



CLASS NOTES-ANSWERS

Working with the Text

A) Answer the following questions.

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

Answer: The king was fed up with the talks going around about Hilsa-fish. It was the season of hilsa-fish and everyone was talking about the fish.

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

Answer: The king asked Gopal to bring Hilsa fish to the palace without anyone asking a word about the fish.

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

Answer: The three things that Gopal did before he went to buy his hilsa-fish was

- He half-shaved his beard.
- He smeared himself with ash.
- And put on disgraceful rags.

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

Answer: As soon as he reached the court the guards asked him to go back as he cannot see the king and they refused to open the gates, upon which he started dancing and singing loudly. Then, the king asked the guards to bring him inside.

5) 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 as Gopal drew all the attention of the people towards himself by putting on rags, ash and a half-shaven face. Some thought him to be funny, some thought him to be a madman while others thought him to be a mystic.

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

1) The king lost his temper easily. **True**



- 2) Gopal was a madman. **False**
- 3) Gopal was a clever man. **True**
- 4) Gopal was too poor to afford decent clothes. **False**
- 5) The king got angry when he was shown to be wrong. **False**

Working with Language

- 1) 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.

- 1) How much did you pay for that hilsa?

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

- 2) Why is your face half-shaven?

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

- 3) I accept the challenge, Your Majesty.

Answer: Gopal told the king that he accepts the challenge.

- 4) I want to see the king.

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

- 5) Bring the man to me at once.

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

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

- i) Challenge

Answer: To participate in some competitive situations.

Both the teams took the challenge and had a very close call in the match.

**ii)** Mystic

Answer: A person who surrenders to a deity.

The man who is wearing the yellow dress is a mystic.

iii) Comical

Answer: Funny

All the comical characters played their roles well.

iv) Courtier

Answer: A person who attends the royal court.

Birbal is one of the most famous courtiers in our history.

v) Smearing

Answer: To apply something and make a mess.

The old man was smearing the ashes all over his body.

3) Now ask your partner questions about each picture.

i) Where is the stag?

Answer: The stag is by the side of the pond.

ii) What is he doing?

Answer: He is looking at the reflection of his horns and legs in the water.

iii) Does he like his antlers (horns)?

Answer: Yes, he liked his antlers.

iv) Does he like his legs?

Answer: No, he didn't like his legs.

v) Why is the stag running?

Answer: The stag was running to save his life from the hunters.

vi) Is he able to hide in the bushes?

Answer: No, he was not able to hide in the bushes.

vii) Where are the hunters now?

Answer: They are quite close to the stag.



viii) Are they closing in on the stag?

Answer: Yes, they are closing in on the stag.

ix) Is the stag free?

Answer: Yes, the stag is free.

(x) What does the stag say about his horns and his legs?

Answer: The stag says that he was proud of his horns and that laid him into trouble and could have lost his life while he was unhappy with his legs but today his legs saved his life.

3. Now write the story in your own words. Give it a title.

“Be Happy with what you have”.

A stag was once drinking water at a pond. He saw his own reflection in the water. He admired his beautiful horns, but he did not like his thin and ugly legs. Suddenly he saw a group of hunters running towards him. He ran into the jungle to save himself. His legs soon carried him far from the hunters. He then tried to hide in the bushes but his horns were caught in the bush. With his best efforts, he was able to free himself. Now he realised that his ugly legs helped him in saving his life, but his beautiful horns could have caused his death.

4. Complete the following word ladder with the help of the clues given below.

Clues

- 1) Mother will be very cross if you don't go to school.
- 2) As soon as he caught sight of the teacher, Mohan started writing.
- 3) How do you like my tiny kitchen garden? Big enough for you, is it?
- 4) My youngest sister is now a year old.
- 5) Standing on the roof, he saw children playing on the road.
- 6) Don't make such a fuss. Nothing will happen.
- 7) Don't cross the street till the green light comes on.