

1st Sem English 4 levels of Meaning

KEEPING ERRORS AT BAY

Literal Comprehension: This essay by Bertrand Russell providing multiple examples of mistake that people generally commit in their day to day life. His main idea is to provide suggestions to avoid the mistakes. We need careful, serious, critical and analytical mind to get rid of these errors. This essay deals with the ideas of avoiding errors that happen in our daily life situations. We can remove many foolish opinions by observing the related facts. When observations are impossible, we have to compare our ideas with those of the others. If there are evidence and knowledge, there will be no wrong understanding. Visiting different places and observing societies of the world also helps us to purify your own opinions. Knowing others idea makes us less dogmatic. If we have one-sided idea about anything, we will not find out the truth, such situation, we will make our good points more important. Fear and prejudice of different types create obstacles from learning the truth or reality. So we should be very careful while doing any work. We should not take as granted anything without proper observation.

Interpretation: To error is human but to do mistake is not excusable. Human make errors knowingly or having known about that error is not human. This is somewhat punishable also. We cannot find truth without proper understanding. The essay tries to tell us why human beings are unable to see the truth. They do not see the matter. They have illusion that they know everything without knowing it properly. It says that we have some mistakes generally we do not compare our idea with that of others. We unnecessarily feel pride and ignore things. Therefore, we commit crimes or errors. This is human but to do mistake knowingly cannot be human. There are solutions for errors but not the knowingly committing mistakes.

Critical Thinking: Russell gives very concrete idea about errors and their solutions. He says how and why we do errors and how can we correct them. After reading this story I came to know and have some questions. The essayist has presented a scientific way of thinking. By comparing and contrasting, we can judge our own ideas. I agree with many things which the essayist says but there are some questions in my mind. Who can remain without doing any error? How can one know that it is error and this not? Can we change our mind not to doing errors? Why people cannot find out the fact easily? How we can compare such things to those of the others? What are the forms of the truth? How to know that whose idea is right or wrong? Because of these reasons generally people commit errors in life.

Assimilation: Generally, we think right whatever we do. This essay gave me lots of ideas about errors and their types as well as their remedies (solution). I started to realize my mistakes in my life as I sometimes used to stubborn and think everything right. I started to honour other's ideas. I also came to know why people mistake while making ideas. A wise man should look at the things from different sides. We should be comparative and multidimensional perspectives should be used. I came to know that we can do errors in every work every time but that is only found out after its proper judgment.

Mr. Know-All

Literal Comprehension: When the First World War ended, the writer 'Somerset Maugham' decided to go to Japan from America by ship. It was very difficult to get a good seat in the ship. But he managed to get in cabin seat in the ship. His cabin partner, Max Kelada, was much talkative. At first the writer thought that he was a Negro but later he came to know that he was also an English man. However, he hated his chatty nature. He introduced with everyone in the ship and conducted a lottery action. He said that he had good knowledge of everything. So they called him 'Mr. Know All'. Although alcohol was strictly prohibited to carry, he uttered writer to have cocktail "mix wine". Once the writer, Mr. Kelada, Mr and Mrs Ramsays got chanced to have dinner in the same table. Mr. Ramsays was in the consular service posted at Kobe, Japan. He had spent one year in alone in Japan because his salary was very low. Now he had come to take his wife with him. Mr. Kelada said that he was going to Japan to examine pearls. He saw a pearls chain around Mrs Ramsays neck and said that they were original. When Mr. Ramsays told him to guess the price, he said that they could cost upto 30,000 dollars. But when Mr. Ramsay said that they were false, he didn't believe and they had bet of one hundred dollars. When Mr. Kelada was going to check the pearls, Mrs Ramsay looked nervous. Although the pearls were original, Mr. Kelada said that they were false to save Mrs. Ramsays. The next day when she returned his money, the writer was surprised to know the reality. He also know that Mr. Kelada was really Mr. Know All. Then he began to like Mr. Kelada.

Interpretation: The writer may be trying to show humanity and nature of women. Outer cover can never represents the inner reality. Although Mr. Kelada is hated by all, he is proved to be the best example of humanity. He became fool and lost money and prestige but he saved the happy married life of Mr and Mrs Ramsay. This story also shows the dual character of women.

Critical thinking: Although this story gives the moral lesson. Some ideas of the writer are not convincing. After reading this story we can ask some questions. If alcohol was not allowed to carry how did Mr. Kelada offer cocktail to the writer? Did Mr. Kelada know everything? Then why did people hate him?

