1. Tree Blessing

Warm Up
Circle the things we obtain from trees.

Now, write three more ways in which trees help us.

1. ____________________________
2. ____________________________
3. ____________________________

Word Check

- blessed: bringing you happiness, luck or something you need
  They felt blessed by the presence of their grandparents.
- shade: darkness and coolness caused by shelter from direct sunlight
  The tired merchant rested in the shade of the neem tree.
- cottage: a small house or hut
  The old woman lived in a cottage at the edge of the forest.
- spring: the season after winter and before summer when fresh leaves grow
  This tree is full of flowers in spring.
- blessing: God's favour and protection
  It is a blessing to have a good friend.

Use Word Check
Fill in the blanks with the words you have learnt above.

1. The ________ was blown down in the storm.
2. Her favourite season is ________
3. The rich man came as a ________ to the poor children.
4. The children played in the ________ of the huge mango tree.
5. She went on a pilgrimage and felt ________.
Flying Start

Grandmother often said:
"Blessed is the house upon whose walls
The shade of an old tree softly falls."

We had no tree near our cottage
So I planted one last spring.
It’s six months old now,
And growing fast.
In six years’ time there’ll be
A blessing.

— Ruskin Bond
A. Tick (✓) the correct option.
1. The shade of an old tree falls on the walls.
   a. brightly   b. softly   c. broadly
2. The poet lived in a
   a. bungalow   b. mansion   c. cottage
3. In the poem, the tree is old.
   a. two years   b. six months   c. five days
4. They do not have any near their cottage.
   a. tree   b. river   c. bottle
5. There will be a in six years’ time.
   a. curse   b. blessing   c. fruit

B. Read the following extracts and answer the questions that follow.
1. “Blessed is the house upon whose walls.
   The shade of an old tree softly falls.”
   a. Whose words are these?
   b. Why is the house blessed?
   c. What does the word ‘shade’ mean?
2. So I planted one last spring.
   a. Who says these words in the poem?
   b. What did the speaker plant?
   c. Why did he plant it?
3. In six years’ time there’ll be
   A blessing.
   a. Who is the speaker of this extract?
   b. What does ‘blessing’ refer to in this extract?
   c. According to the poet, how long will it take for the blessing to come?

C. Answer the following questions.
1. What is a blessing according to the poet’s grandmother?
2. Were there enough trees near the cottage?
3. What did the poet think of planting?
4. When did the poet plant a tree?

D. Appreciate the poem.
1. How is the shade of a tree helpful to us?
2. The poem has only one pair of rhyming words. Identify it and write two more words rhyming with it.
Word Wise

Rhyming Words

A. You have already learnt about rhyming words. Words with the same or similar end sounds are said to rhyme together. Given below are a few words. Write rhyming words for these as directed. One has been done for you.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word</th>
<th>Rhyming Word from the Poem</th>
<th>Another Rhyming Word</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. falls</td>
<td>walls</td>
<td>balls</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. bring</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. bough</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. last</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. bread</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Plant-Related Vocabulary

B. The box below has words that are related to plants. Choose the correct words and fill in the blanks. One has been done for you.

petals  stem  leaves  germination  root

1. The coloured parts of a flower are the   petals   .
2. __________________ are the flat green parts of a plant that are attached to the stem.
3. The part of the plant that is under the ground is called the    _________ .
4. The    _________   is the supportive part of the plant above the ground.
5. The process by which a seed begins to grow is called   _________   .

Grammar Check

Sentences and their Kinds

A group of words that makes complete sense is called a sentence.

Examples: The birds are singing in the garden.
What did you do on Saturday?

The above sentences perform different functions. Based on their function, sentences can be divided into four kinds.

Assertive  Sentence  Interrogative
Exclamatory  Imperative
Let us learn about assertive and interrogative sentences.

A sentence that makes a statement and ends in a full stop is called an assertive sentence.

Examples: New Delhi is the capital of India.
          Mrs Monteiro teaches us English.
          We are very happy today.

A sentence that asks a question is called an interrogative sentence.

Examples: Where are you going?
          Do you like listening to songs?
          Can Mohan play a guitar?

A. Read the given sentences and state their kinds. One has been done for you.

1. It is very cold in Antarctica. .................................................. assertive sentence
2. Did you see Karan at the party?
3. We went to the zoo last Sunday.
4. Where have you kept my book?
5. Have you ever seen an elephant?
7. I play badminton in the evening.
8. Who is preparing the dessert?

End Punctuation

The punctuation marks that indicate the end of a sentence are called end punctuations. The most commonly used end punctuations are full stop (.) and question mark (?).

1. The full stop (.) is used to end a statement or an assertive sentence.

   Examples: The night is cold.
             The farmer was tired after the day's work.

2. A question mark (?) is used at the end of a question or an interrogative sentence.

   Examples: Where are you going?
             When are the children going for the picnic?

B. Punctuate the following sentences with the correct end punctuation marks. One has been done for you.

1. When are you coming home?
2. Today is a bright, sunny day _
3. You can stay with my uncle _
4. Can you get me a glass of water, please __
5. Mother baked a cake for us__
6. This is my friend, Neha__
7. Are you participating in the event__
8. My mother will choose my dress__

Listener's Lap

Listen carefully to the passage your teacher reads out to you and answer the following questions.

1. What did Mohan and Ali see at night?
2. What did they do to prevent the men from cutting the trees on the first night?
3. What happened the next night?
4. Why were Mohan and Ali amazed?

Speaking Track

People cut down trees for commercial uses. What are its disadvantages? Work in pairs and share your views with your partner.

Clues:

- reduces fresh air
- global warming

Pen Down

You are playing in an orchard with your friends when you suddenly see a peacock. You are surprised as well as happy.

Describe the scene in 80–100 words.

Finish Line

Form a group with the children in your neighbourhood. With the help of elders, plant as many saplings as you can in your neighbouring areas. This will save the environment in the long run. Share your experience with the class.