

VIII Ch-4

Bepin Chaudhary's lapse of memory.

Q1 Why did the man stare at Bepin Babu in disbelief?

A. The man stared at Bepin Babu in disbelief because Bepin Babu did not recognise him even though he was sure that he knew him and had met him in Ranchi.

Q2 Where did Bepin Babu say he went in October '58?

A Bepin Babu said that he spent the Puja holidays in '58 with a friend in Kanpur.

Q3 Mention three things that Parimal Ghose knew about Bepin Babu.

A. Parimal Ghose knew the following about Bepin Babu

- 1) He had lost his wife ten years ago.
- 2) His only brother had died insane.
- 3) He had no children.

Q4 Why did Bepin Babu worry about what Parimal Ghose had said?

A. Bepin Babu was worried about what Parimal Ghose had said because he knew many facts about him. But Bepin Babu was not able to recognise him.

Q5 How did he try to decide who was right - his memory or Parimal Ghose?

A He tried to decide whether his memory was right or Parimal Ghose by looking at his right knee when Parimal had claimed that there would be a cut.

Q6 Why did Bepin Babu hesitate to visit Mr. Mukerji? Why did he finally decide to phone him?

A Bepin Babu hesitated to visit Mr. Mukerji thinking that it would be ridiculous if he had really visited Ranchi. Mukerji would think Bepin Babu had gone mad. Hence, Bepin Babu finally decided to phone him.

Q7 What did Mr. Mukerji say? Did it comfort Bepin Babu, or add to his worries?

A. Mr. Mukerji said that they had visited Ranchi in October '58. This added to Bepin Babu's worries as he could not remember how he could possibly have forgotten about the trip.

Q8 Who was Chunnilal? What did he want from Bepin Babu?

A. Chunnilal was Bepin Babu's old schoolmate. He had been having a hard time and had been coming to see Bepin Babu for a job.

Q9 Why was Dr. Chanda puzzled? What was unusual about Bepin Babu's loss of memory?

A. Dr. Chanda was puzzled because he had never dealt with a case such as Bepin Babu's. It was outside his field of experience. The unusual thing about Bepin Babu's case was that he remembered everything in his past except for one particular incident.

Q10 Had Bepin Babu really lost his memory and forgotten all about a trip to Ranchi?

A. No, Behin Babu had not lost his memory and forgotten all about a trip to Ranchi. In reality it was a trick played by Chunnilal.

Q11 Why do you think Chunnilal did what he did? Chunnilal says he has no money; what is it that he does have?

A Chunnilal did what he did because Behin Babu did not help him at the time when he had no ~~money~~ money and job. Chunnilal didn't have any money but he had wit and mind.

Q12 The author describe Behin Babu as a serious and hardworking man. What evidence can you find in the story to support this?

A Behin Babu was doing a responsible job with the firm for twenty five years. He had a reputation for being a tireless, conscientious worker.

Q13 Why did Behin Babu change his mind about meeting Chunnilal? What was the result of this meeting?

A. Bepin Balu refused the first meeting with Chunital. He was in no mood to help him get out of his distress. But, eventually, he changed his mind. He thought about something Chunital would recall about his 1958 trip to Ranchi.

Q14 Bepin Balu lost consciousness at Hudroo falls? ~~because he had a fall and broken~~ What do you think was the reason for this?

A. Bepin Balu might have slipped near Hudroo falls that made him unconscious.

Q15 How do you think Bepin Balu reacted when he found out that Chunital had tricked him?

A. Bepin Balu's first reaction was that he regretted having refused to help Chunital. He saw through Chunital's trick to test him, and learnt a lesson.