

# UNIT 7

## Ekalavya

Look at the picture and answer the questions given below.



1. Who do you think is the man under the tree? What is he doing?
2. What is the difference between your school and the school you see in the picture?

Listen to the introduction read by your teacher and answer the questions given below.

1. What is the passage about?
2. Who was Dronacharya?
  - a. a Kaurava
  - a. Pandava
  - c. a guru
  - d. a prince
3. What do you like about your school? Talk about your school in your class.



## A. Reading

### Ekalavya

Dronacharya was the royal teacher of the Pandavas and the Kauravas of Hastinapura. He was the master of archery. Arjuna, one of the Pandavas, was his favourite student. Arjuna worked hard and carried out every command of his *guru*. Dronacharya was very much pleased with Arjuna and said, “I shall make you the greatest archer in the world.”

Ekalavya was a young and active boy. He was the son of the chief of the jungle tribes of Nishada. One day he watched Dronacharya teaching archery to the princes of Hastinapura in *gurukula*. Ekalavya wished to learn archery. So he met Dronacharya and fell at his feet.



He said “O great teacher, I have come to learn archery from you. Kindly take me as your pupil.”

Dronacharya was very pleased.

“Who are you?” Dronacharya asked.

“I am the son of the chief of the Nishadas,” said Ekalavya.

“A tribes man?” said Dronacharya, “Don’t you know, I teach only the princes? You can go back.”

Ekalavya was very disheartened. He obeyed Dronacharya and returned to the forest. There he made a clay image of Dronacharya and offered prayers everyday. He practised archery day and night. In no time he became very skillful in the art of archery. Now he could shoot arrows even in the dark just by listening to the sound of animals.



Years passed by. One day Dronacharya, the Pandavas and the Kauravas came to the forest with a dog, for hunting. Suddenly the dog started barking at something. At that time an arrow came from somewhere and struck the mouth of the dog. Another arrow followed it, and another. Seven arrows came one after the other.

***Who might have shot the arrows?***

The princes were surprised. One of them said,

“Arjuna! Here is an archer more skillful than you. He has shot arrows into the dog’s mouth just by hearing its sound.”



Soon, they saw a young man with a bow and arrows.

“Who are you?” Dronacharya asked.

“Sir, I am Ekalavya, the son of the Nishada Chief.”

“Have you shot these arrows at the dog?”

“Yes Sir, I have.”

“Who is your *guru*?” said Dronacharya.

“I am your humble disciple, Sir,” said Ekalavya.

“My disciple! How can that be?” shouted Dronacharya, “When did I teach you?”

“I made a clay image of you and practised shooting arrows,” answered Ekalavya.

Dronacharya was excited and felt proud. But remembering his promise to Arjuna, he had to harden his heart.

He said, “If you are my disciple, give me my *Guru Dakshina*!”

“I am ready to give you anything you ask for,” replied Ekalavya.



“Then give me your right thumb,” said Dronacharya.

Ekalavya knew that if he cut his right thumb, he could never shoot arrows again. But, he did not hesitate even for a moment. He took an arrow and cut off his right thumb and placed it at his guru’s feet.



## Glossary

archery ( <i>n</i> )	:	shooting
Nishada chief ( <i>n</i> )	:	the head of the Nishada tribe
humble ( <i>adj</i> )	:	polite
disciple ( <i>n</i> )	:	student / pupil
royal ( <i>adj</i> )	:	kingly
skilful ( <i>adj</i> )	:	talented
<i>Guru Dakshina</i> ( <i>n</i> )	:	something offered to a teacher at the end of the course in olden days
hesitate ( <i>v</i> )	:	doubt



## Comprehension

### I. Answer the following questions.

1. Why did Dronacharya not accept Ekalavya as his student?
2. How did Ekalavya practise archery?
3. What did Dronacharya ask Ekalavya as *Guru Dakshina*? Why?
4. Which character do you like the most- Arjuna, Dronacharya or Ekalavya? Why?

### II. Tick the qualities which Ekalavya has.

hard working	humble	lazy	skilful
disobedient	kind	determined	arrogant
devoted	obedient		



## Vocabulary

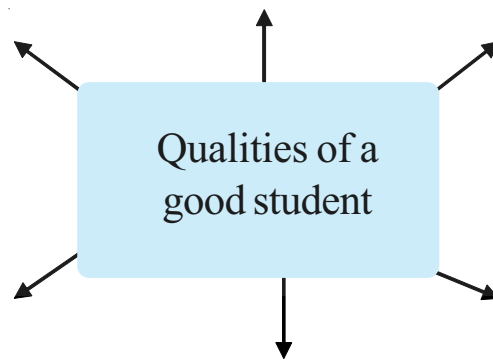
### I. Read the sentences given below.

