

CLASS NOTES

Class: VI

Topic: Chapter 1. The Cherry Tree

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Subject: ENGLISH

About the story: This is a story of a six-year-old boy Rakesh who lives with his grandfather. Rakesh and his Grandfather share a strong bond. On Grandfather's advice Rakesh plants a cherry seed which becomes a tall tree. In the end, Rakesh feels like a creator when he touches the bark and leaves of the tree.

NOT TO BE WRITTEN IN THE COPY. ONLY FOR REFERENCE.

ANSWERS HAVE TO WRITTEN IN THE COPY WITH QUESTIONS

Part D. Think and answer.

1. How many years of Rakesh's childhood does the story cover? Describe how his relationship with grandfather changes as the tree grows?

Ans. The story covers four years of Rakesh's childhood. When the story begins, Rakesh is shown sharing a strong relationship with his grandfather, who teaches him how to put the cherry seed to good use by planting it, how to look after it and nurture it. Grandfather narrates him stories whose endings depend on his moods. As Rakesh grows older he develops the habit of reading though he still loves listening Grandfather's tales. They both enjoy watching tree and spending time under it as it grows. They are fascinated by the wonders of nature as well as how it feels when your efforts result in fruitful achievements. Their bond of affection becomes stronger as the tree grows and yields fruit.

2. Do you think it will be right to say that Rakesh, through the cherry tree, discovered the joy of creating? Support your answer with examples from the story.

Ans. Yes, it will be right to say that Rakesh discovered the joy of creating. Grandfather advised Rakesh to plant the cherry seed in the garden and he did so. He watched the seed with great care, watered it even when it rained and kept glancing at it to see if it had grown. Finally the tree had grown, he could touch the trunk, feel the tip of the leaves and rejoice that one small seed had grown into a tall tree because he nurtured it, guarded it and cared for it. He felt as if he was the creator of the cherry tree.

3. Is an act of love and labour for nature really an act of God? Share your views with your classmates.

Ans. Yes, an act of love and labour for nature is really an act of God. God created the earth and everything we see around us. So, when we look after nature and show it love, we walk in God's footprints. Also when we add to the beauty of nature around us, like Rakesh did by planting the tree, it is indeed an act of God.

Values and Life skills **(TO BE DONE IN THE COPY)**

In the story, Rakesh and Grandfather take care of the cherry tree. They also take care of each other. How do you show concern for your family and friends?

Ans. It is very important for us to take care of our family and friends and also of nature. We can help our friends and classmates if they miss school due to illness or any other reason by visiting them, sharing their homework and assisting them to catch up with what they have missed. At home we can help in household chores, take care of elderly grandparents living with us, and be polite and courteous to guests. We can give away our old clothes and books which are in good condition to those who need them.

EXTRA QUESTION – (HOT's) ONLY FOR DISCUSSION

- Imagine you are a tree. How would you feel when you are nurtured and neglected? Write your views in 80-100 words.
- Why do you think Rakesh said, 'I wonder is this what it feels like to be God'?