

CUENTO

DISCOVERING NEW ESCAPADES

P K M COLLEGE
OF EDUCATION,
MADAMPAM

2021-23

English Optional

**Celebrating
National Short
Story Day**

CUENTO

DISCOVERING NEW ESCAPADES

Chief Editor

Anjana S Kumar

Associate Editor

Amitha George

A Pedagogic Outcome of

CRESCENDO

Learning Community for English Teachers

PREFACE

"A short story is something that you can hold in your mind. You can really analyse how the entire thing works, like a machine".

-Chuck Palahniuk

The year at which Short Story Day has been first celebrated is unknown. There is no mention of the founder of this Day. It is an annual celebration that is observed on the first day of Winter. The celebration Day aims in bringing together the fans of the short story from across the world. A short story is fiction that can be read in one sitting. Short stories date back to oral storytelling traditions. The term short story in contemporary usage refers to a work of fiction that is no shorter than 1,000 words and no longer than 20,000 words. Short stories began from earlier oral storytelling from the 17th century. They don't have any set length. The short story writers might describe their works as part of the artistic and personal expression of the form.

-Rosha B Roy

INDEX

Welcome speech	1
Inaugural Address	2
Felicitation	3
Vote of Thanks	4
<i>Lockdown: Crossword Puzzle</i>	5
<i>Appuz's Myna: Busting Superstition</i>	9
<i>Tortoise and the Bird: Whatsapp Chat</i>	13
<i>Soil: Familiarising the Discourse Speech</i>	16
<i>The Value of Life: A Teeny Glance of Verb Tense</i>	21
<i>Let it Go with the Wind: Portrayal of Confab</i>	24
<i>The Long-Haired Girl: Female Beauty Concept</i>	27
<i>Heaven: Introducing Idioms and Phrases</i>	31

A Dive into
Pedagogic Deeds
As tales of wonder
open before you!

Appuz's Myna

As usual, Appuz was on his way to school. He is studying in an English medium school run by church fathers. He was accompanied by some friends who are studying next to the other government school. He liked their company very much. All of them are having full-fledged energy. They all are busy talking about numerous things. Suddenly Appuz saw one myna sitting on a tree and it flew away. He said to his friends, "I saw one myna. It flew away". One of his friends said, "Oh my God, don't you see two at once". He replied, "No, only one was there".

"Then your day is going to be ruined".

"Why".

"Because seeing one myna will make your day bad. But if you see two myna's together your day will be pleasant. I think today is your unlucky day. You will get a lot of scolding's from your teachers."

Hearing this Appuz's mood got spoiled. He thought about why fate covered him by showing him only one myna. Somehow, he reached the school. His friends came near to him and asked what happened to him. He hesitates to give them a reply. He just said, "Nothing". He was very gloomy and didn't go out for playing with his friends. It was already afternoon. He sat and ate his lunch alone.

The principal of the school was having the habit of walking through the verandahs of the school at lunchtime. He took notice of every child and loved them so much. He was a very friendly principal. All children liked him so much. He noticed Appuz who was sitting gloomily in the corner of the class. He called and asked what happened to him. He said, "My day is ruined".

"But, how"?

"I saw only one myna. My friends told me that if I saw one myna, then my day is wrecked. That day I will be so unlucky. I will get scolding's from my teachers."

The principal smiled and asked, "And did you get any scolding till now."

"No, I didn't get any".

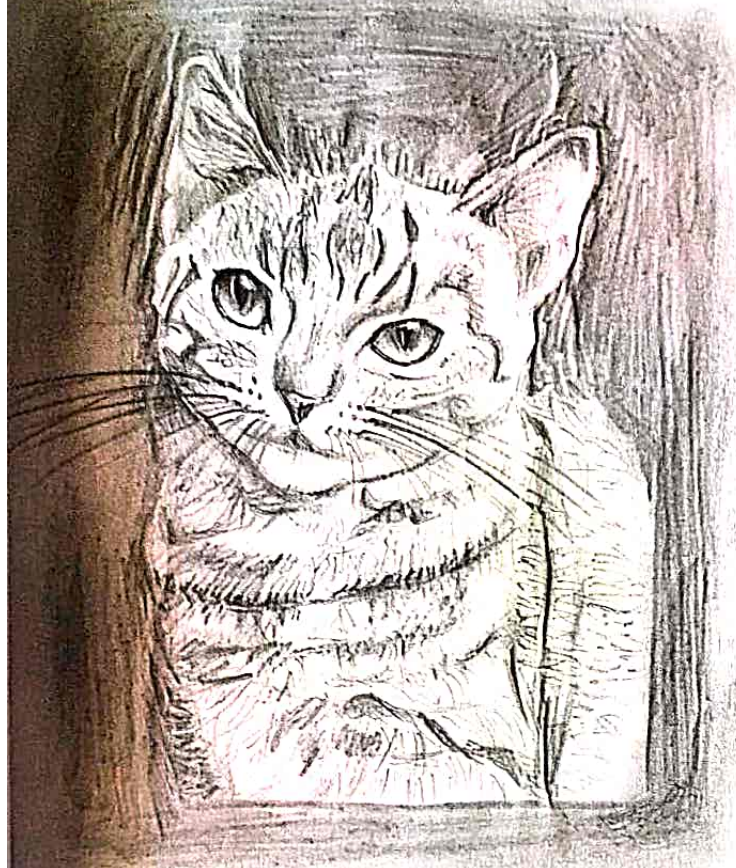
"Okay, so you wait till evening whether you will get any scolding and come to me"

Appuz went to the class. Many teachers came and went after taking their classes. He was only bleak. None of the teachers scolded him. In the evening he went to the principal. He asked whether it was a good or bad day for him and whether he got any scolding's from his teachers.

He said, "No, nothing happened". All went well. The principal replied "Then, why do you think it will be a bad day for you. There is nothing in this world that make our days good or bad. Our deeds are responsible to determine whether a day is good or bad for us. Don't believe in stupid superstitious things like this. Now, see your whole day you were gloomy by thinking myna makes your day."

Now Appuz realized how idiot he was on believing dumb things like this. He thanked his principal for making realize his mistake and went home happily.

MORAL: Don't believe too much in superstitions.



Black Cat.



Mongoose.



Number 13.



Crow

Superstition refers to any belief or practice that is caused by supernatural causality, and which contradicts modern science. Superstitious beliefs and practices often vary from one person to another or from one culture to another. Some Indians believe that the mysticism associated with the power in inanimate things have considerable influence over one's life. Some of these have been handed down generations from our ancestors, who are revered to be wise. This is the reason why we can't seem to let go of many age-old beliefs.

A child from an Indian household often come across many superstitions in his life. Often school children know a lot of myths that they get to know from their friends and family. Moreover, children from school age believe in these things.

From the given short story *Appuz's Myna*, there is an evident superstitious belief. The illustrations can help the students to jog memory of some of the superstitions they have heard. Discussion and group work can implement their teamwork and enhance their interactive skills. It also boosts their communication skills.

The main objective of this is to check the thinking power of students and also to give information to students on some of the famous superstitions that prevail in India. It makes them understand that believing superstition is not good. Some of them may have scientific reasons but some are just out of logic which doesn't have any proven facts.

-Amitha George

✈️ Leave your minds
wander and wait for
yet another
scintillating
publication from us!



