

FOOTPRINTS WITHOUT FEET

STD-X

SUBJECT :	ENGLISH
CHAPTER NUMBER:	2 (Period-2)
CHAPTER NAME :	THE THIEF'S STORY
	BY Ruskin Bond

CHANGING YOUR TOMORROW

READ AND FINDOUT

1. How does the thief think Anil will react to the theft?
2. What does he say about the different reactions of people when they are robbed?
3. Does Anil realise that he has been robbed?



HARI SINGH ROBBED ANIL OF HIS MONEY



Anil was asleep. Hari slid his hand under the mattress and drew the money out quietly.
On the road he counted the bundle.
He was heading towards the railway station to catch 10:30 Express to Lucknow as he had planned.



VOCABULARY

1. Beam- ray
2. Crept- crawled
3. Slid- slipped
4. Startled- bewildered
5. String- made several thread

HARI SINGH'S DILEMMA/ SENSE OF GUILT

Hari Singh reached the station but he couldn't board the train.
The reason was unexplainable.
Probably his conscience pricked him.
He decided to go back to Anil only for the sake of learning how
to read and write.
He was remorseful.



HARI SINGH BACK TO ANIL WITH HIS MONEY

- He crept up to the bed and placed the notes under the mattress.
- After that he went off to sleep in the balcony.

Anil's greatness

Anil reacted normally in the morning.

Anil stretched out his hand towards Hari. There was a fifty rupee note between his fingers.

Hari Singh's heart sank.

Anil told Hari Singh that he would teach him how to write sentences.



VOCABULARY

- Dashed- ran fast
- Stuck- clung
- Shelter- refuge
- Damp- wet
- Heart sank- felt depressed
- Appealing- attractive

MESSAGE

Kindness/love wins where whips fail.

Reformatory punishment is the best one to change a criminal.

Education only opens the door to many opportunities.

CHARACTER SKETCH OF ANIL

- He is 25 years old.
- He is tall and thin.
- A careless, easy going and unsuspecting man.
- A struggling writer.
- Earns money by fits and starts.
- A thorough gentleman.
- A well meaning man.
- An employer and true benefactor of Hari Singh.
- He is full of the milk of human kindness.
- He is generosity incarnate.
- Believes in reformatory punishment.
- Kind, compassionate and most trusting person Hari Singh has ever met.
- Wants to bring Hari Singh to the mainstream of society and excuses him.

CHARACTER SKETCH OF HARI SINGH

- A fifteen year old thief.
- An imposter, changes his name very often to escape from the police and previous employer.
- A fairly successful hand at stealing.
- Has knowledge on different emotions of different people.
- A compulsive liar.
- Deceives Anil and makes a profit of one rupee everyday from the purchase of daily supplies.

The other side of his life

Understands the meaning of education.

Realises the greatness of Anil.

His conscience pricks him.

Money becomes negligible for him.

Realises that learning to read and write would open the doors to many opportunities.

Good sense prevails in the end.

Returns to Anil to live a life of respect and dignity.

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QUESTIONS

1. How did the thief (Hari Singh) realise that Anil knew his money had been stolen?
2. How did Hari Singh know that Anil had forgiven him?
3. Who is 'I' in this story? Why did he change his name every month?
4. Why, according to Hari Singh, is it easier to rob a greedy man than a careless person like Anil?
5. What was the thief's immediate reaction when he stole Anil's money?
6. What made the thief come back to Anil?
7. What was Anil's job? What did he usually do with the money he earned?

THANK YOU
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