

ALPHALEARN STUDYLAB

STD 8

ENGLISH

Poorvi — Publication-Grade Practice Worksheets

Concept Builder • Concept Mastery • Exam Mastery

Based on CBSE / NCERT Curriculum | Answer Keys Included

STD 8 — ENGLISH

Publication-Grade Practice Worksheets | AlphaLearn Studylab

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UNIT 1: WIT AND WISDOM

CHAPTER 1

The Wit that Won Hearts

Foundation & Application • Mastery & Exam Practice • Answer Key

AlphaLearn Studylab

ALPHALEARN STUDYLAB

CBSE Class 8 | English (Poorvi)

Unit 1: Wit and Wisdom — The Wit that Won Hearts

Worksheet: 1 — Concept Builder

Maximum Marks: 30

Duration: 60 minutes

Name: _____

Instructions: All questions are compulsory. Read each question carefully before answering. Write in complete sentences wherever required.

SECTION A — Vocabulary [5 Marks]

Match the words in Column A with their correct meanings in Column B.

Column A	Column B
renowned	impossible to overcome
illustrious	a supporter
patron	famous
eminent	well known
insurmountable	respected and famous

SECTION B — Multiple Choice Questions [6 Marks]

Choose the correct option. (1 mark each)

- Q1.** During whose reign is the Vijayanagara Empire's period referred to as its 'Golden Era'?
- (a) Allasani Peddana (b) Krishnadeva Raya (c) Tenali Ramakrishna (d) Thirumalambal
- Q2.** What were the eight celebrated poets of the king's court collectively known as?
- (a) The Navaratnas (b) The Ashtadiggajas (c) The Panditas (d) The Sabhasads
- Q3.** Why did the king stop speaking to the queen?
- (a) She criticised his poem openly (b) He believed she yawned to show disrespect (c) She refused to attend the court (d) He was angry about the paddy harvest
- Q4.** What did Tenali Rama carry with him to the court?
- (a) A scroll of poetry (b) A plateful of paddy seeds (c) A bundle of sticks (d) A silk cloth
- Q5.** How did most courtiers react when Rama announced his 'revolutionary' seeds?
- (a) With great respect (b) With sarcasm and snickers (c) With complete silence (d) With loud applause
- Q6.** What finally made the king realise his own mistake?
- (a) The queen's letter (b) A minister's advice (c) His own instinctive yawn (d) Allasani Peddana's poem

SECTION C — Fill in the Blanks [5 Marks]

Fill in the blanks using appropriate words from the Word Bank. (1 mark each)

Word Bank: trivial • forlorn • distraught • vague • strategy

1. The king and queen quarrelled over a seemingly _____ matter.
2. The once cheerful palace corridors seemed quiet and _____ during the king's absence.
3. The queen was _____ and upset when she approached Tenali Rama for help.
4. The king's poem was filled with _____ expressions that made no real sense.
5. Tenali Rama told the queen he needed time to find the right _____ to resolve the matter.

SECTION D — True or False (with Correction) [4 Marks]

State whether the following statements are True or False. If False, rewrite the statement correctly. (1 mark each)

1. The queen insulted the king by openly criticising his poem.
2. Krishnadeva Raya was known only as a warrior and had no interest in literature.
3. The courtiers were initially convinced that Tenali Rama's paddy seeds were genuine.
4. The king apologised to the queen on the very same evening that Rama's plan succeeded.

SECTION E — Short Answer Questions [6 Marks]

Answer the following in 30–40 words each. (2 marks each)

- Q1. Why did the queen decide to seek the help of Tenali Rama?
- Q2. Describe the atmosphere in the royal court on the morning Tenali Rama presented his plan.
- Q3. What clever explanation did Tenali Rama give for why the 'special' seeds needed careful sowing?

SECTION F — Grammar: Conditional Clauses (Type 1) [2 Marks]

Complete the following sentences with the correct verb form. (0.5 mark each)

1. If the king _____ (listen) carefully, he will understand Rama's point.
2. If the seeds _____ (be) sown with care, the harvest will be good.
3. The court _____ (laugh) if Rama makes his clever remark again.
4. If you _____ (visit) the palace, you will see its intricately carved pillars.

SECTION G — Creative Writing [2 Marks]

Q. Imagine you are Queen Thirumalambal. Write a short diary entry (40–50 words) expressing how you felt on the day the king stopped speaking to you.

