



INDIAN SCHOOL DARSAIT DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH



Subject :English

Topic : A Midnight Visitor

Worksheet .No. : 12

Date : _____

Name of the Student : _____ Class &Division : _____ Roll Number : ____

Read the extracts given below carefully and answer the questions that follow:

(a) *“Max,” he wheezed, “you gave me quite a start. I thought you were in Berlin. What are you doing here in my room?”*

(a) In whose room was Max?

Ans: Ausable’s room.

(b) Why was he there?

Ans: He had come to get a very important report from him.

(c) Where and what is Berlin?

Ans: Berlin is the capital of Germany.

(d) How has Max got in?

Ans: Max has got in the room by using a pass-key for unlocking Ausable’s room.

(b) *“You are disappointed”, Ausable said wheezily over his shoulder. “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 was disappointed and with whom?

Ans: Fowler was disappointed to see Ausable.

(b) Why did ‘he’ want to meet Ausable?

Ans: Fowler wanted to meet him because he was a writer and wished to meet a real spy.

(c) Why was Fowler disappointed?

Ans: He was disappointed to meet Ausable who looked ordinary, slow, sluggish and a very fat person who lived in a small room on the top floor of a cheap hotel.

(d) How was Ausable different from the other secret agents?

Ans: Ausable, unlike other secret agents, was very fat with an accent of both French and German.

(c) *Ausable moved to an armchair and sat down heavily. “I’m going to raise the devil with the management this time, and you can bet on it,” he said grimly. “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.*

(a) Why was Ausable disturbed?

Ans: Ausable was disturbed with his room’s balcony window.

(b) What did he complain of?

Ans: He complained of strangers entering through the window into his rooms.

(c) What story did Ausable cook up to confuse Max?

Ans: Ausable confused Max by framing a story about a balcony under his window. He told Max that it was being used by people for entering his room secretly.

(d) When do you think Ausable thought up his plan for getting rid of Max?

Ans: Ausable thought the plan when he encountered Max in his room. He showed a

little surprise but he was not scared.

Answer the following questions in 30-40 words:

2

- i) How did Max go out of Ausable's room to save himself from the police?
Ans. Max was very nervous to find the police at the door. He went out of the window saying that he would wait in the balcony. He warned Ausable to send them away or he would shoot him. Max did not confirm the balcony and stepped out of the window and died.
- ii) How did Ausable kill Max without using a weapon?
Ans. Ausable was an intelligent spy. When he found Max waiting for him in his room, he made a story of a balcony under his window. He convinced Max about the balcony. And thus, when someone knocked at the door, Max fearing it to be the police, jumped out of the window and died.
- iii) Did Fowler find this episode, thrilling or disappointing? Give reasons for your answer.
Ans. Fowler found this episode very thrilling. He was much surprised by the tactful nature of Ausable. He cocked-up a story about the balcony and the police. He got the intruder, Max, killed without firing a shot.
- iv) Describe Ausable.
Ans. Ausable was a secret agent. He was a fat and sloppy fellow. He was not a romantic figure. He had Wine to Paris from Boston twenty years ago. He could speak French and German passably. He had a style of his own in the American language.

Answer the following question in 100-120 words:

8

At the beginning of the story, Fowler felt disappointed with Ausable. Do you think Fowler had the same feeling towards the end of the story? Give reasons for your answer.

Ans: At the beginning of the story, Fowler felt disappointed with Ausable because he did not at all look like a secret agent of his imagination. He found him quite boring. He did not want to be with him any more. But when he found Max in his room with a gun, he was thrilled. He found that Ausable was not at all perturbed. He cocked-up a story about the balcony outside his window. When the waiter knocked at the door, Ausable told Max that it would be the police. He told him that he had called the police for the security of that important paper. Hearing this Max jumped outside the window to the balcony. But there was no balcony. He fell down from the sixth floor and died. Thus, Fowler was thrilled to see all this. So towards the end of the story, he was not disappointed with Ausable.