## Chapter - 2

## The Adventures of Toto

-Ruskin Bond

## **Key points:**

- i. Ruskin Bond's story 'The Adventure of Toto depicts the challenges of keeping a monkey as a pet in a playful manner.
- ii. Toto was bought by grandfather for five rupees from a tonga -driver .
- iii. As he already had all types of animals from big to small from tortoise to goat.
- iv. Toto was an attractive red-coloured monkey with pearly white teeth and sparkling eyes.
- v. His tail was like his third hand and added to his looks. So Toto was a pretty monkey.
- vi. He was very mischievous and felt happy to scare away Anglo-Indian ladies.
- vii. But grandmother was opposite to grandfather as she never welcomed any animal.
- viii. He lived in a little closet in the narrator's bedroom wall with a rope fastened to the wall.
- ix. His first appearance at grandfather's home he pulled out the peg and tore off the blazer and the wallpaper.
- x. Everyone at home became tired of his pranks and grandfather sold it back to the tonga- driver for three rupees.

#### **Very Short Answer Questions**

- i. Who wrote the story?
- Ans. The story is written by Ruskin Bond.
- ii. What is the moral of the story?
- **Ans.** The moral of the story is one must behave responsible in a good environment.
- iii. What is the theme of 'The Adventures of Toto?
- **Ans.** The theme deals with the experience of having a wild animal as a pet.
- iv. Who is the main character of 'The Adventures of Toto '?
- Ans. Toto a monkey.

- v. Who bought Toto from a tonga -driver?
- Ans. The grandfather bought Toto.
- vi. Where was Toto kept?
- **Ans.** Toto was put in a closet opening into the narrator s bedroom wall
- vii. How did Toto take his bath?
- Ans. Toto takes a bath in a tub of warm water
- viii. Who saved Toto from boiling water?
- **Ans.** A grandmother saved Toto from boiling water.
- ix. Who was Nana?
- **Ans.** Nana was the family donkey of grand couples.
- x. What did Toto enjoy the most?
- **Ans.** Toto enjoyed a warm bath on a cold winter evening.
- xi. Who taught Toto to take a bath?
- **Ans.** Toto had learned to take a bath from the narrator, the boy.

#### **Short Answer Questions**

- i. Why was Toto called pretty?
- **Ans.** Toto was as pretty as he had bright eyes that sparkled with mischief beneath his deep set eyebrows. His teeth were pearly white which were often displayed in a smile.
- ii. How did Toto behave with Nana?
- **Ans.** Toto used to tease by biking onto her long ears his sharp little teeth.
- iii. How were Toto's hands?
- **Ans.** Toto's hands were dry and wrinkled as if they had been dried in the sun like pickled vegetables.
- iv. How was Toto different from other animals?
- **Ans.** Toto was a very naughty and cunning monkey who loved to scare people away.
- v. Who is grandfather in 'The Adventures of Toto'?
- Ans. A grandfather is one of the main characters of the

story. He is a kind and affectionate person who loves his granddaughter and his pet monkey Toto.

## vi. From where did the grandfather buy Toto and for how much?

**Ans.** The grandfather bought Toto from a tonga-driver at rupees five.

## **Long Answer Question**

### i. Give a brief description of Toto a monkey?

Ans. Toto was a pretty monkey. The grandfather bought him from a tonga -driver for rupees five. He had a very beautiful appearance. His bright eyes sparkled with mischief. His teeths were pearly white. His hands always dried up and fingers were quick and wicked. His long tail which added to his beauty was used as his third hand. He was like a naughty child always looking for pranks. He used to enjoy scaring away the Anglo-Indian ladies. His first appearance at grandfather's house was drastic. He pulled out the peg and tore off the blazer and the wall paper. He never let his companions in peace. So Toto was really an adventurous monkey.

# ii. Give a brief character sketch of the narrator's grandfather?

Ans. The grandfather is kind and affectionate person who loves his granddaughter Maya. He was an animal lover but an untrained zoologist. He had made his own private zoo. So he had to bear the anger of the grandfather. He was self determined person. Once he bought a monkey at five rupees and named 'Toto'. Toto was mischief animal who troubled him in his zoo. It was impossible for the family to afford the frequent loss caused by Toto when he broke precious china plate. So grandfather realised and wisely disposed off Toto.

### iii. Why does grandfather take Toto to Saharanpur?

Ans. A grandfather was forced to take Toto to Saharanpur because he was so mischievous that he troubled everyone in the house whether the grandmother or narrator. He even irritated the other animals living in the grandfather's zoo especially Nana, the family donkey. It was impossible to predict what he would be up to at the next moment.

### **MCQ**

#### 1. How did Toto have his bath in winter?

- a. taking a bath in a large bowl of warm water.
- b. taking a bath in well.

- c. taking a bath in the sunny compound.
- d. taking a bath in the bathroom.

