

A TRIUMPH OF SURGERY



By
JAMES HERRIOT

CLASS 10 ENGLISH
(SUPPLEMENTARY READER)
Module 2

A Triumph of Surgery-Title

- The title is interesting, and the story ends with these words, as a tribute to the vet by Mrs Pumphrey.
- Truly speaking, there was no medical treatment given to Tricki.
- Transformation of the dog - from “bloated sausage” to lithe and hard muscled!
- It is, indeed, a triumph of the surgeon!

INSIGHT INTO THE STORY

- The story is semi autobiographical
- The major focus is on the owner's overfeeding to the pet out of love. Affection blinds the reason!
- All food and no play makes Tricki a dull doggy!
- The vet's tactfulness as well as common sense – a triumph of surgeon!
- Mrs Pumphrey's classiness
- Lesson from the story – Excess of anything spoils!

CHARACTER SKETCH

MR. HERRIOT

- A competent vet
- Tactful, full of common sense and has sense of humour
- Quite convincing
- Sincere to his profession
- Good writer, using his real life episodes



CHARACTER SKETCH

MRS PUMPHREY

- Fabulously rich and resourceful lady
- Passionately attached to her pet, Tricki
- Innocent and ignorant
- Grateful in paying her tribute to the vet
- Resembles the over indulgent parents



CHARACTER SKETCH

TRICKY

- Mrs Pumphrey's pet Dog
- Much loved by his mistress and given princely treatment
- Greed for food and loves cream cakes and chocolates
- All food and no play makes Tricky a dull doggy!
- Transformation into a lithe and lively animal
- Loving and loyal



GLOSSARY

- Sausage: finely minced meat stuffed into long cylindrical cases and divided into small lengths by twisting or tying
- Rheumy: a weary discharge from a mucous membrane especially of the nose or eyes
- Listless: lacking energy and enthusiasm
- Lumbago: muscular pain in the lower part of the back (lumbar region)
- Regime: (here)prescribed course of exercise and diet

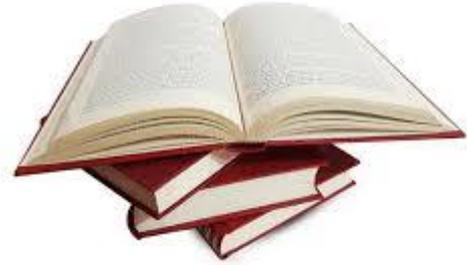
GLOSSARY (contd...)

- **Distraught:** extremely worried
- **Surgery:** a place where doctor, a dentist or a vet treats patients
- **Scrimmage:** rough or confused struggle
- **Convalescing:** recovering from illness
- **Lithe:** flexible

MORAL OF THE STORY

- Pampering spoils physical as well as mental health.
Excess of anything spoils!
- Exercise is equally important for the well being along with nutritious food.

SUGGESTED READING



- 'Rikki Tikki Tawi' by Rudyard Kipling
- 'Dog Stories' by James Herriot
- 'A Zoo in My Luggage' by Gerald Durrell
- 'A Tiger Comes to Town' by R.K.Narayan

**READING GIVES US
SOMEPLACE TO GO
WHEN WE HAVE TO
STAY WHERE WE ARE.**
- MASON COOLEY

Forget not to do the worksheet!

