

CHAPTER – 3

TARO’S REWARD

2 MARK QUESTIONS

1. Why did Taro run in the direction of the stream?

Answer:

Taro ran in the direction of the stream because he was very thirsty. He had never seen a rushing stream or heard the sound of falling water in that part of the forest.

2. How did Taro’s father show his happiness after drinking saké?

Answer:

Taro’s father was so delighted with the saké that when he swallowed a sip of the liquid, he stopped shivering and became energetic and did a little dance in the middle of the floor.

3. Why did Taro plant a bamboo shoot in his garden?

Answer:

Taro planted a bamboo shoot in his garden to grow bamboo for making baskets.

4. How did the old man help Taro in planting the bamboo shoot?

Answer:

The old man helped Taro by giving him a bamboo shoot and instructing him on how to plant it properly.

5. Why did the bamboo shoot grow into a beautiful bamboo plant?

Answer:

The bamboo shoot grew into a beautiful bamboo plant because Taro took care of it, watered it, and followed the old man's instructions.

6. What did Taro decide to make from the bamboo plant, and why?

Answer:

Taro decided to make baskets from the bamboo plant because he wanted to use them for carrying flowers to the temple and selling them.

7. Describe the baskets made by Taro and their significance.

Answer:

Taro made beautiful baskets with different shapes and sizes. They were significant as they showcased his craftsmanship and were used for carrying flowers to the temple.

8. How did Taro feel when he presented the baskets to the priest, and why?

Answer:

Taro felt proud and happy when he presented the baskets to the priest because he had worked hard to grow the bamboo and create the baskets. He wanted to offer something special to the temple.

9. What did the priest do with the baskets, and how did Taro feel about it?

Answer:

The priest sold the baskets and used the money to buy a bronze bell for the temple. Taro felt rewarded and grateful that his hard work contributed to the temple's improvement.

10. Why is the story titled "Taro's Reward"?

Answer:

The story is titled "Taro's Reward" because Taro's efforts in growing bamboo, making baskets, and presenting them to the temple resulted in a tangible reward - the improvement of the temple through the purchase of a bronze bell.

4 MARK QUESTIONS

1. Why did the waterfall give Taro saké and others water?

Answer:

The waterfall gave Taro saké and others water because Taro was a very thoughtful and dutiful son to his parents. He used to serve his parents with dedication and sincerity. The saké from the waterfall was a reward for his goodness. On the other hand, the people of his village got plain water because they were greedy.

2. Why did the villagers want to drown Taro?

Answer:

When the villagers went to the waterfall with big pitchers and vessels to collect saké, they simply got plain water from the waterfall. They thought that Taro had fooled and tricked them. Hence, they decided to punish him by drowning him in the same waterfall.

3. Why did the Emperor reward Taro?

Answer:

Taro was a very dutiful son to his parents and served them with devotion. The Emperor rewarded him with twenty pieces of gold for being so good and kind to his parents. He also named the fountain after Taro. Through this reward, the Emperor declared Taro a role

model for all children and wanted to encourage all of them to love, honor, and obey their parents.

4. Describe Taro's initial encounter with the old man and the bamboo shoot. How did this interaction set the foundation for the story?

Answer:

Taro met an old man who gave him a bamboo shoot and taught him how to plant it. This interaction laid the foundation for the story, as it initiated Taro's journey of cultivating bamboo, crafting baskets, and ultimately contributing to the improvement of the temple.

5. Discuss the significance of the bamboo shoot growing into a beautiful bamboo plant. How did Taro's care and dedication play a role in this transformation?

Answer:

The bamboo shoot's transformation into a beautiful bamboo plant symbolizes Taro's care and dedication. By following the old man's instructions, Taro nurtured the plant, showcasing the theme of hard work and dedication leading to success.

6. Explain the process of Taro making baskets from the bamboo plant. How did his craftsmanship contribute to the overall story?

Answer:

Taro used his skills to carefully craft baskets of different shapes and sizes from the bamboo plant. His craftsmanship not only demonstrated his talent but also became a crucial element in the later events of the story.

7. Describe Taro's emotions when he presented the baskets to the priest. How did this moment reflect his sense of achievement and contribution to the temple?

Answer:

Taro felt proud and happy when presenting the baskets to the priest. This moment reflected his sense of achievement, as he realized that his hard work had resulted in something valuable that could contribute to the temple's well-being.

