

UNIT 5

Fudi's Desert Journey

Look at the picture and answer the questions given below.



1. Where is the man standing? What is he trying to do?
2. What difficulties do people face in these situations?
3. Why do people travel on a camel?

Listen to the conversation read by your teacher and answer the questions given below.

1. What is the conversation about?
2. Whose name was chosen for the child's name?
3. How did you get your name?

A. Reading

FUDI'S DESERT JOURNEY Part I

In a nomadic tribe of Africa, the birth of a child was being celebrated with joy.



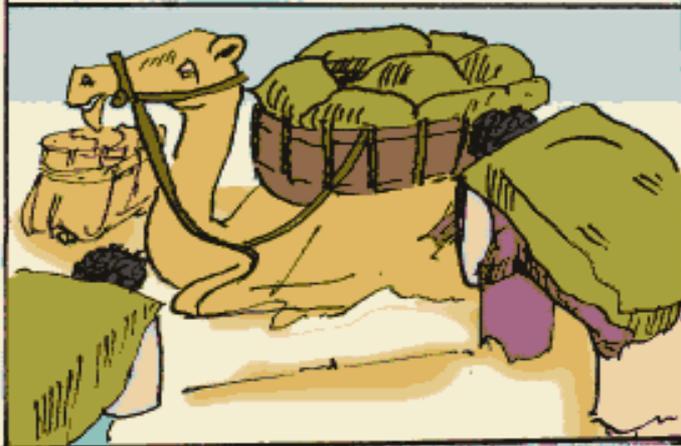
Fudi grew up to be a sprightly young lad, full of energy and vigour.



Fudi's father was the leader of the tribe. One day as he was getting ready to ride into the desert...



The tribesmen rode in a caravan to take the precious cargo of salt.



All the men in the caravan wore blue veils covering most of their face from the harsh sun.



On the return journey, the travellers brought back millet, sugar, cloth and rugs that were bought by barter.

I wish I could go with father, it looks like so much fun!

You'll go, son, when you're 16. It's not safe for women and children.



As time went by, the caravan became bigger, the goods better and both Fudi and his father grew older.

Can I go this time, mother? I am a big boy!

Hush! Not yet, don't disturb father. He's not well.



Indeed his father was his bright cheerful self as he led his caravan next day

What's wrong?

Not much! He gets blinding headaches some times. These medicines will help him recover soon.

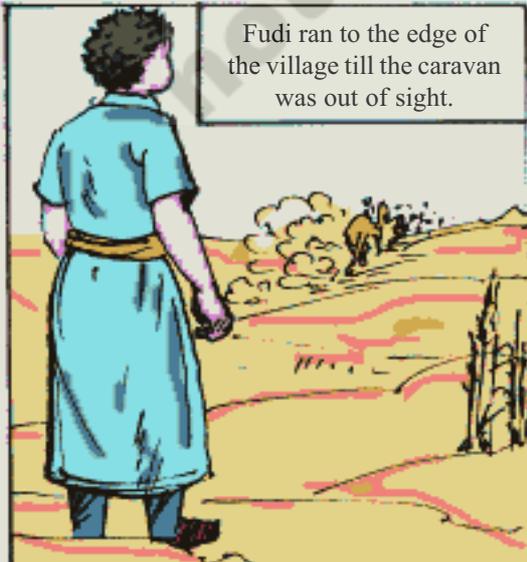


Goodbye, son! What shall I bring for you now, a toy?

Oh, father! I don't want anything! I want to come with you.



Fudi ran to the edge of the village till the caravan was out of sight.



His mother and he settled to their daily routine. But a week later, while cleaning up the goat hair tent his mother cried out in anguish.

Oh no! Oh no, no!

What happened, mother?



His mother held out the medicine pouch.

Look! your father forgot these!



So what. You are such a worry wort, mother.

