

The Dear Departed Previous Year Questions (with model answers)

Q1. Read the following excerpts and answer the questions briefly. [CBSE 2024]

Mrs. Jordan: No, that'll never do. We want a verse that says how much we loved him and refers to all his good qualities and says what a heavy loss we've had.

Mrs. Slater: You want a whole poem. That'll cost a good lot.

Mrs. Jordan: Well, we'll think about it after tea, and then we'll look through his bits of things and make a list of them. There's all the furniture in his room.

(i) What does Mrs. Jordan want?

Ans. She wants to add a sentence in the obituary which mentions that the children loved the father, states his good qualities and that they had suffered a big loss due to his demise.

(ii) Mrs. Slater does not want a whole poem to be published. Why?

Ans. It would cost a lot of money

(iii) "You want a whole poem. That'll cost a good lot." Mention one characteristic trait of Mrs. Slater through this line.

Ans. She is a miser woman.

(iv) Which is more important for these speakers — mourning on their father's death or distributing his property between them?

Ans. They are more concerned about distributing the property among themselves.

Q2. For Mrs. Slater and Mrs. Jordan greed for money is more important than their love for their father. Comment. [CBSE 2019]

Ans. Mrs. Slater and Mrs. Jordan's greed for money was more important than their love for their father, because when Mrs. Slater discovered that her father was lying almost lifeless in his room, she made arrangements to move his bureau and other valuables to her living room before her sister Mrs. Jordan arrived. She did so in order to keep his prized possessions and avoid sharing them with her sister. Mrs. Slater and Mrs. Jordan both spent a lot of money on their mourning gowns but didn't spend much on their father's last rites.

As a result, it has been established that they were exceedingly greedy for their father's wealth and did not love him.

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