

The Banyan Tree

Read the following questions carefully and choose the correct answer from the given alternatives:

(1)

Halfway up the tree I had built a crude platform where I would spend the afternoons when it was not too hot. I could read there propping myself up against the tree" with a cushion from the living room. Treasure Island, Huckleberry Finn and The Story of Dr Dolittle were some of the books that made up my banyan tree library. When I did not feel like reading, I could look down through the leaves at the world below. And on one particular afternoon I had a grandstand view of that classic of the Indian wilds, a fight between a mongoose and a cobra.

Question 1.

Where did the narrator build a platform for himself?

- (a) On banyan tree
- (b) On mango tree
- (c) On guava tree
- (d) One coconut tree

▼ Answer

Answer: (a) On banyan tree

Question 2.

What did he do there?

- (a) Play ludo
- (b) Read books
- (c) Watched birds
- (d) Talked to birds

▼ Answer

Answer: (b) Read books

Question 3.

How did he pass his time when not reading a book?

- (a) Playing ludo
- (b) Talking to birds
- (c) Watching birds
- (d) Watched the world below

▼ Answer

Answer: (d) Watched the world below

Question 4.

What did he see one afternoon?

- (a) Battle between mongoose and cobra
- (b) Battle between snake and crow
- (c) Battle between snake and myna
- (d) Battle between ciow and myna

▼ [Answer](#)

Answer: (d) Battle between ciow and myna

Question 5.

Give the meaning of 'propping'.

- (a) hopping
- (b) doing
- (c) sitting against
- (d) running

▼ [Answer](#)

Answer: (c) sitting against

(2)

My first friend was a small grey'squirrel. Arching his back and sniffing into the air, he seemed at first to resent my invasion of his privacy. But when he found that I did not arm myself with catapult or air gun, he became friendly, and when I started bringing him pieces of cake and biscuit he grew quite bold and was soon taking morsels from hand.

Question 1.

Name the lesson.

- (a) Who I am
- (b) Fair Play
- (c) Taro's Reward
- (d) The Banyan Tree

▼ [Answer](#)

Answer: (d) The Banyan Tree

Question 2.

Whom did he (the narrator) make his first friend?

- (a) Squirrel
- (b) Cat
- (c) Rabbit
- (d) Puppy

▼ [Answer](#)

Answer: (a) Squirrel

Question 3.

Where was his first friend?

- (a) In the mango groove
- (b) In the banyan tree
- (c) In the bushes
- (d) In the house

▼ [Answer](#)

Answer: (b) In the banyan tree

Question 4.

What did the narrator give to the squirrel to eat?

- (a) Cakes
- (b) Biscuits
- (c) Cakes and biscuits
- (d) Toffees .

▼ [Answer](#)

Answer: (c) Cakes and biscuits

Question 5.

Which word in the passage means 'stopped'?

- (a) ceased
- (b) shut
- (c) placed
- (d) finished

▼ [Answer](#)

Answer: (a) ceased

(3)

Moving forward quickly until he was just within the cobra's reach, the mongoose made a pretended move to one side. Immediately the cobra struck. His great hood came down so swiftly that I thought nothing could save the mongoose. But the little fellow jumped neatly to one side, and darted in as swiftly as the cobra, biting the snake on the back and darting away again out of reach.

Question 1.

Who moved forward?

- (a) Mongoose
- (b) Crow

- (c) Snake
- (d) Myna

▼ [Answer](#)

Answer: (a) Mongoose

Question 2.

What did the mongoose pretend?

- (a) To be asleep
- (b) To be lazy
- (c) To move to one side
- (d) To be hurt

▼ [Answer](#)

Answer: (c) To move to one side

Question 3.

How did the cobra react?

- (a) He went away
- (b) Attacked the mongoose
- (c) He was tired
- (d) Also moved to that side

▼ [Answer](#)

Answer: (b) Attacked the mongoose

Question 4.

Where did the mongoose bite the snake?

- (a) On its hood
- (b) On its skin
- (c) On its middle
- (d) On the back

▼ [Answer](#)

Answer: (d) On the back

Question 5.

Pick the word from the passage which means 'at once'.

