

Mijbil the Otter

Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow by choosing the most appropriate alternative from those given below:

(1)

He spent hours shuffling a rubber ball round the room like a four-footed soccer player using all four feet to dribble the ball, and he could also throw it, with a powerful flick of the neck, to a surprising height and distance. But the real play of an otter is when he lies on his back and juggles with small objects between his paws. Marbles were Mij's favourite toys for this pastime: he would lie on his back rolling two or more of them up and down his wide, flat belly without ever dropping one to the floor.

Question 1.

'He' here refers to:

- (a) Maxwell
- (b) mongoose
- (c) badger
- (d) Mijbil

▼ [Answer](#)

(d) Mijbil

Question 2.

Mijbil would spend hours shuffling:

- (a) some grains
- (b) some marbles
- (c) a rubber ball
- (d) some twigs

▼ [Answer](#)

(c) a rubber ball

Question 3.

He would roll two or more of the marbles:

- (a) between his legs
- (b) between his paws
- (c) between the lines
- (d) between the fans

▼ [Answer](#)

(b) between his paws

Question 4.

The word flick' means:

- (a) a quick movement
- (b) a slow move
- (c) a fast run
- (d) a crawl movement

▼ [Answer](#)

- (a) a quick movement
-

Question 5.

Mijbil's favourite toys are:

- (a) marbles
- (b) rubber ball
- (c) twigs
- (d) pets

▼ [Answer](#)

- (a) marbles
-

(2)

For the first twenty-four hours Mijbil was neither hostile nor friendly, he was simply aloof and indifferent, choosing to sleep on the floor as far from my bed as possible. The second night Mijbil came on to my bed in the small hours and remained asleep in the crook of my knees until the servant brought tea in the morning, and during the day he began to lose his apathy and take a keen, much too keen interest in the surroundings. I made a body-belt for him and took him on a lead to the bathroom, where for half-an-hour he went wild with joy in the water, plunging and rolling in it, shooting tip and down the length of the bathrub underwater, and making enough slosh and splash for a hippo.

Question 1.

'I' here refers to:

- (a) Consulate-General
- (b) Macwell
- (c) friend from Basra
- (d) none

▼ [Answer](#)

- (b) Macwell
-

Question 2.

Mijbil behaved in a manner which was neither:

- (a) gayous nor hatred
- (b) happily nor rudely

- (c) friendly nor hostile
- (d) rude nor romantic

▼ [Answer](#)

- (c) friendly nor hostile
-

Question 3.

The otter slept on the author's bed on:

- (a) the fourth night
- (b) the third night
- (c) the first night
- (d) the second night

▼ [Answer](#)

- (d) the second night
-

Question 4.

The word 'apathy' means:

- (a) absence of interest
- (b) absence of love
- (c) absence of rudeness
- (d) absence of hatred

▼ [Answer](#)

- (a) absence of interest
-

Question 5.

In the bathroom Mijbil went wild with joy for:

- (a) twenty minutes
- (b) half an hour
- (c) an hour
- (d) one and half hour

▼ [Answer](#)

- (b) half an hour
-

(3)

Early in the New Year of 1956 I travelled to Southern Iraq. By then it had crossed my mind that I should like to keep an otter instead of a dog, and that Camusfearna, ringed by water a stone's throw from its door, would be an eminently suitable spot for this experiment. When I casually mentioned this to a friend, he as casually replied that I had better get one in the Tigris marshes for there they were as common as mosquitoes, and were often tamed by the Arabs:

Question 1.

'1' here refers to:

- (a) Flaherty
- (b) Frederick
- (c) Fuentes
- (d) Maxwell

▼ [Answer](#)

(d) Maxwell

Question 2.

Maxwell was living in Southern Iraq when he thought of:

- (a) keeping a bull
- (b) keeping a pet
- (c) rearing goats
- (d) rearing cows

▼ [Answer](#)

(b) keeping a pet

Question 3.

The author thought that he should keep:

- (a) a tiger a Sapet
- (b) a cow a Sapet
- (c) an otter as a pet
- (d) an ox as a pet

▼ [Answer](#)

(c) an otter as a pet

Question 4.

The phrase 'a stone's throw' means:

- (a) a short distance
- (b) throwing a stone
- (c) a distant away
- (d) a miles away

▼ [Answer](#)

(a) a short distance

Question 5.

