

## The Little Bully

Once upon a time, not so very long ago, there was a small boy called Hari. Although he wasn't very big, he was strong, and he loved to **tease** all the boys and girls who went to school with him. What he loved to do most was to **pinch**. He could make a big **bruise** appear in half a second. Another trick he played was **pricking** people with a pin.



So you can guess how all the children hated him. They tried pinching him back, but that was no good because he could always pinch harder. They didn't like telling their teacher, because that was telling tales.

**It so happened** that the class went for a picnic to the **seaside** for a whole day. All the children were most excited.

On that day, the sun **shone** bright, and all the children were wild with excitement. They crowded into the train and sat down — but nobody wanted to sit next to Hari because he always pinched.



When they arrived at the seaside, out jumped all the children with a **shout** of joy. Down to the **sands** they

raced, **hand in hand** — but nobody took Hari's hand. Nobody went near him. Hari was angry. He went to a sandy corner near a rocky pool and sat down by himself. He took out his lunch and looked at it. It was a good lunch. There were two hard-boiled eggs, six jam sandwiches, three pieces of bread and butter, a ginger cake, and a bar of chocolate. He would eat it all by himself. He wouldn't offer anything to anyone!

Just as he was beginning on the eggs, he heard a **hoarse** voice near him. "Good morning! I am so pleased to meet a boy like you." Hari turned around and **stared** in **fright**. Whatever do you think he saw? Hari saw a **monster crab** walking sideways out of the pool. His eyes were on the ends of

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short **stalks** and he looked most **queer**. He **held out** his front **claw** to Hari. Hari put out his hand to shake the crab's claw, but to his surprise and anger the crab opened his **pincers** and **nipped** his hand so hard that the little boy **yelled**.



“Ah, here is my good cousin,” said the crab pleasantly, and, to Hari's horror, he saw a large sandy **lobster crawling** heavily out of the pool. Before the little boy could stop him the lobster took his hand in his great pincer-like claws and pinched it so hard that Hari yelled in pain.

Then he stared at the pool in surprise, for, out came sandy-coloured **shrimps** and **prawns**, more crabs, and another large lobster and they pricked Hari till he was soon **black and blue** with their pinching.

“Don't you like it?” said all the creatures in surprise. “Why, we were told you would love to see us because you were a champion pincher and pricker yourself. Come, come join in the fun!”



Hari leapt to his feet, crying loudly. His lunch rolled into the pool, and when the crabs and lobsters saw it they ran to it and began to **feast eagerly**. Hari saw that they had forgotten him for a time, and he turned and ran for his life, tears **streaming** down his cheeks.

“They only did to me what I keep doing to the other children,” he thought. “But how it hurt! And how I hated those crabs and lobsters! I suppose the other children hate me too. Well, I **jolly well shan't** pinch or prick anymore.”

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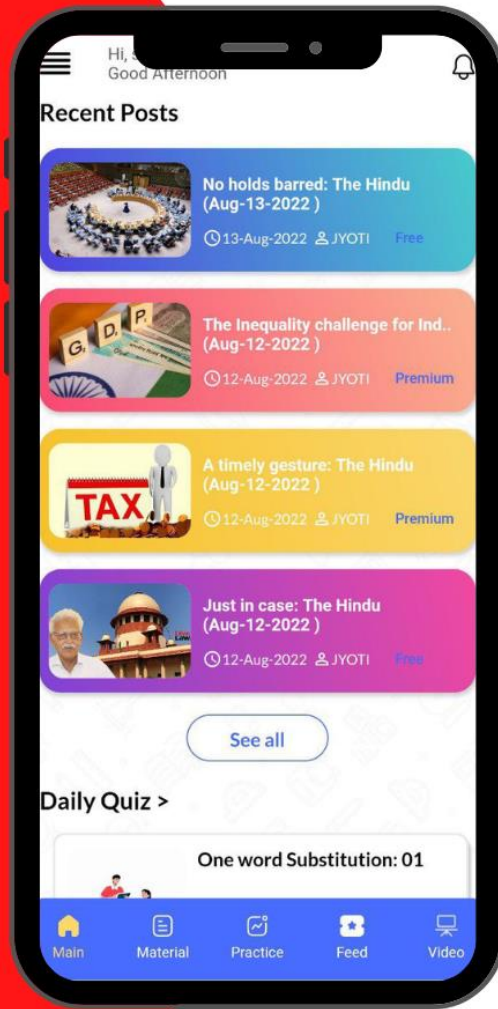
### Vocabulary

