

Grade: 8 SUBJECT: ENGLISH

**A DAY IN THE COUNTRY**

**I. Answer the following question:**

1. What happened to Danilka? What caused the accident? How did Terenty help him?

Ans: Danilka had stuck his hand in a hole in a lime tree and he could not pull his hand out. Danilka’s desire to get a cuckoo’s egg from inside the hole led to the accident. Terenty helped him by snapping off the broken piece of wood from the edge of the hole and pulling out Danilka’s hand.

2. What had Terenty learnt about the ants and the bees?

Ans: Terenty tells the children that the ants would not build their home on low ground again. They have learnt to be cautious of the rain. Terenty also tells them that throwing water on a flying swarm of bees makes them settle. To take a swarm of bees, the branch must be gently bent inside an open sack.

3.Danilka looks at Terenty and greedily

a. What id Danilka’s mood here? Danilka is keen to learn more about nature from Terenty.

b. Where were they? They were walking aimlessly through the fields towards the river.

c. What was Terenty telling him? Terenty talked about the beauty of the earth, the wonders of the various creatures living in it and all that he had learnt from his experiences with nature.

4. Describe the change in Fyokla’s mood in the story.

Ans: At the beginning of the story Fyokla was eager to save his brother and rushed to find Terenty. They crossed muddy fields in the rain to help him. Afterwards, she was tired and could barely keep up with Danilka and Terenty. She fell asleep while Danilka thought of the wonderful things he had seen and learnt that day.

5. The story reflects Terenty’s love for the children. Give three reasons to prove this.

Ans: Terenty looked lovingly at Fyokla when she came to him asking for help. He was gentle and tender with her. As soon as he heard of Danilka’s predicament, he rushed to help him out of danger. Terenty also did not mind. All rights reserved. answering the questions that Danilka had and patiently explaining all that he knew to them. At night, he put bread under their heads. This proves his love for the children.

6. The children were impoverished but joyful. Justify this statement.

Ans: The children slept in a barn where the community kept their corn. The day’s adventures tell us that they led a joyful life. Both Fyokla and Danilka enjoyed spending time with nature, and learning about the ants, bees, and the nightingale.

7. Describe the setting of this 20th century Russian village.

Ans: The story is set in a quaint Russian village where the people live in huts. They work in the kitchen gardens and vegetable plots and till the fields. There is a community barn where they store their corn. The children like running through the fields of grass and watch the goods train which passes by their village. It is a place of beauty and serenity.

8. Terenty was unschooled but nature had been his greatest teacher. What lessons had Terenty learnt from Nature?

Ans: Terenty had learned a lot from his daily experiences with nature. He tried to teach the children all that he knew. He told them thunder was caused by the friction of clouds, a singing bird’s nest should never be disturbed, the ants would search for higher ground after the rain washes away their anthill. He also taught them that a swarm of bees could be settled by water and that a sting of Spanish fly can cause swelling. He knew the herbs which cured diseases and could tell the weather from the skieSs.