



#### Comprehension Check (Page 62)

1. Why did the man stare at Bepin Babu's in disbelief?
2. Where did Bepin Babu say he went in October 58?
3. Mention any three (or more) things that Parimal Ghose knew about Bepin Babu.

#### Answers

1. The man, Parimal Ghose, was taken aback when Bepin failed to recognise him. He didn't believe that Bepin had a lapse of memory.
2. Bepin Babu said that in October 58 he was in Kanpur.
3. Parimal Ghose knew that Bepin Babu's wife was dead, and his only brother had died in the same year in a Ranchi lunatic asylum. He also knew that Bepin Babu had no children and he was a lover of books.

#### Comprehension Check (Page 65)

1. Why did Bepin Babu worry about what Parimal Ghose had said?
2. How did he try to decide who was right— his memory or Parimal Ghose?
3. Why did Bepin Babu hesitate to visit Mr. Mukerji? Why did he finally decide to phone him?
4. What did Mr. Mukerji say? Did it comfort Bepin Babu, or add to his worries?

#### Answers:

1. Bepin Babu was taken aback to hear the intimate details about his life from Parimal Ghose. There seemed no reason why he should tell a lie. He wondered if he really had forgotten about his visit to Ranchi.
2. In order to resolve the puzzle about his visit to Ranchi, Bepin Babu decided to contact Dinesh Mukerji. Parimal had said that Mukerji was also in Ranchi at that time.
3. Bepin Babu hesitated to visit Mr. Mukerji thinking that it would be ridiculous if he had really visited Ranchi. Mukerji would think Bepin Babu had gone mad. Hence, Bepin Babu finally decided to phone him.
4. Mukerji didn't reply clearly. But he said that he had been to Ranchi twice. He was not sure about the trip. Bepin Babu exactly wanted to know. It made Bepin Babu more puzzled. He lost his appetite.

#### Comprehension Check (Page 68)

1. Who was Chunilal? What did he want from Bepin Babu?
2. Why was Dr. Chanda puzzled? What was unusual about Bepin Babu's loss of memory?

#### Answers:

1. Chunilal was an old friend of Bepin Babu. He wanted a favour from Bepin Babu in his job.
2. Paresh Chanda was a young physician. He had never dealt a case of memory loss. So he was puzzled. He gave a suggestion to Bepin Babu to visit Ranchi again.

#### Comprehension Check (Page 70)

1. Had Bepin Babu really lost his memory and forgotten all about a trip to Ranchi?
2. Why do you think Chunilal did what he did? Chunilal says he has no money; what is it that he does have?

#### Answers:

1. Perhaps not. He finally recollected his memory and admitted that he had visited Ranchi in 1958.
2. Chunilal wanted some money from Bepin Babu, his old friend. So he went to him for help. He assured Bepin that the term of his fortune would be back again. Chunilal had no money but he had mind and wit.

Working With the Text (Page 70)

1. The author describes Bepin Babu as a serious and hardworking man. What evidence can you find in the story to support this?  
Answer: Bepin Babu was a serious, honest and hardworking fellow. He went to office regularly. He was doing a responsible job. He was not a good mixer. Being serious minded, he didn't waste time in idle chat.

2. Why did Bepin Babu change his mind about meeting Chunilal? What was the result of this meeting?  
Answer: Bepin Babu first refused to meet Chunilal. He was in no mood to help Chunilal out of his trouble. But he changed his mind soon. He thought Chunilal might remember something about his trip to Ranchi in 1958.

3. Bepin Babu lost consciousness at Hundroo Falls. What do you think was the reason for this?  
Answer: Bepin Babu might have slipped near Hundroo Falls that made him unconscious.

4. How do you think Bepin Babu reacted when he found out that Chunilal had tricked him?  
Answer: Bepin Babu's first reaction was that he regretted having refused to help Chunilal. He saw through Chunilal's trick to test him, and learnt a lesson.

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