

#### 4. RAT TRAP

Q. No	Question	Marks
<b>Multiple Choice Question</b>		
Q.20	<p><i>But even so, the business was not especially profitable, so he had to resort to both begging and petty thievery to keep body and soul together.</i></p> <p>Which sentence DOES NOT use the idiom <u>to keep body and soul together</u> in the same way as used in the above line from the story 'The Rattrap'?</p> <p>A. Before Independence, we hardly earned enough to keep body and soul together.</p> <p>B. Without Mark's support, it will be all we can do to keep body and soul together.</p> <p>C. With a rejuvenating spa session, I can definitely keep body and soul together.</p> <p>D. She could barely keep body and soul together, let alone support her family.</p>	1
Q.21	<p>In 'The Rattrap', why did the peddler sign off as Captain von Stahle in his letter to Edla?</p> <p>A. because in those days, Edla knew that it was highly respectable to address someone like that</p> <p>B. because it was the name of the person the ironmaster and Edla had mistaken him for</p> <p>C. because Edla had raised him to the position of Captain with her kind nature</p> <p>D. because it was his real name but he had hidden his true identity from Edla</p>	1
Q.22	<p>In 'The Rattrap', which of these did the peddler think were his rattraps?</p> <p>(I) the entire forest</p> <p>(II) the crofter's profitable cow</p> <p>(III) the crofter's hanging wallet</p>	1

	<p>(IV) the ironmaster's offer of food and lodging</p> <p>(V) the ironmaster's daughter's kindness and acceptance</p> <p>A. (I) and (II)</p> <p>B. (III) and (IV)</p> <p>C. (I), (III) and (V)</p> <p>D. (II), (III) and (IV)</p>	
Q.23	<p>Based on the ending of the story 'The Rattrap', what is its central theme?</p> <p>A. man's inherent goodness</p> <p>B. man's opportunistic tendencies</p> <p>C. man's perspective of the world as one big trap</p> <p>D. man's determination to change his circumstances</p>	1
Q.24	<p>In 'The Rattrap', why did the peddler choose one of his own rattraps as a Christmas present for Edla?</p> <p>A. It was a symbol of how he had escaped all of life's traps successfully.</p> <p>B. It was a useful gift that would serve the actual purpose of catching rats in the house.</p> <p>C. It was meant to be a reminder to Edla of how easy it is for someone to get trapped in this world.</p> <p>D. It was his handiwork that he wanted Edla to have as it symbolised his transformation to an honest man.</p>	1
<b>Free Response Question/Subjective Type</b>		
Q.25	<p><i>He had naturally been thinking of his rattraps when suddenly he was struck by the idea that the whole world about him — the whole world with its lands and seas, its cities and villages — was nothing but a big rattrap. It had never existed for any other purpose than to set baits for people.</i></p> <p>What does having this insight that the whole world <i>was nothing but a big rattrap</i> tell us about the peddler? Answer in 20–30 words with reference to 'The Rattrap'.</p>	2
Q.26	<p>How did the peddler's feelings change after robbing the crofter and why? With reference to 'The Rattrap', state your response in 20–30 words.</p>	2

Q.27	Many people we meet in life leave a lasting impression on our minds. In the story, 'The Rattrap', how is the peddler affected by his meetings with the crofter and later, with Edla? Answer in 100–120 words with evidence from the text.	5
Q.28	<i>The story 'The Rattrap' shows the loneliness of many characters and the human need to bond with others in society.</i>  In 100–120 words, explain any three instances to prove the above statement.	5
Q.29	In the story 'The Rattrap', both Edla and the old crofter offer the peddler hospitality but it is Edla's treatment that changes him. In around 40 words, state a reason for why Edla was able to bring about a change in him.	2

## Answer Key & Marking Scheme

Q. No	Answers	Marks
Q.20	C. With a rejuvenating spa session, I can definitely keep body and soul together.	1
Q.21	C. because Edla had raised him to the position of Captain with her kind nature	1
Q.22	B. (III) and (IV)	1
Q.23	A. man's inherent goodness	1
Q.24	D. It was his handiwork that he wanted Edla to have as it symbolised his transformation to an honest man.	1
Q.25	<p><b>Sample Answer:</b> The peddler having this insight that the whole world was nothing but a big rattrap tells us that the peddler was quite a philosopher and has had many experiences in life which led him to think this way.</p> <p><b>Content</b></p> <p>◆ States what having this insight tells us about the (peddler was quite a philosopher/had many teaching moments/experiences in life/harsh reality/insightful)</p> <p><i>Accept any other valid interpretation.</i></p> <p><b>Expression</b></p> <p>◆ Presents a logical connection between the ideas [0.50 marks]</p> <p>◆ Uses correct grammar, spelling and other language mechanics [0.50 marks]</p> <p><i>Award the full allotted marks if both the criteria have been met.</i></p> <p><i>Award half of the allotted marks if only one criteria has been met.</i></p> <p><i>Award 0 marks if none of the criteria have been met.</i></p>	2
Q.26	<p><b>Sample Answer:</b> Initially, the peddler was quite pleased with his ingenuity. Later, however, he realised the risk of being caught by the police. Eventually, he recalled his thoughts about the world being a rattrap and how he had let himself be fooled by a bait and would now be caught.</p> <p><b>Content</b></p>	2

