

Important snaps
by Team PIS
Class- IX

SUBJECT: ENGLISH

BOOKS : BEEHIVE

MOMENTS

TEACHER: MS. ROOPALI

ARORA

Beehive Chapter 1 The Fun They Had

- ▶ **Q1. Why did Margie's mother send for the County Inspector?**
- ▶ **A.** Margie's mother sent for the County Inspector because the mechanical teacher was not functioning efficiently. It had been giving her test after test in geography and she had been doing worse and worse.
- ▶ **Q2. What had once happened to Tommy's teacher?**
- ▶ **A.** Tommy's teacher was taken away for nearly a month because the history sector had blanked out completely. So, Tommy had nothing to do during that period. He only relaxed and enjoyed.

Beehive Chapter 2 The Sound of Music

- ▶ **Q1. When and how did Bismillah Khan get his big break?**
- ▶ **A.** Bismillah Khan got his big break with the opening of the All India Radio in Lucknow in 1938.
- ▶ **Q2. Where did Bismillah Khan play the shehnai on 15 August 1947? Why was the event historic?**
- ▶ **A.** Bismillah Khan played the shehnai on 15 August 1947 at the Red Fort. He was the first Indian to greet the nation with his musical instrument. This event was historic because We got independence on that day. He poured his heart out in the presence of a large number of people including Pt. Jawahar Lai Nehru.

Beehive Chapter 3 The Little Girl

- ▶ **Q1. In what ways did Kezia's grandmother encourage her to get to know her father better?**
- ▶ **A.** Kezia's grandmother sent her to her father's room to have a nice talk with him. Besides, she asked her to make a gift of a pin-cushion on her father's birthday.
- ▶ **Q2. Kezia decides that there are "different kinds of fathers". What kind of father was Mr Macdonald, and how was he different from Kezia's father?**
- ▶ **A.** In Kezia's opinion, her father was very harsh. He did not talk to her affectionately but rather he used to speak to her stringently. So she avoided him. She did not want to be in front of him because she was afraid of him. Moreover, her father never spent time with her.

Beehive Chapter 4 A Truly Beautiful Mind

- ▶ **Q1. What did Einstein call his desk drawer at the patent office? Why?**
- ▶ **A.** Einstein called his desk drawer at the patent office the “bureau of theoretical physics”. Einstein was actually developing his own ideas in secret and his drawer had all the evidences which could reveal the secret.
- ▶ **Q2. How did Einstein react to the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki?**
- ▶ **A.** The atomic bomb devastated the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. He was deeply shaken by the extent of the destruction and wrote a public missive to the United Nation

Beehive Chapter 5 The Snake and the Mirror

- ▶ **Q1. “I looked into the mirror and smiled,” says the doctor. A little later he says, “I forgot my danger and smiled feebly at myself.” What is the doctor’s opinion about himself when (i) he first smiles, and (ii) he smiles again? In what way do his thoughts change in between, and why?**
- ▶ **A.** The doctor thought that he had a good smile when he first smiled. But when he smiled a little later, he laughed at his destiny. His life was in danger. His thoughts got changed because of the snake. He was quite near to death.
- ▶ **Q2. “ The sound was a familiar one.” What sound did the doctor hear? What did he think it was? How many times did he hear it? (Find the places in the text.) When and why did the sounds stop?**
- ▶ **A.** The doctor heard the sound of rats. The sound was a familiar one. He heard this sound four times. The phrases are ‘Again I heard that sound from above’, ‘Again came that noise from above’, ‘Suddenly there came a dull thud as if a rubber tube has fallen’. The sounds stopped after the appearance of the snake.

Beehive Chapter 6 My Childhood

- ▶ **Q1. Who were Abdul Kalam's school friends? What did they later become?**
- ▶ **A.** Ramanadha Sastry, Aravindan and Sivaprakasan were his school friends. Ramanadha Sastry became a priest of the Rameswaram temple. Aravindan went into the business of arranging transport for visiting pilgrims. Sivaprakasan became a catering contractor for the Southern Railways.
- ▶ **Q2. What do you think Dinamani is the name of? Give a reason for your answer.**
- ▶ **A.** Dinamani is the name of a newspaper. Abdul Kalam attempts to trace the Second World War's news in the headlines of this newspaper.

Beehive Chapter 7 Packing

- ▶ **Q1. Why did the narrator (Jerome) volunteer to do the packing?**
- ▶ **A.** The narrator felt that he knew more about packing than any other person living. Moreover, he would get an opportunity to boss the job and George and Harris would do the job under his directions.
- ▶ **Q2. What was Jerome's real intention when he offered to pack?**
- ▶ **A.** Jerome's real intention was to boss the job. He wanted that Harris and George should work under his guidance and instructions. But they accepted the proposal and sat idle on the chairs comfortably.

