

CLASS 7 LITERATURE QUESTION BANK

The Stolen Rubens

A. Choose the correct option.

1. Why did Kale decide to store his art collection in the ballroom?
 - a. He wanted to impress de Lesseps.
 - b. He was renovating the gallery.
 - c. He wanted to sell his paintings.

Ans: b

2. What does the story suggest about Detective Mallory?
 - a. He found the wrong painting and believed the case was solved.
 - b. He was highly intelligent and was the first to solve the case.
 - c. He helped the professor uncover the true painting.

Ans: a

3. What does the theft of the Rubens painting reveal about human nature?
 - a. Even experts can be tricked by smart and clever tricks.

- b. People think art is one of the most valuable things in the world.
- c. Greed can lead to very serious crimes, even in the art world.

Ans: c

B. Read the lines and answer the questions.

1. "He took it with him probably under his arm every day," was the astonishing reply.
 - a. Who is "he" in this sentence, and what did he take?
 - b. Why is this response considered "astonishing"?
 - c. How does this line contribute to solving the mystery?

Ans: a. "He" refers to Jules de Lesseps, the French artist. He took the original Rubens painting from Mr. Kale's collection by disguising it under a layer of paint and carrying it out daily as a copy of a Whistler painting.

- b. The reply is astonishing because it reveals the clever and unexpected way in which de Lesseps smuggled the Rubens painting out, making everyone believe he was just working on an innocent art copy.
- c. This line provides the key to understanding de Lesseps' deception. It explains how he managed to steal the original Rubens without suspicion.

2 "Did you know, Mr Mallory," the professor went on, "that glue, putty and a few other commonplace things can be made into a paste which would cover an oil painting, and at the same time, offer an excellent canvas for water-colour work."

- a. Who is speaking, and who is being addressed?
- b. What does the professor reveal through this statement?

c. How does this statement expose de Lesseps' crime?

Ans: a. The speaker is Professor Augustus Van Dusen, and he is speaking to Detective Mallory.

b. The professor reveals that the stolen Rubens painting was hidden underneath the water-colour painting that de Lesseps had been working on, proving that the Whistler copy was actually covering the original masterpiece.

c. It explains the technique de Lesseps used to hide the Rubens. Since watercolours can be easily removed with water, the original Rubens could be recovered simply by washing away the top layer. This revelation proves that de Lesseps still had the stolen painting.

C. Answer the questions.

1. Why do you think Matthew Kale was so eager to show his art collection to Jules de Lesseps?

Ans: He sought admiration for his collection of paintings and wanted appreciation.

2. How does de Lesseps' reaction to the Rubens painting contrast with Kale's expectations?

Ans: Kale thought de Lesseps would be very excited about the Rubens painting. However, de Lesseps did not seem impressed, saying he had seen it before. This made Kale feel disappointed.

3 What evidence showed that the Rubens painting was deliberately stolen?

Ans: The painting had been carefully cut out of its frame with a sharp penknife, leaving a thin strip of canvas around the edges, indicating a planned and precise theft.

D. Think and answer.

1. What can we learn about Professor Van Dusen's approach to investigation based on his observations at Mr. Kale's gallery?

Ans: His careful attention to detail like the cut on the canvas, suggests he values evidencebased reasoning and has a deep understanding of art and forensic details, allowing him to discern the truth hidden beneath deception.

Madam Rides The Bus

A. Choose the correct option.

1. How did Valli learn details about the bus journey?
 - a. By reading about it in a book
 - b. By asking her parents directly
 - c. By listening to conversations and asking questions

Ans: c

2. Why did Valli say, "I can get on by myself" when the conductor offered to help her?
 - a. She was angry with the conductor.
 - b. She wanted to be independent.

- c. She did not want to ride the bus anymore.

Ans: b

3. Why did Valli save her money so carefully?

- a. She wanted to take a bus ride to town.
- b. She wanted to buy sweets and toys from the fair.
- c. She wanted to help her mother buy groceries.

