



INDIAN SCHOOL AL WADI AL KABIR

Class: VIII	Department: ENGLISH	November 2020
WORKSHEET NO:	Topic: The Open Window (MCB) Study Notes	Note: To be written in notebook

Think and answer

1. What was the first question that Mrs. Sappleton's niece, Vera, asked Mr. Nuttel? Why do you think that she asked him that question?

The first question Vera asked Mr. Nuttel was 'Do you know many people around here?' She probably asked him this question to ascertain how well he knew the people of the neighbourhood so that she could tailor her story accordingly.

2. What is the story about? Is it about the window that was open or Vera's uncanny ability to fabricate stories? Give reasons for your answer.

The story is about Vera's ability to fabricate far-fetched stories. We know this because she has an unlikely but plausible explanation for Mr. Nuttel's hasty departure which is just as bizarre a story as she made up for Mr. Nuttel to account for the open window.

3. The story ends with an unexpected twist that changes the mood of the story completely. What is the mood in the beginning and how does the story end?

The unexpected twist that changes the mood of the story is the tale that Vera tells about Mr. Nuttel. It changes the mood of the story from the tragic and supernatural to comical.

4. Some teenagers are given to making up stories in order to add a little amusement to their lives. Is this a harmless pastime or can it have dangerous consequences? What is your opinion about such a tendency among youngsters?

Making up these kinds of stories can have dangerous consequences for those who hear them. Since they are stories made up about actual people, they fall into the category of lies. Vera would be better employed writing down these stories than playing tricks on all the unsuspecting adults around her.

Saki's short story, entitled "The Open Window," presents several conflicts. The first one is probably *man (or the individual) vs society*. Mr. Nuttel has come from the city to rest because of a nervous disorder. We can infer that this is caused primarily due to city life has he has left the city to rest in the country.

We might venture to infer that *man vs self* is also represented in Nuttel's case as he struggles to deal with a specific aspect of his personal health, which he seems unable to control on his own. *Man vs man is also present*, as Mr. Nuttel has come under some sincere criticism from his sister who does not want him to bury himself alone in the country.

"The Open Window" is told from a **third-person narrative perspective**, and the narrative voice has a gentle, humorous, witty **tone** to it.

Even though there are several examples of different kinds of conflict, the **mood** of the story is not filled with the tension often found in a story with so much conflict, although these conflicts do introduce a sense of mystery and fear, as well as excitement—in the reader.

Extended learning:

In the story we saw Vera's skill in narrating her fabricated story in a convincing way. In the world of business too, we see how advertisements are made to not only entice the customer, but also impress upon them the benefits of the product and create a 'demand' for it first in the minds of the customer.

CREATE AN ADVERTISEMENT FOR A PRODUCT THAT IS USED BY STUDENTS.
MENTION ITS FEATURES AND WHY IT IS BETTER THAN OTHER SIMILAR PRODUCTS.

Instructions for the Ad assignment

- - Use an A4 sheet (google doc or word document)
- - Not more than 3 images to be used
- - Not more than 30-40 words
- - Make it appealing, convincing and catchy