

TENDER HEART HIGH SCHOOL, SEC 33 B, CHD.

CLASS: IX

SUBJECT: ENGLISH LITERATURE

LESSON- 11 With the Photographer.

Synopsis:

One fine day, the narrator went to a photo studio to get his photograph taken. After looking at him rather unenthusiastically the photographer, a drooping but intelligent looking man in a gray suit, asked him to sit and wait. The narrator while waiting for the photographer, read the magazines kept in the waiting room which included old editions of the Ladies Companion, the Girls Magazines and the Infants Journal.

When the photographer did not come back after a long wait, the narrator felt that he had intruded into the private space of the photographer. The photographer returned after an hour; and asked the narrator to come in the inner room (inside the studio). The narrator went in and sat down under a beam of sunlight filtered through a sheet of factory cotton sheet/cloth. The photographer rolled his camera but was not satisfied

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with the narrator's face and said that his face was quite wrong. The narrator replied that he is aware of it.

At first the narrator felt happy that the photographer was empathetic to the issue of his face being full but he got angry when the photographer cut him mid-sentence to find faults with his facial features. He kept on complaining about his head, ears and other features. The narrator exaggerates the aerobatics the photographer expected him to do such as opening his wide mouth a little and closing it immediately.

When the photographer continued finding faults with his face and physical appearance the narrator told him with emotion and dignity to stop complaining. He told him that it was his face and he had been living with it for forty years. After speaking harshly, the narrator started to rise from his seat; in that instant the photographer pulled the string without the knowledge of the narrator. The narrator asked the photographe

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- to show his picture but he told the narrator to come back on Saturday to collect the developed proof.

- The narrator returned to the photo studio on the scheduled day to see the proof of the photograph. When the photographer showed him the proof of the photograph, the narrator was utterly shocked and asked the photographer if the person in the photograph was him (the narrator).

The photographer had retouched all his facial features. He had removed his eyebrows and drawn new ones and adjusted his mouth a little. He told the narrator that he had used a process called the Delphide for removing the eyebrows and putting in new ones. He had removed the hair that was on his face. This enraged the narrator.

- The photographer had changed his whole appearance to showcase his professional skills. The narrator told him that he wanted something that would depict his face as Heaven has given him, humble though the gift may have been. He wanted

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a photograph that his friends would keep with them as a token of love and remember him after his death. What he wanted was not done. He asked the photographer to keep that photograph because for him (the narrator) it was a worthless bauble. Can an inexpensive piece of jewellery which has little artistic value; here in this chapter, a thing of no value.

Glossary

1. drooping - bending
2. Natural Scientist - a scientist who studies objects, phenomena or laws of nature.
3. Unwarrantable: unacceptable; incapable of being justified.
4. breaking in - intruding
5. frantic - desperate
6. grave - serious
7. apparently - seemingly
8. ceased - stopped
9. twisted - moved as if by forceful rotation.
10. droop - hang downwards
11. hump - heave
12. Staggering - shaking
13. animation - excitement
14. beckoned - called
15. splendidly - nicely
16. superficies - surface; here, face
17. withering - disapproving

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18. scorn - a feeling that someone is not worthy of any respect.
19. brutal - extremely cruel or harsh
20. reconcile - to come to terms with or to accept something
21. emboss - cause to bulge up / swollen up
22. bauble - a thing of no value.

— last page —

Read the entire chapter thoroughly and also revise the MCQs done in the class.

All the Best For your Exams.

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