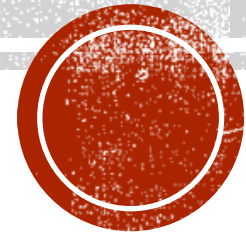


**ATTILA**

**R.K. NARAYAN**



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'Attila'

RK Narayan

Questions and answers --

1. What kind of dog did the speaker's family want?

Ans. The speaker's family wanted a ferocious dog who would guard their house and protect it from thieves and robbers.

2. Why were the family members satisfied with the name Attila?

Ans. The family members were satisfied with the name Attila because it was named after the Scrooge of Huns, Attila who was known for his successful barbarian invasions and they expected their dog Attila to be like him.

3. Why did the family research about the Scrooge of Europe? What were the findings?

Ans. When the family found their dog Attila to be very amiable even with strangers they tried to find out if Attila, the Scrooge of Europe was also like their young pet during his childhood. So they researched about the history of the Scrooge of Europe.

They found that the Scrooge of Europe was very clingy to his parents when he was young and it was only when he was fourteen years old that he knocked down someone who tried to touch his marbles. This information about the Scrooge of Europe made them believe that their dog would also turn ferocious as he grew up.

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4. At the beginning of the narrative, was Attila able to measure up to their expectations?

Give reasons for your answer.

Ans. No, from the very beginning Attila showed up to possess a very amiable nature who did not even bark at any outsider and thus displayed a love of humanity. The family always wanted a pet dog who would be fierce and guard their house from robbers and thieves. Therefore Attila was unable to meet up to their expectations.

5. How did Attila respond to the entry of strangers?

Ans. Attila responded to the entry of strangers in a very friendly manner. At first he used to bark at them and then when the stranger stopped and passed a friendly gesture, he would feel sorry for his behaviour. Later he stopped barking and rushing to the gate and thus greeted them instead of scaring them.

6. What issues did the speaker's mother have with the dog?

Ans. The speaker's mother had a lot of complaints against their dog. She felt that their dog was overfed and was of no use as he failed to catch the flower thief. He slept most of the time and never barked at strangers and therefore failed to guard their house.



7. The bond between Ranga and Attila was of mutual respect. Why or why not. Give reasons for your answer.

The bond between Ranga, the thief and Attila, the dog was of mutual respect as we see when Ranga came to steal Attila did not bark or posed hindrance on his way. Like a very amiable creature he followed Ranga's gestures and instructions and even went out of the house accompanying him.

While Ranga though at times found it irritating to see the dog always by his side, did not do much to get rid of him. Thus a bond developed between the two which was of mutual respect for each other.

8. How did Attila prove to be a hero?

Ans. Attila proved to be a hero at the end of the story when by chance the thief was caught while he was running away from one of the young members of the family and the dog was running behind the thief to follow him.

The thief was caught but it was believed that Attila helped to catch the thief and thus he was considered the hero of the story.



9. Very often we underestimate the power of touch, a smile or the smallest of kindness all of which have the potential to turn a life around. Comment on the statement based on the story.

Ans. In this story 'Attila' the writer R.K .Narayan has shown how much animals too are in need of love and compassion. The family kept a pet dog who had a formidable and forbidding appearance expecting him to guard and protect their house in which he utterly failed. The dog sought human love and was vulnerable and amiable. He was disliked by the lady of the house for not even being able to catch a flower thief. Though the youngest member of the house had always been his defender trying to protect him from every blame. While the thief Ranga who smiled and showed small kind gestures to the dog won his heart and made him to leave that house and follow him wherever he went just like a dog does with his master. Thus we find that the power of touch, smile and smallest act of kindness have the potential to turn a life around.

