

Class X - English

**A Letter to God**

# CBSE NOTES

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

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# Mastery Questions

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## 1. Analyze the character of Lencho in 'A Letter to God'. How does his faith influence his actions and the outcome of the story?

*Hint: Consider Lencho's actions, his letter to God, and his reaction to the postmaster's help.*

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**Solution:** Lencho is portrayed as a naive yet deeply faithful farmer. His unwavering faith in God leads him to write a letter to God, asking for financial help after his crops are destroyed. This faith influences the postmaster and others to help him, showcasing the power of belief. However, Lencho's lack of trust in humans highlights his simplistic worldview.

## 2. Compare and contrast the attitudes of Lencho and the postmaster towards faith and humanity.

*Hint: Focus on their reactions to the situation and their beliefs about help and support.*

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**Solution:** Lencho's faith is absolute and directed solely towards God, disregarding human agency. In contrast, the postmaster, while amused by Lencho's letter, is moved by his faith to act humanely, collecting money to help him. This contrast underscores the theme of faith versus human kindness.

## 3. Discuss the irony in the story 'A Letter to God'. How does it contribute to the story's message?

*Hint: Think about Lencho's expectations versus reality and his reaction to the help he receives.*

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**Solution:** The irony lies in Lencho's unwavering faith in God, which leads him to blame the post office employees for the missing money, not considering that they were the ones who helped him. This irony highlights the blind spots in Lencho's faith and the complexities of human nature.

## 4. How does the setting contribute to the story's themes in 'A Letter to God'?

*Hint: Consider the description of the valley, the house, and the impact of nature on Lencho's life.*

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**Solution:** The isolated setting of Lencho's house in the valley mirrors his isolation in his faith. The natural disasters that affect his crops set the stage for his letter to God, emphasizing the themes of faith, desperation, and the human condition.

## 5. Evaluate the role of the postmaster in 'A Letter to God'. How does his character development affect the story?

*Hint: Look at the postmaster's initial reaction to the letter and his subsequent actions.*

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**Solution:** The postmaster starts as a skeptical figure but is transformed by Lencho's faith, choosing to help him. This change highlights the impact of genuine belief on others and introduces a layer of human kindness to the story.

## 6. What does the story 'A Letter to God' suggest about the nature of faith and its limits?

*Hint: Reflect on the outcomes of Lencho's faith and the postmaster's response.*

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**Solution:** The story suggests that faith can inspire and move people to act kindly, as seen with the postmaster. However, it also shows the limits of faith when it blinds individuals to the realities of human effort and kindness, as with Lencho's mistrust of the post office employees.

## 7. How does the author use metaphors in 'A Letter to God' to enhance the story's themes?

*Hint: Identify key metaphors in the story and analyze their meanings.*

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**Solution:** The author uses metaphors like 'new coins' for raindrops to illustrate Lencho's hopeful perspective, and 'salt' for hail to depict devastation. These metaphors enrich the narrative by vividly conveying Lencho's emotions and the story's contrasts.

## 8. Discuss the significance of the title 'A Letter to God'. How does it encapsulate the story's essence?

*Hint: Consider what the letter represents and its impact on the characters.*

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**Solution:** The title highlights the central action of the story—Lencho's letter to God—which sets the plot in motion. It encapsulates the themes of faith, communication, and the human desire for divine intervention in times of need.

## 9. What lessons can be drawn from 'A Letter to God' about human nature and belief?

*Hint: Think about the interactions between Lencho and the postmaster and the story's outcome.*

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**Solution:** The story teaches that while faith can be a powerful motivator, it should not blind individuals to the kindness and efforts of others. It also reflects on human nature's capacity for both skepticism and generosity.

## 10. Analyze the ending of 'A Letter to God'. How does it reinforce the story's themes?

*Hint: Consider Lencho's final actions and what they reveal about his character.*

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**Solution:** The ending, where Lencho remains ungrateful and suspicious of the post office employees, reinforces the themes of faith's limitations and the irony of human kindness being overlooked. It leaves the reader reflecting on the complexities of belief and gratitude.

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