



## INDIAN SCHOOL DARSAIT



Subject : English

### DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

Topic : The Man Who Knew Too Much Date of Worksheet : October 2017

Resource Person: Shobha Krishnan

Date : \_\_\_\_\_

Name of the Student :\_\_\_\_\_

Class & Division : IX

Roll Number : \_\_

I	<b>Read the following extract and answer the questions that follow:-</b>	<b>Marks</b>
1.	<i>"At first we had a certain respect for him but soon we lived in terror of his approach. We tried to hit back at him with clumsy sarcasms and practical jokes."</i> (a) Why did certain respect develop into terror? (b) What treatment did Private Quelch meet out? (c) Pick out the synonym of the word 'awkward'. (d) Who are 'we' in the above lines?	4
2.	<i>A voice interrupted, "Two thousand four hundred forty feet per second."</i> (a) Name the speaker of this line. (b) To whom is he talking to? (c) In which context did he speak? (d) Give the meaning of the word 'interrupted'.	4
3.	<i>"Through the open door, we could see the three cooks standing against the wall as if at bay."</i> (a) Who is 'we' referred to? (b) What is meant by 'at bay'? (c) Who was sermonising the three cooks? (d) What was the person telling the three cooks?	4

### II. Short Answers in 30 -40 words:-

- What does the dark, sun-dried appearance of the Sergeant suggest about him? The Sergeant was as dark and sun-dried as raisins. He wore North West Frontier Ribbons, which reflected valour and gallantry. He was to deliver a lecture on the mechanism of a service rifle. He appeared to be a man who had dedicated his whole youth serving the army. Seasoned and hardened person like him cannot be taken lightly. 2
- How was Private Quelch's knowledge exposed even further as the Sergeant's classes went on? As the lessons progressed Private Quelch proved himself to be an intellectual and knowledgeable person by not only correcting the Sergeant's knowledge of the rifle but also by answering all the questions directed towards him. On many occasions he gave answers or suggestions not called for. 2
- Did Private Quelch's day to day practices take him closer towards his goal? How can you make out? Private Quelch's day to day activities did not take him towards his goals. He was highly ambitious, very diligent and brainy but his strategy to impress his instructors backfired. His superior officers did not like his pompous nature and 2

were irritated. He rudely interrupted their lectures and exhibited his knowledge. Instead of being rewarded, he was downgraded to the back quarters of the kitchen house.

4. Describe Corporal Turnbull. 2

Corporal Turnbull was a young officer. He was a tested and experienced officer who had recently come from Dunkirk. He was not a man to be trifled with. He was so strong that one could hammer nails into his body without his noticing it. He was a man with a difference.

### III. **Answers to Long Answer Questions (Value Based)**

1. At first, Private Quelch was a hero in the eyes of his fellow soldiers. Support this observation with suitable examples from the story. 8

At first when Private Quelch joined the army all his colleagues looked up to him, and considered him a hero. They were highly impressed with his attitude and his ambition. His work habits and perseverance was another quality which they looked up to. The professor seemed to know it all. He would answer all the sergeant's questions about a rifle whether it be "technical definitions, the parts of the rifle, its use and care. He would stay up late at nights reading borrowed training manuals. He was a hero in the eyes of every soldier. All admired him for his knowledge and the spirit he had. They could hardly believe his strength and stamina, as after a thirty miles walk he would say, "What about a song, chaps?" His colleagues felt inferior and challenged. They felt they had no chance with Quelch around. - "What could be a gang of louts do with a man like that?"

2. How did Private Quelch manage to anger the Corporal? 8

Private Quelch was a much learned student. He loved to exhibit his knowledge and he cared little of how people around him responded. Once, when Corporal Turnbull was taking a lesson on hand grenade, The Professor went on correcting him on the number of segments that a hand grenade is divided into .The Professor suggested him, as an expert on the subject, on how Corporal should have started his lecture. Turnbull, though a calm person on the exterior, was a man not to be trifled with. Although he did not react at first and patiently let Quelch take the lecture. However, he took his revenge in the end of the class by assigning Private Quelch permanent cookhouse duties. The episode, of course, was to become a popular joke among the whole platoon.

### **Assignment Questions**

1. What were the Professor's ambitions in the army? 2

2. Private Quelch looked like a "Professor" when the author first met him at the training depot. Why? 2

3. You are the 'Professor'. Write a diary entry after your first day at the cookhouse, describing the events that led to this assignment, also express your thoughts and feelings about the events of the day in about 100-120 words. 8