UNIT 3

THE LAST LEAF

Entry Activity

Hope your teacher has shown you a video clipping on 'Heroes are a Breed Apart'.

Now, answer the following questions.

1. Identify the persons you have seen.
2. Which section do they belong to?
3. What do they have in common? Why are they considered so?
4. What makes them different from others?

Now, think about people around you who have overcome such depressions and diseases to lead a happy life.

THE LAST LEAF

In a little district west of Washington Square the streets turn in different directions. These "places" make strange angles and curves. One street crosses itself a time or two. Greenwich Village was one such place.

To Greenwich Village painters came in large numbers. They selected rooms with good light and low rents. It became a "colony".

Sue and Johnsy lived at the top of a three storied brick building." Johnsy was the short for Joanna. One was from Maine; the other from California. They met at (Delmonico's) a restaurant and found that their tastes in art, food and clothes were similar. So they decided to start a joint *studio.

That was in May. In November a cold unseen stranger visited Greenwich. Doctors called the stranger Pneumonia. Over the east side pneumonia killed many people. But in "places" the disease spread slowly.

Mr *Pneumonia lay his cold hands on Johnsy. She lay on her bed almost without moving. She looked through the window at the blank side of the next brick house.

One morning the busy doctor spoke to Sue alone. "Johnsy has only a very small chance of *survival. She believes she is not going to get well. Is there something that is troubling Johnsy?"

1. Why did Johnsy and Sue decide to stay together?

2. Who is the unseen stranger who visited Greenwich Village?

studio (n) : a room where an artist works
pneumonia (n) : a disease with inflammation of lungs
survival (n) : continue to live

"She – she wanted to paint the Bay of Naples some day." said Sue

"Paint! Not painting. Is there anything worth being troubled about? A man, for instance?"

"A man?" said Sue. "Is a man worth—No, doctor. There is nothing of the kind."

"Well. It is weakness then," said the doctor. "I will do all I can. But when a sick person begins to feel that he's going to die, half my work is useless. Talk to her about new winter clothes. If she were interested in the future, her chances would be better."

After the doctor had gone, Sue went into the workroom and cried.

Then she walked into Johnsy's room. She carried some of her painting materials, and she was singing.

Johnsy lay there, very thin and very quiet. Her face was turned toward the window. Sue stopped singing, thinking that Johnsy was asleep.

Sue began to work. As she worked she heard a low sound, again and again. She went quickly to the bedside.

3. What was Johnsy's greatest wish?

Johnsy's eyes were open wide. She was looking out of the window and counting—counting back.

"Twelve," she said; and a little later, "Eleven"; and then, "Ten," and, "Nine"; and then, "Eight," and, "Seven," almost together.

Sue looked out the window. What was there to count? There was only a bare, dreary yard to be seen. The blank side of the brick house was twenty feet away. An old, old *ivy vine plant grew against the wall. The cold breath of winter had already touched it. Almost all its leaves had fallen from its dark branches.

"What is it, dear?" asked Sue.

"Six," said Johnsy, in a voice still lower. "They're falling faster now. Three days ago there were almost a hundred. It hurt my head to count them. But now it's easy. There goes another one. There are only five now."

"Five what, dear? Tell your Sue."

"Leaves. On the ivy vine plant. When the last one falls, I must go, too. I've known that for three days. Didn't the doctor tell you?"

"Oh, I never heard of such a thing," said Sue. "It doesn't have any sense in it. What does an old vine have to do with you? Or with your getting well? And you used to love that vine plant so much. Don't be a little fool. The doctor told me your chances for getting well. He told me this morning. He said you had very good chances! Try to eat a little now. And then I'll go back to work. And then I can sell my picture, and then I can buy something more for you to eat to make you strong."

"You don't have to buy anything for me," said Johnsy. She still looked out the window. "There goes another. No, I

4. Why did Johnsy compare her life with the ivy leaves?

ivy vine (n) – a climbing plant like grapes

don't want anything to eat. Now there are four. I want to see the last one fall before night. Then I'll go, too."

"Johnsy, dear," said Sue, "will you promise me to close your eyes and keep them closed? Will you promise not to look out the window until I finish working? I must have this picture ready tomorrow. I need the light; I can't cover the window."

"Couldn't you work in the other room?" asked Johnsy coldly.

