Vikram’s English Academy (ICSE)

Assignment: Scarlet Pimpernel (Chapter 18)

1. Mention the condition in which Marguerite was left behind by Chauvelin?

Ans: Marguerite was half-dazed but she tried to be alert as she listened to the retreating footsteps of Chauvelin and his men.

2. Explain the aptness of the title of Chapter 18.

Ans: The title is very apt as not just Scarlet Pimpernel but even the other refugees including Armand escape from the clutches of Chauvelin. Marguerite, too, whose life did look in danger was saved by Scarlet Pimpernel.

3. What had happened to Scarlet Pimpernel? Where was he all this while?

Ans: Scarlet Pimpernel using his cunning skill was disguised as the old cart driver. He pretended to be scared and although knots of the ropes were loose he did not attempt to move showing that he was a helpless and a foolish man.

4. Where was Armand?

Armand was sailing back safely to England thanks to Scarlet and his plans. He was with Count de Tournay and others boarded on Day Dream.

5. Explain the plan carried out by Scarlet Pimpernel to save himself and his comrades?

Scarlet Pimpernel, realising that Chauvelin meant to stick to him, thought the only he could do was to take him along as he went about his plan of rescuing Armand and others. He disguised himself as an old dirty cart driver and knew that he wouldn’t be recognised. He met Reuben and a few pieces of gold he lent his horse and cart and promised to keep out of the way. Scarlet was confident that he could depend on Chauvelin’s men’s absolute mindless obedience. The soldiers did what exactly was told to them and that gave Scarlet a chance. Desgas had thrown him in a heap quite close to the hut and the soldiers took no notice of him. He managed to free his hands, write two notes and quietly crawled to the hut and dropped the note inside. In one note, he had asked the fugitives to move out secretly and then when he realised his fugitives were safe he sang his signal song. In the second he wrote to confuse Chauvelin. According to the second note, Chauvelin and his men would go running to Le Chat Gris whereas they would aboard safely the Day Dream.

6. How had Marguerite’s approach changed towards Scarlet Pimpernel?

Ans: Marguerite who always thought her husband to be very ridiculous and acted so silly like an idiot. However, her approach changed and she marvelled at the amazing cleverness and the tremendous courage of the team that had carried out the daring plan.

7. Why did Scarlet want to leave from the place immediately?

Scarlet wanted to leave the place immediately before Chauvelin finds out that he has been tricked and sends someone there to look for them.

8. What was the next plan, according to Scarlet?

According to Scarlet, the next plan was not to go to Calais but just to the other side of Gris Nez where they will meet up Sir Andrew and then Day Dream will come to pick them up.

9. Was the crew surprised at Scarlet’s appearance? Why?

No, the crew wasn’t surprised at Scarlet’s appearance as they knew their master’s secret exploits and was not surprised to see him in his extraordinary disguise.

10. Mention the epilogue given.

In the epilogue it is mentioned that Sir Andrew and Suzanne are married. Marguerite looked very beautiful and Sir Percy’s extravagant clothes wore on that occasion were the talk of the town. Chauvelin the official representative was not present at that or any other social function in London due to the extraordinary events of high intrigue at Lord Grenville’s ball and the humiliating events that followed.