



CLASS - VI ENGLISH NOTES JUNE

2. The Face on the Wall

I. ERC:

1. "He watched each speaker with the closest attention, but said nothing."

a) Who is being referred to as 'he'?

The little man with the anxious face is being referred to as 'he'.

b) Where are the speakers?

The speakers are at Dabney's.

c) What were the speakers talking about?

The speakers were talking about events which cannot be explained by natural causes.

d) Which of the following words can replace the phrase 'closest attention'?

i. awareness

ii. focus

iii. concentration

Ans: iii. concentration

2. "In fact, the strange thing was that while the patches on the wall grew larger and changed their shapes, this never did".

a) Who is the speaker of this line?

The little man with the anxious face is the speaker.

b) What never changed its shape?

The face on the wall never changed its shape.

c) Where was this wall with patches that changed their shapes?

The wall with patches that changed their shape was in an old house at Great Ormond Street.

d) How were the patches on the wall formed?

The patches were formed by the paint in those areas that had not dried up.

3. “I stood at busy corners watching the crowd until people thought me mad, and the police began to know me and be suspicious”.

a) Who is the 'I' here?

The little man with the anxious face is the ‘I’ here.

b) Why did the speaker stand at busy corners?

The speaker stood at busy corners because he wanted to find the person whose face resembled the face on the wall.

c) Why did the police become suspicious of the speaker?

The police became suspicious of him because he used to stand in corners and look at people’s faces for hours on end, trying to find the face on the wall.

d) Give another word for 'suspicious'.

doubtful

4. “Excuse me,’ I stammered, 'but do you mind giving me your card? I have a very important reason in asking it”.

a) Who is the speaker?

The little man is the speaker.

b) Why did the speaker stammer?

The speaker stammered because he was nervous as this was his only chance to speak to the man whose face resembled the face on the wall.

c) From whom did the speaker ask for a card?

The speaker asked for a card from the man whose face resembled the face on the wall. This man turned out to be Mr. Ormond Wall.

d) For which important reason did the speaker ask for the card?

The speaker asked for the card from the man because his face resembled the face on the wall. The speaker felt his fate was somehow connected to this man and hence he wanted to know him.

5. “I got up confused and sad and went out. The early editions of the papers were already out. I saw the headline”.

a) Who is the speaker?

The little man is the speaker.

b) Why was the speaker confused and sad?

The speaker was confused and sad because when he woke up in the morning and looked at the face on the wall he was shocked to see that it was now only faintly visible.

c) What was the headline?

The headline read 'American Millionaire's Motor Accident'.

d) What happened before this?

Before this, the face on the wall became light and it was faintly visible.

II. Short Answers:

1. What was everyone doing at Dabney's?

At Dabney's, everyone was talking about events which could not be explained by natural causes.

2. Why did everyone beg the narrator to begin?

Dabney wanted to include him in the talk and so asked him to participate. However, when he told them that his story had happened as recent as that very afternoon, everyone got interested and begged him to continue.

3. Who was the narrator? What was the strange thing in his room?

The little man was the narrator. In one of the old houses that he was residing in at Great Ormond Street, there were damp patches in his room. The strange thing in his room was that one of the patches resembled a face.

4. Where did the narrator finally see the man with the face on the wall? What did he do then?

The narrator finally saw the man in a taxi. After spotting him, he followed him till he got his card and read his name.

5. How did the narrator find the identity of the man with the face on the wall? Who was he?

The man whose face resembled the face on the wall was Mr. Ormond Wall. He was a millionaire and an American who lived in Pittsburgh, USA.

6. What were the three remarkable things about the narrator's story?

The three remarkable things about the narrator's story are:

- a) That it should be possible for a patch on the wall of a house in London not only to form the features of a gentleman in America but also to have close association with his life.
- b) Gentleman's name should bear any relation to the spot on which his features were being so curiously reproduced by some unknown agency.
- c) The narrator made up the story in half an hour.

III. Long Answers:

1. How did the search for the face on the wall become a madness with the narrator? Give examples from the text to support your answer.

The search for the face on the wall became madness for the narrator when he realised his fate was somehow related to the man whose face was on the wall. So he began his quest to find him. This quest soon turned into an obsession where the narrator would stand in corners for hours, trying to locate the man with the face on the wall.

2. The face on the wall was associated with the life and death of Mr Ormond Wall. Justify.

The face on the wall was clear as ever when the narrator went to sleep at night. However when he woke up in the morning, he was shocked to see that the face was only faintly visible. This was because Mr. Ormond Wall and his party had a terrible accident in Italy and Mr. Ormond was in a critical condition. Finally the face on the wall disappeared when Mr. Wall died. The face on the wall was closely associated with the life and death of Mr. Ormond Wall.

3. Were you able to figure out that the narrator had made up the story? Give reasons to support your answer.

Answers may vary. Accept all relevant answers.

4. Write a few lines about the narrator's ability as a storyteller.

The narrator was an excellent storyteller because he was able to fool everyone into thinking that his story was in fact true. He also described his story with great detail which shows he was thorough with his story.