Beehive Chapter 8 Reach for the Top

- ▶ **Q1. Why was the 'holy man' who gave Santosh's mother his blessings surprised ? Give an example to show that even as a young girl Santosh was not ready to accept anything unreasonable.**
- ▶ **A.** Santosh's grandmother sought blessings for a daughter, not for a son from the holy man. Most of the expecting women wish a son to be born to them. So this surprised the holy man. She wore shorts and not the traditional Indian dress for girls.
- ▶ **Q2. Where other girls wore traditional Indian dresses, Santosh preferred shorts. (Contrasts her dress with that of others) She left home and got herself enrolled in a school in Delhi. (Tells us what happened after the first action.)**
- ▶ **A.** Where other girls wore traditional Indian dresses Santosh preferred shorts. She got herself enrolled in a school in Delhi when she left home.

Beehive Chapter 9 The Bond of Love

- ▶ **Q1. “We all missed him greatly: Who does ‘we all’ stand for? Who did they miss? Why did they nevertheless feel relieved?”**
- ▶ **A.** The author, his wife and son. They missed the baby bear. They felt relieved because it was getting difficult to keep the baby bear at home.
- ▶ **Q2. How was the problem of what to do with Bruno finally solved?**
- ▶ **A.** Bruno was not feeling happy after getting separated from the narrator's family. He was getting weak everyday. The narrator's wife went to Mysore to meet Bruno. Bruno. After seeing his pitiful condition she decided to get Bruno back home. The narrator and his wife made special arrangement for Bruno and created all facility for him. At last Bruno was got back home in a small cage.

Beehive Chapter 10 Kathmandu

- ▶ **Q1. What difference does the author note between the flute seller and the other hawkers?**
- ▶ **A.** The author finds a difference in selling the articles. The flute seller does not shout out his wares. He makes a sale in a curiously offhanded way as if this was incidental to his enterprise.
- ▶ **Q2. What is the belief at Pashupatinath about the end of Kaliyug?**
- ▶ **A.** People believe that when a small shrine emerges fully on Bagwati river, the goddess inside will escape, and the evil period of the Kalyug will end on earth.

Beehive Chapter 11 If I Were You

- ▶ Q1. “This is your big surprise.” Where has this been said in the play? What is the surprise?
- ▶ A. Gerrard speaks this line. He tells the intruder that if he is not hanged for his murder, he will certainly be hanged being Vincent Charles Gerrard. At this time he utters these words. The big surprise is that Gerrard will not be killed by him. He is right in saying this.
- ▶ Q2. “They can’t hang me twice.” Who says this? Why does the speaker say it?
- ▶ A. The intruder says this. The speaker says it because he wants to murder Gerrard. And he has already murdered someone. So the police cannot hang him twice.

Poem Chapter 1 The Road Not Taken

- ▶ **Q1. Have you ever had to make a difficult choice (or do you think you will have difficult choices to make)? How will you make the choice (for what reasons)?**
- ▶ **A.** Such situations occur in everyone's life. In today's world people have numerous alternatives. But the decision should be taken after considering all the ins and outs of the situation. We must ruminate over the disadvantages also.
- ▶ **Q2. After you have made a choice do you always think about what might have been, or do you accept the reality?**
- ▶ **A.** One should live in the present and not in the past. The philosophy of 'is' is the key to attaining success. Life is not a bed of roses. Its hurdles are to be crossed bravely. One must not feel nervous and get dejected in the trying circumstances. On some instances, one needs to be confident about the choice he/she makes.

Poem Chapter 2 Wind

- ▶ **Q1. What does the poet say the wind god winnows?**
- ▶ **A.** The wind god winnows all the things available at home.
- ▶ **Q2. How does we make wind our friend?**
- ▶ **A.** The poet suggests that we should build strong houses and fix the doors firmly to make friends with the wind. Moreover, we should be strong enough to face the difficulties in life.

Poem Chapter 3 Rain On The Roof

- ▶ **Q1. How does the poet enjoy the patter of the soft rain lying in his cottage-chamber bed?**
- ▶ **A.** The poet is lying in his cottage-chamber bed. He watches the humid shadows hovering the starry sky. He feels the melancholy darkness gently weeping in the form of rain drops. Pressing his pillow, he is listening to the patter of the soft raindrops falling on the roof of the cottage.
- ▶ **Q2. What finds an echo in the poet's heart and what starts weaving in his mind?**
- ▶ **A.** When the drops of rain fall on shingles, they make a tinkling sound. The tinkling sound echoes his heart. A thousand old memories weave their air-threads into pattering sounds. Lying in his bed, the poet is listening to the pattering sound of the rain falling on the roof.

