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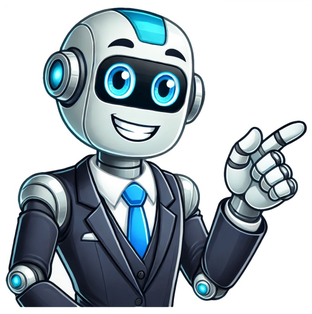

I. His First Fight Thinking about the Text (Page 36) Question 1. Why was the young seagull afraid to fly? Do you think all young birds are afraid to make their first flight, or are some birds more timid than others? Do you think a human baby also finds it a challenge to take its first step? Answer: The young seagull was afraid to fly because it was his first flight and he feared of falling and hurting himself. He thought that his wings would not support him while flying. Yes, it is natural that doing something for the first time is a bit challenging and fearful. All birds must be afraid to make their first flight. Similarly, a human baby is also afraid of taking the first step and find it challenging when he learns to crawl or stand up without support.' Question 2. "The sight of the food maddened him." What does this suggest? What compelled the young seagull to finally fly? Answer: The young seagull was very hungry. It was this hunger that ultimately compelled it to fly. Its hunger intensified when it saw its mother tearing at a piece of fish that lay at her feet. It cried to her, begging her to get some food. When its mother came towards it with food in her beak, it screamed with joy and anticipation. However, she stopped midway. It wondered why she did not come nearer. Not being able to resist or controfits hunger any longer, it dived at the food in its mother's beak. At that moment, his hunger overpowered his fear of the great expanse of sea beneath the cliff. Finally, this plunge was followed by the natural reaction of its body, i.e. to fly. More Resources for CBSE Class 10 Question 3. They were beckoning to him, calling shrilly." Why did the seagull's father and mother threaten him and cajole him to fly? Answer: Seagull's parents had tried everything but he was reluctant to fly due to fear of falling down. He looked at his brothers and sister but wouldn't make any efforts. Thats why the whole family had left him alone and threatened and cojoled him to come but every effort went in vain. Question 4. Have you ever had a similar experience, where your parents encouraged you to do something that you were too scared to try? Discuss this in pairs or groups. Answer: (Suggested Answer) Yes, I had a similar experience while leaning to ride a bicycle in class VI. In my initial attempts, I fell down everytime and developed a fear of cycling which was difficult to overcome. No amount of provoking and cajoling could let me try it again, but my father encouraged me to overcome the fear and helped me as he was adamant on my learning cycling. He took me on a mound near village and made me sit and asked me to put my hands on the handle and feet on the paddle. It sped down and I enjoyed it without fear which developed my confidence. Thus, I overcame my fear of cycling and started riding a cycle after a few practice Question 5. In the case of a bird flying, it seems a natural act, and a foregone conclusion that it should succeed. In the examples you have given in Answer to the previous question, was your success guaranteed, or was it important for you to try, regardless of a possibility of failure? Answer: We face some problems in the initial stage while learning new skill. Due to the fear of failure, we hesitate to perform a task or to do something new. In case of the seagull his parents cajoled him to fly. In the example I have given in the answer of previous question, I was cajoled by my father to learn cycling. So, at that stage, I was to learn cycling as it was very important for me to overcome my fear. Yes, my success was guaranteed because if someone is determined to do something then success is assured. Moreover as said, practice, makes a man perfect. II. The Black Aeroplane Thinking about the Text (Page 40) Question 1. "I'll take the risk". What is the risk? Why does the narrator take it? Answer: A huge storm was brewing up and the author was keen to reach his home to spend his holiday with his family. So, he decided to fly through the storm as he did not want to miss the chance to meet his family at breakfast. Thus he took the risk even when the visibility was almost zero in the storm. Question 2. Describe the narrator's experience as he flew the aeroplane into the storm. Answer: As the pilot (author) entered the storm, his plane started jumping and twisting. He could not see anything outside the plane as it was black. When he looked at compass and other instruments they had stopped to function due to storm. It was a terrible and fearsome experience for him. The fuel tank was almost empty and he could not fly more than ten minutes. Then he saw another black aeroplane by his side and the pilot of the plane signalled him to follow. It was a surprise for the narrator as the other black plane was having no light. He followed him without any choice and landed safely on the runway. Question 3. Why does the narrator say, "I landed and was not sorry to walk away from the old Dakota…"? Answer: Seagull's parents had tried everything but he was reluctant to fly due to fear of falling down. He looked at his brothers and sister but wouldn't make any efforts. Thats why the whole family had left him alone and threatened and cojoled him to come but every effort went in vain. Question 4. What made the woman in the Control Centre look at the narrator strangely? Answer: The woman in the Control Centre looked at the narrator strangely because the narrator asked him about the black aeroplane and she saw no one except the narrator's in the sky during the storm. Even the radar showed only the narrator's plane that night in the sky. Question 5. Who do you think helped the narrator to reach safely? Discuss this among yourselves and give reasons for your answer. Answer: It is very difficult to say about the unknown pilot who helped the narrator. But probably it was the narrator himself that helped him to overcome the fear in the storm as no other plane was seen in the radar except the narrator's Dakota plane. In that fearsome situation, he might have been hallucinating. He himself was a good pilot and brave enough who helped himself land safely. Thinking about Language (Page 40) Question 1. Study the sentences given below. (a) They looked like black mountains. (b) Inside the clouds, everything was suddenly black. (c) In the black clouds near me, I saw another aeroplane. (d) The strange black aeroplane was there. The word 'black' in sentences (a) and (c) refers to the very darkest colour. But in (b) and (d) (here) it means without light/with no light. 