



202en17

17

CARING FOR OTHERS

Love and care are two important feelings that bind us together. We all love our friends and relatives but there are some people who share their love with all of humanity. They take care of those who are alone and helpless; they extend their hand to help those who are in difficult situations. They do not look forward to any reward for their kind actions. What can we call such people? Shall we call them the saviours of humanity? We should be proud of them.

The lesson is divided into three parts. The first is an interview with Mother Teresa. The second is a report about Janki Iyer and her school, Ananda Bharati. The third is the story of a young girl called Bhagya.



OBJECTIVES

After completing this lesson you will be able to:

- state the purpose of taking an interview;
- frame questions for an interview;
- recognise the selfless services of some great women;
- use the adverb clause of time;
- observe the positive impact of love and care;
- recognise the need to sacrifice for the benefit of humanity, and
- develop self awareness about how you make difficult choices and decisions.



17.1 LET US READ THE TEXT



Notes

Mother Teresa looked after the poor and the needy. What did she do for the dying?

We will get to know about Mother Teresa. She was born in South Yugoslavia. At the age of nineteen she came to Darjeeling, India to teach. In 1931 she decided to serve the poorest of the poor. She belonged to the order of Missionaries of Charity. They run forty schools, where about 30,000 children are educated. They also have mobile dispensaries, training centers and destitute homes for the poor and the needy. In 1979, she received the Nobel Prize for her services to the poor. She was also given the Bharat Ratna by the Government of India in 1980.

Here is an extract from an interview with Mother Teresa. The interviewer is the well known journalist, Malcolm Muggeridge. Does it tell us how Mother Teresa cared for the poor? Let's read and find out.

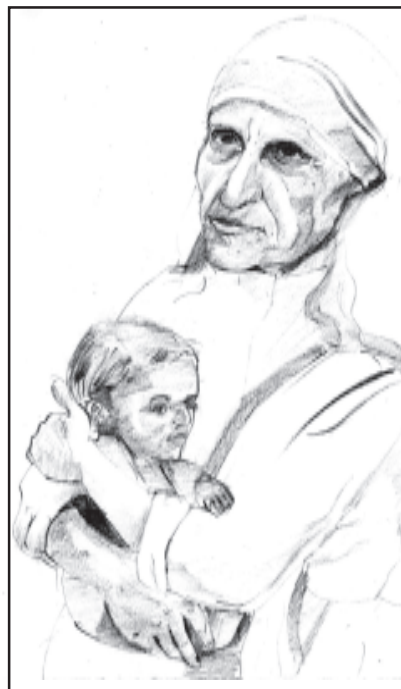


Fig. 17.1

Section I

Malcolm: When you say *Home for the Dying* do you mean that these are people on the streets who have been abandoned and are dying?

Mother Teresa: Yes, the first woman who I saved, was picked up from the street. She had been half-eaten by the rats and the ants. I took her to the hospital, but they could not do anything for her. They only took her in because I refused to move until they accepted her. From there I went to the municipality and asked them to give me a place, where I could bring such people. The health officer of the municipality took me to the Kali Temple and showed me the dharamshala. I was very happy to have that place. Within twenty four hours we had our patients there, and we started the work of the home for the sick and the dying. In 1952, we opened the first Home for the Dying.

Malcolm: What exactly are you doing for these dying people? I know you bring them in here.

Mother Teresa: First of all we want to make them feel they are wanted; we want them to know that there are people who really love them, who really care for them at least for the



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few hours that they have to live. They too should know that they are the children of God and that they are not forgotten and that they are loved and cared.

Malcolm: What happens to those who are cured?

Mother Teresa: Those who are able to work – we try to find some work for them, the others – we try to send them home, where they can spend at least a few years in happiness and comfort.

Section II

A little distance from the Tarnaka crossroads, you come across a quiet house called *Needa* (refuge). Attached to it is a small school where in the afternoons, you will come across many little girls who are domestic servants, learning to read. This is no non-formal education center. Education is a very serious business here. The girls get to write their public exams, some of them join residential schools (after clearing the entrance exams) and some others go for higher studies. Innovative teaching methods help these first generation learners. Field trips, discussion on current events are common features in this school. Ananda Bharati is not just about education, many people have commented that the children here are transformed into confident individuals and that the values imbibed here stay with them wherever they go.

