Vikram’s English Academy (ICSE)

Assignment: More About People ( Answer Key )

Answer the following :

1. What are the things that people are generally doing?

Ans. People are generally asking questions or making suggestions to other. If they are not doing either of these, they are looking over their shoulder or stepping on their toes.

2. What do these people do to annoy you the most?

Ans. When these people want to annoy you the most, they employ you.

3. Who incurs the displeasure of the employed? Why do they do so?

Ans. Those who are at leisure incur the displeasure of the employed because it is very irking to the people at work to see other people not working.

4. How do the employed try to convince those who aren’t that it is important to work

Ans. Those who are employed try to convince those who aren’t that it is important to work by telling them that work is wonderful medicine. They also cite the examples of successful businessmen like Firestone, Ford and Edison to explain the importance of hard work.

5. What does the term ‘work is wonderful medicine’ mean?

Ans. When a person in unemployed, his mind is empty and he ends up thinking of unwanted things and may fall sick. On the contrary when a person is employed, he is so engrossed in work that there is no time to think and he stays healthy .Thus work acts as medicine.

6. What examples do the employed give to the unemployed? Why?

Ans. The employed give the example of successful industrialists like Firestone, Ford and Edison to the unemployed. These people have accomplished their goals with a lot of hard work and perseverance. Thus the poet mentions them to urge the unemployed to work hard and become successful.

7. When do the unemployed starve the employed to death?

Ans . The employed urge the unemployed to work. First they tell them that work is medicine, give examples of successful businessmen and keep lecturing them .If the unemployed do not pay heed to their advises ,the employed will then starve them to death.

8. What does a ‘nasty quirk’ mean? What is the nasty quirk mentioned in the poem?

Ans. A ‘nasty quirk ‘means an abrupt unwanted twist or turn of events. In this poem the nasty quirk refers to the fact that if a person doesn’t want to work, he must work to earn enough money so that he won’t have to work.

9. Identify a Metaphor from the poem?

Ans. The line ‘So they tell you that work is wonderful medicine’ is a Metaphor. Here there is an indirect comparison between two unlike objects ‘work’ and ‘medicine’.

10. Name and explain the figure of speech in the line ‘And they lecture you till they’re out of breath or something.’

Ans. Hyperbole : This is an exaggerated statement .