



CLASS – 10

ENGLISH

mg **Footprints without Feet**

CH-1 : A Triumph of Surgery

Part – 4

Comprehension

ARPITA SHARMA

READ AND FIND OUT

Q.1 Why is Mrs. Pumphrey worried
about Tricki?



Answer : Mrs. Pumphrey is worried about Tricki because he is not well.

He has refused to eat food and had bouts of vomiting. She feels that he

is suffering from malnutrition or any other health issue.

Q.2 What does she do to help him?

Is she wise in this?



Answer : She starts giving him extra snacks like malt, cod-liver oil and Horlicks, apart from his main meals, to improve his condition.

She is not wise in doing so because overfeeding Tricki is worsening his condition instead of improving it.

Q.3 Who does 'I' refer to in this story?



Mr. Herriot

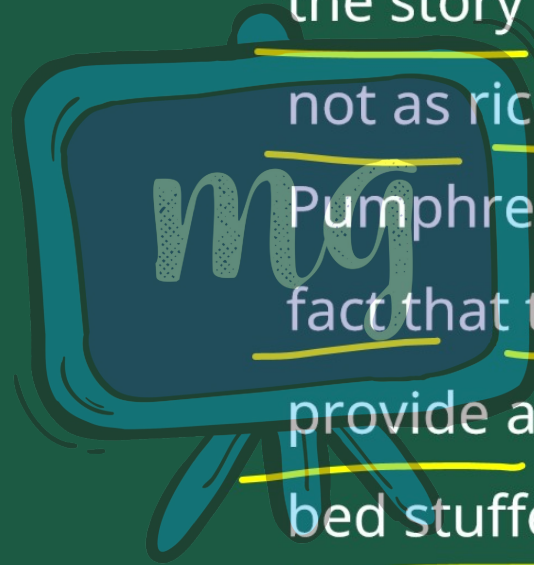
Answer : 'I', in this story, refers to
James Herriot, the veterinary surgeon,



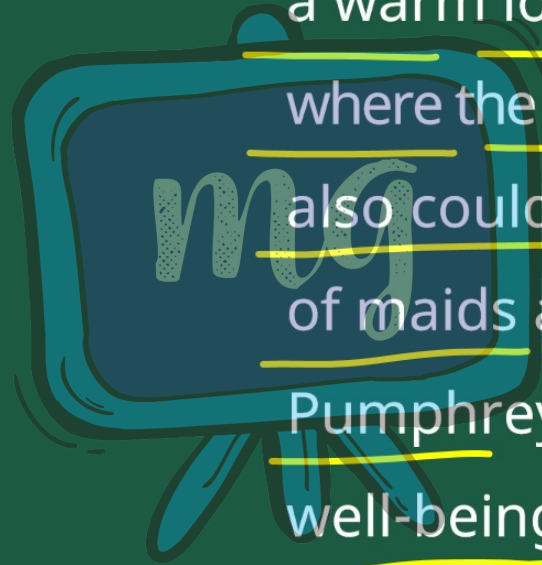
Q.4 Is the narrator as rich as Tricky's
mistress?



Answer : There are some instances in the story that suggest Dr Herriot was not as rich as Tricky's mistress, Mrs Pumphrey. This is evident from the fact that the narrator could not provide a luxurious life such as a cosy bed stuffed with favourite cushions, toys and rubber rings along with bowls for different meals of the day,



rather he made up a bed for Tricki in
a warm loose box next to the one
where the other dogs slept. The doctor
also could not afford an entire staff
of maids and caretakers just like Mrs
Pumphrey to take care of the sole
well-being and maintenance of her
pet, Tricki.



Q.5 How does he treat the dog?

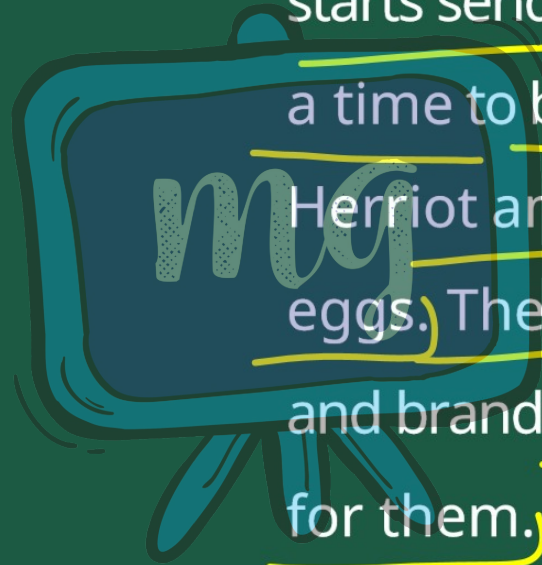


Answer : He takes the dog Tricki to his surgery. There he does not give much food to him. He instead cuts his food. He keeps him on a strict diet. He keeps him under observation. He gradually increases Tricki's food and sets him free for physical activities to improve his health. At the end of the second day Tricki changes. He starts showing some interest in the surroundings.