Poem Chapter 4 The Lake Isle Of Innisfree

- ▶ **Q1. Do you think Innisfree is only a place, or a state of mind? Does the poet actually miss the place of his boyhood days?**
- ▶ **A.** The natural beauty of Innisfree is not the creation of the poet's fancy. It is a real place that gives solace to the frustrated souls. The poet longs to live at such a beautiful and peaceful place. He misses it a lot.
- ▶ **Q2. Is the poet's going to Innisfree merely an attempt to escape from the harsh realities of city life?**
- ▶ **A.** No doubt, Innisfree provides all what the poet yearns for. Even standing on the doorway or on the grey pavement of the city, he escapes to the natural world of the lake isle of Innisfree. The sounds of the birds and the lake water lapping by the shore echo in the core of his heart. This escapism gives him immense pleasure and peace.

Poem Chapter 5 A Legend Of The Northland

- ▶ **Q1. Describe the landscape of the Northland as described in the poem.**
- ▶ **A.** The Northland is far away in the north. In this land of snow and ice, the days are very short. The nights are too long. When it snows, they harness swift reindeer to the sledges. Children are packed with so many layers of clothes to protect from the cold. In their funny and furry clothes they look like cubs of bears.
- ▶ **Q2. Why does the poet tell a story which he does not believe to be true?**
- ▶ **A.** The poet wants to tell a 'curious' story. It is the story of St. Peter and a greedy little woman. The poet himself doesn't believe in the truth of the story. But still he is compelled to tell this story simply for one reason. The story gives a moral lesson. Greed is an evil trait in man. It is punished in the end. The greedy little woman who didn't want to give a small piece of cake to hungry St. Peter was cursed to be a woodpecker. She had to live with little food. We should show human qualities in our behaviour.

Poem Chapter 6 No Men Are Foreign

- ▶ **Q1. How do all men living on the earth share the same fate?**
- ▶ **A.** All men living on this earth live and die the same way. They share the same fate. Beneath different kinds of colourful dresses and faces, all have the heart of man. While they live, they walk on the same earth. After their death, they will be buried under the same earth. The apparent differences of lands and race are only superficial and not real.
- ▶ **Q2. Nature doesn't differentiate between men of different lands and races. Do you agree with the given statement?**
- ▶ **A.** Nature never differentiate between men and men. It transcends the differences based on geography, race or religion. The sun gives its heat and energy to all. Similarly, all of them need air and water to survive. Dining peace they prosper and have plenty of food to eat. However, long wars starve them. They labour hard to survive with the same kinds of limbs and hands

Poem Chapter 7 The Duck and the Kangaroo

- ▶ **Q1. What request did the Duck make to the Kangaroo and why?**
- ▶ **A.** The Duck was pleasantly surprised at the way the Kangaroo hopped. It hopped effortlessly over the fields and the water. It looked as if he would never stop. Her life in the pond was very boring. She longed to go beyond the limited world of the pond. She wished to hop around like him. She requested him to give a ride on his back.
- ▶ **Q2. How did the Duck ride on the Kangaroo's back?**
- ▶ **A.** The Duck sat steady at the end of his tail. So that his balance might be maintained. She sat without speaking anything and hopped the world three times. She followed the instructions given by the Kangaroo and sat there without making any movement

Poem Chapter 8 On Killing A Tree

- ▶ **Q1. What is the meaning of “bleeding bark”? What makes it bleed?**
- ▶ **A.** ‘Bleeding bark’ means the twigs which are cut mercilessly. They leave a liquid substance. If any part of the human body is cut, it starts bleeding. In the same way the liquid substance comes out from the branch of a tree. The human beings’ axe makes it bleed.
- ▶ **Q2.The poet says “No” in the beginning of the third stanza. What does he mean by this?**
- ▶ **A.** ‘No’ is used to emphasize the perspective that chopping or hacking will not be sufficient for killing a tree.

Poem Chapter 8 On Killing A Tree

▶ **Q1. How does a tree become strong?**

▶ **A.** A tree grows and expands gradually. Various forces of nature including the earth, help in its growth. A tree grows on earth, feeds on its crust, absorbs years of sunlight, air and water. It makes them strong.

