



# INDIAN SCHOOL AL WADI AL KABIR

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| <b>Class: VIII</b>     | <b>Department: ENGLISH</b>         | <b>Date of submission:<br/>May 2026</b>       |
| <b>Worksheet No: 4</b> | <b>Topic: WISDOM PAVES THE WAY</b> | <b>Note: TO BE DONE IN<br/>PROSE NOTEBOOK</b> |

## SUMMARY

The play 'Wisdom Paves the Way' tells the story of four intelligent and observant young men—Ram Datt, Shiv Datt, Har Datt, and Dev Datt—on their way to the city of Ujjain in search of employment. They come across camel tracks and, through keen observation and reasoning, deduce several characteristics of the camel without even seeing it. Soon, a merchant arrives in distress, claiming to have lost his camel. The young men accurately describe it, but deny seeing it. Suspicious, the merchant takes them to the King, accusing them of theft. In the King's court, the four men explain how their deductions were made using logic and observation. Impressed, the King praises their wisdom and appoints them as advisers, while the merchant is left ashamed. This tale emphasizes the importance of observation, wisdom, and integrity.



## WORD BANK

| Word        | Meaning                                                  |
|-------------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| Adorned     | Beautified                                               |
| Tapestries  | Heavy decorative fabrics woven with pictures or patterns |
| Resolute    | Determined                                               |
| Bustling    | Busy                                                     |
| Eludes      | Difficult to obtain                                      |
| Devise      | To think of                                              |
| Deliberate  | To think carefully                                       |
| Scrutinise  | To look carefully at                                     |
| In haste    | In a hurry                                               |
| Pursued     | Chased                                                   |
| Countenance | Facial expression                                        |
| Distressed  | Worried                                                  |
| Astray      | Away from the correct path                               |
| Indignant   | Angry                                                    |

|             |                                              |
|-------------|----------------------------------------------|
| Yonder      | Over there                                   |
| Draperies   | Long thick curtains                          |
| Canopy      | A cover fixed over a seat for decoration     |
| Grievance   | Complaint                                    |
| Accusations | Claims that someone has done something wrong |
| Deduce      | To determine by reasoning                    |
| Discern     | To see or notice something                   |
| Foliage     | Green leaves and plants                      |
| Fended off  | Guarded against                              |
| Insight     | A clear/deep understanding                   |
| Sound       | Healthy                                      |
| Intimately  | In a detailed way                            |
| Flawless    | Perfect                                      |
| Chastened   | Felt sorry                                   |
| Counsel     | Advice                                       |
| Beacon      | Guiding light                                |

**I Read the given extracts and answer the questions that follow.**

1. *Dev Datt: Ten days are but a short span in the grand scheme of things.*

*We may still have many more roads to wander before we find employment befitting all four of us.*

*Ram Datt: If only we could secure an audience with the King of Ujjain.*

*I am confident he would recognise our talents and appoint us to his service.*

*Shiv Datt: I share your belief.*

*Dev Datt: Indeed, we ought to be united in this hope. That is why we press on towards Ujjain.*

*Har Datt: (Pausing thoughtfully) Gaining an audience with the King is no simple task. We need to devise a strategy.*

**(i) Identify the false statement from the two given below and rectify it.**

A. Dev Datt believes that finding employment is an easy task.

B. Ram Datt is confident that the King would recognise their talents.

**Ans.** Statement A is false. Dev Datt says that they might have to wander many more roads before they get suitable work.

**(ii) What does Ram Datt's confidence in gaining the King's recognition tell us about him?**

**Ans.** It shows his positive outlook.

(iii) Complete the sentence given below with the correct option from those given.

In the line, 'That's why we press on towards Ujjain', the phrase 'press on' refers to \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. walking with heavy steps
- B. moving forward with determination
- C. slowing down frequently for rest
- D. stopping briefly to save time

Ans. B. moving forward with determination



(iv) Har Datt says, "We need to devise a strategy." What can be inferred about Har Datt's character from his statement?