Q.6 Why is he tempted to keep Tricki
on as a permanent guest?



Answer : It is because Mrs. Pumphrey starts sending fresh eggs, two dozen at a time to build up Tricky's health. Mr Herriot and his partners eat these eggs. There come bottles of wine and brandy. It is really a great thing for them. He does not want to lose the luxurious inflow of good food.



Q.7 Why does Mrs. Pumphrey think
the dog's recovery is "a triumph
of surgery"?



Answer : Mrs. Pumphrey thinks that Tricky's recovery is a triumph of surgery because his illness was very serious according to her.)

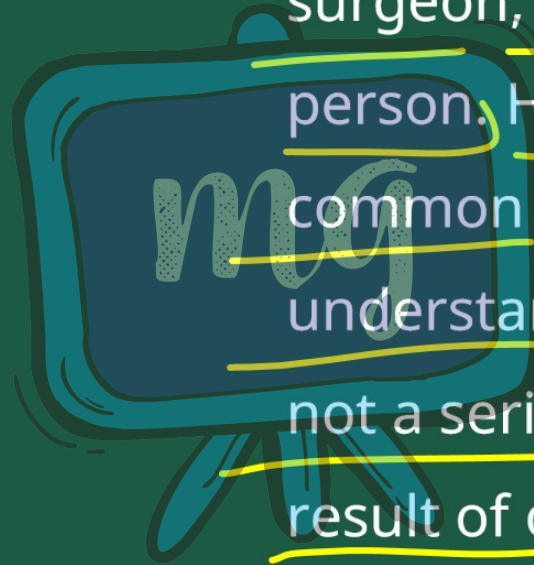
She was of the opinion that there were very few chances of Tricky to improve and he needed immediate medical attention. Thus, his recovery without any medicinal treatment was a great achievement of surgery, according to her.)

THINK ABOUT IT

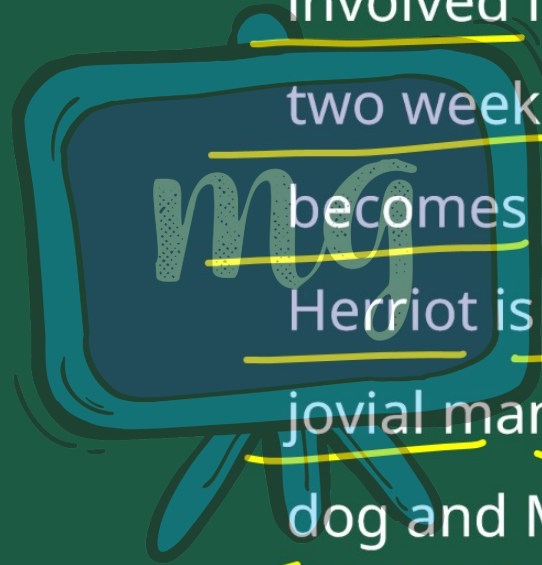
Q.1 What kind of a person do you think the narrator, a veterinary surgeon is? Would you say he is tactful as well as full of common sense?

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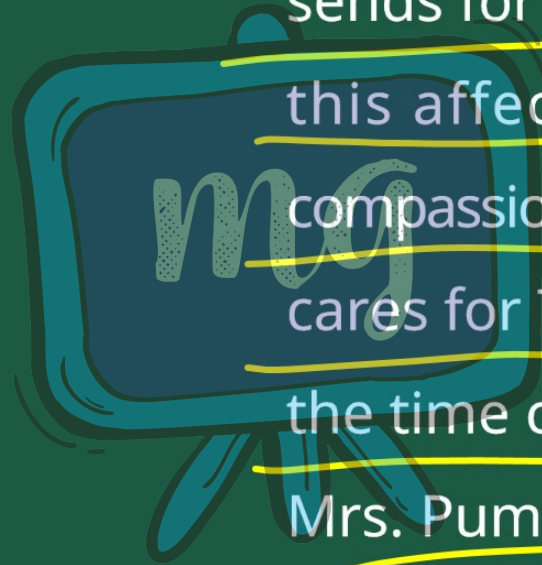
Answer : The narrator, a veterinary surgeon, is a very practical and wise person. He is tactful and full of common sense. He immediately understands that Tricki's problem is not a serious illness, but rather the result of overfeeding by Mrs. Pumphrey. Instead of performing unnecessary surgery, he wisely



