

WEAR MASK



RAISINA BENGALI SCHOOL ,MANDIR MARG ,NEW DELHI-110001

SUBJECT: ENGLISH

CLASS: XB

ASSIGNMENT

TEACHER : S MALA:

CHAPTER:THE MIDNIGHT VISITOR

AFTER WATCHING THE VIDEOS GIVEN ON THE CHAPTER EARLIER ATTEMPT THE FOLLOWING

The Midnight Visitor

Summary: This story is about a detective who defies the stereotype; as we know from novels and movies. Ausable is a fat man with short height and thick accent. A young writer goes to meet him to get some inspiration for his next story or novel. But as Ausable says; the young writer must be highly disappointed to see an unassuming person as a detective. However, when they reach Ausable's room and intruder is already present in the room. Ausable uses his quick wit and makes a story of a non-existent balcony and policemen. The fear of police makes the intruder jump out of the window; only to crash at the ground.



Answer in detail:

Question 1: "Ausable did not fit any description of a secret agent Fowler had ever read." What do secret agents in books and films look like, in your opinion?

Answer: Secret agents in fiction are projected like ideal men, 'Tall dark and handsome'. They are usually well built and keep beautiful women for company. They would always smoke pipe or cigar and do death defying stunts. James Bond is a very famous character by Ian Fleming. Movies based on James Bond show hi-tech gizmos which assist the detective in countering villains. There are some exceptions as well. There is a character named Feluda which was created by Satyajit Ray, the famous Bengali Filmmaker. Feluda was typical bhadralok by appearance.

Question 2: How does Ausable manage to make Max believe that there is a balcony attached to his room? Look back at his detailed description of it. What makes it a convincing story?

Answer: Ausable creates a detailed description of how his office was part a bigger apartment and how the next room had direct connection with the balcony. His statement that somebody else also broke into his office through that balcony made it a convincing story.



The Midnight Visitor Question and Answers

Q1. How does Ausable manage to make Max believe that there is a balcony attached to his room? Look back at his detailed description of it. What makes it a convincing story?

Ans. When Ausable says that he had complained to the hotel management earlier as well about someone entering the room from the balcony that was below his room, Max started thinking that had he known there was a balcony, it would have been much easier for him to get to Ausable's room. Ausable then tells Max that he wanted extra protection for the papers that were supposed to come in that day and that he had informed the police who were knocking on the door, checking on him. This made Max very nervous and he thought that he would wait for the police to go on the balcony. Without realizing, he jumped out of the window and did not realize that there was no balcony. So the way Ausable thinks calmly and quickly makes the story a lot more convincing.

Q2. How is Ausable different from other secret agents?

Ans. Ausable is different from other secret agents because he was very fat, lived in a room on the top floor of a gloomy French hotel and could only speak French passibly although he had been living in Paris for over 20 years. His voice still had an American touch to it . He used to receive messages via telephone instead of dark eyed beauties getting him his messages. So he was very different from the way other secret agents are.

Q3. Who is Fowler and what is his first authentic thrill of the day?

Ans. Fowler is a young writer who comes to meet Ausable. He is bored sitting with Ausable in a music hall as he had thought that the country's secret agent would be thrilling and exciting but nothing of that sort happened. After some time when they were coming back to Ausable's room, Fowler saw a man holding a gun standing in the room. So that is when he feels that the life of a secret agent can be exciting.

Q4. How has Max got in?

Ans. Max had got in with a masterkey or passkey.

Q5. How does Ausable say he got in?

Ans. Ausable says that he thought that Max had got in through the balcony. He said that it was a nuisance as it was not even his own balcony and that it was the second time somebody had got in using that same balcony.



Attempt the MCQ

Do it in notebook

Q1- Who is the author of the story "The Midnight Visitor"?

- A) James Herriot
- B) Ruskin Bond
- C) Robert Arthur
- D) Victor Canning

Q2- " _____ did not fit any description of a secret agent."

- A) Fowler
- B) Ausable
- C) Max
- D) None of the above

Q3- Ausable was a _____ fellow.

- A) fat and sloppy
- B) fat and enthusiastic
- C) thin and enthusiastic
- D) thin and sloppy

Q4- What is the meaning of the word "wheezily"?

- A) making a sound when you can't breathe easily
- B) sneezing
- C) coughing
- D) None of the above

Q5- Where was Ausable staying?

- A) Fowler's home
- B) French hotel
- C) Max's home
- D) French Inn

Q6- Which floor was he staying at?

- A) ground floor
- B) first floor
- C) second floor
- D) top floor

Q7- What language did Ausable speak?

- A) German
- B) French
- C) none of these
- D) both a and b

Q8- Where did he come from?

- A) Paris
- B) Germany
- C) Boston
- D) None of the above

Q9- When did he move to Paris?

- A) 5 years ago
- B) 10 years ago
- C) 20 years ago
- D) 25 years ago

Q10- "he had never lost his _____ accent."

- A) American
- B) French
- C) British
- D) None of the above