# 2. How much did the ticket-collector charge as Toto's fare?

- a. three rupees
- b. four rupees
- c. five rupees
- d. six rupees

## 3. How was Toto taken to Saharanpur?

- a. in a basket
- b. in a little cage
- c. in a canvas kit bag
- d. in a big black plastic bag

### 4. Where did the writer's grandfather live?

- a. in Dehradun
- b. in Saharanpur
- c. in Delhi
- d. in Mombai

## 5. From where did the grandfather buy Toto?

- a. from his friend
- b. from a hunter
- c. from a tonga-driver d.
  - d. from a bus driver

## 6. Where did Toto do with the writer's school blazer?

- a. he tore it into shreds
- b. he threw it out of the window
- c. he wore it on his book
- d. he made it into his bedding

### 7. How did Toto prove to other animals?

- a. friendly
- b. troublesome
- c. soothing
- d. careful

## 8. What did Toto tear into shreds?

- a. the author's school bag
- b. the author's school blazer
- c. the author's pant
- d. all there things

# 9. What happened to the ornamental papers that covered the walk?

- a. were torn by Toto
- Toto made them more beautiful
- c. remained as it is as they there
- d. none of them

# 10. Grandfather believed that......added to anybody's good looks

- a. a nose
- b. a tail
- c. a tall boy
- d. a fair

#### 11. Who was Nana?

- a. the writer's maternal grandfather
- b. the family donkey
- c. grandfather's pet
- d. none

### 12. What did the ticket - collector classify Toto as ?

- a. as a dog
- b. as a monkey
- c. as quadruped
- d. as a reptile

#### 13. Who is the writer of 'The Adventures of Toto'?

- a. Mulk Raj Anand
- b. Ruskin Bond
- c. R.K.Laxman
- d. Harsh Mander

### 14. What could Toto do with his tail?

- a. beat a drum
- b. hang from a branch
- c. eat from a dish
- d. put things into his mouth

## 15. Toto's ....added to his good looks

- a. face
- b. eyes
- c. teeth
- d. tail

## 16. What had Toto done to Nana?

- a. fastened his teeth on her ears
- b. let her loose
- c. ate all her hay
- d. made friends with her

### 17. Why did grandfather go to Saharanpur?

- a. to attend a wedding
- b. to visit the zoo
- c. to collect his pension
- d. to visit his friend's house

#### 18. Where was Toto tied?

- a. to a window
- b. to the author bedroom
- c. to a peg in the wall
- d. to the door

#### 19. How did Toto's hands look?

- a. dried up as they had been pickled in the sun for many years
- b. soft and smooth
- c. hairy and rough
- d. wet and slippery

#### 20. The teeth of Toto were.....

- a. sharp and white
- b. long and white
- c. pearly white

#### d. small and blunt

### 21. What served as a third hand for Toto?

- a. one of his forelegsb his strength
- c. his tail
- d. his long fingers

#### 22. What colour was Toto?

- a. red
- b. brown
- c. vellow
- d. grey

## 23. The tonga- driver used to keep the monkey....

- a. tied to a tree
- b. tied to a feeding trough
- c. tied to a tub
- d. tied to his tonga

## 24. Grandfather decided to add the little monkey....

- a. his library
- b. his museum
- c. his theatre company d. his private zoo

### 25. Toto had bright eyes that sparkled with...

- a. joy
- b. mischief
- c. intelligence
- d. enthusiasm

# 26. What was the treat for Toto during the cold winter evening?

- a. warm boiled sweet corn
- b. a soft blanket
- c. .bathing in a large bowl of warm water
- d. bonfire across the stable

## 27. Where would Toto dry himself after taking a bath?

- a. near the kitchen fire
- b. under the sun across
- c. inside the writer:s bedroom
- d. on the terrace

## 28. According to the writer what would Toto do all the time?

- a. sit quietly
- b. play with Nana
- c. hop after grandfather
- d. tear things into pieces

## 29. How would Toto check the temperature of warm water given for his bath?

- a. with his hand
- b. with his tail
- c. with his leg
- d. with grandfather's help

## 30. Before the coming of Toto grandfather's pets include?

- a tortoise and a pair of rabbits a.
- a tame squirrel and a pet goat b.
- a tortoise and a pet goat
- a tortoise, a pair of rabbits, a tame squirrel and the writer's pet goat

#### 31. How much train ticket fare grandfather had to pay for Toto?

- five rupees
- b. three rupees
- six rupees
- d. free

#### 32. How much charge grandfather had to bear for his tortoise?

- five rupees
- b. three rupees
- C. no charge
- d. two rupees

#### 33. Who slapped Nana across her hunches in 'The Adventures of Toto'?

- Toto
- b. grandfather
- C. grandmother
- d. author

#### 34. Who never became friends in 'The Adventures of Toto'?

- Toto and grandmother a.
- Toto and author
- C. Toto and the tortoise
- Toto and Nana d.

