

CHAPTER 1

My name is Jadav. I am sixteen years old. I live on an **island** in India. The island is called Majuli Island. It is in the middle of a great river.

One night, it starts to rain. It rains a lot. The water washes over the land. I wake up in the morning. The storm is over. I go outside and walk down the side of the river. There is a lot of **mess**. I see the **sandbar** in the river. It has no trees on it. There is something on the sand.

island (n) a piece of land surrounded by water

mess (n) a dirty and untidy condition

sandbar (n) a raised area of sand in a river



*My name is Jadav. I am sixteen years old.
I live on an island in India.*

I go to the sandbar and see snakes. There are a lot of them. They are all dead. The river brings them to the sandbar in the storm. There are no trees to **shade** the snakes. The hot sun kills them.

“This is not right,” I think. “I will talk to the village **elders**. Maybe they will help me.”

I walk to see the village elders.

“The snakes are dying,” I say. “The river is washing away their homes. They have no **shelter** from the hot sun. We need more trees. The animals need new homes.”

The elders give me some **bamboo**.

“Take this,” they say. “It grows quickly. It will make a good home. The snakes will like it.”

I take the bamboo.

shade (v) to keep sunlight from shining on something

elder (n) an older person

shelter (n) something that covers or protects; home

bamboo (n) a tropical plant



*I take the bamboo. I plant it on the sandbar.
It grows very well.*

VOCABULARY QUIZ

Test-1

Complete the sentences with the phrasal verbs below.

hold together **wake up** **look after** **wash away**

1. What time do you usually every day?
2. My neighbours are going on holiday.
I will their cat.
3. Heavy rains the bridge.
4. Strong tape will the box

Test-2

Match the words with their definitions.

- | | |
|-------------------|---|
| 1. poacher | ___ a) the part of a tree that grows
under the ground |
| 2. save | ___ b) not happy, upset |
| 3. whole | ___ c) a raised area of sand in a river |
| 4. sad | ___ d) to stop someone or something
from dying or being hurt |
| 5. root | ___ e) to keep sunlight from shining on
something |
| 6. shade | ___ f) someone who hunts animals
without permission |
| 7. sandbar | ___ g) all of something, full, complete |