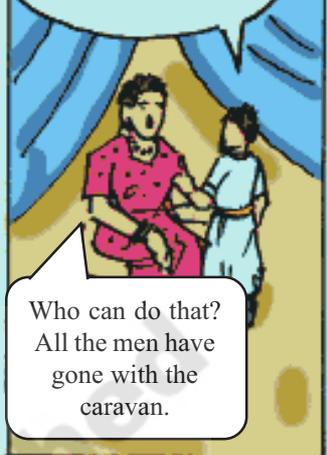
But she explained to him why she was so concerned.

Your father gets blinding headaches which are cured only with these pills. Now he is leading the caravan and they all depend on him.



Oh no!

But surely someone can go and give it to him.



Who can do that? All the men have gone with the caravan.

It was only for a moment that Fudi hesitated. Then he put his arms around his mother to comfort her..



Don't worry mother! I'll go. I'll catch the salt caravan.

How can you? You'll get lost.

But Fudi had been waiting for such a chance and preparing in secret.



Look, mother! I have this map of the desert and a blue veil too.

Fudi had a goat skin map in hand.

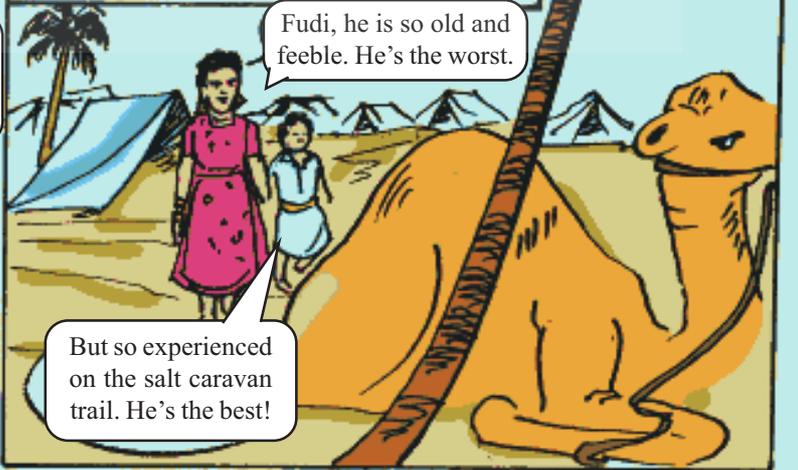
His mother began to relent.



But all the camels are gone!

Not all, we have one left. He is a seasoned desert traveller.

Indeed, the oldest camel of their herd had been left behind as he was feeble.



Fudi, he is so old and feeble. He's the worst.

But so experienced on the salt caravan trail. He's the best!



Glossary

tribe (<i>n</i>)	:	family, a group of people
sprightly (<i>adj</i>)	:	lively
vigour (<i>n</i>)	:	activeness
caravan (<i>n</i>)	:	a group of people travelling together in a desert
precious (<i>adj</i>)	:	valued
harsh (<i>adj</i>)	:	rough
edge (<i>n</i>)	:	border, outline
routine (<i>n</i>)	:	habitual, usual
pouch (<i>n</i>)	:	a small bag
anguish (<i>n</i>)	:	pain
hesitate (<i>v</i>)	:	pause/ to stop for a while
relent (<i>v</i>)	:	soften in feeling
feeble (<i>adj</i>)	:	weak
trail (<i>n</i>)	:	a path



Comprehension

I. Answer the following questions.

1. What did Fudi always want to do?
2. How did Fudi get a chance to go on a camel back?
3. How did Fudi prepare himself even before he got a chance to go on camel back?

4. Do you think his mother would allow him to go?

II. Who said these words to whom?

Sl. No.	Sentences spoken	Who spoke	to whom
1.	“We shall name him Fudi.”		
2.	“What’s in the bags, father?”		
3.	“Look! Your father forgot these!”		
4.	“You will go, my son, when you are sixteen.”		
5.	“Don’t worry, mother! I will go.”		
6.	“But all the camels are gone.”		
7.	“He is a seasoned desert traveller.”		

