

Objective Type Questions

I. Multiple choice questions

I. Read the following extracts and answer the questions / complete the sentences that follow:

The day before, all day long, he had watched his parents flying about with his brothers and sister, perfecting them in the art of flight, teaching them how to skim the waves and how to dive for fish. He had, in fact, seen his older brother catch his first herring and devour it, standing on a rock, while his parents circled around raising a proud cackle. And all the morning the whole family had walked about on the big plateau midway down the opposite cliff taunting him with his cowardice.

1. Based on the given sentence, pick the option that corresponds to what human parents would say.

'While his parents circled around raising a proud cackle

- a. **Well done!** b. Oh no! c. Ready? d. Really!

2. Which of the following feelings did the young gull, NOT feel according to the given context?

"... all day long, he had watched his parents flying about with his brothers and sister..."

- i. sad ii. incompetent iii. excluded iv. ungrateful
v. inspired vi. jealous viii anxious

- a. i, iii, vi b. ii, v, vii c. ii, iii, vii d. **iv, v, vi**

3. Select the most appropriate option for the following: devour : guzzle :: nibble

- a. chew b. savour c. **peck** d. gulp

4. Which option lists the image nearest to 'skim the waves'?



i



ii



iii

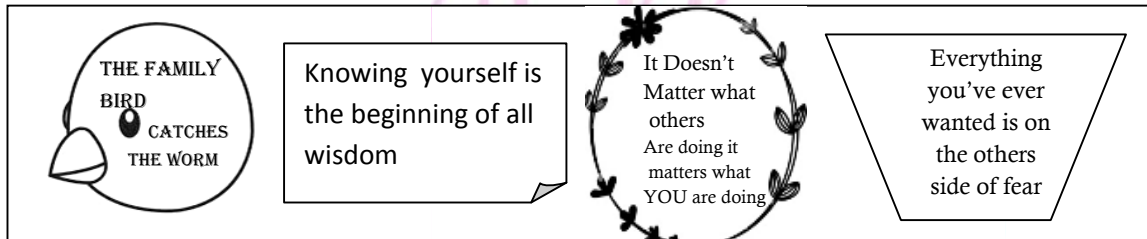


iv

- a. Image I b. Image ii c. Image iii d. **Image iv**

5. Imagine that the young gull attended a workshop on inspiration and confidence building and received a couple of pieces of advice.

Choose the option that reflects these pieces of advice, most relevant to his situation. effects these pieces of advice most relevant to his situation.



- a. i and ii b. ii and iii c. iii and iv d. i and iv

II. Multiple choice questions

He just felt a bit dizzy. Then he flapped his wings once and he soared upwards. " Ga, ga, ga, Ga, ga, ga, Gawcol - ah" his mother swooped past him, her wings making a loud noise. He answered her with another scream. Then his father flew over him screaming. He saw his two brothers and his sister flying around him curvetting and banking and soaring and diving. Then he completely forgot that he had not always been able to fly, and commended himself to dive and soar and curve, shrieking shrilly.

- a. Pick the most appropriate reason why the young gull felt dizzy.
 - i. He hadn't eaten anything for a day ii. He was dizzy with excitement
 - iii. He was wary of heights iv. **He was flying for the first time**
- b. How would you describe the screams of the young gull felt dizzy.
 - i. **elation** b. bewilderment iii. shock iv. protection
- c. The line ' he completely forgot that he had not always been able to fly" implies the.
 - i. great confidence the young gull had in his skills
 - ii. **naturalness of the act of flying for the young gull**
 - iii. satisfaction and joy of flying together as a family.
 - iv. desire of the young gull to leave his fears behind.
- d. The extract refers to the many movements of the young gull's brothers and sister. Choose the option that correctly sequences these movements.
 - i. The young gull's brothers and sister flew by tilting their wings, rose high, made darting movements and plunged headfirst.

