

"His First Flight"

The Story Summary (കഥാ സംഗ്രഹം)

The Fear of the Seagull (കടൽപക്ഷിയുടെ ഭയം)

The young seagull was alone on his ledge because he was afraid to fly. He felt certain that his wings would never support him. (യുവ കടൽപക്ഷി പറക്കാൻ ഭയപ്പെട്ടതുകൊണ്ട് തന്റെ പറക്കലിൽ ഒറ്റയ്ക്കായിരുന്നു. തന്റെ ചിറകുകൾ തന്നെ താങ്ങില്ലെന്ന് അവൻ ഉറച്ചു വിശ്വസിച്ചു.)

The Role of Family (കുടുംബത്തിന്റെ പങ്ക്)

The parents spent their time teaching the other children the "art of flight" and how to "skim the waves" and "dive for fish". (പറക്കലിന്റെ കലയും, തിരമാലകൾക്ക് മുകളിലൂടെ നീങ്ങുന്നതും, മീൻ പിടിക്കാൻ മുങ്ങുന്നതും എങ്ങനെയെന്ന് മാതാപിതാക്കൾ മറ്റു കുട്ടികളെ പഠിപ്പിച്ചു കൊടുത്തു.)

When the young seagull refused to fly, his parents used harsh methods like scolding him and "threatening to let him starve" to make him independent. (യുവപക്ഷി പറക്കാൻ വിസമ്മതിച്ചപ്പോൾ, അവനെ സ്വയംപര്യാപ്തനാക്കാൻ മാതാപിതാക്കൾ അവനെ ശകാരിക്കുകയും പട്ടിണിക്കിടുമെന്ന് ഭീഷണിപ്പെടുത്തുകയും ചെയ്തു.)

The mother seagull used a piece of fish as bait to trick him into diving, knowing that his hunger would eventually overcome his fear. (വിശപ്പ് ഭയത്തെ കീഴടക്കുമെന്ന് മനസ്സിലാക്കിയ അമ്മ പക്ഷി, ഒരു കഷണം മീൻ കാണിച്ച് അവനെ പറക്കാൻ പ്രേരിപ്പിച്ചു.)

He was very hungry because he had not eaten for twenty-four hours. His mother picked up a piece of fish and flew across to him, but stopped just out of reach. (ഇരുപത്തിനാല് മണിക്കൂറായി ആഹാരം കഴിക്കാത്തതിനാൽ അവൻ വലിയ വിശപ്പിലായിരുന്നു. അവന്റെ അമ്മ ഒരു കഷണം മീനുമായി അവന്റെ അടുത്തേക്ക് പറന്നെങ്കിലും, അത് കിട്ടാത്ത ദൂരത്തിൽ മാറിനിന്നു.)

Maddened by hunger, he dived at the fish and fell into space. After a moment of terror, he felt his wings spread and realized he was soaring. (വിശപ്പ് സഹിക്കാനാവാതെ അവൻ മീനിനായി താഴേക്ക് ചാടി. ഒരു നിമിഷത്തെ ഭയത്തിന് ശേഷം, തന്റെ ചിറകുകൾ വിരിയുന്നതായും താൻ പറക്കുന്നതായും അവൻ മനസ്സിലായി.)

Once he started flying, the whole family—father, mother, and siblings—flew around him, "soaring and diving" to show their support. (അവൻ പറക്കാൻ തുടങ്ങിയപ്പോൾ, അച്ഛനും അമ്മയും സഹോദരങ്ങളും അവന് ചുറ്റും പറന്ന് അവനെ പ്രോത്സാഹിപ്പിച്ചു.)

When he landed on the sea, they praised him and offered him "scraps of dog-fish" as a reward for his bravery. (അവൻ കടലിൽ ഇറങ്ങിയപ്പോൾ, അവർ അവനെ പുകഴ്ത്തുകയും അവന് ഭക്ഷണമായി മീൻ കഷണങ്ങൾ നൽകുകയും ചെയ്തു.)

Key Theme (പ്രധാന ആശയം)

The story shows that while parents may seem "cruel and unrelenting," it is often because they want their children to be "self-reliant" and ready to face life's challenges. (മാതാപിതാക്കൾ ചിലപ്പോൾ ക്രൂരമാരെപ്പോലെ തോന്നിക്കുമെങ്കിലും, അത് മക്കളെ സ്വയംപര്യാപ്തരാക്കാനും ജീവിതത്തിലെ പ്രതിസന്ധികളെ നേരിടാൻ പ്രാപ്തരാക്കാനും വേണ്ടിയാണ്.)

Important Exam Points (പരീക്ഷയ്ക്ക് ആവശ്യമായ പ്രധാന കാര്യങ്ങൾ)

English

Malayalam

Parents' Role: They were not cruel; they were teaching him to be independent.

