

*Exercises***Question 1:**

How did the two baby birds get separated?

Solution 1:

The two baby birds lived in a tall tree along with their mother. One day, there was a big storm. The tree came down. The mother bird was killed. The strong wind blew the two baby birds away to the other side of the forest at a little distance from each other. Thus they got separated from each other.

Question 2:

Where did each of them find a home?

Solution 2:

One of the baby birds came down near a cave where a gang of robbers lived. The other bird landed outside a rishi's ashram a little distance away.

Question 3:

What did the first bird say to the stranger?

Solution 3:

The first bird saw the stranger (the king). He called the robbers to hurry up and rob the king's jewels and his horse.

Question 4:

What did the second bird say to him?

Solution 4:

The second bird welcomed the king to the ashram. He requested the stranger to drink water, take rest and make himself comfortable. He added that his brother lived in the company of robbers, so he talks like them.

Question 5:

How did the rishi explain the different ways in which the two birds behaved?

Solution 5:

The king told the rishi about the different behaviour of the two birds. Then the rishi explained that the first bird repeated the words of the robbers but the second bird repeated what he had always heard at the ashram. Their different ways were the results of their company.

Question 6:

Which one of the following sums up the story best?

- 1) A bird in hand is worth two in the bush.
- 2) One is known by the company he keeps.
- 3) A friend in need is a friend indeed.

Solution 6:

- 2) One is known by the company he keeps.