

Chapter- 7

Whittington and His Cat

STUDY NOTES

At a glance

- Richard Whittington was a poor, orphan who walked to London to seek his fortune.
- He found work in the house of a rich merchant Fitzwarren.
- His job was to help the cook and he enjoyed his work.
- But he faced a problem of rats that awake him at night and he felt tired the next morning.
- To solve his problem he bought a cat and the cat became his only friend.
- He loved to daydream, imagined himself as a knight who rid the world of rats and received treasures as gifts.
- The ship of Mr. Fitzwarren was ready and as per the custom, Whittington gave his cat to the captain.
- The ship sailed and the ship was full of rats, the captain set the cat out and soon the ship was freed from the rats.
- The ship reached the coast of Barbary, where the king offered a huge reward to the one who help get rid of the rats.
- The captain had the solution, he came with the cat and the cat killed half of the rats in minutes and rest ran away in terror.
- The king rewarded him with lots of treasure.
- The captain sailed back to London and told everything to his master and the master called out for Whittington.
- He gave all the treasure to Whittington but he was a kind hearted person , he shared with the captain , the mate and other servants and yes with the ill- natured cook.

GET GOING.

A. Let us find the answers from the story.

1. Whittington got a job in London when a merchant named Mr. Fitzwarren found him and gave him a work at his house as a helper of his cook.
2. Whittington could not sleep well most of the night because the attic where he slept has rats in them.
3. Whittington's only friend was his cat.
4. Whittington loved daydreaming about faraway lands where he would go on expeditions with his cat.

5. The ship was full of rats and the cat killed all the rats and helped the sailors.
 6. The kingdom of Barbary was infested with rats and the king offered a huge reward to the one who will help them get rid of the rats. But nobody has been able to do, so the king was helpless.
 7. Mr. Fitzwarren asked all his servants to call Whittington, Mr. Whittington because he became a wealthy man now. Mr. Fitzwarren gave him all the treasure received from the king of Barbary because he believed that Whittington is the real owner of the treasure and the fame.
 8. Whittington was stunned because his long cherished dream had come true.
- B. Let us read between the lines.
1. Whittington would stop his daydreaming and get back to work. He believed that someday things would be different. In these sentence things refers to the dreams and wishes of Whittington. His dream was to go for expeditions , imagining himself as knight and receiving rewards from kings for his good deeds.
 2. Mr. Fitzwarren refused to take a part of the treasure because he believed that the treasure belonged to Whittington. Whittington was a kind and selfless man so he gave his only friend the cat to the captain. Because of the cat only the captain could help the king of Barbary so he refused to take a part of it.
 3. Whittington was a kind man. He could have kept all the treasure for himself but he shared it with the captain, with his mate and even the ill-natured cook too. He was a daydreamer. Instead of playing and roaming he sits and daydreams about his desires.
- C. Let us go beyond the text.
- In the previous chapter the Pied Piper solved the problem of rats by playing a magical flute. He had some magical power. He was also aware of the reward and when the mayor broke his promise he taught them a lesson by taking away the children of the town. Where as in this chapter Whittington had only the cat as his friend but he gave it to the captain without expecting anything in return. The cat helped by killing all the rats, which is a natural way to get rid of the rats. So I like the second idea.

VOCABULARY JUNCTION.

1. If a sentence has a phrasal verb, underline the phrasal verb.
 - a. Rohan, please turn off the washing machine.
 - b. I shall try my best to do well in the exam.
 - c. Could you please give the book to Sumit when you meet him?
 - d. I have to fill out this form and submit it at the desk by evening.
 - e. The doctor asked me to give up eating fast food.

GRAMMAR JUNCTION

1. **Tick the sentences that are in the simple present perfect form.**

- a. Meena has a pair of new shoes.
- b. Ronny and Tarun have submitted their projects on time.√
- c. Mr. Mathur has bought a new house.√
- d. Toto has 4 cute puppies.
- e. Anima and Rehan have grown out of their clothes. Mother is going to buy new ones for them.√
- f. The teacher has invited a guest speaker for our community help class.√

2. Fill in the blanks with has or have and the past participle form of the verbs given in the box.

- a. The workers have worked hard all the night to repair the track.
- b. The company has closed its operations in India.
- c. Ayesha has lost her car keys. she is going home in an auto.
- d. I have seen such rashes before. It is an allergy.
- e. The cook has baked a beautiful cake for your birthday party.

3. Rewrite the following sentences using the clues.

- b. Nikhil has broken his leg.
- c. my sister has been losing her pen.
- d. Anita has washed her hair.
- e. I have been eating too much.
- f. Reena has been working hard.

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