# The Thief's Story – Revision Notes

#### Summary

- The story is narrated by a 15-year-old thief who earns his living by stealing.
- He meets Anil, a kind and simple writer, at a wrestling match.
- The thief flatters Anil and asks for work. Anil takes him in, teaches him to cook, and promises to teach him reading and writing.
- One night, the thief steals 600 rupees from Anil and runs away.
- But he realizes that if he leaves, he will lose the chance to learn how to read and write.
- He regrets his decision, returns to Anil's room, and quietly puts the money back.
- The next morning, Anil gives him money to buy groceries and says nothing about the theft, showing he understood everything.
- This kindness and trust reform the thief forever.

#### Theme

- Trust and Forgiveness → Anil's trust changes the thief's life.
- Education as Transformation → The thief realizes learning is more valuable than money.
- Human Goodness → Even a thief can be reformed through love and kindness.

#### Characters

- The Thief (Hari Singh) Young, clever, experienced in stealing, but later reformed.
- Anil Simple, kind-hearted, trusting, and compassionate writer.

## Message of the Story

- Love, trust, and kindness can change people more than punishment.
- Education and values are more valuable than material wealth.

Forgiveness can reform even wrongdoers.

### Literary Devices

- First-person narrative → Story told from thief's point of view.
- Irony → Thief returns money instead of keeping it.
- Contrast → Between material wealth (money) and real wealth (education, trust).
- Humour → In cooking scenes where thief fails badly.

#### ? Short Questions & Answers

- 1. Who is the author of *The Thief's Story*?
  - r Ruskin Bond.
- 2. How old was the thief?
  - 👉 15 years old.
- 3. What work did Anil do?
  - **f** He was a writer.
- 4. How much money did the thief steal?
  - fraction 600 rupees.
- 5. Why did the thief return the money?
  - F He realized that education and Anil's trust were more valuable than money.
- 6. How did Anil react the next morning?
  - **GRAPH** He gave him money for groceries and said nothing about the theft, showing silent forgiveness.

# Long Q&A

Q1. Why did the thief decide to return to Anil after stealing the money?

Answer: After stealing the money, the thief realized that Anil trusted him and wanted to teach him to read and write. If he left with the money, he would lose the chance of education and a better future. His conscience made him regret his act, and he returned the money quietly. This shows his inner transformation.

#### Q2. How did Anil's behavior change the thief's life?

Answer: Anil treated the thief with kindness, gave him food and shelter, and trusted him. Even after the theft, Anil forgave him silently and continued to treat him kindly. This generosity touched the thief's heart and reformed him, showing that kindness and trust can change even a criminal's life.

### Value-Based Q&A

- 1. What value does Anil's character highlight?
  - **\*\* Trust, forgiveness, and compassion.**
- 2. What lesson does the story teach us?
  - **Education** and values are more powerful than money; kindness can reform wrongdoers.
- 3. What moral can students learn?
  - **f** To value honesty, education, and trust over temporary gains.