** GREENWOOD PUBLIC SCHOOL, ADITYAPURAM**

**OUR MOTTO-DEVELOPMENT WITH DELIGHT**

**CLASS-VIII SUBJECT- ENGLISH**

**TERM-1 SYLLABUS**

**UNIT -2**

**NURTURING NATURE**

**SECTION-1**

**A DAY IN THE COUNTRY**

**New words**

1.Gleam

2.Pock-marked face

3.Frightened

4.apparently

5.Rumbling

6.Scurrying

7.Agitated

8.Companion

9.Vigorously

10.Embankment

11.Monotonous

12.Unceasingly

13.Pondering

14 .Whisking

15.Commune

**WORD MEANINGS**

1. Frolics - Moves playfully
2. Copse - A thicket grove or growth of small trees
3. Spite - Unkindness
4. Embankment - A slope made of stones or earth
5. Commune - Community

**FRAME SENTENCES**

**1 .**Frolics-The girl is fond of fun and **frolic**, and loves dearly to be with other children.

**2.Copse-** the copse of trees served as shade for the campers in the noon-day sun.

3.**Spite**-The little girl was afraid of spite that is thunders.

4.**Embankment-**They embankment was washed out by the storm.

5 .**Commune-** *She goes to the country to*commune*with nature.*

**READING -1**

**2.What what was the effect of the change of weather on the following?**

**a. the sky**

**Ans.** The sky went dark as the sun was covered by the clouds. Not a speck of blue was seen in the sky .

**b. the grass and trees**

**Ans.**The grass and the trees were washed by the rain and the leaves looked the fresher and greener.

**c. The people of the village**

Ans The people ran to their huts to shelter themselves from the coming storm.

**3. What happened to Danilka? What caused the accident? How did Terenty help him?**

**Ans.** Danilka had struck his hand in a hole in a lime tree and he could not pull his hand out.

Danilka's desire to get a Cuckoo’s egg from inside the hole led to the accident.

Terenty helped him by snapping off the broken pieces of wood from the edges of the hole and pulling out Danilks's hand.

**5.Danilka looks at Terenty and greedily drinks in every word.**

**a.What is Danilka's mood here?**

**Ans.**Danilka is keen to learn more about nature from Terenty.

**b.Where were they?**

**Ans.**They were walking aimlessly through the field towards the river.

**c.What was Terenty telling him?**

**Ans.**Terenty talked about the beauty of the earth, the wonders of the various creatures living in it and all that he had learnt from his experiences with nature.

**READING-2**

**Describe the setting of this 20th century Russian village.**

**Ans.** The story is set in a quaint Russian village where the people live in huts. They work in kitchen garden and vegetable plot and till the fields.There is a community barn where they store their corn.The children like running through the field of grass and watch the goods train which passes by their village. It is a place of beauty and serenity.

**SECTION-2**

**ELEPHANTS RAID THE KITCHEN**

**New words**

1.Periphery

2.Surreptitiously

3.Irresistible

4.Sizeable

5.Ecstasy

6.Reluctantly

7.Nonchalantly

8.Previously

9.Wreckage

10.Unmistakable

**WORD MEANINGS**

1.Periphery - The outer edge of a particular area.

2.Surreptitiously - Sneakily

3.Noxious - Harmful

4.Nonchalantly - In a relaxed and casual way

5.Undeterred - (here) did not allow it to stop her from getting

to her goal.

**FRAME SENTENCES**

1.Periphery - Teddy is feeding around the periphery of the camp.

2.Surreptitiously - Tuskless surreptitiously turned the tip of her trunk  
 towards the kitchen.

3.Noxious - The Tuskers are noxious animals.

4 .Nonchalantly - She walked nonchalantly to the door.

5.Undeterred - It was raining heavily but he sat out undeterred.

**READING -1**

**2. Answer the following questions.**

**a.Who was Tuskless? How was she drawn to the camp?**

**Ans.** Tuskless was a female elephant, a part of the herd that lived closed to where the author and her friends were camping.She was drawn to the camp because of the smell of food items,especially bananas since she was very fond of them.

**b.How had Tuskless developed a taste for bananas?**

**Ans.**One day at the lodge feeding place, Tuskless was given a whole stalk of overripe, almost fermented,bananas.She ate them with great relish.From that day on she developed a taste for bananas and particularly sought them out.

**c.How did the elephants enter the kitchen?**

**Ans.** Tuskless wrapped her trunk around the main sisal pole of the tent and wrenched it away.The other elephants moved forward and also started pulling on other poles and the wire.Tuskless quickly made a sizable hole in one wall of the kitchen.Then she become impatient and pushed. The building swayed before collapsing sideways.This is how the elephants entered the kitchen.

**d.Getting food out of the tent was not easy for Tuskless.Explain.**

**Ans.**Getting food out of the tent was not easy for Tuskless. She had to break through the kitchen walls and turn out trunks .At one point she even became impatient enough to lean on a wall causing the kitchen to collapse. Even after all the fresh food was gone she had to knock down and smash the cupboard to get to the rest of the food but she was undeterred.

**e.What was’near ecstasy ‘ for the raiders?**

**Ans.** All the food that the elephants gobbled up- the fruits which could be placed whole in the mouth and crushed, and othimpatient-was a feast for the elephants. It was near ecstasy for them to find such a store of food in one place.

**UNIT -3**

**CONFLICT AND HOPE**

**SECTION-1**

**POCAHONTAS**

**New words**

1.Pocahontas

2.Powhatan

3.Paddled

4.Peninsula

5.Colonists

6.Marshy

7.Gradually

8.Coaxing

9.Negotiation

10.Publicize

**Word Meanings**

1.Confederacy - states ,people joining together for a particular purpose.(here tribes)

2.Algonquian - (pronounced Al-GON -kin)indigenous inhabitants of North America.

