

Chapter- 5

The pied piper of Hamelin

STUDY NOTES

AT A GLANCE

Long ago, on the bank of a river in Germany, there was a small village called Hamelin. It was a beautiful village. But the people of that village had a problem! They were troubled by rats. They were terrified of the rats so they decided to meet the town mayor. After listening to the people, the mayor and his officers discussed but could not find any solution.

Next morning a stranger with a strange outfit came to the village with a strange looking flute. He offered a solution to the problem in return for a reward. The mayor offered him ten thousand gold coins to get rid of the rats. Next morning the villagers woke up to strange music. It was coming from the strange man's pipe. The rats followed the strange man. He took them to the jungle. Soon all the rats disappeared from the town and the people were happy.

The mayor gave the pied piper only five hundred gold coins. The pied piper got angry and left the office of the mayor without saying anything. He pulled out his pipe and started playing it. But this time the children started following the stranger. The pied piper walked out of the town and disappeared into the mountains. People began to cry.

The mayor set out to search for the piper and met him at the mountain. The mayor said sorry to the piper and agreed to give the promised amount. The piper returned the children. The mayor gave him the promised amount and the piper left the town and was never seen again.

GET GOING

A. Let us find the answers from the story.

1. How did the rats trouble the townsfolk?

Ans- The rats would jump into pots of soup cooked for dinner. They were everywhere in houses, shops, schools and every corner of the town. They would eat bread at the bakery.

2. Why was the mayor surprised?

Ans- The mayor was surprised to know that a stranger was offering him a solution to the problem that has been troubling his town for days.

3. Who named the stranger 'Pied Piper'?

Ans- A girl from the crowd named the stranger '**Pied Piper**'.

B. Let us read between the lines.

1. Why do you think the people of Hamelin were depressed after meeting the mayor?

Ans- People went to the mayor with their problem and the mayor discussed with his officers but could not find a solution to get rid of the rats. So the people were depressed.

2. Why did the mayor refuse to pay the full reward after the Pied Piper got the town rid of the rats?

Ans- The mayor refused to pay the full reward after the Pied Piper got the town rid of the rats because the mayor might have thought that as the problem of rats was solved without much effort so why pay such a big amount to the piper.

3. Why do you think the Pied Piper took the children away?

Ans- To teach a lesson to the mayor and the townsfolk for not keeping their words.

VOCABULARY JUNCTION

1. Read the sentence. Then, match the adjectives in column A to their meanings in column B.

Multipurpose ___ can be put to use for many purposes.

Yellowish ___ yellow in color.

Spanish ___ a person from Spain.

Historic ___ something important and famous.

Angelic ___ a person or place that looks calm and beautiful.

Boyish ___ showing the behavior or features of a boy.

Allergic ___ have a dislike for (or reaction to) a substance.

Bimonthly ___ twice a month.

Supersonic ___ having a speed greater than that of sound through air.

2. Complete the sentences using the words given in the box.

(artistic, feverish, preview, superstar)

- Rohan has become a superstar in the school after he saved a girl from drowning.
- Turn to page 4 for a preview of the next month's programmes.
- I am feeling a little feverish today.
- Rhea is artistic by nature. She loves to paint and create beautiful things.

GRAMMAR JUNCTION

1. Underline the verbs used as adjectives in these sentences.

- The dancing daisies looked beautiful.
- The prancing horse was trotting past the winning line.
- The creaking door scared my pet cat.
- The tiring day finally came to an end.
- Dad caught two fish with the new fishing rod.

2. Complete these sentences using the adjectives given in the box.

- a. The twinkling lights lit up the home beautifully.
- b. Racing bikes can go as fast as 100 kmph.
- c. My sister clicked a picture of the setting sun.
- d. The smell of burning tyres filled the air.
- e. It is an exciting game to play.
- f. Barking dogs are a nuisance to people living nearby.
- g. The bees make a buzzing sound when they collect honey.

