



# पुर्णमा International School

## Shree Swaminarayan Gurukul, Zundal

### CHAPTER-1

### THREE QUESTIONS

#### SUMMARY:-

There was this certain king who believed that he would not fail if he knew *what was the right time for every action, who were the right people to be with* and *what was the most important thing to do*. Until he proclaimed that he would give a great reward to the person who can answer his three questions.

A lot of learned men went for their answers. Unfortunately, their answers did not satisfy the king. So the king decided to consult a wise hermit. He saw the hermit digging the ground and out of compassion, he did it for the hermit. He kept on asking the three questions but the hermit also kept silent. Until hours passed and it was already sunset.

The hermit saw a bearded man running and his hands on his stomach. He was wounded and dying; the hermit told the king about it and they helped the bearded man.

The next day, the king woke up and the bearded man saw him and apologize to him. He admit that he was an enemy of the king. The bearded man said that he heard about the king going to the hermit so he tried to kill him when he was in his way back home but he failed.

The king asked the hermit once again then in every question, he answered:

1. Now is the time to do every action because now is the only time that we have power.
2. The right person is who you are with.
3. The most important thing to do is to do good for the person you are with.

#### NEW WORDS:-

- |              |             |            |             |
|--------------|-------------|------------|-------------|
| 1. Messenger | 2. Strictly | 3. Kingdom | 4. Pleasure |
| 5. Spade     | 6. Revenge  | 7. Tried   | 8. Bearded  |

## **Word-Meanings:-**

1. Listen to- pay attention
2. Council- a group of people choose to give advice to the king and make rules
3. Instead- beside
4. Wisdom- a body of knowledge and experience
5. Hermit- saint
6. Greet- welcome
7. Pitied- look pity on
8. Particular- certain
9. Purpose-object

## **ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:-**

### **1. Why did the king want to know answers to three questions?**

**Ans:** He wanted to know answers to three questions because of the thought came to his mind that he would never fail if he knew answers to the three questions i.e. what was the right time for every action, who were the most important people and what the most important thing to do was.

### **2. Why was the king advised to go to magicians?**

**Ans:**The king was advised to go to magicians to get the answer for his first question. In answer to the first question, i.e. to decide the right time for doing something urgent one must have to look into the future. Since only magician could do that, the king was advised to go to magicians.

### **3. What suggestions were made in answer to the third question?**

**Ans:** There were many suggestions to the third question. In answer to the third question, i.e. what is the most important thing to do, some said science will be most important. Others suggested fighting, and some said religious worship.

### **4. Did the wise men win the reward? If not, why not?**

**Ans:** No, the wise men did not win the reward. The king got different answers for all the three questions he had asked. He was not satisfied with any of them.

## **LONG ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS:-**

1. What were the hermit's answers to the three questions? Write each answer separately. Which answer do you like most, and why?

**Ans:** In answer to king's first question, the hermit said that there is only one important time 'Now' i.e. present. It is the only time when you have power to act.

In answer to king's second question, the hermit said that the most important person is the one with who we are at the present.

In response to king's third question, the hermit answered that the most important thing to do is to do that person good.

I like the answer of the first question the most because time has the supreme power. It can take you to height if you do something good and can also make you fall on ground if you won; t act in presence. One should live and act according to present.

**2. (i) Who was the bearded man?**

**(ii) Why did he ask for the king's forgiveness?**

**Ans: (i)** Bearded man was the enemy of the king who swore to revenge him for seizing of his property and putting his brother to death.

**(ii)** He asked for the king's forgiveness as the king had saved his life. He came there for taking revenge from the king but instead the king helped him to get better.

**3.How did the king and the hermit help the wounded man?**

**Ans:** The king and the hermit helped the wounded man by providing him the shelter and protected from the army. The king washed and covered the wound of the man with his handkerchief, but the blood would not stop flowing. The king re-dressed the wound until it stopped bleeding. They took him to hut for taking rest and king also gave him fresh water after being relaxed.

**Make meaningful sentences with the word given below:-**

1. Promise-

2. Reached-



## THE SQUIRREL (POEM)

### SUMMARY-

Squirrel is a little fun loving creature. It sits on a tree and love eating nuts. It has a tail with curve at the tip. The tail looks like a question on mark. Its loose skin looks like a grey overcoat. It likes to play when a person runs after it. It goes in the opposite direction.

