

## Chapter 18: No Place for Us?

### Think and Tell

#### Question 1:

(Page 166)

Jatrya felt alone, even in a crowd of people. Have you ever felt like this?

#### Answer:

Yes, this sometimes happens when I go to a new place and don't know anyone there.

*[Students should mention their experience based on the above lines.]*

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#### Question 2:

Imagine how it feels to leave one's own place and go far away to live in a new place?

#### Answer:

It is tough to settle down in a new place. It affects a person emotionally, socially, and financially.

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#### Question 3:

Why do you think families like that of Jatrya's are coming to big cities?

#### Answer:

Families like Jatrya's are shifting to big cities because of the following reasons—

i) In search of jobs, ii) Expect good wages, iii) Lack of resources in rural areas.

**Question 4:**

Have you seen any children (in your school or neighbourhood) who also go to work?

**Answer:**

Yes, many children who do not belong to well-off families work to earn money. Some of them work at small eateries, some at garages and some as house-helps.

*[Students should mention their experience based on the above lines.]*

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**Question 5:**

What kind of work do they do? Why do they have to work?

**Answer:**

They do the following works—

- i) Rag picking
- ii) Helping at garages
- iii) Working as waiters at small eateries
- iv) Working as house-helps
- v) Distributing newspapers
- vi) Selling things

They need to work to support their families. Some of them even work for continuing their education.

*[Students should mention their experience based on the above lines.]*

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**Tell**

**Question 1:**

(Page 167)

In Khedi village what all did children learn?

**Answer:**

The children learnt the following things—

- i) Dancing.
  - ii) Playing flute and *dhol*.
  - iii) Making pots using clay and bamboo.
  - iv) Recognise the sounds of different birds.
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**Question 2:**

What do you learn from your elders?

**Answer:**

We learn the following things from our elders—

- i) Respecting and helping people in need.
  - ii) Basic household chores.
  - iii) Moral values.
  - iv) Maintaining and following a disciplined routine.
  - v) Our cultural values and festivals.
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**Question 3:**

Jatrya learnt so many things in Khedi. How many of those would be useful for him in Mumbai?

**Answer:**

The following skills may be useful for him in Mumbai—

- i) Catching fish, ii) Playing flute and *dhol*, iii) Pot making.
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**Question 4:**

Do you hear the sounds of birds every day? Which ones?

**Answer:**

Yes, I hear the sounds of crow, cuckoo, pigeon and sparrow almost every day.

*[Students should mention their experience based on the above lines.]*

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**Question 5:**

Can you imitate the sound of any bird? Show how.

**Answer:**

I can imitate the sound of a cuckoo.

*[Students should mention their experience based on the above lines.]*

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**Question 6:**

What are some of the sounds that you hear every day, but the people of Khedi may not be hearing?

**Answer:**

The following sounds may not be heard by the people of Khedi—

- i) Honking of vehicles
- ii) Loud music in restaurants
- iii) Blaring of horns by trains

*[Students should mention their experience based on the above lines.]*

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**Question 7:**

Have you experienced silence? When and where?

**Answer:**

Yes, I feel silence at late nights or early mornings.

*[Students should mention their experience based on the above lines.]*

## Discuss and Tell

### Question 1:

(Page 169)

Many people in Jatrya's village did not agree to move away from their land and forest. Why? They had to leave even though they did not want to. Why?

#### Answer:

People in Khedi didn't want to leave their village as it was associated with their ancestors, and moreover, it is not easy to go and settle in a new place. They were forced to leave because they had to vacate the land for building a dam.

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### Question 2:

In Khedi, how many people were there in Jatrya's family? When he thought about his family who all came to his mind?

#### Answer:

Jatrya's family comprised of him and his parents. When he thought about his family, he thought of his future wife and children.

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### Question 3:

Who all come to your mind when you think about your family?

#### Answer:

I think of my parents, siblings and my extended family. I live in a joint family where we all are close.

*[Students should mention their experience based on the above lines.]*

**Question 4:**

Have you heard of people who don't want to be moved from their old place? Talk about them.

**Answer:**

I have observed that older people are never comfortable with the idea of moving to a new place. Young people accept this idea quickly because of the job opportunities and comfortable life. But for older people they feel comfortable in their traditional lifestyle at villages in the middle of the people they grew up with, and it is difficult for them to adapt to the new environment of cities.

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**Question 5:**

Do you know some people who have never been to school? Do you also know of any place where there is no school?

**Answer:**

Yes, my maternal grandmother never went to school. My maid does not send her daughter to school as she cannot afford it. There are some areas near my ancestral village where there are no schools nearby.

*[Students should mention their experience based on the above lines.]*

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Imagine

**Question 1:**

(Page 169)

Think of the kinds of difficulties people have to face where a dam is being built.

**Answer:**

People have to face the following difficulties—

- i) Destruction of crops and agricultural lands.
- ii) Loss of cattle.
- iii) Leaving one's home.
- iv) Relocating to new areas where the expense is high.
- v) Getting habituated to life at a new place.

**Question 2:**

Draw a picture of Khedi village and a picture of Jatrya's dream village. Discuss the differences between them. Also look at the pictures your friends have drawn.

**Answer:**



Khedi Village	Jaitrya's Dream Village
<i>Kutch</i> a houses that are made of bamboo and mud.	<i>Pucca</i> houses that are made of brick and cement.
There is no electricity.	There is electricity.
People use well for getting drinking water.	There are water connections in the houses.
There is no school nearby.	There is a primary school nearby with all amenities.

## Write

### Question 1:

(Page 171)

Was Sinduri like the village of Jaitrya's dreams?

#### Answer:

No, Sinduri's village was different from Jaitrya's dream village.

