

Class X - English

Words and Expressions - II

Two Stories about Flying

CBSE NOTES

Two Stories about Flying - Mastery Worksheet

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Solve the following questions. Write your answers in the space provided.

1. Compare and contrast the themes of fear and courage in 'His First Flight' and 'Black Aeroplane'.

Hint: Focus on the protagonists' reactions to fear and how they overcome it.

2. Analyze the role of family in 'His First Flight'. How does it compare to the lack of human interaction in 'Black Aeroplane'?

Hint: Consider the methods used by the seagull's family to motivate him versus the pilot's solitary struggle.



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Solve the following questions. Write your answers in the space provided.

3. Discuss the significance of the setting in both stories. How does it influence the plot and themes?

Hint: Think about how the natural elements in each story affect the characters' decisions.

4. Explain how 'His First Flight' can be seen as a coming-of-age story. Provide examples from the text.

Hint: Identify key moments that show the seagull's development.



Solve the following questions. Write your answers in the space provided.

5. What does the black aeroplane symbolize in 'Black Aeroplane'? Discuss its possible interpretations.

Hint: Consider the aeroplane's unexplained help and the pilot's reaction.

6. How do the endings of both stories reinforce their main themes?

Hint: Compare the clarity of the seagull's achievement with the ambiguity of the pilot's savior.



Solve the following questions. Write your answers in the space provided.

7. Describe the narrative style of both stories. How does it affect the reader's experience?

Hint: Note the point of view and how it shapes the story's tone.

8. What lessons can be derived from 'His First Flight' and 'Black Aeroplane' about facing challenges?

Hint: Extract the moral or life lesson from each story.



Solve the following questions. Write your answers in the space provided.

9. Compare the protagonists' transformations in both stories. What triggers their change?

Hint: Look at the catalysts for change in each protagonist.

10. Evaluate the role of mystery in 'Black Aeroplane'. How does it contribute to the story's impact?

Hint: Consider how the unresolved mystery affects the reader's engagement.



Check your answers with the solutions below.

1. Compare and contrast the themes of fear and courage in 'His First Flight' and 'Black Aeroplane'.

Solution: In 'His First Flight', the theme revolves around overcoming fear to achieve independence, symbolized by the young seagull's first flight. 'Black Aeroplane' explores fear in the context of the unknown and the courage to trust in mysterious circumstances. Both stories highlight the triumph over fear but differ in their settings and the nature of the challenges faced.

2. Analyze the role of family in 'His First Flight'. How does it compare to the lack of human interaction in 'Black Aeroplane'?

Solution: In 'His First Flight', the family plays a crucial role in encouraging the young seagull to overcome his fear, using both taunts and incentives. In contrast, 'Black Aeroplane' features a solitary pilot with no human interaction, emphasizing isolation and the mystery of the black aeroplane's assistance.

3. Discuss the significance of the setting in both stories. How does it influence the plot and themes?

Solution: The coastal setting in 'His First Flight' symbolizes freedom and the vast possibilities beyond fear, directly influencing the seagull's journey. The stormy night in 'Black Aeroplane' creates a tense atmosphere, enhancing the mystery and the pilot's reliance on the unknown aeroplane. Both settings are pivotal to the development of the plot and themes.

4. Explain how 'His First Flight' can be seen as a coming-of-age story. Provide examples from the text.

Solution: 'His First Flight' is a coming-of-age story as it depicts the young seagull's transition from dependence to independence. His initial fear of flying and eventual triumph symbolize personal growth. Examples include his family's taunts pushing him to try and his successful flight marking his maturity.



Check your answers with the solutions below.

5. What does the black aeroplane symbolize in 'Black Aeroplane'? Discuss its possible interpretations.

Solution: The black aeroplane can symbolize divine intervention, the pilot's subconscious, or a test of faith. Its mysterious appearance and disappearance leave its nature open to interpretation, adding depth to the story's theme of trust in the unknown.

6. How do the endings of both stories reinforce their main themes?

Solution: In 'His First Flight', the seagull's successful flight reinforces the theme of overcoming fear through perseverance. 'Black Aeroplane's' unresolved ending emphasizes the mystery and the theme of trust beyond understanding, leaving the reader to ponder the aeroplane's existence.

7. Describe the narrative style of both stories. How does it affect the reader's experience?

Solution: 'His First Flight' uses a straightforward, descriptive narrative that builds suspense towards the seagull's flight. 'Black Aeroplane' employs a first-person perspective, creating intimacy and immediacy, drawing the reader into the pilot's mysterious experience. Both styles effectively engage the reader but in different ways.

8. What lessons can be derived from 'His First Flight' and 'Black Aeroplane' about facing challenges?

Solution: Both stories teach the importance of facing fears and challenges with courage. 'His First Flight' shows that encouragement and persistence lead to growth, while 'Black Aeroplane' suggests that sometimes, trust in the unknown is necessary to overcome obstacles.



Check your answers with the solutions below.

9. Compare the protagonists' transformations in both stories. What triggers their change?

Solution: The young seagull's transformation is triggered by hunger and his family's taunts, leading to his first flight. The pilot's change is more subtle, marked by his decision to follow the black aeroplane, showing trust in the face of danger. Both transformations are pivotal to their survival.

10. Evaluate the role of mystery in 'Black Aeroplane'. How does it contribute to the story's impact?

Solution: Mystery is central to 'Black Aeroplane', as the unexplained presence and disappearance of the black aeroplane create suspense and leave the story open to interpretation. This ambiguity engages the reader's imagination, making the story memorable and thought-provoking.



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