

Beehive

Textbook in English for Class IX



0959



विद्यया ऽ मृतमश्नुते



एन सी ई आर टी
NCERT

राष्ट्रीय शैक्षिक अनुसंधान और प्रशिक्षण परिषद्
NATIONAL COUNCIL OF EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH AND TRAINING

0959 – BEEHIVE

Textbook for Class 9

ISBN 81-7450-502-4

First Edition

February 2006 Phalguna 1927

Reprinted

*October 2006, October 2007,
December 2009, January 2011,
January 2012, December 2012,
February 2014, December 2014,
December 2015, December 2016,
December 2017, December 2018,
August 2019, January 2021,
November 2021*

Revised Edition

November 2022 Kartika 1944

Reprinted

*March 2024 Chaitra 1946
December 2024 Agrahayana 1946*

PD 190T GS

© National Council of Educational
Research and Training, 2006,
2022

₹ 65.00

*Printed on 80 GSM paper with
NCERT watermark*

Published at the Publication Division
by the Secretary, National Council of
Educational Research and Training,
Sri Aurobindo Marg, New Delhi
110016 and printed at Swapna
Printing Works (P) Ltd., Doltala,
Doharia, Post - Ganganagar, Dist-
North 24 Parganas, Kolkata- 700 132

ALL RIGHTS RESERVED

- ❑ No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted, in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise without the prior permission of the publisher.
- ❑ This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade, be lent, re-sold, hired out or otherwise disposed of without the publisher's consent, in any form of binding or cover other than that in which it is published.
- ❑ The correct price of this publication is the price printed on this page. Any revised price indicated by a rubber stamp or by a sticker or by any other means is incorrect and should be unacceptable.

**OFFICES OF THE PUBLICATION
DIVISION, NCERT**

NCERT Campus
Sri Aurobindo Marg
New Delhi 110 016 Phone : 011-26562708

108, 100 Feet Road
Hosdakere Halli Extension
Banashankari III Stage
Bengaluru 560 085 Phone : 080-26725740

Navjivan Trust Building
P.O. Navjivan
Ahmedabad 380 014 Phone : 079-27541446

CWC Campus
Opp. Dhankal Bus Stop
Panihati
Kolkata 700 114 Phone : 033-25530454

CWC Complex
Maligaon
Guwahati 781 021 Phone : 0361-2674869

Publication Team

Head, Publication : *M.V. Srinivasan*
Division

Chief Editor : *Bijnan Sutar*

Chief Business : *Amitabh Kumar*
Manager

Chief Production : *Jahan Lal*
Officer (In charge)

Editor : *Vijayam*
Sankaranarayanan

Assistant Production : *Prakash Veer Singh*
Officer

Cover, Illustrations and Layout

Nidhi Wadhwa



FOREWORD



THE National Curriculum Framework (NCF), 2005, recommends that children's life at school must be linked to their life outside the school. This principle marks a departure from the legacy of bookish learning which continues to shape our system and causes a gap between the school, home and community. The syllabi and textbooks developed on the basis of NCF signify an attempt to implement this basic idea. They also attempt to discourage rote learning and the maintenance of sharp boundaries between different subject areas. We hope these measures will take us significantly further in the direction of a child-centred system of education outlined in the National Policy of Education (1986).

The success of this effort depends on the steps that school principals and teachers will take to encourage children to reflect on their own learning and to pursue imaginative activities and questions. We must recognise that, given space, time and freedom, children generate new knowledge by engaging with the information passed on to them by adults. Treating the prescribed textbook as the sole basis of examination is one of the key reasons why other resources and sites of learning are ignored. Inculcating creativity and initiative is possible if we perceive and treat children as participants in learning, not as receivers of a fixed body of knowledge.

These aims imply considerable change in school routines and mode of functioning. Flexibility in the daily time-table is as necessary as rigour in implementing the annual calendar so that the required number of teaching days are actually devoted to teaching. The methods used for teaching and evaluation will also determine how effective this textbook proves for making children's life at school a happy experience, rather than a source of stress or boredom. Syllabus designers have tried to address the problem of curricular burden by restructuring and reorienting knowledge at different stages with greater consideration for child psychology and the time available for teaching. The textbook attempts to enhance this endeavour by giving higher priority and space to opportunities for contemplation and wondering, discussion in small groups, and activities requiring hands-on experience.

The National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) appreciates the hard work done by the textbook development committee responsible for this book. We wish to thank the Chairperson of the advisory group in languages, Professor Namwar Singh and the Chief Advisor for this book, Professor R. Amritavalli for guiding the work of this committee. Several teachers contributed to the development of this textbook; we are

grateful to their principals for making this possible. We are indebted to the institutions and organisations which have generously permitted us to draw upon their resources, materials and personnel. We are especially grateful to the members of the National Monitoring Committee, appointed by the Department of Secondary and Higher Education, Ministry of Human Resource Development under the Chairpersonship of Professor Mrinal Miri and Professor G.P. Deshpande for their valuable time and contribution. As an organisation committed to systemic reform and continuous improvement in the quality of its products, NCERT welcomes comments and suggestions which will enable us to undertake further revision and refinements.

New Delhi
20 December 2005

Director
National Council of Educational
Research and Training

RATIONALISATION OF CONTENT IN THE TEXTBOOKS

In view of the COVID-19 pandemic, it is imperative to reduce content load on students. The National Education Policy 2020, also emphasises reducing the content load and providing opportunities for experiential learning with creative mindset. In this background, the NCERT has undertaken the exercise to rationalise the textbooks across all classes. Learning Outcomes already developed by the NCERT across classes have been taken into consideration in this exercise.

