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DOMJUR, HOWRAH

SEMESTER 2

AEC
(ABILITY ENHANCEMENT COURSE)

COMPULSORY ENGLISH

UNIT 2: PROSE

RUSKIN BOND: ‘THE THIEF’S STORY’

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The Thief's Story

Ruskin Bond

Short Questions:

1. Who wrote *The Thief's Story*?

Ruskin Bond.

2. Where did the thief and Arun meet?

The thief and Arun met at a wrestling match.

3. What was the thief's age when he met Arun?

The thief was fifteen years old when he met Arun.

4. What was Arun's age when he met the thief?

Arun was about twenty years old.

5. What did the thief say when Arun asked his name?

The thief said his name was Deepak.

6. What names were taken by the thief?

Ranbir, Sudhir, Trilok, Surinder and Deepak.

7. What did the thief agree to do for Arun?

The thief agreed to cook for Anil.

8. Where did Arun ask the thief to sleep at night?

Verandah

9. Why did Arun ask the thief to be off / leave the next morning?

The thief cooked awful food.

10. To whom did Arun give the awful food cooked by the thief?

The neighbour's cat.

11. What did Arun teach the thief?

Arun taught the thief to cook and also read and write his name.

12. How much profit did the thief make each day?

A profit of 25 paise per day.

13. How did Arun earn money?

Arun earned money by fits and starts. He had no regular income.

14. Where did Arun keep the money he earned?

Arun kept his money under the mattress at the head of the bed.

15. What kind of person was Arun according to the thief?

Arun was the most trusting person the thief had ever met.

16. By which train did the thief plan to escape after stealing Arun's money?

The 10:30 Express to Amritsar.

17. How much money did the thief steal from Arun?

Five hundred rupees / a hundred rupees in fives.

18. Why did the thief hesitate to board the Amritsar Express?

The thief hesitated for some urgent, unexplainable reason, even he could not understand.

19. How do people's faces look after they suffer a loss?

The greedy man shows panic, the rich man shows anger, and the poor man shows fear.

20. What did the thief regret while sitting in the *maidan*?

The thief regretted not having brought Arun's blanket as it was a cold rainy night.

21. How did the stolen money get damp?

The stolen money (notes) became damp as it was raining quite heavily.

22. What is the essential characteristic of a successful thief?

A successful thief should be pitiless.

23. Why did the thief decide to return Arun's money?

The thief was fond of Arun and did not want to betray Arun's trust.

24. What did Arun offer the thief, the next morning?

Arun gave the thief a five-rupee note as his wages.

25. How did Arun know that the thief had stolen and then returned his money?

Arun knew that the thief had stolen his money as the notes were damp (wet) from the rain.

26. What did Arun promise to teach the thief at the end of the story?

Arun promised to teach the thief to write a little more than his name.