

Malgudi Cricket Club

I. Write the word meanings from the book.

II. Answer these questions.

1. Why did Swaminathan try to carry cricket scores in his head? What does his tell you about him?

Ans. Swaminathan tried to carry cricket scores in his head because his friend did so. He wanted to show that he enjoyed cricket like his friend.

2. What did Swaminathan think about the pictures of cricket players? Why did he collect them?

Ans. Swaminathan did not care much for the pictures of cricket players. He even found all of them the same. But he did not let this be down. He collected the pictures because he wanted to be like Rajam and prove that he was interested in cricket.

3. What did Rajam Propose to Swaminathan? What was Swaminathan's first reaction?

Ans. Rajam proposed that they start a cricket team. Swaminathan was not keen on it initially. He said that he couldn't play cricket.

4. What was pleasing for Swaminathan to hear? Why?

Ans. Swaminathan was pleased when Rajam said that he couldn't play cricket either, even though he collected pictures and scores. When Rajam said that most people thought they couldn't play cricket Swaminathan was relieved that he wasn't the only one who couldn't play.

5. Why did Swaminathan object to the name MCC that Rajam suggested?

Ans. Swaminathan objected to the name MCC because it was the name of another famous cricket team and he felt that they would be in great trouble for using the same name. He also felt that the name was ordinary and boring.

6. *He sometimes thought that the same picture was posted in every page of the album. 'It looks like any other bat in the catalogue.'*

What do these two lines say about Swaminathan's interest in and knowledge of cricket?

Ans. Swaminathan was not really interested in cricket and he did not know much about it either.

7. *Bare courtesy made Rajam offer the authorship of the letter to Mani.*

a. Which phrase can replace *bare courtesy* –mere politeness or true kindness? What does this line say about Rajam's opinion to Mani?

Ans. *Mere politeness* can replace the phrase bare courtesy. Rajam did not think that Mani would be able to write a proper letter. Rajam wanted to write the letter himself.

b. Do you think Rajam knew he would end up writing the letter himself? Why do you think so?

Ans. Yes, Rajam knew he would end up writing the letter himself because he knew that Mani and Swaminathan would not write the letter well.

8. When did Rajam realize that starting a cricket team was not easy? Why was starting a cricket team complicated?

Ans. When Swaminathan and he spoke about government taxes and wondered whether the name of their cricket team would be recognized. There were problems of name, taxes and so on.

9. How did Rajam end up writing the letter to Messrs Binns?

Ans. Rajam asked Mani to write the letter and he declined. He forced Swaminathan to write but he made so many mistakes and took so long to spell even simple words. Thus, Rajam decided to write the letter himself.

10. Why did the three boys think that Messrs Binns had sent them the wrong letter?

Ans. The boys did not understand what the letter really meant, nor did they understand how to order things from a catalogue. They thought that Binns were confused, because they had begun the letter by thanking the boys but they had used strange words unnecessarily and forgotten to send the bats. They believed that Binns had sent them the wrong letter.