



মণিপুরৰ শাসনৰত্ন (সংস্কৃত)
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (S)
Government of Manipur

CLASS X
ENGLISH LITERATURE READER
POETRY : CHAPTER 6
THE FROG AND THE NIGHTINGALE
(VIKRAM SETH)

SOLUTIONS

TEXTBOOK EXERCISES

A. Based on your understanding of the poem tick the correct answer:

- a) *The frog's intention was to*
- make the nightingale famous.
 - show that he was a superior singer.
 - make a fool of the nightingale.
 - exploit the nightingale to make money.

Ans: iv) exploit the nightingale to make money

- b) *The animals in the bog*
- did not like the nightingale's song.
 - were indifferent to the nightingale's song
 - admired and loved the nightingale's song.
 - were curious about the nightingale's song.

Ans: iii) admired and loved the nightingale's song

- c) *The Nightingale*
- was aware of her own talent.
 - knew she needed the frog's help.
 - lacked self-confidence.
 - was over-confident.

Ans: iii) lacked self-confidence.

- d) *Towards the end the nightingale no longer enjoyed her own singing because*
- the frog did not praise her anymore.
 - she was tired.
 - she had earned enough money.
 - she was used to appreciation and praise.

Ans: ii) she was tired.



B. Answer the following questions in a sentence each:

- I. Did the animals in the bog enjoy the frog's croaking?**

Ans: No, they did not enjoy the frog's croaking.

- II. What did the solitary loon do after she had heard the nightingale's song?**

Ans: The solitary loon wept after she had heard the nightingale's song.

- III. How did the nightingale feel when the frog praised her after her first song in the bog?**

Ans: The Nightingale felt greatly flattered and impressed.

- IV. The frog offered to train the nightingale. Why did he do so?**

Ans: The frog was jealous of the nightingale and hatched a plot to get rid of her. That is why he did so.

- V. "Though next morning it was raining"**

Did the frog give the nightingale rest because it was raining?

Ans: No, he did not give her rest instead, he made her rehearse continuously in the rain.

- VI. Why did the frog advise the nightingale to add some trills to her song?**

Ans: The frog advised the nightingale to add some trills in her song because it would make the audience happy.

- VII. What happened to the nightingale at the end?**

Ans: At the end the nightingale burst her vein and died.



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V. How did the nightingale feel flattered and impressed?

Ans: The nightingale felt flattered and impressed by the opinion given in her song by a great critic who was Mozart in disguise. She was greatly impressed in hearing that she had a sweet and melodious voice.

VI. How did the frog manipulate the nightingale to bring the nightingale under his control?

Ans: The sly and wily frog easily manipulated the innocent nightingale by criticizing her song. He said that without meticulous training, she would remain as a mere beginner. So, he asked the nightingale to take training under him to become a star a winner.

**VII.“This is a fairy-tale
And you are Mozart in disguise
Come to earth before my eyes.”**

Explain why nightingale said so.

Ans: The gullible nightingale said that her first meeting with the frog was a fairy tale. She felt greatly flattered and blessed that a great music composer with the calibre of Mozart was ready to train her. She also felt that under his guidance, she will be a star.

VIII. How did the frog commercially exploit the nightingale?

Ans: The money minded frog was charged an entrance fee for the nightingale's concert, so he was busy selling tickets to each one of them and collecting money from them. He charged a hefty amount from them and kept all the money as his fee to train the nightingale. He also told that she still owed him sixty shillings for training her.

**IX. The frog did not allow the nightingale to rest even in rain.
What does it tell about his character?**

Ans: The frog was full of hatred and jealousy for the nightingale and was determined to destroy her. He humiliated and exploited the nightingale. He made her sing in harsh weather for long hours and kept all the money gathered from the concerts with him only. He did not give her any rest even when she was sick. It was obvious that how unsympathetic and stone hearted he was.



- X. “Every day the frog who’d sold her
Songs for silver tried to scold her:”
How did the frog scold her?**

Ans: The frog, who had once accumulated wealth through the nightingale’s singing talent scolded her continuously. He asked her to practice even more till her voice become forceful like him. He also added that she had made mistake in the previous night’s concert. He always reminded her that she had some dues still to pay to him.

- XI. Why did the birds and beasts grow tired?**

Ans: The nightingale lost her appeal for the masses because her song lacked spontaneity and originality. Moreover, her songs became stale, old and mechanical listening to her song gave no more joy and grew tired to the creatures of the bog.

- XII. Why was the frog who’d sold her angry?**

Ans: The stony hearted frog was angry because the nightingale’s song no longer drew the huge audience because her song had become monotonous and there was no freshness in them. As a result, the income from the nightingale’s concerts had fallen sharply.

- XIII. How did the nightingale die?**

Ans: The nightingale died because of excessive singing and humiliation. She practised hard in the rain. Her voice grew hoarse and lost its beauty. The animals stopped coming to hear her song. She grew sad and depressed because of constant scolding by the heartless frog.

Finally, one day, the frog forced her to practice in her ill state. By doing so, she burst a vein and died.