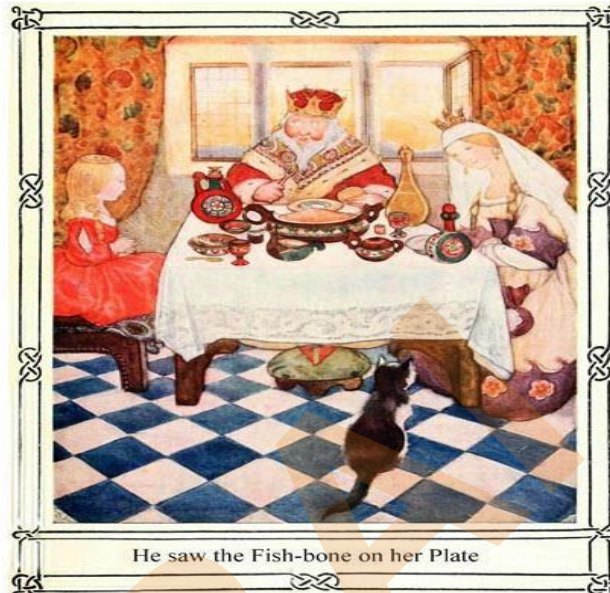


Sri Ramakrishna Ashrama Institute (High School)

Class VI

The Magic Fish Bone

-Charles Dickens



He saw the Fish-bone on her Plate

• Summary:

The text “The Magic Fish Bone “ by Charles John Huffam Dickens is an adaptation from his popular short story *The Magic Fish Bone* written in 1867. The text tells us about the kind and intelligent Princess Alicia, the eldest daughter of the king and a magic fish bone gifted to her by the Good Fairy Grand Marina. This fish bone was a magic present which could be used only once and it would bring her what she wished for – provided she wished for it at the right time. It so happened that once the king was totally bankrupt and had no way of getting any money. It was then that Princess Alicia made use of the magic fish bone to get the king's salary. Alicia was thus able to make her parents happy and relieved with the help of the magic fish bone. As both the king and the queen were good people and

Alicia, a kind and obedient child, it can be concluded that goodness never goes unrewarded.

• **Word chart:**

Word	Synonym	Antonym
a) Fishmonger	A seller of fish	---
b) Errand-boy	A boy who works under a shop-keeper	---
c) Trotting	Walking speedily	Trudging
d) Mother-of-pearl	Inner layer of a shell	
e) Miserably	Very unhappily	Happily
f) Rattling	Making a series of short, loud sounds by hitting against something hard	---
g) Grabbed	Took hold of something suddenly and roughly	---
h) Snapping	Having a tendency to bite	---

• **1) Important questions with their answers:**

a) What was the occupation of the king?

Ans: The king was in his private profession, under the government.

b) Why did the king think that the old lady was a fairy?

Ans: The old lady was unknown to the king. He had no previous acquaintance with the lady. Still she knew all about the king and could even read his mind. This made the king think that the old lady was a fairy.

c) What was the fish bone?

Ans: The fish bone was a magic present from Grandmarina to Alicia which could be used only once for the fulfillment of a wish.

d) How did Alicia take care of the fish bone?

Ans: Princess Alicia took care to dry the fish bone, rub it and to polish it till it shone like mother-of-pearl.

e) Why was the king feeling miserable?

Ans: The king was extremely poor and had no money. He had tried his best to get money but failed, so he was feeling miserable.

f) What was to Alicia the right moment for asking help from others?

Ans: Alicia and her father, the king had tried their best to collect money to end their misery, but all their efforts went in vain. It was then that Alicia thought the moment had come to ask help of others.

g) Why did Grandmarina wish to make an end to the fish bone?

Ans: According to a message of Grandmarina, princess Alicia could use the fish bone only once and she had used it for getting her father's salary. So she would not be able to use it further. That is why Grandmarina wished to make an end to the fish bone.

h) " The king was, in his private profession, under the government. "

Is this king similar to the stories of other kings that you have read so far?

Ans: The kings in the other stories that I had read ruled their country. Their only duty was to serve the subjects of his kingdom but in this story, the king is in a private profession, under the government and goes to office daily.

• 2) Questions that need to be practised in literature copy:

a) Who is the writer of the story " The Magic Fish Bone"?

- b)Who was Alicia?
- c)Where did the king stop on his way to the office and why?
- d)Who had seen the old lady at the fishmonger’s shop?
- e)What was the name of the fairy and how was she dressed?
- f)What was Grandmarina's message to Alicia?
- g)How did the king's salary reach the middle of the floor?
- h)Describe the carriage in which Grandmarina came riding?
- i)How did Grandmarina make an end to the fish bone?

N.B- 1) Remember to write all these questions and answers in your literature copy.

- 2) In case if you do not understand any part or anything, mention it in the comment section below.**
- 3) Do not forget to mention your name, class, section and roll number.**
- 4) Include your contact number, in case we need to call you.**

The video clip of this chapter ‘The Magic Fish Bone ‘ will be given along with the study material.

KEEP SAFE.