

ST. THOMAS SCHOOL, DHURWA, RANCHI.

ENGLISH LITERATURE

STD 6

BOOK RECOMMENDED: NEW ASTER ADVANCED 6
CHAP-10 THE PRINCE AND THE SWALLOW

I. Answer the following questions:

1. Why was the little swallow alone in the city? Where were his companions?

Ans. The little swallow was alone in the city because all his friends had migrated to warmer climes to protect themselves from the approaching winter season. He had stayed behind, for he was in love with the most beautiful Reed and wanted to live with her.

His companions had gone away to Egypt. They were flying up and down the Nile and would sleep in the tomb of the great king.

2. Describe the statue of the Happy Prince.

Ans. The statue of the Happy Prince stood high above the city, on a tall column. He was gilded all over with thin leaves of fine gold; for eyes he had two bright sapphires and a large red ruby glowed on his sword hilt. Everyone admired him and he always looked happy.

3. What did the statue want the swallow to do and why?

Ans. The statue wanted the swallow to be his messenger and help the poor seamstress and her ailing son. He requested the bird to take the ruby out of his sword hilt and give it to the poor lady.

He asked the bird to help because he was deeply moved to see the pain of the little boy and his mother. He himself couldn't help them as his feet were fastened to the pedestal.

4. Did the swallow agree to help the statue right away? What did he say?

Ans. No, the swallow didn't agree to help the statue right away.

He said that he couldn't stay there for long as he had to join his friends who were flying up and down the Nile and would soon go to sleep in the tomb of the great king. Moreover, he didn't like boys as once two rude boys had tried to hit him with stones. So, he was not very willing to help the sick boy of the seamstress.

5. Why did the swallow finally agree to help the statue?

Ans. The swallow finally agreed to help the statue because he didn't want the statue to be sad. So, he agreed to stay for one night and be its messenger.

II. Answer with reference to the context:

1. *He is as beautiful as the weathercock.*

a. Who said this?

Ans. One of the Town Councillors said this.

b. Why did he say it?

Ans. He said so because he wished to gain a reputation for having an artistic taste.

c. What else did he say?

Ans. He said that the statue was not as useful as the weather cock because he didn't want people to think that he was being impractical which he really wasn't.

II. *and how wonderful is the power of love!*

a. Who said this and to whom?

Ans. The beautiful girl's companion said this to her.

b. What was the listener's response to this?

Ans. The listener did not pay heed to her companion as she was more concerned about her dress that she was supposed to wear for the State ball. She said that she had ordered passion flowers to be embroidered

