

his friends
 talk fast and
 Transformed—changed, खलना
 Bounds—jumps, छलांग
 Leap—jump, छलांग
 Sailed—ran fast, तेजी से गया
 Startled—amazed,
 अचानक डरना
 Swarmed—climbed, चढ़ गया
 Learned out—bent her head out, फिर बाहर निकलना
 Defend—protect, बचावा
 Victorious—victory, जीत, विजय

NCERT TEXTBOOK QUESTIONS SOLVED

Read and Find out (Page 1)

Q1. Why is Mrs Pumphrey worried about Tricki?

Ans. Mrs Pumphrey, the mistress of Tricki, is really worried about her dog. He has grown quite fat and listless. He has lost his appetite. He often vomits and lies down motionless on the carpet. His eyes have become blood-red and rheumy. Naturally, Tricki's condition is a cause of deep concern for Mrs Pumphrey.

Q2. What does she do to help him? Is she wise in this?

Ans. Being the mistress of Tricki, Mrs Pumphrey is naturally worried about the condition of the dog. She at once calls Dr Herriot telling him that Tricki has lost his appetite and is constantly vomiting. Though she goes on overfeeding the dog, her action is quite natural and expected. After all, Dr Herriot is a famous veterinary surgeon and the dog is in his safe hands.

Q3. Who does 'I' refer to in this story?

Ans. 'I' refers to Dr James Herriot, a famous veterinary surgeon.

Read and Find out (Page 3)

Q1. No, Is the narrator as rich as Tricki's mistress?

Ans. No, the famous surgeon doesn't seem to be as rich as Tricki's mistress.

Q2. How does he treat the dog?

Ans. Dr Herriot realises that the only fault of Tricki is his greed for food. He simply can't refuse any food. Dr Herriot keeps the dog under his own observation. He doesn't give him any medicine. For two days, he gives no food to him except plenty of water. After three days, Tricki starts developing signs of recovery.

Within a fortnight, the dog is completely cured and handed over to his mistress.

Q3. Why is he tempted to keep Tricki on as a permanent guest?

Ans. Dr James Herriot is tempted to keep Tricki on as a permanent guest. Mrs Pumphrey, the mistress of Tricki, is quite a rich and resourceful woman. The days he spends in treating Tricki, are days of deep content. She sends all delicacies and drinks for breakfast. Fresh eggs, wine and brandy are served quite liberally. Naturally, it is a temptation to keep Tricki as a permanent guest.

Q4. Why does Mrs Pumphrey think the dog's recovery is "A triumph of Surgery"?

Ans. Tricki is in a miserable condition. He has become hugely fat, loses his appetite, vomits quite often and lays motionless panting on the carpet. Saving such a dog is nothing less than a miracle for the mistress of Tricki. Naturally, she gratefully thanks the doctor and calls his feat "A triumph of Surgery!"

Think About It (Page 6)

Q 1. What kind of a person do you think the narrator, a veterinary surgeon, is? Would you say he is tactful as well as full of common sense?

Ans. Dr James Herriot is a famous veterinary surgeon. He is very sensible, practical but genuinely concerned about Tricki. He is really worried at his miserable condition. He is tactful as well as full of common sense. He doesn't give him any medical treatment. He knows that the only fault of Tricki is his greed for food. So, he gives him no food but plenty of water. And, his tactfulness and common sense help in curing the dog.

Q2. Do you think Tricki was happy to go home? What do you think will happen now?

Ans. Tricki was completely cured. He was now a totally transformed animal. He was flexible and hard-muscled. Naturally, he was happy to go home. The moment he saw his mistress, Mrs Pumphrey, he took a tremendous leap and sailed into her lap. Now, he would run around the garden joining the friendly barkings of his fellow dogs.

Q3. Do you think this is a real life episode, or mere fiction? Or is it a mixture of both?

Ans. The story 'A Triumph of Surgery' seems to be a real-life episode. It doesn't look like merely a fictional episode. There are such rich ladies like Mrs Pumphrey, who are so much devoted to their pet dogs. They pamper their pet dogs by overfeeding them and not giving them the necessary exercise. However, pampering Tricki with fresh eggs, wine and brandy seems rather a little exaggerated and even silly.

Talk About it (Page 7)

Q1. This episode describes the silly behaviour of a rich woman who is foolishly indulgent, perhaps because she is lonely. Do you think such people are merely silly, or can their actions cause harm to others?