'Black' has a variety of meanings in different contexts. For example: (a) 'I prefer black tea' means 'I prefer tea without milk'. (b) 'With increasing pollution the future of the world is black' means With increasing pollution the future of the world is very depressing/without hope'. Now, try to guess the meanings of the word 'black' in the sentences given below. Check the meanings in the dictionary and find out whether you have guessed right. Questions. 1. Go and have a bath, your hands and face are absolutely black____ . 2. The taxi-driver gave Ratan a black look as he crossed the road when the traffic light was green____. 3. The bombardment of Hiroshima is one of the blackest crimes against humanity____. 4. Very few people enjoy Harold Pinter's black comedy____. 5. Sometimes shopkeepers store essential goods____. 6. Villagers had beaten the criminal black and blue____. Answers: 1.A. The meaning of 'black ' in this sentence is that the face and hands are dark because of dust and dirt. 2.A. Here, 'black' refers to an angry look. 3.A. "Here, 'blackest' refers to the darkest and cruellest crime against humanity. 4.A. Here, 'black' refers to dark and gloomy comedy. 5.A. The meaning of 'black'in this sentence is that the shopkeepers sell the described goods 'at a higher price'. 6.A. Here, 'black'means that the criminal suffered excessive beating at the hands of the villagers. Question 2. Look at these sentences taken from the lesson you have just read: (a) I was flying my old Dakota aeroplane. (b) The young seagull had been afraid to fly with them. In the first sentence the author was controlling an aircraft in the air. In the second sentence the seagull was afraid to move through the air, using its wings. Match the phrases given under Column A with their meanings given under Column B: A B 1. Fly a flag (a) Move quickly/suddenly 2. Fly into rage (b) Be successful 3. Fly along (c) Display a flag on a long pole 4. Fly high (d) Escape from a place 5. Fly the coop (e) Become suddenly very angry Answer: 1. (c), 2. (e), 3. (a), 4. (b), 5. (d). NCERT Solutions for Class 10 English First Flight Chapter 3 Two Stories about Flying are part of NCERT Solutions for Class 10 English. Here we have given NCERT Solutions for Class 10 English First Flight Chapter 3 Two Stories about Flying Questions and Answers PDF download. Board CBSE Textbook NCERT Class Class 10 Subject English First Flight Chapter Chapter 3 Chapter Name Two Stories about Flying Category NCERT Solutions Class 10th English First Flight Chapter 3 Two Stories about Flying Questions and Answers Two Stories about Flying Class 10 Question Answer Two Stories about Flying Class 10 TextBook Exercises Questions and Answers THINKING ABOUT THE TEXT (Page 36) Question 1. Why was the young seagull afraid to fly ? Do you think all young birds are afraid to make their first flight, or are some birds more timid than others ? Do you think a human baby also finds it a challenge to take its first steps ? Answer: The young seagull was afraid to fly. When he tried to flap his wings to fly, fear caught him. I think all birds are afraid to fly for the first time. Secondly, some birds are more timid than others. I think a human baby also faces difficulties in taking the first steps for anything. This is seen in his shaking legs and weak movements. Question 2. "The sight of the food maddened him." What does this suggest ? What compelled the young seagull to finally fly ? Answer: This suggests the sight of food made the seagull risk flying for the first time. The control over flying fear made him finally fly. Question 3. "They were beckoning to him, calling shrilly." Why did the seagull's father and mother threaten him and cajole him to fly ? Answer: The seagull's father and mother made him to fly. It was because if he did not fly, he would starve to death. Question 4. Have you ever had a similar experience, where your parents encouraged you to do something that you were too scared to try ? Discuss this in pairs or groups. Answer: Yes, I had had a similar experience when my parents made me ride the bicycle. They seated me on its saddle and slowly moved it. I feared that if they let me alone, I would fall down. I moved this way or that in fear at first. But courage and confidence came to me and I controlled the bicycle. (To be discussed in groups) Question 5. In the case of a bird flying, it seems a natural act, and a foregone conclusion that it should succeed. In the examples you have given in answer to the previous question, was your success guaranteed, or was it important for you to try, regardless of a possibility of failure ? Answer: My success was not guaranteed. What was important was that I must try. Trying to do things matters, not the result—success or failure. If one is afraid of failure and takes no action, one surely fails. But one must not feel let down. It is trying that matters the most. THINKING ABOUT THE TEXT (Page 40) Question 1. "I'll take the risk." What is the risk ? Why does the narrator take it ? Answer: The 'risk' is flying the old Dakota aeroplane straight into the storm. It was because the author wanted to get home to be present at the breakfast