



2026

The Tiger King

ENGLISH LECTURE-4

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(Part - 02)







- Warm-up Game
- Prose (Vistas): The Tiger King (Part II)
- **Exercise and Quiz**



Unjumble the adjectives to describe the image.





l g a i c m a

wlggion

ysmlicat

Here are the answers!





magical

glowing

mystical



to see

"Let's watch a funny movie."

Which word is a noun?

- (A) watch
- Naming Woods
- (A) funny
- (A) movie
- (A) word



From the given options, select the one which most correctly explains the given expression:

He thought he would lose face if he admitted the mistake

- (A) To feel sad
- (A) To look angry
- (A) To be confused
- (A) To lose respect from others



Topic: Introduction





- The story revolves around a King whose death at the hands of a tiger had been foretold by astrologers when he was born.
- As he desperately tries to reverse the fate spelled out for him, the author uses satire to make the reader laugh as well as realize the King's folly.





The Maharaja of Pratibandapuram

- Maharaja's elaborate title shortened to the "Tiger King"
- author jocularly informs the readers that the "Tiger King" is mortal
- prophecy made newly born prince destined to be a great warrior and hero of heroes, but will die one day.



Ten-day-old Prince shocked everybody

- addressed the astrologers in his squeaky voice
- said "all those who are born will one day have to die"
- he ridiculed the astrologer and asked about the manner of his death
- astrologer said that death will come from a tiger because he is born in the hour of the Bull and that the Bull and the Tiger are enemies
- infant uttered "Let tigers beware!"



Upbringing and coronation of the prince

- crown prince brought up like all princes in India
- given milk of an English Cow, taught by an English tutor, looked after by an English nanny and watched English films
- crowned at the age of twenty



Everyone recalled the astrologer's prediction

- word reached Maharaja's ears about the prediction
- Maharaja killed first tiger to prove that the prophecy was a myth
- told the state astrologer about the killing
- astrologer said that no harm would come to him till the killing of ninety-nine tigers
- advised to avoid killing the 100th tiger
- if the king succeeded in killing the 100th tiger, the astrologer promised to leave his profession and cut his hair short



King's tiger-killing mission

- tiger killing banned in State
- only the Maharaja could hunt
- defaulter's wealth and property would be confiscated
- tiger-killing became the king's main occupation
- met many dangerous situations



A high-ranking British officer's visit

- 'Durai
- wanted to visit Pratibandhpuram for tiger hunting
- the Maharaja declined



The King's Dilemma

- turning down of a senior British officer's request could lead to Maharaja losing his kingdom
- Maharaja and his dewan decided to bribe the officer by sending expensive rings to his wife
- send about fifty samples of expensive diamond rings expecting the officer's wife would choose one or two rings
- the wife kept all the rings and sent 'thanks'
- the rings cost the king three lakh rupees, but his kingdom was saved



Part (IV) The Marriage and the Reason There of

The Maharaja's tiger hunts continued to be highly successful.

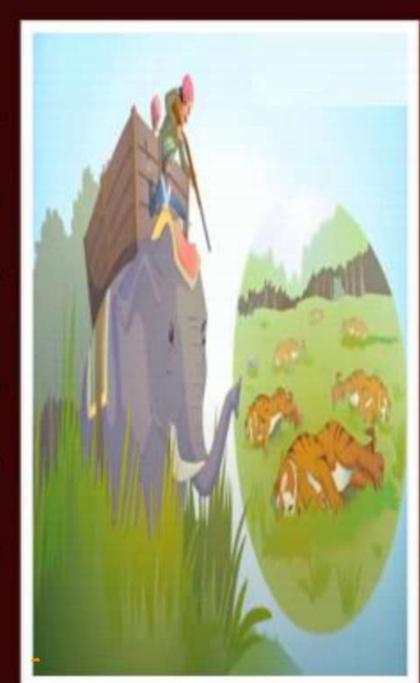
Within ten years he was able to kill seventy tigers. And then, an unexpected sile. I have stop unforeseen hurdle brought his mission to a standstill. The tiger

population became extinct in the forests of Pratibandapuram.

Who knows whether the tigers practised birth control or Japan (Luicide)

committed harakiri? Or simply ran away from the State because

they desired to be shot by British hands alone?







One day the Maharaja sent for the dewan. "Dewan saheb, aren't you aware of the fact that thirty tigers still remain to be shot down by this gun of mine?" he asked brandishing his gun.

Shuddering at the sight of the gun, the dewan cried out, "Your Majesty! I am not a tiger!"