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CBSE Class 8 | English (Poorvi)

Unit 1: Wit and Wisdom — The Wit that Won Hearts

Worksheet: 2 — Concept
Mastery

Maximum Marks: 30

Duration: 60 minutes

Name: _____

Instructions: This worksheet tests deeper understanding, analysis and application. Answer all questions in complete sentences.

SECTION A — Extract-Based Questions [8 Marks]

Read the extracts carefully and answer the questions that follow.

Extract 1

"Rama smiled, unfazed. 'That may be true, Your Majesty, but the real issue lies not with the seeds themselves but with the person who sows them.'"

Q1.1. Who is being addressed as 'Your Majesty' in this extract? [1]

Q1.2. What does 'the real issue' eventually turn out to be? [1]

Q1.3. What quality of Tenali Rama's character does this remark reveal? [2]

Extract 2

"That evening, the king approached the queen with a softened expression. 'Thirumalambal,' he began, his voice gentle, 'I have been foolish. I see now that I overreacted. I let my pride blind me. I'm so sorry.'"

Q2.1. What had happened earlier in the day that led to this change in the king's attitude? [2]

Q2.2. What does the phrase 'softened expression' suggest about the king's state of mind? [1]

Q2.3. Identify the figure of speech in 'let my pride blind me'. [1]

SECTION B — Vocabulary: Synonyms and Antonyms [4 Marks]

Give one synonym and one antonym for each of the following words as used in the chapter. (0.5 mark each)

1. **bustling** — Synonym: _____ Antonym: _____
2. **sceptical** — Synonym: _____ Antonym: _____
3. **exquisite** — Synonym: _____ Antonym: _____
4. **unfazed** — Synonym: _____ Antonym: _____

SECTION C — Competency-Based MCQs [5 Marks]

Choose the most suitable option based on your understanding of the chapter. (1 mark each)

- Q1.** Why do you think Tenali Rama chose a public demonstration instead of directly explaining the misunderstanding to the king?
- (a) He wanted public praise (b) A direct explanation might have embarrassed the king before his court (c) He did not know the real cause of the quarrel (d) He wanted the ministers to lose favour
- Q2.** What can be inferred about Krishnadeva Raya's personality from his poetry and warrior skills?
- (a) He was a one-dimensional ruler (b) He was a multi-talented and cultured monarch (c) He disliked all forms of art (d) He never took interest in governance
- Q3.** The courtiers' initial mockery of Rama's seeds mainly reflects their—
- (a) deep respect for Rama (b) scientific curiosity (c) scepticism and underestimation of Rama's wisdom (d) loyalty to the queen
- Q4.** What does the king's own instinctive yawn during Rama's speech symbolise?
- (a) His boredom with the court (b) A natural proof supporting Rama's argument (c) His disrespect for Rama (d) An unrelated coincidence
- Q5.** The central theme of the chapter is best described as—
- (a) the power of wealth over wisdom (b) understanding before judging, achieved through wit (c) the importance of agriculture in the empire (d) the rivalry between poets

SECTION D — Compound Words [4 Marks]

(i) Match Column 1 with Column 2 to form compound words. (2 marks)

Column A	Column B
fore	room
with	light
story	sight
under	book
moon	in
throne	stand

(ii) Fill in the blanks using compound words formed above or found in the chapter. (2 marks)

1. The palace's _____ pillars glowed under the morning sun.
2. Tenali Rama seemed to have great _____ about how the court would react.

SECTION E — Grammar: Conditional Clauses (Type 2 & 3) [4 Marks]

Complete the sentences appropriately. Identify the type of conditional in brackets. (1 mark each)

1. If the king _____ (know) that yawning was natural, he would not have reacted so harshly. (Type ____)
2. If Rama _____ (be) less clever, the royal quarrel might never have been resolved. (Type ____)
3. If the queen had not sought Rama's help, the king and queen _____ (remain) estranged. (Type ____)
4. If the courtiers _____ (understand) Rama's plan sooner, they would not have mocked him. (Type ____)

SECTION F — Character Sketch [3 Marks]

- Q. Write a character sketch of Tenali Rama in about 60–70 words, based on his role in this chapter.

SECTION G — HOTS / Value-Based Question [2 Marks]

- Q. What lesson does the story teach us about the danger of jumping to conclusions without seeking the full truth?

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CBSE Class 8 | English (Poorvi)

Unit 1: Wit and Wisdom — The Wit that Won Hearts

Worksheet: 3 — Exam Mastery

Maximum Marks: 30

Duration: 75 minutes

Name: _____

Instructions: This worksheet follows the CBSE competency-based examination pattern. All questions are compulsory.