III. Match the following and write sentences using the phrases.

- | | |
|--------------|-----------|
| 1. harsh | headaches |
| 2. precious | tent |
| 3. blinding | veil |
| 4. goat hair | sun |
| 5. blue | young lad |
| 6. sprightly | cargo |

B. Reading

Fudi's Desert Journey - Part II

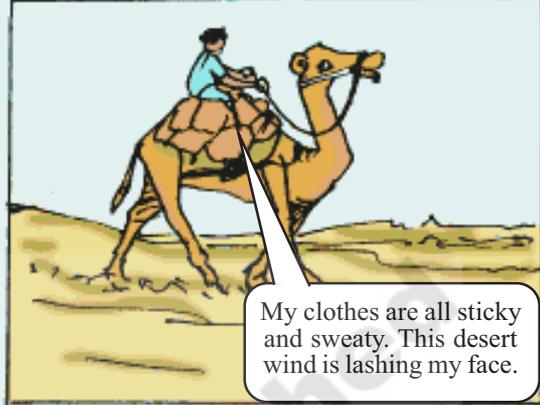
The next day his mother made enough food to last him a few days. She also gave him a pouch to carry carefully along with an old compass.

Go, my son! This will help you to keep on track.

Don't worry mother, I'll do fine!



Aided by the map and compass, Fudi set out. The sun became hotter and the wind blew faster.



My clothes are all sticky and sweaty. This desert wind is lashing my face.

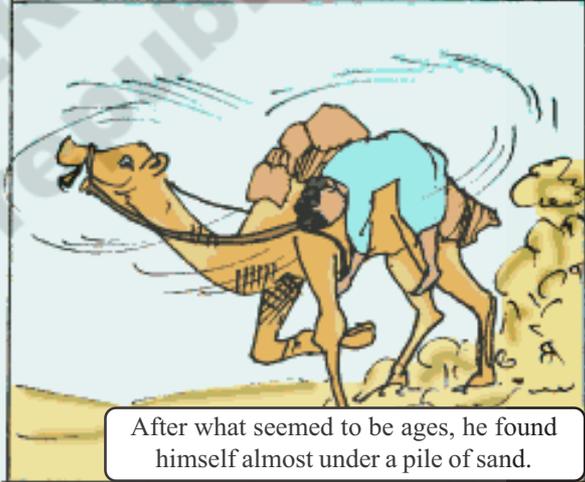
On the way he saw a strange sight.

What's that? Looks like a spinning top! Oh no! It's a whaoooo!



It was a spinning wind storm.

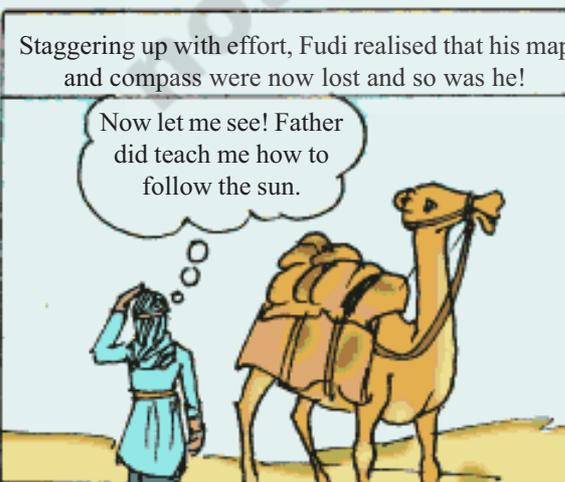
The force of the storm swept him off the camel and for a long time he was hanging on the side of the animal.



After what seemed to be ages, he found himself almost under a pile of sand.

Staggering up with effort, Fudi realised that his map and compass were now lost and so was he!

Now let me see! Father did teach me how to follow the sun.



Fudi forged ahead, a little unsure of his path.

Then it happened!

Why, we are sinking down! Whooooooh!