8. Analyze the priest's decision to sell the baskets and use the money to buy a bronze bell for the temple. How did this act contribute to the overall theme of community and cooperation?

Answer:

The priest's decision to sell the baskets and purchase a bronze bell showcased community and cooperation. It emphasized the

collaborative effort of individuals like Taro contributing to the welfare of the temple, reinforcing the theme of collective progress.

9. Reflect on the theme of reward in the story. How did Taro's efforts lead to a tangible reward, and what message does this convey to the readers?

Answer:

Taro's efforts resulted in a tangible reward when the priest used the money from selling the baskets to buy a bronze bell. This conveys the message that hard work, dedication, and contributions to the community can bring meaningful rewards.

GRAMMAR

1. Mark the right item.

1. Taro earned very little money because

- (i) he didn't work hard enough.
- (ii) the villagers didn't need wood.
- (iii) the price of wood was very low.

2. Taro decided to earn extra money

- (i) to live a more comfortable life.
- (ii) to buy his old father some saké.
- (iii) to repair the cracks in the hut.

3. The neighbour left Taro's hut in a hurry because

- (i) she was delighted with the drink.
- (ii) she was astonished to hear Taro's story.
- (iii) she wanted to tell the whole village about the waterfall.

Answer:

1. Taro earned very little money because

- (iii) the price of wood was very low.

2. Taro decided to earn extra money

- (ii) to buy his old father some saké.

3. The neighbor left Taro's hut in a hurry because

(iii) she wanted to tell the whole village about the waterfall.

2. Strike off the words in the box below that are not suitable.

Taro wanted to give his old parents everything they needed.

This shows that he was ...

thoughtful	hardworking	loving	honest
considerate	trustworthy	efficient	kind

Answer:

honest, trustworthy, efficient.

3. 1. "This made Taro sadder than ever."

'This' refers to

(i) a strong wind that began to blow.

(ii) Taro's father's old age.

(iii) Taro's inability to buy expensive saké for his father.

(Mark the right item.)

2. "This, said the emperor, was to encourage all children to honour and obey their parents."

'This' refers to

- (i) the most beautiful fountain in the city.
 - (ii) rewarding Taro with gold and giving the fountain his name.
 - (iii) sending for Taro to hear his story.
- (Mark the right item.)

Answer:

1. “This made Taro sadder than ever.”

‘This’ refers to

(iii) Taro’s inability to buy expensive saké for his father.

2. “This, said the emperor, was to encourage all children to honour and obey their parents.”

‘This’ refers to

(ii) rewarding Taro with gold and giving the fountain his name.

4. Arrange the words below in pairs that rhyme.

Example: young – lung

money – sunny

young	sad	money	chop	lung	last
wax	could	bad	sound	axe	wood

way	stop	sunny	fast	round	day
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Answer:

sad	bad
chop	stop
last	fast
wax	axe
could	wood
sound	round
way	day

5. Fill in the blanks with words from the box.

lonely	little	hard	young
thoughtful	delicious	beautiful	

A _____ woodcutter lived on a _____ hillside. He was a _____ son who worked _____ but earned _____ money. One day he saw a _____ waterfall hidden behind a rock. He tasted the water and found it _____.

Answer:

A *young* woodcutter lived on a *lonely* hillside. He was a *thoughtful* son who worked *hard* but earned *little* money. One day he saw a *beautiful* waterfall hidden behind a rock. He tasted the water and found it *delicious*.

6. Find these sentences in the story and fill in the blanks.

- (i) This made Taro _____ than ever.
- (ii) He decided to work _____ than before.
- (iii) Next morning, Taro jumped out of bed _____ than usual.
- (iv) He began to chop even _____.
- (v) Next morning, Taro started for work even _____ than the morning before.

Answer:

- (i) This made Taro *sadder* than ever.
- (ii) He decided to work *harder* than before.
- (iii) Next morning, Taro jumped out of bed *earlier* than usual.
- (iv) He began to chop even *faster*.
- (v) Next morning, Taro started for work even *earlier* than the morning before.

7. 1. The story 'Taro's Reward' shows that Taro is thoughtful, hardworking and also wise. Read aloud the parts of story that show these qualities in Taro.

2. (i) Like Patrick in the story 'Who Did Patrick's Homework', Taro is helped by magic. Do you believe in magic? What are the magical things that happen in these stories?

