

Chapter Analysis

| Question Type & Marks | Year | | | | | |
|--------------------------|------|----|------|----|------|----|
| | 2016 | | 2017 | | 2018 | |
| | D | OD | D | OD | D | OD |
| SA | - | - | 2 | 1 | - | - |
| LA | 1 | 1 | - | - | 1 | 1 |

Introduction :

It is not unusual for teenagers to dream. They aspire to reach the sky. They feel that they can do the impossible. During this period of their lives, they usually look upon someone as their role model. They worship them as heroes.

Sophie is a teenager. She is in school. She belongs to a lower middle-class family. She is a dreamer. She wishes to have the finest boutique in the city. She has no money and no means either. Her friend and classmate Jansie is a practical girl. She is aware of the realities of life. She advises her not to indulge in fantasies. Having a boutique needs a lot of money. Sophie hopes to be a manager and save money to have a boutique. She is an incorrigible dreamer. She even dreams of becoming an actress or a fashion designer. Danny Casey, a young football player is Sophie's hero. She is always thinking of him. She begins to believe that she had actually met him. Danny Casey is the cause of her hopes and disappointments.

Summary :

Sophie and Jansie are classmates and friends. After a few months, they will be out of school. Sophie is a day-dreamer. She tells Jansie that after school, she will have a boutique. Jansie tells her that she will need a lot of money to have a boutique. But Sophie is not discouraged. She says that she will be a manager and then she will save money. She hopes to be a fashion designer or an actress too. Jansie becomes sad. She knows they have no other option but to work in a biscuit factory.

At home, Sophie declares that when she earns some money she will have a boutique. Her father, who was back from the day's work, while eating a shepherd's pie retorted that he would thank her if she could buy a decent house for the family. Her younger brother Derek also scoffs at her impractical idea. He remarks that she thinks money grows on trees. Her mother who is bent over the sink, could only sigh. Sophie feels uncomfortable and leaves the room. She goes to her elder brother Geoff with whom she can comfortably share her secrets.

Danny Casey is a young football player. He is Irish and plays for the United. He is her hero. She thinks of him all the time. She tells Geoff that she had chance meeting with Danny Casey in the arcade. She asked Casey to give her an autograph. But neither of them had a pen and paper. Geoff tells their father about her meeting with Casey. He calls them her wild stories. Sophie asserts that it is true. Her father tells her that if she talks like that she would be in trouble. He observes that Danny is a promising player but he is too young. They should take care of him lest he should go astray.

Sophie likes her brother Geoff. He is an apprentice mechanic. He travels to work everyday. She imagines that it is a fascinating world which Geoff visits. She has already begun to imagine riding behind Geoff into that world. She is confident the world will receive her with open arms.

She tells Geoff that Danny Casey has asked her to meet him again next week. Geoff can hardly believe her. He thinks that Sophie is too young and Danny must be having a lot of girls. But Sophie says that Danny has told her that he has no girlfriend. Geoff thinks it is the most unlikely thing. Danny could not have told her all about this. Sophie makes Geoff promise that he will not tell their father about the date.

One day Sophie comes across Jansie. Geoff has told Jansie's brother that Sophie has had a meeting with Danny Casey. Jansie is curious to know all about it. Sophie is alarmed. She suspects that Geoff has told Jansie's brother about the date too. But soon she discovers that Jansie knows nothing about the date. Then, Sophie tells her about her meeting Danny Casey and why she could not get his autograph. But she tells Jansie to keep it a secret because she does not wish

the neighbours to come to her house and ask about all this. She is scared of her father, she tells Jansie that if her father learns about it, he will murder her. Jansie promises to keep the secret. Sophie, her father and brothers go to watch the United. There, Danny Casey scores the second goal. It was a wonderful hat-trick. Sophie is proud of her hero. Her father is also happy and goes to the pub to celebrate.

Sophie decides to meet Danny Casey. After dark, she goes along the canal to a quiet and secluded place. It was an ideal place for the meeting. There is a wooden bench under a tree. She sits on it to wait for Danny to come. She imagines he is coming out of the shadows. She is excited. But he does not come. Time passes and she begins to lose hope. At last she is disappointed. She feels he will not come. She thinks now she will not be able to tell Geoff that he was wrong. Geoff had doubted if Danny would come at all. Slowly and disheartened, she walks to the arcade. There she imagines meeting him once again. She asks for an autograph. Once again they discover that they don't have a pen and paper. Then Casey disappears and Sophie stands there as if enchanted by the meeting. Once again she pictures him as she saw him at the United, scoring a goal and the audience cheering wildly.

