

## Chapter 20

# Avin's Accident



“Happy Birthday ! Happy Birthday” said Avin’s father and mother. Avin smiled as he looked at the beautiful cycle his father and mother had just given him. It’s just great. Thank you, Dad and Mom, “He said as he smiled at both of them. Avin wanted to go off for a trial run, but his mother told him,” First you will have to take bath and get ready then you can go for ride on your cycle.”

Avin rushed towards the bathroom and within a minute and he was ready wearing new clothes. “Come here for a minute, son. Mom and I have a few things to say to you,” Dad said as he lovingly placed his hand on Avin’s back.

Avin’s stomach churned. His mind said all sorts of things. Things like, “oh no, here we go again. Rules ! I know they are coming.” Slowly he walked along behind his parents, to big front garden. He thought, “Did Dad have to make such a big thing of it ? Such a scene and on my eleventh birthday! I’m not a baby now !”

**Teacher's Note:** Ask the pupils to narrate and accident which they had met with.

“Son,” Dad began, “We want you to have fun. We want you to do the things you want to do, but we must ask you to stay on the side roads between home and your school whenever you go out.”

“Yea, sure,” said Avin as he got up, his father said. “wait a minute, son,” he went on. “You are never to leave the house without first telling us where you are going and with whom. Do you understand ?” “Yeah-sure,” he understood—but Dad hadn’t finished yet.”

“One most important things-never, do you hear, never go on the highway.” ‘Yeah-promise, he said. ‘They don’t trust me : They don’t realize I’m grown up and can take care of myself now. I wish they’d given me the cycle and just let me prove how big I really am.’ This he thought, but this is what he said, “Sure, I understand and I’ll try.”

Dad went to work and Mom went inside. The highway was few blocks away and, for several hours Avin enjoyed riding along the streets near his house. At last tired of enjoying his new cycle by himself, he thought of his friend. Alas ! his friend lived across the highway. Only a little way across—but it was across, and Dad had said, “Don not go on the highway.” Could that mean ride up and down the highway ? If so, he could cross it. Surely that would be okay.

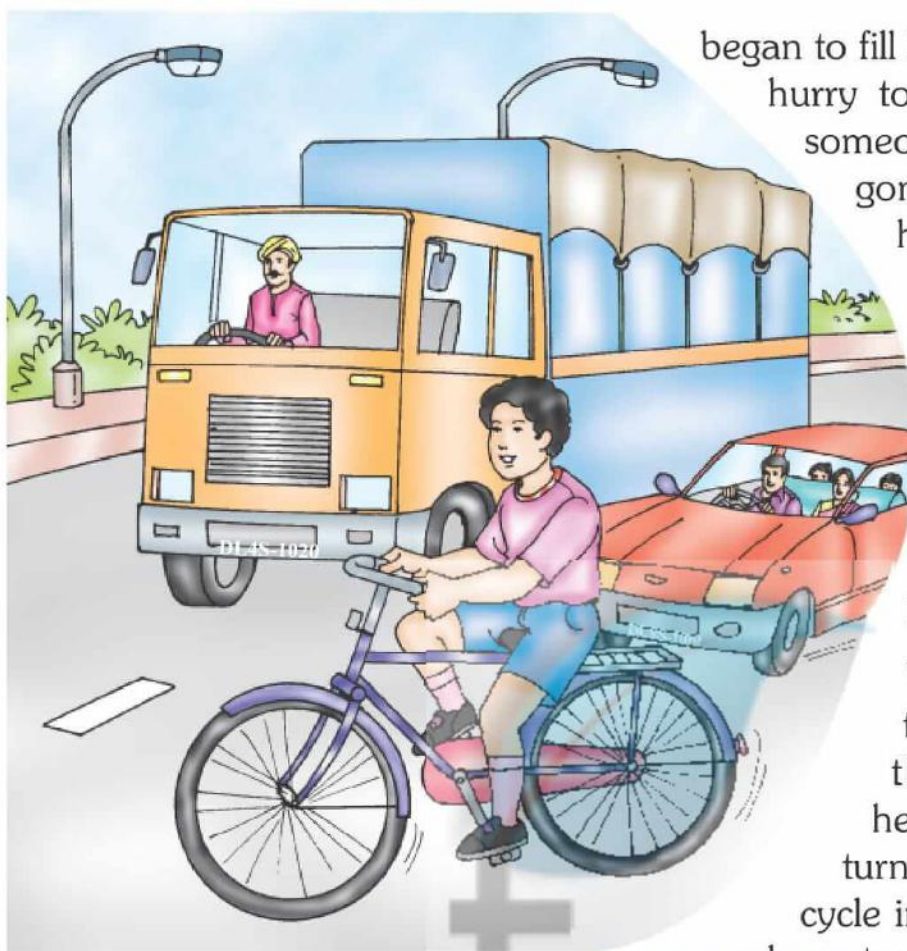
But what telling Mom ? He went home to tell his mom. She wasn’t in the house. ‘Must be over at the house next door,’ he thought. ‘Since she isn’t here, surely it won’t matter if I don’t tell her. And off he sped down the road to the highway.

