



Brain International School

Vikas Puri, New Delhi

ASSIGNMENT NO. 2

SUBJECT: ENGLISH

CLASS-XII

MAY, 2025

THE ENEMY

THEME: This chapter reflects on the conflict between duty and patriotism. It presents before you a dilemma whether Dr. Sadao should fulfil his obligations as a doctor and save the life of the prisoner or like a true patriot hand him over to the police even though the prisoner was in a pitiable condition and on the verge of dying. He deliberates whether to put the life of everyone in jeopardy and take the risk of tarnishing and blemishing his reputation or to let the POW die.

Questions:

1. Give a character sketch of Dr. Sadao's father.
2. Dr. Sadao emerges as a saviour of humanity. Substantiate your answer with evidence from the text.
3. Dr. Sadao used his skills as a doctor not only to keep the prisoner alive but also to safeguard himself. Discuss.
4. Pearl S. Buck depicts servants in a certain way to convey a message about Japanese people and culture. Support your answer with textual evidence.
5. "Do you think Dr. Sadao's final decision was the best possible one in the circumstances? Why/ why not.

ON THE FACE OF IT

THEME: This chapter dwells on various themes. It depicts the attitude and perspective of the society towards the people with disabilities and how they view them with pity and empathy all the time whereas what they just desire is to be treated normally like others with self- respect and dignity. Secondly, the chapter highlights the bond between two physically challenged people. It also emphasises on the fact that how they are neglected by the society and feel a sense of alienation and isolation. The chapter also highlights optimism through Mr. Lamb and pessimistic outlook through Derry.

Questions:

1. How did Mr. Lamb's meeting with Derry become the turning point in his life?
2. Both Derry and Mr. Lamb suffered physical and emotional damage, but Derry has a lot of anger inside him while Mr. Lamb is serene. What will it take Derry to grow into someone like Mr. Lamb?

3. Mr. Lamb stands as a symbol of optimism and hope. Support your answer with examples from the text.
4. Do you think the tragic end to Mr. Lamb's life will affect Derry in some way?
5. 'Because if I don't go back there, I'll never go back anywhere in the world' says Derry to his mother. How do these words reflect Derry's state of mind? How does he come to feel this way?

RATTRAP

Theme: Love, compassion, empathy, benevolence, kindness and generosity have the power to transform souls. Edla acts as a harbinger of divinity, hope and happiness in the life of the peddler and truly keeps the spirit of Christmas alive by transforming him into a virtuous man with ethics and morality.

Questions

1. A mistaken identify led to a discovery of a new one for the rattrap seller. How did this impact him?
2. Compare and contrast the character of the ironmaster with that of his daughter.
3. What amusing idea about the world struck the peddler?
4. What impression do you form of the peddler from the chapter?
5. What do you learn about the crofter's nature from the story 'The Rattrap'?
6. The people we meet in life leave an impression on us. How is the rattrap seller affected by meeting the crofter and Edla?

KEEPING QUIET

Theme: Introspection and retrospection.

Poetic Devices

1. Alliteration: the repetition of a consonant sound at the start of two or more closely placed words.
'we will' – 'w' sound is repeated
'we would' – 'w' sound is repeated
'sudden strangeness' – 's' sound is repeated
'his hurt hands' – 'h' sound is repeated
'wars with' – 'w' sound is repeated
'clean clothes' – 'c' sound is repeated
2. Anaphora: Two consecutive lines starting with the same word 'Let's' let's
not speak in any language,
let's stop for one second,
3. Assonance: use of vowel 'o' (victory with no survivors, would put on clean clothes and walk about with their brothers)
Use of vowel sound 'o' and 'e' (Now we will count to twelve, not move our arms so much)
4. Enjambment: and for once could perhaps a huge silence . of threatening ourselves with death.
5. Repetition: use of 'war'

Questions

1. How according to Pablo Neruda can keeping quiet change our attitude towards life? Explain.
2. "Under the apparent stillness there is life." Do you agree with this statement? Justify your answer with examples.
3. What kind of an ideal world does the poet visualize?
4. What is the single-mindedness that the poet talks about?