

QUESTION BANK - ENGLISH

Chapter -1 -Two Gentlemen of Verona

Reference to Context Questions

Q 1. Next morning, coming out of our hotel, we saw our friends bent over shoeshine boxes beside the fountain in the public square, doing a brisk business.

- (i) Who does 'we' in this extract stand for? Who are the 'friends' here?
- (ii) What were these 'friends' doing a day before?
- (iii) What do you mean by 'brisk business'?

Q 2. One night, we came upon them in the windy and deserted square, resting on the stone pavement beneath the lights.

- (i) Who is the speaker of these lines?
- (ii) Who are 'them' and why are they resting on the pavement at night?
- (iii) What does the phrase 'came upon them' here mean?

Q 3. He colored deeply under his sunburn, then grew pale. He looked to the ground. "You must be saving up to emigrate to America," I suggested. He looked at me sideways, spoke with an effort.

- (i) Who is 'he' in this extract?
- (ii) Why does he look to the ground?
- (iii) Explain the expression 'colored deeply under his sunburn'.

Q 4. "He shrugged his shoulders to convey his disapproval of their shabby appearance."

- (i) Who is 'he' referred to here? What was the occasion?
- (ii) Whose shabby appearance did he disapprove of?
- (iii) What do you mean by the word 'shabby'?

Short answer questions

- Q 1. Who were the two boys that met the writer on his way to Verona? Why was the writer attracted towards them?
- Q 2. Describe the physical appearance and the writer's observation of the two boys as they showed them the town as guides.
- Q 3. What did the nurse tell the writer about the boys?
- Q 4. What led the boys to dislike the Germans?
- Q 5. When the narrator asks the boys about their plans, they are evasive. Why don't they disclose their problems?
- Q 6. Do you think the boys looked after Lucia willingly? Give reasons for your answer.

Long answer and value based questions

- Q 1. "War is another name for destruction. It brings with it endless number of maladies in the name of poverty, crimes, innocent killings, social unrest, food crisis and so on." With reference to the story 'Two Gentlemen of Verona', write an article telling how war has affected the lives of the characters in the story.
- Q 2. "The real gentlemen are the people who never give up like Nicola and Jacopo." what values do you learn from the two gentlemen of Verona.
- Q 3. "Despite the predominance of war, hatred, jealousy, rivalry and selfishness the world is still not completely stripped off of all nobility and can still look forward to the revival of magnanimity and generosity." Nicola and Jacopo's selfless action brought a new nobility to human life. Explain by highlighting the values you learnt from them.
- Q 4. "Tough days never last but tough people do." Explain this statement with reference to the two boys.
- Q 5. Appearances are deceptive. Discuss with reference to the two boys.
- Q 6. "War had not broken their spirit." In the light of the given line, bring out the central theme of the story.
- Q 7. How does the story Two Gentlemen of Verona promise hope for society?
- Q 8. Nicola & Jacopo loved their sister very much. They understood their responsibility towards her. Bring out the values reflected by their characters.

Q 9. "One can overcome all odd in life through will & determination." Discuss with reference to the story 'Two Gentlemen of Verona'.

Q 10. There is an age-old English saying – 'Where there is a will, there is a way.' How did the two brothers, Nicola and Jacopo prove this saying ?

Q 11. No work is ever small or low. What lesson regarding dignity of labour do we learn from the story 'Two Gentlemen of Verona'?

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