**Symbiosis School, Nasik.**

**Std: X Term I (2020-21)**

**Subject: English Language & Literature - Worksheet – 45**

**Lesson : Chapter 1 – The Thief’s Story By Ruskin Bond**

**Instructions**

Read the chapter and write the meanings, concept based question answers and textual question answers in your English notebook.

**Concept Based Answers**

**Answer 1:**

Hari Singh was a thief who had not much luck in his work recently. So he approached Anil with the intention of robbing him, as he seemed to be an easygoing and simple man. According to Hari, winning Anil’s confidence was an easy task.

**Answer 2:**

The narrator’s purpose of robbing Anil had not yet been served. He followed Anil to gain his trust and look for an opportunity that may help him give shape to his plans.

**Answer 3:**

Yes, Hari Singh was successful in robbing Anil. But Anil was not the only one who was robbed at that time. Hari had robbed himself as well. He had lost the chance of receiving education and being literate. He had robbed Anil monetarily but he had robbed himself of the chance for a better and brighter future, which was much more valuable.

**Answer 4:**  
When Anil stated his inability to pay Hari, Anil questioned Hari if he could feed Hari. Hari realised that he had misjudged his target and moulded the situation for his benefit. Anil then agreed to feed him if he knew how to cook.

**Answer 5:**

Hari Singh realised the importance of education he was receiving from Anil. He knew that learning how to read and write and being a literate person would open doors to many opportunities. He was sure that he would then be able to earn more than a few hundred rupees he had in hand at that time. This made him go back to Anil.

**Answer 6:**

Yes, Hari liked working for Anil. He was happy to carry on the chores for him and was grateful for the education he was receiving. He used to make profit of about a rupee a day as well, which was a decent amount besides being fed.

**Answer 7:**

It was difficult for Hari to rob Anil because Anil was the most trusting person Hari had ever met. He was really simple and kind. Hari knew that loss of money will not affect Anil but the loss of trust will make him sad.

**Answer 8:**

The night of robbery vitas quite eventful for Hari Singh. After stealing Anil’s money and leaving Anil’s house, Hari went to the railway station but didn’t board the train to Lucknow. He walked slowly through the bazaar as he did i ot know anyone who would provide him shelter except Anil, for he didn’t have any friends. He was forced to take shelter under the clock tower later when it started raining heavily. That is where he realised the importance of education and decided to go back to Anil.

**Answer 9:**

The morning after the night of the theft was just like a normal one. Hari woke up late and Anil had made tea by then. Anil gave a fifty rupee note to Hari and told him that he will now be paid regularly. Hari was aware that Anil knew about the theft but he didn’t show anything.

**Answer 10:**

Anil may have come to know about the theft because of the dampness of the notes because of rain. He was a kind but wise man. It wouldn’t have been difficult for Anil to make out the series of events that would have taken place in the night.

**Answer 11:**

Yes, Anil had forgiven Hari Singh. It is evident because Anil handed over to Hari a fifty rupee note as soon as Hari woke up. Though he knew that Hari had robbed the money at first but his subsequent actions gave him hope of change in Hari’s character.

The Thief’s Story Questions and Answers

**Q1.** What are Hari Singh’s reactions to the prospect of receiving an education? Do they change over time? (Hint: Compare, for example, the thought: “I knew that once I could write like an educated man there would be no limit to what I could achieve” with these later thoughts: “Whole sentences, I knew, could one day bring me more than a few hundred rupees. It was a simple matter to steal — and sometimes just as simple to be caught. But to be a really big man, a clever and respected man, was something else.”) What makes him return to Anil?

**Ans 1.** Hari Singh feels that education can make him earn a lot of money in an honest way 1. His  prospect of receiving an education does not change over time. He feels that he can earn much more if he gets education. He returns to Anil because Anil trusts him, feeds him, treats him well and even teaches him.

**Q2.** Why does not Anil hand the thief over to the police? Do you think most people would have done so? In what ways is Anil different from such employers?

**Ans 2.** Anil did not hand over the thief to the police maybe because he knew that Hari Singh had realized his mistake. He was feeling guilty for what he had done and wanted to mend his ways. This was the reason why he had come back and put the money back to its place. Anil wanted to give him a chance to become a better person.

No, I don't think that anybody in today’s world would have done so because to do so, a person needs to have a lot of patience and compassion which is missing in most of the people today. In today's world a thief is considered a criminal even if he realizes his mistake. It takes a lot of courage to trust someone who has broken your trust once. Although I feel that if a person realizes his mistake he must be given another chance to win back your trust.

**Q3.** Who does ‘I’ refer to in this story?  
**Ans 3.** In this story, “I” refers to the thief who introduces himself as Hari Singh.

Q4. What is he “a fairly successful hand” at?  
**Ans 4.** He was a “fairly successful hand” at robbing and duping people of their money.

**Q5.** What does he get from Anil in return for his work?

**Ans 5.** When he asks Anil that he wants to work for him, Anil clearly says that he will not be able to pay him. They mutually decide that if the thief would be able to cook food for him, then Anil would feed him. But soon, Anil comes to know that he can not cook. So Anil tells Hari, the thief that he would teach him to cook food, teach him to write his name and full sentences and also to add numbers. Apart from this, Hari also used to steal one rupee from the grocery money everyday.

**Q6.** How does the thief think Anil will react to the theft?

**Ans 6.** The thief thought that on discovering that he had been robbed, Anil would definitely be sad but he would be sad because of the loss of trust and not because of the loss of money.

**Q7.** What does he say about the different reactions of people when they are robbed?  
**Ans 7.** The thief says that according to his experience, upon being robbed the greedy man showed fear, the rich man showed anger and the poor man showed acceptance towards whatever had happened with him.

**Q8.** Does Anil realise that he has been robbed?

**Ans 8.** Yes, probably Anil knew that he had been robbed because all the notes were wet and damp from last night. He still did not say anything to the thief and gave him 50 rupees and told him that from now on, Anil will be paying him money as salary every month.