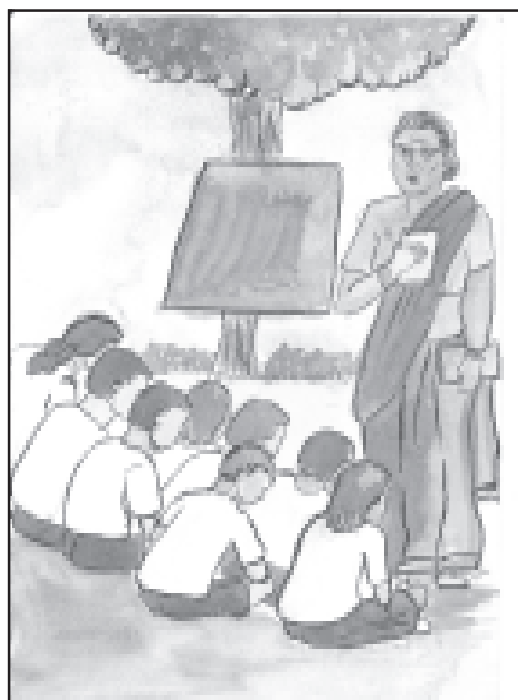


Fig. 17.2

Innovative - introducing new ideas, methods

imbibe - develop

sprightly - active and lively

unassuming - modest, humble, simple

unprecedented - not matched by any previous example

preponderance - superiority in power or influence

The woman who runs the school and whose house is in 'Needa' is Janaki Iyer, simply called Ja by her friends. Janaki could well be your neighbour across the wall babysitting her grandchildren. This sprightly 70-year-old is an unassuming, soft-spoken lady and comes across as a very gentle person. She chooses her words carefully, the precision speaks of a well-ordered mind.

She attracts young people to her like bees to honey. Her school, appropriately enough called Ananda Bharati, has attracted many younger professionals in an unprecedented way to lend their time and effort to this venture. A computer professional helps with the accounts; a Linguistics professor teaches Hindi; another professor teaches English, and another music. Despite the preponderance of highly-educated teachers, Janaki has been able to attract and retain teachers from under-privileged backgrounds. When a child needs

to be put into a residential school, or needs to go in for higher studies in college, Janaki has many friends who help in sorting out the myriad problems that crop up.

Sandhyarani, a 15 year old, says that she liked the combination of studies with vocational training.

Janaki Iyer is doing a yeoman service to these domestic workers by educating them. “I am getting a lot of help from committed teachers and young enthusiastic professionals, who volunteer to help in the school. I am very thankful for it,” she says. With such committed social workers, there is hope on the horizon.

BHAGYA is a ten-year old, who attends my non-formal education unit “Ananda Bharati”. She comes to my class, which starts at 2 p.m. with her younger sister Swarna and baby sister, Swapna. As soon as she comes to class there is a change in Bhagya. She sheds her responsibilities the instant she hands over Swapna to me. For the next two and a half hours, she like any other child of her age, is interested in her work be it an exercise in Telugu or sums or some drawing.

After playing around for a while and scribbling on a slate Swapna settles on my lap for her siesta. Work gets more intense after Swapna is put down. Before any of us realize it, it is 4.15 and time for games. On good days Swapna sleeps through this also. At a quarter to five all are ready to leave for home.

One afternoon in July, Bhagya came to class wearing a pair of rubber slippers. She explained that she had started working for the occupants of a flat. This gave her a little money to get some things for herself which she badly needed. Another day she wore pretty green bangles on her slender wrists. They looked beautiful on her bringing Sarojini Naidu’s “delicate, bright rainbow-tinted circles of light” to my mind. Soon she had a set of new clothes.

Days went by. We continued our work in the afternoon. Bhagya was busy cooking and looking after Swapna in her own home. She also had her work in the flat on the 3rd floor. Some days she was late coming to my class and took my admonition with a serious downcast look.

