Mijbil the Otter – Revision Notes (Class 10 English)

Summary of the Lesson

- Author: Gavin Maxwell
- Narrator adopts an otter after his dog dies.
- He names the otter Mijbil (Mij).
- At first, Mij is shy and aloof, but soon he becomes playful, mischievous, and affectionate.
- Mij loves water—he swims, plays, and invents games in the bathroom.
- Narrator decides to travel with Mij to London.
- Faces difficulty carrying the otter on flights (restrictions).
- Keeps Mij in a box, but Mij escapes and causes chaos in the aircraft.
- Finally, people get curious and affectionate towards Mij.
- Story shows the bond between humans and animals.

Themes

- Love between humans and animals
- Adaptability of animals in human surroundings
- Playfulness and innocence of animals
- Companionship after loss
- Nature and wildlife conservation

Characters

- Narrator (Gavin Maxwell) → Lonely after his dog dies, adopts Mij, shows care and affection.
- **Mijbil (Mij)** → Playful, mischievous, water-loving otter who bonds with the narrator.
- **Airline & fellow passengers** → Initially doubtful, later curious and friendly.

Important Incidents

- Adopting Mij after the narrator's dog died.
- Mij's playful water activities (in bathroom, with things).
- Journey to London—difficulties carrying Mij.
- Mij's escape on the aircraft and creating a funny scene.

Message of the Lesson

- Animals are loyal, loving companions.
- Humans should develop sensitivity and compassion towards animals.
- Coexistence with nature and wildlife enriches human life.

Literary Devices

- Imagery → Descriptions of Mij's playfulness and water games.
- **Personification** → Mij portrayed with human-like emotions.
- Humour → Mij's mischievous actions on the flight.

? Short Questions & Answers

- 1. Who is the author of *Mijbil the Otter*?
 - Gavin Maxwell.
- 2. Why did the author adopt an otter?
 - f He was lonely after the death of his pet dog.
- 3. How did Mijbil behave in water?
 - f He was playful, invented games, and enjoyed swimming.
- 4. What difficulty did the narrator face while travelling with Mij?
 - 👉 Airlines had restrictions, and Mij created chaos on the aircraft.
- 5. How did people react to Mij?
 - *f* They were curious, amused, and affectionate.

Q1. Describe the bond between Gavin Maxwell and Mijbil.

Answer: Gavin Maxwell was lonely after his pet dog died, so he adopted Mijbil, an otter. At first, Mij was shy, but soon he became playful and affectionate. He loved water and invented games. Maxwell took great care of Mij and even carried him during his travels, despite difficulties. Their companionship shows love, trust, and bonding between humans and animals.

Q2. What qualities of Mijbil made him lovable?

Answer: Mijbil was intelligent, playful, mischievous, and curious. He loved water, created games, and entertained everyone with his actions. His innocence and affectionate nature made him endearing.

Q3. How did Mijbil create a humorous scene during the flight?

Answer: When carried in a box, Mij escaped inside the plane. He ran down the aisle, frightened passengers, and created chaos. But later, his cuteness attracted everyone's attention, making the scene funny rather than troublesome.

▼ Value-Based Q&A

- 1. What values are reflected in the author's relationship with Mijbil?
 - *†* Compassion, care, friendship, and responsibility towards animals.
- 2. What lesson about nature and wildlife does this story teach us?
 - Free Respecting and protecting animals, enjoying their company, and living in harmony with nature.
- With this, you now have:
 - Summary
 - Themes & characters
 - Short & Long Q&A
 - Values
 - Literary devices