

A Shady Plot Previous Year Questions (with model answers)

Q1. John was worried and concerned about his wife's response after meeting the ghost. But it proved to be baseless. Justify. [CBSE 2024]

Ans. John was concerned that Lavinia would be upset and leave him if she found out that there was another woman named Helen in his life. However, this fear was baseless because when Lavinia found out that Helen was a ghost, she threw a protective arm around John and smiled with satisfaction that Helen was not human.

Q2. Why is Helen, the ghost, upset with people using Ouija Boards? [CBSE 2020]

Ans. The ghost was upset with people using Ouija Boards as the people used to get full control of the ghost and could call upon them anytime. The ghosts were obliged to attend to them and answer their stupid questions. People used to trouble and bother ghosts using Ouija boards by calling them at odd times.

Q3. Why was John Hallock eager to burn the Ouija Board? [CBSE 2019]

Ans. As the Ouija Board was the source of all his problems, John Hallock wishes to burn it. Helen the ghost had visited him to assist in removing it, and as a result, his wife began to suspect him of having an affair. To make matters worse, the ladies who utilised the Ouija Board during the party made Lavinia distrust John, making the situation even worse for John and his marriage. In addition, their househelp had declared her resignation because she was afraid of the board.

Q4. In the story "Shady Plot", why did Helen appear in bits and pieces? [CBSE 2018]

Ans. In the story 'Shady Plot', Helen appears in bits and pieces. It is so because Helen is a ghost. She doesn't want to scare anyone. Her appearance in parts adds suspense and drama to the story.

Q5. How does the author of 'A Shady Plot' earn his living? [CBSE 2017]

Ans. Hallock enjoyed great popularity as a ghost story author. He has the ability to write a new narrative whenever his publisher requests one. Being a writer, though, was insufficient. He was married to a stubborn and capricious woman who loved to spend money on the latest trends. Hallock was forced to work as a bookkeeper at a timber firm in order to satisfy her demands.

Q6. How did Lavinia react when she saw Helen, the ghost? [CBSE 2017]

Ans. Lavinia felt relaxed on realizing that Helen was not a human but a ghost. She put an arm around her husband to show her protective attitude. She cancelled her

plan of leaving the marital home. She even discontinued the use of Ouija boards and directed the cook, Gladolia to burn it.

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