Vikram’s English Academy (ICSE)

Std: VIII-EURO **Notes : I Run away to Dover**

**Answer the following:**

1. **From where is the above extract taken? Who is the central character or the protagonist? Which incident has been mentioned in this chapter?**

**Ans:** The above extract has been taken from ‘David Copperfield’, a novel by Charles Dickens. David is the central character (protagonist) of the novel. This chapter is about the time when resolves to run away to his aunt, Betsey, in Dover.

1. **What setback does David face at the start of the journey?**

Ans: David borrows some money from Peggotty , his old nurse. He hires a young man to help him move his box to the coach at the station, but unfortunately, along the way the latter steals his money and possessions.

1. **What did David do after chasing the young man who had taken his money?**

Ans: After chasing the young man for some time, David gave up the pursuit and sat down on a doorstep with no strength to even cry for the loss of his box and half-guinea.

1. **What decision did he take after giving up the chase of the robber?**

Ans: After giving up the chase of the robber, David rose and went on. Inspite of his distress , he decided that he would go to Dover even if he had to walk all the way.

1. **After trudging along for some time what did David see? What did he decide to do?**

Ans: After trudging along for some time, David passed a little shop with old clothes like coats and pairs of trousers dangling from the ceiling and a notice that ladies’ and gentlemen’s wardrobes were bought at the best price. He decided to sell off his waistcoat.

1. **Who was the owner of the shop? What did he do and say to David when he told him about selling the waistcoat?**

Ans: The owner of the shop was Mr Dolloby. When David handed him the waistcoat, he spread it on the counter and held it up against the light , looked at it carefully and asked David what price he would take for it.

1. **What price did David ask for the waistcoat ? What did he do after getting the money ? How did he feel?**

Ans: David asked for only nine pence as he was in pressing circumstances with no money and a long foot journey ahead. He took the money, wished the shopkeeper good luck and walked out of the shop. He felt that he was richer by nine pence but poorer by a waistcoat.

1. **What did David foresee after selling the waistcoat?**

Ans: After selling the waistcoat, David could foresee that he might have to sell more clothes to survive during his journey and so his jacket would go next. He thought he would be lucky if he reached Dover in a shirt and a pair of trousers.

1. **Where did he spend his night after selling his waistcoat? What did he feel in that place?**

Ans: David spent his second night on a haystack behind the wall of his old school. He thought it was some comfort to the boys of his school so near him although they knew nothing of his being there. Yet he felt a lonely sensation while lying down without a roof above his head.

1. **What woke him up? What did he do after getting up?**

Ans: The warm beams of the sun and the ringing of the getting-up bell at Salem House woke David. He crept away from the wall as the boys were getting up and started along the long dusty track which he knew to the Dover Road.

1. **What did he do as the evening approached on the second day? What was his state?**

Ans: As evening approached, David crossed the bridge at Rochester. He was footsore and tired and ate the bread that he had bought for supper.

1. **What tempted him? What did he do?**

Ans: On the evening of the second day, David saw one or two little houses with the notice ‘Lodgings for Travellers’ which tempted him. David was afraid of spending the few pence he had so he dropped the thought.

1. **Where did David spend his second night? Describe the place.**

Ans: David spent the second night upon a sort of grass-grown battery overhanging a lane , where a sentry was walking to and fro. David lay there happy in the society of the sentry’s footsteps and slept soundly until morning.

1. **How did David feel on the third morning? What did he do?**

Ans: The next morning David was stiff and sore. He went down the long narrow street into Catham. He realised that he could only go a little way that day, he decided to sell his jacket.

1. **Describe the encounter of David and the shopkeeper in Chatham?**

Ans: David went into a pawn- shop to sell his jacket. An ugly old man was at the counter who seized him by his hair and asked him what he wanted and used weird expressions. When David showed him the jacket the old man said he would give him eighteen pence. The old man took the jacket and told him to get out of his shop and said that David should take something in exchange and not ask for money. David was extremely frightened for his life but insisted of taking money and nothing else. He waited outside the shop and time and again kept going in . The shopkeeper induced him several times to take an exchange. He showed him things like a fishing –rod, a hat , a flute etc. But David resisted the offers and sat there in desperation asking him with tears in his eyes for his money or his jacket. At last the old man started paying him in instalments. Finally David closed the deal at four pence as he was extremely tired.

1. **What does the deal with the old shopkeeper tell us about David?**

Ans: The encounter and the deal of the sale of the jacket to the old ugly shopkeeper shows that David had a strong will power and was determinedly dealt with the cruel shopkeeper. David comes across as a courageous person who never gave up inspite of his fear of the evil man.

1. **What part of David’s journey seemed to be pleasant ? Why ?**

Ans: After the encounter with the evil owner of the pawn-shop , David had another night with haystack bedding. When he took the road again the next morning , he found that it was through a succession of hop-grounds and orchards. Some hop-pickers were already at work. David found the scene extremely beautiful and made up his mind to sleep among the hops that night.

1. **Describe the trampers that day.**

Ans: The trampers were worse that day . Some of them were ferocious looking ruffians, who stared at him as he went by and called after him to some back and speak to them and when he took to his heels , stoned him.

1. **On which day did David reach Dover? What happened then?**

Ans: On the sixth day David reached Dover. On reaching , he inquired about his aunt among the shopkeepers, but not liking his appearance they generally replied without hearing what he had to say, that they had got nothing for him. David felt more miserable than he had done at any period of his running away.

1. **How did David find his aunt’s house ?**

Ans: Finally David went into a little shop and inquired about his aunt , Miss Trotwood’s house. A young woman truned round quickly and told him that it was her mistress and asked him what he wanted. She was his aunt’s maid and told him to follow her if he wanted ot know where she lived. He followed the young woman to a very neat little cottage with a garden full of flowers and the lady told him that was his aunt’s house and then disappeared into the house.