

Chapter – 6

This Is Jody's Fawn

Comprehension Check

Q1. What had happened to Jody's father?

Answer. Jody's father had been bitten by a rattlesnake.

Q2. How did the doe save Penny's life?

Answer. The doe's liver and heart were used to draw out the poison from Penny.

Q3. Why does Jody want to bring the fawn home?

Answer. Jody wanted to bring the fawn home because he felt that they had killed the doe for their purpose and the fawn had been orphaned for no fault of its own. He kept thinking about the hungry and scared fawn. He felt that it was their responsibility to take care of the fawn or else it would starve to death.

Q4. How does Jody know that the fawn is a male?

Answer. Jody knew that the fawn was a male because the spots on its body were all in a line. His father had told him that on the body of a doe-fawn, the spots are in different directions.

Q5. Jody didn't want Mill-wheel with him for two reasons. What were they?

Answer. Jody did not want Mill-wheel with him for two reasons. One reason was that if the fawn was dead or could not be found, he did not want him to see his disappointment. The second reason was that if they found the fawn, then the meeting would be so lovey and secret that he could not endure to

Q6. Why was Mill-wheel afraid to leave Jody alone?

Answer. Mill-wheel did not want to leave Jody alone as he was afraid that Jody could lose his way or get bitten by a snake.

Q7. How did Jody bring the fawn back home?

Answer. Jody did not want to scare the fawn away. That is why he first stroked its neck slowly, and then put his arms around it. Then, he picked it up and carried it through the thick bushes. He tried to shield its face from the sharp vines. He stopped to rest on his way home. On walking a little, he saw the fawn following him. After this, he would either

carry the fawn, or put it down so that it would follow him by itself. When they reached home, it refused to climb the stairs. He then picked it up and took it inside the house.

Q8. Jody was filled with emotion after he found the fawn. Can you find at least three words or phrases which show how he felt?

Answer. Jody did not want to scare the fawn away. That is why he first stroked its neck slowly, and then put his arms around it. Then, he picked it up and carried it through the thick bushes. He tried to shield its face from the sharp vines. He stopped to rest on his way home. On walking a little, he saw the fawn following him. After this, he would either carry the fawn, or put it down so that it would follow him by itself. When they reached home, it refused to climb the stairs. He then picked it up and took it inside the house.

Q9. How did the deer drink milk from the gourd?

Answer. The deer drank the milk from Jody's hands. When Jody gave milk to the fawn in a gourd, it butted it suddenly, smelling the milk and not knowing what to do with the milk in the gourd. It was then that Jody dipped his fingers in the milk and pushed them into the fawn's soft wet mouth so that it would drink the milk.

Q10. Why didn't the fawn follow Jody up the steps as he had thought it would?

Answer. The deer is a wild animal. It is used to a life in the forest. When the fawn reached Jody's home, it did not follow Jody up the steps because of the strangeness of the house and the steps and everything. This is similar to its reaction to the milk in the gourd. It simply did not know what to do.

Working With The Text

Q1. Why did Penny Baxter allow Jody to go find the fawn and raise it?

Answer. Penny allowed Jody to find the fawn and raise it because it seemed ungrateful to him to leave the fawn to starve. He agreed with Jody that they had killed the doe for their purpose and the fawn was orphaned for no fault of its own. They could not let the fawn starve. They felt a sympathy towards it.

Q2. What did Doc Wilson mean when he said, "Nothing in the world ever comes quite free"?

Answer. Penny had killed the doe to save his life. Therefore, in regard for what the doe had done, the fawn needed to be taken care of and saved from starvation. This was what Doc Wilson meant when he said that nothing in the world came for free.

Q3. How did Jody look after the fawn, after he accepted the responsibility for doing this?

Answer. After Jody accepted the responsibility for the fawn, he cared for it like its own mother would. While taking it home, he shielded its face from the sharp vines. He carried it in his

arms even though he was tired. On reaching home, he gave the milk that was meant for him. When he saw that the fawn did not drink the milk in the purl, he fed it with his own hands. Hence, one can say that Jody carried out his quite well.

Q4. How does Jody's mother react when she hears that he is going to bring the fawn home? Why does she react in this way?

Answer. When Jody's mother heard that he was going to bring the fawn home, she was a little and asked Jody what fawn he was talking about. He then told her that it was the fawn whose mother they had killed to save Penny. She said they had nothing else to feed it and the milk they gave him could be given to it. She reacted this way because she was not present at the site where Penny had been bitten, where they had killed the doe. She had not seen the fawn and therefore, was not as concerned as Penny and Jody.

