



INDIAN SCHOOL AL WADI AL KABIR

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

CLASS IX
2021-22

TOPIC: THE LAST LEAF

QUESTION BANK

MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS

1. Johnsy was suffering from _____.
(a) **pneumonia**
(b) malaria
(c) a headache
(d) stomach pain
2. What was Johnsy looking at out of the window?
(a) **an ivy creeper**
(b) a mango tree
(c) a rose plant
(d) a banana tree
3. What will happen when the last leaf will fall?
(a) Sue will die
(b) **Johnsy will die**
(c) Behrman will die
(d) all of the above
4. Who painted the leaf on the wall?
(a) Sue
(b) Johnsy
(c) **Behrman**
(d) all of the above
5. Who has looked after Johnsy so well?
(a) **Sue**
(b) Behrman
(c) Johnsy's mother
(d) Johnsy's father
6. What did Behrman die of?
(a) fever
(b) heart attack
(c) cholera
(d) **pneumonia**
7. What was Behrman's masterpiece?
(a) painting a picture of sue

- (b) painting a picture of Johnsy
- (c) **painting a picture of a leaf**
- (d) all of the above

8. Why was Johnsy making a painting?

- (a) to present it to Johnsy
- (b) to present it to Behrman
- (c) **to earn some money**
- (d) to put it in her room

9. Where did Behrman spend his night to make his masterpiece?

- (a) in a hotel
- (b) on a mountain
- (c) **in a heavy storm**
- (d) none

10. Mention the reasons for depression in teenagers.

- (a) peer pressure
- (b) poor performance in the exams
- (c) inability to live upto parents' expectations
- (d) **all**

11. According to the doctors what was the cure to her illness?

- (a) medicines
- (b) strong medicines
- (c) love and care
- (d) **her own willingness to live**

12. What was Behrman's dream?

- (a) to travel the world
- (b) **to paint a masterpiece**
- (c) to make a colorful painting
- (d) to make a poster

13. What misconception had Johnsy developed in her mind?

- (a) she was great
- (b) she can't be cured
- (c) **she would die with the fall of last the leaf on the creeper**
- (d) all

14. When was Behrman able to make his dream true?

- (a) **when he painted the last leaf on ivy**
- (b) when he died
- (c) when he thought of Johnsy
- (d) none

15. What happened to Behrman after he painted his masterpiece?

- (a) **drenched and died of pneumonia**
- (b) he felt proud and happy
- (c) was honoured
- (d) none

SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS: -

1. How did Sue react to the doctor's advice?

Clearly, the doctor's grim warning about the Johnsy's slim chances of survival unsettled Sue. She was in a quandary thinking about the way she could make Johnsy give up her lost desire to recover. But, being a pragmatic and tenacious person, she was determined to pull her dear friend out of the abyss of despair. She held back her anguish and began to think positive.

2. What was bothering Johnsy as she lay in her sick bed?

Pneumonia had ravaged Johnsy's body and mind. The acute suffering robbed her of all desire to patiently wait out the crisis. She convinced herself that the time to depart had indeed come. She became obsessed with an old vine creeper that was shedding leaves one by one due to seasonal reasons. Quite illogically, she linked the dwindling number of vine leaves to her remaining life span. She concluded that the fall of the last leaf would herald the arrival of her death. Thus, she waited, quite foolishly, for the last leaf to fall.

3. What was Behrman's dream? Did it come true?

Behrman's lifelong dream was to create a masterpiece in painting that could look perfect. It comes true when he paints an ivy leaf which looks a replica of a real leaf and saves a young life and fulfils Behrman's ambition too. Unfortunately, it costs him his life.

4. How is 'the last leaf' the artists' masterpiece? What makes you say so?

"The Last Leaf" is definitely the artist's masterpiece because it seems real and natural. The painting also rekindles hope and willpower in a person who had lost the desire to live.

5. What is Johnsy's illness? What can cure her, the medicine or the willingness to live?

Johnsy, a young artist, was ill. She was suffering from pneumonia. But later on she suffered from a misconception that she would die as soon as the last leaf on the creeper would fall down. The medicine had no effect on her. Her willingness to live could cure her.

