



Read the following extracts carefully and answer the questions that follow: -

Question 1.

As we watched the fallen animal, we were surprised to see that the black fur on its back moved and left the prostrate body. Then, we saw it was a baby bear that had been riding on its mother's back when the sudden shot had killed her.

(a) 'We' in the above lines refer to

Answer:

the author and his friends

(b) The black fur on back of body moved.

Answer:

mother bear's

(c) It was a baby bear that had been lying on the mother bear's back. (True/False)

Answer:

True

(d) The synonym of 'lying on the ground facing downwards' in the passage is...

Answer:

'prostrate'

Question 2.

One day an accident befell him. I put down poison (barium carbonate) to kill the rats and mice that had got into my library. Bruno entered the library as he often did, and he ate some of the poison. Paralysis set in to the extent that he could not stand on his feet.

(a) One day, an accident had befallen

Answer:

Bruno

(b) He was and could not stand on its feet.

Answer:

paralyzed

(c) He drank juice kept in the library. (True/False)

Answer:

False

(d) The opposite of the word 'often' is

Answer:

'seldom'

Question 3.

Out came his medical books, and a feverish reference to index began: "What poison did you say, sir?" "Barium carbonate." "Ah yes – B-Ba-Barium Salts-Ah! Barium carbonate! Symptoms-paralysis-treatment-injections of Just a minute, sir, I'll bring my syringe and the medicine."

(a) The took out his medical books and searched the index.

Answer:

doctor

(b) 'Sir' in the above lines refers to

Answer:

the author

(c) Bruno had to take injections that would fight the barium carbonate poison. (True/False)

Answer:

True

(d) The word in the passage that means the same as 'immobility' is

Answer:

'paralysis'

Question 4.

We all missed him greatly; but in a sense, we were relieved. My wife was inconsolable. She wept and fretted. For the first days, she would not eat a thing. Then she wrote a number of letters to the curator. How was Baba?

(a) was being missed.

Answer:

Bruno

(b) She wept and fretted. 'She' here refers to the

Answer:

author's wife

(c) She had nourished the bear like her son. (True/False)

Answer:

True

(d) in the passage is the synonym of 'keeper'.

Answer:

'curator'

Question 5.

Friends had conjectured that the bear would not recognize her. I had thought so too. But, while she was yet some yards from his cage, Baba saw her and recognized her. He howled with happiness.

(a) According to friends, the bear would not recognize the

Answer:

author's wife

(b) 'I had thought so too' is the phrase that means

Answer:

the author's wife had the same opinion as that of her friends.

(c)howled with happiness.

Answer:

Bruno/Baba

(d) means the same as 'guessed'.

Answer:

'conjectured'

Question 6.

"Madam, he belongs to the zoo and is Government property now. I cannot give away Government property. But if my boss, the superintendent at Bangalore agrees, certainly you may have him back."

(a) is the speaker of above lines.

Answer:

The curator

(b) He is speaking to the

Answer:

author's wife

(c) Bruno, the sloth bear, is referred to as government property here. (True/False)

Answer:

True

(d) in the passage means the same as 'manager'.

Answer:

'superintendent'

Question 7.

Once home, a squad of coolies were engaged for special work in our compound. An island was made for Baba. It was twenty-feet long and fifteen-feet wide, and was surrounded by a dry pit, or moat, six-feet wide and seven-feet deep.

(a) 'Special work in our compound' refers to

Answer:

making/constructing an island

(b) 'Our compound' it is the compound of and home

Answer:

the author, his wife's

(c) The island was seventeen feet long and twenty feet wide. (True/False)

Answer:

False

(d) 'A small group' means the same as in the passage.

Answer:

'squad'

Question 8.

A wooden box that housed fowls, was brought and put on the island for Baba to sleep in at night. Straw was placed inside to keep him warm, and his 'baby', the gnarled stump, along with his 'gun', the piece of bamboo, both of which had been sentimentally preserved since he had been sent away to the zoo, were put back for him to play with.