Ans. Mrs Pumphrey seems to be a lonely woman. It is quite natural that she should keep a pet dog. She treats Tricki as a mother treats her child. But her overindulgence looks silly and exaggerated. Her silly overindulgence hurts the dog. His greed for food and Mrs Pumphrey's liberal supplies of delicacies,

make him hugely fat. He loses appetite and vomits quite often.

Q2. Do you think there are also parents like Mrs Pumphrey?

Ans. Yes, there are parents like Mrs Pumphrey. There is no dearth of indulgent parents who pamper their children. Their silly and overindulgent behaviour spoils their children in the same way as Mrs Pumphrey pampers Tricki. This indulgence and pampering only makes children obese and dullards.

Q3. What would you have done if you were: (i) a member of the staff in Mrs Pumphrey's household, (ii) a neighbour? What would your life have been like, in general?

Ans. (i) If I had been a member of the staff in Mrs Pumphrey's household, I would have suggested her the same things as were done by Dr Herriot. I would have suggested her cutting down Tricki's diet and give him some exercise.

(ii) Being a neighbour of such an overindulgent and silly woman would not have been very easy and comfortable. Perhaps, she and her pampered dogs would have been a nuisance.

Q4. What would you have done if you were in the narrator's place?

Ans. If I had been in the narrator's place, I would have behaved in the same way as he had done. I would have realised soon that Tricki's main fault had been his greed for food. Not giving him any solid food for a few days and giving him plenty of exercise would have brought him in proper shape. I would have thus transformed him into a flexible and hard-muscled dog.

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS SOLVED

SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS

Q1. Why was Dr Herriot really worried about Tricki?

Ans. When Dr Herriot saw Tricki with his mistress, he was really worried. He was shocked at his appearance. The dog

had become hugely fat. His eyes were bloodshot and rheumy. His tongue lolled from his jaws. Naturally, the miserable condition of the dog made him really worried.

Q2. What special diet did Mrs Pumphrey give to build Tricki up?

Ans. Mrs Pumphrey found that Tricki had become listless. He seemed to have no energy. She thought he must be suffering from malnutrition. She decided to give some little special diet between meals to build him up. She gave him some malt, cod-liver oil and a bowl of Horlicks at night. She couldn't refuse cakes and chocolates to Tricki even after being advised to cut down on the sweet things.

Q3. What was the only fault of Tricki as diagnosed by Dr Herriot?

Ans. Dr Herriot knew that overindulgence and pampering of Tricki's mistress, Mrs Pumphrey created problems for him. The only fault of Tricki was his greed for food. He had never known to refuse food. Overfeeding and not giving him proper exercise made him hugely fat and dull.

Q4. Why did Dr Herriot try to sound severe when he gave strict instructions to Mrs Pumphrey about Tricki?

Ans. Dr Herriot knew the real cause of Tricki's problems. He found that the only fault of Tricki was his greed for food. So, he gave strict instructions to Tricki's mistress, Mrs Pumphrey. He asked her to cut his food right down. He also recommended giving him more exercise, and keeping him on a very strict diet.

Q5. What plans did Dr Herriot make to get Tricki out of the house?

Ans. Dr James Herriot realised that as long as Tricki was with Mrs Pumphrey, he would be miserable. He suggested her that Tricki must be hospitalised for a fortnight. He would be under his observation. The lady almost fainted on hearing this, but Dr Herriot took a firm line. He insisted that the dog was ill and it was the only way of saving him.

Q6. How did Mrs Pumphrey react when she heard from the doctor that Tricki needed to be hospitalised for a fortnight?

Ans. When Dr Herriot informed Mrs Pumphrey that Tricki was to be kept

under his Supervision, Mrs Pumphrey almost fainted on hearing this. It was extremely difficult for her to be away from her pampered pet for a fortnight. She agreed only after Dr Herriot told her that that was the only way of saving Tricki.

Q7. How was Tricki treated at the surgery?

Ans. Dr Herriot gave no medical treatment to Tricki. He realised that the only problem of Tricki was his greed for food. For two days, he kept an eye on him. He gave him no food but plenty of water. He made up a bed for him in a warm loose box next to where other dogs slept.

Q8. Describe the gradual progress of Tricki at the surgery.

Ans. Tricki's main problem was his greed for food. For two days, Dr Herriot gave no food but plenty of water to the dog. On the first day, Tricki lay motionless on the carpet. On the second day, he started showing some interest in his surroundings. On the third day, he began to whimper when he heard the dogs in the yard. From then on, his progress was rapid. He started for his share of food and hunting rats at night.

Q9. How did the word 'convalescing' affect Tricki's mistress, Mrs Pumphrey?

