

* Summary :-

Author: James Herriot

This story is about a dog named Twicki, who is excessively pampered by his owner, Mrs. Pumphrey. Mrs. Pumphrey, an elderly woman, feeds Twicki with food like creams, chocolates, and biscuits, leading to the dog becoming obese and lazy. She believes that the dog's weakness is due to lack of exercise, but Twicki's condition worsens.

The veterinarian, Dr. Herriot, is called to examine Twicki. After evaluating the dog's health, he decides that Twicki needs medical treatment, but more importantly, he must be kept away from his owner's pampering. Dr. Herriot takes Twicki to his clinic, where the dog undergoes a strict diet and exercise regime. Over time, Twicki becomes healthier, shedding the excess weight. When Mrs. Pumphrey sees the transformation, she is thrilled, and Twicki is restored to health.

The story emphasizes the dangers of overindulgence and the importance of proper care and discipline in the upbringing of pets.

* Key Themes :-

1. Overindulgence: Mrs. Pumphrey's excessive pampering harms Twicki's health.
2. Responsibility in Pet Care: The story highlights how pets need proper care, including diet and exercise.
3. Humour and Irony: The humorous situation arises from Mrs. Pumphrey's excessive concern for her pet's luxury, which leads to Twicki's downfall.

* Important Quotes:

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"He was a pampered pet, and his obesity was a result of indulgence!"

"He was obviously recovering, but his excitement and his happiness were evident in his leaps and jumps!"

* Important Questions:

• Short Answer Questions (2-3 marks):

1. What was Twicki's condition when Dr. Herriot was called to examine him?

2. How did Miss. Pumphrey react when she saw Twicki's improvement?

3. Why did Twicki become so unhealthy?

4. What treatment did Dr. Herriot give Twick?

• Long Answer Questions (5-6 marks):

1. How does the story 'A Triumph of Surgery' highlight the importance of responsible pet care?

2. Discuss the theme of overindulgence in the story and consequences.

3. How does humour play a role in this story?

4. Describe the transformation in Twicki's health and behaviour after his stay at the clinic.

* Summary:

- Written by Ruskin Bond, this story revolves around a 15-year-old boy, Hari Singh, who is a small-time thief. He meets a man named Anil, a kind and honest writer, and befriends him with the intention of stealing from him. Anil hires Hari as a cook, despite knowing that Hari might not be trustworthy.
- Anil's trust and kindness begin to change Hari's perspective on life. One day, Hari steals ₹ 600 from Anil but later feels guilty. Realizing that betraying Anil's trust would destroy their relationship, Hari decides to return the money and turn over a new leaf. The story highlights how trust and love can reform even the most dishonest individuals.

* Key Themes:

1. Trust and Betrayal: The story explores how trust can transform someone's character.
2. Redemption and Change: Hari's decision to return the money shows that kindness can inspire change.
3. Human Relationships: The bond between Hari and Anil emphasizes the importance of understanding and empathy.

* Message:

- The story conveys that trust and compassion have the power to reform individuals. It shows how love and kindness can lead even a thief to choose an honest path in life.

* Important Questions:

Short answer questions:

1. Why did Hari Singh choose Anil as his target?
2. What did Hari do with the stolen money, and how did he feel afterward?
3. Why didn't Anil react when he discovered the theft?
4. How did Hari Singh's attitude change by the end of the story?

Long answer questions:

1. Discuss how trust and kindness can bring about a change in person's character with reference to the story.
2. How does Hasi Singh's internal conflict drive the story?
3. What role does Anil play in reforming Hasi Singh?

* Summary:

Author: Robert Aulhuus

This is a suspenseful story about Ausable, a secret agent who outwits an intruder through his intelligence and quick thinking. Unlike the typical image of a spy, Ausable is overweight and clumsy in appearance, but his sharp mind compensates for his lack of physical attributes.

The story begins with Ausable meeting Fowler, a writer who is disappointed by Ausable's appearance and dull lifestyle. However, their evening takes an unexpected turn when an intruder breaks into Ausable's hotel room, demanding a confidential viewpoint.

Ausable uses his wit to deceive the intruder by inventing a story about a non-existent balcony outside his window, which he claims the police often use to monitor his room. Frightened by the supposed approach of the police, the intruder attempts to escape through the imaginary balcony and falls to his doom.

* Key Themes:

1. Intelligence over Physical strength: Ausable's cleverness helps him handle a dangerous situation.
2. Deception and Wit: The story showcases how quick thinking can outsmart even a threatening adversary.
3. Appearance vs. Reality: Ausable's appearance is deceptive, and his true strength lies in his intellect.

* Important Quotes:

"You are disappointed," Ausable said, wheezing a bit. "You were told that I was a secret agent, a spy, dealing in espionage and danger!"

"Ausable did not fit any description of secret agent Fowler had ever read."

* Important Questions :-

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• Short Answer Questions (2-3 marks):

1. Why was Fowler disappointed upon meeting Ausable?
2. Who was the intruder, and what did he want?
3. How did Ausable outsmart the intruder?
4. What role did the imaginary balcony play in the story?