Ekalavya was a young and active boy. He was the son of the chief of the jungle tribes of Nishada. One day he watched Dronacharya teaching archery to the princes of Hastinapura in gurukula.

Look at the underlined words. The words 'Ekalavya', 'Nishada', 'Dronacharya' and 'Hastinapura' are the names of particular persons or places. These are called **Proper Nouns**. The words 'boy', 'son', 'chief', 'jungle tribes', 'archery', 'princes' and 'gurukula' are the common nouns which can be used for a class of persons, places or things.

Now, pick out proper nouns and common nouns from the story 'Ekalavya' and write them in your notebook.

### II. Ekalavya was a humble and an obedient student. What other qualities do you think a good student should have? Write them below.



## Grammar

### I. Read the following sentences from the story.

1. Ekalavya met Dronacharya **and** fell at his feet.

Ekalavya met Dronacharya.

Ekalavya fell at his feet.

2. He obeyed Dronacharya **and** returned to the forest.

He obeyed Dronacharya.

He returned to the forest.

In the above examples, two sentences are combined into one sentence by using '**and**'. As you can understand '**and**' has been used to combine actions that happened sequentially (one after the other).

**Pick out similar sentences with 'and' from the story and write them in your note book.**

**II. Combine the sentences using 'and' and write them in the given blanks.**

1. Rajesh took out his water bottle.

He drank water from it.

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2. I will go to the temple first.

I will then go to my grandpa's house later.

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3. She ran to meet her father.

She asked him why he was late.

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4. Vimala likes singing.

Vimala also like dancing.

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5. The post man got off his cycle.

The post man gave the letter to Aruna.

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## Writing

### I. Read the following sentences taken from the story.

“A tribes man?” said Dronacharya, “Don’t you know, I teach only the princes? You can go back.” Ekalavya was very disheartened. He obeyed Dronacharya and returned to the forest.

What would Ekalavya be thinking at that time? Write his thoughts below.

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### II. Ekalavya cut his thumb and offered it to Dronacharya. Then he started walking back home. His father, the King of the jungle tribes of Nishada, saw him. He came running to Ekalavya.

1. What would he ask Ekalavya?
2. What would Ekalavya answer?
3. Write the possible conversation between Ekalavya and his father.

**Father** : Eklavya! Why is your hand bleeding?

**Ekalavya** : \_\_\_\_\_

**Father** : \_\_\_\_\_

**Ekalavya** : \_\_\_\_\_

**Father** : \_\_\_\_\_

**Ekalavya** : \_\_\_\_\_



## Oral Skills

Read the following conversation from the story.

“Who are you?” Dronacharya asked.

“I am the son of the chief of the Nishadas,” said Ekalavya.

This is how Ekalavya introduced himself in the story.

Look at the profile given below.

Sl.No	Name	Father's name
1.	Arjuna	Pandu Raju
2.	Dhuryodhana	Dhrutharastra
3.	Bhima	Pandu Raju
4.	Sri Krishna	Vasudeva
5.	Abhimanyu	Arjuna
6.	Draupadi	Drupada
7.	Subhadra	Balaram
8.		

If you were the characters given in the above profile, how would you introduce yourself? Form a pair with your friend and introduce yourself (by taking turn, using I am the son of .../ I am the daughter of .../ I am the sister of ...)

### Fun Time

Q: What did the pen say to the pencil?

A: So, what's your point!

Q: What object is the king of the classroom?

A: The ruler.



## B. Reading

# Our Lips and Ears

If your lips would keep from slips,

Five things observe with care:

Of whom you speak,

To whom you speak,

And how and when and where.

If your ears would save from jeers,

These things keep meekly hid:

Myself and I

And mine and my

And how I do and did.

-Anonymous





## Glossary

jeers (*n*) : rude speech

meek (*adj*) : gentle



## Comprehension

### I. Answer the following questions.

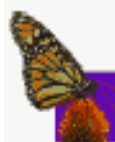
1. What care do we need to take while speaking?
2. What are the ways suggested to escape from being laughed at?

### II. Pick out phrases from the poem that suggest 'talking too much of oneself' and write them below.

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## C. Reading

# Honesty

While coming back from the school, Chinna went to Chacha's shop at the corner of the street. He wanted to buy some bells for his pet dog Tommy. Chacha showed him some beautiful tinkling bells. Chinna liked them a lot. He put his hand in his pocket and said, "Oh, where is the money grandfather gave me yesterday?" He was shocked to find the money missing. He searched all the pockets but did not find his money. Feeling disappointed, he gave the bells back to Chacha and started walking home.

