

Jamaican Fragment

Question and answer for class 8

C1. Answer the following questions and share your responses with your partner:

1. Why was the morning walk pleasant to Mr A.L.Hendricks?

Answer: A.L. Hendricks considers his morning walk is pleasant and the walk was as beneficial as exercise.

2. "The exercise is good for me." says the narrator. What was that exercise?

Answer: Walking is good exercise to him. He walks a half-mile from the home to the railway track and a half-mile from the railway track to his home. Totally one-mile walk is the type of exercise.

3. What did the narrator notice one morning?

Answer: One morning the narrator noticed that two boys were playing in the garden in front of a modest cottage.

4. How did the smaller boy behave while playing with the bigger boy?

Answer: The smaller boy behaved like a master. He ordered the bigger boy to pick up a stick, to jump into the flowers and to get him some water.

C2. Answer the following questions and share your responses with your partner.

1. What sight surprised the narrator the next day?

Answer: The next day the boys were there again. The narrator was surprised at that time the dark boy was commanding, while the little white youngster did everything.

2. What were the two commands given by the black boy to the white boy?

Answer: The two commands given by the black boy were 'Get me a banana?', 'Peel it for me!'

3. Why was the white man surprised at the narrator's outburst?

Answer: The narrator looking at the person and said he was thinking that one-day other day the black will rule over whites. Hearing the narrator's outburst, the man was surprised.

4. Why do you think the narrator smiled at the end?

Answer: When the white man told that he knew all about the game and the boys were brothers and his sons. Then he pointed at his wife, a brown woman. Narrator knew all this then he laughed at the end.

C3) Some statements are given below. Some are [True] and some are [False]. Write 'T' or 'F' in the box provided against each sentence accordingly.

1. The bigger boy was black. [True]

2. The black boy ordered the white boy to pick up that stick. [False]

3. The white boy sat down on the lawn. [True]

4. The two boys were not dressed alike. [False]
5. The little boys were playing when the narrator passed by in the afternoon. [False]
6. The next day, a man was playing with the boys. [False]
7. The game that the two boys played was the same game the author had played during his childhood. [True]
8. "I know what you are thinking," said the man standing at the gate to the narrator. [False]
9. The father of the boys was white and mother brown. [True]
10. 92% of Jamaica is inhabited by the blacks. [True]

C4) For each of the statements four alternatives are given as the answers. Choose the best alternative.

1. The two boys in the story are
 - a] good friends
 - b] brothers
 - c] neighbours
 - d] classmates

Answer: b] brothers

2. The commands that the white boy gave to the black boy were
 - a] five in number
 - b] four in number
 - c] three in number
 - d] two in number

Answer: c] three in number

3. The black boy had a mat of coarse hair on his head. Coarse means
 - a] rough
 - b] beautiful
 - c] nice
 - d] long

Answer: a] rough

4. "Only we grown-ups are silly," The question tag to this statement is
 - a] aren't we?
 - b] isn't it?
 - c] are we?
 - d] is it?

Answer: a] aren't we?

5. The white boy had hazel eyes. 'hazel' means
 - a] reddish brown
 - b] pale brown
 - c] yellowish brown
 - d] bluish brown

Answer: a] reddish brown

C5. Read and discuss your responses with your partner. Then write.

1. What similarities and differences can you make out between the two boys?

Answer: The similarities between the two boys both dressed in blue shirts and khaki pants they wore no shoes and their feet were muddy. The difference between two boys the bigger boy was youngster, very dark, with a mat of coarse hair on his head and coal- black eyes. The other little boy was smaller but also sturdy. He was white with hazel eyes and light-brown hair.

2. What commands did the big boy give to the small boy?

Answer: The big black boy gives only two commands to small white boy. The commands were

1. Give me a banana? 2. peel it for me.

3. The author could find no answer to some questions. Which are those questions? [see paragraph 5]

Answer: The author could find no answer to some questions, those questions were: Was it that even as a boy he sensed that in his own country he would be at the white man's beck and call? Could he make a difference between himself and the white boy?

4. Why the narrator surprised the next morning?

Answer: The next morning the boys were there again. The white boy was making his little servant do. The narrator was surprised now the dark boy was commanding, while the little white youngster did everything.

5. How did the two boys behave while playing?

Answer: The two boys behaved like the master and the slave while playing. On the previous day, the white boy was played the role of the master and commanded the black boy. On the other day, the black was played the role of the master and the white boy was the slave.

6. What made the narrator think that the black boy could be the son of a servant or a class mate of the white boy?

Answer: Initially the narrator thought that the black boy was the white boy's servant's son because he obeyed everything that was told by the white boy. But when the author noticed that they were wearing the same dress then he thought that the two of them might be the classmates.

7. What were the two points that the narrator wanted to clarify to the white man?

Answer: The first point was that one day or the other, the blacks will rule over the whites. And the second point that the narrator wanted to clarify to the white man was that it was just a game.

8. The two boys, though brothers, differed in their colour. What might be the reason?

Answer: The two boys differed in their colours because their parents were of different races. Their mother was a brown woman and father was a white man.

9. If you were the white man, how would you react to the narrator's comment?

Answer: If I was the white man, I would have reacted in the same manner as the narrator did.