**Chapter 4 : Henry — Questions and Answers**

| **Word** | **Meaning** |
| --- | --- |
| **chameleon** | **a lizard-like creature with large eyes and a long tail that can change its colour** |
| **distinguished** | **(here) seen as different from others** |
| **outstanding** | **noticeable** |
| **crest** | **skin on top of a bird or animal’s head** |
| **limbs** | **arms or legs** |
| **rigid** | **hard and not easy to bend** |
| **slender** | **thin** |
| **hurling** | **throwing something with a lot of strength** |
| **brandishing** | **shaking or waving something** |
| **capable** | **having the qualities for doing something** |
| **risen in arms** | **were angry and protesting something** |
| **patient** | **to do something in a careful way for a long time, without hurrying** |
| **riot** | **a situation in which a group of people make a lot of noise and trouble** |
| **lodged** | **fixed or stuck** |
| **smuggle** | **move things secretly** |
| **blush** | **to become red in the face because of shyness or shame** |
| **took fright** | **suddenly became frightened** |
| **incident** | **something that happens** |
| **dutifully** | **to do something that is expected from you** |
| **popped** | **appeared suddenly** |

**1. Through this narrative, the author passes on information on the characteristics of a chameleon along with telling us a story. Which piece of information does this story give us?**

a. Chameleons are harmful.  
b. Chameleons are poisonous.  
c. Chameleons are reptiles.  
**Answer:** c. Chameleons are reptiles.

**2. An anecdote is a story that narrates in short something interesting or exciting that happened. What is this anecdote mainly about?**

a. The ripe papayas grown by the gardener.  
b. The incident caused by Henry at the school.  
c. The way Henry sunned himself on the garden wall.  
**Answer:** b. The incident caused by Henry at the school.

**3. The theme of a story is about the main message or lesson that the author wants us to learn from the story. Which of the following is the theme of 'Henry'?**

a. Be kind to harmless creatures.  
b. Shout and scream when you see a chameleon.  
c. Use animals to frighten others.  
**Answer:** a. Be kind to harmless creatures.

**4. Good writers have a purpose or reason in mind when they write. Why do you think the writer has chosen to write this story?**

a. To make readers feel scared.  
b. To make readers feel bored.  
c. To make readers laugh.  
**Answer:** c. To make readers laugh.

**Deep Dive Questions**

1. Grandfather was in time to save the chameleon from certain death and brought the little reptile home.

a. Where was the chameleon?  
**Answer:** The chameleon was sunning himself on a shrub at the garden gate.

b. Why would the chameleon have faced 'certain death'?  
**Answer:** People thought the chameleon was poisonous and dangerous, so they wanted to kill it.

c. Which words does the author use to tell us that the chameleon was harmless?  
**Answer:** The author says Henry was a “harmless creature” and “patient.”

d. What does the given line tell us about the qualities the author's grandfather has?  
**Answer:** It shows that the grandfather is kind and brave to save Henry.

1. Grandmother heard all about the incident from Mrs Ghosh, but did not tell her that the chameleon was ours.

a. What incident did Grandmother hear about from Mrs Ghosh?  
**Answer:** That Henry had escaped from the basket and caused a noisy scene at the school.

b. Why do you think Mrs Ghosh was not told that the chameleon belonged to the author's family?  
**Answer:** Because people were scared of the chameleon and thought it was poisonous.

c. Discuss whether having a chameleon as a pet is unusual. Think of the reactions of the people around if you kept a chameleon as a pet.  
**Answer:** Yes, it is unusual. Many people might be scared or think the pet is dangerous.

**Read, Reflect and Write**

1. When the children saw Henry, they ran in all directions. Why did they do this? What would you have done if you were in the classroom?  
   **Answer:** The children were scared of Henry because they didn’t know much about chameleons. If I were in the classroom, I would have stayed calm and watched Henry quietly.
2. What do we learn about the writer's feelings for animals from this story? Do you share these feelings? Give reasons for your answer.  
   **Answer:** The writer cares for animals and thinks they should be treated kindly. I agree because animals are harmless and need our care.

