
CLASS -IX ENGLISH
NCERT SOLUTIONS-MOMENT
The Lost Child

Answer

Page No: 6 Think About It

Answer1: The child sees a number of things which fascinate him on his way to the fair

- ▶ Firstly, he saw toys at a shop.
- ▶ Then he saw a flowering mustard field.
- ▶ In the fields, the child also saw dragon flies, butterflies fluttering their wings
- ▶ Then while walking on the footpath he was amazed by the insects and worms
- ▶ When he entered the grove he saw doves which were cooing
- ▶ As he neared the village with his parents, he saw huge crowds of people going to the fair
- ▶ The child also came across sweetmeat seller selling sweets like burfi and gulabjamun and a little further he came across a flower seller who was selling a garland of gulmohar
- ▶ Walking ahead, he saw a man selling rainbow colour balloons
- ▶ He also saw a snake charmer who stood playing a flute to a snake
- ▶ Finally, before losing track of his parents he saw a roundabout swing

The child keeps lagging behind his parents on the way and his mother and father have to constantly call him so that he doesn't lag behind. This is because the child is fascinated by all the things he sees on his way. At times, he stops to be able to buy toys and at other times he stops to admire the beauty of the nature – collecting flowers, catching butterflies.

Answer2: The child many things in fair. They are:

- ▶ Toys and Balloons
- ▶ Sweets from the sweetmeat seller
- ▶ Garland of gulmohar
- ▶ Watching the snake charmer play flute to a snake
- ▶ A ride in the round about

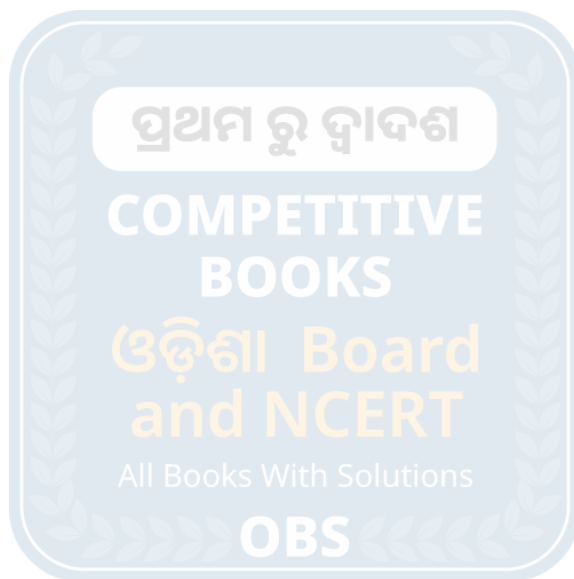
The boy moved on without waiting for an answer because he knew that his request would be denied at each step.

Answer3: He realises that he has lost his way when on reaching the roundabout; he stopped to observe it moving in full swing, with men, women and children enjoying themselves on it. Watching them intently he turned to his parents to ask for permission to go on the rounds but there was no reply from them. He turned to look for them but they were not there. He looked all around but there was no sign of them. A full, deep cry rose within his dry throat and with a sudden jerk of his body he ran from where he stood, crying out in real fear "Mother, Father." Tears rolled down from his eyes, his flushed face was convulsed with fear. Panic-stricken, he ran

from one side to the other, in all directions, knowing not where to go. His yellow turban came untied and his clothes became muddy.

Answer4: The lost child loses interest in the things that he had wanted earlier because he was panic stricken on being separated from his parents. All he wanted was to be united with them. All the things that attracted him in the fair no longer appeal to him and now the only thing that matters is finding his parents.

Answer5: In the end the parents, who continuously kept checking to see that he was with them right from the beginning of their journey may have suddenly realized that he was missing and come looking for the lost child. The kind and understanding man who tried to console the little boy by offering him various things at the fair may have also asked him for some description of his parents and helped him to be reunited with them.



