

وہ رہیا جیسا کہ اس مفروضے سے اُس میں ایک بیجان پیدا ہو گیا ہو، یہ دیکھتے ہوئے کہ اُس کو آخری حدود تک جانا چاہیے، اُس نے اپنی کو نکلوں والی کو نہزی میں رکھ دیا اور دروازہ بند کر دیا، اس لرزتے احساس کے ساتھ کہ وہ ایک سخت عمل کر رہا ہے۔ ایک لمحے کے لیے وہاں خاموشی ہوئی، پھر اسکے چھوٹی سی چیخ آئی، اولی، اولی، اولی؛ اور سلاس (65) نے اُس کو باہر آنے دیا، یہ کہتے ہوئے، اب اپنی دوبارہ شرارت نہیں کرے گی نہیں تو وہ کو نکلوں والی کو نہزی میں جائے گی۔ ایک سیاہ جگہ۔

6۔ صبح سے کپڑے کی بجائی برکی ہوتی تھی، کیونکہ اپنی کو صاف کرنا تھا، اور صاف کپڑے پہنانے تھے، لیکن یہ موقع کی جاتی تھی کہ اس سزا کا فی دیر تک اثر ہے گا، اور مستقبل میں وقت بچے گا اگرچہ یہ بہتر ہوتا اگر اپنی اور زیادہ چیختی۔ (70)

7۔ تقریباً آدھے گھنٹے میں وہ دوبارہ صاف تھی، اور سلاس نے مژ کر دیکھا کہ اپنی اپنی لینن کی رسی کے ساتھ کیا کر سکتی تھی، اُس کو نیچے گرا دیا، اس سوچ کے ساتھ کہ اپنی کورسی سے باندھے بغیر رکھنا ہی شہیک تھا، اُس ساری صبح، وہ دوبارہ مژا وہ اُس کو لوم کے پاس ایک چھوٹی کرسی میں رکھنا چاہتا تھا، جب اُس نے دوبارہ دیکھا کالے چہرے کے ساتھ اور ہاتھ اوپر کر کے اور کہا "اپنی کو نکلوں والی کو نہزی میں"۔ (75)

## Responding to the Text

### Activity 2.4

### Understanding the Text

### متن کو سمجھنا

Q. No 1: Read the second paragraph up to "a better child than usual" (123). Explain Eppie's actions and how she escaped detection.

Ans: One bright summer morning Eppie cut the lenin band secretly with the scissors that Silas had kept on the edge on loom and had gone outside. Silas was too much engrossed in his work so he could not notice the act of Eppie. Eppie quite cunningly took the advantage of that opportunity and of that liberty.

**Q. No 2:** Read the following sentence carefully.

Explain in your own words, exactly what Silas was doing and what was happening to him.

**Ans:** Silas was much shocked by the sudden escape of Eppie. He tried to search for her everywhere. He walked through the grass, looked behind red sorrel. He further anticipated that Eppie was always moving forward in front of him.

**Q. No 3:** Read the first sentence of paragraph. Explain Silas's state of mind at this point.

**Ans:** Silas was determined to punish the little child at all costs but as soon as he found out Eppie, he was over-joyed and started kissing her uncontrollably.

### **Activity 2.5**

### **Reading for Deeper Meanings**

گھر اپی میں مطالعہ کرنا

**Q. No 1:** Why might it "have been better if Eppie had cried more" (170)?

**Ans:** It had been better if Eppies might have cried more because by it she would have learnt a good lesson and would have been more careful in future to avoid such mischief.

**Q. No 2:** Read from paragraph 3 to the end of the passage. In no more than 80 of your own words, explain what happened to Eppie.

**Ans:** Despite his rage was ecstatic to find Eppie again and his fears had no bounds. Silas slightly admonished her but Eppie the young child knew nothing as to what had happened to her. Silas thought of sending Eppie into coal-hole as a punishment. He brought Eppie home and washed her thoroughly. For a moment he closed Eppie in coal-hole but let her out again thinking that this punishment would have a long-lasting effect on Eppie.

