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## **NCERT Solutions for Class 12 English Vistas Chapter 5**

Below we have provided NCERT Solutions for Class 12 English Vistas Chapter 5 to help students prepare better for their Class 12 English exam. Students can prepare these NCERT Solutions for Class 12 English Vistas Chapter 5 before their exams to understand the concepts better.

### **Q1. Who is Jo? How does she respond to her father's storytelling?**

**Ans:** Jo is the abbreviation for Joanne. She is Jack and Clare's four-year-old daughter. Her father, Jack, has been telling her bedtime stories for the past two years. Because these stories are based on the same core story, the characters and plot twists remain the same. She was a bright and inquisitive child. Her mind was racing with questions about all she had heard or seen. Her reactions to the stories were a strange mix of emotions triggered by the identification of the familiar.

She was also eager to investigate the unknown components woven around her father's fundamental story. Jo, who was eager, wanted the story to move along quickly, but she couldn't since her head was filled with contradictory notions and unanswered questions. She was also a keen observer of what was going on around her. She also liked to correct her father whenever she thought he was making a mistake. Her body language and facial expressions conveyed the depth of her interest in the story.

She empathized with the protagonist and dismissed anything that did not fit into her limited universe. Her restlessness to assert her point of view and her eagerness to understand kept her awake. She was even willing to fight her father and persuade him to conclude the story in her favour. Her comments suggest that she had begun to form her personality.

### **Q2. What possible plotline could the story continue with?**

**Ans:** From Jo's perspective, the narrative should have concluded on a cheerful note with Roger Skunk finally getting rid of his terrible odour and being able to play with all of the other kids. However, the story may not have such an innocent fairy tale ending from Jack's perspective. Throughout the novel, it was clear that Jack was reminiscing about his childhood and mother. As a result, he added his viewpoint.

His sense of belonging to his mother, as well as his experience dealing with reality, led to a mature and compromising conclusion, in which reality limited the scope of fiction. He evaded

the tough issue of identity conflict and blaming his mother by associating himself with Roger Skunk from his story.

**Q3. What do you think was Jo's problem?**

**Ans:** Little Jo had become accustomed to the cheerful endings of Roger's stories, in which the magician aided him in achieving his goal. The magician had turned his foul odour to that of roses at Roger Skunk's request. Other little animals enjoyed it and cheerfully played with Roger Skunk. She couldn't get over the finale of the extended story, in which Roger Skunk's mother smacked the wizard in the head and forced him to transform Skunk's odour back to the previous awful one.

Jo retaliated against her mother's obstinacy by punching Roger Skunk, a well-wisher for her son. Jo insisted that her father tell her the same story the next day, but with a different ending. The magician should smack that obstinate mummy across the head and leave Roger Skunk smelling like roses. Fairies and wizards are more real than reality in the wonderful realm of a child's imagination. The harsh truths of life were too much for her to bear. She despised the callous mother who assaulted her son's sponsor.

**Q4. What is the moral issue that the story raises?**

**Ans:** The narrative explores moral dilemmas at various stages of development. There is a significant difference between an adult's viewpoint on life and that of a small child. Children are symbolic of innocence. In their world, hatred and injustice have no place. The infant skunk in the story was only able to make pals after smelling like roses. In Jo's opinion, the joy of being able to make friends was greater than anything else.

As a result, she is unable to determine why the mother skunk pressed her youngster to reestablish his previous terrible body odour. On the contrary, Jack attempted to justify the skunk's mother, urging Roger to follow his mother's advice, even if it meant smelling terrible once more. Jack, like every other father, wants his daughter to believe that parents are always right and know what's best for their kids.

As a result, the story raises the topic of whether parents should always be obeyed without inquiry.

**Q5. How does Jo want the story to end and why?**

**Ans:** Jo was not satisfied by the story's conclusion and persuaded her father to retell it the next day, this time following a preset course that she had established. Neither Roger Skunk nor the wizard, she claims, made a mistake in the story.

Jo refused to accept the ending, in which Roger Skunk's mother hit the wizard without being hit in return. She wanted the story to finish with the magician slamming his magic wand into the mother skunk's head.

**Q6. Why does Jack insist that it was the wizard that was hit and not the mother?**

**Ans:** Jack has a typical parent's demeanour. He believes that parents know best what is best for their children. He repeatedly asserts parental power to silence Jo and squelch her protests and revisions to his story about the foul-smelling Skunk. He supports Roger Skunk's mother's behaviour. Roger's odd, unkink-like odour does not sit well with her. She describes the roses' pleasant scent as "terrible." Earlier, the small skunk smelled exactly as a small skunk should.

She wants the bad odour, which is a natural trait, to be restored. He claims that she was aware of what was right. Second, the baby skunk adored his mother more than any of the other animals. As a result, he accompanied his mother to the magician. She smacked the wizard in the face and demanded that he convert the scent of roses to a foul odour before. He insisted on this conclusion to emphasize the importance of parents' concern for their children and their part in raising them properly.

#### **Q7. What makes Jack feel caught in an ugly middle position?**

**Ans:** Jack believes he has been caught in an unattractive middle ground in terms of his physical, emotional, and mental well-being. The woodwork all around them, a cage of mouldings, rails, and skirting boards, was half old tan and half new ivory. He was aware of his responsibilities as a father and a husband. Bobby had already fallen asleep.

His attempts to lull Jo to sleep proved exhausting. She continued interrupting him, asking for clarifications, pointing out mistakes, and offering alternate solutions. Jack didn't like it when ladies took things for granted. He liked it when they were nervous. So he continued the story, even though he was in a hurry to get downstairs and assist his pregnant wife with her difficult task of painting the woodwork.

The result of the story's extension was fruitless and unpleasant for Jo, Jack, and Clare. Jo requested that he alter the story's conclusion. Clare expressed her dissatisfaction with the length of his story. Jack was exhausted and didn't want to talk to his wife, work with her, or even touch her. He was stuck in an awkward middle ground, unable to bridge the gap between the old and the new generation.

#### **Q8. What is your stance regarding the two endings to the Roger Skunk story?**

**Ans:** Given Jo's young age, both endings appear to be a little unreasonable. She will undoubtedly be learning from whatever she hears and sees at this age. If the story finishes the way Jack wants it to, Jo will never be able to question anything she thinks is wrong in her life because the finale emphasizes that elders are always correct in everything they do. In addition, the story depicts the skunk's mother striking the magician for no apparent reason. The magician had only completed the task at hand.

This may be frightening to Jo, who is four years old, because it teaches that mothers, as elders, have the authority to hit anyone, even if they are not at fault. On the contrary, if the plot follows Jo's wishes, she will lose faith in and respect for her elders. She might even come to believe that hitting elders are ok. A balanced viewpoint could be presented in an

appropriate ending, in which the mother either does not hit the wizard at all or sees her error quickly.

**Q9. Why is the adult's perspective on life different from that of a child?**

**Ans:** A child's speech and path of thought, as well as his behaviours and reactions, are all-natural and uninfluenced by external factors. He speaks from his heart, based on what he believes to be ethically correct. A grownup, on the other hand, has a lot to think about before speaking or reacting. As a result, society's influence regulates and dominates his views. Jo says what she thinks is correct in this chapter.

But Jack, an adult caught in a dilemma, kept thinking about the consequences of accepting his daughter's story's ending and what society has taught him over time. Changing trends, growing individuality, women's liberation from male dominance, and eroding human values all refer to the world of an adult. A youngster, on the other hand, is unaware of all of this and judges the world from his or her perspective.