Vikram’s English Academy (ICSE)

Question Bank: Chapter 5 (Part 2)

1. Describe in brief about Ged's two dreams. What did hedo to protect himself from it?

The first time he dreamt he saw the shadow that would leave him as always in the same cold dread sense and power drained out of him leaving him stupid and astray. He setup the barriers of sorcery he could about his house and about the isle where he lived. He knew that if he must ever renew the spell-walls he would spend all is strength on the defences and he would be of no use to the islanders.

In the second dream he saw that the shadow was inside his house beside the door reaching out to him through the darkness and whispering words he did not understand. He woke in terror and sent the werelight flaming through the air lighting every corner of the little house till he saw no shadow anywhere.Then he put wood on the coals of his fire pit and sat in the firelight. An old anger had wakened in his heart. He would not suffer this helpless waiting, this sitting trapped on a little Island muttering useless spells of lock and ward. Yet he could not flee the trap. To do so would be to break his trust with the islanders and to leave them to the imminent Dragon undefended.

1. What did Ged do the next morning? Why did he leave?

The next morning, he went down among the fishermen and finding the Head isle-man he told him that he must leave the place as he was in danger and he would be putting the others in danger too. Therefore, he should be leaving and do away with the Dragons so that his task for them is over and he may leave freely. The Isle Man stared and said that there are nine Dragons out of which eight are still young. Ged insisted that he should leave to get rid of the dragon first.

1. How did people to Ged's leaving?

All those who listened thought whether this was a folly or a crazy courage in their young wizard and with sullen faces they saw him go expecting no news of him again. Some hinted that he meant merely to sail back by Hosk to the Inmost Sea leaving them in a lurch. Others including Pechvarry thought that he had gone mad and sought death.

1. What did Ged know of Pendor island with respect to the fear from the dragon?

Ged knew that since four generations of men all ships had set their course to keep far from the shores. No mage had ever come to do combat with the dragon there for the island was on no travelled sea- road and its lords had been pirates, slave- takers, war-makers, hated by all that dwelt in the southwest parts of Earthsea. For this reason, none had sought to prevent the Lord of Pendor after the dragon came suddenly out of the west upon him and his men where they sat feasting in the tower and smothered them with the flames of his mouth and drove all the townsfolk screaming into the sea. Avenged, Pendor had been left to the dragon with all its bones, towers and jewels stolen from long dead princes.

1. What happened at the entrance of the harbour?

At the entrance of the harbour, GED summoned the dragon to come and defend his hoard. His voice felt short due to the breakers but dragons have keen ears. One flitted up from some roofless ruin of the town line a vast black bar and came circling towards Ged. GED's heart swelled at the sight of the creature that was a myth to his people and he mocked at it addressing it as wind-worm and said that he wanted the old one to come.

1. Which dragon had come first to meet Ged?

He was one of the youngest dragons spawned years ago. He was not large od his kind may be the length of a forty-oared ship. He had not got his growth yet nor his voice, nor any dragon cunning.

1. Describe the encounter Ged had with three dragons.

When the first dragon came straight, he opened his long-toothed jaws as he slid down arrows from the air. Ged bound his wings and limbs stiff with one sharp sperm and sent him hurtling aside into the sea like a stone falling. Next two dragons rose like the first one from the base of the highest tower. Even as the first one came driving straight at Ged, he caught them both hurled them down and drowned them without even lifting the wizard's staff.

1. Mention what happened with the next three dragons.

After some time, one of the next three dragons came who was greater and spewed fire from its jaws. Other two came crying at him and then came the big one circling from behind. No binding spell would catch all three as two came from the north and one from the south. GED instantly worked a spell of Changing and in one moment his boat flew up in dragon form. Spreading broad winds and reaching talons he met the two head-on withering them with fire and then turned to the third who was larger than Ged. He flew upward and the other pursued. In mid-flight dragon, Ged raised his wings stopped and stooped as the hawk stoops bearing the other down by neck and flank. The black wings flurries and dragon-blood dropped into the sea. The Pendor dragon store free and flew low and lamely to the island where it hid. At once Ged took his form, his hands were black with scalding worm-blood. He was scorched about the head with fire and on getting his breath back he said that he had seen six, five slain and nine are told of.

1. How did Ged come across the last dragon?

Ged had seen how the highest tower slowly changed is shape bulging out on one side as if it grew an arm. He feared dragon magic because the dragons are powerful and guileful in sorcery. What he had taken for a part of the tower was the shoulder of the Dragon Pendor.

1. Mention in brief the conversation that Ged and the Dragon had.

The Dragon was angry to have his five sons dead. He says that Ged would not win his hoard by killing them. Ged told him that he did not want his hoard. The dragon laughs and says that he should come ashore and take a look at it. Later the dragon asks if the little wizard and gone to ask his help. To which Ged disagrees and the dragons replies that he could still help Ged from the thing that hunts in the dark. Ged stood dumbstruck and reveals that he doesn’t know the name. The dragon suggests that if he knew the name, he could master it and offers to reveal the name to Ged. Ged was surprised to know how the dragon would know the name. However, he wasn’t sure if the dragon lied or he said the truth. The dragon further continued that they seldom ask any favour from the men however it is very common for the cats (dragons) to play with the mice (people). Ged retorts saying that he hadn't gone there to play or to be played with. He had gone there to strike a bargain.

1. How did the dragon react to the word 'bargain'?

The dragon said drily that he won’t strike any bargain. He said in pride what the little wizard would offer that he cannot take when he likes. Ged answered that it was safety. A grating sound was given out and the dragon simply mentioned how Ged would offer him safety. The dragon asked him how it was that Ged would threaten him. Ged answered that he was to threaten him with his name Yevaud.

1. Was Ged confident about the dragon's name?

No Ged was not confident about the dragon's name as his voice shook when he spoke the name. He had staked this venture and his life on a guess drawn from old histories of Dragon-lore learned on Roke. A guess that this Dragon of Pendor was the same that had spoiled the west of Osskil in the days of Elfarran and Morred and had been driven from osskil by the wizard.

1. How were the dragon and Ged matched? Was he willing to bargain? What did the dragon offer?

Ged and the dragon were matched as dragon had its strength and Ged had the dragon's name. Ged asked again if he wished to bargain. The dragon was not willing to bargain and thus asked Ged if would like to choose nine stones; even the best ones according to his choice from hoard. Ged answered that he didn’t want the gems.

1. How did the dragon react after Ged's refusal to take the gems?

The dragon was surprised as he wondered where men's greed had gone as men loved bright stones in the old days. He further said that he knew what Ged wanted and so he too offered his safety. He knew what could save Ged and he was willing to share its name. The name of the shadow.

1. Did Ged accept his offer of revealing the name of the shadow? What did he ask for instead?

Ged did not accept his offer of revealing the name of the shadow. Instead he asked the dragon to swear by his name that he and his sons would never go to the Archipelago. The dragon immediately agreed and swore by his name.

1. What happened after Yevaud, the dragon, lowered his great head?

Yevaud the dragon lowered his great head and after a while when he raised it again and looked the wizard and gone. In rage the old dragon of Pendor rose by breaking the tower with the writhing of his body and beating his wings that spanned the whole width of the ruined town. But his oath held him and he did not fly then or ever to the Archipelago.