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# **Class 9 English (Moments) Notes**

## **THE HAPPY PRINCE**

Key Notes and Important Questions with Answers

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## Lesson 5

# THE HAPPY PRINCE

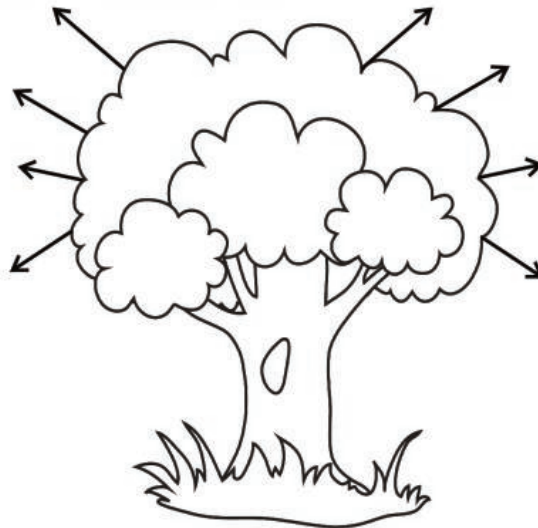
Oscar Wilde

### Value Points

- The Happy Prince in the story is a statue of a dead Prince decorated with gold leaves and precious stones.
- The Happy Prince feels sad because he is unable to help the people in misery.
- Happy Prince decides to help his subjects (people) with his gold leaves and precious sapphires and ruby.
- The little swallow acts as his messenger distributes all his wealth, sapphires, ruby.
- The little swallow was going to Egypt, happy Prince persuaded him to stop; Stay a night to help the poor.
- The little swallow could not go back and died due to cold. He lost his life in helping the poor.
- The swallow's death broke the Prince's heart.
- The Mayor and Town councillors pulled down the statue because it looked shabby.
- They melted the statue but could not melt the leaden heart.
- One day God asked one of his Angels to bring two precious things from earth. The Angel brought the leaden heart of happy Prince and the dead swallow.

### ACTIVITY

How can we lead a Happy and healthy life.



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### COMPREHENSION PASSAGES

1. What is the use of a statue if it cannot keep the rain off ? He said, "I must look for a good chimney pot," and he was determined to fly away.

**Questions :**

- a) Who is 'he' here?
- b) Where was he staying?
- c) Why did he decide to fly away?
- c) Give the past form of the verb "keep".

2. "I am covered with fine gold" said the Prince, "You must take it off leaf by leaf, and give it to the poor; the living always think that gold can make them happy."

**Questions :**

- a) Who is the speaker here?
- b) With whom is the speaker talking to?
- c) Why did he want gold leaves to be removed?
- d) Make an adjective using word "gold".

3. Leaf after leaf of the fine gold the swallow picked off, till the Happy Prince looked quite dull and grey. Leaf after leaf of the give gold he brought to the poor and the children's faces grew rosier and they laughed and played in the street. We have bread now! they cried.

**Questions :**

- a) Why did the Happy Prince look dull and grey?
- b) Why were the children happy?
- c) How would they use the gold leaves?
- c) Find the antonym of 'bright' from the above passage.

### Short Questions

- Q 1. Where did the swallow take shelter at night?
- Q 2. Why does he call it 'golden bedroom'?
- Q 3. Why was the Happy Prince crying?
- Q 4. How did Happy Prince help the seamstress?
- Q 5. Why did he give a sapphire to the playwright?

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- Q6. Why was the match girl crying? How did Happy Prince make her happy?
- Q7. Why did the Happy Prince ask the swallow to take off the gold leaves from his statue?
- Q8. Why did the angel bring the leaden heart and the dead bird to the paradise?
- Q9. What happened when the little swallow prepared to go to sleep?
- Q. 10 Why did the Happy prince ask the swallow to slay?

#### **Long Questions**

- Q 1. God received the leaden heart of Happy Prince and the dead swallow as the 'two precious things' in Heaven and welcomed such good deed as they had done. Based on your reading write a paragraph on the topic "True Happiness in doing a good deed."
- Q 2. Describe the 'Swallow' as a 'nice bird.'
- Q 3. The two most precious things in the city were the Happy Prince and the Swallow. Discuss.
- Q 4. How did the little swallow carry out the wishes of the Happy Prince.

