



CLASS - V ENGLISH NOTES JUNE

2. The Case of the Missing Water

I. ERC:

1. "Did it run away? Was it stolen? This is a mystery!"

a) Who is the speaker?

Ranj is the speaker.

b) What ran away according to the speaker?

The water in the tank ran away.

c) What is being referred to as 'a mystery'?

'A mystery' is the disappearance of water from the village tanks.

d) What happens after this?

After this, Ranj decides that she needs to solve the mystery of the disappearance of water from their village and so she goes to investigate.

2. "Manju's parents left the village. Maybe we should all go".

a) Who said this and to whom?

Ranj said this to Sapna.

b) Who is Manju?

Manju was Ranj and Sapna's classmate and friend.

c) Where had Manju's parents gone?

Manju's parents had gone to the city.

d) Why had Manju's parents gone there?

Manju's parents had gone to the city as there was no water in the village.

3. "Maybe we shouldn't have missed school".

a) Who is the speaker?

Sapna is the speaker.

b) Who are being referred to as 'we'?

'We' refers to Ranj and Sapna.

c) Why does the speaker think so?

Sapna thinks so because the stream was dry near the last tank as well which made her think their efforts to find water were in vain.

d) Is the speaker right in thinking this way?

No, Sapna is not right in thinking this way because despite feeling disappointed, one should always keep trying.

4. "My friend is a Sanitary Engineer. She knows what's fair."

a) Who is the speaker?

Ranj is the speaker.

b) Who is a Sanitary Engineer?

A sanitary engineer is one who looks after human waste management.

c) Is the speaker's friend actually a sanitary engineer?

No, Ranj's friend is not a sanitary engineer.

d) Why does the speaker say that her friend knows what's 'fair'?

Ranj says that her friend knows what's 'fair' because Sapna wanted to become a sanitary engineer when she grew up and hence she would know where the water from the tank should go- to the city or to the village.

II. Short Answers:

1. Why did Ranj put on her thinking cap?

Ranj put on her thinking cap because she wanted to solve the mystery of the disappearance of water from her village.

2. Give a few examples from the story to prove that Ranj loved solving mysteries.

Ranj loved solving mysteries every now and then. One time when Ajji couldn't find her reading glasses, Ranj found it in a book, marking the page she was reading last. The other time she solved the mystery of how the elephants were visiting the ragi fields because they could smell the ripening grains in the field and wanted to eat them.

3. Who was Sapna? Was she able to tell Ranj where the water had gone?

Sapna studied in the same school as Ranj. No, she was not able to tell Ranj where the water had gone.

4. Why had Manju's parents left the village?

Manju's parents had left the village because there was no water in the village.

5. Why did Ranj run out of school in the middle of the Environmental Studies class?

Ranj ran out of school in the middle of the Environmental Studies class because her class was half empty as more families had left the village. She was missing her friends.

6. How did Ranj and Sapna find the tank that was full of water?

Ranj and Sapna drew a map of their village with all its tanks and streams to look at all the places where the water could have gone. This is how they found the tank that was full of water.

7. Why did Ranj feel angry after solving the mystery of the missing water?

Ranj felt angry after solving the mystery of the missing water because she felt it unfair that while the village people were suffering from shortage of water, the water from the village was being sent to the city.

8. Describe Ranj and Sapna's interaction with the man who was collecting water in the tanker.

Ranj and Sapna saw the man guarding the tanker and wanted to know where he was taking all their water. The man told them he was taking it to the city as there are more people there. This made both Ranj and Sapna angry and they told the man that what he was doing was not fair and that they will not let him take their water. At this, the man laughed and said they couldn't stop him as they were just children. Ranj and Sapna hence, rushed to hug the pump in order to stop the man from taking the water.

III. Long Answers:

1. What is the theme of the story? What is its significance in today's world? (Hint: shortage of water, pollution)

The theme of the story is shortage of water. It also talks about how things from the village are taken away to the city. It is significant because water shortage is a cause of concern for countries all around the world today. It hence teaches us to use our water wisely.

