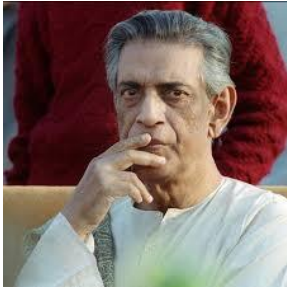




INDIAN SCHOOL AL WADI AL KABIR

Class: VIII	Department: ENGLISH	Date of submission: APRIL, 2025
Worksheet No: 13	Topic: BEPIN CHOUDHURY'S LAPSE OF MEMORY	Note: TO BE DONE IN ENGLISH PROSE NOTEBOOK

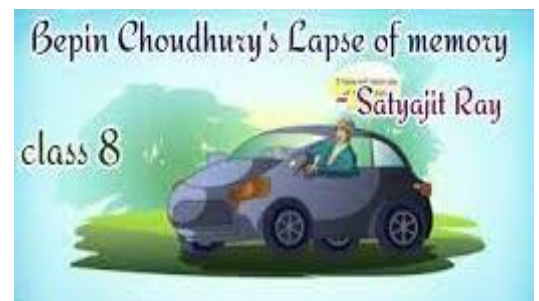
ABOUT THE AUTHOR



Satyajit Ray was born in Calcutta (Kolkata) on May 2nd 1921. Ray's grandfather was a writer and illustrator, while his father, Sukumar Ray, was a Bengali writer and illustrator. Ray was an Indian film director who worked prominently in Bengali cinema. Besides, he was a scriptwriter, documentary filmmaker, author, essayist, lyricist, magazine editor, illustrator, calligrapher, and music composer.

SUMMARY OF BEPIN CHOUDHURY'S LAPSE OF MEMORY

- This story by Satyajit Ray is a humorous story of a man named Bepin Choudhary, who is tricked into thinking he had a Memory Lapse. Bepin meets a man who tries to recall a particular event about which Bepin has no clue or Memory. He feels that he is sick and has amnesia.
- The story begins by telling us about a man named Bepin Choudhury. It was his habit to visit a book shop and buy books of his liking. One day on such a visit, a man approaches him. He tells Bepin that his name is Parimal Ghose and is an old acquaintance of his from his Ranchi trip.
- At first, Bepin is convinced the man is confusing him for someone else. However, when Parimal reveals personal details about him, he gets confused. Bepin cannot remember any of the incidents the man was talking about. In fact, he has never been to Ranchi.
- The man then says that Dinesh Mukerji was also on the trip, he may confirm it with him. Bepin does not pay much heed to this and goes about with his life. However, it keeps bothering him so he confirms the incident with Dinesh who also verifies the story.
- Now, Bepin is very confused as he cannot remember that particular incident only. He starts worrying and feels he is losing his memory. Now, Bepin asks the doctor for a remedy. This confuses the doctor as well as he has not seen a case like this before.
- The doctor advises Bepin to visit Ranchi. He thinks that revisiting the place may bring back memories he thinks he has forgotten. Bepin even takes a trip there but still, he does not remember a thing. He now starts worrying and calls for the doctor who will come later.
- Before the doctor arrives, Bepin learns the truth. His friend Chunni Lal played a practical joke on him to take revenge. Once, Chunni was in dire need of a job and Bepin could not help him so he avoided him.
- Thus, Chunni did all this to take revenge from him. This angers Bepin but it also relieves him that he is fine and not losing his memory. Finally, when the doctor arrives, he lies to him.



Instead of admitting that it is a prank, he says that visiting Ranchi brought his memories back and he is fine now.

 WORD BANK

SNo.	WORD	MEANING
1.	idle chat	unnecessary, routine conversation
2.	meek	quiet; humble
3.	utter disbelief	complete surprise
4.	(his) head reeled	he was shocked and confused
5.	losing his mind	becoming mad
6.	intimate	very personal and private
7.	bracing	stimulating
8.	going nuts	going mad / crazy
9.	getting into people's hair	interfering with and annoying people
10.	sleuthing	investigating (an event)
11.	carry on	continue
12.	conscientious	careful and correct
13.	head was in a whirl	confused and unable to think clearly
14.	gather his wits together	make an effort to become calm and think clearly.
15.	having a rough time	having a lot of problems
16.	turning up like a bad penny	appearing at a place where one is not welcome
17.	didn't beat about the bush	came straight to the point
18.	off and on	now and then
19.	throw your mind back	think back and recall a past event
20.	must see about consulting	(here) may have to consult
21.	tranquilliser	a medicine to reduce stress and anxiety
22.	procured	got (with a little difficulty)
23.	came round	regained consciousness
24.	in retribution of	as a punishment for