table. Question 2. Describe the narrator's experience as he flew the aeroplane into the storm. Answer: The narrator found that suddenly there was blackness around him inside the clouds. He could see nothing. The aeroplane jumped and twisted in the air. The instruments like the compass couldn't work. The radio also did not work. He was lost in the storm. Then he saw another aeroplane. It had no light on its wings. But it guided him ahead. Then it disappeared when the author was safe. The black clouds were behind him as he was out of them. He was now safe. Question 3. Why does the narrator say, "I landed and was not sorry to walk away from the old Dakota…" ? Answer: The author was not sorry to walk away from the old Dakota. It was because it had saved his life. It along with the mysterious aeroplane had saved his life. Question 4. What made the woman in the control centre look at the narrator strangely ? Or Why did the lady in the control room give the pilot a puzzled look ? (CBSE 2012) Answer: The narrator asked the lady about the mysterious aeroplane that had guided him through the dark clouds to safety. But there was no such aeroplane over there. The lady did not see nor did she come into contact with that aeroplane. So the narrator's asking question about that aeroplane startled her. She gave him a puzzled look. Question 5. Who do you think helped the narrator to reach safely ? Discuss this among yourselves and give reasons for your answer. Answer: I think that some supernatural power helped the narrator to reach safqly. Otherwise how could he fly safely through those dark clouds ? The things that suggest this are : The appearance of the mysterious aeroplane at that particular time ; how it knew the narrator was in trouble ; how the pilot of the mysterious plane could guide him ; where it disappeared ; why the control tower had no such contact, etc. THINKING ABOUT LANGUAGE I. Study the sentences given below : Now, try to guess the meanings of the word 'black' in the sentences given below. Check the meanings in the dictionary and find out whether you have guessed right. (Page 40) Question 1. Go and have a bath ; your hands and face are absolutely black. _____ Answer: black refers to black colour—guessed right Question 2. The taxi-driver gave Ratan a black look as he crossed the road when the traffic light was green. _____ Answer: black refers to angry look—guessed right Question 3. The bombardment of Hiroshima is one of the blackest crimes against humanity. _____ Answer: black means here a very horrible crime—guess appropriate Question 4. Very few people enjoy Harold Pinter's black comedy. _____ Answer: black here means 'dark' (dark colour)—guess wrong Question 5. Sometimes shopkeepers store essential goods to create false scarcity and then sell these in black. _____ Answer: black here means charging more—guess right means more money than the actual price Question 6. Villagers had beaten the criminal black and blue. _____ Answer: black and blue means black and blue colours—guess wrong II. Look at these sentences taken from the lesson you have just read : (a) I was flying my old Dakota aeroplane. (b) The young seagull had been afraid to fly with them. In the first sentence the author was controlling an aircraft in the air. Another example is : Children are flying kites. In the second sentence the seagull was afraid to move through the air, using its wings. Match the phrases given under column A with their meanings given under column B : A B 1. Fly a flag — Move quickly / suddenly 2. Fly into rage — Be successful 3. Fly along — Display a flag on a long pole 4. Fly high — Escape from a place 5. Fly the coop — Become suddenly very angry Answer: A B 1. Fly a flag — Display a flag on a long pole 2. Fly into rage — Become suddenly very angry 3. Fly along — Move quickly / suddenly 4. Fly high — Be successful 5. Fly the coop — Escape from a place III. We know that the word 'fly' (of birds/insects) means to move through air using wings. Tick the words which have the same or nearly the same meaning. Answer: The following words have same or nearly same meaning of 'move through air using wings' : WRITING Have you ever been alone or away from home during a thunderstorm ? Narrate your experience in a paragraph. Answer: When I was Caught in a Thunderstorm Facing a natural upheaval needs courage and stamina. It tests the will to live. And if one faces such a development with courage and patience, one gets success. Last year I happened to go to Rattangarh from Sikar in Rajasthan. It was the month of June and beginning of July. We were going in a car. Around 2 pm I saw golden sandstorm in the west. Within no time there grew darkness over us. We could see nothing. The sandstorm had braked our movement. The sandstorm changed into thunderstorm. The lightning blazed. We felt scared at this sudden change of weather. We feared for our safety as movement was almost impossible. But after twenty minutes, the lightning ceased. After a strong drizzle the thunderstorm went off. There was light again. We moved ahead in peace. We hope the NCERT Solutions for Class 10 English First Flight Chapter 3 Two Stories about Flying help you. If you have any query regarding NCERT Solutions for Class 10 English First Flight Chapter 3 Two Stories about Flying, drop a comment below and we will get back to you at the earliest. Read More: I. His First Flight by Liam O' FlahertyThinking about Text (pg. 36)1. Why was the young seagull afraid to fly? Do you think all young birds are afraid to make their first flight, or are some birds more timid than others? Do you think a human baby also finds it a challenge to take its first steps?Ans: Since it was the young seagull's first flight, he was afraid to fly. Yes, I think all young birds are afraid before they take their first flight since they are doing it for the first time, and it must be challenging for them. Human