Vikram’s English Academy (ICSE)

Assignment (Luncheon)

1. Where did the narrator and the lady meet and during what time?

Ans: First the narrator and the lady met at the interval of a play. Before that they had met twenty years ago at the Foyot’s restaurant on Thursday , half past twelve for a luncheon.

2. Why was the narrator not able to refuse the luncheon invitation?

Ans: The narrator was flattered and had received a letter from one of his fans for the first time. He was so young that he couldn’t refuse the proposal for luncheon.

3. What financial situation was the narrator in twenty years ago? Justify.

Ans: The narrator was not financially sound. He used to live in Paris in a tiny apartment in the Latin Quarter overlooking a cemetery and used to earn barely enough to keep body and soul together. That is proved as he was extremely careful during the luncheon not to cross his budge and hence ordered for mutton chops which was the cheapest dish on the menu.

4. What was the narrator’s impression of the lady when he met her for the luncheon?

Ans: The narrator expected the lady to be young, she was imposing in appearance rather than attractive. She was a woman of forty and gave the impression of having more teeth, white and even large and was also talkative.

5. How did the lady manage to get an invitation for a luncheon from the writer?

Ans: The lady wrote a letter to the narrator saying that she was passing through Paris and would like to meet him for a conversation but as her time was limited the only free moment she had was the following Thursday. So, she asked him if he could give her a little luncheon at Foyot’s.

6. Mention the different things that the lady and the narrator had for the luncheon

Ans: The lady ordered for salmon- a fish, caviar-eggs of a sturgeon (a type of fish) then she called for asparagus, coffee, ice cream, white wine, peach which was taken absentmindedly.

7. I never eat anything for luncheon. Discuss the irony of this statement.

Ans: The lady though repeated this line n-number of times, she herself had salmon, caviar, asparagus, coffee, ice-cream, white wine even absent-mindedly took a fish.

8. What did the narrator order? Why?

Ans: The narrator first only ordered for mutton chops as he wanted to save his money. Later, when he realized that things have gone out of hand, he chose to order for a coffee.

9. Why had the narrator suddenly seized in panic?

Ans: When asparagus was ordered, panic seized the narrator as it was not a question how much money he would have left over with for the rest of the month but whether he had enough money to pay the bill.

10. How had the immortal Gods taken revenge, according to the narrator?

Ans: According to the narrator, immortal Gods had taken revenge by making her fat as she weighed twenty-one stone that is approximately 134 kg. The narrator calls it as a revenge as she had made ironical statements like ‘I never eat anything for luncheon’ but she did have many things shamelessly.