

St. Andrews Scots Sr. Sec. School

9th Avenue, I.P. Extension, Patparganj, Delhi - 110092

Session: 2024-2025- Notes

Class:X

Subject:English

Topic: Ch-7- Madam Rides the Bus

Answer the following questions

Q1. What did Valli find out about the bus journey? How did she find out these details?

Ans. Valli found out that the town was six miles away from her village. The fare was thirty paise one way. The trip to the town took forty-five minutes. On reaching the town, if she stayed in her seat and paid another thirty paise, she could return home on the same bus. She found out these details by listening carefully to the conversations between her neighbours and the people who regularly used the bus. She gained information by asking them a few discreet questions.

Q2. Why didn't Valli want to go to the stall and have a drink? What does this tell you about her?

Ans. Valli did not want to go to the stall and have a drink because she did not have any money for that. Even when the conductor offered her a cold drink free of charge, she refused firmly and said that she only wanted her ticket. This shows that Valli had a lot of self-will and pride. Possibly, she did not want to take anything for free, particularly from a stranger.

Q3. How did Valli react when she saw the dead cow by the roadside?

Ans. On her return journey, Valli saw a dead cow lying in the middle of the road. It was lying sprawled in a pool of blood, legs spread out, with a fixed stare in its lifeless eyes. She felt sad and this made her lose all the enthusiasm, she no longer wanted to look out of the window.

Q4. Give examples from the text to show that Valli was a meticulous planner.

Ans. Valli was a meticulous planner. She listened carefully to the conversations between her neighbours and people who regularly used the bus, and also asked discreet questions. She picked up various small details about the bus journey and then planned it.

Q5. Valli's journey to the city is also her induction into the mystery of life and death.

Ans. Valli gets introduced to the mystery of life and death on her first bus journey in the outside world. She was wonderstruck and enjoyed the beauty of the outside world. She clapped, laughed, and enjoyed when she saw a young cow running in the middle of the road, in front of the bus. The driver sounded the horn to warn it, but the more he honked, the faster it galloped. Valli found it funny and amusing. She laughed till tears came into her eyes. On her way back, she saw the same cow lying dead on the road. Some fast-speeding vehicle must have hit it. It was a horrible sight. It looked quite frightening. It was lying with legs spread out, a fixed stare in its lifeless eyes and blood around it. The image of the dead cow haunted her, dampening her spirits, and making her sad.

