
RIICO
GROW WITH RAJASTHAN
ई-पाठशाला कार्यक्रम
CLASS 10th ENGLISH
FIRST FLIGHT
THE TRIUMPH OF SURGERY +
THE THIEF'S STORY +
THE MIDNIGHT VISITOR
RAPID REVISION
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# Footprints without Feet

(Supplementary)

3 marks

3 × 2 = 6



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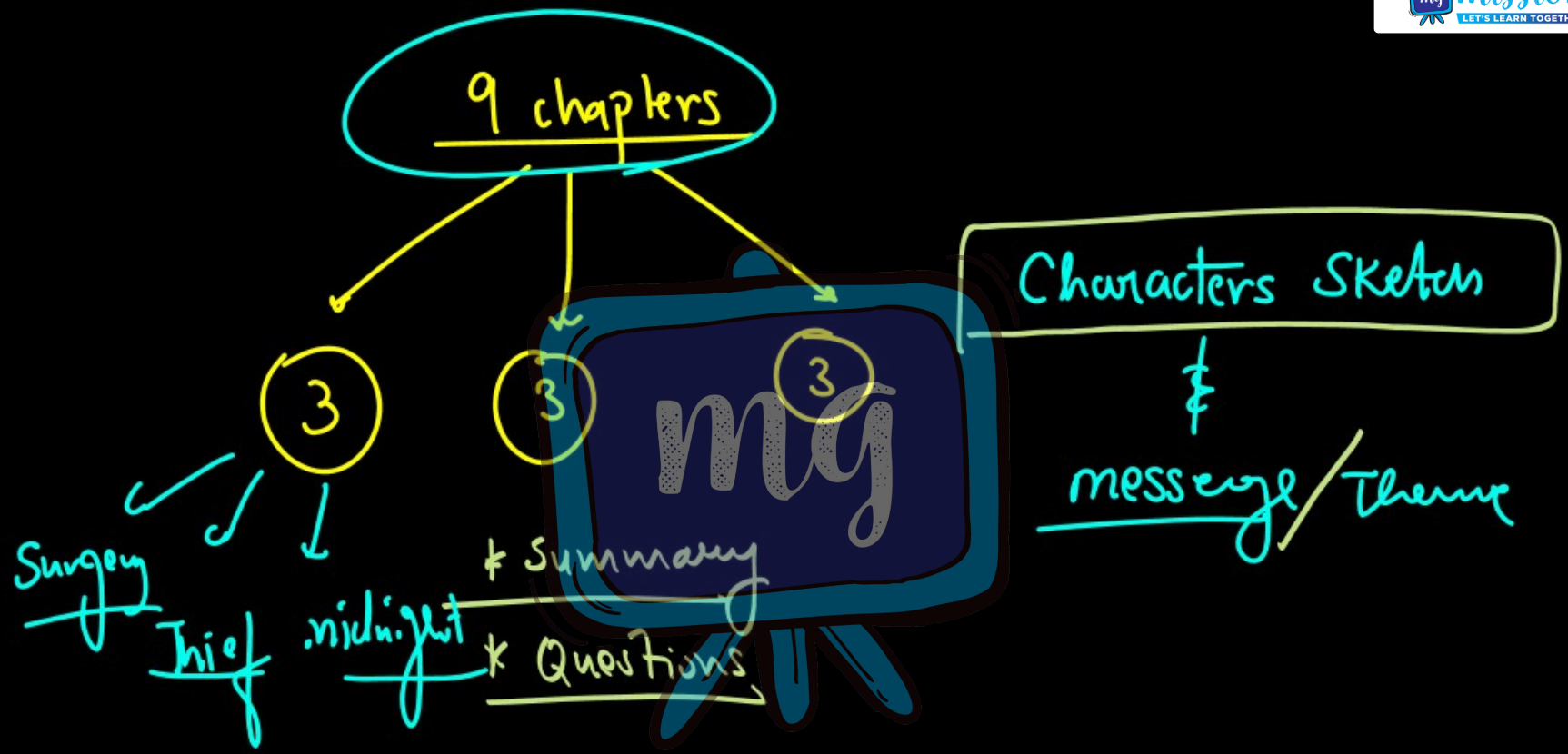

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James Herriot.