1). Eppie cut the denim band secretly with scissors and escaped

”چال تک Takara نے اپنے کام کرنے والوں پر ذریم میں کائنات کا نیٹ کیا ہے۔ اس کو بنانے والے یہ کہتے ہیں کہ ان کو اس میں کافی تبدیلیاں کرنی ہیں اس سے پہلے کہ وہ اسے مار کریٹ میں لا جیں۔  
پچھے لوگوں پر اس نے کام کیا ہے اور پچھے کے لیے نہیں اب یہ ایک تحقیقی منصوبہ ہے۔“ ہاروڈ نے کہا۔  
لیکن ہاروڈ نے کہا کہ ابتدائی متابع بڑے حوصلہ افزایش اور یہ میں یہ بھی بتاتی ہے کہ ایک مطلوبہ خواب کو دیکھنے کے لیے حاصل فناخ کرو۔  
بہت بہتر بنایا جا سکتا ہے۔

Yumemi Kobo گومنی 2004ء میں جاپان میں لانچ کیا جائے گا جس کی قیمت 140 ڈالر (14800 ی恩) ہے۔ Takara 2005ء کے شروع میں امریکن سٹورز میں آجائے گی۔ امید کرتا ہے کہ ذریم میں کائنات کا نیٹ کیا جائے گا۔

## (متن کا جواب دینا) Responding to the Text

### Activity 4.3

#### Reading the Text Closely and to Explain

#### متن کو دھیان سے پڑھنا اور تفصیل بیان کرنا

Q. No 1: What is the “dream workshop” designed to do?

Ans: The designed workshop offers its dreamer a desired slumber. It is also called the nightmare banisher. (The dream machine comes with voice recorder, array of lights, picture frame and fragrance dispenser, two speakers and a timer. It facilitates the slumber of the sleeper.)

Q. No 2: Explain in your own words how it works.

Ans: First of all, the user attaches a photograph of a desired dream to the Yumemi kobo, then the expected dreamer focuses on the image, playing out the desired dream in their head while the machine repeats the key words. Next the sleeping person inserts in fragrance dispenser the desired perfume, and also selects the relevant music, which is available in machine’s database. (The fragrance and the music are selected by experts. Now the dreamer hits the sack and machine starts to lull him.) During the sleep, the Yumemi Kobo, activates itself periodically in accordance with sleeper’s REM. (The machine calculates the nearest REM’s time. Now the machine plays its role and offers the desired dreams.)

Q. No 3: Write directions for the use of the dream machine using numbered

## 28 | Focus on Comprehension (Part 1)

steps.

**Ans:** First of all, a dreamer attaches a photograph of the image. Then he records the words of his desired dream in Yumemi Kobo. Further he selects the desired music and fragrance. Then the dreamer goes to bed. The dream machine lulls its target. When the sleeper reaches its desired stage of REM, the machine plays the selected music and releases the fragrance, and repeats the recorded phrase. This gear triggers the desired dream.

**Q. No 4:** Explain one of the limitations of the machine.

**Ans:** There is no bio feedback attached to this machine. It does not calculate our blood – pressure, pulse rate etc. It also, does not tell when REM occurs.

**Q. No 5:** Explain one benefit of using the machine.

**Ans:** It can encourage the people's creativity.

### Activity 4.4

### Understanding the Structure of the Text

متن کے ڈھانچے کو سمجھنا

- ★ Scan the article. Note that Louise Knapp has organized it in four sections.
  - 5. Introduction
  - ii. Chronological explanation
  - iii. Comments and reviews
  - iv. Conclusion

**40 | Focus on Comprehension (Part 1)**

**Q. No 1:** Explain why "Pho is much more than just breakfast to the North Vietnamese".

**Ans:** The Vietnamese are obsessed with 'Pho'. They like it much more than anything else in their life. It is the soul of the nation, an addition to human happiness. It is an addiction which is much more powerful than addiction of tobacco. It is an everlasting source of inspiration for writers.

