



Language - Additional English

BA/BVA

Faculty: Prof Lisha Nilesh

UNIT – 1 The Imp & The Crust

1. What advice did the imp (in the guise of the pilgrim) give the peasant?

The first year he advised the peasant to sow corn in a marshy place. The peasant took his advice, and sowed in the marsh. The year turned out a very dry one, and the crops of the other peasants were all scorched by the sun, but the poor peasant's corn grew thick and tall and full-eared. Not only had he grain enough to last him for the whole year, but he had much left over besides.

The next year the imp advised the peasant to sow on the hill; and it turned out a wet summer. Other people's corn was beaten down and rotted and the ears did not fill; but the peasant's crop, up on the hill, was a fine one. He had more grain left over than before, so that he did not know what to do with it all.

Then the imp showed the peasant how he could mash the grain and distil spirit from it; and the peasant made strong drink, and began to drink it himself and to give it to his friends.

2. Describe the change that overcame the peasant.

The peasant had more corn than he needed. The blood of the beasts is always in man; but as long as he has only enough corn for his needs, it is kept in bounds. While that was the case, the peasant did not grudge his last crust. But when he had corn left over, he looked for ways of getting pleasure out of it. And I showed him a pleasure - drinking! And when he began to turn God's good gifts into spirits for his own pleasure -- the fox's, wolf's and swine's blood in him all came out. If only he goes on drinking, he will always be a beast!

3. How did the peasant and his guests behave under the influence of the wine?

After they have hit on a first-rate drink: that was what made the peasants sly as foxes. Then, second time made them fierce like wolves. The third time make them behave like swine.'

4. What do you mean by “the blood of the beast is always in man”?

The blood of the beasts is always in man; but as long as he has only enough things for his needs, it is kept in bounds. While that was the case, the peasant did not grudge his last crust. But when he had corn left over, he looked for ways of getting pleasure out of it. And I showed him a pleasure - drinking! And when he began to turn God's good gifts into spirits for his own pleasure -- the fox's, wolf's and swine's blood in him all came out. If only he goes on drinking, he will always be a beast!

UNIT – 2 SWEETS FOR ANGELS

1. Describe Kali and his friends according to the people?

The people shouted, it is a regular gang. They are from the Himalayas. It is a monstrous sect; every member of it has vowed to sacrifice a hundred children. See how he looks! He is not of

these parts. The children gazed on Kali from a distance and shuddered, Oh, how frightful he looks with his beard! The result of all this talk was that a crowd was pounding and tearing at Kali; the more he resisted, the more violent they grew. They chased him from place to place. The whole city seemed to be after him now.

2. Explain the enthusiasm found in Kali after his earnings.

Kali felt elated. He had hauled several sacks of grains on the previous evening and as a result his little money-purse bulged with coins. He would not go near the market today. He kept his coins hidden within the stuffing of an old pillow; otherwise, the rickshaw man might declare a holiday for himself too, and drag him to a grog shop; and his other friend might stick close and pester him for a loan. It was overall safer not to reveal one's assets to one's friends. At about eleven Kali felt hungry. He sniffed the air the smell of clove, cinnamon and strange spices frying in ghee floated down with the breeze. It reminded him of The Great Mahratta Hotel a smoke stained shack beyond a couple of lanes, which was a heaven to those that had a taste for biriyani or pulav. When he emerged from its portals he could hardly stand erect, being heavy with food. Later he came to a coffee hotel on the main road. He felt proud that he could afford to sit in a chair and order coffee. He touched his money bag tenderly. After two cups of coffee he felt refreshed and came out. While receiving change at the counter, he heard the school bell ring. This put him in mind of the children. Let me run back to the place: they will soon be passing down. His eye fell on a display of sweet and edible of all sfascinating colours and shapes in a shelf beside the counter. He asked for a packet of sweets and the vendor made a neat parcel of it. He saw school children already coming down the road. He held out the package towards three children who came chattering among themselves.

3. Describe how Kali's friends were helpful at the end?

Kuppan and the blind beggar stood beside Kali's bed in a hospital. When the nurse moved away Kuppan leant over and whispered, you can come back to our old pyol and people won't hurt you anymore because they will think you are someone else. The doctor shave shaved off your beard and every hair on your head. Did you know it? The blind man added, you will be all right soon. But hereafter leave children alone. What have you to do with them? Through the gaps in the bandage swathing his head, Kali's eyes twinkled as he looked.

UNIT – 3 GREAT EXPECTATIONS

1. Give a brief introduction to Pip's childhood?

Pip is an orphan living on the Kent marshes with his abusive Sister and her husband Joe Gargery, the village blacksmith.

2. Why does Pip feel terrified looking at the escaped convict?

The convict was a fearful man, all in coarse grey, with a great iron on his leg, a man with no hat, and with broken shoes, and with an old rag tied round his head. A man who had been soaked in water, and smothered in mud, and lamed by stones, and cut by flints, and stung by nettles, and torn by briars; who limped, and shivered.

3. Describe what happened on one dreary afternoon of Christmas Eve in the churchyard.

While exploring in the churchyard near the tombstones of his parents, Pip is accosted by an escaped convict. The convict scares Pip into stealing food for him, as well as a metal file to saw off the convict's leg iron.

