

Chapter-8

A Lesson in Life from a Beggar

A) Answer these questions:

Q-1 Who was Meena? What was strange about her?

Ans-1. Meena was a good friend of the author. She is an LIC officer earning a good salary. She was always unhappy with and never had anything positive to say on any subject or about any person.

Q-2 How did the narrator know that Meena had changed completely?

Ans-2. The author met Meena after so many years. It was a rainy day. Meena looked very cheerful and happy to meet the author. The author grumbled about the weather but Meena did not complain about anything.

Q-3 Describe the scene that Meena saw through the window.

Ans-3. One monsoon day, when it was raining, Meena started cursing the rain. When she looked out she saw a beggar and his granddaughter, who lived in front of her house, enjoying the rain. They were playing on the road because there was no traffic. They were laughing, clapping and screaming joyously, as if they were in paradise. Hunger and rain did not matter. They were completely drenched but totally happy. She was surprised and envied their zest for life.

Q-4 How did the transformation come about?

Ans-4. When Meena saw the beggar and his granddaughter playing in the rain, she was astonished. That scene forced her to look at her own life. She realized she had so many comforts, none of which they had. But they had the most important of all assets. They knew how to be happy with life as it was. Meena felt ashamed of herself for being grumpy all the time when she had more to be grateful for than many people like the beggar. That day, she decided to change her attitude towards her life and a complete transformation took place in her.