

## Chapter 9.

### The Bond Of Love

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#### Before You Read

**Q1. Can there be love and friendship between human beings and wild animals? Let's read a fascinating account of an orphaned sloth bear that was rescued by the author.**

**Answer.** Do attempt it.

#### Thinking About The Text

**Q1. Given in the box are some headings. Find the relevant paragraphs in the text to match the headings.**

An Orphaned Cub; Bruno's Food-chart; An Accidental Case of Poisoning; Playful Baba; Pain of Separation; Joy of Reunion; A Request to the Zoo; An Island in the Courtyard

- Answer.** (i) An Orphaned Cub - para 3  
(ii) Bruno's Food-chart - para 6  
(iii) An Accidental Case of Poisoning - para 8  
(iv) Playful Baba - para 12  
(v) Pain of Separation - para 14  
(vi) Joy of Reunion - para 16  
(vii) A Request to the Zoo - para 18  
(viii) An Island in the Courtyard - para 2

**QII. Answer the following questions.**

- 1. "I got him for her by accident."**  
**(i) Who says this?**  
**(ii) Who do 'him' and 'her' refer to?**  
**(iii) What is the incident referred to here?**

**2. "He stood on his head in delight."**

**(i) Who does 'he' refer to?**

**(ii) Why was he delighted?**

**3. "We all missed him greatly: but in a sense we were relieved."**

**(i) Who does 'we all' stand for?**

**(ii) Who did they miss?**

**(iii) Why did they nevertheless feel relieved?**

**Answer.** 1. (i) The narrator said the given statement.

(ii) Here, 'him' refers to the sloth bear and 'her' refers to the narrator's wife.

(iii) Once they were passing through the sugarcane fields near Mysore. People were driving away the wild pigs from the fields by shooting at them. Suddenly, they saw a black sloth bear. One of the narrator's companions shot it on the spot. As they watched the fallen animal, they were surprised to see that the black fur on its back moved. Then they saw that it was a baby bear that had been riding on its mother's back. The narrator ran up to it and attempted to capture it. He finally succeeded in grabbing it and gifted it to his wife. This incident is referred to in the above statement.

**2.** (i) Here, 'he' refers to the bear Bruno.

(ii) Bruno was delighted to see the narrator's wife. It was sad and refused food given at the zoo, but was happy and recognized her even when she was some yards away. When she ran up to it and petted it through the bars, it stood on its head in delight.

**3.** (i) Here, 'we all' stands for the narrator, his wife and his son.

(ii) They missed Bruno (Baba).

(iii) They felt relieved because Baba was getting too big to be kept at home. That is why they sent it off to a zoo.

**QIII. Answer the following questions in 30 to 40 words each.**

**1. On two occasions Bruno ate/drank something that should not be eaten/ drunk.**

**What happened to him on these occasions?**

**2. Was Bruno a loving and playful pet? Why, then, did he have to be sent away?**

**3. How was the problem of what to do with Bruno finally solved?**

**Answer.** 1. Bruno ate some poison meant for rats. It could not stand on its feet and was rushed to the vet's residence, where it was finally cured. Later, it drank nearly a gallon of old engine oil. However, it remained unaffected.

2. Yes, Bruno was a loving and playful pet. Everybody in the family was attached to it, especially the narrator's wife. It had to be sent away to a zoo because it was getting too big to be kept at home.

3. Bruno was not happy at the zoo. Seeing its condition and its happiness at seeing the narrator's wife, Bruno was allowed to go back to Bangalore. There, an island was made for the bear, keeping all its needs in mind.

### Thinking About Language

QI. 1. Find these words in the lesson. They all have ie or ei in them.

f__ld	ingred__nts	h__ght	misch__vous
fr__nds	__ghty-seven	rel__ved	p__ce

2. Now here are some more words. Complete them with ei or ie. Consult a dictionary if necessary.

bel__ve	rec__ve	w__rd	l__sure	s__ze
w__ght	r__gn	f__gn	gr__f	p__rce

(There is a popular rule of spelling: 'i' before 'e' except after 'c'. Check if this rule is true by looking at the words above.)