## Chapter 1

# A Triumph of Surgery (James Herriot)

- Tricki : A small pet dog who becomes very fat and sick because of overeating.
- Mrs. Pumphrey : A rich, loving lady who pampers and overfeeds her dog Tricki.
- Dr. James Herriot : A clever and practical veterinary surgeon (dog doctor) who cures Tricki without any medicine.

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- The story takes place at Mrs. Pumphrey's rich home and at Dr. Herriot's animal hospital (surgery) in England.



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→ Tricki is a small dog who is deeply loved by his rich mistress, Mrs. Pumphrey. She gives him cream cakes, chocolates, wine, and excessive food all day. Because of this, Tricki becomes extremely fat, lazy, and sick. He stops eating and spends his days lying on a carpet.

of Surgery."

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Worried about his health, Mrs. Pumphrey calls Dr. James Herriot. Dr. Herriot knows that Tricki does not need any medical operation or medicine; he only needs a strict diet and exercise.

He takes Tricki away to his animal hospital for two weeks. For the first two days, Dr. Herriot gives Tricki only plain water and no food.

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natural recovery

Surgery

Soon, Tricki starts running, jumping, and playing with other dogs in the garden. By exercising and eating simple food, Tricki loses all his extra fat and becomes fit and active.

When Mrs. Pumphrey comes to collect him, she is so happy to see her healthy dog that she calls this natural recovery **"A Triumph of Surgery."**

Ruskin Bond

## Chapter 2

## The Thief's Story (Ruskin Bond)

- **Hari Singh :** A 15-year-old experienced thief who changes his name every month to hide from the police.
- **Anil :** A 25-year-old kind, simple, and forgiving writer who trusts Hari Singh and teaches him.
- The story is set in Anil's small room above the Jumna Sweet Shop and at a local railway station in India.

Hari Singh is a young thief who meets Anil during a wrestling match. Seeing that Anil is simple and trusting, Hari decides to make him his next target. He asks Anil for work. Anil takes Hari home, feeds him, and promises to teach him how to read, write, and add numbers.

One night, Anil earns six hundred rupees by selling a book to a publisher and places the bundle of money under his mattress.

While Anil is sleeping peacefully, Hari Singh steals the money and runs away to the railway station to catch the Lucknow Express train.

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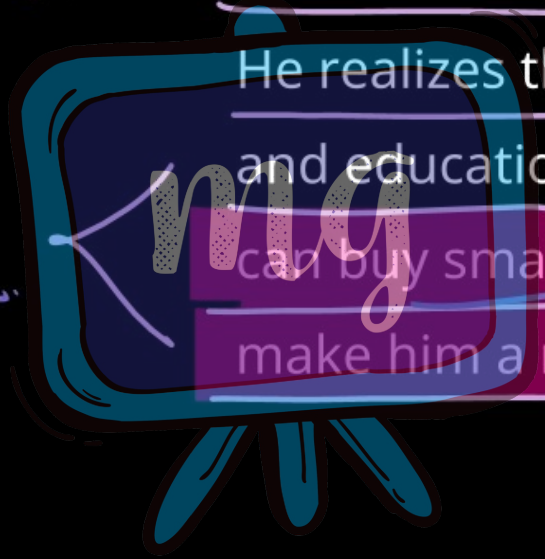
However, standing on the platform in the cold rain, his conscience stops him. He realizes that Anil gave him trust, love, and education. Hari realizes that money can buy small things, but education will make him a respected person in society.

Final verdict



Feeling guilty, Hari returns to Anil's room and puts the wet money back under the mattress. The next morning, Anil gives Hari a wet fifty-rupee note and promises to pay him regularly, showing that he knows about the theft but chooses to forgive Hari and reform him through love.

