The Selfish Giant

By Shriram Lamichhane

Summary

The Giant’s garden was very beautiful. Children loved to play in it. Every afternoon, as they were coming from school, they used to enter the large lovely garden with flowers and peach-trees.

But the Giant was selfish. One day when he returned home after seven years of stay with his friend, he saw the children playing in the garden. He shouted at them angrily and they ran away. The Giant decided not to allow anybody else to play there. So he built a high boundary wall around it. He also put up a notice that outsiders entering the garden will be punished.

The poor children had no other place to go. They didn’t like to play on the dusty road full of stones.

Then spring came all over the country. Only in the garden of the selfish Giant, it was still winter. No flowers bloomed and no birds sang. The only visitors were the snow and the frost which painted all the trees silver. The north wind roared there all day. It also asked the hailstones to come.

The Giant wondered why the spring passed by his garden. It was always winter there.

One morning he heard some lovely music of a linnet songbird outside his window. He jumped out of bed and looked out. He saw a wonderful sight. The children had crept in through a hole in the wall. They were sitting on the branches of trees which gladly welcomed them with flowers. Only in one corner it was still winter. A small boy was wandering all around the tree and crying. He was too small to climb up.

The Giant’s heart melted. He went out in the garden. The children ran away on seeing him. The garden became winter again. But when he put the small boy up into the tree, it broke into flowers. The boy threw his arms around his neck and kissed him. Other children noticed the change in the Giant’s behaviour. So they too came back.

The Giant knocked down the wall and started playing with them. He wanted to see the small boy whom he had put up into the tree. But he had gone away.

Years went by and he grew old and weak. He realised that the children were the most beautiful flowers of all.

One winter morning he saw a tree covered with lovely white flowers and silver fruit. Under it stood the little boy. He came running, close to the boy. He noticed two nail wounds each on the boy’s arms and on the little feet. He declared angrily that he would kill the cruel man who had injured him.

At this the child told him that those were the wounds of Love. It further said that he had come to take him to his garden, which was paradise. In the afternoon the Giant was found lying dead under the tree.

Understanding the text

A. Where did the children use to play?

Ans:

They used to play in the Giant's garden.

B. What did the Snow and the Frost do to the garden?

Ans:

The snow covered the grass with its large white coat and Frost painted all the silver trees. Afterwards, they invited North Wind to stay with them.

C. What did the giant hear when he was lying awake in bed?

Ans:

The giant heard beautiful music.

D. Why do you think spring never came to the giant's garden?

Ans:

I think the spring season never came to the giant's garden because he didn't let the kids play there.

E. How did the giant realise his mistake?

Ans:

He saw his mistake as the children stopped visiting the garden and the garden never faced the spring season.

Reference to the context

A. Read the extracts given below and Answer following questions.

a. “How happy we were there!” they said to each other.

i. Where does ‘there’ refer to?

Ans: 'There' refers to the giant's garden where children used to play after school.

ii. What does ‘they’ refer to?

Ans: 'They' refers to the children who used to come and play in Giant's garden after school.

iii. Why are they saying so?

Ans: They are saying so because they aren't allowed to play in the giant's garden anymore. The giant has chased them out of his garden, furious.

b. “I have many beautiful flowers,” he said; “but the children are the most beautiful flowers of all.”

i. Who is the speaker?

Ans: The speaker is an old and feeble giant who keeps on watching the children at their play sitting on his armchair.

ii. Who is he speaking to?

Ans: He is speaking to himself admiring his garden.

iii. Who are ‘the children’ that the speaker is referring to?

Ans: 'The Children' that the speaker is referring to are the small and innocent school children who enjoy a lot in the giant's garden.

Iv. Why is the speaker saying that ‘the children are the ……’ ?

Ans. The speaker says 'children are the most........' because like the flowers, children also bring joy and happiness in the garden.

c. When the little child smiled at the Giant, and said to him, "You let me play once in your garden, today you shall come with me to my garden, which is Paradise," shortly afterwards, the happy giant dies. What is the coincidence of this event? Describe it in relation to this fairy story.

At the point, when Giant went downhill and was powerless, he could presently don't play with kids. He sat in his seat watching the kids play.

One winter morning, a little kid who had been assisted by him with climbing a tree showed up and gave him endless life and harmony in his Garden, ie. paradise. Simultaneously, Giant passed on. Consequently, the rise of a kid given interminable life in paradise and Giant's demise happened unintentionally.

In any case, from a strict perspective, the resurrection of the kid, nail workmanship in the palms of the hands and feet, and the passing of a Giant naturally are firmly related.

B. The story makes use of personification as one of the main figures of speech. Cite three examples of personification from the story. What is the significance of the seasons personified in the story?

This story utilizes man as one of the key articulations giving character attributes to non-individuals. For the situation, the representation cycle made non-human associations more explicit or assisted understudies with comprehension and feel for or react genuinely to them.

The outcome is bloom making, seasons, snow, snow, wind, hail and one of the trees to fortify the creator's ethical perspective.

The blossoms are embodied when one of them begins to sprout, at that point acknowledges there are no kids in the Garden, and returns to rest. This variety proceeds with the delight of snow and snow as the Garden has no spring season and welcomes the north wind to the Garden. The soul is exemplified when you say with euphoria that they ought to request the hail to visit the Garden.

The story has the meaning of personified seasons. Toward the start of the story, the seasons favor the Garden with charming climate until Giant moves the kids from his Garden.

Frustrated by Giant's discourteousness the spring season leaves the Garden. The disagreeability of these occasions shows that Giant's narrow-mindedness is in accordance with the law and accordingly merits discipline.

C. This story can be read as a fairy story, where the children, the seasons, the tree, the corner of the garden, the snow, the wind and the frost are all used as symbolism. Interpret those symbols.

=This story is undoubtedly a fairy story. The narrator has utilized the representative technique to show understudies an ethical exercise. Kids represent immaculateness and love. Additionally, the seasons address expectation, wellbeing, and passing.

The tree is an image of persistence and the edge of the Garden addresses paradise. Snow, wind, and snow represent distress, misery, and inconvenience.

D. Which figure of speech is used for ‘winter, frost, snow, north wind, hail and little child’? Who is the little child compared to?

Like a fantasy, the story is loaded with similitudes. Both personification techniques and images are utilized for winter, snow, snow, north wind and hail. A little kid is depicted as a Christian image. He is compared to Jesus Christ.

Reference beyond text

a. What is the main theme of the story?

Oscar Wilde has consolidated topics of unselfishness and love. Toward the start of the story the Giant is narrow minded and cold towards the kids, and he develops a high divider around the Garden and puts a notification board to obstruct them.

However, after some time he understands his mix-up when the children quit going to the Garden and the Garden never faces the spring until he allows them to play in his Garden.

Knowing the importance of affection and sharing, spring climate comes. Not exclusively does the Giant carry happiness to the kids yet it additionally guarantees that he will enter Heaven through his thoughtful gesture. Giant nature is related to that of people.

We only occasionally share our assets with anybody in any event, when another person needs them. We also are childish. The story trains us to share love to win love.

b. Does God punish those who are cruel to children and very selfish?

Ans: Yes, God punishes those who are cruel to childs and very selfish. As we saw in this story, Giant has really been so cruel to the childs and selfish that’s why Spring never came in his garden. Snow and frost always remained in his garden, which symbolizes that negative atmosphere surrounding his garden when there were not any children.

Get more notes from : www.tsz.com.np

Subscribe “The SR Zone” on YouTube

@Shriram Lamichhane

The Oval portrait

By Shriram Lamichhane

Summary

‘The Oval Portrait’ (1842) is one of the shortest tales Edgar Allan Poe ever wrote.

In just a few pages, he offers a powerful story about the relationship between art and life, through the narrator’s encounter with the oval portrait of a young woman in a chateau in the Apennines.

The story repays close analysis because of the way Poe offers his story as a subtle commentary on the link between life and art.

First, a brief summary of this briefest of stories. The narrator, wounded and delirious, has sought shelter in an old mansion with his valet or manservant, Pedro.

He holes up in one of the rooms, and contemplates the strange paintings adorning the walls of the room, and reads a small book he had found on the pillow of the bed, which contains information about the paintings.

At around midnight, he adjusts the candelabrum in the room and his eye catches a portrait he hadn’t previously noticed, in an oval-shaped frame, depicting a young girl on the threshold of womanhood.

The narrator is captivated by this portrait, which seems so life-like; but he soon becomes appalled by it. He turns to the book and reads the entry detailing the history behind the oval portrait.

The woman depicted in it was the young bride of the painter, and was a perfect wife in every respect – except that she was jealous of her husband’s art that distracted him from her.

The artist paints a portrait of his wife, and becomes more and more obsessed with capturing her likeness, until he ends up spending all of his time gazing at the portrait of his wife, and hardly any time looking at her.

She becomes weaker and weaker, dispirited from losing her husband’s love as he stops paying her attention and becomes more and more preoccupied with the painting. When he has just about finished the portrait and turns to regard his wife, it is to find that she has died.

Understanding the text

Answer these questions.

a. Where did the narrator and his servant make forcible entrance?

Ans: They entered the chateau forcibly.

b. Which special picture did the narrator notice in the room?

Ans: He saw a young girl's photo.

c. Describe the portrait that the narrator saw in the room.

Ans: The picture was in an oval frame. It showed the young woman's head and shoulders. In the indistinct but deep shade which constituted the backdrop of the entire, the arms, bosom, and even the ends of the brilliant hair disappeared unabated.

d. What is the relationship between the portrait painter and its subject?

Ans: They were Husband and wife.

Reference to the context

a. What is the central theme of the story? Who is the woman depicted in the oval portrait?

Ans: The narrative of The Oval Portrait focuses on the subject of art-life connection. Art and fascination with it are shown to be murderers and responsible for the death of the young bride.

Art is comparable to death in this sense. The relationship between art and life is seen as competition. In the story, art exposes the wrongdoing or malice of the creator and also clarifies that art can even kill life.

The painter's wife and the victim of the painter's love for portraiture is the lady shown in the oval portrait.

B. "The Oval Portrait" is a short horror story by Edgar Allan Poe involving the disturbing circumstances surrounding a portrait in a chateau. Elaborate.

The story of "The Oval Portrait," with its gloomy surroundings and atmosphere, is a short horror story. It is placed in a dull, deserted manor. The house is abandoned, yet includes items such as an oval picture with a dark and enigmatic history.

A sense of mystery and dream is in the picture of the far abandoned castle. The interior with its walls covered in tapestries and multifaceted and multifaceted armorial trophies is torn and ancient in many lively, contemporary paintings.

The gloomy circumstances and the shadow of the previous occurrences give the sense of a curious twist in history. The expectation of the mystery of the reader is based on the emergence in one of the deeper corners of a strange chamber of a living picture of the lady.

C. "The Oval Portrait" suggests that the woman's beauty condemns her to death. Discuss.

The art sources say that the young woman is extremely lovely in the picture. She's dead because she's forced by her husband to sit for several weeks trying to paint her most lovely picture.

Although the lady sits by her husband, he's plunged into a lovely picture of his woman in his painting. But he doesn't slowly comprehend the life of his wife leaving her body. It shows that the husband has not seen his wife's attractiveness.

Since he was an artist, in the form of a portrait he wishes to preserve it. Her beauty therefore condemns her to death.

D. Discuss the story as a frame narrative (a story within a story).

The Oval Portrait is a narrative frame, or a story with a different plot. In the first section of the story we find a narrator who, for unexplained reasons, gets hurt and struck at night.

He takes refuge in an abandoned manor with his friend and servant, Pedro. While his servant sleeps, the storyteller remains alert.

He is enthralled by the artwork on the wall of the bedroom and examines a book with its narrative. He learns about a young lady in the book after seeing a realistic picture.

The narrator says in the second part that a lovely lady marries a painter who is totally engrossed in her piece. Even if she doesn't like it, she's willing to pose for a picture, which takes many weeks.

As the picture comes to a close, the woman becomes weaker and weaker. She suddenly understands that she is dead as he puts her last touches on the canvas.

E. The story is told in a descriptive style, with plenty of imagery and symbolism. Which images and symbols do you find in the story?

The mansion is deserted. The chamber of the tower is in a secluded area of the mansion. The room is rich in décor, yet everything is ancient and worn.

The walls are filled with wallpaper, trophies and contemporary passionate art. The gothic picture is given in this detailed description of the house. Also, the portrait descriptions show the true and lovely nature of the picture. While she's deceased, she's portrayed in the picture so vividly.

A Gothic history is backed by the gloomy dreary of the abandoned home. The painter is the fanaticism emblem. The female is the victim of the art love shown by the painter in an oval portrait.

The oval image represents art's immortality. As a physically beautiful lady, the frame represents the overall objection that she faced.

F. What does the expression “She was dead!” mean?

The phrase "She's dead!" is a realisation of the painter's commitment to his picture, the death of his loved one. For several weeks, his wife stays submissive. As the job goes on, her health is deteriorating.

The painter nonetheless does not realise his wife's deteriorating health, but continues to paint frantically without taking his eyes off the canvas. The final brush stroke makes a painter happy with the vividness of his making, but he knows that she's dead as he turns to his wife.

Reference beyond the text

a. Do you think there is life in art?

Ans: "The Oval Portrait" is a life-art frame story. The external narrative is followed by an anonymous narrator who spends a night in an Apennines castle. He admired the magnificent paintings while he got there, but was more fascinated with the picture of a lovely, young lady contained in an oval frame.

Then he examines the underlying narrative of a lovely girl whose husband had a lot of obsession with his work. He became detached from reality. His canvas became more real for him than reality itself, which is great for his work but catastrophic for his actual existence.

In a literary sense, however, the artist makes art life and attempts to discover life in it, but in a broad perspective, art is just a production which is designed to show and has significance that is linked to various things.

b. As a thing of art nothing could be more admirable than the painting itself. Explain.

Ans: Painting is completely correct in this remark. Painting is really a wonderful art form. The artists work hard to produce excellent, meaningful artworks. The artwork itself speaks literally.

Painting gives us life-related information. Here in this story, the oval picture is one of the narrators' best examples. He is very confused and surprised at seeing this artwork.

c. A more intense look at the painting reveals the illusion. Have you noticed any such painting?

Ans: I am not fond of watching pictures and finding the meaning or mystery behind it. However, I like to use my mind to find illusionary images that look like something else.

Get more notes from : www.tsz.com.np

Subscribe “The SR Zone” on YouTube

@Shriram Lamichhane

God sees the truth but waits

By Shriram Lamichhane

Summary

Think about a time when you have suffered because of the actions of another person. How did you respond?

While many would seek vengeance or feel sorry for themselves, in Leo N. Tolstoy's 'God Sees the Truth,

But Waits,' Ivan Dmitrich Aksionov, the protagonist, puts his trust in God to see him through his trials. Let's take a closer look at this story.

Aksionov's troubles begin when he travels to the Nizhny Fair despite his wife's warning that she had a bad dream and didn't think he should go.

Along the way, he encountered an acquaintance. The two of them spent the evening together and then booked adjoining rooms in an inn. The next morning, Aksionov woke up early to complete his travels.

About 25 miles down the road, Aksionov is apprehended by soldiers who accuse him of murdering his acquaintance based on having been seen with the man the night before his murder and because they found his early morning departure suspicious.

When the soldiers search Aksionov's belongings, they find a bloody knife. Character witnesses from his home town claim that Aksionov is a good man but that he used to drink. Even his wife begins to doubt Aksionov's innocence. He is sentenced to be ''flogged with a knot'' and then imprisoned in Siberia for 26 years.

A man from Aksionov's hometown is also sent to Siberia, and Aksionov begins to suspect that Makar Semyonich is the one who killed his acquaintance and is filled with anger.

Later, Aksionov stumbles upon Semyonich as he attempts to dig a hole to escape. Semyonich threatens to kill Aksionov if he tells anyone.

When a guard discovers the dig, Aksionov is questioned but responds that it is not his place to tell.

Aksionov's integrity convicts Semyonich who begs for forgiveness and confesses. By the time Aksionov is released, he no longer wishes to go home to his family, but is ready to be with the Lord. Aksionov dies in prison.

Understanding the text

a. What bad habits did Aksionov have before his marriage?

Ans: He used to drink before his marriage and was raucous when he drank too much.

b. What can be the meaning of his wife's dream?

Ans: Her dream is a foreshadowing of Aksionov's tragic destiny.

c. Why did Aksionov think of killing himself?

Ans: He saw, in his mind, where the executioner was flogged, and people surrounding him; the shackles, the prisoners, all the twenty-six years of his existence as a prisoner, and his early ages. This idea made him feel so terrible that he was willing to murder himself.

d. Why did Makar disclose that he had killed the merchant?

Ans: Makar did so because he wanted to free Aksionov from jail.

e. Why doesn't Aksionov wish to return to his family at the end of the story?

Ans: At the conclusion of the story, Aksionov doesn't want to return to his family because he feels his wife has been deceased and his children forget him.

Reference to the context

a. "Well, old man," repeated the Governor, "tell me the truth: who has been digging under the wall?"

Ans:

i. Who is that old man?

Aksionov

ii. Which truth is the speaker asking about?

the reality of the escape tunnel digging

iii. Which wall does the speaker mean?

The jail wall

b. Describe Aksionov's character.

Ans: Aksionov is the story's protagonist. He is a young successful businessman whose pleasant life is disturbed by the murder and prison camps in Siberia.

The suspicion of his wife to him leads him to believe that he alone can depend upon God to know the truth. He has a reputation among prison authorities and other inmates as a nice guy. Aksionov is ready to murder himself after having been imprisoned alongside the guy who framed him.