CLASS -IX ENGLISH
NCERT SOLUTIONS-MOMENT
The Adventures of Toto

Answer

Page No: 11 Think About It

Answer1: Toto was in the captivity of a tonga owner. The grandfather gets sympathetic with the monkey and thinks that his private zoo would be a better place for Toto. So he purchased Toto from the tongawallah for five rupees.

Answer2: Toto was a pretty monkey. His bright eyes sparkled with mischief beneath the deep-set eyebrows, and his teeth, which were a pearly white, were very often displayed in a smile that frightened the life out of elderly Anglo-Indian ladies. But his hands looked dried-up as though they had been pickled in the sun for many years. Yet his fingers were quick and wicked and his tail, while adding to his good looks served as a third hand. He could use it to hang from a branch and it was capable of scooping up any delicacy that might be out of reach of his hands.

Answer3: Toto was a real menace for every living soul in the household. Other animals in grandfather's zoo were at Toto's mercy even during night. So, grandfather decided to provide some relief to other animals in the zoo and thought of taking Toto to Shaharanpur.

The ticket collector was following his rulebooks. As there seems to be no rule for fixing a monkey's fare so he equated Toto with dog. Ticket collector's ingenuity tried to categorize all pets of a certain size as dogs.

Answer4: Toto takes bath in a tub of warm water. It puts its legs in the water one by one and applies soap as well. As monkeys are good at aping others, so Toto has learnt proper steps of bathing while watching the narrator doing same.

Toto is fond of bathing with warm water. So once having tested the warmth of water in the kettle Toto sits in the kettle. Probably he is not intelligent enough to understand the risk boiling water so he pops his head up and down in the kettle.

Answer5: Though Toto was pretty and clever, he was very mischievous. He brought a lot of damage to the house by breaking dishes, tearing clothes and curtains. He also scared the visitors by tearing holes in their dresses. Furthermore, he didn't get along well with other animals in the house too. One day Toto crossed the limits by picking up a dish of pullao and running on a branch to eat it. When scolded he threw off the plate and broke it. That's when grandfather decided he had had enough of Toto because he couldn't bear the losses that he incurred because of Toto's mischief.

CLASS -IX ENGLISH
NCERT SOLUTIONS-MOMENT
Iswaran the Storyteller

Answer

Page No: 18 Think About It

Answer1: Iswaran was a good domestic assistant for Mahendra. Apart from cooking and doing household chores he was a great entertainer for his master. He was good at managing resources as he could find vegetables out of nowhere also never had complain while accompanying his master.

Answer2: Iswaran describes the uprooted tree on the highway with eyebrows suitably arched and hands held out in a dramatic way. He would begin by saying that the road was deserted and he was all alone. Suddenly he spotted something that looked like an enormous bushy beast lying sprawled across the road. He was half inclined to turn and go back. But as he came closer he saw that it was a fallen tree, with its dry branches spread out.
The effect he wants to create is suspense and a surprise ending to every small incident that he narrates to his readers.

Answer3: He started the story of the elephant by giving a prologue in which he called elephants 'huge well-fed beasts.' He said that after escaping from the timber yard, the elephant started roaming about, stamped on bushes and tore up wild creepers. It then came to the main road of the town and smashed all the stalls selling fruits, mud pots, and clothes. It then entered a school ground where the children were playing. It pulled out the football goal-post, tore down the volleyball net, flattened the drum kept for water and uprooted the shrubs. All the teachers and students were so afraid that they climbed up to the terrace of the school building. According to Iswaran, he was studying in the junior class at that time. He grabbed a cane from the hands of one of the teachers and ran into the open. The elephant continued grunting and stamping its feet. It looked frightening. However, he moved slowly towards it. When the elephant was ready to rush towards him, he moved forward and whacked its third toe nail. It looked stunned and then collapsed.
This story does not appear to be plausible.

