

Chapter-6 The fight

- Comprehension check:-

1. *In what way is the forest pool different from the one which Ranji knew in the Rajputana desert?*

The forest pool was clean, cold and inviting, whereas the Rajputana desert had sticky muddy pools where buffaloes wallowed and women washed clothes.

2. *The other boy asked Ranji to 'explain' himself?*

- a. *What did he expect Ranji to say?*

He expected Ranji to apologise at him and immediately leave the pool.

- b. *Was he, in your opinion, right or wrong to ask this question.*

He was wrong because the pool was in the forest. It was not a personal property. Anyone can swim in it.

3. *Between Ranji and the other boy, who is trying to start a quarrel? Give a reason for your answer?*

The other boy tried to start a quarrel. When Ranji saw him, he did not say anything. It was the other boy who asked Ranji to explain himself. Ranji was prepared to be friendly, but was taken aback by the boy's hostile behaviour. He also asked the boy to come and swim with him. However, the boy said that it was his pool and started a fight by calling himself a warrior.

4. *"Then he will have to continue the fight," said the other?*

- a. *What made him say that?*

When even after a lot of fighting, Ranji refused to leave the pool, the other boy said that they would have to continue the fight.

b. *Did the fight continue? If not, why not?*

No, the fight did not continue. They decided to the fight, neither of them took the initiative. Then the other boy said that they would continue the fight the next day if Ranji dared to come to the pool.

5. *What is it that Ranji finds difficult to explain at home?*

At home, Ranji found it difficult to explain the cuts and bruises that showed on his face, legs and arms. It was difficult to hide the fact that he had been involved in a fight.

6. *Ranji sees his adversary in the Bazaar.*

a. *What was he wish to do?*

When ranji saw his adversary in the Bazaar, he wished to turn away and look elsewhere. Then he wished to throw the lemonade bottle at his enemy.

b. *What does he actually do?*

He didn't do that, instead he stood his ground and scowled at his passing adversary.

7. *Ranji is not at all eager for a second fight. Why does he go back to the pool, then?*

Ranji's body was stiff and paining after the previous day's encounter. But he had to go back because he could not refuse a challenge. Nor to return at the pool would be an acknowledgement of defeat.

8. *Who was a better swimmer? How do you know it?*

Ranji was a better swimmer, we know it as he could dive straight into water and swim under the water which left the stranger astonished and he could not do that.

9. *What surprises the warrior?*

The dive that Ranji executed like a knife cutting through butter with hardly any splash surprised the warrior.

10. *Now, that they are at the pool, why don't they continue the fight?*

The fight didn't continue because they had become friends now. When they came in the forest, the other boy asked him to swim across and fight with him. Ranji thought this was a good chance to show his superiority. The other boy's mouth was opened in amazement. Then the other boy asked him to teach how to swim and they shared about their routines. Then Ranji asked the other boy his name. He replied himself as Suraj. Then from my pool it had become our pool.

11. *What according to you makes the two adversaries turn into good friends in a matter of minutes? Explain it as you have understood?*

Their talent and ability makes the two adversaries turn into good friends in a matter of minutes. Ranji knew how to swim but he didn't know to swim. Suraj asked Ranji to swim across, and fight with him and only in a minute they dived and only in a minute they turned into good friends.