

NCERT SOLUTIONS

CLASS - 7TH



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Class : 7th

Subject : English-1

Chapter : 3

Chapter Name : Gopal and the Hilsa Fish

Q1 Why did the king want no more talk about the hilsa-fish?

Answer. The king did not want any more talk about the hilsa-fish because it was the season for hilsa-fish and no one could stop talking about it for even five minutes. He was getting annoyed with all the talk about hilsa-fish.

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Q2 What did the king ask Gopal to do to prove that he was clever?

Answer. In order to prove that he was clever, Gopal was asked to buy a huge hilsa- fish and bring it to the palace without anyone asking anything about the fish.

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Q3 What three things did Gopal do before he went to buy his hilsa-fish?

Answer. Before he went to buy hilsa-fish, Gopal half-shaved his face, smeared himself with ash, and wore disgraceful rags.

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Q4 How did Gopal get inside the palace to see the king after he had bought the fish?

Answer. After he had bought the fish, Gopal reached the palace and told the guards that he wanted to see the king. When the guards did not let him in, he began to dance and sing loudly. When the king heard this, and also the comments of the people watching the man sing and dance, he asked for the man to be brought before him.

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Q5 Explain why no one seemed to be interested in talking about the hilsa-fish which Gopal had bought.

Answer. No one seemed to be interested in talking about the hilsa-fish which Gopal had bought because of Gopal's ridiculous appearance. Some people found him comical, others thought he was a madman, still others thought he was a mystic. They were so engrossed in discussing his appearance that the hilsa-fish went unnoticed.

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Q6 Write 'True' or 'False' against each of the following sentences.

- (i) The king lost his temper easily. _____
- (ii) Gopal was a madman. _____
- (iii) Gopal was a clever man. _____
- (iv) Gopal was too poor to afford decent clothes. _____
- (v) The king got angry when he was shown to be wrong _____

Answer. (i) True

(ii) False

He was just acting as a madman so that people's attention would be diverted from the hilsa-fish he was carrying.

(iii) True

(iv) False

He wore rags so that people would notice them, and not talk about the hilsa-fish.

(v) False

The king laughed and congratulated Gopal for achieving the impossible yet again.

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Q1 Notice how in a comic book, there are no speech marks when characters talk. Instead what they say is put in a speech 'bubble'. However, if we wish to repeat or 'report' what they say, we must put it into reported speech.

Change the following sentences in the story to reported speech. The first one has been done for you.

(i) How much did you pay for that hilsa?

The woman asked the man how much he had paid for that hilsa.

(ii) Why is your face half-shaven?

Gopal's wife asked him _____

(iii) I accept the challenge, Your Majesty.

Gopal told the king _____

(iv) I want to see the king.

Gopal told the guards _____

(v) Bring the man to me at once.

The king ordered the guard _____

Answer. (i) How much did you pay for that hilsa?

The woman asked the man how much he had paid for that hilsa.

(ii) Why is your face half-shaven?

Gopal's wife asked him why his face was half-shaven

(iii) I accept the challenge, Your Majesty.

Gopal told the king that he accepted the challenge

(iv) I want to see the king.

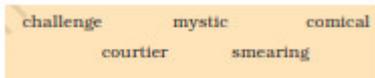
Gopal told the guards that he wanted to see the king.

(v) Bring the man to me at once.

The king ordered the guard to bring the man to him at once.

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Q2 Find out the meaning of the following words by looking them up in the dictionary. Then use them in sentences of your own.



Answer. (i) Challenge

Every difficult situation should be taken up as a challenge and not be run away from.

(ii) Mystic

The mystic from the Himalayas had great words of wisdom to share with the villagers.

(iii) Comical

Everyone appreciates the comical side of a man.

(iv) Courtier

Birbal was Akbar's most trusted courtier.

(v) Smearing

Smearing the forehead with tilak is one of the traditions of the South Indians.

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Q2 Now ask your partner questions about each picture.

(i) Where is the stag?

(ii) What is he doing?

(iii) Does he like his antlers (horns)?

(iv) Does he like his legs?

(v) Why is the stag running?

(vi) Is he able to hide in the bushes?

(vii) Where are the hunters now?

2. As soon as he caught _____ of the teacher, Mohan started writing.
3. How do you like my _____ kitchen garden? Big enough for you, is it?
4. My youngest sister is now a _____ old.
5. Standing on the _____, he saw children playing on the road.
6. Don't make such a _____. Nothing will happen.
7. Don't cross the _____ till the green light comes on.

Answer. 1. Cross

2. Sight
3. Tiny
4. Year
5. Roof
6. Fuss
7. Street

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Q1 Answer the following questions.

- (i) Who is the speaker in the poem?
- (ii) Is she/he afraid or curious, or both?
- (iii) What is she/he planning to do soon?
- (iv) "But not just yet..." suggests doubt, fear, hesitation, laziness or something else. Choose the word which seems right to you. Tell others why you chose it.

Answer. (i) The speaker of the poem is poet Frank Flynn when he was a small boy.

(ii) She/He was curious not afraid as she/he always peep through that window and ready to take a peek one day.

(iii) She/he is planning to go inside the shed soon.

(iv) "But not just yet..." suggests the hesitation of the poet from going inside that shed.

Though he was confident that there were no ghosts but still he was hesitated to go inside and thought that soon he will go inside the shed but not now.

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Q2 Is there a room in your house or a house in your neighbourhood/locality where you would rather not go alone, and never at night? If there is such a place and a story to go with it, let others hear all about it.

Answer. Yes, there is a house in our locality. It is a very old house. Nobody lives there. It is believed that a ghost lives there. The ghost is believed to be the spirit of the owner who died at his young age. Sometimes during night people hear strange noises and lights

coming from the house. Once I went inside the house during play. First I was very fearful, but after some time everything was normal. I don't feel what the people say is true.

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