

ENGLISH LITERATURE (MOMENTS)
CHAPTER 02: THE ADVENTURES OF TOTO
(Textbook Q&A)

1. How does Toto come to grandfather's private zoo?

When Grandfather buys Toto from a tonga-driver for a sum of five rupees. The tonga- driver used to keep the little red monkey. He was tied to a feeding-trough. The monkey looked so out of place there that Grandfather bought him and decided to keep him in his private zoo.

2. "Toto was a pretty monkey." In what sense is Toto pretty?

Toto was a pretty monkey with bright eyes sparkling with mischief, pearly white teeth, quick and wicked fingers and a gracious tail which served as a third hand. His cute smile used to frighten elderly Anglo- Indian ladies. All these distinct qualities made him look pretty.

3. Why does grandfather take Toto to Saharanpur and how? Why does the ticket collector insist on calling Toto a dog?

Toto was a mischievous monkey and he didn't let any of his companions to sleep at night. So, grandfather decided to take Toto to Saharanpur to provide some relief to other animals in the zoo. Toto was kept in a canvas bag that was too strong for Toto to bite and he could not get his hands out through the opening in the bag. The ticket collector classifies Toto as a dog because Toto is a four-legged animal.

4. How does Toto take a bath? Where has he learnt to do this? How does Toto almost boil himself alive?

Toto takes a bath like a man. He tests the temperature of the water with his hand, applies soap and bathes. He has learnt this after seeing human beings bathing. One day Toto jumped into a large kettle which had water for heating. He enjoyed the warm water. But when the water began to heat up he jumped up and down trying to come out of the kettle. Suddenly, the grandmother arrived there and pulled him out in a half-boiled condition.

5. Why does the author say, "Toto was not the sort of pet we could keep for long"?

Though Toto was a pretty animal but he created problems, one after the other. He disturbed other animals in the zoo. When taken inside the home, he kept destroying all the household items. He damaged dishes, clothes, curtains and wallpapers. Finally, grandfather realized that Toto was not the sort of pet they could keep for long. Therefore, he sold him back to the tonga-driver only for three rupees.