

Chapter-1

The Last Lesson

SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS

Answer the following questions in about 30-40 words each :-

1. **Why was Franz reluctant to go to school?**

Ans. His French teacher said that he would ask questions on participles. He had not prepared and learnt the rules about participles.

2. **Why had M. Hamel put on his fine Sunday Clothes?**

Ans. After the order from Berlin had come, that only German would be taught in schools and not French M. Hamel knew that it was his last French lesson. It was honour of the last lesson that he had put on his fine Sunday clothes which he put on inspection and Prize Distribution Day.

3. **Why were the villagers sitting there in the back of the classroom?**

Ans. The villagers - Old Houser, postmaster and several others were there in the classroom because it was their way of showing respect for their country and thanking M. Hamel for his forty years of faithful service. They too felt sorry that they had not been to school.

LONG ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS

1. **Our language is a part of our culture and we are proud of it. Describe how regretful M. Hamel and the village elders are for having neglected their native language.**

Ans. Value Points

- According to the latest order from Berlin, only German was to be taught in the schools to Alsace & Lorraine
- This affected everyone badly as everyone was repenting on having wasted the time and not learning French
- M. Hamel felt guilty for sending his students for his personal tasks
- The parents of the students never bothered and sent children to work on a farm or at mills

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- Elders showed regret too – they neither learnt French themselves nor did they encourage their children
 - Of course, M. Hamel, villagers and even Franz - all were honest enough to accept the mistake of neglecting French language

2. **Write a Speech for your morning assembly on the topic "Significance of language / Mother Tongue in our Life"**

Ans. Value Points

- language empowers countrymen
- Better understanding of the Subject-matter
- used as a weapon to fight a cause
- better expression
- everyone should feel proud of one's mother tongue.