They had hit a patch of quick sand that softly sucked them in.

Down, the camel sunk deeper. Fudi managed to jump clear.

Oh no! Now, how do I rescue the camel? Let me get hold of the rope.



He heaved with all his might but with no effect.



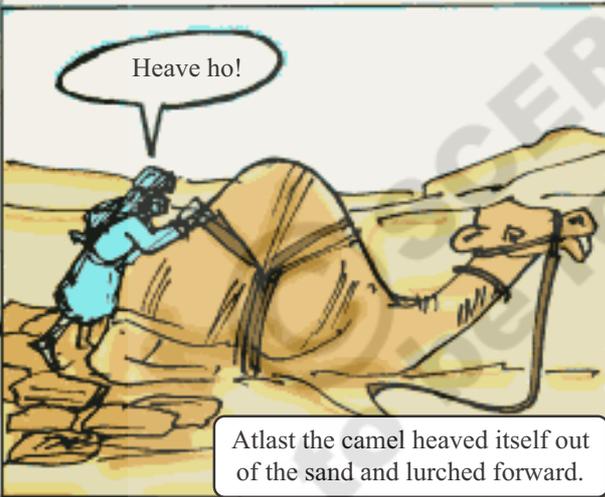
Fudi suddenly had an idea.

I'll pile the saddle and saddle bags behind him!



Standing behind the camel, on the heaped up bags Fudi pushed hard.

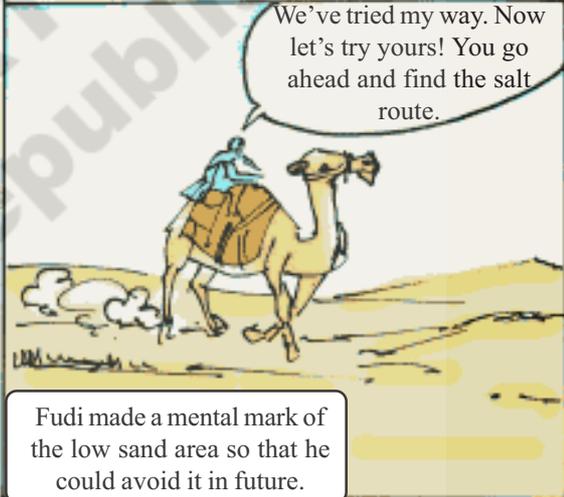
Heave ho!



Atlast the camel heaved itself out of the sand and lurched forward.

Fudi then wearily climbed back on the camel.

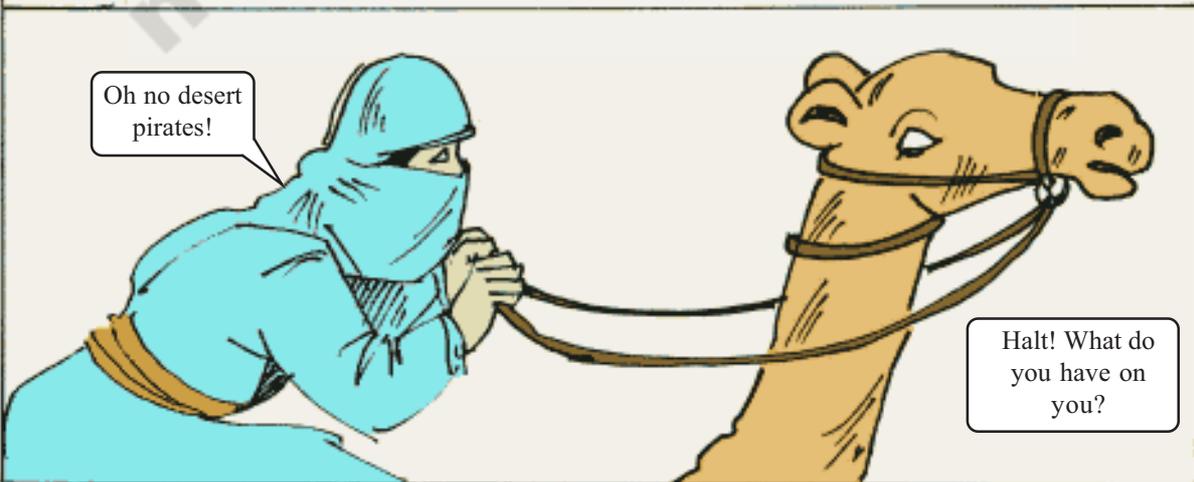
We've tried my way. Now let's try yours! You go ahead and find the salt route.