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Robert Arthur

## Chapter 3

## The Midnight Visitor (Robert Arthur)

- **Ausable :** A fat, sharp, and quick-witted secret agent (spy).
- **Fowler :** A young, romantic writer who wants to see real spy action.
- **Max :** A rival secret agent who comes to steal an important government report at gunpoint.
- A small, dark room on the **sixth (top) floor of a gloomy French hotel** in Paris.

Fowler, a young writer, goes to meet a secret agent named Ausable. Fowler expects to see a tall, athletic spy who fights villains, but he is disappointed to find that Ausable is a fat, dull man living in a small hotel room.

When both enter Ausable's room, they are shocked to find another spy, Max, standing inside holding a pistol. Max has come to steal a very important secret report about new missiles.

Instead of panicking, Ausable stays completely calm and uses his brain. He makes up a fake story about a non-existent balcony right outside his room window, complaining that people have broken into his room through that balcony before.

Suddenly, there is a loud knock on the door. Ausable tricks Max by saying that it is the police, whom he had asked to check on him for safety.

Terrified of getting caught by the police, Max steps out of the window onto the "balcony" to hide. Since there is actually no balcony outside the sixth floor, Max falls to his death.

The door opens to reveal a waiter carrying drinks, not the police. Ausable saves his own life and the report using only his sharp mind and presence of mind.



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3 mark

**Q.1** Why was Mr. Herriot worried about Tricki?



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**Q.1** Why was Mr. Herriot worried about Tricki?

**Answer :** Mr. Herriot was worried because Tricki had become extremely fat, looking like a bloated sausage. He refused to eat anything, panted heavily, and spent all day lying on a rug because he was too weak to move.

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**Q.2** What treatment did Dr. Herriot give to Tricki at his surgery?



**Q.2** What treatment did Dr. Herriot give to Tricki at his surgery?

**Answer :** Dr. Herriot did not give any medicines or surgery to Tricki. He kept him on a strict diet of plain water for two days, let him run around freely with other dogs, and gave him plenty of natural physical exercise.

**Q.3** Why did Mrs. Pumphrey send eggs, wine, and brandy for Tricki?



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**Q.3** Why did Mrs. Pumphrey send eggs, wine, and brandy for Tricki?

**Answer :** Mrs. Pumphrey sent eggs to build up Tricki's physical strength after his illness, and later sent wine and brandy to enrich his blood and keep him happy and energetic.

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**Q.4** Why is the title 'A Triumph of Surgery' ironic or sarcastic?



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**Q.4** Why is the title 'A Triumph of Surgery' ironic or sarcastic?

**Answer :** The title is ironic because there was no actual surgery performed at all. Tricki was cured simply through fasting, fresh air, running, and playing with other dogs, not by any medical operation.

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6 mark = 12 lines

**Q.5** Write a character sketch of Mrs. Pumphrey based on the story.



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**Q.5** Write a character sketch of Mrs. Pumphrey based on the story.

**Answer :** Mrs. Pumphrey is a very rich, emotional, and loving lady, but her excessive affection ruins her pet dog's health. She pampers Tricki with too much food and luxury, feeding him cream cakes, chocolates, and malt, which makes him dangerously sick.

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(3)

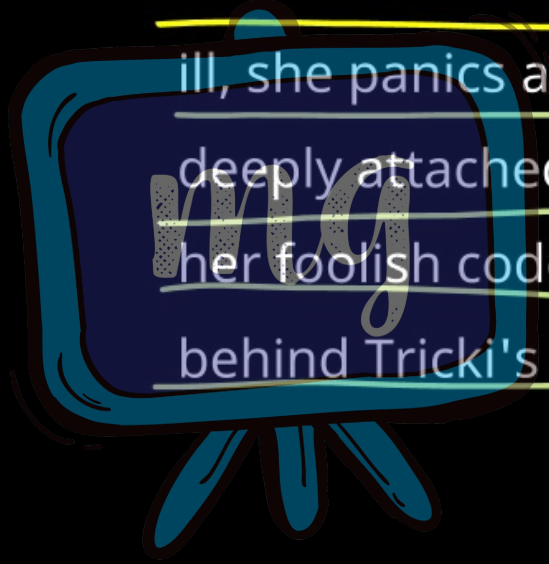
Though she means well, she lacks practical sense about animal care. (4) When Tricki falls ill, she panics and weeps, showing how deeply attached she is to him. However, her foolish coddling is the real reason behind Tricki's bad health.

intentions ✓

इरादा ✓

इरकत ✗

actions ✗



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6 marks

Conclusion

Summary

**Q.6** Describe how Dr. Herriot cured Tricki without any medical surgery or medicines.



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**Q.6** Describe how Dr. Herriot cured Tricki without any medical surgery or medicines.