It’s safe enough and easy enough if you look both ways and then hurry across,’ he whispered to himself. Soon he was at Harry’s house. He shouted loudly, ‘Harry, Harry ! His friend Harry came out running to see his friend Avin.

Harry wished him ‘Happy birthday’ and then they both started enjoying the ride of new cycle on Avin.

Harry wished him ‘Happy birthday’ and then they both started enjoying the ride of new cycle of Avin. After an hour Harry’s mother gave them some biscuits and chocolates to eat, “Thank you aunty” said Avin. Now I must rush back my mother must have come back from the house next door! he thought. “Well, I’d better go home now,” he said to his friend and headed towards the highway. Avin was having fun—and this way his birthday. Gloomy thoughts





began to fill his mind. Now he was in hurry to get back home before someone discovered he was gone. As he rode onto the highway, he glanced quickly this way and that way. 'Easy enough,' he thought.

I'll just dash across and no one will ever know I was on the other side of the highway !

When he had reached the centre of the road, then he saw a car heading straight at him. He turned fast trying to steer the cycle in the other direction, but a huge truck was speeding towards

him from that side of the highway.

He looked back and met the eyes of the lady on the passenger side of the car. Then he could see the driver trying to miss him. He made a sharp turn to the left, which made the car go off the road and into the ditch upside-down.

Then Avin threw his bike to the side of the road and raced the two blocks home. Mother was there, but Avin was crying so hard he couldn't tell her what the trouble was. He ran to his bedroom, kicked the door shut and rolled on his bed sobbing.

The truck driver got out of his truck and ran back to see if he could save anyone. The people inside the car were not hurt, so he helped them crawl out of the car windows.

There were there people—the driver, his wife and their son. The son had been asleep when the accident took place and he was now very frightened.

Just then Avin's father came by. He saw Avin's new cycle by the road, so he rushed over to the people. "Where's Avin?" he shouted. "where is the boy who was on the cycle?"

"He ran away," said the truck driver. "He explained everything to Avin's father. It was very hot in the sun. The people of the car had to wait for a policeman and crane to come to make a report and take their car out of the ditch. Avin's father asked the woman and the little boy to come to his house where it would be cooler."

Avin saw the people coming into the house, he slowly came into the living room and said "I'm sorry. It was my fault. Because I disobeyed and went across the highway. I made you have an accident. Can you please forgive me? I've learned a big lesson today."

They smiled at Avin and said, "We forgive you. I'm sure you will never forget this lesson."

### Words to Learn

trail  
whispered  
asleep  
forgive

lovingly  
discovered  
accident  
fault

churned  
passenger  
frightened

highway  
trouble  
report

sped  
sobbing  
disobeyed

## ● Skill Test ●

### WORK OUT

#### A. Answer the following questions :

1. Why was Avin happy on his birthday ?

.....

2. What made him unhappy ?

.....

3. What is the meaning of "Avin's stomach churned" ?

.....



4. How did the accident occur ?

.....

5. What lesson did Avin learn ?

.....

6. Did the lady forgive Avin ?

.....

**B. Write 'T' for true and 'F' for false :**

1. Avin was an obedient boy.
2. Avin's parents were very strict.
3. The bicycle's brakes had failed.
4. The boy in the car got hurt.
5. Avin was caught by the police and taken to the police station.
6. Avin asked for forgiveness.


**C. Who said it and to whom ?**

"Oh no, here we go again.  
Rules! I know they are  
coming."

"One most important  
thing, never go on the  
highway."

**GRAMMAR**

**A. Describe these pictures using the words given below :**

old      expensive      long      heavy

Example : Mohit's watch is ..... Ajay's watch

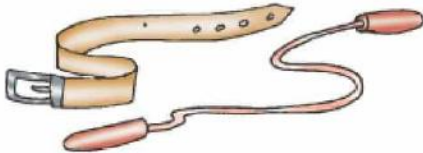
Mohit's watch is *as expensive as* Ajay's watch

1. Mr. Gupta is ..... Mr. Sharma.





2. The wheat bag is ..... rice bag.



3. The belt is ..... the rope.

**B. Use more in the blanks and read the sentences :**

1. The Raj Mahal is ..... famous than the Hawa Mahal.
2. There are ..... diamonds and jewels in the Jeweller's shops than there are in this bag.
3. I have ..... pens than you have.
4. There are ..... interesting stories in my book man there are in yours.
5. There are ..... apple trees in an orchard than there are in your garden.

