



INDIAN SCHOOL DARSAIT DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH



Subject : English

Topic : Mrs. Packletide's Tiger

Worksheet .No. : 5

Date : _____

Name of the Student : _____ Class & Division : _____ Roll Number : _____

S.No. **Read the following extracts and answer the questions.** **Marks**

1 . *"Mrs.Packletide had already arranged in her mind the lunch she would give at her house in Curzon Street, ostensibly in Loona Bimberton's honour, with the tiger-skin rug occupying most of the foreground and all of the conversation."* 4

(a) What is the real intention of Mrs. Packletide in hosting the lunch on party?

Ans: The real intention of Mrs. Packletide in hosting the lunch on party is to humiliate Miss Bimberton.

(b) Why is she so jealous of Miss.Bimberton?

Ans: She is so jealous of Miss.Bimberton because of her recently gained popularity on account of her plane journey with an Algerian pilot at an altitude of eleven miles.

(c) What is the meaning of the word- 'ostensibly'?

Ans: Supposedly.

(d) Pick out the word from the extract which means 'center'.

Ans: Foreground.

2. *"The prospect of earning thousand rupees had stimulated the sporting and commercial instinct of the villagers."* 4

(a) Why are the villagers so excited about the tiger hunting by Mrs. Packletide?

Ans: The villagers are so excited about the tiger hunting because as per the deal with Mrs. Packletide they are assured of thousand rupees if they help her out in hunting the tiger successfully.

(b) Give two examples of active involvement of the villagers in tiger hunting mission?

Ans: (i) Posting of children on the outskirts of the jungle to monitor the tiger.

(ii) Supplying cheaper goats to satisfy the hunger of the tiger.

(c) What is the meaning of the word- 'stimulate'?

Ans: Motivate/ encourage.

(d) Give the synonym of the word 'commercial'.

Ans: Profitable/moneymaking.

3. *"With an accurately sighted rifle and a thumb-nail pack of patience cards the sportswoman awaited the coming of the quarry."* 4

(a) Who is referred as sportswoman and what is she waiting for?

Ans: Mrs. Packletide is referred as sportswoman and she is waiting for the hunt-the tiger.

(b) What is so funny about the tiger hunting expedition?

Ans: The fact that the expedition involves relaxation, laughter, fun and comical events in place of danger, adventure, risk and excitement, make it funny.

(c) What is the meaning of the word-‘quarry’?

Ans: -The prey/target.

(d) Pick the antonym of the word “imprecise” from the extract.

Ans: Accurately

4. *The luncheon party she declined, there are limits beyond which repressed emotions become dangerous.* 3

(a) Explain ‘repressed emotions.’

Ans : This term refers to the emotions or feelings that have been hidden for a long time.

(b) Why did Loona decline the invitation?

Ans :Loona couldn’t tolerate Mrs. Packletide’s fame after the tiger-hunt. So she declined to be a part of such festivity.

(c) How do such emotions become dangerous?

Ans : Many times emotions cannot be controlled and they may overflow, causing embarrassments or lead to conflicts.

(d) Pick out the word from the extract which means hazardous.

Ans: Dangerous.

5. *“MrsPackletide indulges in no more big game shooting. ‘The incidental expenses are so heavy’, she confides to inquiring friends.”* 4

(a) Why does Mrs. Packletide show no more interest in hunting?

Ans: Mrs. Packletide is no more interested in shooting as the hunt has proved very expensive to her.

(b) What does she mean by-‘The incidental expenses are so heavy.’?

Ans: Mrs. Packletide means that the expenses that she has to make to silent her ‘paid companion’, who has threatened to reveal the truth related to the tiger ‘hunting’.

(c) What is the meaning of the word-‘confide’?

Ans: Confess/ reveal.

(d) Pick the word from the extract which means secondary.

Ans: Incidental.

Short answer questions (30-40 words)

- (a) What was precisely the motive for Mrs. Packletide to shoot a tiger? 2

Ans : Mrs. Packletide was not compelled by any adventurous feelings and she was least inclined towards any such kind of dangerous activities. Her sole aim was to counter Loona Bimberton’s fame, who had flown in an aircraft. So Mrs. Packletide wanted to hunt a tiger and get her photos in magazines, to make Loona jealous.

- (b) What was Loona’s adventure? How did Mrs. Packletide react to it? 2

Ans : Loona had flown in an aircraft 11 miles with an Algerian pilot, so she had

graced the cover pages of some magazines. Mrs. Packletide had been smitten by jealousy. So, to outshine Loona, she decided to do something more adventurous like a tiger hunt.

