

Chapter - 2 The Thief's Story

Short Answer Questions

Answer the following question in 30-40 words each.

Q1. Did Hari Singh really know how to cook? What happened to the meal cooked by him?

Ans → Hari Singh did not know how to cook. The first meal which he cooked for Anil was so bad that Anil threw it to the dogs. But Hari's appealing smile made Anil give up his decision to turn him out.

Q2. Why did the thief say that he was grateful to Anil?

Ans → The thief was grateful to Anil because he promised to teach him to write his name. The thief knew that once he learns to write properly, there would be nothing so difficult to achieve.

Q3. Why did Hari Singh say that it was pleasant working for Anil?

Ans → He made a profit of one rupee from buying the day's

Supplies. Anil knew everything about Hari Singh's stealing but didn't seem to mind them. Hari started to accept the joy of earning money by following the path of honesty. Hence Hari Singh found it quite ~~pleasant~~ pleasant to work with Anil.

Q4. What did Hari Singh mean when he said that it was time to do some real work?

Ans → By 'real work' Hari Singh means stealing. He wants to steal Anil's money because he has not stolen anything for a long time.

Q5. What prompted Hari Singh not to stop at the ticket office?

Ans → Hari Singh was illiterate or he could not read and write. At railway station the list was attached but as he was illiterate he couldn't find a train which went to Lucknow. This prompted him not to stand at ticket office.

Q6. Why did Hari Singh say that he had forgotten in the excitement of the theft?

Ans -> In the excitement of theft, Hari Singh forget about his education. Although the money which he got after stealing was more at the present time the money and respect which he could have earned in his future because of education would have been countless. The greed of just a few hundred rupees brought him a great loss.

Q7. Why did Hari Singh feel the necessity of going back to Anil?

Ans -> Hari Singh feel the necessity of going back to Anil because he felt guilty about robbing him. He thought that people ~~have~~ have different responses to being robbed. Some people show fear, some show anger, and some show acceptance. But, Hari knew that Anil would be sad, not for the loss of money but for the loss of trust.

8. What did Hari Singh discover when he woke up the next morning? ~~where~~ why did he feel uneasy?

Ans -> Next morning Anil had already made tea; he was having fifty rupee note in his hand and Hari felt that he had been discovered. But Anil gave notes to Hari and said that he would be paid regularly.

Long Answer Question

Answer the following long questions in 100-150 words

9. What is your view about Anil's qualities as a man and as an employer with reference to the text?

Ans -> Anil was a kind, simple and easy going young man. He was tall and lean in stature and interested in sports like wrestling. He was a writer who wrote for magazines and made money in fits and starts. The narrator ~~was~~ ~~was~~ ~~to~~ ~~met~~ Anil when he was watching a wrestling match. During this match, the narrator started talking to him to make him his friend. Anil was not very rich and could not afford to employ ~~to~~ Hari as a cook, yet he became ready to have him

in his room on his request. He had the patience and goodness to not only teach Hari to cook but also to read, write and add numbers. Many times he himself made tea and cooked food and served it to Hari Singh. Though he knew that Hari was stealing little bits of money from him, he ignored this fact. He was a very trust worthy person. Even when he earned a large amount of money, he kept the money under his mattress and not under lock and key. He was generous and paid Hari whenever he got some money. Hari had tried to steal the money from him. He was forgiving and he forgave Hari for the theft and continued to be good to him.

10. 'He was the most trusted person I had ever met.' Do you agree with this statement of Hari Singh about Anil? Give reasons for your answer.

Ans: Hari Singh justified in saying that Anil was the most trusting person he had ever met. But he took undue advantage of his trust. He was a thief and would not be expected to be honest with Anil. Anil had a blind faith in human nature. He employed him just out of sympathy and compassion for him. He trusted him and

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ignored his misdeed. He handed over all the financial transactions without verification.

He was so sympathetic towards Hari Singh that he did not ask him to leave the job when he was unable to cook. He trusted a stranger and gave him every

chance to improve. When Hari Singh stole money and came back, Anil knew his act but said nothing. He

knew he was guilty but rather gave him a fifty rupee note. I think such a blind faith in a stranger is not prudent, one should be kind but not careless.

11. 'You look a bit of a writer yourself. I said a little flattery helps in making friends.' Why did he look like Anil's friend? Did he really want to be friend, or is a flattery absolutely? Explain his intention and what happened at last.

Ans → Hari Singh was a thief. He came to Anil with an intention of robbing him and for this he had to gain his trust and that is why he made his friend. He came to Anil with an intention of robbing him and for this he had to gain his trust and that is why he made him his friend. He knew that Anil would spend on his friends. So he decided to rob him.

12. Love and affection can transform even a criminal.
Explain how it is true in the case of Hari Singh.

Ans → Man is a product of circumstances and environment.
Hari Singh was just a boy of fifteen but was an experienced and fairly a successful hand. Circumstances made him a thief. In spite of being no use to Anil, he was retained to work for him. They say old habits ~~die~~ die hard. After all, a thief couldn't leave stealing and cheating. He made a rupee every day from the buying of the day's supplies. However, Anil was not a fool. He knew everything and also all about the theft. But he was kind, large hearted and full of human sympathy. He taught the unfortunate boy to write his name. He also promised him to write his sentences and add numbers. This left a deep impression on the boy - thief. He started realising that education could bring him respect and money.