

NCERT QUESTIONS WITH SOLUTIONS

Thinking About the Text

1. "I'll take the risk". What is the risk? Why does the narrator take it?

Ans. A huge storm was brewing up and the author was keen to reach his home to spend his holiday with his family. So, he decided to fly through the storm as he did not want to miss the chance to meet his family at breakfast. Thus, he took the risk even when the visibility was almost zero in the storm.

2. Describe the narrator's experience as he flew the aeroplane into the storm.

Ans. As the pilot (author) entered the storm, his plane started jumping and twisting. He could not see anything outside the plane as it was black. When he looked at the compass and other instruments they had stopped to function due to storm. It was a terrible and fearsome experience for him. The fuel tank was almost empty and he could not fly for more than ten minutes. Then he saw another

black aeroplane by his side and the pilot of the plane signalled him to follow. It was a surprise for the narrator as the other black plane was having no light. He followed him without any choice and landed safely on the runway.

3. Why does the narrator say, "I landed and was not sorry to walk away from the old Dakota..."?

Ans. The narrator says so because the old Dakota carries him on the verge of death with dead compass, dead radio and dead other instruments. 'Now it was of no use. Moreover, he wanted to get home for a good big English breakfast.

4. What made the woman in the Control Centre look at the narrator strangely?

Ans. The woman in the Control Centre looked at the narrator strangely because the narrator asked her about the black aeroplane and she had seen no one except the narrator's in the sky during the storm. Even the radar showed only the narrator's plane that night in the psky.

5. Who do you think helped the narrator to reach safely? Discuss this among yourselves and give reasons for your answer.

Ans. It is very difficult to say about the unknown pilot who helped the narrator. But probably it was the narrator himself that helped him to overcome the fear in the storm as no other plane was seen in the radar except the narrator's Dakota plane. In that fearsome situation, he might have been hallucinating. He himself was a good pilot and brave enough who helped himself land safely.