

1. Trapping the Tiger

I Answer the questions with reference to the context

1. Why do you worry so much? There are no wild animals here. With the Ranger Sahab around there's no danger!"

a. Who is the speaker, and to whom is she/he speaking?

Ans: Dhanu, a little girl who lives in Kosani, is speaking to her mother Paro.

b. When are these words being spoken?

Ans: These words are spoken late in the evening. Dhanu has just finished latching the shed where her lambs were kept.

c. Why is the listener worried about the speaker?

Ans: Paro, Dhanu's mother is worried about Dhanu, as many lambs in the village were disappearing. People believed that there was a wild animal lurking in the village.

d. What does this statement reveal about the speaker's personality?

Ans: This statement illustrates that Dhanu is a brave and sensible girl.

2. "We are overworked as it is because of the tourist season."

a. Who is the speaker and to whom is s/he speaking?

Ans: These words are spoken by Gopu in a conversation with the villagers. Some of the people present are Damu Chacha, Babu Ram, Moti and Dhanu.

b. What additional work is the speaker complaining about by using the words 'as it is'?

Ans: Gopu is complaining about the night vigils organized by the Ranger Sahab to patrol the village.

c. Why was this 'additional work' required?

Ans: The night vigils were required as many of the animals of the villagers were disappearing. People

d. How does the speaker explain the reason for the tourist rush immediately after this?

Ans: Gopu says that after the release of the famous film 'Gandhi', the village Kosani had become popular among tourists. This is because Gandhiji had spent some time in this village. He had called it the 'Switzerland of the East' for its enchanting landscape. Inspired by Gandhiji, tourists started visiting the little village.

3. "Ranger Sahab, here is your tiger!" announced Dhania, pointing at the black and yellow striped sweater of Bacchu.

a. What is the situation in which this line is spoken?

Ans: Dhania has just caught Bacchu who was stealing the villagers' lambs. He was about to run away with one of Dhania's lambs from her shed, when she trapped him with the help of a shawl and a rope. Also hearing Dhania's cry for help brought Paro's mother.

b. Why does Dhania refer to Bacchu as a 'tiger'?

Ans: Dhania referred to Bacchu as a 'tiger' because he was wearing a black and yellow striped sweater, to give an impression that a tiger was stealing the villagers' lambs.

c. How do these lines signify that the mystery of the missing lambs has been solved?

Ans: These lines show that Dhania has solved the mystery because she has clearly caught Bacchu red-handed.

d. What qualities does Dhania display in solving this mystery?

Ans: Dhania displays intelligence, courage and presence of mind, in the manner in which she caught the thief.

III Answer the following questions.

1. Why did Paro initially refuse to let Dhania join the night patrols with Ranger Sahab?

Ans: Paro did not want Dhania to join the night patrols as she feared for her daughter's safety. She had lost her husband who had died fighting for the country. Now she did not want her only child Dhania to take any risks.

2. What evidence did Dhania use to conclude that a man, not a tiger was stealing the lambs?

Ans: Dhania was sure that if it had been a tiger, it would have left pug marks. Since there were no pugmarks, it was evident that a man was stealing the lambs.

3. Where did Dhania overhear the conversation that confirmed her suspicions about the lamb thefts?

Ans: While Dhania was walking past the guest house, she heard the tourist lodge manager and ^{this} conspiring to steal her lambs. ^{confirmed} her suspicions.

Q4: How did Dhania manage to catch the thief stealing her lamb?

Ans: As Bacchu was running away with Dhania's

lamb from the shed, she threw her shawl over his head. Then she flung the rope lasso around his waist and pulled it tight. At the same time she screamed, "Help, Help". Her mother Paro and the and the neighbours came running. Soon Ranger Sahab neighbours guards too arrived, and Bacchu was caught red handed.

5. How did the Ranger Sahab express his appreciation for Dhania's role in catching the thief?

Ans: Ranger Sahab tapped Dhania on the shoulders and said that she had done well. Bacchu had been posing as a tiger to catch the villagers' lambs in conspiracy with the tourist lodge manager. In reference to this, Ranger Sahab wittily praised Dhania for 'trapping both the tiger and his mate'.

Q: Detail Answer

If Dhania had not suspected Bacchu and the lodge manager, would the story have ended differently?

Ans: Yes, the story would have ended very differently if Dhania had not suspected Bacchu and the lodge manager, one possible outcome is that the villagers thought the mystery of the missing lambs would have remained unsolved.

and the villagers would have continued believing that a tiger was responsible for the thefts. More lambs could have been stolen, including Dhanica's beloved Kamli, causing more distress and loss to the villagers. Bacchu and the manager could have continued their conspiracy to profit from the tourist season without being caught.

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