(a) From now on Baba would sleep in a

Answer:

wooden box

(b) Earlier, the same box housed

Answer:

fowls

(c) Straw was placed inside the box to keep him warm. (True/False)

Answer:

True

(d) 'Sentimentally preserved' in the passage depicts the

Answer:

author's wife's love and emotions for Bruno.

SHORT ANSWERS-

1. How did the narrator find Bruno?

When the narrator was passing through the sugarcane fields near Mysore, people, over there, were shooting and driving away the wild pigs from the fields. Suddenly, they saw a black sloth bear emerging out from the field. One of his companions instantly shot the sloth bear without noticing that a baby bear had been riding on its mother's back she got shot. So, the narrator ran up to it to capture it. Once he could grab it, he put it in a gunny-bag and

presented to his wife.

2. Why was Bruno sent away?

In time Bruno grew up and he had equaled the Alsatians in height and had even outgrown them. He was still playful and sweet but he had to be kept chained most of the time because of the tenant's children. He was actually getting too big to keep at home. So, everyone advised the narrator's wife to send Baba to the zoo. Initially, she was not in favor of this but after some weeks, she agreed.

3. Why was Bruno's name changed to Baba?

The narrator's wife loved Bruno a lot and Bruno loved her too. They were very fond of each other. Baba is a Hindustani word indicating a 'small boy'. She changed his name from Bruno to Baba as she loved her like a little child. He could even respond to commands like a child and perform various tricks.

4. How was Baba trained?

Baba responded to commands pretty well. At the command, 'Baba, wrestle', or 'Baba, box', he tackled anyone who came near him for a tumble. When someone gave him a stick and said 'Baba, hold gun', he pointed the stick at people. When someone asked him 'Baba, where's baby?', he produced and cradled a stump of wood which he had carefully concealed in his straw bed. He ate everything, from porridge to vegetable, buts, curry, rice, eggs, chocolates and ice cream and more.

5. What was the narrator's wife's condition after Baba was given to the zoo?

The narrator's wife was in a grief-stricken state. She was distressed and heartbroken after Baba was sent to the zoo. She wept and fretted for Baba. She couldn't eat anything for the first few days. She wrote a number of letters to the zoo curator enquiring about Baba's health. When some of her friends were visiting Mysore, she even begged them to go to the zoo and see how Baba was doing. She got to know that Baba looked very sad and worried. The narrator managed to restrain her from visiting the zoo for about three months. But then she was out of control and she made it a point that if he doesn't take her to the zoo then she would go alone.

6. How did the superintendent help in reuniting Baba and the narrator's wife?

The narrator's wife was keen on having Baba back home. She came back to Bangalore to meet the superintendent of the zoo who could give Baba back to her and pleaded with him to reunite them. The superintendent was a kind and helpful man and finally, he consented. He also wrote a letter to the curator of the zoo asking him to lend them a cage to transport Baba back to Bangalore from Mysore.

LONG ANSWER –

1. On two occasions Bruno ate/drank something that he shouldn't have. What happened to him on these occasions?

One day the narrator put down poison (barium carbonate) in the library to kill the rats and mice. Since Bruno was not chained, he could move freely. So, he entered the library and ate some of the poison. He was then paralyzed to such an extent that he couldn't even stand on his own feet. The narrator had to rush to the vet's residence with Bruno in order to release him from the painful condition. Bruno was struggling to move but his condition was deteriorating rapidly. He was vomiting and was breathing heavily. Bruno was injected with 10 c.c. of the antidote. His condition was unchanged even after ten minutes. Another 10 c.c. was injected and ten minutes later, his breathing became less noisy. Bruno could move his arms and his legs but he couldn't stand yet. Finally, after thirty minutes, he could get up and behave normally. On another occasion, he drank nearly one gallon of old engine oil. However, thankfully, it had no ill effects and Bruno didn't have to suffer this time.