#### 35. The canvas kit bag along with some straw at the bottom became Toto's new.... for the travel

- toy
- b. abode
- C. destination
- none of the above d.

#### What would Toto do to the author's aunt 36. whenever she came near him?

- scare her
- h. throw water at her
- C. smile at her
- d. attempt to tear a hole in her dress

#### 37. What did Toto stuff his mouth with?

- straws a.
- b. bananas
- C. oil
- d. pulao

#### 38. Where did Toto go after entering through the window with the dish of pulao?

- a. in the courtyard
- b. towards Nana
- in the branches of the jackfruit C.
- in the zoo

#### 39. "He remained there all afternoon, eating slowly....."

- rice
- millets b.
- C. banana
- d. corns

#### 40. Which of his pets did grandfather carry in his pocket while going to Saharanpur?

- a squirrel
- b. a tortoise
- a snake
- d. a lizard

#### 41. What did Toto do when grandmother screams seeing him stuffed with rice?

- threw water at her a.
- b. threw a plate at her
- escaped quickly c.
- plunged into the kitchen fire

#### 42. Who used to give a bowl of warm water to Toto?

- a. writer
- grandmother
- gramdfather
- d. none

#### Which animal was not available in grandfather's 43. private zoo?

- a. a goat
- b. a tortoise
- a squirrel
- d. a tiger

#### 44. Name the things Toto destroyed at the writer's home?

- a. wallpapers and clothes b. curtains
- C. dishes
- d. all

#### Why did grandfather decide to add Toto to his 45. private zoo?

- because Toto was pretty
- because Toto had deep set eyebrows
- because Toto was out of place with the tongadriver
- d. because Toto had pearly white teeth

#### 46. How did Toto use his tail?

- to hang from a branch a.
- b. to scoop up delicacies
- to add to his good looks C.
- all of the above

#### 47. What did grandmother do when she saw Toto?

- she fussed and complained
- b. she hugged and played with him
- she was scared and ran away C.
- she didn't notice him

#### 48. What did Toto's smile do to elderly Anglo-Indian ladies?

- made them happy and excited a.
- frightened the life out of them b.
- made them curious and interested C.
- d. made them ward to adopt Toto

#### 49. Who is an Anglo-Indian?

- a. person with both Indian and British ancestry
- b. person without Indian and British ancestry
- c. non residents of India
- d. Indian got married abroad

#### 50. What does the word 'wicked' mean?

- a. a person/animal
- b. a holy person/animal
- c. morally wrong person /animal
- d. none of them

## 51. Why was Toto called pretty?

- a. because of shining mischievous eyes
- b. because of red colour
- c. because of his pearly white teeth
- d. all

#### 52. What is the story about?

- humour and adventure of a naughty monkey Toto
- b. love animals
- c. about habitats of monkeys
- d none

## 53. What did Toto do when the water in his bath became cold?

- a. he stayed in the bathtub
- b. he cried
- c. he ran to the kitchen try to dry himself
- d. he asked for more warm water

## **Answer Key**

- 1 a. taking bath in large bowl of warm water
- 2 c. five rupees
- 3 c. in a canvas kit
- 4 a. in Dehradun
- 5 c. tonga- driver
- 6 a. he tore it into a shreds
- 7 b. troublesome
- 8 b. the author's school blazer
- 9 a. were torn by Toto
- 10 b. a tail
- 11 b. the family donkey
- 12 a. as a dog
- 13 b. Ruskin Bond
- 14 b. hang from a branch
- 15 d. a tail
- 16 a. fastened his teeth on her ears
- 17 c. to collect his pension
- 18 c. to a peg in the wall
- 19 a. dried up as they had been pickled in the sun for many years
- 20 c. pearly white
- 21 c. his tail
- 22 a. red
- 23 b. tied to a feeding trough
- 24 d. his private zoo
- 25 b. mischief
- 26 c. bathing in a large bowl of warm water
- 27 a. near the kitchen fire
- 28 d. tear things into pieces

- 29 a. with his hand
- 30 d. a tortoise,a pair of rabbits,a tame squirrel and the writer's pet goat
- 31 b. three rupees
- 32 c. no charge
- 33 b. grandfather
- 34 d. Toto and Nana
- 35 b. abode
- 36 d. attempt to tear a hole in her dress
- 37 d. pulao
- 38 c. in the branches of the jackfruit
- 39 a. rice
- 40 b. a tortoise
- 41 b. threw a plate at her
- 42 b. grandmother
- 43 d. a tiger
- 44 a. wall papers and clothes
- 45 c. because Toto was out of place with the tongadriver
- 46 d. all of the above
- 47 a. she fussed and complained
- 48 b. frightened the life out of them
- 49 a. a person with both Indians and British ancestry
- 50 c. morally wrong person/animal
- 51 d. all
- 52 a. humour and adventure of a naughty monkey Toto
- 53 c. he ran to kitchen try to dry himself