• Long Answer Questions (5-6 marks):

1. How does Ausable's intelligence and presence of mind help him in a critical situation?
2. Discuss the contrast between Fowler's expectations of a spy and the reality of Ausable's character.
3. What message does the story convey about the importance of wit and intelligence?
4. Describe the role of humour and suspense in 'The Midnight Visitor'.

A Question of Trust: Footprints without Feet

* Summary :-

Author: Victor Canning

This story revolves around Horace Danby, a fifty-year-old man who appears to be a respectable citizen but is secretly a professional thief. He loves books and steals only to fund his passion for rare books.

Horace meticulously plans to rob a safe in a wealthy woman's house. However, during the burglary, he encounters a young woman who claims to be the lady of the house. She convinces Horace to open the safe for her, pretending she has forgotten the combination.

After successfully opening the safe, Horace leaves without suspicion. Later, he learns that the woman was not the owner but another thief who deceived him. The story highlights how even a skilled criminal can fall victim to deception.

* Key Themes :-

1. Deception and Trust: The story explores how appearances can be misleading and how trust can be easily betrayed.
2. Irony: A professional thief gets outsmarted by another thief, showcasing situational irony.
3. Crime and Consequences: The story subtly conveys that crime does not pay.

* Important Quotes :-

"Everyone thought him a good, honest citizen!"

"A woman's voice said from the doorway, 'What is it? A cold or hay fever?'"

* Important Questions

• Short Answer Questions (2-8 marks):

1. Who was Horace Danby, and what was his profession?
2. Why did Horace decide to rob the house?
3. How did the young woman deceive Horace?
4. What was the irony in the story?

• Long Answer Questions (5-6 marks):

1. Describe the character of Horace Danby. How was he different from typical thieves?
2. How does the story highlight the theme of deception?
3. Discuss the role of irony in 'A Question of Trust'.
4. What moral lesson does the story convey about trust and crime?

• Summary

* Author : H.G. Wells

This Chapter narrates an episode from the life of Griffin, a brilliant but ~~eee~~ eccentric Scientist who discovers a way to make himself invisible. However, instead of using his discovery for noble purposes, Griffin misuses his power, causing chaos and ~~trou~~ trouble wherever he goes.

The story begins with Griffin's footprints in the snow, which baffle two boys in London. As an invisible man, Griffin uses his to escape difficult situations, often resorting to theft and violence. He breaks into shops, steals clothes and food, and scares people.

Griffin's story serves as a Cautionary tale about the misuse of Scientific discoveries and the Consequences of unchecked power.

• Key themes :

1. Misuse of Science : Griffin's Story warns against the unethical use of Scientific advancements.
2. Power and Responsibility : With great power Comes the responsibility to use it wisely.
3. Alienation and Isolation : Griffin's invisibility isolates him from Society, leading to his downfall.

• Important Quotes

- "Griffin was a brilliant Scientist but a lawless person."
- "It was not Only the footprints that were mysterious but the fact that they ~~sem~~ seemed to have no origin."

• Important Questions

* Short Answer Questions (2-3 marks):

1. How did Griffin become invisible?
2. Why did Griffin set the landlord's house on fire?

3. How did Griffin set the landlord's house on fire? 10.

4. What happened at the store where Griffin entered for clothes?

* Long answer Questions (5-6 marks):

1. Discuss the character of Griffin. How did he misuse his scientific discovery?

2. How does the story highlight the dangers of under unrestrained scientific experiments?

3. What are the moral lessons we learn from Griffin's misuse of his power?

4. Describe Griffin's journey as an invisible man. What were the consequences of his actions?

• Summary

* Author : (Robert W. Peterson)

This inspirational story traces the journey of Richard Ebright, a young boy from Pennsylvania who became a renowned Scientist through hard work, Curiosity and perseverance.

Richard's fascination with science began in childhood when he started collecting butterflies. His mother played a significant role in nurturing his interest by providing him with the resources and encouragement to explore science.

As a high school student, Richard conducted experiments on butterflies, winning prizes at science fairs. His groundbreaking research on the role of DNA in determining the life of cells earned him widespread recognition. The story emphasizes how curiosity, dedication and persistence can lead to great achievements.

• Key themes :

1. Curiosity and Passion : Richard's innate curiosity and love for science fuel his journey to success.
2. Importance of Mentorship : His mother's support and guidance play a crucial role in his development.
3. Hard Work and Perseverance : Success comes from consistent effort and determination.
4. Scientific Exploration : The story highlights the excitement and rewards of exploring the unknown.

* Important Quotes

→ "For Richard Ebright, science was not just a hobby. It was a way of life."

→ "He tried to look at what was not visible to the naked eye."

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Cum gratia
Rajiv

• Important Questions

* Short Answer Questions (2-3 marks):

1. How did Richard Ebright's interest in science begin?
2. What role did Richard's mother play in his success?
3. What was Richard's first scientific achievement?
4. How did Richard's research on butterflies contribute to science?

* Long answer Questions (5-6 marks):

1. Discuss the role of curiosity and perseverance in Richard Ebright's journey as a scientist.
2. How did Richard's experiments with butterflies shape his future career?
3. What lessons can students learn from the story of Richard Ebright?
4. Describe the qualities that made Richard Ebright a successful scientist.

