

TOPIC: Comprehension Worksheet**Name:** _____**Date:** _____**Class: VIII****Passage: The Wisdom of the River**

Lakshmana and his brother Rama were traveling through a dense forest, exhausted and tormented by thirst. They had been in pursuit of a magical golden deer that had led them far from their camp. The deer, an illusion created by a powerful demon, had vanished into thin air, leaving the brothers weary and dejected. "Brother, my throat is parched," said Rama. "I see a glimmer of light through the trees. Perhaps a river flows there." Lakshmana, ever obedient, hurried ahead. He soon came upon a magnificent, crystal-clear river. As he bent to drink, a resonant voice echoed from the water, "O mortal, this river is under my protection. You may drink, but only after you have answered my three riddles. Fail, and you will become one with the stones at my bank." Lakshmana, overcome by his burning thirst and impatience, ignored the warning. He cupped his hands and drank the cool water. Immediately, a great weariness overcame him, and he fell unconscious to the ground. When Rama arrived, he saw his brother lying lifeless. "Who has done this?" he cried. The voice from the river spoke again, "O Rama, your brother succumbed to his impatience. Answer my riddles, and he shall be revived. What is the greatest wealth? What is the truest friend? What is the strongest bond?" Rama, grief-stricken but wise, bowed to the voice. "The greatest wealth is contentment," he replied. "The truest friend is courage in a time of need. The strongest bond is that of truth." The river rippled and the voice declared, "You have answered with wisdom. Your brother shall awaken." Lakshmana stirred, and together, they drank the water, now pure and harmless. The river revealed itself to be a sage who had taken its form to test the character of those who passed through his forest.

Questions**1. Why were Rama and Lakshmana in the forest?**

- a) They were on a pilgrimage. ☐
- b) They were hunting for food. ☐
- c) They were in pursuit of a magical golden deer. ☐
- d) They were exiled from their kingdom. ☐

2. What happened to Lakshmana when he drank from the river?

Lakshmana was overcome by a great _____ and fell _____ to the ground.

3. What was the first riddle asked by the river?

- a) What is the greatest wealth? ☐
- b) What is the truest friend? ☐
- c) What is the strongest bond? ☐
- d) What is the highest mountain? ☐

4. What was Rama's answer to the third riddle?

5. How did the river reveal its true identity? (Short Answer)

6. Why did Lakshmana fall unconscious?

- a) The water was poisoned. ☐ b) He was too tired. ☐
c) He ignored the river's warning and drank out of impatience. ☐ d) A demon cursed him. ☐

7. How did Rama's reaction differ from Lakshmana's? (Short Answer)

8. The magical golden deer was an illusion created by a powerful _____.

9. What was the sage's purpose for testing those who passed through the forest?

10. What did Rama's answers to the riddles signify about his character?

The Enchanted Pool: Unseen Comprehension Worksheet (Continued)

11. The brothers were in pursuit of a magical golden deer that was an illusion created by a powerful _____.

12. What was the second riddle asked by the river?

- a) What is the greatest wealth? ☐ b) What is the truest friend? ☐
c) What is the strongest bond? ☐ d) What is the highest mountain? ☐

13. What did Rama reply when asked about the strongest bond?

14. What was the consequence of failing to answer the riddles?

15. How did Lakshmana react to the river's warning? (MCQ)

- a) He listened and answered the riddles. ☐
b) He ignored it and drank out of impatience. ☐
c) He became angry and fought the river. ☐
d) He asked the river to repeat the warning. ☐