Comprehension (Pages 28–29)

1. Answer the following questions:

a. What were the children doing the house?

   Ans. Janko’s nine-year-old son was drumming and his seven-year-old daughter was playing the tambourine.

b. What were Monica and Janko doing at this time?

   Ans. Janko was trying to read the newspaper and his wife Monica was in the kitchen.

c. What effect did the children’s music have on Janko?

   Ans. The children, Anton and Iona’s music made Janko’s temples throb and gave him a headache. He felt as if the percussion section of a large orchestra was playing at its loudest.

d. In what ways did Monica show that she was on the side of the children?

   Ans. Monica came out of the kitchen and challenged Janko, asking him as to where the children would play. Monica also told him that they all need to learn to share the space they have. The children also felt irritated when Janko snored at night just the way he was feeling annoyed by the noise they were making while playing.

e. What made the children giggle?

   Ans. Monica’s comparison of Janko’s snoring to a buffalo running here and there made the children giggle.

f. How had Wise Eva helped Janko before?

   Ans. Wise Eva had helped Janko before by suggesting ways to keep the children quiet and making time for their studies.
Ans. Wise Eva had helped Janko before by suggesting him a way of keeping the birds away from his vegetable patch in the garden.

g. What did Eva look like? Give a full description of her?

Ans. Eva was small like Janko’s wife, but much older. Her white hair, parted in the middle and – flowing over her shoulders made her look like a little witch without a cloak and broom.

h. Did Janko tell Eva a lie about his wife? What was it?

Ans. Yes. Janko told Eva a lie that his wife snored at night while it was actually he himself who disturbed everybody else by his snoring.

i. How did Janko feel after the animals were removed from the house?

Ans. After the animals were shifted back to the barn, he felt comfortable in his home sweet home with the sound of his wife and children in the background. He also realized that there was plenty of room for everyone to stay.

j. What statements and clues are there to indicate that the house was indeed small?

Ans. There are certain clues and statements to indicate that the house was indeed small: Monica’s kitchen was tiny; Janko kept the children up all night by his snoring; Janko himself felt bitter that there was so much of noise around him like the sounds made by the children while playing; rambling of a cart on the road; the rattling of crockery, etc. He told Eva that he longed for some space and peace of mind.

k. What was Janko’s real problem and how did Eva sort it out? How do you think she solved his first problem?

Ans. Janko’s actual problem was more psychological. He felt that if he had a big mansion, his life would be peaceful and less noisy. But because he also knew that he could never have a big house, he felt more frustrated. Eva solved his first problem by suggesting that he should move all the animals from the barn into his house. After the resultant chaos, and increased noise, when the animals were once again moved back to the barn, Janko felt that there was plenty of room in the house.
1. Which statement made by Monica sums up what we have to do when space is limited? How would you have managed in the same situation as the family?

Ans. Monica’s statement that one has to learn to share the given space sums up the ideal attitude when space is limited. I too would have displayed the same attitude as Monica’s and tried to instill the idea in the minds of the other family members too.

2. Answer the following with reference to context.

a. ‘Anywhere, but in my ear!’
   i. Janko said these words.
   ii. Monica’s question as to where the children were supposed to play made Janko give this answer.
   iii. Janko is accused of snoring at night.

b. ‘Your expression tells me there is something on your mind...’
   i. Eva, the Wise One is saying these words to Janko.
   ii. Janko had a forlorn expression.
   iii. How Janko could have some peace in his small home for himself with so much noise around him was on his mind all the time.

Working with Words (Page 29)

2. Write the opposites of the following. You will find all the opposites in the story.

a. precisely
   b. happily
   c. loudly
   d. obedient
   e. kindly
3. Fine two or meanings for each of the following words.

a. **drumming** - the act of playing on a drum; to make someone learn or understand something by repeating it many times

b. **clanging** - loud sound; call of a crane or goose

c. **fresh** - recently produced or picked and not frozen, dried or preserved in tins or cans; pleasantly clean, pure or cool

d. **noise** - unpleasant, disturbing sound; make something known publicly

e. **aloft** - into a high place; on or above

f. **moment** - very brief period of time; an exact point in time

g. **holding** - an area of land held by lease; property or possession

h. **home** - place where one lives as family; native place of origin

i. **pretty** - moderately attractive; fairly, quite

j. **problem** - a thing that is difficult to deal with or to understand; a question that can be answered by using logical thought or mathematics.

_Learning about Language (Pages 29–30)_
Subject and Predicate

1. Write the following sentences in your exercise book, putting a box (or brackets) around the subject and a line under the predicated.

a. (Janko) rose slowly.

b. Well done, (Janko).

c. Now (I) want you to go home.

d. (Nobody) got any sleep because of the noise.

e. Just do (it).

2. Add the suitable subjects to the following so that they become complete sentences.

a. The cart ambled down the road.

b. At the end of the day my father stretches out in his chair.

c. In the large mansion lies a beautiful painting.

d. When they arrived, my brother and I looked astonished.

e. The dogs chased the cats.

f. She cleaned up the mess.

Note:

Comprehension – Do exercises 1 and 2 in notebook.

Working with words - Do exercise 1 by yourself in rough copy. Do exercise 1 and 2 in notebook.

Learning about language – Do exercises 1 and 2 in textbook itself.

Write word meanings in your notebook.