"I'd rather be here by you," said Sue. "And I don't want you to look at those leaves."

"Tell me as soon as you have finished," said Johnsy. She closed her eyes and lay white and still. "Because I want to see the last leaf fall. I have done enough waiting. I have done enough thinking. I want to go sailing down, down, like one of those leaves."

"Try to sleep," said Sue. "I must call Behrman to come up here. I want to paint Behrman as a model for my picture. I won't be gone a minute. Don't try to move till I come back."

Old Behrman was a painter who lived on the ground floor of their house. He was past sixty. He had had no success as a painter. For forty years he had painted, without ever painting a good picture. He had always talked of painting a great picture, a *masterpiece, but he had never yet started it.

He had got a little money by letting others paint pictures of him. He drank too much. He still talked of his great masterpiece. And he believed that it was his special duty to do everything possible to help Sue and Johnsy.

Sue found him in his dark room, and she knew that he had been drinking. She could smell it. She told him about Johnsy and the leaves on the vine. She said that she was afraid that Johnsy would indeed sail down, down like the leaf. Her hold on the world was growing weaker.

5. What was Johnsy counting?

6. What did she say about the last leaf?

masterpiece (n) - a work (painting) of best quality

Old Behrman shouted his anger over such an idea.

"What!" he cried. "Are there such fools? Do people die because leaves drop off a ivy vine? I have not heard of such a thing. No, I will not come up and sit while you make a picture of me. Why do you allow her to think of such things? That poor little Johnsy!"

"She is very sick and weak," said Sue. "The sickness has put these *morbid and strange ideas into her mind. Mr. Behrman, if you won't come, you won't. But I will think you are a very horrible man."

"This is like a woman!" shouted Behrman. "Who said I will not come? Go. I come with you. For half an hour I have been trying to say that I will come. God! This is not any place for someone as good as Johnsy to lie sick. Someday I shall paint my masterpiece, and we shall all go away from here. God! Yes."

Johnsy was sleeping when they went up. Sue covered the window, and took Behrman into the other room. There they looked out the window fearfully at the tree. They looked at each other for a moment without speaking. A *persistent cold rain was falling, with a little snow in it too.

Behrman sat down, and Sue began to paint. Behrman left in a very thoughtful mood after sometime.

She worked through most of the night.

In the morning, after an hour's sleep, she went to Johnsy's bedside. Johnsy with wide-open eyes was looking toward the window. "I want to see," she told Sue.

Sue took the cover from the window.

But after the beating rain and the wild wind that had not stopped through the whole night, there still was one leaf to be seen against the wall. It was the last

7. Why was Berhman angry?

morbid (adj) – having a strong interest in death and disease.
persistent (adj) - continuous

on the ivy plant. It was still dark green near the branch. But at the edges it was turning yellow with age. There it was hanging from a branch nearly twenty feet above the ground.

"It is the last one," said Johnsy. "I thought it would surely fall during the night. I heard the wind. It will fall today, and I shall die at the same time."

"Dear, dear Johnsy!" said Sue. "Think of me, if you won't think of yourself. What would I do?"

But Johnsy did not answer. The loneliest thing in the world is a soul when it is preparing to go on its far journey. The ties that held her to friendship and to earth were breaking, one by one.

8. What happened to the last leaf? Did it fall down?

The day slowly passed. As it grew dark, they could still see the leaf hanging from its branch against the wall. And then, as the night came, the north wind began again to blow. The rain still beat against the windows. When it was light enough the next morning, Johnsy again commanded that she be allowed to see.

The leaf was still there.

Johnsy lay for a long time looking at it. And then she called to Sue, who was cooking something for her to eat.

"I've been a bad girl, Sue," said Johnsy. "Something has made that last leaf stay there to show me how bad I was. It is wrong to want to die. I'll try to eat now. But first bring me a *looking-glass, so that I can see myself. And then I'll sit up and watch you cook."

An hour later she said, "Sue, some day I hope to paint the Bay of Naples."

The doctor came in the afternoon. Sue followed him into the hall outside Johnsy's room to talk to him.

"The chances are good," said the doctor. He took Sue's thin, shaking

looking glass (n) – mirror

hand in his. "Give her good care, and she'll get well. And now I must see another sick person in this house. His name is Behrman. A painter, I believe. Pneumonia, too. He is an old, weak man, and he is very ill. There is no hope for him. But we will take him to the hospital today. We'll make it as easy for him as we can."

