



MORE QUESTIONS SOLVED

A. Short Answer Type Questions

Question 1. How did Mrs Dorling react when the narrator said, 'm Mrs S's daughter'?

Answer: Mrs Dorling held her hand on the door as if she wanted to prevent it opening any further. Her face showed no sign of recognition. She kept staring at the narrator without uttering a word.

Question 2. What two reasons did the narrator give to explain that she was mistaken?

Answer: She thought that perhaps the woman was not Mrs Dorling. She had seen her only once, for a brief interval and that too years ago. Secondly, it was probable that she had rung the wrong bell.

Question 3. How did the narrator conclude that she was right?

Answer: The woman was wearing the green knitted cardigan of the narrator's mother. The wooden buttons were rather pale from washing. She saw that the narrator was looking at the cardigan. She half hid herself again behind the door. Her reaction convinced the narrator that she was right.

Question 4. What was the outcome of the interview between Mrs Dorling and the narrator?

Answer: The interview was a flop as far as the narrator was concerned. Mrs Dorling refused to see her and talk to her in spite of the narrator's repeated requests.

Question 5. Who had given the narrator the address, when and under what circumstances?

Answer: The narrator's mother had given her the address, years ago during the first half of the war. The narrator came home for a few days and missed various things in the rooms. Then her mother told her about Mrs Dorling and gave her the address.

Question 6. What did the narrator learn about Mrs Dorling from her mother?

Answer: Mrs Dorling was an old acquaintance of the narrator's mother. The latter had not seen her for several years. Then she suddenly turned up and renewed their contact. Every time she left that place she took something with her—table silver, antique plates, etc.

Question 7. What reason did Mrs Dorling give for taking away the precious belongings of the narrator's mother?

Answer: Mrs Dorling suggested to the narrator's mother that she should store her belongings at a safer place. She wanted to save all her nice things. She explained that they would lose everything if they had to leave the place.

Question 8. What impression do you form of the narrator's mother on the basis of her conversation with (i) Mrs Dorling and (ii) the narrator?

Answer: The narrator's mother was a kind-hearted, generous and liberal lady. She was fond of collecting valuable things. She is more

worried about the physical risk to Mrs Dorling than losing them to her. She thought it an insult to tell her friends to keep those things for ever.

Question 9. Did the narrator feel Up evinced about the views of her mother regarding Mrs Dorling? How do you know?

Answer: The narrator did not feel convinced about her mother's concern for Mrs Dorling. The latter was keen on removing the precious possessions of the narrator's mother to her own house. It seems that the narrator did not like Mrs Darling's excessive interest in her mother's belongings. It is evident from the questions she puts to her mother. .

Question 10. What does the narrator remember about Mrs Dorling as she saw her for the first time?

Answer: Mrs Dorling was a woman with a broad back. She wore a brown coat and a shapeless hat. She picked up a heavy suitcase lying under the coat rack and left their house. She lived at number 46, Marconi Street.

Question 11. Why did the narrator wait a long time before going to the address number 46, Marconi Street?

Answer: Initially, after the liberation, she was not at all interested in her mother's belongings lying stored there. She was also afraid of being confronted with things that had belonged to her mother, who was now no more.

Question 12. When did the narrator become curious about her mother's possessions?

Answer: The narrator became curious about her mother's possessions as normalcy returned in the post-liberation period. She knew that those things must still be at the address her mother told her. She wanted to see them, touch and remember.

Question 13. "I was in a room I knew and did not know," says the narrator in the story 'The Address'. What prompted her to make this observation?

Answer: The narrator found herself in the midst of things she was familiar with and which she did want to see again. However, she found them in a strange atmosphere where everything was arranged in a tasteless way. The ugly furniture and the muggy smell created the feeling that she didn't know the room.

Question 14. "I just looked at the still life over the tea table," says the narrator in the story 'The Address'. What does she mean by 'the still life'? What prompted her to make this remark?

Answer: By 'the still life', the narrator means the things over the tea table such as the table-cloth, tea pot, cups and spoons. The reference to antique box and silver spoons prompted her to make this remark.

Question 15. How was the narrator able to recognise her own familiar woollen table- cloth?

Answer: The narrator first stared at the woollen table-cloth. Then she followed the lines of the pattern. She remembered that somewhere there was a bum mark which had not been repaired. At last she found the bum mark on the table-cloth. This helped her to recognise her own familiar article.

Question 16. "You only notice when something is missing." What does the speaker exactly mean? What examples does she give?

Answer: The speaker says that one gets used to touching one's lovely things in the house. One hardly looks at them any more. It is only when something is missing that it is noticed either because it is to be repaired or it has been lent to someone.

Question 17. How did narrator come to know that the cutlery they

ate off every day was silver?

Answer: Once the narrator's mother asked her if she would help her polish the silver. The narrator asked her which silver she meant. Her mother was surprised at her ignorance and replied that it was the spoons, forks and knives, i.e. the cutlery they ate off everyday.

Question 18. Why did the narrator suddenly decide to leave?

Answer: The narrator had visited 46, Marconi Street for a specific purpose—to see her mother's belongings and touch them. However, these objects seemed to have lost their value in strange surroundings and on being severed from the life of former times.

Question 19. How did the narrator reconcile herself to the loss of her mother's precious belongings?

Answer: The narrator felt that her mother had only lent them for safe custody and Mrs Dorling was not to keep everything. On seeing these objects, memories of her former life were aroused. She found no room for these precious belongings in her present life. So she reconciled to her fate.

Question 20. "Of all the things I had to forget, that would be the easiest". What does the speaker mean by 'that'? What is its significance in the story?

Answer: That' here stands for the address. The words: number 46, Marconi Street, i.e. the address recur throughout the story. The address is important for the narrator at the beginning of the story. However, at the end of the story she resolves to forget it as she wants to break off with the past and move on with the present into the future.

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