

NEW HORIZON SCHOOL

SUPPORT MATERIAL

CLASS: X

ENGLISH

PERIODIC-1

(SESSION 2018-19)

NAME: -----

SECTION: -----

ROLL NO: -----

FORMAT AND LAYOUT OF FORMAL LETTERS

TYPES OF LETTERS

- Informal Letters
- Formal Letters

INFORMAL LETTERS

- Family Members
- Relatives
- Friends

FORMAL LETTERS

- Institutions
- Organizations
- Public Officials
- Government Departments

TYPES OF FORMAL LETTERS

- Applications to the Principal
- Letter to the Editor of a Newspaper
- Complaints
- Placing Orders
- Inquiry

APPLICATION TO THE PRINCIPAL

FORMAT:

(SENDER'S ADDRESS)-----

(DATE)-----

(RECEIVER'S ADDRESS)-----

SUBJECT:-----

Sir,

(Introductory Paragraph)-----

(Main Paragraph)-----

(Concluding Paragraph)-----

Thank You,

Yours obediently,

(NAME)-----

(CLASS)-----

FORMAL LETTER

FORMAT:

(SENDER'S ADDRESS)-----

(DATE)-----

(RECEIVER'S ADDRESS)-----

SUBJECT:-----

Sir,

(Introductory Paragraph)-----

(Main Paragraph)-----

(Concluding Paragraph)-----

Thank You,

Yours faithfully/ sincerely,

(SIGN)-----

(NAME)-----

LETTER TO THE EDITOR OF A NEWSPAPER

FORMAT:

(SENDER'S ADDRESS)-----

(DATE)-----

The Editor

(Name of the Newspaper)-----

(Address)-----

SUBJECT:-----

Sir,

(Introductory Paragraph)-----

(Main Paragraph)-----

(Concluding Paragraph)-----

Thank You,

Yours truly,

(SIGN)-----

(NAME)-----

LITERATURE

TWO GENTLEMEN OF VERONA

By: A. J Cronin

SUMMARY:

- An inspirational and touching story of two brothers- Jacopo and Nicola, aged 12 & 13, who do odd jobs to and live a hard life in Verona.
- A.J Cronin uses the title of William Shakespeare's play – 'Two Gentlemen of Verona' in an ironic manner.
- His portrayal of these modern gentlemen of Verona redefines the concept of what it means to be a gentleman.
- The two brothers wage a daily fight against extreme poverty and deprivation to sustain and get the treatment of their elder sister, Lucia done who is suffering from Tuberculosis of spine.
- Cronin shows us that one may polish the shoes or sell the newspapers, but it is the magnanimity of the heart and nobleness of the purpose that actually determines whether one is a true gentleman.
- The strength and nobility of the human spirit and innocence of youth have been symbolized through the characters of Nicola and Jacopo.
- Unperturbed by their ragged appearance, impressed by their sincerity and willingness to work hard, the writer engages the two boys to run errands for him.
- Seeing their appearance he offers them help, the younger one asks him if they could be dropped to a village in the countryside.
- On visiting the countryside he witnesses a poignant scene between the two brothers and their ailing sister, Lucia.
- He is amazed by their unfazed childish faith in themselves and their hope of securing a happy future for their family.

KEY POINTS

- ✓ Nicola and Jacopo as an exception.
- ✓ Faced harsh circumstances- war, scarcity of food, clothing and shelter.
- ✓ Parents killed; bomb attack.
- ✓ House was destroyed.
- ✓ Sister Lucia suffered TB, they turned the house into a hospital.
- ✓ Kept their promise and get her treatment done.
- ✓ Loved their sister, hardships did not take away their feeling.
- ✓ Gave a hope to humanity and set an example for the society.

MRS. PACKLETIDE'S TIGER

By: H. H Munro 'Saki'

SUMMARY:

It is a story of two rich women, Mrs. Packletide and Miss. Loona Bimberton, who had been engaged in a cold war with each other for the sake of fame or for becoming famous. Once Loona flew eleven miles in an airplane piloted by an Algerian pilot and that became news. Loona was discussed and was admired by all. With her patience burning and revenge planned, Mrs. Packletide made news for all wrong reasons, by killing a tiger. Though it appeared that he had killed the tiger, but actually it was the bait, the goat that was shot dead. The old, infirm tiger died of a heart failure due to the sound of the gun. Miss Mebbin, who was her paid companion, was a witness to this, blackmailed her to give her money to buy a weekend cottage.

