

Gopal and the Hilsa Fish

I. Read the extract and answer the following questions:

“ I’m sorry, I lost my temper. It is the season for Hilsa fish and no one, not even Gopal can stop anyone from talking about Hilsa. Not even for five minutes!”

i. Who said these lines and to whom?

Ans- The king said these lines to the courtier.

ii. Why did the king ask for forgiveness?

Ans-The king asked for forgiveness as he snubbed a courtier very harshly.

iii. Give synonyms of ‘temper’.

Ans- Anger, rage, fury

II. Answer the following questions:

1. Why did the king want no more talk about the hilsa-fish?

Ans- The king did not want to listen any more talk about the hilsa-fish because everyone in the entire kingdom kept talking only about the hilsa-fish and this irritated the king.

2. How did Gopal get inside the palace to see the king after he had bought the fish?

Ans-When Gopal asked the guards to let him meet king; they refused. Therefore, he began to dance and sing loudly. On hearing his loud song, the king sent his messenger to call him in the court.

3. Describe the character sketch of Gopal.

Ans-Gopal is the courtier of the king’s palace. He is an intelligent and clever man. He was the

favorite courtier of the king. When the king challenged Gopal to buy a Hilsa fish from the market and bring it to his palace without letting anyone ask him anything about it . He

accepted his challenge. Few days later, he dressed up like a beggar by showing holy face

and smeared ashes. He wore torn clothes and walked towards the king’s palace holding the

Hilsa fish. Later he explained to king that no one noticed the fish because of his wired look

thus, he won the challenge.

4. If a person takes challenges, he put in his efforts to win it. How?

Ans- One should be resolute and firm. Yes, we should not give up in any situation. We should find out a solution to come out of it.Sometimes it might be tough to find the solution, but if we try hard nothing is impossible.

Moral of the story:

“Never give up even when faced with challenges”. The story reveals the never-giving-up attitude of Gopal who manages challenges very sensibly.

He was given an impossible task and despite that, he overcame the challenge very smoothly.