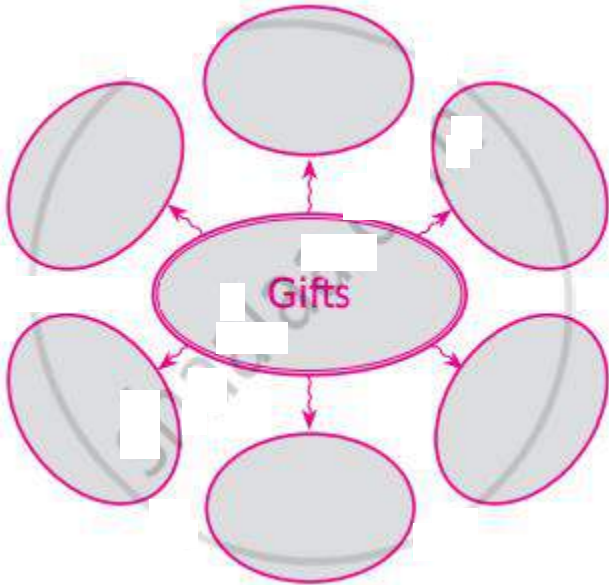


Chapter 4.6: The Gift of the Magi

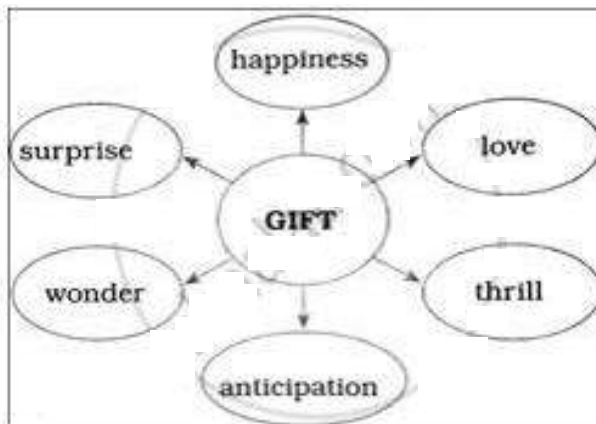
WARMING UP [PAGE 179]

Warming Up | Q 1 | Page 179

The moment you hear the word 'Gift', what feelings do you experience? Complete the web with those feelings.



SOLUTION



Warming Up | Q 2.1 | Page 179

'Gifts' need not be material gifts. They can be abstract and yet priceless. For example, favours, kindness, help in times of need, etc.

Think of and enlist such unforgettable gifts given to you by :

Parents/ Grand parents : _____.

SOLUTION

Parents/grandparents: love, kindness, etc.

Warming Up | Q 2.2 | Page 179

'Gifts' need not be material gifts. They can be abstract and yet priceless. For example, favours, kindness, help in times of need, etc.

Think of and enlist such unforgettable gifts given to you by :

Siblings/relatives : _____.

SOLUTION

Siblings/relatives: support, empathy, etc.

Warming Up | Q 2.3 | Page 179

'Gifts' need not be material gifts. They can be abstract and yet priceless. For example, favours, kindness, help in times of need, etc.

Think of and enlist such unforgettable gifts given to you by :

Friends: _____.

SOLUTION

Friends: loyalty, sympathy, etc.

Warming Up | Q 2.4 | Page 179

'Gifts' need not be material gifts. They can be abstract and yet priceless. For example, favours, kindness, help in times of need, etc.

Think of and enlist such unforgettable gifts given to you by :

Strangers: _____.

SOLUTION

Strangers: courtesy, help, etc.

Warming Up | Q 3.1 | Page 179

Say whether the words underlined are infinitives/ participles or gerunds.

The athletes wanted to take part in the running race.

SOLUTION

(a) to take - infinitive

(b) Running - participle

Warming Up | Q 3.2 | Page 179

Say whether the words underlined are infinitives/ participles or gerunds.

Would you like to eat at the dining table?

SOLUTION

(a) to eat - infinitive

(b) dining - participle

Warming Up | Q 3.3 | Page 179

Say whether the words underlined are infinitives/ participles or gerunds.

Reading is good for the mind and soul. So take up reading books.

SOLUTION

(a) Reading - gerund

(b) reading - gerund

Warming Up | Q 3.4 | Page 179

Say whether the words underlined are infinitives/ participles or gerunds.

I like to eat fruits rather than eating sweets.

SOLUTION

(a) to eat - infinitive

(b) eating- gerund

Warming Up | Q 3.5 | Page 179

Say whether the words underlined are infinitives/ participles or gerunds.

