SISHYA SCHOOL, HOSUR

FA 3 PEN & PAPER TEST

Class : IX The Bishop’s Candlesticks Time: 50 mins

Read the extract and answer the questions that follow:

1. But –but I don’t want to sell them. You see, dear, my mother gave them to me on-on her death-bed just after you were born, and- she asked me to keep them in remembrance of her, so I would like to keep them….
2. Who speaks these words and to whom?
3. What is ‘them’? Why has the listener suggested he sell them?
4. Why does he not wish to sell them?
5. ‘That was when I was a man, now I am not a man, I am a number 15729, and I have lived in hell ten years.’
6. When was he a man?
7. Give two reasons why the speaker feels he is no longer a man.
8. Why does the speaker describe his sentence as ten years in Hell?
9. Although it was quiet late at night why had the Bishop not returned?
10. What did the Bishop give Marie as she was going out? Why? What trait of the Bishop’s character does it highlight?
11. Why were the doors in the Bishop’s house never bolted?
12. Why was the convict sent to prison?
13. Before leaving, the convict asks the Bishop to bless him. What brought about this change in him?
14. Who is Mere Gringoire? What was Persome’s opinion on her?
15. The Bishop’s sister is more practical than him. Explain this with examples from the play.

**Answer key:**

1. a. The Bishop speaks these words to his sister, Persome. (1)

b. ‘Them’ are the silver candlesticks given to the Bishop by his mother. (.5) The Bishop has been selling his belongings to give his money to anyone who comes to him for help. Persome was angry with him for having sold her salt- cellars suggests that one day he’ll sell the silver candlesticks too. (.5)

c. The Bishop does not wish to part with the candlesticks as they were given to him by his mother as she was dying and he wishes to keep them as a remembrance of her. (1)

1. a. He was a man ten years ago when he lived in a cottage with his wife, Jeanette. (1)
2. The speaker was treated like an animal by the jailers. (.5) He was chained up like a wild animal. He was whipped and was not given proper food to eat. He was covered with vermin, ;like lice, and fleas. He was made to sleep on hard boards and was not called by his name but by a number(.5).
3. In the prison ships the speaker was chained up like a wild animal. He was whipped and was not given proper food to eat. (1)

3. The Bishop had gone out to see Marie’s mother who was unwell. (1) He had gone to pray with her (.5)and call in the doctor to see her(.5).

4. As Marie was going out, the Bishop gave her his comforter(.5), as it was a cold and windy night(.5). This shows the Bishop to be a caring and a generous person(1).

5. The doors in the bishop’s house were left open so that anyone needing help could come in freely, at any time(2).

6. The convict had stolen money to buy food for his dying wife(1). He was sentenced to a prison ship where he was chained like an animal and fed on filth(.5). He was lashed if he complained(.5).

7. The Bishop’s kindness and faith in him(1) (generosity, magnanimity) and his forgiving nature bring about a change in the convict(1).

8. The Bishop helps Mere Gringoire in paying the rent as she was not able to pay the rent(1). Bishop sold the salt cellars to pay the rent for her. Persome call Mere Gringoire as old witch.(1)

9. Persome is a materialistic person.(1) She is upset with her brother for selling the silver salt-cellars (.5)and as soon as she discovers the candlesticks are missing, she wishes to inform the police(.5).