

## Week 8

<b>Name of the Story</b>	<b>The Verger By William Somerset Maugham</b>	<b>Themes</b>	dedication, independence, humility, self-respect.
<b>Useful or interesting Quotes</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. "Yes sir, I quite understand. I shall be "apply to" and my resignation as so as you found somebody to take my place."</li> <li>2. I think a lot of these young fellows waste a rare lot of time readin' when they might be doin' something useful.</li> <li>3. "That's an idea," he said. "Strange 'ow things come to you when you leas expect it."</li> </ol>		
<b>Vocabulary (5 new words with meanings)</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Verger:</b> A church official who acts as caretaker and attendant of a church.</li> <li>2. <b>Christening:</b> A Christian ceremony at which a baby is christened.</li> <li>3. <b>Complacence:</b> The feeling that satisfies with ourselves.</li> <li>4. <b>Vicar:</b> An ecclesiastical agent.</li> <li>5. <b>Aristocratic:</b> Belonging to a privileged and upper-class family or society.</li> </ol>		
<b>Summary (within 150 words)</b>	<p>Somerset Maugham's story "The Verger" is about a simple guy who does his work with passion and dedication. Foreman was the verger of his church for sixteen years, doing all of the vicarage's menial and manual duties. He enjoyed his work, and no one had any complaints until a new pastor arrived and discovered something shocking. He believed that, Foreman cannot read. The new pastor told him to leave the job because he can't learn to read or write as it might create unwanted problems for the church. Edward quit his work because he didn't think he could learn to read at this age. He couldn't locate a shop to buy a cigarette when he left the church, so he decided to open one here because there was a need, this business became quite profitable &amp; he was able to create many more and accrue a large sum of money. Finally, a manager approached him and advised him to invest in other secure possibilities rather than keeping all of his money in; the manager had learned that Edward was illiterate and couldn't understand how Edward had built such a big business without being literate.</p>		

<p><b>Course Content Focus:</b></p>	<p><b>Narrow down one of the themes into an argumentative topic statement. (Demonstrate the steps of narrowing down)</b></p> <p><b><u>Response:</u></b></p> <p><b>Argumentative Topic Statement:</b> To succeed in life, one doesn't need to be literate.</p> <p><b>Steps of narrowing down:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. "And do you mean to say that you've built up this important business and amassed a fortune of thirty thousand pounds without being able to read or write? Good God, man, what would you be now if you had been able to?"</li> <li>2. Illiteracy did not prevent Edward to come up with good ideas and be successful</li> <li>3. So, to succeed in life, one doesn't need to be literate.</li> </ol>
-------------------------------------	--