



INDIAN SCHOOL AL WADI AL KABIR

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

Class: Grade VIII	Topic: AFTER TWENTY YEARS	ANSWER KEY
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Answer the following questions

Q1. Describe the appearance of the policeman on the beat.

Ans: The policeman moved up the street of his duty in a very impressive manner. He had alert eyes and strong figure with a proud manner. It made him a fine picture of a guardian of peace. He also kept spinning his stick while doing his duty.

Q2. What did the man in the doorway tell him?

Ans: The man standing near the hardware store talked about the peculiar appointment with his friend that had made twenty years back in that venue.

Q3. How did Bob describe Jimmy?

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

Q4. How did the patrolman know that Bob had done well in the West?

Ans: 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.

Q5. When did Bob realize that the man, he was talking to was not Jimmy Wells?
How did he react?

Ans: Bob realized that the man he was talking to was not Jimmy Wells when they reached a drug store brilliantly lit up and turned to look at each other's faces. He reacted by saying he knew that the man in front of him 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 one's nose.

Reference to Context

1. *He was a kind of plodder, though, good fellow as he was.*

- Who said this and to whom?
- What did he mean?
- Was the speaker criticizing his friend?

Answer:

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. *'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.'*
- a. Name the speaker.
 - b. Who was the speaker addressing?
 - c. Why did the speaker say this?

Answer:

2. a. The speaker is Bob.
- b. The speaker was addressing the man he thought was his friend Jimmy, but he turned out to be a policeman in plain clothes.
- c. The speaker was surprised that the man he had linked arms with and walked down the street talking about old times, actually he was not his friend Jimmy.

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:

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 honored 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 Q 6. and 7. Please write down your views with the help of the hints given above.

TRUE OR FALSE

- a. The cop suddenly slowed his walk, when he heard the barking of dogs. False
- b. The friends grew up together in the city of New York. True
- c. Both Jimmy and Bob were of the same age. False
- d. The friends parted one night after watching a movie together. False
- e. The friends could not keep in touch because they lost each other's phone numbers. False
- f. Bob wanted to stay for half an hour more than the appointed time. True
- g. Jimmy grew a little taller after he was twenty. True
- h. Bob realized that the tall man was not Jimmy Wells from the shape of his nose. True

CHOOSE THE RIGHT OPTION

1. Who is the author of "After 20 Years"?
 - a) William Cowper
 - b) Ruskin Bond
 - c) **William Sydney Porter**
 - d) Sarojini Naidu
2. The story tells that when they were young men, Bob and Jimmy ...
 - a) were the same
 - b) didn't care about each other
 - c) **were very close friends**
 - d) couldn't stand each other

3. What was the man that the policeman saw standing at the door of a shop doing?
- a) **He was waiting for his friend.**
 - b) He was asking for directions.
 - c) He was trying to enter the shop.
 - d) He was waiting to go home.
4. Why did the man and his friend Jimmy separate when they were young?
- a) The man wanted to stay in New York.
 - b) The man wanted to find new friends.
 - c) Jimmy did not want to stay in New York.
 - d) **The man wanted to try his fortune outside New York**
5. Where did the friend move?
- a) **West**
 - b) South
 - c) New York
 - d) New Wales
6. Bob is a -----.
- a) **Criminal**
 - b) Policeman
 - c) Salesman
 - d) waiter
7. How long has it been since the friends have not seen each other?
- a) 25 years
 - b) 10 years
 - c) **20 years**
 - d) 1 year
8. What part of the story is it when Bob reads Jimmy's letter and realizes his friend turned him in?
- a) exposition
 - b) **climax**
 - c) resolution
 - d) rising action
9. Choose the correct meaning of '*proposition*'?
- a) most reliable
 - b) complex and elaborate
 - c) **something that has to be dealt with**

d) main road

10. Jimmy Wells had his egotism enlarged by success. What is the meaning of 'egotism'?

- a) wait for only a certain time only
- b) spoken in a sharp tone
- c) moving about
- d) a sense of self- importance**

11. on the beat:

- a) moving around hitting everyone with a stick
- b) on duty walking around the assigned area**
- c) marching with his heart beating fast

12. guardian of peace:

- a) a watchman
- b) a holy man
- c) a policeman**

13. arm in arm:

- a) with arms linked together**
- b) with weapons in hands
- c) with handcuffs on wrists

14. plainclothes man:

- a) a man who wears simple clothes for grand occasions
- b) a policeman in civilian clothes while on duty**
- c) a cine artist in ordinary costumes