TEXT BOOK QUESTION:

a. Why did the seagull fail to fly?

- The seagull felt certain that **his wings would never support him**;
- So he failed to fly.

b. What did the parents do, when the young seagull failed to fly?

- **His parents, brothers and sister encouraged, scolded, tempted and taunted him to make his first flight**.
- But he could not collect enough courage to fly

c. What was the first catch of the young seagull's older brother?

- The first catch of the young seagull's old brother was a **herring**.

d. What did the young seagull manage to find in his search for food on the ledge?

- First, the seagull found a dried piece of mackerel's tail.
- Then he gnawed at the **dried pieces of eggshells**. It was like a part of himself.

e. What did the young bird do to seek the attention of his parents?

- He stepped slowly out to the brink of the ledge.
- He was standing on one leg with the other leg hidden under his wing.
- He closed one eye, then the other, and pretended to be falling asleep.

f. What made the young seagull go mad?

- Her mother tore at a piece of fish that lay at her feet, and then scraped each side of her beak on the rock.
- The sight of the food maddened him

g. Why did the young bird utter a joyful scream?

- His mother took a piece of fish and was flying across to him. So uttered a joyful scream.

h. Did the mother bird offer any food to the young bird?

- No. his mother didn't offer any food to the young bird.

i. How did the bird feel when it started flying for the first time?

- He was no longer afraid. He felt a bit dizzy. He

j. What did the young bird's family do when he started flying?

- His mother swooped past him.
- His father flew over him screaming.
- his two brothers and sister were flying around him, soaring and diving.

BOOK BACK QUESTION:

1. How was the young seagull's first attempt to fly?

- He had been afraid to fly with them.
- Somehow, when he had taken a little run forward to the brink of the ledge and attempted to flap his wings.
- He became afraid.

2. How did the parents support and encourage the young seagull's brothers and sister?

- His parents taught them the art of flying.
- They taught them how to skim the waves and how to dive for fish.

3. Give an instance that shows the pathetic condition of the young bird.

- He was afraid to fly. So he was unable to find any food to eat.
- At last he wanted to eat anything. So he ate the dried pieces of eggshells. It's like
- It was like a part of himself. This is one of the instances of the pathetic condition of the young seagull.

4. How did the bird try to reach its parents without having to fly?

He trotted back and forth from one end of the ledge to another.

His long gray legs were stepping daintily.

He tried to find some means of reaching his parents without flying.

5. Do you think that the young seagull's parents were harsh to him? Why?

Yes. The parents were harsh to him. Because they wanted him to fly.

6. What prompted the young seagull to fly finally?

The young seagull's mother's activities made him angry. It prompted him to fly.

7. What happened to the young seagull when it landed on the green sea?

- He dropped his legs to stand on the green sea.
- He screamed with fright and attempted to rise again, flapping his wings.
- But he was tired and weak with hunger and he could not rise exhausted by the strange exercise.
- His feet sank into the green sea, and then his belly touched it and he sank no farther.

PRAGRAPH:

HIS FIRST FLIGHT

- Liam O' Flaherty

INTRODUCTION
DEVELOPMENT
CONCLUSION
MORAL

INTRODUCTION:

'His First Flight' by Liam O' Flaherty is a true parable about overcoming fears in life. Every journey of a thousand miles begins with but a single step. But that single step is the most difficult one to make. Conquer the fear and venture forth; and we realize that we were born with wings.

DEVELOPEMNET:

The young seagull looked down desperately at the vast expanse of sea that stretched down beneath his ledge. He was hungry. His parents had flown away along with his brothers and his little sister. They left him alone on the rock without food. They could all fly; and he could not. He had tried several times to run forward to the brink of the ledge and flap his wings. But he became afraid. He was certain that his wings would not support him. His parents had tried countless times to make him fly. But for the life of him he would not make an attempt.

He felt that he was going to starve to death on his ledge. Even his mother was not looking at him. She was tearing a piece of fish with her beak. The sight of food maddened him. He cried at her but she just screamed back mockingly.

Suddenly, he felt the joy, he saw his mother approaching him with food. But she halted, keeping the fish just out of his reach. Maddened by hunger, he dived at the fish. But his mother flew upward and he started falling. A monstrous terror seized him, but the next moment he realized that he was flying. He was born to fly and he had made his first flight.

CONCLUSION:

Liam O' Flaherty was a keen observer of sea life and he believed that man has a lot to learn from nature. He has given a humane touch to the seagull's plight so that the reader is reminded of the nervousness he too might experience before doing something new.

Themes:

'His First Flight' highlights the importance of independence, self-belief and confidence, and the need for motivation to attain goals.

Necessity is always the mother of invention

Paragraph:

LESSON	HIS FIRST FLIGHT
AUTHOR	Liam O' Flaherty

'His First Flight' by Liam O' Flaherty tells about the need for courage and self-confidence to overcome fears in life. A young seagull looked desperately at the vast expanse of water that stretched before him. His parents, brothers and little sister had flown away and left him alone on the rock. There was no food and he was hungry. He could not fly. Many times he had tried to run forward to the brink of the ledge and flap his wings. But he was afraid and felt that his wings would not support him. Despite making countless efforts his parents could not persuade him to make an attempt to fly. He was starving and felt that he would die if he did not get any food. He saw his mother tearing a piece of fish with her beak. When he cried out to her she just screamed back mockingly. Then he saw his mother approaching him with food and was very happy. But she stopped at a distance. He was very hungry so he dived at the fish. His mother flew upward and he started falling. He was terrified for a moment but then he realized that he was flying. In this way he made his first flight.

PARAGRAPH FOR SLOW LEARNERS:

LESSON	HIS FIRST FLIGHT
AUTHOR	Liam O' Flaherty

- It is an interesting story of a young seagull who was afraid of flying.
- He did not have confidence. He was full of pessimism.
- His family encouraged, scolded, tempted and taunted him to make his first flight.
- But he could not collect enough courage to fly.
- He was hungry. His mother was looking at him. He begged her for food.
- She picked up a piece of fish and flew across him.
- The sight of food maddened him. He dived.
- He cried and screamed. His wings opened up automatically.
- He flapped his wings.
- He was joined by his family in his first flight.
- His family praised him for his efforts and offered him scraps of dog fish.