**VOCABULARY**

**A. Read the following words and their abbreviations :**

Miss – Ms

Mister – Ms

Feet – ft

metre – m

kilogram – kg

centimetre – cm

Find out the abbreviations for the following :

finish – .....

tablespoon – .....

litre – .....

square – .....

millimetre – .....

decagram – .....

mathematics – .....

quart – .....

**B. Match words with the pictures :**



sobbing

riding

shouting

**C. Fill in the blanks :**

- J **happy** is to s....., as **big** is to **small**.
- J b..... is to **mother**, as **cub** is to **lioness**.
- J **hand** is to **arm**, as **foot** is to l .....
- J **drinking** is to c....., as **reading** is to **book**.
- J **cycle** is to **ride**, as **car** is to d.....

**D. Find out the opposites of the following words :**



beautiful .....

few .....

love .....

coming .....

slow .....

sure .....

new .....

easy .....

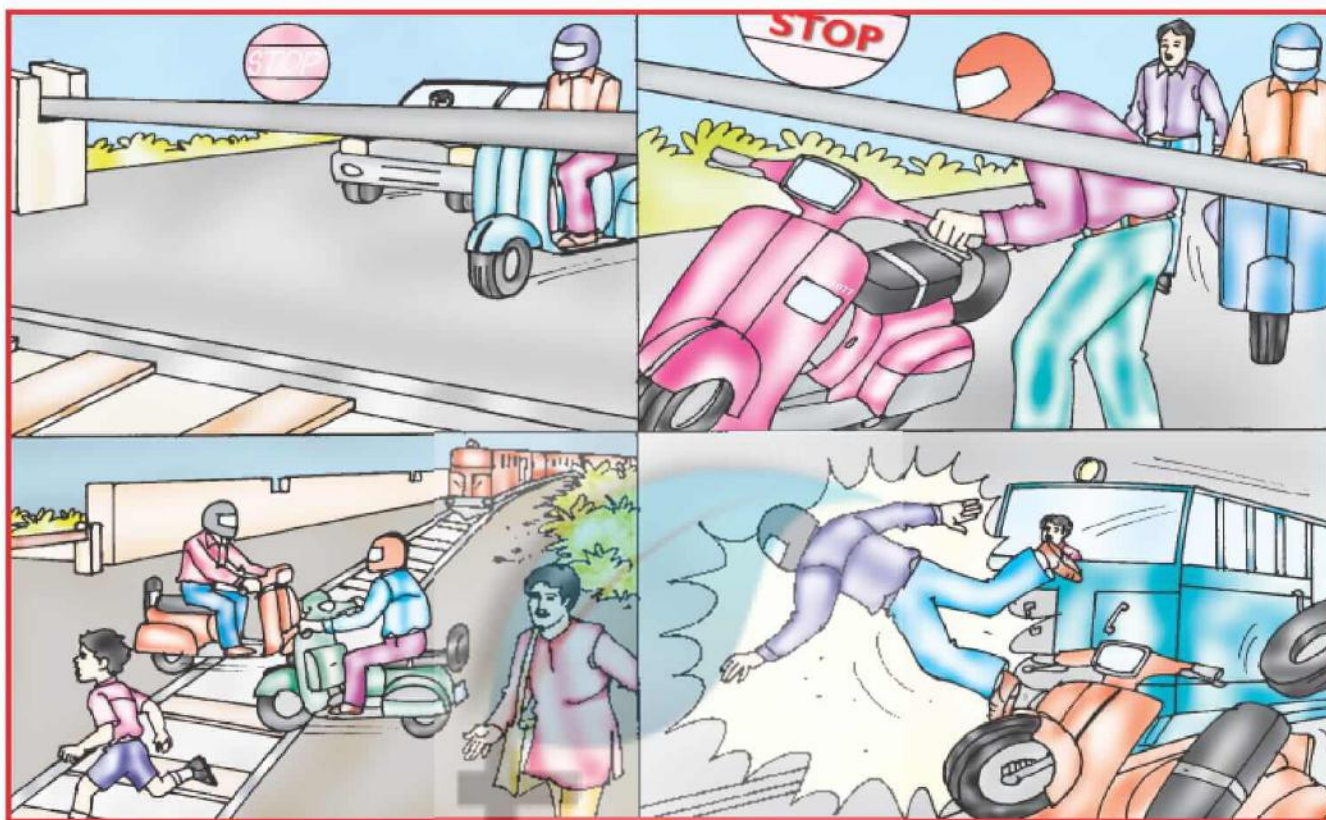
obey .....





## COMPOSITION

Look at the picture :



Now, write a paragraph about what is happening in the above picture :

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