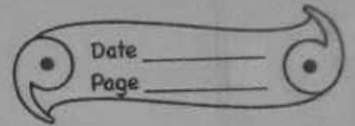


HOME ASSIGNMENT



SHANKAR MEETING SNAKE

One night, Shankar who was sleeping, suddenly woke up. The room was dark. It was as if a sixth sense had woken him up for a moment to warn him that he was in grave danger.

In the pitch darkness, Shankar felt his whole body trembling. Why couldn't he find the torch? There was a faint noise in the room and his groping hand found the torch and he flashed it on. In the same instant, he froze, numb with fear and awe. Midway between the lamp and his bed, there stood with its hood held high but temporarily dazed by the light of the torch - Africa's meanest and most fearsome snake, the black mamba. His hood rose almost a metre from the floor. Shankar knew if his hands shook even a little and the light moved away from the eyes of the snake - it would come out of its daze and it would strike immediately. So Shankar held on the torch. Just then the clock struck three in the morning, his hand shook a bit, but the snake didn't strike, perhaps he was dazed too. He took this chance to ~~to~~ escape and save his life.