Assimilation: I am very much affected by this story. After reading this story, I know that we can't judge people from their appearance. This story also taught me that it is not easy to understand the character and secrecy of women. Now I won't believe in women easily.

WHO WAS TO BLAME

Literal Comprehension:

This story is an incomplete list of stories sketched by 'Anton Chekov.' This story deals with a mental person humors. In the story the narrator compares his life with a little kitten. The writer of the story has made his uncle and little kitten as the main character and Parsakova, the maid as a female character. The story begins with training the kitten to kill the rats as they used to disturb the uncle sometimes by nibbling the top of hat and sometimes by nibbling the corner of the grammar book. In course of training, the kitten was unable to catch the mice as it was difficult for it to match with the speed of little mice. The kitten was under strict environment of rules and regulation of narrator uncles. Being several times failed in the uncle test and experiment, the uncle threw the little kitten away. Years passed, the thin frail kitten had turned into a solid and sagacious tom cat. On the way to his house, one day he saw the same cat which was still fail in its mission which made uncle realize his wastage of his precious time that he spent on training it. So does the narrator in the story never learn the Latin English grammar as it was beyond his interest.

Interpretation :

The central idea of the story is that a creature cannot be trained forcefully. It is against their will to learn. To learn anything, a person must have keen interest and early eagerness. In course of time, it automatically get adjusted with the environment and be practical to their duties and responsibility. No creature can adjust in a strict environment as in the story too the little kitten was forced to catch the mice, which was beyond its mental and physical ability. So, as the narrator in the story also couldn't learn the Latin grammar as it was beyond his interest.

Critical thinking:

This story reveals the fact that no one can be trained forcefully. It is a good and a knowledgeable story but I am unsatisfied with some parts of it. Do any cars runs away when they see a rat in reality? Is keeping a cat only the way to get rid of rat? How can a teacher not understand the feeling of cat? It is possible to raise such question for the reader like me.

Assimilation :

Before reading this story I used to think that a person can be trained with good skills, physically and mentally. But after reading this story I came to know that nobody can go beyond one's interest. There are so many such things that creature adopt themselves in the change of time from the nature. Such things are not to be taught by anyone.

Marriage is a Private Affair

Literal Comprehension

This suggestive story “Marriage is a Private Affair” is written by famous Nigerian writer Chinua Achebe. In this story, he has described about one marriage relation show marriage as a private affair. The subject matter of this story is love and marriage between Nnaemeka and Nene where Nnaemeka is from Ibo tribe and Nene is from other tribe. He did engagement and started to live with at Lagos city. When they were engaged Nene was asking to send the message about their engagement to his father Okeke but Nnaemeka did not do that because he was familiar with his father’s nature and his culture. According to his culture, the son of Ibo tribe has to marry the girl of their own tribe arranged by father. If the arrangement is done by the father it will be acceptable from all the members of that community. If the arrangement is done by sons themselves with the girl of different tribe, it would make father very angry and creates the tension in family. So, he planned to tell his father when he went home on leave. But he did not tell to Nene that his father had already chosen a girl Ugoye of his own tribe.

Nnaemeka went home on leave and told his father that he could not marry Ugoye because he was engaged to marry with Nene who is a good Christian and teacher in Lagos City whom he loves. After hearing this Okeke became very angry because according him and his rituals Christian woman should not speak/teach. Then Okeke asked her name and when he knew that she was the girl of other tribe but not of Ibo tribe, he became silent which silent was more dangerous than his angry speech. Okeke tried to persuade his son Nnaemeka not to marry with Nene. But when Okeke was sure that his son would not obey him, he did not speak with his son after ordering to go away from home and gave up as a last. When Nnaemeka went to Lagos, the neighbors came to Okeke to give sympathy about his son’s behavior. Different old people and gentlemen encouraged Okeke to go against his behavior and suggested to check his son with witch doctor by saying his mind is not right. But Okeke denied that idea.

After six months Nnaemeka showed his father’s letter to Nene. Nnaemeka had sent their weeding picture to his father. His father had returned to them by damaging the picture of Nene. Nene sobbed when she found her picture damaged. He consoled her by saying that his father is a good natured man and that one day all would be right. Nene and Nnaemeka were living happier and more comfortable life in Lagos. Everybody except Nnaemeka’s father Okeke in Ibo tribe knew about that because Okeke never liked to talk about his son and never let other to talk about his son. With a great effort, he was able to forget his son because almost 8 years went by not having any contact between Okeke and his son Nnaemeka. Nene had given birth to two sons within that time. Nene wrote a serious letter to Okeke telling that his two grandsons were enthusiastic / inspiring to see their grandfather. She had requested him in letter to allow them to see him and also told that she would not come to village where Nnaemeka would come with grandsons. When Okeke read the letter of Nene, the idea of grandson melted him and he soon realized his mistake not giving invite to his son and daughter-in law for eight years in to their home. He regretted for his behavior. The sky was clouded and started to rain. He could not sleep that night. He saw vision that two grandsons were waiting outside in the rain asking to come in. tears came in his eyes. Mentally Okeke wanted to invite Nene’s family. So he had vague fear that he might die before giving them their proper right.

