

Slumdog Millionaire

Vikas Swarup

- 1
 - 1 He was tied to a beam in a prison cell.
 - 2 Because he wanted Ram to sign a piece of paper saying that he had cheated on the quiz show and that he would not take any prize.
 - 3 Because he had never seen the woman before and he didn't have a lawyer.
 - 4 Ram agreed to do this because his lucky coin told him that he could trust Smita. Smita wanted to find out the truth about whether he cheated or not.

- 2
 - 1 Father Timothy called the boy Ram Mohammad Thomas. The first name was Hindu, the second Muslim and the third Christian. The names would help him to get on with people of all religions.
 - 2 Ram learnt to speak English. He also learnt about different religions from Father Timothy and the street children and their parents.
 - 3 Father Timothy told Ram that he was not his real father, but his priest, and that Ram was an orphan.
 - 4 Prem Kumar presented the quiz *Who Will Win a Billion?* He changed the first question to one that Ram could answer. He wanted the boy to win a little money.
 - 5 He had seen the letters INRI on a crucifix in Father Timothy's church.

- 3
 - 1 The Delhi Children's Home for Boys was crowded, noisy and dirty compared to Father Timothy's house. But for many of the other boys who came from slums or had been badly treated, it was a good home compared to what they were used to.
 - 2 They were both orphans, with no hope of finding a family, and they both enjoyed watching films.
 - 3 The fortune-teller said that Salim would be a very famous actor and that Ram would have many problems. He gave Ram a lucky one-rupee coin.
 - 4 Sethji was a big man who sometimes visited the Children's Home. He was rich and looked like a gangster. He lived in Mumbai, where he had a school. Sethji chose boys from the Children's Home to take to his school and teach them there.
 - 5 His real name was Babu Pillai, but he was also called Maman. He came from Kollam in Kerala, but had lived in Mumbai for a long time. His school was a school for disabled children.
 - 6 The boys thought their new lives in Mumbai would be a great chance to get a good education and have successful lives.
 - 7 Because Maman and his guards were going to blind them and send them on trains to beg for money by singing Surdas.
 - 8 The boys ran away. They wanted to find the actress, Neelima Kumari, and ask her for a job.

- 4
- 1 She had a big TV, a DVD player, a video recorder, film magazines that had her picture on the front, video cassettes of all her films and all her acting awards.
 - 2 Neelima asked Ram to live in her flat. She also went out more often and sometimes stayed out all night.
 - 3 Sometimes Neelima told Ram to stay in the chawl. One morning, he went back to the flat very early and saw a man leaving the flat.
 - 4 The man was tall and he was wearing blue jeans and a white shirt. He was a cruel man, because every time he visited Neelima he hit her, cutting her face or giving her a black eye.
 - 5 Neelima's 'greatest role' was when she killed herself. She had made herself look beautiful and watched the video of her greatest film, before dying alone with the 'Best Actress' award in her hand.
- 5
- 1 He was an old soldier. He was tall and thin and had only one leg.
 - 2 The war was in 1971, and India and Pakistan were fighting each other.
 - 3 A man who was collecting money for a soldiers' charity told them the truth about Balwant Singh.
 - 4 Balwant Singh was not a war hero. He had run away from the fighting and lost his leg when his home was bombed.
 - 5 The old soldier had told everyone the names of the highest awards given to the bravest soldiers in the Indian army.
- 6
- 1 Mr Ramakrishna was the manager of the chawl where the boys lived. He collected rent and looked after the building, but he did not do his job well. He did not repair things, for example the part of the first-floor wooden railing which had become weak and dangerous.
 - 2 Their new neighbours were called Shantaram. Mr Shantaram was a short man who was about fifty years old. He was really an astronomer but was currently managing a shop. His wife had grey hair, and his daughter was older than Ram with long black hair. Mr Shantaram said that they would all be moving to a very nice apartment in Nariman Point very soon.
 - 3 Her father had told her that Pluto was the smallest planet. The cat was very small, so she called it Pluto too.
 - 4 Mr Shantaram had thrown a cup of boiling tea at his wife. Gudiya had tried to save her mother and the girl's face was badly burnt by the tea.
 - 5 Ram promised Gudiya that her father would never hurt her again. He kept his promise by pushing Mr Shantaram into the weak wooden railing, causing him to fall to the ground below.
 - 6 Ram left Mumbai and went to Delhi, because he thought that he had killed Mr Shantaram. Ram was afraid that the police would arrest him and hang him.

