

Long Answer Questions

① "Love and encouragement make the impossible possible" prove this statement on the basis of the story "Bholi".

Ans- The impossible can be made possible through will power and constant hard work. If our will power is backed by somebody's love and encouragement, anything can be achieved. This is quite evident in the story. Bholi got a new identity and personality because of the sincere efforts of her teacher. There was a time when Bholi could not even speak out her own name. She used to stammer because of her lack of confidence. But the teacher filled her with confidence. She told Bholi to stand up for her rights and live a respectable life inspite of her weak points. It was this confidence which made Bholi reject a mean, greedy and contemptible man like Bishamber who wanted a dowry for marrying her.

② "Bholi's whole personality underwent a complete transformation towards the end of the story". Explain.

Ans- There are two Bholis in the story named "Bholi". One Bholi is a simpleton. She is dull and witless. She has no confidence. Other children make fun of her when she stammers. Her own mother mistreats her. She is regarded as a burden by her father. She has to wear the old dresses of her elder sisters. Nobody takes her seriously.

After her education, Bholi becomes Sulekha in the real sense. Her class teacher encourages her in her studies. She gives her books to read. She encourages her to become the most learned person in the whole

village. She no longer stammers. She learns to speak out for her rights as a person. Her education is put to test at the time of her marriage. Her parents settle her marriage with an older man who is rich and greedy. This man named Bishamber has children from his first marriage. He ^{is} also. Still he demands five thousand rupees as dowry at the time of marriage. Bholi makes a hard decision about her life. She rejects this man who is mean, greedy and contemptible. Thus, Bholi's whole personality undergoes a complete transformation. She prefers to be a school teacher and not be a ~~better~~ helpless and hopeless housewife.

③ What preparations were made to send Bholi to school?

Ans. At the tehsildar's behest, Ramlat agreed to send Bholi to school. He did so because there was little chance of her getting married, with her ugly face and lack of sense. Bholi had so far led a neglected life and no one had ever bothered to dress her up or ensure her cleanliness. No one cared to mend or wash her clothes. But now Ramlat was what the people at school would think of them if Bholi went to school in such a shabby state. Hence, she was given one of her sister's clean dress to wear. She ^{was} even bathed and oil was rubbed into her dry and matted hair.