

SANJEEVANI PUBLIC SCHOOL

CLASS - X

SUB - ENGLISH

Text Book (FIRST FLIGHT)

CH - 1 ✶ LETTER TO GOD

Summary

Lencho is an honest farmer whose fields have a rich harvest of ripe corns. He is awaiting a good rainfall for his crops. But unfortunately, hailstones destroy his crops completely. He has strong faith in God. He believes that God would not let his family starve. He writes a letter to God asking Him for 100 pesos. A postman, who sees the address, hands over the letter to the Postmaster. The postmaster reads the letter and is moved by Lencho's faith. He does not want to shake Lencho's faith. He collects money from the post office employees and his friends. He also contributes a part of his salary for Lencho. He puts 70 pesos in an envelope with a letter in which only God's name is written. He gives the envelope to Lencho when he comes to enquire about a letter. Lencho believes that God has sent the money to him. He is angry to find only 70 pesos. He believes the office employees have removed the 30 pesos. He writes back asking God to send the remaining 30 pesos directly to him because the post office employees were a bunch of crooks.

Ques-1 Lencho compared the raindrops with new coins? why? How?

Answer- Lencho said that the raindrops were like 'new coins' because they brought with them a promise of a good harvest. They were as valuable as coins because a rich harvest meant a good source of earning for Lencho. Lencho compared the big raindrops with 10 cent pieces and small raindrops with 5 cent pieces.

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Ques-2 Why did Lencho become angry?

Ans- Lencho was angry to find only 70 pesos. He was sure that God could not have made a mistake and the remaining 30 pesos had been taken by the post office employees. He believed that they were a bunch of crooks.

Ques-3 How and why did Postmaster help Lencho?

Ans- Postmaster decided to help Lencho so that Lencho's faith would not be shaken. He collected money from the post office employees and his friends. He also contributed a part of his salary and put 70 pesos in an envelope, with a letter, in which only God was written.

Ques-4 Why did Lencho write a letter to God?

Ans- Lencho wrote a letter to God because his crops had been destroyed completely by a hail-storm. He and his family would have to face starvation, with nothing to eat, throughout the year. He, thus, wrote a letter to God asking Him to send him 100 pesos, which would help him and his family to survive through the year ahead.

Ques-5 Why did Lencho write second letter to God?

Ans- Lencho received only 70 pesos instead of 100 pesos. He demanded 100 pesos from God and according to him God could never make a mistake. Therefore, he wrote a letter to God demanding rest of the money i.e. 30 pesos.

Ques-6 Why did Lencho keep watching towards the northeast in the sky?

Ans- Lencho kept watching towards the north-east in the sky because he could see rain clouds gathering there. If

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meant that rain would fall soon and bring with it the promise of a rich harvest. Lenchu's hard work would be rewarded and his family would have a satisfying year ahead.

L-2 Nelson Mandela

Ques-1 What ideals does he set out for the future of South Africa?

Ans - The ideals he set out for the future of South Africa were freedom from bondage of poverty, deprivation, oppression and discrimination based on gender, and race.

Ques-2 What "twin obligation" does Mandela mention?

Ans - The 'twin obligation' which Mandela mentions are first to his family, parents, wife and children; and second to his people, community and his country.

Ques-3 Does Mandela think the oppressor is free? Why/why not?

Ans - Mandela thinks that the oppressor just like the oppressed is also not free. An oppressor is a prisoner of hatred and is locked behind the bars of prejudice and narrow mindedness. He is robbed of his humanity.

Ques-4 Why were two national anthems sung?

Ans - One national anthem was sung by the whites and the second by the Blacks. It symbolised equality and the end of all racial differences in South Africa.

Ques-5 What were the various types of freedoms Nelson Mandela talks about? How were they different from one another?

Ans - In his childhood, he enjoyed the freedom to roam around and enjoy nature. But he realised that his perception of freedom changed as he grew. As a result, he wanted freedom for him

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- self alone. In his youth, he yearned for basic, honorable freedoms of not to be obstructed in a lawful life.

Ques-6 What did Nelson Mandela realise about his brothers & sisters?

Ans - Mandela realised that his brothers and sisters were not free in their own country. They had been deprived of their fundamental rights by the racist government. There were neither free to realise their potential nor to learn their childhood.

Ques-7 How did Nelson Mandela's hunger for freedom change the course of his life?

Ans - His hunger for freedom changed the course of his life. It encouraged him to give up his career in law. He became a freedom fighter. Thus, the hunger for freedom changed his life completely. He spent the rest of his life striving to attain freedom for South Africa.