One day I found Lakshmi, another of my students going along with Bhagya to the newly constructed flats. When I asked her what she was up to she said Bhagya had got her work in one of the new apartments. Bhagya herself came running to me and said, “The lady of that house wanted me to work for her for a hundred rupees per month. I know that I cannot take on more work if I want to study in the afternoon. So I decided that I would give Lakshmi the job.” I was stunned.



Fig. 17.3



Notes

yeoman service - a useful service

myriad - many in number

siesta - afternoon nap, a short sleep in the afternoon

admonition - scolding



Notes

Bhagya had made a deliberate choice, giving up a hundred rupees every month in order to study. What was even more remarkable was the matter of fact way she said it. To her the issue seemed crystal clear. There was awe in her voice when she mentioned the grand sum of 100 rupees or 'Vanda' as she called it in Telugu but there was no a trace of regret in either her face or voice for having given it up.

17.2 LET US UNDERSTAND THE TEXT

17.2.1 PART 1

Malcolm: When you say home forfew years in happiness and comfort.

Have you heard of Mother Teresa? Mother Teresa looked after the dying and the destitute. She was born in South Yugoslavia. At the age of nineteen, she came to Darjeeling, India. She belonged to the order of Missionaries of Charity. She is a winner of the Nobel Prize and the Bharat Ratna for her work among the poor.

In this interview the well known journalist Malcolm Muggeridge talks with Mother Teresa about her work. Mother Teresa tells about how she set up her Home for the Dying. She also explains what they do for the people who are brought to the Home for the Dying. Poor, sick, and helpless people who are unwanted and abandoned by their own families are brought to the Home for the Dying. They are loved and cared for in the Home. Some of them die, but they die knowing that they are loved and cared for. Some of them become healthy again, and the Missionaries of Charity try to send them to their own homes or help them to find jobs.



INTEXT QUESTIONS 17.1

1. What kind of people did Mother Teresa take care of and why?
2. How did Mother Teresa force the hospital to take in the sick woman?
3. Where did Mother Teresa set up the first home for the sick and the dying?
4. How did she settle her patients when they were cured?
5. Tick the correct answer to complete the given statement.

Malcolm Muggeridge interviewed Mother Teresa to

- know about her work and achievements
- know her opinions
- test her knowledge for a job

6. Think of a sick, unhappy or helpless person in your family/neighbourhood who has responded well to love and care. What change have you noticed in this person?



17.2.2 PART 2

A little distance from.....hope on the horizon.”

What should a 70-year old woman do? Sit at home? Play with her grand-children? Or should she take an unusual path and start teaching under-privileged children in her courtyard? *The Deccan Chronicle* tells us how Janki Iyer chose the last option, and runs a school called Ananda Bharati.

Janaki Iyer is a 70 year old woman who is very different from other women of her age. She teaches girls who are domestic helpers and who therefore can not attend a formal school. *The Deccan Chronicle* publishes a report about Janki Iyer and her non formal school called Ananda Bharati. The report tells us that although the school is a non formal institution, the students and the teachers are very serious about education and examinations. The school has very highly qualified teachers and other staff. The aim of the school is to educate the students as well as to make them strong and confident people with values and skills which will stay with them all their lives.



DO YOU KNOW

Non formal education takes place outside recognised educational institutions. It is based on the following principles:

- an acceptance and belief that education is important
- relevance to the disadvantaged group
- concern with special categories of persons
- clearly defined objectives and purposes
- flexibility in organisation and methods



INTEXT QUESTIONS 17.2

1. Who set up Ananda Bharati school and for whom?
2. Ananda Bharati is a non formal school but the author says, “This is no non-formal education center.” Why does the author say that?
3. Describe Janki Iyer in 60-80 words.
4. Who are the people who help Janki Iyer in her work?
5. Choose the correct options to complete the following statements.
 - a. A first generation learner is a person ...



