

The Light of Togetherness

In the quiet village of Gurung Mali, deep in the forests of West Kalimantan, the nights were long and dark. Without electricity, the villagers could do little but sleep as soon as the sun set. Among them was Nayau, a man who often sat outside his small wooden house, staring at the star-filled sky, wondering how to bring light to his people.

One evening, as the cold wind whispered through the trees, Nayau gathered his closest friends around a crackling campfire. The scent of roasted corn and hot tea filled the air as he shared his bold idea. "What if we built our own micro hydropower plant?" he asked.

Laughter and protests erupted. "Impossible!" scoffed Paoi. "Where will we get the money?" Nico added, shaking his head. Others chimed in with doubts—the river was too far, the materials too expensive. Even Miso, usually silent, warned, "What if we fail? We'll lose everything."

Nayau listened patiently, then leaned forward, the firelight flickering in his determined eyes. "If we don't try, nothing will change. The government won't bring us electricity—we must do it ourselves."

A heavy silence fell. Some stood and left, muttering in disbelief. But a few remained—Apoi, Supardi, Nino, and a handful of others. "We'll help," said Hisako, clenching her fists. "The women's group will work too," Nino added.

The next morning, they marched to the nearest town to bargain for materials. After long negotiations, they struck a deal—wood for the water channel, zinc for the generator cover, and a promise to repay in instalments.

For months, they toiled under the scorching sun and through rainstorms. Men and women worked side by side—digging ditches, stacking sandbags, and assembling the mill house. Their hands grew rough, their backs ached, but their spirits never wavered. The children of the village even helped by carrying smaller stones and cheering them on.


Finally, after three gruelling months, the day arrived. The water rushed through the channel, spinning the turbine. A single light flickered—then another—until the entire village glowed. Cheers erupted as children danced in the newfound light, and elders wiped away tears of joy.

Even the doubters came forward, humbled. "We were wrong," Miso admitted, gazing at the illuminated houses. "You've given us more than light—you've given us hope."

Nayau stood quietly, watching his village come alive at night for the first time. The beauty of Gurung Mali would no longer fade with the sunset. As laughter and music filled the air, he whispered to himself, "Together, we have no limits."

Match the words with the meaning!

Words		Meaning	
1	Sat	a.	Mengumpulkan
2	Whispered	b.	Berdiri
3	Gathered	c.	Memperingatkan
4	Shared	d.	Tumbuh
5	Leaned	e.	Bersandar
6	Stood	f.	Duduk
7	Warned	g.	Membantu
8	Grew	h.	Membagikan
9	Helped	i.	Datang
10	Came	j.	Membisikkan



1. What is the main idea of this paragraph?

- A) The turbine malfunctioned at first before working properly.
- B) The villagers struggled with the construction of the hydropower plant.
- C) The children and elders were the only ones who celebrated the new electricity.
- D) The successful activation of the hydropower plant brought light and joy to the village.

2. Why did the villagers of Gurung Mali go to bed early?

- A) Because they were very tired
- B) Because there was no electricity
- C) Because the weather was too cold
- D) Because animals were dangerous at night

3. What was Nayau's idea to solve their electricity problem?

- A) Buying solar panels from the city
- B) Using oil lamps instead
- C) Asking the government for help
- D) Building a micro hydropower plant

4. What were the results of the project?

- ☐ Houses had light at night
- ☐ Villagers became more united
- ☐ Doubters admitted they were wrong
- ☐ The government provided funding
- ☐ Children could play safely at night

5. How does Nayau's character demonstrate leadership in the story?

- A) He forces the villagers to work on the hydropower plant against their will.
- B) He waits for the government to provide electricity before taking action.
- C) He listens to doubts but remains determined, inspiring others to join his cause.
- D) He abandons the project when faced with challenges.

6. Which of the following sentences best express the moral value of The Light of Togetherness

- ☐ "Change begins when people unite and persevere toward a shared dream."
- ☐ "Technology alone can solve all of a community's problems."
- ☐ "Doubters should never be included in important decisions."
- ☐ "Even the smallest communities can achieve greatness through collaboration and courage."
- ☐ "Waiting for others to help is better than taking risks."