One Two academy

UNIT – 4

PARAGRAPH ANSWERS

PROSE – THE ATTIC

Lesson	**: The Attic**
Author	**: Satyajit Ray**
Theme	**: The importance of human values**

Introduction

It is natural for human beings to make mistakes. When we realise our mistakes, we should try to rectify them. 'The Attic' by Satyajit Ray is such a story that depicts how an unpleasant incident in childhood was rectified after twenty-nine years.

A visit to the ancestral house

The narrator and his friend Aditya were business partners. They visited the site of their new factory at Deodarganj. Aditya decided to visit his ancestral house to relive his childhood memories. The narrator accompanied his friend Aditya to visit Aditya's village after 29 years. Aditya's ancestors were once the zamindars. Aditya visited his old school and recalled his memories.

Nagen uncle's tea shop

After visiting the old school at the village, they decided to have tea at Nagen uncle's tea shop. Nagen uncle did not recognize them. They had tea and biscuits. There they saw a man sitting at a corner table. Nagen uncle told them that he was Sasanka Sanyal and he could not hear and see clearly and had no money to buy spectacles.

The life of Sasanka Sanyal

Sasanka Sanyal was a classmate of Aditya. Sanyal led a cursed life. He had sold his lands for his daughter's marriage and lost his wife and only son the year before. Sanyal suddenly stood up and stretched himself. He raised his lean right arm and began to recite the poem 'Panraksha' by Tagore with dilated eyes. Then he left the place making the gesture of Namaste with his hands, to nobody in particular.

One Two academy

The Attic

When Sanyal recited the poem, Aditya could recognize that the man was Sanyal who he had deceived a long time ago. He rushed to his ancestral house. Once it was grand but now looked ruined. He went to the attic of the house and searched for an article. He heaved a sigh of relief when he had got the medal he had been looking for. He felt guilty and wanted to return the medal to Sanyal from whom he stole it because Aditya was jealous that Sanyal won the competition. Aditya and the narrator went to the jeweler to find out the weight of the medal. The jeweler said that the article was an antique and was worth ₹ 150.

Returning of the medal

The narrator and Aditya went to the room where Sasanka Sanyal stayed at Jogesh Kabiraj's house. Sanyal was surprised to see the visitors as no one visited him. Aditya confessed to Sanyal that he threw the medal into the attic and lied to have lost it because of his torn pocket. He offered one hundred and fifty rupees to Sanyal. Sanyal refused to take the money saying that he wanted his medal back. Aditya returned the medal to the original owner.

Conclusion

The narrator waited till the end calmly and he got the answers to all his questions in his mind. Thus, Sanyal's anger and grievance are justified as Aditya changed with time.

Moral – " Everyone makes mistakes; the important thing is to not make the same mistake twice "

One Two academy

POEM – THE ANT AND THE CRICKET

Poem	**: The Ant and the Cricket**
Poet	**: 'Aesop's fables'**
Theme	**: Importance of hard work and planning**

Introduction

The poem "The Ant and the Cricket" is adopted from Aesop's fables. A fable is a traditional story that teaches us a moral lesson. Usually, the characters in the fables are animals. The poem teaches us the importance of hard work and planning.

The contrasting routines

In this narrative poem, the poet brings out the idea that is essential for every creature. The main characters of the poem are a cricket and an ant. The ant is wise and hardworking. The ant spends all its summer saving for future. The young cricket was silly which sings and dances happily in the summer and spring. During the summer and spring, there is greenery everywhere. So, ample food and water are available. But cricket was busy enjoying and did not save anything for the winter.

The arrival of winter

In winter the ground is covered with snow and no flower or leaf could be seen. He couldn't find a single piece of bread or cake on the ground. Starvation and famine made him bold. The cricket dripped and trembled. He is worried that his kitchen cupboard is empty. So, he seeks the help of the ant to have some grains and a warm place to stay.

Never borrow or lend

The cricket was even prepared to repay it in the future. The ant made it clear that he neither borrows nor lends. He also enquired the cricket if it had saved anything when the weather was fine. The cricket answered that it used to sing day and night enjoying the pleasant nature. He had never saved any food for winter. The ant threw the cricket out and stated in a stern voice it should dance in the winter season too.

Conclusion

In his concluding lines, the poet affirms that this is not just a fable but it is true and applicable to human beings also. Some human beings depend upon others' earnings for their needs. Such people are like the cricket of the story. So, we should always plan carefully and save for our future.

Moral – " Hard work beats talent when talent doesn't work hard "

One Two academy

SUPPLEMENTARY READER – THE AGED MOTHER

Story	**: The Aged Mother**
Author	**: Matsuo Basho**
Theme	**: Love and affection between a son and his mother**

Introduction

"The Aged Mother" is a Japanese folktale. It highlights that the aged are sharp witted. It describes the love and affection a son and his mother have for one another.

The cruel leader's order

Long long ago there lived a poor farmer and his aged, widowed mother at the foot of the mountain. The country of Shining was governed by a cruel leader. One day he made a cruel announcement that all aged people must be put to death. The farmer loved his aged mother. The leader's announcement to kill the aged mother filled his heart with sorrow. He carried his aged mother on his back and started walking towards the high bare summit of Obatsuyama. It is also known as the mountain of the "abandoning of the aged"

The painful journey

At sundown the farmer's day work was ended. He took a quantity of unwhitened rice. He cooked the rice, dried it and tied it in a square cloth. He swung it in a bundle around his neck. He took a gourd filled with cool and sweet water. Then he lifted his mother to his back. He started the painful journey up the mountain. On the way to the summit, the aged mother noticed the dangerous path. She dropped piles of twigs at frequent intervals along the way. The mother advised her son to return home following the piles of twigs on the way. His heart broke down and decided to go down the hill with his mother and was ready to die together. He shouldered his mother to a little hut in the valley. He hid his mother in a walled closet beneath the kitchen floor.

Rope of ashes

The king again proclaimed an order that people should present him with a rope of ashes. The entire province trembled with fear. One night the farmer told his mother the news. The next day she asked him to make a rope of twisted straw. She asked to place it on a row of flat stones and burn it on a windless night. The farmer called the people together and did as his mother said. When the fire died, down there laid a perfect rope of ashes.

One Two academy

Conclusion

The governor was pleased when he came to know about the farmer's act. He praised him greatly and wanted to know how he did it. The farmer had to tell the truth. With deep bows, he told him the story. The governor listened and then meditated in silence. Finally, he lifted his head and said that the country needed the wisdom of the aged more than the strength of youth. The very hour the cruel law was abolished.

Moral – " With age comes wisdom; like fine wine, people get better with time "

One Two academy