

CLASS NOTES

Class: 4

Topic: CB Lesson 6- The Parrot who Wouldn't Talk

Subject: English

Reading comprehension (To be done in the CB on page 87)

A. Find phrases or sentences from the story to correct the false statements.

False Statements	Phrases/sentences from the story
1. The parrot was happy in its cage.	the unfortunate parakeet, who glared morosely at everyone.....
2. The caged parrot loved to talk.	But our parrot refused to talk.
3. The bird loved Aunt Ruby.	But the bird took an instant dislike to my aunt.....
4. The narrator also ate chillies.	It seemed quite happy to receive green chillies/gave me an opportunity to consume a couple of mangoes.
5. Grandfather left the cage open.	I gave the parrot its lunch and then deliberately left the cage door open.
6. The bird winged its way to the guava orchard.	The bird was winging its way to the mango orchard.

Do the following in your English notebook.

B. Read these sentences and answer the questions that follow.

1. 'I see your aunt's parrot has escaped.'

a. Who said these words and to whom?

Ans. The narrator's grandfather said these words to the narrator.

b. How did the parrot escape?

Ans. The parrot escaped as the narrator had left the door of its cage deliberately open.

c. What did the other person reply to this?

Ans. The person replied that the door of the cage was quite loose. He added that they probably wouldn't see the parrot again.

2. 'He must have missed me!'

a. Who is 'he' here? And who is 'me'?

Ans. "He" refers to the parrot and "me" refers to Aunt Ruby.

b. Do you think 'he' actually missed the speaker? Give reasons for your answer.

Ans. No, he didn't miss the speaker. We know this because he flew out of her reach and perching on the nearest rose bush, glared at her and screamed insults at her.

c. Who do you think 'he' actually missed? Give reasons for your answer.

Ans. "He" missed the narrator and the green chillies and mango it would get from the narrator.

C. Answer these questions.

1. Give two examples from the story to show that parrots are both intelligent and great mimics?

Ans. The parrot brought by Aunt Ruby was both intelligent and a great mimic. When Aunt Ruby tried to teach it to talk, it stubbornly refused to do so. She tried to befriend the bird but it would back away in anger and once even knocked her spectacles off her nose. Aunt Ruby then became hostile to the bird and would taunt the parrot "can't talk , can't sing, can't dance!"

2. How were parrots trained to talk?

Ans. The parrots were trained to talk over a period of time by some member of the family.

3. Which birds did the bird-catcher sell?

Ans. The bird-catcher sold caged birds ranging from colourful budgerigars to chirpy little munias, parrots and even common sparrows that had been dabbed with paint and passed off as some exotic species.

4. What was passed off as exotic birds? Why do you think the bird-catchers did this?

Ans. Common sparrows were passed off as exotic birds. The bird-catcher did this for money as people would buy an exotic bird but no one would buy a sparrow.

5. What did the parrot do to show its dislike for aunt Ruby?

Ans. The parrot showed its dislike of Aunt Ruby by backing away when she came near the cage, glaring angrily at her and once, lunging suddenly and knocking her spectacles off her nose.

6. How did the parrot behave with the author? What does this tell us about the author's character?

Ans. The parrot behaved very affectionately with the author and trusted him. The author fed the parrot chillies, tomatoes and for variety even mango bits. The bird enjoyed taking these delicacies from the boy's hands. This tells us that the narrator was kind-hearted and loved to take care of the bird. He did not like to see it in a cage and so released it. This shows his compassionate nature.

7. Who freed the bird? How? Why do you think he did this?

Ans. The author, who was a boy of ten at the time, freed the bird. He did this because he did not believe that bird should be put in cages.

Values and Life skills

In the story , the author finally gave the parrot its freedom, If you had been in the author's place, would you have left the cage door open? Give reasons for your answer.

Ans. Yes, I would have left the cage door open. Birds are meant to be free and not to be confined to cages. The parrot loved and trusted the author and so flew back to the verandah to get some green chillies, but its natural habitat is the forest, garden or orchard where it can fly wherever it wishes.

Do the following in your English Ferry.

Vocabulary (Page 89)

A. Make adjectives from these nouns by adding suitable suffixes from the box.

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1. Australia- Australian

2. health- healthy

3. silver- silvery

4. nation - national

5. boy – boyish

6. pink- pinkish

7. music- musical

8. Spain - Spanish

B. Match the idioms with their meanings. (Page 89)

1. be on wing	fly or travel very fast
2. spread wings	to start doing excited things
3. clip someone's wing	to restrain someone
4. waiting in the wings	ready to be employed or used
5. take wing	to fly off
6. try one's wing	to try to be employed or used

Punctuation (Page 93)

Put apostrophes where required.

1. Let's go out and play.

2. The cat was chasing its tail.

3. This book is hers, not mine.

4. It's a cold day.

5. Didn't you find your book?

6. Rima borrowed Mira's pencil.

My Word Bank (Page 94)

Write four compound words from the story.

1. bird-catcher

2. lovebird

3. goldfish

4. ruby-red