- A. He is doubtful of their abilities and wants to give up.
- B. He is eager to rush into the palace without preparation.
- C. He is cautious and thoughtful, preferring to plan ahead.
- D. He relies on others to make decisions for the group.

Ans. C. He is cautious and thoughtful, preferring to plan ahead.

2. King: (To the four men) You have demonstrated remarkable intelligence and the ability to see beyond the obvious. Such minds are rare and highly valued in my court. I extend to you the honour of becoming my advisers. Your counsel shall guide my decisions, and your wisdom shall be a beacon for my kingdom. What do you say to my offer?

Ram Datt: (Stepping forward) Your Highness, it is an honour we had not dared to dream of.

(i) Select the option that is true for both Assertion (A) and Reason (R).

(A): The Merchant left the court feeling humbled and ashamed.

(R): The King commanded that the four wise men join his court.

- A. Both (A) and (R) are true, and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).
- B. Both (A) and (R) are true, but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A).
- C. (A) is true, but (R) is false.
- D. (A) is false, but (R)

Ans. B. Both (A) and (R) are true, but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A).

(ii) Complete the following sentence by choosing the correct option. The line, 'See beyond the obvious' means that the men had the ability to \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. challenge common beliefs with reasoning
- B. interpret information in traditional ways
- C. notice details that others might overlook
- D. predict what is going to happen in the future

Ans. C. notice details that others might overlook



(iii) Complete the following sentence with a suitable reason.

Ram Datt described the King's offer as 'an honour we had not dared to dream of' because \_\_\_\_\_.

Ans. they had not thought that the king would himself offer them to be his royal advisors.

**(iv) How does the King's offer to the four men reflect his values as a ruler?**

**Ans.** The king's offer shows that he values wise men and so, he himself offers the four wise men to be his royal advisors who would bring prosperity in his kingdom.

**II Answer the following questions.**



**1. What does the dusty road leading to Ujjain tell us about the challenges of the young men's journey?**

**Ans.** The dusty road shows the journey was long, tiring, and difficult, as they walked for ten days under the hot sun, facing physical hardship.

**2. Why did the merchant become suspicious of the four men? What does this tell us about him?**

**Ans.** The four men gave accurate information about the camel that made the merchant suspicious. He could not accept that they had not seen the camel. This shows that the merchant is a suspicious man who does not believe the men's claim that they had not seen the camel.

**3. How do the four young men's observations about the camel serve as a turning point in the play?**

**Ans.** Their observations about the camel made the merchant suspicious. Thus, he took them to the king, accusing them of stealing and selling his camel. There the king identified their wisdom and thus, turning the accusation against them into an opportunity to become his advisers.

**4. Why did the King believe the four young men and not the merchant?**

**Ans.** The four men gave logical reasons for their observations. Thus, the king believed them.

**5. How does the capability of the four young men make them suitable to become advisors?**

**Ans.** The men are wise and have deep observation skills which makes them suitable for being advisors to the king.

**6. Why does the merchant feel ashamed for accusing the four young men of stealing his camel? Explain in your own words.**

**Ans.** The merchant feels ashamed because the king proved the men were innocent and wise, showing his accusations were wrong and unfair.

### EXTRA QUESTIONS FOR REFERENCE

**Answer the following questions. (Competency Based)**

**1.How did the four young men describe the camel so accurately without ever having seen it? What does this tell us about their powers of observation?**

**Answer:** The four young men carefully observed the clues left behind — such as tracks, half-eaten grass, and other signs on the path — and used logical reasoning to draw conclusions about the camel's appearance and condition. This tells us that they were highly observant and sharp-minded, able to read their surroundings intelligently rather than relying on direct experience.

**2.What lesson does the merchant's behaviour teach us about making accusations without proper proof?**

**Answer:** The merchant's behaviour teaches us that accusing someone without solid evidence is both wrong and harmful. He jumped to conclusions out of desperation and panic, which led to an unjust accusation against innocent men. His shame at the end shows that hasty judgements without proper thinking can damage others and ultimately reflect poorly on ourselves. We should always seek the truth before blaming others.

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