Listening and speaking sharpen your language skills.

SOLUTION

(a) Listening - gerund

(b) speaking-gerund

ENGLISH WORKSHOP [PAGES 185 - 190]

English Workshop | Q 1. (a) | Page 185

Complete the following.

Della had saved _____.

SOLUTION

Della had saved one dollar and eighty-seven cents.

English Workshop | Q 1. (b) | Page 185

Complete the following.

Della wanted to buy _____.

SOLUTION

Della wanted to buy him a Christmas present.

English Workshop | Q 1. (c) | Page 185

Complete the following.

Della's beautiful hair tell about _____.

SOLUTION

Della's beautiful hair tells about her rippling and shining like a cascade of brown waters.

English Workshop | Q 2. (a) | Page 185

Answer the following question:

How much did Della save for Christmas? What does it show?

SOLUTION

Despite Saving every penny she could for months, Della managed to save only \$1.87. This indicates that Della was not well to do.

English Workshop | Q 2. (b) | Page 185

Answer the following question:

Why did Della take pride in the beauty of her hair?

SOLUTION

Della's beautiful hair fell about her rippling and shining like a cascade of brown waters, which she was proud of.

English Workshop | Q 2. (c) | Page 185

Answer the following question:

Why and how did Della sell her hair? Do you think she did well?

SOLUTION

Della sells her hair to Madame Sofronie for twenty dollars, which was just enough money to buy a platinum fob chain for which costs twenty-one dollars. Della made a mistake by selling her hair because Jim had bought a comb for her. Which becomes useless since she already cut off her hair.

English Workshop | Q 2. (d) | Page 185

Answer the following question:

Why did Jim sell his gold watch? Do you think he did well?

SOLUTION

Jim sold his gold watch, which belonged to his father and grandfather so that he could buy a set of beautiful combs that Della yearned for. Jim made a mistake by selling his watch to buy the combs because Della had already sold her hair to buy him a platinum chain for his gold watch.

English Workshop | Q 2. (e) | Page 186

Answer the following question:

Why did Jim and Della want to present the gifts?

SOLUTION

Jim and Della wanted to present the gifts to show their affection and appreciation for each other.

English Workshop | Q 2. (f) | Page 186

Answer the following question:

Why did Della feel sad about losing her hair?

SOLUTION

Della felt sad because although he got the combs that she yearned for, she no longer had her beautiful, long hair.

English Workshop | Q 2. (g) | Page 186

Answer the following question:

What did Jim bring out from his coat? Describe the scene.

SOLUTION

Jim drew a package from his overcoat pocket and threw it in on the table. Della opened the packet and was delighted to see that Jim had gifted her the combs that she had craved for. However, She immediately felt, and when she realized that she had cut off her hair and the gift would not be of any use to her.

English Workshop | Q 2. (h) | Page 186

Answer the following question:

How beautiful was the gold watch chain? Would you have liked to own it?

SOLUTION

Della bought a platinum fob chain that was simple and chaste in design. She describes the chain as having the qualities of quietness and value—a description that applied to Jim well.

English Workshop | Q 2. (i) | Page 186

Answer the following question:

How did the Magi want to celebrate their Christmas (OR) Who were the first people to give Christmas gifts?

SOLUTION

The magi were three wise men who brought gifts to Baby Jesus in the manger in a biblical story of Christmas. It is from there that the art of giving Christmas presents was invented.

English Workshop | Q 2. (j) | Page 186

Answer the following question:

What is the moral of the story?

SOLUTION

Jim and Della impulsively buy gifts for each other by sacrificing their greatest treasures without thinking about the consequences and focusing on making each other happy.

