

Q. 3. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow: (20)

My father loved all instruments that would instruct and fascinate. His place to keep things was the drawer in the 'library table' where lying on top of his folder map was a telescope with brass extensions, to find the moon and the Big Dipper after supper in our front yard, and to keep appointments with eclipses. In the back of the drawer, you could find a magnifying glass, a kaleidoscope and a gyroscope kept in black buckram box, which he would set dancing for us on a string pulled tight. He had also supplied himself with an assortment of puzzles composed of metal rings and intersecting links and keys chained together, impossible for the rest of us, however, patiently shown, to take apart, he had an almost childlike love of the ingenious. In time, a barometer was added to our dining room wall, but we didn't really need it. My father had the country boy's accurate knowledge of the weather and its skies. He went out and stood on our front steps first thing in the morning and took a good look at it and a sniff. He was a pretty good weather prophet. He told us children what to do if we were lost in a strange country. 'Look for where the sky is brightest along the horizon,' he said. 'That reflects the nearest river. Strike out for a river and you will find habitation'. Eventualities were much on his mind. In his care for us children he cautioned us to take measures against such things as being struck by lightning. He drew us all away from the windows during the severe electrical storms that are common where we live. My mother stood apart, scoffing at caution as a character failing. So, I developed a strong meteorological sensibility. In years ahead when I wrote stories, atmosphere took its influential role from the start. Commotion in the weather and the inner feelings aroused by such a hovering disturbance emerged connected in dramatic form.

Questions

1. why did the writer's father spend time studying the skies? (5)
2. why the writer thinks that there was no need of a barometer? (5)
3. what does the bright horizon mean for the writer's father? (5)
4. How did her father influence the writer in her later years? (5)

Question # 3

Answer (1)

Writer's father spent time studying the skies because of his passion and love with the objects that would entertain him. Along with this, such things also played a role of information about the skies. Therefore, he used to keep the instruments in his drawer. It had amplified his knowledge about the moon and eclipses. Eventually, such information and knowledge enabled him to become a weather prophet.

Answer (2)

According to writer, his father used to keep various instruments in his drawer which enabled him to gain the knowledge about weather and skies. These instruments include a telescope, a magnifying glass, a kaleidoscope and a gyroscope. He also possessed puzzles of metal rings. Moreover, at one time, he also kept barometer; however, according to writer, there was no need of this as it had no particular role in gaining the knowledge about the weather and skies.

Answer (3)

According to the writer's father, the knowledge of bright horizon is crucial as it helps one find ways in the case one is lost in a strange country.

With the knowledge of bright horizon, the information about the presence of nearby river is possible. From that, the way out of the strange country can be figure out as the river must possess with habitation.

Answer (4)

The fascination of his father about the weather and skies helped writer a lot in his later life. The knowledge of bright horizon acknowledged about the nearest river. Similarly, at times, when lightning was struck out, his father cautioned his children about it. It enabled writer to develop a meteorological sensibility. Likewise, when he began to write stories, he strongly felt the role of atmosphere on himself due to the connection of weather and the inner feelings of man.