**STUDY MATERIAL**

**B. A. SEMESTER IV**

**Dr. Dhanraj Shete**

**Head, Deptt of English**

**Bar. Sheshrao Wankhede College of Arts & Commerce, Khaparkheda,**

**Distt: Nagpur**

**Monday Morning**

By Mark Twain

**Introduction :** The story, ‘Monday Morning’ is taken from a very famous book penned by Mark Twain, *Adventures of Tom Sawyer*. It is a story of a mischievous boy called Tom Sawyer.

1. Every Monday morning Tom Sawyer feels miserable because he hated to go to school. For him school was like a prison. He thought that he should have no intervening holiday. He invented many excuses to stay away from school. First he decided to make pretense of pain in stomach. Then he discovered that one of his upper front teeth was loose and so he pretended to have toothache. When he feared that his aunt would pull the tooth, he pretended that he had pain in his toe. When Aunt Polly exposed his trick, he said that he had pain in his loose tooth.
2. Tom started groaning loudly pretending that he had pain in his toe. But his groans made no effect on Sid who was sleeping by his side. Tom groaned again and again, but Sid snored on. Tom got angry. He called out to Sid and shook him. When Sid woke up, he asked Tom what the matter was. Tom said that he forgave everyone as he is going to die. Sid thought that Tom was really going to die. He ran downstairs to call Aunt Polly.
3. Tom told Aunt Polly that he had terrible pain in his toe. But she knew very well that Tom was pretending and ordered him to stop groaning. When Tom thought that his idea of toe is not working, he complained of a terrible pain in his loose tooth. Aunt Polly asked Mary to bring a silk thread and a pan of burning coal. She tied one end of silk thread to Tom’s loose tooth with a loop and the other end to the bed post. She thrust the pan of burning coal into the boy’s face. Thus she pulled out the tooth and asked Tom to go to school.

Que 1. **How did Tom feel on Monday morning? Why? OR**

 **Why did Tom feel miserable on every Monday morning? OR**

 **What excuses did Tom think of for abstaining from the school? OR**

 **What excuses did Tom think of for not going to school?**

Ans : Introduction + paragraph 1.

Que.**2 How did Tom wake up Sid from sleep and what did he tell him?**

Ans: Introduction + paragraph 2.

**Que 3. How did Aunt Polly behave with Tom?**

Ans: Introduction + paragraph 3.

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**Monday Morning**

By Mark Twain

**Very Short Answer Questions:**

1. **Whom does Tom call for help?**

Ans: Tom calls Sid for help.

1. **What was the condition of Tom on Monday morning?**

Ans: Tom feels miserable on every Monday morning.

1. **What did Aunt Polly tell Mary to bring?**

Ans: Aunt Polly asked Mary to bring a silk thread and a pan of burning coal.

1. **Was Tom successful in his attempt to avoid going to school?**

Ans: No, Aunt Polly pulled out Tom’s loose tooth and sent him to school.

1. **How did Auny Polly treat Tom’s complaint of loose tooth?**

Ans: Aunt Polly tied one end of silk thread to Tom’s loose tooth and the other end to the bed post. She thrust the pan of burning coal in the boy’s mouth and pulled the tooth out.

1. **What is Aunt Polly’s reaction to Tom’s Complaint?**

Ans: Aunt Polly sat into a chair, laughed a little and then cried a little. Then she asked Tom to stop that nonsense.

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**Lesson 1. THE DOCTORS’S WORD**

**R. K. Narayan**

**Q1. Why did patients come to Dr. Raman when they were on their last legs?**

**Ans:-** People came to Dr. Raman when the patient was in the last stage. The doctor would angrily ask them why they couldn’t come a day earlier. The reason was obvious. The doctors visiting fee was twenty-five rupees which was too high. People also like to shirk the fact that the time had come to call in Dr. Raman. For them, there was something ominous in the very association.

**Q2. Why was Dr. Raman’s opinion valued by people?**

**Ans:-** When the patients approach Dr. Raman in a seriously ill condition, he always takes a quick decision one way or another. There was no scope or time for any kind of wavering or lying. Long years of practice of this kind had produced in the doctor a certain curt truthfulness. For that very reason, his opinion was valued. He was not a mere doctor expressing an opinion, but a judge pronouncing a verdict. He stated the bare truth about the patient’s chances of living or dying.

