

QUESTION BANK - ENGLISH

Drama- 1 -The Dear Departed

**Extract base questions-**

1. Are we pinching it before aunt Elizabeth comes?
  - (i) What does 'it' refer to here?
  - (ii) How does Vickey conclude that his parents are 'pinching it'?
  - (iii) Mention the two reasons that Mrs. Slater gives for her action.
  - (iv) What does it reveal about the difference between the attitude of the elders and that of Vickey?
2. Now, Amelia you must not give way. We have all got to die some time or other. It might have been worst.
  - (i) Who is the speaker of these lines?
  - (ii) What prompts the speaker to say these words?
  - (iii) What does he mean when he say 'It might have been worse'?
  - (iv) What does it reveal about the speaker's character?
3. I don't call that delicate, stepping into a dead man's shoes in such haste.
  - (i) Who makes this comment?
  - (ii) What prompts the speaker to say this?
  - (iii) Bring out the significance of this statement.
  - (iv) What is the irony here?

**Short answer questions**

1. What does Mrs. Slater eye on in grandfather's room? What were her plans after his death?
2. Why didn't the Slaters call for the doctor?
3. Who is Ben? What is he most worried about?
4. What is the underlying theme of the play 'The Dear Departed'?

OR

The play 'The Dear Departed' conveys a social message. Comment.

5. Grandfather comes to know how his daughters were in a hurry to divide his things between them.
6. How does Mrs. Slater plan to outshine the Jordans? What does it reveal about her character?
7. Ben appreciates grandfather saying 'it's a good thing he did'. Later he calls him a 'drunken old beggar'. Why does he change his opinion about grandfather?
8. What are the three things that grandfather plans to do on Monday next?

9. How does the spat between his daughters lead to grandfather discovering the truth?

**Long answer and value based questions:**

1. Imagine you are the grandpa. You are upset at the way things have happened in your family and your decision taken thereafter. Write a letter to your friend sharing with him your pain in this regard.

2. Imagine you are Mrs. Slater. After everything is over, and as grandpa has left you to settle down and marry elsewhere, you feel sorry and repentant. Write a diary entry expressing your realization of your ill treatment with him.

3. Compare and contrast Henry's character with that of his wife. Support your answer with evidence from the play.

4. "The moral values are degraded in respect and care within the members of the family itself." Explain this statement with reference to the Mrs. Slater and Mrs. Jordan.

5. "Old people deserve to be treated with great care and love." How can you take care of elderly?

6. "The old should make their wills discreetly without being swayed by emotions and sentiments." Do you agree with the statement? Justify your answer with the reference to the daughters of Abel Merry Weather.

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