

Chapter – 10

The Great Stone Face – II

Comprehension Check

Q1. Write 'True' or 'False' against each of the following statements.

1. Ernest's words reminded people of the wise old sayings. _____
2. Total strangers from far away, who visited Ernest in the valley, found his face familiar. _____
3. The Great Stone Face confirmed Ernest's view that the poet could be worthy of its likeness. _____
4. When Ernest and the poet met, they respected and admired each other equally. _____
5. The poet along with Ernest addressed the inhabitants of the valley. _____
6. The poet realised that Ernest's thoughts were far nobler than his own verses. _____

Answer. 1. True 2. True 3. False The Face did not answer. 4. True 5. False Only Ernest addressed the inhabitants of the valley. 6. True

Working With The Text

Q1. How was Ernest different from others in the valley?

Answer. The wise thoughts of Ernest made him different from others in the valley. Ernest was well-known in his valley and had become famous even beyond the valley. College professors and even the active men of cities came from far to see and converse with him. He received them with gentle sincerity and spoke freely with them of whatever came uppermost or lay deepest in his heart or their own.

Q2. Why did Ernest think the poet was like the Stone Face?

Answer. When Ernest read his poems, he hoped that the poet was like the Stone Face. The poet had celebrated the Great Stone Face in his poems. Ernest believed that the poet's thoughts were worthy of him bearing resemblance to the Stone Face.

Q3. What did the poet himself say about his thoughts and poems?

Answer. The poet said that Ernest could hear the distant voice of a heavenly song in his thoughts and poems. However, the poet felt that his own life had not corresponded

with his thoughts. He had grand dreams, but they had been only dreams. Sometimes he even lacked faith in his own thoughts.

Q4. What made the poet proclaim Ernest was the Stone Face?

Answer. When Ernest was addressing the inhabitants of the valley, the poet realised that the life and character of Ernest were nobler than his works of poetry. At a distance high up in the golden light of the setting sun, the Great Stone Face appeared with white mists around it, similar to the white hairs around the brow of Ernest. At that moment, Ernest's face took on an expression so grand that the poet proclaimed that Ernest was the Stone Face.

Q5. Write 'Ernest' or 'Poet', against each statement below.

(i) There was a gap between his life and his words.

(ii) His words had the power of truth as they agreed with his thoughts.

(iii) His words were as soothing as a heavenly song but only as useful as a vague dream.

(iv) His thoughts were worthy.

(v) Whatever he said was truth itself.

(vi) His poems were noble.

(vii) His life was nobler than all the poems.

(viii) He lacked faith in his own thoughts.

(ix) His thoughts had power as they agreed with the life he lived.

(x) Greatness lies in truth. Truth is best expressed in one's actions. He was truthful, therefore he was great.

Answer. (i) Poet (ii) Ernest (iii) Poet (iv) Ernest (v) Ernest (vi) Poet (vii) Ernest (viii) Poet (ix) Ernest (x) Ernest

Q6. (i) Who, by common consent, turned out to be like the Great Stone Face?

(ii) Did Ernest believe that the old prophecy had come true?

Answer. (i) By common consent, Ernest turned out to be like the Great Stone Face. (ii) No, Ernest did not believe that the old prophecy had come true. Even though everybody had agreed that he was the likeness of the Great Stone Face, he himself

hoped that some wiser and better man than himself would appear, bearing a resemblance to the Great Stone Face.

Working With Language

Q1. Mark the meaning that best fits the word or a phrase in the story.

(i) (sun) going down

(a) becoming smaller

(b) weakening

(c) setting

Answer. (i) (sun) going down – (c) setting

(ii) brightening

(a) making (it) look bright and cheerful

(b) lending (it) a special glow

(c) causing (it) to appear hopeful

Answer. (ii) brightening – (b) lending (it) a special glow

(iii) spacious

(a) lonely and wild

(b) big and wide

(c) special and important

Answer. (iii) spacious – (b) big and wide

(iv) prophecy

(a) proverb

(b) prediction

(c) rumour

Answer. (iv) prophecy – (b) prediction

(v) marvellous

(a) wonderful

(b) surprising

(c) shocking

Answer. (v) marvellous – (a) wonderful

(vi) proclaim

(a) reveal

(b) declare

(c) shout

Answer. (vi) proclaim – (b) declare

- (vii) cease
- (a) happen
- (b) stop
- (c) remain

Answer. (vii) cease – (b) stop

- (viii) (a night's) shelter
- (a) stay
- (b) safety
- (c) hospitality

Answer. (viii) (a night's) shelter – (a) stay

- (ix) gazed
- (a) wandered about
- (b) stared at
- (c) thought of

Answer. (ix) gazed – (b) stared at

- (x) took on (an expression)
- (a) challenged
- (b) resembled
- (c) assumed

Answer. (x) took on (an expression) – (c) assumed

Q2. (i) Read the following sentences.

- (a) I do hope I'll live to see him.**
- (b) He will come! Fear not, Ernest; the man will come.**
- (c) Gather gold is arriving tomorrow, people said.**
- (d) Blood-and-Thunder starts his journey back to the valley next week, everyone proclaimed.**
- (e) The great man is going to spend his old age in his native town. Notice that in the above sentences, verbs in bold type are in four different forms, denoting four important ways of expressing future time. None of these can be said to be exclusively used to show future time, though each is used to refer to some action in future.**

(ii) Which form of the verb is more natural in these sentences? Encircle your choice.