Answer. 1.

<u>F</u> ield	Ingred <u>i</u> ents	H <u>e</u> ight	Misch <u>i</u> evous
Fr <u>i</u> ends	<u>E</u> ighty-seven	Rel <u>i</u> eved	P <u>i</u> ece

2.

Bel <u>i</u> eve	Re <u>c</u> eive	W <u>e</u> ird	Le <u>i</u> sure	Se <u>i</u> ze
W <u>e</u> ight	Re <u>i</u> gn	Fe <u>i</u> gn	G <u>r</u> ief	P <u>i</u> erce

QII. Here are some words with silent letters. Learn their spelling. Your teacher will dictate these words to you. Write them down and underline the silent letters.  
 knock wrestle walk wrong knee half honest daughter hours return hornet calm  
 could sign island button

Answer.

Knock Wrestle Walk Wrong

Knee Half Honest Daughter

Hours Return Hornet Calm

Could Sign Island Button

**QIII. Study the entries and find out whether the following topics are discussed in the book.**

- (i) bronchitis due to cigarette smoking**
- (ii) heart failure due to bronchitis**
- (iii) bronchitis in children**

**Answer.** Do attempt yourself.

**QIV. 1. The Narrative Present Notice the incomplete sentences in the following paragraphs. Here the writer is using incomplete sentences in the narration to make the incident more dramatic or immediate. Can you rewrite the paragraph in complete sentences?**

**(You can begin: The vet and I made a dash back to the car. Bruno was still floundering...)**

**(i) A dash back to the car. Bruno still floundering about on his stumps, but clearly weakening rapidly; some vomiting, heavy breathing, with heaving flanks and gaping mouth. Hold him, everybody! In goes the hypodermic—Bruno squeals — 10 c.c. of the antidote enters his system without a drop being wasted. Ten minutes later: condition unchanged! Another 10 c.c injected! Ten minutes later: breathing less stertorous — Bruno can move his arms and legs a little although he cannot stand yet. Thirty minutes later: Bruno gets up and has a great feed! He looks at us disdainfully, as much as to say, ‘What’s barium carbonate to a big black bear like me?’ Bruno is still eating.**

**(ii) In the paragraphs above from the story the verbs are in the present tense (eg. hold, goes, etc.). This gives the reader an impression of immediacy. The present tense is often used when we give a commentary on a game (cricket, football, etc.), or tell a story as if it is happening now. It is, therefore, called the narrative present.? You will read more about the present tense in Unit 10.**

**2. Adverbs Find the adverbs in the passage below. (You’ve read about adverbs in Unit 1.) We thought that everything was over when suddenly a black sloth bear came out panting in the hot sun. Now I will not shoot a sloth-bear wantonly but, unfortunately for the poor beast, one of my companions did not feel that way about it, and promptly shot the bear on the spot.**

(i) Complete the following sentences, using a suitable adverb ending in – ly.

- (a) Rana does her homework \_\_\_\_\_ .
- (b) It rains \_\_\_\_\_ in Mumbai in June.
- (c) He does his work \_\_\_\_\_ .
- (d) The dog serves his master \_\_\_\_\_ .

(ii) Choose the most suitable adverbs or adverbial phrases and complete the following sentences.

- (a) We should \_\_\_\_\_ get down from a moving train. (never, sometimes, often)
- (b) I was \_\_\_\_\_ in need of support after my poor performance. (badly, occasionally, sometimes)
- (c) Rita met with an accident. The doctor examined her \_\_\_\_\_ . (suddenly, seriously, immediately).

