

**ST THOMAS SCHOOL, DHURWA, RANCHI – 834004**

**ENGLISH LITERATURE QUESTION ANSWERS**

**CHAPTER 1: The Shoemaker by Charles Dickens ( Pg 6&7)**

**BOOK : New Aster (Advanced) 8 CLASS – VIII**

**COMPREHENSION :**

**A : Answer these questions :**

**Q1) What was the shoemaker doing when Defarge entered the room ?**

Ans 1) The shoemaker was involved in shoe making with his white head bent low.

**Q2) How did the shoemaker react to more light in the room ? Why do you think he reacted the way he did ?**

Ans 2) He put a hand between his eyes and the light coming from the half- opened door . He did this because he was in confinement and long seclusion from direct light and air for 18 years during the French Revolution.

**Q3) When asked his name he says, 'One Hundred and Five, North Tower.' What do you gather from this reply?**

Ans 3) One Hundred and Five was the designation given to him when he was thrown in the North Tower of Bastille prison after refusing to support a French noble.

**Q4) What do you think was the reason for the old man to lapse into forgetfulness so often ?**

Ans 4) After eighteen years of being physically and mentally removed from the world in the strict confinement of Bastille , Manette suffered greatly as it appeared that he had lost all sense of time , place and self. His blankness of expression is described as a black mist fallen on him as his memory gets faded and overclouded again and again.

**Q5) Who was the young lady ? How did the shoemaker react when he saw her?**

Ans 5) The young lady was the daughter of Monsieur Manette.

He stared at her with a frightened look and after a while started to form words with his lips, although it did not make any sound. Little by little , in between his quick heavy breath, he asked “ What is this?”

**B: Answer these questions with reference to the context.**

1. *‘Yes, for a moment . At first I thought it was quite hopeless, but I have unquestionably seen, for a single moment , the face that I once knew so well. Hush!’ let us draw further back. Hush!’*

**A) Who says these words ?**

Ans : These words are spoken by Mr. Lorry.

**B) Why did he think it was hopeless ?**

Ans : He thought that Monsieur Manette would not recognise them at all as his memory power had diminished after being cut off from the world for eighteen years in prison.

**C) Whose face does he recognise?**

Ans : He recognises the face of Dr. Manette.

2. *“ Monsieur Manette , do you remember nothing of me ?”*

*The shoe dropped to the ground, and he sat looking fixedly at the questioner.*

**A) Who is the speaker ?**

Ans : Mr. Lorry is the speaker.

**B) Who is Monsieur Manette?**

Ans: He was a physician who was imprisoned for 18 years in Bastille during the French Revolution but after the fall of Bastille , he was brought by Monsieur Defarge , his friend and kept in his garret where he worked as a shoemaker.

C : Think and Answer

**Q2) What can you say about the character of Manette and his daughter?**

Ans :

**Character Sketch Of Manette**

He was a successful physician who became a victim of the pre - French Revolution era. He was imprisoned for 18 years in the Bastille as a result of going against the French aristocrats. He lost his identity and became deranged and withdrawn in the long long years of his confinement. He compulsively cobbled lady's shoes to ward off the horrors of imprisonment.

**Character sketch of Manette's daughter**

Lucie Manette was the daughter of Dr. Manette. She was brought up as an orphan but on knowing about her father's whereabouts , she showed her unconditional love for him and restored his physical and mental health. She was known to be a kind and a compassionate woman.

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