babies would similarly find it difficult to start walking. The first steps are abrupt, and they fall multiple times but then they master the skill.2. "The sight of the food maddened him." What does this suggest? What compelled the young seagull to finally fly?Ans: The young seagull was reluctant to overcome his fear of flying. His family was stubborn about giving him the flight lesson. So, after continuous rounds of motivation, when he did not take off, his mother used his hunger as bait. He was extremely hungry and when he saw his mother tearing a piece of fish, he cried and asked her to share it with him but instead of addressing the cries, she took a piece of food in her beak and stopped midway while flying towards the young seagull. Not able to resist the pangs of hunger further, he rushed at the food and plunged towards it, and took his first flight.3. "They were beckoning to him, calling shrilly." Why did the seagull's father and mother threaten him and cajole him to fly?Ans: The young seagull was about to attempt his first flight and was filled with anticipation and anxiety. He saw his family flying in the sky and enjoying themselves. His parents were teaching the younger ones to fly and were motivating and mocking him for not being able to. They also threatened to leave him on the ledge and feed him no food if he does not try. They wanted him to get over his fear and learn to fly and enjoy this blessing as a bird. It's also a survival skill and hence was important to learn.4. Have you ever had a similar experience, where your parents encouraged you to do something that you were too scared to try? Discuss this in pairs or groups.Ans: While growing up everyone has multiple experiences where their parents encourage them to do something we are afraid to try as a child. I loved watching kids skating in the park. I was young at that time, around 6-7 years. Since I always begged about getting skates and learning them, my parents got them for me. I happily wore them but fell soon after I stood up. After that, I was a mess. I refused to try skating, no matter how hard my parents tried to convince me. After many years I came across them again. I was still sceptical about trying it but eventually gathered courage and put them on. I fell multiple times, but I still tried and then eventually learned how to skate. After that, I enjoyed skating a lot.5. In the case of a bird flying, it seems a natural act, and a foregone conclusion that it should succeed. In the examples you have given in answer to the previous question, was your success guaranteed, or was it important for you to try, regardless of a possibility of failureAns: We are made to believe as individuals that we must exceed at everything we try. This toxic positivity does affect us in the long run, and it becomes difficult for us to accept failures. My success in skating was not guaranteed but seeing other kids skate so well did put pressure on me to ace in it. I believe it was the frustration of not being able to succeed on the first try that made me give it up so fast. But later when I tried, regardless of the possibility of failure, I succeeded and that feeling was fulfilling.WritingWrite a short composition on your initial attempts at learning a skill. You could describe the challenges of learning to ride a bicycle or learning to swim. Make it as humorous as possible. Ans: When I first started learning to ride a bicycle it was an absolute mess. I got a new bicycle when I was 6 years old. It had training wheels, so it wasn't much trouble to learn to pedal it but when the wheels were removed, it became a hustle and nuisance for me. I fell down multiple times, got hurt lord knows how many times and then left, being irritated with it. I begged my parents to attach the wheels back again and they refused. It was my elder sister who taught me how to cycle. She held me from behind, encouraged me to keep my balance and just kept looking forward. It is one of the sweetest memories I have with her.II. The Black Aeroplane by Fredrick ForsythThinking about the Text1. "I'll take the risk." What is the risk? Why does the narrator take it?Ans: The pilot took the risk of flying through the harsh weather. The sky was overcast with clouds. He took this risk because he was excited to fly his old Dakota aeroplane over France to England, to celebrate Christmas with his family.2. Describe the narrator's experience as he flew the aeroplane into the storm.Ans: The pilot took the risk of flying in the severe weather but as soon as he flew into the storm his surroundings turned completely black. Along with his other devices like radio, his compass also stopped working and it turned round and round. He felt his end was near, but then he saw another aeroplane that guided him to safety. He was happy to find a helper and with enough fuel for five or ten minutes, he safely landed his plane.3. Why does the narrator say, "I landed and was not sorry to walk away from the old Dakota…"?Ans: The narrator was excited to fly the old Dakota aeroplane to England, to celebrate Christmas with family. But he got caught in a storm and was saved by a guide plane. He was delighted to be out of the storm and safely land and hence was not sad about moving away from the old plane. 