



A Letter to God - by G.L. Fuentes

ENGLISH TEXTBOOK : FIRST FLIGHT

Topic : Prose lesson 'A Letter to God' (Continued)

Quick Recapitulation Activity :

Complete the graphic organiser given below in your notebooks to summarise the story:

Lencho was a farmer who had firm faith in God.

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Theme of the story

Blind-faith

The story reflects the blind-faith of the peasant. The crops are destroyed by the storm but the peasant takes it as a divine action. He writes a letter to God (height of blind-faith) and finding the money, he believes that it has been given by God himself. Even when he finds 70 Pesos, he is not pleased as he thinks that God must have given 100 Pesos but the post-man might have stolen 30 Pesos. The story reflects the mentality of illiterates and poor people of villages and also the sympathetic nature of people like Postman.

Two Sides of Story

The other theme which is mainly reflected in this short story is the two sides of a coin. Lencho, the farmer is an uneducated person but has firm faith in God even though his faith is blind-faith. He is unaware of the reality that it was not God but post office employees who helped him. Hence rather than thanking the employees of the post office, he calls them greedy and bunch of crooks. He feels that they had taken away the money sent by God. This is the **irony** in the story.

On the other hand, the post-master who was moved by the innocence of the farmer did everything to keep the faith of the farmer intact. He never expected such a response from the farmer.

Guidelines : All questions are to be attempted in the English fair notebook.

I. Long answer Questions

Q.1 Analyse Lencho's character. Is his character realistic? Justify his actions with relevance to the present scenario.

Q.2 Bring out the irony in the end of the story.

Q.3 There are two kinds of conflicts in the story: between humans and nature, and between humans themselves. How are these conflicts illustrated? Explain.

II. Language Exercise:

a). There are different words used for storms, depending on their nature. Match the names in the box with their descriptions below, and fill in the blanks.

Gale, whirlwind, cyclone, hurricane, tornado, typhoon

- i. A violent tropical storm in which strong winds move in a circle: ___ c ___
- ii. An extremely strong wind : _ a _
- iii. A violent tropical storm with very strong winds: ___ p ___
- iv. A violent storm whose center is a cloud in the shape of a funnel: ___ n ___
- v. A violent storm with very strong winds, especially in the Western Atlantic Ocean: ___ r ___
- vi. A very strong wind that moves very fast in a spinning movement and causes a lot of damage: ___ l ___

b). Join the sentences given below using **who, whom, whose, which**, as suggested.

1. I often go to Mumbai. Mumbai is the commercial capital of India. (which)
2. My mother is going to host a TV show on cooking. She cooks very well. (who)
3. These sports persons are going to meet the President. Their performance has been excellent. (whose)

4. Lencho prayed to God. His eyes see into our minds. (whose)
5. This man cheated me. I trusted him. (whom)

c). Find sentences in the story with negative words, which express the following ideas emphatically.

1. The trees lost all their leaves.
2. The letter was addressed to God himself.
3. The postman saw this address for the first time in his career.

d) Give at least two synonyms of the following words:

- i) obliged
- ii) intimately
- iii) sorrowful
- iv) deny
- v) evident
- vi) contentment

References for videos:

<https://www.bing.com/videos/search?q=A+letter+to+God&&view=detail&mid=FECC27A3576E451DFC1CFECC27A3576E451DFC1C&&FORM=VDRVRV>

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Reference for quick recapitulation ques./ans. :

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