

NCERT Solutions:-

Q1. What 'experiment' did Maxwell think camusfearna would be suitable for?

Ans- The writer had gone to Southern Iraq in the year 1956. He took a fancy to the idea that instead of keeping a dog as a pet, he would go for an otter. Camusfearna was surrounded by water, so it would be an eminently suitable spot for this experiment.

Q2. Why does he go to Basra ? How long does he wait there and why ?

Ans- The writer went to Basra to collect and answer his mail from Europe. He had to wait there for five days as his mail did not arrive.

Q3. How does he get the otter ? Does he like it ? Pick out the words that tell you this.

Ans- His friend had bought the otter for him and sent it to the place where he was staying. The author liked it. This is evident from this use of words like 'a thralldom to otters' and 'an otter fixation'.

Q4. Why was the otter named Maxwell's otter ?

Ans- The otter was named by zoologists as 'Lutrogale perspicillata Maxwelli'. Hence, it was called Maxwell's otter in short .

Q5. What happened when Maxwell took Mijbil to the bathroom ? What did it do two days after that?

Ans- When the author first took Mijbil to the bathroom, the otter first went wild with joy in the water. He plunged and rolled in it. He jumped up and down the length of the bathtub. He made enough slosh and splash. After two days the otter suddenly disappeared and went to the bathroom to play in the water and opened the tap on his own.

Q6. How was Mijbil transported to England?

Ans- Mijbil was packed in a box as the airlines had directed Maxwell. As British airlines did not allow pets on board, Maxwell had to

book a ticket on a different airline from Iraq to Paris and then from Paris to London.

Q7. What did Mijbil do to the box ?

Ans- The box was lined with a metal sheet. Mij didn't feel comfortable in the box and tried to escape. In his attempt to escape, Mijbil tore into the metal lining of the box and in the process hurt himself.

Q8. Why does Maxwell say the air hostess was "the very queen of her kind" ?

Ans- The air hostess was very sympathetic after listening to Maxwell's story. She understood how he might be feeling and then gave him permission to take the otter out of the box. Due to all this, Maxwell referred to as "the very queen of her kind".

Q9. What happened when the box was opened?

Ans. As soon as the box was opened, Mijbil ran out. Then it ran all over the place scaring all the passengers. It created chaos and most of the people in the plane got scared.

Q10. What game had Mij invented?

Ans. Mij invented a game of playing with the ball in a unique way. One of Maxwell's suitcases was damaged and had a slope on the top part. Mij would put the ball on the high end and run to catch it as it slid to the lower end.

Short Answer Questions:-

Q.1. Why were Maxwell and his friends going to Basra?

Ans- Maxwell and his friends were going to Basra to collect and answer their mail from Europe.

Q2. What scene did the Otter create inside the aircraft?

Ans- Mijbil, the otter, came out of the box. He disappeared at high speed down the aircraft. A woman stood and called. "A rat! A rat!" The author dived to catch him. But the air hostess found the otter for him.

Q3. How did Mijbil pass his time in London?

Ans- Mijbil was interested in playing so he had invented his own game. He would play for hours for different toys. There were ping pong balls, marbles, rubber fruit and a terrapin shell.

Q4. How did Mijbil behave for the first twenty four hours?

Ans- For the first twenty-four hours Mijbil the otter, was neither hostile nor friendly. He was lonely and indifferent. He remained passive.

Q5. What game did Mijbil invent?

Ans- Mijbil invented a game with a ping-pong ball. During the journey, the suitcase of the author was damaged and a slope created on the top of it. Mijbil discovered that if he placed the ball on the high end of slightly inclined sloppy suitcase lid it would run down the length of the suitcase.

Q6. What group of animals do otters belong to?

Ans- The otter belongs to a comparatively small group of animals. This group includes animals like a badger, a mongoose, a weasel, a stout, a mink etc.

Q7. What guesses did the Londoners make about what Mij was ?

Ans- The Londoners could not recognize Mij. For them it was a baby seal, walrus mister, a hippo, a beaver, a bear-cub, a leopard and a brontosaur.

Long Answer questions :-

Q1. What things does Mij do which tell you that he is an intelligent, friendly and fun-loving animal who needs love?