▶ **Q2. How does the sun and the air contribute in the killing of a tree?**

▶ **A.** The sun and the air harden and wither the exposed roots of the tree and kill it. The sun and the air are the two essential elements that help in the growth of a tree. Left to themselves, they will never kill a tree. But if the roots are exposed and kept in the sun and air, the tree will wither away and die.

Poem Chapter 9 The Snake Trying

▶ **Q1. What does the poet appeal?**

A. Every creature demands our sympathy and protection. The snake is small and green and is harmless even to the children. The poet is a very kind and generous man. He is sympathetic to the snake. So it appeals to let it go safely to his place.

▶ **Q2. Where does the snake vanish?**

A. The snake does possess the instinct of survival. With sudden curvings of its body, he can escape from the stick aimed at him. The snake vanishes in the ripples among the green thin reeds.

Poem Chapter 10 A Slumber Did My Spirit Seal

- ▶ **Q1. How does the poet react to his beloved's death?**
- ▶ **A.** The death of the poet's beloved is so sudden and unexpected that his mind as well as his body seems to be closed off. A deep slumber has taken hold over him. His spirit seems to be sealed. He has lost touch of earthly consciousness. Her death has cut him off from all earthly fears. A deep slumber has engulfed all his worldly feelings.
- ▶ **Q2. How does the poet imagine her beloved to after her sudden and untimely death?**
- ▶ **A.** Now his beloved is no more a part of this mortal world. She would be beyond the touch of earthly years. She is beyond the action and reaction of all five senses and the earthly body. However, she will become an inseparable part of nature. She will be rolling round in earth's diurnal course. She will become one with rocks, stones and trees.

Chapter 1 The Lost Child

- ▶ **Q1. How did the mother distract the child's mind from the toy seller ?**
- ▶ **A.** The mother distracted the child's mind from the toy seller by pointing towards a flowering mustard field. He saw colourful dragon flies and started running after them.
- ▶ **Q2. How was the child separated from his parents ?**
- ▶ **A.** The boy was attracted to toys, balloons and sweets in the fair. He got fascinated with the flute music being played by the snake charmer. While watching the roundabout swing he got separated from his parents.

Chapter 2 The Adventures of Toto

- ▶ **Q1. In what sense was Toto “a pretty monkey”.**
- ▶ **A.** Tito’s bright eyes sparkled with mischief beneath deep-set eye brows. His pearly white teeth often displayed a smile that had the innocence of a child yet there was an underlined tinge of naughtiness and mischievousness.
- ▶ **Q2. how did Toto’s love for taking bathe almost led to his being half – boiled ?**
- ▶ **A.** Toto used to love taking bathe in hot water. Once when a kettle was kept on fire with water to boil for tea, Toto sat in it. When the water began to boil, Toto tried getting up but found outside cold. So he again sat down. He kept on hopping outside and then again inside and after sometime he started enjoying this game.

Chapter 3 Iswaran the Storyteller

- ▶ **Q1. How does he narrate the story of the tusker? Does it appear to be plausible?**
- ▶ **A.** Iswaran narrated the story of the tusker exaggeratedly. The Tusker, having escaped from the timber yard, stamped on bushes, tore up wild creepers and broke the branches at his will. The elephant became uncontrollable and entered the school ground. It created chaos there. Everyone in the school tried to escape. No one dared to face the tusker. In the meantime Iswaran grabbed a cane from a teacher and moved towards the elephant. He hit its third toenail and the beast collapsed. He claimed that he had used the Japanese art to control the tusker. But this story seems totally implausible as it is very difficult to believe that a child can control a mad elephant.
- ▶ **Q2. Why does the author say that Iswaran seemed to more than make up for the absence of a TV in Mahendra's living quarters?**
- ▶ **A.** Iswaran was an expert in telling adventurous and mysterious stories in a dramatic way. It was his daily routine to entertain Mahendra at night. Mahendra could listen to and watch the development of the story. Thus Iswaran seemed to more than make up for the absence of a TV.

Chapter 4 In the Kingdom of Fools

- ▶ **Q1. Name all the people who are tried in the king's court, and give the reasons for their trial.**
- ▶ **A.** The owner of the house i.e. the merchant, the bricklayer, the dancing girl and the goldsmith were tried in the king's court. They all were tried because the thief died when the wall of merchant's house had collapsed. The merchant was tried for building a weak wall. The bricklayer was tried for doing his work carelessly. The dancing girl was tried for disturbing the concentration of the bricklayer. The goldsmith was blamed for making the dancing girl walk up and down to his house a dozen times.
- ▶ **Q2. Who is the real culprit according to the king? Why does he escape punishment?**
- ▶ **A.** The merchant's dead father was held responsible for making the wall weak. But according to the king the rich merchant was the real culprit because he had inherited both sins and riches of his father. He escaped the punishment because he was too thin to fit the stake.

