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Class 10 English (Footprints without Feet) Notes

The Midnight Visitor



Key Notes and Important Questions with Answers

Lesson 3 : The Midnight Visitor

ROBERT ARTHUR

Key Points (Characters)

Ausable	Max	Fowler
* A secret agent or spy * his personality does not suit his job * Was Very fat; but smart * Expert in fabricating a false story, dupe Max to save the paper * Gets rid of Max	* Max * slender, a little less than tall, with features that suggested slightly the crafty fellow; * demands the papers at gun point; * energetic but foolish * believes his rival so easily and get killed	* writer, young and romantic. * Wants a thrilling romantic story for his magazine; * finds himself frustrated and disillusioned in the company of a sloppy fat man * Gets a real thriller when Max encounters Ausable * and see Ausable smartly gets rid of Max.

Comprehension passages

Passage-1

This is the second time in a month that somebody has got into my room through that nuisance of a balcony!" Fowler 's eyes went to the single window of the room. It was an ordinary window, against which now the night was pressing blackly.

Questions :

a) Who is the speaker?

b) Who had entered the second time?

c) Why was Fowler there?

Answers :

a) Ausable

b) Max

c) To get the thrill from meeting a secret agent.

Passage-2

The little spy smiled evilly. "And we wish we knew how your people got the report. But no harm has been done. I will get it back tonight. What is that? Who is at the door?"

Questions :

a) Who was expected at the door?

b) Who was the little spy and why did he smile?

c) Whose men had gathered the report?

Passage-3

You were told that I was a secret agent, a spy, dealing in espionage and danger. You wished to meet me because you are a writer, young and romantic. You envisioned mysterious figures in the night, the crack of pistols, drugs in the wine."

a) Who are talking here?

b) What does the speaker really deal in?

c) What kind of a scene had he imagined?

SAQs

1. Who was Ausable and why was he there in the hotel room?

Ans. Ausable was a professional spy. He was waiting for an important report about some missiles?

2. Who was Fowler and what was he doing there with Ausable?

Ans. Fowler was a writer who admired the thrillers. He was there to have some real thrill with Ausable as a material for his next story.

3. Who was Max. How did he intrude in Ausable's room.

4. I-low did Ausable get rid of Max? or How was Ausable able to dupe Max?

5. Why did Fowler want to meet Ausable? Why was he disappointed?

LAQs (VBQs)

1. A Procrastinatist is one who delays action and invites a tragedy to happen with him" Is Max a Procrastinatist, Why, Why not?

Ans. No. Max is not a Procrastinatist. He did not delay the action of his own. He had to wait for the Paper he was seeking, to arrive. He is overconfident and foolish enough to be duped by Ausable so simply and easily. He believes Ausable and does not confirm anything himself.

2. "Telling a lie is a sin and killing someone is a crime," Why then did Ausable tell lies more than once and killed Max?

Ans. Of course, morally Ausable had done wrong. But his profession allows him to take such steps when the security and integrity of the nation is at stake. He does not tell lies and killed Max for his own sake but for his country. He is a true soldier to protect the country from inside.

3. "Every moment of a spy's profession is a real drama" Did Fowler get his drama or not?

4. "How intelligent is it to keep cool when some one desperately wants to agitate you. Discuss in the light of Ausables character.