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Following the guidelines set forth by the CBSE board, our team of subject-matter experts developed the solutions provided below. Students will find these to be very helpful in their educational endeavors. You can even download the Class 9 NCERT Solutions in PDF version so you may continue learning even when you are not online.

NCERT Solutions Class 9 English Chapter 11

I. Answer these questions.

Question 1. “At last, a sympathetic audience.”

- (i) Who says this?
- (ii) Why does he say it?
- (iii) Is he sarcastic or serious?

Answer:

- (i) Gerrard makes the said claim.
- (ii) When the intruder presses him for a personal statement, he says it.
- (iii) He uses irony.

Question 2. Why does the intruder choose Gerrard as the man whose identity he wants to take on?

Answer: The intruder decides to assume Gerrard's identity since he is a mysterious man who follows his commands, occasionally disappears quickly, and always returns.

Question 3. “I said it with bullets.”

- (i) Who says this?
- (ii) What does it mean?
- (iii) Is it the truth? What is the speaker's reason for saying this?

Answer:

- (i) Gerrard makes the said claim.
- (ii) It implies that he shot someone to get away when he was in jeopardy.
- (iii) It's not true, that much. In an attempt to talk the intruders out of killing him, Gerrard says this.

Question 4. What is Gerrard's profession? Quote the parts of the play that support your answer.

Answer: Gerrard's profession is that of a dramatist.

The parts of the play that support that implication are:

"In most melodramas, the villain is foolish enough to delay his killing long enough to be frustrated".

"Sorry I can't let you have the props in time for rehearsal..."

"I think I'll put it in my next play."

"At last, a sympathetic audience!"

Question 5. "You'll soon stop being smart."

- (i) Who says this?
- (ii) Why does the speaker say it?
- (iii) What according to the speaker will stop Gerrard from being smart?

Answer:

- (i) The trespasser makes the stated declaration.
- (ii) The intruder says this to get information about Gerrard and to frighten him.
- (iii) The speaker wants Gerrard dead. The speaker claims that Gerrard would get terrified and cease being intelligent if he learned that he had come to kill him and steal his identity.

Question 6. "They can't hang me twice."

- (i) Who says this?
- (ii) Why does the speaker say it?

Answer:

- (i) The person who enters makes the stated declaration.
- (ii) The speaker makes this claim because he has committed murder before. Therefore, it doesn't really matter if he kills another man. You cannot hang him twice.

Question 7. "A mystery I propose to explain." What is the mystery the speaker proposes to explain?

Answer: The speaker, Gerrard, suggests solving the enigma of why he is a mysterious man. He informs the trespasser that he is a wanted criminal himself. It is the reason he doesn't interact with tradespeople.

According to him, he killed someone and got away with it. However, he was again in difficulty, which is why he had his bag packed in preparation for another escape.

Question 8. "This is your big surprise."

(i) Where has this been said in the play?

(ii) What is the surprise?

Answer:

(i) The play refers to this twice.

The first time is when the intruder is attempting to frighten Gerrard, and the second time is when Gerrard is telling him why he won't murder him.

(ii) The fact that the intruder states that he intends to kill Gerrard is what surprises us about the initial statement.

The unexpected part of the second comment is when Gerrard tells him that since he is a criminal on the run himself, killing him and stealing his identity won't help the intruder.

Thinking about Language

I. Consult your dictionary and choose the correct word from the pairs given in brackets.

1. The (site, cite) of the accident was (ghastly/ghostly).
2. Our college (principle/principal) is very strict.
3. I studied (continuously/continually) for eight hours.
4. The fog had an adverse (affect/effect) on the traffic.
5. Cezanne, the famous French painter, was a brilliant (artist/artiste).
6. The book that you gave me yesterday is an extraordinary (collage/college) of science fiction and mystery.
7. Our school will (host/hoist) an exhibition on cruelty to animals and wildlife conservation.
8. Screw the lid tightly onto the top of the bottle and (shake/shape) well before using the contents.

Answer:

1. The site of the accident was ghastly.
2. Our college principal is very strict.
3. I studied continuously for eight hours.
4. The fog had an adverse effect on the traffic.
5. Cezanne, the famous French painter, was a brilliant artist.
6. The book that you gave me yesterday is an extraordinary collage of science fiction and mystery.
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