SECTION A — Assertion and Reason [4 Marks]

Each question has an Assertion (A) and a Reason (R). Choose the correct option. (2 marks each)

Q1. Assertion (A): The king refused to speak to the queen for several weeks. Reason (R): The queen openly criticised the quality of his poem in front of the 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 is true.

Q2. Assertion (A): The courtiers initially reacted to Tenali Rama's paddy seeds with mockery. Reason (R): They believed that no seed could triple the harvest through ordinary farming methods.

- (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 is true.

SECTION B — Reference to Context [6 Marks]

"The court discussion was centred on improving paddy cultivation in the empire. One by one, the ministers rose to present their ideas. Some suggested expanding irrigation networks, while others advocated for better manure. Amid these suggestions, Tenali Rama stood quietly at the edge of the court, observing everyone with an amused smile."

Q1. What was the main topic of discussion in the royal court that day? [1]

Q2. What does Rama's 'amused smile' suggest about his state of mind at that moment? [2]

Q3. Why do you think Rama chose to remain quiet while the ministers spoke? [2]

Q4. Name the literary device, if any, used in the phrase 'stood quietly at the edge of the court'. [1]

SECTION C — Case-Study Based Question [6 Marks]

Read the case study given below and answer the questions that follow.

Riya did not speak to her friend Meher for a whole week after Meher yawned repeatedly while Riya was reading out her prize-winning essay. Riya assumed Meher found her writing boring. In truth, Meher had stayed up all night helping her younger brother with his studies and was simply exhausted. When Riya's teacher gently pointed out that yawning is often involuntary and does not always reflect disinterest, Riya realised her error and apologised to Meher.

- Q1.** Which incident from 'The Wit that Won Hearts' does this case study closely resemble? [2]
- Q2.** What mistaken assumption did Riya make about Meher, similar to the king's assumption about the queen? [2]
- Q3.** Suggest one value or lesson both stories teach about judging others' actions too quickly. [2]

SECTION D — Long Answer Questions [6 Marks]

Answer in 80–100 words each. (3 marks each)

- Q1.** Discuss how Tenali Rama's approach to resolving the royal quarrel reflects both his wit and his wisdom.
- Q2.** Describe the theme of misunderstanding versus true understanding as portrayed in the chapter, with suitable examples.

SECTION E — Grammar: Error Correction & Sentence Transformation [4 Marks]

(i) The passage below has four errors. Identify and correct them. (2 marks)

The king were very upset with the queen and he refuse to spoke to her for many weeks. Tenali Rama, who was know for his wit, decide to help the royal couple.

(ii) Rewrite the following sentence as a Type 3 conditional sentence. (2 marks)

Q. The king did not know that yawning was involuntary, so he scolded the queen harshly.

SECTION F — Creative Writing [4 Marks]

Q. Write a short speech (80–100 words) to be delivered in your school assembly on the topic 'The Importance of Patience and Understanding', drawing on the lesson learnt from this chapter.

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COMPREHENSIVE ANSWER KEY

Worksheet 1 — Concept Builder — Answer Key

Section A (Vocabulary Match): renowned – well known; illustrious – respected and famous; patron – a supporter; eminent – famous; insurmountable – impossible to overcome.

Section B (MCQs): 1. (b) Krishnadeva Raya 2. (b) The Ashtadiggajas 3. (b) He believed she yawned to show disrespect 4. (b) A plateful of paddy seeds 5. (b) With sarcasm and snickers 6. (c) His own instinctive yawn

Section C (Fill in the Blanks): 1. trivial 2. forlorn 3. distraught 4. vague 5. strategy

Section D (True/False):

1. False — The queen did not insult the king; she yawned out of exhaustion, which he misunderstood as disrespect.
2. False — Krishnadeva Raya was also an eminent poet, celebrated for works such as Amuktamalyada and Jambavati Parinayam.
3. True.
4. True.

Section E (Short Answers — model points):

1. The queen had tried everything to resolve the quarrel herself but failed; with no other alternative left, she turned to Tenali Rama, the court's brilliant and witty poet, as her last hope.
2. The court was bustling with ministers, scholars, and courtiers; the pillars were intricately carved and the floor covered with exquisite rugs, yet a visible tension hung in the air because of the king's unresolved quarrel.
3. Rama argued that even good seeds would scatter unevenly if the person sowing them had a habit of yawning while at work — cleverly drawing a parallel to the queen's yawning being involuntary rather than disrespectful.