Very Short Answer Type Questions

1. Why was the young seagull afraid to fly?

The young seagull was afraid to fly because he thought his wings would not support him. He was very weak. All young birds are afraid to make their first flight.

2. If you were the family member of the young seagull, would you also decide not to go near him Elaborate with reason.

Yes, even I would have done the same. The seagull's family members encouraged him to fly. But he was too afraid to fly. Then they kept him hungry. Then they thought that experience would teach him, so they made him fall from the ledge. Ultimately, all their efforts were fruitful.

3. The 'fight or flight response', that is, to stay and face a situation or run from it- is an automatic reaction to an event perceived as stressful or harmful. How would you find himself off the ledge?

No doubt the young gull faced the situation with the 'fight response' success can't be taken to be granted. One has to struggle and finally win it. Hunger made the young seagull take his final plunge. This led him to make his first flight and soar into space after satisfying his hunger.

4. "The sight of the food maddened him." What does this suggest? (His First Flight)

The young seagull was afraid to fly because the sight of the sea filled him with fear. What motivated him to fly was his hunger. For past twenty four hours, he had not eaten anything. When his mother tempted him with a piece of fish in her beak, he was maddened to see the food. His hunger compelled him to dive to save himself.

5. How did the seagull's parents try to make him fly?

The little seagull's parents tried every possible way to make him fly. They came to him and asked him to fly. They rebuked him and threatened him, that if he didn't fly, they would leave him to die of hunger. They even pretended to ignore him.

6. How did the young seagull react when he landed on the sea?

Dropped to land on sea, legs sank, screamed with fright, tried to rise again, feet sank, belly touched water, started floating.

When the young seagull landed on the sea, his legs sank into it. He screamed with fright. He tried to rise again flapping his wings. But being tired and weak with hunger, his feet sank

into the green sea. His belly touched water but he sank no further. He started floating on it.

7. What happened when the young seagull dived at the fish picked up by his mother?

When the young seagull dived at the fish, he fell outwards and downwards with a scream. His monstrous terror seized him and his heart stood still. Soon his wings spread outwards and he could feel the tips of his wings cutting through the air.

Short Answer Type Questions

1. Why did the seagull not go with the rest of his family?

The seagull did not go with his family because he had been afraid to fly. He had attempted to flap his wings but he felt certain his wings would not support him above the vast sea. So he stayed on the ledge alone.

2. Describe the seagull's first flight.

The seagull remained alone and hungry for twenty four hours. His mother decided to motivate him by showing a piece of fish but did not feed him. Maddened by hunger, he tried to snatch it by diving. As the seagull fell into space, a terror seized him. The next moment he felt his wings spread outwards as the wind gushed against his breast feathers. He then realized he was gradually soaring. In this way he made his first flight.

3. Describe the methods used by the seagull family to help the young seagull to overcome his fear and fly.

The young seagull was unable to muster up courage to fly. His father and mother had come around calling him shrilly upbraiding him and threatening to leave him to starve on his ledge unless he flew away. But he did not move. His whole family had even walked about on the big plateau midway down the opposite cliff all morning taunting him for his cowardice to motivate him to fly. His mother was also tempting him by tearing a piece of fish lying at her feet so that the sight of food, which was maddening him, may make him overcome his fear and fly. He was still unable to do so and kept crying and begging her to bring him some food.

4. How did the mother make the young seagull come out of his fear and teach him the art of flying?

The young seagull had not eaten since the previous nightfall. His mother was looking at him and knew he was very hungry. Purposely she began to tear at a piece of fish that lay at her feet and then scrapped each side of her beak on the rock. She understood that the sight of food was maddening the young mockingly. He kept calling out plaintively. She came nearer to

him with the piece of fish in her beak almost within reach of his beak. He could wait no longer and dived at the fish. His mother swooped upwards and he felt his wings spread outwards into space.

