

## **The Rattrap Previous Year Questions (with model answers)**

**Q1. The lesson 'The Rattrap' is both entertaining and philosophical. Do you agree with the statement? Give reasons. [CBSE 2024]**

**Ans.** Yes, the lesson is entertaining through its engaging narrative of the peddler's adventures and philosophical in its exploration of themes like redemption, the nature of human kindness, and the transformative power of selflessness.

**Q2. Why did the iron master compare Edla to a parson? [CBSE 2023]**

**Ans.** He compares Edla to a parson because she has great power of persuasion just like the parson in a church. When Edla is able to convince her father to allow the stranger remain at the mansion and they share Christmas cheer with him, the father agrees reluctantly and says that Edla is good at persuasion.

**Q3. What made the ironmaster invite the peddler to his house? [CBSE 2023]**

**Ans.** The ironmaster invited the peddler to his house because he mistook him for an old regimental comrade. He wanted to offer him shelter and assistance out of a sense of camaraderie and nostalgia.

**Q4. Why was the peddler surprised at the hospitality he received from the crofter? [CBSE 2022]**

**Ans.** The street vendor created wire rat traps and sold them to passersby. When the vendor requested for protection, people typically made grumpy faces. However, the crofter invited him into his house. Along with providing him with food and shelter, he also engaged in a game of "mjolis" with him. This kindness shown to him by the crofter surprised him.

**Q5. What are the instances in the story (The Rattrap) that show that the character of the ironmaster is different from that of his daughter in many ways? [CBSE 2020]**

**Ans.** Edla is a mature girl. She realizes their responsibility towards the stranger whom they have got home to share Christmas cheer with. She persuades her father to allow the stranger to stay back till Christmas is over because they had forced him to come over. Her father is impulsive and rash and wants to throw the stranger out when he realizes his mistaken identity but the wise Edla stops him. She remains patient and kind to the stranger whom they had got home.

Edla is observant, a look at the stranger's face shows his fear and she realizes that either he has committed a theft or has escaped from the police. However, her father is not able to decipher this.

**Q6. Why did the peddler decline the invitation extended to him by the ironmaster? [CBSE 2019]**

**Ans.** the peddler was guilty of committing the theft and so, was reluctant to go to the Manorhouse. He wanted to take a nap at the mill. He knew that the ironmaster was mistaking him for an old army comrade and so, he refused the invitation.

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