

GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE, PRAYAGRAJ

SESSION: 2020-2021

CLASS 9 - A,B,C,D,E

WORKSHEET NO. 2

SUBJECT: ENGLISH LITERATURE

INSTRUCTIONS:

Parents are requested to ensure that the student spends two days to read and understand the story and thereafter answer the given questions.

1. Treasure Trove A Collection of ICSE Poems and Short Stories for classes 9 and 10.
2. Workbook Treasure Trove A Collection of ICSE Short Stories by Selina
3. Workbook Treasure Trove Volume – II: Short Stories ICSE by Xavier Pinto

The Students can visit the following sites on Internet:

- a. Old Man at the Bridge: Summary and Analysis/Englicist
<https://englicist.com/notes/old-man>
- b. <https://www.gradesaver.com/sum>
Short Stories of Ernest Hemingway's "Old Man at the Bridge" Summary and Analysis of "Old Man at the Bridge"
- c. Old Man at the Bridge Summary - e Notes.com

Story: Old Man at The Bridge - Ernest Hemingway

Q.No.1. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:

There was a pontoon bridge across the river and carts, trucks, and men, women and children were crossing it. The mule - drawn carts staggered up the steep bank from the bridge with soldiers helping push against the spokes of the wheels. The truck ground up and away heading out of it all and the peasants plodded along in the ankle deep dust. But the old man sat there without moving. He was too tired to go any further.

Pg. No. 1/3

- a. Identify the author and the text.

- b. Who is the speaker of the above extract? Why is he there?
- c. Where is the old man sitting? Unlike others why doesn't he move?
- d. What is the scene at the pontoon bridge?
- e. Who sat by the side of the road? Where had he come from?

Q.No.2. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:

That was his native town and so it gave him pleasure to mention it and he smiled. "I was taking care of animals," he explained. "Oh", I said not quite understanding, "Yes", he said, "I stayed, you see, taking care of animals."

- a. Where was 'his' native town? How did 'he' feel about it?
- b. How old was 'he' and how far had 'he' walked?
- c. Why did 'he' leave 'his' home town? What was 'he' anxious about?
- d. Who is 'I'? What duty did 'I' do?
- e. Which 'animals' did 'he' talk about? Which ones was 'he' anxious about?

Q.No.3. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:

"This is not a good place to stop," I said. "If you can make it, there are trucks up the road where it forks for Tortosa". "I will wait a while," he said, "and then I will go. Where do the trucks go"?

- a. Why did the author ask the second person to leave the place? Where did he want him to go?
- b. Why did the second speaker want to stay there? What did he ultimately do?
- c. Describe the old man's appearance. What was he doing in San Carlos?
- d. What shows the second speaker's nature?
- e. How did he share his worries with the first speaker?

Q.No.4. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:

“And you have no family” I asked, watching the far end of the bridge where a few last carts were hurrying down the slope of the bank.

“No” he said, “only the animals I stated. The cat, of course, will be all right. A cat can look out for itself, but I cannot think what will become of the others”. “What politics have you”? I asked.

- a. Who has no family? Do you really think so?
- b. Who was watching the far end of the bridge? Why?
- c. Who are the ‘others’? What does the speaker mean when he says: ‘What will become of the others’?
- d. What politics does the speaker have?
- e. What is the significance of the passage in the story?

Q.No.5. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:

“I was taking care of animals,” he said dully, but no longer to me. “I was only taking care of animals”. There was nothing to do about him. It was Easter Sunday and the Fascists were advancing toward the Ebro. It was a grey overcast day with a low ceiling so their planes were not up. That and the fact that cats know how to look after themselves was all the good luck that old man would ever have,

- a. How far did the narrator succeed in convincing the old man about the safety of his animals?
- b. Why does the narrator note that the old man spoke ‘dully’?
- c. What makes the narrator feel that ‘there was nothing to do about him’?
- d. State how both the narrator and the old man are depicted as helpless by the end.
- e. What is “all the good luck that old man would ever have”?

THE END