



Chapter-8 | Bholi

Worksheet-2

Multiple Choice Questions

1. When Bholi was two years old, she suffered from an attack of smallpox which left her _____.
(a) Blind in one eye (b) With a permanent stutter
(c) Disfigured with black pockmarks (d) With a noticeable limp
2. When it was time to garland the bride, Bishamber looked at the pockmarks on Bholi's face and refused to marry her unless her father paid _____ rupees.
(a) Two thousand (b) Five thousand
(c) Four thousand (d) Six thousand
3. Ramlal's wife was in favour of Bishamber's marriage proposal because of _____.
(a) He had a big shop and his own house.
(b) He did not know about Bholi's pock marks and lack of sense.
(c) All of these.
(d) He had several thousand rupees in the bank.
4. The teacher's words of encouragement filled Bholi's heart with _____.
(a) Joy and laughter (b) The excitement of making friends
(c) Ringing bells and lovely blossoms (d) A new hope and a new life
5. Who is the author of the story "Bholi"?
(a) K. A. Abbas (b) Guy de Maupassant
(c) Richard Ebright (d) None of the above
6. What is Bholi's real name?
(a) Lakshmi (b) Radha
(c) Sita (d) Sulekha
7. What caused Bholi's disfigurement?
(a) An accident (b) Smallpox
(c) Birth defect (d) Fire
8. What did Bishamber demand as dowry?
(a) A car (b) A house
(c) Five thousand rupees (d) A shop
9. What was Bholi's profession at the end of the story?
(a) Doctor (b) Teacher
(c) Shopkeeper (d) Maid

10. What transformed Bholi into a confident girl?

- (a) Marriage
- (b) Wealth
- (c) Education
- (d) Beauty

Fill in the blanks :

11. Bholi refused to marry Bishamber because he was _____.
12. Bholi's teacher gave her _____ and a new life.

True / False

13. Bishamber was a young and handsome man.
14. Bholi's parents were very supportive of her education.

Very Short Type Questions

15. How did Bholi's teacher play an important role in changing the course of her life?
16. Why did Bholi at first agree to the unequal match? Why did she later reject the marriage? What does this tell us about her?

Short Type Questions

17. Bholi is a child different from others. This difference makes her an object of neglect and laughter. Elaborate.
18. Sketch the character of Bholi.

Essay Type Questions

19. How did Bholi's teacher help her to overcome her fear of school and become a confident girl?
20. Describe Bholi's first-day experience at school. Did she enjoy it? Give a reasoned answer.

HOTS

21. **Assertion (A) :** Bholi could not have confidently refused to marry Bishamber if she wasn't educated.
- Reason (R) :** It was education that empowered her to stand up for her rights and transform from a timid girl into a confident individual.
- (a) Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A.
 - (b) Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A.
 - (c) A is true, but R is false.
 - (d) A is false, but R is true.



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Answer & Solution

1. (c)
Bholi was a fair and pretty child when she was born. At the age of two, she suffered from an attack of smallpox which left her entire body disfigured with black pockmarks.
2. (b)
When Bishamber went to garland Bholi, her veil was pulled back and he saw the pockmarks on her face. He immediately stopped. He demanded that he would only marry her if her father would give him five thousand rupees.
3. (c)
Ramlal's wife was in favour of Bishamber's proposal as he was a rich man with a shop and house of his own. Moreover, as he was from another village, he did not know about Bholi's pockmarks and lack of sense.
4. (d)
The teacher told Bholi that soon she would learn to read and become the most learned person in the village. People would respect her and listen to her. This thought filled Bholi's heart with new hope and new life. The teacher had shown a path and given a purpose to her life.
5. (a) K. A. Abbas
6. (d) Sulekha
7. (b) Smallpox
8. (c) Five thousand rupees
9. (b) Teacher
10. (c) Education
11. Greedy
12. New hope
13. False
14. False
15. When Bholi went to school and met her teacher, she was very shy and innocent. She didn't know anything about life's hardships. She had a lack of sense as she fell from a cot when she was ten months old and a part of her mind was damaged. This damaged her mind and could not speak until she was five years old. After five, she tried to speak but could not and only stammered. Due to the attack of smallpox-there were pock-marks all over her body. All others made fun of her. Bholi's teacher played an important role in changing the course of her life. She was polite and friendly which touched her heart. She encouraged her every time and was affectionate towards her. The teacher transformed her into a confident person who could read, write and speak clearly. This gave her the required confidence. Moreover, the teacher's appreciation and encouragement helped her overcome her low morale.