2. What do we learn from the characters of Ranj and Sapna?

From the characters of Ranj and Sapna, we learn how we should always try to solve the problem at hand and never back down.

3. Did you like the end of the story? Give a few reasons to support your answer.

Answers may vary. Accept all relevant answers.

4. You see a number of people in your neighbourhood who wash their cars every day using more than a bucketful of water. You know that water is a precious resource that cannot be wasted. How will you tell your neighbours about the importance of water conservation?

Answers may vary. Accept all relevant answers.

3. Bagheera, Mowgli and the Red Flower

I. ERC:

1. "... you must never kill or eat any cattle young or old. That is the Law of the Jungle".

a) Who is speaking to whom?

Bagheera is speaking to Mowgli.

b) Why can't the other person kill or eat any cattle?

Mowgli must never eat or kill any cattle because he had been brought into the Pack of wolves at the price of a bull's life. It was the Law of the Jungle.

c) Was this advice followed by the person?

Yes

d) Pick out the collective noun from the above lines.

Cattle

2. "I have the Pack and I have you; and Baloo, though he is so lazy, might strike a blow or two for my sake. Why should I be afraid?"

a) Who is speaking to whom?

Mowgli is speaking to Bagheera.

b) What is the 'Pack' that is being referred to here?

The Pack is the group of wolves.

c) Why does the speaker say these words?

The speaker says these words to Bagheera because Bagheera was worried that Shere Khan might soon find Mowgli and kill him.

d) Did the speaker have a reason to be afraid?

Yes, because even when his friends and family were by his side, Shere Khan was a dangerous tiger, who was planning to hunt and kill Mowgli.

3. "Yes, I too was born among men. I had never seen the jungle. They fed me behind bars from an iron pan till one night..."

a) Who says these words?

Bagheera says these words.

b) Who else was born among men?

Bagheera was also born among men.

c) Who does the speaker refer to as 'they'?

'They' refers to human beings.

d) What happened that night?

Bagheera realised that night that he was no man's plaything. He broke the lock and set himself free.

II. Short Answers:

1. How would Bagheera address Mowgli?

Bagheera addressed Mowgli as 'Little Brother'.

2. Why would Mowgli stare at the wolves for fun?

Mowgli used to stare at the wolves for fun because once he had discovered at the Council Rock that if he stared hard at any wolf, the wolf would be forced to drop his eyes. So he used to stare at them for fun.

3. Why did Mowgli mistrust men?

Mowgli had a mistrust of men because Bagheera had once shown him a square box with a drop gate so cunning, hidden in the jungle that he had nearly walked into

it, and it was a trap.

4. Why was Mowgli not allowed to kill or eat cattle?

Mowgli was not allowed to eat or kill cattle because he had been brought into the Pack of wolves at the price of a bull's life. It was the Law of the Jungle.

5. What was Bagheera worried about?

Bagheera was worried about Mowgli as Shere Khan, the lame tiger, had been planning to hunt him down. He was worried that once Akela was removed as the leader of the Pack, Shere Khan would pounce upon the opportunity to hunt and kill Mowgli.

6. What was the 'Red Flower'? Why was everyone afraid of it?

The 'Red Flower' was fire. Every beast lived in deadly fear of it, and invented a hundred ways of describing it, because fire was powerful, strong and dangerous.

III. Long Answers:

1. Twice in the story, Bagheera mentions the Law of the Jungle. Does everyone follow it? How can you tell?

Answers may vary. Accept all relevant answers. Sample answer—Yes, I believe everyone follows the Law of the Jungle because (a) Shere Khan can't hunt and kill Mowgli in the jungle. (b) Mowgli is not allowed to hunt or eat cattle.

2. Bagheera tells Mowgli that Shere Khan would not kill him in the jungle. Why do you think this is so? What does this tell you about the Laws of the Jungle?

Answers may vary. Accept all relevant answers. Sample answer—Shere Khan would not kill Mowgli in the jungle because of the Law of the Jungle. This tells us that the Law of the Jungle was a supreme law that was followed by all creatures—big and small—without any exception. This tells us a lot about their values, customs and belief system.