(ii) Which story do you like better, and why? Do you know such stories in other languages? Discuss these questions in class.

3. Now write a paragraph or two about these two stories, comparing them.

Answer:

1. "All day long, he chopped wood in the forest. Though he worked very hard, he earned very little money. This made him sad, for he was a thoughtful son and wanted to give his old parents everything they needed."

"But Taro had been wise enough to slip behind a rock when he saw how things were going."

1. (i) Yes, I believe in magic. But I also know that it is a matter of playing tricks that require practice. In Patrick's story, there is an elf that helps him to do his homework. In Taro's story, magical things happen when the water of the beautiful little waterfall behind the rocks tastes like saké.

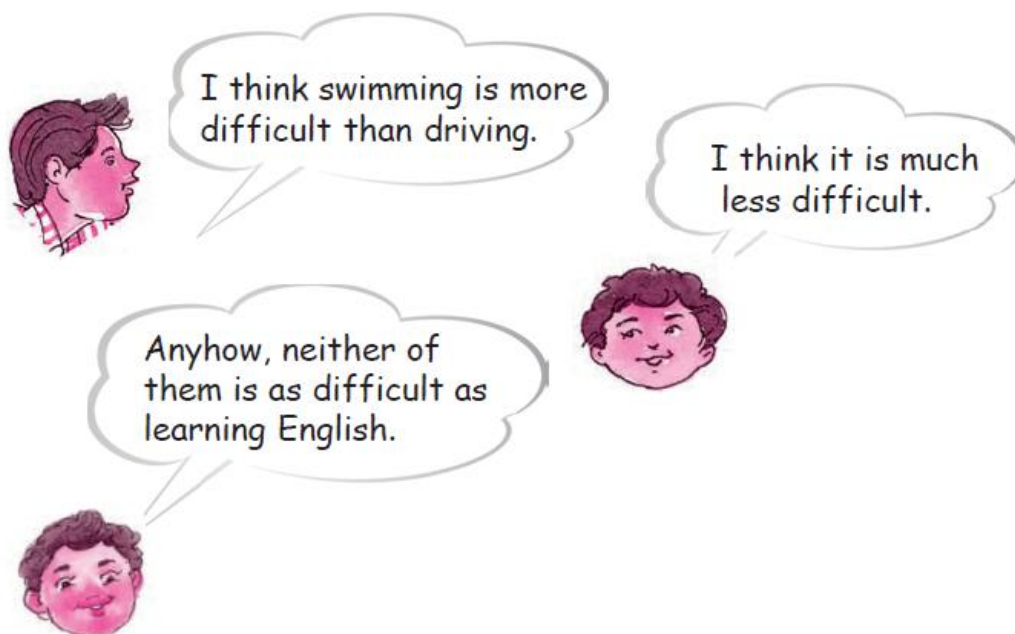
(ii) Honestly speaking, I do like both stories as they are interesting and have a hint of magic in them. However, I really appreciate Taro's story as it teaches us a major lesson that hard work always pays off and that we should always respect and obey our parents, who sacrifice so much for our sake.

(For the second part of the question, please attempt by yourself).

1. The story "Who did Patrick's homework?" is an interesting story about a young boy who hated doing his homework. One day he saves an elf from the cat, and the little man grants him a wish. Patrick asks the little man to do his homework until the end of his semester, and the elf complies with it. This is a very natural story of all students who hate homework and want someone else to complete their pending work.

On the contrary, "Taro's Reward" is the story of a young and hardworking woodcutter who is a thoughtful son to his parents. He tries his best to keep his parents happy, and even God favours his thoughtfulness and rewards him. A magical waterfall offers saké instead of plain water for his old father to drink. This story has a moral lesson that hard work always pays off and that we should always respect and obey our parents, who sacrifice so much for our sake.

8. Listen to these children. What are they talking about?



Answer:

The three boys are discussing their problems. The first boy considers swimming to be more difficult than driving. The second boy disagrees with it. He thinks that swimming is much less difficult than driving. However, the third boy thinks that learning English is the most difficult task in comparison to swimming and driving.