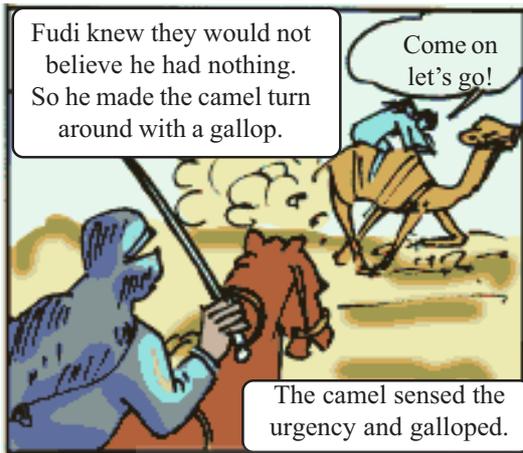
Fudi made a mental mark of the low sand area so that he could avoid it in future.

A little ahead, two horse riders came storming towards him. They had black veils and swords held aloft.

Oh no desert pirates!

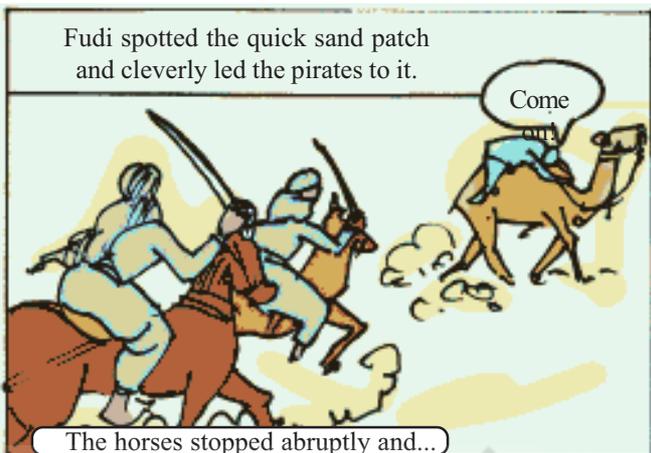


Halt! What do you have on you?



Fudi knew they would not believe he had nothing. So he made the camel turn around with a gallop.

The camel sensed the urgency and galloped.



Fudi spotted the quick sand patch and cleverly led the pirates to it.

The horses stopped abruptly and...



... the pirates tumbled into the sand pell-mell...



...and sank deeper into the quick sand.

Ha ha! saved by the sand.

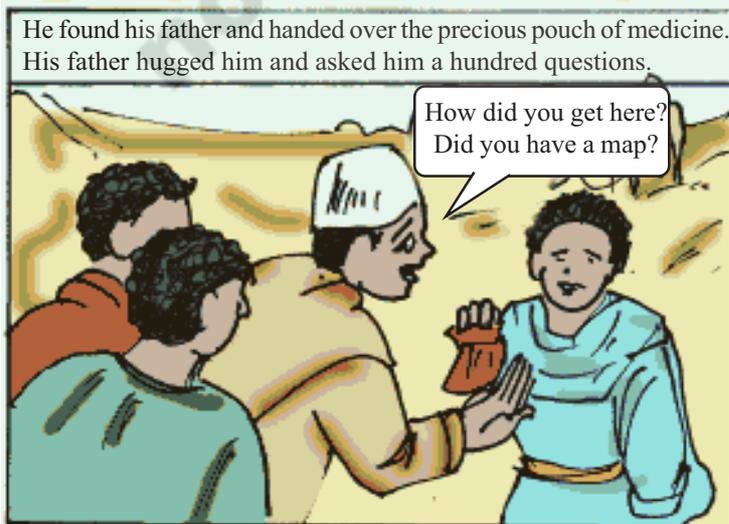


Six hot hours later, he spotted palm trees ahead.

