

Thinking about the text

Solution 1 :

A	B
1. fear or terror	(i) father comes into her room to give her a goodbye kiss
2. glad sense of relief	(ii) noise of the carriage grows fainter
3. a "funny" feeling, perhaps of understanding	(iii) father comes home (iv) speaking to father (v) going to bed when alone at home (vi) father comforts her and falls asleep (vii) father stretched out on the sofa, snoring

Answer

A	B
1. fear or terror	(iii) father comes home (iv) speaking to father (v) going to bed when alone at home (vii) father stretched out on the sofa snoring
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	(ii) her a goodbye kiss noise of the carriage grows fainter
3. a "funny" feeling, perhaps of understanding	(vi) father comforts her and falls asleep

Answer the following questions in one or two sentences

Question 1: Why was Kezia afraid of her father?

Answer: Kezia's father was a strict person, who always used to give commands to everybody else in the house. He never seemed to smile. He was having an overpowering personality. So Kezia was always in awe of him.

Question 2: Who were the people in Kezia's family?

Answer: Apart from Kezia and her father, there was Kezia's mother, grandmother and a cook in the family.

Question 3: What was Kezia's father's routine?

- (i) before going to his office?
- (ii) after coming back from his office?
- (iii) on Sundays?

Answer: (i) Before going to office the father used to give a casual kiss and asked her to say goodbye.

(ii) After coming back from office he would ask for newspaper and a cup of tea.

(iii) On Sundays he would sleep on the sofa with his face covered with his favourite cushion.

Question 4: In what ways did Kezia's grandmother encourage her to get to know her father better?

Answer: Kezia's grandmother used to encourage Kezia to serve tea and to fetch spectacles for her father, so that she could get opportunity to interact with him.

Discuss these questions in class with your teacher and then write down your answers in two or three paragraphs each

Question 1: Kezia's efforts to please her father resulted in displeasing him very much. How did this happen?

Answer: Kezia's grandmother asked her to make some surprise gift for the father's birthday. She wanted to make a nice pin cushion for her father. She wanted to stuff the cushion with some scraps. While searching for scrap she found some pieces of papers strewn on the bed. She used them to stuff the pin cushion.

But it was her sheer bad luck that those were not useless papers, but was speech written by her father. He had to deliver that speech at some important function. This made her father angry to the extent that he beat her up.

Question 2: Kezia decides that there are "different kinds of fathers". What kind of father was Mr Macdonald, and how was he different from Kezia's father?

Answer: Mr. Macdonald was of jovial nature. He used to play around with his kids. On the other hand Kezia's father was never seen in a playful mood and was always serious. He always scolded Kezia for seemingly minor mistakes. This was his way of bringing up a child.

Question 3: How does Kezia begin to see her father as a human being who needs her sympathy?

Answer: When Kezia's mother falls sick she is feeling lonely. To take solace she goes to sleep in her father's lap. While consoling her he seems to be an affectionate person. Kezia also feels the warmth of the proverbial

bear hug of her father. Now she feels quite safe and secure with her father. She realizes that because of his busy schedule her father is unable to give enough time to the family. When her father falls asleep before her, she realizes that her father is also a human being and he too needs sympathy.

Thinking about language :

Question 1:

Glad, happy, pleased, delighted, thrilled and overjoyed are synonyms (words or expressions that have the same or nearly the same meaning.) However, they express happiness in certain ways.

1. Use an appropriate word from the synonyms given above in the following sentences. Clues are given in brackets.

- (i) She was _____ by the news of her brother's wedding. (very pleased)
- (ii) I was _____ to be invited to the party. (extremely pleased and excited about)
- (iii) She was _____ at the birth of her granddaughter. (extremely happy)
- (iv) The coach was _____ with his performance. (satisfied about)
- (v) She was very _____ with her results. (happy about something that has happened)

2. Study the use of the word big in the following sentence.

He was so big – his hands and his neck, especially his mouth... Here, big means large in size.

Now, consult a dictionary and find out the meaning of big in the following sentences. The first one has been done for you.