KEY POINTS

- ✓ Mrs. Packletide was an English lady, desirous to shoot a tiger.
- ✓ As she was jealous of her friend, Miss. Loona Bimberton.
- ✓ Her friend had recently travelled by air.
- ✓ Out of jealousy, Mrs. Packletide planned to hunt a tiger to outshine her.
- ✓ After the hunt she thought of displaying the tiger skin as a rug.
- ✓ Also of hosting a party in honour of Loona & gifting her a tiger claw brooch.
- ✓ She thought on being successful her photographs would appear in the newspapers.
- ✓ Circumstances proved favourable. An old feeble tiger was found
- ✓ Mrs. Packletide paid the nearby villagers 10000 Rs for arranging the tiger & making arrangements.
- ✓ The villagers were lured by the lucrative offer.
- ✓ They made efforts to confine the tiger within the village.
- ✓ Children were posted on outskirts, mothers not to sing lullabies.
- ✓ Cheap kind of goats were scattered as easy prey.
- ✓ Platform made on a tree for Mrs. Packletide and Ms. Mebbin, her paid companion.
- ✓ A frail goat with loud beat was tied at proper distance.
- ✓ A weak, old tiger appeared and slowly walked towards the tied goat.
- ✓ Mrs. Packletide fired and the tiger fell down.
- ✓ Excited villagers started celebrations.

- ✓ Ms. Mebbin drew Mrs. Packletide's attention that the bullet actually killed the goat and the tiger died of heart failure, caused by loud sound of the rifle.
- ✓ Mrs. Packletide acquired tiger skin and claw.
- ✓ Villagers got the money and agreed to keep the secret.
- ✓ Mrs. Packletide's photographs appeared in the newspapers.
- ✓ But Loona refused to attend the luncheon party hosted by Mrs. Packletide.
- ✓ Ms. Mebbin blackmailed Mrs. Packletide that she will tell the truth of tiger's death to Loona else she should give her money to buy a weekend cottage.
- ✓ On getting the cottage Mebbin planted tiger lilies in it.
- ✓ Mrs. Packletide gave up big game hunting.
- ✓ She proclaimed that the incidental expenses were too heavy for such kind of hunting.

THE FROG AND THE NIGHTINGALE

By: Vikram Seth

Summary:

'The Frog and the Nightingale', written by Vikram Seth is an allegory, a poem in which the moral is conveyed. The poem tells a story about a Frog and a Nightingale. It tells about a cunning Frog and a naïve Nightingale, who pays the price of her innocence by losing her originality and ultimately her life. This is a story in a poem of a brainless Nightingale, who was 'slowly and deceitfully murdered' by a jealous and cunning Frog. As the Nightingale sang better than the Frog and so, he became jealous of her. In order to get rid of his rival, the Frog pretended to be a great, knowledgeable singer and agreed to train her. Under his rigorous, continuous training, the Nightingale was stressed, became ill and her sweet voice turned to harsh and irritating. Consequently, her audience became lesser day by day. One night when the Nightingale was unable to sing for her audience, the Frog shouted at her loudly. In her attempt to please the frog, her vein burst and she died.

KEY POINTS

- ✓ A Frog lived under a sumac tree, in Bingle Bog, was crazy about his singing. Sang incessantly from dusk to dawn.
- ✓ All the creatures found his voice unpleasant, ridiculed him.
- ✓ One night a Nightingale happened to come to that sumac tree and started singing melodiously.
- ✓ All creatures appreciated her, but the Frog was jealous of her voice.
- ✓ As he wanted no competitor, wanted to be undisputed singer.
- ✓ Introduced himself to the Nightingale as the owner of that tree. Boasted himself to be a music critic, who wrote for Bog trumpet.
- ✓ Offered to train the Nightingale for a modest fee.

- ✓ Nightingale was overwhelmed; felt her dream has come true.
- ✓ Exploitation of the Nightingale began; he organized Musical Concerts; started minting money.
- ✓ Forced her even to practice in adverse weather; instructed her to sing passionately; to please her audience.
- ✓ Initially creatures flocked to listen to her melodious song; but later the crowd dwindled. Her songs became routine and her voice was tired.
- ✓ Frog scolded her for no reason.
- ✓ Out of sheer stress and fatigue, one of her veins burst and she died.
- ✓ Frog declared her stupid, nervous and without her originality.
- ✓ His ego satisfied and he again became the ' unrivalled singer' of the bog.

NOT MARBLE, NOR THE GILDED MONUMENTS

By: William Shakespeare

SUMMARY:

In this Sonnet 55 William Shakespeare addresses the quality of the verse or poetry to immortalize his beloved friend. He is sure that his words for his beloved friend will last longer years than the ornamented monuments and statues. His words will make his beloved shine and outlive everything, while all these decorated pieces are ephemeral or short- lived in nature. The disparaging wars and natural calamities will devastate everything, but his beloved's memories would remain in the eyes of the admirers. Until the doom's day, his beloved would be exalted or praised or remembered by the future generations too. Overall the poet wants to emphasize that poetry as an art, is eternal and therefore poetry will immortalize his beloved.

This poem is the 55th sonnet of all the 154 sonnets written by William Shakespeare. It brings out the futility of statues and monuments raised by great monarchs and princes to commemorate them.

