

English Notes

Class- VII

Based on Literature

Chapter- 1

Topic – The New Teacher

Author's Name – Arthur Cavanaugh

3. Initially Miss Orville openly criticises Mrs Lambert's Son and later announces how she awarded Bruce's work with an A. Do you agree with the teacher's system of reward and punishment why/why not?

Ans- Yes, I agree with the teacher's system of reward and punishment because when the children are punished for their bad works they would try to do better next time or improve themselves due to the fear of punishment. On the contrary when the children are rewarded for their good works they would get courage to do more better and better every time and feel proud to be praised and applauded among the whole class. The same thing was happened with Lambert's son and Bruce.

4. Why does Mrs Reeves refer to Miss Orville as a poor thing? From a poor thing does she evolve into a kind of hero? Give reasons for your answer.

Ans- Mrs Reeves referred poor thing to Miss Orville because she remembered that when old ramshackle buildings were torn down last year, Miss Orville, elderly retired school teacher was one of the tenants. She had lived there for ages and refused to budge, sitting in a rocker on the sidewalk, surrounded by furniture and plants. Her picture was in the papers. She could not keep any of the plants. So Mrs Reeves says her poor thing who was evicted like that.

Yes, from a poor thing she is evolved into a kind of hero because, as Roger Clark understood the meaning of eviction, he felt sympathy for her when the naughty children wanted to rip off all the dopey leaves from her old plant. He was impressed by her last words given in his class. He learnt the hard words and spellings and made listen to Miss Orville. Eventually Roger Clark understood the importance of schooling and learning.

5. To be truly educated is to be civilized. Explain the importance of Miss Orville's last lesson in your own words.

Ans- To be truly educated is to be civilized. She means that though the thousands of children in the world are denied the gift of schooling yet education has always been called a gift. Of course to get the education timely and in a proper school is really the gift to the children. Above all other factors during schooling, discipline is the most important priority for the children. Somehow, the teachers like Miss Orville may succeed to change the naughty children to the civilized one with the impression of being a hard taskmaster and a disciplinarian. If every child is as sensitive as Roger Clark who understands the importance of schooling and learning then the world will be the better place to live in because the world need good citizens.

6. The exposition or background of the story prepares us for the absence of Miss Wilson in Roger's school. The action gets exciting as a new teacher arrives and regiments the students. The climax brings the knowledge of the eviction, but despite the falling action in the ripping of the leaves, the resolution or the end of the story takes us by surprise. Why?

Ans- The entry of the new teacher was drastic and thundering blow to the naughty little learners because Miss Orville was at all, completely opposite to Miss Wilson. She gives the impression of being a hard taskmaster and a disciplinarian but actually loves teaching and believed in nurturing children with love as she nurtures the plant. She regiments the students and punishes them for their bad work. To some extent she subdued the naughty students. Her eviction from ramshackle buildings was also revealed as she was a tenant there from ages. Some naughty children ripped off all the dopey leaves from her old plant in return of punishment. In her last lesson she says school is a privilege and must not mock. For past week she was probably strict but just for children's benefits because the world needs good citizens. She says to be truly educated is to be civilized and disciplinarian. If not all, but Roger Clark changed from a naughty child to the better one. That is why the resolution or the end of the story takes us by surprise.

HW- write the Hard words and their meanings.