Rikki-tikki-tavi Questions

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| Question | Answer and Evidence |
| Reread the first two paragraphs (p. 40) of the text.  Name three things that we know about Rikki-tikki-tavi from the outset of the story. | 1.  2.  3. |
| A cantonment is a military base in India. Why is it fitting that this story takes place in a cantonment? |  |
| In what ways does Rikki show the curiosity of a true mongoose in his first days in the bungalow? (pp. 41-42)  Cite two specific examples from the text. | 1.  2. |
| Reread the last full paragraph on page 42. How does Rikki know how to behave in the bungalow?  What do Rikki’s actions in this paragraph demonstrate about his attitude toward being there? |  |
| What is Rikki’s first impression of the garden? (pp.42-43)  How does this change when he meets Darzee? (p. 43) |  |
| When Rikki-tikki asks about Nag, “Darzee and his wife only cowered down in the nest without answering” (p. 43).  Based on what you learn about Nag in the next few sentences, why would Darzee and his wife have *cowered*? |  |
| Question | Answer and Evidence |
| Nag introduces himself to Rikki in the last full paragraph on page 43. Read his introduction aloud.  What does Nag want Rikki to know about him and how does his language exaggerate this? |  |
| What do we find out about the inherent relationship between a mongoose and a cobra? (pp. 33-34)  What conflict does this establish between Rikki and Nag? (p. 34) |  |
| How does the family treat Rikki after he kills Karait? Cite specific examples from the text. (p. 47)  Still, why can’t Rikki fully enjoy his triumph? |  |
| Question | Answer and Evidence |
| Nag introduces himself to Rikki in the last full paragraph on page 43. Read his introduction aloud.  What does Nag want Rikki to know about him? |  |
| What do we find out about the inherent relationship between a mongoose and a cobra? (pp. 33-34) |  |
| The family treats Rikki like a part of the family after he kills Karait. Still, why can’t Rikki fully enjoy his triumph?  (p. 47) |  |
| Question | Answer and Evidence |
| What warning does Chuchundra issue to Rikki?  How does Rikki treat Chuchundra in this section? Point to a specific example (pp. 47-48) |  |
| Reread the section in which Nag and Nagaina scheme to kill Teddy and his family. What does this conversation reveal about their differences?  (pp. 48-49)  Who is the true mastermind? How do you know? |  |
| Reread the description of the fight between Nag and Rikki (bottom of p. 49 to p. 50). What do you notice about the length of the sentences in this description? Does this contribute to the feeling of this section? |  |
| Question | Answer and Evidence |
| How does Rikki treat Chuchundra in this section?  Point to a specific example (pp. 47-48) |  |
| Reread the section in which Nag and Nagaina scheme to kill Teddy and his family. Who is the true mastermind? How do you know?  (pp. 48-49) |  |
| Reread the description of the fight between Nag and Rikki (bottom of p. 49 to p. 50). The sentences in this section are very long. Does this change the feeling of this section or would short, quick sentences have been better? |  |
| Question | Answer and Evidence |
| What does Rikki call Darzee at the start of the new section on page 50?  Why is he so frustrated with Darzee at this point? |  |
| On pages 53-54, Rikki demands of Nagaina, “What price for a young snake’s egg? For a young cobra? For a young king cobra? For the last—the very last of the brood?”  What point is Rikki making to Nagaina?  How do these four questions **build** to emphasize his point? |  |
| When Teddy’s parents wake Rikki-tikki from his sleep following the battle with Nagaina, what does he say?  What does this reveal about how he feels about the battle (p. 56) |  |
| Question | Answer and Evidence |
| Why is Rikki so frustrated with Darzee after he kills Nag? (pp. 50-51) |  |
| On pages 53-54, Rikki demands of Nagaina, “What price for a young snake’s egg? For a young cobra? For a young king cobra? For the last—the very last of the brood?”  What point is Rikki making to Nagaina? |  |
| When Teddy’s parents wake Rikki-tikki from his sleep following the battle with Nagaina, what does he say?  What does this reveal about how he feels about the battle (p. 56) |  |