

# **Adventures in a Banyan Tree**

## **Ruskin bond**

### **Word meanings**

Adventure- exciting or dangerous journey or activity

Domain- land owned or ruled by a particular person

Darting- to move suddenly

Magnificent- splendid

Catapult – y shaped stick with a piece of elastic for shooting

Resent- to feel angry about something

Delve- to search thoroughly and carefully

Squabble- fight for petty things

Prop- support

Grumble- to complain in a bad way

Fatal – causing in death

Aggressive – vigorous

Shrill- piercing

Hurl – to throw with force

Wily- cunning

Mesmerize – to hypnotize

Writhe – roll oneself about in acute pain

Whip- to move suddenly and violently in a particular direction

**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 up the tree. It was an April afternoon. When he looked out, he saw a huge cobra gliding out of a clump of a cactus. At the same time a grey mongoose came out from the bushes. They came face to face. The cobra was a strong fighter. The cobra proved that he was clever. It hissed and darted his forked tongue in and out. It spread its spectacled hood. The mongoose with its long thick hair and bushy tail faced the cobra. The long hair on his spine stood up. The cobra stood on the defensive way and swayed slowly from side to side and tried to mesmerize the mongoose in to making a false move. However the mongoose was well aware of the power of its

opponent. He fixed his gaze at a point below the cobra's hood and started on his back. The cobra struck back and but missed the aim. The mongoose darted very swiftly and bit the cobra. By this time the cobra became tired. The mongoose walked to it fearlessly and caught it by the snout. The cobra writhed in pain and coiled around the mongoose. The cobra ceased struggling. Then the mongoose gripped it round the hood and dragged into the bushes.

## **PROFILE**

Profile is a short description of a person's life and career. It highlights the personal details and major achievements of the person described. Given data should be prioritized and linked logically.

### **Points to ponder**

- ✓ **Give a title –usually the name of the person,**
- ✓ **Use only the details provided: don't add extra details or don't skip given details.**
- ✓ **Organize the given data logically and coherently.**
- ✓ **Use appropriate linkers and cohesive devices wherever necessary.**
- ✓ **Develop the hints in well-formed sentences using supporting details.**
- ✓ **Use appropriate descriptive words.**
- ✓ **Should be concise and precise.**

**Write a short profile of Ruskin Bond, using the details given below**

Born : 19 May 1934

Place of birth : Kasauli, Himachal Pradesh, India

Nationality : Indian

Residence : Landour, near Mussoorie

Famous as : Novelist, short story writer and author of books for children

Literary theme : Mainly based on nature

Notable works : The Room on the Roof, The Angry River,

Our trees Still Grow in Dehra

Award and honours : John Llewellyn Rhys Prize in 1957, Sahitya Akadami

Award in 1992, Padma Shri in 1999 and Lifetime

Achievement Award in 2017

## **Ruskin Bond**

The famous Indian author Ruskin Bond was born on 19 may 1934 in Kasauli, Himachal Pradesh, India. He is famous as a novelist, short story writer and author of books for children. The theme of his works is mainly based on nature. His notable works are 'The Room on the Roof', 'The angry River', 'our Trees Still Grow in Dehra', etc. Ruskin Bond won the John Llewellyn Rhys Prize in 1957 for his first novel' The Room on the Roof' . The other accolade of bond include the Sahithya Akadami Award in 1992, Padma Shri in 1999 and Lifetime Achievement Award in 2017. Ruskin Bond now lives in Landour , near Mussoorie

## **INFORMAL LETTER**

**The boy in the story 'Adventures in a Banyan Tree' was very excited and thrilled of his friendship with the squirrel. He writes a letter to his friend about his new friend.**

Garden villa,

M.G. Road,

Mumbai

2<sup>th</sup> March 2018.

Dear Saleem,

How are you? Hope you are enjoying your vacation there. I am also enjoying my vacation with my grandpa. My stay with my grandpa is pleasant and exciting. It is wonderful to see a young grey squirrel here. I could observe his movements very closely. My grandpa loves and cares this type of pets very much. You may wonder how I got a new friend, a small squirrel. It was afraid of me in the beginning. Now it is friendly with me. I am thrilled and excited to spend my time with it. It takes cake and biscuits from the pocket. I am enjoying my friendship with it.

Convey my regards to your parents and brother

Yours lovingly,

Roy

## **CONVERSATION**

### **Prepare a conversation between the boy and his friend**

Friend: where were you this vacation?

Boy: I was with my grandpa

Friend: How was the vacation?

Boy: I had a nice vacation. I enjoyed a lot.

Friend: Have you got any friends there?

Boy: I got many new friends there. It is really surprising you

Friend: What is that?

Boy: A young squirrel

Friend: It is a wonderful experience

Boy: That is true

Friend: Sure

## **DIARY**

**Prepare the likely diary entry of the boy on his friendship with the squirrel**

April 2<sup>nd</sup> 2019.

What a beautiful sight it was! It was a pleasant experience to stay with my grandparents. I happened to see the white squirrels there. . I made friend ship with it. It was afraid of me in the beginning. It was anxious moments. I enjoyed its presence immensely. I have never seen white squirrels in my life. I never expected I would see these cute animals there. It puzzled me a lot. I could not believe myself there. Still I feel its interesting presence. I couldn't imagine that I would have a memorable vacation like this.

How fruitful it is.

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