Seen Passages

(1) Never, Never and never — — — God bless Africa!

(a) Who speaks these words and on what occasion?

Ans - These words are spoken by Nelson Mandela on the occasion of the installation ceremony of South Africa's first democratically elected government.

(b) What kind of oppression does the speaker refer to here?

Ans - The speaker refers to the oppression of the blacks by the whites in South Africa.

(c) What does the speaker mean by saying 'the sun shall never set'?

Ans - By these words the speaker means that the independence the people of South Africa got should last forever. It should not be lost.

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(d) Give a synonym each for 'reign' and 'oppression'.

Ans - Reign - supremacy; Oppression - domination

(2) I knew that _____ their humanity.

(a) Who is the speaker? How does he define the oppressors?

Ans Nelson Mandela is the speaker. The oppressor is a man who takes away another man's freedom and is a prisoner of hatred himself.

(b) What is common between the oppressor and the oppressed?

Ans. Both the oppressor and the oppressed are slaves. Both are robbed of their humanity.

(c) What is the oppressor a slave of?

Ans - The oppressor is a slave of hatred, prejudice and narrow mindedness.

(d) Give the meaning of 'liberated' and 'prejudice'.

Ans - Liberated - freed; prejudice - a strong dislike without any good person

Note; - Note down in register of Foot Prints without Feet

FOOT PRINTS WITHOUT FEET (L-1 Triumph of Surgery)

Ques-1 Why was Mr. Herriot worried about Tricki?

Ans - Tricki was a small pet dog of a rich lady, Mrs. Pumphrey. Mr. Herriot was shocked to see his wretched condition. He had grown extremely fat. His eyes were bloodshot and shrunken. His tongue was lolling. He was lazy, listless and unable to walk.

Ques-2 How was Mrs. Pumphrey responsible for Tricki's ailment?

Ans - Tricki's ailment was caused by the habit of Mrs. Pumphrey's overfeeding him. He was fed thrice a day with a heavy

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diet. He was not exercising enough. He was too greedy to refuse the things given to him. So, all these had adversely affected his health.

Ques-3 What did Mrs. Pumphrey do to restore Tricki's health? Did it help him?

Ans- Mrs. Pumphrey was worried about Tricki's health. She thought he had become listless due to weakness so she started feeding Tricki with extra rich nutritious food between his meals. She overfed him as a result he became extremely fat and seriously unwell.

Ques-4 Describe the 'parting scene' between Tricki and Mrs. Pumphrey.

Ans- It was a scene full of emotions. When the vet carried wrapped in a blanket, to his car, Mrs. Pumphrey started crying loudly. She almost fainted. She wanted to send all his accessories with him. She gave a cry when the doctor moved away with Tricki.

Ques-5 How was Tricki an 'uninteresting' object for other dogs at the surgery? How did they react to him?

Ans- At first, Tricki had no energy to react to the other dogs barking. He lay motionless with dull eyes. When the other dogs found no reaction from his side, they took him to be an 'uninteresting' object and left him to himself.

Ques-6 How did the 'unlikely object' become the 'accepted member' of the gang?

Ans- Tricki was an 'unlikely object' as he was small and silky among the big, hairy and fighter dogs. He remained motionless with dull eyes. Tricki joined the

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gang from his third day at the surgery. He used to run about and fight. He was trampled upon by them. He was loved by all. Thus, he became an accepted member of the gang.

Ques-7. Why did Mrs. Pumphrey say "This is a triumph of Surgery"? why?

Ans - 'The surgery' here is the vet's hospital for animals where the animals are cured. Mrs. Pumphrey did not know what cured Tricki. She thought that an operation (surgery) had cured Tricki. So she called it 'A Triumph of Surgery'.

Ques-8 How did Mr. Herriot (Vet) cure Tricki?

Ans - He was kept in a warm box. He was given plenty of water. He was made to walk freely. From the third day onwards, he was served food but he had to jostle with the bigger dogs for his food. It gave him the needed exercise. He started running, playing and fighting with other dogs. Soon, he transformed into a healthy, golden, silky, muscular and flexible dog.

Ques-9 Why is he tempted to keep Tricki as a permanent guest?

Ans - When Mrs. Pumphrey is told by the doctor that Tricki was out of danger and convalescing rapidly she started sending each day bottles of wine and eggs and, that too, two dozen at a time, to build up Tricki's strength. The doctor and his partners have a feast each day at Tricki's expense and so he is tempted to keep Tricki as a permanent guest.