- (a) I'm not free this evening. I will work/am working on a project.**
- (b) Have you decided where you will go for your higher secondary? Yes, I have. I will go/am going to the Kendriya Vidyalaya.**
- (c) Don't worry about the dog. It won't hurt/isn't hurting you.**
- (d) The weatherman has predicted that it will snow/is snowing in Ranikhet**

tonight.

(e) Swapna can't go out this evening. Her father will come/is coming to see her.

Answer. (ii) (a) I'm not free this evening. I am working on a project.

(b) Have you decided where you will go for your higher secondary? Yes, I have. I will go to the Kendriya Vidyalaya.

(c) Don't worry about the dog. It won't hurt you.

(d) The weatherman has predicted that it will snow in Ranikhet tonight.

(e) Swapna can't go out this evening. Her father is coming to see her.

Q3. (i) Complete these pieces of conversation using will or going to with the verbs given.

(a) Rani : Why are you turning on the radio? Ravi : I _____ (listen) to the news.

(b) Rani : Oh, I can't buy this book. I have no money. Ravi : Don't worry. I _____ (lend) you some.

(c) Rani : Look at those dark clouds. Ravi : I think it _____ (rain).

(d) Rani : What shall we have for dinner? Ravi : I can't decide. Rani : Make up your mind. Ravi : All right, then. We _____ (have) fried rice and dry beans.

(e) Rani : Why are you filling the kettle with water? Ravi : I _____ (make) coffee.

(f) Rani : We need some bread and butter for breakfast. Ravi : All right. I _____ (go) to the bakery and get some. (Before he goes out, Ravi talks to their father.) Ravi : I _____ (get) some bread and butter. Do you want anything from the bakery? Father : Yes, I want some salt biscuits. Ravi : Fine, I _____ (get) you a packet.

(ii) Let pairs of children take turns to speak aloud the dialogues

Answer. (i) (a) Rani : Why are you turning on the radio? Ravi : I am going to listen to the news.

(b) Rani : Oh, I can't buy this book. I have no money. Ravi : Don't worry. I will lend you some.

(c) Rani : Look at those dark clouds. Ravi : I think it is going to rain.

(d) Rani : What shall we have for dinner? Ravi : I can't decide. Rani : Make up your

mind. Ravi : All right, then. We will have fried rice and dry beans.

(e) Rani : Why are you filling the kettle with water? Ravi : I am going to make coffee.

(f) Rani : We need some bread and butter for breakfast. Ravi : All right. I will go to the bakery and get some. (Before he goes out, Ravi talks to their father.) Ravi : I am going to get some bread and butter. Do you want anything from the bakery? Father : Yes, I want some salt biscuits. Ravi : Fine, I will get you a packet.

Speaking And Writing

Q1. Each of the following words has the sound/f/ as in feel. The words on the left have it initially. Those on the right have it finally. Speak each word clearly.

flail	life	fact	tough
Philip	puff	fail	laugh
flowed	deaf	fast	stiff

Answer. Do Attempt it

Q2. Underline the letter or letters representing/f/in each of the following words.

file	slough	faint	lift
cough	defence	afford	enough
photograph	staff	tough	aloof
affront	philosophy	sophistry	

Answer. Do Attempt it

Q3. Imagine that you are the poet. You have come to your native valley to meet a famous preacher called Ernest. Narrate the incident of your first meeting with him.

Answer. I lived so far away from the valley. But I had heard about Ernest's character and wisdom. One summer day I called on him. I found him reading a book. We sat down together and talked. I found Ernest wise, gentle and kind. Ernest greeted me warmly and called me a 'gifted guest' Then I introduced myself as one who wrote the poems Ernest was reading. Ernest compared my face with the Stone Face. He had hoped to see the fulfilment of the prophecy but he was disappointed. I told him I was not worthy of that likeness. I said that my thoughts and actions had no harmony. I went with my host to a meeting place. I heard his address and found depth in his thoughts. In the golden light of the setting sun, Ernest appeared to me exactly like the Great Stone Face. The gathering also agreed with me.

Q4. (i) Put each of the following in the correct order to construct sentences.

- a resident of Noida near Delhi,/is visually impaired/George Abraham,

- confidence and competitive spirit/and infuses discipline among the participants/It provides

- he has helped/The brain behind the World Cup Cricket,/the disabled to dream _____
- to the blind school in Delhi/It was a chance visit/that changed his life

- sport is a powerful tool/the disabled/He believes that/for rehabilitation of

(ii) Now rearrange the sentences above to construct a paragraph. George Abraham,_____

Answer. (i) George Abraham, a resident of Noida near Delhi, is visually impaired. It provides confidence and competitive spirit and infuses discipline among the participants. The brain behind the World Cup Cricket, he has helped the disabled to dream. It was a chance visit to the blind school in Delhi that changed his life. He believes that sport is a powerful tool for rehabilitation of the disabled.

(ii) George Abraham, a resident of Noida near Delhi, is visually impaired. The brain behind the World Cup Cricket, he has helped the disabled to dream. It was a chance visit to the blind school in Delhi that changed his life. He believes that sport is a powerful tool for rehabilitation of the disabled. It provides confidence and competitive spirit and infuses discipline among the participants.