**Q. No 2:** Explain the way to find the best pho stall.

**Ans:** The best way to find a 'Pho' stall is to find a spot where a large number of people are sitting around the stall. The more you find people sitting around a stall the more famous the 'Pho' will be.

**Q. No 3:** How did pho gain its name?

**Ans:** The stove at the stall which has been used to heat up soup is the source for the name 'Pho' the word is pronounced like feu. Which probably would have come from the French Colonialist from offer-feu, a portable stove.

**Q. No 4:** How are you supposed to eat pho?

**Ans:** We are supposed to eat fast because, otherwise the noodles will get water logged and lose their texture.

**Q. No 5:** Why are the stools so small?

**Ans:** The stools are tiny because in case of raid by the police the stall-owners may run away as quickly as possible by bickering those tiny stools street 'Pho' is banned in modern Vietnam.

**Q. No 6:** Why are pho stalls outlawed now?

**Ans:** The stalls are outlawed because they do not follow the set standards of cleanliness. They often violate the SOPs of tidiness. That is why the government has banned them.

### Reading Closely

بعور مطالعہ کرنا

**Q. No 7:** Why is the "aromatic fog ... like a banner"?

## 41 | Focus on Comprehension (Part 1)

## Practice Unit 1

**Ans:** The fresh aroma and fragrance of that soup drifts and flows in the air all around the food stall. That aroma of Pho soup attracts the passers bys. This fragrance acts like a banner and advertisement for the stall owner.

**Q. No 8:** Explain the meaning of the word "whispers".

**Ans:** The word 'whisper' here means cracking of onions, the whiffs of spices like, cinnamon, seasoning lime chunks, beef hunks, chopped coriander. The combined smell of these ingredients whispers to the customer as an open invitation.

**Q. No 9:** What is implied by the word "hovering"?

**Ans:** The word never means to hang about, wait nearby. The men on scooters wait nearby to take away the orders.

## From paragraphs 5 to 9

**Q. No 10:** Explain why "Ordering yourself pho bo tai, raw beef noodle soup, at a street stall is a fool proof way of getting a laugh out of the locals" (1142-44).

**Ans:** 'Pho bo tai' word is a sure way to get laughter out of local people because the word implies a derogatory sense for foreigners. The white people's skin colour is red like beef. So, when someone orders 'Pho bo tai' it means he wants to eat and drink white people in their soup as we know Vietnamese hate the American.

**Q. No 11:** Why does Thao Van look like "a jet pilot in the cockpit" (151)?

**Ans:** Because of her extremely busy routine she looks like a jet pilot. As a jet pilot is busy in his cockpit doing many complex activities similarly Thao Van is much busy at her stall.

**Q. No 12:** Explain what the writer means by "ambidextrous hand jive" (162).

**Ans:** Ambidextrous means using both hands skilfully at the same time, and jive means deceptive. The whole phrase means that she was using her hands quite skilfully.

## From paragraphs 10 to 14

**Q. No 13:** What does the writer mean when he says, "and very soon I am looking at the bottom of the bowl" (ii87-88)?

**Ans:** The phrase "and very soon I am looking at the bottom of the bowl," means that soup was so delicious that he took the soup very quickly and reached at the

## Practice Unit 1

### 42 | Focus on Comprehension (Part 1)

bottom of his bowl.)

Q. No 14: Explain the significance of the translator's comment: "They're guerrilla restaurants... We Vietnamese, you know, we're famous for these tactics - a small unit, highly mobile, makes an impact and then moves out fast." (II 101-104) To what is he referring? ✓ *Sample*

Ans: He is referring to US. vs Vietnam war which was fought between Vietnam and the USA between 1955 to 1975 in which about 58.000 US Soldiers died and about 100,000 Vietnamese were killed. This was a very long and nerve shattering war which cost heavy human loss. The Vietnamese fought a guerrilla war and irritated the American Army. They used conventional and traditional warfare. The Vietnamese, usually, in small units attacked US army in jungles and came out very swiftly. They were experts in traditional warfare. So here the writer is referring to that war period.

