



QUESTION BANK – THE THIEF’S STORY

Class: X

Sub: ENGLISH

MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS

1. What did Anil do for a living?

- (A) wrote articles for magazines (B) wrestling
(C) acting (D) business

Ans. (A) wrote articles for magazines

2. What was Anil doing when the thief boy met him?

- (A) writing an article (B) watching a match
(C) playing cricket (D) going on the road

Ans. (B) watching a match

3. Anil lived in a room in a shop named :

- (A) Jumna Sweet Shop (B) Ganesh Sweet Shop
(C) Ganga Sweet Shop (D) Shah Sweet Shop

Ans. (A) Jumna Sweet Shop

4. What did the boy ask Anil?

- (A) to give him some money (B) to employ him
(C) to give him a lift (D) to tell him the way

Ans. (B) to employ him

5. What did Anil do to the food cooked by the boy the first day?

- (A) ate it with enjoy (B) put it in the cupboard
(C) threw it to a stray dog (D) asked the boy to eat it all

Ans. Threw it to a stray dog

6. What did Hari Singh want from Anil?

- A. help (B) money
C. work (D) shelter

Ans. Work

7. What did Anil do with the money when he received a cheque?

- A. Deposited in his account B. bought household things
C. went out to celebrate D. paid salary to the boy

Ans. went out to celebrate

8. Which of the following traits describes Anil?

- A. easy going B. careful
C. greedy D. extravagant

Ans. Easy going

I. Read the following extracts carefully and answer the questions that follow.

1. “You look a bit of a wrestler yourself”. I said A little flattery helps in making friends.

(a) Who was the speaker? Who was he trying to flatter?

Hari Singh was the speaker and he was trying to flatter Anil.

(b) Why did the speaker want to be friends with the listener?

The speaker wanted to be friends with the listener because he wanted to rob him after gaining his trust.

(c) Find the antonym of ‘criticism’ in the extract.

The antonym is ‘flattery’.

(d) What is the opposite of ‘friends’?

‘Enemies’ is its opposite.

2. “He knew. But neither his lips nor his eyes showed anything”.

(a) Who is ‘he’ in the extract? What did he know?

‘He’ refers to Anil in the extract. He knew about the theft of his money.

(b) Why did he not show anything?

Anil did not show anything because he understood and Hari’s return gave him the hope of a change in him.

(c) Which word in the extract means the same as ‘reveal’?

‘Showed’ means the same as ‘reveal’.

(d) What is the antonym of ‘showed’?

‘Hide’ is its antonym.

II. Short Answer Type Questions.

1. **Anil walked away. I followed casually’. Why do you think the narrator followed Anil?**

The narrator’s purpose of robbing Anil had not yet been served. He followed Anil to gain his trust and look for an opportunity that may help him give shape to his plans.

2. **What are the different reactions of the people when they are robbed?**

According to Hari Singh, different people react differently upon being robbed. The greedy man displays fear, the rich man shows anger, and the poor man shows acceptance. However, a trusting man like Anil would be sad due to the loss of trust.

3. **Why was it difficult for Hari Singh to rob Anil?**

It was difficult to rob Anil because he was the most trusting person Hari Singh had ever met. According to Hari Singh, it’s easy to rob a greedy man because he can afford to be robbed but it’s difficult to rob a careless man because he doesn’t even notice that he’s been robbed and that takes all the pleasure out of the work.

4. **In which queer way did Anil make a living?**

Anil made a living by writing for magazines. He made money by fits and starts. He would borrow one week, lend the next week. He kept worrying about his next cheque, but as soon as it arrived he would go out and celebrate with his friends.

5. **Why did the thief change his name every month? How did he rob people?**

The thief changed his name every month to keep himself ahead of the police and former employers. So he changed his name after every robbery.
He won the confidence of the people with his appealing smile.

III. Long Answer Type Questions

1. **Money can't make a man as much as education can. Elucidate the statement.**

The statement stands true in almost all the aspects of life. Money may buy us all the luxuries and fulfill our needs but it cannot buy us knowledge, civilized thinking, skills and abilities to achieve our dreams. Education lays the platform for all to act upon our goals according to our abilities. Education enables us to keep up with the fast moving world. It opens the door to opportunities we do not know even exist. Money, on the other hand, can assist us to a certain level. It can buy us a plan but education gives us the knowledge of its execution. Just as in the story 'A Thief's Story', Hari Singh prioritized the chance of being literate over a few hundred rupees; we must understand that education can help us to achieve whatever we desire.

2. **Hari Singh didn't board the express and returned to Anil. Why did he return? What does it teach the readers about Anil's character?**

Hari Singh was a thief and he had stolen Anil's money. After the theft, he realised that he had robbed not only Anil but also himself of the chance of being literate and having a bright future. His conscience pricked him to think what all he could have got had he not done this. It was difficult for him to rob Anil but it was tougher for him not to back. He realised that he could not make tea, buy daily supplies and learn how to read and write then. His inner self did not agree to bypass this and forced him to return. Hari's return to Anil shows that despite indulging in criminal acts, he still had a practical and positive attitude towards life. It is the awakening of Hari's conscience and Anil's love and care that reformed Hari's character. It teaches us that love alone can change a person. Anil understands nature and care changed Hari's thinking to mend his ways for good.

3. **Anil plays a major role in the transformation of Hari Singh. Comment on the statement by highlighting the values possessed by Anil which touched Hari's heart and made him return to his honest ways of earning his livelihood. Write in about 100-120 words.**

Anil was a struggling writer who befriended Hari Singh. Hari Singh was an experienced, 15-year-old thief. He found Anil an easy target to steal. Anil offered him to stay with him and to teach how to read and write. Gradually, Anil develops trust in Hari Singh. But Hari Singh was waiting for the right opportunity to do what he was best at. After stealing money, he tried to go away forever but some inner voice stopped him from doing so. He returned to Anil because he wanted to live a life of respect. Anil did not show that he knew the incident and accepted Hari with open hands. Thus, a well-intentioned person, Anil changed Hari Singh and brought him on the right path. The story shows that trust and spirit to forgive someone can bring big changes in someone's life.