4. What made the woman in the control centre look at the narrator strangely?Ans: The narrator was concerned about the other pilot who saved his life because after landing he could not see any other plane on the runway. He was worried about the fellow pilot and wanted to express his gratitude but when he asked the woman in the control room, she was surprised because the radar did not show any other plane.5. Who do you think helped the narrator to reach safely? Discuss this among yourselves and give reasons for your answer.Ans: The narrator got worried and anxious when he realized his death was near as the plane was caught in the storm and had enough fuel only for five or ten minutes. It must have been his subconscious that would have guided him through this trouble as there was no other plane in the storm, as told by the woman in the control room. It can also be a strand of his imagination or hallucination that would have shown up because of the panic his brain was in.Thinking About the Language:I. Try to guess the meanings of the word 'black' in the sentences given below. Check the meanings in the dictionary and find out whether you have guessed right.1. Go and have a bath; your hands and face are absolutely black._____Ans: The meaning of 'black' in this sentence is that the face and hands are dark with dust and heat.2. The taxi driver gave Ratan a black look as he crossed the road when the traffic light was green. _____Ans: Here, 'black' refers to an angry look.3. The bombardment of Hiroshima is one of the blackest crimes against humanity. _____Ans: Here, 'blackest' refers to the darkest and cruellest crime against humanity.4. Very few people enjoy Harold Pinter's black comedy. _____Ans: Here, 'black' refers to dark and gloomy comedy.5. Sometimes shopkeepers store essential goods to create false scarcity and then sell these in black. _____Ans: The meaning of 'black' in this sentence is that the shopkeepers sell the described goods 'at a higher price.'6. Villagers had beaten the criminal black and blue. _____Ans: Here, 'black' means that the criminal suffered excessive beating at the hands of the villagers.II. Match the Phrases Given Under Column A With Their Meanings Given Under Column B:ABFly a flagMove quickly/suddenlyFly into rageBe successfulFly alongDisplay a flag on a long poleFly highEscape from a placeFly the coopBecome suddenly very angryAns: ABFly a flagDisplay a flag on a long poleFly into rageBecome suddenly very angryFly alongMove quickly/suddenlyFly highBe successfulFly the coop Escape from a placeIII. We know That the Word 'Fly' (of Birds/Insects) Means to Move Through the Air Using Wings. Tick the Words Which Have the Same or Nearly the Same Meaning.Swoop flit paddle flutterascend float ride skimsink dart hover glidedescend soar shoot springstay fall sail flapAns: The words which have the same or nearly the same meaning as 'fly' are swoop, flit, float, dart, soar, hover, sail, skim, glide, and flutter. Swoop means to move quickly down through the air, flit means to move abruptly, float means to hover lightly, dart means to move rapidly, soar means to fly about, hover means to stay at a place in the air, sail means to move smoothly, skim means to move lightly, glide means to have a smooth continuous motion and flutter means to hover. WritingHave you ever been alone or away from home during a thunderstorm? Narrate your experience in a paragraph. Ans: Yes, I was once away from home during a thunderstorm. I was at my grandparent's home when the weather suddenly changed, and clouds spread across the sky. My grandparents had to leave because of some emergency, and I was inevitably bound to stay home, alone. I am fond of rain and thunder, so it isn't much of a problem for me. But that night staying alone at home was scary. Even a slight thunder scared me, and I just tossed over in my bed the whole night.Benefits of NCERT English Chapter 3 Class 10 Question Answers:NCERT Solutions provides detailed explanations and insights for "Two Stories About Flying," ensuring students understand both parts thoroughly.The solutions offer precise and well-structured answers for Two Stories About Flying Questions and Answers, helping students prepare effectively for exams.Specific answers ensure students can focus on the key points of the chapter, aiding in better retention and understanding.The availability of PDF allows students to study anytime, anywhere, making revision convenient. 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"His First Flight" depicts a young seagull's journey from trepidation to triumph, while "Black Aeroplane" tells of a pilot's mysterious rescue during a perilous flight. Together, these stories highlight the importance of overcoming fear and the surprising ways help can arrive, offering valuable life lessons to readers. Vedantu offers comprehensive NCERT Solutions for the Class 10 English Chapter 3 Question Answers which students can download in PDF format for FREE compiled by master teachers so that you can be exam-ready!Related Study Materials for NCERT Class 10 English Chapter 3Students can also download additional study materials provided by Vedantu for Class 10 English, Chapter 3–NCERT Solutions for Class 10 English First FlightNow that you have familiarized yourself with Class 10 English Two Stories about Flying Question Answers Students can refer to the following table for NCERT Solutions from all chapters of the Class 10 English First Flight textbook.Related Important Links for NCERT Class 10 English NCERT Solutions for Class 10 English Class 10 English First Flight Chapter 3 Two Stories about Flying Question Answer English Class 10th First Flight Chapter 3 Two Stories about Flying Question Answers I. His First Flight Two Stories about Flying Part 1 Thinking about the Text Question 1. Why was the young seagull afraid to fly? Do you think all young birds are afraid to make their first flight, or are some birds more timid than others? Do you think a human baby also finds it a challenge to take its first step? Answer: The young seagull was afraid to fly because he thought his wings would not support him. He was very weak. Yes, all young birds are afraid to make their first flight. The same applies to a human baby too. Question 2. "The sight of the food maddened him." What does this suggest? What compelled the young seagull to finally fly? Answer: "The sight of the food maddened him." This suggests that the young seagull was desperate due to hunger. He had eaten nothing for 24 hours. He