The next day the doctor said to Sue: "She's safe. You have done it. Food and care now—that's all."

And that afternoon Sue came to the bed where Johnsy lay. She put one arm around her.

"I have something to tell you," she said. "Mr. Behrman died of pneumonia today in the hospital. He was ill only two days. The *Janitor found him on the morning of the first day, in his room. He was helpless with pain."

"His shoes and his clothes were wet and as cold as ice. Everyone wondered where he had been. The night had been so cold and wild.

"And then they found some things. There was a *lantern and a ladder that he had taken outside. And there were his materials for painting. There was, green paint and yellow paint. And—

"Look out the window, dear, at the last leaf on the wall. Didn't you wonder why it never moved when the wind was blowing? Oh, my dear, it is Behrman's great masterpiece—he painted it there the night that the last leaf fell."

lantern

9. Why didn't the last leaf fall down? How did it stay on the wall?

Janitor (n) - a person who looks after a building like a security guard
lantern(n) – a lamp in a metal frame with transparent glass

About the author

O' Henry (1862-1910) is the pen name of William Sydney Porter, an American short story writer. His stories are famous for its wit, wordplay and surprise endings. 'The Gift of Magi', 'The Ransom of Red Chief', 'The Cop and the Anthem' are some of his famous works.

Understanding the text:

I. Pick out the right answers from the brackets.

1. Johnsy fell sick with _____ . (smallpox, typhoid, pneumonia)
2. Behrman was angry with Johnsy because_____ (she believed that she was going to die, Sue did not respect him, it was raining)
3. Behrman found _____ affected by pnuemonia. (Sue, Johnsy, Doctor)
4. Many _____ lived in Greenwich Village. (salesmen, dancers, porters, artists)
5. Behrman's masterpiece_____(was sold for a thousand dollars, saved Johnsy's life, was never completed)
6. Who found Behrman lying sick in his room. (Sue, Doctor, Johnsy)

III. Read the following hints and write a character sketch of Behrman in about 40 words.

IV. Now look at the following words and fill in the blank boxes selecting words from the brackets keeping in mind the characters of Johnsy and Sue.

(pessimistic, caring, active, hardworking, imaginative, optimistic, restless, realistic, sad, weak)

Now, prepare a paragraph of about 40 words comparing and contrasting the characters of Sue and Johnsy.

_____

_____

_____

_____

V. Read the following questions and answer in one or two sentences.

1. Where does the story take place?
2. Who are the main characters in the story?
3. Is the doctor a very important character in the story?
4. What is the turning point in the story?
5. Did the painter Behrman helped Johnsy's recovery?
6. What was the sudden twist at the end of the story?
7. Do you think Behrman is a complex character?

A story will have a beginning, a middle and an end. A proper sequence will make the story interesting and attractive. Selection of apt characters makes the story even more interesting. Keep in mind these qualities while writing a story.

VI. Here are some events from the story, 'The Last Leaf'. They are given in a jumbled order. Arrange them in the proper sequence and rewrite the story in your own words.

1. Behrman is upset and angry.
2. Johnsy recovers.
3. The last leaf does not fall even after continuous rain for two days.
4. Johnsy begins to count the numbers of leaves falling.
5. Sue informs Behrman of Johnsy's condition.
6. There is only one leaf left.
7. Johnsy starts taking interest in food and herself.
8. Behrman dies of pneumonia.
9. Johnsy stops taking interest in food and herself.
10. Behrman paints his masterpiece.

You may begin like this:

Johnsy stares out at the ivy vine. She believes that when the last leaf falls she will die…….....

You can end like this:

.....Hence Behrman's masterpiece becomes an example of supreme sacrifice and selfless love.

VII. Answer in a paragraph of about 60 words.

1. How did Behrman's masterpiece save Johnsy's life?

VIII. Word building

A car collided with a bicycle. Two people in the car and one person riding the bicycle were injured.

Now, read the following words related to injuries.

(twisted ankle, concussion, bruised, bleeding, fracture, deep pain, swollen eye, deep cut)

Prepare a short description of the accident using the words given in the bracket. Use the dictionary if necessary.

