**PACKING**

**Summary**

Jerome, Harris and George are three friends. The author, Jerome, is describing his packing skills and feels that he knows more about it rather than anyone else. He suggests his other friends to leave the packing, that they are doing for their trip, entirely to him. George and Harris happily agree to it and make themselves comfortable in the room. But Jerome did not intend this. He actually wanted to boss them and instruct them to pack the baggage according to him. But as he himself had offered to help, he started the work and finally finished it in some time.

Suddenly Harris said that he had forgotten the boots. Jerome felt irritated on that. He opened his bag and put the boots in it. Then, when he was just to zip it again, he just thought if he had packed his toothbrush or not. The idea that he has left his toothbrush, haunts him on every journey. To find his brush, he unpacks and packs it again. They all created chaos over the things and finally Harris and George decided to do the rest of the packing.

While they were packing, Jerome watched them and thought that Harris was the worst packer in the world.

While packing, Harris and George, first broke a cup. Then Harris packed the strawberry jam on top of the tomato and squashed it. Then George stepped on the butter and the whole place was so sticky.

Montmorency, the dog, was in it all. It seemed to be his ambition of life to get into the way of others. He loved to make people mad and create nuisance. He came and sat on the things when they were just about to be packed.

Finally, after so much chaos, irritation and laughter too, they managed to pack their bags in a hope that they had not forgotten anything and they will find their things in best of the condition when they open it and went to sleep.

**Questions and Answers:**

**Q1. Why did the narrator (Jerome) volunteer to do the packing?**

**A1**. The narrator volunteered to do the packing because he was proud of his packing skills and wanted to display it. According to him, it was one of those things which he knew more about than any other person living.

**Q2. How did George and Harris react to this? Did Jerome like their reaction?**

**A2**. George and Harris readily accepted Jerome’s suggestion. George spread himself over the easy-chair and Harris cocked his legs on the table. Jerome didn’t like their reaction and was irritated.

**Q3. What ‘horrible idea’ occurred to Jerome a little later?**

**A3**. After Jerome was done with packing, a ‘horrible idea’ occurred to him. The horrible idea was whether he had packed his toothbrush or not. Whenever he travelled, he always forgot to pack his toothbrush. This thought haunted him and made his life miserable.

**Q4. What does Jerome say was Montmorency’s ambition in life? What do you think of Montmorency and why?**

**A4**. According to Jerome, Montmorency’s ambition in life was to get in the way and get scolded. Montmorency was a mischievous dog who loved creating trouble for others. He would always be present at a place where he wasn’t wanted. He proved to be a perfect nuisance and enjoyed things thrown at his head. His main objective was to get somebody stumble over him and be cursed steadily for an hour.

**Extra Questions:**

Q1. What was Jerome’s real intention when he offered to pack?

Q2. What did George and Harris offer to pack and why?

Q3. How did Montmorency ‘contribute’ to the packing?

Q4. What happened when George and Harris started packing and how did it become exciting?

**Reference to Context**

“Most extraordinary thing I ever heard of,” said George. “So mysterious!” said Harris.

1. What was the most amazing thing according to George?
2. Where did they find it?