"Which idiot would call you a tiger?"

"No, and I'm not a gun!"

"You are neither tiger nor gun.

Called

Dewan saheb, I summoned you here for a different purpose. I



have decided to get married."

The dewan began to babble even more. "Your Majesty,

I have two wives already. If I marry you ..."

"Don't talk nonsense! Why should I marry you? What I

want is a tiger..."

"Your Majesty! Please think it over. Your ancestors were married to the sword. If you like, marry the gun. A Tiger King is more than enough for this state. It doesn't need a Tiger Queen as well!"

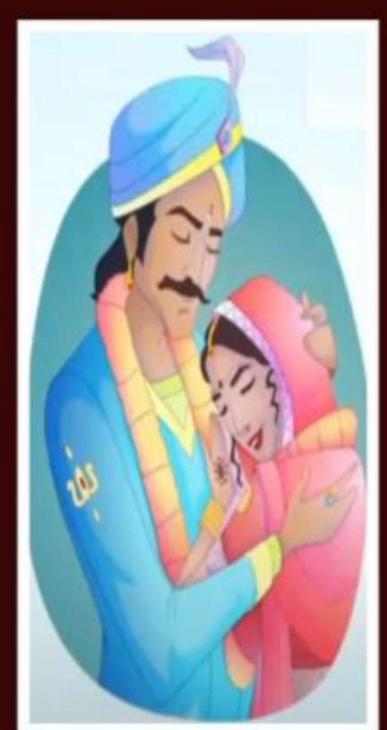




laughed heartily

The Maharaja gave a loud crack of laughter. "I'm not thinking of marrying either a tiger or a gun, but a girl from the ranks of human beings. First you may draw up statistics of tiger populations in the different <u>native</u> states. Next you may investigate if there is a girl, I can marry in the royal family of a state with a large tiger population."

The deway followed his orders. He found the right girl from a state which possessed a large number of tigers.







Maharaja Jung Jung Bahadur killed five or six tigers each time he visited his father-in-law. In this manner, ninety-nine tiger skins adorned the walls of the reception hall in the Pratibandapuram palace.

महल

Topic: MCQs



Why did the Maharaja's tiger killing mission come to a sudden standstill? #Q.



- The Maharaja lost interest in hunting tigers.
- В The Maharaja fell ill and couldn't continue hunting.
- The tiger population became extinct in the forests of Pratibandapuram.
- D The British government banned tiger hunting in Pratibandapuram.

Topic: MCQs





#Q. Why did the Maharaja decide to get married?

- A He wanted to have a successor to his throne.
- B He was lonely and desired companionship.
- He aimed to marry a girl from a state with a large tiger population.
- D He wished to appease his dewan's suggestion for a political alliance.

Topic: MCQs



#Q. What humorous explanations are given for the disappearance of the tigers?

- A They migrated to another forest
- They practiced birth control, committed harakiri, or desired to be shot by British hands
- C They were captured by poachers
- They were protected by a wildlife law





Part (V) The Hundredth Tiger

The Maharaja's anxiety reached a fever pitch when there remained just one Count tiger to achieve his tally of a hundred. He had this one thought during the day and the same dream at night. By this time the tiger farms had run dry even in his fatherin-law's kingdom. It became impossible to locate tigers anywhere. Yet only one more helild animal was needed. If he could kill just that one single beast, the Maharaja would have no fears left. He could give up tiger hunting altogether.



But he had to be extremely careful with that last tiger.

What had the late chief astrologer said? "Even after killing

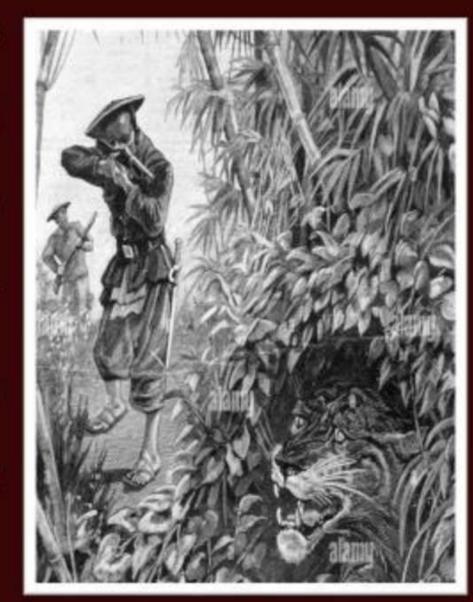
ninety-nine tigers the Maharaja should beware of the