From the passage

# From the Fall of Saigon

James Fanton

## Responding to the Text

### متن کارِ عمل دینا

یہ اقتباس، واقعات کے ایک تسلسل کی یاد دہانی نہیں ہے۔ ساتھ ہی ساتھ لہنی کہانی بتاتے ہوئے، فتنہ اپنے تجربات کو استعمال کرتے ہوئے کچھ روپوں پر تنقید کرتا ہے جو کہ وہ اور اس کے مغربی لوگ سائینس کے غریب لوگوں کے بارے میں رکھتا ہے۔

#### Activity 6.5

### Exploring the Text

### متن کو جانچنا

Q. No 1: Why is the word "mother" (18) in quotation marks?

Ans: The word 'mother' has been used in quotation marks because she was the original mother of that little girl. Since, there was another child who was seen in the arms of five different mothers. That is why the word 'mother' has been used in quotation marks.

Q. No 2: What effect does the opening sentence of the second paragraph has on the reader?

Ans: The opening sentence of the second paragraph has a very bad effect upon the reader, as it shows that some untoward situation or event is going to happen. It seems that someone was in critical position.

Q. No 3: In the second paragraph, what impression do we get of the people helping the child?

Ans: We get a good impression of people helping the little child. All the poor people around the baby were trying in traditional and simple way. They were slapping the baby and pricking needles on the backside of toenails. Though they were poor yet they forwarded helping hand.

### 53 | Focus on Comprehension (Part 1)

Unit 6

**Q. No 4:** What attitude did the author have towards the receptionist? Why do you think this was so?

**Ans:** The author did have a very repulsive attitude toward the receptionist because she did not lend helping hand to the writer. Moreover, people of Vietnam had a general disliking for western people and medicine. They considered the western people as their enemy. People did not pose trust in western hospital and doctors. The receptionist was also of the view that doctor would inject a lethal injection to the baby girl and ultimately, she would die.

**Q. No 5:** Fenton says in line 43, "From the start everything went wrong." Explain in your own words what went wrong on the journey.

**Ans:** They had to stop to get petrol within a hundred yards. After this a van came forward and stopped the way of taxi. Then they had to stop at level crossing to let pass the train. The effects of typhoon Sarah also disturbed them, that created much trouble in northern province. The tyre of the taxi also got deflated. To add fuel to fire, the taximan was not willing to drive fast.

**Q. No 6:** Fenton says, "We were travelling through Cholon, the Chinese quarter, on an errand of Western mercy" (II 56-57). What does this tell us about Fenton's attitude?

**Ans:** The attitude of Fenton here is quite ironical and he himself feels that the western medical science would help them. They were calling the western progress to their help. Fenton believed that western medical science would save the life of a little girl. Since he did not believe in the communist infrastructure.

**Q. No 7:** How did Fenton imagine the hospital?

**Ans:** He was thinking of a cool building of French times, that would have been repaired by the American aid. It would consist of some of the best equipment that East would possess. There were name plates on the walls of those persons who donated generously to the betterment of infrastructure of hospital. There might have been a ward after US Ambassador. These were the thoughts running in his mind.

**Q. No 8:** Describe Fenton's attitude towards the Vietnamese doctor.

**Ans:** Fenton felt furious and repugnant toward Vietnamese doctor. At first, he felt that doctor was merciless and cruel who was least bothered with the condition of

### 54 | Focus on Comprehension (Part 1)

little girl. The callous attitude was unbearable for Fenton. It was a unique and awkward experience of his life. To his amazement the baby recovered within minutes.

**Q. No 9:** How do you feel Fenton behaved during this incident? Explain your views.

**Ans:** The attitude of Fenton, without any doubt was very helping and noble. He was perturbed to see the plight of little girl. He genuinely wanted to help the infant girl. But the attitude of Vietnamese was strange and mysterious. At first, he would not comprehend why were the Vietnamese people hesitant to take the little girl to hospital. They have had distrust in the western science, technology and products. They believed in their conventional treatment methods. Fenton could not comprehend this behaviour at first though gradually, he came to realize the true nature of events. The clash between communism and capitalism is implied here.