KEY POINTS

- The statues and monuments are built by the rulers to perpetuate their memory.
- They are devastated by wars and natural calamities.
- With the passage of time they remain neglected.
- But the verse or poetry written in the praise of the poet's friend will survive all the ravages of time.

- The fire burns everything but the poet's verses in praise of his friend will remain alive as a living record in the hearts of the readers.

THE DEAR DEPARTED

By: Stanley Houghton

SUMMARY:

'The Dear Departed' is a Satire that criticizes the peripheral or unimportant relations and showy love between parents, siblings and children. Though the title itself appears to be an emotional one, it soon becomes clear that the dear departed is not Mr. Abel, father of Amelia and Elizabeth. What actually departed them dearly were their father's assets and belongings. What the two daughters and their husbands had waited for was the death of Mr. Abel, not his well-being. They never loved him. The two daughters fought with each other not for making their father feel at home, but to get rid of him. The poor old man learnt the true nature of his children's love too late, but somehow was able to escape their cruel hospitality and scheming care for him.

KEY POINTS

- Abel Merryweather – father of Amelia and Elizabeth
- Amelia married to Henry Slater; Victoria their daughter
- Elizabeth married to Ben Jordan; Jimmy their son
- Both daughter's showy love for Abel, his wealth and assets only their concern
- Abel stays upstairs with Amelia's family
- One morning Victoria finds her grandfather dead
- The Slaters inform the Jordans about the much awaited death
- Before the Jordans arrive, the Slaters arrange for best mourning dresses
- Take all they could from Abel's room- his bureau, clock, pair of slippers
- Arrival of Jordans; initiate dividing their father's belongings
- Daughters start blaming each other

NOVEL

THE STORY OF MY LIFE

By: Helen Keller

SUMMARY:

'The Story of My Life' is the story of Helen Keller, who triumphed over adversity and became so famous. She was born on June 27th, 1880 in Tuscumbia, Alabama. Her parents were Captain Arthur Henry Keller, a confederate army veteran and a newspaper editor and Kate Adams Keller. Helen was born as a normal child. But at the age of 19 months, she suffered from an illness that left her deaf and blind. Her family wondered how a deaf and blind child could be educated. At the age of six, her mother managed to get a teacher, Anne Sullivan, to teach Helen. After studying at the Wright Humason School for the deaf and the Cambridge School for Young Ladies, she entered Radcliff College in 1900 and finished her graduation in 1904. Later on with the help of her teacher, Anne Sullivan, Helen became an inter-nationally recognized and respected figure.

MAJOR CHARACTERS

- ❖ **HELEN KELLER**: She was an American author, political activist and Lecturer. She was the first deaf blind person to earn a Bachelors of Arts degree. She was a prolific author, well travelled and was outspoken in her opposition to war. She campaigned for women's suffrage, workers' rights and socialism, as well as many other progressive causes.
- ❖ **KATE ADAMA**: She was Helen's mother and the second wife of Captain Arthur and was many years younger to him. She was a well-read woman from an intellectual family. She was very loving and caring to Helen from her early childhood.
- ❖ **CAPTAIN ARTHUR H. KELLER**: He was the father of Helen Keller He was a former officer in the Confederate Army. He was a great hunter, a famous story teller and a very hospitable person. Both father and daughter loved each other a lot.
- ❖ **ANNE MANSFIELD SULLIVAN**: She was a former student of the Perkins Institution for the Blind. She was blind at the age of twenty, when she began teaching 19 months old Helen. She remained Helen's teacher and companion till her health started failing in 1914/ She is considered to be one of the greatest teachers of the world.
- ❖ **DR. ALEXANDER GRAHAM BELL**: He was the inventor of telephone and some other instruments. He took a lot of interest in teaching Helen and was also her

companion. Helen dedicated her book- 'The Story of my Life' to him. She spent many happy days with him at his home in Washington. He labored a lot to help deaf children to overcome their disabilities.

- ❖ **MR. MICHAEL ANAGNOS**: He was the Director of the Perkins Institution for Blind during Helen's youth. He was one of Helen's teachers and friend in times of need. Later, he parted company with her due to some difference of opinion.
- ❖ **MARTHA WASHINGTON**: She was a coloured little girl and was the child of the cook in the Kellers' home. She was Helen's childhood companion and playmate and she understood Helen's signs. Both the children were very mischievous. It is said that Martha's friendship and teaching was also crucial for Helen's later developments.
- ❖ **MILDRED**: She was the only younger sister of Helen. Helen considered her as an intruder in her life, when she gained her mother's attention. But later on they became good companions.
- ❖ **MR. GILMAN**: He was the founder Director and Principal of the Cambridge School. He was a major figure in advancing higher education for women. He was also one of the founders of Radcliffe College.
- ❖ **BISHOP PHILLIP BROOKS**: He was a distinguished Boston churchman and abolitionist. He was the rector of Trinity Church in Boston and was appointed as the Bishop of Massachusetts later. He was greatly responsible for the spiritual education of Helen Keller and her knowledge of Bible.

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