Three Men In A Boat

Jerome K. Jerome's
(Unabridged Edition)
for Class – IX (Term-I)

Annotated by:
SANJAY KUMAR SINHA
Guinness World Record Holder
Recommended for the Latest CBSE Syllabus

The King's Literature Series

Jerome K. Jerome's

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(Unabridged Edition) for Class–IX Term-I

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SANJAY KUMAR SINHA
Author of: The King's Grammar
• Guinness World Record Holder
• The Longest Grammar Teaching in the World
  for 73 Hours and 37 Minutes
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Life is full of ups and downs just like a boating trip. We have to row our boat along with the waves of sorrow, suffering, fun, joy, etc. This journey needs dedication, devotion, commitment and loyalty. The life of human being has been divided into three segments: 1) childhood, (2) youthhood and (3) old age like the three main characters of “THREE MEN IN A BOAT.” The Montmorency’s character indicates how even the animals are so essential for human life. Various incidents indicate that life is a fun and we should enjoy each moment with jeer and cheer and accept everything positively as a gift of god.

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Sanjay Kumar Sinha is a GUINNESS WORLD RECORD HOLDER. He holds two world records: 1) The Longest Grammar Teaching in the World and (2) The Fastest Grammar Teaching in the World. He has authored so many books and THE KING’S GRAMMAR has been proved to be unconquerable. He is well known for his magical approach of his teaching style. He has delivered lectures, uncountable seminars and conducted so many workshops and teacher’s training programs. If you wish to invite him in your institution, you can contact us at: info@schandgroup.com / thekingsgrammar@gmail.com.

Good Luck.
Publisher
Jerome K. Jerome (Introduction)

MAY 2, 1859

VICTORIAN

PERIOD

STRAFFORDSHIRE

PLACE OF BIRTH

JUNE 14, 1927

DEATH

NOVELS

NATIONALITY

Three Men in a Boat

Idle Thoughts of an Idle Fellow

Three Men on the Bummel
Jerome K. Jerome was born on 2 May, 1859 in Caldmore Walsall, England. He grew up in the poverty of London. His father, Mr. Jerome Clapp Jerome, was an iron monger, used to dabble in architecture. He had only one brother named Milton and two sisters, Blandina and Paulina. Jerome K. Jerome's full name is Jerome Klapka Jerome. In fact his father was much inspired by General Gyorgy Klapka, a Hungarian general. Thus Jerome Klapka Jerome was named so.

In fact, he did not belong to a poor family but as his father suffered a heavy loss while investing in mining industry, his family members had to live in miserable conditions of poverty in London.

Having high dreams in life, he wished to join politics but unfortunately his father died. In 13 years of early age, in order to support his family members, he had to quit his study to find his livelihood shattering all the dreams into pieces. Thus he joined North Western Railways. He continued his services in railway, collecting coal and dedicating his life.
After 4 years of his services in railways, he desired to join theatre as an actor getting support from his sister. Blandina, having been associated with Repertory Troupe, helped him and he started his journey in the world of stage acting but still his profession could not pull him out from the drain of poverty. So many times, even he remained penniless. After 3 years of his suffering in this field, he decided to try his luck in the field of journalism. Thus he started writing short stories, satires, essays, etc. but most often he only got rejected. Thus he had to do various activities to earn his penny such as school teaching, working as a packer and even he worked as a clerk.

Ultimately his first book full of humour “On the Stage and Off” got published and he became popular among the common people. Even in 1880, “Idle Thoughts of an Idle Fellow” was published which was full of humorous essays.

Jerome was married to Georgina Elizabeth and had his honeymoon in a boat on the Thames. Thus, he got an idea to write “Three Men in a Boat”. He replaced his wife and established other two characters George, Harris and a dog, Montmorency.

In fact Jerome had two friends named George Wingrave (George) and Carl Hentschel (Harris). The characters of Harris and George had been framed on them.

In 1889, “Three Men in a Boat” was published and became so popular that in the Thames river the number of boats became double and it transformed into an international tourist place. Thus Jerome became a famous writer and continued his writing ahead in his life. Although he wrote so many novels, short stories, essays, etc. but “Three Men in a Boat” proved to be unconquerable.

He even started publishing a magazine “To-day” but could not succeed due to financial crisis. The popularity of this literary work inspired him to write “Three Men on the Bummel”. In fact same characters were introduced but it was not a journey in a boat, it was foreign bicycle tour. This literary work could only get some success. Paul Keluer was published in 1902 and ultimately “The Passing of the 3rd Floor” succeeded well and proved to be one of his best literary works.

