

## BETWEEN THE MILES

## 5

**Activity 5.1****Act out**

Lahiru's pen friend is *Kenta Akimoto*. Lahiru and his family are **eagerly** waiting to welcome the *Akimoto* family.

**Mother:** Son, what time will they leave Japan?

**Lahiru:** They would have left by now. They live **closer** to Nagoya airport.

**Mother:** That's good. Let me think... Nagoya to Sri Lanka... (puzzled)

**Father:** It's **nearly** 6,500 km from Nagoya to Sri Lanka.

**Mother:** Really? How long will it take?

**Father:** It will take about eight and a half hours.

**Mother:** Are there any direct flights?

**Father:** Yes, I checked, and they are taking a direct flight to Colombo.





**Mother:** Let's get ready to go to the airport to pick them up.

**Lahiru:** Mother, remember, we needn't go to the airport. They'll take a taxi to come here.

**Mother:** Ah yes, you told me about it this morning.

**Father:** Are you sure of it?

**Lahiru:** Yes, father. I checked with him when he wrote to me last.

**Mother:** All right. Lahiru, you have to help me to prepare dinner.

**Lahiru:** Sure mother, I will.

**Father:** I'll help you too.

**Mother:** That's great!

Now answer these questions.

(A) Read the conversation and say whether the following statements are true or false.

1. Lahiru has a pen friend in Japan. ( )
2. There are no direct flights from Nagoya. ( )
3. Lahiru called his pen friend over the phone to ask about the airport pickup. ( )
4. Lahiru and his father will help mother to prepare dinner. ( )

(B) Read the text and complete the following sentences.

1. Lahiru and his family are getting ready to .....  
**a.** go on a trip.      **b.** welcome a friend.    **c.** organize a party.
2. Lahiru's mother .....  
**a.** knew about Nagoya.      **b.** talked much about Nagoya.  
**c.** did not know much about Nagoya.
3. Lahiru and his family will ..... to pick up Lahiru's pen friend and his family.  
**a.** go                      **b.** not go                      **c.** go to airport

4. Lahiru’s pen friend has confirmed about his airport pick up via.....  
**a.** air mail.      **b.** e-mail.                                              **c.** SMS.
5. The flight will take about .....  
**a.** eight hours.                      **b.** eight and a half hours.      **c.** nine hours.

### LEARNING POINT

Study the following:

- 1.Be responsible.
- 2.You both are very helpful.

*We can change the words and their meanings by adding a letter group (suffix) to words at the end. Study how these are used.*

-ful	Full of	peaceful, successful
-less	Without	homeless, helpless
-ness	Turns the quality / condition	neatness, kindness
-ly	Talks about the manner	eagerly, nearly

### Activity 5.2

Copy this and complete the table

base	-ly	-ful	-ness	-less
help				
spot				
sudden				
fair				
pain				
worth				



Now complete this story.

There lived a \_\_\_\_\_(beauty) girl named Poorni. Everyone loved her. She was very \_\_\_\_\_ (help). One day when she was coming home after school with her brother Punsara, they saw a \_\_\_\_\_(home) puppy. Punsara said, “Shall we take him home? It seems \_\_\_\_\_(help) and hungry”.

“Well , I would love to,” said Poorni. “We’ll take it.” Poorni bent down and stroked its back. The puppy wagged its tail. “It loves us and it needs a home. Come on puppy. Let’s go home,” said Punsara.

“It is \_\_\_\_\_(thank) to you,” said her brother. “ Be \_\_\_\_\_ (care)! It might jump down!” They all went home happily.

### Activity 5.3

**Lahiru’s friends and teachers came to know the rare experience he had recently. They invited him to share his experience with them. The following is the short speech Lahiru delivered at the morning assembly. Read it and answer the questions that follow.**

Good morning! Dear sir, teachers and friends, I would like to share a recent experience I had. I spent my last vacation with my Japanese pen friend Kenta Akimoto. Whom we affectionately call Ken. Kenta means ‘healthy and strong’. Recently his parents and his little sister came to Sri Lanka for a short holiday. Now I’m going to tell you what I learnt about Japan and its people.