2 What happened when the narrator's wife visited the zoo?

Baba and the narrator's wife were apart from each other for about three months and they both longed to be with each other. Everyone thought that the bear would not recognize her after so many months of separation. But while she was yet some yards away from the cage, Baba saw her and howled with happiness. She instantly ran up to him and petted him through the bars. Baba was so happy to see her that he stood on his head in delight. The narrator's wife did not leave the cage for the next three hours. She sat near him and fed him tea, lemonade, cakes, ice-cream and a lot more. Finally, when the 'closing time' came, both of them started crying. Seeing this, the keepers and the curator felt bad. The narrator's wife pleaded the curator to allow her to take Baba back with her.

3 'Love is mutual'. Illustrate with reference to "The Bond of Love"?

A: "The Bond of Love" is a story of emotional bonding between a woman and a bear. The author's wife had pet bear called Bruno. She loved him deeply. She put a colored ribbon around his neck. She cooked a variety of dishes for him. He also performed many playful tricks which give pleasure to her. They enjoyed each other's company. When bear grew big, he was dangerous for the children in the house. Author decided to send him to the zoo. His departure was very painful for the author's wife. Finally, she asked her husband to visit Baba in the zoo.

They both felt relieved on meeting. They spend many hours together. So we can say "Love is Mutual".

4 Why was Bruno sent away to the Zoo and why was he brought back?

A: The bear, Bruno, was very dear to the author's wife. They spent many hours together and love each other's company. But when he had grown very big and heavy, he was dangerous. He was very playful and mischievous. There were small children of the tenants' family. So they had to chain him most of the time. The author felt that he was depriving Bruno of his natural freedom. So he decided to send him to a zoo. But his wife could not bear his separation. The author consoled her for three months, but at last he took her to the zoo. On seeing her Baba howled with happiness. They spend many hours together. She wanted to take him back to home. She requested the superintendent who allowed her.

MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS

1. Who found a sloth bear

- (A) the author (B) the author's friend
(C) the author's wife (D) the author's son

Ans. (A) the author

2. What name was given to the sloth bear?

- (A) Bruno his son his friend (B) Trickle
(C) Timothy (D) Nana

Ans. (A) Bruno

3. The author found Bruno near

- (A) Nainital (B) Kolkata
(C) Darjeeling (D) Mysore

Ans. (D) Mysore

4. Who did the author present the sloth bear?

- (A) his wife (B) his son
(C) his daughter (D) his friend

Ans. (A) his wife

5. What did Bruno start to eat?

- (A) porridge (B) fruit
(C) vegetables (D) all of the above

Ans. (D) all of the above

6. Who did the bear become very attached to?

- (A) the monkey (B) the tiger
(C) two Alsatian dogs (D) all of the above

Ans. (D) all of the above

7. What did Bruno eat one day?

(A) barium carbonate

(B) potassium

(C) thorium

(D) phosphate

Ans. (A) barium carbonate

8. Barium carbonate was in the house to kill

(A) rats and mice

(B) dogs

(C) bears

(D) all of the above

Ans. (A) rats and mice

9. What was the effect of barium carbonate on Bruno?

(A) he became paralysed

(B) he was vomiting

(C) he was breathing heavily

(D) all of the above

Ans. (D) all of the above

10. What new name did the author's wife give to Bruno?

(A) Dada

(B) Baba

(C) Bhaiya

(D) Ladla

Ans. (B) Baba

11. What did the author's son and the author advise his wife when Bruno was grown up?

(A) to sell him

(B) to leave him in the forest

(C) to give him to the zoo at Mysore

(D) all of the above

Ans. (C) to give him to the zoo at Mysore

12. What was the author's wife reaction when Baba was sent to the zoo?

(A) she would not eat anything

(B) she was inconsolable

(C) she wept and fretted

(D) all of the above

Ans. (D) all of the above