- 7
- 1 Colonel Taylor was a diplomat for the Australian government.
 - 2 The Taylors had many servants. Every time any of them did anything wrong, Colonel Taylor knew about it, although he wasn't there at the time.
 - 3 There were tiny cameras, books about spying and secret papers in The Den. There were also lots of video tapes with the names of different people on them, including his servants and children. These tapes had been taken from hidden cameras in all the other rooms – Colonel Taylor had been spying on his servants. Ram discovered this because another servant, Jai, had broken into The Den to steal money while the Colonel was away.
 - 4 The Colonel had to leave Delhi because he had been discovered taking secret papers from a man called Jeevan Kumar, who worked at the Ministry of Defence.
 - 5 It must have been Ram. He had practised speaking like an Australian.
- 8
- 1 Ram took nearly all his salary from Colonel Taylor, fifty thousand rupees. He had spent two thousand rupees on clothes, his train ticket to Mumbai and a game for Salim. He also took some *Australian Geographic* magazines.
 - 2 He kept his salary from the Taylors inside his trousers. This was because he had heard many stories about thieves on trains who took your luggage when you were asleep.
 - 3 He was a train robber with a gun who wanted everyone's money, watches and jewellery.
 - 4 Akshay told the robber about Ram's fifty thousand rupees, which the robber took and put in his bag. Ram had been dreaming about how he would spend the money and now he had lost it.
 - 5 Ram shot and killed the robber with his own gun. Later, Ram threw the gun into a river.
 - 6 Sentence (b) is true.
- 9
- 1 He lived in a room in an outhouse of a big house called Swapna Palace. The house belonged to a rich woman called Swapna Devi. A boy called Shankar took Ram there.
 - 2 Shankar spoke in a strange language of his own. But in his dreams, he spoke normally. He could draw very well too.
 - 3 Ram worked as a Taj Mahal guide. He learnt all about the building by listening carefully to the English-speaking guides and trying to remember as much as he could.
 - 4 Ram and Nita could not get married because she was already engaged to a rich man who would pay her family forty thousand rupees when Nita married him. Ram didn't have that money and they were afraid to run away together.
 - 5 Shankar got rabies and Ram was told that the treatment would cost forty thousand rupees. Ram had found out Swapna Devi's secret – Shankar was her son. Swapna Devi was a very rich woman, so Ram asked her for the money to save her child's life.
 - 6 Shankar died in Ram's room. Ram took the boy's body to Swapna Devi and put it on the dining room table. He told her to pay for her son's funeral.
 - 7 Nita had been badly hurt by the rich man who wanted to marry her after she had told him that she wanted to marry Ram.
 - 8 Nita's father was angry when he saw Ram at the hospital. He said that Ram would have to pay forty thousand rupees if he wanted to marry Nita.
 - 9 Ram decided to steal the money from Swapna Devi. She had a safe in her room and Ram knew where the key was, so when she was out one night he went into her room and took 39,844 rupees from the safe. Added to the 156 rupees in his pocket, he then had the forty thousand rupees that he needed.