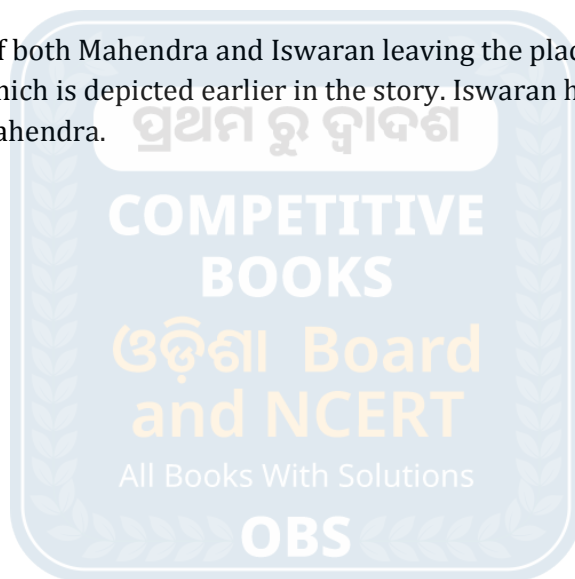
Answer4: The author says so because Iswaran provided a great company to Mahendra. He would chat with Mahendra at night when he returned from his work. Iswaran would also entertain Mahendra by telling stories. Thus, with Iswaran around Mahendra never felt bored and never felt the necessity of having a TV for entertainment.

Answer5: Mahendra calls ghosts or spirits a figment of the imagination because Iswaran informed him that they were living on a burial site and kept narrating to him stories of various ghosts he himself had encountered.

On one full moon night, Mahendra was woken up from his sleep by a low moan close to his window. At first he thought that it was a cat prowling around for mice. But the sound was too deep and guttural for a cat. He resisted looking outside as he did not want to witness a sight that might stop his heart beat. But the crying became louder and less subtle. He could not resist the temptation any more. Lowering himself to the level of the windowsill he looked out at the white sheet of moonlight outside. There, not too far away, was a dark cloudy form clutching a bundle. He broke into a cold sweat and fell back on the pillow, panting.

Answer6: The story could have ended on a more positive note. Instead of resigning from his job, Mahendra could have been shown as a real courageous man and proving the ghost theory wrong.

Another ending can be of both Mahendra and Iswaran leaving the place together and in turn continuing their bond which is depicted earlier in the story. Iswaran has been explained as a man of all seasons for Mahendra.



CLASS –IX ENGLISH
NCERT SOLUTIONS-MOMENT
In the Kingdom of Fools

Answer

Page No: 27 Think About It

Answer1: The two strange things that the guru and his disciple observe in the kingdom of fools are:

- ▶ Every sleeps during the day and carry out their work at night
- ▶ The cost to purchase anything from the market was the same, one duddu (one rupee).

Whether it was a measure of rice or a bunch of banana it cost the same.

Answer2: The disciple decided to stay in the Kingdom of Fools because he was delighted that everything cost a single duddu and everything was very cheap. All that he wanted was good and very cheap food.

According to the Guru, staying there was not a good idea as they were all fools and so he felt this situation would not last long and was not sure about what they would do in the future.

Answer3: Following people were tried in the king's court:

- ▶ The merchant whose house was burgled: Because his house's wall was weak and it fell upon the burglar and killed him
- ▶ The bricklayer who built the wall: Because he built a wall which was weak and which collapsed killing the burglar
- ▶ The dancing girl: Because she distracted the bricklayer with her jingling anklets by walking up and down the road where bricklayer was laying the wall
- ▶ The goldsmith: Because he didn't complete the dancing girl's order on time and so she had to go to the goldsmith a dozen times.
- ▶ The merchant whose house was burgled (second time): because his father persuaded the goldsmith to finish his order first thereby delaying the dancing girl's order. Since the merchant's father died, the merchant had to be executed in his father's place
- ▶ The disciple: Because the merchant was too thin to be executed by the newly made stake and a fat man was required to fit the stake. The disciple was very fat, hence he was caught

Answer4: The real culprit according to the king is the merchant because although his old father was the real murderer he was dead and someone had to be punishment in his place.