5. Why did the young seagull not go with the rest of his family? Why was he afraid to fly?

The young seagull did not go with the rest of his family, though his brothers and sister had already flown away the day before, as he felt afraid to fly with them. Standing alone on his ledge, he had been scared. The great expanse of the sea stretched below seemed as if it was miles down and he felt certain that his wings would never support him, so he bent his head and ran away to the little hole under the ledge where he used to sleep at night. Though he was desperate to join his family, he failed to muster up enough courage and take a plunge. His family's constant encouragement and threatening words could not make him move.

6. How can you tell that the young Seagull was desperately hungry?

The young seagull was watching his mother as she tore at a piece of fish that lay at her feet. The sight of the food was maddening him and making him almost crazy. He loved to tear food that way and then scrap his beak again to whet it. He uttered a cackling sound as if begging his mother to bring him some food. Earlier, he had searched every inch of the place where he had sat and had even gnawed at the dried pieces of spotted eggshells from which he and his brothers and sister had been hatched. Now he was getting absolutely desperate because he had not eaten since the previous night. Maddened by this hunger, he dived at the fish that his mother baited at him and flew outward and downward into space.

7. Why was the young seagull afraid of flying? What compelled the seagull finally fly?

Why was the young seagull afraid of flying with his brothers and sister?

The young seagull was afraid of flying because he felt certain that his wings would not support him above the vast sea.

The young seagull had not eaten anything since the previous night and the sight of his mother tearing at a piece of fish that lay at her feet was maddening him, making him almost crazy. He loved to tear food that way and uttered a cackling sound as if begging his mother to bring him some food but she was ignoring him. Maddened by hunger, he dived at the fish his mother baited at him and flew outward and downward into space. Finally his feet sank into the green sea and as his belly touched it he sank no further. He was floating on it and around him his family was praising him.

8. Where did the young seagull sit alone? What did he watch from there?

The young seagull was alone on his ledge. In the whole family, he was the only one who didn't know how to fly. Only the day before, his two brothers and his sister had flown away with their parents. When he tried to flap his wings, he was seized with fear. Hence, he sat alone on the ledge watching his family flying over the sea.

9. Why didn't the young seagull take the plunge? What stopped him from doing so?

The young seagull was the only one in the family who couldn't fly in the air. His brothers and sister had far shorter wings than his wings but they had already learnt the art of flying. He felt certain that his wings would never support him. So he was hesitant and afraid of flapping his wings and go deep in the air.

10. How did the hungry seagull try to pretend to attract his mother's attraction?

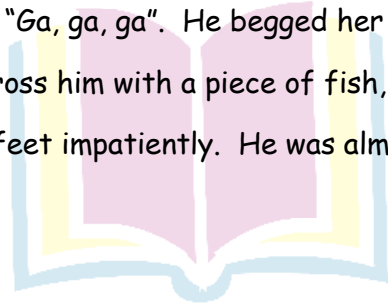
The whole family had flown away. Only the young seagull sat along on the ledge. He had not eaten anything since the previous nightfall. He stepped slowly out to the brink of the ledge. He stood on one leg. He closed his eyes pretending to be falling asleep. But all his tactics failed. Only his mother took notice of him. All others ignored him.

11. What was the mother doing standing on a little high hump on the plateau?

All others ignored the hungry young seagull. Only his mother was looking at him. She was standing on a little high hump. Now and again, she tore a piece of fish. The fish lay at her feet. Then she scrapped each side of her beak on the rock. The sight of the food maddened the young seagull. He love to tear the food that way.

12. Why did the young seagull cry "Ga, ga, ga" ? Did her mother oblige him?

When he saw his mother holding a piece of a fish in her beak, the young seagull became almost mad with hunger. He cried "Ga, ga, ga". He begged her mother to bring him some food. When he saw his mother flying across him with a piece of fish, he uttered a joyful scream. He started tapping the rock with his feet impatiently. He was almost within the reach of the fish but failed to get at it.