Summary :

Author : Guy de Maupassant

This story is about a young woman, Mathilda Loisel, who is dissatisfied with her modest life and yearns for wealth and luxury. Her husband, a clerk, tries to make her happy by getting her an invitation to a grand ball. However, Mathilda feels she has nothing suitable to wear.

Her husband gives her money for a dress, and she borrows a beautiful necklace from her wealthy friend, Madame Forestier. At the ball, Mathilda is admired for her beauty and elegance. However, she loses the necklace on her way home.

Fearing humiliation, the couple replaces the necklace with a costly one, taking a huge loan. They spend the next ten years living in poverty to repay the debt. Later, Mathilda learns that the original necklace was fake and worth much less.

* Key Themes :-

1. Desire and Discontent: Mathilda's dissatisfaction with her life leads to her downfall.
2. Pride and Appearances : Her obsession with appearances causing her suffering.
3. Irony of life : The twist ending highlights the futility of her sacrifices.

• Important Quotes

* "How little is needed for one to be ruined or saved!"

* "She learned all the heavy chores of the house, the odious work of the kitchen."

• Important Questions :-

* Short Answer Questions (2-3 marks):

1. Why was Matilda Unhappy with her life?
2. What sacrifices did the Loisels make to repay the loan?
3. How did Matilda feel at the ball?
4. What was the shocking twist at the end of the story?

* Long Answer Questions (5-6 marks):

1. How does Matilda's desire for a luxurious life lead to her ~~down~~ downfall?
2. Discuss the role of irony in the Necklace.
3. Compare the lives of Matilda before and after losing the necklace.
4. What moral lesson does the story convey about contentment and appearances?

Bholi: Footprints without Feet

* Summary:-

Written by K.A. Abbas, the story depicts the life of Bholi, a simple and neglected girl named Sulekha. She was called "Bholi" because of her simple and slow-witted nature, caused by childhood injuries and an illness that left her with pockmarks and a speech defect. Bholi grew up in a conservative family where she considered a burden.

Her life changes when she starts attending school, where her kind teacher encourages and empowers her. With education, Bholi gains confidence and self-respect. When her parents arrange her marriage to Bishamber, an elderly man who demands dowry, Bholi takes a stand and refuses to marry him, asserting her dignity. This act of defiance highlights her transformation into a courageous and independent woman.

* Key Themes:-

1. **Woman Empowerment:** The story emphasizes the role of education in empowering women.
2. **Self-Respect and Courage:** Bholi's refusal to compromise shows her newfound confidence.
3. **Critique of Social Evils:** The story criticizes societal practices like dowry and gender bias.

* Message:-

The story conveys the importance of education and self-confidence in overcoming societal oppression and achieving independence. It also critiques the dowry system and stresses the need for treating daughters as equals.

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* Important Questions

• Short Answer Questions

1. Why was Sulekha called "Bholi"?
2. How did Bholi's teacher influence her life?
3. Why did Bholi refuse to marry Bishamber?
4. How was Bholi treated by her family?

• Long Answer Questions

1. How did education bring a significant change in Bholi's personality?
2. What does Bholi's decision to refuse Bishamber tell us about her character?
3. Discuss the societal issues highlighted in the story "Bholi."

* Summary:

• Author: Claire Boiko

This humorous one-act play is a futuristic tale set in the 25th Century. It narrates how an old book of nursery rhymes, Mother Goose, saves Earth from an invasion by Martians.

- The play begins with a historian explaining the events of the 20th Century. The Martian invasion is led by the Commander-in-Chief, Think-Tank, who believes Earthlings are inferior. Think-Tank misinterprets a book of nursery rhymes as a manual for Earth's powerful weapons.
- His fear of Earth's supposed strength forces him to call off the invasion. The story is a satire on arrogance and misinterpretation, highlighting the importance of understanding and communication.

* Key Themes:

1. Misinterpretation and Arrogance: The Martians' misunderstanding of Earth's culture shows the dangers of ignorance and prejudice.
2. Satire on Human and Alien Behavior: The play humorously critiques both human and extraterrestrial assumptions.
3. Power of Knowledge: A simple book of nursery rhymes outwits a technologically advanced civilization.

* Important Quotes

"Earthlings are so uncivilized, they don't even have space travel."
(Think-Tank)

"The Earthlings have discovered the secret of our invasion."
(Martian soldier)

* Important Questions:

* Short answer questions (2-3 marks):

1. Who is Think-Tank, and what is his opinion about Earth?
2. How does Think-Tank misinterpret the book Mother Goose?

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3. Why does Think-Tank call off the invasion of Earth?

4. What role does the historian play in the story?

* Long answer questions (5-6 marks:)

1. How does "The Book That Saved the Earth" use humor to convey its message?

2. Discuss the role of Mother Goose in saving Earth from the Martian invasion.

3. What are the flaws in Think-Tank's leadership that lead to the failure of the invasion?

4. How does the play critique arrogance and ignorance through the Martians' behavior?