മാതാപിതാക്കളുടെ പങ്ക്: അവർ ക്രൂരരായിരുന്നില്ല; അവനെ സ്വയംപര്യാപ്തനാക്കാൻ പഠിപ്പിക്കുകയായിരുന്നു.

Theme: Self-confidence and self-reliance.

പ്രമേയം: ആത്മവിശ്വാസവും സ്വയംപര്യാപ്തതയും.

Message: One must overcome fear to succeed.

സന്ദേശം: വിജയിക്കാൻ ഭയത്തെ അതിജീവിക്കണം.

His First Flight (കൂട്ടുതൽ പദങ്ങൾ)

- Expanse:** വിശാലമായ പരപ്പ്
- Mockerel:** ഒരിനം കടൽമത്സ്യം (അയല)
- Gnaw:** കരണ്ടു തിന്നുക
- Daintily:** ഗമയിൽ / ഭംഗിയായി
- Sheer:** കുത്തനെ ഉള്ള
- Whet:** കൊക്ക് ഉരസി മുർച്ച കൂട്ടുക
- Swoop:** പെട്ടെന്ന് താഴേക്ക് കുതിക്കുക
- Curvetting:** കുതിച്ചു ചാടുക
- Banking:** ഒരു വശത്തേക്ക് ചരിഞ്ഞു പറക്കുക
- Shrilly:** തീക്ഷ്ണമായ ശബ്ദത്തിൽ
- Cackle:** പക്ഷികളുടെ കരച്ചിൽ
- Scrap:** കഷ്ടം
- Exhausted:** അത്യധികം ക്ഷീണിച്ച
- Brink:** വക്ക് അല്ലെങ്കിൽ അറ്റം
- Attempted:** ശ്രമിച്ചു
- Support:** താങ്ങുക അല്ലെങ്കിൽ പിന്തുണയ്ക്കുക
- Muster up:** ധൈര്യം സംഭരിക്കുക
- Desperate:** നിരാശാജനകമായ അല്ലെങ്കിൽ സാഹസികമായ
- Upbraiding (Scolding):** ശകാരിക്കുക

- **Starve:** പട്ടിണി കിടക്കുക
- **Perfecting:** നൈപുണ്യം നേടുക അല്ലെങ്കിൽ മെച്ചപ്പെടുത്തുക
- **Cackle:** കൊക്കിക്കൊണ്ടുള്ള ശബ്ദം
- **Cowardice:** ഭീരുത്വം
- **Ascending:** മുകളിലേക്ക് ഉയരുക
- **Previous:** മുൻപത്തെ
- **Rooting:** പരതുക അല്ലെങ്കിൽ തിരയുക
- **Hatched:** വിരിഞ്ഞ (മുട്ട വിരിയുക)
- **Trotted:** വേഗത്തിൽ നടക്കുക
- **Daintily:** ഗമയോടെ അല്ലെങ്കിൽ മൃദുവായി
- **Famine (Hunger):** വിശപ്പ് അല്ലെങ്കിൽ പട്ടിണി
- **Mockingly:** പരിഹസിച്ചുകൊണ്ട്
- **Eagerly:** ആകാംക്ഷയോടെ
- **Halted:** നിന്നു അല്ലെങ്കിൽ നിലച്ചു
- **Gradually:** ക്രമേണ
- **Soaring:** ഉയരത്തിൽ പറക്കുക
- **Shrieking:** ഉച്ചത്തിൽ കരയുക
- **Amusedly:** സന്തോഷത്തോടെ

SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS

1. Why was the young seagull afraid to fly?

- **Answer:** The young seagull was afraid because he felt certain that his wings would never support him. He was also scared by the great expanse of the sea and the long way down from the ledge.

2. What did the parents do to motivate the young bird when it failed to fly?

- **Answer:** His parents came around calling to him shrilly and scolding him. They even threatened to let him starve on the ledge unless he flew away.

3. Cite an instance which shows the pathetic condition of the young bird.

- **Answer:** The young bird was so hungry that he searched every inch of his nest and even gnawed at the dried pieces of eggshell. It was described as "like eating a part of himself".

4. What prompted the young seagull to take his final plunge/flight?

- **Answer:** Maddened by hunger, the young seagull dived at the fish in his mother's beak. This desperate attempt to get food forced him to leave the ledge and start flying.

5. How did the young bird feel when he started flying?

- **Answer:** At first, a monstrous terror seized him, but it only lasted a moment. Soon, he felt his wings spread outwards, and he realized he was soaring gradually instead of falling headlong.

6. How did the family support the seagull after his first flight?

- **Answer:** His family flew around him, soaring and diving with joy. They screamed with praise and offered him scraps of dog-fish to celebrate his success.
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1. Character Sketch of the Young Seagull

Question: Prepare a character sketch of the young seagull based on the story "His First Flight."

