

Girl Against the Jungle – Juliane Koepcke

1 mk questions (Apart from textual questions):

1. Ans: Juliane's father had prepared a Christmas tree to welcome his wife and daughter Juliane.
2. Ans: Along with her mother, Juliane boarded the plane to Pucallpa from Lima.
3. Ans: There were 80 passengers on board Lockheed- Electra.
4. Ans: The plane from Lima took off to Pucallpa at 11.15 am.
5. Ans: Juliane saw the snow-covered peaks of the Andes and then the Amazon jungle that stretched right up to the horizon in the east.
6. Ans: While the other passengers were asleep, the other stewardesses were busy collecting the breakfast trays with a smile on.
7. Ans: The passengers were asked to fasten the seat belts when the rolling of the plane grew worse.
8. Ans: Air turbulence is a usual experience where the mountains curve down towards the east.
9. Ans: The first screams were heard when rain began pattering the window panes and the aircraft was thrown about vertically.
10. Ans: Juliane realized that she was no longer inside the plane when there was tremendous jolt that passed right through the aircraft.
11. Ans: After the crash, Juliane remained lying under the seat belt because she did not have the strength to get up and look around.
12. Ans: The toys and Christmas cake reminded Juliane that it was a Christmas Day.
13. Ans: Juliane's parents had taught her that it was not the big animals – the ocelots, jaguars or tapirs, which are dangerous, but the small ones, the insects, spiders, ants, flies and mosquitoes.
14. Ans: Along the river Rio Ucayali, one finds the settlements of woodcutter tribes – Konibo, Shipibo and the Cacatibo Indians and also the white plantation workers.

15. Ans: A River
16. Ans: Juliane tried to find Rio Ucayali because Pucallpa is on the banks of that river.
17. Ans: Juliane didn't eat the Christmas cake because it was soaked wet and tasted awful.
18. Ans: Juliane used a stick to poke about on the ground ahead so that she can avoid herself stepping on any snakes, dangerous spiders or ants.
19. Ans: Juliane took rest while along the banks of Rio Ucayali because she was feeling dizzy
and felt that the world was turning round and round.
20. Ans: As the rivers of the Peruvian jungle are meandering rivers, they do not flow straight
and have interminable bends leading nowhere.
21. Ans: The alligators on the banks of rivers in Amazon are described as cunning and greedy.
22. Ans: The piranhas are known for their sharp teeth that are particularly eager for bleeding
wounds.
23. Ans: Juliane had to wade across the river because the big lumps of rotting, fallen tree trunks blocked her way.
24. Ans: The presence of vultures indicated the presence of the flesh of corpses.
25. Ans: In the jungle, Juliane lived on a few sweets and water.
26. Ans: Juliane felt that it was impossible to get rid of being bitten by mosquitoes and horse
flies.
27. Ans: Juliane grew hopeful on the ninth day because she saw a boat, which was a sure sign of human beings somewhere nearby.
28. Ans: Inside the hut, Juliane found a plastic sheet under which, a small outboard motor
and a can of petrol were stored.
29. Ans: Juliane felt that it was stupid to expect (to hear) human voices at night because nobody ever travelled in the jungle at night.

30. Ans: The heavy and continuous rain in the jungle washed some of the maggots from Juliane's body and thus, saved her life.

31. Ans: In order to get rid of the maggots, Juliane made a skewer out of a palm branch and dug them out.

Girl Against the Jungle – *Juliane Koepcke*

4 mks questions:

- 1. Ans:** When the plane to Pucallpa crashed, Juliane fell in the Peruvian jungle unconscious. It was no less than a miracle to find herself lying under the seat all night with minor injuries. When she regained consciousness, she found no trace of her mother nor the man, who was seated beside her. On finding a little parcel, she opened it. There were some toys and Christmas cake, which reminded that it Christmas Day. It reminded of her father, who was waiting to welcome them at Pucallpa with a Christmas tree. It was then that she determined not to give a double grief to her father of losing his wife and daughter. So she determined that she will make it and kept going even in trying circumstances.
- 2. Ans:** Juliane and her mother boarded the Lock-heed Electra from Lima to Pucallpa on the Christmas eve. Due to bad weather, the 7 am flight took off at off at 11.15 am with 80 passengers on board. Juliane sat by the window seat in row 19 on the right. Everything was normal for half an hour. As it started to rain, the visibility became poor. The aircraft began to roll worse and the passengers were asked to fasten their seat belts. The passengers screamed while some hand luggage fell off the racks. A lightning had struck dangerously near the aircraft and the right wing caught fire. Within no time, a tremendous jolt passed through the aircraft and it finally crashed. Among the 80 passengers, Juliane was the only survivor.
- 3. Ans:** As taught by her parents about the dangers of the jungle, Juliane's routine was to walk along the river bank with a hope of finding either the wood cutter tribes or the plantation workers. Since the small animals were more dangerous than the big ones, she used a stick to tap the ground ahead of her to avoid stepping on any snakes, spiders or ants and also to push aside the undergrowth. Sometimes she had to wade into the water when the banks were impassable. She couldn't eat anything in the jungle because they look beautiful but are poisonous. So her only food was sweets and water. At dusk, when she found a smooth place on the bank where could lie down and rest till dawn. This routine went on for nine days till she found a boat and a hut nearby.