Interpretation

This story "Marriage is a Private Affair" might be trying to tell us that married life becomes happier and joyful if it is done privately and in accordance with personal choice. Along with it, the writer wants to say that if the society is superstitious and narrow minded, it brings us tension and problems. It is not necessary to get married within own culture like Ibo in this story to live happy married life. As Okeke did not accept his son's private marriage with Nene, he got 8 years tension, misunderstanding, conflicts and sadness which are the result of narrow mindedness and superstitious belief/traditional belief. Here the writer wants to suggest that we should be careful, qualified and independent then personal choice of marriage can be the best example of marriage to live happily.

Critical Thinking

Thought the writer's focus is to show private affair of marriage as the best example of marriage to live with joy and happiness, he has not described anything about the arranged marriage which has its own value too. So, some of the points which are described in this story makes me disagree. Here the private marriage life of Nene and Nnaemeka is shown as one of the happier and joyful life. Why did Nene write letter to Okeke, father-in-Law, saying that their two sons want to meet him? Can't we say that they were not happy? Can a private marriage always create happiness? Presently, we can see that private affair of marriage is bringing lots of problem in the world rather than arranged marriage. More events of divorce are occurring in private marriage cases. In such condition, how can we regard private marriage as the best example? When Okeke could not convince his son Nnaemeka not to marry with Nene, he completely rejected his son. How can a father reject a son due to his misunderstanding of marriage?

Assimilation

After reading this story, I came to know that superstitious and back-warded societies are not only in Nepal, these people are everywhere else. This story made me to remember the incident when I wanted to have inter-cast marriage with my present wife. She belongs to Newar family and me from Brahman family. We were in private affair at that time but our both family came to know our relation. As they were superstitious, both families denied our relation saying that we have different culture but we didn't give up and decided that convincing both family, we would get marry and enjoy the happy life. Finally, we both became independent and decided to get marry which was also accepted by both families. Now, everybody is happy seeing us that we are enjoying our private marriage life.

How Sane are we

Literal Comprehension: This essay by Bangladeshi writer, Anuradha Chaudhary, focuses on the consciousness of environment and need of its conservation. As we are responsible for destroying nature its conservation is also our responsibility. We should not destroy anything in nature, they are not only for us; they are the gifts handed over to give or hand over our many generations. But there is vast destruction of nature in the world but less effort for saving and conserving nature. We think ecology and politics are closely linked although many people do not see any link between them. As elections are held to select our representatives, the representatives, whom we trust best, become ministers. So we easily think that they make only good decisions always for all but our representatives or ministers are wrong; they do just opposite; they think only their benefit, chair, party and vote. Many people think that political leaders are trustworthy so, who trust them cannot believe that they are irresponsible towards nature.

Chlorofluorocarbons(CFC) are man-made chemicals. They cause 20% of the greenhouse effect. They cause to deplete the ozone layer which is like a shield around earth. This absorbs 99% of the sun's ultraviolet rays. If the rays reach the earth, they will affect ecosystem, decrease agricultural productivity, weaken human immune system, cause skin cancer and eye cataracts. In 1920 CFCs were first made to use in refrigerators, spray cans, computer chips, air-conditioners etc. In 1974, the world's scientists disclosed the fact that there is link between CFCs and the ozone layer, but nations and CFCs producers turned deaf ears towards the warning. Only in 1985, it was believed that there is a link between CFCs and the ozone layer. Then the world's nations signed a document to stop CFCs productivity by 2006.

The decision of phasing out CFCs globally is a rational decision but the writer does not think they are honest to the decision. They could stop the use of CFCs immediately and use cheaper and harmless chemicals to substitute CFCs. But their decisions lack implementation. By allowing people to use CFCs for some more times, we are causing destruction to ourselves. Here the writer relates the science fiction "War with the Newts" by Karel Capek. Where the newts are exceptionally clever water animals which could give men pearls. Men gave them knives to keep themselves safe from sharks. Their number increased so largely that they even went to the country to live and endangered the existence of human beings. Like the newts we are destroying our own dwelling and worsening our environment and air.

