

Lesson 10. A strange Wrestling Match

Supplementary

Summary of the chapter

Vijay Singh, a Wrestler was Fond of boasting who wanted to teach a Lesson to the Ghost.

There was a wrestler called Vijay Singh who could beat all other wrestlers in the world. He had a weakness which often landed him in problems. He was found of praising himself. One day, he was sitting in the market with other men. After having many glasses of milk, he asked those men why they were afraid of ghosts. The wrestler said that he wanted to teach a lesson to a ghost.

People told him to Visit the Haunted Desert

People told him that if he walks along at night through the Haunted Desert, he will meet a ghost. Many travellers have been killed and looted by ghosts in the desert. Vijay did not believe their stories. The villagers gave him the full address. The place was ten miles away from Jaisalmer. The landmark was an ugly black rock. The entire villagers came to bid him farewell. An old woman came and gave a packet to Vijay. He started his journey. He opened the packet after some time and found a lump of salt and an egg. The entire villagers came to bid him farewell. An old woman came and gave a packet to Vijay. He started his journey. He opened the packet after some time and found a lump of salt and an egg.

Vijay Met a Ghost

He heard a voice who called him by his name. He met the ghost whose name was Natwar. Vijay told the ghost to show him the way. He told the ghost that he was eager to meet him. The ghost was shocked because people are usually afraid of ghosts. Vijay called the ghost as stupid and worthless.

Vijay Displayed his Strength in Front of the Ghost

Vijay told the ghost to crush a piece of rock. The ghost could not crush it. Vijay demonstrated his strength by crushing what the ghost thought was a piece of rock. Vijay actually crushed an egg and fooled the ghost. Then he told the ghost to crush another stone which contains salt. The ghost could not crush the stone on the second time. Vijay took out the lump of salt and crushed it, conquering the ghost through cheating twice.

The ghost admitted of being defeated and invited Vijay to stay with him at night. Vijay said he would take the ghost as a prisoner to his village to prove his strength. The ghost planned to kill Vijay during the night at his place.

Vijay did not Sleep the Entire Night

The ghost fed Vijay fruits and gave him a luxurious bed to sleep. Vijay kept awake, listening to the snores of the ghost. Later, he placed pillows on the bed, making it look as if a man is sleeping on it. The ghost tried to kill Vijay by hitting the pillows with a stout club. Vijay saw everything. The ghost thought he has killed Vijay Singh.

The ghost was again cheated by Vijay. In the morning, the ghost was shocked to see Vijay alive. Vijay complained of insects, which troubled him throughout the night. The ghost could not believe his eyes and understood that Vijay was stronger than him. The ghost ran away, leaving all his property which made Vijay wealthy for life. Vijay later thanked the woman who gave him an egg and a lump of salt. He married the woman's grand-daughter.



NCERT Corner

1. What was Vijay Singh's weakness? Which awkward situation did it push him into?

Vijay Singh was a wrestler. He was fond of boasting and it was his weakness. Vijay said he wanted to meet a ghost and teach him a lesson. This put him into an awkward situation where he has to actually meet a ghost.

2. Was the old woman's gift to Vijay Singh eccentric? Why?

No, the old woman's gift to Vijay Singh was not an eccentric act. Her gift—an egg and a lump of salt helped Vijay to defeat the ghost. Though, Vijay cheated the ghost but it was done in order to save his own life.

3. Why did Vijay Singh ask the ghost disguised as Natwar to come closer?

Vijay Singh asked the ghost disguised as Natwar to come closer so that he could make an estimate of his enemy. He wanted to analyze his enemy's strength.

4. What made the ghost speechless? Why?

Vijay Singh told the ghost that he was fed up of wrestling with men. He wanted to fight with a ghost for thrill and action. This statement made the ghost speechless because people are usually very afraid of ghosts and this man wanted to fight with a ghost.

5. Why did Vijay Singh say "Appearances can be deceptive"?

The ghost doubted Vijay Singh's strength and potential as a wrestler. The ghost told Vijay that he did not appear to be a strong man. This made Vijay say that appearances could be deceptive. He was ready to display his strength in front of the ghost.

6. How did Vijay Singh use the egg? How did he use the lump of salt?

Vijay Singh told the ghost to crush a piece of rock. The ghost could not crush it. Vijay demonstrated his strength by crushing what the ghost thought was a piece of rock. Vijay actually crushed an egg in the darkness to fool the ghost. Then he told the ghost to crush another stone which contains salt. The ghost could not crush the stone for the second time. Vijay took out the lump of salt and crushed it, conquering the ghost through cheating twice.

7. Why did Vijay Singh conclude that the ghost would not be a worthy opponent to him? Was he fair in his judgement?

Vijay Singh concluded that the ghost could not be a worthy opponent because he defeated the ghost twice. He told the ghost to crush a piece of rock two times. The ghost could not be successful. Vijay demonstrated his strength by crushing what the

ghost thought was a piece of rock. Vijay actually crushed an egg and a lump of salt in the darkness to fool the ghost. No, Vijay was not fair in his judgment because he conquered the ghost by playing tricks with him.

8. Why did Vijay Singh ask the ghost to accompany him to town next day?

Vijay Singh wanted to show off that he was not afraid of ghosts and has conquered a ghost in wrestling. He wanted to display his trophy of victory to the people of his village so he asked the ghost to accompany him next day.

9. What made the ghost believe Vijay Singh was dead?

The ghost planned to kill Vijay Singh but he slipped off his bed at proper time and placed a bolster on the bed. The ghost stuck the bolster with a stout club seven times. The ghost could not hear any groan and believed that Vijay was dead.

