Subject: English

Aspect: Skill Based Exercise

Topic: Reading Comprehension - 2

Date: 19-06-2020

Name: _____

Grade/Sec.: VI _____

Learning Objectives:

The main objective of this exercise is:

- acquainting the students with reading comprehension strategies and skills that facilitate their understanding and analysing.
- cultivating in the students the love for reading, and developing their oral and silent reading skills; also training students on critical reading and thinking.
- introducing texts containing new ideas and concepts.
- helping the students to expand their vocabulary and learn new words.
- helping the students to answer questions about the texts and developing their ability to summarize the main idea from the passage.

Instructions:

- **Dear children, kindly read the passage at least 2 or 3 times with proper pauses and expressions.**
- **Then attempt the exercise given at the end of the passage.**
- **This exercise can be done on any notebook or loose sheets.**

Half a Rupee Worth

Short story by R.K. Narayan

"Half a Rupee Worth" is a short story written by R.K. Narayan. It describes the life of a rice merchant Subbaiah and his rise to prosperity and his death crushed under his own rice bags.

Subbaiah is a rice merchant at the market gate in Malgudi. He has great love and respect for his profession. When he was a small boy, Subbaiah's father made him stay in the shop to help him. So, Subbaiah dreamt of rice, thought of rice and talked of rice. He took over the business when his father died.

Subbaiah's business prospered pretty well. He kept five cows and buffaloes for his wife and five children. He owned thirty acres of land, a dozen houses and an

enormous amount of gold. He lent money to needy people at exorbitant rates of interest and amassed wealth.

During war time, government brought in the policy of food control. He began to stock rice. When the demand rose, he sold the rice at very high rates. He also sold it in small quantities only and he always took money in advance.

One evening, a person came to Subbaiah and requested him give at least half-a-rupee worth of rice, as his family was very hungry and had not eaten for days. Subbaiah agreed to give only half-a-seer of rice and asked him to wait at the street corner. He went to one of his secret go downs.

The man waited for a long time and then went to Subbaiah's house and informed his wife. When the go down was opened, they found Subbaiah's body crushed under rice bags. The half-a-rupee coin was found besides his dead Body. His death was attributed to accidental topples of rice bags. Subbaiah's tragic end is the fate that awaits hoarders.

Exercise:

I. Write about the qualities that Subbaiah possessed.

II. Besides selling rice, what else did Subbiah do to earn more money?

III. How much rice did Subbiah agree to sell the man and for how much?

IV. If you were in place of Subbaiah, what would you do in the war times? Write your opinion in 50-60 words.

V. Make sentences with the words given below:

1. prospered
 2. exorbitant
 3. accidental
 4. hoarders
 5. fate
 6. amass
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VI. Write the summary of the story in your own words in not more than 50-80 words.