- (i) You are a big girl now. Older
- (ii) Today you are going to take the biggest decision of your career. _____
- (iii) Their project is full of big ideas. _____
- (iv) Cricket is a big game in our country. _____
- (v) I am a big fan of Lata Mangeskar. _____
- (vi) You have to cook a bit more as my friend is a big eater. _____
- (vii) What a big heart you've got, Father dear. _____

Answer:

- 1. (i) She was delighted by the news of her brother's wedding.
- (ii) I was thrilled to be invited to the party.
- (iii) She was overjoyed at the birth of her granddaughter.
- (iv) The coach was pleased with his performance.
- (v) She was very happy with her results.

2. (i) Older
- (ii) Most important
- (iii) Excellent ideas
- (iv) Huge in popularity
- (v) Greatest
- (vi) Eats a lot (in quantity)
- (vii) A good and kind heart

Question 2:

1. Underline the verbs of reporting in the following sentences.

- (i) He says he will enjoy the ride.
- (ii) Father mentioned that he was going on a holiday.
- (iii) No one told us that the shop was closed.
- (iv) He answered that the price would go up.
- (v) I wondered why he was screaming.
- (vi) Ben told her to wake him up.
- (vii) Ratan apologised for coming late to the party.

2. Some verbs of reporting are given in the box. Choose the appropriate verbs and fill in the blanks in the following sentences. Were complaining Shouted Replied Remarked Ordered Suggested

- (i) "I am not afraid," _____ the woman.
- (ii) "Leave me alone," my mother _____.
- (iii) The children _____ that the roads were crowded and noisy.
- (iv) "Perhaps he isn't a bad sort of a chap after all," _____ the master.
- (v) "Let's go and look at the school ground," _____ the sports teacher.
- (vi) The traffic police _____ all the passers-by to keep off the road.

Answer:

1. (i) He says he will enjoy the ride.
- (ii) Father mentioned that he was going on a holiday.
- (iii) No one told us that the shop was closed.
- (iv) He answered that the price would go up.
- (v) I wondered why he was screaming.

- (vi) Ben told her to wake him up.
(vii) Ratan apologized for coming late to the party.

2. (i) "I am not afraid," replied the woman.
(ii) "Leave me alone," my mother shouted.
(iii) The children were complaining that the roads were crowded and noisy.
(iv) "Perhaps he isn't a bad sort of a chap after all," remarked the man.
(v) "Let's go and look at the school ground," suggested the sports teacher.
(vi) The traffic police ordered all the passers-by to keep off the road.

Rain on the Roof

Thinking about the poem
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I.

Question 1.

What do the following phrases mean to you? Discuss in class.

humid shadows

starry spheres

what a bliss

a thousand dreamy fancies into busy being start

a thousand recollections weave their air-threads into woof

Answer:

Humid shadows: These are the shadows of different things which become wet during the rainy season.

Starry spheres: The area where stars appear in a group in the sky.

What a bliss: The poet feels happy when he listens to the rain drops.

A thousand dreamy fancies into busy being start: The poet starts recollecting the past and finds himself lost in reveries and dreams in the rainy weather.

A thousand recollections weave their air-threads into woof: The poet recollects hundreds of memories in the rainy season. They weave a weft with the help of air-threads.

Question 2.

What does the poet like to do when it rains?

Answer:

When it rains the poet wants to lie on bed in a cottage and listen to pitter-patter sound of the rain

Question 3.

What is the single major memory that comes to the poet's mind? Who are the "darling dreamers" he refers to?

Answer:

The poet's mother is the single major memory that comes to his mind. 'Darling dreamers' are those 'kids' who remember their mothers like the poet.

Question 4.

Is the poet now a child? Is his mother still alive?

Answer:

No, the poet is not a child. His mother is no more. But her memories still haunt him.

II.

Question 1.

When you were a young child, did your mother tuck you in, as the poet's mother did?

Answer:

Yes, my mother used to tuck me in when I was a child. Whenever I said that I could not do some work, she embraced me and took me in her lap to get that work done. She used to feel sad and dejected if I was involved in any mishap.

Question 2.

Do you like rain? What do you do when it rains steadily or heavily as described in the poem?

Answer:

Yes, I like rain and prefer to take a bath in the rain for some time. But when it rains heavily, I stay inside and enjoy the beauty of nature.

Question 3.

Does everybody have a cosy bed to lie in when it rains? Look around you and describe how different kinds of people or animals spend time, seek shelter, etc. during rain.

Answer:

No, everybody is not so fortunate to have a cosy bed to lie in when it rains. There are some people who live at the railway platforms and bus terminal. They don't have even bed sheet, what to talk of comfortable beds.