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

IX. Can you help it?

Sue does not inform Johnsy of Behrman's illness. She wants Johnsy to recover. Behrman dies of pneumonia in the hospital. The doctor sends a SMS to Sue informing her of Behrman's death.
Prepare the SMS using minimum words.

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

NOUNS

Let's recall what we have studied in the previous units.

Look at the following pictures and read the sentences given.

Gopal, Raju, Jafar.
They are boys.
The names of the boys are **nouns**.
The word 'boy' is also a **noun**.

Rema, Rani, Shahida.
They are girls.
The names of the girls are **nouns**.
The word 'girl' is also a **noun**.

Identify the nouns in the following sentences and write them in the space provided.

1. Sam goes to school by bus.
2. The cow is a domestic animal.

Read the given sentences and fill in the blanks suitably.

And now I must see another sick _____ in this house. His name is Behrman. He is a _____.

Boy, girl, person, painter etc.are **Common Nouns**.

Gopal, Raju, Jafer, Shahid, Rani, Rema are **Proper Nouns.**

Fleet, crowd, bunch, herd etc. are **Collective Nouns.**

Tree, fan, goodness, kindness, star, light, childhood etc. are **Abstract Nouns.**

VERB

Exercise : Read the story and identify the main verbs.

Raju **is** an 8 year old boy. He **lives** in a small town with his parents and his little brother. He **has** a pet cat. He **calls** it Mickey. One day Raju **was** getting ready to go to school. Usually Mickey **accompanies** him to school. But that day Mickey was missing. Raju **became** worried. But there was no time for him to **search** for Mickey. So Raju **said** to his mother "Amma, **will** you please look for my Mickey? I **am worried** that it **will go** missing". "**Don't** worry, Raju it **may** have gone somewhere. It **is** sure to **come** back in the evening. You ought not to worry about it." But Raju was not **satisfied** with his mother's words. He **prayed** to God that he **should** find Mickey in the evening. The whole day Raju **was worried**. Much to his relief, when Raju **came** home in the evening he **found** Mickey sleeping comfortably in his bed.

A verb tells about	An action
	A possession (has, have, had)
	A state of being (is, am, are, was, were)

Find out the following verbs from the above passage. One is done for you.

1. Verbs showing a state of being.

   Raju **is** an eight year old boy.

_____

2. Verb showing possession.

   He **has** a pet cat.

_____

3. Verbs showing actions.

   He **prayed** to God.

_____

Read the following sets of words.

Present Tense	*Past Tense*	*Past Participle*
accept	accepted	accepted
advise	advised	advised
bless	blessed	blessed
call	called	called
laugh	laughed	laughed
beat	beat	beaten
cost	cost	cost
deal	dealt	dealt
fall	fell	fallen
find	found	found
read	read	read

Read the story again.

Write down verbs in their past tense forms in the space provided.

_____

_____

_____

_____

Read and identify the main verbs in each sentence and write them in the space given below:

1. They have brought a car.
2. I do not like sweets.
3. Meera is writing a letter.
4. Rony did not come, did he?

_____

_____

_____

_____

Now, try to identify the auxiliary verbs in the sentence.

Auxiliary Verbs (Helping verbs)

Primary Auxiliaries

Fill in the blanks using the correct form of the auxiliary given in brackets.

1. He _____ his work very well. (do)
2. My house _____ there. (be)
3. I_____watching a movie (be)
4. We_____dinner at 7.30 p m (have)

In sentence 1, 2 and 4 the auxiliary verbs do the role of Main Verbs.

The role of helping verbs

The role of main verbs

Write six sentences using the auxiliaries give above.

Eg: We are happy

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Primary Auxiliaries

The traffic lights red, yellow and green tell you something.

What do they tell?

(red) You————stop.

(orange) You ———— wait.

(green) You———— go.

Your college wants to provide additional facilities for the students.

Write some suggestions in the space provided. (Hints: Shall, We, Will, Would, Should)

Eg: Shall we build an indoor stadium.

1 _____

2 _____

3 _____

4 _____

Modal Auxiliaries

Modal auxiliaries help to express different modes of expression such as possibility, certainly and duty.

I **can** lift the weight.

I **could** lift the weight.

Modal auxiliaries can be used for:

Request - can, could, may, would, will, would

Posibility - may, must, might, can

Duty - should, must, have to, ought to

Probability - will, should

Suggestion - shall

Permission - can

Fill in the blanks using the correct word given in brackets.

