

St. Andrews Scots Sr. Sec. School

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Session: 2025-2026

Class: VII

Sub: English MCB

Lesson: Tuppitty, the Flying Squirrel

(A) Reference to Context

A. 1. The mystery that the author wanted to solve was whether it was the Himalayan Nutcracker that was poking holes in the walnuts found in the Himalayas.

2. The author placed walnuts under a tree where a pair of nutcrackers used to come. The birds there turned over the nuts but did not attempt to break them. After this, he collected a few nuts in which Tuppitty had already made holes and placed them under the same tree, watching carefully. After some time, the birds came along and at once selected the bored walnuts and began pecking at them and working their beaks inside the holes. Thus, he solved the mystery of the Himalayan Nutcracker.

3. The author wanted to solve the mystery because a controversy regarding it had been raging on for many months.

B. Answer the following questions

1. Tuppitty was a large red flying squirrel with a two feet long bushy tail. She was very proud of her bushy tail and loved to show it off. She was nocturnal, that is, she slept during the day and was lively and active during the night. Tuppitty would announce that she was awake by giving a low growl and doing a round

of long, but not very graceful, jumps. She liked to eat puddings, stewed fruit, walnuts, milk, and custard.

2. The writer found Tippetty's nocturnal nature to be a drawback because she was most active and lively when it was time for the author to go to bed at night.

3. When Tippetty would hurriedly sink her face into the saucer of milk to drink, some liquid would go up her nose, making her sneeze and splutter.

4. Tippetty's growl was so loud and alarming that an animal much bigger in size than Tippetty would be proud to growl in that manner.

5. It was in the writer's interest to provide Tippetty with a good dinner because then she slept soundly, which ensured that the narrator slept through the night as well, without being woken up by her.

6. i) Tippetty was quite happy on any tree or shrub and found something to eat on all.

ii) An oak or a deodar tree invariably attracted her attention and she would make her way to the extreme end of a branch and nibble off the young leaves.

7. We know that Tippetty wasn't too keen to accompany the writer on his afternoon strolls because she had to be ruthlessly pulled out of her box when the author and the dogs got ready for the walk. When she would get tired during the walk, she would get up on the author's shoulder by climbing up his leg, or spring up on one of the dogs' backs for a free ride.

8. Tippetty was chained before dinner to keep her from hopping and jumping onto the dinner table so that everyone could eat peacefully. However, once when her chain broke, she stormed out to the verandah, where a fox killed her