Short Answer Type Questions

[2 marks each]

(Answer the following questions in about 30-40 words each.)

Q. 1. What do you think of Sophie's dream about her career? [Comptt., Delhi, Set-I, 2012]

Ans. Sophie had unrealistic dreams about her career. They were unrealistic because she had neither the money nor the talent to start a boutique and she considered herself to be a natural manager. 2

Q. 2. Why does Jansie discourage Sophie from living in a world of fantasy?

[Comptt., Delhi Set-II, 2013] (TBQ)

OR

Why did Jansie discourage Sophie from having dreams? [Outside Delhi Set-I, 2017]

Ans. Value Points

- Sophie's dreams unrealistic/unattainable
- Jansie knew they were earmarked for biscuit factory
- Jansie realistic/practical
- Could visualize life would be tough/challenging.

(Any two)

[CBSE Marking Scheme, 2017] 2

Ans.

(b) Jansie is a practical girl who is grounded in reality. Since both Jansie and Sophie belonged to a lower socio-economic background, Jansie understood that they were both earmarked for the biscuit factory. 1. She understands that the dreams that Sophie has 2. requires a lot of money and are not achievable, so she has to discourage Sophie.

[Topper's Answer, 2017]

Q. 3. What is unrealistic about Sophie's dream of her future life? [Comptt., Set-I, 2013]

Ans. Sophie dreams of achieving things she has no access to. She belongs to a lower middle class family but dreams of owning a boutique, or becoming an actress or a manager. Moreover, instead of working towards her goals, she just dreams about them. 2

Q. 4. How do we know that Sophie's family lived in poor circumstances?

[Comptt., Outside Delhi Set-II, 2013]

OR

What socio-economic background did Sophie belong to? What are the indicators of the family background? (NCERT)

Ans. The house that Sophie lived in is not in a good condition. The family members are simple, unsophisticated people while Sophie dreams of a fanciful world. Her father has been described as grimy and sweaty, 'scooping shepherd's pie in his mouth as hard as he could', while her mother is shown washing dishes. The house is steamy and

the atmosphere chokes Sophie. 2

Q. 5. Whom did Sophie like more than anyone in the story? Why?

[Comptt., Outside Delhi Set-III, 2013]

Ans. Sophie liked her brother more than anyone else in the family. He was a quiet person who stayed in his own world. She was intrigued by his silence. She wanted him to share things with her. She wanted to know where he went and what he did. 2

Q. 6. Why did Sophie want to be admitted into Geoff's affections? [Comptt., Outside Delhi Set-II, 2014]

Ans. Sophie wanted to be admitted into Geoff's affections because she used to envy Geoff's world which was not accessible to her. He never discussed where he went. His life, therefore, held a lot of fascination for her and she wanted to be a part of it. 2

Q. 7. Why was Sophie jealous of her brother's silence? [CBSE, SQP II, 2012; SQP I, 2011]

Ans. Geoff was silent and did not share his experiences with anyone. Sophie felt secluded. When he

wasn't speaking, it was as though he was away in a world which Sophie had never visited. 2

Q. 8. How did Sophie's father react when Geoff told him about her meeting with Danny Casey?

[Delhi Set-III, 2011]

Ans. Sophie's father took this incident of her meeting with Danny Casey as another of her wild stories and warned her that these stories would someday get her into trouble. 2

Q. 9. Why is Sophie attracted to Danny Casey?

[Comptt., Delhi Set 13, 2014]

Ans. Value Points : A famous young Irish football player; played for the United/family was fond of watching football matches/hero/worship by the adolescent girl. [CBSE Marking Scheme, 2014] 2

Detailed Answer : Sophie was attracted to Danny Casey because he was a famous young Irish football player and her family was fond of watching football matches. He was a hero who was worshipped by a young adolescent girl.

AI Q. 10. Why didn't Sophie want Jansie to know anything about her meeting with Danny Casey?

