

NCERT Solutions for Class 7 English Honeycomb Chapter 4

The Ashes that Made Trees Bloom Class 7

Chapter 4 The Ashes that Made Trees Bloom Exercise Answers & Summary

Comprehension check : Solutions of Questions on Page Number : 60

Q1 :

Why did the neighbours kill the dog?

Answer :

The neighbours dragged the dog around their garden to find a treasure for themselves. When the dog stopped near a pine tree and started scratching the ground, they dug happily hoping to find a treasure. When they saw that there was nothing in there except a dead kitten, they became furious at the dog. They kicked it and beat it to death. They killed it because it did not help them find a treasure.

Q2 :

Mark the right item.

(i) The old farmer and his wife loved the dog (a)

because it helped them in their day-to-day work.

(b) as if it was their own baby.

(c) as they were kind to all living beings.

(ii) When the old couple became rich,

they (a) gave the dog better food.

(b) invited their greedy neighbours to a feast.

(c) lived comfortably and were generous towards their poor neighbours.

(iii) The greedy couple borrowed the mill and the mortar to make

(a) rice pastry and bean sauce.

(b) magic ash to win rewards.

(c) a pile of gold.

Answer :

(i) The old farmer and his wife loved the dog as if it was their own baby.

(ii) When the old couple became rich, they lived comfortably and were generous towards their poor neighbours.

(iii) The greedy couple borrowed the mill and the mortar to make a pile of gold.

Working with the text : Solutions of Questions on Page Number : 63

Q1 :

The old farmer is a kind person. What evidence of his kindness do you find in the first two paragraphs?

Answer :

The old farmer was a kind person. He loved his dog as if it was his own baby. He fed it with fish with his own chopsticks and all the boiled rice it wanted. He was patient and kind to everything that had life, and often dug up a sod on purpose to give food to the birds.

Q2 :

What did the dog do to lead the farmer to the hidden gold?

Answer :

The dog came running to the farmer, putting its paws against his legs and motioning with its head to some spot behind. He thought it was only playing and did not mind it. However, the dog kept on whining and running to and fro for some minutes. Then the farmer followed it a few yards to a place where it began scratching the ground. The farmer thought there was a bone or a bit of fish buried there and therefore, struck his hoe in the earth. However, what he found was a pile of gold.

Q3 :

(i) How did the spirit of the dog help the farmer first?

(ii) How did it help him next?

Answer :

(i) The spirit of the dog asked the farmer to cut down the pine tree over its grave, and make from it a mortar for rice pastry and a mill for bean sauce. The farmer did so. Some time close to the New Year, the farmer wanted to make some rice pastry. When the rice was boiled, his wife put it into the mortar and he pounded the mass into dough. When the pastry was ready for baking, the whole mass turned into a heap of gold coins. Similarly, when beans were ground in the hand-mill, gold started dropping from it like rain and in a few minutes, the tub under the mill was filled with gold.

(ii) Informing the farmer about how his wicked neighbours had burned the hand-mill, the spirit of the dog asked him to take the ashes of the mill and sprinkle them on withered trees to make them bloom. The old man did so and found to his delight that the words of the spirit were indeed true. The bare cherry tree in his garden sprouted blossoms when a pinch of the ashes were sprinkled on it. Later, he was rewarded by the daimio for making an old withered cherry tree blossom once again.

Q4 :

Why did the daimio reward the farmer but punish his neighbour for the same act?

Answer :

The daimio rewarded the farmer for making an old withered cherry tree blossom once again. Like the farmer, his greedy neighbour also sprinkled ashes over a withered cherry tree. However, the result this time was different. The tree did not blossom, while the wind blew the dust into the noses and eyes of the daimio and his wife. This was the reason why the greedy neighbour was punished.

Working with language : Solutions of Questions on Page Number : 64

Q1 :

Read the following paragraph and frame questions on the italicised phrases.

Anil is *in school*. I am in school too. Anil is sitting *in the left row*. He is *reading a book*. Anil's friend is sitting *in the second row*. He is *sharpening his pencil*. *The teacher* is writing on the blackboard. Children are writing *in their copybooks*. Some children are *looking out of the window*.

