

English

(An Alien Hand) (Chapter - 4) (Chandni)
(Class - 7)

Comprehension Check I

Question 1:

Why did Abbu Khan's goats want to run away? What happened to them in the hills?

Answer 1:

Abbu Khan's goats wanted to run away because the goats in hilly regions like to roam around freely in the hilly area rather than being tied to trees or poles. They like to be free and his goats were the best hill breed. In the hills, they were killed by an old wolf who lived in the hills.

Question 2:

Abbu Khan said, "No more goats in my house ever again." Then he changed his mind. Why?

Answer 2:

Abbu Khan changed his mind because he was dreadfully lonely and so he couldn't live without his pets. He needs some type of company for himself.

Question 3:

Why did he buy a young goat?

Answer 3:

He bought a young goat thinking that it will stay with him much longer time. She will soon develop a bond with him and start liking the food served by him and will never wish to go back to the hills.

Comprehension Check II

Question 1:

Why did Chandni hate the rope round her neck?

Answer 1:

Chandni did not like the rope round her neck because she loved her freedom but whenever she tried to run towards the hills, the rope round her neck did not let her go further and stopped her with a jolt. She wanted to run across the green fields and the hills as she was used to enjoy them.

Question 2:

"Now Abbu Khan understood Chandni's problem..." What was Chandni's problem?

Answer 2:

Chandni's problem was that she did not want to stay inside with a rope tied around her neck. She was a mountain goat and loved to move around freely. She wanted to go back to the hills where she could roam without any constraints and hated to live with the rope around her neck.

Question 3:

Abbu Khan pushed Chandni into a small hut. This shows that he

- (i) was cruel.
- (ii) loved her and wanted to save her life.
- (iii) was selfish.

Answer 3:

Abbu Khan pushed Chandni into a small hut. This shows that he (ii) loved her and wanted to save her life.

Comprehension Check III

Question 1:

Why did Chandni refuse to join the group of wild goats?

Answer 1:

Chandni refused to join the group of wild goats because she wanted to enjoy her freedom all by herself and not with anyone else.

Question 2:

Chandni fought the wolf because she

- (i) was stronger than the wolf.
- (ii) hated the wolf.
- (iii) had to retain her freedom at all costs.

Answer 2:

Chandni fought the wolf because she

- (iii) had to retain her freedom at all costs.

Exercises

Discuss the following topics in groups.

Question 1:

Why did the wise old bird say, "Chandni is the winner"?

Answer 1:

The wise old bird said that Chandni is the winner because in spite of being weak and small in front of the wolf, she didn't give up. She gathered all her courage and fought against him. She fought at the battle ground with bravery and did not act like a coward. She thought that death while fighting for your rights is far better than giving up like a coward. She stood strong, bent her head slightly with her horns out in a fighting position. She was a true picture of fighter, a brave soldier all set to fight a deceitful enemy. Although, she gave up her life while fighting for her freedom still her bravery was appreciable.

Question 2:

"Death in an open field is better than life in a small hut," Chandni said to herself. Was it the right decision? Give reasons for your answer.

Answer 2:

I think that it was the right decision taken by Chandni because it is very difficult to imagine one's life in someone's detention. Freedom is very important thing in life. Chandni could have gone back to Abbu and saved her life but she decided to fight with the wolf to become free. She didn't die like a coward. She fought with all her power and was a truly brave soldier who gave up her life to become free. She might have lived longer but would have died everyday if she was kept imprisoned. She gave preference to fighting for her freedom rather than dying in a prison.

Question 3:

Freedom is life. Discuss this with reference to 'Chandni' and 'I Want Something in a Cage'.

Answer 3:

Freedom is a condition in which people have the opportunity to speak, act and pursue happiness without unnecessary external restrictions. Freedom is important because it leads to enhanced expressions of creativity and original thought, increased productivity, and an overall high quality of life. In the given situation, Chandni could have very easily gone back to Abbu and saved her life but she decided to fight with the wolf to become free. She was being given all the love and care by Abbu but she didn't want to be tied to a rope around her neck. All that she wanted was her freedom. She fought for it and did not die like a coward. She fought with all her power and was a truly brave soldier who gave up her life to become free. She might have lived longer with Abbu but would have died everyday if she was kept imprisoned. She gave preference to fighting for her freedom rather than dying in a prison.