[Delhi, Set-I, II & III, 2013]

[Outside Delhi Set-I, II & III, 2012]

OR

Why Sophie didn't want Jansie to know about her story with Danny?

[Delhi Set-I, II, 2011] (NCERT)

OR

Why did Sophie not want Jansie to know about her story with Danny?

[Foreign Set-III, 2017]

Ans. Value Points : - Because she believed the whole neighbourhood would get to know of it from Jansie.

- There would be a row if her father got to know about it
- It was meant to be only between Geoff and Sophie.

(At least 2 of the above points must be included.)

[CBSE Marking Scheme, 2017] 2

Detailed Answer : Sophie wanted to keep her story with Danny a secret from Jansie because Jansie was an expert at spreading rumours. She also feared that her father would get angry if the story of proximity with Casey spread in the town.

Q. 11. How are Jansie and Sophie different from each other?

[Comptt., Delhi 12]

OR

Though Sophie and Jansie were good friends, how were they basically different from each other?

[Comptt., Delhi, Set-II, 2012]

Ans. Jansie is a very practical, down to earth girl and she knows that after passing out of the school, they both were earmarked for the biscuit factory whereas, Sophie was a daydreamer. She dreamt too high and lived in the world of fantasy.

[CBSE Marking Scheme, 2012] 2

Commonly Made Error

- Some students are not able to analyse the difference in the nature of the two friends.

Answering Tips

- The stark difference between the two was one being practical and realistic and the other being a day dreamer living in a world of fantasy.

Q. 12. What was Sophie's ambition in life? How did she hope to achieve that? [CBSE, Delhi Set I, 2017]

Ans. Value Points : What : Wanted to be a boutique owner/rich/someone sophisticated

How : By earning money as actress/manager/fashion designer [CBSE Marking Scheme, 2017] 2

Detailed Answer : Sophie's ambition in life was either to become an actress, a fashion designer or a boutique owner. She wanted to become rich and sophisticated. She hoped to earn money by becoming a manager or a fashion designer or working part time as an actress.

Q. 13. Sophie was dreaming of so many things in her life. What were they? [CBSE, Delhi Set II, 2017]

Ans. Value Points : Dreamt of becoming—

- Boutique owner
- Actress
- Manager
- Fashion designer
- Part of sophisticated world, wanted to visit exotic places she believed her brother went to.

(Any two) [CBSE Marking Scheme, 2017] 2

Detailed Answer : Sophie dreamt of owning a boutique. But, that would require money. Therefore, Sophie thought of becoming a manager straight off. Then, she considered becoming an actress as it paid good money. She was going to be either that or a fashion designer. Eventually, once she acquired enough money, she would buy a boutique. She was fascinated by her brother Geoff's exotic world and dreamt of being part of it.

Q. 14. What did Sophie imagine about her brother, Geoff? [CBSE, Foreign Set I, 2017]

Ans. Value Points : — Going to places unknown to her
— Meeting exotic interesting people.

[CBSE Marking Scheme, 2017] 2

Detailed Answer : Sophie imagined that her brother, Geoff worked in a fascinating world and met interesting people. She also imagined that she was riding behind Geoff into that world and was meeting exotic and interesting people there.

Q. 15. What did Sophie tell Geoff about her 'meeting' Danny Casey? [CBSE, Foreign Set II, 2017]

Ans. Value Points : Had met Danny Casey at the arcade

- Described him
- Said he had gentle green eyes, not very tall
- Asked for autograph, neither had paper or pen

- Talked a bit about clothes
- Seemed lonely
- Was going to meet him next week

(At least two of the given points)

[CBSE Marking Scheme, 2017] 2

Detailed Answer : Sophie told Geoff that she had met Danny Casey at the shopping arcade. He had gentle green eyes and he was not very tall. She told Geoff that she had asked him for his autograph for Derek, but could not get it as neither of them had paper or pen.

Long Answer Type Questions

[6 marks each]

(Answer the following questions in about 125-150 words.)

Q. 1. Has Sophie met Danny Casey ? What details of her meeting with Danny Casey did she narrate to her brother ? [Foreign, 2014] (TBQ)

Ans. Value Points : No (but has seen him play football matches in the stadium with her father and brothers.)

