

**HS101**

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- 1) Guru Nayak is quite Reactive and aggressive by nature. The way he interacts with the astrologer proves his arrogance. He has left his village in search of the person who had tried to kill him, this shows that he is someone who prioritises such revengeful things over his work and family. When the astrologer rightly describes his past experiences and identity, He instantly starts believing in the astrologer's powers rather than doubting it and trying to find out who the astrologer really was. This shows that Guru Nayak lacks rational thinking and is someone who can be influenced easily.
- 2) The Astrologer is a Smart person who knows how to fool people. The way he deals with his clients, by not speaking anything for the initial 10 minutes, so that he can get an idea about the client, proves his wittiness. He also ensures that his physical appearance attracts more and more people. The statements he makes are rather things which help him impress the clients, so that they immediately start believing him blindly. Back in village, he had pushed a person into the well and ran out of the village, rather trying to save the person's life. All this proves that he is no more than a greedy and selfish person who fools people, in order to earn money.
- 3) In this story, The writer initially describes the astrologer in such a way that the readers look at him as someone who just fools people and does not have real magical powers. But, in the latter half, the way he rightly describes every single detail related to Guru Nayak contributes to the feelings of suspense and surprise. The way he gets worried when he sees Guru Nayak's face in the light also creates some doubt in the minds of the readers, but some may think that he is worried by the fact that he might lose all his money if he fails in the challenge.
- 4) In the story, Narayan has described the astrologer in a way which makes the readers realize that he is just another common man like others, and has no magical or divine powers. He has modified his physical appearance in a way that attracts the innocent people and makes them believe that he is truly an astrologer who can predict anyone's future. Narayan says that the

astrologer is as unfamiliar to the knowledge of stars as any common man is. He has no knowledge about Astrology, and he just lies to people by first letting them speak, so that he can understand them and their problems in a better way and thereby make convincing predictions.

- 5) The conflict in the story is that the writer has initially described the astrologer as someone who does not have any divine knowledge but rather fools innocent people by wittily making statements on their lives. But as we proceed further in the story, the astrologer successfully describes everything about Guru Nayak and this conflicts with the way in which the writer had initially portrayed the astrologer's character. In the end however, The astrologer's confession to his wife resolves this conflict, since it is then shown that he was the same person who had pushed Guru nayak into the well and hence knew everything about Guru Nayak and that incidence.
- 6) In this Story, had Guru Nayak been Smarter and more conscious, he could have realized that the the Astrologer was the same person that he was searching for. Rather than believing in what the astrologer said, he could have tried to find out how the astrologer knew so much about him. Even recognizing the Astrologer's voice could have been a way to unveil his true identity. In that case, Guru Nayak would have either beaten up or killed the astrologer in the end.

**Thank you**