1. I _____ speak eight languages (can, might)
2. _____ I go home? (will, may)
3. He _____ come tomorrow. I'm not sure(can, might)
4. You _____ respect your parents.(may, should)
5. _____ you type this please? (will, shall)
6. You _____ wear uniform to college. (can, must)

Fill in the blanks using the correct form of be, do, have.

1. She _____ taken my pen (have)
2. He _____ his work very well (do)
3. Govind _____ a lawyer (be)
4. We _____ dinner at 7.30 pm (have)
5. _____ you know where John lives (do)
6. I _____ reading a novel (be)

QUALITIES TO BE DEVELOPED

Entry Activity

Your teacher will show you the picture of some smart people of all age groups.

What are the qualities you expect from a gentleman/lady?
What are the qualities you expect from a grown-up person?

Now, read the article written by Gratian Vaz.

It is the inborn tendency of every man to build the best possible image of himself in the public. All men want to be appreciated, liked and wanted by all. But in practical life, it is not easy to build such an image. We find that we are sadly lacking in many things.

A start therefore should be made at school. First of all we must get over the idea that we know everything and need to learn nothing. We should never think that good manners are out-moded. Most of the time we think that we know everything and we are doing the right thing. This false notion gives a miserable image of ourselves to the public.

1. What is the importance of manners in getting along well with people?

There are certain qualities that are attractive and never changing. A polite person is unselfish and self-giving. Consider your fellowman as a person. Don't think that he can fulfil any of your needs. For this, we have to respect that person. Respect is not fear and awe, but it *denotes the ability to see a person as he is.

Some people are extremely unhappy in life, just because they fail to take other people as they are. They want others

out-model: old
denote: to be a sign or mark

to conform to what they want them to be. Life is complex and people are even more complex. If you want to get happiness in associating with people, accept them as they are with all their faults and virtues. Respect means concern that the other person should grow and unfold as he is. Respect thus implies the absence of exploitation.

2. How do we develop understanding in our relationships?

Be yourself, Be Authentic

We are unique individuals with particular talents, training and traits. We should establish our own identify and live according to it. Think good of yourself, but don't try to project a false image of yourself to others. Because in doing so, you will *deceive yourself and others. Be confident and meet people without fear. You are a person in your own right.

Be Understanding

One may be a walking encyclopedia and knowing his good manners by heart. But if he lacks understanding, he is bound to be a failure. A person with understanding goes beyond the visible action or mood of a person. He penetrates deeper and finds out the cause of a particular act of expression. This is always not easy because of the complex nature of man. We never really understand our own actions. Then how can he understand the actions of others. Persons are enthusiastic, serious, agreeable and so on. We must understand that surface actions of others can be *deceptive and there can be a deeper reason behind their actions.

Be Open

An open person responds to the needs of others. A closed person lives in his own little world. Responsive nature of an open person is directed to physical needs of others. He is always ready to help a poor hungry man, or an accident

deceive: to make somebody believe that something is true
deceptive: likely to make you believe something that is not true

victim or a blind man to cross the road. In all these cases, only a cold hearted human can turn away and go about his business. Thus openness demands certain self-denial and effort.

Aim at Maturity

*Maturity means flexibility, an ability to adjust, a general control of our feelings. Thus if you tend to turn 'wild' for every silly reason, you better control yourself. There is no point in saying 'this is my nature' People don't care what nature you have, but they do care how mature you are. The emotionally immature person remains a child. He is easily hurt, quick to anger, slow to forgive, *stubborn, unbending and overtly critical. He is likely to go to pieces about little things.

Kindness, gentleness, sincerity, tact and good humour are other outstanding features of good breeding. Such persons can easily mingle with friends and people. But above all, they should be guided by common sense. At gatherings often there are people who make a 'show' of their good manners. To overact good manners is certainly to appear foolish. Such people will surely lose respect, influence and popularity.

As far as winning friends are concerned, a neat and tidy appearance is very important. If you are dressed properly, that will help to open many doors. Add to this a pleasing voice and right behavior, you will be welcomed whichever you go.

In all circumstances, 'The Man of Perfect Manners' is calmly *courteous. He is ready to help everyone, elderly, young, pretty, plain all alike.