میں نے کیا سیکھا ہے؟

- ★ اخباری رپورٹوں میں شہ سرخیاں قاری کی توجہ کو کھینچتی ہیں اور مطلب کو بڑی چالاکی سے بیان کرتی ہیں۔
- ★ زیادہ تر اخباری رپورٹیں ماضی / حال اور مستقبل میں پیش آنے والے واقعات کو نیان کرتی ہیں۔
- ★ رپورٹس الفاظ کا محتاط چناو کرتی ہیں اپنے اقتباس کو بہتر شکل دینے کے لئے۔
- ★ واقعات کی یادہانی کو اس طرح سے استعمال کیا جاتا ہے تاکہ وہ رویے اور مسائل پر بات کر سکیں۔

12۔ آخری بات: اگر آپ نے سوچا کہ Reloaded ٹھیک یا جھی فلم تھی (جیسا میں نے کہا) تو آپ پر Revolutions سے مایوس ہو لے چاہے ہیں۔ لیکن اگر آپ نے Reloaded کو پسند نہیں کیا، تو خدا آپ کی مدد کرے جب آپ طوفانی انداز میں تمیز سے باہر آنے کی کوشش کرتے ہیں اور پسیے واپس لینے کی کوشش کرتے ہیں۔ آپ اس کے مستحق ہیں جیسے جڑے پر ایک مکاپڑتا ہے۔

## Responding to the Text

### Activity 8.1

### Reading Closely

### بغور مطالعہ کرنا

Q. No 1: Read the first paragraph carefully. How do we know from this paragraph that the reviewer expects his reader to have some knowledge of films?

Ans: The reviewer gives the example of third movie of Matrix series. This shows that he expects his readers to have some knowledge of previous two movies. Furthermore, the paragraph obviously addresses those readers who know the other movies with similar plots. The reference to the movie 'Ewoks' also shows a hint to previous movies.

Q. No 2: How would you explain the tone of the third paragraph?

Choose a word from this list: "depressed", "sarcastic", "bored", "excited". Support your answer with evidence from the text.

Ans: The tone of third paragraph is a bit bitter here because the reviewer here matches the two movies i.e. 'Reloaded' and 'Revolutions'. According to reviewer, Revolution is the continuation of 'Reloaded'.

The film 'Matrix Revolution' is an amalgamation of imagination and reality. The reviewer does not like the plot of movie very much.

Q. No 3: Explain the use and meaning of the word "psychobabble" in paragraph 4 (118).

Ans: Psychobabble means the terms related to psychology. It means complex and complicated language related to day-to-day language. It is a type of language which creates an impression of truth and plausibility. It is a psychological jargon.

Q. No 4: How does the word "jump-start" in paragraph 6 (129) affect the reader?

## 66 | Focus on Comprehension (Part 1)

Unit 8

**Ans:** It affects the reader directly. They try to start the engine of that ship which is standing on the clock. If they do not get their ship engine start, they would be doomed there. So, the word jump-start does have a straight-forward impact upon reader.

**Q. No 5:** Why does the reviewer use brackets for some of his comments in the review?

**Ans:** The reviewer uses brackets for some of his comments to give some additional information or his personal views about that event, character or situation. These brackets are necessary to make reader aware of his personal analysis.

**Q. No 6:** Explain the phrases "a preachy-talkie movie" (ii63-64) and "an old-fashioned action flick" (i64).

**Ans:** Preachy - talkie

The term preachy-talkie means giving moral lessons through movies.

"An old-fashioned action flick"

The old action movies that ended abruptly

**Q. No 7:** Find three examples of colloquial language and explain how their use adds to the effectiveness of the review.

**Ans:** (1) Delivered a dud

(2) Where the unusual psychobabble ensues.

(3) Reloaded may have been dippy.

(1) The first example shows his utter disliking for the movie Matrix. He also uses informal language.

(2) Example two also shows his informal language. The reader gets an impression that the language of the film was not good.