Ans- Mij was an intelligent, friendly and fun-loving animal. When Mij was received by the author, for the first twenty-four hours it remained aloof and indifferent but later on he took interest in his surroundings. He enjoyed his bath. His intelligence can be marked by his invention of a game of his own of ping-pong ball. It screwed the tap water began to flow and then it would play and splash the water. Though it was aloof and indifferent in the beginning, it soon became very friendly. Both played with a

selection of toys, ping-pong balls, marbles, rubber fruits and a terrapin shell. Therefore, Mij is intelligent, friendly and fun-loving.

Q3. Why are Mij's species now known to the world as Maxwell's otter?

Ans- Maxwell's otter was of a race previously unknown to science and people. The author, Gavin Maxwell, was the one who first befriended the animal and brought it to the notice of the scientists. Hence, the Zoologist named the otter *Lutrogale Perspicillata* Maxwell, or in other words, Maxwell Otter. Who are small fun-loving and intelligent animals who have a keen interest in the surroundings.

Q3. Write down a character sketch of Mijbil?

Ans- Mijbil was a part of a race of otters that had been recently discovered by a zoologist named *Lutrogale Prospicillata* Maxwell and was thus known as Maxwell's Otter. Maxwell took Mijbil to the bathroom, he learned that Mijbil went wild with joy in water, plunging and rolling in it and splashing water. Actually Otters live in marshy and wetlands. So Mijbil was also fond of water-

Comprehension Questions:-

A. Read the given passage and answer the questions that follow:

Very soon Mij would follow me without a lead and come to me when I called his name. He spent most of his time in play. He spent hours shuffling a rubber ball round the room like a four-footed soccer player using all four feet to dribble the ball, and he could also throw it, with a powerful flick of the neck, to a surprising height and distance. But the real play of an otter is when he lies on his back and juggles with small objects between his paws. Marbles were Mij's favourite toys for this pastime.

Q1. From which lesson this passage has been taken?

Ans- Mijbil the Otter

Q2. What did the Otter do to a rubber ball ?

Ans- The Otter shuffled it round the room like a four footed soccer player.

Q3. What is the real play of an Otter ?

Ans- The real play of an otter is when he lies on his back and juggles with small objects between his paws.

Q4. What were Mijbil's favourite toys for his pastime?

Ans- Marbles were Mijbil's favourite toys for this pastime.

Q5. Find a word from the passage that means 'to strike'.

Ans- Dribble

B. Mij and I remained in London for nearly a month. He would play for hours with a selection of toys, ping-pong balls, marbles, rubber fruit, and a terrapin shell that I had brought back from his native marshes. With the ping-pong ball he invented a game of his own which could keep him engrossed for up to half an hour at a time. A suitcase that I had taken to Iraq had become damaged on the journey home, so that the lid, when closed, remained at a slope from one end to the other. Mij discovered that if he placed the ball on the high end it would run down the length of the suitcase.

Q1. How long did Mijbil remain in London?

Ans- Mijbil remained in London for a month.

Q2. What game was invented by Mij?

Ans- Mij invented the ball and suitcase game.

Q3. What were Mij's playthings in London?

Ans- Mij's playthings in London were toys, ping-pong balls, marbles, rubber fruit, and a terrapin shell.

Q4. What did Mij discover when he placed the ball on the high end of the suitcase?

Ans- Mij discovered that if he placed the ball on the high end it would run down the length of the suitcase.

Q5. Find a word from the passage that means 'almost'.

Ans- Nearly

C. The days passed peacefully at Basra, but I dreaded the prospect of transporting Mij to England, and to Camusfearna. The British airline to London would not fly animals, so I booked a flight to Paris on another airline, and from there to London. The airline insisted that Mij should be packed into a box not more than eighteen inches square, to be carried on the floor at my feet. I had a box made, and an hour before we started, I put Mij into the box so that he would become accustomed to it, and left for a hurried meal.

Q1. Where did the author want to take Mij?

Ans- The author wanted to take Mij to England and then to Camusfearna.

Q2. Why did the author dread the prospect of transporting Mij to England, and to Camusfearna?

Ans- The author dread the prospect of transporting Mij to England, and to Camusfearna because the British airline to London would not fly animals.

Q3. How did the airline to Paris want the author to carry Mij on the airplane?

Ans- The airline to Paris wanted the author to pack Mij in an 18 inches square box, and keep the box at his feet in the aeroplane.

Q4. Why did the author place Mij in the box an hour before they started?

Ans- The author wanted Mij to get accustomed to the box

Q5. Find a word from the passage that means 'quick or rushed'.