At the conclusion of the story, though, he can forgive Semyonich. Shortly before the authorities ordered his release, he died.

c. What is the theme of the story?

Ans : The subject of this story is injustice, acceptance, faith and forgiveness. The Aksionov case is not compelling. The government officials declared him guilty without setting any reason or retrieving a bloodied knife and 20,000 roubles taken from the merchant.

If the plea of his wife to the Czar is denied, Aksionov realises that he cannot rectify his wrong. He commits himself to God to offer him that righteousness which a man cannot give him.

Aksionov becomes a modest and pious person in jail. Officials and inmates appreciate him in settling disputes for his neutrality. Aksionov's trust in God is so great that he thinks that he must be wicked to deserve God's tortured life.

After Aksionov is reluctant to report the drilling of Semyonich's tunnel, Semyonich is disturbed by the compassion of Aksionov. Aksionov eventually gives forgiveness to Semyonich.

d. Which symbols are used in the story and what do they indicate?

Ans : The story has many symbols for its aesthetic expression, which replaces flat text. The home and two businesses of Aksionov symbolise his family and material possessions.

The jail itself symbolises the agony of Aksionov and the ultimate spiritual change. His grey hair appears as a vivid sign of his misery, emphasising not just his age but his punishment-related bodily degradation.

His grey hair shows how he matures prematurely with the stress of his unjust incarceration. The blood stained knife discovered unexpectedly among the works of Aksionov is the key evidence needed to condemn him.

This knife represents the loss of control over Aksionov's destiny. Aksionov's nickname 'The Lives of the Saints' is his religious devotion.

Reference beyond the text

a. What role does religion play in Aksionov's life? How does he undergo a spiritual transformation in the story?

Ans : In Aksionov's life, religion plays a significant part. He spends all his life in a Siberian jail waiting for God's just judgement.

The suspicion of his wife's culpability leads him to believe that he can depend only on God to know the truth and provide compassion.

He has been in jail for 26 years and loses his young joy and becomes profoundly religious. His life is dedicated to God.

Aksionov learns how to manufacture boots and makes a little money in jail, buys and reads the book 'The Lives of the Saints.' On Sundays he reads the lectures and sings in the choir at the prison church.

The jail officials like him even because of his humility. His confreres revere him calling him 'The Saint' and 'Grandfather.'

When the actual murderer of the merchant comes to jail, Askionov may forgive him. He has no desire to return home at the conclusion of the story, but to remain with God.

The spiritual change of Aksionov is unique in history. He is carefree and loves materialistic life before incarceration.

Although Aksionov rejects the legitimacy of the state that has taken him prisoner, he understands that in Siberia the purpose for his suffering is to pay for his crimes.

Aksionov believes his misery is a test of faith that offers him the opportunity to attain salvation by changing his character and dedicating his life to God.

b. What does the story tell us about the existence of an unfair system of justice?

Ans : The story informs us about the presence of an unjust judicial system via the major life event of the protagonist. This story shows a decent and innocent guy unjustly incarcerated on a murder accusation, punished for twenty-six years and forced to lose all and his life for no fault or crime of his own, but based solely on facts. He suffers a lot during his life, but he realises himself and dies quietly.

Get more notes from : www.tsz.com.np

Subscribe “The SR Zone” on YouTube

@Shriram Lamichhane

The wish

By Shriram Lamichhane

Summary

The story opens with a small boy picking a scab off his knee. As he sits on the stairs, he becomes aware of the large red, black, and yellow carpet that stretches to the front door. He decides that the red patches are red hot lumps of coal that will burn him up completely, and the black parts are poisonous snakes that will bite him and kill him.

If he can make it all the way across without getting burnt or bitten, he will get a puppy for his birthday tomorrow.

The boy begins his quest. The first part is easy going, but he reaches some difficult parts and has to take long strides. He wobbles but stretches out his arms to steady himself. He reaches a turning point and goes left, because although it seems more difficult, there’s less black. (He’s very afraid of snakes.)

He reaches the halfway point and knows he can’t turn back or jump off. He begins to feel panic rising in his chest.

Then, He takes another step to the only close yellow piece, and his foot is only a centimeter from a black patch. A snake stirs and raises its head to watch him. “I’m not touching you! You mustn’t bite me!” he thinks. Another snake rises as well, and the child is frozen with terror for several minutes.

The next step is a very long one, too long to jump. The child manages to get one foot across and transfers his weight. He tries to then bring up his back foot but can’t.

He was doing the splits and he was stuck. He looked down at the oily bodies of the snakes writhing beneath him. He began to wobble, but this time waving his arms only made it worse.

The boy was starting to go over. “The next thing he saw was this bare hand of his going right into the middle of a great glistening mass of black and he gave one piercing cry as it touched.

Out in the sunshine, far away behind the house, the mother was looking for her son.

Understanding the text

Answer the following questions.

a. What did the child do to the scab on his knee?

Ans: The kid picked scabs from his knee.

b. What kind of effect did the carpet have on the child? .

Ans: The carpet made the kid join the fancy world of the carpet.

c. What was he afraid of while walking across the carpet?

Ans: He was frightened of carpet snakes.

d. What motivated and encouraged the child to start and continue on his journey?

Ans: The next day, a dog he would be given for his birthday motivated him to start and continue his adventure.

e. What did the child see as he looked down on the black patterns of the carpet?

Ans: The kid observed the oily bodies of the snakes tumbling as the black patterns of the carpet.

Reference to the context

a. The writer creates two voices in the story. Who are they?

Ans : In the story, the writer constructs two voices. They are the voice of the author and the voice of the character. The author leads the readers via the third person's narrative into the imaginary realm. He utilises the figure of a wonderfully creative little kid to make readers think on the delicacy of their innocence in infancy. On the other hand, the kid as a key character in the narrative enables readers to feel the magical world realistically.

b. Read the extracts given below and answer the questions that follow.

Ans:

i. What does ‘the black part’ mean?

'The black section' indicates toxic snakes.

ii. Who is the speaker?

The speaker is a small kid.

iii. Why doesn’t the speaker want to be burnt?

The speaker wouldn't want a dog to be burned on the next day for his birthday.

c. Which images and metaphors are used in the story?

Ans : The images are based on metaphors in the narrative. The first picture he shows is the scab. Due to the enormous interest of the child, the scab is an unique obstacle he can never face.

The carpet comes alive with its picture in his thoughts. The carpet thus becomes a metaphor for the difficulties facing the child in achieving his objective. The red dots seem to be hot coals that may burn him.

The black portions are venomous snakes that are evil, deceit and tentation. The child's fear of crossing the carpet compares to the anxiety he feels as he grows up in the face of actual barriers in his maturity road.

d. Summarise the short story “The Wish” in about 200 words.

Ans : The story starts with a little kid picking his knee from a scab. When he is sitting on the steps, he knows the big red, black and yellow carpet which runs to the front door. He creatively says that each colour symbolises something else.

The red portions of the carpet depict red-hot coal bumps that may burn him. The black portions are toxic snakes that may bite him and put him to death. The only safe zone for him is the yellow portion. If he goes over the carpet, on his birthday he will be given a dog.

The kid begins his search. The first portion is easy. He reaches some challenging areas and must take lengthy steps. He wobbles yet extends his arms to remain constant. He's at a turning point and he's going left. Even though it appears harder, it's less dark. He gets halfway and realises that he can't turn back or jump off.

The kid continues to the next yellow patch and his foot is a centimetre from the black one. A snake lifts his head and looks at him. Another snake is also rising. The kid is immobilised for many minutes with terror. Too long to leap is the next stage. All his weight is transferred to his front foot. He then tries to raise his rear foot, but he can't. He's trapped while he's dividing.

The child attempts to retreat, but he can't. He's stuck properly. He stares at the greasy bodies of the underneath snakes. He begins shaking and attempts to maintain his equilibrium by flailing his arms. It does not work.

He begins to descend to the darkness. When he touches it, he makes a loud scream. His mother looks for him, far beyond the house, in the sunlight.

e. The story shows the events through the eyes of the narrator and the child. Comparing the two styles, who presents more interesting or effective view for the readers? Why?

Ans : The kid offers the reader with his inquisitive and strong imagination with a more intriguing perspective. The sight in front of him as a witness is clear and exciting. We believe that his visions are genuine and he is in actual danger. He thinks of the multicoloured carpet as an exciting voyage. Through his awareness we meet red hot coal bumps and snakes as before us.

f. Is “The Wish” a story about self-confidence overcoming fear or about greed? Give your arguments.

Ans : This is a story of self-confidence that overcomes fear. The first accomplishment with respect to the scab confers confidence on the kid and provides him the self-image of a hero.

He is nervous in the beginning. He will next face the task of securely crossing the carpet. It might be said that the kid is driven by the covetousness of getting a dog but that seems secondary to the desire to confront the issue and conquer it. The kid is not convinced he will be rewarded with a dog.

Reference beyond the text

a. Do you think our wish can be fulfilled? Why or why not?

Ans: We desire many things, Not all desires are satisfied. We require difficult and complex practise to fulfil our goal, desire, interest. We should remain cool and decide every time. The correct choice leads to the appropriate route that can only meet our wants and desires.

If we want something called wish. Hard effort is required to be accomplished. But not all of our wishes can be realised. All are not glad because their wishes and desires are not realised and they are not angry when the want is not met. All-powerful helps in all conditions.

Therefore, we need to practise a lot to fulfil our wishes, requirements, desires and satisfaction only then we may be happy.

b. Why do you think some people might have a frightening nature? What would you suggest to them to overcome it?

Ans: Some people may have a habit of being afraid of small things since they don't have self-confidence.

To overcome this, I would propose that they learn more about their phobia. This may be the toughest first step but it is also essential. I will also suggest to them to make good use of their creativity, use their intellect in a manner that is different from normal, focus on breathing, practice mindfulness and last but not least to use nature as a therapy.

c. Write a folktale that you have heard or read.

Ans : A story originating in popular culture, typically passed on by word of mouth is called Folk Story (Nepali: Dantya Katha) . Students are requested to write a local story that is famous in your locality.

Get more notes from : www.tsz.com.np

Subscribe “The SR Zone” on YouTube

@Shriram Lamichhane

Civil peace

By Shriram Lamichhane

Summary

Jonathan Iwegbu has survived the Nigerian Civil War along with his wife and three of his four children, and thus considers himself “extraordinarily lucky”. He also treasures his still-working bicycle, which he buried during the war to ensure it would not be stolen.

Another apparent miracle is his still-standing home, which he repairs and reoccupies after returning home to the capital city of Enugu. To explain both his good and bad fortune to himself and others, he often repeats a phrase: “Nothing puzzles God.”

Jonathan works hard in the aftermath of the war, using his bicycle to start a taxi service and opening a bar for soldiers. His family mirrors his example, cooking food and picking fruit for sale. Since the coal mine where Jonathan worked before the war has not reopened, this resilience is crucial towards securing even their minor comfort.

One day, after turning over rebel currency, Jonathan is given an award of 20 pounds. He takes care not to be robbed, remembering a theft he observed several days earlier, in which a man broke down in public over indignity.

That night, a group of thieves knocks on his door demanding money. Frightened, the family calls for the neighbors and police, but the heavy silence when they finish reminds them that nobody looks out for anyone but himself. The thieves then mock them, crying out even louder to indicate how helpless the family is.

The thief leader demands 100 pounds, promising not to hurt Jonathan or his family if he cooperates. Eventually, Jonathan realizes their lack of options, and gives the thieves the 20 pounds of reward money so they will leave the family unharmed. Some thieves insist they should search the house for more, but the thief leader believes this is all Jonathan has, and accepts it.

The next morning, Jonathan and the family are back at work as the neighbors arrive. Sensing their confusion over his ability to toss off the situation of the night before,

Jonathan explains to his neighbors that the reward money cannot compare to what he lost in the war. He chooses to focus on his work in the present rather than regret what has happened, since “Nothing puzzles God.”

Understanding the text

Answer the following questions

a. Why did Jonathan think of himself as 'extraordinarily lucky'?

Ans: Jonathan felt of himself as "extraordinarily fortunate" since he and his wife and children escaped the civil war.

b. What are the ‘five blessings’ for which Jonathan is grateful?

Ans: The 'five blessings' Jonathan is thankful for are his head, Maria's head, and three of their four children's heads.

c. Why did Jonathan mistrust the officer who wanted to take his bicycle? What does this tell you about the situation in Nigeria?

Ans: The cop, who wanted to seize his bicycle because of his definite lack of grip and hardness, was mistrusted by Jonathan.

He rescued his bicycle, handing the police two pounds. It shows that in Nigerian society, corruption and dishonesty flourished as the consequence of civil war.

d. What visitors might be at the door? Are Jonathan and his wife completely surprised? Explain.

Ans: People at the door are thieves.

He and his family are yelling for assistance, but no one accepts. The thief asks for 100 pounds. Jonathan doesn't have so much money, he claims. All he has at the treasury is 20 pounds. The leader chooses to accept the price. He's given it by Jonathan and the thieves go away.

e. Why does no one in the neighbourhood respond when the thieves pound on Jonathan’s door? Why do the thieves call for the police?

Ans: When robbers pound at Jonathan's door, nobody in the neighbourhood responds because they're afraid of the thieves. They are calling on the cops to enjoy and mock Jonathan and his family.

Reference to the context

a. What does Jonathan mean by his expression “Nothing puzzles God”? What does this expression reveal about his character? Explain by citing details from the story.

Ans : The phrase 'Nothing Puzzles God' by Jonathan speaks to his profound religious trust in God and to his pessimistic temperament.

Jonathan frequently uttered good results - such as the survival of his house and family - as blessings or wonders and in terrible circumstances as the closure and robbery of coal mines.

He is ready to accept that he can't control the forces of destiny, but instead concentrates on the future. He handles the turmoil of the battle and its aftermath effectively by embracing good and terrible occurrences as God's plan.

By assigning events to God, he acknowledges his incapacity to alter things already happening. This helps him concentrate on working for the future rather than wallowing in self-pity.

b. How does Jonathan change as he experiences the conflicts in his life? Explain.

Ans : Jonathan is free from suffering over the events and consequences of the Civil War. He has a cheerful tone in the midst of difficult circumstances. He gets increasingly ready to get rid of material and money stuff in order to protect what he and his family care about most. This readiness enables him to build his energy in the present rather than have a negative feeling for the past. His optimism is unwavering throughout the story.

c. Read the extract and answer the questions below.

i. Who's that speaker?

The speaker is Jonathan.

ii. Who speaks to the speaker?

The speaker speaks to himself.

iii. Who refers to "they?"

"They" refers to treasury officials.

d. Nigerian English has words like soja 'soldier' and katakata 'confusion', 'trouble' derived apparently from English words but transformed by native languages' phonologies. What does the author’s use of dialect here add to the story?

Ans : Achebe has used both local and mainstream languages to make the story believable. He utilises these languages to distinguish the protagonist outside his door from the thefts. Their conversation, however, highlights this discrepancy. The usage of dialect produced genuine Nigerian characters. He created a new kind of English, a Nigerian dialect of English to reflect his nation's bicultural history.

e. Why do you think the thieves who come to rob Jonathan speak English with a heavier African accent than Jonathan does?

Ans : The linguistic interaction compares the English spoken by the Thefts with the English spoken by Jonathan with a heavy African emphasis.

The manner in which criminals enjoy the families' need for assistance further strengthens these disparities. For example, the family shouts, "We lost!" but with a stronger English accent, this appeal turns out to be "We lost!" For three reasons, Achebe uses English with an African accent.

The distinctions among the remarks indicate Jonathan is more educated than the thefts. The usage of English also portrays the east Nigerian society properly. Finally, the poor English is utilised for the comedy impact.

f. The title of the story "Civil Peace" itself is ironical as there is little to differentiate ‘civil peace’ from ‘civil war’. Do you think that the title of this story is appropriate, or would “Civil War” have been a better title? Explain.

Ans : Achebe ironically uses the term to emphasise the brutality still prevalent in Nigeria after the war. Although the battle is over, the region remains chaotic and full of disputes.

The conflict is causing enormous damage. Jonathan collects everything he can to restore his life. Still, when they steal Iwegbu and his family, a gang of criminals use the phrase "civil peace." The violence which was prevalent throughout the conflict, however, was not gone and for ordinary people such as Jonathan Iwegbu circumstances were not much better.

The story follows Jonathan Iwegbu, who gathers the pieces of his life after the civil war in Nigeria. It commends the power of optimistic thinking through the success of Jonathan. This indicates that following the conclusion of the civil war people had optimism for a better future. The author therefore emphasises civic peace more than civil war.

Reference Beyond Text

a. How would you describe the civil peace in Nigeria?

Ans: Civil peace following Nigeria's civil war was just so-called. The atmosphere was extremely frightening during that time. People haven't been safe. People have to live a frightening existence with numerous difficulties.

b. What kind of attitude towards life do you think you would have if your situation was similar to that of Jonathan’s?

Ans: I would have comparable optimism about my life and family if my circumstances were similar to that of Jonathan's. I would attempt to work hard to maintain trust in God for my family's well being. I'd strive to be far from violence.

c. Draw the character sketch of Jonathan Iwegbu.

Ans: Jonathan is a very positive guy with a strong belief in God. He constantly says in the name of God, "Nothing puzzles, God." He is quite happy to discover miracles in his life.

He never lives in a discrepancy. He's a dedicated worker who thinks for everyone favourably. He loves his family a lot. In times of difficulty, he strives first to rescue his family. He was working so hard to rebuild the treasury during the period of Civil Peace, and they offered him a genuine money of 20 pounds in return. He doesn't even mourn at last over his loss.