He escapes the punishment because he is too thin to be properly executed on the stake.

Answer5: The *guru's* words of wisdom were that it was the city of fools. He advised the disciple to leave the city because he would not know what they would do next. The disciple remembers this when he was going to be executed.

Answer6: The guru tries to confuse the king by expressing his desire to be killed first. Then to further confuse the king he tells the story of becoming the king in the next incarnation. Apparently it may sound like a case of pure lie to save your dear one's life. But if we go deeper consciously or unconsciously the sage is trying to save everybody's life in the kingdom. Ultimately he is able to pull everybody out of the misery of living in the kingdom of fools.

CLASS -IX ENGLISH
NCERT SOLUTIONS-MOMENT
The Happy Prince

Answer

Page No: 36 Think About It

Answer1: The courtiers called the prince 'the Happy Prince' because he was always happy. When he was alive, he did not know what tears were for he lived in a palace where sorrow was not allowed to enter. However, when he died and was made into a statue, he was not happy and tears flowed down his eyes on seeing the state of his city. He could see all the misery and ugliness of the city around him.

Answer2: The Happy Prince sent a ruby for the seamstress as she was extremely poor and could not feed her child who was suffering from fever.

The swallow, on being persuaded by the prince, went to the seamstress's house. She had fallen asleep so the swallow kept the ruby on the table where the woman worked. He then flew round the bed fanning the boy's forehead with his wings. This made the boy feel relaxed and he went to sleep.

Answer3: The Happy Prince sent the sapphires for two people: the young writer across the city and the match girl.

The young writer was trying to finish a play for the Director of the Theatre. However, he was too cold to write anymore, there was no fire in the grate and hunger had made him faint. He sent the sapphire to the young playwright so that he could sell it to the jeweller, buy firewood, and finish his play. On seeing the sapphire, the young man felt appreciated and believed that he could finish his play.

The Happy Prince then saw a little matchgirl who was standing in the square just below him. She had let her matches fall in the gutter because of which they were all spoiled. The prince knew that her father would beat her if she did not bring home some money. When the swallow slipped the jewel into the palm of the little girl's hand, she ran home happy and laughing.

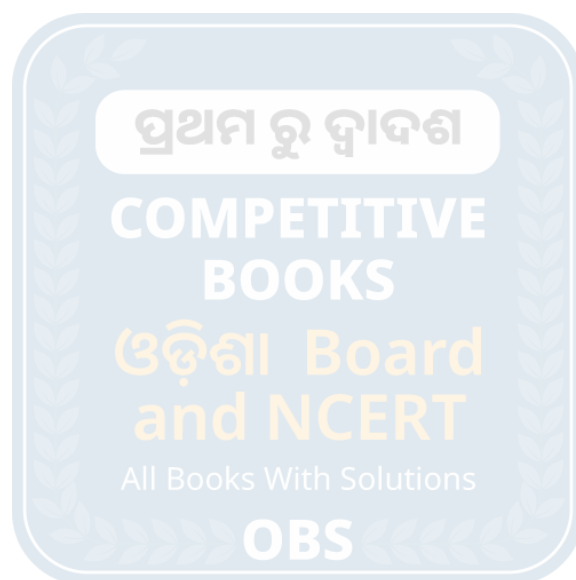
Answer4: When the swallow flew over the city it saw the stark contrast of plenty and poverty. It saw rich men making merry oblivious to the plight of the poor down the lane. It saw the nadir of condition of poor when they are denied even a sound sleep by police patrolling the street.

Answer5: Since the prince had given away the two sapphires of his eyes, he had become blind. Therefore, the swallow decided to stay with the prince always. It can be inferred that the swallow was so touched by prince's kindness that he decided to stay back rather than flying to Egypt and be with his friends. What this suggests is that kind hearted people always attract friends who will stay with them forever.