It had better not be a mirage!

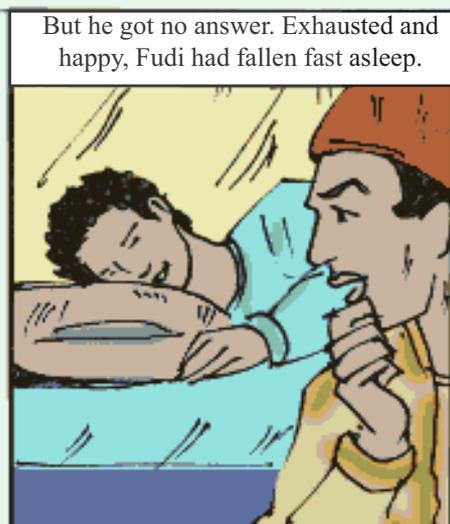


As he rode ahead, he heard the welcome sound of spring water and spotted camels and men. He had reached!



He found his father and handed over the precious pouch of medicine. His father hugged him and asked him a hundred questions.

How did you get here?
Did you have a map?



But he got no answer. Exhausted and happy, Fudi had fallen fast asleep.



Glossary

enough (<i>adj</i>)	:	sufficient
lash (<i>v</i>)	:	beat
staggering (<i>v</i>)	:	walking slowly
forged (<i>v</i>)	:	went along
rescue(<i>v</i>)	:	save from danger
heaved (<i>v</i>)	:	pulled up
lurched (<i>v</i>)	:	moved forward with a jerk
wearily (<i>adv</i>)	:	tired
pirates (<i>n</i>)	:	robbers at sea or in a desert
gallop (<i>v</i>)	:	run like a horse
pellmell (<i>adv</i>)	:	disorder
mirage (<i>n</i>)	:	false appearance of a pool of water in a desert
exhausted (<i>v</i>)	:	got tired completely



Comprehension

I. Answer the following questions.

1. Why did Fudi cover his face?
2. What do you understand by the expression 'spinning wind storm'?
What happened as a result of the spinning storm?
3. What other difficulties did Fudi face during his travel?
4. How was the old camel helpful to Fudi during his journey?



II. Fudi faced many difficulties during his travel. Here is a list of those difficulties. Arrange them in the order in which they took place. One is done for you.

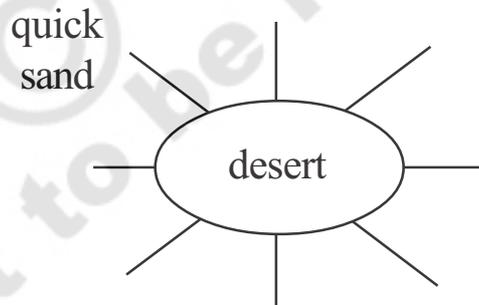
- A spinning windstorm swept Fudi away. ()
- A gang of pirates tried to attack Fudi. ()
- Desert winds lashed Fudi's face. (1)
- Fudi lost his map and compass. ()
- A patch of quick sand softly sucked Fudi in. ()



Vocabulary

I. Fudi was born in a nomadic tribe of Africa. He lived in a desert in the central Sahara.

Write all the words/phrases related to the desert from the story.



II. Write a word or phrase for each of the following descriptions.

1. A group of people travelling together in a desert _____
2. A piece of cloth worn over the face for protection _____
3. Exchanging things with each other _____
4. A person who robs others or commits violence at sea or in a desert _____
5. An instrument for finding directions _____



Grammar



I. Read the following sentence from the story.

“As the time went by, the caravan became **bigger**, the goods **better** and both Fudi and his father grew **older**.”

