

UNDERSTATEMENT... OVERSTATEMENT



Charan: Would you like to know about understatement?



Kamal: If it's a figure of speech, yes.

కొంతమంది ఉంటారు... తమకు ఎంత ఇబ్బందిగా ఉన్నా,
అది చిన్న విషయం అన్నట్టు మాట్లాడుతారు.
అంతేకాదు తమది పెద్ద భవంతి అయినప్పటికీ..
సాధారణమైనదిగా చెబుతారు. పెద్ద పారపాటు
జరిగిపోయినా 'చిన్నదిగా' చూపుతారు.
పమాత్రం అతిశయోక్తికి పోరు. ఇలాంటి వాటిని
ఆంగ్లంలో 'అండర్ స్టేట్ మెంట్స్' అంటారు.
వాటి పరిచయమే ఈ సంభాషణ
సారాంశం.



Charan: Hello, Kamal. How are you?
Kamal: Fine, Charu. Thank you. How are you?
Charan: Fine. Have you enjoyed learning figures of speech? Simile, metaphor and hyperbole to be precise?
Kamal: Enjoyed a great deal.
Charan: Found them interesting?
Kamal: Extremely interesting.
Charan: Would you like to know about understatement?
Kamal: If it's a figure of speech, yes.
Charan: By the by, I have a problem.
Kamal: A major problem?
Charan: A slight problem.
Kamal: May I know your problem?
Charan: I've not paid my room rent for five months.
Kamal: For five months?
Charan: The owner has given me a warning.
Kamal: What?

Charan: If don't clear the rent, he will throw me out.
Kamal: Is it a slight problem? If I were you, I would shiver, panic and go mad. A severe problem, isn't it?
Charan: Yes. I made an understatement when I called it a slight problem.
Kamal: Oh, I've got it. Understatement, a figure of speech.
Charan: It's the opposite of ...
Kamal: An overstatement. Synonymously, a hyperbole.
Charan: You're right. You're a quick learner.
Kamal: Thanks for the compliment. A few more examples, please!

Charan: Shall we go to your house and do some chatting?
Kamal: Sure, with pleasure. ... This is our simple, humble house.
Charan: Oh, a villa! How big and beautiful it is! You're making an understatement.
Kamal: How did you write your physics exam yesterday?
Charan: I did well. And you?
Kamal: I had made a minor mistake.

Charan: But how?
Kamal: I studied chemistry for my physics exam. I won't score more than ten marks out of a hundred.
Charan: If I were you, I wouldn't call it a minor mistake.
Kamal: Yes. Mine is an understatement. It was in fact a grave, serious, blatant, unforgivable mistake.

ACTIVE... PASSIVE SMOKERS

Anil: What's the difference between active and passive?
Kumar: What are you doing now?
Anil: I'm smoking.
Kumar: Am I smoking?
Anil: No, you're not. You're just inhaling the smoke.
Kumar: You're an active smoker, and I'm a passive smoker.



సూర్యరావు ఎం.వి
వివేకానంద ఇన్స్టిట్యూట్ ఆఫ్ లాంగ్వేజెస్, రామకృష్ణ మఠం.