

LESSON- 5 BITTER GOOSEBERRIES

SOLUTIONS:

COMPREHENSION

1. Answer the following questions:

i) Where does the snake live?

Ans: The snake lives in a gooseberry bush.

ii) What change came to the snake every night?

Ans: Every night he turned into a handsome prince.

iii) Who lived in a little bamboo house?

Ans: A woman lived in a little bamboo house.

iv) How many daughters did the woman have?

Ans: The woman had three daughters.

v) Give the names of the daughters.

Ans: They are Ma Gyi, Ma Lat and Ma Nge.

vi) Why did the woman go to the forest?

Ans: The woman went out to fetch gooseberries from the forest.

vii) Whom did the snake prince marry out of the three daughters?

Ans: The snake prince married Ma Nge, the youngest of the three daughters.

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viii) Why does the snake completely forget to turn back into a snake?

Ans: Ma Nge found it irritating being married to a prince who was her husband by night and a snake by day. So, she managed to break the spell by searching a job for him. But it was the first time in his life that the prince had been expected to do any work, and he was so shaken that he completely forgot to turn back into a snake.

ix) Why did the snake swallow his wife?

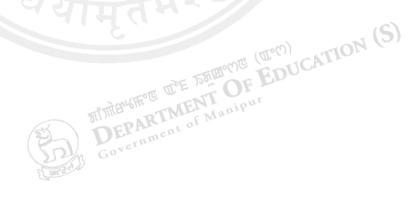
Ans: The prince stuck to his job, and worked so hard that sometimes his wife felt quite lonely. He came home late and went straight to bed after dinner. So, she began to scold him and complain of his indifference. One morning he became so disgusted with her constant nagging that he found he could remember the magic spell and immediately turned himself into a snake. The snake then started to swallow his wife.

x) What are the remarkable qualities of a woman?

Ans: Women are remarkable for their business capacity. They are always wanting something; it's a part of their business philosophy. Women all over the world from Burma to Bermuda and beyondare never satisfied with only one of anything. They are also sometimes very pretentious.

xi) Write the moral of the story.

Ans: The moral of the story is, no matter how remarkable a woman's business capacities are, in thelong run, she is no match for a man.



VOCABULARY

2. Give the antonyms of the following words:

Absent - present

Arrive - leave/depart

Full - empty

Hope - despair

Knowledge - ignorance

Long - short

Modern - ancient

Noble - humble

Rich - poor

Success - failure

Smile - frown

True - false

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