Class IX

English---Moments

2. Adventures of Toto

Write these question-answers along with word-meanings (given to you while teaching the lesson) in your fair notebooks:

Question1: How does Toto come to Grandfather’s private zoo?

Answer: Grandfather buys Toto from a tong-driver for a sum of five rupees. The tonga-driver used to keep the little red monkey. It was tied to a feeding trough . The monkey used to look out of place there. So Grandfather bought him.

Question2: “Toto was a pretty monkey”. In what sense is Toto pretty?

Answer: Grandfather finds Toto bodily pretty. Toto has bright sparkling eyes. There is mischief beneath his deep-set eyes. He shows his pearly white teeth in a smile. The Anglo- Indian ladies are afraid of his smile. He has quick fingers. His tail serves as a third hand.

Question3: Why does Grandfather take Toto to Saharanpur and how? Why does the ticket collector insist on calling Toto a dog?

Answer: Toto does not allow other animals to sleep. So Grandfather took him to Saharanpur. The ticket collector classifies him as a dog. He does so because Toto is a four-legged animal.

Question 4: How does Toto take a bath? Where has he learnt to do this? How does Toto almost boil himself alive?

Answer: Toto takes a bath like a man. He tests the temperature of the water with his hand. He applies soap and bathes. He has learnt this after seeing human beings bathing. Toto jumps into a kettle. It has water for heating. The water begins to heat up. He tries to come out. He jumps up and down. Grandmother sees him. She saves him from being burnt alive.

Question 5: Why does the author say, “Toto was not the sort of pet we could keep for long?”

Answer: Toto creates one problem after the other. He does not let other animals in peace. He breaks plates after plates. He tears up clothes, curtains and wallpaper. The family is not so rich that it can bear the loss after loss. So, Toto is sold back to the tong-driver for three rupees.