



INDIAN SCHOOL AL WADI AL KABIR
QUESTION BANK

Class: VIII	Department: ENGLISH	August 2020
WORKSHEET NO:	Topic: After Twenty Years <i>by O. Henry</i>	Note: To be written in notebook

Q1. Answer the following questions.

1. Describe the policeman on the beat.
2. What did the man in the doorway tell him?
3. How did Bob describe Jimmy?
4. How did the patrolman know that Bob had done well in the West?
5. When did Bob realize that the man, he was talking to was not Jimmy Wells?
How did he react?

Q2. Reference to Context

1. ***He was a kind of plodder, though, good fellow as he was.***
 - a. Who said this and to whom?
 - b. What did he mean?
 - c. Was the speaker criticizing his friend?
2. ***'You're not Jimmy Wells!' he snapped. 'Twenty years is a long time, but not long enough to change a man's nose from a Roman's to a pug's.'***
 - a. Name the speaker.
 - b. Who was the speaker addressing?
 - c. Why did the speaker say this?

Q3. Think and Answer

1. 'Silky' Bob was a criminal wanted in Chicago. Yet, he came to the appointed place at the appointed hour to meet his friend after twenty years. What does this tell you about him?
2. Who was the real Jimmy Wells in the story? How do you know?
3. Why couldn't Jimmy arrest Bob?

4. Why do you think Bob's hand began to tremble when he read the note?
5. Do you think the inherent nature of a person can change with time and a good person can become a criminal? Explain.
6. Is a sense of duty more important than friendship? Write down your views.
7. Write a comparative analysis of the characters of Jimmy and Bob.

Hints: - *Loyalty and duty, on their need for different things- wealth for one and honesty for the other, feelings of both characters.*

Answers

Q1. 1. The policeman on the beat was watchful, walked with a slight swagger and twirled his club with many intricate movements.

2. The man in the doorway told the policeman he was waiting for his friend and that they had made the appointment 20 years ago.

3. Bob described Jimmy as the staunchest, truest chap in the world.

4. The patrolman knew that Bob had done well in the West because of the way he was dressed. He had a diamond pin in his scarf and his watch was studded with diamonds. He smoked a cigar.

3. Bob realized that the man he was talking to was not Jimmy Wells when they reached a store brilliantly lit up and turned to look at each other's faces. He reacted by saying he knew that the man in question was not Jimmy because the shape of his nose was not as it used to be and even twenty years does not change the shape of a nose.

Q2. 1. a. Bob said these lines about his friend Jimmy to the police officer doing the rounds.

b. He meant that he was a slow and steady kind of person who plodded his way dutifully through his work.

c. The speaker was not exactly criticizing his friend but was being a little judgmental.

2. a. The speaker is Bob.

b. The speaker was addressing the man he thought was his friend Jimmy but who turned out to be a plain clothed policeman.

c. The speaker was surprised that the man in question had linked arms with him and walked down the street with him talking about old times when he was not Jimmy.

Q3. 1. Silky Bob's actions in coming to meet his friend show that he kept his word, despite being a criminal.

2. The real Jimmy Wells in the story was the policeman. We know that

because of the note that was handed to Silky Bob where the policeman tells him that he saw his face when he struck a match, and realizing he was wanted by the Chicago police but not having the heart to arrest him himself he had sent a plain clothed man to do so.

3. Jimmy could not arrest Bob because of their old friendship which Bob, despite being a criminal, had honoured by turning up at the appointed place and time.

4. Bob's hand began to tremble when he read the note because he felt emotional.

5. A person's nature does not usually change that much but circumstances or the choices people make is what turns them into criminals.

For 6. and 7. *Please write down your views with the help of the hints given.*