- (a) immediately
- (b) neatly
- (c) moving
- (d) darting

▼ [Answer](#)

Answer: (a) immediately

(4)

The cobra knew only too well that the grey mongoose, three feet long, was a superb fighter, clever and aggressive. But the cobra, too, was a skilful and experienced fighter. He could move swiftly and strike with the speed of light; and the sacs behind his long sharp fangs were full of deadly poison. It was to be a battle of champions.

Question 1.

How long was the mongoose?

- (a) One foot long
- (b) Two feet long
- (c) Three feet long
- (d) Four feet long.

▼ [Answer](#)

Answer: (c) Three feet long

Question 2.

Who was termed a superb fighter, clever and aggressive?

- (a) Mongoose
- (b) Crow
- (c) Snake
- (d) Myna

▼ [Answer](#)

Answer: (a) Mongoose

Question 3.

Who was a skilful and experienced fighter?

- (a) Mongoose
- (b) Snake
- (c) Crow
- (d) Myna

▼ [Answer](#)

Answer: (b) Snake

Question 4.

Where did the cobra carry poison?

- (a) In its mouth
- (b) In its teeth
- (c) In its skin
- (d) In bag behind its long pointed teeth

▼ Answer

Answer: (d) In bag behind its long pointed teeth

Question 5.

Which word in the passage means 'excellent'?

- (a) superb
- (b) clever
- (c) grey
- (d) aggressive

▼ Answer

Answer: (a) superb

(5)

The cobra was weakening, and the mongoose, walking fearlessly up to it, raised himself on his short legs and with a lightning snap had the big snake by the snout. The cobra writhed and lashed about in a frightening manner, and even coiled itself about the mongoose, but to no avail. The little fellow hung grimly on, until the snake had ceased to struggle. He then smelt along its quivering length gripped it round the hood, and dragged it into the bushes.

Question 1.

Name the lesson.

- (a) The Banyan Tree
- (b) Who I am
- (c) Desert Animals
- (d) Fair Play

▼ Answer

Answer: (a) The Banyan Tree

Question 2.

Who was growing weak?

- (a) Mongoose
- (b) Snake
- (c) Crow
- (d) Myna

▼ Answer

Answer: (b) Snake

Question 3.

What did the mongoose do then?

- (a) He was also growing weak
- (b) He left the cobra there
- (c) He grabbed the cobra by its neck
- (d) None of these

▼ [Answer](#)

Answer: (c) He grabbed the cobra by its neck

Question 4.

What did the mongoose do with the dead snake?

- (a) Left it there
- (b) Eaten it
- (c) Left it for crow and myna
- (d) Dragged it in the bushes

▼ [Answer](#)

Answer: (d) Dragged it in the bushes

Question 5.

Which word in the passage means 'pulled'.

- (a) dragged
- (b) coiled
- (c) raised
- (d) gripped

▼ [Answer](#)

Answer: (a) dragged

(6)

The third round followed the same course as the first but with one dramatic difference. The crow and the myna, still determined to take part in the proceedings, dived at the cobra; but this time they missed each other as well as their mark. The myna flew on and reached its perch, but the crow tried to pull up in mid-air and turn back. In the second that it took the bird to do this the cobra whipped his head back and struck with great force, his snout thudding against the crow's body.

Question 1.

Name the lesson.

- (a) The Banyan Tree
- (b) Fair Play
- (c) Who I am
- (d) Desert Animals

▼ [Answer](#)

Answer: (a) The Banyan Tree

Question 2.

Which two birds were there to see the fight?

- (a) Crow and sparrow
- (b) Sparrow and myna
- (c) Crow and myna
- (d) Parrot and myna

▼ [Answer](#)

Answer: (c) Crow and myna

Question 3.

Who reached its perch?

- (a) Myna
- (b) Crow
- (c) Mongoose
- (d) Snake

▼ [Answer](#)

Answer: (a) Myna

Question 4.

What happened when the cobra strike the crow?

- (a) It threw it aside
- (b) He killed the crow
- (c) The crow hit back
- (d) None of these

▼ [Answer](#)

Answer: (b) He killed the crow

Question 5.

Give the meaning of 'whipped'.

- (a) whistled
- (b) tired
- (c) turned fast
- (d) killed

▼ [Answer](#)

Answer: (c) turned fast
