

Bihar Board Class 9 Panorama English Book Solutions

Chapter 9 The Gift of The Magi

A. Form small groups and discuss the following:

Question 1.

The importance of gifts on great occasions.

Answer:

The gift is presented on great occasions. It is a token of love and affection. It should be kept with the utmost care. It is just like a treasure of love which is given by his/her affectionate persons. It gives one happiness. Sharing a gift adorn the day. It makes one feel important and adds to one's happiness and pleasure.

Question 2.

Importance of Christmas, Eid, Diwali and New Year presents.

Answer:

India is a land of fairs and festivals. These speak of the past glory and prosperity of our country. Christmas, Eid, Diwali and New year all are very important festivals. We celebrate these with great pomp and show. We present gifts on these occasions. This adds joy, happiness and deep love for one another. We also hope to celebrate it next year with our near and dear.

B.1.1. Complete the following sentences on the basis of the unit you have studied:

1. Della counted her money _____ times.
2. Expenses had been greater than Della had _____
3. The two precious possessions that Jim and Della had were _____
4. The Queen of Sheba might have been envious of Della's _____
5. "Will you buy my hair?" said _____
6. Della bought _____ for her husband.

Answer:

1. three
2. calculated
3. Jim's gold watch and Della's golden hair
4. beautiful hair

5. Della

6. a platinum fob chain for Jim's watch.

B.1. 2. Answer the following questions very briefly:

Question 1.

Who are Jim and Della?

Answer:

Jim and Della are husband and wife. They love each other very much.

Question 2.

Who is the mistress of the home?

Answer:

Della is the mistress of the home.

Question 3.

What is the possession of Della in she took pride?

Answer:

Della had beautiful possession in the form of her long golden hair.

Question 4.

What was the precious possession of Jim?

Answer:

Jim's precious possession watch his gold was which had inherited from his father and grandfather.

Question 5.

Why did Della sale her hair?

Answer:

Della sold her hair to by Christmas' gift for her husband.

Question 6.

What was worthy of the watch?

Answer:

The platinum fob chain that she bought was worthy of the watch.

Question 7.

Why did Della buy a platinum fob chain?

Answer:

Della bought a platinum fob chain for Jim's gold watch, it was a true match for it. It was to be presented on Christmas Eve.

B.2.1. Write 'T' for true and 'F' for false statements:

1. Jim will say that Della looks like a Coney Island chorus girl.
2. Della had a habit of saying noisy prayers.
3. Jim scolded Della for selling her hair.
4. Jim bought a set of combs for Della.
5. The Magi presented a gift to infant Christ.

Answer:

1. — T
2. — F
3. — F
4. — T
5. — T

B.2.2. Answer the following questions briefly:

Question 1.

Why does Della say, “Please God, make him think I am still pretty”?

Answer:

Della says, “Please God, make him think I am still pretty.” She says because she had got her hair cut. She is afraid that Jim may not like her. looks after her beautiful hair is cut. Her beautiful hair made her beautiful.

Question 2.

“He simply stared at her fixedly with that peculiar expression on his face”. Why did Jim stare at her fixedly?

Answer:

Jim stared at her fixedly he had brought costly combs for her golden hair. Which she had lost. He was bewildered to see Della with hair on her head.

Question 3.

“Maybe the hairs of my head were numbered but nobody could ever count my love for you.”

Why did Della say so?

Answer:

When Jim stared at Della fixedly, she thought that Jim did not appreciate him without her hair. So in order to convince Jim of her love she said so.

Question 4.

Why did Jim say about their gifts that “they’re too nice to use at present?”

Answer:

Both the husband-wife sold their precious possession for gifts, for each other so the gifts were useless presently. So Jim said so.

Question 5.

Who is Magi? Why are Jim and Della called the Magi?

Answer:

The Magi were wise men, who invented the art of giving Christmas presents. Jim and Della are called the Magi because of the selfless love they showed for each other.

C. 1. Long Answer Type Questions

Question 1.

What is the significance of the title “The Gift of the Magi”?

Answer:

The title the Gift of the Magi depicts how the process of sharing gifts began. It was started by the Magi who were too wise men-wonderfully wise men, who brought a gift to the Babe Christ. This shows that sharing gift adds to the happiness and pleasure of the particular day. In fact, the value of gifts comes from its feelings and emotion, but not from its materialistic value.

Question 2.

How can you say that Jim and Della loved each other very much?

Answer:

Jim and Della were husband and wife. According to tradition on Christmas day they had to present the gift. They were poor so they could not buy a costly gift. It has so happened that both had to sell each of their possession Della sold her golden hair for which she longed for a beautiful set of combs. She got cut’ her hair and sold it and bought platinum chain for Jim’s gold watch. On the other side, Jim sold his gold watch for Della. Thus both lost their possessions. They sacrificed for their lover and beloved.

Question 3.

Describe the family status as well as the family life of Jim and Della.

Answer:

Jim and Della were not very sound economically. The family earning was \$20 a week only. They were hand to mouth. They had no money left to save. Della saved some money by bulldozing the shopkeepers. Which instigates the moral reflection that life was made up of sobs, sniffles and smiles with sniffles predominating.

Question 4.

Who invented the art of giving Christmas gifts and why are Jim and Della called the Magi?

Answer:

The Magi invented the art of giving Christmas gifts by giving gift to Babe Christ. Jim and

Della sacrificed their most precious possessions to buy a suitable gift for each other. So they are called the Magi. They were not selfish rather the giver of the greatest treasure of their house. They emotionally presented each other and with their true heart.

Question 5.

The essence of love is sacrifice. Justify this statement with reference to 'The Gift of the Magi'; Jim and Della were right in their decision.

Answer:

The essence of love is sacrifice. No doubt it is true to say. A true lover always thinks only of the well and happiness of his lover or beloved. Lover love will remain forever. He thinks that it is possible that the sea goes dry but there is, no possibility of the feeling of love for his beloved deserting his heart. Lover feels that his beloved is always as fresh as a rose of June. Jim and Della were like the same. Both sold their costly possessions for their lover and beloved. So, their decision to sacrifice their possessions for the other was in fact the dissolution of age which so important for love.

Question 6.

Do you think that to sell their possessions for Christmas gifts was wise? Give your own opinion.

Answer:

Yes, I think that to sell their possessions for Christmas gifts was a wise to step. Because if a lover or beloved can sacrifice their lives than.what is the value of material things. Jim and Della sold them the greatest treasures of their possessions it was done in emotion. So, in my opinion, the gifts were no doubt wise ones.

C.2. Group Discussion

Discuss the following in groups or pairs:

Question 1.

Christmas and its importance.

Answer:

Christmas and its importance because every festival has its own importance.The&e speak of the past glory and prosperity of the concerning religion. They are traditionally Christians celebrate Christmas on 25th December every year. It is a celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ. Every Christ and makes merry and a happy new year. Small Christmas tree is set up at and decorated with tinsel, candles and presents etc. Every person gives a present to each other and wishes good.

Question 2.

Love overrides helplessness.

Answer:

It is said that everything is fair in love and war. It is true in the sense of Jim and Della, both

sacrificed for each other with their home treasures. It was love which over rode on them. For the sake of love, one does any kind of deed so that he or she loves remaind happy. The same is seen in this story. Jim and Della sacrificed their gifts to each other, the greatest possessions for each other's happiness.