

# NCERT Solutions

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## Chapter-03 Gopal and The Hilsa Fish

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### Working with the Text

Answer the following questions.

**Ans1:** The king was fed of the talks of Hilsa-fish. It was season of Hilsa-fish and everyone was busy in talking of it. More-ever, he did not want his courtier to waste the time on these talks.

**Ans2:** The king asked Gopal to buy a hilsa-fish and bring it to the palace without anyone asking anything about the fish throughout the way to prove that he was clever.

**Ans3:** Gopal half-shaved his beard, smeared himself with ash, and wore disgraceful rags before he went to buy his hilsa-fish.

**Ans4:** When Gopal asked the guards to let him meet the king, they refused. Therefore, he began to dance and sing loudly. On hearing his loud song, the king sent his messenger to call him in the court.

**Ans5:** Gopal funny appearance attracted the attention of people much more than the hilsa-fish. At that time, no one was caring about the hilsa-fish he was carrying. Everyone was busy in talking about his mad appearance, half shaved face and rags.

**Ans6:**

- (i) True
- (ii) False
- (iii) True
- (iv) False
- (v) False

### Working with Language

**Ans1:**

- (ii) Why is your face half-shaven?  
Gopal's wife asked him why was his face half-shaven.
- (iii) I accept the challenge, Your Majesty.  
Gopal told the king that he accepted his challenge.
- (iv) I want to see the king.  
Gopal told the guards that he wanted to see the king.
- (v) Bring the man to me at once.  
The king ordered the guard to bring the man to him at once.

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**Ans2:**

- (i) challenge - ask to contest, dare  
The boss challenged Rahul to finish his work before the time.
  - (ii) mystic - believing in spiritual power
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Some people do believe in the mystic forces.

**(iii)** comical – funny

I liked the comical act of the joker the most.

**(iv)** courtier - officials of the king's court

Birbal was one of the clever courtier present in Akbar's court.

**(v)** smearing - to apply coat or mark

He smeares his face with ashes.

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**Ans2:**

**(i)** Stag is by the side of the pond.

**(ii)** He is looking at the reflection of his horns and legs in the water.

**(iii)** Yes, he liked his antlers.

**(iv)** No, he didn't like his legs.

**(v)** The stag is running to save his life from the hunters.

**(vi)** No, he is not able to hide himself in the bushes.

**(vii)** The hunters are now beside to him.

**(viii)** Yes, they closing in on the stag.

**(ix)** Yes, the stag is free.

**(x)** The stag said that he was proud of his horns which could have caused his death and was ashamed of his legs which saved him.

**Ans3:** The suitable title for this story will be "All that glitters is not gold".

A stag was once drinking water at a pond. He saw his own reflection in water. He admired his beautiful horns, but he did not like his thin and ugly legs. Suddenly he saw a group of hunters running towards him. He ran into the jungle to save himself. His legs soon carried him far from the hunters. He then tried to hide himself in the bushes but his horns were caught into the bush. With his best efforts, he was able to free himself. Now he realised that his ugly legs helped him in saving his life, but his beautiful horns could have caused his death.

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**Ans4:**

