

Worksheet

The Scholar's Mother Tongue

A. Answer the following questions.

1. Who visited Akbar's court?

2. Why was he very proud?

3. What was the Pundit's challenge?

4. How did Birbal find out his mother tongue?

5. 'In times of difficulty, a person speaks only his mother tongue.' Who said this and to whom? Do you think it is true?

Answer A.

1. A learned pundit visited Akbar's court

2. The pundit was proud because he had mastery over many different languages.

3. The pundit challenged everybody in the court to name his mother language.

4. Birbal quietly went to the pundits' room at night when he was sleeping and whispered into his ears and tickled with a feather, the pundit half-awake cried out and shouted in his mother tongue.

5. 'In times of difficulty, a person speaks only his mother tongue.' Birbal said this to Akbar. This is true as we can see the example in the chapter itself.

B. Tick (✓) the correct answer.

1. A learned pundit visited the court of

- (a) Shah Jahan. ☐
- (b) Akbar. ☐
- (c) Jahangir. ☐
- (d) Humayun. ☐

2. What was the expertise of the pundit?

- (a) He could play many musical instruments. ☐
- (b) He knew about different religions. ☐
- (c) He could speak in different languages. ☐
- (d) He had made many new inventions. ☐

Answer B.

- 1. (b) Akbar
- 2. (c) He could speak in different languages

C. Think, discuss and answer the question given below.

Discuss the cleverness of Nasruddin and Birbal in class, comparing the two stories.

Answer C.

In this story Birbal is an intelligent person who has the solution to every problem. He does not boast around but in the story 'Nasruddin's Aim' Nasruddin is a foolish person who does not have the capability to do anything but boast around. He lies when the arrow does not hit the target but on the other hand Birbal tells the truth to Akbar in the end. They both are different from each other.