



## Activity 6.7 Comprehension

### Reading / Writing

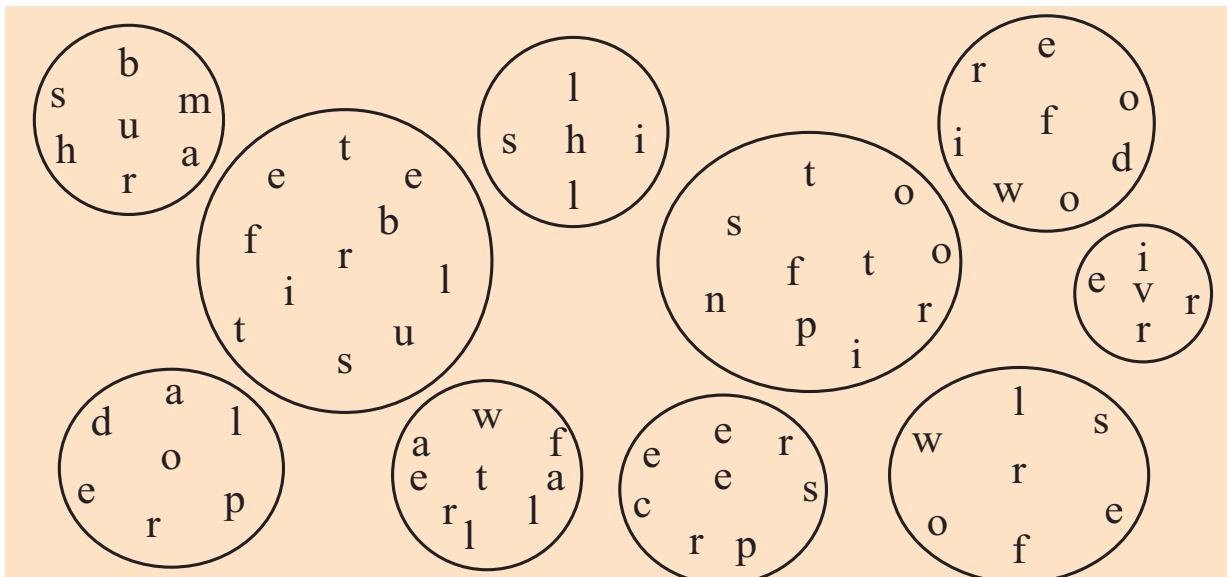
(i) Answer the following questions.

- a.
  1. Who has written the letter?
  2. Who has received it?
  3. What is the letter about?
  4. How many hills are there? What is the tallest hill?
  5. How did Duhuvilli Ella get its name?
- b.
  1. Do you like to visit Sinharaja rainforest? Why?
  2. How do you advise a person who is planning to visit Sinharaja to leave it as it is?

(ii) a. Look up the map of Sri Lanka and find the main areas that form Sinharaja. Write the introductory paragraph under the following headings given.

- province
- district
- rivers
- towns

b. b. Rearrange the letters in the circles. You will get to know the future of the Sinharaja forest. Use these to write a paragraph on the "Sinharaja Forest."



- (iii) Describe "A night spent in the Sinharaja forest"
- Remember it has no
- electric lights
  - no traffic
  - no radio
  - no TV



## Activity 6.8 Comprehension

### Speaking / Writing

Copy the parts of a letter given below on to your writing book.

|              |                      |
|--------------|----------------------|
| 1 Address    | 4 Body of the letter |
| 2 Date       | 5 Complimentary      |
| 3 Salutation | 6 Signature          |

Now read the letter again and match the parts of the letter with the headings.



## Activity 6.9

### Speaking / Writing

Read the letter. Separate the different parts of the letter. Write the letter in your writing book.

No. 9, Lamp Light Way, Attwood, Wellington, New Zealand.  
07<sup>th</sup> April 2007. Dear Malshi, I was very happy to get your letter. Thanks for inviting me to spend the holidays with you. I haven't visited Sri Lanka at all. I'm looking forward to visiting your country. I'm sure I'll enjoy the trip. Hope to meet you soon. Wishing you all the best.

Yours, Kayla.



## Activity 6.10

### Reading / Writing

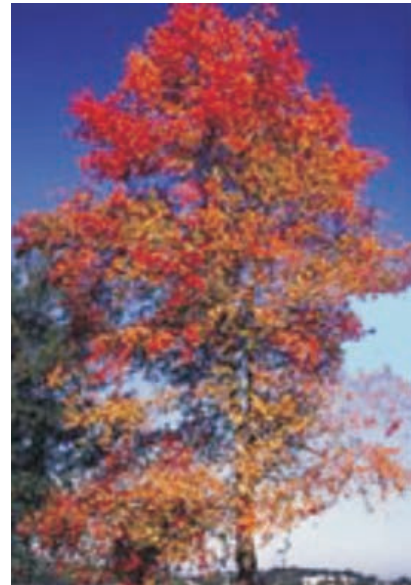
Read the following poem and answer the questions.