16. Bholi at first agreed to the unequal match because she was a very simple and innocent girl. She did not want to make her parents unhappy. She knew that a common man would not marry her as she was neither beautiful nor intelligent. She thought that her parents would not think bad for her. They would take a good decision for her. She agreed for marriage but only to make her family happy. Inside her heart, she knew it was wrong. At the time of marriage, she refused to get married because Bishamber demanded five thousand rupees from Ramlal and threatened not to marry Bholi if he did not get that amount. Ramlal pleaded him too much. But Bishamber neglected everything. At last Ramlal gave him five thousand rupees and Bishamber agreed to marry Bholi. This shocked Bholi's mind and heart, she threw the garland into the fire and rejected the marriage. She refused the marriage by saying that she could live with her parents instead of a man who did not love her. She could not live with a greedy man. This tells about her that now Bholi was no longer timid and changed into a confident and courageous girl.

17. The society often does not tolerate differences very easily. Bholi is different from other children. She is slow for her age and she stammers while speaking. She suffers a lot as smallpox leaves her body all covered with pock-marks. Her parents do not even bathe her. Hence, she is left ignored and neglected as she is taken as a burden. That's why she becomes an object of laughter for other people. Children imitate her when she speaks. But she remains silent most of the time because she has no confidence or self-esteem. However, society must accept those who are different and treat them with the same love and respect as others.

18. Bholi's real name was Sulekha but she was called Bholi, the simpleton as she was a backward child. She was the fourth daughter of Numberdar Ramlal who had seven children. Bholi remained a backward child due to an injury in her head when she was ten months old. She was fair and pretty at birth but when she was two years old, she had an attack of small-pox which left deep black marks all over her body. She started speaking only when she turned five but she stammered when she spoke and as a result, she was always mimicked or made fun of by the other children. Therefore, Bholi talked very little. Unlike Ramlal's other children, she was not healthy and strong. She was frightened at first when her father wanted to take her to school. After years of gaining an education and with the help of her teacher, Bholi turned into a confident girl.

19. Bholi's teacher played a pivotal role in transforming her life. Unlike others who dismissed her, the teacher showed Bholi kindness, immense compassion and understanding. With patience and encouragement, the teacher created a safe space for Bholi in the classroom. On the very first day at school, she kindly urged Bholi to speak her name, which she did successfully after repeated attempts. She gave her a book with colourful pictures and lit the flame of hope in Bholi for a better life ahead. She likely used engaging methods to make learning fun and instilled confidence in Bholi by celebrating her small achievements. This positive reinforcement, along with the promise of gaining respect and knowledge, empowered Bholi to overcome her fear and blossom into a confident girl.

20. Bholi's father forced her to go to school. When her father came to take her to the school, she thought she would be sold as her old cow. When they reached the school, the children were already in their classrooms. Bholi looked at the headmistress with fearladen eyes. The headmistress asked Bholi to sit down in a corner in one of the classrooms. She found so many girls almost of her own age. She hoped that some of these girls might become her friend. In the beginning, when, the teacher asked Bholi her name, she began to cry. She kept sobbing in a corner. But then the teacher called out her name lovingly.

No one had ever shown her such love. It touched Bholi's heart. This shows Bholi enjoyed her first day at school. She was happier as expected. She began to enjoy in school rather than in her own house. School changed her whole life.

21. No, I don't think so, Bholi would have refused to marry Bishamber in that case. In the story, it was her going to school that brought the positive change in her and stood for her rights otherwise in the story she has been portrayed as a weak girl.