**STUDY MATERIAL**

**B. A. SEMESTER I**

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**UNCLE PODGER HANGS A PICTURE**

**K. Jerome**

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

1. **From the hints given in the story, find out how many people were there in Uncle Podger’s house? OR**
2. **List the accessories and tools that Uncle Podger needed/used to hang the picture? OR**
3. **Describe how the whole family got involved in putting up the picture?**

**Ans:** Uncle Podger engages everyone in the house to help him hang the picture. He sends the girl out for nails. He asks Will to bring hammer. He asks Tom to bring the rule. He asks Jim to go to their neighbor, Mr. Goggles and borrow his spirit level. Uncle Podger also uses a step-ladder, kitchen chair, a picture cord, a candle for light and a bit of string for measurement as the tools while hanging the picture. Uncle Podger even took the help of the charwoman and his wife to hang the picture.

1. **Is Uncle Podger accident prone. Give examples. OR**
2. **What was Uncle Podger’s wife’s reaction to all the commotion? OR**
3. **Did Uncle Podger finally manage to hang the picture? Could his efforts be termed as a success? Defend your answer with evidence from the text.**

**Ans:-** When Uncle Podger lifted the picture to hang, it fell off his hand. As he tried to save the glass, he cut himself. Then everyone become busy in search of his coat as the hand ker chief required to tie the bleeding finger was in the pocket of the coat. At last uncle Podger found that he was sitting on the coat. //One after another the nail, the hammer and the mark where the nail was to go in was lost and all were busy in searching them. While taking the measurement, he fell on the piano. While hammering in the nail, he smashed his finger. When the nail went through the plaster, his nose was flattened. At last the picture went up the wall at midnight. Fed up with the commission, Aunt Podger decided to spent a week at her mother next time when Uncle Podger would start doing such work.

1. **Write a character sketch of Uncle Podger. OR**
2. **What is the attitude of the author to the nature and habits of Uncle Podger? How can you tell?**

**Ans.** “Uncle Podger Hangs a Picture” is a humourous story based on a trivial task of putting up a picture on the wall. //Uncle Podger wanted to do things of which he had no knowledge or experience. When the story beings, he tells his wife that no one should worry of hanging the picture, but he engages everyone in the task. He calls others ‘fools’ even for his own fault. He has the habit of blaming others for his own mistakes. He is full of pride and self-conceit. He spends hours for a small job. He feels satisfied when at last the picture hangs on the wall. In fact the picture is in a crooked and insecure position.

**Very Short Answer Questions: (To be answered in One to Three lines each).**

1. **What did Uncle Podger ask his wife not to worry about?**

**Ans:** Uncle Podger asked his wife not to worry about hanging the picture.

1. **What did Uncle Podger send his daughter out for? OR**

**Whom did Uncle Podger send out to buy nails.**

**Ans:** Uncle Podger sent his daughter out to buy nails worth six pennies.

1. **Why was Uncle Podger unable to find his hand kerchief?**

**Ans:** because the hand ker chief was in the pocket of the coat.

1. **When did Uncle Podger call all the others ‘fools’?**

**Ans:** Uncle Podger called all the others fools when everyone was finding the mark where the nails was to go in at different places.

1. **Finally, around what time did the picture go up on the wall?**

**Ans:** The picture finally went up the wall at midnight.

1. **Who was Mr. Goggles?**

**Ans:** Mr. Goggles was the neighbor of Uncle Podger.

1. **Why did Jim go to Mr. Goggles?OR**

**Why did Uncle Podger send his son to Mr.Goggles?**

**Ans:** Uncle Podger sent his son to Mr. Goggles to borrow his spirit level.

1. **Around what time did the picture finally go up on the wall?**

**Ans :** The picture finally went up the wall at midnight.

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**THE TOYS**

**Coventry Patmore**

**Answer For any Short Answer Questions: (To be answered in 75 words).**

1. **Que: Why did the poet, Coventry Patmore, punish his son? OR**
2. **What did the poet, Coventry Patmore, see when he went to see his son later? OR**
3. **Why had the boy put out all of his toys?**

**Ans:** Once the poet punished his son for disobeying his order for several times. He beat him and sent him away without usual kiss. The grief-stricken boy went to his bed. His mother was dead. After some time his father felt remorseful and went to his son’s bed thinking that his grief might disturb his sleep. But he found the boy sleeping peacefully. But on the table beside his bed, he had arranged artistically all his toys to console his heart. His eye lids were dark and eyelashes were wet as he had wept for long time. To see this sight the poet felt very sorry and he kissed away his tears leaving his own tears on the boy’s face.

1. **Explain the phrase ‘of what toys/ we made our joys’.**
2. **What are the two personas that the poet, Coventry Patmore, takes on in the poem?**
3. **What does the poet, Coventry Patmore, learn from his experience as a father?**
4. **Why do you think God ‘will be sorry for their childishness’?**
5. **What do you understand of the speaker’s conception of religion from the poem?**

**Ans:** When the poet felt very sorry to have punished his son, he prayed God and begged to forgive for the childishness of the mankind. Just as the poet is a father of his son, the God is a heavenly father of all human beings. Many times man fails to understand God’s command for his good and disobey them. So the poet prays God not to be angry with men but to forgive them for their childish mistakes.

**Very Short Answer Questions: (To be answered in One to Three lines each).**

**1 . How does the poet, Coventry More, describe the little boy’s eyes?**

**Ans:** The poet describes the little boy’s eyes as thoughtful.

**2. How many times did the boy disobey his father?**

**Ans:** The boy disobeyed his father for seven times.

**3. How was the little boy punished?**

**Ans:** Using harsh words, his father struck him and sent him away without usual kiss.

**4. Where is the little boy’s mother?**

**Ans:** The little boy’s mother was dead.

**5. Why does the father go up to see the son?**

**Ans:** The boy’s father was remorseful to have punished his son, he went up to think that the boy’s grief might disturb his sleep.

**6. What was the father’s reaction on seeing his son?**

**Ans:** To see the eyelashes of the son wet with tears, the father kissed away his tears but left his own tears on the boy’s face. He felt painful.

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