**Integrate**

**Odd one out:**

1. Sparrow (only bird)
2. Earthworm (not an insect)
3. Ladybird (only insect)
4. Giraffe (not amphibian or reptile)
5. Octopus (not a fish)

**Animal analogies:**

1. Cheetah is to fast as tortoise is to **slow**
2. Spider is to web as rabbit is to **burrow**
3. Dolphin is to swim as bat is to **fly**
4. Butterfly is to caterpillar as frog is to **tadpole**
5. Porcupine is to prickly as worm is to **slimy**
6. Spider is to eight legs as octopus is to eight **tentacles**

**Poem: Mr Nobody**

**Word Meanings**

| **Word** | **Meaning** |
| --- | --- |
| mischief | Behaviour or acts that cause trouble but are not harmful |
| 'tis | It is |
| scatters | Throws or drops things in different directions so that they cover an area on the ground |
| prithee | An exclamation used when asking somebody politely to do something |
| damp | Slightly wet |
| mislaid | Put something somewhere and then be unable to find it again, especially for a short time |
| soil | Become dirty |
| ajar | Slightly open |
| blinds | Roll of cloth fixed at the top of a window, which can be pulled up or down to block sunlight |

**Question and Answers**

**1. Choose the right answer.**

a. What is the poem mostly about?  
i. An actual person who does mischief  
ii. An imaginary person blamed for mischief  
iii. Everybody in the house

**Answer:** The poem is mostly about an imaginary person who is blamed for mischief, so the correct answer is **ii**.

b. Which of the following is a comparison?  
i. A funny little man  
ii. As quiet as a mouse  
iii. 'Tis he who always tears out books

**Answer:** The line "as quiet as a mouse" is a comparison, so the correct answer is **ii**.

c. 'He pulls the buttons from our shirts, and scatters pins afar;'  
Here the word 'afar' means—  
i. at a distance  
ii. close by  
iii. nowhere

**Answer:** The word 'afar' means **i. at a distance**.

d. According to the poet, what is the one thing that everyone agrees on?  
i. The mischief and mess are nobody's fault.  
ii. Everybody is to blame for the mischief and mess around the house.  
iii. Mr Nobody causes all the mischief and mess.

**Answer:** Everyone agrees that **iii. Mr Nobody causes all the mischief and mess**.

**2. Read these lines and answer the questions that follow.**

*He puts damp wood upon the fire*  
*That kettles cannot boil;*  
*His are the feet that bring in mud,*  
*And all the carpets soil.*

a. Who is blamed for putting damp wood upon the fire?  
**Answer:** Mr Nobody is blamed for putting damp wood upon the fire.

b. What is the effect of the damp wood?  
**Answer:** The damp wood stops the kettles from boiling.

c. What soils the carpets?  
**Answer:** The feet of Mr Nobody bring in mud and soil the carpets.

**3. Which of the following are the rhyming pairs from the poem? Circle them.**

* man-done
* mouse-house
* ajar-afar
* made-fade
* spill-all

**Answer:** The rhyming pairs from the poem are **mouse-house** and **made-fade**.

**4. Complete the list of mischief and mess described in the poem.**

a. Cracks plates  
b. Tears out books  
c. Leaves the door ajar  
d. Pulls buttons from shirts  
e. Scatters pins  
f. Does not oil the door  
g. Puts damp wood on the fire  
h. Brings in mud  
i. Soils the carpets  
j. Mislays papers  
k. Leaves the blinds open  
l. Spills ink  
m. Leaves boots lying around

**5. What does the poet want to show through the poem?**

**Answer:** The poet wants to show that whenever there is mischief or mess in the house, everyone blames it on Mr Nobody, an imaginary person, to avoid taking the blame themselves.

**Appreciation — Similes and Metaphors**

**1. Write M against the sentences with metaphors and S against the sentences with similes.**

a. Books are treasure chests. — **M**  
b. Reading a book is like taking a journey into new lands. — **S**  
c. My pillow feels as soft as a cloud. — **S**  
d. My grandmother is a mountain of strength. — **M**  
e. Our teacher is a walking encyclopaedia. — **M**  
f. Nurses are angels. — **M**  
g. The setting sun was like a pot of melting butter. — **S**  
h. This train moves as slow as a snail. — **S**

**2. Use similes to describe yourself.**

I am as brave as a lion.  
I am as funny as a clown.  
I am as smart as a fox.  
I am as sweet as honey.  
I am as happy as a lark.  
I am as loud as thunder.

**3. Use metaphors to describe any five of the nouns given in the box.**

* The moon is a silver ball in the sky.
* My best friend is a shining star.
* My class is a beehive of activity.
* My mother is a guiding light.
* A tree is a green umbrella.