### NEWORDS:-

1. Overcoat
2. Straight
3. Tease
4. Grey
5. Question mark

### Word-Meanings:-

1. Ware- put on
2. Question mark- mark of question
3. Overcoat- long loose coat
4. Tease- irritate
5. Interrogation- question
6. Other way- opposite direction

### ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:-

**1. Why does the poet say the squirrel “wore a question mark for tail”? Draw a squirrel, or find a picture of a squirrel sitting on the ground. How would you describe its tail?**

**Ans:** The poet says so because the bushy tail of a squirrel sitting on the ground is curled back on its body in a curved shape that looks very similar to the punctuation mark at the end of an interrogative sentence. I would describe it as a furry and bushy cloth worn on its back that seems to ask you the question - what?

**2. “He liked to tease and play”. Who is teasing whom? How?**

**Ans:** The squirrel is a naughty playful animal. It loves to be chased, by other squirrels and kids as well. When poet and his friends ran around the tree on which the squirrel is sitting, it went the other way teasing them and playing with them.

**3. You may have seen a squirrel sitting on the ground eating a nut. What did it look like?**

**Ans:** The squirrel is a rodent. It is grey in color with brown strips on its back. It is very small in size with fur on its body and a large bushy tail. It generally lives in trees and likes to eat nuts. It is a playful and naughty animal.

### **Activity:-**

Draw the picture of a squirrel.



## Chapter - 2

### A Gift of Chappals

#### SUMMARY:-

Mridu lives in Chennai with her grandparents. One day she goes to visit her aunt Rukku Manni and her cousins Lalli, Ravi and Meena. Mridu noticed a pair of large chappals when she reached their house. Her cousins showed her a kitten in the backyard which they had found the very same morning in front of the gate. The contrast between what people say and what they actually practice has been portrayed here where parents advice to take care of animals and on the other hand, scream when you do so with animals brought from the street. They share their secret plight and how they fed milk to the kitten, hiding from their mother. They had named the cat Mahendravarma Pallava Poonai. Tracing instances from history, the cousins proved that the cat was a descendant of a lion, the lion which was the emblem of the Pallava dynasty. They thought that the cat was a Mahabalipuram Rishi-cat.

#### New words:-

- |               |             |            |            |
|---------------|-------------|------------|------------|
| 1. Rushed     | 2. Mewing   | 3. Stream  | 4. Ancient |
| 5. Descendent | 6. Shrieked | 7. Leaning | 8. Choked  |

#### Word-Meanings:-

1. Protested- revolted
2. Dragged- pulled
3. Waving- moving in the air
4. Flourished- waved
5. Tumbler- glass
6. Lapping up- drinking
7. Snooze- nap
8. Withered- sunk
9. Belly- stomach

## **ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:-**

### **1. What is the secret that Meena shares with Mridu in the backyard?**

**Ans:** Meena shared the secret that she had seen a kitten in the backyard inside a torn football lined with sacking and filled with sand. They found him outside the gate in the morning.

### **2. How does Ravi get milk for the kitten?**

**Ans:** Ravi took a glass of milk to feed the kitten. When Paati saw him with the glass of milk, he convinced her by saying that he was hungry. Paati got suspicious so Ravi had to drink most of the milk and told Paati that he would wash the tumbler by himself. After that, Ravi ran and pours the milk into coconut shell for the kitten and then ran back to wash the tumbler before Paati got really suspicious.

### **3. Who does he say the kitten's ancestors are? Do you believe him?**

**Ans:** He said the kitten's ancestors were the Mahabalipuram Rishi-Cat, which was the emblem of the Pallava dynasty and the Mahabalipuram Rishi-Cat was descendants of the cat-goddess of Egypt.

No, I don't believe him.

### **4. Ravi has a lot to say about M.P. Poonai. This shows that**

**(i) he is merely trying to impress Mridu.**

**(ii) his knowledge of history is sound.**

**(iii) he has a rich imagination.**

**(iv) he is an intelligent child.**

**Which of these statements do you agree/disagree to?**

**Ans:** Agree to these statements.

**(ii) His knowledge of history is sound.**

**(iii) He has a rich imagination.**

### **5. What was the noise that startled Mridu and frightened Mahendran?**

**Ans:** The children were discussing about cat, at that moment the sound of breeching startled Mridu and frightened Mahendran. It was the sound of Violin that Lalli was learning to play. As she was not able to play it properly it sounded awful.

