

NCERT TEXTBOOK QUESTIONS SOLVED

Thinking about the text (Page 36)

Q1. Why was the young seagull afraid to fly? Do you think all young birds are afraid to make their first flight, or are some birds more timid than others? Do you think a human baby also finds it a challenge to take its first steps?

Ans. The young seagull hesitated and feared to fly. He thought that his wings would not support him. Yes, all young birds are afraid to make their first flight. It is quite

possible that some of them may be more timid than the others. A human baby also finds it a challenge to take his first step. Only after trials and errors of many months, he learns to take his first step.

Q2. "The sight of the food maddened him..." What does this suggest? What compelled the young seagull to finally fly?

Ans. The seagull was quite hungry and yearned for food. When he saw a piece of fish in the beak of his mother, the sight was quite

tempting for him. He was maddened at the sight of the food and suddenly dived at the fish forgetting that he didn't know how to fly. It compelled the young seagull to finally fly into space.

Q3. “They were beckoning to him, calling shrilly.” Why did the seagull’s father and mother threaten him and cajole him to fly?

Ans. His parents, two brothers and his sister regularly taunted him for his cowardice. The seagull’s father and mother threatened that they would leave him alone starving at the ledge unless he flew away. In this way they tried to cajole him to fly.

LONG ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS

Q1. Was the young seagull same at the beginning and at the end of the lesson? Compare and contrast the two kinds of the same seagull in the lesson.

Ans. No, the young seagull was not the same bird at the beginning and at the end of the lesson. In the beginning, the young seagull used to be all alone on his ledge. His two brothers and his sister had flown away the day before. He had been afraid of flying with them. Whenever he tried to flap his wings, he was seized with fear. He felt certain that his wings would never support him. His father and mother flew around calling to him shrilly. They were constantly scolding and taunting him. They were threatening to let him starve on his ledge unless he flew away. However, the young seagull was more confident and sure of his success in the end. Maddened by hunger, he dived at the fish. After trials and errors, his wings spread outwards. He was soaring

gradually downwards forgetting all his hesitations and fears. He could float on the ocean now. His success was welcomed by his family. They were praising him now and their beaks were offering him their scraps of dog-fish.