Get more notes from : www.tsz.com.np

Subscribe “The SR Zone” on YouTube

@Shriram Lamichhane

Two little soldiers

By Shriram Lamichhane,

Summary

The story "The Two Little Soldiers" was written by Guy de Maupassant (1850-1893). He was a French writer, who has written some 300 short stories, six novels, three travel books, and one volume of verse. Maupassant wrote short stories like The Necklace and Bel Amim, but he also wrote poetry and novels. He was an author of the naturalistic school.

Two Little Soldiers" takes place in Courbevoie, a town in the countryside of France. Although there is no fighting in the story, there is a war going on. Two French Soldiers, Luc Le Ganidec and Jean Kerderen are two soldiers who habitually spend their free time on Sundays away from the barracks, out in the countryside. Their day off has taken on the character of a ritual.

Every Sunday, they bring food for breakfast to the same spot in the woods and lie back to enjoy the food, wine, and sights of an area that reminds them of home.

Eventually, their ritual comes to include a bit of innocent ogling of a young village girl who brings her cow out to pasture every week at the same time.

Unfortunately, both the soldiers fall in love with the milkmaid. But Luc starts to see her more in private and Jean ends up killing himself from being heart broken, because his friend went behind his back.

Guy de Maupassant is known for his very realistic style of writing. In most of his stories there is a war going on because of the time de Maupassant spent in the army. There is also a character in love because of de Maupassant's love for women.

Homesickness; when soldiers are away from home for so long, they are going to feel home sick. They will miss the feeling of a woman, which is why both soldiers fall in love with the milkmaid.

There are two themes: Love and Romance Betrayal Setting Conflict Person vs Person The milkmaid causes the conflict between Luc and Jean, leading Jean to committing suicide. The countryside and the milkmaid brought Luc and Jean together, but eventually they ended up leading to Jean's death.

Understanding the text

Answer the following questions:

a. Why do the two soldiers spend their free time on Sundays away from the barracks out in the countryside?

Ans: On Sundays, the two soldiers spend their leisure time in the countryside out of the barracks since they have discovered a place that reminds them that they are home, and no other place is pleasant.

b. Why does the girl become the topic of conversation for these soldiers?

Ans: The girl becomes the subject for two soldiers since they both fall in love with her.

c. Why does deception enter into their friendship?

Ans: Luc aggressively begins to pursue the girl which was unknown to Jean. This caused their friendship to be deceiving.

d. Do you think that Luc is a betrayer of friendship?

Ans: Yes, I do. Luc begins to see more of the girl in private. He takes money from a friend of his and tries to leave, but he does not say anything to Jean.

e. What is the cause of suicide of Jean? Do you think that it was the only release of his love?

Ans : The betrayal from his friend Luc, and his jealousy of the secret love affair between Luc and the dairymaid was the cause of the Jean’s suicide. So, I don't think the cause of suicide was only the release of his love.

Reference to the context

a. What is the central theme of the story?

Ans: The subject of the story is that friendship and passionate love are incompatible. Two best buddies, Jean and Luc, love the same girl. One female will surely violate the tie of friendship. You cannot become a girl's lover and keep the same connection with your pal that existed before the girl's arrival into your life.

b. "What are you doing here? Are you watching the grass grow?"

i. Who's that speaker?

The speaker is the dairy maid.

ii. What does the term 'here' mean?

"Here" indicates the spot where each weekend the two soldiers visit.

iii. Who is the reference to "you?"

Two soldiers are referred to as "You."

c. "He leaned--he--he was leaning--so far over--that his head carried him away-- and--he--fell--he fell----"

i. Who's that speaker?

The speaker is Luc.

ii. Why is the speaker interrupted?

The speaker speaks with interruption, as he's in agony and frightened of Jean's death.

iii. What does he mean when "he—he—he fell—-" he says?

It implies Jean came down into the river.

d. Two Little Soldiers can be viewed as a series of dramatic scenes. Describe the story as a tragedy.

Ans : Luc and Jean are two soldiers who spend their leisure time in the countryside on Sundays away from the barracks. They observe a young village girl bringing her cow to the pasture and milking it at the same time every week.

They're near to one another. They spend time together every weekend. It is obvious that Jean has the same feeling that Luc does for the girl. In a tight friendship, Luc emphasises romantic prospects. This leads Jean to choose to put an end to his own life.

His choice to kill himself was a natural result of his understanding that he would have no companion or girlfriend. This tragedy relies on the character defect of Luc.

e. What is the setting and style of the story?

Ans : In the French countryside, two little soldiers reside. The setting is tranquil. Luc and Jean, soldiers stationed in neighbouring barracks, come there for dinner on Sundays and to appreciate the landscape that reminds them of their own homeland. Maupassant makes sure that he does not portray too much barrack life.

The beauty of the environment is enhanced by a dairy maid. Maupassant's most important tactic in the story is his manipulation of the point of view. Although the events of the story seem constant, the views vary as the settings change.

Maupassant assumes an all-knowing narrator's voice. He informs the reader what both soldiers think and do, pays equal attention to each other and gives basic and easy information on what the young lady felt or thought about during the first meeting. He depends on one character, Jean, when Luc chooses to depart, and for the final time the two soldiers are in the countryside.

When the two soldiers return to the barracks, Luc looks at the situation. The reader is denied information of Jean's emotions, and thus his motive to kill himself is not explained.

f. How would you describe the conflict between the friends?

Ans: The story is about tension when the girl passionately embraces Luc, without paying attention to Jean, without even realising that he is there.

Jean is sad and unhappy. Jean learns at that moment why Luc wants to depart and borrow Jean's money but does not explain his conduct. Luc and the girl walk to the cow and for a long time vanish into the woods.

When they go back, the lovers kiss again, and that day the girl gives him no milk. The struggle between friendship and love eventually leads to Jean's death. As his close buddy dies, Luc stays anxious.

Reference beyond the text

a. Is it good to have conflict between friendship and love? Is it morally good that a person and his best friend can love the same person?

Ans : A conflict between friendship and love is not desirable since these are connections that are extremely important for a person. True friends and loved ones are constantly concerned about one another. They highlight good and negative traits and enhance self-esteem. Friends assist to alleviate stress and suffering through laughing and good times. They're going to assist progress.

As long as love and intensity towards the individual is genuine, it is not ethically wrong for two people who have the same emotions for the third person. Such a situation may develop intentionally or unknowingly in a person's life. While not terrible, there are plenty of opportunities for issues to develop in the near future. The only way is to speak to one another and address the issue via emotional control.

b. How would you describe the triangular love?

Ans : A triangular love is usually a loving connection between three people. Although it may refer to two people romantically associated separately with a third person, it usually implies that each of the three people has some kind of connection with the other two. It may be friendships, sexual connections or familial ties.

Two little soldiers addressed the subject of friendship, romantic love, dissatisfaction, treachery, and envy in this short story. This short story is about a triangle relationship where a friend's disappointment causes a disaster for the next friend.

Get more notes from : www.tsz.com.np

Subscribe “The SR Zone” on YouTube

@Shriram Lamichhane

An astrologer’s day

Summary

The short story ‘An Astrologer’s Day’ by R. K. Narayan is a thriller and suspense short story which deals with a single day in the life of an ordinary astrologer who shrewdly tries to dupe people and escape from his guilt. The story not only exposes the fake astrologer but also highlights the gullible and superstitious people who approach him.

His day begins like any other day but the day ends with unexpected events. When he is about to wind up his business, he meets a rogue character, Guru Nayak who is a part of the past life of the astrologer. Towards the end, as readers, we receive a shock that Guru Nayak and the astrologer belong to the same native towns. They were once upon a time good friends and had a quarrel one day. The result was that both were into bad company and had a fight. The astrologer tried to kill Guru Nayak by attacking him with a knife and when Guru Nayak fainted, he threw him into a nearby well.

Fortunately, a passerby saved Guru Nayak. The astrologer left his native village forever and became an astrologer. Thus suddenly he confronts his past unexpectedly but smartly tackles the situation.

The surrounding darkness seems to offer a refuge to the astrologer. There is an unexpected twist in the tale with the arrival of Guru Nayak on the scene. Gradually the mystery that is hidden in the darkness is unveiled by his questions. Guru Nayak challenges the astrologer’s knowledge. He refuses to go away without getting a satisfactory answer to his questions.

However, the astrologer who is at his wit’s end now decides to face the situation. He displays accurate knowledge about Guru Nayak’s past and is successful in convincing him. In answering the question of Guru Nayak, the astrologer has not only deceived him but also saved himself from his own fate. The author superbly evokes the atmosphere of suspense and irony in the story. The story reveals how appearances are often deceptive. It shows the witty astrologer’s encounter and escape from his former enemy.

Understanding the text

Answer the following Questions

a. How does the astrologer’s appearance help him attract customers? How does he help the customers satisfy their needs?

Ans: His brow is luminous with holy ash and vermilion. His eyes are thought by his clients to have a prophetic glow. He wears a turban saffron. He is so well presented that he is a draw for everyone. He helps clients meet their requirements by analysing their problems such as marriage, money, etc.

b. How do you characterise the astrologer’s attitude toward the stranger?

Ans: The astrologer sees the alien in front of him and views him as his potential client.

c. What details does the astrologer give the stranger about his past?

Ans: The astrologer informs the astrologer he had been stuck with a knife and thrust to death, and some passersby spotted him and rescued him from death.

d. Why does he advise the stranger to go home immediately?

Ans: He urges the stranger to quickly leave home in his life to get rid of danger.

e. What is your reaction to the conversation between the astrologer and his wife?

Ans: I'm glad the Astrologer got rid of his shame and anxiety and made some additional money that day. The entire collection of coins of the astrologer is just sufficient for the following day to keep them alive.

Reference to the context

a. Suspense is the feeling of anticipation you may have as you read. In this story, what details contributed to your feelings of suspense and surprise? Explain.

Ans: The sensation of suspense is generated regarding the astrologer's personal and previous life. It is said that the reader was not meant to be an astrologer. Without any prior plan, he left his village. Astrology is also informed to the reader that it is not his family business.

This gives the reader interest on why he violated the ancestral cycle and drove him suddenly to leave his home. The suspense continues with the stranger's meeting with the astrologer. The astrologer sees the face of the alien in the flash of light produced by a match and he refuses instantly to accept the challenge of the alien.

At the conclusion of the story, the reader is shocked to learn that the astrologer was the one who stabbed the stranger and went to death while he was drunk in his day as a young man.

b. Analyze the conflicts in “An Astrologer’s Day.” Explain how the conflicts are resolved and what they reveal about the characters involved in the story

Ans: In the story, there is tension when a stranger, as the customer of the astrologer, comes on the scene. The astrologer packages his things up and is ready to summon them one day. The stranger challenges the astrologer to answer his questions specifically.

As the stranger lights up his cheroot, he glimpses his face through the light and the astrologer feels uneasy and refuses the challenge for certain unexplained reasons.

However, he is compelled to say something to the stranger to appease him. The visitor is startled by the astrologer's report of his previous life and decides to stop seeking an adversary who has proclaimed himself crushed by a truck. The astrologer guarantees himself a safe and secure existence in the future.

c. “All right. I will speak. But will you give me a rupee if what I say is convincing? Otherwise I will not open my mouth, and you may do what you like.”

i. Who's that speaker?

ii. Who does he talk to?

iii. What does "open my mouth" mean?

Ans:

i. The speaker is the astrologer.

ii. He's talking to Nayak Guru.

iii. Open my lips implies to provide some persuasive facts about the stranger.

d. Description helps readers visualize what is happening in a story. What details and techniques does the author use to describe the astrologer?

Ans: The astrologer is an amazing person. He is able to create a new identity and live via his intellect in a highly crowded metropolitan environment.

The astrologer lives via his wisdom. Although he has no mystical understanding, he understands how to display and captivate others. It is evident that he has to sit for long hours to gather enough to keep himself and his family alive every day.

He is brave and motivated, notwithstanding his intellect. When Guru Nayak is at risk and his life is at risk, he still demands that he negotiate for money. He brings home his wife every year so that she may purchase food for the family. He's a dedicated husband and dad.

The narrative features the style of omniscience for a third person. The usage of conversation throughout the whole narrative is designed to provide different views without altering the narrator's overall authority. The story is set late in the evening in the Town Hall Park. The reader learns that the astrologer typically stays around midday underneath the tamarind tree.

e. Irony is a contrast between appearances and reality. What is ironic about Guru Nayak’s meeting with the astrologer?

Ans: The irony of the scenario is in the meeting with the astrologer of Guru Nayak. He comes to the astrologer to assist locate the culprit. Guru Nayak is the astrologer himself.

When the astrologer knows the guy, he feels extremely uneasy. However, the astrologer misinforms him cleverly. He makes Guru Nayak wait for money and negotiate.

Finally, when he addresses the almighty by name and informs him about the events in the hamlet, he has Guru Nayak in his hand.

f. How does the astrologer’s manner of dress suit his character?

Ans: The story's protagonist is the astrologer. The first section of the story explains how the astrologer conducts his duties and how he looks. He's usually dressed like an astrologer. His front is luminous with holy ash and vermilion.

He wraps around his head a saffron-colored turban. His clothing and look suits his persona and becomes a focus of attention. The astrologer is easily misled by his cleverness. He is smart and has his own methods of doing his job. He has a working analysis of the problems of humanity.

Reference beyond the text

a. The astrologer attracts many customers in the street who are pleased and astonished by what he tells them. What does this tell you about the people of the town walking in the street?.

Ans : Astrologer is the primary character in this story. His business relies on his astrological instruments, his clothing and his guesses. The way he wears it is suitable for his personality.

He's very clever in his profession in astrology. His saffron hat and clothing assist him in enticing his clients. He dresses wonderfully like an astrologer. He has been presented so carefully that his clients think that he is a knowledgeable astrologer in his attire.

b. Why do most people want to know their future? Do you think astrologers can really help them know their future?

Ans : Most individuals would want to know their future since their happiness, their difficulties ahead and their safety are extremely inquisitive. True astrologers with genuine understanding of astrology can assist people to glimpse the future.

c. Is astrology a good practice of fortune telling or is it just a blind faith? Give reasons.

Ans : Astrology is an excellent technique of divination. Most individuals practise and believe in divination in Eastern cultures. The greatest portion of human existence is considered to be astrology.

Astrology is practised in different life events. People believe a lot in astrology in Eastern cultures. Through astrology people discover the appropriate Answers to their issues. In many instances, astrological predictions are also shown to be accurate.

Get more notes from : www.tsz.com.np

Subscribe “The SR Zone” on YouTube

@Shriram Lamichhane

Corona says

By Shriram Lamichhane

Summary

Vishnu S. Rai's poem "Corona Says" portrays the world's coronavirus crisis. It shows us that coronavirus was produced by industrialization, modernization, organisation, pollution, and other human activities.

Corona virus is a speaker in the poem. It told humans not to weep to crush the infection. It claims it comes to Earth not of its own free choice, but of human actions. It's believed to be attracted owing to human activity and pollution. It complains to humans that they only count coronavirus deaths. But never count the individuals who died in their battles. It implies humans only blame the corona virus but not themselves.

The world's inhabitants believe they created everything. They don't appreciate birds, fish, insects, or trees. They believe all other animals are their slaves to slaughter or sell. In fact, humans are unaware of the value of other living things. So they have a new epidemic.

The corona advises not to blame it for the global crisis. It claims it came to earth to show humans how pure the blue sky is without human pollution. It also wants people to understand how cage animals feel at a zoo by locking them in their own homes. It also claims it comes to Earth to relax from various human activities.

Finally, Corona cautions against thinking of the planet as solely human property. They must understand that all life exists on Earth. It states that if humans keep polluting the planet, it will die but new diseases would arise. And they must escape the old cage.

Understanding the text

Answer the following Questions

A. Who is the speaker in the poem?

Ans: Corona is the poet's speaker.

b. Who claim to be superior to all?

Ans: People believe they are superior to everyone.

c. Why has speaker come to earth?

Ans: The speaker has come to Earth as a result of the abuse of nature by people.

D. What positive changes have occurred on Earth after the speaker's visit?

Ans: The sky was clear without dust and smoke throughout the epidemic. People felt like animals in a confined zoo. The illness gave the planet a little respite.

Reference to the context

A.What does the speaker mean when he says:

Ans: In the words provided, the speaker says that people themselves are responsible for conflict and loss of life. The war-related destruction is more horrific than the epidemic.

Wars are the consequence of resource and land conflicts or the will of a government to expand its influence and authority. Governments and any warring parties never think about the repercussions that individuals have to endure.

Because of conflict, millions of people have lost their lives and property. The consequences of conflicts inflict physical and psychological suffering.

b.Explain the following:

Ans : In this excerpt, the speaker tells humanity that the pandemic can be managed, but that additional deadly illnesses may be affected by its own behaviours and ultimately causing human civilisation to extinguish.

The epidemic has not left any nation unaffected. However, there can be no epidemic outside human control. This is due to human knowledge and the same wisdom is the source of deadly illnesses. The manner in which nature is treated eventually leads to its deterioration. When we go beyond the ability of nature to tolerate, we reach our primordial age.

c. What does the speaker mean in the following lines? Explain.

Ans: The speaker argues in these words that earth is the common home of all living beings. They have an equal right to utilise existing resources on earth to maintain their existence, while human people are deprived of resources.

The speaker is concerned that human strain on the natural environment is increasing. Human beings are considered superior to all living organisms. All natural resources have been managed to profit themselves, yet the Earth is the common home for all living creatures.

