

**CBSE Class 9 English Language and Literature**  
**Moments Chapter-10 The Beggar**  
**Test Paper-05**

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**Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:**

1. The advocate, Sergei, looked at the ragged, fawn-coloured overcoat of the suppliant, at his dull, drunken eyes, at the red spot on either cheek, and it seemed to him as if he had seen this man somewhere before.

“I have now had an offer of a position in the province of Kaluga,” the mendicant went on, “but I haven’t the money to get there. Help me kindly; I am ashamed to ask, but — I am obliged to by circumstances.”

- a. Where had Sergei seen the man before?
  - b. What did the man’s description tell about him?
  - c. Was the man lying about being “obliged to by circumstances”?
  - d. Pick out the word which means the same as ‘a person asking humbly for something’.
2. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:
- “Thank Heaven! That’s fine! I am delighted for your sake. I am very, very glad, Lushkoff. You see, you are my godson, in a sense. I gave you a push along the right path, you know. Do you remember what a roasting I gave you, eh? I nearly had you sinking into the ground at my feet that day. Thank you, old man, for not forgetting my words.”
- a. Who is the speaker and listener in the above lines?
  - b. Where does the above conversation take place?
  - c. How is the vibe around the conversation?
  - d. What does ‘roasting’ refer to here?

**Answer the following questions in about 30 words:**

3. How did Lushkoff react when Sergei decided to move to another house?
4. “It was obvious, too, that his strength had been undermined by vodka and that he was unhealthy and did not feel the slightest inclination for toil.” What do these lines say about Lushkoff’s character?
5. What were the various jobs that Lushkoff did for Sergei in order to earn money?
6. How had Lushkoff changed by the time he met Sergei after a period of two years?

7. What advice did Sergei give Lushkoff after moving to another house?
8. Throw some light on Lushkoff's dressing sense after he became a notary.

**Answer the following questions in about 100 words:**

9. Elaborate on the role that Olga plays in the life of Lushkoff.
10. Portray a character-graph of Lushkoff in about 100-150 words.

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**Answers**

1.
  - a. Sergei saw the man two days before in Sadovya Street where he told him that he was a student who had been expelled.
  - b. He seemed to be a beggar.
  - c. Yes. He was lying to beg for money.
  - d. Suppliant
2.
  - a. Sergei is speaking to Lushkoff.
  - b. At the ticket window of a theatre.
  - c. Lushkoff has a vibe of nostalgia and gratitude while Sergei exhibits nostalgia and excitement.
  - d. Scolding
3. When Sergei moved into another house, he hired Lushkoff to help in the packing and hauling of the furniture. This time the waif was sober, gloomy, and silent. He hardly touched the furniture, and walked behind the wagons hanging his head, not even making a pretence of appearing busy. He only shivered in the cold and became embarrassed.
4. The above lines tell that Lushkoff was a drunkard and careless man. He chose to beg over working. He opted for an easy way out to lie and beg for money instead of working hard and earn a living.
5. Lushkoff used to chop wood, shovel snow, put the woodshed in order, and beat the dust out of rugs and mattresses. In return, he received twenty to forty copecks, and once, even a pair of old trousers were sent out to him.
6. Over the two years, Lushkoff changed from a beggar to a notary earning thirty-five roubles a month. He was no longer a drunkard. He was rich now with nice sense of dressing.
7. Sergei asked Lushkoff to take his letter to a friend of him the next day where he would be given some copying to do. He advised him to work hard, not to drink, and remember what he had said to him. He then told him goodbye.
8. Sergei was standing at the ticket window of a theatre paying for his seat when he noticed

a little man beside him with a coat collar of curly fur and a worn sealskin cap. This little individual was Lushkoff who timidly asked the ticket seller for a seat in the gallery and paid for it in copper coins.

9. Olga played a vital role in Lushkoff's life. Lushkoff's encounter and interaction with Olga proved to be a turning point in his life. His conscience compelled him to change his ways due to the roasting given to him by Olga. Olga was a woman full of sympathy, empathy and emotions for others. She turned Lushkoff from a beggar to a respected and earning individual. She did so through her harsh words and noble deeds. She would sit down opposite him and grow sad, look into his face and weep and tell him that there was no pleasure for him in the world and that he would burn in hell. She shed tears and suffered misery while chopping woods for him. Even Lushkoff couldn't figure out why he stopped drinking at the sight of her and changed. She brought a positive change in his heart and set him right.
10. Lushkoff had an interesting character-graph. Initially, he was a beggar. He used to lie to people in order to convince them to show mercy on him and give him money. He had gotten used to this easy way of surviving. He did this willingly. However, after he met Sergei, a turn of events took place. He started working at Sergei's as a woodchopper. He used to do various other tasks also and earned half a rouble. Eventually, he went on to become a notary with a salary of thirty-five roubles a month. His character changed because of the roasting given to him by Olga (Sergei's cook). She brought a positive change in his heart and set him right through her harsh words and noble deeds. Hence, the character graph of Lushkoff changed in two years from a down-slope beggar to a straight and rising notary.