✓ **Comprehension Check (Pg. No.58)**

1. Why did the man stare at Bepin Babu in disbelief?

Ans: The man stared at Bepin Babu in disbelief because the man vouched that he had met Bepin in Ranchi and knew him but Bepin refused to accept that.



2. Where Did Bepin Babu say he went in October '58?

Ans: He spent the Puja holidays in October '58 in Kanpur with a friend.

3. Mention any three (or More) Things that Parimal Ghose knew about Bepin Babu.

Ans: Parimal knew that Bepin slipped near Hudroo's fall and injured his leg, preferred food by a bawarchi, and hence stayed in a Bungalow and his wife died about 10 years ago.

✓ **Comprehension Check (Pg. No.61)**

1. Why did Bepin Babu worry about what Parimal Ghose had said?

Ans: By stating the facts about his bag of books, his wife's death, his brother's insanity, and his knee injury, Parimal proved that he indeed knew Bepin very well. This made him worried about what Parimal had said. He could not recollect the meeting held in Ranchi.

2. How did he try to decide who was right - his memory or Parimal Ghose?

Ans: There was a mark of an old injury on his right knee as stated by Parimal but he could not decide if that was from an old childhood injury or due to the reason stated by Parimal. Since he was right about that it caused further confusion in Bepin's mind and he decided to ask Dinesh Mukerji, who was also with him in Ranchi, as stated by Parimal. This would finally put an end to the confusion that was created.

3. Why did Bepin Babu hesitate to visit Mr. Mukerji? Why did he finally decide to phone him?



Ans: Bepin was scared about the reaction he might receive from Mr. Mukerji. If the whole incident from Ranchi turns out to be false, Mr. Mukerji would declare him insane. After the incident at the bookshop, he was constantly disturbed and he had no other means to ease his anxiety other than asking Mr. Mukerji but he decided to call him to reduce the embarrassment.

4. What did Mr. Mukerji Say? Did it comfort Bepin Babu, or add to his worries?

Ans: Mr. Mukerji confirmed his visit to Ranchi in October '58 after checking his diary. This increased Bepin's worries since he could not recollect anything about the trip and under what circumstances had he forgotten about it.

✓ **Comprehension Check (Pg. No.64)**

1. Who was Chunilal? What did he want from Bepin Babu?

Ans: Chunilal was having a rough time lately and thought about contacting Bepin, who was his old schoolmate. He planned to come and meet him for a job but Bepin knew he could not help him and told him that too.

2. Why was Dr. Chanda puzzled? What was unusual about Bepin Babu's loss of memory?

Ans: Dr. Chanda had never seen a case as peculiar as Bepin. He could remember everything except the trip to Ranchi. The only possible reason the doctor could collect was that due to an unknown reason the incident must have slipped from his mind. His case left him puzzled and it was out of his experience.

✓ **Comprehension Check (Pg. No.66)**

1. Had Bepin Babu really lost his memory and forgotten all about a trip to Ranchi?

Ans: Chunilal played a trick with Bepin's mind and made him feel like he had forgotten sections from his life, particularly a trip he took to Ranchi. He did not actually forget anything. It was just revenge Chunilal was taking from Bepin for not helping him out.

2. Why do you think Chunilal did what he did? Chunilal says he has no money; What is it that he does have?

Ans: Chunilal wanted revenge because Bepin hadn't helped him when he was in financial trouble. Although Chunilal had no money, he had creativity and used it to trick Bepin by playing with his memories.

✓ **Working with Text (Pg. No. 66)**

1. The author describes Bepin Babu as a serious and hardworking man. What evidence can you find in the story to support this?

Ans: Bepin worked daily in his office at a big firm and was a hardworking and dedicated individual. He had worked with the company for twenty-five years and had a reputation for being a conscientious worker.