was afraid to fly, that is why he did not want to fly. But it was the fear of death due to fall only which made him finally to fly. When he dived and started falling headlong downwards, he screamed and opened his wings. Question 3. "They were beckoning to him, calling shrilly." Why did the seagull's father and mother threaten him and cajole him to fly? Answer: The young seagull did not want to fly because he felt his wings would not support him. His brothers and sister had already taken their first flight. His parents threatened him to starve. They threatened and cajoled him so that he also might take his first flight. They wanted to .remove his fear of flight. II. The Black Aeroplane Two Stories about Flying Part 2 Thinking about the Text Question 1. "I'll take the risk." What is the risk? Why does the narrator take it? Answer: He was in a risky position. There were stormy clouds in front of him and he did not have enough fuel to go around them to reach Paris. The narrator took the risk because he wanted to reach Paris to celebrate Christmas with his family. Question 2. Describe the narrator's experience as he flew his aeroplane into the storm. Answer: The narrator experienced a frightening experience on a stormy night. He was shocked to see that the compass and other instruments were out of order. His contact with Paris Control Room was also stopped. There were stormy clouds ahead of him and there was no fuel left to move around. Then suddenly, he saw another aeroplane with no lights on its wings but surprisingly he was able to see the face of the pilot who signalled to follow him by waving his hand. He was delighted to see a helping hand. He followed that black aeroplane for about half an hour. Then suddenly he noticed he was near the runway. His happiness knew no bounds when he was on the runway with fuel hardly sufficient for ten minutes. Question 3. Why does the narrator say, "I landed and was not sorry to walk away from the old Dakota…"? Answer: He was delighted to land safely out of dark stormy clouds; therefore, he was not sorry to walk away from his plane. He felt bad, when he was not able to thank his guide, his mentor who saved him from frightening situations, but he was so happy after landing that he didn't feel sorry for not being able to thank the guide pilot. Question 4. What made the woman in the Control centre look at the narrator strangely? Answer: The woman in the control room was surprised when the narrator asked about the other aeroplane and its pilot. She said that there was no other aeroplane seen on the radar. Question 5. Who do you think helped the narrator to reach safely? Discuss this among yourselves and give reasons for your answer. Answer: As there was no aeroplane other than the narrator's, it could not be a human help. Though the doubts and curiosity about the strange plane have not been made clear by the narrator, it seems to be his inner voice which guided him to land safely. Otherwise, how could a plane which had no lights on its wings be visible to the narrator and how could he see the face and waving hand of the pilot? Thus, it must be his inner voice only. Two Stories about Flying Extra Questions and Answers I. His First Flight Two Stories about Flying Part 1 Reference-to-Context Questions Read the following extracts carefully and answer the questions that follow. Question 1. The young seagull was alone on his ledge. His two brothers and his sister had already flown away the day before. He had been afraid to fly with them. Somehow when he had taken a little run forward to the brink of the ledge and attempted to flap his wings he became afraid. The great expanse of sea stretched down beneath, and it was such a long way down — miles down. (a) The young seagull was alone on his ….. Answer: ledge (b) The young seagull was frightened to fly with his brothers and sisters because he was …….. of the sea. Answer: afraid (c) The young seagull was on the ledge because his mother had asked him to remain there. (True/False) Answer: False (d) Find the synonym of 'edge' from the extract. Answer: 'Brink'. Question 2. He felt certain that his wings would never support him; so he bent his head and ran away back to the little hole under the ledge where he slept at night. Even when each of his brothers and his little sister, whose wings were far shorter than his own, ran to the brink, flapped their wings, and flew away, he failed to muster up courage to take that plunge which appeared to him so desperate. His father and mother had come around calling to him shrilly, upbraiding him, threatening to let him starve on his ledge unless he flew away. But for the life of him he could not move. (a) The young seagull ran away back to the little hole under the ……. where he slept at night. Answer: ledge (b) His parents had come around calling to him shrilly, threatening him …… on his ledge unless he flew away. Answer: starve (c) For the life of him, the young seagull could not move as he was afraid of the sea. (True/False) Answer: True (d) Find the synonym of 'gather' from the extract. Answer: 'Muster up'. Question 3. That was twenty-four hours ago. Since then nobody had come near him. The day before, all day long, he had watched his parents flying about with his brothers and sister, perfecting them in the art of flight, teaching them how to skim the waves and how to dive for fish. He had, in fact, seen his older brother catch his first herring and devour it, standing on a rock, while his parents circled around raising a proud cackle. And all the morning the whole family had walked about on the big plateau midway down the opposite cliff taunting him with his cowardice. (a) Twenty-four hours ago, seagull's father and mother from him. Answer: had flown away (b) The young seagull's parents were flying with his brothers and sister, perfecting them in the Answer: art of flight (c) The whole family had