Next Generation School

Long Answer Type Questions

1. Why did the Seagull's father and mother threaten him and persuade him to fly? How did they do it?

The Seagull's father and mother threatened him because he was afraid of flying. He thought that his wings would not support him. So, his parents chided him for his incapability. They also threatened him that he would die of hunger. So they persuaded him to fly. At last, his parents flew away and left him alone on the ledge. After twenty-four hours passed, he became very hungry. So, he was crying for food and watching his mother. He begged his mother to bring him some food. His mother took one piece of fish into her beak and come to him. She stayed at a little distance. So, he dived at the fish without thinking about the result. He fell downwards. But the next moment he felt that his wings spread outwards and he started flying. Thus, his parents helped him to learn flying.

2. The young seagull's parents wanted him to fly, like his brothers and sister. How could the young seagull's newly flying siblings (Brother 1, Brother 2 and Sister) have motivated him? Write a brief conversation among them.

Young seagull : Brother 1, I'm so hungry, kindly give me some food.

Brother 1 : I'm holding the food in my beak for you. But you will have to jump the ledge and take it.

Young seagull : I am scared! The sea below is so deep. I'll die.

Brother 2 : No, you won't. We birds learn flying only after jumping. See, how well I'm flying.

Young seagull : Are you sure, I won't fall into the sea?

Sister : Yes, Brother 2 is right. Would a sister ask her brother to suicide? I am your sister. I am just speechless at your fear.

Young seagull : OK! I trust you.

3. A noted author, Richard Bach wrote - "For most gulls it was not flying that mattered, but eating. For this gull, though, it was not eating that mattered, but flight." Evaluate this statement with respect to the young seagull.

Food is the most essential ingredient that sustains all life on earth. But the young seagull, it was not eating that mattered, but flight. Whenever he tried to flap his wings to fly, he was seized with fear. He felt certainly that his wings would never support him. He had seen

his elder brother catch his first Herring and devour it. It compounded his helplessness even more. He uttered a joyful scream when he saw his mother holding a piece of fish in her beak and flying quite near him. Hunger became motivation for the young seagull. Maddened by hunger, he fell outwards and downward into space. Then a monstrous terror seized him but only for a minute. The next moment, he felt his wings spread outwards. The fear left him. Soon, he was floating on the green sea.

4. Look at the image of Maslow's hierarchy of needs. Abraham Maslow devised a theory of motivation that shows the basic needs at the bottom and more advanced needs as you move up. It includes the theory that fundamental needs must be met before an individual can be motivated to achieve higher order needs.

The young seagull's first flight can be located in the category of 'Basic Needs' in this hierarchy of needs. These needs are most essential for the very survival and maintenance of self. These include food, warmth and shelter. These needs must be met repeatedly within short time period such as hunger. The seagull was very hungry. He hadn't eaten anything for last twenty four hours. When he saw his mother bringing food in her beak, he dived towards her. But fell from the brink of the ledge. He screamed with fear. But his fear lasted only for a moment. The next moment, he felt that his wings spread outwards instinctively. He was flying now. Thus, hunger motivated him.

Psychological needs

Self actualization achieving one's (full potential including creative activities.

Esteem needs : prestige and feeling of accomplishment.

Belongingness and love needs: intimate relationship, friends.

Basic needs

Safety needs : security, safety.

Physiological needs : food, water, warmth, nest.

5. Was the young seagull the same bird at the beginning and at the end of the lesson?

Compare and contrast the two kinds of the same seagull in the lesson.

No, the young seagull was not the same bird at the beginning and at the end of the lesson. In the beginning the young seagull used to be all alone on his ledge. His two brothers and his sister had flown away the day before. He had been afraid of flying with them. Whenever he tried to flap his wings, he was seized with fear. He felt certain that his wings would never support him.

His father and mother flew around calling to him shrilly. They were constantly scolding and taunting him. They were threatening to let him starve on his ledge unless he flew away.

