

SUMMARY OF THE LESSON

The Great Stone Face was the work of nature. It was formed on the side of a mountain by some rocks. Seen from a distance they looked like a human face and alive. Going near, the face turned into a heap of rocks. The people believed that the valley owed much of its fertility to that face.

One day a mother and her little child, Ernest sat at the door of their cottage. He wished that the Great Stone Face could speak. The mother hoped to see a man some time with a similar face. She told a curious story, she herself had heard in her childhood. A great man bearing that stone face would be born some day. That was a prophecy.

Ernest could never forget that story. He was very helpful to his mother. He grew up to be a gentle, quiet young man. The Stone Face became his teacher. The child used to watch it for hours.

Once a rumour spread that the great man, who was to bear a resemblance to the Great stone face, had appeared at last. Many years ago, a young man had left the valley and settled at a distant sea port. He became very rich. Then he decided to return to his native place. He was Mr. Gathergold. People welcomed him as the great man because he resembled the great stone face. But Ernest didn't agree with these people.

Years went on. Ernest grew to be a young man. He drew little attention. He had nothing remarkable. But he was hardworking and kind. He still loved to gaze upon the great stone face. He wondered why the stone faced man was taking so long in coming to that valley.

Mr. Gathergold died as a poor man and was buried. People then agreed that there was no likeness between the ruined merchant and the majestic face upon the mountain.

It so happened that another son of the valley returned to his native valley. He had become a famous commander. The people turned to him blindly and accepted him as the Great Stone Face. But Ernest could not see any similarity between them.

TEXTBOOK QUESTIONS SOLVED

COMPREHENSION CHECK

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Write 'True' or 'False' against each of the following statements.

1. The Great Stone Face stood near where Ernest and his mother lived.
2. One would clearly distinguish the features of the Stone Face only from a distance.
3. Ernest loved his mother and helped her in her work.
4. Though not very rich, Gathergold was a skilful merchant.
5. Gathergold died in poverty and neglect.
6. The Great Stone Face seemed to suggest that Ernest should not fear the general.

Ans. 1. False 2. True 3. True 4. False 5. True 6. True

WORKING WITH THE TEXT

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Answer the following questions.

1. (i) What was the Great Stone Face?
(ii) What did Young Ernest wish when he gazed at it?

Ans. (i) The Great Stone Face was the work of nature. The rocks were put one over the other on the mountain side. They resembled the features of a human face.

(ii) Young Ernest wished that the stone face could speak. He wished to love the man dearly whoever resembled that face.

2. What was the story attributed to the Stone Face?

Ans. The story attributed to the Stone Face was that some day

a child with the likeness of that face would be born. He would become the greatest and noblest person of his age.

3. What gave the people of the valley the idea that the prophecy was about to come true for the first time?

Ans. A youngman named Gathergold had left the valley many years ago. By the time he grew old, he had grown rich. When he returned to his native valley, a rumour spread that he resembled the Stone Face. People thought that the prophecy had come true.

4. (i) Did Ernest see in Gathergold the likeness of the Stone Face?

(ii) Who did he confide in and how was he proved right?

Ans. (i) No, Ernest did not see any likeness of the Stone Face in Gathergold.

(ii) He confided in the Great Stone Face. After Gathergold's death as his wealth and gold had already disappeared, it was generally agreed that Gathergold had no resemblance with the Great Stone Face.

5. (i) What made people believe General Blood-and-Thunder was their man?

(ii) Ernest compared the man's face with the Stone Face. What did he conclude?

Ans. (i) General Blood-and-thunder had risen to high position from a soldier. When he returned to the valley, his childhood friends said that the General had always looked like the Stone Face.

(ii) Ernest could not find any likeness between the General and the Stone Face.

WORKING WITH LANGUAGE

(Page 130)

1. Look at the following words.

Like	—	likeness
punctual	—	punctuality

The words on the left are adjectives and those on the right are their noun forms.

Write the noun forms of the following words by adding **-ness** or **-ity** to them appropriately. Check the spelling of the new words.

- (i) lofty _____ (vi) enormous _____
 (ii) able _____ (vii) pleasant _____
 (iii) happy _____ (viii) dense _____
 (iv) near _____ (ix) great _____
 (v) noble _____ (x) stable _____

- Ans.** (i) loftiness (ii) ability (iii) happiness
 (iv) nearness (v) nobility (vi) enormity
 (vii) pleasantness (viii) density (ix) greatness
 (x) stability

Q2. Add-ly to each of the following adjectives, then use them to fill in the blanks.

perfect near kind pleasant eager

- (i) Why didn't you turn up at the meeting? We all were _____ waiting for you.
 (ii) _____ write your name and address in capital letters.
 (iii) I was _____ surprised to see him at the railway station. I thought he was not coming.
 (iv) It is _____ believable that I am not responsible for this mess.
 (v) He fell over the step and _____ broke his arm.

- Ans.** (i) eagerly (ii) kindly (iii) pleasantly
 (iv) perfectly (v) nearly

3. Complete each sentence below using the appropriate forms of the verbs in brackets.

- (i) I _____ (phone) you when I _____ (get) home from school.
 (ii) Hurry up! Madam _____ (be) annoyed if we _____ (be) late.
 (iii) If it _____ (rain) today, we _____ (not) go to the play.

(iv) When you _____ (see) Mandal again, you _____ (not/recognise) him. He is growing a beard.

(v) We are off today. We _____ (write) to you after we _____ (be) back.

- Ans.** (i) shall phone: get (ii) will be; are
 (iii) rains, shall not go (iv) see; will not recognise
 (v) shall write; are

SPEAKING AND WRITING (Page 131)

1. Imagine you are Ernest. Narrate the story that his mother told him.

Begin like this: My mother and I were sitting at the door of our cottage. We were looking at the Great Stone Face. I asked her if she had ever seen any one who looked like the Stone Face. Then she told me this story.

Ans. She had heard that story from her own Mother that some day a child would be born resembling the Stone Face. In manhood he would become the greatest and noblest person of his time.

2. Imagine you are Gathergold. Write briefly the incident of your return to the valley.

Begin like this: My name is Gathergold. I left the valley of the Great Stone Face fifty years ago. I am now going back home. Will the people of the valley welcome me? Do they know that I am very rich?

Ans. I drove to my native village in a horse drawn carriage. The people mistook me for the Great Stone Face. They welcomed me and shouted, "Sure enough, the old prophecy is true and the great man has arrived at last".

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