



CLASS NOTES-ANSWERS

Study skills

1. Vankozhimoshi Forest
2. Tarzan Vines
3. Behemoth Bees
4. Porcupine Cacti

Reading comprehension

1. What amazing sights did the paati and the children see in the forest?

Answer: Paati, Laila, Viks and Damu saw colourful mushrooms that were as large as garden umbrellas, and flowers that looked like translucent balloons. They also saw bushes that doubled over with the weight of juicy berries in purple, blue and red colours.

2. What did Damu chant to drown the humming of the singing grasses?

What did Viks sing?

Answer: Damu chanted the multiplication tables to drown the humming of the Singing Grasses. Viks sang a horribly tuneless 'Baa Baa Black Sheep' very loudly.

3. What did the Tarzan Vine do to Paati?



Answer: The swinging Tarzan Vine lifted Paati off her pony, carried her through the air and released her onto the sleeping Khabardar.

4. How did Paati fight Khabardar and his friend?

Answer: Paati used her presence of mind to fight with Khabardar and his friend. When she heard Khabardar's friend mention that he had a gun, she quickly took out the bottle of the concentrated hair oil and flung it onto the faces of both Khabardar and his friend before dashing off.

5. How did Paati, her grandchildren and assistant pass through the Porcupine Cacti safely?

Answer: Paati, Laila, Viks and Damu completed their journey through the Porcupine Cacti by covering themselves in layers of clothing, and wearing pots and baskets over their heads like helmets. They held the graters and the strainers over their faces like masks to protect themselves from the thorns of the Porcupine Cacti.

A. Read these sentences and answer the questions that follow.

1. 'Oh my gosh, Paati, look! It's those two jelly-bellies. Those two tabla tummies.'

a. Who are the people being referred to here?

Answer: Khabardar and his friend are referred to in the quoted sentences.



b. What were they doing when Paati and the children spotted them?

Answer: Both Khabardar and his friend were sleeping when Paati, Laila, Viks and Damu spotted them. They lay fast asleep on the long grass with their mouths wide open as they snored.

c. Did Paati and the children share a friendly relation with them? Why/Why not?

Answer: No, Paati, Laila, Viks and Damu did not share a friendly relation with them as Khabardar and his friend tried to drown them in the Kashmakash River.

2. Paati felt a scorpion like sting on her arm as she reached the group.

a. What had stung Paati?

Answer: A thorn from the Porcupine Cacti had stung Paati.

b. What were Damu, Laila and Viks doing when she returned?

Answer: Damu, Laila and Viks had been thrown off their ponies which had run away. They sat crouched on the path with different bits of clothing wrapped around their head and arms as protection from the thorns of the Porcupine Cacti.

c. What problem did the group face at this point in the story?



Answer: At this point in the story, the group faced the problem of going through the Porcupine Cacti without getting thorns into their nose and eyes.

C. Think and answer

'Singing Grasses and Tarzan Vines' is filled with not only action, adventure and thrills but also humour. Give examples to support this statement.

- a. When Damu noticed that Paati had begun to feel drowsy because of the humming of the Singing Grasses, he started chanting the multiplication tables loudly to keep himself and the others in the group wide awake. Viks, who could never remember his multiplication tables, started singing the nursery rhyme 'Baa Baa Black Sheep' which was horribly tuneless and so loud that it startled his pony and it broke into a fast trot. This whole description is extremely funny.
- b. The way in which the Tarzan Vine lifted Paati off her pony and threw her onto the sleeping Khabardar also makes the reader laugh a lot.
- c. Next, the manner in which Paati flung the concentrated hair oil onto the faces of Khabardar and his friend, as well as their reaction, makes us crack up.

Vocabulary

- A. Match the idioms to their meanings.



1. cost an arm and a leg—d. very expensive
2. beat around the bush—e. not speak directly about the main topic
3. hit the nail on the head—a. say something exactly right
4. bite off more than you can chew—f. take on a task that is too much to accomplish
5. cry over spilt milk—c. waste time feeling upset about what cannot be undone
6. the best of both worlds—b. a situation in which one enjoys the advantages of two different things at the same time

B. Read these phrasal verbs with the preposition 'up'. Find their meaning and use in sentences of your own.

1. add up—calculate the total of several numbers or accounts. Swapnil is extremely good at adding up the numbers orally.
2. end up—be in a particular place or state after doing something or because of doing it.

We ended up spending the whole afternoon at the railway station.

3. catch up—talk to someone you have not seen for some time and find out what they have been doing.

If you are free tomorrow, let's catch up at my house over lunch.



4. break up—end a meeting or other event.

Let's break up the meeting in ten minutes as Sumesh and I have to attend another one.

5. blow up—explode

The boiler at the power plant blew up last week and caused a lot of damage.

6. ring up—phone someone

My doctor rang up the doctor yesterday to make an appointment.

Grammar

A. Fill in the blanks with determiners.

1. Whose bright idea was this?
2. Please get me a cup of tea.
3. That house over there is crowded with so many guests.
4. I'm happy that the girls played so well.
5. An apple a day keeps the doctor away.
6. Is there any water left in the jug? I'm thirsty.

B. Tick the correct sentences and cross out the incorrect ones.

1. This unfriendly dog barks at everyone. ✓



2. The students greets the teacher. X
3. He don't like this sad story. X
4. We have to work for long hours today. ✓
5. This medicine is effective. ✓
6. The people in my neighbourhood is friendly. X

Pronunciation

1. 'cer/tain
2. sit/u/'a/tion
3. 'per/so/nal
4. pro/nun/ci/'a/tion
5. ob/'tuse
6. 'up/roar



Spelling

1. cancelled
2. humour
3. fibre
4. rumour
5. fuelled



6. paralyse

Dictionary skills

1. tables (multiplication tables)-lists that show the results of multiplying two numbers by each other.
2. eased—made (the bag) less tight or relaxed.
3. concentrated—made a liquid stronger by having the water removed.
4. shooting off—leaving a place suddenly
5. still—up to this time
6. lay—past tense of 'lie' (which means to have your body in a flat position on a bed or other surface)★

Speaking

A fantastical creature that would be my invention will be shorter than a human being. She would be around three feet in height and will have a chubby body and a round face. She would have four small eyes that would be completely round, just like the buttons on a shirt, with each pair of eyes both at the front and at the back of the head. This creature would also have a pudgy nose and thin lips. She would have two pointed ears just like an elf's. She would waddle instead of walk or run. She would look very cute and adorable, and be friendly and kind to human beings. I wish such a creature could come alive.



Writing

Khabardar: Kreeegah! What did you fling onto our faces?

Paati: Well, it was a concentrated version of the hair oil I'm going to present at the World Herbologists Conference.

Khabardar: It is extremely concentrated. My face is burning.

Khabardar's Friend: Look, my face was hairy before. It looks like a jungle of wild bushes now.

Khabardar: You're mean, lady.

Paati: Am I the one who is mean? The two of you tried to drown the four of us. Had I not poured the hair oil onto your faces, the two of you would have harmed me with the gun.

Khabardar: We won't hurt you ever again. We promise.

Paati: You'd better not