#### The Leaves

With their feet in the earth  
And their heads in the sky  
The tall trees watch  
The clouds go by.

When the dusk sends quickly  
The birds to rest,  
The tall trees shelter them  
Safe in a nest

And then in the night  
With the tall trees peeping  
The moon shines down  
On a world that's sleeping



1. What do the tall trees watch in the sky?
2. Who sends the birds to their homes?
3. List out the things the tall trees do in each stanza.
4. What do you think the words 'feet' and 'heads' in the poem refer to?
5. Write the opposites of the following words.  
safe, quickly, tall, night, dusk
6. Write rhyming words for the following words.  
sky, rest, peeping
7. Draw a picture to illustrate the meaning of the last stanza in your writing book.

## Enrichment

Read and enjoy the following poem

### The Leaves

The leaves had a wonderful frolic,  
They danced to the wind's loud song.  
They whirled, and they floated, and scampered,  
They circled and flew along.

The moon saw the little leaves dancing  
Each looked like a small brown bird,  
The man in the moon smiled and listened,  
And this is the song he heard:



The North wind is calling, is calling,  
And we must whirl round and round,  
And then when our dancing is ended  
We lie with no writing or calling.



### Activity 6.11

Now write a short description about the poem in your own words using the present tense.

**Begin:** The leaves are wonderful. They dance .....

## Reading

***Students of Grade 7 informed their teacher about the article on the noticeboard which has been written by Hasitha.***

- Chamila : Teacher have you read the article on the noticeboard?  
Teacher : No. Is there anything special in it?  
Dileepa : Yes. It is about a treasure at the bottom of the sea, a natural heritage of ours.  
Teacher : A treasure? What is it?  
Nethuli : Coral reefs. It has been written by Hasitha. It is very interesting. We can learn many things about coral reefs in our country.  
Teacher : Do you have a copy of that article with you, Hasitha?  
Hasitha : Yes, teacher. I have a copy.  
Teacher : Very good. Can you read it to the whole class?  
Hasitha : Yes, Thank you.



Coral reefs add beauty to the sea world. It is also a blessing because the reefs reduce the speed of the ocean waves and minimise coastal erosion.

There are several factors that are used to measure the value of a coral reef. Its bio-diversity, the area it covers, the number of coral varieties and the percentage of the live coral covering are some of

them. The Hikkaduwa coral reef is one of the Sri Lankan treasures. The Bouna Vista coral Reef which is situated a few miles away from Galle town and the corals at Unawatuna are the other places in the Southern coast where we find coral.

The Sri Lankan coastal line is rich with this 'little Sinharaja' at the bottom of the sea. Most species of corals are vanishing rapidly because of the destructive fishing method and sewage disposal.

We must protect coral reefs one of our natural treasures.



### Activity 6.12 Comprehension

#### Reading / Writing

Answer the following questions.

- A. 1. Why are coral reefs called a blessing?
2. What factors are considered when measuring the value of a coral reef?
3. What are the most beautiful coral reefs found in Sri Lanka?
4. Where do you find the 'Bouna Vista Coral Reef'?
5. What does the phrase 'Little Sinharaja' refer to?
- B. 6. Do you like to watch coral reefs? Why?
7. Why is mining coral reefs banned?
8. Make three suggestions to protect coral reefs in Sri Lanka.

#### Enrichment

What and where is the Great Barrier Reef,-refer to the map of Australia.



## Activity 6.13

### Speaking

**Find someone who has visited the following.  
Use the structures in the box.**

- Have you visited the coral reefs at Hikkaduwa recently?
- Did you visit Horton Plains in 2006?

Find someone who visited / has visited

.....the coral reefs recently?

.....Horton plains in 2006?

..... the Sinharaja rain forest this year?

.....the Dutch Fort at Galle last month?

.....the Dunhinda waterfall this month?

.....Knuckles mountain ranges in 2005?

.....the Nilaweli beach this year?

.....Peradeniya Botanical Garden last year?

**Present your findings to the whole class. Use the following examples.**

e.g. Hasitha visited the coral reefs at Hikkaduwa recently.  
Amali visited Horton Plains in 2006.

