**THE SWITCH**

1. How was Darnay walking in the beginning of the story? Why?

Ans. As the time passed, Darnay walked up and down softly repeating the names of his loved ones to himself, praying for himself as well as for them. He was walking so because he was going to get executed publicly at three.

1. What had Darnay been told? What did he think? Why?

Ans. Darnay had been told that the final hour was Three but he knew that he would be summoned earlier as the tumbrils jolted heavily and slowly through the streets.

1. Why had Darnay kept a particular time in his mind? What time was it?

Ans. Darnay had kept Two O’clock in his mind as the Hour to strengthen himself so he might be able to strengthen others later.

1. How was Darnay walking? Why did he stop?

Ans. Darnay was walking regularly to and fro with his arms folded on his chest. As the clock struck one, he thought to himself that there was another hour to go. He stopped when he heard footsteps in the stone passage outside the door.

1. How did Sydney come in?

Ans. The key was put in the lock and turned. The door opened and was quickly closed and Sydney Carton stood before him, quiet, intent, with the light of smile on his features and a warning finger on his lips.

1. What did Darnay mistake Carton to be? Why?

Ans. Darnay mistook Carton to be an apparition, as there was something very bright and remarkable in his look.

1. Did Darnay and Carton know each other? How is it evident?

Ans. Yes, Darnay and Carton knew each other. It was evident when Carton mentioned that of all the people upon earth, Darnay would have least expected him.

1. Why was Carton there? How was he allowed to be there?

Ans. Carton had gone to see Darnay as Darnay’s wife had a request for him. He was allowed to be there as he knew one of the keepers.

1. What did Carton answer about the request?

Ans. Carton told him that there was a strong request addressed to him in the voice which was dear to Darnay, a voice he remembered very well. He said that Darnay had no time to ask why he brought it or what it meant. Carton had no time to tell him anything but only said that Darnay had to comply with it.

1. How was Darnay like a child in Carton’s hands?

Ans. Carton told Darnay to put on his boots. He also told Darnay to change the cravat with that of his and his coat as well. While Darnay would do that, Carton said that he would take the ribbon from Darnay’s hair and would shake out Darnay’s hair like himself. He forced all the changes upon Darnay, who was like a child in his hands.

1. Mention the request that Darnay had made to Carton.

Ans. Darnay told Carton that what he was doing was madness and could not be accomplished, it could never be done, it was attempted and always failed. He begged Carton to not add his death to the bitterness of himself.

1. How did Carton react to Darnay’s request? What did Carton tell him to do?

Ans. Carton rather asked a question to Darnay that had he asked him to walk out of the door. He asked Darnay if his hand was steady enough to write, and to write what Carton dictated to him.

1. Briefly write down what Carton had dictated Darnay to write.

Ans. Carton told Darnay to write ‘If you remember, the words that passed between us long ago, you will readily understand this when you see it. I am thankful that the time has come that I can prove them. That I do so is no cause for regret or grief.”

1. After the vapour was released, how was Darnay’s condition?

Ans. After the vapour was released, Darnay looked at Carton with clouded eyes and altered manner of breathing. Carton with his hand still in his pocket, looked at him steadily. Darnay tried to collect himself but then bent over the paper again.

1. What happened after Carton’s hand dropped to his side?

Ans. After Carton’s hand dropped to his side, Darnay sprang up with a reproachful look but Carton’s hand was close to him and firm at his nostrils and Carton’s left arm caught him around the waist. For a few seconds, Darnay struggled slightly with the man who had come to lay down his own life for him, but within a minute he was stretched insensible on the ground.

1. How did Darnay and Carton switch their roles?

Ans. Carton dressed himself in the clothes Darnay had laid aside, combed back his hair and tied it with the ribbon that Darnay had worn. He then put the paper in his breast pocket and seated himself at the table, resting his forehead in his hands and called for help.

1. Who entered? What did Carton tell to that person?

Ans. A man entered from the door. Carton told him that the parting interview had overpowered Darnay. He said that Darnay was faint when he came in and is fainter now. He asked the person to call for assistance.

1. When Carton was left alone, what all was he expecting? Did it happen?

Ans. When Carton was left alone, he listened for any sound that might signal suspicion or alarm, but there was none. Keys turned, doors clashed, footsteps passed along distant passages but no cry was raised or unusual hurry raised.

1. Why is the story called ‘The Switch’?

Ans. The story is named ‘The Switch’ as Sydney Carton, a British lawyer, successfully switches places with Darnay. Darnay, a member of French ruling class, was going to be executed although he was innocent. By switching places with Darnay, Sydney sacrifices his life and is able to get Darnay and his family out of France.