

# 1. An Old Man in the Village

An old man lived in the village. He was one of the most unfortunate people in the world. The whole village was tired of him; he was always gloomy, he constantly complained and was always in a bad mood.

The longer he lived, the more bile he was becoming and the more poisonous were his words. People avoided him, because his misfortune became contagious. It was even unnatural and insulting to be happy next to him. He created the feeling of unhappiness in others.

But one day, when he turned eighty years old, an incredible thing happened. Instantly everyone started hearing the rumor:

***“An Old Man is happy today, he doesn’t complain about anything, and there are even smiles on his face.”***

The whole village gathered together. The old man was asked, “What happened to you?”

The old man said,

**“Nothing special. Eighty years I’ve been chasing happiness, and it was useless. And then I decided to live without happiness and just enjoy life. That’s why I’m happy now.”**

## 2. Having A Best Friend

A story tells that two friends were walking through the desert. During some point of the journey they had an argument, and one friend slapped the other one in the face.

The one who got slapped was hurt, but without saying anything, wrote in the sand:

***“Today my best friend slapped me in the face.”***

They kept on walking until they found an oasis, where they decided to take a bath. The one who had been slapped got stuck in the mire and started drowning, but the friend saved him. After he recovered from the near drowning, he wrote on a stone;

***“Today my best friend saved my life.”***

The friend who had slapped and saved his best friend asked him;

***“After I hurt you, you wrote in the sand and now, you write on a stone, why?”***

The other friend replied;

**“When someone hurts us we should write it down in sand where winds of forgiveness can erase it away. But, when someone does something good for us, we must engrave it in stone where no wind can ever erase it.”**

### **3. The Four Smart Students**

One night four college students were out partying late night and didn't study for the test which was scheduled for the next day. In the morning, they thought of a plan. They made themselves look dirty with grease and dirt.

Then they went to the Dean and said they had gone out to a wedding last night and on their way back the tire of their car burst and they had to push the car all the way back. So they were in no condition to take the test.

The Dean thought for a minute and said they can have the re-test after 3 days. They thanked him and said they will be ready by that time.

On the third day, they appeared before the Dean. The Dean said that as this was a Special Condition Test, all four were required to sit in separate classrooms for the test. They all agreed as they had prepared well in the last 3 days.

The Test consisted of only 2 questions with the total of 100 Points:

**Question 1. What is your name?** (1 point)

**Question 2. Which tire burst?** (99 points)

**(A) Front Left (B)Front Right (C)Back Left (D)Back Right**

## 4. The Struggles of Our Life

Once upon a time a daughter complained to her father that her life was miserable. It seemed just as one problem was solved, another one soon followed.

Her father took her to the kitchen. He filled three pots with water and placed each on a high fire. Once the three pots began to boil, he placed potatoes in one pot, eggs in another and ground coffee beans in the third pot.

The daughter waited impatiently, wondering what he was doing. After twenty minutes, the father asked, "what do you see?"

Father, what does this mean? There are only potatoes, eggs, and coffee." He then explained that the potatoes, the eggs and coffee beans all faced the same adversity - the boiling water. However, each one reacted differently.

The potato was strong and hard, but in boiling water, it became soft and weak. The egg was fragile, but it became hard. However, the ground coffee beans were unique. They changed the water and created something new.

*"Which one are you?"* he asked his daughter.

**Are you a potato, an egg, or a coffee bean?"**