

QUESTION BANK

Madam Rides the Bus

A. Answer in brief.

1. What was Valli's pastime? What fascinated her the most?

Ans: The eight year old Valli was very curious about things. She would often stand in the front doorway of her house to watch what was happening in the street outside. She loved the experience. The most fascinating thing of all was watching the bus that went through her street carrying and dropping passengers.

2. Why did Valli discreetly gather information about the bus from others?

Ans: The running bus really fascinated Valli and she wished that some day she should ride on that bus for once at least. With that wish in her mind, she started gathering information about the bus from those who regularly used the bus. She did that discreetly because she did not want anyone to spoil her plan to travel alone once.

B. Answer in detail.

1. What information did Valli gather about the bus journey? How did she plan her first journey?

Ans: Valli learnt that a two way ticket to the town was sixty paise and took forty-five minutes. She decided to take the one-o'clock afternoon bus and return by the same bus around two forty-five, because her mother would be taking her afternoon

nap. She resisted every temptation, to save money for her bus ticket. Finally, one afternoon she boarded the bus.

2. Describe the first bus journey as experienced by Valli.

Ans: Valli's journey was fascinating. On one side she saw the canal and beyond it palm trees, grass land, distant mountains and the blue sky. On the other side there was a deep ditch, and then lovely green lands. The bus passed through tiny hamlets and bare landscapes. Whenever other vehicles came close, Valli felt as if her bus would gobble that vehicle. She saw a young cow running in front of the bus, which she found funny.

C. Choose the correct answer.

The episode, *Madam Rides a Bus* is about

- a. Valli being a brave girl by going alone on a bus ride
- b. Valli going to the market in town and buying things
- c. Valli enjoying the beauty of creation and everyday life

Ans: c

D. Read the lines and answer the questions.

On and on went her thoughts as she calculated and recalculated, planned and re-planned.
(Madam rides the bus)

- a. Who is 'her' in the above lines?
- b. What was she calculating?
- c. Why was she doing that alone?

Ans: a. 'Her' in the above lines refers to Valli.

- b. She was calculating about the money she may have to save to take her first bus journey.
- c. She was planning to take that journey without the knowledge of her mother. Hence she had to plan everything all alone.

E. Answer in brief. (Think and answer)

1. What amused Valli the most during her bus journey? Was it really amusing?

Free response *Suggested answer:* Valli was amused by a young cow, tail high in the air, running very fast in front of the bus. It did not run away even when the driver repeatedly horned. She was so innocent, she did not realise the young cow could get hit by the bus and get killed. She found the plight of the cow funny and exciting.

2. Do you think Valli was taking a risk by travelling by bus alone without telling her mother?

Free response *Suggested answer:* Yes, she was taking a risk. She was too young to travel alone. Anything could have happened. No one would have known where she had gone. Even the conductor did not ask her anything. Fortunately for her, everything went well. She should never have left her house without her mother's knowledge.

F. Answer in detail. (Think and answer)

Valli enjoyed her journey in the bus travelling from her village to the town. Would she have enjoyed her journey as much, had she gone with an adult? (Free response) Accept any logical answer.