hundredth..." True enough. The tiger was a savage beast after

all. One had to be wary of it. But where was that hundredth

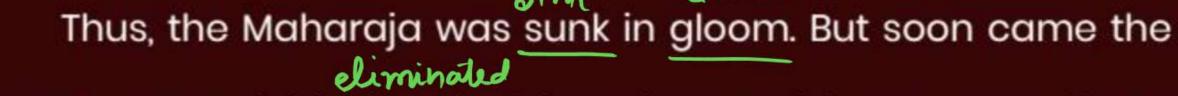
tiger to be found? It seemed easier to find tiger's milk than a

live tiger.



(डूबना)

Sadness



happy news which <u>dispelled</u> that gloom. In his own state sheep

began to disappear frequently from a hillside village.

made lure

It was first ascertained that this was not the work of Khader

Mian Saheb or Virasami Naicker, both famed for their ability to

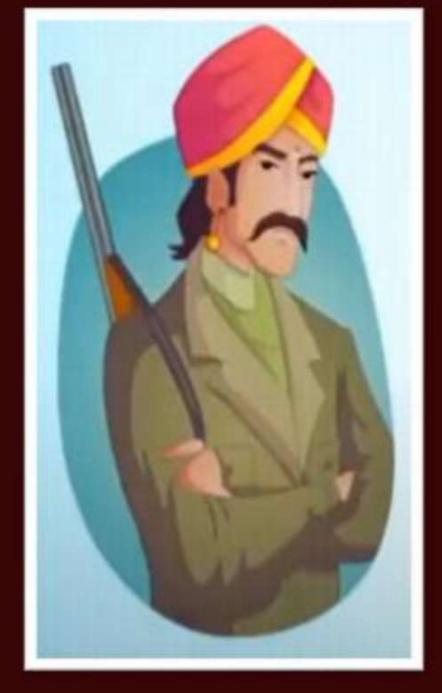
swallow sheep whole. Surely, a tiger was at work. The villagers

ran to inform the Maharaja. The Maharaja announced a three-

year exemption from all taxes for that village and set out on the

hunt at once immediately







The tiger was not easily found. It seemed as if it had Knowingly
wantonly hid itself in order to flout the Maharaja's will.

The Maharaja was equally determined. He refused to leave

the forest until the tiger was found. As the days passed, the Maharaja's fury and obstinacy mounted alarmingly. Many



officers lost their jobs.

cers lost their jobs.

One day when his rage was at its height, the Maharaja called the dewan and ordered him to double the land tax forthwith.





"The people will become discontented. Then our state too will fall a prey to the Indian National Congress."

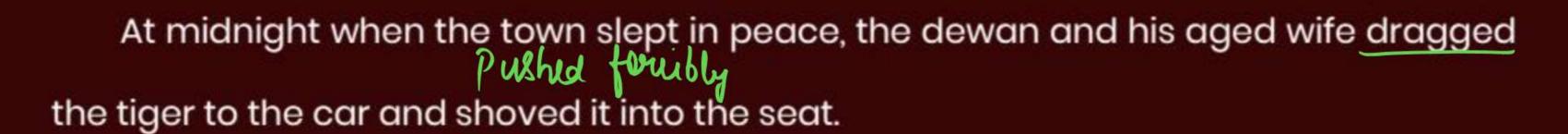
"In that case you may resign from your post," said the king.

The dewan went home convinced that if the Maharaja did not find the tiger soon, the

results could be catastrophic. He felt life returning to him only when he saw the tiger which

had been brought from the People's Park in Madras and kept hidden in his house.









The dewan himself drove the car straight to the forest where the Maharaja was Living. When they reached the forest, the tiger launched its satyagraha and refused

to get out of the car. The dewan was thoroughly exhausted in his efforts to haul the

beast out of the car and push it down to the ground.

next To anied

On the following day, the same old tiger wandered into the the humbly ask

Maharaja's presence and stood as if in humble supplication,

"Master, what do you command of me?" It was with boundless joy

that the Maharaja took careful aim at the beast. The tiger fell in a

Collapsed crumpled heap.

THH

"I have killed the hundredth tiger. My vow has been fulfilled,"

the Maharaja was overcome with elation. Ordering the tiger to be

brought to the capital in grand procession, the Maharaja quick leave

hastened away in his car.





