

2010

The Way to Answer

General Certificate of Education (Adv. Level) Examination,

April 2010

English II

Communication and Society

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140 words

03

- (a) The two men are neighbors named Ulrich von Gradwitz and Georg Znaeym. They are enemies and have met under a beech tree to settle their dispute.
- (b) Their motive was to fight in order to settle a dispute concerning family honour. What restrained them was their sense of civilized behavior which prevented them from trying to kill without first giving an explanation.
- (c) Before they could stop contemplating and turn to action a natural disaster - the shattering of the tree under which they were due to fight - overcame them and made both of them unable to fight and shoot.
- (d) Their reactions to their plight differed. Ulrich was upset by his plight but thankful that he was alive while Georg was angry and took a sarcastic attitude to what had happened to him. These reactions show Ulrich to be a reasonable, rather religious minded man while Georg is thankless and full of anger.
- (e) The writer apparently looks down on violence and feels that sudden feelings of anger and revenge can be easily avoided by giving oneself time to think over and see trivial incidents as part of normal life which should be accepted in a calm, understanding manner.

04

- (a) The theme of the poem the woman writes is death and the future when she is no longer living but nature and the environment will continue to flourish.
- (b) The night and the moon drifting reflect death and passing time the children grown, the white flowers and the saplings turned into trees blooming "in Vain" "the silent house" in the last line all act as pointers to the theme.
- (c) She puts down her thoughts regarding the future and loneliness in a "Silent house." The words "her husband sleeps connects up with the words and she alone" indicating that the husband sleeping brings to mind death and a future alone.
- (d) The poem is presented in the tone of a person who reports what he sees or infers without being personally involved.
- (e) The atmosphere created is one of and acceptance, letting the future take its course.