

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL
Maninagar East, Ahmedabad 380 008

STANDARD - VIII

ENGLISH - II Notes

LESSON - 6 LIFE'S CHAMPIONS

ANSWER IN SHORT

1. Who is Stephen Hawking?

Ans) Stephen Hawking is a world renowned theoretical Physicist, who has contributed in the field of Cosmology and Quantum Gravity.

2. What illness did he have?

Ans) Stephen Hawking suffered from Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis or ALS (a type of motor neuron disease that is incurable).

3. How old was he then and what did the doctors say?

Ans) Stephen Hawking was 21 years old when the doctors said he would not survive for more than 2 or 3 years.

4. What device does he use to communicate, having lost his natural ability to speak?

Ans) Stephen Hawking used an electronic voice synthesizer to communicate, after having lost his natural ability to speak.

5. Where does Mark Inglis live?

Ans) Mark Inglis currently resides in Harner Springs, New Zealand, with his wife Anne and their three children.

6. Why were his legs amputated?

Ans) Mark Inglis legs were amputated when he was struck in an ice cave high on Aoraki, Mount Cook, for 14 days due to a blizzard. His legs became badly frostbitten while awaiting for the rescue.

7. What does Mark Inglis say about inspiring the youth?

Ans) Mark Inglis inspires the youth to dream BIG, not to fear failure but to treat it as a lesson in life part of the learning process.

8. What has been his greatest achievements?

Ans) Mark Inglis greatest achievement was when he won the first double amputee to have reached the summit of a 8000 m peak of sixth highest mountain in the world, Cho Oyu.

9. What did the difficult climb give him?

Ans) The difficult climb gave him the confidence and the power to tackle even bigger Everest - not just only mountains.

10. What was Prema's mother's promise to God?

Ans) Prema's mother's promise to God was – “If God would save her child she would make her a doctor and she will work in the same hospital.”

11. How did the doctor win over his little patient?

Ans) Dr. L B M Joseph told Prema that if she would allow him to treat her, he would give her his hair.

12. Why did she complete high school completely?

Ans) Prema Dhanraj completed her high school privately because her scarred face attracted too much attention for which Prema felt uncomfortable.

13. What advice did Prema's mother give her?

Ans) Prema's mother showed Prema her face and said that, "This is your face and you will have to live with it. No one can change. But what you do with your life is in your hands and only you can change it."

14. What did clearing her exam mean to Prema?

Ans) By clearing her exam, Prema achieved a sense of immense confidence.

15. Where did she return to work?

Ans) Prema Dhanraj returned back to CMCH, Vellore as a plastic and reconstructive surgeon, the same hospital where she was admitted as a patient.

16. How did Prema channelize her negative energy?

Ans) Prema channelized her negative emotions in a positive manner by taking her mother's advise and moving ahead in life by pursuing her B.Sc. and MBBS degree.

17. What ambitious project has Prema embarked upon?

Ans) Prema had started an ambitious project called the 'Agni Raksha' – an organization that treats and helps burn victims in India.

ANSWER IN DETAIL

1. What disorder does Stephen Hawking suffer from?

Ans) Stephen Hawking suffers from Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS), a type of motor-neuron disease that is incurable.

2. How has it impaired his abilities?

Ans) The motor neuron disease that Stephen Hawking suffers from has paralysed him. He has lost the use of his arms, legs and voice.

3. What changes did Mark Inglis's career see when both his legs were amputated beneath the knee.

Ans) Even after both his legs were amputated below the knee, Mark Inglis did not give up. He returned to Mt. Cook and reached the summit successfully on his second attempt. He also started doing different things like writing and inspiring people to excel, and becoming a research scientist in Leukaemia.

4. How did Prema Dhanraj win the battle over her disfigurement?

Ans) At the age of eight, Prema Dhanraj's face was burnt when a stove exploded. In spite of reconstructive surgery, her face remained scarred and disfigured. Her mother advised her to accept the situation and move ahead in life. It was her life and only she could change it ever if she could do nothing about her face. She gained in confidence after she cleared her class 10 exams.

5. Mention some of Prema Dhanraj's most significant achievements?

Ans) Prema Dhanraj has achieved greatest accomplishments in her life with hard work and determination. She obtained a B.Sc. degree from the Arts and Science College, Bengaluru as well as an MBBS degree from Hubli Medical College. In 1980, she started working at CMCH, Vellore under Dr. LBM Joseph. She is presently the Head of the Department of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery at CMCH, Vellore and is considered to be one of the successful surgeons in the medical fraternity.

6. Of these three biographies of living legends that you have just read, which one do you find most inspiring and why?

Ans) Of the three biographies of these legends, I found Prema Dhanraj's story the most inspiring one.

As a small, innocent 8 year old girl who had to face the burnt mass of flesh on her face. She became a source of encouragement and confidence to everyone. It was only because of her mother's advice that she overcame all these negative emotions into a positive manner.

She is still thankful to God for the way her life has turned out, in spite of all the pains that she had undergone.

The fact that she cleared her 10 exams and went on to get a B.Sc. and MBBS degrees gave her immense confidence. She also started Agni Raksha, trained doctors in Ethiopia, Kenya and Tanzania. She treated patients with Cleft Palates at CMCH, Vellore. She herself could not believe that she could reach this far in life with her face.