Interpretation: We human being is considered the supreme creature of all the other many creatures in the world; we think ourselves wise, witty, clever, intelligent, enthusiastic and responsible creature. But, we are so sane that we destroy our own home and ourselves not only other creatures. We think only inheritance of the natural things here and do whatever thing we like. The essay also implies that human cannot make rational decisions. Neither general people choose rational political leaders as their representatives nor do the elected representatives make right decisions in time. Moreover, they are not honest too. They are only worrying about the next election but not about the future of people and other creatures. They know that CFCs are depleting ozone layer but are not doing anything to stop the use of this harmful chemical. They

make decisions but have no courage and take no initiation of implementation. Thus, we are spoiling environment by electing such leaders and they are spoiling the future of mankind.

Critical thinking: This essay is mainly focused on environmental degradation and importance of its conservation. In this essay the writer criticizes the governments, politicians and factory owners who use harmful chemicals like chlorofluorocarbons. She gives emphasis on its conservation because we are responsible for its destruction. She criticizes sharply to the leaders and the people who elect such leaders but she does not think the scientists should also be equally careful about the harmful effects of the chemical. Not only leaders and scientists all we are equally responsible for this problem and should be careful for its solution.

Assimilation: Reading literary texts is very beneficial. Literature gives not only pleasure or entertainment but a vast knowledge about different fields. As I read this essay, I got a lot of information from this essay. I knew about the ozone layer and its usefulness. I also knew the bad sides of air conditioners and refrigerators. Before this I was careless of these things; I would not feel anything while using AC and fridge, but now I feel I am guilty of polluted nature when I use these appliances. I have seen many people suffering from skin cancer, respiratory problems and other many diseases. This might have been caused by the ultra violet rays of the sun and the depleted ozone layer. Now I will try to convince all my relatives and families about these problems.

The Library Card

Literal Comprehension:

One day, Richard Wright reads articles on H.L Memken. He likes the article so much that he makes up his mind to read other works of the author. With this intention, he approach one of the catholic English officer for whom he has earlier got books from the library. Mr. Falk lends him library card. Equipped with this card and forged note by Falk, Richard entered the library. The librarian looked at him doubtfully but gives him two books by Menken. Richard is pleased. He goes through Menkem prejudices and find it very interesting. He is inspired to write like the author, but realize his inability to do so. How ever, the book encourages him to read other authors who are maintained in it. As he borrows more books, his thirst for knowledge and his desire to write increases. He starts identifying himself and the others around him with the characters in the books. Unconsciously, through those books, he creates a barrier between himself and others. He also starts considering his mission in his life. But is worried about fulfilling it

Interpretation:

This story may be trying to tell us that a strong desire is the main cause of the success. One need not go to school or colleges to educate one self. It may also be interpreted to mean that reading makes once life batter and more meaningful.

Critical Thinking:

When I read this story written by an African American writer in the beginning of the 20th century, I was soaked. Was a Negro so hateful in the democracy like the USA? Was there such a great discrimination between the black and the white? Otherwise this story is excusable and inspiring.

Assimilation:

This story has influence me a lot. I learned the way to improve the language. In order to learn English easily I must read more books in English. English grammar and dictionary will not help me very much. If I reads more and enjoy the book of the same time, my life and my knowledge of the language will be batter.

Curbing The One-Eyed Monster – Four Levels**Literal Comprehension:**

Television stations are owned by very rich people. They do not tell us the truth. Their main purpose is to handover us to advertisers as long as possible. Ordinary people are tired of protesting against them. The easiest way to make our home TV free or to put our TV set on the curb. We may missed very useful programs and become outsiders. But we can use the spare time to do something really valuable. We can live a real life. We can make our self familiar with the highest quality in art, music and literature. But TV present us the lower quality of all these and reality in fragments and thus misguides us. We don't know what reality is? We do what the advertiser or rich people want us to do. We fill their pockets with our money. So, the effective way to save us is to boycott TV otherwise we will be getting misinformation. We have been compelled to feel that our natural life is worse and therefore we being to live artificially.

Interpretation:

This assay tell us that rich people and bigness man have made us puppets. They will use us the way they like. They will use us for their own advantages by misguiding us. They will never give us anything of the best quality. Therefore we have to protect ourselves from their exploitation (misuse).

Critical Thinking:

Although the writer has presented some of the advantage of TV, he has emphasized its bad aspects. He has made us escapists. Instead of fighting against the rich people, he wants us to stop watching TV. If we do so we will missed many good programs. If every one throws their TV sets where shall we go to watch the historical events? Can't we make a choice and watch only good programs?