Human beings damage the food supplies and habitats of other animals, in the name of growth and progress. In order to meet the needs of the increasing population, people disrupt the whole environment. The destruction of the environment leads to the disappearance of other animals.

Reference beyond the text

A.What human behaviours are responsible for suffering in people's lives?

Ans: Human behaviour is the only cause of all of these people's misfortunes. The current world is experiencing a crisis because of human egos and evil actions. During this crucial time, many individuals lost their lives. Because of their egotistical character, the planet and its inhabitants suffered many illness issues. Their so-called egos and battles stole countless people's lives.

B. How does an epidemic differ from a pandemic? Briefly explain the impact of Corona Virus on human life and environment.

Ans : An illness affecting many individuals is epidemic, whereas a pandemic impacts a broad geographical region and a significant part of the population.

Coronavirus is one of the memorable dangers of the 21st century. This illness has snapped people's lives to a very high standard. People across the globe are panicked and mentally afraid to live their lives. Covid 19 has brought terrible consequences to the history of mankind. Because of the epidemic, every time people are observed cleaning the environment.

Get more notes from : www.tsz.com.np

Subscribe “The SR Zone” on YouTube

@Shriram Lamichhane

A Red, Red Rose

By Shriram Lamichhane

Summary

“A Red, Red Rose” is a romantic poem written by evergreen writer Robert Burns. This writer is very genius and knows actually what he is writing. He is very clear with his thoughts and stick to his aim. He is simply guiding youth about how to impress any girl.

Love is the chief point in this poem. Everything in this world goes around love. Love is the only sacred thing which takes nothing more than a two pure hearts. If two hearts are beating for each other then surely no power or no storm can make them different. This poem is nothing but the lines written by a man who knew impulsively how to prevail a woman’s heart. There so much hidden in this poem which is necessary to learn. Really the poem sounds great as it gives reader a true guidance and tells them to work for love.

The reader may get previously well-known with the poem’s much-quoted initial headline. Its plea over time most likely shoots from the valor of its contention, the speaker’s love is expressed through the predictable picture of the flower rose and during the line’s four sturdy beats.

The poet’s preference for a rose may initially look stale, along with the color “red” may look too apparent a sign of love and enthusiasm. Thus, far if the relationship between the adored one and the rose limits on line, a vigilant reading explores the subtler modes in which the speaker communicates about his passion.

Why, for example, is the expression “red” constant? The answer for this might be found in the next line. Since red is estimated color of the flower, the reappearance of the adjective stands for the complete and most lovely sign of the flower rose, it’s a perfect state.

New spring season speaks about the romantic climate and the things goes even good if two loving hearts are close to each other. In a love life it is more important to make opposite person happy and thus for this it is necessary to do small things which can make her happy. Offering a rose is the same thing and it can even increase love. The speaker gives an exact guidance through his lines and each and every word that he has used.

This poem is significant concerning the sturdy yet caring love on a moan headed for a lady. The poet applies the regular thoughts about love by using word like “Red Roses”. As the flower rose signs love, zealous and sturdy relation.

The poem tells the meaning of love, and it is durable to believe those reminiscences if fall in love to somebody. Robert Burns sought to get married with his love that was pregnant by his twins; however the father-in-law would not agree to it. Burns turned into a legendary success and did really revisit to marry his first love. It is said that this is a true story that he has lived, and therefore he is very passionate about love and inspiring others to get bind into true love.

Understanding the text

Answer the following questions.

a. To which two things does the speaker compare his love in the first stanza?

Ans; The speaker compared his love for the first stanza with red roses and the melody.

b. What does the speaker promise in the second and third stanzas?

Ans; The speaker promises enduring love in the second and third stanzas. He has used some examples to express his feelings. He mentioned that he would love his lover until the sea dried up and until humanity is destroyed.

c. What imagery does he use in his promise, and why do you think he uses such language?

Ans; The speaker exaggerated his love for his beloved by using various illustrations. For example, he said he would love her until the sea dried up, the rocks melted and the sun and until the sands of life ran. In short, he tried to explain to his loved one the unconditional love, the pure, the true, and the never-ending love.

d. In the last stanza, what event is about to happen by mentioning the number of miles?

Ans; From the last section, we can open the word that one love partner is going away from the other.

e. Which image in the poem do you find the most memorable or surprising and why?

Answers ;. Robert used visual aids in the poem such as, "O my Luve is like a red rose, red", "And the rocks melt 'in the sun' and" While the sands o 'life will run ". Among these, the Red Red as a picture of her love is what I found most amazing and interesting. She resembles her love through the image of a rose, and her innocence or the intensity of love using a reddish color that doubles, intensifying her love for her loved one.

Reference to the context

a. What can you infer about the speaker’s devotion to his beloved from the following lines?

And I will come again, my love,

Tho’ it were ten thousand mile!

Ans; From the given lines of the poem I can point out that the speaker is completely devoted to his loved one. He has promised his sweetheart that he will return to her wherever he goes, no matter what the distance. Even if her relationship is 10,000 miles away, his love will never die, he will continue to love her. All in all, these lines represent the immortality of his love for his beloved.

b. What is the theme of the poem?

Ans; The most important theme of "A Red, Red Rose" is the power of love. The speaker makes it clear that he will like what he likes no matter what. His love is so deep that it will never be extinguished.

c. Paraphrase the whole poem into simple prose form.

Ans; The speaker describes his love - which means the person he loves or the speaker's feelings of love for that person - as beautiful, vivid, and fresh as a flower that has just blossomed. This love is as sweet as the melody of a talented artist.

A loved one is so beautiful that the speaker loves him with a deep and powerful love - it is so strong, in fact, that the love of the speaker will last until the sea dries up.

Even though the sea and the land are rotten and rotten, the speaker will still love the loved one. This love will last until their lives are over and even for the rest of one's life.

The speaker concludes by saying good-bye to the loved one - that is, the speaker reminds him, the only person the speaker loves. The speaker wishes him well but while they parted for a while. The speaker reaffirms his loyal love by promising to return even if the trip covers a considerable distance and lasts a long time.

d. Literary devices are tools that enable the writers to present their ideas, emotions, and feelings and also help the readers understand those more profound meanings. Analyse the poem in terms of the literary devices such as simile, symbolism, imagery, alliteration, and assonance.

Ans; Literary analysis shows that with the help of these typewriters the poet painted a vivid and realistic picture of his deep love. Robert Burns has used some of the writing material in this poem to show the lovely beauty and intensity of his love. An analysis of some of the texts used in this poem is listed below.

Assonance: Assonance is the repetition of vowel sounds in the same line as the sound of / i / in “I will still love you, my love”.

Parable: Two parables are used in this poem. The first is used in the first line, "O my Luve is like a red rose, red" Here, the poet compares his lover to red roses. The second is used in the third line, "O my Luve is like music", and the poet compares his love to beautiful music.

Symbolism: Symbolism means using symbols to show ideas and attributes, giving them symbolic meanings that are different from their true meaning. Robert used the word “rose” as a symbol of affection.

Alliteration: Alliteration is the repetition of consonant sounds in the same line as the sounds of / l / and / r / in “O My Luve is like a red, red rose”.

Images: Images represent a distinct representation of something that can be detected or understood by five senses. Robert used visual imagery in poems such as, "O my Luve is like a red, red rose", "And the rocks melt the sun" etc.

e. What is hyperbole? Explain its purpose citing examples of hyperbole used in the poem.

Ans; A motto is a device used to exaggerate a statement for the purpose of emphasis. The poet used exaggeration in the last line of the second paragraph, “Till the sea is dry. He says his love will flow even when the sea is dry. The second is used in the third passage, "And the rocks melt with the sun."

f. What is refrain? Why is it used in the poem? Explain citing an example from the poem.

Ans; The lines that are repeated a certain distance in poetry are called refrain. The line, “And I will still love you, my darling” has become a line, as you repeat in the second and third paragraphs.

Reference beyond the text

a. What kind of love is expressed in "A Red, Red Rose"?

Ans; Robert Burns expresses romantic love in "A Red, Red Rose." As the title of the poem shows, she is at a high level of being head-loving on the heels. The red, red rose is a metaphor for her feeling that her love is in full bloom. It is very high, just as the rose is in June.

b. Do you think that love has power? Why do the poets compose poems addressing their beloved?

Ans: Yes, I believe that the power of love has great power. Love is the most powerful and powerful force of love that can tear down relationships and build up the same; it all depends on what effect it gives whether it is bad or good. Love has the power to heal wounds.

Poets compose poems and talk to their lover because they hear the poem by putting themselves in the poem. They feel it all and give the form of death in the poem, the emotions in the poem.

c. Poetry is the expression of feeling and emotions. Explain.

Ans; Poetry is a type of writing based on a combination of words and rhythm. Poets and philosophers have the power to describe the closest moments of human life. Poets have the power to pour out their feelings in poetry and to describe deep emotions and spiritual movements. They likewise translate emotions into solid language that reflects the same complex and hidden truths of the human soul.

Therefore, it is not only a joy that poets can relate to their verses, but also grief, despair, grief, pain, doubt, hatred, love, compassion, desire, praise, faith, respect, and hope. They can also convey all the feelings and emotions, in general, that may have a place in a person's soul. Therefore, poetry can be understood as the expression of feelings and emotions.

Get more notes from : www.tsz.com.np

Subscribe “The SR Zone” on YouTube

@Shriram Lamichhane

All the world’s a stage

By shriram lamichhane

Summary

The words “All the world’s a stage” are actually taken from William Shakespeare’s play “As You Like It”. With these words begins the monologue (a loud speech to oneself) by a character in Act II of the play. Shakespeare has been a great playwright and poet of his era. He views life realistically.

Shakespeare is known for the realism of his writings and is amongst the most quotable authors in world. The poem’s theme is that man is the ultimate loser in the game of life.

He says “all the world’s a stage and “all the men and women merely its players”. Every player plays seven roles during his life. The first stage is that of an infant when he is helpless in his mother’s arms. He merely pukes in the nurse’s arms.

In the second role, he is a child who goes “creeping like a snail unwillingly to school”. He is innocent. He is not willing to learn. He wants freedom. For learning, he must lose his childish liberty. We may notice that man keeps on losing one quality and blessing while qualifying for another one.

The third stage brings before us the lover who sings woeful ballads for his beloved. In the youthful age when man is full of energy and might, he does everything to please his beloved. Even this shift of life, filled with merrymaking and joyous songs, passes so quickly as well.

Soldier, the fourth stage arrives swiftly; here man seeks fame though it is temporary and short lived. He endangers his life for it. It alludes how man goes every extreme for temporary success. Because success is always temporary.

Fifth role is of a middle aged man. He has round belly. He cites modern instances. In sixth age, man becomes very weak. He keeps pouch with him. He wears warm hoses. Man’s shank(ankle) has shrunk. “His big manly voice is turning again towards childish treble”. His voice is not clear due to loss of teeth. In the last stage, the condition of man becomes very miserable. Now he has grown very old and weak.

He has no relations. He has lost all. Here the poem is a direct comparison with “One Art” by Elizabeth Sewell. He is:

“sans teeth, sans eyes, sans taste and sans everything.

He has lost all his relations. At this stage, man feels that life is nothing except sheer loss for man though he may boast of the success and achievements he has got in his past life.

Shakespeare wishes to make us realise that the short life we spend in this world is not worth it if we have a close observation of it. Life is nothing more than a shadow.

Understanding the text

Answer the following Questions

By Shriram Lamichhane

A. Why does the poet compare the world with a stage?

Ans: The poet compares the world to the theatre, because he believes all men and women are performers.

B. What is the first stage in a human's life? In what sense can it be a troubling stage?

Ans: Childhood is the initial stage of human existence. It may be a distressing period when a kid screams and vomits in the arms of the nurse.

c. Describe the poem-based second stage of existence.

Ans: School go guy is the second stage of life. He's always complaining. His face is like a bright dawn. He's carrying his luggage and slowly walks to school like a snail.

d. Why is second childhood considered the final stage?

Ans: The second childhood is considered the final stage, since it loses its senses and acts like a kid.

e. In what sense are we the players in the world stage?

Ans: We are the global stage players, since when we are born we emerge on the world stage and leave it when we die like performers in a theatre on the stage.

Reference beyond the text

a. Explain the following lines:

The poet claims in the provided words that life is like a theatre. Everyone is thought to be actors who perform in life . Each actor takes the stage and plays his role in a drama. Each individual plays various parts in the same manner, as the performers on the stage.

b. Explain briefly the following sentences about the context.

The words provided are derived from William Shakespeare's sonnet "All the world's a stage". These lines are comparable to the parts played by performers on the stage and people in their life.

Every performer takes the stage in a play, performs his or her part and then leaves. Similarly, when we are born, we join the global stage and depart it at the moment of death. Like the players in a play, we have different parts to play. There are seven phases in a person's life with distinct characteristics. When we finish our roles, we leave the stage of our lives.

The poet wants us to understand that human existence is like a theatre stage. A guy is destined to play a number of roles throughout his life.

b. Read the lines and answer the following questions.

I. Which stage of life is being referred to here by the poet?

Ans: The poet refers to the second stage of existence.

ii.Which figure of speech has been employed in the second line?

Ans: Simile

iii.Who is compared to the snail?

Ans: School Boy

iv.Does the boy go to the school willingly?

Ans: No, he doesn't.

d. Simile and metaphor are the two major poetic devices used in this poem. Explain citing examples of each.

Ans: Shakespeare uses the first two metaphors in the lines 'Everyone's a stage,' 'all men and women playing simply.' He compares the world to a theatrical stage and all the men and women to performers on it.

When 'reputation' is likened to a bubble, the third metaphor is used to illustrate that reputation is transitory. Another metaphor has been developed to match masculine voice with infantile triple.

The last metaphor is contained in the phrase 'this weird exciting history finishes.' Human life compares with the unusual history of occurrences, as human existence is full of events, incidents and early recollections.

The first simile is used when comparing a schoolboy to a snail. He went to school reluctantly as slowly as a snail. This image compares the lover who signs to the fire. The heat of the furnace is comparable to the lover's desire. A soldier is compared to a leopard by utilising analogy. This shows that the soldier is swift, quick like the leopard.

e. Which style does the poet use to express his emotions about how he thinks that the world is a stage and all the people living in it are mere players?

Ans: The poem is composed with metrical but unrhymed lines in a blank verse. The poem's style is narrative. The storyteller tells the life narrative. He compares life with a theatre and all the people with performers. One guy plays many roles throughout his time. Every actor takes the stage and plays his part in a drama and then leaves. Similarly, entries and exits relate to births and deaths in real life. When they are born, people come on stage, perform their particular parts and depart when they die. A person must fulfil seven phases during his life.

F. What is the theme of this poem?

Ans. The subject of the poem is the human life cycle. A person is destined throughout his life to perform seven distinct roles. Birth is entry and death is exit for everyone. Each job has its own characteristics and characteristics. The poem shows how a person starts his or her life as a child and finishes in the same manner without realising what happens to him or her. He's the last loser in life's game.

Reference beyond the text

A.Describe the various stages of human life picturised in the poem "All the world's a stage.

Ans : The world is a theatre and everyone is a player, Shakespeare says. He believes that when a person comes to this earth-like stage, throughout his life he has seven phases. He plays seven various parts throughout his life and eventually leaves this earthly stage.

A man's initial stage is childhood. He plays in his mother's arms. In this period, he frequently vomits and screams. In his second stage the guy is a student who is not willing to attend school.

In his third stage, he becomes a lover. He is extremely busy writing his favourite songs and longs for her attention. He is forceful and ambitious in the fourth stage. He's looking for notoriety in whatever he does. He is eager to defend and become a soldier in his nation. He becomes a fair judge with maturity and knowledge in his fifth stage.

On the sixth stage, it is visible with loose trousers and shows. His masculine voice is transformed into a childlike one. His second childhood is the final stage of everything. Slowly, he loses his ability to see, hear, smell, and taste and leaves his life responsibilities. In his poem 'All the World's a Stage,' Shakespeare thus offered images of the seven phases of the life of a man.

b. Is Shakespeare's comparison of human's life with a drama stage apt? How?

Ans : Shakespeare compares the whole world to a theatre where men and women are performers alone.

In a drama, every actor takes the stage, does his role and leaves. Likewise, through birth, we join this planet. We conduct our lives in various personalities. At the moment of our death, we leave this planet. Shakespeare argues that each man's lifespan has seven phases. His perspective on life is very correct.

Players or individuals enter this global stage and play their seven various parts and ultimately leave this stage. Our existence is split into seven distinct phases and throughout these phases, we continue to play different parts in our lives, pursuing different things as actors. We play the part of a child, a young man, a lover, a soldier, a judge, an elderly man and an exceedingly old man here on this earthly stage.

Get more notes from : www.tsz.com.np

Subscribe “The SR Zone” on YouTube

@Shriram Lamichhane

Who are you little I?

By Shriram Lamichhane

Summary

In this short poem, the speaker is standing by the window one evening watching the sunset outside. Suddenly he goes back to his past, his childhood days. He remembers how he enjoyed such beautiful landscapes in his childhood days.

It’s been a long time since then. Now all such maturity and pleasures are suppressed by the anxieties of his maturity and puberty. But he appreciated that it would not be bad if the days of life went on like this. Here he gradually marks the approaching end of the way of life.

Summary / Analysis:

The speaker stands at a window and looks out of it as the poem opens at the end of the day. As he contemplates the sunset, he goes into a nostalgic mood that reminds him of his childhood.

(Speaker looking out the window at the end of the day)

He remembers how he enjoyed such beauty when he was a little boy of five or six years old. Surprisingly he still looks young. This scene can detect the beauty of the evening.