Details of her meeting :

- Narrated that she had met Danny Casey in the arcade. She was looking at the clothes in Royce's window, when she spotted him standing beside her.
- Said that he had green, gentle eyes, he was not very tall - he was going to buy a shop
- He didn't have any girlfriend
- He was quiet by nature/spoke in an Irish accent
- She wanted his autograph for little Derek but neither of them had a paper or a pen
- They chatted a little about the clothes in Royce's window
- He asked her to meet him the following week and promised to give her an autograph.

(Any two) [CBSE Marking Scheme, 2014] 6

Detailed Answer : Sophie was a teenager who liked to live in the world of fantasy. She always imagined herself as belonging to a high class family. So she imagined that she had met Danny Casey. She liked this idea and narrated the whole incident to her brother Geoff. She told him that she had met Danny Casey at the shopping arcade when she had gone there for window-shopping. She had asked him for his autograph for Derek, her younger brother, which he agreed to but she could not get it as neither Danny Casey nor Sophie had a pen or a paper. So, Danny Casey had promised to give her the autograph if she would meet him the next week.

Q. 2. It is not unusual for a lower middle class girl to dream big. How unrealistic were Sophie's dreams ? [HOTS] [Outside Delhi Set III, 2015]

Ans. Value Points :

- Sophie is a young girl full of dreams but comes from a lower middle class family
- She is an escapist from the real world
- She is caught in the web of her own creations, not ready to accept what life has to offer her
- Earmarked for the biscuit factory but dreams of becoming a fashion designer or opening a

boutique which may not be achievable because of her financial status

- Fantasises about Danny Casey, weaves strange stories only to be disappointed.

[CBSE Marking Scheme, 2015] 6

Detailed Answer : Sophie's dreams were absolutely unrealistic as she did not do anything to achieve them. Her dreams were not the dreams that one works for but, were the result of the futile daydreaming of a teenager.

The whole story is about the unrealistic dreams and how we love to indulge in them knowing all the while that they have little possibility of coming true. But some, like Sophie, get too involved in them and actually act on them. This is when disappointment makes its entrance into life. The story seems to hint at you that it is okay to dream, but dream with limits.

The story revolves around the life of Sophie, a teenager, who, like others of her age, is filled with fantasies and desires. She comes from a poor financial background but hopes to be sophisticated in the future. Sophie dreams of owning a boutique one day or becoming an actress or a fashion designer. The centre of this story is that Sophie fantasizes about Danny Casey, an Irish football player, whom she had seen playing innumerable matches. She makes up a story about how she met him in the streets and tells this to Geoff. Geoff, who is more sensible than Sophie, does not really believe her, even if she wants to. It seems an unlikely incident for Sophie to meet the prodigy in their street but when Sophie describes the meeting in details, he begins to hope that it could be true. She tells him that Danny has promised to meet her somewhere again.

Sophie gets so pulled into the story she had made that she herself begins to believe that it's true. She waits for the Irish player but obviously, he never arrives. Then, she makes her way home, wondering how her brother would be disappointed on knowing that Danny Casey never showed up. However, Sophie still fantasizes about her hero, unperturbed.

Q. 3. Every teenager must dream big. Yet the dream should also be rooted to the ground. Write a character sketch of Sophie in the light of this aspect. [HOTS] [Comptt., Delhi Set I, 2015]

OR

What were Sophie's plans for her future ? Why would you call her dreams unrealistic ?

[Delhi Set-III, 2014]

Ans. Sophie was a teenager who day-dreamt most of the time. Her dreams were to open a boutique or to become a fashion-designer. She wanted to be an actress too. She always planned to do something which did not belong to the people of middle class. Her family conditions were not good and so her dreams seemed to be unrealistic and impractical. Her friend, Jansie, unlike Sophie lived in a world of reality and knew that both of them were marked for a biscuit factory. Opening a boutique or becoming a fashion-designer were next to impossible. Sophie had neither the means nor money to raise herself to the standard of becoming an actress or a fashion-designer. She had many limitations which she was not aware of. She lacked the skills also to achieve those dreams. Thus, we can say that her dreams were unrealistic and impractical.

[CBSE Marking Scheme, 2014] 6

Q. 4. Sophie was a dreamer. The lesson 'Going Places' reminds us that mere dreams will not help us to accomplish anything. What qualities do you think, would help Sophie to realize her dreams ?