Ans. The moment Mrs Pumphrey heard that Tricki was out of danger and convalescing, she was excited. She started bringing fresh eggs, two dozen at a time, to build up his strength. Wine and brandy were given to enrich Tricki's blood. For a few nights, brandy was rolled around, inhaled and reverently drunk.

Q10. Why was Dr Herriot tempted to keep Tricki on as a permanent guest?

Ans. Tricki was a pampered dog and his mistress, Mrs Pumphrey was an overindulgent lady. For a happy period, Dr Herriot and his partner had two eggs each for breakfast. Then there was a liberal inflow of wine and brandy. They were days of deep content for him. He was naturally tempted to keep Tricki on as a permanent guest.

Q11. What excuses did Mrs Pumphrey give for not following Dr Herriot's advice? What was the effect of the ignorance?

Ans. Dr Herriot knew that the only fault of Tricki was his greed for food. Mrs Pumphrey was an indulgent mistress and pampered Tricki with malt, cod-liver oil and bowls of Horlicks. Dr Herriot had advised her to cut down on sweets and give him some exercise. Tricki was to be kept on a very strict diet. Mrs Pumphrey told the doctor that it was very difficult. The result of ignoring the doctor's advice was disastrous. Tricki lost his appetite and lay motionless on the carpet. He vomited again and again.

Q12. Why did Tricki become an uninteresting object for other dogs at the surgery?

Ans. Tricki was to be hospitalised for a fortnight. The pathetic little dog was gasping for breath. At the surgery, the household dogs surged around Dr Herriot. Tricki looked down at the noisy dogs with dull eyes helplessly. He lay motionless on the carpet. The other dogs circled around him sniffing for a few seconds. They decided that Tricki was an uninteresting object for them. Therefore, they ignored him.

Q13. How did Mrs Pumphrey and her servants behave when Tricki was being taken away to surgery?

Ans. Dr Herriot had advised that Tricki must be hospitalised under his observation for a fortnight. When the dog was being sent away to the surgery, the whole staff was roused. The maids rushed in and out. They were busy in bringing Tricki's day-bed, night-bed, cushions, toys, breakfast bowl, lunch bowl, etc. When he was departing, everybody was in tears. The overindulgent mistress, Mrs Pumphrey gave a cry in desperation.

Q14. How was Tricki accepted as a member of the gang and the other dogs started enjoying his company?

Ans. Tricki was out of danger. He started taking interest in his surroundings. On the third day, Joe, the greyhound and other dogs surrounded him. They rolled him

over and inspected him. Tricki followed them to the garden. He was running and rolling down in their company. Now he was accepted as a member of the gang.

Q15. Do you think that Dr Herriot was a sensible, practical and clever person? How?

Ans. Yes, Dr Herriot was a pragmatic person. He was sensible enough to recognise Tricki's greed for food. He was highly practical. He knew that it was difficult for Mrs Pumphrey to part with the dog. So, he advised her that Tricki must be hospitalised under his supervision for a fortnight. It was necessary to save him. He was a clever person and was tempted to keep Tricki on as a permanent guest. Actually, he was enjoying best of both the worlds.

Q16. Wasn't Mrs Pumphrey an overindulgent but silly and impractical mistress?

Ans. Yes, Mrs Pumphrey was fabulously rich. She could afford to be overindulgent towards her favourite pet dog, Tricki. The dog was pampered like a spoiled child. She was silly enough to provide cushions, toys, day-bed, night-bed, unnecessary items like, malt, cod-liver oil, Horlicks, wine and brandy which are not available even to human beings. Her impractical nature led to overfeeding of Tricki. He grew hugely fat, listless and dull.

LONG ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS

Q1. Mrs Pumphrey, the overindulgent and caring mistress of Tricki, pampers her pet dog like a spoiled child. Comment. Or Give a brief character-sketch of Mrs Pumphrey.

Ans. Mrs Pumphrey was a fabulous rich and resourceful lady with a large number of servants and maids. She was passionately attached to her little pet dog, Tricki. She was much worried about Tricki's miserable condition. Tricki had become hugely fat and listless. She thought he was suffering from malnutrition. So, she started giving Tricki malt, cod-liver oil and a bowl of Horlicks at night.

Being overindulgent, Mrs Pumphrey even ignored Dr Herriot's advice. The doctor knew that Tricki's only fault was his greed for food. He had advised Mrs Pumphrey to cut down food and sweets for Tricki. He also advised her to give him plenty of exercise. The dog was to be kept on a very strict diet. For Mrs Pumphrey, it was very difficult for her because she pampered Tricki like a spoiled child. This only compounded Tricki's misery. His condition worsened. He lost appetite and started vomiting.

