

Class 6

Lesson 15

**The Diary of a Space Traveller**

**Word meanings**

1. venture: undertaking
2. doomed: certain to fail
3. wisecracks: witty replies
4. jibes: taunts
5. pathetically: pitiful
6. bargained for: expected
7. luminous: shining

**Read and Write**

**A. Answer these questions.**

1. What were the four curious facts about the diary?

Ans: The four curious facts about the diary were

1. The colour of the ink changed from green to red then at home colour changed from blue to yellow.
2. The dog teeth could not damage the notebook.
3. It was impossible to tear a page from the diary.
4. The diary was thrown into naked flames but nothing happened.

2. Why did Professor Shonku's first attempt to travel into space fail?

Ans: Professor Shonku's first attempt to travel into space failed because of Prahlad. He had moved the arms of the clock. In this complex venture like this, every second matters. Prahlad's mistake delayed him by nearly three-and-a-half hours.

3. What was the Professor's reason for taking Prahlad with him?

Ans: Professor's reason for taking Prahlad with him was sometimes, slow and foolish people can show more courage than clever ones, as it takes them longer to reason, to feel scared.

4. Bindushekhar was in some way unlike a robot. How?

Ans: There has been times when Bindushekhar behaved unlike a robot. One such instance was when the scientist was building a rocket. He knew no ordinary component could help. He was about to add tantrum boropaxinate when a loud clanging noise began. He was trying to stop him from using the tantrum. Then he used vellosilica and met with complete success.

5. Professor Shonku had first been drawn to the idea of space travel by chance. Justify.

Ans: Yes Professor Shonku had first been drawn to the idea of space travel by chance. He was sitting in the garden one night and watching shooting stars. Suddenly he realized that one star appeared different from others. It was getting larger, and it seemed to be coming downwards towards him. The star came down and hung in the mid-air like a huge firefly next to a flowering gulancha tree. This sight prompted him to build a rocket.

6. What were the Professors view about life on Mars?

Ans: Professor has no doubts in his mind that there is life on Mars, though he had no idea whether that life is large or small, peaceful or violent. Surely there are creatures, they don't look anything like man.

**B. Answer the following with reference to the context.**

1. He had moved the arms of the clock. In a complex venture like this, every second matters.

a) who is 'he'?

Ans: He is Prahlad.

b) What is the 'complex venture'?

Ans: The complex venture was moving to space in a spacecraft.

c) What had happened as a result of the moving of the clock arms?

Ans: The result was that the launch was delayed by three-and-a-half hours.

2. I dropped a pill in his cup. That was my latest weapon.

a) Who do 'I' and 'his' refer to?

Ans: I is Professor Shonku and his is Avinash Babu.

b) Why did the person drop a pill in the other person's cup?

Ans: The person dropped a pill in the other person's cup because he was mocking him about his space travel.

c) Why does the person refer to it as a weapon?

Ans: The person referred to it as a weapon because there was no other way of making him quiet.

d) What was the pill capable of?

Ans: The pill was capable of making its victim break into frequent yawns and eventually sink into a deep slumber. In the sleep, the person is plagued by nightmares.

3. We will get there in another month. This morning, I suddenly became aware that Bindushekhar was actually trying to sing!

a) Who are 'we'?

Ans: We are Professor Shonku, Bindushekhar, Prahlad and Neuton his cat.

b) Where were they going? Where did they expect to be in a month's time?

Ans: They were going on a space travel to planet Mars. They were expecting to be on planet Mars in a month's time.

c) Who is Bindushekhhar? What was surprising fact that Bindushekhhar was trying to sing?

Ans: Bindushekhhar was a robot. It was surprising fact that he was trying to sing because he was not functioned to do that,