Assimilation:

This assay has help me to understand many of the things which I did not understand before. Now I have understood how easily people imitate mannerism and why people watch TV. They don't like to be outsiders. I also know why people use the things advertise on TV. They want to be number one.

The Great Scott Gadzooks

Literal Comprehension:

We should not allow our children to go near the Television set. If possible we should not install it at all. In nearly every home child watch TV until their eyes get tired. They sit and watch TV until they are spellbound and absolutely drunk with very bad things. We allow them to watch TV because they will not fight and do naughty things and they allow us to do our work freely. But we have never supposed that TV will kill their senses and imagination, that they do not understand the imaginary world and that they can not think at all. If you take the set away, they will be unhappy at first and then they will start reading good books as children in the past would do.

Interpretation:

This poem might be trying to tell us that, the TV set has prevented children from reading books. It may also be interpreted to mean that parents are solely responsible for spoiling their children. they have thought of their convenience alone. They have never studied the bad inflect of TV programs on their children

Critical Thinking:

This poem has beautifully presented the trouble of every parent. It is true that children don't read any good books a part from their text book. But the poem has ignored the advantage children get by watching TV. When classic was televised they will be interested in watching more such serious. When they don't get such serials they borrow classics from the library and read them. More over TV helps them to imaging much more clearly. How does it kill their imagination Del.?

Assimilation:

This poem has help me to understand why children passed most of their time before their TV set. It hypnotizes them. I also came to know why the younger generation thinks differently. They have taken in so many good as well as bad things from different sources including TV. Modern culture has been changing rapidly because of television.

If Not Higher

Literal Comprehension: Early every Friday morning, at the time of penitential prayer, the Rabbi of Nemirov disappered. He wasn't found at home too. People thought, he went to the heaven at that time. But a Litvak didn't believe it. He decided to find the truth. He secretly went to the Rabbi's room and watched every activity of the Rabbi during the night before fore Friday. In the next morning, the Rabbi left the home as a peasent aut of the city. Litvak secretly follow him. In the forest, he chopech a tree and made a bundle of sticks. He come back to the city with the bundle of sticks and sold it to a sick Jewish woman on credit. He also helped to brun the fire. while burning fire, he recited different portions and penitential prayers. Litvak was impressed by the Rabbi's action and become his disciple.

Interpretation: This story tells us that the heaven is there where one finds pleasure of helping poor, sick and old person. The true spirit of religion is to help others. It isn't only limited to going to Temples and Churches and worship or pray Gods and Goddesses. One can please God by helping the helpless ones.

Critical Thinking: This religious story raises some doubts in my mind. In the story, it is said that a religious leader goes to help a sick and old woman at the time of prayer. Can we really find such person in this materialistic world? It also talks about the heaven high in the sky. Is there really heaven? Next, It says one can get heavenly pleasure by serving others or by sacrificing one's pleasures. For other can we really apply it in our lives?

Assimilation: This story has impressed me a lot and has also taught a good lesson. Before reading this story, I used to think only about the heaven where one can go after his/her death. But now, I know that the heaven is also here in Earth. I have a great desire now to the serve the humanity and reach the heaven like Rabbi.

Yudhishtira's Wisdom

Literal Comprehension: Once in the exiled period five Pandav brothers grew thirty while running after a deer in the forest of Yaksha. In the hot weather they were tired and thirsty Yudhishtira sent his youngest brother Sahadeva in search of water. He came across a beautiful pond and ready to drink water hurriedly. Some voice stopped him from drinking until he could have given his questions' answers. Thinking it might be fancy he drank water. He sooner got fainted. Similarly, Nakula, Bhima and Arjuna got the same fate lastly Yudhishtira himself went and found such condition of brothers. He waited admonition form drinking water after listening similar. He gave the answers of all questions asked by Yaksha until Yaksha became pleased. He promised to restore one of the brothers. For that Yudhishtira preferred Nakala with much pleasing reason. So Yaksha being happy restore all his brothers and gave blessing for easy and comfortable life of remaining exiled period.

Interpretation: This mythological story is taken from Mahabharata. The righteousness of Yudhishtira is the central point of this story. It focuses on wisdom; patience and loyalty to God are great human qualities. If we conduct any work rightly that has creative result. The story seems to tall that we must be faithful and honest on our work. If we have selfish and careless attitude, that ruins our personality in particular and humanity in general. Again, the reasonable and philosophical answers of the questions given by Yudhishtira can be knowledgeable. The due respect and love to the brother becomes another important meaning of this story.

