

STEPPING STONE
SCHOOL (HIGH)

CLASS:10

Subject: English literature

Topic : Chapter 7 Prose

Dated-28.5.20

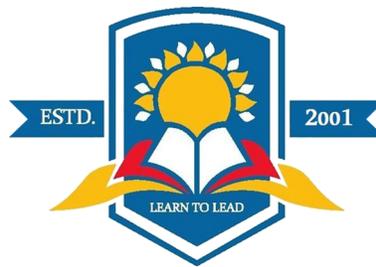
Answers of the Worksheet no -12

Prose- The little match girl. (Chapter-7)

C) The little match girl belonged to a very poor family. On the New Year's Eve when snow was falling and it was chilly cold and dark, she was compelled by her heartless father to go out on the street to sell matches, to earn few pennies. Though she was bareheaded, barefoot and shivering with cold and hunger, like an obedient child she tried to sell those matches but could not earn a penny. She did not dare to go back home for the fear of getting beaten severely by her father. Moreover her home would not provide any respite from cold as it had nothing but a roof above it the wind whistled through the cracks though those were stuffed with straw and rags.

D) The hallucination of the little girl reflects the strong longing and desire of a poor, unfortunate and starving child before the New Year's Eve. In her first vision she saw a large ornamented iron stove depicting her longing for warmth as well as love of her family. In her second vision she saw a feast laid on table comprising a roasted goose stuffed with apples and prunes which shows her longing to relish on delicacies which only the fortunate rich could afford and enjoy.

E) The author has portrayed a realistic and crude view of society in Victorian Era highlighting on the theme of class differentiation. During this era thousands of children were not only orphaned but also deserted, neglected and abused like the little match girl. The story wants to teach the wealthy to show empathy for the poor, downtrodden, neglected children who are unprivileged and lack basic necessities of life. It reminds them not to overlook the less fortunate brethren but coaxes them to be charitable and help them to alleviate their struggle and suffering for survival.



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Answers of the Worksheet no -13

A) When the little match girl lit the third match, suddenly she found herself sitting under the most beautiful Christmas tree that looked much larger and lovelier than the one she had seen the previous year through the glass doors of the rich merchant's house. A thousand candles lit up the green branches and gaily coloured balls like those of the shop windows looked down upon her. When the match extinguished the candles on the Christmas tree rose higher and higher and turned into stars.

B) According to the little girl's loving grandma, it means that 'someone is dying'. When she was alive, she told her that whenever a star falls, a soul ascends to God.

C) The Little girl and her kind and loving grandmother shared an amicable relationship. She did not want to miss her as she knew that perhaps her grandma might also vanish when the match extinguished, just like the iron stove, stuffed goose and the Christmas tree, so she hastily lit all the matches. It gave a brighter light than the broad daylight and her beautiful grandma stayed with her forever. She took her in her arms and flew to heavenly abode where there was neither cold or hunger, nor pain or suffering for they were with God.

D) The Little girl had a smile on her face when she embraced death because she was relinquishing a miserable life full of pain and suffering which she finally got rid of. Thus death relieved her from hardship, reunited her with her grandma and gave her solace.