(3) The third example also shows his displeasure for that film.

کسی اور سزا کو تلاش کریں، ان کو سلامی کڑھائی کے کام میں ڈالیں، اور کسی غیر متوقع واقعہ کی صورت میں یہ نئی پالیسی بے ضرری مورثہ کا حوصلہ بڑھائی ہے کہ وہ اور زیادہ جرائم میں ملوث ہوں اور ہمیرے خدا ۱۱ آٹھ وقت سے زیادہ ہم پوری اور ان کو قابو کرنے کی بات کی جگہ یہ مکمل بات ہے کہ ہم ایک مکمل درست امداد و شمار مہما کریں کہ انسانی زندگی کتنی چوریوں کی قدر و قیمت کے برابر ہے؛ یہ کافی اہم ہے، یہ ایک غیر محدود رقم ہو گی۔

## Responding to the Text

### Activity 9.2

### Understanding the Argument

#### بحث کو سمجھنا

**Q. No 1:** Explain the term "intermittent custody".

**Ans:** The term intermittent custody means periodic custody. It also implies women should be jailed irregularly so that they could attend to their domestic affairs and families as well and fulfil their term of sentence. It was meant for women who experienced a complex life routine.

**Q. No 2:** With reference to paragraph 3, explain what is considered to be the most important problem facing the prison system.

**Ans:** The most important problem in paragraph 3, is the suicide of women prisoners in Imprisonment. This is a very crucial problem of women under extreme pressure, either from domestic issues they embrace death. This is a very grave situation and must be cured in some way.

**Q. No 3:** Who are predominant victims of this problem?

**Ans:** Obviously, women are predominant victims of this problem because they have the responsibility. They have to complete the term of sentence and they have the burden of their family. Women face double pressure in this situation. And sometime the situation becomes so precarious that women prefer death to life.

**Q. No 4:** Explain the reasons usually suggested for women's self-destructive behaviour in prison.

**Ans:** There could be many reasons for women's self-destructive behaviour. Because of some trauma in their past domestic life, these women become mentally unstable. Some of them face domestic and sexual violence. Their life partners force them in some sort of criminality. They might have been abused in some other way.

**78 | Focus on Comprehension (Part 1)**

in past, some women naturally had cognitive disarray for crimes. Women because of their frail nature could not cope with this imprisonment. Another significant reason is responsibility of child care.

**Q. No 5:** Why does the writer say that these reasons miss the point?

**Ans:** These reasons miss the point because; mental disorder was the main factor of committing criminality. The rewards which have been offered to prisoners for conducting good behaviour are almost non-existent and therefore, prisoners do not try to pursue good behaviour. Furthermore, these women do not have the required mental resilience to cope with imprisonments. These women do have a family to take care of.

**Q. No 6:** Explain in your own words what Zoe Williams is suggesting for the treatment of mothers who have been convicted of a minor or non-violent crime.

**Ans:** Zoe William suggests for minor crime prisoners that are made to join some sewing circle because absence of such women would disturb generations to come. They must be offered an opportunity to reform themselves. They ought not to be imprisoned as the women of violent crimes are imprisoned.

## Responding to the Text

### Activity 10.3

#### Reading Closely

بجور مطالعه کرنا

Q. No 1: Why does the writer begin the article with a reference to funfairs?

## 86 | Focus on Comprehension (Part 1)

**Ans:** The writer has given an example of funfair to make the reader understand a more complex topic. The example of a circular round is easier to comprehend for a common reader. The faster spinning of circular makes a person aware of the movement within centrifuge. That is why the writer has given an example of circular ride.

**Q. No 2:** Explain one of the physical effects of hyper gravity.

**Ans:** Under the influence of hyper gravity, the heart has to change the way it operates, pumping faster and working harder to push the blood all the way to brain.

**Q. No 3:** Why is Malcolm Cohen using a centrifuge in his research?

**Ans:** It is centrifuge in a space shuttle where astronauts have to stay throughout their journey in a space. That is why Cohen uses centrifuge in his experiments to observe its effects on human beings. Cohen's major goal was to learn how humans adjust to changes in gravity, particularly strong gravity.