**Chapter 4: The Hero of Haarlem**

**Word Meanings**

| **Word** | **Meaning** |
| --- | --- |
| Netherlands | A country in Western Europe called 'Low Countries' |
| dykes | Great thick walls as wide as roads to hold back sea water |
| elderly | A polite word for old |
| swollen | Larger than usual |
| chores | Tasks that you do regularly |
| strained | Showing the effects of pressure |
| pelted | Fell very heavily (rain or stones) |
| piercing | Very strong and sharp (wind or cold) |
| pressed on | Continued to walk despite difficulty |
| hunching | Bending the top part of the body forward |
| seeped | Flowed slowly and in a small quantity |
| crept | Moved slowly and carefully |
| drowned out | Made the sound so loud no other sounds can be heard |
| trickling | Flowing slowly in a thin line |
| plug | To fill a hole with something tightly |
| swirl | Move quickly in a circle |

**Questions and Answers**

**1. While the wind turned the windmills, and the rain watered the tulips, the strained and swollen dykes kept filling, worrying Hans as he passed.**

a. Where was Hans going?

* i. To the market
* ii. To his father's trip
* iii. To Mr Jansen's house

**Answer:** Hans was going to Mr Jansen’s house.

b. What was he worried about?

* i. The food
* ii. The dykes filling up and breaking
* iii. The rain

**Answer:** He was worried about the dykes filling up and breaking.

c. Apart from the dykes, which two other things mentioned in these lines tell us where the story is set?

* i. Rain and wind
* ii. Windmills and tulips
* iii. Sea and sand

**Answer:** The windmills and tulips tell us the story is set in the Netherlands.

d. How is the setting of the story tied to the plot?

* i. The sea floods the town
* ii. The dyke prevents the sea from flooding the town
* iii. The story is set on a mountain

**Answer:** The dyke prevents the sea from flooding the town, which is central to the story.

**2. The rain kept pelting and the wind continued to swirl. But still Hans kept his fist plugged in the hole. He knew that in order to save his town, he could not let the water break through the dyke.**

a. How did Hans discover the leak in the dyke?

* i. He heard a noise
* ii. He saw a small hole with water trickling through
* iii. Someone told him

**Answer:** Hans saw a small hole with water trickling through.

b. Which quality or trait in Hans' character is brought out by these lines?

* i. He is scared
* ii. He is lazy
* iii. He is brave and responsible

**Answer:** He is brave and responsible.

c. What do you think motivated Hans to act in this manner?

* i. Fear of punishment
* ii. Love for his town and duty
* iii. To impress his father

**Answer:** His love for his town and duty motivated him to act.

**Read, Reflect and Write**

1. List the words and phrases from the story that describe the weather.  
   **Answer:** Heavy rain, spring rain, hard rain, piercing cold wind, swelling dykes, pelted rain.
2. Why do you think Mr Jansen was always very happy when Hans came to visit?  
   **Answer:** Because Hans was kind, patient, and cared to visit him with goodies.
3. Do you think 'The Hero of Haarlem' is a good title for this story? Give a reason to support your answer. Suggest another suitable title for the story.  
   **Answer:** Yes, because Hans was a hero who saved the town by plugging the dyke. Another title could be "Hans and the Leaky Dyke."

**Chapter 5: A Day to Remember**

**Word Meanings**

| **Word** | **Meaning** |
| --- | --- |
| vaguely | In a way that is not detailed or exact |
| imitate | To copy |
| tussle | A short argument or struggle |
| regret | Feeling sad or sorry about something |
| pleasure | Feeling happy or satisfied |
| honeysuckle | A climbing plant with nice smelling flowers |
| spout | A stream of liquid coming out with force |
| gushed | Flowed out suddenly and quickly |

**Questions and Answers**

**1. Number these events from the text in the correct order.**

a. Helen could not grasp the connection between words and things.  
b. Helen met Anne Sullivan.  
c. Helen felt confused and angry.  
d. Helen felt regret and sadness.  
e. Helen learnt that everything had a name.  
f. Helen got a doll from Anne.  
g. Helen longed for a new day.  
h. Helen threw the doll down and broke it.

**Answer:** The correct order is: b, f, a, c, h, e, d, g.

**2. 'A Day to Remember' is a personal narrative because:**

a. Anne Sullivan tells Helen's story.  
b. Helen's mother tells the story.  
c. Helen tells her own story.

**Answer:** It is a personal narrative because Helen tells her own story.

**3. Which of the following makes this text an autobiographical narrative?**

a. The author mentions personal thoughts and feelings about an event in her childhood.  
b. The narrator of the story is the author.  
c. The plot created has events in sequence.

