**RYAN’S WELL**

**Understanding the Text**

1. **Fill in the blanks:**
2. Ryan heard about the shortage of water in Africa when he was **six years old.**
3. At first, Ryan thought he only had to collect **$70** to provide water to the children.
4. The first people who helped Ryan raise money for his project were **his parents.**
5. Ryan and his brothers earned $10 for each garbage bag that they filled with **pine cones.**
6. Ryan’s **school** supported the boys’ project.
7. **Answer these questions:**
8. **Who was Ryan’s pen pal?**

**Ans**: Akana Jimmy, a tall, thin boy from Angola, was his pen friend.

1. **What was Ryan’s dream when he was six years old?**

**Ans**: His dream was to give everyone in the world clean water.

1. **How was Ryan welcomed when he arrived in Angola?**

**Ans**: When Ryan and his parents came in a truck down a Ugandan dirt road, four tiny children began jumping up and down excitedly and called out his name. Five thousand children from nearby schools stood waiting along the roadside. As the truck approached, they began clapping in a rhythmic beat. The village elders greeted Ryan warmly and took him to his well beside the school’s vegetable garden.

1. **Why had he gone to Angola?**

**Ans**: Ryan had gone to Angola to cut the ribbon and inaugurate the well that he had helped to dig.

1. **What is Ryan’s advice to those who wish to make a change?**

**Ans**: Ryan says that in order to make a positive change in the world, one needs to find something one is passionate about and then take steps to make one’s dream come true.

1. **Answer these questions with reference to the context:**
2. ***‘That’s nice, Ryan,’*  
   a. Who says this?  
   b. What was nice?  
   c. What does this tell you about the speaker?**

**Ans**:

a. Ryan’s mother said this.  
b. It was nice that Ryan wanted to dig a well in Africa.  
c. The speaker was a kind person and wanted her children to think of others and be compassionate towards them. This tells us that she is a good human being and mother.

1. ***Soon, he had gathered enough to buy the new machinery.***  
   **a. Who had gathered enough for the new machinery?  
   b. How had he gathered it?  
   c. What was the machinery he wanted to buy?**

**Ans**:

a. Ryan had gathered enough to buy the new machinery.  
b. Ryan raised funds for his project with the support of his entire school. He spent hours hand-printing letters and asking organisations to contribute money for his drill. When donations came in, he wrote ‘thank you’ notes. Soon, he had gathered enough to buy the new machinery.  
c. He wanted to buy a drill which would make digging a well easier and faster.

1. ***They stood together in silence, uncomfortable with the attention on them.*  
   a. Who stood together in silence?  
   b. Where were they?  
   c. Why was the attention on them?**

**Ans**:

a. Ryan, his parents and Akana Jimmy stood together in silence, uncomfortable with the attention on them.  
b. They were beside the well in the school’s vegetable garden.  
c. The attention was on them because Ryan was going to cut the ribbon and inaugurate the well that he had helped dig by raising money for it.