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Feelings and Senses



Points to Know :

- ▣ Likes and Dislikes
- ▣ Amazing Helen Keller
- ▣ Differently-abled People
- ▣ Braille



Getting Started

We know that our sense organs help us to experience the world around us. Some ways in which we sense things around us are shown below. Name the sense organs which help us in each picture.













We have five **sense organs**. These organs help us to know and identify different things around us. They help us to see, hear, smell, taste and feel. They also help us in communication.

Different people have different likes and dislikes although our sense organs perform the same functions.

Likes and Dislikes

Our likes and dislikes are greatly influenced by the atmosphere at home.

If the family is fitness or sports oriented and indulge in lot of physical activities, the children are bound to be interested in sports and fitness activities.

If in the family, there is a musician, the atmosphere at home is musical. Children of such families are inclined towards music.



Things to Know

- ◆ Are your likes and dislikes similar to the likes or dislikes of your mother/father?

But some parents consider music and sports to be wasteful activities. Such people may be **educationists** or **scientists**. Children of such families develop likes and dislikes more in tune with the likes and dislikes of their parents.

Generally, Hindus are vegetarians and Muslims are non-vegetarians. Children of such families develop food habits as per the environment at home.

Zahoor and Vidyut are pen friends. Zahoor is from Kashmir while Vidyut is from Chennai. Once they decided to visit Shimla together in winter. It was cold there. Zahoor loved the weather, but Vidyut shivered. The two boys adopted to the climate differently as they had different geographical backgrounds.

Likes and dislikes are also affected by the place one lives in. Some people adopt easily to cold climate while some tolerate hot weather with ease. Thus, we understand that though our sense organs perform the same functions, the brain interprets them in different ways. This is because the brain is conditioned by family values, traditions, regional and environmental influences. This way, our likes and dislikes are developed.



The Story of Six Blind Friends and the Elephant



There were six blind men. They were friends. One day, they came across an elephant. They had never seen an elephant. They then decided to touch the elephant and describe it.

The first blind man touched the leg of the elephant and said that the elephant was like a pillar.

The second blind man touched its tail and said that the elephant was like a rope.

The third blind man touched its trunk and said that the elephant was like the branch of a tree.

The fourth blind man touched its ear and said that the elephant was like a big hand fan.

Then the fifth blind man touched its belly and said that the elephant was like a huge wall.

Finally, the sixth blind man touched its tusk and said that the elephant was like a solid pipe.

This way, each blind man was right, but only partly. The story shows that different people have different ways of looking at things.

Differently-abled People

We use our sense organs to sense our surroundings and the environment. But we only realise their importance when any sense organ fails to work.



Persons who have lost the use of one or more of their sense organs are called **differently-abled people**. Such people wish to lead a normal life and do not want to be pitied or differently behaved with. The blind people need to be guided, the physically challenged people need help in doing things while mentally challenged people need assistance. We have to help such people lead a happy and dignified life. We should not pity them or feel sorry for them as then they would feel inferior. A pat on the back, a warm hug or a friendly handshake would go a long way in building up their confidence. Every human being needs respect and dignity and does not desire pity.



FACT TO KNOW

Braille system was invented by Louis Braille when he met with an accident at his father's carpentry workshop. He was inspired by military cryptographer Charles Barbier and he developed this tactile code, now known as Braille system.

Amazing Helen Keller

Many a times, we come across courageous people who overcame their disabilities by their sheer courage and claimed their rightful place in the society. Two such people are Helen Keller and Stephen Hawking.

Helen Keller lost her sight and hearing when she was very young. Then she met her teacher Ann Sullivan when she was 7 years old. Her teacher traced words on her palms and Helen could sense them. Later, she learnt to read Braille. Then she went onto become a world famous teacher, author and inspirational speaker.



Helen Keller

Braille

Braille was invented by a Frenchman Louis Braille. He himself had become blind in an accident when he was 10 years old. **Braille** is a script which is written on a thick sheet of paper by making raised rows of 1 to 6 digits, with a pointed tool. Each set of dots stands for a letter of the alphabet. To read letters and words, one needs to roll his/her fingers on these dots. This way, a visually impaired person can be educated easily.



Activity

To make the students feel what a blind person feels, do the following :

1. Divide the class into groups and give each group an A4 sheet with a hand engraved on it.
2. Now, blindfold each student, one by one, and ask them to feel the figure and name the fingers.



Words to know

Sense Organs	:	Parts of our body which help us to sense things around us.
Braille	:	The system of raised dots which enables a visually-impaired person to read.
Differently abled	:	Persons who have lost the use of one or more of their sense organs.



Revision

- ❖ Our sense organs help us to experience our surroundings.
- ❖ Importance of sense organs is realised when we lose the usage of one or more organs.
- ❖ One must not pity or behave differently with differently-abled people.
- ❖ Though sense organs perform the same functions, the brain interprets them as per the family, moral values, traditions, region and environment.
- ❖ Helen Keller grew to become a world famous teacher, author and inspirational speaker.
- ❖ Braille is a system of raised dots which helps the visually impaired people to be educated.

Exercise



A. Tick (✓) the correct answer :

- Our sense organs help us to experience the world :
(a) before us (b) in front of us (c) around us
- The number of our sense organs is :
(a) 4 (b) 5 (c) 6
- Likes and dislikes are influenced by the atmosphere at :
(a) school (b) home (c) playground
- Helen Keller became a world famous :
(a) teacher (b) author (c) Both of these
- Braille script was invented by :
(a) Louis Braille (b) Ann Sullivan (c) Helen Keller

B. Fill in the blanks :

- Sense organs help us to _____ and _____ different things.
- Our _____ and _____ are formed by our moral values.
- Some parents consider _____ and _____, as wasteful activities.
- Braille is written on thick paper with _____.
- Generally, Hindus are _____ and Muslims _____.



C. State whether True or False :

1. Visually-impaired people have a strong sense of touch.
2. Our heart helps us to sense things differently.
3. Sense organs help us in communication.
4. Likes and dislikes are not affected by the place we live in.
5. Differently-abled people dislike pity.

D. Short Answer Questions :

1. What helps us to experience our surroundings?
2. Why different people have different likes and dislikes?
3. How are visually impaired people educated?
4. Who was Helen Keller's teacher?
5. Who invented Braille script?

E. Long Answer Questions :

1. How do our sense organs help us?
2. What do you understand from the story of six Blind Men and the Elephant?
3. How must we behave with differently-abled people?
4. Who was Helen Keller?
5. Write a short note on Louis Braille and his invention.

 **Activities**

- A. Find out who Mother Teresa was. Also, find out about the 'Missionaries of Charity', the mission founded by her. Read how it works for the old, sick or handicapped. Discuss ways in which you can help them.
- B. Close your eyes and walk around your room. What difficulties do you face? Share your experience with your classmates.
- C. Though differently-abled people are at a great disadvantage, they overcome these difficulties by their sheer grit and determination. Two such examples are Stephen Hawking and Oscar Pistorius. Find out more such examples. Read about them and write a few lines on them in the space given below :



Oscar Pistorius



Stephen Hawking