[Foreign, 2014]

Ans. Value Points :

- Needs to be practical and down to earth
- Needs to have realistic aims
- Keep in mind her family background, should have determination, sincerity, be focussed and have a strong will, needs to work hard to make her dreams and fantasies come true.

[CBSE Marking Scheme, 2014] 6

Detailed Answer : Sophie needs to be practical and should be aware of the realities of life. She should be simple and down to earth and should know her limitations. She must keep in mind that she belongs to a lower middle class family. She should be sincere, determined and should possess a strong will to achieve her dreams. She needs to work hard to make her dreams and fantasies come true.

Commonly Made Error

- Most of the students are not able to answer this question.

Answering Tips

- Instead of the existing qualities of Sophie, the answer needs to be focussed on what qualities she should have (and are not there presently). The blend of qualities of Sophie and Jansie need to be explained.

Q. 5. Do you think Sophie is over ambitious and Jansie is more practical ? Discuss. [CBSE, SQP, 2014-15]

Ans. Value Points :

Both belong to poor families :

- Jansie practical and realistic
- Ready to work in a biscuit factory
- Advises Sophie not to daydream
- Can't be a manager
- Father will not allow.

Sophie :

- Not practical
- Dreamer
- Dreams wonderful
- Wants to become an actress or a fashion designer
- Looking for something sophisticated and fanciful
- Over ambitious and of wavering mind.

[CBSE Marking Scheme, 2014-15] 6

Detailed Answer : Sophie and Jansie both are friends and belong to poor families. Jansie is very practical and realistic whereas, Sophie lives in the world of fantasy. Jansie knows that after passing out from school, they both have to work in a biscuit factory and she is ready for it but Sophie dreams to open a boutique, become a manager or an actress. Jansie discourages her from dreaming such things. Sophie is over ambitious and dreams of things that are beyond her access. She is always looking for something sophisticated and fanciful. She even goes to the extent of cooking wild story that she had met Danny Casey in a shopping arcade and was going out on a date with him.

Q. 6. How different is Jansie from Sophie ?

[Outside Delhi Set-II, 2015]

OR

In one's approach to life, one should be practical and not live in a world of dreams. How is Jansie's attitude different from that of Sophie ?

[Delhi/Outside Delhi 2018]

OR

What impression do you form of Sophie and Jansie after reading the story, 'Going Places' ?

[Comptt., Delhi/Outside Delhi 2018]

OR

Sophie and Jansie were classmates and friends. What were the differences between them that show up in the story ?

Ans. Sophie – daydreamer; impractical; wants a glamorous career; cut off from reality; attention seeker – creates the story of her meeting Danny Casey to arouse her brother's interest/ to come closer to him. (any 2)

Jansie – practical; grounded; knows the reality of her future in the biscuit factory. (any 1)

[CBSE Marking Scheme 2018] 6

Detailed Answer : Sophie and Jansie are class-fellows and friends. They belong to lower middle class families. Jansie understands her limitations well. She is practical and grounded to earth. She knows that both of them are earmarked for the biscuit factory. But Sophie is totally blind to the harsh realities of life. She dreams of big and beautiful things. She wants a glamorous career. She wants to have a boutique. She also entertains the idea of becoming an actress. She loves to be nice, grand and sophisticated. All her dreams are beyond her reach and resources. Jansie advises her : “Soaf, you really should be sensible”. But Sophie refuses to be sensible. She is nothing more than a romantic dreamer.

Sophie and Jansie are poles apart in thinking and temperament. Sophie is all lost to herself and her dreamy world. There is only one person who first shares her secrets. He is her elder brother Geoff. Jansie is ‘nosey’ and takes interest in knowing new things about others. Sophie knows she will spread the story in the whole neighbourhood. Sophie is an incurable escapist. She adores the young Irish footballer Danny Casey. She remains what she always is — a dreamer.

Q. 7. Teachers always advise their students to dream big. Yet, the same teachers in your classrooms find fault with Sophie when she dreams. What is wrong with Sophie’s dreams ? [Delhi Set I, 2016]

Ans. Value Points:

- Sophie belonged to weak socio-economic background, escaped from boring working class existence to unrealistic fantasies
- Reality – earmarked for biscuit factory – dreams of owning boutique / being a manager / actress / fashion designer
- Dreams and disappointments all in her mind
- dream and reality merged when she went to meet Danny Casey
- No concrete steps taken to convert dream into reality
- Lied / fooled everybody with her dreams
- Dreams are not based on reality
- Circumstances do not support her.