Chapter 5 The Happy Prince

- ▶ **Q1. How did the Happy Prince help the poor children in the city ?**
- ▶ **A.** As per the orders of the Happy Prince, the gold leaves and the jewels on his boy were taken out by the swallow and distributed among the poor. Thus, the Happy Prince was able to help the poor children in the city.
- ▶ **Q2. In the story “The Happy Prince” what are the two most precious things ? What makes them so precious ?**
- ▶ **A.** The two most precious things were the leaden heart of the Happy Prince and the dead swallow. The former wept for the poor and helped them by giving sapphires, gold leaf and ruby. While the latter helped the prince in his noble cause and sacrificed her life while staying with him.

Chapter 6 Weathering the Storm in Ersama

- ▶ **Q1. How have the people of the community helped one another? What role do the women of Kalikuda play during these days?**
- ▶ **A.** Prashant took the initiative and mobilised everyone to help one another. In this time of distress the people of the community joined hands together and started relief work. Women started working in the food for work programme and looked after the orphans.
- ▶ **Q2. Why do Prashant and other volunteers resist the plan to set up institutions for orphans and widows? What alternatives do they consider?**
- ▶ **A.** Prashant and other volunteers resisted the plan as they felt that it would not be proper to set up separate institutions for orphans and widows. The group of volunteers was of the opinion that in these institutions children would not be able to get love and widow would suffer from stigma and loneliness and isolation. The group decided to rehabilitate them in their own community. New families were made and the childless widows took care of the orphan.

Chapter 7 The Last Leaf

- ▶ Q1. Behrman has a dream. What is it? Does it come true?
- ▶ A. Behrman had a dream to paint a masterpiece in his life. He kept waiting for the opportunity to give it a practical shape. Yes, he could materialize his dream when he painted the last leaf of the ivy creeper.
- ▶ Q2. What is Behrman's masterpiece? What makes Sue say so?
- ▶ A. Behrman was a 60-year old artist who had a dream to paint a masterpiece. His painting of an ivy leaf was his masterpiece which saved the life of Johnsy. It was such a painting that it was not easy to make out whether the leaf was real or it was just a painting. When Behrman died painting this life-saving painting, Sue called it a masterpiece.

Chapter 8 A House is not a Home

- ▶ **Q1. The cat and the author are very fond of each other. How has this been shown in the story ? Where was the cat after the fire ? Who brings it back and how ?**
- ▶ **A.** The cat and the author are very fond of each other. This is seen in the author's weeping and crying. After the fire the cat had run away a mile away. A woman saw it. The author's telephone number was on its collar. She telephoned the author and delivered the cat to him.
- ▶ **Q2. Why does he break down in tears after the fire ?**
- ▶ **A.** The author's pet cat was nowhere to be found. He also cried. He was suffering loss in the absence of his cat. He loved her dearly. Therefore, he broke down in tears.

Chapter 9 The Accidental Tourist

- ▶ **Q1. How does Bill Bryson end up in a “Crash position” in the aircraft?**
- ▶ **A.** Once while he was travelling in an aeroplane, he leaned over to tie up his shoe laces. As soon as he leaned over for this purpose, someone in the seat ahead of him threw his seat back. Thus, the author ended up in a “crash position”.
- ▶ **Q2. Why do you think Bill Bryson’s wife says to the children, “Take the lids off the food for Daddy”?**
- ▶ **A.** Bill Bryson’s wife was aware of the travelling habits of her husband. To avoid any awkward situation, she says, “Take the lids off the food for Daddy” as she did not like her husband to take the lid off the food in his particular style.

Chapter 10 The Beggar

- ▶ **Q1. Sergei says, “I am happy that my words have taken effect.” Why does he say so? Is he right in saying so?**
- ▶ **A.** Sergei looked satisfied with the performance of the beggar and felt happy. When Lushkoff's job of packing and hauling of the furniture was over, he praised him while handing him a rouble. But he was not right in saying so because Lushkoff had not developed the habit of working hard. He was still an idle fellow.
- ▶ **Q2. Lushkoff is earning thirty five roubles a month. How is he obliged to Sergei for this?**
- ▶ **A.** Sergei played very important role in improving the condition of the beggar. It was because of Sergei that Lushkoff could earn thirty five roubles a month. He offered him the job to chop wood at his home. Later on he sent him to one of his friends to do the job of copying. Lushkoff was highly obliged to Sergei because now he was a notary because of him.