Answer6: The precious things mentioned in the story are the leaden heart of the happy prince and the dead bird. They are precious because both the happy prince and the swallow were very kind, generous and selfless. The prince could not bear to see the ugliness, misery and suffering in his city and so gave away all his precious stones and gold to make his people happy.

Similarly the swallow sacrificed his trip to Egypt and acted as the prince's messenger carrying the precious stones and gold to the needy spreading happiness around. When the prince was blind he still loved him so much that he never left him even though it kept getting colder and colder with winter approaching. Finally when he could no longer bear the cold he died at the feet of the statue and the statue loved him so much that its leaden heart broke into two.

That is why when God asked one of the angels to bring him the two precious things in the garden the angel took the leaden heart and the dead bird and God said that in his garden of Paradise the little bird shall sing for ever more and in the city of gold the Happy Prince shall praise God.



CLASS -IX ENGLISH
NCERT SOLUTIONS-MOMENT
Weathering the Storm in Ersama

Answer

Page No: 42 Think About It

Answer1: The cyclone brought heavy rains and strong winds. As a result, majority of the houses had blown away and only the strong cement houses were spared. Dirty water covered the land as far as the eye could see. Many people lost their lives. There were floating human bodies and bloated animal carcasses all around. Even the strongest of the trees had been uprooted. The scenes were gruesome. Many people lost their relatives and many children had become orphans. There was shortage of food. People were sad and helpless and a pall of gloom had descended on the people all around.

Answer2: Prashant helped the people of his village by first getting a grip over himself because he was initially shocked on witnessing the after effects of the cyclone. He decided to step in as the leader of his village. He organized a group of youths and elders to jointly pressurize the merchant to give rice for the people living in the shelter. He was successful in this task. His next task was to organize a team of youth volunteers to clean the shelter and to tend to the wounds of the people who had been injured because of the cyclone.

Prashant also brought a number of orphaned children together and constructed a polythene shelter for them. While women were mobilized to look after them, the men secured food and other essentials for the shelter. When he realised that the women were becoming too grief-stricken, he persuaded them to start working in the food-for-work programme, which was initiated by an NGO. He also organized sports events for children.

Answer3: The people of the community got together and began to help one another under the leadership of young Prashant. Together they pressurised the merchant to part with his rice for the people in the shelter. They gathered branches from fallen trees and lit a fire, on which they cooked rice for all to eat.

When the military helicopter dropped some food parcels but did not return, the youth task force gathered empty utensils from the shelter and made the children lie in the sand with the utensils on their stomachs to communicate to the passing helicopters that they were hungry. The message went through and the helicopter made regular rounds of the shelter, airdropping food and other basic needs.

Women were mobilized to look after the orphans, while the men secured food and materials for the shelter. In spite of being grief-stricken the women started working in the food-for-work programme started by an NGO.

Answer4: The plan to set up institutions for orphans and widows was resisted because it was believed that in such institutions children will grow up without love and affection and widows would suffer from stigma and loneliness. Instead, Prashant and his group suggested that the children and widows should be resettled in their own community where they can get a homely environment. They suggested setting up of foster families made up of childless widows and children without adult care.

Page No: 43

Answer5: Yes, Prashant is a very good leader. Though he himself was too grief-stricken, he got a hold of himself and decided to step in as the leader of the village. He carried out his role effectively and helped the people of his village in every possible manner.

Yes. Young people can definitely get together to help people during natural calamities and otherwise. They can use their strength and vigour to help people.

CLASS -IX ENGLISH
NCERT SOLUTIONS-MOMENT
The Last Leaf

Answer

Page No: 48 Think About It

Answer1: Johnsy was suffering from pneumonia. Only the willingness to live could cure her. She had made up her mind that she was not going to get well. The doctor said that if she did not want to live, then medicines would not help her.