## **LONG ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS:-**

### **1. Had the beggar come to Rukku Manni's house for the first time? Give reasons for your answer.**

**Ans:** No, the beggar had not come to Rukku Manni's house for the first time because Paati said to Tapi that he had been coming to their house every day for the past one week. She also said that it's time to find him another house to beg from! This shows that she knew him.

### **2. Describe the music teacher, as seen from the window.**

**Ans:** As seen from the window, music teacher had the bony figure. He had a mostly bald head with a fringe of oiled black hair falling around his ears and an old-fashioned tuft. A gold chain

gleamed around his leathery neck, and a diamond ring glittered on his hand as it glided up and down the stem of the violin. A large foot stuck out from beneath his gold-bordered veshti edge, and he was beating time on the floor with the scrawny big toe.

**Activity:-**

Do you think it is possible to hide the secret from your parents? Share one of your experiences.



## The Rebel (POEM)

### SUMMARY:-

A rebel is a person who always disagrees with you. He likes to do the opposite of what everyone loves to do. When everyone has short hair, the rebel supports long hairs, when everybody lets his hair grow long; the rebel cuts his hair short.

When other boys go to school in uniforms, the rebel puts on colorful clothes. When other boys are in fancy dress the rebel's dress is simple. If others are dog lovers, the rebel prefers cat. But in the company of cat lovers he praises dogs. When others go to the meeting, the rebel stays at home and read books. When everybody agrees the rebel disagrees. The rebel is necessary because they help us look at life differently. But this practice will not suit everyone.

### New words:-

- |               |            |              |
|---------------|------------|--------------|
| 1. Creates    | 2. Nobody  | 3. Uniform   |
| 4. Preference | 5. Company | 6. Fantastic |

### Word-Meanings:-

1. Short hair- closely cropped
2. Uniform- prescribed dress
3. Fantastic- odd, strange
4. Soberly- in a simple manner
5. Preference- liking

### ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:-

**1. If someone doesn't wear a uniform to school, what do you think the teacher will say?**

**Ans.** The teacher will scold the student and ask him/her the reason for not wearing the uniform and then takes action accordingly.

**2. When everyone wants a clear sky, what does the rebel want most?**

**Ans.** When everyone wants a clear sky, the rebel wants it to rain.

**3. If the rebel has a dog for a pet, what is everyone else likely to have?**

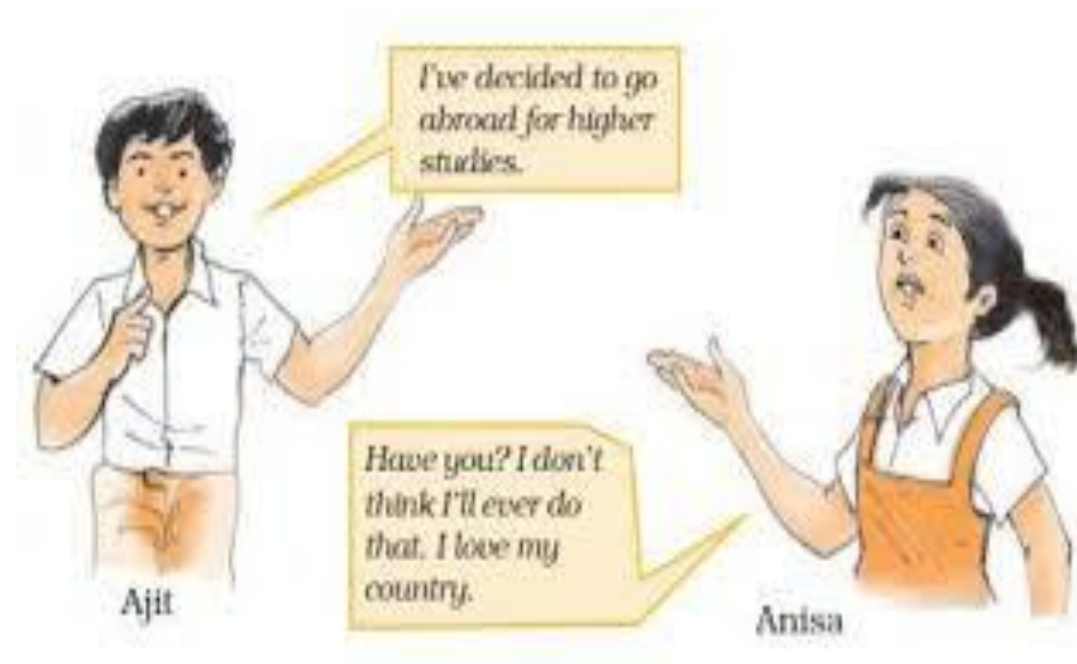
**Ans.** When everyone is likely to have a cat for a pet, only then will the rebel have a dog for a pet.

