

NCERT Solutions:

Q1. Why is the lawyer sent to New Mullion? What does he first think about the place?

Ans- The lawyer is sent to New Mullion to serve summons on Oliver Lutkins who was needed as a witness in a law case. He first thinks about the place as a sweet and simple countryside village. But he finds it dirty and unclean.

Q2. Who befriends him ? Where does he take him?

Ans- A delivery man befriends him. He takes him to the Fritz's shop where Lutkins played a lot of poker, Gustaff's barber shop and Wade's Hill. He finally takes him to Lutkins house and his mother.

Q3. What does he say about Lutkins ?

Ans- He says that Lutkins never pays anybody a cent. He is not really bad. But it is hard to make him part with his money. Then he escapes the meeting.

Q4. What more does Bill say about Lutkins and his family?

Ans- Bill says that Lutkins has a mother. They have a farm three miles north. But her mother is a real terror. She is about nine feet tall and four feet thick, she is as quick as a cat.

Q5. Does the narrator serve the summons that day?

Ans- The narrator does not serve the summons that day. He comes again to New Mullion. He serves it on Lutkins when he is recognised by another official the next day who is with him.

Q6. Who is Lutkins ?

Ans- Lutkins is a cheater who borrows money from different people. But he never returns that money and escapes meeting them. He has a cheerful and friendly manner working as a Hack driver in New Mullion.

Short Answer Questions:-

Q1. Why is the narrator sent to New Mullion?

Ans- The narrator was a new entrant in the law firm. So at first he was sent to New Mullion to serve summons on Oliver Lutkins. A case was coming up in the court. In it the presence of Lutkins was urgently required.

Q2. What opinion did the narrator form about the hack driver?

Ans- The narrator found the hack driver co-operative, kind and very helpful. He also found him the most agreeable person. So he bargained with him for hiring his hack at two dollars an hour. The hack driver's broad smile made him feel that they had been very old good friends.

Q3. How did the narrator find the streets and shops of New Mullion ?

Ans- The narrator hoped to see a simple country village when he reached New Mullion. But he was sad to see its muddy streets. It had rows of wooden shops. These had been painted in a sour brown colour. Obviously, he didn't like it then.

Q4. How did Lutkins' mother receive the narrator?

Ans- At last Lutkins took the narrator to his mother. Lutkins mother came out of the kitchen. She had an iron from the old stove in her hand. She marched on the narrator shouting to attack him. This frightened him and he retreated.

Q5. Why was he sent back to New Mullion ? Who went with him?

Ans- He was sent back to New Mullion to serve summons on Lutkins. But this time there was another man with him. The narrator hadn't seen Lutkins. The other man would identify Lutkins as he had worked with him.

Q6. How did the narrator feel after knowing that the hack driver was Lutkins himself?

Ans- The narrator, at last, came to know from the official about Lutkins that he himself was the hack driver. He felt shocked at this deception by Lutkins. So his feelings were hurt as Lutkins and his mother finally laughed at him.

Long Answer questions :-

Q1. Describe the narrator's visit to Lutkins mother?

Ans- The narrator and the hack driver had been searching for Lutkins. They learnt that he had gone to his mother's farm. So, They went to Lutkins' mother at her farm house. There they asked about Lutkins. But she said that she did not know anything about him. The hack driver told her that they had a legal right to search for Lutkins. She went inside them shouting to attack them. The two stepped back from fear. The hack driver told the narrator to leave as she would kill them.

Q2. Why was the narrator sent to New Mullion again and what happened there after?

Ans- The narrator was sent to New Mullion to find Oliver Lutkins. The first time he went to find him, he was befooled by Oliver and his mother but he did not know. He went back and told his boss that he did not find Oliver. His boss asked him to go to Mullion tomorrow again but this time with a person who knew Oliver.

Comprehension Questions:-

Read the given passage and answers the questions that follow:

AFTER graduating with honours, I became a junior assistant clerk in a magnificent law firm. I was sent, not to prepare legal briefs, but to serve summons, like a cheap private detective. I had to go to dirty and shadowy corners of the city to seek out my victims. Some of the larger and more self-confident ones even beat me up. I hated this unpleasant work, and the side of city life it revealed to me. I even considered fleeing to my hometown, where I could

have been a real lawyer right away, without going through this unpleasant training period.

Q1. From which lesson this passage has been taken?

Ans- The Hack Driver.

Q2. Who became a junior assistant clerk in a magnificent law firm?

Ans- The Lawyer (narrator).

Q3. Who is the narrator of this story?

Ans- The Lawyer.

Q4. Who hates city life?

Ans- The Lawyer.

Q5. Pick out the word from the passage which means 'official order of the court'.

Ans- Summons.

MCQ

Q.1 Who was Oliver Lutkins

- a. Fritz
- b. Gustaff
- c. Bill
- d. Gray

Q.2 From where did they get Lunch?

- a. community meal
- b. Bill's home
- c. cafe
- d. restaurant

Q3. According to Bill, Oliver owed him fifty cents for a game of.....?

- a. chess
- b. poker
- c. horse race
- d. all of them

Q4. The summons for Lutkins were for what case?

- a. theft
- b. murder
- c. forgery
- d. as a witness

Q5. What vehicle did Bill have?

- a. auto rickshaw
- b. cab
- c. hack
- d. cart

Q6. How many times did he have to visit New Mullions??

- a. 1
- b. 2
- c. 3
- d. 4

Q7. Was he able to serve the summons to Lutkins?

- a. yes
- b. no
- c. may be
- d. none of the above

- Q8. What did Oliver's mother have in her hand while she ran after them ?**
a. pistol b. knife
c. an iron rod d. none of the above
- Q9. Bill seemed toLutkins' talent for dishonesty ?**
a. dislike b. hate
c. criticize d. admire
- Q10. How did the lawyer travel to New Mullion?**
a. by car b. by bus
c. by train d. by auto rickshaw

Answer Key

- 1 (c). Bill
- 2 (b). Bill's home
- 3 (b). poker
- 4 (d). as a witness
- 5 (c). hack
- 6 (b). 2
- 7 (b). no
- 8 (c). an iron rod
- 9 (d). admire
- 10 (c). train