Answer2: Yes, I think the feeling of depression Johnsy is very common among teenagers. Because of the present lifestyle, teenagers are under constant pressure to outperform in every field. They are burdened with studies and the anxiety of future. They are also subjected to a lot of parental and peer pressure. Along with all this, they are also expected to behave in a certain manner as deemed appropriate by the society. Most of the times, they are unable to bear so much of stress and end up being depressed.

Answer3: Behrman was a sixty year old painter. His lifelong dream was to paint a masterpiece. It does come true when he paints a leaf such that it looks extremely natural. He painted the last leaf left on a creeper.

Answer4: Berhman's masterpiece was the last leaf on the ivy creeper. Sue calls it masterpiece because this painting rekindled the willingness to survive in Johnsy's heart and she was able to recover from her illness. Johnsy thought that she would die when the last leaf fell from the ivy creeper. But Berhman spent an entire night in a heavy storm to paint a fresh green leaf. Berhman suffered from pneumonia because of getting drenched while painting and eventually died. However, on seeing that leaf Johnsy thought it was real and got a feeling of self-belief. She realized she could get well if she wanted to and came out of her illness.

CLASS -IX ENGLISH
NCERT SOLUTIONS-MOMENT
A House is not a Home

Answer

Page No: 54 Think About It

Answer1: One Sunday afternoon, the author noticed a strange smell. Then he saw smoke pouring in through the seams of the ceiling and filling the room very quickly. They could barely see anything. By the time they ran out into the front yard, the roof was already engulfed in flames and was spreading very quickly.

His mother ran back into the house. She had brought out a small metal box full of important documents. She wanted to bring out important things from the house one by one. She was in a 'crazed state'.

Answer2: After the fire, he broke down into tears because it suddenly struck him that he was suffering a big loss. He realized that his cat could not be seen anywhere. Then, everything hit him at once – the new school, the fire, and his cat. That was when he broke down and cried.

Answer3: The author is deeply embarrassed the next day in school because when the fire broke out, he was still wearing the dress he had worn to church that morning but he had no shoes as he had lost them in the fire. So he had to borrow some tennis shoes from his aunt. He was totally embarrassed by everything. The clothes he was wearing looked weird, he had no books or homework, and his backpack was gone.

Words used in the lesson that show his fear and insecurity are "...outcast and geek..." , "...like a zombie.", "...wanted to curl up and die." , "Everything felt surreal", "All the security...had all been ripped away".

Answer4: The author had great affection towards his cat. He cried inconsolably when he couldn't find his cat after the fire. He would regularly go to the site of his house in the hope of finding the cat. He remembered how the cat would crawl into his pocket and fall asleep and missed her terribly.

The cat was so freaked by the fire and ran a mile away from the house. One woman found her and took her in. She located the author's number on the cat's collar. However, she couldn't reach them as the phone had been disconnected because of the fire. The woman then made personal efforts to find the author and returned back the cat.

Page No: 56

Answer5: The schoolmates showed genuine concern for the author in spite of not knowing him well. They helped him by collecting supplies, books and clothes for him. People whom he had never spoken to before started coming to him and befriending him. They also called him to their houses. The author made new friends. He was overwhelmed by their love and cooperation. He realized that his new school and new people around him were good. He stopped focusing on his feeling of fear and insecurity and became confident that everything will be alright.

CLASS -IX ENGLISH
NCERT SOLUTIONS-MOMENT
The Accidental Tourist

Answer

Page No: 60 Think About It

Answer1: Bill Bryson claimed that he was easily confused. Many times he went looking for the lavatory in a cinema and ended up standing in an alley on the wrong side of a self-locking door. He said that his specialty was returning to hotel desks two or three times a day and asking what his room number was. That is why he said that he was easily confused.

Answer2: His fingers get hurt by the zip. He is bleeding profusely. All belongings in his bag are flying across the floor of the waiting hall of the airport. He seems to be making a mockery of himself and of civilized way of behaving at a particular place.

