



CLASS - VI ENGLISH NOTES OCTOBER

I. ERC:

6. THE TWO GARDENS

1. "Harry thanked his papa, and with rake, hoe and spade,
Directly began his employ;"

a) Who is Harry?

Harry is one of the brothers whom the poem is about.

b) Why did he thank his papa?

He thanked his papa because he had just been given a garden stocked with trees.

c) What did Harry begin to do?

Immediately, Harry picked up his implements and began to work in the garden.

d) What kind of a son was Harry?

Harry was a grateful son. He thanked his father for the garden given to him.

2. "Thus Richard the Idle, who shrank from the cold,
Beheld his trees naked and bare:
While Harry the Active was charmed to behold
The fruit of his patience and care."

a) Why is Richard referred to as 'Idle'?

Richard, the other brother, was lazy and couldn't be bothered about his garden. He preferred to laze around or sleep all day.

b) What is meant by 'shrank from the cold'?

'Shrank from the cold' means he found it too cold to work or move about.

c) Why is Harry referred to as 'Active'?

Harry is referred to as 'Active' because he did not waste any time after he got the garden. He immediately started working with a rake and spade and made a neat little garden.

d) How was Harry rewarded for his patience and care?

Harry was rewarded for his patience and the care he had given to tending his garden with plenty of flowers and fruit. His garden looked beautiful with flowers of all colours blooming and vegetables and fruit sprouting everywhere.

II. Short Answers:

1. What did Harry and Richard's father give them?

Harry and Richard's father gave each of them a garden stocked with trees.

2. What did Harry do with his share of the garden?

As soon as he was given his share of a garden, Harry got down to work without losing a minute. He took up his implements and started working in his garden.

3. What was the result of Harry's care for his garden?

As a result of his tending the garden with sincerity, Harry was rewarded with a bountiful crop of flowers, vegetables and fruit. His garden was fragrant with the smell of beautiful flowers and insects and birds could be seen there. One could see that because of all the care, there would be a good crop of fruit and vegetables.

4. What did Richard do with his share of the garden?

Unlike his brother, Richard was lazy and preferred to sleep and idle about. While his brother woke in the early hours to tend his garden, Richard chose to sleep, shrinking from the cold.

5. In what state did Richard find his garden?

Richard neglected his garden and as a result, his garden was full of weeds and Nothing good grew in it. Snails and slugs ate up whatever little grew there.

6. Why do you think the father gave both his sons a garden each?

The father was wise, therefore he gave a garden to each of his sons. He wanted to see how they would treat their share and whether they would be able to reap any benefits from their share. Their true character would be revealed from it.

7. Which line in the poem tells us that Harry's garden would give him a good bounty?

The line that tells us this is: And his gooseberries and currants, though yet they were green,/ Foretold for him plenty of fruit.

8. What is the rhyme scheme of the poem?

The rhyme scheme of each stanza of the poem is: abab.

9. Is there a message that the poet is trying to convey through the poem? If so, what is it?

Yes, the poem does contain a message. The poet is trying to convey the message that only if we look after and nurture the gifts/skills/blessings given to us by God or people, only then will we be able to reap the benefits. If we neglect and let our gifts go waste we will only get negative results. Harry worked hard and looked after his garden well, so he got good results. But Richard was lazy and neglectful, so he got nothing but weeds in the end.