

Class 8 English literature chapter 12 – The Shoemaker

A. Tick the correct option

1. c
2. d
3. c
4. a
5. a

B. Read these sentences and answer the questions

1 a. Who is the speaker? Who is being spoken to?

- The speaker is the Shoemaker. The speaker said these lines to Defarge.

b. What is the topic of discussion?

- The topic being discussed is the pair of shoes he is making.

c. Why does the speaker say, 'I don't know'?

- He says so because he had led so much of his life in the prison where he enjoyed no free will. As such, he was vague in his answer.

2. a. Who asked this question and why?

- Mr. Lorry asked this question to get a reaction from the Shoemaker.

b. What was the answer?

- After reflecting on the question, he replied that he was not a shy by trade. He had taught himself and learnt shoe making in the prison.

c. How had the person been spoken to learnt the trade?

- In the prison Dr Manette had spent his time making shoes.

3. a. Who saw the face?

- The Shoemaker, Dr Manette, saw the face.

b. Whose face was it?

- It was Lucie's face.

c. Why could the speaker see it only for a single moment?

- Dr. Manette could see it only for a moment because she moved away quickly.

C. Answer these questions

1. Describe the Shoemaker in your own words.

- The Shoemaker seemed a fast dying man. He had haggard eyes and a weary voice. The Shoemaker had a white beard, raggedly cut, but not very long, a hollow face and exceedingly bright eyes. He had a worn

and withered body. He wore tattered old canvas frock and loose stockings. He sat silently and gazing vacantly with his unnaturally large eyes. His lips and his nails were of pale red colour and his body was extremely thin.

2. List the words from the paragraph 1 and 2 that indicate that the Shoemaker had been in captivity for many years.

- His body looked 'withered and worn' and he had 'stayed in seclusion from direct sunlight'. These words prove that the Shoemaker had been kept in prison for a long time.

3. How do we know that the old man's health and appearance had been neglected for a long time?

- The hollowness and thinness of the face, his raggedly cut beard, yellow rags of shirt, tattered clothes, transparent bones of his hands and his vacant gaze all showed that his health and appearance had been neglected.

4. How did Defarge get the prisoner to speak?

- Defarge asked him about the shoes he was making. He asked him whether he was going to finish making that pair of shoes. Dr. Manette answered vaguely that he didn't know whether he would be able to do so. This is how Defarge tried to initiate conversation so as to motivate him to talk.

5. Why wasn't the girl afraid of the Shoemaker?

- Dr. Manette was her father who was facing an emotional trauma. She knew that he could not harm her. Her affection and compassion for her father who was struggling to recognise her was too strong to make her feel scared of her own father whom she wanted to give a new life and a new hope.

6. What could be the relationship between the young lady and the Shoemaker? Did he recognize her?

- Lucie seems to be Dr. Manette's daughter. Yes, he recognised her. The warmth and love of his daughter must have been strong enough to bring back the memories of the Shoemaker.

D. Think and answer.

1. What emotion does the situation and appearance of the Shoemaker arouse in you?

- The Shoemaker, steadily working at his bench seems weakened and aged by his long years in the prison. We feel sad to see him aware of only the task at hand. He seemed unaware that he had been released from the prison. We realize that he is physically and mentally removed from the world. After suffering greatly he appears to have lost all sense of time, place self. He seems more dead than alive. This arouses compassion in our minds and we desperately want him to be reunited with his near and dear ones.

2. 'she had no fear of his striking at her with his knife, though they had.' What does this tell you about the young lady? What does it tell you about the other two men?

- This tells us that the young girl is sure that her affection and warmth will help her father to recognise her. She was confident that he would not harm her. Rather, she was so saddened to see his fearful looks that she wanted to give him hope and confidence. The other two men were a little cautious and therefore protective towards Lucie as they thought the Shoemaker might harm her.

3. What do you think happened at the end? Would the Shoemaker have been able to talk to the girl?

- In the end, Dr Manette must have recognised his daughter. He must have recognised the pretty, young face and she must have been able to stir his heart. He would have been able to hold her arms and tell her about his past days.

### TEXTUAL GRAMMAR

E. Fill in the blanks with words from the box that mean the same as the underline phrases.

1. Withered
2. Pause
3. Haggard
4. Parchment
5. Compassion
6. Seclusion

F. circle the words that can combine with the words in capitals to make word collocation

1. a. frock
2. a. Fingers
3. b. Glass
4. b. Man
5. a. words

G. Identify the participle phrases in the sentences.

1. Talking on the phone
2. Watching the setting sun.
3. Wagging its tail
4. Hopping up and down
5. Tidying up her desk
6. Being French
7. Not having had enough sleep
8. Sitting in the park

H. join the sentence using participle phrases.

1. Having checked his mail, Fali replied to the important ones.
2. Not having flown alone, Aman was not given the certificate.
3. Sitting at the desk, the teacher checked the papers.
4. Walking along the bridge, the boys sang old song.
5. They rang up the doctor living close by.

I. Identify the participle phrases in these incorrect sentences. Rewrite these sentences by placing the phrases correctly.

1. Krishna saw a poisonous snake crawling out of an ant hole.
2. Saira noticed a rooster pecking at some grain.
3. We watered the plants wilting in the sun.
4. We noticed smoke rising high above the trees.
5. Delighted with the result, Nita threw her arms in the air.
6. Naina saw a squirrel climbing a tree.
7. Kunika applied for the teacher's post advertised in the newspaper.

### **WORKBOOK ( only answers)**

- A.
1. Thin and weak with dry skin  
At the age of 95, the body of Priya's grandfather has become withered and worn.
  2. Shaking fingers  
Deeply moved by the ancient, shekhar picked up the paper with unsteady figures.
  3. Changes that have happened in one's life over a period of long time.  
My grandmother recounted the measured changes in her life since she was a child.
  4. Feeling afraid but wanting to help  
When the child lost control of his cycle, the mother caught his hands in frightened compassion.
- B. Match the noun on the right with the words they collocate with.
1. Sweeping changes
  2. Bowed head
  3. Visible signs
  4. Growing concerns
  5. Developing world
  6. Outstanding performance
  7. Extended family
  8. Opening night
- C. Underline the participle phrases in each sentence.

1. Pausing in his hand
2. Watching me closely
3. Walking down the road
4. Created using a 3D printer
5. Driven from their homes by floods
6. Waiting for the performance

D. Rewrite these sentence by placing the participle phrases correctly

1. The bread , baked just this morning, proved to be an instant success among customers.
2. Working hard all day, the electrician finished the repair work by late evening .
3. Climbing slowly, my 90 year grandmother finally made it to my third floor apartment.
4. That song, sung during family functions, is still popular among all age groups.
5. Draped neatly on a hanger, the salwar kameez looked ready to be worn.