

**SPEAK AND EXPRESS**

(1)

**The Prefect's First Day**

(It is eight o'clock in the morning. Prachi is a school prefect. She, an older student, helps the teacher keep order in the school. Today she has to watch the younger students in the playground.)

**Prachi** : Listen could you all get into line! The bell has gone.

**Deepak** : Oh, she is our new prefect!

**Prachi** : Deepak, did you hear what I said?

**Deepak** : What?

**Prachi** : I said—get into line.

**Deepak** : Why? The bell hasn't gone yet. Has it?

**Prachi** : Yes, it has.

**Deepak** : It can't have. It's five to eight by my watch.

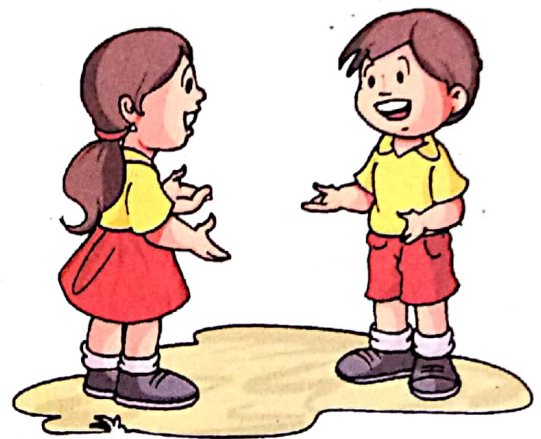
**Prachi** : Well, it's eight by the school clock.

**Deepak** : I don't see why I have to do what you tell me.

**Prachi** : That's it, Deepak. I'm reporting you to your teacher.

(Later Prachi talks to her friends in the recess time)

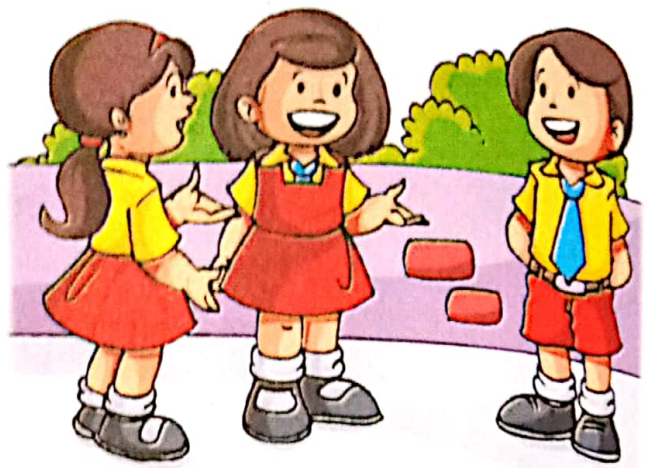
**Prachi** : It is my first day as a prefect. I don't like being a prefect. It is the teacher's job, really!



**Gita** : I think it's a policeman's job. You don't have to be a teacher to shout at the children in the playground.

**Vijay** : Well, I think it's quite good for us. We learn to be responsible.

**Prachi** : Anyway, this is my first day. Perhaps, it'll get easier and I may start liking it.



## (II)

(A poor performance in a class test!)

**Teacher** : I have checked your class test, children. I was very disappointed to see that a lot of students answered terribly in their test. It appears that most of you did not prepare for the test. Arti, you don't know your facts clear. Why is that?

**Arti** : Sorry, Madam. I had gone to attend my friend's birthday party and from there I came back very late. It did not get enough time to learn the lessons.



**Teacher** : That's no excuse. You should not ignore your studies like this. What happened to you, Ashish?

**Ashish** : Madam, I was not aware of the test because I had been on leave for the last three days.

**Teacher** : Why were you on leave?

**Ashish** : I was down with fever and cold.

**Teacher** : What about you, Shalini?

**Shalini** : I had gone with my mother for shopping and I returned home very late. So I did not have time to prepare for the test.



**Teacher** : That's bad enough. You should not waste so much time on shopping. And you Amit, what do you have to say?

**Amit** : I had gone to play a tennis match in my colony. When I came back home, I felt too tired to study.

**Teacher** : This is no reason at all. You have to balance between playing and studying. And what about you, Karan?

**Karan** : Madam, my grandmother suddenly got very ill and she had to be taken to the hospital. I also went with my parents. So, I didn't get time to study much.

**Teacher** : Well, Hiren?

**Hiren** : Madam, I had gone to my friend's house to spend a night. We kept watching a movie on DVD and forgot about the test completely. I am really sorry for being so careless.

**Teacher** : O.K., I'll give you all one chance. Come fully prepared tomorrow and you will take the test again.

**All** : O.K., Madam. Thank you.

(III)

### The English Class

**Sohan** : English is the hardest language in the world.

**Mohit** : Why do you say that?

**Sohan** : I can't understand it. I can't even speak it.

**Mohit** : But this is only your first week in the English class.

**Sohan** : How do you pronounce this word in English.

**Mohit** : It's pronounced 'Sign'.



- Sohan : What do you call this thing in English?  
Mohit : It's hammer.  
Sohan : What do you do with a hammer?  
Mohit : We pound nails into wood with a hammer.  
Sohan : How do we ask for help politely in English?  
Mohit : We say, "Could you help me, please?"  
Sohan : Is it O.K. If I say, "Could you please help me?"  
Mohit : O yes, you can say it this way also.  
Can you understand spoken English well?  
Sohan : I can understand you but most people speak too fast.  
Mohit : How about speaking? Can you converse in English?  
Sohan : I'm really not fluent yet.