Maybe in his inner heart he wants to come out, but his maturity and puberty will not allow him to do so.

"It shows that we can never let go of childhood magic. We have it under the responsibilities and pressures of adolescence." Here he puts aside such adult worries and takes some time to enjoy the beautiful evening (increasing darkness).

Based on the meaning, we can divide this poem into two parts: the first part from the first line to the fifth line, and the second part from the sixth to the last line.

In the first part, the speaker shows us the mind that remembers the happy moments of his childhood. He is in a sad mood here.

In the second part, there is a transition between the two of them in their mood theme. Now he is in a sad (sad / sad) state of mind. This part describes his liberation from the state of mind.

When he starts talking about “feeling”, eventually he talks about death. The important thing here is that the speaker welcomed the arrival of death for better relief from the sufferings of life.

Understanding the text

Answer the following Questions

A.Who can be the speaker of this poem?

Ans: The person who remembers his youth intimately related to nature may talk about this poetry.

B.What is “little i” doing?

Ans: Little I look through the window at sunset.

c.What can be the relationship between “little i” and the speaker of the poem?

Ans: "Little I is the inner child of the speaker.

D. What is the speaker remembering from his childhood days in the poem?

Ans: The speaker remembers the beautiful sunset of Nevember in the poem.

E. What attitude does the speaker seem to have toward the child in the poem?

Ans: The speaker seems to be positive about the kid. When he remembers his childhood, he gets nostalgic.

Reference to the context

a. Why do you think Cummings has placed a semicolon between the words window and at?

Ans: The semicolon between the words "window" and "at" brings the two major sections of the poem together. The poet asks his query in the first section. He then describes the feeling of amazement he has had in the second section.

b. If the speaker is the child grown up, why does he ask, “who are you”?

Ans: The speaker is speaking to his own inner kid. In him still remains the youthful curiosity. Feelings that remind him of the beautiful sunset he enjoyed when he was a kid in November.

c. In this poem, an adult reflects on the childhood experience. Based on that, what might be the theme of the lines: “(and feeling: that if day / has to become night / this is a beautiful way)”?

Ans : Death is the subject of the line. The day becomes the night as life gradually changes into death. The speaker is willing to embrace death instead than to remain alive. This shows how death may be a remedy for a difficult existence.

D. What is the rhyme scheme used in the poem?

Ans: Rhyme of the poem is ABAB.

E. Explain the pun in “little i” that is related to what he is doing.

Usage of a term which has more than one meaning or a word with various meanings but which sounds the same in an intelligent way is called pun. The word 'little I' refers to one particular element of the personality of the poet, and the childish sense of wonder and viewing the world through a child's vision.

f. How does Cummings’s use of lowercase letters affect your understanding of the poem? Explain.

Ans: Cumming utilises minuscule characters to highlight his emotions in relation to his experience. In his childhood, he used to appreciate nature full of pleasure. His maturity has repressed his delights and joys.

Reference beyond the text

A. How does nature inspire the speaker in “who are you, little i”? Explain.

Ans : Speaker in "who you are, little i." is mesmerized by the luring beauty of nature. The splendour of nature made him remember his lovely childhood experience. In his youth he sees himself as a young kid, five or six years old. He continues to look at the lovely golden sunset and feels like the wonderful manner of day-to-night transition.

B. Recall a childhood moment when you felt closely connected with nature. Describe the time and place as well as your feelings and thoughts about it.

Ans : First visit to a fountain in our locality always fascinates me a lot. I used to go there and enjoy the cool air mixed with water droplets. Calm nature, and beautiful hilly scenarios were enough to make me fascinated. Now, I am sad because that fountain has no existence because of the road that was built through that way. I want to enjoy that moment again.

Get more notes from : www.tsz.com.np

Subscribe “The SR Zone” on YouTube

@Shriram Lamichhane

The Gift in Wartime

By Shriram Lamichhane

Summary

The first verse begins with the speaker presenting a rose and a wedding gown at her husband's grave. In the second stage, he gives the speaker a medal, a silver star and a badge. These elements seem less meaningful and personal than the objects the speaker offers.

Except for the last stanza, it continues throughout the verse that ‘the speaker offers much more than her husband’. In the third stanza, the speaker presents him with her youth. The fourth verse reveals that her husband gives her the smell of blood. Her husband's submissions to the speaker were too small for her.

In the fifth verse the speaker gives him summer clouds. She sacrifices her winters and springs of water. In the sixth verse she states that her husband was not affected by these offerings. In return he gives the speaker lips without a smile, hands without tenderness and eyes without eyes as if dead.

In the last verse, the speaker apologizes to her husband for complaining about her offerings. The speaker promised to meet him in his next life. She keeps the sharpness as a token, which helps them to know and recognize each other in later life.

Understanding the text

Answer the following Questions

By Shriram Lamichhane

A. Who is the speaker addressing and why can that person not hear or understand what she is saying?

Ans: She's talking to her spouse. Because he's dead, he cannot hear or comprehend what she's saying.

B. What can you infer about the speaker’s feelings for the person addressed as “you”?

Ans: The emotions of the speaker for the individual "you" are full of love and devotion.

C. What is the speaker’s attitude toward war?

Ans: The speaker has a nasty war-like mentality.

D. In what ways do you think this person’s fate has affected the speaker?

Ans: The speaker was widowed. She lost her youth. She lost her. She's in this world alone now.

E. What does the speaker promise at the end of the poem? Why do you think the speaker does this?

Ans: The speaker vows to see her lover at the conclusion of the poem in her future life. The shrapnel will be kept as a symbol to identify one another. I believe that the speaker is doing this to show her genuine affection for him.

Reference to the context

a. What is the theme of the poem?

Ans. The poem is about the sorrow for the loss and insignificance of life lost un battle. In battle, the speaker lost her spouse. In exchange, she receives medals, silver stars and a badge, which is useless since he is not living. She was widowed, and now she's all alone.

B. What imagery from the poem made the greatest impression on you? Why?

Ans. I was most impressed by the picture of the unmoving corpse. There are no smile on the body, no affection on the arms, no sight on the eyes. The dead body is the loss inflicted by battle. Her spouse was lost by the speaker. Although he is honoured after his death, it is useless.

C. Which figurative language is used in the poem? Explain with examples.

Ans. The poem has sarcasm, imagery, anaphora and apostrophe.

Irony occurs when the poet speaks about the present that is not a genuine gift, but of sorrow and loss. A tomb and a shrapnel are not the kinds of presents people really desire.

In fact, the speaker claims that the "gift" of death of her lover has robbed her of her youth. The poet utilises the picture of flowers in her beloved tomb. The crimson flowers represent love historically. Other pictures include the photo of the lover as a corpse with no grin and no eyes.

The poem also utilises the apostrophe literary technique that is addressed directly to a non-present person or an inanimate object. In this poetry, the speaker confronts the dead corpse of her spouse. The poet uses metaphor to connect her tranquilly with the clouds in her eyes on the sunny day.

d. What does the speaker “offer” in this poem? What does the person addressed as “you” give in return?

Ans. The speaker gives her favourite flowers, wedding robes, young people, wolves, harsh winters and spring time. In exchange, he offers her his medals, stars, badges, blood soiled clothing, his lifeless body with lips, without a smile, his arms without compassion and his eyes sightless, and shrapnel.

E. An apostrophe is a literary device in which a writer or speaker addresses an absent person or an abstract idea in such a way as if it were present and can understand. Discuss the poem in relation to apostrophe.

Ans. The spouse of the speaker was killed in battle. She speaks to the dead corpse as if he could comprehend it. She offers him many things, but he provides them things that are irrelevant. She vows to meet him since she really genuinely loves him.

Reference beyond the text

A. One way to get relief from grief is to write or talk about it. In your opinion, how might the speaker in this poem have benefitted from saying what she did? Explain.

Ans : War constantly draws everyone to a gloomy future. The victim in the fighting area is not only the one who suffers, but all those who are directly related to him/her. The speaker of this poem was also the casualty of the war with the loss of his lovely person.

The speaker here in this poem has succeeded in sending a serious message to all of its readers about the inhumanity of war. This is where the speaker's statement linked to her actions and sacrifices in her solitary existence might have helped her to pass on her experience of war to all her readers as a sufferer.

The readers have thoughts about the harmful consequences of war and its long-term repercussions on people via their terrible emotions.

b. Write an essay on the effects of war.

Ans : A time of struggle between nations or people's groupings is called war. War is usually about the employment of weapons, military organisations and soldiers. War is a scenario in which a country uses force to assert its rights.

War is the harsh truth that creates human collapse. For nothing, it's excellent. War and its human consequences are evident in both physical and psychological dimensions. War causes long-term human impacts. War invites everyone to a gloomy future. War never gives people happiness but snakes others' enjoyment.

The victims of conflict are constantly afraid. It kills thousands of people. Death, injury, sexual assault, starvation, sickness and incapacity, etc, are some of the physical repercussions of war. War is overall a destructive and devastating thing for human lives.

Get more notes from : www.tsz.com.np

Subscribe “The SR Zone” on YouTube

@Shriram Lamichhane

Sharing tradition

By Shriram Lamichhane

Summary

The essay ‘Sharing Tradition' is about oral tradition and passing on culture and values. We must hear our elders' tales.

LePena, the renowned writer, speaks about oral tradition. In this article, he shares his views and experiences regarding oral tradition. To LaPena, oral tradition is a type of human communication where information, ideas and cultural material are passed verbally from one generation to the next.

Oral tradition is the oral transmission of cultures and values. Oral transmission occurs via speech, music, folktales, chants, prose, and poetry. Oral tradition helps us preserve cultural values.

Tradition sharing is not an easy job. Elders and youth should work together to protect and preserve cultural values. Speakers (elders) and listeners (young people or followers) are vital in sharing on tradition. It is important for young people to learn from respected elders about their cultures, customs, faiths, and values. After the death of an elder, young people must step forward and attempt to continue the process.

They must continue elders' oral tradition sharing to keep cultures and values alive in their community. So the oral tradition may pass on cultures and values from generation to generation. We (young) should keep seniors alive by preserving their greatest experiences and knowledge of communal life. Elders must remain eternal from generation to generation.

For the next generation, we must consider our inspiration's source. Elders inspire us. We need them to teach us the correct way to survive and live. If it is tradition, we should respect the elders and the confidence they placed in us by sharing on the traditions. It is the right method to preserve people's cultures and values.

Understanding the text

Answer the following Questions

A. According to LaPena, what is the importance of the oral tradition? To what extent do you agree with his opinions and why?

Ans: Oral tradition helps to preserve cultural values. It enables a culture to transmit information without writing across generations.

b. Who preserve and pass on the oral tradition?

Ans: Elders maintain and transmit oral tradition. The current generation may preserve the oral tradition by paying attention to the elders' knowledge and experience.

C. What is the danger of not passing on information from generation to generation?

Ans: If knowledge is not transmitted from generation to generation, our cultural and traditional values erode.

d. What is the difference between oral tradition and literary tradition?

Ans: Oral tradition may be rectified, but written tradition cannot be altered.

E. How does LaPena establish a relationship between art and the oral tradition?

Ans: Oral tradition influences the artist's visualisation of the stories, characteristics, design and colour in his production of art, the atmosphere and other information.

Reference to the context

A.LaPena states that the oral tradition helps maintain the values of a culture. If you believe that the oral tradition is important, how would you maintain it?

Ans. Oral tradition helps preserve a culture's ideals. Each person in a culture may play an important part in maintaining the oral tradition. More should be heard from our elders. Interviews may be done with them. Audio copies may be produced for public use for stories, folk stories, epics, etc. The significance of the oral tradition may be conveyed to young people.

B. “Not everyone is capable of fulfilling the roles of the elders.” Explain this statement with reference to the essay.

Ans. The elderly have improved their lives by establishing a unique place. Their position in a community typically requires specific expertise and experience. They are extremely successful in fulfilling their duties. The young people should pay more attention but do not pay attention to their understanding of culture and responsibility. Once the elders die, it is difficult to replace their position.

c. What is the controlling idea or thesis of this essay?

Ans. The concept or thesis under control of the essay is that oral tradition is extremely essential for helping to preserve cultural values. The oral tradition is the message that is spoken from generation to generation. It enables individuals to make the world meaningful and is used to educate children and adults essential elements of their culture. The greatest method to preserve the oral tradition is to listen to the stories of the elderly.

d. How do topic sentences guide the reader through the essay? What would be lost without them?

Ans. Topic phrases connect to the essay's primary topic. They assist the readers by indicating the meaning of the paragraph. All phrases in the remaining paragraphs should connect to the subject phrases. The essay lacks consistency without subject sentences, and the writer cannot transmit his primary concept or message to the reader.

e. What are the four major problems developed by LaPena with regard to maintaining the oral tradition. How are they used to structure the essay?

Ans. LaPena's four primary difficulties with preserving the oral tradition are: - inability to fulfil the duties of the elders, generational divide caused by technology, lacks of verification of oral traditions and lack of interest of modern cultures on how old traditions work.

These issues are utilised to organise the essay since the thesis statement and the subject phrases are supported.

Reference beyond the text

A. Write a paragraph or two explaining your attitude toward the oral tradition of passing along information.

Ans : Oral tradition is one of the efficient ways in which all the people of this planet maintain and preserve the culture and values of tradition. I consider oral tradition as a kind of art, where both older and young people have a crucial role to play to preserve and uphold traditional values and culture by transmitting genuine knowledge from generation to generation. The practise of oral tradition is extremely essential for everyone. Through oral tradition we may preserve and maintain our cultural and traditional values. Through oral tradition we may preserve our cultural and traditional identity.

B. Our culture is our identity. Write a few paragraphs explaining how you intend to preserve your culture, values and norms.

Ans : Our culture is our identity. Our culture, values and conventions play a very important part in our lives. Our whole existence depends on our culture. We are connected culturally to our civilisation. Because of our culture, norms and values, we can accomplish good in our life. These components help us to select the correct routes, ideas and choices in our life.

I want to preserve my culture, values and norms through celebrating every ceremony connected with my culture, making people aware of the significance of our culture, our values and our standards, promoting or advertising cultural and traditional events in my company, creating a cultural heritage organisation, sharing information related to culture and my traditional values.

Get more notes from : www.tsz.com.np

Subscribe “The SR Zone” on YouTube

@Shriram Lamichhane

How to live before you die?

By Shriram Lamichhane

Summary

Hi everyone, I am Shriram. Talking about the summary of this speech is not very logical since it is a ‘Speech’ given by Steve Jobs. Hence, Here are some of the inspirational points that we must learn from this speech.

I listened to a very inspirational talk by Steve Jobs ’How to live before you die‘. By telling 3 stories from his life Steve is urging people to pursue their dreams and trust their intuition.

Connecting the dots

Steve always followed his intuition. He never graduated from the university. He didn’t know what he wanted to do in his life and didn’t think that college would help him figure it out. He dropped out of Reed College just after 6 months. By dropping out he could stop taking the required classes that didn’t interest him and join the ones that looked interesting.

For example he took calligraphy class to learn about typefaces, about what makes great typography great. 10 years later when designing the first Macintosh computer he used his knowledge and skills to design the first computer with beautiful typography.

Much of what he stumbled into by following his curiosity and intuition turned out to be priceless later on. Key learning points:

“You can’t connect the dots looking forward. You can only connect them looking backwards”

“You have to trust in something, like your destiny, life, karma, etc. Believing that the dots will connect down the road will give you the confidence to follow your heart, even if it leads you off the well worn path, and that will make all the difference.”

Love and loss

He found what he loved early in life. He started Apple with a friend in his parents’ garage when he was 20. In 10 years Apple had grown from just the two of them into a $2 billion company with over 4000 employees. As Apple grew, his visions of the future of Apple began to diverge and he got fired by the Board of Directors. This was a devastating experience for him. What had been the focus of his entire life was gone.

He felt rejected, but slowly he began to realize that he still was in love with the work he did. He decided to start over again:

“The heaviness of being successful was replaced by the lightness of being a beginner again”

Now he entered one of the most creative periods of his life. During the next 5 years he started a company named NeXT, and then Pixar, which turned out to be the most successful animation studio in the world, creating the world’s first computer animated feature film ‘Toy Story’.

Ironically Apple bought NeXT, and that is how Steve returned to Apple. The technology they developed at NeXT is now ‘at the heart of Apple’s current renaissance’. Key learning points:

“Sometimes life hits you in the head with a brick. Don’t lose faith.”

“Your work is going to fill a large part of your life, and the only way to be truly satisfied is to do what you believe is great work. The only way to do great work is to love what you do. If you haven’t found it yet, keep looking. Don’t settle. You’ll know when you find it. Like any great relationship it gets better and better as the years roll on.”

Death

When he was 17, he read this quote: “If you live each day as if it was your last, someday you’ll most certainly be right.”

Since then, he has looked in the mirror every morning and asked himself: “If today where the last day of my life, would I want to do what I’m about to do today?” Whenever the answer has been “No” for too many days in a row, he knew that something needed to change. Key learning point:

“Almost everything, all expectations, pride, all fear of embarrassment or failure, these things just fall away in the face of death, leaving only what is truly important. Remembering that you are going to die is the best way to avoid the trap of thinking that you have something to lose. There’s no reason not to follow your heart.”

