



## RAISINA BENGALI SCHOOL, MANDIR MARG, NEW DELHI-110001

SUBJECT: ENGLISH

CLASS: XB

TEACHER: S MALA

**ASSIGNMENT** 

**BOOK: FOOT PRINTS WITHOUT FEET** 

CHAPTER: THE THIEF'S STORY

AFTER WATCHING THE VIDEOS BASED ON THE CHAPTER POSTED EARLIER IN THE WHATSAPP GROUP. STUDENTS PLEASE GO THROUGH THE CONTENT PROVIDED BELOWAND DO AS PER INSTRUCTIONS.



### About the Author

Ruskin Bond (born 19 May 1934) is an Indian author of British descent. He lives with his adopted family in Landour, Mussoorie, India. The Indian Council for Child Education has recognised his role in the growth of children's literature in India. He was awarded the Sahitya Academy Award in 1992 for *Our Trees Still Grow in Dehra*, his novel in English. He was awarded the Padma Shri in 1999 and the Padma Bhushan in 2014.



# Read the extracts give below carefully and answer the questions that follow:

Q1"I hurried back to the room feeling very nervous ,for it is much easier to steal something than to return undetected."

- a) Who is the speaker of these lines?
- b)Why was the speaker feeling very nervous?
- c) Why was it difficult for the speaker to return the money?
- d)What is the view of Hari regarding theft?

Q2"well it's time I did some real work, I told myself ,and I'm out of practice. And if I don't take the money, he'll only waste it on his friends. After all ,he doesn't even pay me.

- a)What did he tell himself?
- b) Why did Hari decide to steal?
- c)Does Anil pay Hari a regular salary?
- d)What justification Hari gives for stealing Anil's money?
- Q1 Answers of read the extract.

- a) Han, a young boy is the speaker of this line who is a thief.
- b)He was nervous because he was keeping back the stolen money and feared to get caught.
- c)He feared to get caught while keeping it back.
- d)It is much easier to steal something but very difficult to return it back undetected.

#### Q2 Answers:

- a)He told himself that whatever he did was correct.
- b)He thought his owner would waste the money on his friends and was not paying any salary to him.
- c) No, Anil did not pay any regular salary to Hari.
- d) If he did not steal Anil will waste the money on his friends. Moreover, he was not getting any regular salary from him.



Do it in note book

# The Thief's Story Questions and Answers

Q1. What are Hari Singh's reactions to the prospect of receiving an education? Do they change over time? (Hint: Compare, for example, the thought: "I knew that once I could write like an educated man there would be no limit to what I could achieve" with these later thoughts: "Whole sentences, I knew, could one day bring me more than a few hundred rupees. It was a simple matter to steal — and sometimes just as simple to be caught. But to be a really big man, a clever and respected man, was something else.") What makes him return to Anil?

Ans. Hari Singh feels that education can make him earn a lot of money in an honest way. His prospect on receiving an education does not change over time. He feels that he can earn much more if he gets education. He returns to Anil because Anil trusts him, feeds him, treats him well and even teaches him.

Q2. Why does not Anil hand the thief over to the police? Do you think most people would have done so? In what ways is Anil different from such employers? Ans. Anil did not hand over the thief to the police maybe because he knew that Hari Singh had realized his mistake. He was feeling guilty for what he had done and wanted to mend his ways. This was the reason why he had come back and put the money back to its place. Anil wanted to give him a chance to become a better person.

No, I don't think that anybody in today's world would have done so because to do so, a person needs to have a lot of patience and compassion which is missing in most of the people today. In today's world a thief is considered a criminal even if he realizes his mistake. It takes a lot of courage to trust someone who has broken your trust once. Although i feel that if a person realizes his mistake he must be given another chance to win back your trust.

Q3. Who does 'I' refer to in this story? Ans. In this story, "I" refers to the thief who introduces himself as Hari Singh.

Q4. What is he "a fairly successful hand" at? Ans. He was a "fairly successful hand" at robbing and duping people of their money.

Q5. What does he get from Anil in return for his work?

Ans. When he asks Anil that he wants to work for him, Anil clearly says that he will; not be able to pay him. They mutually decide that if the thief would be able to cook food for him, then Anil would feed him. But soon, Anil comes to know that he can not cook. So Anil tells Hari, the thief that he would teach him to cook food, teach him to write his name and full sentences and also to add numbers. Apart from this, Hari also used to steal one rupee from the grocery money everyday.

Q6. How does the thief think Anil will react to the theft? Ans. The thief though that on discovering that he had been robbed, Anil would definitely be sad but he would be sad because of the loss of trust and not because of the loss of money.

Q7. What does he say about the different reactions of people when they are robbed?

Ans. The thief says that according to his experience, upon being robbed the greedy man showed fear, the rich man showed anger and the poor man showed acceptance towards whatever had happened with him.

Q8. Does Anil realise that he has been robbed?

Ans. Yes, probably Anil knew that he had been robbed because all the notes were wet and damp from last night. He still did not say anything to the thief and gave him 50 rupees and told him that from now on, Anil will be paying him money as salary every month.

Source:successcds