

- b. Sit in groups of four and look at the answers for these questions. Then fill in the details in the table given below.

name of the student	how often he/she has helped others	the help he/she likes giving the most	why he/she likes doing it
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			

- c. Look at the last column. Has every one in your group given the same answer? List the answers that are similar and different in your group.

same answers	different answers
1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	



Read On

The Letter Box

Santa is a small village in Spain. A kind, old priest lived in that village. He had a small house near the church. The house was in the middle of an orchard, and there were many fruit trees in the orchard.



Little children often came to take the fruits from the orchard, but the priest never shouted at them. Many birds also came to peck at the fruit on the trees. The priest would smile at them.

One day, the priest wanted to clean his letter box. But when he opened it, he saw two busy, brown sparrows. They were building their nest in it.

"I know you, my little ones," smiled the priest. "You are making your home. In a few days, you will have three or four brown eggs. When the eggs hatch, you should have three weeks to bring up your family. Don't worry, no one will disturb you."

The priest locked the door, and told everyone not to open it. "I want the sparrows to be safe," he said.

Now, something important was happening in Barcelona, at the same time. The Archbishop and some other priests were talking about the priest in Santa.

"The priest is very old," said the Archbishop.

"We should have a young priest in Santa," said one priest.

"But," said another, "the villagers love him. Let him work in the village for some more time."

They all thought for some time. At last, the Archbishop said, "I know what to do. I will test him to find out if he is very old, and cannot work. I will write a letter, and ask him to come to see me in three days. If he comes, I will let him stay in Santa. If he does not come, I will send a new, young priest to Santa."

The Archbishop wrote a letter to the old priest.



The next day, the postman dropped the Archbishop's letter into the old priest's letter box. It fell to the bottom of the box, beside the nest.

No one saw the postman who came to the garden and put the letter in the box. No one opened the letter box. Nobody wanted to disturb the sparrows.

For three weeks, the mother sparrow and the father sparrow carried food in and out of the letter box. The baby sparrows cheeped happily and loudly. Then, one by one, they flew away. The priest counted, "One...two...three.... and four. There are four baby sparrows."

The next morning, the priest went to the letter box.

"Toc, toc," he knocked.

There was no sound. He opened the box. "Ah," he said. "There is no bird inside. But what's that?" he asked himself. There was a long, white envelope at the bottom of the box. The priest opened the letter.

"This came three weeks ago," he spoke sadly, "but I did not open it. The Archbishop had asked me to see him in three days. I have failed his test. Now he will send me away from Santa." A tear came to his eye.

He looked up and saw the family of the sparrow. They were sitting in a tree just above the letter box. They were singing and were very happy.

"Ah well," the priest smiled. "I will leave Santa. But, at least, I helped you to bring up your children."

Meaning

- cheep* – weak, high cry certain birds (especially, young ones) make
- Archbishop* – bishop who leads the churches in a country



Look at Language

Comprehension

- A. Mark T for true and NT for not true.
1. The priest shouted at the children who came to pluck the fruit from his trees.
 2. A pair of sparrows was making a home and building a nest in the priest's window sill.
 3. The Archbishop thought that the priest in Santa was getting too old.
 4. The Archbishop wanted to send a younger priest to Santa.
 5. The priest did not open his letter box for three weeks and did not see the letter from the Archbishop.