**STD 6 FRIENDS OR ENEMIES**

**VALUE: “The great thing about new friends is that they bring new energy to your soul.”**

1. How was Rambo ‘readymade’ when he came to the narrator’s house?

Ans: Rambo was already well-trained and domesticated as he was a full-grown dog when he was adopted by the narrator’s family. In this way, he came ‘readymade’ to the narrator’s family, that is, ready to be adopted.

2. How do you know that Rambo was not a guard dog?

Ans: Papa warned the narrator that Rambo was not a guard dog because of the character traits he exhibited. Since he was too friendly with strangers, instead of being alert and barking at any stranger entering the house, he used to wag his tail happily to greet anyone who came near the gate. This shows that in his demeanor, Rambo was non-threatening and very lovable towards all.

3. Pullu was unhappy at Rambo’s arrival. How did she express her unhappiness?

Ans: The narrator observed that while everyone was happy due to Rambo’s presence in the house, the family pet cat Pullu was not at all pleased. This is because she played mischievous tricks on him to get him into trouble. For instance, she got him into trouble with Mama by stealing his bone. This lead to him getting angry and destroying freshly washed bedsheets. Not satisfied with just stealing his bone, in another episode, she kicked him awake to annoy him even further.

4. How did Pullu disturb Rambo’s sleep? How did he react?

Ans: Pullu not only stole Rambo’s bone but also gave him a sharp prod on his bottom when he was sleeping so that she can truly taunt and irritate him. He reacted by barking angrily at her for a while but soon got distracted and shifted his attention to the sound of a garbage truck.

5. What was the first sign of friendship that the narrator noticed between Pullu and Rambo?

Ans: The narrator discovered that Pullu, who never allowed anyone to cuddle with her, had curled up next to Rambo when he was sick. This clearly shows that despite all her enmity and jealousy towards Rambo, she truly cared for him and considered him a friend.

6. How did Pullu convey her anxiety to Mama?

Ans: When Mama offered fish to Pullu, she swept it off her hand to draw everyone’s attention to the fact that Rambo had been in an accident and required urgent medical attention. Pullu’s act of selflessly refusing to eat became one of the most crucial signals for the narrator and her family that something was seriously wrong.

7. What had happened to Rambo?

Ans: Rambo had collided with a motorbike in the middle of the road. While the driver was not seriously harmed, Rambo was dazed and unconscious and needed help getting home.

8. How did Pullu show her concern for Rambo?

Ans: Pullu was exceptionally concerned for Rambo when he collided with a motorbike. She not only managed to attract the family’s attention to the accident, she also stole a delicious bone from the neighbour’s dog and gave it to Rambo in order to cheer him up.

9. Who is the narrator? How old do you think is he/she?

Ans: The narrator is probably a young child of eight or ten years of age. The narrator mentions that s/he would stop by Vidyut house while coming home from school. This indicates that the narrator is a school going child. Also, as the youngest in the family, s/he had to really convince Mama and Papa that s/he is capable of looking after Rambo. This is possibly due to the fact the parents must have felt a young child may not be capable of taking on the responsibility of another pet. Furthermore, the story uses a simple vocabulary and expresses the naïve emotions of a child. All these hints suggest that the narrator is a young child.

10. Rambo and Pullu are animals with very human reactions. Justify

Rambo and Pullu exhibit human emotions such as rivalry, jealousies and anger. However, they gradually begin to care for each other and develop a deep friendship. For example, the author uses words such as ‘motherly’ to describe Pullu’s concern for Rambo.

HOD PRINCIPAL