

CBSE TEST PAPER-03
Class 12 English Core (The Rattrap)

General Instructions:-

- All questions are compulsory.
 - Question No. 1 to 6 carries 3 marks each.
 - Question No. 7 and 8 carries 6 marks each.
-
1. Why did the peddler keep to the woods after leaving the crofter's cottage? How did he feel?
 2. What made the peddler finally change his ways?
 3. Why was Edla happy to see the gift left by the peddler?
 4. Edla sat and hung her head even more dejectedly than usual." Which two reasons forced her to behave in that manner?
 5. Why did the peddler sign himself as Captain von Stahle?
 6. Why did the peddler knock on the cottage by the roadside? How was he treated by the owner of the cottage?
 7. Why did Edla plead with her father not to send the vagabond away?
 8. How did the peddler feel after robbing the crofter? What course did he adopt and how did he react to the new situation? What does his reaction reveal?
-

CBSE TEST PAPER-03
Class 12 English Core (The Rattrap)
Answers

1. After stealing the money from the crofter's, the peddler was cautious to avoid the public, highway lest he be identified and caught. He got into the woods but finally realized that it was a big and confusing forest. The end of the forest was nowhere in sight and he felt lost. That's when he recalled his thoughts about the world being a rattrap and he realized that he had indeed become a victim of a rattrap.
2. The peddler believed in giving back to the world what he received from it. He was always treated with contempt and hostility and so he never did anything good. However, Edla's kind and caring behaviour finally changed him. She had treated him with love and respect befitting a captain, even after realising that he was a poor vagabond. The trust that Edla showed in him made him change his ways and he decided to live with dignity and respect.
3. Edla felt very dejected when she came to know about the theft of the crofter's money by the peddler, but the gift left behind, which consisted of a small rattrap and three wrinkled ten kronor notes, restored her faith in him. She felt happy because her trust in him had been justified. Her kindness had finally changed the peddler and brought out his essential goodness.
4. Edla had shown kindness to the peddler even after knowing that he was not a captain. This was the reason why she felt all the more dejected when she came to know that the peddler whom she had sheltered was actually a thief, who had recently robbed a crofter. Secondly, she also felt bad because the peddler had disproved the faith which she had shown in him.
5. The peddler owed his transformation to the kind treatment meted out to him by Edla. In spite of knowing the truth about him, she had honoured and treated him like a captain. She had awakened the latent goodness in his heart. He wanted to repay Edla for her kindness. His signing himself as Captain von Stahle shows that he wanted to retain the dignity and respect accorded to him.
6. The peddler knocked on the cottage by the roadside to seek shelter for the night. The owner of the cottage was a crofter who lived there alone. He regarded the peddler as welcome company and treated him quite hospitably. He not only put him up for the night, but also offered him food and played cards with him.

-
7. Edla had always thought the peddler to be a poor, homeless tramp. Therefore, she didn't feel cheated when his true identity was revealed. Instead, she felt very bad for him and his miserable condition, and pleaded on his behalf. She and her father had promised him Christmas cheer, and she felt that it would be wrong to send him away. The trust that Edla showed in him made him change his ways and he decided to live with dignity and respect. Due to her kind and caring behaviour the peddler changed his behaviour finally.
 8. The crofter had treated the peddler with hospitality, and had even reposed his trust in the poor vagabond. Still the peddler robbed him and was quite pleased with his smartness. However, the fear of getting caught haunted him. So, he avoided the public highway and turned into the woods. It was a big and confusing forest, and due to the approaching darkness, the peddler lost his way. He got exhausted moving around the same place, and was filled with despair. He began to feel that the forest was like a big rattrap and the thirty kronor he had stolen were like bait set to tempt him.
His reaction reveals that he was feeling guilty for having stolen the crofter's money. His heart was filled with remorse and self-loathing for his act of weakness. However, his thoughts, perhaps, were also a way of justifying his crime.