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Class VII. Eng. Literature

Ch. 4 → The Ashes That Made Trees Bloom.

Word-Meanings

- Pame - lady ⁹⁹ शीरद
Demure - sedate शान्त
Hoe - spade फाँड़
Tidbits - small pieces छोटे टुकड़े
Flung - throw down पटक देना
Carcass - dead body मरा शरीर
Mourning - grieving शोक मनाना
Camellia - a kind of flower सफ़ेद फूल
Mortar - apparatus for pounding औरतल
Chisel - to cut छेनी से काटना
Pounding - to crush कुटना
Envious - jealous . उलन
Stingy - miser कपक
Impertinence - inappropriate अनप्युक्तता
Prostrate - straight सीधा

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Procession - a march of $\frac{21}{41}$
Balanguiw - palaki $\frac{21}{41}$

Question / Answers.

Q.1. Why did the neighbours kill the dog?

Ans. The neighbours on hearing the good luck brought to the couple by the dog, coaxed the dog and took it to the field. When on digging the ground the neighbours did not get gold, in anger killed the dog and flung him into the hole.

Q.2. The old farmer is a kind person. What evidence of his kindness do you find in the first two paragraphs?

Ans. The old farmer was a kind person. Having no children, he made a little dog named Mukoy.

his baby. The couple used to feed him with tidbits of fish from their own chopsticks and all the boiled rice he wanted. The farmer was patient and kind to everything that had life.

Q.3. What did the dog do to lead the farmer to the hidden gold?

Ans. The dog took the old man to a place and began scratching it. The old man thought there might be a buried bone or bit of fish, thus struck his hoe in the earth and found the hidden gold.

Q.4. How did the spirit of the dog help the farmer first?

Ans. The spirit of the dog appeared to the farmer in a dream and asked him to cut down the pine tree over his grave and to make.

a mortar for rice pastry and a mill for bean sauce from it.

Q.5. How did it help him next?

Ans. Once again the spirit of the dog told the farmer how the wicked neighbours had burnt the mill. He asked him to take the ashes of the mill, to sprinkle them on the withered trees, and that they would bloom again.

Q.6. Why did the daimio reward the farmer but punish the neighbour for the same act?

Ans. The farmer had the magical ashes which on sprinkling on the withered cherry tree bloomed it. On seeing the act the daimio became very happy and rewarded the farmer but his neighbour didn't have

magic in the ashes he was having. He sprinkled the ashes on the withered cherry tree but the ashes went into the eyes and nose of the daimio and his wife and resulted in sneezing and therefore the daimio got angry and punished the neighbour for this act.

P-4. Chivvy.

Word-Meanings.

pick your nose to clean one's nose

drag to pull
interrupt hindrance

Q/Answers.

Q.1. When is a grown up likely to say this? "Don't talk with your mouth full"?

Ans. The elders say this when we are eating something and talk with food in our mouth.

Q.2. When are you likely to be told this? Say thank you.

Ans. When someone gives us something or helps us in some manner, we are asked to say 'thank you' to him.

Q.3. When do you think an adult would say this? No one thinks you are funny?

Ans. When we try to do some funny act, in order to attract other's attention towards us, at that moment we get to hear this — No one thinks you are funny.

Q.4. The last two lines of the poem are not prohibitions or instructions: what is

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the adult now asking the child to do?
do you think the poet is suggesting that this is unreasonable why?

Ans.

In the last two lines, the adults are asking the child to think himself and to be independent in taking decisions in some matters. The adults are asking to be firm and determined which is unreasonable because they themselves don't allow the child to take any decisions. They always tell him what to do or what not to do. So, their asking the child to make up his own decisions is surely unreasonable.

Q. 5. Why do you think grown-ups say the kind of things mentioned in the poem? Is it important that they teach children good manners, and how to behave in

public ?

Ans. The grown-ups say such kind of things to their children in order to teach them good manners. It is important to teach the children all these things so that they learn good manners and how to behave in the society, at home and with their elders and youngsters. Our elders are our guide and friends.

Q.6. If you had to make some rules for grown-ups to follow, what would you say?

Ans. If I have to make some rules for grown-ups to follow, we would say —

- 1) Don't stop us from playing.
- 2) Don't ask us to study.
- 3) Allow us to watch T.V.

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- 4) Take us for outings.
 - 5) Above all
 - 6) Don't chirpy.

Q.7. Read the extract given below and answer the questions

Grown-ups say things like :
Speak up
Don't talk with your mouth full
Don't stare
Don't point
Don't pick your nose

i) Who are grown-ups ?

Ans. Our elders are grown-ups.

ii) What does the sentence "Don't pick your nose" mean?

Ans. It means - Don't clean your nose.

iii) What does this line mean - Don't

talk with your mouth full?

Ans. It means not to talk when we are eating something.

iv) Who is the poet of this poem?

Ans. Michael Rosen