

St. Andrews Scots Sr. Sec. School

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Session: 2023-2024 - Notes

Class:IX Subject:English Topic: Moments- The Adventures of Toto

Answer the following questions in 30-40 words.

Q1. Toto was a pretty monkey." In what sense is Toto pretty?

Ans. Toto had bright eyes, sparkling with mischief beneath deep set eyebrows, pearly white teeth with which he smiled very often and a tail that added to his good looks. His hands had dried up due to exposure to the sun, but his quick and wicked fingers made up for them. He used to hang and scoop up any delicacy, that his hands could not reach, with his tail. The mischief and mannerism of Toto is what made him pretty.

Q2. Why does grandfather take Toto to Saharanpur and how? Why does the ticket collector insist on calling Toto a dog?

Ans. Toto was very destructive and intolerant of the other inmates of the roo. His presence in the house was unknown to the grandmother. Grandfather had to go to Saharanpur, the following day, so he decided it would be safer to take Toto along with him. He was put inside a big black canvas kit-bag, from which he could not escape when closed. He tried desperately to get out of the bag, attracting a lot of attention, but all his efforts were in vain. But the naughty fellow peeped out of the bag and smiled at the ticket collector at the railway turnstile. The collector insisted on collecting a fee for the monkey, probably classifying it as a quadruped, that falls into the category of dogs Grandfather was not convinced but handed over a fee of rupees three for Toto's fare

Q3. Why does the author say, "Toto was not the sort of pet we could keep for long"?

Ans. Toto had already shown that he was not compatible with the other animals in grandfather's private zoo. He crossed all pardonable limits of misbehaviour one afternoon, when he sat on the dining table eating up the pullao that was supposed to be for the family. When reprimanded, he took the dish and perched himself on a tree, and continued to eat to his fill. To annoy grandma, who screamed at him, he threw down the dish and chattered with pleasure, when he saw it break into a hundred pieces.

This was the reason for the author saying that, "Toto was not the sort of pet we could keep for long".

Q4. grandmother pulled him out, half boiled. How do we know that grandmother was not as fond of collecting animals as grandfather?



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Ans. The fact that grandfather had to hide the monkey, Toto in the closet after buying him off from the tonga-driver tells us that he was afraid that grandmother would create a fuss if she saw that he had made yet another addition to his collection of animals. Thus, we get to know that she was not as ardent a lover of animals as grandfather.

Q5. How did Toto like to have a bath in winters? How did he once get into serious trouble while trying to have a hot water bath?

Ans. Bathing in a large bowl of warm water in cold winter evenings was a treat for Toto. He would cunningly test the temperature of the water brought by the grandmother with his hand and gradually step into the bath, first one foot, then the other until he was into the water up to his neck.

Once comfortable, he would take the soap in his hands or feet and rub himself all over. When the water became cold, he would get out and quickly run to the kitchen fire to dry himself. If ever someone tried to laugh at him, he would refuse to go on with the bath.

His fondness for a hot water bath one day got him into serious trouble. He noticed a kitchen kettle on the fire and having nothing better to do decided to remove the lid. Finding the water just warm enough for a bath, he got in. For a while it was fine, but soon he began hopping in and out of the kettle because the water had got really hot while outside the kettle it was too cold for him. That day Toto would have boiled himself to death, had Grandmother not arrived in time to rescue him.