Contents of the textbooks have been rationalised in view of the following:

- Content based on genres of literature in the textbooks and supplementary readers at different stages of school education
- Content that is meant for achieving Learning Outcomes for developing language proficiency and is accessible at different stages
- For reducing the curriculum load and examination stress in view of the prevailing condition of the Pandemic
- Content, which is easily accessible to students without much interventions from teachers and can be learned by children through self-learning or peer-learning
- Content, which is irrelevant in the present context

This present edition is a reformatted version after carrying out the changes given above.

THE CONSTITUTION OF INDIA

PREAMBLE

WE, THE PEOPLE OF INDIA, having solemnly resolved to constitute India into a ¹**[SOVEREIGN SOCIALIST SECULAR DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC]** and to secure to all its citizens :

JUSTICE, social, economic and political;

LIBERTY of thought, expression, belief, faith and worship;

EQUALITY of status and of opportunity; and to promote among them all

FRATERNITY assuring the dignity of the individual and the ²[unity and integrity of the Nation];

IN OUR CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY this twenty-sixth day of November, 1949 do **HEREBY ADOPT, ENACT AND GIVE TO OURSELVES THIS CONSTITUTION.**

1. Subs. by the Constitution (Forty-second Amendment) Act, 1976, Sec.2, for "Sovereign Democratic Republic" (w.e.f. 3.1.1977)
2. Subs. by the Constitution (Forty-second Amendment) Act, 1976, Sec.2, for "Unity of the Nation" (w.e.f. 3.1.1977)



TEXTBOOK DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE



CHAIRPERSON, ADVISORY GROUP IN LANGUAGES

Professor Namwar Singh, formerly *Chairman*, School of Languages,
Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi

CHIEF ADVISOR

R. Amritavalli, *Professor*, Central Institute of English and Foreign
Languages (CIEFL), Hyderabad

CHIEF COORDINATOR

Ram Janma Sharma, *Professor and Head*, Department of Languages, NCERT,
New Delhi

MEMBERS

Amber Banerjee, *Principal*, Delhi Public School, Dagapur, Darjeeling Road,
Pradhan Nagar, Siliguri

Nasiruddin Khan, *Reader in English*, Department of Languages, NCERT,
New Delhi

S. Neerada, *Principal*, Kendriya Vidyalaya, AF 8, Rajokri, New Delhi

Sadhana Parashar, *AEO (ELT)*, CBSE, 17, Rouse Avenue, Institutional Area,
New Delhi

Shruti Sircar, *Lecturer*, Centre for ESL Studies, CIEFL, Hyderabad

Sonia Makhija, *TGT (English)*, Govt Girls' Secondary School No. 3, Uttam
Nagar, New Delhi

MEMBER-COORDINATOR

Sandhya Rani Sahoo, *Reader in English*, Department of Languages, NCERT,
New Delhi



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



THE National Council of Educational Research and Training is grateful to Professor M.L. Tickoo, formerly of the Central Institute of English and Foreign Languages, Hyderabad, and the Regional Language Centre, Singapore, for going through the manuscript and making valuable suggestions.

For permission to reproduce copyright material in this book NCERT would like to thank the following: Voyager, London for 'The Fun They Had' by Isaac Asimov; Oxford University Press, New Delhi, for 'Evelyn Glennie Listens to Sound without Hearing It' by Deborah Cowley from *Broadway, Coursebook 8*; Wordsworth Edition Limited, Hertfordshire for 'The Duck and the Kangaroo' by Edward Lear; CBSE, New Delhi for 'On Killing a Tree' by Gieve Patel; Adrian Berry, Sheffield, U.K. for the two photographs of Santosh Yadav.

Special thanks are also due to the Publication Department, NCERT, for their support. NCERT gratefully acknowledges the contributions made by Matthew John, *Proof Reader*; and Achin Jain and Arvind Sharma, *DTP Operators*.

Contents

FOREWORD *iii*

RATIONALISATION OF CONTENT IN THE TEXTBOOKS *v*

NOTES FOR THE TEACHER *1*

Units 1–3

1. The Fun They Had *5*

Isaac Asimov

The Road Not Taken *15*

Robert Frost

2. The Sound of Music *17*

I. EVELYN GLENNIE: *Deborah Cowley*

II. BISMILLAH KHAN

Wind *30*

Subramania Bharati

3. The Little Girl *32*

Katherine Mansfield

Rain on the Roof *41*

Coates Kinney

NOTES FOR THE TEACHER *43*

Units 4–6

4. A Truly Beautiful Mind *46*

The Lake Isle of Innisfree *54*

William Butler Yeats

5. The Snake and the Mirror *56*

Vaikom Muhammad Basheer

A Legend of the Northland *65*

Phoebe Cary

6. My Childhood 68

A. P. J. Abdul Kalam

No Men Are Foreign 80

James Kirkup

NOTES FOR THE TEACHER 82

Units 7-9

7. Reach for the Top 84

I. SANTOSH YADAV

II. MARIA SHARAPOVA

On Killing a Tree 95

Gieve Patel

8. Kathmandu 98

Vikram Seth

A Slumber Did My Spirit Seal 107

William Wordsworth

9. If I Were You 109

Douglas James