

Unit 8C

Questions and Answers:

1. What did the mother do to Madananka normal and settled in life?

Answer: Madananka's mother thought if she gets Madananka married then probably he would get normal and settle in life. So, she found a beautiful girl and got him married.

2. What kind of man was Yakshadatta?

Answer: Yakshadatta was a well-to-do merchant in the neighbouring village. He used to lend money to the poor but capable persons.

3. What did Ratnanka do with the dead rat?

Answer: Ratnanka took the dead rat as his capital given by Ratnanka. He made a cup out of a leaf and placed the dead rat in that cup. He took it for sale and one merchant who was taming a cat in order to get rid of the rats that were a menace in his shop bought the dead rat and gave Ratnanka a handful of bengalgram. Ratnanka then used the bengalgram as his capital and utilised it.

4. How did the firewood which Ratnanka had collected fetch him a hundred gold coins?

Answer: Once Ratnanka soaked bengalgram overnight and the next day he added some salt and pepper to it and took it outside the city along with some drinking water and sat under the shade of a tree. He offered those to each hungry and thirsty woodcutter. The hungry and thirsty woodcutter were very pleased to have food and water and thus each of them gave him two pieces of firewood. Ratnanka had big heap of firewood by evening. He then continued the same process and in a month collected cart-loads of fuel. Luck was by his side and fortunately it rained incessantly for ten days and there was a scarcity of firewood in the city. He then grabbed the opportunity and sold them and earned a hundred gold coins.

5. How did Ratnanka show his gratitude to Yakshadatta?

Answer: Ratnanka made a rat of gold, weighing one kilo. Its eyes were made of rubies, ears of sapphires and it had a diamond chain round its neck. It was kept in a silver trap.

6. How did Ratnanka help the woodcutters?

Answer: Ratnanka soaked bengalgram in water. The next morning, he added some salt and pepper to those soaked and swollen bengalgram, took drinking water in an earthen pitcher, went outside the city and sat under a tree. When he saw the hungry and thirsty woodcutters, he offered them water and those soaked bengalgrams. In this way, he helped the woodcutters.