Notes

- who goes to school for the first time.
 - who is the first in the family to go to school.
 - who learns about first generation.
- b. A well ordered mind is ...
- a mind that is in order.
 - a balanced mind.
 - a fit mind.
6. Say whether the following are true or false:
- a. Ananda Bharati is located in a house called Needa.
 - b. Ananda Bharati does not prepare girls for public exams.
 - c. At Ananda Bharati children are transformed into confident individuals
 - d. Many professionals teach at the school.
 - e. The school has a combination of highly educated teachers and teachers from the underprivileged class.
 - f. Janki Iyer has to handle all the problems alone.



LET US DO 17.1

Talk to the girls in your neighbourhood who work as domestic helpers. Find out how many of them have or have not received elementary education. Persuade the girls who have not received elementary education to go to a non-formal school, or if you have the time and the will, teach them yourself.

17.2.3 PART 3

Bhagya is a ten year oldall the rainy teaching days seem worthwhile.

As you know there are many people who want to go to school and improve their lives by educating themselves. Yet they are not always able to do this for many reasons such as family responsibilities, sickness, or shortage of money. In this unit Janki Iyer tells the story of one such person called Bhagya. Bhagya is a poor girl who studies at Ananda Bharati. Despite her many and difficult responsibilities, this ten year old girl does not give up her studies. Supported and helped by Janki Iyer, she continues to study. One day she has to make a difficult decision. She has to choose between money and an education. She refuses an offer of work that would give her a lot of money, because this work will not leave her time to study and continue with school.



INTEXT QUESTIONS 17.3

1. Who was Bhagya?
2. How did Janki Iyer share Bhagya's responsibilities in the school?
3. State how Bhagya changed as soon as she came to the class?
4. Where did Bhagya start working?
5. What new things did she buy with the money she earned?
6. Why did Janki Iyer scold her?
7. What was the difficult choice Bhagya had to make?
8. a. What choice did Bhagya make?
b. What was remarkable about her choice?



DO YOU KNOW

According to world surveys of primary education in the world...

- the difference between the number of girls and boys in primary education is the biggest in India
- there are about 8 million fewer girls than boys in the first five years of education in India

Some of the schemes launched by the Government of India and the State Governments to promote the education of girls are:

- the Ladli Scheme of Department of Women & Child development, Delhi. The scheme gives Rs 100,000 to a girl student when she becomes 18 years old.
- Haryana, Madhya Pradesh and some other states provide bicycles to girl students
- the Central Government's scheme to award scholarships for the girl child



17.3 LET US LEARN GRAMMAR

Adverb Clause of Time

Read these statements from Part 3. The underlined words are adverb clauses of time.

As soon as she comes to the class there is a change in Bhagya.



Notes

After Swapna has played around for a while she has her afternoon nap.

An adverb clause begins with words like whenever, while, after, before, since, when, as, as soon as, till. An adverb clause of time tells us about the time when a certain action is performed. An adverb clause answers the question ‘when’ about the main clause. For example: **When** is there a change in Bhagya? **When** does Swapna have her afternoon nap?

An **adverb clause** should not be confused with an **adverb**.

Look at the two sentences given below:

- I saw the movie yesterday.
- I saw the movie before I left for Jaipur.

Both the sentences answer the question ‘when’, but in the first sentence ‘yesterday’ is an adverb. It is not a clause.

In the second sentence, when you ask the question ‘When did you see the movie?’ you get the answer ‘before I left for Jaipur’, which is a clause. A clause has a subject and a full verb, i.e. a subject and a predicate. The answer ‘before I left for Jaipur’ has a subject (I) and a verb (left). So it is an adverb clause of time.

Exercise

1. Fill in the blanks in the following sentences to get an adverb clause of time:

- a. You should not drive _____ you have drunk alcohol.
if
because
after
- b. We should heat up the iron _____ we iron our clothes.
before
so that
if
- c. _____ the crop is harvested (cut), it is sold in the market.
if
although
after
- d. Do not talk _____ she is singing.
if
though
while



- e. You can go home _____ you finish your work.
so that
when
because
2. Complete the following sentences by adding an adverb clause of time:
- They go to their daughter's school when _____.
 - Bhavana shifted to Mumbai after _____
 - I had arrived at the platform before _____
 - The doctor comes whenever _____
 - They were asked to wait till _____



17.4 LET US WRITE

You have read an **interview** in Part 1 and a **report** in Part 2.

