Chapter 13: A lesson in life from a beggar

Fill in the blanks

1. Meena was an _____ officer who earned a good salary but was always unhappy.
2. Whenever the narrator met Meena, she would feel _____ because of Meena's negative attitude.
3. Meena would belittle Rakesh's achievement by saying his success was because his father was a _____.
4. Meena lived alone in Bangalore while her parents lived in _____.
5. Years later, the narrator met Meena at Bombay's _____ during heavy rain.
6. The narrator was surprised because Meena was now _____ and enthusiastic.
7. The beggar who changed Meena's life was old and had a _____-year-old granddaughter.
8. Meena used to give the beggar and his granddaughter her _____ every day.
9. During monsoon, Meena saw the beggar and girl playing joyfully despite being _____ in the rain.
10. The beggar family's happiness made Meena realize they possessed something she lacked - the ability to be happy with _____.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

11. Meena decided to make a list of things she had versus things she _____.
12. It took Meena about _____ years to completely change her pessimistic attitude.
13. As a mark of respect, Meena sponsored the education of beggar's granddaughter at a _____ school.
14. The chapter teaches that happiness comes from _____ rather than material possessions.
15. Meena's transformation shows that even the poorest can teach us valuable _____ about life.

Multiple Choice Questions

1. What best describes Meena's personality at the story's beginning?

a) A well-paid officer who constantly criticized everything and spread negativity
b) A successful professional who found joy in small things and uplifted others
c) A lonely woman who avoided social contact but wasn't particularly unhappy
d) An ambitious careerist who only cared about professional achievements

2. How did Meena typically respond to good news about others?

LIVEWORKSHEETS

a) She would sincerely congratulate them and celebrate their success
b) She would politely acknowledge but quickly change the subject
c) She found ways to diminish their achievements with negative comments
d) She showed no interest unless it directly benefited her

3. What was most surprising about Meena's behavior when reunited in Mumbai?

a) She had become extremely wealthy and showed off her possessions
b) She was genuinely happy, enthusiastic, and embracing life's simple pleasures
c) She had quit her job and was traveling the world as a backpacker
d) She pretended not to recognize her old friend to avoid conversation

4. How did Meena react differently to the rain in Mumbai compared to her past self?

a) She suggested buying umbrellas and enjoying a walk despite the downpour
b) She complained about how it ruined her expensive clothes and shoes

LIVEWORKSHEETS

c) She refused to leave her home until the weather cleared completely

d) She blamed the narrator for choosing to meet in such bad weather

5. What life-changing realization did Meena have from observing the beggar family?

a) That money was unimportant if one had good health and family

b) That true happiness comes from within, not from external circumstances

c) That children are happier than adults because they don't worry

d) That monsoon season was the best time for self-reflection

6. What specific behavior of the beggar family most impacted Meena?

a) They worked hard despite their poverty to improve their situation

b) They never complained about their difficult living conditions

c) They played joyfully together in the rain despite being hungry and drenched

d) They always shared whatever little food they had with others

LIVEWORKSHEETS

7. How did Meena's perspective on her own life change after this experience?

a) She realized she had taken her privileges for granted and lacked gratitude
b) She decided to quit her job and work with poor families instead
c) She understood that city life was making everyone unhappy
d) She believed she needed to earn more money to be truly happy

8. What practical step did Meena take to change her attitude?

a) She started meditating for two hours every morning
b) She read self-help books and attended motivational seminars
c) She cut off contact with all negative people in her life
d) She made lists comparing what she had versus what she lacked

9. How did Meena honor the beggar's impact on her life?

a) By writing a book about the lessons she learned from him
b) By funding his granddaughter's education at a boarding school
c) By building a memorial in his name in her hometown
d) By volunteering regularly at a local homeless shelter

LIVEWORKSHEETS

10. Which statement best captures the chapter's central message?

a) "We should always help those less fortunate than ourselves"
b) "City life makes people selfish and unhappy"
c) "Childhood is the happiest time of one's life"
d) "Happiness depends more on our perspective than our possessions"

LIVEWORKSHEETS

LIVEWORKSHEETS