

# The Book That Saved The Earth

## MOST IMPORTANT QUESTIONS

1. Compare and contrast the characters of Great and Mighty Think-Tank and Noodle. (Answer the following question in 100-120 words).

**Ans:** Think-Tank likes to be called 'Great and the Mighty'. He orders and commands his apprentices arrogantly. He is the ruler of Mars, but has no intelligence of any kind. He thinks that the books found on Earth are 'sandwiches'. He is wrong about everything. He demands that the crew obey him. He likes to present others' ideas as his own.

He is a coward who simply boasts about his power. Noodle, his apprentice, on the other hand is very clever and wise. He corrects the mistakes of his ruler, 'Think-Tank' very gently, without the latter even noticing it. He never takes credit for his ideas and offers them to the ruler very wisely. Though the most intelligent of all, he never blows his own trumpet and follows his ruler like an obedient subordinate.

2. What difficulty do the crew of the space probe face on the Earth?

**Ans:** The crew of the space probe landed in a public library and faced the difficulty of not understanding what books were. They were unfamiliar with books and thought the library to be some kind of storage barn.

3. What is Think-Tank proud of? How do you know?

**Ans:** Think-Tank is proud of his handsome Martian race. This is evident from his narcissistic behaviour, self-praise, and boastful habits. He mocks the Earthlings and calls Earth an "insignificant place" and a "primitive ball of mud."

4. Little knowledge may lead to a disaster. Describe it with reference to the lesson, 'The Book that Saved the Earth'.

**Ans:** In the story, 'The Book that Saved the Earth', the Martians' limited and false knowledge about Earth and Earthlings led to confusion and disaster. Think-Tank, with his little knowledge, jumped to conclusions about books, mistaking them for sandwiches and communication devices. This misunderstanding caused fear and misinterpretation of nursery rhymes, ultimately leading to the Martians' decision to abort the mission and evacuate Mars.

5. It is morally incorrect to invade another country/planet for one's own benefit. The Martians did not understand the value of peaceful coexistence. How did the book of Nursery rhymes save the earth from the Martian invasion?

**Ans:** The book of nursery rhymes, 'Mother Goose', saved the Earth from the Martian invasion by creating fear and misunderstanding among the Martians. They misinterpreted the nursery rhymes as records of interplanetary attacks on Mars and became terrified of the humans. This led them to abort the mission and call their troops back, thus preventing the invasion.

6. What does Noodle tell Think-Tank about the books?

**Ans:** Noodle tells Think-Tank that Earthlings do not eat books but use them as a device for communication. He also mentions that humans open books and watch them.

7. The play, 'The Book that Saved the Earth' conveys the message that misunderstanding of cultural differences between various races can cause confusion and conflict. Based on your reading of the play, write how such confusion and conflicts can be checked so that peace and harmony are maintained.

**Ans:** The play emphasizes the importance of healthy cross-cultural communication to prevent confusion and conflict arising from misunderstanding cultural differences. It is necessary to learn each other's language, religion, traditions, and behaviour to establish effective cultural communication. This will help reduce tension and promote peace and harmony among different races and communities.



8. How did the book change Think-Tank's opinion about the Earthlings?

**Ans:** The book, 'Mother Goose, changed Think-Tank's opinion about Earthlings. As the ignorant Martians read the nursery rhymes, they misinterpreted their meaning and felt that humans were mightier than what they had thought them to be. This terrified Think-Tank, as he believed the humans were after his life, leading him to abort the mission of invading Earth.