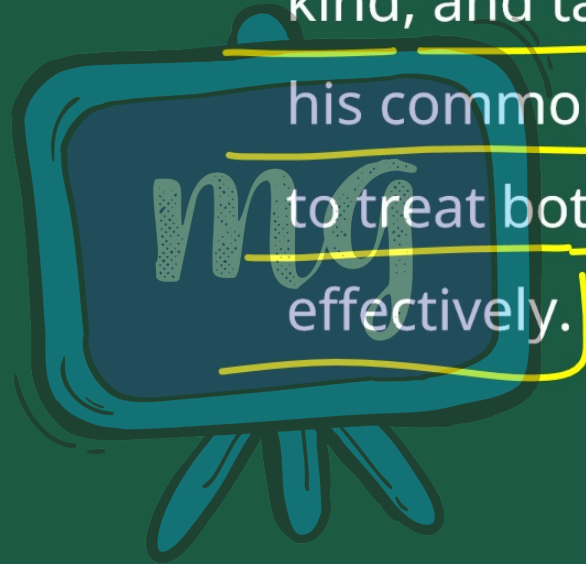
changes Tricki's diet and gets him involved in physical activities. Within two weeks, Tricki recovers and becomes a much livelier dog. Dr. Herriot is also a kind-hearted and jovial man, who handles both the dog and Mrs. Pumphrey with great care. He knows exactly how to treat Tricki and, though he enjoys the



luxurious gifts that Mrs. Pumphrey sends for the dog, he does not let this affect his judgment. He is a compassionate doctor who genuinely cares for Tricki's well-being. When the time comes, he tactfully informs Mrs. Pumphrey that Tricki is ready to return home, even though he is tempted to keep him for the luxury.



In short, Dr. Herriot is a sensible,
kind, and tactful person, who uses
his common sense and compassion
to treat both animals and people
effectively.

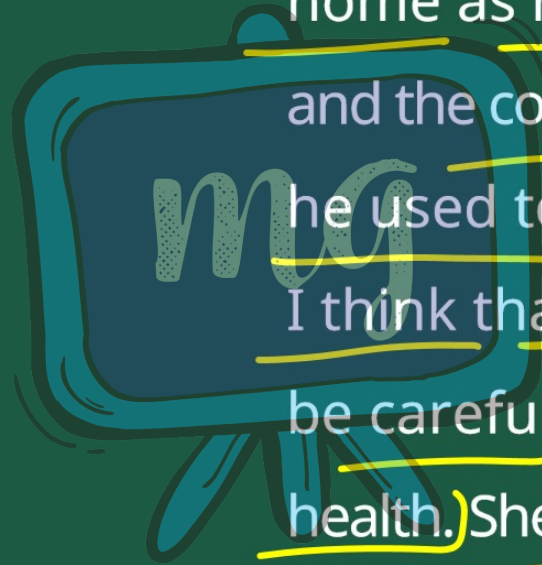


Q.2 Do you think Tricky was happy
to go home? What do you think
will happen now?



Answer : Yes, Tricky was happy to go home as he really loved his mistress and the comfort of the lavish life that he used to enjoy at home.

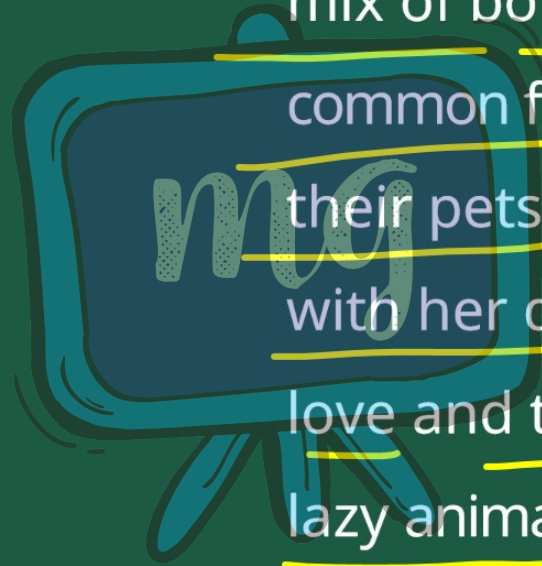
I think that Mrs. Pumphrey will now be careful about Tricky's diet and health. She may also give him exercise daily.



Q.3 Do you think this is a real-life
episode, or mere fiction? Or is
it a mixture of both?



Answer : The story seems to be a
mix of both reality and fiction. It's
common for wealthy people to pamper
their pets, like Mrs. Pumphrey did
with her dog, overfeeding him out of
love and turning him into a bloated,
lazy animal. However, the part where
she sends wine and brandy for the
dog is more fictional.



It's also not entirely realistic that a vet like Dr. Herriot would lie about performing surgery to stop her from overindulging the dog. So, while the core of the story is based on real behaviors, some elements are exaggerated for effect.