(i) _____

(ii) _____

(iii) _____ **(iv)** _____

- (v) _____
(vi) _____
(vii) _____

Answer :

- (i) Where is Anil?
(ii) Where is Anil sitting?
(iii) What is Anil doing?
(iv) Where is Anil's friend sitting?
(v) Who is writing on the blackboard?
(vi) What are some children doing?

Q2 :

Write appropriate question words in the blank spaces in the following dialogue.

NEHA: _____ did you get this book?

SHEELA: Yesterday morning.

NEHA: _____ is your sister crying?

SHEELA: Because she has lost her doll.

NEHA: _____ room is this, yours or hers?

SHEELA: It's ours.

NEHA: _____ do you go to school?

SHEELA: We walk to school. It is near by.

Answer :

NEHA: When did you get this book?

SHEELA: Yesterday morning.

NEHA: Why is your sister crying?

SHEELA: Because she has lost her doll.

NEHA: Whose room is this, yours or hers?

SHEELA: It's ours.

NEHA: How do you go to school?

SHEELA: We walk to school. It is near by.

Q3 :

Fill in the blanks with the words given in the box.

how what when where which

- (i) My friend lost his chemistry book. Now he doesn't know _____ to do and _____ to look for it.
(ii) There are so many toys in the shops. Neena can't decide _____ one to buy.
(iii) You don't know the way to my school. Ask the policeman _____ to get there.
(iv) You should decide soon _____ to start building your house.

- (v) Do you know _____ to ride a bicycle? I don't remember _____ and _____ I learnt it.
(vi) "You should know _____ to talk and _____ to keep your mouth shut," the teacher advised Anil.

Answer :

- (i) My friend lost his chemistry book. Now he doesn't know what to do and where to look for it.
(ii) There are so many toys in the shops. Neena can't decide which one to buy.
(iii) You don't know the way to my school. Ask the policeman how to get there.
(iv) You should decide soon where to start building your house.
(v) Do you know how to ride a bicycle? I don't remember when and where I learnt it.
(vi) "You should know when to talk and when to keep your mouth shut," the teacher advised Anil.

Q4 :

Add im- or in- to each of the following words and use them in place of the italicised words in the sentences given below.

Patient Proper Possible Sensitive Competent

- (i) The project appears *very difficult* at first sight but it can be completed if we work very hard.
(ii) He *lacks competence*. That's why he can't keep any job for more than a year.
(iii) "Don't *lose patience*. Your letter will come one day," the postman told me.
(iv) That's *not a proper* remark to make under the circumstances.
(v) He appears to be *without sensitivity*. In fact, he is very emotional.

Answer :

- (i) The project appears *impossible* at first sight but it can be completed if we work very hard.
(ii) He *is incompetent*. That's why he can't keep any job for more than a year.
(iii) "Don't *be impatient*. Your letter will come one day," the postman told me.
(iv) That's *an improper* remark to make under the circumstances.
(v) He appears to be *insensitive*. In fact, he is very emotional.

Q5 :

Use a, an or the in the blanks.

There was once _____ play which became very successful. _____ famous actor was acting in it.
In _____ play his role was that of _____ aristocrat who had been imprisoned in _____ castle for twenty years.
In _____ last act of _____ play someone would come on _____ stage with _____ letter which he would hand over to _____ prisoner. Even though _____ aristocrat was not expected to read _____ letter at each performance, he always insisted that _____ letter be written out from beginning to end.

Answer :

There was once a play which became very successful. A famous actor was acting in it. In the play his role was that of an aristocrat who had been imprisoned in a castle for twenty years. In the last act of the play someone would come on the stage with a letter which he would hand over to the prisoner. Even though the aristocrat was not expected to read the letter at each performance, he always insisted that the letter be written out from beginning to end.

Q6 :

Encircle the correct article.

A : Would you like (a/an/the) apple or (a/an/the) banana?

B : I'd like (a/an/the) apple, please.

A : Take (a/an/the) red one in (a/an/the) fruit bowl. You may take (a/an/the) orange also, if you like.

B : Which one?

A : (a/an/the) one beside (a/an/the) banana.

Answer :

A : Would you like **an** apple or **a** banana?

B : I'd like **an** apple, please.

A : Take **the** red one in **the** fruit bowl. You may take **an** orange also, if you like.

B : Which one?

A : **The** one beside **the** banana.