

# FOOTPRINTS WITHOUT FEET

## STD-X

**SUBJECT :** ENGLISH  
**CHAPTER NUMBER:** 1 (Period-1)  
**CHAPTER NAME :** A TRIUMPH OF SURGERY  
**BY** James Herriot

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**CHANGING YOUR TOMORROW**

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# INTRODUCTION TO THE WRITER



**James Alfred Wight** was born on 3 October 1916 in Sunderland, England. His pen name was James Herriot. He was a British veterinary surgeon and writer. He used his many years of experience to write a series of books, each consisting of stories about animals and their masters. He died on 23 February 1995.

Born	James Alfred Wight 3 October 1916 <a href="#">Sunderland</a> , County Durham, England
Died	23 February 1995 (aged 78) <a href="#">Thirby</a> , North Yorkshire, England
Pen name	James Herriot
Occupation	Veterinary surgeon, author
Language	English
Nationality	British
Education	<a href="#">RCVS</a>
Alma mater	<a href="#">Glasgow Veterinary College</a>
Period	1940–1992
Subject	Autobiographical, memoirs

# THEME OF THE STORY



It is a simple story which revolves around an ill dog named Tricki and his mistress Pumphrey. It has much significance for our life. The lesson tells us how a rich lady pampers her dog, overfeeds it and makes it lazy. The dog falls ill but its owner thinks that it is suffering from malnutrition. The narrator who is a V.S. understands its lethargy and treats it at his clinic. This kind of situation is also seen in human life. Parents very often pamper their kids by giving them heavy food. As a result they become overweight. When Tricki becomes normal, Mrs.Pumphrey calls this A Triumph of Surgery.

## EXPLANATION (PAGE-1)

1. Herriot was really worried to see the dog Tricki.
2. He was very fat, his eyes were red and rheumy .
3. James Herriot enquired about Tricki
4. Mrs. Pumphrey fed him malt, cod-liver oil and a bowl of Horlicks every night.
5. Tricki was not given any exercise.



# VOCABULARY

Pulled up – stopped

Bloated – swollen

Lolled – hung down

Blood shut- full of red lines

Rheumy – wet (eyes)

Listless – lifeless

Malt – grain, gram, etc

Cod liver oil- oil of fish

Lumbago- backache

## EXPLANATION (PAGE-2,3)



- James Herriot advised Mrs. Pumphrey
- Dr. Herriot found that the only fault of Tricki was his greed for food.
- The doctor advised Mrs. Pumphrey to cut down food and give him exercise regularly.
- Within a few days the doctor received a call from Mrs. Pumphrey.
- Dr. Herriot suggested that Tricki must be hospitalised.

# VOCABULARY

- Regime- rules
- Concern- worry
- Tweed – thick woollen cloth
- Distraught- upset
- Swooned- fainted



# CHARACTER SKETCH

## Mrs. Pumphrey

- A wealthy lady
- She pampered and overfed her pet dog.
- She thought Tricky was suffering from malnutrition
- She never gave Tricky exercise

## Tricky

- Tricky was pampered and overfed by his mistress.
- His physical appearance
- Bouts of vomiting.
- Taken to surgery.





# CHARACTER SKETCH

## Herriot

- A competent V.S.
- Understands the reason of dog's illness.
- Practical and pragmatic
- Instructs Mrs. Pumphrey to keep Tricki on a strict diet.



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