During the war time, he served his country as a volunteer. Creeping towards old age, after getting rejected from British Army, he joined French Army to volunteer as an ambulance driver.

“My Life and Times” got published in 1926 and was honoured with the title of “Freeman of the Borough”.

Unfortunately Jerome had a paralytic attack in a motoring tour. Even he suffered from a cerebral hemorrhage. He died on 14th June in Northampton General Hospital and buried at St. Mary’s Church, Ewelme, Oxfordshire. Even his works and achievements have been displayed in Walsall Museum in his honour.

“My Life and Times”, his autobiography, was published in 1926 which tells the battling story of his life and his contribution to world of literary works.
Having imaginative, caring and friendly nature, Jerome is the central character of this entire novel. He remains very cautious all the time, watching each activity very sincerely. He has a deep interest in history. As he reaches Magna Charta, he starts his retrospection, thinking about King John, after being imprisoned by the Barons, having taken to an island in order to have the charter of British freedom get signed.

Jerome is known for his witty and humorous nature also. Once he takes George’s shirt thinking it to be his own and wets it. George starts laughing angrily to see his wet shirt but he gets confused when he sees Jerome laughing for the same reason. He attempts more and more to create fun and make George laugh but all went in vain. Even he tells the amusing stories relating to fishermen, the dog’s encounter with black cat etc.

Having witty nature, he seems to be a very practical personality as he is much concerned about the work he desires to do. He knows well how to avoid the boring task of pulling boat and other such related activities.
Harris, being one of the central characters, seems to be very inefficient in cooking. After making tall claims and building airy castles, he spoils everything. He claims to cook the best egg dishes but while cooking, he makes a mess of all. Even he burns his fingers, curses everyone in pain and dances here and there in confusion. All his activities create fun and amuse everyone. Even he is whimsical by nature. Once he visits Manor House with his friends willing to stay there. He just refuses to stay in that inn because of the guard’s ugly looking face. Even he is fond of drinking wine. One day after drinking wine, he forgets that he has to get his friends back to island. Being drunk, he tells humorous stories relating to his fight with the swans but as soon as he is back to his senses, he forgets everything, even swans.

One day, he, being unknown to the mishap, slips in a grassy gully. After a short while he comes out in a bad state with anger on his face and starts blaming his friends having caused the mishap.
George is a very important part of the boating trip. He is fond of sleeping even late in the morning. He doesn’t have better experiences of rowing the boat as he started practising very late. If anyone wakes him up early in the morning, he would feel upset and get irritated. Once while getting up early, he experienced something terrible. As a police man considers him to be a suspect because he wakes up at 3 o’clock thinking it to be 9 a.m.

He does not have a funny nature as the narrator has. Once his shirt gets wet because of confusion. Although it was a funny incident, he takes it seriously and becomes angry and upset over the narrator for doing so.

Narrator and Harris feel that George is not good at playing banjo but he is fond of doing so. One day George starts playing “Two Lovely Black Eyes.” They all became emotional while listening it. Even his mischievous nature gets revealed as once while being in a country inn, he forced a man to prepare a story based on a trout in the glass. Having a practical attitude, he once advises to abandon the boating as it is very difficult to row during the continuous rain.
Montmorency has not been considered as an animal. He has been framed just like a living human character. Like other human characters, he has been given the same kind of importance. Being a dog, he is a fox-terrier. He hates cats. One day he sees a cat and starts chasing. The cat remains unmoved, sitting on the road with calm feelings without any fear in the heart. The cat stared in such a way that Montmorency had no other choice but just to stop. Feeling embarrassed, he returns and the cat leaves peacefully. Since then a pity appearance can be seen on Montmorency’s face after listening the word ‘cat’.

Except this incident, he is quite adventuresome and he neither avoids any challenge nor remains inactive. The boiling kettle is just a challenge for him. One day he tries to grip the boiling kettle with its spout. It was so troublesome that he decides to leave the boat immediately yelping and running. Ultimately, he pokes his nose into the mud to get a cool touch. After that, even seeing kettle, he has the feeling of fear in his heart.

Being a fighter by nature, Montmorency has 11 fights at Oxford on the first day. After fighting, he feels having touched the heaven.
THE SEQUENCE OF STORY

1. IMAGINARY DISEASES
2. PLANNING FOR BOATING
3. BOATING: RIVER THAMES
4. IMPORTANT THINGS FOR TRIP
5. UNCLE PODGER: HANGING PICTURE
6. FOOD ITEMS: DECIDED
7. REACHED WATERLOO STATION
8. CANNOT FIND THE TRAIN

SEQUENCE I