
CLASS -X ENGLISH
NCERT SOLUTIONS-FOOT PRINTS
Bholi

Answer

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Answer1: Bholi's father was worried about her as she had neither good looks nor intelligence. He did not know how he would find a suitable groom for her.

Answer2: Bholi is sent to school because there is little chance of her getting married, with her ugly face and lack of sense.

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Answer1: Yes, Bholi enjoys her first day at school as she was glad to find so many girls almost of her own age present there. She hoped that one of these girls might become her friend.

Answer2: Yes, she finds her teacher different from the people at home as the teacher was polite and this touched her heart.

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Answer1: Bholi's parents accept Bishamber's marriage proposal because if they don't accept it, she would not be married for the rest of her life.

Answer2: The marriage does not take place because the groom demanded dowry.

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Answer1: Bholi had many apprehensions about going to school. She remembered how their old cow, Lakshmi, had been turned out of the house and sold. When she got a clean dress, bathed and oil was rubbed into her dry hair, only then she felt that she was going to a better place than her home.

Answer2: Bholi's teacher played an important role in changing the course of her life. She was polite and friendly which touched her heart. She encouraged her every time and was affectionate towards her and said to Bholi to put her fears of not able to speak aside. The teacher transformed her into a confident person who could read, write and speak clearly.

Answer3: Bholi at first agreed to an unequal match because she was lucky to get a well-to-do bridegroom who owned a big shop, had a house of his own and had several thousand in the bank. Moreover, he was not asking for any dowry. Bholi also heard her mother saying that he did not know about her pock-marks and her lack of sense. If the proposal was not accepted she might remain unmarried all her life. She later rejected the marriage because the bridegroom demanded five thousand rupees as dowry. On seeing the father pleading and humiliated she decided not to marry him.

This tells us that she has self respect and knows what is right or wrong and is able to take a wise decision.

Answer4: The word Bholi means a simpleton. Throughout the story she had been a simpleton hardly expressing her opinion. The word Sulekha means the person with beautiful sense of letters. In this story this word has a larger meaning of being a literate, intelligent and mature individual. After her education Bholi has really changed to Sulekha and her assertion during marriage is her announcement to the world that she is no more a Bholi but Sulekha.
