



# NCERT

## Exercises

(Questions-Solutions)

### THE TINY TEACHER

#### Textual Exercises

#### Page No. 3

1. The story of an ant's life sounds almost untrue. The italicized phrase means

(i) highly exaggerated

(ii) for remarkable to be true

Sol. (i) highly exaggerated.

2. Complete the following sentences

(i) An ant is the smallest \_\_\_\_\_

(ii) We know a number of facts about an ant's life because \_\_\_\_\_

Sol. (i) but the wisest insect.

(ii) People have kept ants as pets and have watched their daily behaviour closely.

3. In what ways is an ant's life peaceful?

Sol. An ant's life is very peaceful because the ants of each category perform their duty very sincerely without disturbing the others.

The queen ant is the mother of entire population of the colony. Its life span is about fifteen years. It has a pair of wings which exist till its 'wedding' flight. The queen ant takes this flight on a hot summer 1 day. It goes high up in the air and meets a male ant or drone. Then it comes back to earth to lay eggs. Now it is without wings.

In a few days grubs come out of the eggs. Soldier ants guard them while worker ants feed them and help them in growing up. After two or three weeks grubs become cocoons which then break and perfect ants come into sight. New ants are taught and trained by old ants. After a few weeks' training, the small ants become ready to work.

An anthill is also the home of other creatures like beetles, lesser breed of ants and the greenfly. The ants give them shelter because they get sweet juices and pleasant smell from them. The greenfly is the ants' cow. The ants give training to them to give honeydew, which is like milk, with a touch of their antennae. Then they milk it and use the liquid.

Man has learnt many lessons from the ants. But it is unfortunate that he hasn't used these lessons for good purposes. An ant is a tiny teacher and man can still learn hard work, sense of duty and discipline from it.

#### Page No. 5

1. How long does it take for a grub to become a complete ant?

Sol. A grub takes about five to six weeks to become a complete ant.

2. Why do the worker ants carry the grubs about?

**Sol.** The worker ants carry the grubs about for airing exercise and sunshine.

**3. What jobs are new ants trained for?**

**Sol.** New ants are trained for work.

**4. Name some other creatures that live in anthills.**

**Sol.** Beetles and greenfly.

**5. Mention three things we can learn from the 'tiny teacher'. Give reasons for choosing these items.**

**Sol.** Three things which we can learn from the 'tiny teacher' are hard work, sense of duty and discipline.

I selected these three items because an ant displays all these qualities.

We never see it sitting idle. Each does its share of work very sincerely and no one tries to disturb the other in its work.

**6. (i) What problems are you likely to face if you keep ants as pets?**

**Sol.** Keeping ants as pets is not an easy task. They will create disturbances at every step. They will walk all over the way. They may bite us frequently. They may destroy our household things. All the time we will have to keep an eye on them. This will hamper our daily work.

**(ii) When a group of bees find nectar, it informs other bees of its location, quantity, etc. through dancing. Can you guess what ants communicate to their fellow ants by touching one another's feelers?**

**Sol.** Ant's feelers are their communicators when they meet their fellows, first they greet them. They also get an exchange information about food and their destination.

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**1. Complete the following poem with words given in the box. Then recite the poem.**

Soldiers live in barracks

And birds in .....

Much like a snake that rests

In a ..... No house is able

To sleep except in a .....

And a dog lives well,

Mind you, only in a .....

To say hi to an ant, if you will,

You may have to climb an .....

hole, Kennel, nests, anthill, stable

**Sol.** 1. nests, 2. hole, 3. stable, 4. kennel, 5. anthill.