1. **Tease** (verb) – Annoy persistently; bother, harass चिढ़ाना/ तंग करना
2. **Pinch** (verb) – to press something, especially someone's skin, strongly between two hard things such as a finger and a thumb चिकोटी काटना
3. **Bruise** (noun) – a blue, brown or purple mark that appears on the skin after somebody has fallen, been hit, etc. चोट के कारण त्वचा पर उभरा नीला-भूरा निशान
4. **Prick** (verb) – to make a very small hole or holes in the surface of something, sometimes in a way that causes pain चुभाना
5. **It so happens** (that) (phrase) – Surprisingly or by an unlikely coincidence.
6. **Seaside** (noun) – beach, shore, seashore, coast समुद्र किनारे
7. **Shine** (verb) – gleam, glow, glitter, sparkle, glint चमकना
8. **Shout** (verb) – Utter in a loud voice; talk in a loud voice चिल्लाना
9. **Sand** (noun) – A loose material consisting of grains of rock or coral रेत, बालू
10. **Hand in hand** (adverb) – clasping each other's hands एक-दूसरे का हाथ थामे
11. **Hoarse** (adjective) –rough, harsh, gruff, husky, rasping कर्कश
12. **Stare** (verb) – looked at, gaze, watch, gawk, gape देखना
13. (In) **Fright** (noun) – a sudden intense feeling of fear; anxiety, scare डर/ भय
14. **Monster** (adjective) – huge, giant, massive, enormous, tremendous विशाल
15. **Crab** (noun) – a crustacean, found chiefly on seashores, with a broad carapace, stalked eyes, and five pairs of legs, the first pair of which are modified as pincers. केकड़ा
16. **Stalk** (noun) – a narrow structure that supports a part of the body in some animals: डंठल
17. **Queer** (noun) –strange, odd, unusual अजीब/ विचित्र
18. **Hold out** (phrasal verb) – to offer
19. **Claw** (noun) – nail, hook, talon पंजा
20. **Pincer** (noun) – one of a pair of curved claws of an animal (crab)
21. **Nip** (verb) – bite, pinch काटना
22. **Yell** (verb) – cried loudly, shout, scream जोर से चीखा

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23. **Lobster** (noun) – an animal that lives in the sea and has a shell-like covering on its body, two large claws, and eight legs झींगा मछली
24. **Crawl** (verb) – move slowly; creep, grovel, crawling, cower रेंगना
25. **Shrimp** (noun) – a small sea creature with a shell and ten legs झींगा
26. **Prawn** (noun) – shrimp, especially one that is large or inhabits fresh water.
27. **black and blue** (phrase) – (of skin) have dark marks as a result of injury चोट से नीला पड़ा हुआ
28. **Leap** (verb) – Jump, bounce, hop, spring उछलना
29. **Feast** (verb) – Eat, dine, partake, gobble भोजन करना
30. **Eagerly** (adverb) – keenly, enthusiastically, excitedly, readily, willingly उत्सुकता से
31. **Stream down** (phrasal verb) – To run, flow, or pour down (tear) बहना (आँसू)
32. **Jolly well** (phrase) – used to emphasize something, especially when someone is angry or annoyed मज़ाक में भी
33. **Shan't** (modal) – Shall not



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