Answer3: His finger is hurt by getting stuck in the zip of his bag. His wife is astonished by the way he has created a mess all around himself.

Answer4: Once on board a flight, Bryson leaned over to tie his shoelaces. At the same moment, someone in the seat in front of him threw his seat back into full recline and Bryson was pinned helplessly in the crash position.

Answer5: On one occasion while on a plane, Bryson was writing some notes in his notebook and kept sucking on the end of his pen. The pen had leaked and his gums, teeth, tongue and chin were all coloured with navy blue ink.

Answer6: No, he is not successful in his mission. He would love just once in his life to rise from a dinner table without looking as if he had experienced an extremely localised seismic event, get in a car and close the door without leaving 14 inches of coat outside, wear light-coloured trousers without discovering at the end of the day that he had at various times sat on chewing gum, ice cream, cough syrup and motor oil.

Answer7: Bill Bryson's wife asked the children to take the lids off the food for Bill because if Bill had tried to do that himself, then he might have taken it off in such a manner that the lid would be flying away to some part of the plane and the food might spill all over the place.

Answer8: The title is significant because it is about a man who travels a lot and is always confused. He gets into trouble because of his acts which are not deliberate. The story depicts humorous travel experiences – like being pinned in a crashed position, spilling drink on a co-passenger, his gums and teeth covered in ink, etc. – when the author accidentally gets into trouble. Thus, the title is apt for this story.

The Beggar

Page No 67:

Question 1:

Has Lushkoff become a beggar by circumstance or by choice?

Answer:

Lushkoff became a beggar by circumstance. Formerly, he sang in a Russian choir, but was sent away for drunkenness. This led him to beg.

Question 2:

What reasons does he give to Sergei for his telling lies?

Answer:

He told Sergei that he could not get along without lying. If he told the truth, then nobody would give him anything.

Question 3:

Is Lushkoff a willing worker? Why, then, does he agree to chop wood for Sergei?

Answer:

No, Lushkoff was not a willing worker. In spite of that, he agreed to chop wood for Sergei because of pride and shame. He had been trapped by his own words. His strength had been lowered because of drinking. He was unhealthy and did not feel the slightest inclination to work.

Page No 68:

Question 4:

Sergei says, "I am happy that my words have taken effect." Why does he say so? Is he right in saying this?

Answer:

Sergei said so because he gave Lushkoff a push towards the right path. He had caught his lie and had encouraged him to work. He gave him some work and paid him for it. He saw Lushkoff after two years and found out that he was a notary and was paid thirty five roubles a month. He considered his words as the source of Lushkoff's changed ways. Yes, he was right in saying so. Otherwise Lushkoff would still have been lying and begging.

Question 5:

Lushkoff is earning thirty five roubles a month. How is he obliged to Sergei for this?

Answer:

Lushkoff was obliged to Sergei because if he had not come to Sergei, then he might still have been calling himself a teacher or a student. He would have been begging. By listening to Sergei, he had changed his ways. He was a notary and earned thirty five roubles a month.

Question 6:

During their conversation Lushkoff reveals that Sergei's cook, Olga, is responsible for the positive change in him. How has Olga saved Lushkoff?

Answer:

During their conversation, Lushkoff revealed that Olga saved him. When he went to Sergei's house to chop wood, Olga began by calling him a 'miserable creature' and saying that there was nothing for him but ruin. Then she sat down opposite him, grew sad, looked into his face, and wept. She called him an 'unlucky man', 'a drunkard', and 'unhappy one' and said that there was no pleasure for him in this world. She suffered misery and shed many tears for his sake. Then Lushkoff told Sergei that the main thing was that it was Olga who chopped the wood for him. Lushkoff had not chopped one single stick of wood for Sergei. This was what saved him, changed him, and he had

even stopped drinking at the sight of her. It was because of her words and noble deeds that a change took place in his heart. She had set him on the right path.