When he was diagnosed with cancer, at first the doctors told him that he should expect to live no longer than 3-6 months. He lived with that diagnosis for a whole day, until later that evening when he had a biopsy. It turned out to be a very rare form of pancreatic cancer that was curable. This was the closest he’s been to facing death. Key learning points:

“Death is the destination that we all share, no one has ever escaped it (…). Your time is limited, so don’t waste it living someone else’s life”

“Don’t be trapped by dogma which is living with the result of other people’s thinking. Don’t let the noise of others’ opinions drown out your own inner voice. And most importantly, have the courage to follow your heart and intuition.”

I found Steve’s talk very inspiring. I think it’s important that we don’t forget in our everyday life to follow our passions and that we take the time to often look back at our life to make sure that we do what we love. Otherwise we should keep searching until we find the right path. Hopefully we’ll be as lucky as Steve!

Understanding the text

Answer the following Questions

A. What is the story about Steve Jobs’ birth?

Ans: His biological mother chose to take him before he was born. She thought that he should be adopted by college graduates and thus everything was for a lawyer and his wife to adopt him at birth. When he was born, at the last minute they decided that they truly wanted a daughter. Later, an illiterate couple adopted him.

B. What does he mean when he says, “you can’t connect the dots looking forward; you can only connect them looking backwards”?

Ans: Our future is uncertain. Our failure at the present may be the germ of our unfathomable future triumph.

c. What happened when Steve Jobs turned 30?

Ans: When Steve Jobs was 30 years old, he was dismissed from the business he founded.

D. Jobs contends that you need to love to do what you do in order to be great at it. Do you agree or disagree? Why?

Ans: We trust something we adore. We love to do that with interest. If we are interested in accomplishing things, we succeed.

E. Is death really life’s greatest invention?

Ans: Yes, death is really the greatest innovation of life. Nobody ever escaped it. It's the agent of transformation in life.

Reference to the context

A. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow: “We have an unexpected baby boy; do you want him?” They said: “Of course.”

i. Who was the baby boy?

Baby Steve Jobs was the kid.

ii. What does ‘do you want him?’ mean?

The biological mother of Steve Jobs urged his parents to take him on the waiting list.

iii. Who's referring to 'they'?

'They' refers to the parents of Steve Jobs on the waiting list.

b. Explain the following lines:

i. “You have to trust in something — your gut, destiny, life, karma, whatever.”

Ans. The speaker advises that we believe in ourselves in this phrase. This method enables us to identify our capacity to achieve our objectives. We feel hopeful about the future and driven to accomplish things when we trust ourselves. This creates all our life's distinctions.

ii. “Your time is limited, so don’t waste it living someone else’s life.”

Ans. The speaker is of the view that our life is short and that we should not be caught in the principle of others. This can trick us. We have to hear our own inner voice. We should have the bravery to follow our instincts and emotions. The bravery we have is what we desire to be. It's all secondary.

C. What does he mean by “don’t settle”?

Ans. Don't settle implies we shouldn't accept anything that we don't want to be as excellent. If we are afraid of change, failure, and risk-taking, we live. The key to perform a good job is to enjoy what we do. We should keep looking for it if we do not locate it. Excellence is a location where individuals refuse to live in mediocrity. It is a voyage of steady development towards our life's objectives.

d. Which style of speech is used by the speaker to persuade the audience?

Ans. The speaker utilises a tripartite framework and autobiography to convey a message of perseverance and integrity. The speech is brief, straightforward and strongly motivated.

e. It is not easy to motivate others. How do you think Steve Jobs’ speech is so inspiring?

Ans. Steve Jobs' speech is passionate, inspirational and just structured. The discourse is genuine and not weak. There is a live example before the audience. The speech highlights the victory over hardship. Each of Jobs' three stories includes fighting or sacrificing. They assist to transport listeners to another planet and put them in the speaker's shoes. Once linked to a speaker, the audience will follow the recommendations of the speaker more likely.

f. Why do you think Steve Jobs used the personal narrative story telling technique in his speech? What influence does it have on the audiences?

Ans. In his speech Steve Jobs utilised the technical method of personal storytelling to inspire his audience to pursue their dreams. With his own facts, he shows his successful life career. The audiences they didn't know may be courageous with this technique.

Reference beyond the text

A. One of Steve Jobs mottos was: 'Think differently'. Can this make a person succeed in life? What challenges are there in thinking differently?

Ans: A person can achieve in life. We have to think and behave differently in order to alter life. The shift in our thinking must take place. We must attempt to do something else. Similar ideas can never make the right approach to alter life. There are many difficulties in thinking differently. Many stories, inventors, because of their thinking nature, were humiliated and separated from the communities. They should have been crazy. A divergent thought may split individuals apart from majorities, civilizations etc. But we have to think differently for change and growth.

b. What does the slogan “Stay hungry; stay foolish” mean to you?

Ans: The phrase "Stay hungry; stay foolish" implies "stay enthusiastic" and "willing to try new things." We should constantly be enthusiastic to discover significant things in our lives and to accomplish them. We should attempt to accomplish something fresh with various ideas in our lives.

C. What does it mean to be a visionary? What makes Steve Jobs different from a fortune teller?

Ans: Being a visionary implies a good vision or prospect for the future. Steve Jobs is quite different from a teller of fortune. A teller of fortune isn't correct all the time. His forecasts may be wrong. But Steve Jobs' optimistic prediction of the future distinguishes him from that of a fortune teller, as a visionary. Due to his vision in the technological world, he could reach a high level in the technological world. In his foresight there are many important elements including his curiosity, intuition, diverse ways of thinking, hobbies, difficulties and challenges, experience, and faith in his destiny.

Get more notes from : www.tsz.com.np

Subscribe “The SR Zone” on YouTube

@Shriram Lamichhane

What I Require from life

By Shriram Lamichhane

Summary

Initial impressions are that "What I Require from Life" is a personal essay. A normal human being's basic needs are revealed in the essay's second section.

Haldane starts his essay by accepting the cosmos as it is. He can't ask for impossible. He next lists his own desires: fascinating job, excellent health, companionship, and independence. In the second half of the essay, he connects his own needs to his aspirations for mankind, presuming himself to be a reasonably typical example. For example, he believes others desire to work and opposes capitalism since it always leads to unemployment.

Haldane's style is direct and vivacious. As a scientific popularizer, he is used to writing about difficult topics in simple terms. In nontechnical writing, he keeps things simple with short, powerful phrases and straightforward explanations. His topic seems personal, and his writing style detailed. However, in the second half of his essay, he clearly makes a political point. Freedom, for example, is a universal need, not just a personal choice. That is, society should be organised to maximise everyone's freedom. His is a social critic's perspective, outlining a broad programme of ideals for a civilised society.

Understanding the text

Answer the following Questions

By Shriram Lamichhane

A. How does the writer distinguish between a peaceful age and a heroic age?

Ans: He was born in a tranquil era, but lived in a heroic age. The period preceding the First World War was a tranquil era.

b. Why does the writer want more freedom of speech than most people?

Ans: The writer wants greater freedom to speak and publish what he thinks about Lord Blank's publications, the medicines of Mr Dash, and beer of Sir John Asterisk, all deadly.

C. According to the writer, what are the four general human needs?

Ans: Good income/work salary, independence, sound health and friendship, as stated in the text, are four common human requirements.

d. What is the difference between desire and demand according to the writer?

Ans: Desire is anything we desire or want, but it is not affordable and demand is everything we want or want.

E. Why does the writer demand security?

Ans: The writer wants safety since he's his age kid.

Reference to the context

Explain the following sentences about the context:

A. “The satisfaction of adventure is something much more solid than a thrill.”

Ans. The line indicates Haldane's adventurous preference. It requires adventure. He believes it adds substantial experience to individuals. Adventure love doesn't imply thrill love. He contrasts excitement with fun by reading Rimbaud's poems. This is when he spent six weeks in Madrid during the siege.

B. “I want the workers to see the fruit of their own work not in profits for others, but in their own and their friends’ well-being.”

Ans. The line shows that the writer passionately favours socialism. He affirms that the hard effort should be greatly rewarded. He wants democracy in the workplace. He is a socialist who wants workers to run enterprises. They should be free to labour and share earnings. The nature of industrial labour is like hunting and gardening.

C. Why do you think the essayist has taken reference from the ancient philosophers?

Ans. The writer referred to his thesis from the ancient thinkers. For his efforts, he seeks employment and a fair pay. When they are accomplished it will be a pleasant condition similar to the pleasure described as unhindered activity by Aristotle.

Death is the complement to his existence for the writer. He thought the death of Socrates was the most desirable one of the recorded deaths since he died for his beliefs.

d. Discuss the essay in terms of its language, purpose, subject, point of view and mode of writing.

Ans. The text is in plain and clear English. It's simple in style. The topic is presented in a manner that every reader may comprehend. The essayist maintains simplicity in first person, with straightforward phrases and simple explanations.

At first, his topic seems intimate and his style is introspective. He puts forth a political argument in the second part of the article. He emphasises freedom as his personal and universal desire. Society should be organised according to him to promote freedom for everyone.

Reference beyond the text

A. What do you require from your life to be happy and satisfied?

Ans. I need excellent health, work, companionship, freedom & security from my life to be happy and content.

b. What is socialism? How is it different from capitalism?

Ans. A social and economic equality system in which private property and ownership are not valued is termed as socialism. It contrasts from capitalism because capitalism provides no economic equality. Unlike socialism, capitalism overlooks people's needs and does not encourage equitable opportunities.

c. Write an essay about your dream house.

My dream house—an essay

I constantly dreamt my future home. A home is a location surrounded by loved people. A home is not made attractive by its furnishings or décor, but by the people within. My ideal home should be a place I share with my family when I grow old.

I always dream of a mountainous wooden home. My ideal home should be facing a river. Through the windows, I could watch the mountains sunset and vanish. My ideal home would include a little garden with my own veggies and fruits.

The home I like would be large, with four rooms and a wide common space. My ideal home should make my parents, grandparents and siblings comfortable.

The home should include all contemporary facilities. It should feature a large TV with a home theatre system and a Playstation. The home walls will have light colours that make it bright.

Every room will have enough bulbs and lights. I also dream of a guest room chandelier and a large couch where everyone would sit and enjoy watching TV. My grandparents like reading. I want my ideal house's read area with plenty of books.

I have Tiger named 3-year-old pet dog. I also want a modest but cosy area in Tiger's home where he may sleep and rest when he gets old. The home will feature magnificent interiors and amenities such as a contemporary kitchen, three bathrooms, a stairway leading to the terrace, ACs, etc. My ideal house should be to live happily and comfortably.

Get more notes from : www.tsz.com.np

Subscribe “The SR Zone” on YouTube

@Shriram Lamichhane

What is Poverty?

By Shriram Lamichhane

Summary

Jo Win Parker describes poverty as a lack of hope, better food, medicine, cleanliness, and education. It eats away your dignity, honour, health, and future. Parker wants to demonstrate how ugly, humiliating, and repulsive poverty is. She wants to bring readers' attention to the plight of the impoverished.

Poor individuals must constantly worry about their children's future. Poverty destroys bonds. Parker has three. She divorced her spouse because he lost his job and they couldn't afford contraception. She worked.

She then left the kids with their grandma. When she came home, she discovered her kids in terrible shape. Her son's diaper had not been changed since morning and he was covered with flies. Her other kid was smashed glass and her oldest was alone at a lake's edge. She couldn't afford to send them to nursery school. She earned $20 a week and a nursery school for three kids was $20. So she quit.

She says that poverty is a terrible and pathetic situation of existence when one becomes powerless and mute, controlled which is experienced by the people.

Understanding the text

Answer the following Questions

By Shriram Lamichhane

A. What is poverty according to Parker?

Ans. Poverty is filthy, disgusting, and without appropriate undergarments on and with decaying teeth's odour, Parker says.

B. How is poverty difficult for Parker’s children? List some specific examples.

Ans. She used to leave her kids at home and when she returned from her low paying work, she discovered her kids in terrible condition. Her children are given oleo-free grits or cornbreads. The writer had to save 2 months to purchase a container of Vaseline for a baby's diaper rash.

Children are at risk of being burned in winter since newspapers on the wall are likely to be ignited by a spark and covered in summer when they scream. Children usually have runny noses.

There are no additional books, no periodicals, no extra pencils, crayons or paper, and most importantly, they're not healthy.

C. How does Parker try to obtain help, and what problems does she encounter?

Ans. She asks relatives for a loan. She visits the workplace. Everyone's busy. Finally, someone walks out and asks if she needs assistance. That's not the person to see. She's visiting another individual. After giving him the entire story of her poverty, she finds the incorrect office. She must then redo the entire procedure.

D. Why are people’s opinions and prejudices her greatest obstacles?

Ans. Poverty hurts her deeply. She can't raise her family well. She divorced spouse. She's ill-treated begging for assistance. This causes her lose her dignity and respect, eventually breaking her goal.

E. How does Parker defend her inability to get help? How does she discount the usual solutions society has for poverty (e.g., welfare, education, and health clinics)?

Ans. According to Parker, society's typical remedies to poverty are far beyond her reach. A surplus commodity programme costs too much. A school meal programme cannot help her children as her children, whose health will deteriorate as they go to school. Health clinics in towns. She lives eight miles from town. Everything's costly.

Reference to the text

A. Explain the following:

Ans: Writer Jo Goodwin Parker stated this phrase "Poverty is looking into a dark future." in her article. She put forth this line for her readers to convey poverty-related experiences.

In this sentence, the writer advises all readers on an unpleasant, harsh side of poverty. Poverty pushes people into the dark future. Poor individuals must endure a terrible everyday existence. They have difficulty managing appropriate daily meals. There's no chance for them in the future. They spend their lives in inequality gazing towards a black future. Poverty destroys aspirations and future ambitions.

B. What does Parker mean by “The poor are always silent”?

Ans: By "Poor are always quiet," Parker implies poor people's impotence. In poverty, money plays a crucial role. Money is the perfect Ans for all issues. Because of lack of money, impoverished people feel weaker. They constantly stay quiet before others. They must listen to other words because of their pitiful condition.

C. What writing strategy does the author use at the beginning of most of the paragraphs? Do you notice a recurring pattern? What is it?

Ans: The author employs her repetition technique here at the beginning of most paragraphs. Yes, I see a repeating trend. It's the "poverty" structure. The article is well-organized and the "Poverty is" framework is repeated at the beginning of each paragraph.

Here, using her repeating technique, she attempts to create a connection between the lady and the readers. The informal manner of the author makes writing seem as part of a casual narrator-reader dialogue. Goodwin Parker's writing is very powerful and fulfils its goal.

D. How does Parker develop each paragraph? What details make each paragraph memorable?

Ans: Parker builds each paragraph from its repetition technique. She begins with a repetition such as "Poverty is." She later gives her own experiences regarding her theme phrases.

The author emphasises to her audience that her goal is to help people realise what poverty is. Her second goal is to persuade all her readers to assist the needy. Details of her own hard experiences and harsh realities of poverty make every paragraph unforgettable.

E. In the final paragraph, how does the author use questions to involve the reader in the issue of poverty?

Ans: The author utilises questions in her casual style of direct conversation to engage readers in the problem of poverty.

Parker succeeded in engaging her readers via her compelling way. She wants them to gaze angrily at the impoverished, but not with the pitiful heart. This question has grabbed the passion and attention of readers. Here, she has succeeded in attracting the attention of her readers to her predicament and the difficulties of others in her position.

Reference beyond the text

A. Define a social problem (homelessness, unemployment, racism) imitating Parker’s style.

Ans: Homelessness makes you sleep on pavements. Living on footpaths makes you weaker in many ways. Your pride and status disappears. Similarly, Unemployment is a shameful existence. Unemployment diminishes society's worth. Because you lack a job, you always experience shame and embarrassment. People mock you for being jobless. Also, Racism is humiliating. The racists make you feel weaker. In skin colour, they keep embarrassing you. Because of your skin colour, you'll suffer disgrace in your culture. Living life under racism is a curse.

B. Using adjectives to highlight the futility of the situation, write a short definition essay on Growing up in Poverty.

Ans: A pitiful condition when individuals feel that their lives lack many important elements is defined as poverty. Besides other views, I believe growing up in poverty is unpleasant. Poverty never makes you joyful. Living in poverty mostly bothers you. Growing in poverty makes life dull. You never attempt to live anything fascinating inside the poverty limits. You feel confused and disappointed growing up in poverty. You're always puzzled about your life. Disparity and inequality never allow you to be free and achieve well in life. Growing up in poverty is a scary experience you encounter many difficulties and problems. It gives you a tiresome and worrisome encounter, where aches are constantly waiting to greet you.

Get more notes from : www.tsz.com.np

Subscribe “The SR Zone” on YouTube

@Shriram Lamichhane

Scientific research is the token for mankind’s survival

By Shriram Lamichhane

Summary

As a scientist, Vladimir Keilis-Borok believes that science is humanity's gatekeeper and protector.

Even while some people want to become researchers, their salary is not greater than that of financial managers, lawyers, and experts. He views science as a venture where costs are revealed. An chance to grow as a researcher is worth more than money.

During the cold war, the three atomic powers came to an agreement banning atomic bomb tests. Back then, everyone on Earth was in risk of being wiped out by atomic bombs. Experts from the USSR, UK, and US gathered in Geneva to address the issue.

They couldn't find a solution. This led to the primary option. He claims this problem was directly related to his study on seismic waves. His hypothetical data had an immediate applicability in the human endurance area.

The writer found that all scholars from different nations and cultures had similar thoughts. He also found that science is a desire for all of us to live long and thrive. According to him, all fresh inventions and business brands come from fundamental logical analysis.

The author reveals how natural and man-made disasters frequently impede human development. Seismic earthquakes, self-delivered megacity destruction, ecological disasters, financial and social crises He admits that fighting dangers requires academic assets. He argues that only fundamental logical investigation can build a new crisis preparedness business.