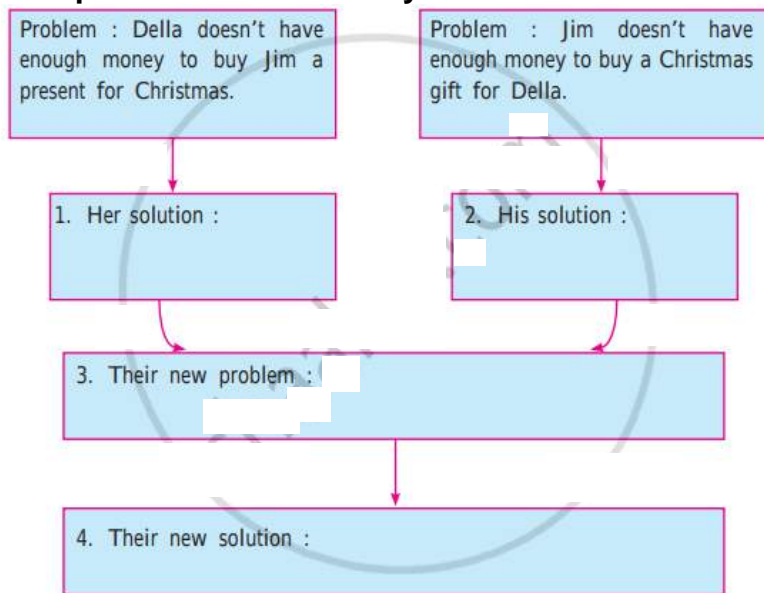
They thought only of the material possessions that could give us pleasure. However, what they didn't realize is that they had given each other the greatest gift of sacrificial love. The story teaches us that selfless love is worth more than any material possessions money can buy.

English Workshop | Q 3 | Page 186

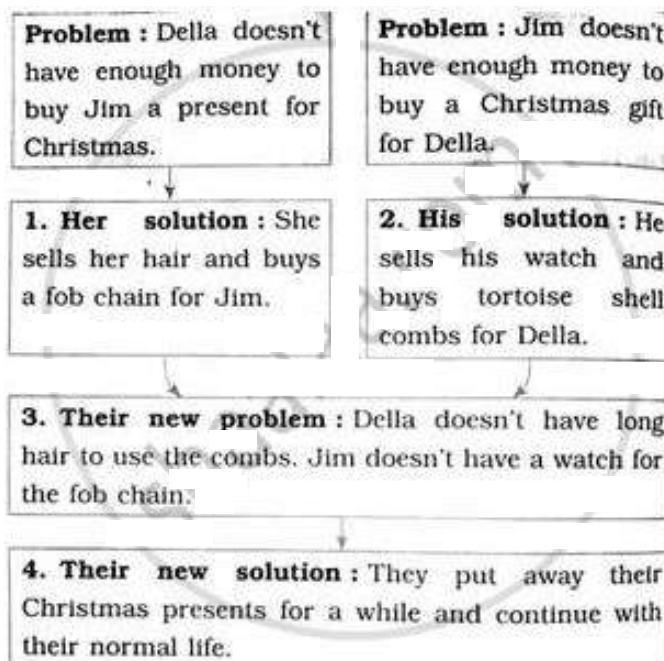
Complete the following activity :

Map the problems and solutions in "The Gift of the Magi" on the diagram below.

Two problems have already been filled in.



SOLUTION



English Workshop | Q 4.a).1) | Page 186

Read the following and answer.

Say WHAT

_____ troubled Della on Christmas Eve?

SOLUTION

Della did not have enough money to buy Jim a decent/good Christmas gift.

English Workshop | Q 4.a).2) | Page 186

Read the following and answer.

Say WHAT

_____ was the current family income?

SOLUTION

The current income was twenty dollars a week.

English Workshop | Q 5 | Page 187

Complete: Use the chart below to explain the situational irony in 'The Gift of the Magi'. For each character, identify what is expected to happen and what actually happens.

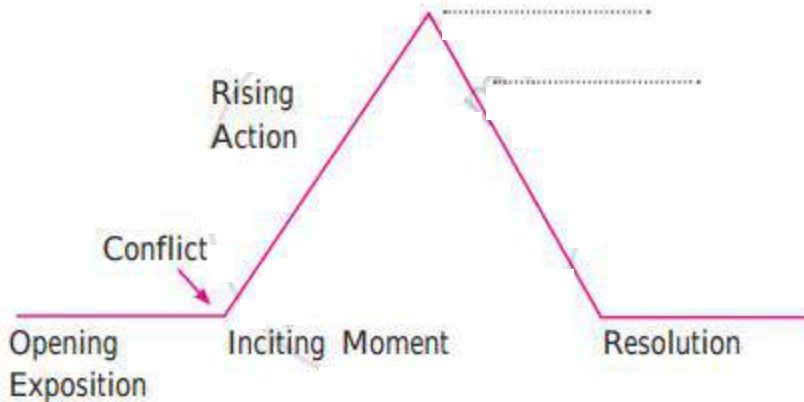
SITUATIONAL IRONY	
What Della plans :	What actually happens
What Jim plans :	What actually happens :

SOLUTION

SITUATIONAL IRONY	
What Della plans: <u>To give Jim a wonderful Christmas gift in the form of a fob chain.</u>	What actually happens: <u>Della cannot use Jim's gift of combs because she has cut and sold her hair to get him his gift.</u>
What Jim plans: <u>To give Della a wonderful Christmas gift in the form of a set of tortoise shell combs.</u>	What actually happens: <u>Jim cannot use Della's gift of a fob chain for his watch because he has sold his watch to get her gift.</u>

English Workshop | Q 7 | Page 188

Complete the following basic plot diagram :



SOLUTION



English Workshop | Q 8 | Page 188

Pick out from the story words that mean the following.

