

## English Beehive Chapter 8 Reach for the Top

### Thinking about the Text(Page 102)

- I. Answer these questions in one or two sentences each. (The paragraph numbers within brackets provide clues to the answers.)

#### Question 1.

Why was the 'holy man' who gave Santosh's mother his blessings surprised? (1)

Answer:

The 'holy man' who gave Santosh's mother his blessings was surprised because her grandmother sought blessings for a daughter. In this society most of the people ask the seers to bless for a son.

#### Question 2.

Give an example to show that even as a young girl Santosh was not ready to accept anything unreasonable. (2)

Answer:

She used to wear shorts and not the traditional dresses meant for girls.

#### Question 3.

Why was Santosh sent to the local school? (3)

Answer:

She was sent to the local school in line with the prevailing custom in the family.

#### Question 4.

When did she leave home for Delhi, and why? (4)

Answer:

She left home for Delhi to get proper education. She was sixteen at that time.

#### Question 5.

Why did Santosh's parents agree to pay for her schooling in Delhi? What mental qualities of Santosh are brought into light by this incident? (4)

Answer:

Her parents got ready because she informed them of her plans to earn money by working part time to pay her school fees.

- II. Answer each of these questions in a short paragraph (about 30 words).

#### Question 1.

How did Santosh begin to climb mountains?

Answer:

She wished to climb mountains when she watched villagers from her room, going up the hill and suddenly vanishing after a while. One day, she decided to check it out herself. She found nobody except a few mountaineers. Later she saved money and enrolled in a course at Uttarkashi's Nehru Institute of Mountaineering. Then she began climb mountains every year.

**Question 2.**

**What incidents during the Everest expedition show Santosh's concern for her team-mates?**

Answer:

Santosh Yadav provided special care to a climber who lay dying at the south pole in 1992 Everest Mission. She saved Mohan Singh, who would have lost his life had she not shared her oxygen with him.

**Question 3.**

**What shows her concern for the environment?**

Answer:

Santosh was really concerned for the environment. She collected and brought down 500 kilograms of garbage from the Himalayas.

**Question 4.**

**How does she describe her feelings at the summit of the Everest?**

Answer:

She said that it took some time for the enormity of the moment to sink in. She was delighted at this moment and proudly unfurled the Indian tricolour.

**Question 5.**

**Santosh Yadav got into the record books both times she scaled Mt. Everest. What were the reasons for this?**

Answer:

She is the youngest woman who scaled the Everest. She is the only woman who climbed the Everest twice.

**III. Complete the following statements:**

**From her room in Kasturba Hostel, Santosh used to .....**

**When she finished college, Santosh had to write a letter of apology to her father because .....**

**During the Everest expedition, her seniors in the team admired her ..... while ..... endeared her to fellow climbers.**

Answers:

... see the villagers going up the hill and suddenly vanishing after a while.

... she was going directly for training and not home which she should have done.

... climbing skills, physical fitness and mental strength while working together endeared her to fellow climbers.

**IV. Pick out words from the text that mean the same as the following words or expressions. (Look in the paragraphs indicated.)**

**Took to be true without proof**

.....

**Based on reason; sensible; reasonable**

.....

**The usual way of doing things (para 3):**

.....

**A strong desire arising from within (5):**

**The power to endure, without falling**

**III (7): .....**

Answers:

Blessing

Rational

Custom

Urge

Resistance/endurance