- 4. Ans:** Juliane had learnt from her parents that the Peruvian jungle had all the elements of danger. Walking along the river bank could take her to her destination. But, it was very tiresome because the rivers in Peru did not flow straight. They were meandering rivers with interminable bends leading nowhere. One could walk for miles and not cover more than a hundred yards. When the way became impassable, she had to wade in the water that exposed her to more dangers. There were the alligators, which were cunning and greedy and then the fishes. The piranhas were eager for bleeding wounds and Juliane had an open wound on her foot. The sting rays were so deadly poisonous that if one stepped on it, then it was the end.
- 5. Ans:** On land Juliane had to bear the scorching heat and the pouring rain, which were equally brutal. As she had learnt from the parents that the small animals – the insects, spiders, ants, flies and mosquitoes because they were more dangerous than the big ones – the ocelots, jaguars or tapirs, she used a stick to tap on the ground to avoid stepping on them. The river also posed a difficulty because it did not flow straight but meandering, which lead nowhere. One could walk for miles and not cover more than a hundred yards. When big lumps of fallen tree trunks blocked her way, she had to wade in the water, which exposed to the greedy and cunning alligators as well as the deadly fishes. The sharp toothed piranhas were eager for bleeding wounds and Juliane had an open wound on her foot. The sting rays were so deadly poisonous that if one stepped on it, then it was the end.
- 6. Ans:** On the night of the ninth day in the jungle, Juliane decided to stay in the hut because she was very sure that some people would be around. But nothing was sure about their return to the hut and the river too was swelling due heavy rains. On the other side, she didn't want to take the boat herself as she wouldn't be able to manage it and in any case, she didn't want to steal. So, her stay proved to be a double helping of the luck. Firstly, if she had not stopped at that particular point on seeing the boat, she would have missed seeing the hut. Secondly, if she had come upon the hut on the next day, she would have missed those men, who usually spent only one night in that hut every three weeks.

6 mark questions:

1. Ans: Juliane Koepcke was the lone survivor of the air crash. The Lockheed Electra, which Juliane and her mother had boarded on Christmas Eve to join her father in Pucallpa for Christmas celebration was struck by lightning and broke out during the storm. It was a miraculous escape for Juliane because though she fell two miles downward from the plane; she was still alive strapped to her seat. This miraculous escape itself is the first sign of hope but against the dangerous elements of the Peruvian jungle.

Juliane survived with minor injuries like the swollen eye, a bump on her head and injured collar bone but did not have serious problems. She had lost her shoes and glasses but her dress was not torn. It was the little parcel of toys and Christmas cake that reminded her that it was Christmas Day. When she looked around for her mother and found no trace, she presumed that she was no more. The thought of her father waiting for them motivated her to get out of the jungle because she didn't want her father to have a double grief of losing his wife and his daughter. So, she started to find a way out and what Juliane had learnt from her parents about the dangers of the jungle came to her rescue. She looked for a river and started to walk on the river bank because she knew that it would take to some settlements of either the wood cutter tribes or the plantation workers. But, that was not easy. She had to keep herself away from small animals like the dangerous snakes, spiders and ants for which she used a stick to tap on the ground to make sure that she didn't step on them. She had to overcome the exhaustion of the meandering rivers and hunger. The knowledge of the beautiful fruits being poisonous helped her to sustain with that bag of sweets and the clear water of the river. When the way became impassable, she had to wade in the water risking her life. There were the greedy and cunning alligators, the sharp-teethed piranhas that were eager for bleedings wounds and Juliane did have a wound on her foot. The sting rays were no less dangerous.

Perhaps, her safe passage for nine days in the Peruvian jungle enduring the brutality of the sun and rain was an evident sign of hope, which was rekindled at the sight of the boat and the hut at a near by distance. The swelling river and her nobility of not trying to manage or steal the boat also helped her to stay back that night. And, if she hadn't stopped there for the night, she wouldn't have been able to meet the three Spanish people to rescue her, given the fact that they came there once in three months. Hence, all these incidents are a proof enough to say that these were signs of hope for Juliane to get out of the jungle.

2. Ans: 'Girl Against the Jungle' is the real-life story of Juliane Koepcke's ordeal of reaching her father in Pucallpa. She was the lone survivor of the crash, who found herself in the Peruvian jungle after the crash. It was a miraculous escape for Juliane but then, to fight it out against the dangerous elements of the nature was the test of her life.

The old maxim 'where there is a will, there is a way' comes true of Juliane. When she realized that her mother is no more, she wanted to remain alive for her father to prevent him from double grief. The determination to present herself as a Christmas gift to her father instill in her the courage and endurance required to fight against the jungle.

Juliane exhibits exemplary bravery with presence of mind. She recalled all that she had learnt from her parents about the dangers of the jungle. She followed those instructions to escape from the jungle. Right from searching for a river and walking along the river bank with hope to find some settlements of the wood cutter tribes or the plantation workers takes her to her destination. She kept herself away from encountering the small animals of the Peruvian jungle by using a stick to tap on the ground ahead in order not to step on them for she knew that the small animals are more dangerous than the big ones. The beautiful fruits in the forest seemed to be very tempting but she held on for she knew that they are poisonous. She was literally tortured by the maggots, flies and mosquitoes that not only sucked her blood but also deposited eggs underneath her skin. The rain too was torturous but the consolation was that, to some extent it washed off the maggots on her hand. The meandering rivers exhausted her with their interminable bends, at times leading nowhere but then she did not give up. She kept walking along relentlessly. Meanwhile, she was also exposed to the greedy and cunning alligators, the sharp-teethed piranhas, which were eager for bleeding wounds and the dangerously poisonous sting rays, which would spare nothing they came across.

It is needless to say that it was extremely painful for Juliane to fight the dreadful animals and hostile weather of the jungle, given the fact that she had a bump on her head, a swollen eye, the collar bone sticking out and the wound on her foot. Yet, she never complained of it in her narration. It is this perseverance that pulled her along for nine days in the jungle till she found a boat and a hut. Until then, she slept under the canopy of the jungle, which only Juliane could do. The never up attitude and the will power to be there with her father speak for her indomitable spirit.