Mrs Pumphrey was impractical but very compassionate and caring. She and her staff arranged all comforts, beds, cushions and toys for Tricki. She constantly enquired about his health from Dr Herriot. She gratefully thanked Dr Herriot for saving Tricki's life and called it "a triumph of surgery". Had she been a little more practical and disciplined, things might have not gone that far.

Q2. Give a character sketch of Tricki.

Or Tricki was more than a dog. He was more like a spoiled child of overindulgent mistress, Mrs Pumphrey. Comment.

Ans. Tricki was definitely more than a dog. Actually, he was like a pampered child of Mrs Pumphrey. Tricki was a small dog. The only fault of Tricki was his greed for food. Overfeeding and overdose of sweets, cakes and chocolates made Tricki hugely fat. He became rheumy and listless. His tongue lolled from his jaws. The doctor advised Mrs Pumphrey to keep Tricki on a very strict diet and give him plenty of exercise. Tricki became a victim of overindulgence and overfeeding. Dr Herriot's instructions were ignored. Tricki lost appetite and started vomiting. Dr Herriot suggested Mrs Pumphrey that Tricki be hospitalised under his observation for a fortnight. Tricki was so much attached to her that she almost fainted merely at the thought of his separation. Tricki was highly pampered. The entire staff and

maids were ever-ready to pamper him with beds, cushions, toys, etc.

Tricki's recovery was amazingly rapid. He was not given food but a plenty of water. After a few days, Tricki started taking interest in his surroundings. He was transformed into a flexible and hard-muscled dog. Tricki showed his love for his mistress by jumping onto her lap when she came to collect him.

Q3. Dr James Herriot was a competent veterinary surgeon. His practical approach and common sense helped in the rapid recovery of Tricki. Comment.

Or Give a character sketch of Dr James Herriot.

Ans. Dr James Herriot, no doubt, was a competent veterinary surgeon. He was really worried about Tricki. He understood that the real fault of the dog was his greed for food. He never refused food. The dog had become hugely fat and listless. Dr Herriot instructed Mrs Pumphrey to keep Tricki on a very strict diet. He also asked her to give him a lot of exercise. Dr Herriot also suggested to cut down sweets to him. He advised her that Tricki must be hospitalised for a fortnight under his observation.

Dr James Herriot was practical and pragmatic. He didn't give any medical treatment to the dog. The dog was not given food any but lots of water. His method worked. Tricki's recovery was surprisingly rapid. Tricki was transformed into a flexible and hard-muscled dog. He was not only out of danger but was soon handed over to his mistress. The grateful mistress thanked Dr Herriot and called his feat "a triumph of surgery!"

Dr James was clever enough to enjoy best of both the worlds. He was tempted to keep Tricki on as a permanent guest. It was a happy period for Dr Herriot and his friends. He enjoyed eggs for breakfast, and wine and brandy for lunch.

Q4. Why did Mrs Pumphrey, the mistress of Tricki, make a frantic call to the noted veterinary surgeon, Dr James

Herriot? How did Dr James Herriot succeed in curing Tricki?

Ans. Mrs Pumphrey, the mistress of Tricki was an overindulgent lady. She pampered and even spoiled her pet dog. Dr Herriot instructed her to keep Tricki on a very strict diet and give him a lot of exercise. She ignored him. It was very difficult for her to deny Tricki sweets, cakes and chocolates. She gave a frantic call to Dr James Herriot only when Tricki's condition worsened. Tricki lost his appetite and started vomiting. Dr Herriot advised that the dog be hospitalised under his observation for a fortnight. It was difficult for Mrs Pumphrey to accept it but she accepted it only to save Tricki's life.

Dr James Herriot knew that Tricki's only fault was his greed for food. He didn't give him a medical treatment. He didn't give Tricki food but a lot of water for a few days. His method worked. Within a few days, Tricki was out of danger. His recovery was rather rapid. He started taking interest in his surroundings. His appetite came back, and he ran along with the other dogs in the garden. Dr Herriot informed Mrs Pumphrey that Tricki was completely cured and she could collect him. The grateful mistress thanked the doctor and called his feat 'a triumph of surgery!'

Q5. Why did Dr James Herriot say that he was tempted to keep Tricki on as a permanent guest? Give a reasoned answer.

Ans. Dr James Herriot was not only a competent veterinary surgeon but also a clever man of the world. No doubt, Tricki was in a highly miserable state when he was brought to Dr Herriot's surgery. The doctor gave no medical treatment to the dog. He didn't give food but a plenty of water for a few days. Tricki's recovery was rather rapid. Soon, he was transformed into a flexible and hard-muscled dog. The grateful mistress obliged Dr Herriot and his friends. His partners and he himself had two eggs each for breakfast. Lunch became

a ceremonial occasion. The grateful and fabulously rich mistress of Tricki, treated him warmly with liberal servings of wine and brandy.