- (c) Why is Mrs. Packletide compared to 'Nimrod'? 2
Ans : Nimrod was a legendary hunter. Mrs. Packletide was not at all adventurous and had no inclination towards such a sport. The writer has used this comparison to create mockery and lash at such vain females.
- (d) How was the tiger shooting arranged? What kind of a tiger was chosen for the purpose? 2
Ans: The tiger shooting was arranged in neighboring village. A platform was built in a comfortable and conveniently placed on a tree for Mrs. Packletide and her paid companion Miss Louisa Mebbin. A noisy goat was tethered at the correct distance to attract the tiger. The tiger chosen for this purpose was weak, diseased tiger who could not hunt wild animals due to old age.
- (e) Why does Miss. Mebbin plant so many tiger lilies in her garden?
Ans: Miss. Mebbin plants so many tiger lilies in her garden to pay tribute to the tiger because of which she has become owner of the week-end-cottage by black mailing Mrs. Packletide.
- (f) How did Miss Mebbin exploit Mrs. Packletide?
Ans. Miss Mebbin was very selfish and money minded. She knew the fact that Mrs. Packletide had shot a goat and the tiger had succumbed due to heart failure, caused by the loud noise of the bullet. She threatened Mrs. Packletide with revealing the same secret to Loona. Thus she blackmailed her employer and got hush money to buy the week-end cottage.
- (g) Mrs. Packletide was a good Shot. Discuss.
Ans: Mrs. Packletide did not even know to hold the rifle. She was doing all this only to outdo Loona's popularity. She was not passionate about hunting either. Her motive being very clear, she had directed the villagers to take care of everything by paying them money. She could not even aim at a weak tiger which had no desire to run. It was just a blind shot that she fired which hit the goat instead of the tiger. A shot for which she had to pay much more than what she paid to the villagers. She was not a good shot.

LONG ANSWER QUESTIONS (100-120 words)

- i) 'Mrs. Packletide indulges in no more big-game shooting. "The incidental expenses are so heavy." She confides to inquiring friends.'—Loona Bimberton and Mrs. Packletide are perfect examples of human folly and greed. One's greed can lead to one's doom and vanity can destroy a person's joy of life. Explain the statement in a short paragraph. 8
Greed is a curse and can lead to one's doom. Since the creation of man, human heart has always been filled with different sorts of desires. It is human nature to achieve more and more. Man is never contented with his things. There is no limit

to materialistic achievements and a man who has excessive materialistic desire can stop to any level. Such a person is always dissatisfied. His moral and spiritual graph is very low. The greed for more makes man an animal and greed is the vice which can make a man a criminal even. One's greed can lead to one's doom and can destroy a person's joy of life.

ii) How does the writer of the story expose human greed and vanity in the story 'Mrs. Packletide's Tiger'?

Ans: Through various incidents and characters, the writer Saki exposes the negativity and vanity of human behaviour. He exposes the human exploitation of big game animals as a brutal act of violence. Loona Bimberton and Mrs. Packletide are examples of human lust, madness and opportunism for personal sake. He also exposes the jealous behaviour on humans. To satisfy his ego man can stoop to any extent and this is evident in Mrs. Packletide's approach towards hunting the tiger. The story also exposes the fact that by nature man is manipulative and he plays with situations for personal gains at the cost of morality and ethics. Thus, the writer has been successfully able to expose human behaviour of greed and lust in the story.

PRACTICE QUESTION:

Mrs. Packletide develops extreme jealousy for Loona Bimberton. She gives vent to her feelings by writing a diary entry. As Mrs. Packletide, write the diary entry. 8

ASSIGNMENT QUESTIONS:

1. *"In a world swayed by hunger and love, Mrs. Packletide was an exception, her motives were largely governed by ..."* 4
 - (a) How was Mrs. Packletide an 'exception'?
 - (b) What were Mrs. Packletide's motives?
 - (c) What governed her 'motives'?
 - (d) Name the lesson and the author.
2. *'Favoured rendezvous of an animal of respectable antecedents'.* 4
 - (a) Explain 'rendevous'.
 - (b) Point out the humour in the above statement.
 - (c) What were the qualifications of the animal mentioned?
 - (d) What was the motive behind this expedition?
3. *Mothers carrying their babies home through the jungle after the day's work in the fields hushed their singing lest they might curtail the restful sleep of the venerable herd-robber.* 4
 - (a) What were the steps taken by the mothers for the animal?
 - (b) Point out the literary device in 'venerable herd robber'.
 - (c) How did all this care benefit the animal?
 - (d) Name the lesson and the author.