Japanese people can be described using several words. They are polite, clean, kind, intelligent, hard-working, respectful and punctual. Their trains are among the world’s most punctual with an average delay of 18 seconds. One of the trains has a speed of nearly 500km/p.h. They are also intelligent and hard-working. They have access to amazing technology. For example, Ken’s father has a water proof mobile phone. My friend even told me that there is a building with a highway passing through it. According to Ken, Japanese people are very strong willed. They experience nearly 1500 earthquakes a year. Despite this experience, they always stand up strong.

a b Z d e K f G M I c K T  
A C c D E K g a B b D d x L U

It is amazing to know about what they feel about cleanliness. They do not wait for anybody to clean their own surroundings. They begin their day by cleaning their homes and the surrounding areas. They see it as their duty to be clean and to maintain a clean neighbourhood. I hope the things that I shared with you today would be useful to you. Thank you for listening. Have a nice day!

1. When did Lahiru's pen friend come to Sri Lanka?
2. What is his name?
3. Who came with Lahiru's pen friend?
4. What are the words that describe Japanese people?
5. "Japanese people are punctual". Do you agree? Give reasons.
6. What do you think about Japanese' idea on being clean?

### Activity 5.4

Do you know the smallest things ever found in the world? Read and match the descriptions with the pictures.

- a) The world's smallest known lizard lives in Jaragua National Park in the Dominican Republic. It is one of the **most endangered** species in the world. It is only about 16 millimeters long, or about three quarters of an inch, from the tip of the snout to the base of the tail.



1

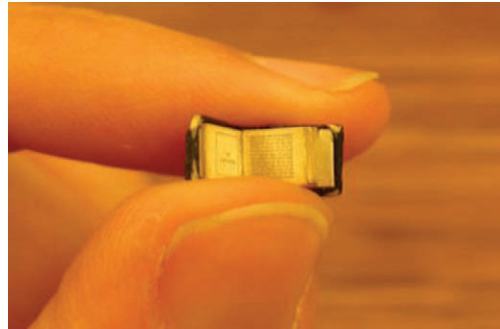


2

- b) The world's smallest fish has been discovered in the swamps of the Indonesian Island of Sumatra. Its size against a thumb is shown in one of the pictures. At maturity; the fish can be about 7.9 mm in length.
- c) A teddy bear made by the German artist Bettina Kaminski is the smallest Teddy Bear in the world. It is 5mm tall. It is one of the best creations. Every little girl would wish to have such a tiny toy.



3



4



5

- d) Thumbelina is a dwarf miniature horse and the world's smallest horse. She stands at 43 centimeters tall and weighs 26 kilograms; she was born on a farm in America.
- e) Two brothers from Canada have produced the smallest book in the world. You need an electron microscope to read it. Teeny Ted from Turnip Town: the world's smallest book, is a reproduction of a 30-page tale.



1. Now copy the table onto your books and complete it.

Thing/ Animal	Country found	Size/special feature

## Activity 5.5

### Speaking / Writing

Now, describe one of the smallest things that you have ever heard of. Use one of the above as a model.

### LEARNING POINT

Word power - comparing things

Study the following



a big bag



a bigger bag



the biggest bag

*We can change the words and their meanings by adding suffixes to words at the end. These new words help to compare.*



a long beak



a longer beak



the longest beak



We can change the words and their meanings by adding *a letter group* to words at the end. These new words help to compare. Here are more examples

Positive	Comparative	Superlative
happy	happier	happiest
easy	easier	easiest
pretty	prettier	prettiest
pretty	prettier	prettiest
fast	faster	fastest

Note the letter changes of some words that occur when we make the comparative and the superlative forms.

We add “more” and “most” to the comparative and the superlative forms when the positive word is longer than six letters.

Positive	Comparative	Superlative
Beautiful	more beautiful	most beautiful
enjoyable	more enjoyable	most enjoyable
attractive	more attractive	most attractive
dangerous	more dangerous	most dangerous
helpful	more helpful	most helpful

Here are some special words;

Positive	Comparative	Superlative
good	better	best
bad	worse	worst
old	older elder	oldest eldest
far	farther further	farthest furthest



## Activity 5.6

Complete the worksheet using the correct comparative or superlative forms.



