Class 9 English Kaveri – Chapter 5

The World of Limitless Possibilities

VOCABULARY & WORD MEANINGS • PROSE + POEM • CBSE 2026–27

This resource follows the vocabulary activities and contextual meanings given in the uploaded Kaveri Chapter 5 textbook. It also includes useful chapter vocabulary for revision.

1. Important Words from the Prose

Word / Phrase	Meaning / Use
resilience	the ability to recover from difficulty and continue
extraordinary	very unusual or remarkable
talent	a natural ability or skill
determination	the quality of continuing firmly towards a goal
locomotor	relating to movement from one place to another
sensory	relating to the senses
intellectual	relating to the ability to think, understand and reason
stereotype	a fixed and oversimplified idea about a person or group
preconceived notion	an opinion formed before knowing the facts
perception	the way something is understood or viewed
advocacy	public support for a cause or group
inclusion	the practice of including people and giving them equal opportunities
accessibility	the quality of being usable or reachable by people with different needs
accolade	an award or expression of praise
trailblazer	a person who creates a new path or leads the way
para-athlete	an athlete who competes in para-sport
breakthrough	an important development or achievement
potential	the ability or possibility to develop or achieve something
setback	a problem or difficulty that delays progress
obstacle	something that makes progress difficult
milestone	an important stage or achievement in a journey
hindsight	understanding something more clearly after it has happened
competitive	involving competition or a desire to compete
inspirational	encouraging people to achieve or do something positive
advocate	a person who publicly supports a cause or idea

2. Vocabulary Phrases from Chapter 5

Word / Phrase	Meaning / Use
defy the odds	succeed when most people think something will fail
a new lease of life	an occasion when someone becomes more energetic and active than earlier
in hindsight	understanding something after it has happened
breakthrough moment	a time of significant development or discovery
turn obstacles into stepping stones	overcome challenges and achieve goals
push boundaries	go beyond perceived limits or what is normally expected
changing perceptions	helping people develop a different understanding or view
ability beyond disability	emphasising a person’s abilities and potential beyond physical limitations
give it my best shot	make the strongest effort possible
pull up on their heels	stop running
standing ovation	an occasion when an audience stands and applauds

3. Movement Vocabulary – Arrange by Pace

The textbook asks students to arrange these movement words from the slowest to the fastest.

Word / Phrase	Meaning / Use
crawl	move very slowly, close to the ground
creep	move slowly and quietly
plod	walk slowly with heavy steps
amble	walk at a slow, relaxed pace
stroll	walk slowly and casually
saunter	walk in a relaxed, unhurried way
walk	move at a normal pace on foot
jog	run slowly and steadily
run	move faster than walking
sprint	run at top speed
dart	move suddenly and very quickly

4. Poem Vocabulary – Nine Gold Medals

Word / Phrase	Meaning / Use
dashed in the dirt	was destroyed or ruined
stumbled	stepped awkwardly, lost balance and almost fell
staggered	walked or moved with difficulty
anguish	extreme pain or suffering
asphalt	a hard black substance used to make roads and paths
spectators	people who watch an event
resolved	determined; having made a firm decision
poised	ready and prepared for something
pistol	a small firearm; here, used as the starting signal
frustration	a feeling of disappointment or annoyance when a goal is blocked
athlete	a person who competes in sport
competitor	a person who takes part in a competition
finish line	the line marking the end of a race
beaming	smiling brightly
ovation	strong public applause or enthusiastic approval
empathy	the ability to understand another person’s feelings
sympathy	feelings of sorrow or concern for another person
compassion	concern for another person’s suffering together with a desire to help
unity	the state of being joined or working together
sportsmanship	fairness, respect and good behaviour in sport

5. Collocations from the Poem

Collocation	Words that commonly appear together
standing ovation	standing + ovation
final event	final + event
old field	old + field
gold medals	gold + medals
young boy	young + boy
resolved athletes	resolved + athletes
loud cry	loud + cry

6. Common Adjective–Noun Collocations

Adjective	Common noun collocations
big	disappointment, failure, surprise, decision
heavy	rain, traffic, workload, snow
strong	wind, voice, argument, feeling
large	crowd, amount, number, area
great	success, effort, achievement, opportunity

7. Adjectives in Context

Word / Phrase	Meaning / Use
youngest	the smallest/least old in age; used for ‘the littlest athlete’
positive	optimistic or constructive; used for ‘smiling attitude’
loud	produced with a high volume; used for ‘huge cry of pain’
significant	important or noticeable; used for ‘terrible difference’
noisy	making a lot of sound; used for ‘gaudy crowd’ in the textbook exercise

8. Quick Revision List

Prose: resilience • determination • stereotypes • perceptions • inclusion • advocacy • accessibility • breakthrough • potential • setback • obstacle • milestone • hindsight

Poem: stumbled • staggered • anguish • asphalt • spectators • resolved • poised • frustration • ovation • beaming • empathy • sympathy • compassion • unity • sportsmanship

Important phrases: defy the odds • a new lease of life • in hindsight • breakthrough moment • turn obstacles into stepping stones • push boundaries • standing ovation

Note: The uploaded Chapter 5 textbook contains the vocabulary activities above. It does not provide a separate word-formation exercise in the supplied pages, so no unsupported word-formation list has been added.
Source: Uploaded Kaveri Chapter 5 textbook, especially Vocabulary and Structures in Context (pp. 147–150) and Vocabulary in Context (pp. 162–163).