**Answer:** All are correct, especially a and b because the author is the narrator and shares personal feelings.

**4. The most important day I remember in all my life is the one on which my teacher came to me, three months before I was seven years old.**

a. Who is the narrator?  
**Answer:** Helen Keller.

b. How could the narrator guess that this day was important?  
**Answer:** Because she felt something different was going to happen.

c. Why does the narrator say it was the most important day?  
**Answer:** Because it was the day her teacher came and changed her life.

d. What qualities does the narrator’s teacher have?  
**Answer:** Patience, kindness, and determination.

**5. Understanding that living word thrilled me, making me feel hope and joy. I felt free!**

a. What had happened?  
**Answer:** Helen understood that words had meaning.

b. Why does the author use the phrase "living word"?  
**Answer:** Because it was a real word connected to something she could feel.

c. What do you think about the teaching method?  
**Answer:** It was effective because Helen learned by feeling and connecting words.

d. How do you learn difficult words?  
**Answer:** By asking, seeing, and practicing.

**Chapter 6: Tenali Rama and the Dream Kingdom**

**Word Meanings**

| **Word** | **Meaning** |
| --- | --- |
| mighty | Very strong or powerful |
| empire | Group of states ruled by one person |
| splendid | Very beautiful |
| courtiers | People who attend a king’s court |
| flatter | To say nice things to please someone |
| reasoning | Talking logically to convince someone |
| jester | A person who entertains in the king’s court |
| astonished | Very surprised |
| entourage | Group that follows an important person |

**Questions and Answers**

**1. From where did the king get the idea of building a palace in the air?**

* i. From a story
* ii. From a dream
* iii. From his ministers

**Answer:** The king got the idea from a dream.

**2. What did the courtiers think about this idea?**

* i. It was possible
* ii. It was impossible
* iii. They did not say anything

**Answer:** The courtiers thought it was impossible.

**3. Which words in the title tell us the idea is impossible?**

* i. Dream
* ii. Palace
* iii. Kingdom

**Answer:** The word “Dream” tells us it is not real.

**4. Is the king stubborn and foolish or wise and just? Give reasons.**

**Answer:** The king is stubborn and foolish because he insists on something impossible despite advice.

**5. What was the king’s reaction to the statement about being robbed in a dream?**

**Answer:** He was surprised and did not believe it.

**6. Did the king’s reaction show fault in his logic?**

**Answer:** Yes, because he believed his own dream but not that of another person.

**7. Why was the king not angry at Tenali Rama’s trick?**

**Answer:** Because the trick helped him see the truth cleverly.

**Poem: Foreign Lands**

**Word Meanings**

| **Word** | **Meaning** |
| --- | --- |
| abroad | All around |
| foreign | From a different country |
| dimpling river | River that appears to have small folds or dents |
| looking-glass | A mirror |
| playthings | Toys |
| trampling | Walking heavily |
| adorned | Decorated |
| on either hand | On both sides |

**Questions and Answers**

**1. Fill in the blanks with words from the poem.**

a. The river is compared to a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ for the sky.  
**Answer:** looking-glass

b. We know the speaker is a child because he uses the word \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ himself.  
**Answer:** me

c. ‘Abroad’ means ‘at a great distance’ and is often confused with \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, which means ‘more’.  
**Answer:** further

d. Because the river seems to crease, fold and unfold, it is described as \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.  
**Answer:** dimpling

e. Rivers start in mountains and end in seas. So if the river is young in the mountains, it will be \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ by the time it reaches the sea.  
**Answer:** old

**2. Read these lines and answer the questions.**

a. I held the trunk with both my hands  
And looked abroad on foreign lands.

i. Who has climbed the tree? What tree is it?  
**Answer:** A child has climbed the cherry tree.

ii. What are the foreign lands seen from the top of the tree?  
**Answer:** Next-door gardens and many pleasant places.

iii. Are these really foreign lands? Why does the speaker say they are?  
**Answer:** They are not really foreign; the child finds them new and exciting.

b. If I could find a higher tree,  
Farther and farther I should see.

i. Why does the speaker wish to find a higher tree?  
**Answer:** To see further and more places.

ii. What does the speaker wish to see?  
**Answer:** The grown-up river slipping into the sea and roads leading to fairy land.

iii. Why is the word ‘farther’ repeated?  
**Answer:** To show the child's desire to keep climbing higher.

**3. Would you like to travel and see foreign lands? What would you like to see?**

**Answer:**  Yes, I want to travel and see beautiful mountains, rivers, and different cities.