

Chapter 4

1. The author describes Bepin Babu as a serious and hardworking man. What evidence can you find in the story to support this?

Answer. Bepin Babu's serious nature and hard working personality is indicated by the fact that every Monday he would buy five books at a time to last him for one week . He lived alone and did not socialize because he did not like to waste time in idle chatting. Therefore, he had few friends and preferred to spend his time in reading.

2. Why did Bepin Babu change his mind about meeting Chunilal? What was the result of this meeting?

Answer. Bepin Babu changed his mind about meeting Chunilal because he thought that perhaps Chunilal could confirm that he had never been to Ranchi in 1958. The result was that Chunilal took advantage of Bepin Babu's confused state of mind and deliberately and wrongfully confirmed that he himself had put Bepin Babu in the train. This made Bepin Babu very anxious.

3. Bepin Babu lost consciousness at Hudroo Falls. What do you think was the reason for this?

Answer. The doctor had already narrated to Bepin Babu that often a fall makes some part of the memory to slip and get erased. There have also been cases in which another fall replaces the lost memory. With this information when Bepin Babu visited Ranchi he could not recall anything that reminded him of his earlier visit. Everything was supposed to be new. Therefore, when he visited the Hudroo Falls he may have dozed off and pretended to have become unconscious.

4. How do you think Bepin Babu reacted when he found out that Chunilal had tricked him?

Answer. He continued to play the game that his few friends had played on him by making him believe that he had been to Ranchi in 1958 and had forgotten about it. He ended it by telling the doctor that he had recovered his memory by visiting Ranchi.

He narrated that he had fallen near the Hodroo Falls and become unconscious. After regaining consciousness he had remembered it all. In this way, Bepin Babu was able to save face and also end the game played on him by playing the same game on the doctor.