

The Complaint of the Camel.

It is a complaint of a camel. First, it complains about the food given to it by comparing with others. Then, it complains about the place it sleeps. Then it complains about the home given to him. Furthermore, it complains about people riding on it and at last it complains about its looks. This is the very nature of humans, we never learn to appreciate what we have but we always keep complaining by comparing to others.

Reading-A

1. What are the five things according to the camel no one cares about?

Ans. According to the camel, no one cares about where it rests, eats, lives, how much load it carries or its shape.

2. What are the things human beings can help the camel with?

Ans. Human beings can help get the camel better food, more comfortable places to live and rest. They can also help to reduce the load the camel carries. The looks, shape size cannot be changed.

3. How do Human beings look after the living arrangements of other animals?

Ans. Human beings let cat rest on the chair, chickens roost upon rails and kittens stay in warm houses. They build stables for puppies, enclosures for lambs, coops for hen and pens for sheep.

4. Which animal does the camel compare itself to?

Ans

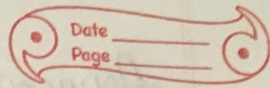
The camel compares itself to the canary birds, parrots, peacocks, ~~chickens~~ chickens, puppies, cysters, ~~rams~~ lambs, hens, litter, pigs, giraffes, oxen, rabbits, foxes, snakes, weasels, alligator and lizards.

5. How are the last line of every stanza similar? What is the meaning of the word 'does' in this context?

Ans

The last lines of every stanza are similar as they all begin with 'But'... and say how no one cares very much about the camel. The last line of every stanza is written the style of anything / anyplace / anywhere / and load / any shape does for me. In all these lines, the camel is saying that no one cares about how it lives, rests or looks. The word 'does' means works here.

Think and answer.



1. How does the camel sound - unhappy, grateful, jealous on something else? Could it be proud? Give examples to support your answers.

Ans → The camel may sound unhappy and jealous when it compares itself with other animals and describes how they have better places to live, better things to eat, even better shape than the camel. It even calls itself a 'poor camel' because it is not carried for in the same way as other animals. The poem is also titled 'The Complaint of the camel'. However the camel can also be proud of itself as it can adjust so well in different conditions. No matter what place, food or load, the camel can take care of itself.

2. Why does this poem say about how helpful the camel is to humans?

Ans → The poem mentions that the camel is sometimes ridden by entire families. This tells us how the camel is useful to human beings. Also people do not bother much about what the camel eats or where it stays. This tells us that the camel can live and work without any special arrangements. People use camels without having to worry about its food and shelter.

Appreciating the poem.

1. Which two lines in each stanza have rhyming words within them? What are these rhyming words.

Ans The first and third lines of each stanza have rhyming words within them. These are feed / seed, paddles / needles, aware / chair, able / stable, enclose / exposed, treated / heated, laugh / giraffe, habit / rabbit, round / ground, alligator / straight.

2. What makes this poem funny? Would it be equally funny if it was narrated by a person rather than a camel? Why or why not?

Ans → The fact that the poem is narrated by a camel makes it funny. The poem would not be so funny if it were narrated by a person because even if a person talked about the camel's complaints, they would not be able to talk about it exactly as the camel can. Only the camel can talk about its problems and yet sound funny.