Writing is an exciting journey into the badge of mankind's perseverance. He assures us that the researchers with their equipments can examine any dangers and ensure our overall security. If science is used for good, it is our invaluable watchman and overseer.

Understanding the text

Answer the following Questions

A. What does a scientist get instead of big money?

Ans: A scientist receives freedom, companionship, independence, not huge money. Honors and promotions rely more on oneself than on other professions.

b. What was the problem that the nuclear powers had faced?

Ans: The nuclear powers had signed an agreement to halt the testing of the new nuclear weapons, and one of the parties had broken this agreement and covertly created an underground nuclear explosion. The issue was both agreement breach and detection.

C. In which area did Keilis Borok's theoretical knowledge have a direct application?

Ans: His theoretical understanding was directly applied to human survival.

D. What was the important decision that the politicians took before Geneva Summit?

Ans: The key choice the politicians made before the Geneva Summit was to get an agreement to prohibit the nuclear weapon test.

f. What are the natural and man-made disasters as mentioned by the author?

Ans: Natural and man-made disasters include earthquakes, self-inflicted devastation of megacities, environmental catastrophes, economic and social problems.

Reference to the Context

A. The professional addressed as ‘you’ in the sentence “If you are clever, why are you so poor?” refers to a…

i. lawyer ii. doctor iii. scientist iv. businessman.

Justify your choice.

Ans- Scientist

The author wants to know why some individuals desire to be scientists in the provided field, while other professions like attorneys, physicians and businesspeople make considerably more.

B. The writer says, “I found myself in Geneva.” What does it express?

Ans. It expresses the amazement of the author. He was unexpectedly summoned to Geneva's nuclear weapons meeting. Speaking with Moscow specialists, American scientist Frank Press highlighted his study.

C.Are the following statements true? Why or why not? Discuss with your partner.

i. Money is more powerful than intellectual resources.

Ans. This statement is untrue. Money is temporary, whereas intellectual resources give good outcomes. No financial assurance exists. Money generates problems. Intellectual resources, on the other hand, may drive achievement and excellence.

ii. Intellectual resources help survival of the mankind.

Ans. That sentence is accurate. Intellectual resources are only aspirations for humanity's future. Humanity has benefitted from intellectual resources such as illness alleviation, protection of terrorism, healthy living, and entertainment.

iii. Basic research is a way of stalling disasters.

Ans. That sentence is accurate. People across the globe live their lives with confidence, believing in scientific research. Scientists continue to research and warn the public about possible catastrophes. People are protected from research-based knowledge.

D. How does the essayist justify that scientific research is the humankind’s survival?

Ans. The essayist's theoretical understanding of seismic waves was directly used in nuclear weapons. This resulted in mankind's whole survival. Scientists can also guarantee human safety from any natural or man-made hazards. Basic scientific research supports our earthly life by providing us with fresh energy and minerals, terrorist protection, and cancer treatment.

E. What can be the purpose of the essayist of using quotations in the essay?

Ans. Using quotes aims to reinforce the arguments and concepts presented in the article. He introduced the quote and explained. Using them the reader's attention to particular quote parts that are most directly related to arguments and ideas.

F. Discuss and illustrate the writer’s stand that scientists are the most practical people in the world

Ans. All new technologies and brands from military to entertainment are the product of scientific study. Antibiotics, electronics, biotechnology, synthetic textiles, green revolution, genetic forensic diagnostics, etc. are some of scientists' contributions to society. Only scientific research can supply us with new energy and minerals, effective terrorist protection, cancer treatment, and new kinds of transportation. Financial firms headhunt those educated in theoretical physics, while those trained in biological research frontiers become founders and directors in the pharmaceutical sector.

Reference beyond the text

A. Everyone lives under the fear of annihilation by nuclear weapons. Explain this statement.

Ans : In this sentence, the writer informs all his readers of the hazardous condition of the 1960 cold war. It's been frightening.

Superpowers like the Soviet Union, the United States, and the United Kingdom possessed more than enough nuclear weapons in one attack to destroy the other nations. Every man, woman, and child in the world lived under the fear of nuclear destruction. These superpowers were ready to cooperate to tackle this danger.

B. The essayist says ‘While there is science, there is hope of survival and wellbeing for all of us.’ Explain it.

Ans : According to the writer, science is our inevitable protector and caregiver since it is the only science capable of securely moving with time. Countries have signed a pact to abstain from covertly testing nuclear weapons for human existence. Countries have signed a pact to abstain from covertly testing nuclear weapons for human existence.

However, science and scientists guaranteed humanity's survival. It is the only science capable of differentiating between nuclear-explosion tremors and normal earthquakes. It is the science that can provide us new energy sources, mineral resources and powerful anti-terrorism defences. Science's optimism for humanity's survival also has wider importance.

In the present situation, both natural and man-made catastrophes threaten human safety. Whether a tsunami or terrorism, money alone won't fix the issue. Scientific remedies are the only chance. Thus, the author has many grounds to believe that science is the only chance for survival.

C. Is science a blessing or a curse? Write an essay on it

Ans : Science is the methodical search of natural and social world knowledge and understanding using evidence-based methods. Scientists experience a range of new world- and life-related phenomena. Science is both a gift and a burden.

Science's application is its most essential element. Science has done many jobs to help society, but in this world it has also had a lot of bad impacts on humankind. Antibiotics, electronics, biotechnology, synthetic fibres, green revolution, genetic forensic diagnostics are all scientific discoveries. All these innovations enhanced people's lives.

A rudimentary knowledge of science always helps people's life. Most people die today from science and its creations. Science produces many kinds of weaponry. Science should not hurt mankind. Use it to help mankind. Science should be utilised for good purposes.

Get more notes from : www.tsz.com.np

Subscribe “The SR Zone” on YouTube

@Shriram Lamichhane

Trifles

By Shriram Lamichhane

Summary

Trifles (meaning: Less important things)

Trifles is a one-act play by Susan Glaspell. It's a mystery story of a homicide. It was first performed by Provincetown Players at the Wharf Theater in Provincetown, Massachusetts and was staged on August 8, 1916. The short information about the author of this play is given below:

SUSAN GLASPELL (Author)

Susan Glaspell was a playwright, novelist, journalist and actor from America. She was born in 1876. She was the founder of Provincetown players and her husband George Cram Cook which was the first modern American theater company. Her most famous works are "Alison's House", "Trifles" etc. She received the Pulitzer Prize for this Drama in 1931. She died in 1948.

"Trifles" is inspired by a REAL EVENT

The story is based on the homicide of John Hossack, age of 60, while Susan Glaspell is a reporter for the Des Moines Daily News. His wife Margaret was arrested for his homicide. Glaspell turned this real incident as play "Trifles" into a nutshell, she retitled it as "A Jury of Her Peers".

Characters

George Henderson as District Attorney

Henry Peters as Sheriff

Mrs. Peters as the Sheriff's wife

Lewis Hale as neighboring farmer

Mrs. Hale as Lewis Hale wife

John Wright, a farmer killed by Mrs. Minnie Wright (Minnie Foster), his wife

Context

The play is set in John Wright's abandoned farmhouse. It is a lonely place at the bottom of a pit where the road is barely visible.

For your sake

Mrs. Wright is in custody suspected of murdering her husband, Mr. John Wright.

Mr. George Henderson is the county attorney who investigates the case. Mr. Lewis Hale is the neighbouring farmer.

Mrs. Hale is his wife who worries about Mrs. Wright's isolation after visiting her house.

Mr. Henry Peters is the sheriff.

Trifles summary

The story's goal is to find John Wright's murderer. The characters wonder whether his wife or someone else killed him. The men mistrust Mrs. Wright. So they looked for clues in the kitchen.

The tale starts at John Wright's farm. It's filthy in there The District Attorney, Sheriff, and Mr. Hale entered. Mrs. Hale and Mrs. Peters followed. Women are outside the door. They don't meet the guys warming themselves by the fire.

The district attorney guarantees no one enters the home. He starts questioning Mr. Hale about what happened that day. Mr. Hale hears about Mr. Wright's death. Mr. Hale says he went to Wright's house to ask if he'd want to go to Telephone with him. Mrs Wright sat in a chair, he recalls.

She was nervously clutching an apron. He found her oddly acting. Her spouse perished at the top with a rope around his neck, she claimed. She claimed her spouse was strangled while sleeping. Henry Peter assists Mr. Hale.

Mr. Hale takes Sheriff Henry Peters (whom he calls Harry) upstairs to meet Mr. Wright. Henry brought the case detective (the officer in charge of investigating the violent, sudden or suspicious death). She chuckled as Mr. Hale explained telephone. Then she panics.

George Henderson looks into it. The cold has shattered the glass jar of fruit preservers. It messed up the cupboard. Mrs. Peters says Mrs. Wright was concerned. Mr. Hale believes the ladies fret about trivia.

Henderson critiques Mrs. Wright's filthy towels and unorganised household, as well as her housekeeping abilities. The guys walk upstairs to look for proof.

Mrs. Hale and Mrs. Peter collect clothing for Mrs. Wright, who was arrested the day before. Henderson lets Mrs. Hale and Mrs. Peters go shopping for Mrs. Wright's. Mrs. Hale adjusts the pan in the kitchen interrupted by guys. Neither do she men criticise women.

They raid Mrs. Wright's closet. The single Mrs. Minnie Wrights is remembered by Mrs. Hale.

She was overjoyed. Her voice was impassioned. Her marriage had made her unhappy. She just wants an apron and a scarf now. Her fruit preserver worries her.

Mrs. Peter says her husband wonders how a woman can sleep through a murder. Mrs. Hale recalls her husband finding a pistol. Using a rope instead of a pistol seems suspect. a big sewing basket, Mrs. Cute bits. She was quilting. She was making a log cabin quilt, which is sewn around a central square. No quilting or simply knotting it for Mrs. Hale?

The guys explore the barn for proof. They chuckle as the ladies debate whether to quilt or tie the blanket. Ignore it.

Mrs. Hale notices oddities. The dishtowel is clean half. Unfinished quilt, one block of the quilt is tidier than the other stitches (Shows nervousness). Mrs. Peters searches a closet for paper and thread to finish the quilt but finds only a birdcage. Mrs. Hale recalled a canary seller. Maybe it's a cat's. But Mrs. Wright lacked a cat. A visitor came in her room, and she was unhappy. The cage door was smashed.

Mrs. Hale is worried about not seeing Mrs. Wright. Mr. Wright was a tough guy.

They have no kids. So keep it quiet. Mr. Wright works all day. When he was at home, she was alone. Mrs. Wright's canary must have been her friend.

"She was like a bird herself," Mrs. Hale recalls of Mrs. Wright. But she's changed since she wed.

Sorting for Mrs. Wright by Mrs. Peters & Mrs. Hale

a birdcage They think a cat grabbed the bird.

a beautiful red package in the sewing basket

Finds scissors in it.

Surprised to discover a silk fabric wrapped dead bird.

Shocked to see its neck wrung.

Men exit the farmhouse.

The ladies bury the box in the quilt.

A quilted or knotted blanket, Mr. Henderson mocks them.

Mrs. Peters says Mrs. Wright must have intended to tie it.

Nobody on the farm finds anything.

Wright's own rope.

They walk upstairs to examine the rope in detail.

Women have a fresh view of Mrs. Wright.

Mrs. Hale reports Mrs. Wright was burying her beloved bird in the beautiful box.

Mrs. Peters recalls a guy killing her cat with a hatchet as a kid.

She was enraged and wanted to harm the boy but couldn't.

Mr. Wright despised the bird's song. He had to kill it. He also silenced Mrs. Wright.

It's a pity that after years of silence, the lone songbird died.

Mrs. Peters felt the same way when her first child died at two years old.

But she believes the law must punish Mrs. Wright for murdering her husband.

Mrs. Hale reminisces.

Miss Wright wears white with blue ribbons in the chorus.

She owes her a visit.

Believable as a crime to be punished

Mrs. Hale chooses to keep the broken fruit secret.

Mrs. Peters wraps the intact preservative in a petticoat.

Hear Mrs. Wright's screams!

Mrs. Peters knows men would sometimes mock at her grief over the deceased canary.

Mrs. Hale: "We live near by and far away. We all go through the same experiences, but in different ways ".

The guys claim they need proof.

Mr. Henderson isn't happy. He wants to remain looking for more clues since they can't go forward.

Mr. Peters asks Mr. Henderson to check Mrs. Wright's possessions.

After all, the ladies may not have stolen any hazardous items.

Mrs. Peters is also the sheriff's wife.

The sheriff and the coroner search the other room's window for evidence.

Mr. Hale exits.

Mr. Henderson dismisses anything women do.

Mrs. Peters and Mrs. Hale lie.

MRS PETERS flings back quilt pieces and stuffs the box in her bag. It's huge. She opens the box, takes the bird out, but it crumbles and she stands powerless. A knob spinning in the other room. MRS HALE grabs the package and stuffs it in her coat pocket. The play finishes here.

THEMES

Male domination

Isolation

Loss of identity

Revenge and violence

Freedom by rebellion

Feminism

Patriarchy

SYMBOLS

Preserves - Femininity

Rope - revenge

Quilt - psychic instability

Bird cage - restrictions on Bird Freedom

Knotting the quilt - killing her husband

How is the title of "trifles"?

The title of the play is ironic.

Mrs. Hale and Mrs. Peters' conversations are considered trifles.

The irony is that the women discover the true motive of the murder.

TRIFLES: SIGNIFICANT IN WOMEN'S WRITING

It was written during the first wave of feminism.

It was an early feminist drama.

The play contrasts how women behave among themselves and before men.

Understanding the text

Answer the following Questions

a. Do you believe that Mrs. Wright killed her husband? Explain.

Ans. Mrs. Peters and Mrs. Hale find some clues to Mr. Wright's harshness. They take notice of Minnie's uneven stitching, uncover a shattered birdcage, and find a dead canary in Minnie's sewing box. They come to the conclusion that Mr. Wright, in her anger, murdered her beloved pet. She killed her spouse to flee her terrible marriage.

b. Do you think Mr. Wright’s death would have been uncovered if Mr. Hale hadn’t stopped by the Wrights’ home?

Ans. Mr. Hale is initially learning of Mr. Wright's death. It's conceivable that if Mr. Hale hadn't dropped by the house of the Wrights, his death wouldn't have long been discovered. As few people visit the farmhouse, she may have been able to conceal the corpse and hide the death of her husband.

c. Why does Mrs. Hale think that Mrs. Wright’s worries about her preserves indicate her innocence?

Ans. Mrs. Wright takes care of the fruits, apron, scarf, etc. They make Mr. Wright happy. They're the home emblems she once adored. Her concerns about these things reveal her real nature. This makes Mrs. Hale feel innocent.

d. How does Mrs. Peters’ homesteading experience connect her to Mrs. Wright?

Ans. Mrs. Hale discovers Mrs. Wright attempting to bury the bird she loved in the beautiful box. Ms. Peters gets nostalgic to recall her early days when a kid murdered her cat with a hatchet. She was angry at the kid, but she couldn't. Women link bird killing to Mr. Wright's death. It must have been terrible for Mrs. Wright that the lone bird that sang was murdered after so many years of nothingness. Mrs. Peters' firsthand experience of losing her two-year-old kid. She had a hard time fighting emptiness following the baby's death. She believes the law must punish Mrs. Wright for the crime.

e. How do women's perspectives on men differ?

Ans. The women think that in a male-dominated culture, everyone of them experienced a similar situation. They readily comprehend Mrs. Wright's predicament. They believe Mrs. Wright is worthy of protection. While men seek proof, women fret over trifles. They discover the reason for the killing. They sympathise with Mrs. Wright and conceal evidence. They unite against legislation with Mrs. Wright.

Reference to the Context

c. What is the main theme of the play?

Play's main topic is gender disparities. The play implies males are violent, rude, self-centered. Instead, women are more deliberate and attentive to others' concerns. These differences help women discover the clues to solve the crime, whereas males overlook the identical evidence. The men simply seek to collect proof of the crime of Mrs. Wright, while the women comprehend the emotional anguish that led Mrs. Wright to murder her husband.

d. Discuss the symbolism used in the play.

Ans:

Conserves- Femininity

Rope's vengeance - Psychological instability

Bird cage - restraint

Bird- Freedom

Quilt knotting – murdering her spouse

e. Discuss the setting of the play. Does it have an impact on the theme of the play?

Ans : This drama is set at the abandoned farmhouse of Mr. John Wright. It's a lonely, dull and chilly spot down in the depression, where the road cannot be seen. Yes, it has an impact on the subject of the play. This setting showed the lives of modern American women who were formerly constrained by the responsibilities of their husbands. They used to live inside the boundaries of their houses in seclusion and confinement. The setting of the home even implies that males dominate women.

Reference beyond the text

a. The credibility of a character is determined not only by the character’s thoughts and actions but also by what other characters say and think about him or her. Discuss in relation to the characters of Trifles.

Ans : By stages like Mrs Hale and Mrs Peters, we as readers are brought to Mrs. Wright's primary off-stage persona. These two characters on the stage continue to debate and tell us of many elements of the life of Mrs. Wright.

In their examination, Mrs. Wright's discussion disclosed many previously unknown elements of Mrs. Wright's life. Thanks to women's knowledge, we may learn about Mrs. Wright's life and suffering. Readers are engaged in knowing about their life narrative emotionally. Both ladies and Mrs. Wright's descriptions seem unbelievable. Their contributions to the play made all readers happy with Mrs. Wright.