Against each consumer write (N) if it is a Noun (V) for Verb and (Adj) for Adjective.

1. reluctance to spend money _____ ()
2. relating to _____ ()
3. urge _____ ()
4. reduce in value _____ ()
5. wisdom _____ ()
6. very huge _____ ()
7. foolishness _____ ()

SOLUTION

Phrase	Word From the passage	Part of speech
(1) Reluctance to spend money	Parsimony	Noun
(2) Relating to	Appertaining	Verb
(3) Urge	Coax	Verb

(4) Reduce in value	Depreciate	Verb
(5) Wisdom	Prudence	Noun
(6) Very huge	Mammoth	Adjective
(7) Foolishness	Idiocy	Noun
(8) Relating	Repetative	Part of speech

English Workshop | Q 9. (a) | Page 188

Think and answer on your own in a few sentences, in your notebook.

What would you do if you ran short of money, to buy a birthday gift for one of your parents/ siblings?

SOLUTION

If I ran short of money to buy a gift for one of my parents/siblings, I would borrow from someone else close to me. For example, if I wanted to buy a bag for my sister and fell short of money, I would ask my mother to lend it to me. If I wanted to buy something for Mom and did not have the money for it, I would borrow from dad.

English Workshop | Q 9. (b) | Page 188

Think and answer on your own in a few sentences, in your notebook.

Think of two alternatives that could have prevented Della as well as Jim from selling their most precious possessions.

SOLUTION

Both knew that they were poor and couldn't afford expensive gifts. So they could have just given each other small token gifts of flowers or cards. This would have prevented them from selling their most precious possessions.

English Workshop | Q 9. (c) | Page 188

Think and answer on your own in a few sentences, in your notebook.

Justify the title of the story, 'The Gift of the Magi'.

SOLUTION

The Magi were three wise men who brought gifts for baby Jesus during Christmas. They knew how to give and gave unique gifts with special emphasis. In the same way, Della and Jim gave each other unique gifts. The author compares their giving to the gifts the Magi gave to baby Jesus. He calls them the Magi because of their wisdom in realizing that unselfish love is the greatest of all gifts.

English Workshop | Q 9. (d) | Page 188

Think and answer on your own in a few sentences, in your notebook.

Gifts that you buy have fixed prices/ rates. How can the buyer increase the value of a gift bought for someone very dear in the family?



SOLUTION

The buyer can increase the value of a weft bought for someone very dear in the family by wing it with words of love and gratitude. He/She can also write something loving on a card and attach it to the gift.

English Workshop | Q 9. (e) | Page 188

Think and answer on your own in a few sentences, in your notebook.

What situation is the climax of the story? How does it end up as an Anti-climax?

SOLUTION

The climax should have been the happiness and joy on the faces of Jim and Della when they see their gifts. It ends up as an anti-climax because though they had got what they coveted, neither of them could now use the gifts.

English Workshop | Q 9. (f) | Page 188

Think and answer on your own in a few sentences, in your notebook.

If you share this story with some friends in a junior class, how would they react in the end?

SOLUTION

They would probably just feel that all the sacrifice was wasted. They would not have realized the deeper meaning of the story.

English Workshop | Q 9. (g) | Page 188

Think and answer on your own in a few sentences, in your notebook.

Who were the very first people to give Christmas gifts? What had inspired them to do so?

SOLUTION

The Magi visited Jesus after his birth to give gifts to honour him.

English Workshop | Q 9. (h) | Page 188

Think and answer on your own in a few sentences, in your notebook.

At the end of the story, O Henry remarks that of all who give gifts, Della and Jim were the wisest. Think and explain this paradoxical remark.

SOLUTION

Jim and Della were initially foolish enough to believe that they needed to give material gifts in order to show their love for one another and that they had to sacrifice their most precious possessions to do so. However, they were also wise enough to know later that unselfish love is the greatest of all gifts.

