

Possible discourses from *Adventures in a Banyan tree*

1 .Prepare a write up about the boy's attachment with Nature

The boy in this story stands for the innocent childhood enjoying the company of Nature. He is proud to say that the banyan tree is his own. He spends hours sitting on a platform on the tree ,reading his favourite books. Sometimes he would simply sit there and look down through the banyan leaves . He loves the company of little squirrel and succeeds in winning its confidence with his friendly approach. The boy is not afraid of the cobra and the mongoose .Instead he watches their fight and enjoys it. The boys describes things in Nature with love. He never tries to disturb the rhythm of Nature or interferes in it. He is a keen observer of the wonders of Nature.

2 The boy was very much thrilled by his acquaintance with the squirrel. He writes a letter to his friend telling him about his new friend. Help him complete the letter.

Ivy Cottage

Landour Cantt

Dehradun

28 April 1997

Dear Sravan,

Hope you are enjoying your vacation there. Here I am with my grandparents at the village. Oh what a wonderful experience! I have got many new friends. A tiny squirrel. He was at first very afraid to come near. But I didn't give up. With little pieces of biscuits and cake offered to him we slowly became friends. It is really amazing that he comes to my pockets and searches. May be the other squirrels do not like it. Still he enjoys my company.

I will miss him when I return. Still I wont take him with me and keep him in cage .Let him be free and enjoy life. After all he is also like me. Come to my village to see him next time. convey my regards to all. See you soon

Yours friendly

3 Write a paragraph about the threats Nature is facing nowadays

Life on earth is always bound up with Nature. Ever since man evolved he is using natural resources .But unknowingly he is digging his own grave by exploiting nature. Trees are cut off and our earth is being polluted for the sake of industrialisation. As a result drought and landslides occur everywhere.

Growth of tourism in hills disturbs the serenity and beauty. plastic pollution is another severe attack on nature. Burning of plastics not only affects the health of man but also leads to air pollution .Emission of carbon fuels increases global warming .Many species of animals and birds have lost their habitat. Increase of temperature causes the melting of ice in polar regions which in turn floods many countries. If this goes on earth will no longer be a place for existence .A wise decision must be taken to protect Nature

4 The boy is thrilled to see the fight between the mongoose and the cobra .What would be his thoughts?

Oh what a thrilling sight. I have never seen such a fight before. Both are intelligent fighters. The two opponents know each other's moves very well. I thought the mongoose shall also die..It was such a fatal attack. How cunningly the mongoose faced the cobra. If it had been struck by the cobra it could never have escaped .Poor crow..why did he come in between? I like the myna's wise decision to stay back. Pity that the crow died. Anyway grandfather will be happy to see the snake dead. He always says that it is good to keep mongoose in the garden. When I go to school my friends will be surprised to hear the story of the fight. An unforgettable experience.

5 Prepare a speech on the importance of conservation of Nature.

Respected teachers and my dear friends,

A warm good morning to all. It is my pleasure to stand here in front of you on this special day. I am not an expert in public speaking. Still I try to share my views about our Nature.

Can we imagine a life without Nature? Definitely not. We live, breathe, and die in Nature. It is like our mother who keeps us alive by giving her love and care. But it is a pity that we never return it. How mercilessly we destroy it. It is our home, not a place to visit. If Nature doesn't exist, we will be no more. Unscientific construction, plastic pollution and global warming all are increasing day by day. It is high time that we should unite to find a way to protect it.

We should never forget that what we enjoy now is not our own. We have inherited it from our ancestors and it is our duty to protect it for the future generation. Air, water, vegetation, forests all need to be kept and handed over to them. Wise use of natural resources and reducing the use of plastics can help us a lot in achieving our aim. It is a common plea.

Let us take a pledge to keep our life in harmony with Nature. We shall make it our heaven. Let me conclude my speech

Thank you

6' And amongst the wool were the three baby squirrels - all of them white! The boy couldn't stop wondering about the white squirrels. If he scribbled down this unforgettable sight in his diary, how would it be?

Oh really amazing! I just can not believe my eyes. That tiny little squirrels are so cute. But how is it possible? The squirrel whom I see every day is not white. I have seen it making a nest with grandmother's clothes in the banyan tree. Oh now I remember. Grandfather has a white rat and I have seen him near the squirrel's nest. Yes it may be the father of these little ones. Grand father says that rats and squirrels are related to each other and so it is quite possible for them to have offspring - in this case, white squirrels! Nature has many wonders in it. I feel so happy to see them.

7 Watching the nature around us is really interesting. Each and every living being has its own characteristics. The boy in the story narrates certain features of a few animals. List them out

(a) The Squirrel

It is a young squirrel who used to visit the banyan tree very often. It is a small grey one who at first kept a distance from the boy, thinking him as an invader. Then it slowly studied him. Later when it realized that the boy did not have catapult or airgun it became friendly. Only then it started to accept bits of cakes and biscuits from him. As he became more familiar it took freedom to search his pockets and found his favourites. It was showing his trust, though the other squirrels might not like it.

(b) The cobra

The cobra was very cunning, skilful, experienced fighter. It could move swiftly and stride with the speed of light. The cobra was very venomous indeed. During the fight with the mongoose it showed great fighting tactics by trying to sway the attention of the opponent. It fights till death courageously even though it understands the power of the mongoose. We see it as a real hero throughout the fight

8 The boy was thrilled at seeing the fight between the cobra and the mongoose. You may also have the same feeling. Narrate the fight scene in your own words.

The boy was sitting on the platform half way up the tree. Suddenly huge black cobra came out of a clump of cactus searching for some cooler part of the garden. At the same time a mongoose emerged from the bushes and went straight for the cobra. As the cobra raised its hood, the mongoose bushed his tail. It was a thrilling sight to see to champions face to face. The cobra was trying to deviate the attention of the opponent, but when the cobra struck the mongoose jumped to one side and bit it. One myna and the crow was watching it, and they hurled themselves at the cobra. But they collided with each other twice and returned to the cactus plant. When they came in between for the third time the crow could not escape from the attack of the cobra. Though the myna flew away the crow died.

As the mongoose saw the cobra weakening it raised himself on his short legs, and with lightning snap had the big snake by the snout. The snake tried to coil around it but in vain. At last the mongoose dragged it to the bushes

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