

ENGLISH



THE TREASURE WITHIN

~Summary~

-by Nissim Ezekiel

The lesson “**The Treasure Within**” is based on the **conversation** between **Ms Bela Raja** and **Mr Hafeez Contractor**. Hafeez used to get **terrible nightmares** about **appearing** for a **mathematics** exam where he did not know anything. Later the nightmares seemed to have **vanished over** the **past four to five years**.

Then, Ms Bela asked him about his **earliest memories of school**. Hafeez Contractor revealed that he was a **good student** in **first** and **second grades**, but when he reached the **third grade**, he had lost interest in **studies** and played **games, pranks** and **jokes**. He also stated that he used to copy in his examinations.

Later, he explained to her that a conversation with his **Principal** transformed his life. One day when he was in the **eleventh standard**, his Principal approached him and advised him. The Principal advised him that his mother was working hard to pay his school fees, book fees and so on. He would have worked hard in return to prove himself as a good boy. But all he did was playing and making prank on others. He asked him to concentrate on his studies. He then stopped playing and started to **study hard**. Finally, he scored **50 per cent** in his **board exam** and his Principal **appreciated** him.

Ms Bela asked Hafeez about how he felt about receiving **caning** from his teacher. Hafeez told her that he would get caning from his teachers every week, but it did not affect him much because his **intention** was only to go out and play.

When Ms Bela asked him how he ended up being an **architect**, Hafeez said that he saw someone drawing the wrong **window detail** one fine day. When he pointed out the drawing was wrong, his cousin's husband became **astonished**. The architect asked him to draw a **plan of a house**, which he quickly did it. Thus, the architect asked him to be specific and become an **architect**.

The architect went with Hafeez to meet the **college Principal**. The Principal said that he would admit him if he **passed the entrance exam**. Fortunately, Hafeez got an **A+** in the exam, and from thereon, it was a **smooth ride for him**. Hafeez told her that he had developed his talents because he did things as per his wish.

Ms Bela asked Hafeez about his dealing with clients. She wanted to know how he decided the type of structure for a particular client in the present day **scenario**. Hafeez stated that he would begin by analysing his client by looking at their **face**, noticing their **dressing style**, how they **talk** and **pronounce**, their **taste**, and their **eating style**. He said that he could relate to people in a way that was **comfortable** for both parties. Then, he was very instantaneous when it came to **sketching the structure**. He does it on paper on the spot, which he would then give to the people in his office.

At last, Hafeez said that he **disliked** maths to the extent that he used to get nightmares about it, but on the other end, he said that he did his work from all that was **mathematics**. He had derived

his meaning of the subject mathematics, and earlier, it was a subject that he disliked so **passionately**, but now, **he loved dealing with it**.

~Conclusion~

The Treasure Within teaches us that every child is born with special interest and expertise in a particular domain. They should be encouraged to pursue their interests, so that they can enjoy what they do. Here's the CBSE Class 8 English It So Happened Prose Summary of The Treasure Within that must have helped 8th standard students to have a detailed understanding of the chapter.