

DON BOSCO SCHOOL, RANCHI

CLASS : 7

SUBJECT: ENGLISH II

BOOK : New Aster Advanced Textbook

CHAPTER-1 Attila (by R K Narayan)

Word meanings

Formidable= causing fear/powerful

Break-ins = an illegal forced entry

Prepossessing= charming

Prolonged= continued for a long time

Mongrel= a dog of no definable type or breed

Disconcerting= causing one to feel unsettled

Zeal= energy

Delving = trying hard to find out more information about something

Mendicants= beggars

Misery= feeling of discomfort

Dawn= first light in the sky before sunrise

Prowl= move about restlessly in search of prey

Alarmed= feel frightened

Burglar= robber/thief

Cynicism= distrust

Implored= beg someone earnestly

Facetiousness= not being serious about a subject

Trotting= running

Desert= abandon

Lamentation= an expression of great sadness

Pedestal= the base that a statue rests on

COMPREHENSION (pg. no-7)

A. Answer these questions

1. What kind of a dog did the speaker's family want?

Speaker's family wanted a strong and formidable dog that could cause fear and protect the family from break-ins and theft-in.

2. At the beginning of the narrative, was Attila able to measure up to their expectations? Give reasons for your answer.

At the beginning Attila could not live up to their expectations. He developed a love for humanity. Whoever comes to the house Attila would show love by being friendly which was sometimes disconcerting.

3. Why were the family members satisfied with the name Attila?

The family was satisfied with the name because it was a unique name for the pet and it was the name of the leader of a tribal empire of Huns who was a successful invader.

4. Why did the family research about the 'Scourge of Europe'?

Family did the research on 'Scourge of Europe' because they wanted to know his history as their pet was not behaving like other dogs. He rather behaved very friendly. They found that Attila the ruler also clung to his friends and parents when he was a child.

5. How did Attila respond to the entry of strangers?

Whenever any stranger entered the house was warmly received by Attila. The moment the gate clicked he became alert and moved forward blindly. But the stranger just had to wait and smile and he would melt. After that through his gestures he would try to show as if he was asking for apology for giving an impression of violence.

6. What issues did the speaker's mother have with the dog?

Speaker's mother did not like the gradual change developed in Attila's attitude. As he did not react when he heard the sound of the gate clicked. He did not even give a look in that direction and wagged his tail. He was not behaving like a watchdog.

7. How did Attila react when Ranga entered the premises?

When Ranga entered the house Attila did not even barked at him. He put his ears back, licked Ranga's hand and rolled his eyes. And when Ranga whispered that he hopes that he is not going to bark, he tried to say that he is not that sort of dog.

8. How did Attila prove to be a hero?

The youngest son saw Attila running behind someone on the road. He shouted at Attila this made Ranga to run. Attila always suspected that his ne friend would abandon him, so he ran behind Ranga. Attila chased Ranga so fast that Ranga stumbled over him and fell. As the thief fell a piece of jewellery flew from his hand. The jewellery was recognised by the man and police came to the spot. This is how Attila proved to be a hero to the family.

B. Answer these following questions with reference to the context.

1. He gave no hope that he would do credit to his name.

a) Who is 'he' in this sentence?

These lines are taken from the story "Attila" written by R K Narayan. 'he' refers to Attila, pet of the family.

b) What is the significance of his name?

Attila is the name of the strong and powerful ruler of the Huns.

c) How do you know that he would do no credit to the name?

Attila did not show any characteristics as his name. He behaved in a friendly way with the strangers and later did not bark to the strangers. All these were unlike the powerful invader Attila.

2. The people at home did not like this attitude very much. They thought it rather a shame.

a) Whose attitude is the speaker talking about?

These lines are taken from the story "Attila" written by R K Narayan. The speaker is talking about Attila's attitude.

b) What was wrong with the attitude?

Attila had gradually changed his behaviour and did not reacted when the gate clicked and not even gave a look in that direction.

c) What were their expectations?

Their expectation with Attila was to be a strong watchdog and cause a fear for the strangers and protect the house.

3. The young man was extremely irritated at this. He considered it to be the most 'uncharitable cynicism'.

a) Who was the young man?

These lines are taken from the story "Attila" written by R K Narayan. Young man over here is the youngest member of the family who always supported Attila.

b) Why was he irritated?

He was irritated because the mother was very angry with the dog and asked to lock him or else he would invite the burglar and show him the way and succeed him in robbing.

c) Explain the phrase 'uncharitable cynicism'.

'Uncharitable cynicism' means the unkind behaviour of distrust. The mother was very upset with the attitude of Attila that he was not behaving like a watchdog and one day will be responsible for the theft in the house. This irritated the youngest son and he considered this as the most uncharitable cynicism.

Word wonder (pg no-8)

A. Fill in the blank in these sentences using appropriate words from the box.

1. He took us for a sail up the river.
2. The boss said that he wanted to hire someone who is qualified.
3. The teacher asked them to stand in rows.
4. He tried to wring the clothes dry.
5. We chose to take the stairs instead of the elevator.
6. I turned as I heard a loud groan.
7. The captain led his team to victory.
8. Raina hit the brake in a hurry while driving on the highway.

B. Read these sentences and choose the correct meaning of the highlighted words.

1. While doing her calculations, she made a **minute** mistake.

a) 60 seconds b) small Answer- b)

2. The thief jumped into the **compound** with the help of a rope.

a) to mix or to combine b) an enclosed area Answer- b)

3. My mother asked the shopkeeper to give a decent **discount**.

a) a reduction in price b) to underestimate the significance of Answer- a)

4. She had to pay a **fine** for jumping the signal.

a) good b) a sum of money paid to settle a matter Answer- b)

5. The residents will object to the blaring music.

a) a thing b) say something to express one's opposition Answer-b)

Learn about language

(pg no- 11)

A. Complete the sentences with suitable modals. The functions in the brackets will help you.

1. I might participate in the street play. (weak possibility)

2. Can you pass on this bag to my sister? (polite request)

3. Do not worry. I will get a scholarship. (promise)

4. The school buses should not be driven rashly. (prohibition)

5. We must obey the laws of the land. (obligation)

6. Can I have a glass of water? (request)

7. I have to cook some food before the guests arrive. (necessity)

B. Fill in the blanks with suitable phrases from the box.

1. The boy in the blue T-shirt is my friend.

2. Eco-friendly cars running on solar energy help the environment.

3. The necklace of gold was bought by me.

4. The girl in the pink –coloured dress is my best friend.

5. The tree in my garden is blooming with cherry blossoms.

6. The paintings on the wall belongs to my uncle.

C. State whether the highlighted words are independent (I) or subordinate (S).

1. The professor **who lives next door to Anuj** is Mrs Verma.

Ans- (S)

2. **The goat will run away** if we leave the gate open.

Ans- (I)

3. This is the assignment **that you missed last week**.

Ans- (S)

4. Sandeep saw **what his friend did**, but he ignored it.

Ans-(S)

5. **The television was switched on** when Rakhi dozed off.

Ans-(I)

6. We started walking towards home **as the lights dimmed**.

Ans- (S)