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TENDER HEART HIGH SCHOOL, SEC. 33B, CHD

CLASS : IX

SUBJECT : ENGLISH LITERATURE

Bonku Babu's Friend

Objective Type Questions

Ques 1. Choose the most appropriate response from the options given below.

(i) Who is the protagonist of the story?

- a) Sripati Babu b) Bonku Babu
c) Chandi Babu d) Poncha Ghosh

(ii) How long has he been teaching and where?

- a) West Bengal, twenty three years
b) North East, twenty four years
c) KamRurgachhi village, Odisha, twenty one years
d) KanRurgachhi Village Primary School, twenty two years.

(iii) What fact gave solace to Bonku Babu to endure all the humiliation by the students?

- a) the amount of a few students in each class.
b) the number of a few good students in each class.
c) the flattery by a few students in the class.
d) the multiple gifts on Teacher's Day by the students.

(iv) What does Bonku Babu teach?

- a) English, Bengali b) Geography, Bengali
c) Geography, Maths d) Bengali, Sanskrit

(v) How is the spook described by the author?

- a) He is portrayed as a tall and slim entity.
b) He is described as a tall and short entity.
c) He is described as a fat and plumpy entity.
d) He is described as a thin and scary man.

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- vi) What was Nidhu Babu's intention for claiming credit as the first person to spot the strange light that day?
- a) He wanted Bonku Babu to speak up and contradict him.
 - b) He wanted to humiliate Bonku Babu.
 - c) He wanted to appear knowledgeable and gain recognition in the group.
 - d) He wanted others to reward him for his sound knowledge.
- vii) Why did the group of regulars shifted their conversation from satellites to rockets?
- a) After seeing the weird response from Nidhu Babu.
 - b) After feeling bored with this unusual conversation.
 - c) After seeing Chandi Babu's skepticism about the importance of satellites.
 - d) After getting a good response and appreciation from the group.
- (viii) Who made a sarcastic remark by considering him an 'ideal specimen' for aliens?
- a) Ramkanai b) Poncha Ghosh c) Nidhu Babu d) Chandi Babu.
- (ix) Who is Ang?
- a) A creature from the planet Cereus.
 - b) A creature from the Planet Plutu.
 - c) A creature from the Planet Mars
 - d) A creature from the Planet Earth.

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- x) What did Bonku Babu prefer to see through the tube offered by Ang?
- a) The snow-covered Himalayas.
 - b) The seashore in Digba.
 - c) The forests in Sunderbans.
 - d) The North Pole
- xi) What does 'glass' mean in the chapter?
- a) A little bowl
 - b) A big tumbler
 - c) A tiny straw
 - d) A little tube
- xii) How many languages did Ang claim to know?
- a) 14,000
 - b) 15,000
 - c) 16,000
 - d) 13,000
- xiii) How many languages did Ang claim to know outside of the system or besides the languages spoken on the solar system?
- a) Thirty languages
 - b) Forty languages
 - c) Thirty-two languages
 - d) Thirty-one languages.
- xiv) What was the first thing that Bonku Babu did on entering Sripati Babu's house?
- a) He cried loudly for a full one minute.
 - b) He bursted into a guffaw and laughed loudly for a whole minute.
 - c) He folded his hands apologetically.
 - d) He begged pardon and left hurriedly.

Kindly practice this worksheet and write answers only in your English Literature notebook and submit your copy for checking on Wednesday.

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Story in Detail

The story begins with Bonkubihari Dutta, commonly known as Bonku Babu, a school teacher in a primary school in Kankurgachhi village. He taught both Geography and Bengali. Everyone around him, be it his students or his associates enjoyed teasing him. But he was a calm, composed man who was never seen annoyed or angry. He never got upset by his students' act of teasing him. In fact, he enjoyed teaching and telling tales about adventures to a handful of good students. He was a good storyteller and always had his audience enthralled.

He spent his evenings in the company of Sripati Babu, Nidhu Babu, Ramnakai, Chandi Babu and other regulars who visited the meetings hosted by Sripati Babu. Nearly everyone poked fun at Bonku Babu, sometimes bringing his endurance almost to breaking point.

Once when Bonku Babu declared that he was not afraid of ghosts, it offered a golden opportunity to the others to make fun of him. On his way back home later that night, Bonku Babu was attacked by a 'spook'. As he was passing under a tamarind tree, a tall, thin figure leapt down and landed on his back. As it happened, this apparition had smeared black ink all over itself, as suggested by someone at the meeting. Bonku Babu was not frightened. But he was injured. For three days, his neck hurt. Worst of all his new kurta was torn and it had black stains all over.

On one particular day the associates were talking about spaceships and space-travel. Bonku Babu noticed a strange light and on further discussion, people started making fun of him. They called him a specimen to be kept in a zoo or museum. Bonku Babu left the place quite disturbed. Thinking what would happen if creatures from other planets come to their village, he got up to leave soon.

On the way, Bonku Babu noticed that things were different. A dull light shone on every branch and leaf. The pond was lit by a much stronger pink light. He kept moving and all at once, his ears began ringing. He broke out into goose pimples but his irrepressible curiosity drove him further forward.

He saw an object that looked like a giant glass bowl turned upside down which covered the pond completely. The strong yet gentle pink light was shining through this translucent shade. On moving forward, he discovered an alien.

Not even in his wildest dreams had Bonku Babu witnessed such a strange scene. He felt his hands and feet tied up and saw an object in the glass mould. From the spaceship emerges an alien, by the name Ang, with slender legs and

arms, and a disproportionately large head, wearing a pink outfit covering everything but its face.

Bonku Babu realised that the alien was a far superior being than man. He advised Bonku Babu to give up his meekness and stand up for himself and speak up against injustice. This made him realise self-worth and went to Sripati Babu's house. He spoke to all those who bullied him with such a confident and sarcastic manner that they could not believe that he was the same Bonku Babu who was a butt of their jokes. He left the group that made fun of him with his head held high and shocked everyone.

TITLE

Bonku Babu's Friend is an apt but ironic title for the story.

All his students and associates took advantage of Bonku Babu's patience and had made him, a butt of ridicule. The people Bonku Babu spent time with always bullied him and played pranks on him which shows that they weren't his true friends. His only true friend was Ang, an alien. After meeting him Bonku Babu finally realised that he should stand up for himself. Bonku Babu left the company of his associates. The story is all about Ang, an alien, who came from planet Craneus and helped Bonku Babu become a transformed man.

Though the alien, Ang and Bonku Babu met only once and did not know each other, the alien proved to be his true friend who showed him his real potential. He did not unnecessarily praise Bonku Babu but made him aware of the flaws in his character. Like a true friend, he not only told him his weakness but also guided him. He made him understand that standing up against injustice is important. Ang in the story transformed the life of Bonku Babu for good.

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