**Unit 2: Nurturing Nature**

**Section 1: Jungle in Jeopardy**

**Reading 1 (page 44)**

2. a. They saw a footprint on a heap of rhino droppings. The right foot had a toe missing.

b. i. There were six banana leaves with remains of rice, fish and mustard curry at the site of poaching.

ii. There were six holes in the ground where the poachers set the trap for the rhino.

iii. There were six earthen cups to show six poachers drank their tea at the spot.

c. The discovery of six banana leaves with remains of rice, fish and mustard curry which is a favourite of the local people. It showed that the poachers were from the same geographical area.

d. The man with the missing toe was mentioned in the threatening letter. Daru was the only one, apart from Uncle Kedar, who knew about the missing toe of one of the suspects. Also, Daru was the one who didn’t want the boys to investigate further.

**Reading 2 (page 44)**

1. The boys were truly heroic because they helped to find clues, identify the suspects and get them caught. They did take a big risk in visiting the venue of the meeting of the villains and poachers all by themselves. Perhaps it would have been wiser to have a responsible adult accompany them.

2. One day Shiva, Dev and Bisnu find a wounded rhino in the forest. They report the matter to the forest officers. They figure out that the Head Forest Ranger is one of the poachers who attacked the rhino. They also discover that the poachers are meeting that night. They take the District Forest Officer with them to the location and have the poachers arrested.

**Vocabulary (page 45)**

**Traits Evidence from the story**

**1. observant** They collect clues such as footprints, cups and banana leaves.

**2. logical** From the threatening letter, they conclude that Daru is guilty.

**3. intelligent** They make intelligent guesses; the food the poachers ate helped them deduce that they belonged to the same geographical area

**4. concerned** They take care to help the injured rhino and also help to find the poachers.

**5. daring** They take it upon themselves to catch the villains even when their friend, the district forest officer, is not in town.

**6. foolish** They take it upon themselves to catch the villains even when their friend, the district forest officer, is not around.