3.Chesapeake Bay - an area in the US states of Maryland and Virginia.

**Frame sentences**

1. Confederacy-Powhatan was the powerful chief of the Powhatan Confederacy.
2. Algonquian- There were more than thirty Algonquian tribes and 25,000 members in the Powhatan Confederacy.
3. Chesapeake Bay-John Smith’s crew was happy to be in Chesapeake Bay.

**2.Answer the following questions briefly.**

**a.Who was Pocahontas? How did she get her name ?**

Ans.Pocahontas was the daughter of the chief of the Powhatan Confederacy. She attracted people with her beauty and liveliness thus earning the name Pocahontas meaning 'playful one'.

**b.Why did the Powhatans not like the settlers?**

Ans.The Powhatan did not like the settlers because in the past they had killed many of the natives and forcefully taken away their lands.

**c.What did Captain Argall expect to achieve by holding Pocahontas to ransom?**

Ans.Captain Argall wanted to secure the release of the English prisoners and also the return of the English weapons and tools they had been taken from them by the natives.

d.Why did captivity change Pocahontas?

Ans.Pocahontas sailed for England in the spring of 1616 with the goal of rising support for their settlements. She wanted to negotiate peace between the colonists and the natives.

**e.How was Pocahontas received in England?**

Ans In London, Pocahontas was received with support and interest.An artist created a portrait to publicize her visit. She met King James I , her friend John Smith and some very important people.

**UNIT 3**

**SECTION-2**

**CAN WE CHANGE THIS?**

**New words**

1.Untouchability

2.Humiliated

3.Threshing

4.Naicker

5.Proceedings

6.Muzzled

7.Shriek

8.Infuriated

9.Obscence

10.Errands

**Word Meanings**

1.Pallas - People of a particular upper caste

3 .Reverently - Showing respect

4 .Disquieting - Inducing feelings of anxiety or worry

5.Contempt - The feeling that someone is not worth any respect

**Frame sentences**

1. Pallas-The old man crossed the street of the pallas and came to my street .
2. Double it-The manner in which the old man walking made me want to double up.
3. Reverently – He gazed reverently at the handiwork.
4. Disquieting – There was something disquieting about his behaviour.
5. Contempt- They held a contempt for politicians.

**Reading 1**

1. **What was the sight that the narrator found amusing? Was it really so?**

Ans- The narrator saw an elder of her street come along from the direction of the bazaar holding a parcel. The manner in which he was walking made her double up with laughter. The old man was holding the packet by its string, without really touching any part of parcel. No, it was not a funny sight because he was doing it as an ‘untouchable’. Being from a lower class, had he touched the vadas, they would have been considered ‘polluted’ and the Naicket would not have eaten the vadas.

**Q.2.Why was the narrator’s Annan not amused by her story?**

Ans- The narrator Annam realized the significance of the act. He knew that the elder from their community had to humble and humiliate himself for a Naicker. It was not funny.

**Q.3.What feeling did the realization of truth evoke in the narrator?**

Ans- The narrator stopped feeling amused and become sad instead. She also felt provoked and angry at unwarranted humiliation.

**Q.4.Naicker was furious. Why?Was this justified?**

Ans- Naicker was furious because a 'Paraya' lad, the grandson of one of the servants had dared to speak to him, a man from higher caste, disrespectfully. No, it was justified, but norms of society made his behaviour acceptable.

**Q.5.What discrimination did the narrator undergo on a daily basis at school?**

Ans- The narrator and the rest of the children from her caste were used for labour. Children of her caste carried water to the teacher’s house. They watered the plants. They did all the chores that were needed in the school. Yet, if anything was stolen or if something terrible happened, it was taken for granted that the children must have done it.

**SECTION-3**

**REFUGEE BLUE**

**New words**

1.Traumas

2.Consul

3.Politely

4.Committee

5.Poodle

6.Jews

7.Quay

8.Politicians

9.Refugee

10.Blues

**Word Meanings**

1. Refugee -A person who has left his native country because of persecution or fear of persecution.
2. Souls-Here, people
3. Holes-Here, slums
4. Yew- A coniferous tree which has red berry – like fruits
5. Consul-Government officials representing their country in a foreign country

**Frame sentences**

1. Refugee-Many refugees have come to England to escape the war in Bosnia.
2. Souls-German cities have ten millions souls.
3. Holes- many people are living in holes.
4. Yew-There was an old yew near Churchyard.
5. Consul-The consul spoke slowly and with great gravity.

**Poem appreciation**

**1.Where do the narrator and his companion want to go?Why are they unable to do so?**

**Ans.** The narrator and his companion want to go back to their own country. They cannot do that because they are German- Jewish refugees. During the Second World War, they were harshly persecuted and so they fled from their homeland.

**2. Why did the consul bang the table? Why was he angry?**

**Ans.** The consul banged the table because he was frustrated at not being able to help his own countrymen. He was angry because the laws stated that any person without a passport was not a citizen at all and hence could not travel to his country.

**3. What was the refugee offered by the committee and what did they ask him? What was his reaction?**

**Ans.** The refugee was offered a seat in the committee meetings. They asked him to come again next year. This made him sad because the people like him needed immediate assistance instead of future promises.

**4. What did the narrator see at the harbour? What did the refugee see in the Woods?**

**Ans.** In the harbour, the narrator saw fish swimming freely in the water. In the woods, he saw the birds singing merrily without a care in the world.

**5.What did the refugee see in his dream?**

Ans. The refugee dreamt of a building with thousand floors having a thousand doors and windows. But in that huge building not a single place belonged to them .