



INDIAN SCHOOL AL WADI AL KABIR

Class: VIII	Department: ENGLISH	November -2023
WORKSHEET NO: 22	Topic: The Open Window	Note: to be done in notebook

I. Answer these questions.

1. Why had Mr. Nuttel come down to the 'rural retreat'?

Ans: Mr. Nuttel was suffering from some ailment of the nerves and had come to rural retreat to recover.

2. What help did his sister extend to him?

Ans: Nuttel's sister gave him letter of introductions so that he could befriend and have a comfortable stay.

3. According to Vera, what tragedy had befallen Mrs. Sappleton three years ago?

Ans: According to Vera, three years ago, Mrs. Sappleton's husband and her two brothers had gone for shooting. On their way, they were swamped in the bog, and they never returned. This incident had affected her aunt, and she kept the window open in the hope that they would return some day.

4. What explanation did Mrs. Sappleton offer for the open window when she met Mr. Nuttel?

Ans: Mrs. Sappleton said that she kept the window open for her husband and two brothers to enter into the house so that they do not spoil the carpet with their muddy shoes.

5. What topic did Mr. Nuttel's conversation centre on?

Ans: Mr. Nuttel spoke about how the doctors had advised him rest and avoid mental excitement and physical exercise. He also discussed about the food that the doctors had recommended for him.



6. What did Mr. Nuttel see when he looked out of the open window? What do you think he felt, and how did he react?

Ans: Mr. Nuttel saw three people coming towards the window. He felt that they were the ghost of those people who never returned. He fled away from that place.



II. Answer these questions with reference to the context.

1. “...I almost get a creepy feeling that they will all walk in through that window....”

a. Who is the speaker here?

Ans: Vera is the speaker here.

b. Whom is the speaker addressing? Who is being referred to here?

Ans: The speaker is addressing Mr. Nuttel. She is referring to her aunt’s husband and her brothers.

c. When is this statement made?

Ans: The statement is being made while Mr. Nuttel is waiting for Mrs. Sappleton.

2. “One would think he had seen a ghost.”

a. Who makes this statement and to whom?

Ans: Mrs. Sappleton said this to her husband.

b. Why does the speaker say this?

Ans: Mr. Nuttel saw the three men and fled away thinking of them as ghost, hence Mrs. Sappleton made this statement.

c. Who is ‘he’? Had he really seen a ghost?

Ans: ‘He’ refers to Mr. Nuttel. No, they weren’t ghost. Vera had made up a story. Those people were alive.

3. “Enough to make anyone lose their nerve.”

a. Who is the speaker here?

Ans: Vera is the speaker here.

b. Whom is the speaker speaking to and about who?

Ans: Vera is talking to Mrs. Sappleton about Mr. Nuttel.

c. Why does the speaker say this?

Ans: The speaker had made up a story about the open window to Mr. Nuttel. When Mr. Nuttel saw those men, he ran away in fear thinking of them as ghost. In order to justify his behaviour, Vera made up another story of how Mr. Nuttel feared dogs.

d. What does this tell us about the speaker?

Ans: It gives us the idea that the speaker is a habitual liar who loves making up stories and having fun.

Think and Answer

1. What was the first question that Mrs. Sappleton's niece, Vera, asked Mr. Nuttel? Why do you think that she asked him that question?

Ans: The first question that the niece asked was if Mr. Nuttel knew many people around. She asked this because she was going to make up a story about the open window and wanted to be safe while doing so. She was trying to confirm that Mr. Nuttel was fairly new and unaware about the people living around.

2. What is the story about? Is it about the window that was open or Vera's uncanny ability to fabricate stories? Give reasons for your answer.

Ans: The story is about Vera's uncanny ability to fabricate stories. (Cite reasons from the text.)

3. 'Romance at short notice was her speciality.' Justify this observation about the niece.

Ans: Romance, means some story or account that lacks facts. The narrator means that Vera was adapt in making up stories full of mysterious events. She could invent stories at the spur of the moment.