



INDIAN SCHOOL AL WADI AL KABIR  
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH  
QUESTION BANK - (2020-21)

**RANGA'S MARRIAGE - by Masti Venkatesha Iyengar**

Class: XI

Sub: ENGLISH

**SUMMARY**

Ranga's Marriage, by Masti Venkatesha Iyengar, is a story about a boy who returns to his village after receiving education from Bangalore.

The story is a first person narrative and a major portion of the story is in flash back. The speaker directly addresses the reader. The narrator is a neighbour of the protagonist. He introduces the story with a difference by first giving a detailed description of their village Hoshalli. He praises the mangoes from his village. He asks the reader if they have ever heard of the village. He replies to the question himself, for the village was not located in any of the maps for the English babus and the ones in our country forgot to put it there. Then he introduces Rangappa called 'Ranga', the protagonist, in a time ten years ago. Ranga had gone to Bangalore for studies and returned home after six months. It was the time when English was not popular a language and few people used it. All used to converse in Kannada.

All the villagers arrived at Ranga's place and began scrutinising him. To their dismay, he was still the same old Ranga and they dispersed. However, the narrator stayed back and shared a few thoughts with the boy and then left. Later in the afternoon, Ranga arrived at the narrator's home with a few oranges. The narrator judged the boy and felt it appropriate to get such a well-educated and humble boy married. However, Ranga had no plans to settle down as a married man. He put forward his views on marriage. He told the narrator that he wanted to get married to a girl who is mature and someone he could admire.

Ranga left after the discussion and the narrator decided then that he would get the boy married. Determined, he began considering Rama Rao's niece Ratna the eleven- year orphan, as a suitable bride for Ranga. She was from a big town and knew how to play veena and harmonium. He came up with a plan and arranges a meeting. He notices Ranga's reaction and interest in her.

The narrator was happy as his plan was working. As his next step, the next day the narrator took Ranga to an astrologer called Shastri who he had already tutored on what to say. It was the meeting with the astrologer when the narrator's name 'Shyama' is disclosed. The astrologer pretended to make some calculations and declared that Ranga was in love with a girl who had a name of something found in the ocean. Shyama said it could be Ratna, Rama Rao's niece. Ranga's smile was not hidden from Shyama. Ranga by then had admitted that he had been attracted to the girl.

The story moves forward and returns to the present. Rangappa came one day to the narrator, inviting him to his son Shyama's third birthday. Obviously, Ratna and Ranga had been married. And now they have a three years old son whom Ranga named after the narrator.

**Characters in the story**

- 1. Ranga- the son of an accountant, first to get educated outside his village, at Bangalore.**
- 2. Shyama- Ranga's neighbor. He is impressed by Ranga's cultured behaviour and plans a strategy to get Ranga married.**
- 3. Ratna- the eleven-year old orphan girl staying with her uncle, Rama Rao.**
- 4. Shastri- the village astrologer who is tutored by Shyama to get the desired outcome.**