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Class 10 English (First Flight) Notes

Mijbil the Otter



Key Notes and Important Questions with Answers

Ch - 8 : Mijbil the Otter

Key Points

- * Maxwell had a pet dog. After his death, he decided to have another pet.
- * In 1956, he went to Southern Iraq and there he saw people having otter as a pet.
- * He also decided to keep a pet otter instead of a dog.
- * Maxwell went to Basra to collect his mail and there he mentioned his desire to one of his friend.
- * After getting his mail, when the author reached his room, he saw two Arabs with an otter in a sack. '

- * It was a gift sent by the same friend.
- * The author named it Mijbil or Mij.
- * On the second night it entered the bed.
- * It enjoyed in the bathtub in bath room very much.
- * The British airline would not permit him to fly with animals, so he booked a flight to Paris and from there to London.
- * For the journey Mij was put into a box.
- * It escaped from the box and disappeared somewhere in the aeroplane.
- * Mij was caught with the help of the air hostess.
- * In London, the people could not recognise it, but they guessed about it.
- * Once a labourer saw Mijbil, laid down his tool and said with surprise- "Here, Mister- what is that supposed to be?"

Word- meanings (difficult words)

Squat	-	crouching position with bent leg.
Thralldom	-	bondage
Apathy	-	lack of interest
Fumble	-	grope
whimper	-	to whine

Comprehension Passage

The days passed peacefully at Basna, but I dreaded the prospect of transporting Mij to England, and to camusfeama. The British airline to London would not fly animals, so I booked a flight to Paris on another airline, and from there to London.

Questions.

- 1) Who was Mij?
- 2) What flight did the author book and why?
- 3) Find in the passage a phrase that means "was in great fear of the possibility."
- 4) Where did the author go after Paris.

Answer-

- 1) Mij was the author's pet otter.
- 2) He booked a flight to Paris and from there to London because the British airline did not allow animals on its flights.
- 3) Dreaded
- 4) From Paris he went to London.

I made a body-belt for him and took him on a lead to the bathroom, where for half an hour he went wild with joy in the water, plunging and rolling in it.

Questions-

- 1) Who is 'I' in the above lines?
- 2) What happened in the bathroom?
- 3) Find in the passage a word that means- 'Move quickly'
- 4) Who went wild with joy?

Mij was out of the box in a flash. he disappeared at high speed down the aircraft. There were squawks and shrieks, and a woman stood up her seat screaming out, "A rat! A rat!"

Questions-

- 1) What did Mij do after coming out of the box?
- 2) What did a woman do and why?
- 3) Write the synonym of- 'Shrieks'.

I was still far from him when he laid down his tool, put hands on his hips, and began to stare.

Questions-

- 1) Who are 'I' and 'he' in the passage?
- 2) What did the labourer do on seeing the author?
- 3) Give the root form of the verb 'laid'?

Short Answer Questions

What special characteristic of Mij (Mijbil) did Maxwell learn after he took him to the bathrooms.

Ans. When Maxwell took Mijbil to the bathroom, he learnt that Mijbil went wild with joy in water, plunging and rolling in it and splashed water.

Que. How did the author manage to transport Mij to London?

Ans. The author had to bring Mijbil to London and then to camusfearna. But the British online did not permit him to fly with an animal. So the author had to book another flight to Paris and from there to London.

Que. What type of incidents happened when the author walked in the streets of London?

Ans. The people in the streets of London guessed about the otter, but they could not recognise it. Some guessed it as baby seal, a squirrel, a walrus or bear cub etc. They were looking surprised.

Que. What was the reaction of the labourer when he saw Mijbil with the author?

Ans. The labourer became surprised. He left his digging work and laid down his tools. He asked with surprise-"What it was supposed to be."

Que- The author says- "The air hostess was the very queen of her kind"? Do you agree? Comment.

Ans- The air hostess was the very queen of her kind. I fully agree with the author's statement. The chief duty of an air hostess is to make the passengers feel comfortable during the journey. The air hostess on Maxwell's plane does all she can for him. That is why Maxwell calls her the very queen of her kind. She calmly listens to the author, allows him to keep the animal on his knees and tries to catch it when it escapes. In doing so she does not lose her patience. The author also tries to catch the animal and in doing so, he lands himself on a passenger. His face is covered with curry. Once again the air hostess comes to Maxwell's help. Thus we see that the air hostess was really a nice lady.

