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(Honeycomb)

- Q1. The old farmer is a kind person. What evidence of his kindness do you find in the first two paragraphs.

Ans The old farmer is a kind person. He did not have any child. So, he had kept a dog as pet and loved it as like as his own child. He used to feed it with titbits of fish from his own chopsticks and all the rice it wanted. He was patient and kind to everything that had life, and often turned up a sod on purpose to give food to the birds.

- Q2. What did the dog do to lead the farmer to the hidden gold?

Ans The dog went running to the farmer.

He put his paws against his legs and motioned with his head to some spot. He took the old farmer to the place and began to scratch the ground. The old farmer thought that there might be a buried bone or bit of fish. He struck his hoe in the earth and found a pile of gold.

Q3.(i) How did the spirit of the dog help the farmer first?

Ans. The spirit of the dog appeared in the farmer's dream and advised him to cut down the pine tree over his grave and to make from it a mortar for rice pastry and a mill for bean sauce. The farmer cut the pine tree and made a mortar and mill from it. When the New Year's time came near, the farmer wished to make some rice pastry. The old woman put the boiled rice into the mortar. As the old man began to pound, the whole mass

turned into a heap of gold coins, ③
and as the old woman began to grind
beans, the gold dropped like rain.

Thus, they became rich.

Q3(ii) How did it help him next?

Ans Next, the spirit of the dog came
in the farmer's dream and told him
to collect the ashes that would make
any withered tree bloom. When the
procession of the daimio passed by
their village, the farmer made a dry
cherry tree burst into blossom by
scattering a pinch of ashes on the
tree. The farmer was rewarded by
the daimio for this wonderful act.

Q4. Why did the daimio - - - - - act?

Ans The daimio rewarded the farmer because
being such an old fellow, he did such
a magic which was amazing. He had
magical ashes with him. He threw
a pinch of ashes on the bare tree,

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and the tree burst into blossom, but when the neighbour of the old man tried to do the same thing, the blossoms did not change a particle. The blossoms entered into the eyes and noses of the daimio and his wife and they started sneezing and choking. It spoiled all the pomp and dignity of the procession. Therefore, the daimio got angry and punished the neighbour.

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