6. Do you think the feeling of depression Johnsy has is common among teenagers?

Life has two aspects i.e. positive and negative. It depends upon us how we take it. Nowadays it is very common that teenagers are getting depressed because of cut-throat competition. On the other hand, a majority of teenagers who take life positively and faces difficulties boldly never lose hope and proceed further.

7. Behrman has a dream. What is it? Does it come true?

Behrman had a dream to paint a masterpiece in his life. He kept waiting for the opportunity to give it a practical shape. Yes, he could materialize his dream when he painted the last leaf of the ivy creeper.

8. What is Behrman's masterpiece? What makes Sue say so?

Behrman was a 60-year old artist who had a dream to paint a masterpiece. His painting of an ivy leaf was his masterpiece which saved the life of Johnsy. It was such a painting that it was not easy to make out whether the leaf was real or it was just a painting. When Behrman died painting this life-saving painting, Sue called it a masterpiece.

LONG ANSWER QUESTIONS:

1. What was the reason for Johnsy's deteriorating health?

Johnsy suffered an attack of pneumonia in the cold winter month of November. Her illness made her so weak that she went into depression. She would lie still on her bed and keep gazing out of the window. The autumn added to her gloom when she saw the trees shedding leaves. She began to associate her death with the falling leaves and this negative thought deteriorated her health. When she gave up all hope on life, she refused to eat anything and medicines lost their effect. According to the doctor, her recovery depended on her willingness to live. In the absence of determination to get well soon even the medicines failed to affect positively.

2. How did Behrman save Johnsy's life?

Behrman saved Johnsy's life by sacrificing himself at the altar of art. "The Last Leaf" is about his extreme sacrifice that infuses life in a young depressed woman. Johnsy's illness was serious but could be cured if she had the will to live. Her falling health was more due to her state of depression than pneumonia. The sixty-year old painter Behrman took upon himself the difficult responsibility of saving Johnsy. He made a single-handed effort to brave the icy winds and rain to reach the window by climbing a ladder and finally paint a fresh and green leaf that looked natural and real. The readiness with which he gave up his life shows that art unparalleled commitment to talent. He painted the leaf with such passion that it revived the sinking breath of Johnsy. He thus saved Johnsy's life by sacrificing his own.

3. The Last Leaf' is a story of supreme sacrifice by a wretched drunken artist. Comment

OR

Who was Behrman? What was his masterpiece and why did he paint it?

Sue and Johnsy were two young girl-artists. They lived together in the artists' colony. Once Johnsy caught pneumonia. She developed a fancy that she would die when the last leaf on the ivy creeper fell. The doctor said that she should take interest in life and wish to live only then she could be saved. Behrman was an old painter. He lived on the ground floor beneath them. He was a failure in art. For forty years he had been trying to paint a masterpiece, but he had not yet started. He came to know of Johnsy's fancy. The night the last leaf fell, he painted a leaf on the wall; He worked all night in the air and snow and painted the leaf. The next morning, Johnsy saw the leaf on the wall: Her will to live returned. Her life was saved. But Behrman caught pneumonia and died. Thus, he sacrificed his life and saved Johnsy's life. The last leaf painted on the wall was his masterpiece.

4. In "The Last Leaf" why did Sue cry bitterly when the doctor had gone? Later she walked into Johnsy's room whistling a cheerful tune. Why?

OR

What was Johnsy's real ailment? What were the chances of her recovery?

Sue and Johnsy were two young girls. They were painters. They lived like sisters. One day, Johnsy had an attack of pneumonia. Her condition worsened. She didn't have the will to live. One day, the doctor told Sue that Johnsy's disease was psychological also. She did not want to live. In such a condition, no medicine could work. If she did not get back the will to live, her chances of recovery were only one out of ten. When Sue heard this, she felt very sad. She cried bitterly as soon as the doctor had gone. But the next moment she entered Johnsy's room, whistling. Sue did so because she wanted to cheer up Johnsy.