The otters were trained and tamed by:

- (a) the Gurrilas
- (b) the Arabs

- (c) the Indians
- (d) the Greeks

▼ [Answer](#)

- (b) the Arabs
-

(4)

I sat in the back of the car with the box beside me as the driver tore through the streets of Basra like a ricocheting bullet. The aircraft was waiting to take off: I was rushed through to it by infuriated officials. Luckily, the seat booked for me was at the extreme front. I covered the floor around my feet with newspapers, rang for the air-hostess, and gave her a parcel of fish (for Mij) to keep in a cool place. I took her into my confidence about the events for the last half hour. I have retained the most profound admiration for that air hostess; she was the very queen of her kind. She suggested that I might prefer to have my pet on my knee, and I could have kissed her hand in the depth of gratitude.

Question 1.

'I' here refers to:

- (a) Maxwell
- (b) Mijbil
- (c) Consulate-General
- (d) a friend

▼ [Answer](#)

- (a) Maxwell
-

Question 2.

He had a box with him which contained:

- (a) clothes
- (b) gold
- (c) Mijbil
- (d) paper

▼ [Answer](#)

- (c) Mijbil
-

Question 3.

He was rushed through because:

- (a) Mijbil was waiting
- (b) someone had stolen Mijbil
- (c) he had some mistake
- (d) the aircraft was waiting to take off

▼ [Answer](#)

(d) the aircraft was waiting to take off

Question 4.

The air hostess suggested the author to keep:

- (a) his pet on his knee
- (b) his paper on his knee.
- (c) his blanket on his knee
- (d) his cover on his knee

▼ [Answer](#)

(a) his pet on his knee

Question 5.

The noun form of 'suggested' is:

- (a) suggest
- (b) suggestion
- (c) suggestively
- (d) suggestible

▼ [Answer](#)

(b) suggestion

(5)

Two days later, Mijbil escaped from my bedroom as I entered it, and I turned to see his tail disappearing round the bend of the corridor that led to the bathroom. By the time I got there he was up on the end of the bath tub and fumbling at the chromium taps with his paws. I watched, amazed; in less than a minute he had turned the tap far enough to produce a trickle of water, and after a moment or two achieved the full flow.

Question 1.

'I' here refers to:

- (a) Arab from Basra
- (b) Consulate General
- (c) Maxwell
- (d) none of the above

▼ [Answer](#)

(c) Maxwell

Question 2.

What disappearing round the bend of the corridor is:

- (a) Mijbil's snout
- (b) Mijbil's paw

- (c) Mijbil's neck
- (d) Mijbil's tail

▼ [Answer](#)

- (d) Mijbil's tail
-

Question 3.

The otter went to the bathtub:

- (a) in courtyard
- (b) in the bathroom
- (c) in field
- (d) in store

▼ [Answer](#)

- (b) in the bathroom
-

Question 4.

Mijbil was fumbling at the taps to get:

- (a) gas
- (b) liquid
- (c) water
- (d) foam

▼ [Answer](#)

- (c) water
-

Question 5.

The word 'amazed' means:

- (a) surprised
- (b) amused
- (c) warned
- (d) warmed

▼ [Answer](#)

- (a) surprised
-

(6)

The creature that emerged from this sack on to the spacious tiled floor of the Consulate bedroom resembled most of all a very small, mediocrally-conceived, dragon. From the head to the tip of the tail he was coated with symmetrical pointed scales of mud armour, between those tips was visible a soft velvet fur like that of a chocolate-brown male. He shook himself, and I half expected a cloud of dust, but in fact it was not for another month

that I managed to remove the last of the mud and see the Otter, as it were, in his true colours.

Question 1.

'The creature' here refers to:

- (a) otter
- (b) starfish
- (c) mongoose
- (d) cobra

▼ [Answer](#)

- (a) otter
-

Question 2.

'The creature' resembled to a very small:

- (a) frog
- (b) lizard
- (c) dinasor
- (d) dragon

▼ [Answer](#)

- (d) dragon
-

Question 3.

The creature was coated with many:

- (a) coats of skin
- (b) coats of wool
- (c) coats of mud
- (d) coats of nylon

▼ [Answer](#)

- (c) coats of mud
-

Question 4.

The mud from the creature's body was removed in:

- (a) about a fortnight
- (b) about a month
- (c) about a week
- (d) about a year

▼ [Answer](#)

- (b) about a month
-

Question 5.

The word 'armour' means:

- (a) a protective glass
- (b) a defensive covering
- (c) an aggressive weapon
- (d) none

▼ [Answer](#)

(b) a defensive covering
