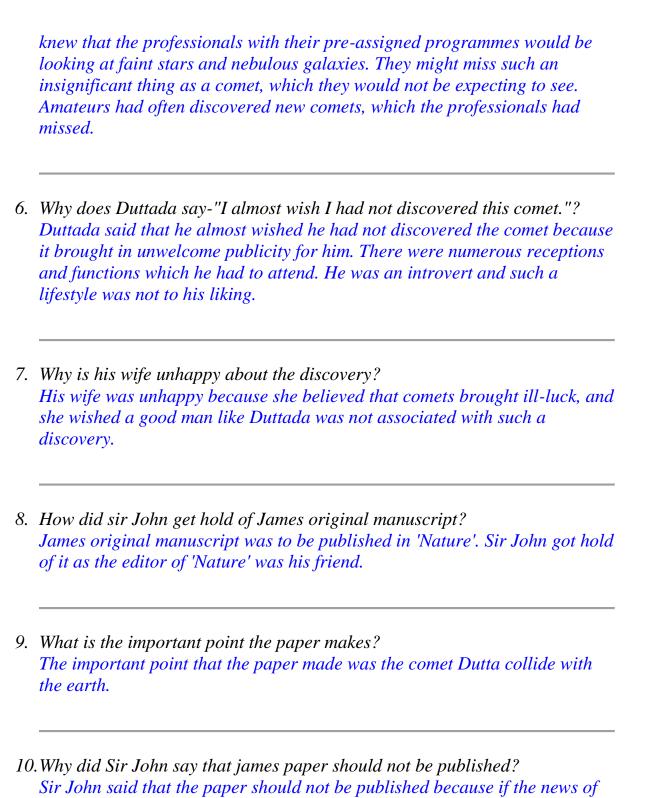
Chapter-9 The comet-I

- Comprehension check:-
- 1. Why does Indrani Debi dislike Duttada's "hobnobbing" with Dibya? Indrani Debi dislike Duttada's "hobnobbing" with Dibya because to her, that telescope was like a designing woman who had ensuared her husband.
- 2. She is complaining and smiling. Why is she smiling? She was smiling at the forgetful nature of Duttada. He used to overlook the practical problems of living. His doctor had told him to take special precautions against the cold. However, she would not remember to put on sweater even if it was lying on his bedside chair.
- 3.a. What was Duttada's secret ambition?Duttada's secret ambition was to discover a new comet one fine day.
 - b. What did he do to achieve it.

 He sat every night with his small 8-inch telescope and gazed at the stars, believing that he would discover a comet one day. This is what he did to achieve his secret ambition.
- 4. What is a difference between a planet and a comet, as given in the story? According to the story, like planets, comets also orbit round the sun, but their orbits are highly eccentric. Once in a while, a comet comes close to the sun. It has a longish tail that is lit briliantly by the sunlight, and then it recedes into darkness, not to be seen again for years, or for centuries.
- 5. Why was Duttada hopeful that he would discover a new comet soon?

 Duttada was hopeful that he would discover a new comet soon because he



the inevitable collision became known to the world, it would result in panic.

11. What do the two men finally decide to do?

The two men finally decided to call a secret meeting of experts within a weeks time to think over and find the solution to the imminent problem.