Gulliver's travels

On the 16th of June 1730 we discovered land. Our captain sent a dozen men with **vessels** for water, if any could be found. When we came to land we saw no river or **spring** nor any **inhabitants**. I went on to **explore**. The country was **barren** and **rocky**. I turned back to join the **crew**, only to see them getting into the boat and **rowing** for life to get to the ship.

Before I could reach them I observed a huge **creature** walking after them in the sea as fast as he could. The water of the ocean reached only till his knees! However, the **monster** was unable to **overtake** the **speeding** boat. I turned back quickly and **climbed** up a **steep** hill with fields of **barley** on either side and the **corn** rising upto forty feet. There was a **fence** to pass from one field to the other

It was impossible for me to climb because every step was six feet high. I was trying to find a gap in the **hedge** when I



discovered one of the inhabitants in the next field walking towards the fence. He was of the same size as the creature **chasing** the boat. I was struck with **utmost** fear and **astonishment** and ran to hide myself. He called in a voice much louder than a **trumpet**. It sounded like **thunder**! Seven monsters like him came towards the field ready to **reap** the corn. They carried **a reaping hook** which was very big. When one of the **reapers approached** where I lay hidden I **screamed** as loud as I could. The creature stopped reaping, picked me up between his thumb and **forefinger** and brought me close to his eyes, sixty feet above the ground. He looked at me with **curiosity** and **blew** my hair aside to get a better view of my face.

He called his friends and **gently** placed me on the ground.

They all sat on the ground to take a good look at me. I walked slowly backward and forward, **pulled off** my **hat** and **made** a low **bow** towards the farmers. I tried to speak to them loudly in several languages. Each time I did so the farmer who picked me up held his ear very close to me but **in vain.** The farmer took me to his house and placed me at some distance on the dining table which was thirty feet high from the floor.

Dinner was brought for the farmer in a dish which was ten feet in diameter. The farmer's wife **crumbled** some bread and placed it before me. In



the middle of the dinner I heard a noise behind me. It was the **purring** of a cat that was ten times larger than an ox. The farmer's wife was **stroking** him. Then entered the farmer's one year-old son in the arms of a lady. On seeing me the child **grabbed** me from the table and put my head into his mouth. I shouted so loudly that the baby **dropped** me. I would have broken my neck if the mother had not held her **apron** under me. Later she put me on her own bed and covered me with a clean white **handkerchief**.

I slept dreaming of my home, my wife and my children.

Vocabulary

- 1. Vessel (noun) pot, container, pitcher बरतन
- 2. **Spring** (noun) a place where water wells up from an underground source, or the basin or flow formed in such a way. जल-स्रोत
- Inhabitant (noun) occupant, resident, dweller निवासी
- 4. **Explore** (verb) to search and discover (about something) पता लगाना, खोजना
- 5. Barren (adjective) infertile, unproductive, bare, sterile, arid बंजर
- 6. **Rocky** (adjective) Abounding in rocks or stones; rough, unsteady चट्टान वाला
- 7. **Crew** (noun) Team, staff, troop, company चालकदल
- 8. **Row** (verb) to move a boat through the water using long thin pieces of wood with flat parts at the end (oars) चप्पुओं से नाव खेना
- 9. **Creature** (noun) an animal, as distinct from a human being. जीव
- 10. **Monster** (noun) An imaginary creature usually having various human and animal parts राक्षस

- 11. **Overtake** (verb) pass, overhaul, reach, exceed, go beyond आगे निकलना
- 12. **Speeding** (adjective) Fast-moving, speedy, fast तेज गति वाली
- 13. **Climb** (verb) rise, ascend, go up, mount, scale चढ़ना
- 14. **Steep** (adjective) Having a sharp inclination सीधी चढ़ाई/ ढलानवाला
- 15. **Barley** (noun) Barley is primarily a cereal grain popularly known as jau जौ, जई
- 16. Corn (noun) maize, grain मकई, मक्का
- 17. Fence (noun) a structure of wood or wire forming a wall around a house or a piece of land, often to keep people or animals from coming in or going out बाड़, घेरा
- 18. **Hedge** (noun) A fence formed by a row of closely planted shrubs or bushes ৰাड़া
- 19. **Chase** (verb) –pursuing, hunting, dogging, following पीछा करना
- 20. **Utmost** (adjective) maximum, extreme, greatest, highest अत्यंत
- 21. Astonishment (noun) --surprise, amazement, wonder विस्मय, अचंभा

- 22. **Trumpet** (noun) A brass musical instrument consisting of a metal tube with one narrow end, into which the player blows, and one wide end. त्रही
- 23. **Thunder** (noun) roar, boom, rumble, bellow, resound गड़गड़ाहट
- 24. Reap (verb) to cut a grain crop काटना
- 25. Reaping hook (noun) a curved cutting tool with a sharp edge, used in the cutting or harvesting of crops
- 26. **Reaper** (noun) harvester, cropper, cultivator काटनेवाला
- 27. **Approach** (verb) Come near, contact, accost, move toward नजदीक आना
- 28. **Scream** (verb) Utter a sudden loud cry; shout, yell, shriek चिल्लाना
- 29. Forefinger (noun) the finger next to the thumb; index finger अंगुली
- 30. **Curiosity** (noun) willing to know; wonder, oddity, interest, curio, rarity उत्स्कता
- 31. **Blow** (verb) expel air through pursed lips फूंक मारना
- 32. **Gently** (adverb) –softly, mildly, delicately, lightly, gradually धीरे से/आहिस्ता से

- 33. **Pull off** (phrasal verb) to remove by pulling उतारना
- 34. **Hat** (noun) Headdress that protects the head from bad weather; has shaped crown टोपी
- 35. **Make a bow** (phrase) To incline the body or head or bend the knee in greeting, consent, courtesy, acknowledgment, submission, or veneration झुक जाना
- 36. **In vain** (phrase) To no avail; fruitless, uselessly, futile व्यर्थ/बेकार
- 37. **Crumble** (verb) –disintegrate, collapse, break down, smash, fall apart टुकड़े टुकड़े करना
- 38. **Purring** (noun) a low vibrating sound typical of a contented cat म्याऊँ
- 39. **Stroke** (verb) caress, touch, fondle, blow, apoplexy सहलाना
- 40. **Grab** (verb) catch, seize, take, grasp पकड़ना
- 41. Drop (verb) fall, go down, गिराना
- Apron (noun) A garment of cloth that is tied about the waist and worn to protect your clothing
- 43. Handkerchief (noun) A small square of cloth used especially for wiping the mouth रूमाल



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