Kamala saw Chinna coming home. He seemed to be sad and angry. Chinna kicked his shoes to a corner. Stamping his feet, he went into the study room and dumped the school bag on the table and laid his head on the table.

Kamala, who has been watching all this, came to Chinna and asked, "What happened Chinna? Why are you so sad?" Kamala laid her hands gently on his shoulders. At once Chinna got up, hugged his mother and started crying. After a while, he wiped his tears with the shirt sleeves and told her about the missing money.

"Very sorry dear. It's ok, don't cry. I'll give you money to buy the bells. But, be careful with money hereafter," said Kamala.



“Sure *Amma*,” said Chinna smiling.

“That’s like my boy! Cheer up! Now, let’s go to the market to buy some fruits and vegetables,” said Kamala.

Kamala and Chinna went to the market. They bought apples, grapes, tomatoes and brinjals. Chinna wanted pine apples too. So they went to the pine apple store.

“What is the cost of the pine apples?” Kamala asked.

“Twenty rupees each,” said the fruit seller.



Kamala bought two of them and gave him a fifty rupee note. She told Chinna to take the remaining change and moved on. The fruit seller gave Chinna, a twenty rupee note. Chinna ran to his mother.



“*Amma*, you know, the fruit seller gave ten rupees extra by mistake. Can I buy chocolates with the money?” whispered Chinna.

“Chinna, that’s very bad. It is stealing. How did you feel when you found your money missing?”

“Felt very sad and angry!” said Chinna.

“The fruit seller will also feel the same when he comes to know. Now be a good boy,” said Kamala.

Chinna looked at his mother thoughtfully and ran to the fruit seller to return his money.



### Comprehension

**Answer the following questions.**

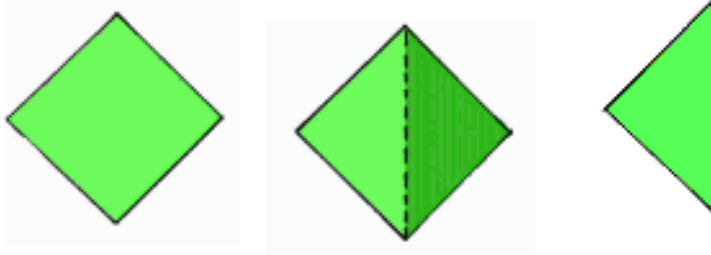
1. Why was Chinna sad and angry? How did Chinna express his anger?
2. Kamala said, “Chinna, that’s very bad. It is stealing....” Was Kamala right? Why?
3. What do you learn from the story?



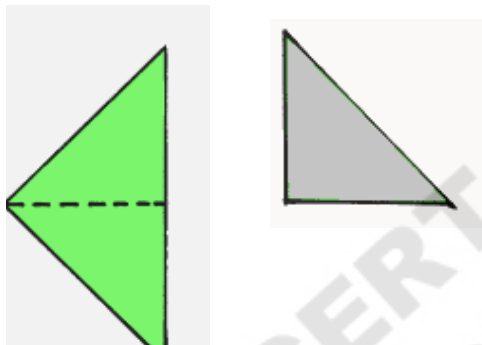
### Project Work

**Read the instructions given below and make a paper rabbit of your own.**

1. Take a square sheet of paper and fold it in half as shown below:



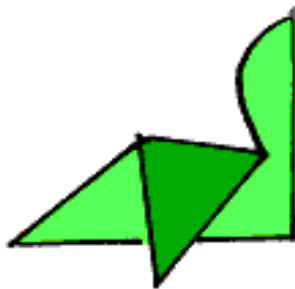
2. Fold the paper again upwards:



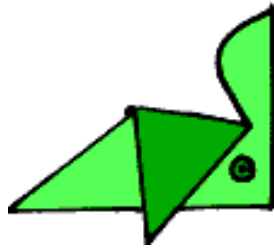
3. Cut the paper as shown below:



4. Fold the flaps downwards as shown in the picture:



**5. Draw its eyes on both sides and expand the pockets to show its ears:**



**II. Now, write how you have made the paper rabbit.**

I took a square sheet of paper.

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**How well did I understand this unit?**

**Read and tick (✓) in the appropriate box.**

Indicators	Yes	Somewhat	No
I listened to the story, understood and talked about it.			
I read and understood the texts:			
1. 'Ekalavya'.			
2. 'Honesty'.			
I understood how to combine ideas using 'and'.			
I read, understood and enjoyed the poem, 'Our Lips and Ears'.			
I was able to write:			
1. a description of Ekalavya's thoughts.			
2. a conversation between Ekalavya and his father.			