

Passage Comprehension- 9

Grade 4

The Teachings of Lord Krishna to Arjuna

A long time ago, on the battlefield of Kurukshetra, two great armies stood ready for war. Arjuna, the brave warrior of the Pandavas, was troubled. As he looked around, he saw his own relatives, teachers, and friends on both sides. His heart became heavy with sorrow. How could he fight against his own loved ones? He put down his bow and told Lord Krishna, his charioteer, that he did not want to fight.

Lord Krishna, who was also an incarnation of Lord Vishnu, smiled and began to guide Arjuna. He told Arjuna that it was his duty as a warrior, or Kshatriya, to fight for righteousness, or **dharma**. He explained that the body is temporary, but the soul is eternal. Just as a person changes old clothes and wears new ones, the soul leaves an old body and takes a new one. Therefore, Arjuna should not grieve for those who die in battle because their souls would continue their journey.

Krishna also taught Arjuna about **Karma Yoga**, the path of selfless action. He said that one should perform their duty without worrying about the results. If a person does good deeds with honesty and without selfishness, they will be rewarded in the right way. Krishna told Arjuna that fear, doubt, and sadness come from a lack of faith. A true warrior is one who fights for justice and truth without hesitation.

With Krishna's wisdom, Arjuna understood his duty. He picked up his bow once again, filled with courage and determination. The words of Lord Krishna became the guiding light for all humanity, teaching people to do their duty, stay honest, and believe in righteousness. These lessons are found in the Bhagavad Gita, a sacred Hindu scripture that continues to inspire millions.

Questions

Comprehension Questions

1. Why was Arjuna hesitant to fight in the battle of Kurukshetra?
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2. What did Lord Krishna teach Arjuna about the soul and the body?

3. Explain the meaning of **Karma Yoga** and why it is important.

4. How did Lord Krishna's words change Arjuna's mindset?

5. What lessons from the Bhagavad Gita can we use in our daily lives?

Vocabulary Questions

1. Find synonyms for the following words from the passage:

- Brave- _____
- Sorrow- _____
- Grieve- _____

2. Use the word **righteousness** in a sentence of your own.

3. What is the meaning of the word **incarnation**?

Grammar Questions

1. Identify and write a noun, a verb, and an adjective from the sentence:

- "A true warrior is one who fights for justice and truth without hesitation."
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2. Convert the following sentence to the past tense:

- “Krishna teaches Arjuna the path of selfless action.”
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3. Join the following sentences using “because”:

- “Arjuna was sad. He saw his loved ones on the battlefield.”
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Answer Key

1. Why was Arjuna hesitant to fight in the battle of Kurukshetra?

Arjuna was hesitant to fight because he saw his own relatives, teachers, and friends on both sides of the battlefield. He felt sorrowful and confused, as he did not want to harm his loved ones. He put down his bow and told Krishna that he could not fight.

2. What did Lord Krishna teach Arjuna about the soul and the body?

Lord Krishna explained that the body is temporary, but the soul is eternal. Just as a person changes old clothes and wears new ones, the soul leaves an old body and takes a new one. He told Arjuna not to grieve for those who die, as their souls would continue their journey.

3. Explain the meaning of Karma Yoga and why it is important.

Karma Yoga is the path of selfless action. It means performing one's duty without expecting rewards. Krishna taught that good deeds done honestly and without selfishness will be rewarded in the right way. This helps people stay focused, peaceful, and free from disappointment.

4. How did Lord Krishna's words change Arjuna's mindset?

After listening to Krishna's teachings, Arjuna gained confidence and courage. He understood that it was his duty to fight for justice. He realized that fear and doubt arise from a lack of faith. Encouraged by Krishna's wisdom, he picked up his bow again and prepared for battle.

5. What lessons from the Bhagavad Gita can we use in our daily lives?

The Bhagavad Gita teaches us to always do our duty with honesty and dedication. It reminds us not to worry too much about results but to focus on doing the right thing. It also encourages us to stay strong in difficult situations and to always choose the path of righteousness.

Vocabulary Questions

1. Find synonyms for the following words from the passage:

- **Brave** → Courageous
- **Sorrow** → Grief
- **Grieve** → Mourn

2. Use the word righteousness in a sentence of your own.

- A true leader always stands for righteousness and never supports injustice.

3. What is the meaning of the word incarnation?

- Incarnation means a divine being taking a human form. In Hindu mythology, Lord Krishna is considered an incarnation of Lord Vishnu.

Grammar Questions

1. Identify and write a noun, a verb, and an adjective from the sentence:

- "A true warrior is one who fights for justice and truth without hesitation."
- **Noun:** warrior, justice, truth
- **Verb:** fights
- **Adjective:** true

2. Convert the following sentence to the past tense:

- **Present tense:** Krishna teaches Arjuna the path of selfless action.
- **Past tense:** Krishna taught Arjuna the path of selfless action.

3. Join the following sentences using "because":

- **Original sentences:** Arjuna was sad. He saw his loved ones on the battlefield.
- **Joined sentence:** Arjuna was sad because he saw his loved ones on the battlefield.