

NCERT SOLUTIONS

CLASS - 12th



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Subject : English

Chapter : 4

Chapter Name : Tomorrow

Q1 What is the consistency one finds in the old man's madness?

Answer. The old man keeps finding his son and becomes out of control when someone made fun of him or talked about a son. He would advertise about his lost son regularly with the hope that he would return someday.

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Q2 How does Captain Hagberd prepare for Harry's homecoming?

Answer. When Captain Hagberd met a stranger who was actually his son he seemed totally unaware of the fact that it was his own lost son. But, the stranger was aware of the relationship and tells him that he knows about his son and he can provide details about him. Initially, Captain refused to believe him. But in this way Captain is confirmed that his son is alive and he will arrive the next day.

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Q3 How did Bessie begin to share Hagberd's insanity regarding his son?

Answer. When the Stranger encounters Bessie and asks her the reason, for the old man behaving in an insane way. Bessie during conversation starts telling him everything. He lost his son somewhere in the sea and believes that he is alive and he would return someday. He keeps roaming here and there with the advertisement of his lost son.

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Q4 What were Harry's reasons for coming to meet old Hagberd?

Answer. Harry's reason to come home were-

- He was eager to learn where the old Hagberd was living right now.
- He wanted to know that whatever he heard from barber about him was actually true or it was false.

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Q5 Why does Harry's return prove to be a disappointment for Bessie?

Answer. Harry and Bessie were very closely associated with each other. When he left her, she was completely destroyed and felt heartbroken and cried everyday. This was the only reason that Harry's return proved to be shattering for Bessie.

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Q1. Comment on the technique used by the author to unfold the story of Captain Hagberd's past.

Answer. The technique was very skilfully used by Joseph Conrad. Initially, there is no reference of the past, but as the story moves ahead secret from the past gets unveiled. The plot is fabricated very nicely and the element of suspense is added to plot. At last, everything has been unveiled and readers get a full view of the narrative.

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Q2 Identify instances in the story in which you find streaks of insanity in people other than Hagberd. What implications do they suggest?

Answer. Insanity means irrationality. There were two moments when the streak of insanity was visible in people other than Hagberd.

The first one was found in barber, as he was passing judgment on old Hagberd without understanding his plight.

The second was Mr. Carvil as he used to overreact and would shout loudly when needed something.

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Q1 'Every mental state, even madness, has its equilibrium based upon self-esteem. Its disturbance causes unhappiness'.

Answer. It is aptly stated that "Every mental state, even madness, has its equilibrium based upon self-esteem. Its disturbance causes unhappiness." A disturbed person whom world considers mad can feel the sense of unhappiness when he learns about his self esteem and respect. As in this narration, the protagonist has lost control over his senses and that leads to great suffering.

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Q2 Joyce's 'Eveline' and Conrad's 'Tomorrow' are thematically similar.

Answer. The thing that is similar is the short and brief narration of the plot. 'Eveline' is a part of James Joyce's collection Dubliners. Whereas, 'Tomorrow' is the short story written by Joseph Conrad.

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