

Ch 7 Fair Play

A. Match the sentences under I with those under II.

I

1. Jumman and Algu were the best of friends.
2. Jumman's aunt transferred her property to him.
3. The aunt decided to appeal to the panchayat.
4. Algu was unwilling to support the aunt.
5. Jumman was very happy to hear Algu's name as head Panch.

II

1. He believed that his friend would never go against him.
2. She wanted justice.
3. In the absence of one, the other took care of his family.
4. The condition was that he would be responsible for her welfare.
5. The bond of friendship between him and Jumman was very strong.

Answer

Part I	Part II
1. Jumman and Algu were the best of friends.	3. In the absence of one, the other took care of his family.
2. Jumman's aunt transferred her property to him.	4. The condition was that he would be responsible for her welfare.
3. The aunt decided to appeal to the panchayat.	2. She wanted justice.

4. Algu was unwilling to support the aunt.	5. The bond of friendship between him
	and Jumman was very strong.
5. Jumman was very happy to hear Algu's name as head Panch.	1. He believed that his friend would never go against him.

B. Who says this to whom and why?

1. "My wife knows best how to run the house."

► Jumman said this to his aunt because he was shameless and had grown tired of her. she had asked him for a monthly allowance to set up a separate kitchen, but he didn't want to give her money.

2. "But is it right, my son, to keep mum and not say what you consider just and fair?"

► Jumman's aunt said this to Algu because she had gone to Algu for help, but Algu had politely refused her plea as he could not go against his friend, Jumman.

3. "What have you to say in your defence?"

► Algu said this to Jumman because he was made the head Panch by the aunt so he asked Jumman to say in his defence regarding his mistreatment of the aunt.

4. "I can't pay you a penny for the wretched beast you sold me."

► Samjhu Sahu said this to Algu because Algu demanded payment for the bullock he had sold to Samjhu.

5. “Victory to the panchayat. This is justice.”

► Algu said this over and over again in front of the village because he was happy that Jumman had not deviated from the path of justice in spite of the enmity between them.

C. Answer the following questions.

1. “Then the situation changed.” What is being referred to? (2)

Answer

The situation being referred to is Jumman and his family’s behaviour towards his aunt. Jumman's aunt had transferred her property to him on the understanding that he would look after her. The arrangement worked well for a couple of years but after a couple of years, Jumman and his family grew tired of her. He became as indifferent to her and his wife too grudged even the little food that the old lady wanted everyday.

2. When Jumman’s aunt realised that she was not welcome in his house, what arrangement did she suggest? (3)

Answer

When Jumman's aunt realised that she was not welcome in his house she suggested that Jumman should give her a monthly allowance so that she could set up a separate kitchen.

3. What was the villagers' reaction when the aunt explained her case to them? (4)

Answer

When the aunt explained her case to the villagers, some sympathised with her, others laughed at her and a few others advised her to make it up with her nephew and his wife.

4. Why was Jumman happy over Algu's nomination as head Panch? (6)

Answer

Jumman was happy over Algu's nomination as head Panch because Algu was his best friend so he would never go against him.

5. "God lives in the heart of the Panch." the aunt said. What did she mean? (6)

Answer

She meant that a Panch was always unbiased and would not kill his conscience for the sake of friendship. Everybody is equal before him. The justice delivered was the justice delivered by God.

6. What was Algu's verdict as head Panch? How did Jumman take it? (7, 8)

Answer

Algu's verdict as head Panch was that Jumman had to pay his aunt a monthly allowance, or else the property would go back to her. Jumman felt betrayed and became Algu's enemy.

7. Algu found himself in a tight spot. What was his problem? (9)

Answer

One of Algu's fine pair of bullocks died, and he sold the other to Samjhu Sahu on the understanding that Sahu would pay the price of the bullock in a month's time. The bullock died within a month and Sahu refused to pay Algu.

8. Why was Algu upset over Jumman's nomination as head Panch? (12, 13)

Answer

Algu was upset because he was his friend no more after Algu had given a verdict in favour of Jumman's aunt. Jumman was Algu's enemy and wanted revenge.

9. What was Jumman's verdict as head Panch? How did Algu take it? (14, 15)

Answer

Jumman's verdict as head Panch was that since the bullock did not suffer from any disability or disease when Sahu bought it, although the death was unfortunate Algu could not be blamed for it. Therefore, Sahu would have to pay Algu the price of the bullock. Algu could not contain his feelings on the verdict. He stood up and said loudly over and over again, "Victory to the panchayat. This is justice. God lives in the heart of the Panch."

10. Which of the following sums up the story best?

- (i) "I also know that you will not kill your conscience for the sake of friendship."
- (ii) "Let no one deviate from the path of justice and truth for friendship or enmity."
- (iii) "The voice of the Panch is the voice of God." Give a reason for your choice.

Answer

(ii) "Let no one deviate from the path of justice and truth for friendship or enmity."

This sentence sums up the story best because boht Algu and Jumman gave verdict without keeping any friendship nor enmity.