Working With The Language

Q1. Look at these pairs of sentences. Penny said to Jody, "Will you be back before dinner?" Penny asked Jody if he would be back before dinner. "How are you feeling, Pa?" asked Jody. Jody asked his father how he was feeling Here are some questions in direct speech. Put them into reported speech.

(i) Penny said, "Do you really want it son?"

(ii) Mill-wheel said, "Will he ride back with me?"

(iii) He said to Mill-wheel, "Do you think the fawn is still there?"

(iv) He asked Mill-wheel, "Will you help me find him?"

(v) He said, "Was it up here that Pa got bitten by the snake?"

Answer. (i) Penny asked his son if he really wanted it.

(ii) Mill-wheel asked if he would ride back with him.

(iii) He asked Mill-wheel if he thought the fawn was still there.

(iv) He asked Mill-wheel if he would help him find him.

(v) He asked if it was up there that Pa had got bitten by the snake.

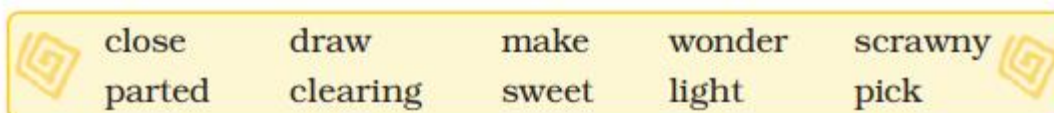
Q2. Look at these two sentences. He tumbled backward. It turned its head. The first sentence has an intransitive verb, a verb without an object. The second sentence has a transitive verb. It has a direct object. We can ask: "What did it turn?" You can answer: "Its head. It turned its head." Say whether the verb in

each sentence below transitive or intransitive. Ask yourself a 'what' question about the verb, as in the example above. (For some verbs, the object is a person, so ask the question 'who' instead of 'what').

- (i) Jody then went to the kitchen.
- (ii) The fawn wobbled after him.
- (iii) You found him.
- (iv) He picked it up.
- (v) He dipped his fingers in the milk.
- (vi) It bleated frantically and butted him.
- (vii) The fawn sucked his fingers.
- (viii) He lowered his fingers slowly into the milk.
- (ix) It stamped its small hoofs impatiently.
- (x) He held his fingers below the level of the milk.
- (xi) The fawn followed him.
- (xii) He walked all day.
- (xiii) He stroked its sides.
- (xiv) The fawn lifted its nose.
- (xv) Its legs hung limply.

Answer. (i) Intransitive (ii) Intransitive (iii) Transitive (iv) Transitive (v) Transitive (vi) Intransitive, Transitive (vii) Transitive (viii) Transitive (ix) Transitive (x) Transitive (xi) Transitive (xii) Intransitive (xiii) Transitive (xiv) Transitive (xv) Intransitive

Q3. Here are some words from the lesson. Working in groups, arrange them in the order in which they would appear in the dictionary. Write down some idioms and phrasal verbs connected to these words. Use the dictionary for more idioms and phrasal verbs.



Answer. The words would appear in the following sequence: 1. clearing, 2. close 3. draw 4. light 5. make 6. parted 7. pick 8. scrawny 9. sweet 10. wonder Idioms or phrasal verbs connected to the above words. Clearing: clearing, campaign Close: close shave, close up, close quarters Draw: draw the curtain on/over, draw a blank Light: in the light of, bring to light Make: make the most of, makeup Part: part with, parted comparing Pick: pick up, pick and choose Scrawny: the scrawny neck Sweet: have a sweet tooth, sweet seventeen, sweet tongued, sweet nothings Wonder: wonder world, wonder load, nine day's wonder, wonder about, do wonders.

Speaking

Q1. Do you think it is right to kill an animal to save a human life? Give reasons for your answer.

Answer. Most of the animals are our friends. Dogs, horses, elephants, cows are a few such animals that serve us. But man has been killing codfish or the whales for oil. Tigers are killed for their skin and bones. This is not fair. But there is no harm if any of them are killed strictly to save human life, properly and agriculture. However, killing animals is a crime. It is wrong to kill wild life for their hide or for pleasure.

Q2. Imagine you wake up one morning and find a tiny animal on your doorstep. You want to keep it as a pet but your parents are not too happy about it. How would you persuade them to let you keep it? Discuss it in groups and present your arguments to the class.

