Your uncle is a dog in the manger!

కొంతమంది దగ్గర కొన్ని వస్తువులు ಒಕಟಿಕಂಟೆ ಎಕ್ಕುವ ఉಂటಾಯಿ. ఏ కారణం చేతోగానీ వాళ్లు వాటిని తాము వాడు కోరు. అవసరం ఉన్నవాళ్లకు ఇవ్వరు. ఇలాంటివాలని ఇంగ్లిష్ల్ 'ఎ డాగ్ ఇన్ ద మేంజర్' అని పిలుసారు. తమ ఉపాధ్వాయుడు 'మేనేజర్'కు బదులుగా 'మేంజర్' రాశారేమో అని పారబడ్డ ఓ విద్యార్థికి అతని మిత్రుడు ఓ సరదా పిట్టకథ వినిపిస్తాడు. పదాల మధ్య Awappa: You know that this uncle of mine has not one but చదవండి మల..!

Sudhakar. Does he use one in the morning and one in the evening?

Ayyappa: Our English teacher made a spelling mistake.

Sudhakar: Is it possible? I don't believe.

Ayyappa: He wrote 'manger' for manager. Sudhakar:: What context did he actually write in?

Ayyappa: He wrote 'a dog in the manger.' Did the dog follow the manager to the office?

Sudhakar: You ignorant fool and arrogant halfwit!

Ayyappa: Why are you so harsh on me? Sudhakar: If I am not harsh and rude, you will not learn your lesson.

Ayyappa: Don't you believe me? See my notes. 'A dog in the manger'. Seeing is believing.

Sudhakar: You must learn to trust and respect the teacher. Don't suspect. What the teacher wrote is right.

Ayyappa: Right? Are you sure? Sudhakar: Could there be any doubt? It is an idiom.

Ayyappa: Pardon?

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Sudhakar: Idioms are expressions peculiar to a language.

Ayyappa: Do you mean to say it is manger and not manager?

Sudhakar: Exactly.

Ayyappa: What does it mean?

Sudhakar: There is your uncle whom you don't like. May I know why you don't like him?

Ayyappa: You know how I crave and long for a bike.

Sudhakar: Of course.

Ayyappa: My father, with his meagre earning, cannot afford to buy one for me. Sudhakar: Great that you understand your

Ayyappa: You know that this uncle of mine has not one but two bikes.

Sudhakar: Does he use one in the morning and one in the evening?

Ayyappa: No. The second bike is his son's. His son has gone abroad.

Sudhakar: So he has left his bike here.

Ayyappa: My uncle cleans it every day and washes it once a week. I said, "Let me use the bike."

Sudhakar: What did he say?

Ayyappa: He said, "Have no such illusions. It can never happen."

Sudhakar: Your uncle is a dog in the manger!

Ayyappa: A dog in the manger?

Sudhakar: The idiom has its origin in an ancient fable.

Ayyappa: What is a manger?

Sudhakar: A trough from which animals

Ayyappa: Animal fodder kept in the trough? Sudhakar: The dog in the fable lies in the manger all the time.

Ayyappa: How do the animals feed, then? Sudhakar: The dog neither eats the fodder nor allows the cow or the horse to eat it.

Ayyappa: You have enlightened me. You are

Sudhakar: Thank you for the compliment.



సూర్వారావు ఎం.వి వివేకానంద ఇన్స్ట్రిట్యూట్ రామకృష్ణ మఠం.