### Question 2:

What difference did he find between Sinduri and his dream village?

#### Answer:

The differences between Sinduri and his dream village were—

- i) Expenses burdened people in the new village. They were supposed to pay for everything.
- ii) Electricity was provided for a few hours a day.
- iii) There was no water.
- iv) The houses given were uncomfortable and made of tin shades.
- v) There was no teacher in the school.
- vi) They were not even able to afford kerosene to cook. So, they were forced to burn tyres for cooking.

**Question 3:**

Have you ever been to anyone's house as an 'unwanted guest'? How did you feel?

**Answer:**

Once, we had to live at one of my uncle's place for two days. I felt like an alien because nobody talked to me, and I felt like running away.

*[Students should mention their experience based on the above lines.]*

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**Question 4:**

What all does your family do, when you have guests at home for a few days?

**Answer:**

We do the following things when we have guests at home for a few days—

- i) We try to make them comfortable.
- ii) We pay attention to their needs and requirements.
- iii) We give them space to live.
- iv) My mother cooks good food.
- v) We sit and talk and help them to open up.
- vi) We visit nearby tourist places and go to the market.

*[Students should mention their experience based on the above lines.]*

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Think

**Question 1:**

(Page 172)

What had Jatryabhai thought while moving to Mumbai? Did he find Mumbai as he had imagined?

**Answer:**

The problems in Sinduri village forced Jatryabhai to move to Mumbai. He thought he would get some opportunities to earn and send his children to school. But the problems persisted in Mumbai, too because living in Mumbai was not easy.

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**Question 2:**

What kind of school do you think Jatrya's children would be going to in Mumbai?

**Answer:**

Jatrya's children would be going to a government school in Mumbai.

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**Find Out and Write**

Do you know of any family that has come to your town after having moved out of their place? Talk to them and find out:

**Question 1:**

(Page 173)

From where have they come? Why did they have to come here?

**Answer:**

They have come from Bihar as their village was vacated for building industries.

*[Students should mention their experience based on the above lines.]*

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**Question 2:**

What kind of place did they live in there? How do they find this new place compared to the old one?

**Answer:**

They lived comfortably back in their village. However, the new place is too expensive, so they cannot avail the facilities. Moreover, the house they live in is old and small.

*[Students should mention their experience based on the above lines.]*

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**Question 3:**

Is their language and way of living any different from that of the people here? In what ways?

**Answer:**

Yes, they speak the Bhojpuri language. Their way of dressing and the food items they eat daily are different from ours. They are fond of *chapati* whereas we eat rice during our meals.

*[Students should mention their experience based on the above lines.]*

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**Question 4:**

Learn some words from their language and write them in your notebook.

**Answer:**

I learnt the following Bhojpuri words—

- i) *Mahariya*: Mother
- ii) *Litti Choka*: Name of a famous dish
- iii) *Bhanta*: Brinjal
- iv) *Babuni*: Small girl

*[Students should mention their experience based on the above lines.]*

**Question 5:**

Do they know how to make some things that you cannot make? What?

**Answer:**

Yes, they know about the beautiful *Madhubani* paintings.

*[Students should mention their experience based on the above lines.]*

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**Question 6:**

Have you ever read or heard of a city slum being removed? How do you feel about this?

**Answer:**

Yes, during elections last year, many slums were removed. The government relocated those people to *pucca* houses. It was emotionally challenging for the people as they were accustomed to live in the slums, and had jobs nearby. However, the relocation proved to be good as the slum-dwellers got a chance to live in a place that had better hygienic conditions and basic amenities.

*[Students should mention their experience based on the above lines.]*

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**Question 7:**

People also shift from one place to another when they get transferred in their jobs? How do they feel then?

**Answer:**

Getting transferred for jobs is a common phenomenon. People learn to adjust in such situations. Moreover, it is easy for educated people to get acquainted with the place. Some people enjoy travelling, and so they opt for transferable jobs willingly. However, there are certain problems when people get transferred like shifting, packing, searching for a new house, arranging water, gas, furniture etc., but these difficulties minimise with time.

## Debate

### Question 1:

(Page 173)

Some people say that— “The city people do not create garbage. Cities are dirty because of the slums”. How do you feel about this? Discuss and debate between yourselves.

### Answer:

Waste is equally produced by all people living in the city, but it starts getting piled up in different places due to improper disposal and collection. Though slums are congested and overcrowded areas, it cannot be said that only the slum-dwellers are responsible for the garbage generated in the city. They, too, know how to keep their surroundings clean.

If people living in complexes and big houses do not opt for suitable garbage disposal methods, then the surroundings will be adversely affected. The same will happen in the case of slum-dwellers.

Hence, we cannot blame a particular class of people for the problem of waste accumulation. It is the sole responsibility of every people living in the city.

*[Students should mention their experience based on the above lines.]*

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### What We Have Learnt

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### Question 1:

(Page 173)

Like Jatrya’s family, thousands of families come to stay in big cities for many different reasons. Do you think their life may be better in a big city from what it was before? Imagine how they feel in a big city.

**Answer:**

Life in a big city is not as easy as it seems because of the following reasons—

- i) Limited space for living.
- ii) High competition for jobs.
- iii) High expenses for food, water, electricity, etc.

It is not easy for everybody to settle in a new place, but on the other hand, it is not impossible too. Life in a new city depends on the situation over there. One can live comfortably if they get a job to manage the expenses, but the case is not the same for everybody.

People have mixed feelings about shifting to a new city. Some of them are happy and excited about it; some of them are sad and frightened. An individual's feelings depend on the circumstances under which they are relocating.

*[Students should mention their experience based on the above lines.]*



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