

Class X - English

**A Letter to God**

# CBSE NOTES

## **A Letter to God - Challenge Worksheet**

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# Challenge Questions

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## 1. Analyze the character of Lencho in 'A Letter to God'. What does his unwavering faith in God reveal about his personality and worldview?

*Hint: Consider how Lencho's rural background and lack of education might influence his perception of God and the post office.*

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**Solution:** Lencho's character is a blend of naivety and deep faith. His unwavering belief in God's help, despite the post office employees' intervention, shows his simplistic understanding of divine intervention. This can be seen as both a strength and a weakness, highlighting the human tendency to seek hope in dire situations.

## 2. Evaluate the role of the postmaster in the story. How does his response to Lencho's letter reflect the themes of kindness and human nature?

*Hint: Think about the postmaster's motivations and the possible consequences of his actions on Lencho's faith.*

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**Solution:** The postmaster's decision to help Lencho by collecting money from his employees and signing the letter as 'God' showcases human kindness and the desire to preserve faith. However, it also raises questions about the ethics of deception, even for a good cause.

## 3. Discuss the irony in the story's conclusion. How does Lencho's reaction to receiving less money than he asked for contribute to the story's message?

*Hint: Reflect on how Lencho's expectations versus reality play into the story's ironic twist.*

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**Solution:** The irony lies in Lencho's anger towards the post office employees, whom he accuses of stealing, unaware that they were the ones who helped him. This underscores the theme of human imperfection and the complexity of faith versus reality.

#### 4. Compare and contrast the natural disaster's impact on Lencho's life with how modern society deals with similar crises. What lessons can be drawn?

*Hint: Consider the role of community and technology in contemporary disaster response versus Lencho's solitary reliance on faith.*

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**Solution:** Lencho's immediate turn to divine help contrasts with modern society's reliance on technology and government aid. This highlights the evolution of crisis management but also the enduring human need for hope and support in adversity.

#### 5. Explore the symbolism of the hailstorm in 'A Letter to God'. How does it serve as a turning point in the narrative?

*Hint: Analyze how the storm's destruction contrasts with Lencho's initial optimism about the rain.*

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**Solution:** The hailstorm symbolizes nature's unpredictability and the fragility of human efforts. It acts as the catalyst for Lencho's letter to God, setting the stage for the story's exploration of faith, hope, and human kindness.

#### 6. Assess the ethical dilemma faced by the postmaster. Was his decision to deceive Lencho justified?

*Hint: Think about the potential long-term effects of the postmaster's actions on Lencho's trust and faith.*

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**Solution:** The postmaster's dilemma revolves around preserving Lencho's faith versus the morality of deception. While his intentions were noble, the act raises questions about the boundaries of kindness and the importance of truth.

#### 7. Interpret the significance of the title 'A Letter to God'. How does it encapsulate the story's central theme?

*Hint: Consider how the act of writing a letter to God represents Lencho's ultimate expression of faith and desperation.*

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**Solution:** The title reflects the story's exploration of faith, communication, and the human desire for divine intervention. It symbolizes the bridge between human vulnerability and the hope for a higher power's benevolence.

## 8. Critically examine the portrayal of faith in 'A Letter to God'. Is the story advocating for blind faith or presenting a critique of it?

*Hint: Reflect on the consequences of Lencho's unquestioning faith and the story's ending.*

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**Solution:** The story presents faith as a double-edged sword. While Lencho's faith provides him hope, it also blinds him to the human effort behind his aid, suggesting a nuanced view that faith should not disregard reality.

## 9. Discuss the narrative technique used in 'A Letter to God'. How does the author's storytelling enhance the story's impact?

*Hint: Analyze how the story's structure and tone contribute to its message.*

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**Solution:** The author employs a simple, straightforward narrative that mirrors Lencho's uncomplicated worldview, while the ironic twist at the end adds depth, inviting readers to reflect on the themes of faith and human nature.

## 10. Imagine an alternative ending where Lencho discovers the truth about the money. How would this change the story's message?

*Hint: Consider how Lencho's character might evolve upon discovering the post office employees' role in his aid.*

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**Solution:** An alternative ending where Lencho learns the truth could shift the story's focus to gratitude and the recognition of human kindness, potentially offering a more optimistic view of humanity's capacity for good.

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