

Leela loved to sing. She had a sweet voice and a good ear for music. When the inter-class singing competition was announced, she asked her mother to teach her a new song. Leela loved the song that her mother taught her and she practised it every day. On the day of competition, Leela

became nervous. Her mother  
wished her good luck as she  
waved goodbye at the door.

The competition began. When  
Leela's name was called, she had  
an attack of stage fright. She  
became nervous her throat went  
dry and she seemed to choke.  
she could not sing at all.

She left the stage in tears

On her way home, Leela felt

really miserable. 'How can I tell

my mother what happened?' She

thought. 'She spent so much

of her time training me, and

I have let her down. She will be

angry and upset with me.'

What do you think Leela's mother

said to her daughter?

Leela's mother explained to her

that winning a prize was not the

most important thing in a competition.

Not everyone who competes can

win, but everyone can try to do

his/her best. Leela realized that it

was her over-eagerness.