walked about on the big plateau midway down the opposite cliff praising the young seagull's courage. (True/False) Answer: False (d) Find the meaning of the words 'the loud noise that a bird makes' from the extract. Answer: 'cackle'. Question 4. The sun was now ascending the sky, blazing on his ledge that faced the south. He felt the heat because he had not eaten since the previous nightfall. He stepped slowly out to the brink of the ledge, and standing on one leg with the other leg hidden under his wing, he closed one eye, then the other, and pretended to be falling asleep. Still they took no notice of him. He saw his two brothers and his sister lying on the plateau dozing with their heads sunk into their necks. His father was preening the feathers on his white back. (a) The young seagull felt the heat because he had not eaten since the previous Answer: Nightfall (b) The young seagull saw his two brothers and sister lying on the ……. dozing with their heads sunk into their necks. Answer: Plateau (c) The young seagull stepped slowly out to the midway of the ledge and stood there constantly. (True/False) Answer: False (d) Find the synonym of 'supposed' from the extract. Answer: Pretended. Question 5. Only his mother was looking at him. She was standing on a little high hump on the plateau, her white breast thrust forward. Now and again, she tore at a piece of fish that lay at her feet and then scrapped each side of her beak on the rock. The sight of the food maddened him. How he loved to tear food that way, scrapping his beak now and again to whet it. (a) The young seagull's mother was standing on a little high on the plateau. Answer: Hump (b) The sight of the food him. Answer: Maddened (c) Now and again, the young seagull's mother tore at a piece of fish that lay at her feet. (True/False) Answer: True (d) Give a synonym of 'sharpen' from the extract. Answer: 'Whet' Question 6. "Ga, ga, ga," he cried begging her to bring him some food. "Gaw-col-ah," she screamed back derisively. But he kept calling plaintively, and after a minute or so he uttered a joyful scream. His mother had picked up a piece of the fish and was flying across to him with it. He leaned out eagerly, tapping the rock with his feet, trying to get nearer to her as she flew across. But when she was just opposite to him, she halted, her wings motionless, the piece of fish in her beak almost within the reach of his beak. He waited a moment in surprise, wondering why she did not come nearer, and then, maddened by hunger, he dived at the fish. (a) The seagull's mother did not pay attention to his begging for food because she wanted him to ……. on his own. Answer: Fly (b) The mother of the young seagull picked up a piece of the fish and with it. Answer: Flew (c) Seeing his mother coming towards him with a fish, the young seagull tried to get nearer to her as she flew across. (True/False) Answer: True (d) Find the meaning of the word "sorrowfully" from the extract. Answer: 'Plaintively'. Question 7. With a loud scream he fell outwards and downwards into space. Then a monstrous terror seized him and his heart stood still. He could hear nothing. But it only lasted a minute. The next moment he felt his wings spread outwards. The wind rushed against his breast feathers, then under his stomach, and against his wings. He could feel the tips of his wings cutting through the air. He was not falling headlong now. He was soaring gradually downwards and outwards. He was no longer afraid. He just felt a bit dizzy. (a) Maddened by the food brought by his mother, the young seagull …….. into the sea. Answer: Dived (b) When the young seagull dived into the sea for the first time, his parents to motivate him. Answer: Screamed (c) The young seagull was falling headlong now as he had overcome his fear of flight. (True/False) Answer: True (d) Find the meaning of the word "shocking" from the extract. Answer: 'monstrous'. Question 8. Then he flapped his wings once and he soared upwards. "Ga, ga, ga, Ga, ga, ga, Gaw-col-ah," his mother swooped past him, her wings making a loud noise. He answered her with another scream. Then his father flew over him screaming. He saw his two brothers and his sister flying around him curveting and banking and soaring and diving. Then he completely forgot that he had not always been able to fly, and commended himself to dive and soar and curve, shrieking shrilly. (a) The young seagull's two brothers and his sister were flying around him, soaring and Answer: Diving (b) The young seagull completely forgot that he had not always been Answer: able to fly (c) The young seagull commended himself to dive and soar and shrieking shrilly. (True/False) Answer: True (d) Find the antonym of 'falling/dropping' from the extract. Answer: 'soaring' Question 9. He was near the sea now, flying straight over it, facing straight out over the ocean. He saw a vast green sea beneath him, with little ridges moving over it and he turned his beak sideways and cawed amusedly. (a) The young seagull was near the sea now, flying over it. Answer: Straight (b) The seagull saw a vast beneath him. Answer: Green sea (c) When the young seagull saw a vast sea beneath him, he screamed shrilly. (iVue/False) Answer: False (d) Find the antonym of 'limited' from the extract. Answer: Vast Question 10. His parents and his brothers and sister had landed on this green flooring ahead of him. They were beckoning to him, calling shrilly. He dropped his legs to stand on the green sea. His legs sank into it. He screamed with fright and attempted to rise again flapping his wings. But he was tired and weak with hunger and he could not rise, exhausted by the strange exercise. His feet sank into the green sea, and then his belly touched it and he sank no farther. He was floating on it, and around him his family was screaming, praising him and their beaks were offering him scraps of dog-fish. He had