 **Q3. What was the condition of Gopal when Dr. Raman went to his house?**

**Ans:-** One day Gopal’s son came and informed Dr. Raman that his father was ill. The doctor rushed to Gopal’s house and found him lying in bed as if in sleep. His wife told him that he had been ill for a month and half. Dr. Raman gave him an injection. He sat back in his chair and gazed on the patient’s face for over as hour. The patient still remained motionless. Later, the doctor performed an operation. After sometime the patient opened his eyes and stirred slightly in bed.

 **Q4. How did Gopal recover from his illness?**

**Ans:- When Gopal made a slight improvement, he asked Dr. Raman in a whispering voice how long he would live. It was not in Dr. Raman’s nature to tell lies to his patients. People attached great value to his word because of his truthfulness. Gopal wanted to sign his will before dying and wished the doctor to be a witness. He couldn’t leave his property unsettled. That would mean endless misery for his wife and children. He reminded him of subbiah and his gang. Dr. Raman thought for a long time.**

**Very Short Answer Questions:**

1. **When did patients come to Dr. Raman?**

Ans. When they were on their last legs.

1. **Why did people come to Dr. Raman when the Patient was on his last leg and earlier?**

Ans. The visiting fees was twenty-five rupees which was very high, and more than that, people liked to shirk the fact that time had come to call in Dr. Raman, whose decision was quick one way or another.

1. **Why did people value Dr. Raman’s opinion?**

Ans. This was because he told the truth bluntly without any wavering or soothing lies.

1. **What kind of friendship did Gopal and Dr. Raman share?**

Ans. It was a classic friendship untouched by changing times, circumstances and activities.

1. **How long had Gopal not called on Dr. Raman?**

Ans. Gopal had not called on Dr. Raman for three months.

1. **What was Dr. Raman’s comment when the assistant told him that Gopal’s pulse had improved?**

Ans. Dr. Raman told the assistant not to trust it as it was only a false flash-up, very common in those cases.

1. **What did Gopal want to do when he regained his consciousness?**

Ans. He wanted to sign his will.

1. **Who was Subbiah?**

Ans. Subbiah was a gang leader who wanted to grab Gopal’s property.

1. **What was the dilemma faced by Dr. Raman?**

Ans. On the one hand it was not Dr. Raman’s nature to use soothing lies. On the other hand, if he asked Gopal to sign the will, it would destroy the thousandth part of a chance that he had of survival. This was the dilemma faced by Dr. Raman.

1. **What was “the doctor’s words” the saved Gopal’s life?**

Ans. The doctor’s word that saved Gopal’s life was that he was going to live and that his heart was absolutely sound.

1. **What will be a puzzle for Dr. Raman all his life?**

Ans. The puzzle will be how Gopal had survived the heart attack.

1. **How long had Gopal and Dr. Raman Been friends?**

Ans. Gopal and Dr. Raman had been friends for forty years.

1. **What kind of friendship did Gopal and Dr. Raman share?**

 Ans: Gopal and Dr. Raman shared a classic friendship untouched by changing times.

1. **What did Gopal want to do when he regained consciousness? OR**

 **Why did Gopal want to sign the will?**

 Ans: Gopal wanted to sign his will in order to settle his property before death.

1. **How long had Gopal and Dr. Raman been friends?**

 Ans: Gopal and Dr. Raman had been friends for forty years.

1. **Where did Gopal live?**

 Ans: Gopal lived at Lawley Extension.

1. **What will be a puzzle for Dr. Raman all his life?**

 Ans: The puzzle for Dr. Raman all his life will be how Gopal had survived the heart attack.

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**Poem No. 1 - THE VILLAGE SCHOOLMASTER**

 **By Oliver Goldsmith.**

1. Oliver Goldsmith has painted a very beautiful pen-picture of the Village School Master in the present poem. The village schoolmaster had his little school near an irregular fence by the side of the road. He was a very strict in imposing discipline among his students. He was serious looking. When he comes to school in the morning, by looking at his face, the student were able to guess their experiences of the day. Whenever he cracked his stale jokes, the students pretended to enjoy them. This they knew that trouble was coming, and the sad news was communicated among themselves through whispers. His severity was the product of his love of learning. Yet he was kind at heart.
2. Everyone in the village knew the extent of his knowledge. He could work out simple arithmetic problems and calculate the area of a piece of land. He could determine the capacity of a vessel and foretell the seasons and feasts. His skill in arguing was acknowledged by the village priest himself. When he was defected in an argument he would start using high-sounding words. In fact, the villagers wondered how a small head could contain so much knowledge. Indeed, the picture of the village school master in humorous and endearing.