**Q. No 4:** Explain in your own words why artificial gravity does not solve all the problems of microgravity in a spaceship.

**Ans:** The force generated by spinning a centrifuge is not exactly the same as created by real gravity. If we have a small centrifuge one that might fit into a spaceship, we have to spin it pretty fast to create gravitational level. But a small centrifuge with a small radius does have a problem; it changes a level rapidly. If we are lying in a short-radius centrifuge, with our head near the centre, and our feet at outside, we might experience 1g at our feet but our head would experience 0.2g, or even less. That is not what we would experience in Earth's gravitational field.

**Q. No 5:** What is "the sopite syndrome"

**Ans:** It is syndrome that involves, apathy, disinclination for work, depression, and decreased participation in group activities.

These and other neurophysiologic symptoms such as malaise lethargy and agitation can persist for some time after the motion stimuli has ended.

## Responding to the Text

### Activity 11.3

### Understanding the Text

**متن کو سمجھنا**

**Q. No 1:** Explain the mischief the children got up to in the back of the car.

**Ans:** The children would collect the bunch of tip Ohio match. They would insert the match sticks into an apple and hard-boiled egg. These things would look like porcupine.) The children would usually throw that object from the rear window on the following car. This little bomb would explode with low sound and with a big blue flame. The chasing car would veer here and there to avoid that toy bomb.

**Q. No 2:** Why did their father remain ignorant of their mischief?

**Ans:** Because the car of Bryson's father was very big. His father, miles away up front, never got aware of his children's mischief. When the car overtook Bryson's car the driver of those car would give ferocious gesture before going further away. His father being ignorant would ask his mother in a wounded tone, what was going on?

**Q. No 3:** What reason does Bryson give for his father's meanness?

**Ans:** Bryson writes "my father had an instinct for picking bad sites." His father was a miserly person. He was the product of 1930's era. It was the time of severe economic depression. Whenever the time of expenditures came, he always gave a worse look of that fugitive who was always chased by bloodhounds. The children would remain unhappy and strained with their father.

**Q. No 4:** Bryson uses exaggeration to make the passage funny. Find two examples of this and explain the effect they have.

**Ans:** Yes, Bryson uses exaggeration to make the passage funny. The first example of exaggeration he uses is that of picnicking at a worse place. They would go to some seriously deprived ghetto, and usually it got windy at that time and Bryson's mother spent the whole lunchtime, chasing paper plates over an area of about an acre.

## 95 | Focus on Comprehension (Part 1)

## Unit 11

The other example is that of a portable stove that took an hour to assemble before each use and it looked so dangerous that Bryson and his sister and brother were strongly advised to stand at a distance from that stove. After great effort the stove would flicker to light for a few seconds before it went off. Bryson says his father would spend many hours on this stove.

Both the first and second example tickles the readers. They are assumed to read about the behaviour of Bryson's parents. The sense of humour makes the passage evenly.

**Q. No 5:** What image of America does this passage create for the reader?

**Ans:** The reader creates a mixed and somewhat good image of America. We come to know that America was a good place to visit but for this one must have enough money in one's pocket. There were plenty of good places which the children wanted to visit. But their father has the knack of choosing peculiar bad spots for picnic. Though Bryson's father was well off but temperamentally he was spendthrift. He always wanted to save money. But sometimes they also visited some good places. This shows that America was good place to hang about.

**Q. No 6:** What do you think Bryson means by the phrase "bitterness and unquenched basic needs" (II 56-57)?

**Ans:** The phrase "bitterness and unquenched basic needs" shows the strained and tense relationship between father and children. The children never wanted to visit the queer and poor motels and roadside restaurants. Whenever the father took them there they would respond badly. At such time their father, hot and furious, would drive fast. The atmosphere of car during such journey would remain bitter and harsh with their basic needs remained unfulfilled. The whole family would remain in tense mood. The children would never enjoy their excursions.