Critical Thinking: The charming table of Mahabharata seems to be philosophical and knowledge to any reader. Despite of its morality and simplicity of language there are some contradictory points in this story. At present, there is a question over the existence of God. Some

disagreeing points can be given asking question like: (a) can we see Yaksha in our life? (b) can sun shine with God's power? (c) Do god exist really? (d) Is it true having less anger means being happy? Etc. Still we can learn many more philosophy from this story.

Assimilation: Reading this text gave me new awareness. To be true human, we must have wisdom and righteousness. We learn that we should forsake pride, anger, desires, [etc.to](#) be happy and satisfied in our life. I have learnt to change myself changing my thinking as well.

Mr. Know-All

Literal Comprehension: When the First World War ended, the writer 'Somerset Maugham' decided to go to Japan from America by ship. It was very difficult to get a good seat in the ship. But he managed to get in cabin seat in the ship. His cabin partner, Max Kelada, was much talkative. At first the writer thought that he was a Negro but later he came to know that he was also an English man. However, he hated his chatty nature. He introduced with everyone in the ship and conducted a lottery action. He said that he had good knowledge of everything. So they called him 'Mr. Know All'. Although alcohol was strictly prohibited to carry, he uttered writer to have cocktail "mix wine". Once the writer, Mr. Kelada, Mr and Mrs Ramsays got chanced to have dinner in the same table. Mr. Ramsays was in the consular service posted at Kobe, Japan. He had spent one year in alone in Japan because his salary was very low. Now he had come to take his wife with him. Mr. Kelada said that he was going to Japan to examine pearls. He saw a pearls chain around Mrs Ramsays neck and said that they were original. When Mr. Ramsays told him to guess the price, he said that they could cost upto 30,000 dollars. but when Mr. Ramsay said that they were false, he didn't believe and they had bet of one hundred dollars. When Mr. Kelada was going to check the pearls, Mrs Ramsay looked nervous. Although the pearls were original, Mr. Kelada said that they were false to save Mrs. Ramsays. The next day when she returned his money, the writer was surprised to know the reality. He also know that Mr. Kelada was really Mr. Know All. Then he began to like Mr. Kelada.

Interpretation: The writer may be trying to show humanity and nature of women. Outer cover can never represents the inner reality. Although Mr. Kelada is hated by all, he is proved to be the best example of humanity. He became fool and lost money and prestige but he saved the happy married life of Mr and Mrs Ramsay. This story also shows the dual character of women.

Critical thinking: Although this story gives the moral lesson. Some ideas of the writer are not convincing. After reading this story we can ask some questions. If alcohol was not allowed to carry how did Mr. Kelada offer cocktail to the writer? Did Mr. Kelada know everything? Then why did people hate him?

Assimilation: I am very much affected by this story. After reading this story, I know that we can't judge people from their appearance. This story also taught me that it is not easy to understand the character and secrecy of women. Now I won't believe in women easily.

The Brave Little Parrot

Literal Comprehension: Once Buddha was born as a little parrot. In the forest where various animals and birds lived. While all the creatures were spending happy life, a storm and lightning turned the forest into fire. Helpless animals and birds were trapped in the fire. It was a terrible picture where birds and animals were crying for help. Seeing that situation the little parrot started to put out the fire by dipping into river and spreading the drops of water into the fire. Though it got burnt all parts of his body the parrot still continued doing the work. Seeing such foolishness of parrot Gods in heaven laughed. But one of the Gods became ready to help him by changing himself into a golden eagle. The parrot didn't like eagle's advice rather help when the eagle told the parrot to stop doing that work. So, the eagle began to weep weave upon weave until the fire was put out completely. By the mercy of God all the animals and plants were saved in that forest and there was greenery everywhere. All the animals expressed their gratitude to brave little parrot that saved them.

Interpretation: Since the story is based on Buddhist Legend it tells much about human kindness, love and help. It tells us we should love and help as far as we can selflessly. If we do selfless help, God loves us. Again, another meaning can be that we should always struggle a lot whether it is fruitful or not. Keep on doing struggle but don't expect the fruit is its lesson. The good deeds of parrot are praiseworthy that are seen by the god as well. Those who have experienced the bitter life or suffering can understand others well. So rich and aristocratic people never understand the actual pain of poor and common people.

Critical thinking: The story teaches us to do selfless service and help to others as a moral lesson. Though in philosophy such concept is suitable and impressive but in our practical life such feeling is impossible because people don't have strong faith on God. Some disagreeing points are: (a) Is it possible for a man to be born as a parrot? (b) Do we really believe on the existence of god? (c) Can pouring tear put out forest fire? Besides these some of the confusing points the story has praiseworthy ideas. Teaching human to help others selflessly and be kind and helpful are humane. This aspect of this story is really acceptable and heart touching one.

