

TEA FROM ASSAM

1. "They sipped the hot liquid" — in this sentence from "Tea From Assam" who is being referred to as "they"? Where were they while "sipping the hot liquid"?

Ans: "They" refers to Pranjol and Rajvir. They were sitting in a train compartment sipping the hot tea.

2. Give a brief pen picture of the tea garden workers as described in "Tea From Assam"?

Ans: The tea garden workers wore plastic aprons and carried bamboo baskets on their backs. They were plucking tea leaves expertly from the bushes.

3. Write two sentences about the magnificent view that Rajvir saw outside from his train window?

Or

"It was a magnificent view" — What was the magnificent view of the tea garden that excited Rajvir while going in the train?

Ans: Rajvir saw vast green tea gardens with neatly pruned bushes stretching far and wide. The view of women plucking tea leaves was also fascinating.

4. Give a brief description of Dhekiabari tea gardens as seen by Pranjol and Rajvir when they were driving through it.

Ans: As they drove through Dhekiabari, they saw tea bushes lined on both sides of the road. Women in aprons were plucking fresh leaves and putting them in bamboo baskets.

5. Narrate briefly Rajvir's remarks on the discovery of tea.

Ans: Rajvir said that tea was first drunk in China as far back as 2700 B.C. He also said that tea came to Europe in the 16th century as a medicinal drink.

6. Mention two legends as described by the writer in "Tea From Assam" on the discovery of tea.

Or

Describe after reading the lesson "Tea from Assam" the legends of tea in the past.

Ans: The Chinese legend says some leaves fell into the Emperor's boiling water, giving it a pleasant flavour. The Indian legend says Bodhidharma's eyelids fell to the ground and tea plants grew from them.

7. What was the Indian legend about tea?

Ans: According to the Indian legend, Bodhidharma, a Buddhist monk, cut off his eyelids to stop himself from sleeping. Tea plants grew where his eyelids fell.

8. What was the Chinese legend about tea?

Ans: A Chinese emperor was boiling water when some leaves fell into it. The water gave a delightful flavour, and thus tea was discovered.

9. What was the sprouting period of tea plants? How did the tea pluckers pluck?

Ans: The sprouting period is from March to May, called the second flush. The pluckers pluck the top two leaves and a bud.

10. Name the railway junction where Rajvir and Pranjol finally got off? Who was waiting to receive them?

Ans: They got off at Mariani Junction. Pranjol's father, the manager of a tea garden, was waiting to receive them.

11. What was told by Pranjol's father about the tea bushes?

Ans: Pranjol's father said that the second flush was going on. It is the best time for tea production.

12. What did Pranjol and Rajvir see on both sides of the gravel road?

Ans: They saw rows of tea bushes on both sides. Women were plucking fresh leaves and dropping them in bamboo baskets.

13. What did Rajvir tell Pranjol about tea?

Ans: Rajvir told Pranjol that tea was first used in China and came to Europe in the 16th century. He also mentioned interesting legends about its discovery.

14. Describe the scenery outside the train as seen by Rajvir.

Ans: Rajvir saw green tea plantations, wildflowers, and a sea of tea bushes. The view was calm and refreshing.

15. Why is Rajvir excited? Why does Pranjol not share his excitement?

Ans: Rajvir was excited because it was his first visit to a tea garden. Pranjol wasn't excited as he grew up on a tea plantation and was used to it.

16. Why did Pranjol's father slow down the car?

Ans: He slowed down the car to let Rajvir have a better look at the beautiful tea garden and pluckers at work.

17. What book was Pranjol reading while in the train? Who else is with him?

Ans: Pranjol was reading a detective book. His friend Rajvir was sitting with him.

18. Who was Rajvir? Where did he travel?

Ans: Rajvir was Pranjol's classmate and friend. He travelled with Pranjol to Assam to visit a tea garden.

19. Who was Pranjol? What did his father do?

Ans: Pranjol was a student and Rajvir's friend. His father was the manager of a tea estate in Assam.

20. When did tea come to Europe? Why was tea drunk?

Ans: Tea came to Europe in the sixteenth century. It was drunk more as a medicine than a beverage.

21. What did Pranjol and Rajvir do when the train pulled out of the station?

Ans: They ordered a cup of tea and sipped it. Rajvir remarked that the train was an ideal place to enjoy tea.

22. "You seem to have done your homework before coming" — Who says this and why?

Ans: Pranjol said this to Rajvir because Rajvir knew a lot about tea – its history, legends, and cultivation.

23. What did the groups of tea pluckers do in the tea garden?

Ans: The pluckers were plucking tea leaves and putting them into bamboo baskets. They moved from bush to bush swiftly.

24. What was the Chinese emperor doing when he discovered tea?

Ans: The Chinese emperor was boiling water in the garden when leaves fell into the pot, creating a lovely aroma.

25. What was the spoken legend of Bodhidharma?

Ans: The legend says Bodhidharma, to avoid sleeping during meditation, cut off his eyelids. Tea plants sprouted from the place where they fell.

26. What do you understand by "It's time for the second flush"?

Ans: It means that tea plants are sprouting new leaves, mainly during mid-May, which is considered the best quality for tea.

27. What is Pranjol's father's occupation?

Ans: Pranjol's father is the manager of a tea estate in Assam.

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