3. Take down the following scrambled version of a story, that your teacher will dictate to you, with appropriate punctuation marks. Then, read the scrambled story carefully and try to rewrite it rearranging the incidents. A grasshopper, who was very hungry, saw her and said, “When did you get the corn? I am dying of hunger.” She wanted to dry them. It was a cold winter’s day, and an ant was bringing out some grains of corn from her home. She had gathered the corn in summer. “I was singing all day,” answered the grasshopper. “If you sang all summer,” said the ant, “you can dance all winter.” “What were you doing?” asked the ant again. The grasshopper replied, “I was too busy.” “I collected it in summer,” said the ant. “What were you doing in summer? Why did you not store some corn?”

**Answer.** 1. The vet and I made a dash back to the car. Bruno was still floundering about on his stumps, but clearly he was weakening rapidly. There was some vomiting and heavy breathing. His flanks were heaving and his mouth was gaping. Everybody was asked to hold him. The hypodermic medicine went into Bruno, who squealed. 10 c.c. of anecdote entered his system without a drop being wasted. Even ten minutes later, the condition was unchanged. Another 10 c.c. was injected into him. Ten minutes later, his breathing became less stertorous. Bruno could move his arms and legs a little although he could not stand yet. Thirty minutes later, Bruno got up and had a great feed. He looked at us disdainfully, as much as to say, 'What's barium carbonate to a big black bear like me?' Bruno was still eating.

2. We thought that everything was over when suddenly a black sloth bear came out panting in the hot sun. Now I will not shoot a sloth-bear wantonly but, unfortunately for the poor beast, one of my companions did not feel that way about it, and promptly shot the bear on the spot. (I)

- (a) Rana does her homework timely.

- (b) It rains heavily in Mumbai in June.
- (c) He does his work properly.
- (d) The dog serves his master faithfully.

- (II) (a) We should never get down from a moving train.  
(b) I was badly in need of support after my poor performance.  
(c) Rita met with an accident. The doctor examined her immediately.

3. It was a cold winter's day, and an ant was bringing out some grains of corn from her hon had gathered the corn in summer. She wanted to dry them. A grasshopper, who was very saw her and said, 'When did you get the corn? I am dying of hunger.' 'I collected it in su said the ant. "What were you doing in summer? Why did you not store some corn grasshopper replied, "I was too busy." "What were you doing?" asked the ant again. "I was all day," answered the grasshopper. "If you sang all summer," said the ant, 'You can da winter.'

### Speaking

**Q1. 'Animals also feel the pleasure of love and the pain of separation'. Make a presentation by giving examples from your own experience.**

**Answer.** Do attempt yourself.

### Writing

**Q1. Pets have unique care and handling requirements and should only be kept by those with the commitment to understand and meet their needs. Give your argument in support of or against this statement.**

or

**There is an ongoing debate on whether snake charmers should continue in their profession. You can get some idea about the debate from the newspaper clipping (The Hindu, 16 June 2004) given below. Read it, discuss in pairs or groups, and write either for or against the profession of snake charmers.**

**Answer.** Do attempt yourself.

### Thinking About The Poem

- Q1. 1. What is the snake trying to escape from?**
- 2. Is it a harmful snake? What is its colour?**
- 3. The poet finds the snake beautiful. Find the words he uses to convey its beauty.**
- 4. What does the poet wish for the snake?**
- 5. Where was the snake before anyone saw it and chased it away? Where does the snake disappear?**

**Answer.** 1. The snake is trying to escape from the pursuing stick. Human beings try their level best to kill the snake. They take it for granted that the snake is poisonous and harmful.

2. No, it is not harmful. It is a green snake.

3. The poet uses the following words: beautiful and graceful, glides small and green

4. The poet wishes that the snake should be allowed to go. It should not be killed by the man.

5. The snake was away from its secure area. It was basking in the sun along the sand. Finally, it disappears in the reeds.

**QII. 1. Find out as much as you can about different kinds of snakes (from books in the library, or from the Internet). Are they all poisonous? Find out the names of some poisonous snakes.**

**2. Look for information on how to find out whether a snake is harmful.**

**3. As you know, from the previous lesson you have just read, there are people in our country who have traditional knowledge about snakes, who even catch poisonous snakes with practically bare hands. Can you find out something more about them?**

**Answer.** Do attempt yourself.