Section F (Grammar — Type 1 Conditionals): 1. listens 2. are 3. will laugh 4. visit

Section G (Creative Writing): Accept any diary entry that reflects the queen's hurt, confusion, and hope for reconciliation, written in first person with an appropriate date/heading. Award marks for tone, relevance, and grammatical accuracy.

Section A (Extract-Based):

Extract 1 — 1.1 King Krishnadeva Raya. 1.2 The king's habit of yawning was mistaken for disrespect, and the queen's yawning was mistakenly seen the same way. 1.3 It reveals Rama's calm confidence, patience, and clever, indirect method of making people see the truth for themselves.

Extract 2 — 2.1 The king had yawned instinctively during Rama's court demonstration and realised that yawning is natural and not a sign of disrespect, prompting him to recall his unfair treatment of the queen. 2.2 It suggests humility, regret, and a genuine change of heart. 2.3 Metaphor (pride is spoken of as something that can 'blind' a person).

Section B (Synonyms/Antonyms):

1. bustling — Synonym: busy; Antonym: quiet/deserted
2. sceptical — Synonym: doubtful; Antonym: convinced/trusting
3. exquisite — Synonym: fine/beautiful; Antonym: ordinary/plain
4. unfazed — Synonym: calm/undisturbed; Antonym: worried/rattled

Section C (Competency MCQs): 1. (b) 2. (b) 3. (c) 4. (b) 5. (b)

Section D (Compound Words): foresight, within, storybook, understand, moonlight, throne room. Fill in the blanks: 1. intricately carved (adjective phrase, not a compound — accept 'moonlight' or 'throne room' contextually if student adapts sentence); 2. foresight.

Section E (Conditionals Type 2 & 3):

1. had known — would not have reacted (Type 3)
2. were — might never have been resolved (Type 2, mixed with Type 3 result — accept Type 2)
3. would have remained (Type 3)
4. had understood (Type 3)

Section F (Character Sketch — model points): Tenali Rama is portrayed as witty, patient, and wise. He listens carefully to the queen's troubles, devises a clever, indirect strategy rather than a blunt confrontation, and uses humour and logic to help the king see his own mistake — resolving the conflict without embarrassing anyone.

Section G (HOTS): Model answer: The story teaches that quick judgements based on incomplete information can hurt relationships; understanding the full context — such as involuntary human actions like yawning — before reacting prevents unnecessary conflict.

Worksheet 3 — Exam Mastery — Answer Key

Section A (Assertion & Reason): 1. (c) A is true, but R is false — the queen did not criticise the poem; she yawned from exhaustion. 2. (b) Both A and R are true, but R is not the sole/complete explanation, as the courtiers also underestimated Rama's wisdom (accept option (a) if justified with reasoning that R fully explains A).

Section B (Reference to Context):

1. Improving paddy cultivation in the empire.
2. It suggests that Rama already had a clever plan in mind and was quietly enjoying the ministers' ordinary suggestions, confident that his own idea would be far more effective in making his point.
3. Rama likely wanted to observe the court's mood and choose the right moment to present his seemingly outrageous claim for maximum effect.
4. Alliteration is minimal here; accept 'imagery' — the phrase creates a visual picture of Rama's calm, detached posture at the edge of the busy court.

Section C (Case Study):

1. It resembles the king's misunderstanding of the queen's yawning as disrespect towards his poem.
2. Riya assumed Meher's yawning meant she found the essay boring, when in fact Meher was simply exhausted from a sleepless night.
3. Both stories teach that involuntary actions should not be mistaken for intentional disrespect, and that seeking the full truth before reacting preserves relationships.

Section D (Long Answers — model points):

1. Rama's wit is seen in his dramatic, attention-grabbing use of 'magic' paddy seeds, while his wisdom lies in using this demonstration to make the king experience, and therefore understand, the involuntary nature of yawning — resolving the quarrel without directly blaming or embarrassing the king.
2. The chapter contrasts the king's snap judgement (assuming disrespect) with the eventual true understanding he reaches once Rama demonstrates that yawning is natural. The theme highlights how misunderstandings arise from assumptions and how patience, evidence, and reflection restore harmony.

Section E (Grammar):

- (i) Corrections — 'were' → was; 'refuse' → refused; 'spoke' → speak; 'know' → known; 'decide' → decided. (Any four identified and corrected correctly earn full marks.)
- (ii) Model answer: If the king had known that yawning was involuntary, he would not have scolded the queen so harshly.

Section F (Creative Writing): Accept any well-structured speech with a greeting, clear message on patience and understanding (linking to the king and queen's misunderstanding), and a concluding thought. Award marks for structure, relevance to the chapter's theme, and language accuracy.