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Class 10 English (Footprints without Feet) Notes

The Thief's Story



Key Notes and Important Questions with Answers

LESSON-2 THE THIEF'S STORY by- Ruskin Bond

Characters Sketches

Comparison and Contrast

Key Points :

Anil- a writer	Hari Singh - A thief
* Age 25; a tall, lean fellow. * easy-going, kind and simple '4 Watching wrestling match. * makes money by fits and starts (irregularly and in uncertain amount). * agrees to keep Hari Singh as his servant. * Promise him to teach him reading and writing. * knows that Hari took the money but ignores as he feel a quest for reform in him. * Happy to help Hari Singh to be a man of words and good deeds.	* Age; 15 ; love to cheat kind and simple people * frequently changes his name to dupe the police * feigns love wrestling to bait his prey * Very bad cook but promise to learn * Eagerly waits for a chance to loot Anil * keen to learn but can't stop cheating * takes away the money as it reaches Anil * something stops him from fleeing and brings him back to Anil * puts the money back * surprised to find no reaction from Anil * Happy to be a literate person .

Comprehension Passage-1

1. Read the extract carefully and answer the questions that follow:

I had been working for Anil for almost a month and, apart from cheating on the shopping, had not done anything in my line of work. I had every opportunity for doing so. Anil had given me a key to the door, and I could come and go as I pleased. He was the most trusting person I had ever met.

Set-1

- a) Who is the Speaker here?
- b) What. was his line of work?
- c) Why had he given him the Key?

Answers passage 1: Set-1

- a. Hari Singh is the Speaker here.
- b. it was to rob the people.
- c. so that he could unlock the door in his absence.

Passage-2

When I was on the road, I began to run. I had the notes at my waist, held there by the string of my pyjamas. I slowed down to a walk and counted the notes: 600 rupees in fifties! I could live like an oil-rich Arab for a week or two.

Set-1

- a) Who is the Speaker here?
- b) Why did he begin to run?
- c) 'I could live like an oil-rich Arab,' Explain.

Answers passage-2 : Set-1

- a. Hari Singh is the speaker here.
- b. So that he could run away from the city as early as possible.
- c. that the money was enough to spend like a rich man.

Passage-3

Later, he patted me on the head and said never mind, he'd teach me to cook. He also taught me to write my name and said he would soon teach me to write whole sentences and to add numbers. I was. grateful. I knew that once I could write like an educated man there would be no limit to what I could achieve.

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- a) What for he asked the speaker -'never mind'?
 - b) What was the speaker grateful for?
 - c) Did the speaker really want to be educated ?

LAQs (VBQs)

1. 'Everyone must have a chance to reform' - How did Anil work upon this thought and succeeded?

Ans. Hari Singh had all the sharp wickedness to rob a person. He knew how to rob and whom to rob. He chose Anil for his purpose because the latter was simple and easy to approach. But when Anil started teaching him how to write words and then sentences and adding numbers, a good man in Hari Singh started dreaming of a life full of honesty and dignity. He got the chance to rob, he robbed but the dream of being educated did not let him go. He returned to be educated.

2. "I hesitated-for some reason I can't explain- and I lost the chance to get away" What values in Hari Singh stop him to board the train."
3. "Can you cook?" "If you can cook, then maybe I can feed you." Anil is ready to Keep a stranger with him though he is not able to pay him. What does this tell you about Anil?

Lesson-2 Answers: SAQs

1. When and how did Hari Singh meet Anil?

Ans. Hari Singh met Anil when he was watching a wrestling match. Hari Singh tried to befriend Anil.

2. How did Hari Singh succeed in his profession?

Ans. He would frequently change his name to dupe the police. He would find out a kind and simple person for his target. He could wait until he had a favourable chance.

3. How did Hari Singh manage to win Anil's Heart?

4. How did Anil change Hari Singh?

5. Why did not Hari Singh run away with stolen money?