After the Maharaja left, the hunters went to take a closer look

at the tiger. The tiger looked back at them rolling its eyes in

bafflement. The men realised that the tiger was not dead; the

bullet had missed it. It had fainted from the shock of the bullet

whizzing past. The hunters wondered what they should do. They

decided that the Maharaja must not come to know that he had

missed his target. If he did, they could lose their jobs.

One of the hunters took aim from a distance of one foot and shot the tiger. This time he killed it without missing his mark.





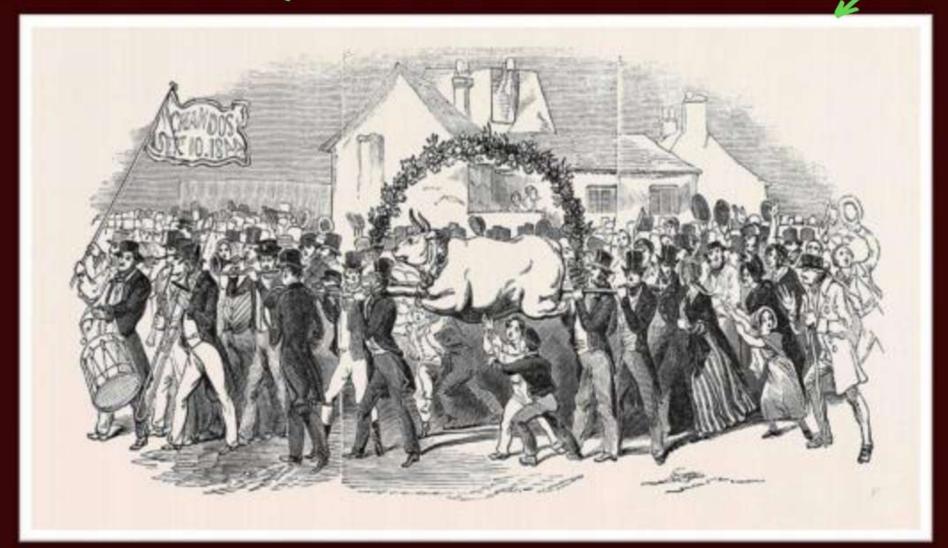
Ordered

Then, as commanded by the king, the dead tiger was taken in procession through

the town and <u>buried</u>. A tomb was erected over it.

(4111) मनवरा

made





A few days later the Maharaja's son's third birthday was celebrated. Until then the Maharaja had given his entire mind over to tiger hunting. He had had no time to spare for the crown prince. But now the king turned his attention to the child. He wished to give him some special gift on his birthday. He went to the shopping centre in Pratibandapuram and searched every shop but couldn't find anything suitable. Finally, he spotted a wooden tiger in a toyshop and decided it was the perfect gift.





The wooden tiger cost only two annas and a quarter. But the shopkeeper knew that if he quoted such a low price to the Maharaja, he would be punished under the rules of the Emergency. So, he said, "Your Majesty, this is an extremely rare example 71191 ; ded craftsmanship. A bargain at three hundred rupees!" शिलपकी ति





"Very good. Let this be your offering to the crown prince on his birthday," said the king and took it away with him. On that day father and son played with that tiny little wooden made tiger. It had been carved by an unskilled carpenter. Its surface Small pieces was rough; tiny slivers of wood stood up like quills all over it. Pentrated One of those slivers pierced the Maharaja's right hand. He pulled it out with his left hand and continued to play with the prince.







Spread

The next day, infection <u>flared</u> in the Maharaja's right hand. In four days, it developed into a suppurating <u>sore</u> which spread all over the arm.

developing pus and







Three famous surgeons were brought in from Madras. After holding a consultation, they decided to operate. The operation took place.





The three surgeons who performed it came out of the theatre and announced,

"The operation was successful. The Maharaja is dead."

In this manner the hundredth tiger took its final revenge upon the Tiger King.



Topic: Message



- 1) What goes around, comes around!
- 2) We can't run away from our destiny
- (2) Don't harm animale

Topic: MCQs



#Q. Why did the Maharaja exempt the hillside village from all taxes for three years?

- A The villagers found a hundredth tiger
- The villagers informed him of a tiger in the area
- C The villagers saved his life
- D The villagers offered him gifts

Topic: MCQs



#Q. What action did the Maharaja take when his rage was at its height?

- He increased the land tax
- B He gave up hunting
- C He executed the dewan
- D He abdicated the throne

Topic: MCQs



#Q. Why did the shopkeeper quote a higher price for the wooden tiger?

