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STD-6 (English Literature) (2020-21)

Chapter- 4: A Strange Transformation

(Questions and answers from the back of the chapter)

A. Answer these questions:

1. Describe Gregor after transformation.

Ans. After transformation, Gregor had changed into a monstrous verminous bug. His back was as hard as armour and his brown, arched abdomen was divided into rigid bow like sections. He had numerous legs which were pitifully thin in comparison to the rest of his body and flickered helplessly before his eyes.

2. What was Gregor's profession? Describe what he felt about his job?

Ans. Gregor was a travelling salesman by profession.

He felt that his job was quite demanding and stressful. He had to spent days out on the road and deal with the problems of travelling. He had to worry about train connections and eat irregular and unhygienic food. Above all, he had to manage constantly changing human relationships which never came from heart. Above all, his boss was hard of hearing and never tried to understand his problems.

3. Why did Gregor continue with his job? What was his goal in life?

Ans. Gregor had to continue with his job for his parent's sake. He was the only earning member of the family and had to pay off his parent's debt.

His only goal in life was to pay off his parent's debt in another five or six years and quit his job after revealing to his boss what he really felt about him and his profession.

4. What was Gregor thinking about when his mother called out to him?

Ans. Gregor was contemplating whether he should catch the train at seven o'clock or not when his mother called him. He was also thinking about the mad rush he would have to make to catch the train, his incomplete sample collection, his poor health and his unsympathetic manager.

5. What did Gregor's voice sound like?

Ans. Gregor was startled when he heard his voice. It was clearly and unmistakably his earlier voice, but in it was intermingled, as if from below, a painful squeaking.

6. Why couldn't Gregor get out of his bed?

Ans. Gregor was not able to lift himself up from his bed because he was unusually wide after his transformation. He needed arms and hands to push himself upright. However, instead of these, he had only many small limbs which were moving continuously with very different uncontrollable motions. If he wanted to bend one of them, the first limb extended itself, and if he finally succeeded in controlling one limb, all the others, as if left free, moved around in an excessively painful agitation.

B. Answer with reference to the context:

1. Why don't I keep sleeping for a little while longer and forget all this foolishness?

a) Who says these words and to whom?

Ans. Gregor Samsa said these words to himself.

b) What is the 'foolishness' being referred to here?

Ans. Gregor couldn't believe that he had been transformed into a verminous bug and thought that it was his 'foolishness' to think of the entire transformation as a reality.