Assimilation : I got extreme influence after reading this story "The Brave Little Parrot" and knew that we must be like the little parrot. While innocent and poor people are doing honest and dutiful works but so called rich people do everything with selfish motive. Rich are indifferent to the suffering of poor. Still the right conduct of parrot teaches us more to do similar type of behaviours in our life as will. If we help others without selfish nature, there will be someone ready to help us. These concepts germinated or came in me after reading these mythological story "The Brave Little Parrot"

Why Go to University

Literal Comprehension:

“Why Go to University” is an essay by Moti Nissani. This essay gives emphasis on the importance of higher education. Education is the third eye of human being. An uneducated person can see water in the river but an educated person can see the electricity on it. Education is the light of life. It removes darkness from mind and fills knowledge. In this essay, Nissani talks about the importance of university education.

A better educated people can get better job more easily than less educated person. He can earn more income and maintain good living standard. He can live happy and comfortable life. Not only that educated people are the manpower of the nation and they can make country also rich by utilizing the natural resources.

Education provides us knowledge and knowledge is power. An educated person is likely to resolve the difficulties and conflicts in a rational manner. Educated people are wise, tolerant, and they also realize their mistakes. Educated people take better care of their health. They are more likely to enjoy better health than tycoons. They know the disadvantages of smoking, fatness, tension, lack of exercise, imbalanced food, unhygienic atmosphere, over eating, stale food and air etc. they try to stay far from these health problems.

Educated people are also aware of the benefit of physical exercise. They well know the proverb ‘sound mind in a sound body’. So they do regular exercise and try to keep them always feet and strong. One survey shows that educated men and women are valued and respected in the society. A man might be handsome, kind, strong, brave, hero etc. he would still be considered in some ways deficient. The lack of education damages his life. But the better educated person is the better he feels about himself.

Educated people are curious about new thing and new places. They are lover of knowledge and civilized and well cultured. They take knowledge; reward and they feel comfortable from their living. Going to University expands our social horizons. We meet new people, make new friends and share new experiences. Education also helps for friendship and personal growth. Education increases our personal freedom. Educated people are less dogmatic. They don’t hesitate to fight and die if anyone tries to grab their rights and freedom.

Educated people have also knowledge of the universe. Today modern people believe that the earth moves and the sun is still. Education and democracy are closely related. Democracy flourishes only in the educated society. It doesn’t exist if people are ignorant and selfish. So education is supremely Important and valuable.

Interpretation:

This essay may be trying to show the value of education. It shows that education is very important. The writer also says that University education is very necessary to live happy, comfortable and meaningful; life. It fulfills our desire for learning and quenches the thirst of knowledge. It also helps for career development and also for the development of citizens, society and country.

Critical thinking:

This essay is very much impressive because education is considered supremely valuable. However I am not agree with few ideas of the writer. Is only formal education important? Can't we become educated through informal education? Do all the educated people respected as much as rich businessman and powerful politicians? So I don't agree with the writer.

Assimilation:

This essay impressed me very much. Before reading this story, I don't know the value of formal education and University degree. But this essay inspired me to study well to take university degree. Now, I have decided to become a scholar to have comfortable through learning.

Piano

Literal Comprehension: It was evening. A woman was playing on the piano and singing to the speaker. Her song made him think of his childhood days. When he was a little boy and would sit under the piano. The piano would make a loud unpleasant sound. He would press his mother's feet. But she would continue playing on the piano without being disturbed and smile at her son. The speaker tried to control himself and remain with the singer in the present time. But the lady's song was so skilful that it took him again his boyhood days. When the family would sing religious song in their warm sitting room on Sunday evening, the piano played by his mother would guide him and other family members. Now the speaker did not like the song of the woman at all, because it had completed its task by taking him to his passed days with his mother. Therefore it sounded to him like a loud noise. He wanted to forget his present manhood and wish to become a child. After this he wept openly like a child.

Interpretation: This poem may be trying to telling us that music take us back to our happy past. It may also be interpreted to mean that motherly love is superior to sensual love. The attraction of childhood makes us forget our manhood. More over "piano" is the poem about the power of memory.

Critical Thinking: I don't agree with the speaker because being a man he wifes openly in the presents of a woman. His pride of being man does not allow him to do so. The poet has rightly observed that one can not be satisfy with the presents if he is reminded of happy past days.