There are eight planets in the solar system. Jupiter is the \_\_\_\_\_ (big / bigger / biggest) planet. Mercury is the \_\_\_\_\_ (small / smaller / smallest) planet in the Solar System. The \_\_\_\_\_ (hot / hotter / hottest) planet is Venus. Mars is \_\_\_\_\_ (close / closer / closest) to Earth than Uranus. The moon is \_\_\_\_\_ (bright / brighter / brightest), but the sun is the \_\_\_\_\_. (bright / brighter / brightest), Venus is \_\_\_\_\_ (far / farther / farthest) from Earth but Neptune is the \_\_\_\_\_. (far / farther / farthest) Neptune is \_\_\_\_\_ (cold / colder / coldest) but Uranus is the \_\_\_\_\_. (cold / colder / coldest)



*Recite this poem*

### **Activity 5.7**

**If all the seas were one sea...**

If all the seas were one sea,  
What a great sea that would be!  
If all the trees were one tree,  
What a great tree that would be!  
If all the axes were one axe,  
What a great axe that would be!  
If all the men were one man,  
What a great man he would be!  
And if the great man took the great axe,  
And cut down the great tree,  
And let it fall into the great sea,  
What a great splash-splash that would be!

1. Find the pairs of rhyming words in the poem .
2. Which two lines do you like most in the poem ?Draw it.

Now try to write your own poem using the given phrases .

If all the skies were one sky...

If all the stars were one star...

If all the wings were one wing.....

If all the birds were one bird .....

## Activity 5.8

Here are some photos that were in Lahiru's photo album. They are some of the most beautiful and breathtaking places in the World.



### **Hiller Lake (Pink Lake), Western Australia**

This is the only lake that has colourful water. Scientists have proven the strange pink colour is due to the presence of algae.



### **Athabasca Falls in Canada**

Athabasca Falls in Jasper National Park in Canada is a powerful and picturesque waterfall. It's well-known for its force due to the large quantity of water along with sand rock falling into the gorge. There is a wonderful picnic area around this place.



### **Giant's Causeway**

The Giant's Causeway is the only UNESCO World Heritage Site in Northern Ireland. It is formed as a result of a volcanic eruption 60 million years ago. This has attracted visitors for many centuries.



### **Jacob's Well, North of Wimberley, Texas, U.S.A.**

This is the largest underwater cave in the world. It is a non-stop source of water for thousands of years. Jacob's Well is an amazing sight to see. The water within the well comes out from a natural spring.



1. What is the reason for the colour of the water in the Hiller Lake?
2. Where is Athabasca falls situated?
3. How is the Giant's Causeway formed?
4. Why is Jacob's Well famous?
5. Find synonyms from the text  
odd      mighty      tight      fascinating
6. Write three sources of water mentioned above.

## Activity 5.9

### Listening

Listen to the airport announcement and complete the information.

1. Time of the day : ..... (morning, afternoon, evening)
2. Type of the announcement: .....  
(Pre-boarding, Final boarding, Pre-flight)
3. Flight number: .....
4. Destination: .....
5. Gate number: .....
6. Time: .....minutes (for boarding, to shut aircraft doors, for departure)

## Activity 5.10

Here is a part of the famous song Hey Brother sung by Avicii.

*Sing and enjoy*

### Hey Brother

Hey brother! There's an endless road to rediscover  
Hey sister! Know the water's sweet but blood is thicker  
Oh, if the sky comes falling down, for you  
There's nothing in this world I wouldn't do  
Hey brother! Do you still believe in one another?  
Hey sister! Do you still believe in love? I wonder  
Oh, if the sky comes falling down, for you  
There's nothing in this world I wouldn't do  
What if I'm far from home?  
Oh brother, I will hear you call!  
What if I lose it all?  
Oh sister, I will help you hang on!  
Oh, if the sky comes falling down, for you  
There's nothing in this world I wouldn't do  
Hey brother! There's an endless road to rediscover  
Hey sister! Do you still believe in love? I wonder  
Oh, if the sky comes falling down, for you  
There's nothing in this world I wouldn't do