Answer:

Character Sketch of the Young Seagull

The young seagull is the main character in the story "His First Flight". At the beginning, he is very **afraid and timid** because he thinks his wings will not support him. While his brothers and sister fly away, he stays alone on the ledge. He is a **hesitant** bird who fails to gather enough courage to take the first plunge. However, he is also **innocent and hungry**. After twenty-four hours of starving, he is "maddened by hunger". This hunger forces him to dive for the fish in his mother's beak. As he falls into space, he discovers his **inner strength**. He realizes he can soar and dive just like others. By the end of the story, he becomes **confident and successful**. He overcomes his fear and completes his first flight with the help of his family. Thus he gains the respect of his family.

2. **Question:** Prepare a character sketch of the Mother seagull based on the story "His First Flight."

Character Sketch of the Mother Seagull

In the story "His First Flight," the mother seagull is a **wise and clever** parent. While the father and others scolded the young bird, the mother was the only one who constantly watched him with concern. She is **observant**, as she noticed the young seagull's hunger and his pathetic condition on the ledge. She is a **clever motivator** who uses a piece of fish to trick him into flying. Instead of giving him food directly, she flies near him and halts, forcing him to dive out of hunger. This shows she is **courageous** and knows that "tough love" is necessary for her child's growth. Once the young bird starts flying, she is **encouraging and proud**, flying beside him and screaming with joy. In short, she is a perfect mother who helps her child overcome fear and become independent.

3. Speech: Overcoming Fear and Attaining Success

Question: Imagine you are asked to deliver a speech to your classmates on the topic "Overcoming Fear is the First Step to Success" using the example of the young seagull.

Answer:

Respected Teachers and Dear Friends,

I'm very happy to get a chance to deliver a few words before you on the topic "Overcoming Fear is the First Step to Success". Firstly, I want to talk about how fear can stop us from reaching our potential. In the story "His First Flight," we see a young seagull who was terrified of the vast sea. He stayed alone on his ledge while others flew away.

Many of us are like that bird. We have the "wings" or the talent, but we are afraid to try. The seagull only learned to fly when he was pushed by hunger and necessity. As Dr. Kalam says, we are all "born with wings" and meant to fly.

We must remember that "Necessity is the mother of invention." Don't let your fear of failure stop you. Take the plunge, trust your wings, and you will soar to greatness.

Thank you.

4. E-mail of Encouragement

Question: Write an e-mail to a friend who is feeling discouraged and afraid to face an upcoming exam, using the message from "His First Flight."

Answer:

To: friend@email.com

Subject: Trust your wings!

Dear Friend,

I heard that you are feeling a bit nervous about the exams. I recently read a story called "His First Flight" about a seagull who was afraid he would fall. He stayed hungry and alone because of his fear.

But when he finally dived, he realized that his wings spread out naturally to support him. Similarly, you have worked hard, and you have the potential to succeed. Don't be afraid of the "vast sea" of exams. Trust your preparation and take the plunge. You are born with greatness and confidence.

All the best!

Warm regards,
[Your Name]

5. Diary Entry of the Young Seagull

Question: Imagine you are the young seagull. Write a diary entry expressing your feelings after your very first flight.

Answer:

20th October 2024

Monday

What an unforgettable day! This morning, I was starving and alone on that cold ledge. I thought I would die there because I was too afraid to jump. But when Mom came with the fish and stayed just out of reach, I couldn't help myself—I dived! For a second, I was terrified. But then, I felt the wind under my wings. I wasn't falling; I was flying! I soared, I dived, and I even landed on the green sea. My family is so proud of me now. I have finally found my wings.

"The young seagull's first flight was a journey from fear to victory. Narrate the events leading to his first flight based on the story 'His First Flight'."

Answer:

The Great Leap : A Write- Up / Narrative:

The young seagull was alone on his ledge, paralyzed by fear. While his siblings had already flown away, he stood at the brink, terrified that his wings would never support him. His parents tried everything to motivate him; they screamed at him, scolded him, and even threatened to let him starve. But for twenty-four hours, the young bird remained motionless and alone.

Hunger soon became his biggest enemy. He was so desperate that he searched every inch of his nest and even gnawed at dried eggshells. He watched his mother standing on a plateau, tearing at a piece of fish. The sight of food "maddened him". He cried out to her, begging for food.

His mother picked up a piece of fish and flew toward him. However, she halted just out of his reach. Blinded by hunger, the young seagull dived at the fish. Suddenly, he fell outwards into space. For a moment, a "monstrous terror" seized him, but it lasted only a second.

He felt his wings spread out and the wind rushing against his feathers. He was no longer falling; he was soaring. He uttered a joyous scream as he realized he could fly. His family joined him in the air, cheering and celebrating his success. He finally landed on the green sea, floating peacefully. He had finally made his first flight, overcoming his fear through courage and necessity.