Assimilation: This poem has help me to understand myself batter. A nostalgic feeling is equally found in human being. I have also desire to belong to my past. Sometime I think if I were a child' I would not have to be worried about my present difficult time.

On The Eve of His Execution

Literal Comprehension:

Although young, the poet is very unhappy. There is no sign of happiness. There is only pain. His corn field is full of weeds. He can hope unsuccessfully for batter future. But there is no sign of batter life after waiting for such a long time. Although he is alive he feels that his life has ended. People have heard his story, but nobody has spoken on his behalf. As a young man he could live so many more years, but because of his execution he has loosed everything in life. He is uncared and ignored. Death has followed him from the womb and life has become merely a shade although he has everything necessary for life, he is going to be executed.

Interpretation:

This poem expresses the feeling of a healthy person who is going to be executed young. The poet is living the remaining moment of life strongly. The on coming death has made him observe his whole life. He evaluates what life has given him. As his execution is unexpected everything in his life is unexpected and unnatural.

Critical Thinking:

This poem has three stanzas. It is an elegy. It express controlled feeling. It is so well expressed and natural and so skillfully composed that it is regarded as the little master piece in literature. The music of the line is serious but not saddening. The seriousness is emphasized by the repetition of the rhymed refrain as though the poet were expecting the slow tolling of the bell announcing his heath.

Assimilation:

When I read this poem I identified my self with the poet. I felt vaguely what a young man feels when he is sure to die. I realized that all my connecting with the world would be cut off if I die soon. I felt a unknown kind of emptiness in life.

Where The Mind is Without Fear

Literal Comprehension: The poet imagines the perfect heaven. There people feel no fear and they are equally respected and they can walk raising their heads. There people can get knowledge freely without any disturbances. The world there is no divided in to smaller countries by any kind on narrow border line. People there will speak the truth and work untiringly until they get

perfection. There superstition and tradition do not block the region and people always come to the logical conclusion. In such a world of freedom the poet wants god to wake up all his countrymen.

Interpretation: This poem might be trying to tell us the value of reason, knowledge, freedom, universality and honesty. The poet may be trying to create some kind of utopia, that is , an ideal and perfect place where everyone lives in harmony and everything is for the best.

Critical Thinking: This is a prose poem. It is read like a conversation. The poet is talking to the almighty father. It may sound idealistic but it is the poet who can imagine a batter world. This king of should our target. We should try to reach it as closely as possible.

Assimilation: This poem has thought be to live a fearless life. It has also inspired me to live a batter life. It has made me forget my present unhappy condition and imagine a utopian world

Third Thoughts

Literal Comprehension: Once the writer's friend while visiting New York bought a painting thinking that it was by Turner. He got it at cheap price since the seller was also confused about its originality. With the painting he went to London and sold it at fifty pounds. He was so much happy that he decided to share the profit with seller of New York. At first, he decided to share fifty percent of his profit and wrote a letter but having no stamp, he went to his room. Again at about 3 AM, he thought it quite inappropriate to share the profit but still thought of sending ten pounds only. His thinking kept on changing and couldn't sleep well. Again, he thought of sending five pounds thinking that if he shared, the Goddess would be angry and he thought it was he who knew the value of the painting. If he had known it, he wouldn't have given him at such cheap rate, so it is wrong to send him the profit. Finally, he decided to send only a pound. Early in the morning, he went out side and spent all his money in gambling. Finally, he concluded that buying and selling are straight forward matter. Everyone in this matter tries to get benefit. The buyer once paying to the goods has no obligation to the dealer.

Interpretation: The story presenting the constant changing nature of human mind seems to be full of humor and satire. Basically thinking with the nature of businessman's mind it proves that human mind can never be rigid and fixed. Especially in business their mind keeps on changing. At another level, it sheds light on human earning since the earning as that of writer's friend has no meaning at all in life. The most important thing in the story is that in business buying and selling are straight forward dealings. It has nothing to do with human consideration, sympathy and faith. Once goods are sold or bought they have nothing to do with them since then.

Critical Thinking: The story offers a great deal of humor and satire. But in many respects, it doesn't seem appropriate and convincing. The first is: Does anyone want to share his profit? It is

so much unbelievable. Similarly, the seller of any good knows its quality and the cost. Does any seller sell his good without knowing it?

Assimilation: As I went through the story, it reminded me of my own events that I experienced earlier. Once I had been to my village after a long time from the city. I had taken a beautiful watch there. Everyone liked it, one of my friends promised to pay Rs 500 for it ,so I gave it to him. I got Rs 300 as profit, and so I got extremely happy.