

Bholi

MOST IMPORTANT QUESTIONS

1. Imagine that Bholi writes a diary entry, exploring the themes of 'Girl Child' and 'Impact of Education', in the context of her own experiences. Write this diary entry, as Bholi.

Ans: 12 March 20XX, Wednesday 3 p.m.

Dear Diary,

Today, I am feeling utmost proud of myself for rejecting the marriage with the old man. From the moment I was born, I was ridiculed by my family members and friends because of my pock - marked face. People used to call me Bholi because they considered me a simpleton whom nobody would marry. My teacher showed me a world where my stammering and pockmarked face didn't matter because of her kind words and patience. Where others saw limitations, she saw potential in me. I've discovered my voice in education. I defied injustice today by declining to wed a man who treated me like a commodity. My education has given me the confidence to dream bigger and to challenge social norms.

Bholi

2. 'Bholi was believed to be a dumb cow'. What turned her into a fearless, bold and confident girl?

Ans: Bholi was turned into a fearless, bold, and confident girl by her teacher who encouraged, inspired, and showed her love and affection. Education played a crucial role in transforming Bholi's life and giving her the courage to stand against the oppressive and greedy Bishamber Nath. Through education, Bholi gained the confidence to refuse his marriage proposal based on dowry demands. She decided to become economically independent by becoming a teacher and taking care of her aged parents.

3. Education is considered the most important tool for empowering women in society. It plays an important role in social and cultural

development. Prove the above statement in the light of the story 'Bholi'.

Ans: In the story 'Bholi', education is portrayed as a powerful tool for empowering women in society. Bholi, who was initially considered a neglected and dumb child, had her life transformed through education. Her teacher played a significant role in encouraging and inspiring her, which led to an increase in her confidence and self-esteem. With education, Bholi was able to stand up against societal norms and refuse a marriage proposal based on dowry demands. She chose to become economically independent and pursue a career as a teacher. This demonstrates how education can empower women by providing them with the knowledge, skills, and confidence to challenge oppressive norms and make independent choices.

4. Education is always a great asset in the life of a woman. How did Bholi, an educated girl, face the challenge posed by Bishamber's greed? (Answer the following questions in 100-120 words).

Ans: Education is one of the most critical areas of empowerment for women.

Offering girls basic education is one sure way of giving them much greater power of enabling them to make genuine choices over the kinds of lives they wish to lead. This is exactly what happened with Bholi. At first, Bholi had agreed to marry an old man because of her father's honour, thereby placing her family's interest over her own. However, later she refused to marry him because she saw how too mean, greedy and contemptible he was. By demanding a hefty dowry, Bishamber took advantage of her bad looks and the desperateness of her father to get her married. This is why she rejected the

marriage and silenced everybody who called her shameless.

5. What does the phrase "a new hope and a new life" mean to Bholi?

Ans: The phrase "a new hope and a new life" means that Bholi's heart was filled with optimism and excitement. She saw education as an opportunity to change her life and have a fresh start. It symbolized a chance for her to be equal with others and overcome the challenges she faced due to her physical appearance and speech difficulties.

6. How did education change Bholi's personality? (Answer the following questions in 100-120 word).

Ans: Education brought a remarkable and positive transformation in Bholi's personality. Initially struggling with a stammer when she started school, she found support and encouragement from her teacher, who instilled confidence in her and taught her to read, write, and speak effectively. This newfound self-assurance enabled Bholi to stand up for herself and her father. On her wedding day, she boldly refused to marry the greedy groom and insisted her father reclaim his money. Without the opportunity to attend school, Bholi might have remained a timid, shy girl burdened by her stammer throughout her life.