### Speaking

**What do you think is the most beautiful/significant of the 8 places mentioned above. Give reasons.**



## Reading

### A Speech

The principal, the teachers and dear students,

First and foremost I wish to thank the members of the Nature club for having invited me to participate in this occasion. I have been invited to talk on snakes and snake bites. First I thought of making you aware of some of the venomous and non venomous snakes in Sri Lanka. There are 93 species of land and sea snakes in Sri Lanka. Some of them are endemic which means they are found only in Sri Lanka. Luckily most snakes are non poisonous. Only five of the land snakes are venomous. They are the Common Cobra, the Common Krait, the Russell's Viper, the Ceylon Krait and the Saw-scaled Viper. A majority of deaths are caused by the first three. Merrem's hump-nosed Viper, Sri Lankan hump-nosed Viper and Green Pit Viper are some of the mildly venomous snakes.



I think it's important for us to recognize the signs and effects of snake bites. The most common signs are vomiting, abdominal pain, pain and swelling at the site of the bite and drowsiness. These vary depending on the type of snake. The mildly venomous snakes cause bleeding, swelling and headache.

If we know how to manage snake bites, we can reduce the number of deaths. It is very necessary to reduce the fear the victim feels. Preventing absorption of venom will help to reduce the pain.

You should not do suction or incision of the wound. You should identify the snake, whether it is venomous or not, and you should look for fang marks. The shape of the head helps you to identify the snake.





I think now you have some important information about serpent bites. Please tell your parents and neighbours too what you have gathered from my speech. Thank you very much for listening.



## Activity 6.14

### Speaking

**(a) Read the following instructions. Select the instructions suitable for the heading "treating a patient" and write them down under the heading in your writing book.**

1. Wash the bite area with soap and water.
2. Remove your shoes.
3. Draw out venom,.
4. Keep the books in the cupboard.
5. Tie a light band about four inches above the bite.
6. Write your name in capital letters.
7. Keep the victim quiet.
8. Make a quarter inch cut through the fang mark with a sterilised blade.

**(b) Read the following clues and build up the legend on 'The enmity between the snake and the Russell's viper'.**

- season of drought
- a child playing with some water
- snake drinks water from the tub
- viper is thirsty, asks the snake for water.
- snake gets the viper to promise not to harm the child.
- viper does not keep the promise.

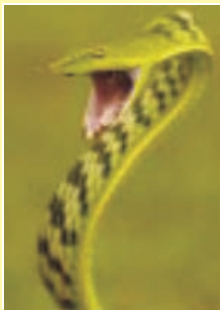


## Activity 6.15

### Reading / Writing

Read the following description about the Green Vine Snake (*Ahatulla*). From the pictures given, select a picture of a reptile/creature found in your area. Write a similar description in your writing book

Green Vine Snake



The Green Vine Snake can be seen in every part of the island. It is green in colour. It is not venomous. Its venom does not cause death to people. The snake reaches a length of 800 mm.

scorpion



mosquito



crocodile



tortoise



rat snake



centipede



cockroach



turtle



leech





## Activity 6.16 Group work

### Reading / Writing

Select two-three words from the list for each group and find the dictionary meanings of the words. Copy the words into your writing book. Listen to the other group presentations and write the meanings.

venomous

abdominal

endemic

identify

species

majority

swelling

drowsiness

bleeding

mildly

reduce

signs

neighbours

suction

victim

reassure

incision

absorption

venom

fang



## Activity 6.17

### Reading / Writing

#### Word Snake

**Write meaningful sentences in your writing book. Consider the spacing capitalization and punctuation.**

therearefivedeadlyvenomoussnakeinsrilanka

mostofthesnakesinsrilankaarenonvenomous

firstwasthewoundwithacleanclothandwater

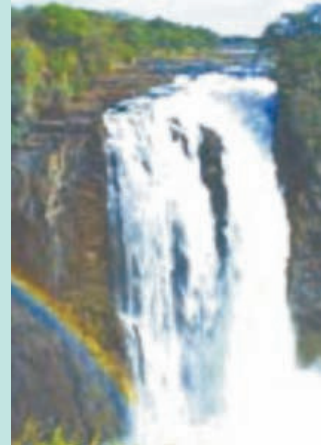
therearefangmarksonbite

absorptionofvenomhelpstoreducethepain

# There's a Land I know.....

There's a land I know where the winds do softly  
blow;  
And skies are kind and the fields are green;  
There's a land I know where the rivers swiftly  
flow:  
And the heart is ravished by what is seen.

That land is Lanka, fairest isle of all,  
Whose hills the clouds do hug and kiss;  
That land is Lanka at whose sacred call  
Our hearts do stir with pride and bliss.



by  
*J. Vijayatunga*



## Activity 6.18

### Writing

**Read the poem and answer the following questions in your writing book.**

1. What are the actions of the following?  
winds, rivers, clouds.
2. Write the words used by the poet to show his love for this land.
3. What do our hearts feel by seeing the beauty of this land?
4. Write the rhyming words for the following words.  
blow \_\_\_\_\_ all \_\_\_\_\_  
green \_\_\_\_\_ kiss \_\_\_\_\_
5. Draw a picture to illustrate message of the poem.