made his first flight. (a) The young seagull's brothers and sister had landed on the ahead of him. Answer: Green flooring (b)At the time of landing on the sea, the young seagull was tired, weak with and unable to rise. Answer: Hunger (c) As a reward, the young seagull's parents offered him scraps of dog-fish. (True/False) Answer: True (d) Find the synonym of 'tired out' from the extract. Answer: 'Exhausted' Two Stories about Flying Part 1 Short Answer Questions Question 1. For how long had the seagull been alone? Answer: The seagull had been alone for twenty-four hours. Question 2. Why did the seagull not go with the rest of his family? Answer: The seagull did not go with the rest of his family because he was afraid to fly. Question 3. (i) What were the ways the seagull had thought of to join his family? (ii) Did he try any one of them? Answer: (i) The seagull thought of joining his family without having to fly. He ran from one end of the ledge to the other. The ledge ended in a steep fall in precipice. He thought of walking upto them but there was a deep chasm between him and them. (ii) No, he didn't try anyone of them. Question 4. Did the seagull think the sea was like a land? Pick out the words from the text that suggest this. Answer: Yes, the seagull thought the sea was like a land. He landed on the sea. When his legs sank into it, he screamed with fear and tried to rise again flapping his wings. This clearly indicates that he thought the sea was like a land. Question 5. (i) When did the seagull's flight begin? (ii) Where did it end? Answer: (i)His flight began when he was falling outwards and downwards into space. His wings spread outwards. Now, he was not falling headlong. He was moving gradually downwards and outwards. (ii) His flight ended floating on the sea. Question 6. When did the seagull get over his fear of the water? Answer: The seagull thought the sea was like a land. When he landed on the sea, his feet sank into it. He was seized with fear. He was too tired to rise again. His belly touched the water and he sank no further. Now, he was floating on the sea. He had got over his fear of the water. Question 7. Do you sympathise with the seagull? Give reasons. Answer: Flying is a natural instinct of birds. But the young seagull develops a fright of flight. We sympathise with him because he has to suffer a lot before he gets over his fear of flying. He has to bear the taunts of his family. He has to go without food for twenty-four hours. Question 8. How did the seagull express his excitement when he saw his mother bringing food for him? Answer: The seagull was very hungry. When he saw his mother bringing food for him, he was greatly excited. He expressed his excitement by uttering a joyful scream. He leaned out eagerly. He tapped the rock with his feet. He tried to get nearer to her as she flew across. Question 9. How did the young seagull's parents teach him the art of flying? Answer: Birds have a natural instinct to fly. However, some birds, like the young seagull in the story are afraid to fly. Then their parents teach them how to fly. The seagull's parents fly about with their children curveting and banking and soaring and diving and thus, perfecting them in the art of flying. Two Stories about Flying Part 1 Long Answer Questions Question 1. Why did the seagull's father and mother threaten him and persuade him to fly? How did they do it? Do you think it is a good parenting? Should the parents threaten their wards for learning? Answer: The young seagull was scared to fly. He was afraid of the vast exposure of the sea beneath him. His siblings were courageous and had learnt to fly. His parents constantly encouraged him to fly but he ' was too scared to fly. He was left alone without food. He was desperate with hunger. He expected his parents to feed him. But it was a threatening from them. He would die of hunger if he did not fly. The mother tempted him with a fish within his reach but not closer to him. He ultimately fell to temptation and dived into the sea and finally succeeded. Yes, it was a good parenting. Parents should not pamper their kids by spoon feeding. They should make them independent. They should learn to do their work. Parents' strictness in making a child learn a skill should not be taken as a threat. It is necessary and in favour of the child. In my opinion, without threat, the seagull would not have learnt to fly. He would have starved to death. Question 2. 'Spare the rod and spoil the child.' Do you think the young seagull was not ready to fly due to lenient treatment by his family in the beginning? What made him fly later on? What is the role of motivation in learning? Answer: 'Spare the rod and spoil the child'. No, I don't agree with this statement.No learning can take place under fear. It is the motivation that makes learning easy. The seagull was too scared to fly. It was a new thing for him. When he saw the vast sea, he could not take courage and fly. He was too young and was being taken care of by his parents. It was natural that his parents were feeding him. It can't be called a lenient treatment. He was, no doubt, threatened by his parents, but it was just to make him realise how important it was to fly. It was a question of his survival. The mother seagull tempted him with a piece of fish. He fell to temptation and dived into the vast sea. He was encouraged by his family and he learnt the art of flying. Motivation, encouragement and family support help in learning. The rod must be spared. Question 3. Fear and lack of confidence stop one from learning new things. Do you agree? How did these two traits of the young seagull make him coward? How did he overcome these shortcomings? Answer: Yes, it is true that fear and lack of confidence stop us from learning new things. The young seagull lacked the value of courage and confidence in his character. He was the last member,