

Month April

1. All About My Hobbies

- Ruskin Bond

I. ERC (Answer the questions with reference to the context)

1. There was no boredom

the shrill cries of the lusrainfever bird at night

a. In which town was this palace located?

Ans: The palace was located in Jamnagar, a small port town on the west coast of India. It was part of a princely state at that time.

b. What is being referred to as 'we'?

Ans: 'We' refers to the writer and his father.

c. Did the writer find the place interesting? Give reasons.

Ans: Yes, the writer found the place interesting. He says there was no boredom there because the palace grounds were like a lush garden full of marigolds and cosmos growing everywhere. There was also an old disused well where many pigeons lived. At night, the writer could hear the shrill cries of the lusrainfever bird. These natural sights and sounds made the place lively and fascinating.

2 Occasionally, of course + - - - - -

- - - - - it was supposed to be

a What habit is the writer talking about here?

Ans: The habit mentioned here is the writer's tendency to stare at the ground while walking

b What does the writer mean by the words, 'if I happen to have one'?

Ans: The words 'if I happen to have one' mean that the writer does not always have a destination in mind when he goes for a walk

c i

d What do you understand from the words 'of course' from these lines?

Ans: The words 'of course' mean that it was bound to happen that occasionally the writer happened to walk past his destination

ii Answer the following question in detail

Q1: How was Jamnagar an important starting point for the writer's walkabouts? (Long Ans)

Ans:



Ans: Jamnagar was an important starting point for the writer's walkabouts because it was there that he began his walks. The writer's father worked there as an English tutor to several young Indian princes and princesses. Jamnagar was full of palaces, lawns and gardens and by the time he was four, the writer had explored much of the territory on his own.

III short questions:

1. I have never bumped into a bullock cart while walking. Why does the writer say this?

Ans: The writer used to ride a bicycle during his early teenage years, until he rode into a bullock cart and ruined his new cycle. The frightened bullocks ran away with the cart and the writer was lectured by the furious cart driver on road sense. The writer is referring to this incident because he says that when he is walking, he is never in any danger of bumping into a bullock cart.

2. Why did the writer choose to walk the Zigzag way?

Ans: The writer chose to walk the Zigzag way because it allowed him to see far more than he otherwise would have. As he wandered, he would happen to come across a temple here, a mosque there and then an old church. In the same way, he had also seen a pond full

of buffaloes and a peacock preening itself under a tamarind tree.

Q8. In this way I saw much more than I would normally have seen.

a. In what way did the writer see more than he would have normally seen?

Ans. The writer started walking the zigzag way that would result in him taking sudden unfamiliar turns through narrow alleys or the fields instead of main roads. He would even follow cart tracks and make his walk as complicated as possible. In this way he saw more than he would have otherwise seen.

b. How did this happen?

Ans. This happened because the writer got tired of walking in straight lines or on roads that led directly to his destination.

5. You are not choosing what you shall see in the world, but are giving the world an even chance to see you.

a. What does the writer mean by 'even chance'?

Ans. By 'even chance', the writer means



giving equal opportunity or a fair chance when the writer takes a zigzag walk without planning where to go, he allows all parts of the world around him to be seen equally. He is not choosing specific places to visit, so every place has an equal opportunity to be discovered by him.

b. How do unexpected surprises in walks help the world to see you?

a. When the writer takes unexpected turns during his walks, he discovers new and different places that he would not have seen if he followed the same route. These surprises take him to unfamiliar places such as temples, mosques, railway sidings and ponds. This allows the world to reveal itself to him in surprising ways rather than him deciding in advance what he wants to see.