9. Work in groups. Agree on each of the activities given below. Decide which is the most interesting, duller, most dangerous, safest, most rewarding, most exciting.

cooking	fishing	playing football
knitting	dancing	listening to music

reading	sewing	mountain climbing
walking	swimming	learning languages
painting	watching TV	stamp collecting

Answer:

most interesting: dancing, watching TV, listening to music

dullest: knitting, sewing, learning languages

most dangerous: mountain climbing

safest: walking, stamp collecting

most rewarding: cooking, reading, fishing, painting

most exciting: playing football, swimming

10. Dictation**Question 1:**

Your teacher will speak the words given below. Write against each two new words that rhyme with it.

1. Bed _____

2. wax _____

3. fast _____

4. chop _____

5. Young _____

Answer:

1. Bed *red, shed*

2. wax *axe, tax*

3. fast *last, cast*

4. chop *hop, shop*

5. young *tongue, unsung*

SUMMARY

"Taro's Reward" is a heartwarming story about a boy named Taro and his journey of dedication, hard work, and generosity. The tale begins with Taro meeting an old man who gives him a bamboo shoot and imparts knowledge on how to plant it. Taro follows the instructions diligently, nurturing the bamboo shoot into a beautiful bamboo plant.

With care and dedication, Taro crafts baskets of various shapes and sizes from the bamboo. Filled with a sense of achievement, Taro presents the baskets to the temple's priest. The priest, recognizing the value of Taro's contribution, decides to sell the baskets and use the proceeds to buy a bronze bell for the temple.

The act of selling the baskets and purchasing the bronze bell becomes a symbol of community cooperation and collective progress. Taro's hard work and craftsmanship not only bring joy to himself but also contribute to the well-being of the entire community by enhancing the temple.

In the end, the story is aptly titled "Taro's Reward" as it beautifully portrays how Taro's efforts are rewarded with the improvement of the temple. The narrative carries an essential message about the joy of giving, the importance of diligence, and the positive impact that individual contributions can have on the community. "Taro's Reward" stands as a testament to the fulfilling nature of hard work and the happiness derived from selfless acts of generosity.

POEM - THE QUARREL

- Eleanor Farjeon

1. With your partner try to guess the meaning of the underlined phrases.

(i) And somehow we fell out.

(ii) The afternoon turned black.

Answer:

1. fell out – quarrelled or argued.
2. turned black – was spoiled or wasted due to bad or tense mood.

2. Read these lines from the poem:

(i) One thing led to another

(ii) The start of it was slight

(iii) The end of it was strong

(iv) The afternoon turned black

(v) Thumped me on the back

Discuss with your partner what these lines mean.

Answer:

(i) During the argument, one thing led to another.

(ii) The start and cause of the quarrel were petty and small.

(iii) The quarrel ended on a sour note which had a long-lasting effect.

(iv) The quarrel spoiled the mood of the quarrelling persons, and the afternoon became intolerably sad.

(v) Patted on the back in an amiable manner.

3. Describe a recent quarrel that you have had with your brother, sister or friend. How did it start? What did you quarrel about? How did it end?

Answer:

Sohan is my best friend at school. I invited him to my birthday party, but he did not turn up for the celebrations. Suddenly he started behaving awkwardly, and our relationship turned bitter. At school the next day, we had an argument about the incident. We both didn't talk to each other for a few days. Both of us remained tense and sad on those days. Since we were missing each other, we decided to patch up. Therefore, we confronted each other and resolved our differences amicably. We shook hands and hugged each other and promised to renew our friendship in a fresh manner.

SUMMARY

The poem "The Quarrel" from Class 6 English NCERT is a humorous exploration of a quarrel between two friends. Here is a summary of the poem:

The poem opens with two friends playing together in a garden, where they discover a beautiful, red flower. Both friends express a desire to have the flower, and their disagreement quickly turns into a quarrel. The quarrel escalates as they exchange angry words, with each friend insisting on owning the flower.

As the quarrel intensifies, the friends physically engage in a tussle, pulling at the flower and each other. Despite their struggle, neither friend is willing to let go, and they become entangled in a heated argument. The quarrel reaches its peak when the flower is torn into two pieces.

In the aftermath of the quarrel, both friends realize the senselessness of their fight over a simple flower. They are left with half of a torn flower each, and the poem concludes with the recognition of the futility of their argument.

"The Quarrel" serves as a lighthearted commentary on the triviality of conflicts and the importance of friendship over material possessions. The poem conveys a message about the transient nature of

disagreements and the need for understanding and compromise in maintaining meaningful relationships.