However, the young seagull was more confident and sure of his success in the end. Maddened by hunger he dived at the fish. After trials and errors, his wings spread outwards. He was soaring gradually downwards forgetting all his hesitations and fears. He could float on the ocean now. His success was welcomed by his family. They were praising him now and their beaks were offering him their scraps of dog-fish.

6. 'All parental acts are for the betterment of the children.' It is true. However one has to make efforts through trials and errors shedding off one's early hesitations and fears to succeed in any enterprise. Justify this statement by taking points from the lesson 'His First Flight'.

There is no doubt about it. 'All parental acts are for the betterment of the children'. It is the ardent wish of all parents that they may succeed in life. First of all, they can learn all things which they have learnt in life. If the young ones don't act, then they also indulge in scolding, taunting and humiliating them to shed off their hesitations and fears. This is exactly what the parents of the young seagull did. They were successful in teaching the art of flying to his two brothers and sister. They also tried their best to embolden him to take the plunge. Particularly, the mother-seagull went on flying around him with a piece of fish in her beak. It was her attempt to tempt her starving son to dive at the fish. And she succeeded in her aim. The young seagull did dive at the fish and it led to his success in the end.

7. Maddened by hunger, he dived at the fish', says the narrator about the young seagull.

Take the plunge that taught him how to fly in the air?

Food is the most essential ingredient that sustains all life – of humans, animals as well as birds. Hunger motivates many of their actions. The young seagull used to sit all alone on his ledge. Whenever he tried to flap his wings to fly, he was seized with fear. He felt certain that his wings would never support him. He had seen his older brothers catch his first herring and devour it. It compounded his helplessness even more. He uttered a joyful scream when he saw his mother holding a piece of fish in her beak and flying quite near him. Maddened by hunger, he dived at the fish. With a loud scream he fell outwards and downwards into space. Then a monstrous terror seized him but only for a minute. The next moment he felt his wings spread outwards. He began to soar downwards towards the sea, the fear left him. He began to float on

the sea. He began to float on the sea. His admiring family offered him pieces of fish flying around him.

8. Describe the humiliation and taunting that the young seagull faced from his family when he used to sit alone on his ledge without mustering his courage to fly in the air.

The young seagull used to sit on ledge all alone. He used to see his two brothers and sister flying around him. They had learnt flying only the day before. Not that he didn't try before. He had come to the edge of the ledge and tried to flap his wings. But he became afraid soon. He felt certain that his wings would never support him. So, he bent his head and ran away to the little hole under the ledge. His brothers and sister had far shorter wings than his own. But they succeeded flapping their wings and flew away. He failed to muster his courage to take the plunge. His father and mother flew around him scolding and taunting him. They also threatened to let him starve on his ledge unless he flew away. The thing that compounded his agony was that his elder brother had caught his first herring and devoured it. His parents circled around his brother raising a proud cackle. On the other hand, the family had walked down the opposite cliff taunting him for his cowardice.

9. Hesitations and fears play necessary parts in human life but we get success in any enterprise only when we overcome our doubts, hesitations and fears. Justify this statement in the light of the young seagull's efforts to muster courage to fly in the air.

Nothing in life can be taken for granted. Skills have to be learnt in life with your own efforts. Parents can only help in teaching and encouraging us to learn things. But we have to learn them through our own efforts of trials and errors. Who doesn't suffer from hesitations and fears in the beginning? It takes time to take the final plunge. So it happened with the young seagull. In spite of constant encouragements and motivations, he couldn't muster the courage to fly. He was certain that his wings would not support him. He faced regular taunting and humiliations of his family. They even threatened to let him starve at the ledge unless he flew away. But they say that necessity is the mother of invention. Maddened by hunger, he dived at the fist which his mother was carrying in her beak. He felt his wings spreading outwards. Finally he soared to come down over the sea. When he floated on the sea, his family celebrated his success by offering pieces of fish to him.