Vikram’s English Academy (ICSE)

Assignment: The World- Renowned Nose (QUESTION BANK)

1. **The writer says that it is a true story. Is it really a true story?**

Ans: No, the story isn’t true but a fictional one. This story is a satire against certain norms and practices of the society. One of them is to blindly worship someone as in the case of the story where the central character gets a lot of attention, fame and money.

1. What is the profession of the protagonist? Was he aware of the happenings in the world?

Ans: The protagonist is a cook, a kitchen worker who was illiterate and could neither read nor write. No, he wasn’t aware of the happenings in the world as his world was confined to the kitchen. He never felt like paying attention to the world as he could eat to his satisfaction, sleep and work.

1. To what extent was the kitchen worker illiterate?

Ans: The kitchen worker was so illiterate that he didn’t even know the names of the months of the year.

1. Who would come to receive his pay? What can we derive about his workplace from this?

Ans: His mother would come and take his salary. We can derive that he stayed away from his mother. He was a kitchen worker at someone’s house. He worked as well as stayed there.

1. What amazing thing happened one day?

Ans: One day, his nose grew slightly in length. It passed his mouth and reached the level of his chin. The nose began to grow in length every day. Within a month the nose reached his navel.

1. Why was he removed from his workplace?

Ans: He was removed from his workplace because the people living in the house where he worked could find no peace or quietness because of him. People came visiting night and day to see him. Photographers pestered the family members, news-reporters became a nuisance. Also, a number of things were pilfered from the house.

1. Was he inefficient? Did his nose cause any problem to anyone?

No, he was efficient as he could distinguish between smells, he could also breathe freely. His elongated nose didn’t pose any problem to him but it became trouble-some for the people who stayed in the house.

1. Did anyone offer him any job? What does the writer want to highlight here?

Ans: No, nobody offered him any job. The dismissed cook sat starving in his lowly hut. The writer wants to highlight people’s ignorance. Nobody came forward to help him. People from distant lands came to see him but nobody offered him food or job.

1. What happened after he told his mother to get those people out of his hut?

Ans: The day he told his mother to get those horrid people out his hut, good fortune knocked at his door. People began to bribe the mother to see the son’s nose.

1. How did his financial situation change after that one day?

The income of the long-nosed one grew day by day and in six years the poor cook became a millionaire. His lowly hut became a princely abode which was like a guest house. It was open to all and anyone at any time could get a meal there.

1. How did people react to the act of bribery?

Ans: Some upholders of justice protested against the act of bribery saying it was corruption. But the government did not take any action. Many protested against the inaction of the Government and joined revolutionary parties, out to sabotage the Government.

1. What kind of exposure did the long-nosed one get in the entertainment industry?

Ans: He acted thrice in films. Vast audiences were attracted by the feature film: The Human submarine.

1. How did he inspire many writers?

Ans: Six poets wrote epic poems about the noble qualities of the long-nosed one. Nine well-known writers wrote biographies of the long-nosed one and won wealth and acclaim.

1. Was long-nosed one’s opinion considered important?

Yes, he was supposed to comment on all important world events. Newspapers also published his comments. He was expected to comment about anything and everything; painting, the watch trade, the soul, publishing houses, life after death, the conduct of newspapers, hunting and so on. And if didn’t comment on a particular issue that issue was considered to be of less importance.

1. Which was the first conspiracy that was hatched against the long-nosed one?

Ans: The first conspiracy that was hatched against the long-nosed one was by the Government. They wanted to capture the long-nosed one and so tried a confidence trick.

1. What was ‘the confidence trick’? What did the Government do?

Ans: The confidence trick was to win his trust and set a trap around him. The Government gave a bejewelled gold medal to the long-nosed one. The President tied the medal round the neck of the long-nosed one. Then instead of shaking the long-nosed one by the hand, the President tweaked the tip of the long nose.

1. Which other conspiracy was hatched to mar his reputation?

Ans: Many political parties came forward enthusiastically and coaxed him to join a Party. It was not possible for him to join so many parties and so finally he decided not be involved. But one of the political parties declared with a slogan that their party is long-nosed one’s party. Members of the other party were enraged by this and made false accusations regarding his real nose. All this was done seeking help from one of his secretaries.

1. What accusations were made regarding the long nosed one?

Ans: One of the secretaries who made a scathing statement accused the long nosed one to be a cheat who had been deceiving the people. She also alleged that he made her a partner in that fraud. She declared that his nose was made up of rubber.

1. How did the people react to this?

Ans: People reacted in anger. Cables, telephone, letters from all parts of the world people started contacting the President. He was not allowed any peace or quietness.

1. What did the opposing party do?

Ans: The opposing party issued a counter statement to the one given by the first secretary. She said that it was a lie and that she was trying to keep the wealth and good name for herself. It was actually her brother who was in the opposite party and she knows their true colours. She finally declared that his nose was a real one as real as her beating heart.

1. What did the leaders of the party against the long-nosed one do?

Ans: The leaders of the party against the long nosed one began finding fault with the President and the Government. They accused the Government of giving the title of Chief to the deceiver of the people. The President was also considered to be a part of the fraud. People considered it to be betrayal of national interest. They wanted the President and the ministry to resign and rubber-nosed one to be killed.

1. What did the President do?

Ans: The President reacted angrily. One morning the army and their tanks surrounded the hose of the poor long nosed one. He was arrested and taken away.

1. Which news came when people had forgotten about it? To what is the impact compared?

Ans: The news came that there is the trial of the ‘Chief of the long-nosed ones’ which will take place on 9th March. Expert doctors who will come as representatives of 48 countries will examine him. All the newspapers of the world will be represented. The proceedings will be filmed. The impact of this news is compared to that of a nuclear bomb.

1. Did people maintain their calmness?

Ans: No, people didn’t maintain their calmness. They came in large numbers into the metropolis. They invaded the hotels. They burnt public conveyances. They set fire to the police stations and also destroyed government buildings.

1. What happened at 11 am?

Ans: The square in front of the Presidential Palace was a vast sea of humanity. The loud speakers blared forth that people must be disciplined as the examination of his nose had begun.

1. How was his nose examined? What was the verdict?

Ans: The doctors surrounded the long-nosed one in the presence of the President and cabinet ministers. One doctor blocked the nostrils of the long-nosed one; he immediately opened his mouth wide. Another doctor took a needle and punctured the tip of his nose. To his amazement a drop of blood appeared at the tip of the nose. The verdict given was that the nose is genuine.

1. What happened after the revelry ended?

Ans: After the shouting and the revelry ended, the President thought of another gimmick. He nominated the long-nosed one as a Member of Parliament.

1. Did the controversy end after it was proved that his nose was genuine?

Ans: No, the controversy did not end here. The falsehood was being perpetuated. The parties of which the long nosed one was not a member formed a United Front and began to say that the ministry must resign.

1. What is satirical about the story?

Ans: The story mocks at the psychology of the masses. People tend to follow herd-mentality. They believe in concept of ‘majority wins’ and believe in what is shown to them rather than thinking rationally and logically.

1. How does the writer take a dig at the society?

Ans: The writer wants to criticise certain norms in the society. In this story, the long-nosed one gains fame, reputation, respect and money not due to his hard work or efficiency but due to a defect. One tends to overlook person’s capability, efficiency and talent.

1. How does the writer bring out hypocrisy of the people?

Ans: Those people who hero worshipped the long-nosed one suddenly turn against him due to a wrong statement issued by one of his secretaries. That basically shows frivolousness of people. They are ready to believe in rumours and change their opinion at a drop of a hat.