

## Class 7 (English)

### 4. Game On

#### Sec. 1 Hop, Skip and Jump

---

#### Summary:-

This section is about a street game called Hopscotch in English. This game played on the streets is usually a simple playtime activity that children do in their neighbourhood. This game is played all over India and is known by many names such as *stapu*, *ekhat-dukhat*, *kith-kith*, *kunte bille*, *paandi*, *tokkudu billa* and *khane*. To play the game, the player draws a grid of 8 squares on the ground with numbers from 1 to 8. The player tosses a marker into the first square and hops till the eighth square. Here the player turns around and hops back till the second square to pick up the marker from the first square and steps out. The player again tosses the marker into the second square and the game continues until all the squares have been played. There are certain rules and variations that add to the fun and difficulty level of the game. A player is considered out if the marker does not land in the right square, touches the borders of the grid or if the player touches the borders accidentally.

Hopscotch is not only played in India but it is also a popular game with different names across the world. It is known as *laylay* in Persian, *escargot* in French and *himmel und holle* in Germany, Austria and Switzerland. There is another version of this game called Number Hopscotch. Here there is no need of tossing a marker. All they need is to just keep hopping on one foot without stepping on the wrong square.

Hopscotch is a game of skill. It teaches us many things like – to win and lose, to concentrate and observe keenly to think logically. It also develops our sensory skills and motor skills. And we learn all this along with having lots of fun.

### 1. Word meanings:-

1. grid- a pattern of straight lines crossing each other to form squares
2. marker –a counter used for playing the game
3. lateral – side by side
4. agility –ability to move with ease
5. nimbleness-swiftness and lightness of movement
6. variant-version

### 2. Tick the statement that is more accurate:-

1. a. Hopscotch is easy and needs very little space to play. ✓  
b. The rules of hopscotch make it tricky to play.
2. a. The main aim of the game is to hop on one foot without touching the borders. ✓  
b. The main aim of the game is to hop across the squares of the grid.
3. a. After tossing the marker you must hop across eight squares.  
b. After tossing the marker you must hop across eight squares forward and backward. ✓
4. a. There are different rules for the game of hopscotch.  
b. The game of hopscotch has variations with different rules. ✓

### 3. Answer the following questions:-

**Q.1** *It is a good game for children.....*

- a. Which game is good for children?

**Ans.** Hopscotch is a good game for children.

**b.** Why is the game good for children?

**Ans.** It is a good game for children because it requires very little space to play and can be played both indoors and outdoors.

**Q.2** *Hopscotch is simple but it is a game of skill.*

**a.** In what way is the game simple?

**Ans.** The game is simple because the basic rules are easy to understand and it only requires a flat stone or a piece of shell to play.

**b.** What skills does the game require?

**Ans.** The game requires physical agility, nimbleness, balance and precision.

**Q.3** *.....hopscotch [is] played across the world.*

**a.** What does this say about hopscotch?

**Ans.** This indicates that hopscotch is known, loved and played globally.

**b.** Is hopscotch played the same way everywhere?

**Ans.** No, hopscotch is not played the same way everywhere. It has many forms and variants around the world.

#### **4. Answer the following questions:-**

1. Describe how to play a game of hopscotch in your own words.

**Ans.** To play the game, a player needs a marker. The player tosses the marker into the first square and hops on one foot till the eighth square. Here the player turns around and hops back till the second

square to pick up the marker from the first square and steps out. The player again tosses the marker into the second square and the game continues until all the squares have been played.

2. Do you think children still play street games? Where do they play them?

**Ans.** Yes, children still play street games wherever possible – in the school playground, in their backyard and so on.

3. How is numbers hopscotch different from the hopscotch you normally play?

**Ans.** In numbers hopscotch, we don't need to toss a marker. We write numbers in the grid in random order. We just have to keep hopping on one foot on the numbers in the correct order and try not to step on the wrong square.

## Practice Questions

---

**5. Read the given sets of synonyms (similar words) and use a dictionary to check their meanings and add a third synonym to the set:-**

1. space, area, \_\_\_\_\_
2. amazed, surprised, \_\_\_\_\_
3. commonly, normally, \_\_\_\_\_
4. throw, toss, \_\_\_\_\_
5. simple, uncomplicated, \_\_\_\_\_

**6. Answer the following questions in one word:-**

1. Hop, skip and jump is a game known by which name in English?
2. In which state is the game called *tokkudu billa*?

3. What does a player toss into the squares while playing this game?
4. What is the player considered, if he touches the borders accidentally?
5. By which name is the game popular in France?
6. Which version of hopscotch is also quite popular among children?
7. Write any two skills that are developed in the players of this game?

---

\*\*\*\*\*

---