**4. Why is it good to have rebels?**

Ans. It is good to have rebels because very few people have the strength to stand against the majority. They think differently and stand fearlessly for their choices which can be beneficial.

### **5. Why is it not good to be a rebel oneself?**

Ans. It is not good for oneself to be a rebel because you have to stand alone all the time. It makes you unpopular among the people and you will have no friends.



## **CHAPTER-3**

### **Gopal and the Hilsa Fish**

#### **SUMMARY:-**

Hilsa is a popular fish, found in rivers of India. It's mostly sold during monsoon season. In the story, the season is probably of monsoon. In the kingdom, everyone seems talking about the Hilsa fish.

Fishermen catching no other fish in particular, but only focusing on Hilsa fish. Even in the market, fish merchants selling Hilsa in great gusto. They are offering even discounts and other hacks to lure customers. The height of popularity reaches inside the king's palace, even the ministers and courtiers found gossiping and discussing Hilsa fish. It is like, Hilsa fish seems to be an important topic over other state affairs.

So much stupidity all around. This angers the king. He wants that to be stopped. The king is shocked to find Gopal talking about the fish. Gopal is a courtier in the court. The king challenges Gopal to bring Hilsa fish in the palace without getting hyped about it. Gopal accepts the challenge.

A few days later, Gopal gets half-shaven and smears ash on his face and takes on torn and dirty clothes. Now, he looks like a filthy beggar. His wife opposes him, but he listens nothing.

From the market, he buys a Hilsa fish, and walks towards the palace. No one is interested in the fish carried by him. At the palace gates, he is stopped by the guards. They think he is some beggar. He insists on meeting the king. Upon causing some commotion, the king allows the man to come in.

In the palace, the king recognizes him. From his journey to fish-market to the palace, no one bothers to see what he is carrying. No one gives attention when a person looks like a rag picker or beggar. Thus, in a very cunning way, Gopal accomplishes the challenge. He wins the heart of the king.

### **New Words:-**

- |              |                   |              |
|--------------|-------------------|--------------|
| 1. Down      | 2. House holder's | 3. Down cast |
| 4. Challenge | 5. Interested     | 6. Rags      |
| 7. Later     | 8. Mystic         | 9. Crazy     |

### **Word-Meanings:-**

- 1) Ridiculous- humorous
- 2) Crazy- fanciful
- 3) At once- instantly
- 4) Seems- appears
- 5) Congratulations- good wishes
- 6) Comical- ludicrous
- 7) Hush- silence
- 8) Disgraceful- shameful
- 9) Later- afterwards

### **ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:-**

#### **1. Why did the king want no more talk about the hilsa-fish?**

**Ans:** It was the season of Hilsa fish as everyone was busy talking about it. The king was fed of the talks about Hilsa-fish. More-over, he did not want his courtiers to waste their time on these talks which could affect their work.

#### **2. What did the king ask Gopal to do to prove that he was clever?**

**Ans:** Time and again King used to test Gopal. So this time he asked Gopal to buy a hilsa-fish and bring it to the palace crossing the bazaar, without anyone asking anything about the fish throughout the way, to prove that he was clever.

#### **3. What three things did Gopal do before he went to buy his hilsa-fish?**

**Ans:** Gopal half-shaved his beard, smeared himself with ash, and wore disgraceful rags before he went to buy his hilsa-fish.

#### **4. How did Gopal get inside the palace to see the king after he had bought the fish?**

**Ans:** Gopal bought hilsa from the market and reached the king's palace in such getup. The guards refuse to open the gate for a mad man as they were unable to recognize him, they did not allow him to meet the king. Therefore, he began to dance and sing loudly. On hearing his loud song, the king sent his messenger to call him in the court.

#### **5. Explain why no one seemed to be interested in talking about the hilsa-fish which Gopal had bought.**

**Ans:** Gopal funny appearance attracted the attention of people much more than the hilsa-fish. At

that time, no one was caring about the hilsa-fish he was carrying. Everyone was busy in talking about his mad appearance, half shaved face and rags.