UNIT – IV ON HABITS

1. How did the writer come to know that he was in conflict with a habit?

When the author was not able to even write a word with his new pen it suddenly occurred to him that he was in conflict with a habit. It is his practice to do his writing with a pencil. Days, even weeks, pass without him using a pen for anything more than signing his name. On the other hand there are not many hours of the day when he was without a pencil between thumb and finger. It has become a part of his organism as it was, a mere extension of my hand..

2. How can one take care of the tyranny of little habits?

But habits should be a stick that we use, not a crutch to lean on. We ought to make them for our convenience or enjoyment and occasionally break them to assert our independence. We ought to be able to employ them, without being discomposed when we cannot employ them.

3. What does happen by a trivial breach of habit? Discuss it with reference to Mr. Balfour's case.

Mr. Balfour so discomposed, like Scott's school rival, by a trivial breach of habit. Dressed in the uniform of an Elder Brother of Trinity House he was proposing a toast at a dinner at the Mansion House. It is his custom in speaking to hold the lapels of his coat. It is the most comfortable habit in speaking, unless you want to fling your arms about in a rhetorical fashion. But the uniform Mr. Balfour was wearing had no lapels, and when the hands went up in search of them they wandered about pathetically like a couple of children who had lost their parents on Blackpool sands. They fingered the buttons in nervous distraction, clung to each other in a visible access of grief, broke asunder and resumed the search for the lost lapels, travelled behind his back, fumbled with the glasses on the table, sought again for the lapels, did everything but take refuge in the pockets of the trousers. It was a characteristic omission. Mr Balfour is too practiced a speaker to come to disaster and his discomfiture was apparent. He struggled manfully through his speech, but all the time it was obvious that he was at a loss what to do with his hands, having no lapels on which to hang them.

UNIT V - WINDOW VIEW

1. Describe the view seen through a bus window as grasped by the little girl?

The child was manifestly travelling through a wonderland. Every time we passed a bomb-battered building or a gash in a terrace where a building had once been she cried out with delight: 'Mummy, mummy, look! Damage, damage!' And with each ruined building her interest in the world seen through a window appeared to grow. 'Look, mummy, look! 'She would cry as we passed the skeleton of a Victorian warehouse. ' Damage! Damage! DAMAGE!' Her voice rose from italics to small capitals and from small capitals to large, in an ecstasy of spectatorial appreciation.

2. What are the author's views regarding his own childhood when he sees sadistic tendencies displayed by the little girl?

One of the pleasantest evenings of my childhood was spent with other small boys in playing hockey with a clergyman's armory of croquet mallets till not a mallet was left whole. No croquet mallet was ever made that could withstand the fierce impacts of hockey, and, as one mallet after another was smashed in twain, our joy was unconfined.

3. List the sightseeing spots appreciated by the adults. Why do they appreciate these spots?

The older people in our love of sights cannot claim any moral superiority to the child. How pleasant it is to be shown over a church where Cromwell's men once knocked off the noses of, or otherwise mutilated, the figures on the tombs! To be interested in such things does not imply agreement with Cromwell's men; but, if Cromwell's men did such things, we like to see the effects of the things they did. In the same spirit, we go to the Colosseum in Rome a spirit of curiosity rather than of reprobation of the emperors who for their amusement once had Christians thrown to lions in that abominable arena. We do not approve of the emperors: in fact, we are shocked by them; but we feel that an hour or so may be profitably spent in visiting the scene of such atrocious happenings. If our imaginations were more sensitive, and if the past were as real to us as the present, we should feel such a passion of hatred in the shadow of the Colosseum walls as the Covenanters felt by the gravesides of their martyrs, but the past is seldom wholly real to us.

4. Who was Bluebeard and why does Lynd compare him to Henry VIII?

The lead character of a French folktale, who is married to hundreds of women, who were later killed by him and their bodies dumped in a room of his castle. He was killed by the brothers of one of the maidens he forcibly married.

UNIT VI - A CONSOLATION (sonnet 29)

1. What is the theme and structure of the poem?

This is one of Shakespeare's most famous sonnets; and certainly deserves a high rank. The theme of this sonnet is Shakespeare's celebration of his friendship with the Earl of Southampton. Each one of us has his moments of depression caused by the feeling of frustration in life. At such times, one can certainly derive a lot of pleasure from the fact that he has got a true friend. Shakespeare in the first half of the sonnet speaks of his sense of disappointment in life, while in the second half he speaks of the rich compensation that he has got.

UNIT VII – CHILDHOOD

Summary: Childhood is written by Marcus Natten. In this poem, the poet thinks over his lost childhood. He wonders about the moment where he lost his innocence and realized that the world is not what he seemed it to be. He recalls when his thoughts changed and he realized the hypocrisy of the people around him. He finally settled down to the idea that his childhood went to some forgotten place and is hidden in the face of an innocent infant.

UNIT VIII - Grandfather's Holiday

Theme: The poem deals with the supreme joy of the narrator, the grandfather, as he spends time with his little grandchild. The joyous thrill of childhood is re-lived by the grandfather as he experiences freedom and gay abandon in the company of the mischief of his grandchild.