

CHAPTER – 7

THE OPEN WINDOW

❖ Comprehension Check Pg-57

Question 1:

Why had Framton Nuttel come to the “rural retreat”?

Answer:

Framton Nuttel was suffering from some nervous disorder. So, he decided to come to the village for a rural treatment.

Question 2:

Why had his sister given him letters of introduction to people living there?

Answer:

Framton’s sister knew that he would meet very few people in the countryside. He would feel lonely and bored. Also, his nerves would become worse. Thus, she gave him few letters of introduction to people she knew already.

Question 3:

What had happened in the Sappleton family as narrated by the niece?

Answer:

The niece told Nuttel that three years ago, her aunt's husband, two brothers and a dog had gone for hunting through the open French window and they never returned. But the aunt was still hoping to see them back through the open window.

❖ Comprehension Check Pg-60

Question 1:

What did Mrs. Sappleton say about the open window?

Answer:

Mrs. Sappleton said that her husband and brothers would be entering the house anytime through the open window. As they did every time. The window was kept open until it was dark.

Question 2:

The horror on the girl's face made Framton swing around in his seat. What did he see?

Answer:

Framton swung around to know the reason for the girl's horror. Soon he saw a silhouette of two men and a dog. And the three figures were coming towards the window.

❖ Comprehension Check Pg-61

Question 1:

Why did Framton rush out wildly?

Answer:

The niece had told Nuttel that her aunt's husband and brothers had been missing for three years. They once went through this window and never returned. When Framton saw them coming, he thought they were ghosts. So, he rushed out wildly in fear.

Question 2:

What was the girl's explanation for his lightning exit?

Answer:

The girl explained that Framton had a bad experience with the dogs. She explained about her experience with a pack of dogs near a cemetery. So, he panicked and made a sudden exit on seeing the dog.

❖ Exercise

Question 1:

Is this a mystery story? Give a reason for your answer.

Answer:

The open window is not truly a mystery story. It shows the fertile imagination of a young girl. She tells him a cooked-up

story. Poor Framton falls a prey to her prank and runs out of the house hurriedly.

Question 2:

You are familiar with the ‘irony’ of the situation in a story. (Remember the cop and the Anthem in Class VII Supplementary Reader!) Which situations in ‘The Open Window’ are good examples of the use of irony?

Answer:

‘Irony’ refers to the contrast between what is expected out of a situation and what actually occurs. The open window has the irony of the situation. Framton goes to countryside for rest and relief from his nervousness. But Mrs. Sappleton’s niece tells him such a cooked-up story that he suddenly rushes out. He mistakes Mrs. Sappleton’s husband and brother as their ghosts.

Question 3:

What phrases/sentences in the text do you find difficult to understand? Select a few and guess the meaning of each. Rewrite a simple paraphrase of each.

Answer:

Phrase	Meaning
Came into the nice division	The category of nice people
Bertie, why do you bound?	Bound is referred to a person whose behaviour is unpleasant to other people.
Masculine habitation	Means some male persons lived in there.