What is an interview?

- An interview is a conversation between two or more persons.

It is a conversation in which questions are asked by the interviewer to get information from the interviewee.

An interview is conducted for a specific reason.

- It could be an interview to test the knowledge and suitability of a person for a particular job. This is the most common kind of interview.
- An interview can be conducted to collect information about the life, work and achievements of a famous person.
- It could also be an interview of a well known person to find out his/her opinion about important social, political, cultural and other topics.

What is a report?

- A report is a presentation of information already collected through an interview, observation, or in some other way.
- Some important features of a report are:
 - relevant and accurate facts.
 - use of narrative style for presentation.
 - coherence and connectivity of points.

Comments may be added.

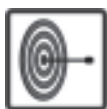


Notes

When interviewing someone you have to form your questions very carefully so that you are able to get the maximum information from the interviewee.

Exercise

Imagine that you have to interview Janki Iyer to collect information about Ananda Bharati School. Make a list of five questions you would ask her.



WHAT YOU HAVE LEARNT

Love and care join people. You can create a better society if you take care of the people who need you. You can do it in many ways. You can take care of the sick and neglected like Mother Teresa did, or you can hold the hand of a little child who has to cope with the responsibilities of an adult and help him/her to move forward like Janki Iyer did. There are other ways you can help the needy, and each of us should try to help such people in whatever way we can. However, a person who is in a difficult situation should set goals for himself/herself and work very hard to achieve them like Bhagya did. You should not give up hope and courage or forget what your goals are. You sometimes need help from others who are in a position to help, but you also need to help yourself by working hard to improve your life and achieve your goals.



TERMINAL QUESTIONS

I. 1. Read the following phrase from the text:

“delicate bright rainbow tinted circles of light”

In the above phrase, the poet Sarojini Naidu has used some adjectives to describe bangles. Explain how each adjective describes a feature of the bangles.

2. Now read the sentence given below:

“It’s rainbows like these that make all the rainy teaching days worthwhile.”

In the above sentence the writer has used ‘rainbows’ and ‘rainy days’ as symbols.

Complete the statements below by choosing the correct meaning of **rainbows** and **rainy days** from the given options.

a. Rainbows in the context of the lesson refer to:

- seven colours
- beautiful moments



- a beautiful phenomenon of nature
- b. Rainy days in the context of the lesson refer to
- when it is raining.
 - old age
 - difficult moments
- II. 1. How did Mother Teresa make her patients feel comfortable?
2. In what way is Ananda Bharati a unique school?
3. Who should be given the credit for Bhagya's education - Janki Iyer or Bhagya? Why?
4. State the three words the writer has used to describe Janki Iyer. Do you know somebody who has one or all three of these characteristics? Write a short description of that person in about 50 words.
5. Think of a time when you had to make a difficult choice. Describe the situation and the options you could choose from. State the choice you made. Explain why you made that choice.

**ANSWERS****17.2.1 PART 1****INTEXT QUESTIONS 17.1**

1. Mother Teresa took care of the old and the sick who were unwanted and abandoned by their relatives.
2. Mother Teresa refused to move away from the hospital until they admitted the sick woman.
3. Mother Teresa set up her first home for the sick and the dying in a dharamshala near the Kali Temple.
4. Mother Teresa found work for those who could work. She tried to send others to their homes.
5. Malcolm Muggeridge interviewed Mother Teresa to know about her work and achievements.
6. Individual responses.



