

Chapter 1.2: Who's the Greatest ?

EXERCISE [PAGE 5]

Exercise | Q 1 | Page 5

Listen to the stories carefully, as your teacher reads them aloud. Note down the new words, ideas, or concepts. Discuss them in the class.

SOLUTION

Students do it yourself.

Exercise | Q 2 | Page 5

Guess the meaning of the following words and phrases: untold wealth, closest to the Emperor's heart, grave offense, banish.

SOLUTION

1. **untold wealth** - wealth that is too great to be measured.
2. **closest to the Emperor's heart** - most loved by the Emperor.
3. **grave offense** - serious crime.
4. **banish** - to order someone to leave a place.

Exercise | Q 3. (a) | Page 5

Say with reason, whether the following statement is true or false.

Akbar wanted to punish the person who pulled his mustache.

1. True
2. **False**

SOLUTION

The statement is False.

Explanation

Akbar did not actually want to punish the person who pulled his mustache. He just wanted to test his courtiers and hear what they had to say.

Exercise | Q 3. (b) | Page 5

Say with reason, whether the following statement is true or false.

Akbar thought he was greater than God.

1. True
2. **False**

SOLUTION

The statement is False.



Explanation

It was Akbar's courtiers who said that he was greater than God. They said this to flatter Akbar and get some favours from him.

Exercise | Q 3. (c) | Page 5

Say with reasons, whether the following statements are true or false.

Birbal thought Akbar was greater than God.

1. True
2. False

SOLUTION

The statement is false.

Explanation

Birbal knew that God was greater, and he proved this very well without displeasing the Emperor.

Exercise | Q 4 | Page 5

Write a sentence each about three of your friends. Each time you should say what your friend cannot do, and yet, pay a compliment to your friend.

SOLUTION

1. Many students do it, but my friend Rahul just cannot cheat during exams.
2. However upset he is, Tanmay cannot be rude to anybody.
3. Reema just cannot tolerate cruelty towards animals.

Exercise | Q 5 | Page 5

Write a short note on Emperor Akbar.

SOLUTION

Emperor Akbar was one of the greatest rulers of the world. He had a vast empire, a very strong army, and untold wealth. He was a good human being who cared for his subjects. He had great respect for scholars, writers, poets, and artists belonging to different religions. He was a patron of art and culture. He loved to pose interesting questions or problems in his court. He had an excellent sense of humor and was very fond of Birbal, who was one of the nine gems of his court.

Exercise | Q 6 | Page 5

Convert the stories into dialogues and read the dialogues aloud in the class.

SOLUTION

- a. **Emperor:** Courtiers, I have a question for all of you. What should be the punishment for someone who pulls my mustache?
Nobleman 1: Flog him! Give him fifty lashes of the whip

Nobleman 2:

(Students can form the dialogues in a similar way.)

- b. **First Courtier:** You are the greatest of kings

Second Courtier: You are the greatest of the kings or emperors that ever lived ...

(Students can form the dialogues in a similar way.)

Exercise | Q 7 | Page 5

Form pairs and make a 'pair presentation' of any one of the two stories. To do so, each person presents only one sentence at a time, and the next one is immediately presented by the partner. Thus, each person in the pair presents alternate sentences without breaking the flow of the narration.

SOLUTION

First student: The Emperor entered the court with a very serious expression on his face.

Partner: As soon as he was seated, he said that he had a question for his courtiers.

First Student: He asked what the punishment should be for someone who pulls his mustache.

Partner: One nobleman said that the person must be flogged and given fifty lashes of the whip.

(The pair can complete the story in this way, with each person in the pair saying only one sentence at a time.)

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Exercise | Q 8 | Page 5

Find at least five other Akbar and Birbal stories and share them with your friends. Make a list of the stories collected by the entire class. Put your list in alphabetical order.

SOLUTION

Students do it on your own.

Exercise | Q 9 | Page 5

Visit a library: Find the stories of

- Mulla Nasiruddin
- Gopal Bhand and
- Tenali Raman. Share them in the class.

SOLUTION

Students do it on your own.

