**Chapter- 7.1 English Language and Literature**

**Lesson Name THE DUCK AND THE KANGAROO**

**By- Edward Lear**

**WORD MEANING**

**Good gracious** = an exclamatory word, **hop**= jump **nasty**=dirty, ; **long** = desire, **Still** = without any movement, **quack** = crowing sound of a duck, **Dee** = a river in England, **Jelly Bo Lee** = a place in West Africa, **Required** = needs,; **reflection** = thinking, **objection** = trouble, **roomatiz** = rheumatism, **Rocks** = cliffs,**wonted** = woollen, **web** = feet, ; **neatly** = correctly, **cloak**= overcoat, **Moonlight pale** = dim moonlight,**steady** = firmly **bound**= leaped

**I. Read the extracts and answer the questions that follow.**

**STANZA 1**

**Said the Duck to the Kangaroo, `Good gracious! how you hop!**

**Over the fields and the water too,**

**As if you never would stop!**

**My life is a bore in this nasty pond,**

**And I long to go out in the world beyond!**

**I wish I could hop like you!**

**Said the Duck to the Kangaroo.**

**Questions :**

**(a) Name the poem and the poet.**

**(b) What did the Duck praise the Kangaroo for?**

**(c) Where could the Kangaroo hop?**

**(d) Where did the Duck live?**

**(e) What did the Duck long for?**

(a) The name of the poem is ‘The Duck and the Kangaroo’ and the name of the poet is ‘Edward Lear’.

(b) He praised the Kangaroo for his fine hopping.

 (c) The Kangaroo could hop over the fields and the water.

 (d) The Duck lived in a nasty pond.

 (e) The Duck longed to go out in the world beyond.

**STANZA 2**

**‘Please give me a ride on your back!’**

**Said the Duck to the Kangaroo.**

**`I would sit quite still, and say nothing but “Quack”,**

**The whole of the long day through!**

**And we’d go to the Dee, and the Jelly Bo Lee,**

**Over the land, and over the sea;**

**Please take me a ride! 0 do!’ Questions :**

**(a) What request did the Duck make to the Kangaroo?**

**(b) What did the Duck promise to do?**

**(c) What did the Duck promise not to do?**

**(d) What places did he want to go to?**

**(e) How could he go over the land and the sea?**

**Answers :**

(a) The Duck requested the Kangaroo to give him a ride.

 (b) The Duck promised to sit still on his back.

(c) The Duck promised not to speak anything all day long except “Quack”.

 (d) He wanted to go to the Dee River and the Jelly Bo Lee.

(e) He could go over the land and the sea on the Kangaroo’s back.

**Short Answer Type Questions  (30 to 40 words)**

***1. Why was the Duck fascinated by the Kangaroo’s hopping?***

***Ans.*** The Duck was fascinated by the Kangaroo’s hopping because she herself could not hop. She had to lead a boring life swimming in a silly pond, so she admired the Kangaroo’s continuous hopping over the fields as well as water bodies.

***2. Why did the Duck call the pond ‘nasty’?***

***Ans.*** The Duck called the pond ‘nasty’ because it was neither interesting nor vibrant. It made the Duck’s life monotonous boring and devoid of excitement. The Duck disliked the pond because it restricted her.

***3. Where was the Duck’s home and what was her deep desire?***

***Ans.***The Duck’s home was the ‘silly’ pond which she found boring and restrictive. Therefore she had a deep desire to see the wide world that lay beyond her ‘nasty’ and monotonous pond.

***4.Why did the Duck ask the Kangaroo to give her a ride?***

***Ans.***Living in her ‘nasty’ pond, day and night, the Duck had become sick and tired of the monotony of her life. She had observed the Kangaroo hopping around all day long. So, she wished the Kangaroo to take her on a ride, to have fun, and to see new and exciting places.

***5. What different traits of the Duck’s character are revealed in the first stanza?***

***Ans.***Optimism and aspiration are the traits of the Duck’s character revealed in the first stanza. She is very appreciative of the Kangaroo’s hopping skills. She aspires to go away. from her pond and go out into the world.

***6. What did the Duck promise the Kangaroo and why?***

***Ans.***The Duck promised the Kangaroo that if he took her around for a ride she would fully co-operate with him. She would sit on his back very steadily and quietly so that he would neither be distracted nor lose his balance.

***LONG ANSWER QUESTIONS***

***Q1. How was the Duck able to leave her ‘nasty pond’ and do away with the boredom of her life?***

***Ans:-*** The Duck couldn’t hop like a Kangaroo, yet she longed to leave her boring pond to explore the world. She had observed the Kangaroo hopping all around and enjoying his life. So she decided to request him to take her along for a ride. Being farsighted, she foresaw the Kangaroo’s objection regarding her wet and cold feet. So, she bought four pairs of worsted socks to cover her feet so that the Kangaroo did not feel uncomfortable. As expected, when the Kangaroo expressed his apprehension about contracting rheumatism, the Duck readily offered the solution. Soon the two set out on a journey around the world. Thus, the Duck was able to leave her boring pond and enjoy life with the Kangaroo. They hopped around the world three times and became the happiest pair of all.

***Q2. What apprehension did the Kangaroo have about the Duck’s proposed ride? How does he convey this apprehension? How does the Duck allay his fear?***

***Ans:-***The Kangaroo was prone to bouts of rheumatism, a disease that causes stiffness, inflammation and pain in joints. When the Duck requested him to take her on a ride, he was a bit apprehensive and reluctant because her wet feet could increase chances of his getting rheumatism. He was frank and outspoken, so he did not mince his words while conveying his apprehension to the Duck. However, before objecting to the Duck’s proposal, he admitted that it could bring him luck. Still, he considered the entire matter carefully and told the Duck firmly but politely that her feet were unpleasantly wet which could probably give him the ‘roo-Matiz’. On her part, the clever and farsighted Duck had already foreseen the hurdle and had kept four pairs of worsted woollen socks ready to keep her feet dry and warm.