

1. What is the main theme of 'A Short Monsoon Diary'?

- A. Political life in India
- B. Adventures of a traveler
- C. Natural beauty and personal reflections during the monsoon
- D. History of Mussoorie (C)

**Explanation:** The chapter is a personal diary of Ruskin Bond, reflecting on the natural changes and his personal experiences during the monsoon in Mussoorie.

2. What does the mist do to the surroundings according to the author?

- A. Makes everything hot and dusty
- B. Covers and conceals the hills
- C. Makes the trees shed their leaves
- D. Turns the sky bright blue (B)

**Explanation:** The author notes that the mist comes in waves and hides the hills, turning the view into a ghostly one.

3. On June 24, what sudden change is described?

- A. The sky becomes clear
- B. A heavy hailstorm begins
- C. The sun sets at midnight
- D. A landslide occurs (B)

**Explanation:** On June 24, there is a description of a sudden hailstorm that damages the flower beds and causes a chill in the air.

4. What creatures does the author say begin to emerge in July due to the rain?

- A. Lions and tigers
- B. Beetles, leeches, and snakes
- C. Monkeys and cats
- D. Cows and buffaloes (B)

**Explanation:** The rains bring out various insects and reptiles, such as leeches, snakes, and beetles.

5. What does the author say about the leopard?

- A. It often visits the town square
- B. It's frightened by the lightning
- C. It was spotted near a school
- D. It is often mistaken for a bear (C)

**Explanation:** The author mentions that a leopard was seen outside a school in Mussoorie during the monsoon.

6. How does Ruskin Bond describe the first real monsoon rain?

- A. Gentle and soothing
- B. Violent and thunderous
- C. Continuous and drenching
- D. Delayed and disappointing (C)

**Explanation:** He describes it as the first real monsoon rain, continuous and soaking everything in sight.

7. What does the author feel when the monsoon ends and the sky clears up?

- A. Sad and nostalgic
- B. Bored and restless
- C. Joyful and renewed
- D. Uninterested and tired (C)

**Explanation:** Ruskin Bond expresses joy and renewal as the monsoon ends and the sunshine returns.

8. What does the sound of rain symbolize in the diary?

- A. Conflict and danger
- B. Boredom and gloom
- C. Peace and introspection
- D. Fear and excitement (C)

**Explanation:** The constant patter of rain is soothing to the author and leads him to reflective thoughts.

9. Which flower does the author mention blooming as the rain lessens in August?

- A. Poppies
- B. Dahlias
- C. Sunflowers
- D. Balsam (D)

**Explanation:** Balsam flowers are mentioned as blooming during the tapering monsoon in August.

10. What literary device is frequently used by the author in the diary?

- A. Hyperbole
- B. Simile and metaphor
- C. Allegory
- D. Parody (B)

**Explanation:** Ruskin Bond often uses similes and metaphors to describe the monsoon and the surroundings, enriching the imagery of the narrative.