- A He wanted to cheat the Maharaja
- He knew he would be punished for quoting a low price
- C He wanted to impress the Maharaja
- D He was following the king's orders

NCERT Questions



- 1. The story is a satire on the conceit of those in power. How does the author employ the literary device of dramatic irony in the story?
- 2/What is the author's indirect comment on subjecting innocent animals to the willfulness of human beings?
- 3. How would you describe the behaviour of the Maharaja's minions towards him? Do you find them truly sincere towards him or are they driven by fear when they obey him? Do we find a similarity in today's political order?





- Strategic: forming a plan to achieve a specific purpose or to gain an advantage
- Stuka bomber: a two-man German dive bomber and ground-attack aircraft that first flew in 1935
- Retreat: the act of moving back
- Imperative : of utmost importance; absolutely necessary
- Indomitable: impossible to subdue or defeat
- Abode: a place of residence
- Demise : death



- Foretold: predicted
- Compelled: obliged to do something
- Revealed: made known to others
- Transfixed: caused someone to become motionless with horror, wonder, or astonishment
- Stupefaction: state of being confused or shocked
- Enunciated: said clearly
- Gazed: looked steadily in admiration



- Squeaky: having or making a high-pitched sound
- The Bull: Taurus, the second sign of the zodiac represented by the 'bull'
- The Tiger: Leo, the fifth sign of zodiac represented by the 'lion/tiger'
- Quake: tremble
- Rife: widespread
- Hindsight: understanding of a situation or event only after it has happened
- Innumerable: too many to be counted
- Drawled: spoke in a slow, lazy way



- Tuft: a bunch or collection of threads, grass, hair, etc., held or growing together at the base
- Incoherent: in an unclear manner
- Proclamation: official declaration
- Fling: to throw
- Vowed: a solemn promise, pledge, or personal commitment
- Confiscated: took someone's property by force
- Ambition: a strong desire to achieve something



- Leapt: jumped or sprang a long way
- Resolve: settle or find a solution to a problem
- Carcass: dead body of an animal
- Relented: finally yielding to a request; gave in
- Durai: (in Tamil) means lord or god, but in the story, it refers to the British lords
- Deliberations : long and careful considerations
- Duraisani: (Goddess in Tamil) in the story it refers to the wife of the British officer



- Hara-kiri: ritual suicide by disembowelment with a sword, formerly practised in Japan by samurai as an honourable alternative to disgrace or execution
- Brandishing: waving a weapon in anger
- Shuddering: trembling
- Summoned: ordered someone to be present
- Babble: talk in a confused or silly way
- Fever Pitch: a very high level of excitement
- Savage Beast : a violent animal



- Wary: cautious; watchful
- Dispelled : eliminated
- Ascertained: made sure of something



#ø.

How did the ten-day-old baby (the future Tiger King) react to the prediction about his future made by the astrologers?

(Delhi 2016)

Or

Why did the ten-day-old prince Jung Jung Bahadur utter the words "Let tigers bew"?

#Q. The Maharaja justified his actions based on the maxim: 'You may kill even a cow in self-defence,' so there would be no objection to killing tigers in self-defence.'
Do you think it is right to justify our actions in this way? Elaborate.

(CBSE Question Bank)



#9.

How did the Tiger King stand in danger of losing his kingdom? How was he able to avert the danger?

(Delhi 2012)

Or

Why did the Maharaja and the dewan of the State decide to send gifts of expensive diamond rings to the 'duraisani'?

Or

How did the Tiger King mange to retain his kingdom?

(Foreign 2015)

Or

How did the Maharaja overcome difficulty created by the high-ranking British officer?



#9!

What proposal did the British officer's secretary give to the Maharaja? Did the Maharaja agree to his proposal? Why/Why not?

Or

What did the British officer's secretary tell the Maharaja? Why did the Maharaja refuse permission?

(AI CBSE 2010)



When did the Tiger King stand in danger of losing his kingdom?

(Delhi 2010)

Or

When was the Tiger King in danger of losing his throne?

(AI CBSE 2015)

Or

Why was the Maharaja once in danger of losing his kingdom?

(Delhi 2017)



#Q. Why was the Maharaja once in danger of losing his kingdom? (Delhi 2017)

Or

When was the Tiger King in danger of losing his throne? (All India 2015)

Or

Why do you think was the Maharaja in danger of losing his throne?

(All India 2010)

Or

When did the Tiger King stand in danger of losing his kingdom? (Delhi 2010)

How did the 'duraisani' behave on receiving the gifts? (CBSE 2023)



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