3. What does the author mean by " openness"?

4. Describe the major qualities that add up to our emotional maturity.

5. How can we maintain a balance in our manners?

maturity: the quality of thinking and behaving in a sensible, adult manner
stubborn: determined not to change your opinion or attitude
courteous: polite, especially in a way that shows respect

One word answers

1. A polite person is unselfish and _____.
2. Respect, denotes the ability _____
3. If you want to get happiness in associating with people _____
4. A person with _____ does not stop at the surface.
5. A _____responds to the needs of others.
6. Opennes demands certain _____and effort.
7. _____ means a general control of our feelings.

Pick out more elements from the above article that go with the following ideas.

Good breeding - _____

Maturity - _____

Kind person - _____

Open person - _____

Set A contains names of certain objects. Set B gives their uses. Match them correctly.

A	B
Air conditioner	A kitchen gadget used to scrape coconuts into tiny bits.
Screw driver	An electronic appliance used to cool the air around.
Hammer	A tool for hitting objects.
Coconut scraper	A tool for turning screws.
Pressure cooker	A utensil to cook food under steam pressure.

Prepare a **Powerpoint** presentation on 'How to develop yourselves as a good student' using the following hints.

(Hints: Throw away your ego (be ready to change, accept your defeats), Respect values of others, Be yourself, Be authentic, Be understanding, Be open, Aim at maturity, Be kind, Be gentle, Be sincere)

SPEAKING WITH A PURPOSE

A short formal speech can be made in the following situations.

1. To welcome the guests at a function.
2. To propose the vote of thanks.

Two sample speeches are given below.
Compare them and note the difference in phrases used.

Welcome Address

Good evening everybody. Mr Vivek Nair, our Panchayat President, Mr Rajan, social activist, Mr Prakash, our Principal, teachers and my dear friends.

As the school leader of this great institution, I have the privilege to welcome the esteemed guests on this great day.

Mr Vivek Nair, our Panchayat President is a great supporter of our school. Whenever we want some help, he is always available for us. He is an energetic, dedicated leader who is known to all here. On behalf of all present here I extend to him our heartiest welcome.

I also take this opportunity to welcome Mr Rajan, a well-known social activist. He has influenced the local society in a great way by his work. He is a role model for the youngsters in this locality. I extend a warm welcome to you sir.

I also welcome Mr Prakash, our Principal. He needs no introduction. He is always with us with a word of correction sommetimes and congratulation more often. In the name of all who have gathered here I welcome you sir most humbly to this function.

A warm bouquet of welcome to my dear teachers and fellow students.

I welcome you one and all once again to this auspicious function.

Thank you.

Vote of Thanks

Mr Vivek Nair, our Panchayat President, Mr Rajan, social activist, Mr Prakash, our Principal, teachers and my dear friends.

As Convenor of the celebration committee, it is my duty to propose the vote of thanks to the distinguished dignitaries on the dais. Our thanks are especially due to Mr Vivek Nair, our Panchayat President, whose very presence and inspiring talk has made this function different. On behalf of all who have assembled here, I extend our most sincere thanks to you, sir.

I would like to thank Mr Rajan, whose motivating speech touched our hearts. Sir, we thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

I must also thank Mr Prakash, our Principal, for his encouragement and love. He is a guide, philosopher and friend to all of us. Dear sir, I propose to you our most sincere thanks.

I thank all teaching and non-teaching staff and students for their valuable support and help in making this function a grand success.

Thank you

Phrases used when delivering **welcome address.**

- Good morning/Good afternoon/Good evening….
- I have the privilege to welcome….
- On behalf of all present here…
- I extend a warm welcome….
- I also welcome …..
- A warm bouquet of welcome to……

Phrases used when delivering **vote of thanks**

- It is my duty to propose….
- Our thanks are especially due to….
- I extend our most sincere thanks to….
- We thank you from the bottom of our hearts…..
- I propose to you our most sincere thanks…..
- I thank all……

Now, try the following activity.

You are the Secretary of the nature club in your college. A function has been organized to inaugurate the activities of this year. Prof. Sugatha Kumari the famous nature activist, has agreed to inaugurate the function. Prepare:

1. A speech welcoming Prof. Sugatha Kumari at the beginning of the function.
2. A vote of thanks to her at the end of the function.