- 10 Because in the hospital, he saw a newspaper advertisement on the floor for the television show *Who Will Win a Billion?* There was a picture of a man holding money and an address in Mumbai. Ram decided to go there at once.
- 11 The man was at the hospital because his son had rabies. He needed forty thousand rupees to save his son's life. So Ram gave him the money. In return, the man gave Ram his business card. Later on, Ram would use the card to contact the man and get help with the next question on the quiz show.
- 10**
- 1 Ram bumped into Salim as he was walking along the street in Mumbai.
 - 2 Salim found out from a customer who was also a junior actor that he needed photographs of himself to show to a film producer. So he bought a cheap camera, took the pictures and a few others of people and places too. Later, he gave the photographs to the customer, who showed them to a film producer – and he got a very small part in a film.
 - 3 While he was taking photographs of people and places, Salim took a picture of Maman without knowing who he was. Maman then recognized him and tried to catch him.
 - 4 Salim jumped on a bus while trying to escape from Maman. As Maman also tried to get on the bus, Ahmed Khan came between them and pushed Maman off. Ahmed Khan then gave Salim a job as his servant.
 - 5 Salim found out that Ahmed Khan was a paid killer.
 - 6 One day, Salim found out that Ahmed Khan was going to kill Abbas Rizvi, who had been helping Salim with his acting. So Salim told Rizvi, who then ran away to Dubai. In return, Rizvi promised to make Salim a hero in his next film and to pay for his acting lessons.
 - 7 Maman was killed by Ahmed Khan. Salim had changed Abbas Rizvi's photograph and address in the yellow envelope for those of Maman, so Ahmed had killed Maman instead of Rizvi.
 - 8 Ahmed Khan was shot dead by the police. Salim found out about it on *Mumbai Crime Watch*.
 - 9 Ram remembered Salim saying that Ahmed Khan had lost a lot of money betting that India's greatest batsman Sachin Malvankar would make his thirty-seventh test century in a match against Australia. So when Prem Kumar told Ram in the quiz show that India had not played another country since Australia, Ram knew that the answer was still 36.
- 11**
- 1 A man in a bar told Salim about different countries. The man's name was Prakash Rao.
 - 2 He met his wife in New York. She was from Haiti.
 - 3 Voodoo is a religion and a kind of magic. It is usually practised in Haiti.
 - 4 His wife, Julie.
 - 5 After finding out that Prakash Rao had been stealing money from his company, he brought Prakash Rao back from America to a small office in Hyderabad, ordering him to pay back half of the stolen money out of his salary. Out of revenge, Prakash Rao then practised voodoo on him. Prakash Rao's brother was then locked up in a mental hospital, where he died.
 - 6 Prakash Rao was planning to send his wife back to Haiti or shoot her with his little gun.
 - 7 Prakash Rao had a pain in his chest and died from a heart attack. His wife had killed him first – by voodoo.
 - 8 Because Ram took it after Prakash Rao had died.

- 12**
- 1 Because Ram had said he knew the answer to the question about Mumtaz Mahal, and Prem Kumar and the producer didn't want Ram to win the money.
 - 2 Ram knew that Prem Kumar was the man who had hurt Neelima and Nita. For that, Ram was going to kill him. That, and not the money, was the reason Ram had come on to the show.
 - 3 Ram realized that he could not kill another man in cold blood. Then he thought of all the good things he could do with a billion rupees.
 - 4 Ram chose A because that is what the lucky coin had told him to do. He also did not trust Prem Kumar.
 - 5 Smita was actually Gudiya, the neighbour that Ram had helped in the chawl in Mumbai.
- 13**
- 1 Smita fought for Ram. She found out that the police knew nothing about the train robber's death, and she proved that Ram had not cheated in the quiz show with the DVD.
 - 2 Because the government took some of the money. They called it a 'quiz show tax'.
 - 3 Prem Kumar either killed himself or was killed by the people who ran the quiz show.
 - 4 Ram gave Salim the main role in a film he was producing.
 - 5 Ram was living in Mumbai with his wife, Nita.
 - 6 Ram's lucky coin was the same on both sides – it had two heads.
 - 7 Whenever Ram called heads, he had already decided on the answer he wanted. His luck was his own decision. Ram had been told, or had found out, most of the quiz answers by chance. But he had remembered the facts correctly and so made his own luck.