Dr James Herriot was enjoying the best of both the worlds. He had no hesitation in accepting Mrs Pumphrey's tempting services. Naturally, it was a temptation for him to keep Tricki on as a permanent guest. Those were days of deep content. Fresh eggs in the morning, wine at noon and finishing luxuriously around the fire with brandy. Who wouldn't like such a pleasant situation? After all, Dr Herriot was a clever and worldly wise man.

Q6. Describe Tricki's stay at Dr James Herriot's surgery, highlighting his behaviour and his rapid recovery.

Ans. Dr Herriot found out quite early what was the real problem with Tricki. He knew that Tricki's only weakness was his greed for food. He, therefore, wanted Mrs Pumphrey to keep Tricki on a strict diet and give him plenty of exercise. Dr Herriot instructed her that the dog be hospitalised under his observation for a fortnight. At the surgery, Tricki looked down at the noisy dogs with dull eyes. He lay motionless on the carpet. The other dogs ignored him as an uninteresting object. A bed was made in a warm loose box next to the other dogs. For two days, Dr Herriot kept an eye on him. He gave him no food but plenty of water. He gave no medical treatment to Tricki.

Dr Herriot's practical treatment worked. First, Tricki started taking an interest in his surroundings. His appetite returned. He started running along with the other dogs in the garden joining in their friendly barkings. Then, Tricki's stay at the surgery became quite enjoyable. His indulgent mistress gave him fresh eggs, wine and brandy. Even Dr Herriot was tempted to keep Tricki as a permanent guest. However, Tricki's recovery was quite rapid and he was handed over to his mistress. The grateful Mrs Pumphrey thanked Dr Herriot and called his feat "a triumph of surgery!"

Q7. The foolish indulgence and pampering of the rich mistress, Mrs Pumphrey was the real cause of Tricki's miserable condition. Give a reasoned answer.

Ans. Overindulgence and pampering beyond a limit becomes unproductive. Be it a pet or a child, discipline is very necessary. The fabulously rich and resourceful mistress was the main cause of Tricki's miserable condition. The entire staff and maids were there to look after the needs of Tricki. His day-bed, night-bed, cushions, toys, rubber rings, breakfast bowl, lunch bowl and supper bowl were always kept ready. Dr Herriot rightly found out that Tricki's only fault was his greed for food. Overfeeding of sweets, cakes and

chocolates made Tricki hugely fat and listless. Had Mrs Pumphrey followed Dr Herriot's instructions sincerely, things would not have worsened so far. The doctor advised her to put Tricki on a strict diet and give him a plenty of exercise. It was necessary to cut down his intake of sweets. But foolish indulgence of the mistress ignored his saner advice. The result was disastrous. Tricki lost his appetite and started vomiting. Only when Mrs Pumphrey was ready to send Tricki to Surgery to Dr Herriot's for a fortnight, things started improving. The doctor gave him no food but plenty of water for a few days. It worked and Tricki's recovery was rather fast.

SELF-ASSESSMENT

SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS

1. Why was Dr Herriot worried about Tricki?
2. What did Mrs Pumphrey think Tricki was suffering from, in the beginning?
3. What was Tricki's only fault? Was it responsible for his miserable condition?
4. What instructions did Dr Herriot give to Mrs Pumphrey regarding Tricki?
5. Did Mrs Pumphrey follow the doctor's instructions seriously? Why didn't she?
6. Why did Dr Herriot receive an unexpected call from Mrs Pumphrey?
7. What did the doctor suggest and why?
8. How were the entire staff and maids busy in serving Tricki at home?
9. Why did the other dogs leave Tricki as an uninteresting object and ignored him?
10. How did Tricki behave at the surgery during the first three days?
11. How did the word 'convalescing' excite Mrs Pumphrey to build up Tricki's strength?
12. Why was it a temptation to keep Tricki on as a permanent guest for Dr Herriot?
13. How did Tricki behave when he saw his mistress who had come to collect him?
14. Why did Mrs Pumphrey call Dr Herriot's work "a triumph of surgery"?

LONG ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS

1. Give a character sketch of Mrs Pumphrey highlighting her foolish indulgence for her pet dog, Tricki.
2. Give a character sketch of Dr James Herriot highlighting his common sense, practical nature and competence as a veterinary surgeon.