(Any three) [CBSE Marking Scheme, 2016] 6

Detailed Answer: Sophie dreams of achieving things she has no access to. She belongs to a lower middle-

class family but dreams of owning a boutique, or becoming an actress or a manager. Moreover, instead of working towards her goals, she just dreams about them. Sophie needs to be practical and should be aware of the realities of life. She should be simple and down to earth and should know her limitations that she belongs to a lower middle-class family. She should possess a strong will to achieve her dreams. She needs to work hard to make her dreams and fantasies come true.

Commonly Made Error

- Many students start criticizing the teachers, which is not being actually asked for in the question.

Answering Tips

- The answer must cover the negative aspects of Sophie’s nature which make her only a day dreamer and not the one who can achieve the dreams.

Q. 8. Every teenager has a hero/heroine to admire. So many times they become role models for them. What is wrong if Sophie fantasizes about Danny Casey and is ambitious in life ?

[HOTS] [Outside Delhi Set I, 2016]
OR

Unrealistic dreams often lead to a great deal of unhappiness. Justify the statement on the basis of the story “Going Places”. [SQP 2018-19]

Ans. Suggested Value Points:

- Sophie belongs to lower middle class but dreams of opening a boutique, become an actress or fashion designer; no financial support in fact father expecting her to buy a decent house for the family when she gets some money
- Also fantasizes of meeting the football sensation, Danny Casey
- She has started living her dreams and has got disconnected with the reality
- This causes her great disappointment and sorrow in life-when Danny did not come to meet her near the canal, Sophie was heartbroken and worried about how she would convince Geoff about Danny
- Sadness was hard burden to carry

[CBSE Marking Scheme 2018-19] 6

Detailed Answer : Teenagehood is the phase of life which constitutes the major changes in the life of an individual. During this phase, a person learns many things, sets his career goals, and deals with peer pressure and the pressure of adults’ expectations. Hence, it is natural for teenagers to fantasize and to have unrealistic dreams.

Fantasizing, based on realistic goals or the world around, provides a means to reach higher ambitions and dreams. Aspiring for higher career goals and working hard may ensure successful

career prospects. Thus, it instills confidence and a spirit to achieve one's desire. In difficult situations of life, it helps instill positivity and optimism. It is a talent in those who are creative.

But fantasizing also builds a gap between fantasy and reality. The realisation of the disparity between one's goals and capabilities may be painful. Non-achievement may also lead to disappointment, depression or suicidal tendencies. Moreover, it is a sheer wastage of time for many. This was the case with Sophie. Although she dreamt and fantasized, yet she made no efforts to achieve what she wanted and finally got so sucked up in her fantasy that she forgot her reality. This caused her great disappointment and sorrow in life. She got disconnected with reality. She didn't take any to convert her dreams to reality.

Q. 9. It is natural for teenagers to have unrealistic dreams. What would you say are the benefits and disadvantages of such fantasizing ? Elaborate it with references of "Going Places". (NCERT)

Ans. No doubt the teenagers have ideals. They have no experience of the world. They dream of doing things that the adults would never dream of

doing. Dreaming is essential and useful. It was because of having dreams that great inventions and discoveries were made. Joan of Arc was a young girl. She dreamed and heard voices. She felt they were telling her to do things that looked impossible to achieve. Because of her dreams, she drove away the British from France. Those who only dream and do nothing become lazy and idle. They are impractical in life.

Our dreams can help us. But they should be practical and we ought to try to realise them.

Sophie is a daydreamer. She can imagine things and her imagination runs wild. She had watched Danny Casey. He is her hero. She is always dreaming about him. She begins to think of meeting him. She is so engrossed in her dreams that she herself is convinced that she actually met him and he had promised to meet her again. She goes to meet him on the bank of a canal. There, she waits for him. He does not come. She is disappointed. But all this goes on in her mind all the time. She pictures him meeting her in the arcade once again. But all her dreams are impractical. She has not made any effort to realise them.