

## 4. Two Stories About Flying

① His First Flight - Liam O'Flaherty

### Thinking about the text

1) Why was the young seagull afraid to fly? Do you think all young birds are afraid to make their first flight on some birds more times than others? Do you think a human body also find it a challenge to take its first step?

A) The young seagull was afraid to fly because it was his first flight and he feared of falling and hurting himself. He thought that his wings would not support him while flying.


→ Similarly, a human body is also afraid of taking the first step and find it challenging when learned to crawl on stand without support.



2) The sight of the food maddened him. What does this suggest? What compelled the young seagull to finally fly?

A) The young seagull was very hungry. It was this hunger that ultimately compelled it to fly. Its hunger intensified when it saw its mother tearing at a piece of fish that lay at her feet. It cried to her, begging her to get some food when its mother came towards it with food in her beak it screamed with joy and anticipation. However she stopped midway.

3) At that moment, his hunger overpowered his fear of the great expanse of sea beneath the cliff.



\* Finally this plunge was forced by the natural reaction of his body to fly

3) Have you ever had a similar experience, where your parents encouraged you to do some-thing that you too scared to try? Discuss this in pairs or groups.

4) Seagull parents had tried everything but he was reluctant to fly due to fear of falling down, he looked at his brothers and sisters but couldn't make any efforts that's why the whole family had left him alone him to come but every effort went in vain.

4) Have you ever had a similar experience, where your parents encouraged you to do something that you too seemed to try? Discuss this in pairs or groups?

Ans) Yes, I had a similar experience while learning to ride a bicycle in 1980. In my first attempt, I fell down everytime, and developed a fear of cycling which was difficult to overcome.

→ No amount of praising and cajoling could let me try it again, but my father encouraged me to overcome the fear and helped me as he was adamant on my learning cycling. He held my cycle from back and I started pedaling and it sped down and I enjoyed it without fear which developed my confidence.

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Thus, I overcame my fear of cycling and started riding a cycle after a few practise.

8) In the case of a bird flying it seems a material act, and a foregone conclusion that it should succeed. In the example you have given in answer to the previous question was your success guaranteed, or was it important for you to try, regardless of possibility of failure?

9) We face some problems in the initial stage while learning new skill. Due to the fear of failure we hesitate to perform a task or to do something new. In case of success parameters copied by my father to learn cycling

as it was very important for  
me to overcome my fear

Yes, my success was guaranteed  
because if some one is  
determined to do something  
then success is determined  
to do something then success  
is assured. Monsoon as  
said practise makes a man  
perfect

# CHARACTERISTICS OF YOUNG %

→ In this story, young seagull comes scared bird which refuses to learn flying.

→ The young seagull is stubborn as it does not listen to the parent request from its parent.

→ When its mother refuses to provide young seagull learns flying sake of hunger.