**Salvatore**- question and answer

**Unit 2-**

Love, respect, trust, care for others and nationalism are the virtues of Salvatore. However, his most striking aspect is his pure heart that forgive others. When his beloved refuses to get married to him due to his rheumatism although he is heartbroken, he never speaks ill of her. He sees her perspective in an unbiased manner and realizes that her decision is pragmatic. He realizes that due to his illness he may not be able to become the man he is expected to be physically and hence may not be able to raise a family properly. Even after going through so much, He never keeps any bitterness in his heart against his beloved. Although he is still heartbroken, he decides not to create a scene which shows his understanding nature. When he breaks down after learning the truth of his situation it shows his humane side trying to make us understand that no matter how Godly his actions are, he is after all a human who experiences emotions and is unable to control them in challenging times.

**Unit 3-**

Answer 1

Salvatore is happy at that point of time because he realizes that his illness which has rendered him unfit for service is a blessing in disguise. He would be able to return home to his island, his family, and the girl he loves because of his disease. He terribly misses them and once he realizes that he will be able to go back to her, his heart starts leaping with join.

Answer 2

Assunta, Salvatore’s wife was not able to forgive the girl from Grande Marina whom Salvatore had once loved as she had rejected him due to his rheumatism. She could not understand how that girl missed his kindness and forgiving nature. She could not bear the fact that the girl who claimed to love him, left him when his body physically deteriorated due his rheumatism. She was stunned by the fact that the girl missed his golden heart which refrained from speaking ill of her even after she left him heartbroken. She could not help but think lowly of her.

Answer 3

Salvatore’s life after marriage to Assunta was hard because of his illness and his work. All through the fishing season he set out in his boat with one of his brothers for the fishing grounds. It was a long pull of six or seven miles which was hard on his body especially due to his rheumatism. He spent the night catching profitable cuttlefish. Then there was the long row back again to sell the catch in time for it to go on the early boat to Naples. At other times he worked in his vineyard from dawn till the heat drove him to rest and then again when it was cooler, till dusk. Often his rheumatism prevented him from doing anything at all and then he would lie about on the beach smoking cigarettes, with a pleasant word for everyone notwithstanding the pain that racked his limbs.

**Assignment 3**

**Unit 1**

Question 1

1. A) Salvatore at the age of fifteen had a pleasant face with a laughing mouth and care-free eyes. He used to spend the morning lying about the beach with next to nothing on his brown body was as thin as a rail. He was full of grace. He was in and out of the sea all the time swimming with the clumsy, effortless stroke common to the fisher boat. He used to scramble up the jagged rocks barefoot and then throw himself into the deep water with a scream of delight. Salvatore acted as a nursemaid to his two younger brothers. He shouted them to come inshore when they ventured out too far and made them dress when it was time to climb the hot, vine-clad hill for the frugal midday meal.
2. B) Salvatore and Assunta were people who had broken hearts and found a second chance at love. They helped in healing each other and could see beyond just their physical disparities, that is, Assunta’s ugliness and Salvatore’s rheumatism. This enabled them to love, trust, respect and most importantly accept each other the way they were.
3. C) Salvatore used to bring his children down to give them a bath. They were both boys and the elder was three and the younger was less than two. They sprawled about at the water’s edge stark naked and Salvatore standing on a rock would dip them in water. The elder one bore it with stoicism, but the baby used to cry. Salvatore was heavily built but when he bathed his children, he did it tenderly, drying them with extreme care. He would seat the baby on his palm and hold him up, laughing a little at his smallness, and his laugh was like the laughter of an angel.

Unit 2

Question 2

The author has portrayed Salvatore as a simple man with an extraordinarily pure heart. He exudes forgiveness, love, respect, trust and care towards everyone irrespective of everything. His close-knit family has brought him up to respect relationships and know their value and importance.

He is a nationalistic and patriotic as he agrees to put his country before his family and beloved. He is homesick within no time and cannot really connect with the people he meets or the places he visits because his mind is preoccupied thinking about his family and his beloved. This shows how much his island, his family and his beloved mean to him.

When he catches rheumatism in China and is told that he is unfit for service he is joyous to go back home, meet his family and his beloved instead of feeling sad because of being semi-crippled by the illness. He also writes letters to his beloved to express himself and his feelings which shows how strong his feelings are. These things make us realize that Salvatore is extremely passionate towards every relationship, be it with his beloved, his parents or his brothers.

He calls his brothers back when they go too deep in the sea and dresses them which shows his motherly nature and his care.

When he gets back home, he gets to know that his beloved has given up on their relationship because she considers him semi-crippled and hence unfit to take care of her and provide for a family. He breaks down hearing this, but he does not create a scene and accepts her decision. He looks at her decision from her perspective in an unbiased way to conclude that her decision is pragmatic and respects it. He does not speak ill of her or keep any sort of bitterness in his heart which shows how forgiving he is. This act demonstrates his characteristics especially his pure heart. It also shows that Salvatore, though by his forgiving and understanding nature is quite godly, is after all a human who breaks down in tears when his love deserts him.

He agrees to meet Assunta, whom he initially calls ugly on his mother’s insistence only to realize how wrong he was to consider her ugly. He realizes that beauty is in the soul and not in the body and agrees to marry her and settle down in a vineyard. He starts his life with a fresh start despite his illness which at times causes him extreme pain. This shows his positive attitude and also tells us that he is not ready to give up. He keeps fighting his illness and continues to live his life with his wife and two children.

Overall, Salvatore is a layered character stated with a simple and ‘matter of fact’ narrative. He responds to tough circumstances in his life with equal determination and sheer positivity. He does suffer from heartbreak, which shows his humane side but also moves on gives life a fresh start with double the positivity. He is caring, loving, forgiving and understanding by nature which quite a godly combination of values deeply rooted in him due to his background. His beautiful heart refuses to feel bitterness even towards the girl who broke his heart and was so shallow that her love could not see beyond his physical illness. He always spoke well of everyone even when he was in pain. He is hardworking and continues to fight his illness to keep up with his fishing career that requires physical strength and is strenuous. Even though he is roughly built whenever he is dealing with his children, he does it with extreme tenderness and softness. In totality, he is a character with virtues that make him stand out and make him appear godly.