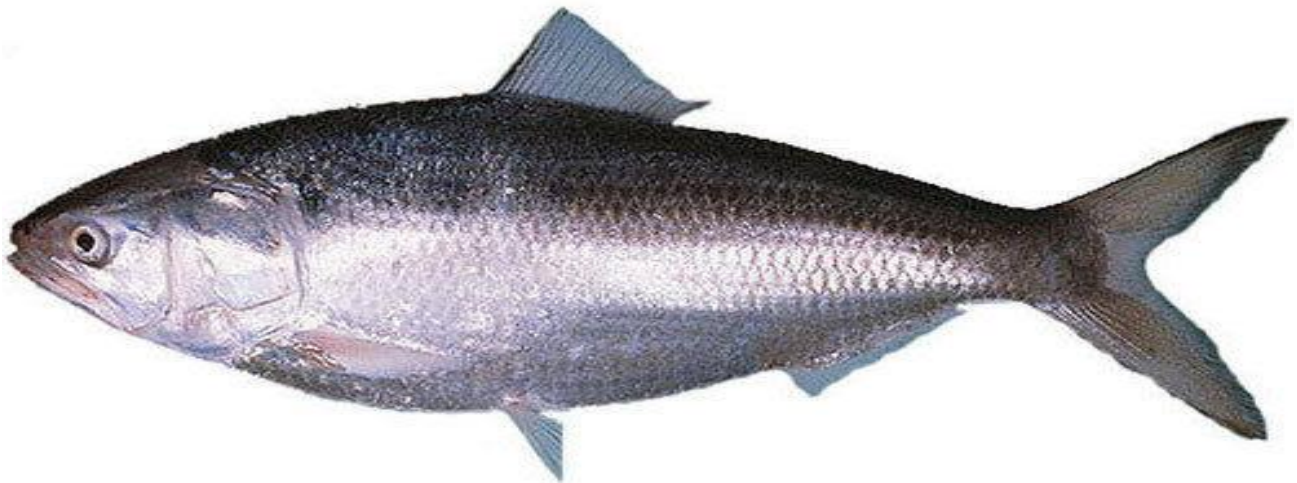
### **LONG ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS:-**

1. Who was Gopal? How did the gate keeper finally let Gopal meet the king?

Ans. Gopal was clever fellow. He was dressed like a mad man. Therefore, the gatekeeper did not allow him to meet the king. He started making noise. He also began to dance and sing loudly. The people on the gate got angry. They called him insane. Some people wanted him to be thrown out. The king heard those voices. He ordered the servants to bring him in immediately. The gatekeeper was compelled to obey the king. He let Gopal meet the king.

### **Activity:-**

Draw a Hilsa fish.



## **The Shed (POEM)**

### **Summary:-**

A shed is a small room, away from the main house, for storing or keeping things, animals, tools, vehicles, etc. Here in this poem we get the description of shed at the bottom of the garden with a spider's web hanging across the door. The poet could listen the creaking sounds of the rusty hinges. He has a desire i.e. to open the door one day.

The poet talks about a dusty old window around at the side with three cracked panes of glass and he feels that there's someone staring at him each time that he passes by. One day he desires to peep through the window.

### **New Words:-**

- |           |          |            |          |
|-----------|----------|------------|----------|
| 1) Hinges | 2) Rusty | 3) Cracked | 4) Panes |
| 5) Chop   | 6) Peek  | 7) Rotten  | 8) Ghost |

### **Word-Meanings:-**

1. Bottom- lower part
2. Rusty- old and having rust
3. Chop off- cut
4. Peek- look in
5. Cracked- broken
6. Dusty- covered with dust
7. Staring- looking hard

### **ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:-**

#### **1. Who is the speaker in the poem?**

Ans. The speaker of the poem is a small kid.

#### **2. Is she/he afraid or curious, or both?**

Ans. He/She was both curious and afraid. The creaking noise of hinges at night and the feeling of someone staring at him/her make the child feel afraid. While the thought that the shed was his/her brother's den makes him/her curious.

#### **3. What is she/he planning to do soon?**

Ans. She/he is planning to go inside the shed soon.

LONG ANSWERS:-

1. What did the poet's brother say in order to keep him away from the shed?

Ans. The brother of the poet made an assay to keep him away from the shed. The poet's brother tried to frighten him saying that there is a ghost in the shed who is hiding under the rotten floorboards. If he dared set foot inside, ghost would jump out and chop off his head. He wanted to terrorize the narrator so that he would not dream of going in.

**Activity:**

Draw picture of "The Shed".

