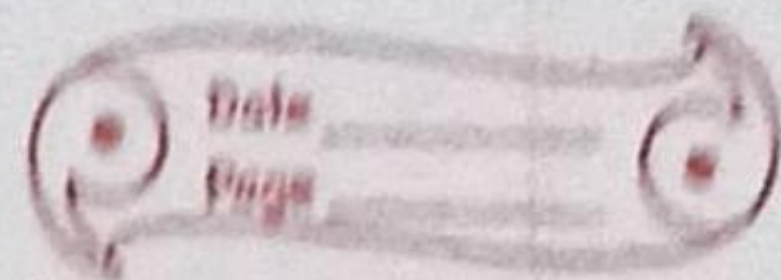


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Chapter-4

Dad and the cat and the tree.



GLOSSARY

- (1) Stuck- unable to move, or set in a particular position, place.
- (2) Climber- a person who climbs mountains as a sport.
- (3) Ladder- a piece of equipment used for climbing up and down, that consists of two vertical bars or pieces of rope joined to each other by a set of horizontal steps.
- (4) Slipped- to slide suddenly and without intending to.
- (5) Dirt- dust, soil, or any substance that makes a surface not clean.
- (6) Swung- to move easily and without interruption, backwards or forwards or from one side

to the another, especially from a fixed point, or to cause something or someone to do this.

(7) Easy as Winking - Extremely easy, simple, requiring very little skill or effort.

(8) Crook - a bent part of something, esp. the inner part.

(9) Yell - to shout something or make a loud noise, usually when you are angry, in pain or excited.

(10) Wobbly - unsteady

(11) 'for goodness' sake - an exclamation or expressing protest.

(12) scoffed - laughed mockingly

(13) child's play - very easy to do.

(14) landed wallop - fell heavily

(15) Pleased as Punch - very pleased

(16) safe and sound - unharmed

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Summary of the poem:

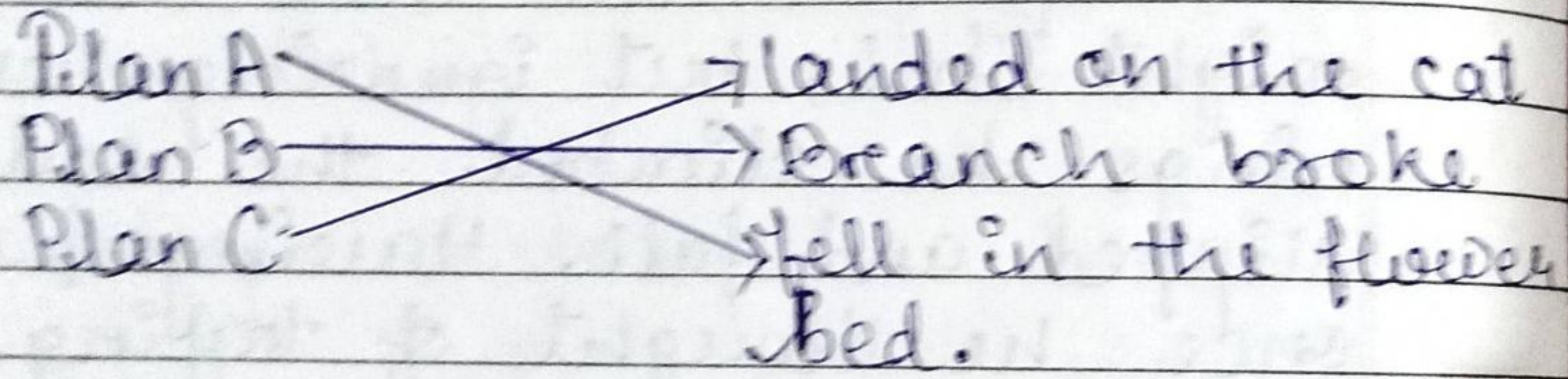
One morning, a cat got stuck in a tree. The narrator's dad decided that he will easily be able to take care of it. Narrator's father decided to climb the tree. His wife warned him that he might fall, but ignoring her warnings he climbed the ladder, slipped and fell. Having fallen once, he thought of trying again, another way. Yet, ignoring again his wife's warnings, he swung himself up on a branch. The branch broke and again he fell. Not giving up still, the father climbed up the garden wall.

Luckily this time he did not fall. However, the moment he sprang ~~and~~ into the tree, the cat jumped to the ground, safe and sound. Poor father on the other hand, got stuck in the tree.

GET GOING

A. Let us find the answers from the poem:

(1) Match the plans that dad hatched with the fate they met.



(2) How did Dad try to save the cat the first time?

ans- Dad tried to save the cat first time by using a ladder, to reach it.

(2) What was Plan B?

ans- Plan B was to swing himself up on a branch and reach the cat. However, the branch broke and ~~and~~ he landed back on the deck.

(4) Describe plan C. Why did it fail?

ans- Plan C was to climb the garden wall and jump onto the crook of the tree trunk where the cat was stuck. He executed the plan successfully and landed in the exact spot. In fact he landed right on the cat. The cat yelped and jumped off the tree. Dad, however, fit snug in the crook and got stuck there.

(5) Find an idiom from the poem, that means 'extremely delighted'.

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ans- A Idiom is a word or phrase which means something different from its literal meaning. Idioms are common phrases or terms whose meaning is changed, but can be understood by their popular use.

'Please as punch' is an idiom used in the poem that means 'extremely delighted'.

B. Let us read between the lines.

(1) What kind of a person do you think Dad was? Substantiate your answer with lines from the poem.

ans- I think dad was an overconfident person because everytime mums warned him against doing something, he boldly answered back using phrases like 'child's play this is! and Easy as winking'.

At the same time Dad is Persistent because every time he fails when he makes a different plan, and tries to execute it.

(2) What was Mum's role in this narrative? Did dad heed her advice?

ans- Mum repeatedly tried to warn Dad of the possible dangers of climbing the tree but Dad did not pay any heed to it.

C. Let us go beyond the poem.

(1) Which of the three plans do you think was the best? Why?

ans- That's plan-C seems to be the best as he was almost able to execute the plan successfully. It couldn't be carried through because he landed directly on the cat which made the cat yelp

and jump off the tree.

Grammar Junction

(2) Make a sentence with the transitive and the intransitive form of each verb given below.

a. Design - Suman designed the cupboard in his room. (Transitive)

b. Continue - The ceremony is expected to continue for 2 hours. (Transitive)

They want me to continue as the class monitor. (Intransitive)

c. Tear - I saw my sister tear the letter into tiny pieces. (Transitive)

Can you tear it for me? (Intransitive)

d. Run - My uncle runs restaurant. (Transitive). The truck runs on diesel. (Intransitive).

e. Speak - My sister speaks both German and Spanish (transitive)

Actions speak louder than words. (Intransitive)

f. Sleep - Our new resort in Goa sleeps 50 people. (transitive)

The baby couldn't sleep because of the noise. (Intransitive)

g. Switch - I switched the old toy with a new one when the baby was sleeping (transitive)

The school managements switched to short the summer holidays. (Intransitive)

h. Change - Rohan changed the topic to sports (transitive)

My life has changed completely after the accident. (Intransitive)

i. Teach - She teaches Biology.
(Transitive)

She teaches in the middle school. (Intransitive).

j. Drive - I drive my car every Sunday (Transitive).

My ~~drive~~ sister drives in a rash manner. (Intransitive)