**Answer :** Dr. Herriot cured Tricki through simple natural care and discipline. First, he removed Tricki from Mrs. Pumphrey's luxurious home to his hospital. For the first two days, he gave Tricki no food, only plenty of water.

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Summary but in different words!

Soon, Tricki started showing interest in food and began running and playing with other big dogs in the garden. He lost all his extra fat and became active and muscular. Dr. Herriot proved that love without discipline can harm, and simple food with physical exercise is the best medicine.

**Q.1** Who was Hari Singh? How did he make a living?



**Q.1** Who was Hari Singh? How did he make a living?

**Answer :** Hari Singh was a fifteen-year-old boy who was an experienced and clever thief. He made a living by changing his name every month to hide from the police and his old employers, and by stealing small amounts of money from people.

**Q.2** Why did Hari Singh choose Anil as his next target?



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**Q.2** Why did Hari Singh choose Anil as his next target?

**Answer :** Hari Singh chose Anil because Anil was a young, tall, lean, and simple-looking man who was easy to fool. Anil was trusting and friendly, making it very easy for a thief to rob him.

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**Q.3** What promises did Anil make to Hari Singh?



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**Q.3** What promises did Anil make to Hari Singh?

**Answer :** Anil promised to teach Hari Singh how to cook, how to write his name, and later promised to teach him how to read full sentences and add numbers.

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look

**Q.4** What did Anil mean when he said "Today I made some money. Now you'll be paid regularly"?



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**Q.4** What did Anil mean when he said "Today I made some money. Now you'll be paid regularly"?

**Answer :** The next morning after the theft, Anil handed a fifty-rupee note to Hari Singh, which was still wet from the rain. By saying this, Anil showed that he knew everything about the theft, but instead of punishing Hari, he chose to forgive him and give him regular wages.

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Summary

**Q.5** Describe how Hari Singh stole the money and why he decided to come back to Anil.



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6m

**Q.5** Describe how Hari Singh stole the money and why he decided to come back to Anil.

**Answer :** One night, Anil brought home a bundle of notes and slid them under his mattress. When Anil fell asleep, Hari Singh crept quietly to the bed, slipped his hand under the mattress, took the money, and ran away to the railway station. He wanted to catch the Lucknow Express, but he missed the train.

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① Theft
② Return

Standing alone on the platform in the cold rain, he realized that Anil was the only person who could teach him to read and write, which would give him a respectable life. Feeling deep guilt, he returned to the room and silently put the money back under the mattress.

6m

**Q.6** Write a character sketch of Anil. What qualities make him different from others?



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**Q.6** Write a character sketch of Anil. What qualities make him different from others?

**Answer :** Anil is a kind, simple, and large-hearted young man of twenty-five. He struggles to earn money by writing articles for magazines, spending freely when he gets paid and borrowing when he is broke. Unlike typical harsh masters, Anil is very patient, generous, and forgiving.

He takes in a runaway thief, feeds him, and teaches him how to read and write without ever scolding him. His gentle nature and absolute trust change Hari Singh's heart, proving that love and education can reform a criminal better than punishment.

**Q.1** Who was Ausable? How was he different from a normal secret agent?



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**Q.1** Who was Ausable? How was he different from a normal secret agent?

**Answer :** Ausable was a secret agent living in a French hotel. Unlike a typical glamorous spy shown in movies—who is tall, athletic, and mysterious—Ausable was very fat, sloppy, spoke with an American accent, and lived in a small, smelly room on the sixth floor.

