

Class 6 Mullah Nasruddin and the Nail

1. Who was Mullah Nasreddin? Why was he considered mysterious?

A. Mullah Nasruddin was a local priest in a small village. No one knew whether he was crazy or a sage because of his strange activities. He was deeply involved in spiritual pursuits and material comforts occupied a secondary place in his life.

2. Why was Mullah Nasreddin forced to sell his ancestral house?

A. Debts accumulated, and he ran out of credit. Eventually he had to sell his ancestral house.

3. Who wanted to buy the house? How did he get it from the mullah?

A. Nasreddin's neighbour wanted to buy the house. He got it from the mullah with a pitiful price and with a small clause in the contract by the mullah.

4. What clause did Nasreddin add to the contract?

A. Nasruddin added the clause that he should be allowed to keep the ownership of the nail on the wall of the living room and do whatever he wanted to do with it.

5. Why was the neighbour's wife angry with him?

A. She was angry because Nasruddin kept returning to worship the nail. The first time he hung his turban, then his scarf, then coat and ultimately brought the sack full of cow dung to hang. Obviously the wife was furious with her husband. She threatened to leave him.

6. Why did the neighbour call for a meeting with the council of elders? What ruling did they give?

A. The neighbour felt that Nasruddin had crossed his limits. So he called for a meeting of the council of elders. The assembly of wise men studied the contract between him and Nasruddin. They found nothing wrong with what Nasruddin had done and eventually dismissed the case. The neighbour lost the case.

7. How did Mullah Nasreddin get his house back?

A. The neighbour's wife refused to allow Mullah to continue worshipping the nail in spite of the wise men's verdict. There were long arguments between the husband and wife. Finally the neighbour asked Mullah to buy his house back at a bargain price. Nasruddin happily agreed and moved back into his house.

B. Answer these questions with reference to the context.

1. *My father never had the chance to finish hammering it in.*

a. What is being referred to here by the speaker?

A.The object being referred to here is the nail sticking out of the wall of the living room of Nasruddin's house.

b. Why is his father not able to complete the job?

A.His father had a massive heart attack and died before he could complete hammering the nail in.

c. Why does the speaker mention it now?

A.The speaker is selling his ancestral house at half price to his crafty neighbour.He wants to teach him a lesson.So he makes up this story about the nail.He obviously has some plan in his mind.

2.This is going too far. We cannot have that

a. Who says this and to whom?

A.The neighbour says this to the mullah.

b. What has the listener done?

A.he bought a sack full of cowdung to hang it on the nail.

c. Does the listener stop what he is doing? Why?

A.No,the listener went on to hang the cow dung on his nail.

Objectives

C. Think and answer.

1. What do you think of the neighbour and his wife? Did they deserve what they got? Explain why.

A.The neighbour and his wife were both crooked and tried to take advantage of the mullah's bad days.They deserved what they got.

2. Is Mullah Nasreddin the hero of the story or the villain? Is playing tricks on people a good way to get what you want? Explain with real-life examples how trying to deceive people can be a bad thing.

A.Mullah Nasreddin is the hero of the story.Playing tricks and taking advantage of people is not good specially when they are in trouble but sometimes its okay to play tricks on people who cheated you and take back what belongs to you without harming anyone.

A binomial pair is a combination of two words usually joined by a conjunction.

Complete these binomial pairs using the words from the box.

1. neat and tidy
2. far and wide
3. short and large
4. take it or leave it
5. salt and pepper
6. back and forth
7. safe and sound
8. rain or shine

Follow the instructions and change these positive sentences to negative ones.

1. Mr Smith is poorer than his neighbour. (Use poorer.)
2. The teacher is not always strict. (Use not always.)
3. Not all books are as brilliant as this. (Begin with-Not all books...)
4. He will not leave at the end of the month. (Begin with-He will not leave...)
5. I shall never remember your help in my hour of need. (Use never.)

Language Lab

A. Listen to a stanza from the poem 'The Heart of the Tree' by Henry Cuyler Bunner and fill in blanks.
(HOMEWORK OPEN THE ACTIVE APP AND DO THIS EXERCISE)

What does he plant.....

He plants.....

And seed and.....

And years that fade and flush again;.....

He plants the.....

He plants the.....

The harvest of a.....

The joy that.....

These things he plants.....

HOMEWORK PAGE 61 AND 62 EXERCISE B & COMPOSITION AND ACTIVITY