	<p>◆ States the change in the peddler's feelings and its (initially - excited/pleased with himself/driven by greed/impulsive/happy/thinking he's very smart eventually - regretful/disappointed/worried/reflective) <i>Accept any other valid response.</i></p> <p><b><u>Expression</u></b></p> <p>◆ Presents a logical connection between the ideas [0.50 marks]</p> <p>◆ Uses correct grammar, spelling and other language mechanics [0.50 marks]</p> <p><i>Award the full allotted marks if both the criteria have been met.</i> <i>Award half of the allotted marks if only one criteria has been met.</i> <i>Award 0 marks if none of the criteria have been met.</i></p>	
Q.27	<p><b>Sample Answer:</b> The good people we meet in life always make an impression on us. Even a stranger's compassionate understanding can transform a person and bring out his/her inherent human goodness. This was also the case with the peddler, whose chance meeting with the crofter and Edla brought about a positive transformation in him.</p> <p>The widowed old crofter was extremely warm and welcoming to the peddler. Despite his hospitality, the peddler stole from him and broke his trust. He later recalled how kind and generous the crofter had been to him, and how he had repaid him for it. He felt guilty and ashamed of his actions and hence returned the money at the end of the story.</p> <p>The young girl, Edla, too treated him with kindness despite knowing his true identity. She even went against her father's wish so that the stranger could continue staying at their home.</p> <p>The peddler who had always considered the world to be a rattrap that ensnared anyone weak enough to fall for it, felt free from this trap due to the generosity and sympathetic attitude of the crofter and Edla towards him. In the end, he leaves behind a letter of gratitude for Edla with a Christmas gift and the money he had stolen from the crofter, to be returned to its rightful owner.</p> <p><b><u>Content</u></b></p> <p>◆ States how the peddler is affected by his meetings with the crofter and Edla</p>	5

	<p>(- with the crofter who showed kindness to the peddler/betrays him by stealing his money/later is guilty and ashamed of his actions/mends his ways</p> <p>- with Edla who showed kindness /he writes a letter of gratitude/tries to live up to her expectations/</p> <p>- after meeting these people, the peddler shows a positive change/becomes a transformed man)</p> <p><i>Accept any other valid answer supported by the story.</i></p> <p><b><u>Organisation</u></b></p> <p>◆ Presents a logical connection between the ideas</p> <p><i>Award the full allotted marks if the criteria has been met.</i></p> <p><i>Award half of the allotted marks if the criteria needs improvement.</i></p> <p><i>Award 0 marks if the criteria has not been met.</i></p> <p><b><u>Language Mechanics</u></b></p> <p>◆ Uses correct grammar, spelling and other language mechanics</p> <p><i>Award the full allotted marks if there are only one or two minor errors.</i></p> <p><i>Award half of the allotted marks if there is one major error.</i></p> <p><i>Award 0 marks if there is more than one major error.</i></p>	
Q.28	<p><b>Sample Answer:</b> One of the main themes of the story is of loneliness. All the characters of the story — whether it was Edla, the ironmaster, the crofter or the peddler — were victims of loneliness.</p> <p>The peddler is a lonely man who has always been shunned by society's cold and bitter attitude. When he goes knocking at the old cottage door, little does he expect the hospitality that he eventually receives.</p> <p>The crofter welcomes him with open arms, as he is thrilled to have someone to talk to, after so long. He serves the peddler hot food, gives him tobacco for his pipe and plays a game of cards with him as well. He is an excellent host who goes on to share some secrets with the stranger too.</p> <p>The ironmaster and his daughter, on the other hand, miss having company and this makes Edla extend this invitation to the peddler.</p> <p>Thus, the need for human bonding emerges as one of the main themes of the story.</p> <p><b><u>Content</u></b></p> <p>◆ Identifies the characters in the story that exhibit loneliness [1 mark]</p>	5

	<p>(peddler/crofter/ironmaster/Edla)</p> <p><i>Accept any other valid answer supported by the story.</i></p> <p>◆ Supports the given statement with any three pieces of textual evidence [2 marks]</p> <p>(- peddler goes into his own meditations as he is lonely/peddler looks for shelter/is happy to stay with the crofter/accepts Edla's invitation to stay at her home</p> <p>- crofter is a widower/lives alone/welcomes stranger/is very hospitable and trusting of him</p> <p>- Edla and her father are lonely/crave company during festive season/allow peddler to stay on despite knowing his reality/extend future invitations to him too)</p> <p><i>Accept any other valid answer supported by the story.</i></p> <p><b><u>Organisation</u></b></p> <p>◆ Presents a logical connection between the ideas</p> <p><i>Award the full allotted marks if the criteria has been met.</i></p> <p><i>Award half of the allotted marks if the criteria needs improvement.</i></p> <p><i>Award 0 marks if the criteria has not been met.</i></p> <p><b><u>Language Mechanics</u></b></p> <p>◆ Uses correct grammar, spelling and other language mechanics</p> <p><i>Award the full allotted marks if there are only one or two minor errors.</i></p> <p><i>Award half of the allotted marks if there is one major error.</i></p> <p><i>Award 0 marks if there is more than one major error.</i></p>	
Q.29	<p><b>Sample Answer:</b> I think Edla's treatment changed the peddler because she was a kind hostess to him even after she found out who he really was: a poor man who had lied about his identity. This acceptance is what motivated him to be better.</p> <p><b><u>Content</u></b></p> <p>◆ States a reason for why Edla's treatment changed the peddler</p> <p>(she accepted the peddler for who he was/she trusted the peddler to be in their house after knowing who he was/she stood up to her father for him/she upheld her principles of kindness and charity in the face of actual events/she chose kindness over discrimination/she treated the peddler with</p>	2

	<p>respect which made the peddler want to be someone who could be respected)</p> <p><i>Accept any other valid response.</i></p> <p><b><u>Expression</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Presents a logical connection between the ideas [0.50 marks]</li> <li>◆ Uses correct grammar, spelling and other language mechanics [0.50 marks]</li> </ul> <p><i>Award the full allotted marks if both the criteria have been met.</i></p> <p><i>Award half of the allotted marks if only one criteria has been met.</i></p> <p><i>Award 0 marks if none of the criteria have been met.</i></p>	
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