

# A TIGER IN THE HOUSE

## [Comprehension Check]

**Question 1. “He had the distinction of being the only member of the party *to have bagged any game...*” The phrase in italics means**

- (i) Grandfather was the most distinguished member of the party.
- (ii) Grandfather was the only sportsperson in the party.
- (iii) Grandfather was the only successful member of the hunting party.

**Mark the right answer.**

**Answer:** (iii) Grandfather was the only successful member of the hunting party.

**Question 2. Complete the following sentences.**

- (i) Toto climbed up the curtains when \_\_\_\_\_
- (ii) \_\_\_\_\_, I became one of the tiger’s favourites.
- (iii) Timothy had clean habits, \_\_\_\_\_

**Answer:**

- (i) Toto climbed up the curtains when **Timothy lost his temper.**
- (ii) **When I came to live with my grandfather,** I became one of the tiger’s favourites.
- (iii) Timothy had clean habits, **and would scrub his face with his paws exactly like a cat.**

**Question 3. Grandmother’s prophecy was that the tiger**

- (i) would prefer Mahmoud’s bed to sleep in.
- (ii) and the cook would disappear together from the house.
- (iii) would one day make a meal of Mahmoud.

**Mark the right answer.**

**Answer:** (iii) would one day make a meal of Mahmoud.

**Question 4. When Timothy was about six months old, a change came over him.**

**The phrase in italics means that**

- (i) Timothy had grown to his full size.
- (ii) Timothy grew more friendly.
- (iii) Timothy grew less friendly, in fact more dangerous

**Answer:** (iii) Timothy grew less friendly, in fact more dangerous

**Question 5. Write ‘True’ or ‘False’ against each of the following statements.**

- (i) Timothy and Grandfather went to Lucknow in a special compartment. \_\_\_\_\_
- (ii) The compartment in which Grandfather and Timothy travelled had no other passenger. \_\_\_\_\_
- (iii) Timothy and Grandfather travelled in a first class compartment. \_\_\_\_\_
- (iv) All passengers in the compartment thought that Timothy was a well-fed and civilized tiger. \_\_\_\_\_

**Answer:**

- (i) False
- (ii) True
- (iii) True
- (iv) False

**Question 6. Grandfather suggested that Timothy should be put in another cage. The reason was that**

- (i) the tiger had become very bad tempered.
- (ii) a leopard in the next cage would constantly rush at Timothy.
- (iii) the cage was too small for a full grown tiger.

**Answer:** (ii) a leopard in the next cage would constantly rush at Timothy.

**Question 7. The tiger was still licking his arm, with increasing relish. The phrase in italics suggests that Timothy**

- (i) was good natured.
- (ii) recognized an old friend.
- (iii) smelt fresh food.

**Answer:** (ii) recognized an old friend.

### **[Exercises]**

**Answer the following questions.**

**Question 1. Where was the tiger cub hiding when Grandfather found him?**

**Answer:** It was hiding in the roots of a banyan tree in the Tarai jungle near Dehra

**Question 2. (i) What did Toto do to entertain Timothy?  
(ii) What did he do when Timothy lost his temper?**

**Answer:** (i) Toto would pull Timothy by the tail to entertain him.  
(ii) He would climb up the curtain when Timothy lost his temper.

**Question 3. "I became one of the tiger's favorites". Who is 'I' in the statement? Why did he think so?**

**Answer:** In this statement, 'I' is the author. He thought Timothy would creep closer and closer to him, suddenly making a dash on his feet, rolling over on his back and kicking with delight, and pretending to bite his ankles.

**Question 4. Where was Timothy most comfortable during the day? Where was he during the night?**

**Answer:** Timothy was most comfortable on the sofa during the day. In the night, he would sleep in the cook's quarter.

**Question 5. What was Grandmother's prophecy about the cook? Did it come true?**

**Answer:** Grandmother's prophecy about the cook was that one day Timothy will eat him. No, it did not come true.

**Question 6. What made Grandfather decide to transfer Timothy to the zoo?**

**Answer:** Timothy had begun to be less friendly. He seemed to follow Mahmood with wrong intentions. He would eat birds. This made Grandfather decide to transfer Timothy to the zoo.

**Question 7. Why did Grandfather want Timothy to be put in another enclosure?**

**Answer:** Because a leopard in the neighbouring cave was bothering and frightening him.

**Question 8. What shocked Grandfather in the end?**

**Answer:** Grandfather was shocked to hear from the keeper that Timothy was dead two months ago and the tiger he was caressing was not Timothy but someone else – very dangerous.