



CLASS NOTES-ANSWERS

Comprehension Check

1. What are some of the signs of approaching winter referred to in the text?

Answer: Birds begin to migrate south, people crave new warm jackets and dead leaves begin to fall as winter approaches.

2. Write 'True' or 'False' against each of the following.

(i) Soapy did not want to go to prison.

(ii) Soapy had been to prison several times.

(iii) It was not possible for Soapy to survive in the city through the winter.

(iv) Soapy hated to answer questions of a personal nature.

Answer:

(i) False

(ii) True

(iii) False

(iv) True

3. What was Soapy's first plan? Why did it not work?

Answer: Soapy's initial idea was to have supper at a nice restaurant and then claim he didn't have any money, causing a cop to arrest him and a judge to sentence him to three months in Blackwell's Island prison. Because the head waiter observed his broken old shoes and ragged garments that covered his legs, this strategy failed. Soapy was turned around and escorted discreetly and quickly outside the restaurant by the restaurant administration.

4. "But the cop's mind would not consider Soapy". What did the cop not consider, and why?



Answer: The cop did not consider Soapy because the people who shatter windows do not stop to chat to cops. They flee as quickly as they can. The cops observed a man fleeing down the street and chased him down.

5. "We have orders to let them shout". What is the policeman referring to?

Answer: The officer was alluding to the directives allowing college students to shout as long as they did not cause harm. When Soapy shouted, assuming he was a college boy, the cop said this to a man standing close to him.

6. Write 'True' or 'False' against each of the following.

(i) Soapy stole a man's umbrella.

(ii) The owner of the umbrella offered to give it to Soapy.

(iii) The man had stolen the umbrella that was now Soapy's.

(iv) Soapy threw away the umbrella

Answer:

(i) True

(ii) False

(iii) True

(iv) True

7. "There was a sudden and wonderful change in his soul". What brought about the change in Soapy?

Answer: Soapy remembered his old days and his childhood life when he approached close to his old home. He saw his wasted days, his erroneous desires, his dead hopes, and his mind's lost power. His soul had a dramatic and marvellous transformation as a result of these events. His heart responded to the shift in his soul.

He would battle to change his life, to dig himself out of the dirt, and reclaim his manhood.



Discuss the following topics in groups.

1. Suppose no cop came at the end. What would Soapy's life be like through the winter?

Answer: There would have been huge and positive changes in his life if the cop hadn't arrived at the end. He would have sought out the man who had offered him a job and who was capable of leading a decent life in society. His whole life would have been affected by the changes in his soul, and he might have given up his bad habits if he had been resolute. Soapy was transformed into a respectful man at the end of the story, which was a nice ending.

2. Retell an episode in the story which is a good example of irony in a situation.

Answer: The story's most ironic scene occurs when Soapy returns to his former house. Its recollection changed his thoughts and transformed him into a strong, willing individual ready to make positive changes in his life.

"This was his childhood home," said the narrator. He could see a lovely light shining through one of the windows. That had been his living room, and it was there that he had spent many happy and calm moments. Soapy's ears were filled with sweet music that seemed to keep him there. Above me, the moon shone brightly and peacefully. Only a few folks were walking by. Birds could be heard high above him. And the music in the room kept Soapy there, for he recognized it from a long time ago. He had a loving mother and beautiful scenery in his life at the time, as well as high hopes, friends, clean ideas, and clean clothes. His soul underwent a miraculous transformation. With a sickening feeling, he realized he had chosen the wrong path in life. He saw his wasted days, his erroneous desires, his dead hopes, and his mind's lost power. In a flash, his heart responded to this shift in his soul. He would fight to make a difference in his life. He'd get out of the muck by pulling himself up. He'd re-establish himself as a man."

