

CBSE Class 9 English Language and Literature
Moments Chapter-7 The Last Leaf
Test Paper-03

Read the following passages and answer the questions

1. Then they found a ladder and a lantern lying near his bed. There were also brushes and some yellow and green paints on the floor near the ladder.
 - a. Who is 'his' in the above lines?
 - b. Why were the paints green and yellow?
 - c. Why do you think the lantern was still lighted?
 - d. Why had a ladder been found near his bed?
2. After hour or so she would look out of the window and find the leaf still there. It seemed to be clinging to the creeper.
 - a. Who is 'she' referred to here?
 - b. Why would she look out of the window again and again?
 - c. Does this leaf change her attitude? How?
 - d. What action did she take after realizing the leaf clinging to the creeper?

Answer the following questions in about 30 words:

3. Why did Sue become worried when Johnsy fell ill?
4. How did Sue help Johnsy during the illness?
5. Who was Behrman? What discussion did he and Sue had?
6. What news about Behrman did the doctor convey to Sue when he came to examine Johnsy?
7. What makes Sue say that Behrman made a masterpiece?
8. How could Johnsy's life be saved?

Answer the following questions in about 100 words:

9. Justify the title 'The Last Leaf'.
10. Draw the character sketch of Johnsy.

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Answers

1.
 - a. 'His' refers to Mr. Behrman, who was a sixty-year old painter and neighbour of Johnsy and Sue.
 - b. The paints were green and yellow as Mr. Behrman had painted a pale yet live leaf using these colours
 - c. The lantern was still lighted because Mr. Behrman had been painting the leaf outside throughout the stormy night. He was quite exhausted to switch it off.
 - d. The ladder had been used to paint the last masterpiece at the same spot of the ivy creeper where the actual leaf was so that Johnsy could see from her window.
2.
 - a. 'She' is referred to Johnsy here.
 - b. She looked out of the window again and again to check if the last leaf of the ivy creeper falls.
 - c. The leaf changed her attitude as she got motivated to live. If the leaf could stick to the creeper she could also recover her illness.
 - d. She revived her spirit to live again after realizing the leaf sustained the strong icy wind of storm and kept clinging to the creeper.
3. Sue became worried because Johnsy would lie in her bed without moving, just gazing out of the window. Johnsy had pneumonia and it seemed curable but her condition seemed otherwise.
4. Sue helped Johnsy by taking care of her. She called the doctor whenever needed. She arranged for the medicines and gave it on time. She served her hot soup and made attempts to cherish her in every possible way she could.
5. Behrman was a sixty-year old painter who was a neighbour of Sue and Johnsy. He lived on the ground floor of the same building where the young girls lived. Sue shared her worry with him because he was an elderly person and his vast experience about life could be of great help.
6. When the doctor came to examine Johnsy, he told Sue that Behrman too was suffering from pneumonia. He said that he was confident of Johnsy's recovery but feared that there

was no hope for Mr. Behrman.

7. Sue called it a masterpiece as it was green and healthy like a real leaf. Besides, it had saved Johnsy's life by reviving her will to live and saved a precious life.
8. Johnsy's life could be saved by reviving her interests in things around her. She had been in a state of depression and had to be convinced to recover fully by urging her desire to live.
9. The title 'The Last Leaf' raises the curiosity of the reader regarding the happenings or the events towards some kind of 'end'. The word 'last' reflects the main idea of the story which is the also the breath of Johnsy. The 'last leaf' becomes the hope of survival and keeps the reader hooked till the end. Throughout, 'the last leaf' remains the central point. In the early part of the story it remains associated with Johnsy's ailment and depression while later on it conveys the message of courage, hope and optimism. The last leaf saves Johnsy's life and fulfills Behrman's dream to paint a masterpiece. However, it also turns out to be his last masterpiece too. Hence the title is apt.
10. Johnsy was a young artist. Her physical ailment made her emotionally wrecked and she became depressed. In that situation she began to nurse a silly idea that she would die soon as the last leaf on the old ivy creeper falls. She understood that her friend loved her a lot but her own depressed frame of mind hindered her recovery. Finally, Johnsy realized her folly. She admitted her mistakes that she had not done well to Sue and had been uncooperative. She also admitted that she had been depressed and realized that wanting to die is a sin. Thus, Johnsy was a simple and honest girl who realized her mistakes and admitted it without any tantrums. Her character pulls a message that medical treatment works only when the patient has faith and hope.