English Footprints Without Feet

PADIKAM LEARNING CONTENT
PADIKAM
Supplementary Reader
Footprints without Feet
Class 10 Study Notes
9 chapters
Nine current stories focused on inference, character motive, theme and evidence-based answers.
Padikam explanations are independently written. The NCERT book is used only for chapter order, standard terminology and coverage.

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How to use this note
Read the quick understanding first, recall the key points aloud, then answer the exam prompts without looking back.
Official book source
https://ncert.nic.in/textbook.php?jefp1=0-9

LESSON 1
A Triumph of Surgery
Quick understanding
A pampered dog recovers when Dr Herriot replaces indulgence with exercise, routine and sensible food.
Must remember Exam practice
Tricki's illness is caused mainly by overfeeding and inactivity.
Why does Herriot take Tricki away?
Explain the title's irony.
Mrs Pumphrey's affection lacks judgement.
The title is comic because ordinary care, not an operation, produces the recovery.
One-line recall Tricki's illness is caused mainly by overfeeding and inactivity.

LESSON 2
The Thief's Story
Quick understanding
Hari Singh plans to rob Anil but trust, education and the possibility of a better life awaken his

conscience.
Must remember Exam practice
Anil's openness creates both opportunity for theft Why does Hari return?
and a reason to return.
How does the ending show forgiveness
Hari's decision at the station is the moral turning without direct accusation?
point.
The damp notes silently reveal that Anil understands
what happened.
One-line recall Anil's openness creates both opportunity for theft and a reason to return.
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LESSON 3
The Midnight Visitor
Quick understanding
Ausable defeats an armed intruder through calm invention, proving that intelligence matters more than
appearance.
Must remember Exam practice
Fowler expects a glamorous spy and initially Trace Ausable's plan.
misjudges Ausable.
How does the story reverse the reader's
The invented balcony and police story exploit Max's expectations?
fear.
Ordinary details make Ausable's lies convincing.
One-line recall Fowler expects a glamorous spy and initially misjudges Ausable.
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LESSON 4
A Question of Trust
Quick understanding
Horace Danby, a careful thief, is deceived by a more confident thief posing as the owner of a house.
Must remember Exam practice
Horace separates his respectable self-image from Why does Horace trust the woman?
his crimes.
Explain the double meaning of the title.
The woman wins by authority, observation and quick
improvisation.
His fingerprints make the apparently perfect robbery
collapse.
One-line recall Horace separates his respectable self-image from his crimes.
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LESSON 5
Footprints without Feet
Quick understanding
Griffin uses scientific brilliance without responsibility, turning invisibility into theft, violence and isolation.
Must remember Exam practice
Discovery without ethics becomes dangerous. Why is Griffin called lawless?
Invisibility removes social restraint but not physical How does invisibility become a
needs or consequences. disadvantage?
The footprints make the unseen criminal visible
through evidence.
One-line recall Discovery without ethics becomes dangerous.
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LESSON 6
The Making of a Scientist
Quick understanding
Richard Ebright develops from a collector into a researcher through curiosity, disciplined experiments and guidance.
Must remember Exam practice
Ahobby becomes science when questions are tested systematically.
Which habits make Ebright a scientist?
How did one failed display change his experiments.
Failure and incomplete results guide better approach?
His mother, books, competitions and mentors support his independence.
One-line recall Ahobby becomes science when questions are tested systematically.
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LESSON 7
The Necklace
Quick understanding
Matilda's desire for status leads to a borrowed necklace, years of hardship and a final revelation about appearance and value.
Must remember Exam practice
Dissatisfaction prevents Matilda from recognising her existing security.
Was Matilda a victim of fate or choice?
Explain the ending's situational irony.
The couple responds to loss with responsibility but not honesty.
The imitation necklace makes the sacrifice tragically unnecessary.
One-line recall Dissatisfaction prevents Matilda from recognising her existing security.
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LESSON 8
Bholi
Quick understanding
Education and patient encouragement help a neglected girl develop a voice and reject a humiliating marriage.
Must remember Exam practice
Family and society judge Bholi through appearance and speech.
Trace Bholi's transformation.
Her teacher gives respect, language and confidence.
Why is the wedding scene the story's climax?
Refusing Bishamber is an act of dignity, not disobedience.
One-line recall Family and society judge Bholi through appearance and speech.
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LESSON 9
The Book That Saved the Earth
Quick understanding
Acomic play shows Martians misreading nursery rhymes and abandoning an invasion because they mistake nonsense for dangerous intelligence.
Must remember Exam practice
Think-Tank's confidence exceeds his understanding. How do misunderstandings drive the plot?

Books become powerful through interpretation, even
mistaken interpretation. Explain why the title is appropriate.
Humour deflates military pride and celebrates
reading.
One-line recall Think-Tank's confidence exceeds his understanding.
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