2. Why did Bepin Babu change his mind about meeting Chunilal? What was the result of this meeting?

Ans: Chunilal wanted to meet Bepin to inquire about work. Bepin avoided meeting him but one day he gathered up courage and met him to discuss the Ranchi trip which he could not gather any memory about. Chunilal, contrary to his expectations, did confirm that he went on a trip to Ranchi which left Bepin baffled and decided to consult a doctor to get his memory loss treated.

3. Bepin Babu lost consciousness at Hudroo Falls. What do you think was the reason for this?

Ans: It seems that Bepin's fall at Hudroo Falls caused him to lose his memory, and he couldn't recall anything that happened after that fall. The injury might have affected his memory.

4. How do you think Bepin Babu reacted when he found out that Chunilal had tricked him?

Ans: Bepin likely felt a mix of regret and realization. He may have felt remorse for not helping Chunilal earlier, but at the same time, he would have realized that he had been the victim of a clever prank.

Choose the correct option from the following:

1. Bepin Babu had a reputation for being a tireless ____.

- (a) idle worker
- (b) conscientious worker
- (c) shirker
- (d) none of these

► **(b) conscientious worker**

2. According to the author, Bepin Babu had never been to ____.

- (a) Chandigarh
- (b) Mumbai
- (c) Patna
- (d) Ranchi

► **(d) Ranchi**

3. What is the name of Bepin babu's friend?

- (a) Hari
- (b) Mukerji
- (c) Sita Ram
- (d) Haridas



► (d) Haridas

4. At Ranchi, Bepin Babu arranged for a car and left for _____.

- (a) Hudroo falls
- (b) Chedwik fall
- (c) Kanpur
- (d) Muradabad

► (a) Hudroo falls

5. Why Bepin Choudhary go to Kalicharan Shop?

- (a) For buying some goods
- (b) For buying some fruits
- (c) For buying some clothes
- (d) For buying some books

► (d) For buying some books

6. Bepin Choudhary was _____.

- (a) a good mixer
- (b) not a good mixer
- (c) a polite man
- (d) honest person

► (b) not a good mixer

7. Bepin Choudhary bought books of _____.

- (a) Crime Stories
- (b) Ghost stories
- (c) Thrillers
- (d) All of these

► (d) All of these

8. What is the name of the man who met Bepin at Kalicharan's?

- (a) Parmod Ghose
- (b) Gopal Dass
- (c) Parviar Ghose
- (d) Parimal Ghose

► (d) Parimal Ghose

9. What is the name of person, who is also known to Bepin Babu, in Ranchi?

- (a) Mr. Mukesh Babu
- (b) Mr. Dinesh Mukerji
- (c) Mr. Parmod
- (d) Mr. Arvind Mukerji

► (b) Mr. Dinesh Mukerji

10. What is the meaning of intimate?

- (a) Very personal and private
- (b) Suspense

- (c) Happiness
- (d) Responsibility

► (a) **Very Personal and private**

11. Bepin Babu decided to _____.

- (a) Talk with his friend Haridas
- (b) Go to Ranchi
- (c) Go to Japan
- (d) Roll up his trousers and look at his right knee

► (d) **Roll up his trousers and look at his right knee**

12. What is the meaning of conscientious?

- (a) Careful and correct
- (b) disorder
- (c) bad
- (d) opposite

► (a) **Careful and correct**

✓ Character Sketch

1. **Bepin Choudhury**: is an old man who had no children. He was living a lonely life after his wife's demise. He was working in reputed firm at responsible post and have few friends.
Personality: He had keen interest in reading books. This is shown in starting of story, he stops his car every Monday in New market to buy books. He never wanted to waste his time in idle chatting.
2. **Parimal Ghose**: He is round faced, meek looking man who intrude Bepin Choudhury in book shop. He tried to make believe Bepin babu that he had gone to Ranchi. He also provided many evidences that make Bepin rely on his statement.
3. **Chuni Lal**: He is school friend of Bepin Choudhary. He previously worked in travel agency but now in search of job. He kept visiting Bepin's house about the job but Bepin always disregards him. Bepin babu had also not helped him financially at time of need so he tried to took revenge by frustrating Bepin's mind through his imaginative.
4. **Dr. Paresh Chanda**: He is a young physician with pair of bright eyes and a sharp nose. He is called by Bepin choudhury to treat memory loss problem.



<https://youtu.be/ISAq1hnDnwc>