**Q.2** Who was Fowler? Why did he come to meet Ausable?



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**Q.2** Who was Fowler? Why did he come to meet Ausable?

**Answer :** Fowler was a young and romantic writer who wanted to meet a real secret agent. He expected thrilling adventures, flashing pistols, and dark secrets, so he came to spend an evening with Ausable.

**Q.3** What was Max looking for in Ausable's room?



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**Q.3** What was Max looking for in Ausable's room?

**Answer :** Max was a rival secret agent who had come to steal an important confidential report about some new missiles that Ausable was expecting that night.

**Q.4** Why did Max jump out of the window? Did he survive?



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**Q.4** Why did Max jump out of the window? Did he survive?

**Answer :** Max jumped out of the window because he believed Ausable's lie that there was a balcony outside and panicked when he heard a knock on the door, thinking it was the police. No, he did not survive because there was no balcony, and he fell from the sixth floor.

Summary

**Q.5** Describe how Ausable outsmarted Max with his quick thinking and presence of mind.



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**Q.5** Describe how Ausable outsmarted Max with his quick thinking and presence of mind.

**Answer :** Ausable used his sharp intelligence instead of physical weapons to defeat Max. When he saw Max waiting with a gun in his dark room, Ausable did not lose his cool.

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Read

He sat down and invented a clever story about a non-existent balcony right outside his window, blaming the hotel management for not blocking it. A little later, when someone knocked loudly on the door, Ausable calmly said it was the police whom he had called for extra protection of the important report.

Terrified of being caught by the police, Max rushed to hide on the "balcony" and jumped out of the window to his death, completely falling into Ausable's trap.

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**Q.6** Write a character sketch of Ausable highlighting his intelligence.



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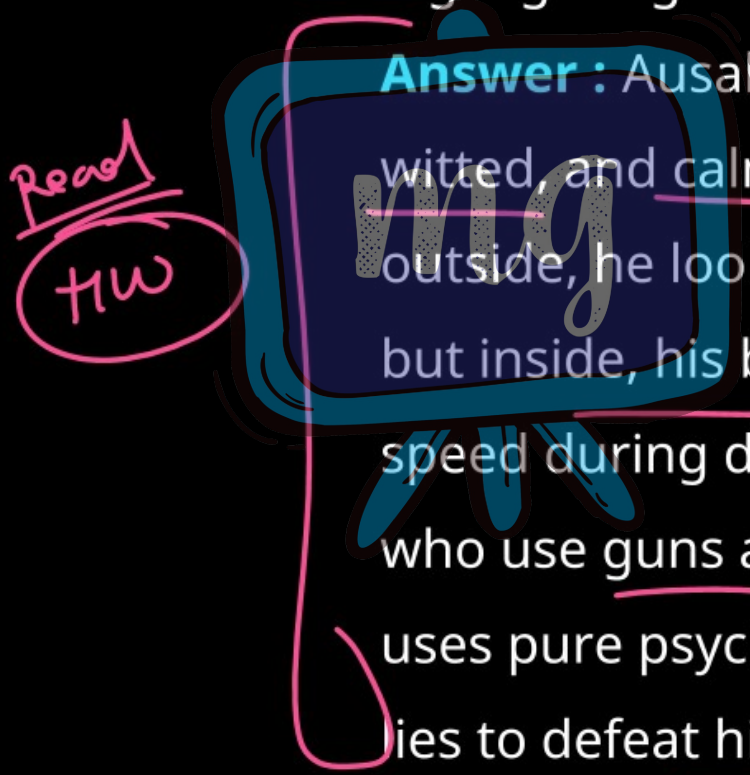
**Q.6** Write a character sketch of Ausable highlighting his intelligence.

**Answer :** Ausable is a brilliant, quick-witted, and calm secret agent. On the outside, he looks ordinary, fat, and dull, but inside, his brain works with lightning speed during danger. Unlike action heroes who use guns and physical force, Ausable uses pure psychological tricks and clever lies to defeat his enemies.



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His calm behavior under extreme pressure saves his life and the secret papers. Through him, the story teaches us that true intelligence and presence of mind are far more powerful than physical weapons.

