

## Class Notes

Class: IX

Topic: Packing

Subject: ENGLISH

Prepared by: Uttam Kumar Dutta

### Question and Answers

Discuss in pairs and answer each question below in a short paragraph (30–40 words).

Q1. How many characters are there in the narrative? Name them. (Don't forget the dog!).

A. There are four characters in the story. They are the narrator, Jerome, his friends George and Harris, and a dog named Montmorency.

Q2. Why did the narrator (Jerome) volunteer to do the packing?

A. Jerome was proud of his packing skills and so, he offered to do the packing. Actually, he did not intend to do the packing work, but he wanted to supervise his friends and direct them to pack the right way.

Q3. How did George and Harris react to this? Did Jerome like their reaction?

A. George and Harris readily agreed to Jerome's plan. They sat on the sofa and the chair respectively, and watched Jerome do the packing.

Q4. What was Jerome's real intention when he offered to pack?

A. Jerome did not intend to do the packing work, but he wanted to supervise his friends and direct them to pack the right way.

Q5. What did Harris say after the bag was shut and strapped? Why do you think he waited till then to ask?

A. After the bag was shut and strapped, Harris pointed out that Jerome had forgotten to pack his boots. I think that he waited till then because he thought that Jerome would pack the boots in the end.

Q6. What "horrible idea" occurred to Jerome a little later?

A. The horrible idea that struck Jerome was that whether he had packed his toothbrush or not.

Q7. Where did Jerome finally find the toothbrush?

A. He found the toothbrush inside a boot.

Q8. Why did Jerome have to reopen the packed bag?

A. Jerome had to reopen the bag because he had packed his spectacles in it.

Q9. What did George and Harris offer to pack and why?

A. George and Harris offered to pack the food baskets. They did so because they wanted to show that they were better packers than Jerome.

Q10. While packing the hamper, George and Harris do a number of foolish and funny things. Tick the statements that are true.

- (i) They started with breaking a cup.
- (ii) They also broke a plate.
- (iii) They squashed a tomato.
- (iv) They trod on the butter.
- (v) They stepped on a banana.
- (vi) They put things behind them, and couldn't find them.
- (vii) They stepped on things.
- (viii) They packed the pictures at the bottom and put heavy things on top.
- (ix) They upset almost everything.
- (x) They were very good at packing.

A. The true statements are:

- (i) They started with breaking a cup.
- (iii) They squashed a tomato.
- (iv) They trod on the butter.
- (vi) They put things behind them, and couldn't find them.
- (vii) They stepped on things.
- (ix) They upset almost everything.

Q. What does Jerome say was Montmorency's ambition in life? What do you think of Montmorency and why?

A. Montmorency's aim in life was to create hurdles in the way of others and get scolded for it. I think that Montmorency was a loving pet who liked playing with his masters.

**Match the words/phrases in Column A with their meanings in Column B.**

A	B
1. slaving	(i) a quarrel or an argument
2. chaos	(ii) remove something from inside another thing using a sharp tool
3. rummage	(iii) strange, mysterious, difficult to explain
4. Scrape out	(iv) finish successfully, achieve
5. Stumble over, tumble into	(v) search for something by moving things around hurriedly or carelessly
6. accomplish	(vi) complete confusion and disorder
7. uncanny	(vii) fall, or step awkwardly while walking
8. (to have or get into) a row	(viii) working hard

A.

A	B
1. slaving	(viii) working hard
2. chaos	(vi) complete confusion and disorder
3. rummage	(v) search for something by moving things around hurriedly or carelessly
4. Scrape out	(ii) remove something from inside another thing using a sharp tool
5. Stumble over, tumble into	(vii) fall, or step awkwardly while walking
6. accomplish	(iv) finish successfully, achieve
7. uncanny	(iii) strange, mysterious, difficult to Explain

8. (to have or get into) a row	(i) a quarrel or an argument
--------------------------------	------------------------------

**Use suitable words or phrases from Column A above to complete the paragraph given below.**

A Traffic Jam

During power cuts, when traffic lights go off, there is utter \_\_\_\_\_ at crossroads. Drivers add to the confusion by \_\_\_\_\_ over their right of way, and nearly come to blows. Sometimes passers-by, seeing a few policemen \_\_\_\_\_ at regulating traffic, step in to help. This gives them a feeling of having \_\_\_\_\_ something.

A.

A Traffic Jam

During power cuts, when traffic lights go off, there is utter chaos at crossroads. Drivers add to the confusion by getting into a row over their right of way, and nearly come to blows. Sometimes passers-by, seeing a few policemen slaving at regulating traffic, step in to help. This gives them a feeling of having accomplished something.

**The table below has some proverbs telling you what to do and what not to do. Fill in the blanks and add a few more such proverbs to the table.**

positive	negative
(i) Save for a rainy day.	(i) Don't cry over spilt milk.
(ii) Make hay while the sun shines.	(ii) Don't put the cart before the horse.
(iii) _____ before you leap.	(iii) _____ a mountain out of a mole hill.
(iv) _____ and let live.	(iv) _____ all your eggs in one basket.

A.

positive	negative
(i) Save for a rainy day.	(i) Don't cry over spilt milk.
(ii) Make hay while the sun shines.	(ii) Don't put the cart before the horse.

(iii) <u>Look before you leap.</u>	(iii) <u>Making a mountain out of a mole hill</u>
(iv) <u>Live and let live</u>	(iv) <u>Don't put all your eggs in one basket.</u>

**Extra questions:**

**(MCQ)**

**Read the extract and answer the questions by selecting the best option:**

'This was hardly what I intended. What I had meant, of course, was, that I should boss the job, and that Harris and George should potter about under my directions, I pushing them aside every now and then with, "Oh, you!" "Here, let me do it." "There you are, simple enough!" — really teaching them, as you might say.'

Who offered to do packing first?

- A) Montmorency
- B) George
- C) Harris
- D) Jerome

**Ans: D**

Why was Jerome willing to do packing?

- A) because of his guiding skills
- B) he did not want to miss anything
- C) because of his presumed managerial efficiency
- D) he liked to pack

**Ans: C**

II. 'With the exception of George, Harris is the worst packer in this world; and I looked at the piles of plates and cups, and kettles, and bottles, and jars, and pies, and stoves, and cakes, and tomatoes, etc., and felt that the thing would soon become exciting. It did. They started with breaking a cup. That was the first thing they did. They did that just to show you what they could do, and to get you interested.'

Who is the worst packer according to the narrator?

- A) He himself
- B) Harris
- C) George

D) Montmorency

**Ans: C**

Which poetic device has been used in the extract?

A) Polysyndeton

B) Asyndeton

C) Simile

D) Transferred epithet

**Ans: A**

While packing things George and Harris did a few silly things, name them.

I) broke a cup and upset almost everything

II) squashed a tomato

III) broke a bottle of juice

IV) trod on butter and stepped on a banana

A) I & IV

B) I, II & IV

C) II, III & IV

D) II & IV

**Ans: B**

Who was irritating George and Harris?

A) Jerome

B) Montmorency

C) Packing

D) All

**Ans: B**

What was Montmorency's contribution to the packing?

A) made packing easier

B) packing became quicker

C) packing was worsened

D) entertained everyone

**Ans: C**

**Without extract(MCQ):**

Where did Jerome finally find his toothbrush?

- A) in a boot
- B) in the cupboard
- C) in the suitcase
- D) none

**Ans: A**

Finally, at what time did Jerome pack the bag finally?

- A) 8.05 p.m
- B) 9.05 p.m
- C) 10.05 p.m
- D) 11.05 p.m

**Ans: C**