The words ‘**bigger**, **better** and **older**’ are used to compare two things in terms of the same qualities/properties. The word ‘**bigger**’ talks about size, ‘**better**’ talks about quality and ‘**older**’ talks about age.

These words are formed by adding ‘**-er**’ or by doubling the last letter and then adding ‘**-er**’ to the describing words to get the comparative forms. Some times a new word may also be used as a comparative.

example: old - older

big - bigger

good - better

Find some more comparatives from the story and write them in your note book.

II. Read how the boys are boasting. Add appropriate comparatives to complete the conversation.

Venu: We have a house _____ than a coconut tree.

Chintu: That’s nothing. Our house is _____ than a palace.

Venu: Is that all? We have a tortoise that runs _____ than a horse.



Chintu: Fine then, we have a donkey that sings _____ than a bird.

Teacher: Stop talking non-sense or I'll make you write a composition _____ than a novel.



I. At the end of the story, Fudi's father hugged him and asked him a hundred questions. But he got no answer. Fudi fell asleep as he was exhausted. He woke up in the morning.

What will his father ask him and what will Fudi say?

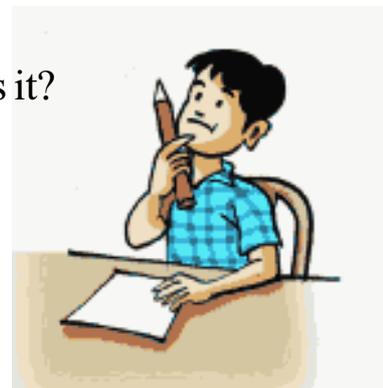


Write the possible conversation below.

Father : _____
Fudi : _____
Father : _____
Fudi : _____
Father : _____

II. Write a description of any place or village you may have visited. You may use the following clues.

1. Which place/village did you visit? When was it?
2. What did you see there?
3. What did you like there?
4. Did you notice anything special there?





C. Reading

Recite the song given below.

Travelling, Travelling

Row, row, row your boat,
Gently round the lake.
Travelling, travelling on the water,
Boats are what you take.



Drive, drive, drive your car,
Have a merry cruise.
Travelling, travelling on the road,
Cars are what you use.

Fly, fly, fly your plane,
High up in the air.
Travelling, travelling through the sky,
Planes will get you there.



Chug, chug, chug your train
Chug along the track.
Travelling, travelling on the rails,
Trains go there and back.

Stamp, stamp, stamp your feet,
Stamp them on the ground.
Travelling, travelling on your feet,
Walk to get around!



-Anonymous



Comprehension

I. Answer the following questions.

1. Who do you think the poet is? Why?
2. How is travelling fun?
3. How would you like to travel? Why?

II. Match the phrases given below with the appropriate phrases given in the box. You may choose as many possible ways as you think right. You may add a few more from your experience.

1. Row your boat
2. Fly your plane
3. Drive your car
4. Chug your train
5. Stamp your feet

along the track.
on the ground.
in the air.
round the lake.
for a merry cruise.

Example: Row your boat for a merry cruise. Row your boat round the lake.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____



Project Work

I. What are the different places you would like to visit? List their names below:

Places I would like to travel	
1.	5.
2.	6.
3.	7.
4.	8.

II. Work in groups and talk about the reason, why do you want to visit these places. Prepare a wall chart with the places and reasons.

How well did I understand this unit?

Read and tick (✓) in the appropriate box.

Indicators	Yes	Somewhat	No
I listened to the conversation, understood and talked about it.			
I have read and understood the text, 'Fudi's Desert Journey, Part I&II'.			
I have understood the usage of comparatives.			
I have understood and enjoyed the song, 'Travelling, Travelling'.			
I was able to write:			
1. a conversation between Fudi and his Father.			
2. a description of a place I have visited.			