**Short Answer Questions: ( to be answered in 75 words each).**

1. **Attempt a character-sketch of the village school master. OR**

**Draw a pen-portrait of the village school-master. OR**

**Give the substance of “The Village School Master” OR**

**Describe the character of the village School-master.**

**Ans:** Write paragraphs 1 + 2

1. **What do you learn about the village school and its pupils from the poem?**

**Ans:** Write a paragraph 1

1. **What was the extent of the village school-master’s knowledge? OR**

**What were the subjects in which the village school-master was skilled in? OR**

**How did the villagers look upon the village school-master?**

**Ans:**  Paragraph 2

**Very Short Answer Questions. ( to be answered in 2/3 lines each)**

Poem 2. **SAY NOT THE STRUGGLE NAUGHT AVAILETH NAUGHT AVAILETH**

 **SUMMARY**

 The poet, Arthur Hugh Clough, says that we should never say that our struggle to achieve success in life is of no use. Nor should we assume that all our efforts and all the injuries we have sustained are in vain. It is also wrong to say that our enemies do state that nothing ever changes for the better.

 The poet goes on to say that if the things you have hoped for haven’t happened, you should not be disheartened. For it is also true that the things you are scared of may not happen either. Perhaps, hidden in the smoke of the battlefield, your comrades are now chasing the last of the fleeing soldiers of the defeated army. The only place where there is still fighting going on is at your corner of the battlefield, and here too you are poised to win.

 Success in personal life depends on a general, broad minded attitude. For instance, if you stand at the main boundary between the sand and the sea, you will find that the (tired) waves do not make much progress into the mainland. They are vainly breaking on the sand. But if you turn and have a

 General look around, you might see a great mass of water surging in through various creeks and inlets that lie not in front but behind.

 Similarly, the eastern window you are sitting at is not the only place shone by the rising sun. It is true that from there the sun hardly seems to be moving up the sky at all. But if you turn round and look through the westward facing window, you will see how the whole landscape is already flooded with sun light.

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**UNIT- III**

**ONE ACT PLAY**

**Abu Hasan Pays His Debt**

**SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS**

**Q. 1. What sort of life did Abu Hassan and his wife lead in the beginning?**

Ans : Abu Hassan and his wife, Nouz Hatoul, were living in utter poverty. Nouz was unable to prepare any delicious food for her husbands. She complained to her husband that there was not the smallest titbit in the house. All their sugar was done and all food went on getting worse and worse. Abu Hassan called the meal to set before Abu Hassan who was the chief slave of the Caliph , Haroun Al- Rashid. Nouz

 Hatoul told him that the sweet vendors, Ali Wadi and Rab Haddaj, refused to give any more sweets on credit until their bills were paid. Thus they lived in penury and hardship.

**Q. 2. Describe, in short, the meeting between Abu Hassan and the traders.**

Ans : As Abu Hassan was going out to meet the Caliph, the traders, Ali Wadi and Rab Haddaj, reached his house and demanded that their bills should be paid immediately. Abu Hassan became very angry and called them ‘leeches’ and ‘dogs’ and that they had ‘babbling tongues’. They said that their patience was

 Already exhausted by his promises, they threatened that if their bills were not paid by sunset that day, they would complain to the Caliph. Hurling abuses at them, Abu Hassan asked them to get out.

**Q. 3. What was the plan conceived by Abu Hassan to overcome their plight?**

Ans.: Abu Hassan and his wife, Nouz Hatoul, were living in utter poverty. They had no money even for household expenses. The traders, Ali Wadi and Rab Haddaj, refused to give anything on credit until their

 Bills were paid. They also threatened that they would inform the Caliph, and he would send both Abu and Nouz to prison. Abu Hassan thought of a plan to make some easy money to pay off the debts. He

 Told Nouz Hatoul that he would tell the princess that her for some aid. She would tell the princess would approach the Caliph for help. This was the plan conceived by Abu Hassan to overcome their plight.

**Q. 4. What made the royal couple go personally to Abu Hassan’s house?** OR

 **Why did the Caliph and the princess send their servants separately to Hassan’s house?**

Ans.: When the Caliph and the princess met, the Caliph informed her about the death of Abu’s wife. She was surprised and told him that it was Abu who had actually died and not his wife. They were utterly confused. They had a heated argument over who had actually died-Abu or his wife, Nouz. So the Caliph sent his servant, Messoor, to Hassan’s house to find out the truth. Messoor came back and said that it was Abu’s wife who had died. The princess could not believe it. So she sent her serving maid, Scheherade, to Abu’s house to ascertain the actual situation.

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