

Wonderful Waste!

Once, the Maharaja of Travancore ordered a **grand dinner** in his palace. In the afternoon before the dinner, the Maharaja entered the kitchen to **survey** the dishes that had been prepared for the **feast**.



“What are you going to do with those vegetable **scraps**?” he asked the cook, **pointing to** the basket of scraps near the cook. The cook replied, “They are waste. We will throw them away.”

“You cannot waste all these **bits and pieces** of vegetables. Find a way to use them,” the Maharaja commanded **sternly** and walked

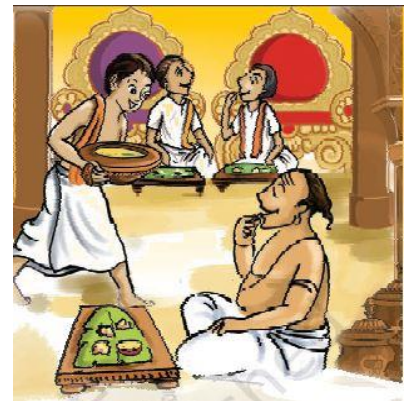
away. The cook was **in a fix** and kept staring at the vegetable scraps for some time. Suddenly, an idea **flashed across his mind**. He took all the vegetable bits, washed them and cleaned them well.

Then he cut them into long **strips**. He put them in a huge pot and placed it on the fire to cook. Next, he **ground** some fresh coconut, green chillies and garlic together. He added this paste and some salt to the cooking vegetables.

A **tempting** smell started coming from the pot. Now he **whipped** some curd and added it to the curry. He also **poured** a few **spoonfuls** of coconut oil and decorated the dish with curry leaves.

Lo and behold ! The new dish was ready. The cook served this new dish to the guests that evening.

Everyone was **eager** to know the name of the new dish. The cook thought and thought. Then a name came to his mind. He named it **avial** (uh-vi-ul).

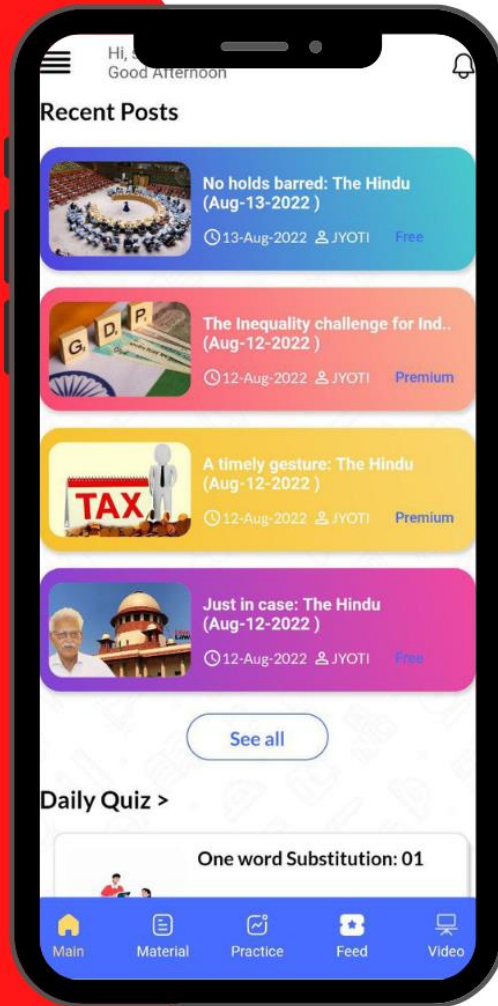


Avial became famous all over Kerala and is now one of the dishes in a traditional Kerala feast. And imagine, it all came from a basket of waste!

NCERT: Class V – By English Madhyam

Vocabulary

1. **Grand dinner** (noun) – A large meal, typically a celebratory one
2. **Feast** (noun) – A ceremonial dinner party for many people दावत/ भोज
3. **Scrap** (noun) – bits or pieces of vegetable, esp. of leftover or discarded vegetable
4. **Point to** (phrasal verb) – indicate, denote, point out, imply इशारा करना
5. **Bits and pieces** (phrase) – small things of different kinds फुटकर चीज़ें
6. **Sternly** (adverb) – strictly, severely, harshly, grimly, roughly सख्ती से
7. **In a fix** (phrase) – In a troublesome situation hard to escape from
8. **Flash across the mind** (phrase) – suddenly think of
9. **Strip** (noun) – a long, narrow piece of some material
10. **Grind** (verb) – crush, smash, pulverize, mill, pound पीसना
11. **Tempting** (adjective) – enticing, alluring, seductive, attractive मोहक, ललचानेवाला
12. **Whip** (verb) – beat (curd) into a froth; whisk, mix, stir फेंटना
13. **Pour** (verb) – to make a substance flow, esp. out of a container and usually into another container:
14. **Spoonful** (noun) – an amount held in a particular spoon चम्मच भरा
15. **Lo and behold** (phrase) – A phrase used to indicate something surprising or unexpected.
16. **Eager** (adjective) – keen, excited, willing, enthusiastic उत्सुक/ बेताब
17. **Avail** (noun) – avail is an Indian dish with origins in the Kerala, Tamil Nadu, and Udupi regions of India



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