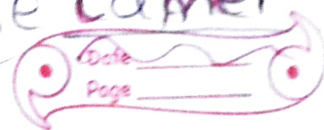


21/6
The Plaint of the Camel



Introduction to the Author

Canary! pays a witty tribute to the hard working camel which live and works in hot and uncomfortable places like deserts.

Difficult words

canary birds - a domesticated form of the wild canary a small song bird.

podles: a breed of water dog.

repose: to sleep

slumber: to sleep

Pails: a place for the oysters to sleep.

Reading - A

1. What are the five things according to the camel no one carries about when it nests, eats, lives, how much load it carries or its shape?

Ans - According to the camel, no one carries about when it nests, eats, lives, how much load it carries or its shape.

2. Which are the things that 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 produce enclosures for lambs, coops for hens and pens for sheep.

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

Ans- Human beings ^{let} cats nest on chairs, chickens roost upon walls and kittens stay in warm houses. They build stable for puppies, enclosures for lambs, coops for hens for sheep.

4. Which animal does the camel compare itself to?

Ans- The camel compares itself to canary birds, parrots, Poodles, chickens, puppies, oysters, lambs, hens, kitten, Pigs, giraffes, oxen, rabbits, foxes, snakes, weasels, alligator and lizards.

5. How are the last lines 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 each stanza is written the style of any thing / any place / anywhere / any 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 work here.

B. Think and Answer

1. How does the camel sound - Unhappy, grateful, jealous on some thing 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 ~~am~~ animal and describes how they have better places to live, better things to eat, and even better shapes than the camel. It even calls itself a 'Poor camel' because it is not carried forth in the same way as other animals. The Poem is also tilted. The 'Plaint' of the camel. However the camel could also be proud that it can adjust so well to different conditions, no matter what

the place, food or load
the camel can take care
itself.

2. What does this poem say
about how helpful the camel
is to human beings?

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 too much
about its food or shelter.

Appreciating the Poem

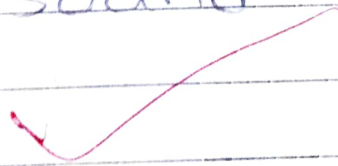
1. Which two lines in each stanza have rhyming words within them? What are those rhyming words?

Ans. The first and third lines of each stanza have rhyming words within them. These are feed / seed, Poodles / noodles, aware / chair, able / stable, enclosed / exposed, treated / heated, laugh / giraffe, rabbit, round / ground, alligator / straighten.

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 camel compares itself to other animal in a funny way. 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 get sound funny.



complete these similes with names of animals from the Poem.

1. as gentle as a lamb

2. as playful as a kitten

3. as tall as a giraffe

4. as strong as an ox

5. as timid as a Rabbit

6. as sly as a fox

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