Notes

17.2.2 PART 2**INTEXT QUESTIONS 17.2**

1. A seventy-year-old woman called Janki Iyer set up Ananda Bharati school for girls who worked as domestic helpers.
2. Ananda Bharati is a non formal school. It is not a formal and recognised educational institution. When the author says, “This is no non-formal education center” he means that Ananda Bharati is very serious about education just like a formal school. The teachers and the students work very hard to achieve their educational goals. The school has flexible methods and timings like a non formal institution, but it is as serious about studies as a formal school.
3. Janki Iyer is a seventy year old soft-spoken and gentle woman who takes care of the needs of others. She takes over Bhagya’s responsibility of looking after her little sister so that Bhagya can study. Janki Iyer is very serious about education for girls, and cannot tolerate carelessness about studies. She loves Bhagya and helps her but also scolds her when she comes late to the class. She is a very good manager and also very good at building huge social support for her school.
4. Young professionals help Janki Iyer to run the school. A computer professional helps with the school’s accounts, a Linguistics professor teaches Hindi, another professor teaches English and another one teaches music. There are also some teachers from the less privileged class who work at the school.
5.
 - a. A first generation learner is one who is the first in the family to receive education.
 - b. A well ordered mind is a balanced mind.
6.
 - a. F
 - b. F
 - c. T
 - d. T
 - e. T
 - f. F

17.2.3 PART 3**INTEXT QUESTIONS 17.3**

1. Bhagya was a poor, ten-year-old girl. She had the responsibility of taking care of her two younger sisters. Bhagya also worked as a part time domestic helper. She was very keen to study and was a regular student at Ananda Bharati.



2. Janki Iyer took care of Bhagya's baby sister, Swapna as soon as Bhagya came into the class. She kept the baby busy with playful activities to give Bhagya time to study.
3. As soon as Bhagya entered the class she shed off her responsibilities and began to enjoy school like any other child.
4. She started to work for the occupants of a newly constructed flat.
5. She bought a pair of slippers, green bangles and new clothes for herself.
6. Janki Iyer scolded Bhagya because she was late for class. Janki Iyer did not want Bhagya to neglect her studies.
7. For the work Bhagya did as a domestic helper she got money with which she could buy clothes, slippers and other pretty things. When she was offered more work as a domestic helper she knew that she would get more money for it but have less time to study and go to school. She liked school and she also liked all the things she could buy with the money she earned. She had to make a difficult choice between her studies and the money she could earn.
8. a. Bhagya decided not to accept the offer of more work as a domestic helper so that she would have time to study in the afternoon.

b. Individual responses.

Suggested response: Her choice was remarkable because the money she could earn for the extra work was a big amount for her. To refuse such an offer was very difficult for a poor girl like her. It was a remarkable choice because she made it after thinking very clearly about her goals, and about what was more important to her – education or money.

17.3 LET US LEARN GRAMMAR

1. a. after
b. before
c. After
d. while
e. when

2. Individual responses.

Suggested responses:

- a. They go to their daughter's school when they are called for a meeting.
- b. Bhavna shifted to Mumbai after she took up a job.
- c. I had arrived at the platform before the train arrived.



Notes

- d. The doctor comes whenever he is called for.
e. They were asked to wait till the signal was red.

17.4 LET US WRITE

Exercise

Individual responses. Students will frame their own questions.

Suggested responses: Some sample questions are given below.

- How did you think of setting up Ananda Bharati School?
- What are your objectives for your students?
- You do not have funds to employ teachers. How do you manage this problem?
- Do you ever feel that you are alone and the responsibilities are big?

TERMINAL QUESTIONS

- I. 1. ‘delicate’ -suggests that the bangles may be made of glass which can break easily.
‘bright’ - suggests that the colours are bright.
‘rainbow tinted circles of light’ - the colours are a mix of seven colours of the rainbow. The bangles are round so they are called circles.
2. a. Rainbows refer to beautiful moments.
b. Rainy days refer to difficult moments.
- II. 1. Mother Teresa looked after her patients. She made them feel wanted. She made them feel that they were not alone. She made them feel that there were people who loved and cared for them.
2. Ananda Bharati is a unique school because although it is a non formal school, it is very serious about education. It is flexible like a non formal institution yet its students write public examinations and even go on for higher studies like the students of a formal school. It shares the problems of its students and tries to solve them. It builds their trust and confidence in themselves and supports them throughout their stay in the school.
3. Individual responses.
4. Sprightly, soft spoken, unassuming are three words the writer uses to describe Janki Iyer.
Individual responses.
5. Individual responses.