Ans: a

B. Read the lines and answer the questions.

1. On and on went her thoughts as she calculated and recalculated, planned and re-planned.

- a. Who is 'her' in the above lines?
- b. What was she calculating?
- c. Why was she doing that alone?

Ans: a. 'Her' in the above lines refers to Valli.

b. She was calculating the money she would have to save to take her first bus journey.

c. She was planning to take that journey without the knowledge of her mother. Hence she had to plan everything all alone.

2. She no longer wanted to look out of the window.

- a. What sight disturbed Valli?
- b. How was her experience before?
- c. How did she spend the rest of the time?

Ans: a. Valli saw the young cow, which she had seen before, lying by the roadside, where it had been struck by some fast-moving vehicle.

b. The same cow brought joy to her as it was running in front of the bus.

c. The rest of the time she sat quietly in the bus without looking out.

C. Answer the questions.

1. What was Valli's pastime? What fascinated her the most?

Ans: The eight year old Valli was very curious about things. She would often stand in the front doorway of her house to watch what was happening in the street outside. The most fascinating thing of all was watching the bus that went through her street carrying and dropping passengers.

2. What information did Valli gather about the bus journey?

Ans: Valli came to know that the fare was thirty paise one way and the trip to the town took forty-five minutes. On reaching town, if she stayed in her seat and paid another thirty paise she could return home on the same bus. She decided to take the one-o'clock afternoon bus and return by about two forty-five. The time would be most suitable

because her mother would be taking her afternoon nap.

D. Think and answer.

Do you think Valli was taking a risk by travelling by bus alone without telling her mother?

(Free response Suggested answer)

Yes, she was taking a risk. She was too young to travel alone. Anything could have happened. No one would have known where she had gone. Even the conductor did not ask her anything. Fortunately for her, everything went well. She should never have left her house without her mother's knowledge.

Cradle Song (poem)

A. Choose the correct option.

1. What time of day is described in the poem?

a. Morning

b. Night

- c. Afternoon

Ans: b

2. What shines softly around the person in the poem?

- a. The stars
- b. The moonlight
- c. The fireflies

Ans: a

3. What feeling does the poem mainly express?

- a. Anger and disappointment
- b. Love and tenderness
- c. Excitement and surprise

Ans: b

B. Read the lines and answer the questions.

1. "Sweet, shut your eyes,

The wild fire-flies

Dance through the fairy neem."

- a. Who is the speaker addressing in these lines?
- b. What are the fire-flies doing in this scene?
- c. What feeling or mood do these lines create?

Ans: a. The speaker is addressing a loved one, most likely a child, whom they are gently asking to close their eyes and sleep.

b. The fire-flies are dancing around the neem tree, creating a magical and peaceful atmosphere at night.

c. These lines create a calm, soothing, and dream-like mood, showing the beauty of nature and the gentle love of the speaker.

2. "On you I press

With soft caress
A little lovely dream."

- a. Who is the speaker, and whom is the speaker addressing?
- b. What does the phrase "soft caress" mean here?
- c. What is the speaker doing in these lines?

Ans: a. The speaker is a loving person, possibly a mother or guardian, addressing someone dear—most likely a child.

b. "Soft caress" means a gentle, loving touch that shows affection and care.

c. The speaker is lovingly wishing the child good night and pressing a sweet, peaceful dream upon them with affection and tenderness.

C. Answer the questions.

1. What is the tone or mood of the poem?

Ans: The tone is gentle, loving, and soothing.

2. What is the main theme of the poem?

Ans: The theme is love, care, and peace, shown through a dream filled with beauty and calmness.

D. Think and answer.

Why do you think the poet uses so many images from nature to describe the dream?

Ans: The poet uses nature because it represents peace, purity, and beauty. Natural things like fields, streams, and stars help create a calm and magical feeling in the poem.