10. Vijay Singh complained of insects in the cave. What was he referring to and why?

Vijay Singh referred to the ghost, while complaining of insects in the cave. As the ghost struck Vijay with a stout club seven times, he compared it with flappings of the insect wings to insult the ghost. Vijay Singh wanted to prove that he was more powerful than the ghost so he was taunting over the ghost's action.

11. Was it really a ghost who Vijay Singh befooled? Who do you think it was?

No, it was not really a ghost whom Vijay Singh befooled, Nobody could see a ghost. A ghost is capable of crushing anyone. Ghosts neither live in caves, nor eat dry fruits. They don't need to acquire wealth. They did not panic and run away in fear. The ghost in the story was a robber who just wanted to rob and kill people. He was scaring people in the name of a ghost.

Very Short Answer Type Questions

1. Who was Vijay Singh?

Vijay Singh was a wrestler. He was a tall man with heavy shoulders and muscular arms.

2. What was a fairy tale of Vijay Singh?

The scary Haunted Desert in jaisalmer and finding ghosts in the desert was a fairy tale for Vijay Singh.

3. Where was the Haunted Desert situated?

The Haunted Desert was situated ten miles away to the West on the road to Jaisalmer. The landmark was an ugly black rock.

4. Who was Natwar?

Natwar was a ghost in the Haunted Desert who met Vijay Singh. He tried to scare him but failed.

5. What did the ghost give Vijay Singh to eat?

The ghost fed Vijay Singh dry fruits and a lot of milk. The ghost later led him to a luxurious bed to sleep.

6. Why did the ghost strike Vijay Singh six?

The ghost struck Vijay Singh six times more to make sure that he has been killed. The ghost wanted to satisfy himself that he had been killed him.

7. What happened to the ghost's ill-gotten wealth?

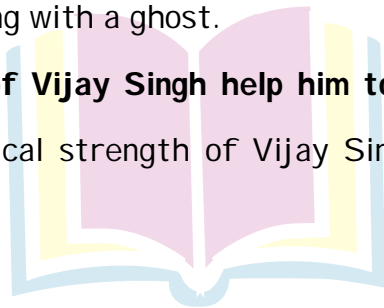
Vijay Singh acquired the ill-gotten wealth left behind by the ghost and returned much of it to the rightful owners.

8. How did Vijay Singh feel when he was told to go to the haunted deserts?

He was frightened when he was asked to go to haunted deserts. His heart missed a beat at the thought of fighting with a ghost.

9. Did the physical strength of Vijay Singh help him to defeat the ghost?

No, it was not the physical strength of Vijay Singh, but he used his mind and cleverness to defeat the ghost.



Short Answer Type Questions

1. Why did Vijay Singh call the ghost as stupid?

The ghost was shocked that Vijay wanted to meet him. Generally people are afraid of ghosts but he came to meet ghosts. Vijay Singh called him stupid because being a ghost he could not able to read his mind. It is said that a ghost knows everything.

2. The ghost silently vowed to kill Vijay Singh. Why?

The ghost was defeated by Vijay Singh on two occasions. Therefore, the ghost understood that Vijay Singh was unbeatable and the ghost could not defeat him in a wrestling match. So, the ghost planned to kill him silently after taking him to his cave.

3. What happened in the middle of the night in cave?

Vijay Singh slipped of his bed in the middle of the night in cave. He placed a bolster in the centre of the bed and covered it with a coverlet to make it look exactly like a sleeping man. He stood in a dark corner and watched the entire episode from there.

Long Answer Type Questions

1. How did Vijay Singh cheat the ghost twice in the story?

Vijay Singh cheated the ghost on two occasions. He told the ghost to crush a piece of rock. The ghost could not crush it. Vijay demonstrated his strength by crushing what the ghost thought was a piece of rock.

Vijay actually took an egg from his pocket and crushed it. The ghost was deceived by Vijay Singh. Then he again told the ghost to crush another stone which contains salt. The ghost could not crush the stone for the second time.

Vijay took out the lump of salt from his pocket and crushed it, conquering the ghost through cheating twice. Vijay Singh took advantage of darkness and cheated the ghost.

2. Give a character sketch of Vijay Singh. How did he defeat the ghost with his intelligence?

Vijay Singh was a wrestler. He was a tall man with massive shoulders and muscular arms. He could beat all other wrestlers in the world. But he was fond of boasting himself which often lands him in trouble.

He was intelligent and defeated his ghost through his cleverness. He used the gift given by an old lady to fool the ghost. The ghost could not crush pieces of rocks but Vijay Singh, taking advantage of the darkness crushed an egg and the lump of salt. The ghost thought he had crushed rocks.

Vijay Singh was not a greedy person so returned much of the acquired wealth to the rightful owners. He married the old woman's grand-daughter to reward the old lady and thanked her for the invaluable gift. He was a wise man.

Value Based Questions

What did Vijay Singh learn from the incident of meeting a ghost?

Vijay Singh became more careful about boasting himself after he landed in a big trouble to encounter a ghost in the Haunted Desert. Though, he managed to defeat the ghost through various tricks but he understood that he should speak carefully.

He also learnt not to trust anyone blindly after he saw that the ghost had plans to kill him. He believed the ghost and came to his cave but the ghost tried to cheat on him.

He also understood the reason behind the old woman's weird gift. She actually helped Vijay Singh to defeat the ghost. He thanked the old lady after returning to his home.

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