



William Elliot Griffis

Page No: 60

Comprehension Check

1. Why did the neighbours kill the dog?

Ans: The neighbours when heard about the good luck brought by the dog to the couple coaxed the dog into their garden in hope that he would find treasure for them. They dragged him out of doors and the dog scratched and pawed the ground under a pine tree. When on digging the ground, they saw that there was nothing but a dead kitten, they became furious at the dog. They beat him to death and then flung him into the hole.

2. Mark the right item.

- (i) The old farmer and his wife loved the dog
(a) because it helped them in their day-to-day work.
(b) as if it was their own baby.
(c) as they were kind to all living beings.

(ii) When the old couple became rich, they

- (a) gave the dog better food.
(b) invited their greedy neighbours to a feast.
(c) lived comfortably and were generous towards their poor neighbours.

(iii) The greedy couple borrowed the mill and the mortar to make

- (a) rice pastry and bean sauce.
(b) magic ash to win rewards.
(c) a pile of gold.

Ans:

- (i) - (b) The old farmer and his wife loved the dog as if it was their own baby.
(ii) - (c) When the old couple became rich, they lived comfortably and were generous towards their poor neighbours.
(iii) - (c) The greedy couple borrowed the mill and the mortar to make a pile of gold.

Page No: 63

Working with the Text

Ans: the following questions.

1. The old farmer is a kind person. What evidence of his kindness do you find in the first two paragraphs.

Ans: The old farmer was a kind person. He and his wife had a pet dog named Muko, as his baby. Having no children, they loved it as though it were a baby. They fed him fish from their own chopsticks and all the boiled rice he wanted. He was patient and kind to everything that had life and often turned up a sod on purpose to give food to the birds.

2. What did the dog do to lead the farmer to the hidden gold?

Ans: The dog came running to the farmer and kept on whining and running to and fro till the farmer followed him. The dog began a

lively scratching. Thinking it was possibly a buried bone or fish, the farmer struck his hoe in the earth and found the hidden gold.

3. (i) How did the spirit of the dog help the farmer first?
(ii) How did it help him next?

Ans:

(i) The spirit of the dog asked the farmer in his dream to cut down the pine tree over his grave and make a mortar for rice pastry and a mill for bean sauce.

(ii) The spirit of the dog informed the farmer in his dream that his wicked neighbours had burnt the hand-mill. He advised him to take the ashes of the mill and sprinkle them on the withered trees and they would bloom again.

Page No: 64

4. Why did the daimio reward the farmer but punish his neighbour for the same act?

Ans: The farmer had the magical ashes. He made the old withered cherry tree blossom once again by sprinkling the ashes. So, the daimio rewarded the farmer for this. When his greedy neighbour heard about it, he took the ashes and when daimio was passing on the highway, he threw a handful of ashes over the tree. The tree did not blossom and wind blew the fine dust in the noses and eyes of the daimio and his wife. That is why his neighbour punished for the same act.

Working with language

1. Read the following conversation.

RAVI : What are you doing?

MRIDU : I'm reading a book.

RAVI : Who wrote it?

MRIDU : Ruskin Bond.

RAVI : Where did you find it?

MRIDU : In the library.

Notice that 'what', 'who', 'where', are question words. Questions that require information begin with question words. Some other question words are 'when', 'why', 'where', 'which' and 'how'.

Remember that

- What asks about actions, things, etc.
- Who asks about people.
- Which asks about people or things.
- Where asks about place.
- When asks about time.
- Why asks about reason or purpose.
- How asks about means, manner or degree.
- Whose asks about possessions.

***** END *****