5. What did Johnsy believe about the falling leaves? Did Sue believe the same thing?

Sue and Johnsy were two young artist girls. They had a joint studio. They loved each other like sisters. One day, Johnsy caught pneumonia. There was an ivy creeper on the back wall of the next house. Johnsy could see it through her window. The leaves of this creeper were falling fast in the cold winds. Johnsy developed a fancy that she would also die when the last leaf of the creeper fell. She lost the will to live. Sue came to know of Johnsy's fancy. She tried her best to cheer up Johnsy. She told her that there was no link between the falling of leaves and her death. She nursed Johnsy with love and care. She told Behrman about Johnsy's fancy. Behrman was a painter. He painted a leaf on the wall when the last leaf fell. This saved Johnsy's life. Thus, Sue played an important role in saving Johnsy's life.

6. Behrman's masterpiece helped Johnsy to survive. Explain how the last leaf influenced Johnsy?

The story reveals Behrman's sacrifice. He was a poor old artist. He had a dream to paint a masterpiece. Once Johnsy fell ill and established a bond of her life with the ivy leaves. One day, Sue found her whispering this. Sue looked after Johnsy and she informed Behrman about her condition. It was a stormy night and there was a single leaf on the creeper. Behrman thought that the leaf would fall that stormy night. So he decided to paint the leaf on the wall. He painted the leaf so beautifully that it looked natural. But he got pneumonia that night and died two days after his painting. Hence, this story becomes the story of supreme sacrifice.

REFERENCE TO CONTEXT:

Read the following extracts and answer the questions that follow

(I) She talked about clothes and fashions, but Johnsy did not respond. Johnsy continued to lie still on her bed. She brought her drawing-board into Johnsy's room and started painting.

(a) Why did Sue talk about clothes and fashion?

Ans: Sue talked about clothes and fashion because she was trying to cheer up Johnsy who was depressed due to her illness.

(b) Why did Johnsy continue to lie still on her bed?

Ans: Johnsy was suffering from pneumonia and was weak and depressed. So she continued to lie still in her bed.

(c) Why did Sue bring her drawing-board into Johnsy's room?

Ans: Sue brought her drawing-board into Johnsy's room to give her company and help her not to feel lonely.

(d) Which value of Sue's character is revealed through these lines?

Ans: These lines reveal Sue's value as a true friend. She makes special efforts to divert her friend's mind away from negative thoughts.

(II) He was a sixty-year-old painter. His lifelong dream was to paint a masterpiece but that had remained a dream. Sue poured out her worries to Behrman.

(a) Who is being talked about here? The person being talked about here is Mr. Behrman.

Ans: Sue and Johnsy's neighbour, who lived on the ground floor of the same building where the two girls lived.

(b) What was his lifelong dream? Why had it remained unfulfilled so far?

Ans: His lifelong dream was to paint a masterpiece. It had remained unfulfilled so far because he had not found any opportunity or inspiration to paint the masterpiece.

(c) Why did Sue pour out her worries to Behrman?

Ans: Sue poured out her worries to Behrman because she was alarmed at her friend, Johnsy's deteriorating condition and wanted guidance and support from the elderly well-wisher.

(d) Why do you think Behrman listened to Sue?

Ans: Mr. Behrman, the old painter, listened to Sue because he was a compassionate person and a good neighbour.

(III) Sue hugged Johnsy. Then she gave her lots of hot soup and a mirror. Johnsy combed her hair and smiled brightly.

(a) When did Sue hug Johnsy? Why?

Ans: Sue hugged Johnsy because she was happy to get a positive response from her for the first time after her illness. This raised hope about Johnsy's recovery.

(b) Why did Sue give her soup?

Ans: Sue gave her soup to replenish her energy since a depressed Johnsy had not been eating properly since her illness.

(c) Why did Sue give her a mirror too?

Ans: Sue gave Johnsy a mirror too so that Johnsy could comb her hair and make her appearance brighter and better.

(d) What made Johnsy smile brightly?

Ans: The kindled hope of her recovery and survival made Johnsy smile brightly.