The work of these two characters, Mrs. Wright was favourably represented in the eyes of all readers. Everybody sympathises with Mrs. Wright.

b. Dramatic irony occurs when the reader or audience has information that is unknown to the characters in a play; it creates tension and suspense. Analyse the play discussing the author’s use of dramatic irony based on these questions:

i. What information is crucial to the play Trifles?

Ans : Dramatic irony is a literary apparatus when the audience or reader learns what was concealed before. The main characters in the drama do not know the facts, but the readers or the audience knows the facts. The key information in this play about dramatic irony is that Ms. Wright killed her husband. The readers know the circumstances behind the murder via Mrs. Hale and Mrs. Peters, but these facts are not known to the male characters who seem to be concerned with discovering clues.

ii. How does the playwright use this information to create dramatic irony?

Ans : The writer utilises this knowledge with great sensitivity to generate dramatic irony, producing several twists, suspense and revelation. The writer continues to provide knowledge about murder by predicting and proving that the characters discover a real killer throughout the inquiry.

iii. What effect does the dramatic irony have on the audience and on the play?

Ans : The playwright is extremely good at managing and showing dramatic irony. It raises the audience and readers above the major male characters in the drama. The attention, expectation, hope, anxiety, curiosity and suspense of the readers were preserved. The readers now have precise information on all the men in the game. This drama has been extremely fascinating and full of turns where evidence has been presented that makes readers interested.

Get more notes from : www.tsz.com.np

Subscribe “The SR Zone” on YouTube

@Shriram Lamichhane

A sunny Morning

By Shriram Lamichhane

Summary

Introduction

“A Sunny Morning” is a one act play by Serafin and Joaquin Alvarez Quintero, brothers and celebrated Spanish playwrights of the early twentieth Century. The story is centred on two old lovers now in their 70s meeting at a park and trying to recall their romantic past. The man is Don Gonzalo and the lady is Dona Laura.

Meeting of Don Gonzalo and Dona Laura / Background / Setting

The Autumn season in the background presents the baldness of life coinciding with the entry of two key characters in the play Don Gonzalo and Dona Laura who have also lost their prime youth and attraction. They meet at the park but they are not able to identify each other at the beginning. Don Gonzalo angers Dona Laura as he scares away the birds she was feeding. Laura picks up verbal combat attacking him with a barrage of words. He retorts though, gives up soon and offers her a pinch of snuff and reconciles with her.

Flashback / The past

When Don Gonzalo reads from Campoamor’s ‘Twenty years pass. He returns’, both feel that they were lovers in the past. But they choose to pretend to hide their identities. Don Gonzalo tells Laura that he was Gonzalo’s cousin and she says that she heard about Dona Laura’s story through her friend.

Their Love story - Dona Laura’s version

Laura Llorente lived at Maricela in Valencia. She was known as ‘The Silver Maiden’ in her locality. Gonzalo would pass by on horseback every morning down the rose path under her window and would toss up to her balcony a bouquet of flowers. Later in the afternoon he would return by the same path and catch the bouquet of flowers she would toss him. Laura’s parents wanted to get her married to a merchant. A duel followed and the merchant was badly wounded by Gonzalo. He fled away fearing the consequences. Laura waited for days and months and not hearing from him for long she left her home one afternoon and went to the beach. While she was engrossed in his thoughts she was washed away by the waves.

Don Gonzalo’s version

Gonzalo loved her intensely too. After injuring the merchant seriously, fearing the consequences, he took refuge in Seville and Madrid. He wrote many letters to her but they were intercepted by her parents. As there was no reply, in despair, he joined the army and met his death in Africa.

Conclusion / Reality

Two years later Laura married someone and settled down in her life. Similarly, Gonzalo, disappointed over his lost love, three months later married a ballet dancer and settled down in Paris. Though they were separated, in their hearts their yearning for romantic love continued. When they met in the park after nearly 50 years, both of them were able to recall their intense romantic affair. Although they came to know about each other in reality, they did not want to reveal, for they had lost their charming youth.

Understanding the text

Answer the following Questions

a. What makes Dona Laura think that Don Gonzalo is an ill-natured man? Why do neither Dona Laura nor Don Gonzalo reveal their true identities?

Ans: Gonzalo disturbs the birds that eat on her crumbs. He makes priests' indecent remarks. He speaks extremely harshly to Laura. This hostile conduct makes Laura believe he's an unfriendly guy.

Laura and Gonzalo can't recover their young romance. They believe sharing the truth is rude, denouncing their real love. They also dread losing the good connection after revealing the truth. They don't disclose their real identity.

b. At what point of time, do you think Laura and Gonzalo begin to recognise each other?

Ans. Gonzalo claims he's from Valencia, and Laura confesses she resided at Maricela's home near Valencia. They start recognising each other at this stage.

c. When does Dona Laura realise that Don Gonzalo was her former lover?

Ans. After sharing their hometown memories, Gonzalo tells her about the Silver Maiden, describing her beauty. Dona Laura now believes Don Gonzalo is her previous boyfriend.

d. Why do Dona Laura and Don Gonzalo spin fictitious stories about themselves?

Ans. They create fictional stories about themselves since they believe it's not acceptable to reveal old age identities and want to spend their remaining life with pleasant recollections.

e. How do Dona Laura and Don Gonzalo feel about each other?

Ans. During their discussion, they discover they were once lovers. But they can't reveal their identities. They have no hate and are ready to go. They promise the following day. Laura watches Gonzalo picking up her violet. Both say goodbye.'

Reference to the Context

a. Look at the extract below and answer the questions that follow:

i. Who is the speaker?

Ans : Dona Laura is the speaker.

ii. Who does ‘you’ refer to?

Ans : 'You' refers to Dona Laura's maid Petra.

iii. Who is the ‘guard’ the speaker is talking to?

Ans : The 'guard' is the 'park's guard' the speaker is talking to.

c. Who is Dona addressing by saying “Look out”?

Ans : By saying "Look out", Dona is addressing Don Gonzalo.

d. What was Dona doing?

Ans : Dona was in the park feeding breadcrumbs to pigeons.

e. Who scared the birds? Are they pet birds?

Ans : Don Gonzalo scared the birds. They are not pet birds.

f. Where are the speakers at the time of the conversation?

Ans : The speakers are in a park at the time of the conversation,

g. What is the effect of flashback in the play when Dona Laura and Don Gonzalo knew that they were lovers in the past?

Ans: The memory helps Laura and Gonzalo understand they're young loves. They pretend to be true, though. They tell fake stories to deceive each other. They believe that exposing the truth may jeopardise their current pleasure. At the conclusion of the performance, they leave agreeing to meet the following day.

h. Discuss how the play is built around humour and irony.

Ans: The play's first scene has humour. Laura's comedic sense is excellent when she notices Gonzalo's walking. She replies, "A waggon wouldn't produce more dust than its feet." Her speech generates hilarity when she asks Gonzalo to use his handkerchief as a brush.

The location and chronology of occurrences referenced and their connection strongly indicate that Gonzalo and Laura were previously lovers. It's ironic they don't want to disclose their identities because they're afraid their altered appearances may be restrained in their newly found bliss.

i. How is the title ‘A Sunny Morning’ justifiable? Discuss.

Ans: They loved each other, but circumstances separated them. They used to be energetic, passionate, and vivacious in the bright morning environment. Now, they're inactive. The beautiful recollection of their young days makes them forget their age, thinking it's a bright morning. The term 'A Sunny Morning' is acceptable for play.

Reference beyond the text

a. What do you predict will happen in the next meeting between Dona Laura and Don Gonzalo? Discuss.

Ans : I think the next gathering will be considerably more exciting. They'll express their feelings again via fake methods. Both will strive to make each other happy. Don Gonzalo will be more frank this time. He'll make an attempt to express her gratitude. Readers will notice their timidity. With their pompous acts, they'll have a lot more fun.

b. Was it wise for Dona Laura and Don Gonzalo to keep their identities secret? How might their secrets affect future meetings?

Ans. Dona Laura and Don were smart to hide their identities. They both learned at the age of seventy that they were previous lovers divided owing to their tragedy. However, they did an excellent job hiding their real identities. They were elderly and in terrible physical shape. Their previous looks displeased them. At this age, revealing their real character would be useless.

They reasoned it would be better to hide their identities and appear to be strangers. They planned to recreate their lovely childhood experiences via deceit. If they continue to deceive this way, their secrets may affect future encounters. Secrecy is seldom maintained for long periods. Because of their advanced age, they risk exposing secrets. If they unintentionally disclose their truths, they won't try to meet in the near future.

C. Write a play summary.

(Please refer to the first page)

Get more notes from : www.tsz.com.np

Subscribe “The SR Zone” on YouTube

@Shriram Lamichhane

Refund

By Shriram Lamichhane

Summary

Fritz Karinthy is a well known short story writer who wrote the one act play “Refund” in the year 1938. This is the story of a former student Wasserkopf, who demands that his tuition should be refunded because he feels his education was worthless. But he loses his fight when he is tricked by the mathematics master. The play “Refund” is full of humour which deals with an extraordinarily absurd situation.

Wasserkopf is forty years old. He could not get any job and wherever he goes people tell him that he is fit for nothing. One day he meets Leaderer and asks him about his business. When Leaderer tells him about foreign exchange and Hungarian money, he is not able to understand anything and starts asking questions about foreign exchange. Leaderer says when Wasserkopf does not know the silly thing then what had he studied? He better go to the school and get his tuition fees back. Wasserkopf, who is jobless and does not have any finance, thought of this idea as something beneficial. So he went to the school where he studied once.

Wasserkopf wanted the refund of his tuition fees which were paid eighteen years ago because he was taught badly. When he asks for it, the principal is shocked. The principal is in a peculiar situation now and he calls for an urgent meeting with all other staff members. The masters realized that Wasserkopf’s real intention was to fail in the exam and claim the refund. Therefore, they decided to outsmart the old student by proving all his answers right. The Mathematics Master said that they had to be united and ought to help each other in implementing their plan. The exam was an oral one as of Wasserkopf's refusal to write. They decide that whatever answers he gives whether it is right or wrong they will prove him right.

The first question was from the History Master. The Master asked him how many years the ‘Thirty Years’ war lasted. The answer was in the question itself. But Wasserkopf, who was keen on giving wrong answers, said that the ‘Thirty Years war’, lasted seven metres. The History Master did not know how to prove this answer right. Fortunately for him, the Mathematics master aided him by proving that the answer was right on the basis of Einstein’s Theory of Relativity. The Master argued that time and space are relative terms and therefore years can be represented in terms of meter. The war took place during half of each day, three hours a day to eat, hours given up to noon, so a total of seven years. The actual time spent in fighting was seven years and it has been by Einstein’s equivalent of seven meters. Wasserkopf called the History Master a numskull.

The Physics Master asked Wasserkopf whether clocks in church become smaller if one walks away from it or is it because of optical illusion. He called The Physics master an ass. The master says that the answer is correct because ass does not have any illusion of vision. Therefore, Wasserkopf has given a metaphorical explanation. Wasserkopf called him a cannibal.

The Geography Master asks Wasserkopf for the name of a city which has the same name as the capital of German Province of Brunswick. He replied as ‘Same’. Master said it as the correct answer. There was a legend that once as the emperor Barbarossa was riding in the city, he met a young peasant (farmer) girl, who was munching a bun mouthful. He called out to her God Bless you and asked her the name of the city, she answered the same to you sir for his wishes, and the Emperor mistook the city name as ‘Same’.

One by one each teacher justified his wrong answer to be the correct one and they marked him excellent. Though Wasserkopf gives wrong answers and uses abusive words to each teacher, they don't show their anger because they have to prove him as an excellent student.

At last the mathematics master asks him a difficult question and an easy question. For the easy question he gives the wrong answer and the master gets angry and says that he has failed in his examination so he should be given his tuition fees back. The master says that they have decided to give him his tuition fees back and asks for the exact amount which he has to get. Wasserkopf, without knowing that he is going to fall into their trap, gives them the list of exact amounts. The mathematics master says that was his difficult question and he gave the right answer. Now he has proved excellent in the entire subject and they throw him out without allowing him to say anything further. It shows the ability of the teachers to manage the situation and how they tackle Wasserkopf without spoiling the reputation of their school.

Understanding the text

Answer the following Questions

a. Why does Wasserkopf demand a refund of his tuition fees from the school?

Ans. Wasserkopf asks the school to reimburse his tuition payments since he thinks that the education he got at the school did not equip him with any capacity.

b. Why does Wasserkopf consider himself good for nothing?

Ans. He sees himself as excellent for nothing since his school can't learn anything helpful.

c. What did the teachers decide to do when Wasserkopf asked for a refund?

Ans. When Wasserkopf requested a refund, they decided to re-examine Wasserkoph and pass the test.

d. Why did Wasserkopf give ridiculous answers? Why did the teachers accept these answers?

Ans. He provided stupid replies since his goal was to fail. Teachers accept his Answer to ensure he passes the test.

e. How does the Mathematics Master describe Wasserkopf’s character?

Ans. The Mathematics Master portrays him as a sneaky, clever person who will attempt to get their money back by trick or crook.

f. How did the teachers outwit Wasserkopf?

Ans. Wasserkopf's instructors asked extremely simple questions. His explanations were absurd yet justified them. Finally, after asking Wasserkopf the simple question, the math instructor stated he failed the test and asked him to calculate the amount the school had to reimburse. He did extremely well. Mathematics professors claimed he Ansed the tough question since he was a mathematical genius. The instructors declared passing the test. They outwitted Wasserkopf.

g. What is the final judgment on Waserkopf’s demand of refund?

Ans. The principal delivers the exam's final result. He passed with excellence in each subject and showed again that he is entitled to the diploma that the school gave him on graduation. No money is reimbursed, but the servant seizes and dispatches him.

Reference to the context

a. Read the extract from the play given below and answer the questions that follow: “It’s possible I’ve changed. What the hell…! Your class records will show I’ve got a right to come here.”

i. Who is the speaker? Who is he speaking to?

Ans : Wasserkopf is the speaker. He's speaking to the principal of his former school.

ii. Why does the speaker say these words?

Ans : The speaker says these words because he is dissatisfied with his educational records from his previous school, which he obtained eighteen years ago.

iii. Where is the speaker at this moment?

Ans : The speaker is in the Principal's office at this moment.

b. Read the extract dialogue given below and Ans the questions that follow:

i. What is the answer to ‘How do you do?’

Ans : 'I am fine' is to be the answer to 'How do you do'.

ii. Is Wasserkopf’s answer polite enough to the staff?

Ans : No, Wasserkopf's answer to the staff isn't polite enough. He uses derogatory language against them.

iii. How does Wasserkopf rebuke the staff?

Ans : Wasserkopf rebukes the staff, calling them "loafers" and asking, "Who the hell are you?"

iv. What does the principal mean by ‘How dare you -’?

Ans : The Principal is referring to Wasserkopf's dare to make abusive remarks about masters when he says, 'How dare you?'

c. Explain the following line of the play: “Because I didn’t get my money’s worth, that’s why!”

Ans. Wasserkoph returns to his study school. He approaches the Principal and demands on reimbursing his tuition money. The Principal is amazed and wonders why this is an odd assertion.

He says he'd learned nothing in school. He's dismissed from work and in financial trouble. This is the outcome of the school's education.

Therefore, Wasserkoph is right in demanding reimbursement. He says a re-examination will show his demand is legitimate.

d. What is the theme of the play?

Ans. The play "Refund" combines humour and sarcasm. The playwright attacks the current school system, which does not equip pupils for profession. The drama addresses an uncommon scenario. It also demonstrates instructors' abilities to handle the issue without damaging their school's reputation.

E. Sketch the character of Wasserkopf.

Ans. Wasserkopf is the play's primary character. He's 40 years old. He's an excentrician. He's dismissed from work and stays jobless. Wherever he goes, people say that he's suited for nothing. He thinks he has learned nothing at his school, therefore the institution must reimburse tuition money.

Reference beyond the text

a. The play is a satire on the present day education system. Do you think that our education system does not prepare students for life? Discuss.

Ans : Our school system doesn't properly prepare kids for life. Current educational system is divorced from real life. It's not about a practical way of living. It has distracted people's focus from innovation, making them impractical. In today's society, many educated individuals with high credential values do not know anything. They're not even able to guide others. Consequently, in a number of sectors, the present educational system produces inefficient employees.

b. Our education system focuses on memorisation rather than creative thinking. Do you think the knowledge imparted by education may not have practical relevance in one’s day-to-day life? Who do you blame for this?

Ans : Our education system is blamed that school knowledge can't be helpful in daily life. In today's school system, we find education and related knowledge far from creative thinking. The courses are designed so that in daily life they are not connected to practical relevance. These teaching materials have no real world relevance.

People struggling in academics are likewise looking for a simpler way to remember than creative thinking. Most students take the wrong route, focusing on passing exams and earning certificates. Creativity has no place in their lives. They aim to obtain excellent credentials via various ways. This is due to the current education system, which destroyed thousands of minds.

c. Most of the students want to learn just for examination rather than knowledge. Do you think that certificate will help them in their future career?

Ans : Students who only prepare for exams won’t enjoy credentials throughout their future careers. Most youngsters are on the wrong track today. Their test preparation has a deadline. They are observed considerably more frequently before two or three months of assessment. They're far from the concept of knowledge, but they trust quick solutions to pass your exams. The method they have chosen doesn't benefit their future. Since certificates never demonstrate genuine knowledge or skills, true knowledge will certainly be lacking in the future. Today, most students obtain certificates using dubious means.

Get more notes from : www.tsz.com.np

Subscribe “The SR Zone” on YouTube

@Shriram Lamichhane