Ans- hurried

MCQ

Q1. What group of animals does otters belong to?

- a. elk
- b. hedgehogs
- c. mustellines
- d. reptiles

Q2. What were Mij's favourite toys ?

- a. toy car
- b. rubber ball
- c. marbles
- d. none of these

- Q3. What did the otter look like ?**
 a. small dog b. small dragon
 c. small cat d. small rabbit
- Q4. What had trickled out of the box?**
 a. juice b. blood
 c. water d. Paint
- Q5. What did the women in the aeroplane think that the otter was?**
 a. a dog b. an otter
 c. a rat d. a seal
- Q6. What was the name given to the otter ?**
 a. Major b. Mijbil
 c. Mad d. Majhis
- Q7. Where did the Arabs keep the otter?**
 a. in a box b. in a bag
 c. in a sack d. in the pocket
- Q8. What kept Mij engaged when they shifted to London?**
 a. ping-pong game b. the children
 c. the author d. all of the above
- 9. What did Mij do to the box?**
 a. made it wet
 b. tore the lining of the box
 c. overturned it
 d. all of these
- 10. Why does Maxwell go to Basera ?**
 a. broke the toy car
 b. threw the marbles
 c. torn the lining of box
 d. to collect and answer his mail from Europe

Answer Key

1. c. mustellings
2. c. marbles
3. b. small dragon
4. b. blood
5. c. a rat
6. b. Mijbil
7. c. in a sack
8. a. ping-pong game
9. b. tore the lining of the box.
10. d. to collect and answer his mail from Europe

Fog

-Carl Sandburg

NCERT Solutions.

Q1. What does Sandburg think the fog is like?

Ans- According to Sandburg the fog is like a cat. It comes quietly like a cat and sits on its haunches.

Q2. How does the fog come?

Ans- The fog comes quietly like a cat.

Q3. What does 'it' in the third line refer to?

Ans- 'It' in the third line refers to 'fog'.

Very Short Answer Questions:-

Q1. According to the poet, what is the fog like?

Ans- According to the poet, the fog is like a cat.

Q2. How does the fog come?

Ans- The fog comes slowly and silently.

Q3. What is the fog compared to ?

Ans- The fog is compared to a cat.

Q4. What does the fog look over ?

Ans- The fog looks over the harbour and the city.

Q5. How does the poet make the fog like a living creature ?

Ans- The poet makes the fog like a living creature by comparing it to a cat.

Reference to context questions:-

A. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:

The fog comes
on little cat feet. It sits looking
over harbour and city
on silent haunches
and then moves on.

Q1. From which poem this extract has been taken?

Ans. Fog

Q2. Who is the poet of the poem 'The Fog'?

Ans- Carl Sandburg.

Q3. How does the fog look like ?

Ans- The fog looks like a cat.

Q4. How does the fog come?

Ans- The fog comes on little cat feet.

Q5. Where does the fog sit?

Ans- The fog sits on silent haunches.

Q6. What does the word haunches mean?

Ans- The top of a person's legs and their bottom.

MCQ

Q1. What is the name of the poet of the poem 'The Fog'?

- a. Sylvia Plath b. Carl Sandburg
- c. Robert Frost d. Robert Burns

Q2. What does the fog look over ?

- a. over houses
- b. over the harbour and the city.
- c. over offices
- d. none of these

Q3. How does the fog come?

- a. slowly and silently
- b. faster and silently
- c. faster and making noise
- d. none of these.

Q4. What does the fog do while it looks over the city and the harbour?

- a. sits b. moves
- c. stands d. dances

Q5. What has been identified in the poem ?

- a. fog b. city
- c. cat d. harbour

Q6. How does the fog arrive and depart ?

- a. by announcing its arrival
- b. silently
- c. loudly
- d. both a and c.

Q7. What has the poet compared the fog with

- a. dog b. cat
- c. woman d. frog

- Q8. After sitting the Fog _.**
a. disappears b. sits there only
c. moves on d. gets dense
- Q9. The feet of the fog are like _____ feet.**
a. cat b. lion
c. tiger d. dog
- Q10. Who is 'it' in the poem 'Fog'?**
a. cat b. fog
c. city d. harbour

Answer Key

1. b. Carl Sandburg
2. b. over the harbour and the city.
3. a. slowly and silently
4. a. sits
5. a. fog
6. b. silently
7. b. cat
8. c. moves on
9. a. cat
10. b. fog