Answer. The young ones of cats, dogs and some birds attract us as does a human child. When I was a child, I wanted to adopt a kitten or a puppy as pet. I found a good breed puppy at my doorstep one day. But it created a commotion in the house. My mother got irritated at the very presence of pets in the house. They bite and bark, enter the kitchen or sit on our beds and make things dirty. But I assured her that I would look after my puppy and train it. The loyal dog would act as security guard and a playmate. My parents finally relented and let me have the poor puppy as a pet.

Writing

Q1. Imagine you have a new pet that keeps you busy. Write a paragraph describing your pet, the things it does, and the way it makes you feel. Here are some words and phrases that you could use. frisky, smart, disobedient, loyal, happy, enthusiastic, companion, sharing, friend, rolls in mud, dirties the bed, naughty, lively, playful, eats up food, hides the newspaper, drinks up milk, runs away when called, floats on the water as if dead

Answer. I have taken a kitten as my pet. It is female with silky fur and skin. She keeps me busy. My mother does not take interest in my pet. She curses the little one for doing mischief, for moving about in the house, for making the bed and floor dirty. The kitten enters the kitchen and drinks up milk. She is naughty and disobedient also. She is most

unlike a dog which is loyal, obedient and strong. Still I like my pet because it is lively, playful and frisky.

Q2. Human life is dependent on nature (that's why we call her Mother Nature). We take everything from nature to live our lives. Do we give back anything to nature?

(i) Write down some examples of the natural resources that we use.

(ii) Write a paragraph expressing your point of view regarding our relationship with nature.

Answer. (i) Man and nature are complementary to each other. Man for ages has been using forests, minerals and chemicals for his survival. Earth and nature are our lifelines. They help us directly or indirectly. Take for example the paper we print, our books and newspapers. They are products of trees. We get fruits, flowers and fodder from nature.

We get water and air free from nature. It is unfortunate that we are over using the limited resources and are also polluting them. Nature is our Mother. We must not use up anything to the extent that it is not restored naturally. By cutting down trees or killing whales we are, in a way, depriving our children of their share. Let us give back to nature for the benefits we get from it.

(ii) Some of the natural resources that we use are water, coal, mineral oil, etc.

Q3. In This is Jody's Fawn, Jody's father uses a 'home remedy' for a snake bite. What should a person now do if he or she is bitten by a snake? Are all snakes poisonous? With the help of your teacher and others, find out answers to such questions. Then write a short paragraph on — What to do if a snake chooses to bite you.

Answer. Snakes are the most dreaded of wild creatures. This is why we use sticks to kill them. There are many poisonous snakes. Green snakes or water snakes are not poisonous. Still we cannot be sure of it. So we don't take a chance. We call in a snake charmer to draw the cobra out of the house. A snake-bite can kill the victim in a few minutes. But the victim can be saved if he gets the first aid in the form of blood-letting and anti-venom serum. The cure for snake bite is prepared from the snake's poison. In case I am bitten by a poisonous snake, the first thing I would do is to put a band tightly over the bitten part. Then I shall use a blade or knife to make a small cut on the bitten part, and press the poisonous blood out. Then I shall go to hospital for medical help. I shall not go to sleep until I feel better and safe.

Writing With The Poem

Q1. Taking words that come at the end of lines, write five pairs of rhyming words. Read each pair aloud For example, pond – beyond

Answer. Kangaroo — too; hop — stop; back — quack; pond — beyond; duck — luck.

Q2. Complete the dialogue. Duck : Dear Kangaroo! Why don't you
_____ **Kangaroo : With pleasure, my dear Duck,**
though _____ **Duck : That won't be a problem. I will**

Answer. Duck: Dear Kangaroo, why don't you plan a world tour with-with me.
Kangaroo: With pleasure, my dear Duck though I am afraid your webbed feet would trouble me. Duck: That won't, be a problem. I will cover them with woollen socks.

Q3. The Kangaroo does not want to catch 'rheumatism'. Spot this word in stanza 3 and say why it is spelt differently. Why is it in two parts? Why does the second part begin with a capital letter?

Answer. roo — Matiz = rheumatism The word 'roo' rhymes with the Kangaroo. The other word 'Matiz' refers subtly to rheumatism. The word 'rheumatism' has been split in two parts for the sake of rhyme and a disease.

Q4. Do you find the poem humorous? Read aloud lines that make you laugh.

Answer. Yes, the poem is humorous. Take for example: "But quite at the end of my tail." "And every day a cigar I'll smoke".