



CLASS IX
ENGLISH LITERATURE READER
CHAPTER 1
ADOLF
(DH LAWRENCE)

SOLUTIONS

(A) Based on your reading of the story, complete the following statements:

- i. It was painful to the writer's father to see his children gaily dressed in the morning while he dragged himself soiled and weary.
- ii. The father's face was black because he was returning home from his work in a coal mine.
- iii. In the field path the father came across a dead mother rabbit with three dead little ones and also an alive but unmoving little one.
- iv. The sore problem about the rabbit was that it was still and unmoving in the piece of flannel.

(B) Answer the following questions by choosing the correct answer:

(I) The mother was against keeping the rabbit because

- a. It was a wild one.
- b. She did not like animals.
- c. Its death will bring an outcry.
- d. It will be additional labour to her.

Ans:(c) its death will bring an outcry.

(II) The writer wrapped the rabbit in a flannel and put in the cold parlour

- a. Die peacefully
- b. Get warmth
- c. Enjoy the cool flannel.
- d. Be free from household noise

Ans:(d) be free from household noise.



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(III) The children put the rabbit under the copper fireplace so that it

- a. Will get warmth.
- b. Will not be disturbed.
- c. Will not run away.
- d. Will think it was in a hole.

Ans: (d) will think it was in a hole.

(C) Answer the following questions briefly:

(I) Why was the meeting between the children and their father in the early spring morning not happy?

Ans: The meeting between the children and their father in the early spring morning was not happy because the father was returning home soiled and tired from the coal-mine where he worked the night shift while the children were gay after a night's good sleep.

(II) One sunny morning why did the children feel that their father had something to tell them?

Ans: One sunny morning, the children felt that their father had something to tell them because after going into the scullery, he immediately came into the kitchen and joined them at the breakfast table.

(III) Why was there some excitement among the children one spring morning?

Ans: There was some excitement among the children one spring morning because their father brought home a tiny, brown rabbit and put it among the teacups on the breakfast table.

(IV) Why was the mother worried that the rabbit was a wild one?

Ans: The mother was worried that the rabbit was a wild one because she felt that, not being able to adjust: it would sulk and refuse to eat and then die as other little wild animals did in the past and then there would be an outcry in the family. She hated the tragedy of dead pets in her home.

(V) 'He must bring it.....' Why did the children cry out their father had to bring the rabbit?

Ans: The children cried out loudly to their mother that their father had to bring the rabbit home because according to them, it was not big enough to live by itself and it would die if left alone.

(VI) "It won't die father, will it? Why will it? It won't."

Bring out the sentiment expressed by the children in this line.

Ans: Through this line, the children expressed their earnest desire that the tiny rabbit live on the contrary to their mother's prediction that it would die like other little wild animals brought to their house.



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(VII) What was the big problem the children faced at mid-day after school?

Ans: Before going to school, the children wrapped the tiny rabbit in a piece of flannel, put it in a dark corner of the cold parlour and put a saucer of milk before its nose. At midday, after school, they found the rabbit still and unmoving in the piece of flannel. It also did not drink any milk. That was the big problem the children faced.

(VIII) What changes did the children see in the rabbit at tea-time?

Ans: At tea-time, the children found that the tiny rabbit had jumped a few inches out of its flannel and it sat there again, uncovered. It looked like a little solid cloud of silence but once its side moved slightly with life.

(IX) Why did the children tell their father to mind how he went in?

Ans: The children told their father to mind how he went in because they were afraid that he might trample on the tiny rabbit unknowingly with his heavy boots.

(D) Answer the following questions in about 80 words each:

(I) Bring out the excitement in the house in the morning the father brought a little rabbit.

Ans: One sunny morning, the father brought a tiny rabbit and put it on the breakfast table where all the children sat. The children were very excited to see the rabbit and jumped towards it. They, then, started bombarding their father with questions relating to it. They disagreed with their mother when she told their father that he should not have brought the little rabbit home. The children even put the rabbit in their lap and held warm milk to its nose. But the rabbit made no sign of life and it saddened the children so much so that one of them shed a few secret tears. When forced to go to school, they wrapped the rabbit in a flannel, put it in the dark parlour with a saucer of milk before it. Afterwards when the rabbit sulked and refused to drink or move despite their love and affection, the children despaired. Ultimately, they were successful in their attempt to save and tame the rabbit.

(II) What were the reasons for the children's mother to object to the rabbit being brought?

Ans: When the father brought the little rabbit, the children were happy and excited. But the mother objected to bringing the wild one home. It was because the rabbit would sulk, not eat food and refused to live; then it would be followed by an outcry in the house. There were similar incidents in the past when the father brought wild animals that refused to live and then tears would roll down from the eyes of the children and trouble was brought into the house. Since the mother hated the tragedy of dead pets in her house because of the children's emotional outburst, she vehemently objected to the little rabbit being brought.

(III) 'Trouble fell on us.' What was the trouble? How was it solved?

Ans: When the father brought home the little rabbit, the children were excited and put it on their lap. It sat there unmoving without giving any sign of life. It did not even shake off the wet milk from its mouth. That was the trouble that befell the children.



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The whole day, except for jumping a few inches out of the flannel in which it was wrapped, it was still and motionless. The children despaired but did not give up on the rabbit. When night came, they wrapped the rabbit in the old flannel, took it to the scullery and put under the fireplace. Some saucers with milk were also scattered on the floor so that the rabbit would come upon some food if it jumped about. In the morning, the writer found drops of milk all over the scullery floor and the rabbit behind a pair of boots. This meant that the rabbit was alive and their trouble was over.

(IV) Write how everything about the rabbit finally end.

Ans: At first the little rabbit was very still and motionless. The children were deeply concerned and they did whatever they could to prevent the rabbit from dying. They were even secretly afraid that it might die and started weeping silent tears. But they loved the rabbit and did not give up on it. At night they put the flannel-wrapped rabbit under the copper fireplace in the scullery so that it would give the sense of being in a hole. They then put five or six saucers with milk on the floor so that the rabbit could not fail to come upon some food if it happened to jump about at night. Their plan worked. In the morning, the writer found drops of milk on the floor and the rabbit was found sitting behind a pair of boots, bright-eyed and moving its nose. Thus, love and affection of the children won and the rabbit was alive.

(V) Comment on the attitude of the father and children towards pets and animals.

Ans: The father is definitely an animal and pet lover. That is why when he found the tiny brown rabbit with its dead mother and three dead siblings on the field path, he brought it home. His love for animals is also shown when he poured his tea in a saucer for the unmoving tiny thing. Like their father, the children also loved animals dearly. They were excited to see the rabbit, put it in their lap and brought milk for it. The painful death of such animals which were brought by their father in the past did not stop them from caring or showing affection to it. They did their best to save the rabbit by wrapping in a flannel, providing milk and putting it in a hole-like place. All these actions of the father and children showed that they loved and cared for animals and pets.



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