English Workshop | Q 10. (a) | Page 188

Pick out and rewrite the exact sentence which indirectly implies the following :

Della was not too happy about bargaining for grocery etc.

SOLUTION

Pennies saved one and two at a time by bulldozing the grocer and the vegetable man and the butcher until one's cheeks burned.

English Workshop | Q 10. (b) | Page 188

Pick out and rewrite the exact sentence which indirectly implies the following :
The flat was in a dilapidated condition.

SOLUTION

It did not actually beggar description, but certainly had that word on the lookout for the mendicancy squad.

English Workshop | Q 10. (c) | Page 189

Pick out and rewrite the exact sentence which indirectly implies the following :
King Solomon would express his jealousy of Jim.

SOLUTION

Had King Solomon been the janitor, with all his treasures piled up in the basement, Jim would have pulled out his watch every time he passed, just to see him pluck at his beard with envy.

English Workshop | Q 10. (d) | Page 189

Pick out and rewrite the exact sentence which indirectly implies the following :
Della spent a joyful time, for two hours.

SOLUTION

The next two hours tripped by on rosy wings.

English Workshop | Q 10. (e) | Page 189

Pick out and rewrite the exact sentence which indirectly implies the following :
Della's elated mood underwent a change as she opened her gift.

SOLUTION

An ecstatic scream of joy; and then alas! A quick feminine change to hysterical tears and wales.

English Workshop | Q 10. (f) | Page 189

Pick out and rewrite the exact sentence which indirectly implies the following :
The weekly income amount does not matter.

SOLUTION

Whenever Mr. James Dillingham Young came home and reached his flat above he was called Jim' and greatly hugged by Mrs. James Dillingham Young.

English Workshop | Q 10. (g) | Page 189

Pick out and rewrite the exact sentence which indirectly implies the following :

Let us set aside our gifts and get ready for dinner.

SOLUTION

Answer not Available.

English Workshop | Q 11.1 | Page 189

Frame wh-question to get the underlined answers.

Life is made up of sobs, sniffles, and smiles.

SOLUTION

What is made up of?

English Workshop | Q 11.2 | Page 189

Frame wh-question to get the underlined answers.

Many a happy hour she had spent planning for something nice for him.

SOLUTION

Who had spent many a happy hour planning so something nice for him?

English Workshop | Q 11.3 | Page 189

Frame wh-question to get the underlined answers.

Her hair reached below her knee.

SOLUTION

Till where did her hair reach.

English Workshop | Q 11.4 | Page 189

Frame wh-question to get the underlined answers.

She was ransacking the stores for Jim's present.

SOLUTION

No sooner did she see it, than she knew that it must be Jim's.

English Workshop | Q 11.5 | Page 189

Frame wh-question to get the underlined answers.

At 7 o'clock the coffee was made.

SOLUTION

When was the coffee made?

English Workshop | Q 11.6 | Page 189

Frame wh-question to get the underlined answers.

The magi were wise men.

SOLUTION

Who were the magi?

English Workshop | Q 12. (A) (1) | Page 189

Add appropriate question tags.

Della leaped up, _____?

SOLUTION

Della leaped up, Didn't she?

English Workshop | Q 12. (A) (2) | Page 189

Add appropriate question tags.

You'll have to look at the time, _____.

SOLUTION

You'll have to look at the time, Won't you?

English Workshop | Q 12. (A) (3) | Page 189

Add appropriate question tags.

They were expensive combs, _____?

SOLUTION

They were expensive combs, Weren't they.

English Workshop | Q 12. (A) (4) | Page 189

Add appropriate question tags.

I just had to do it, _____?

SOLUTION

I just had to do it, Didn't I.

English Workshop | Q 12. (A) (5) | Page 189

Add appropriate question tags.

I am still pretty, _____?

SOLUTION

I am still pretty, aren't I?

English Workshop | Q 12. (A) (6) | Page 189

Add appropriate question tags.

Give it to me quick, _____?

SOLUTION

Give it to me quick, Won't you?

English Workshop | Q 12. (A) (7) | Page 189

Add appropriate question tags.

There was clearly nothing to do, _____?

SOLUTION

There was clearly nothing to do, Was there.

English Workshop | Q 12. (A) (8) | Page 189

Add appropriate question tags.

My hair grows so fast, _____?

SOLUTION

My hair grows so fast, Doesn't it?

English Workshop | Q 12. (A) (9) | Page 189

Add appropriate question tags.

Let's put our Christmas presents away, _____?

SOLUTION

Let's put our Christmas presents away, Shall we?

English Workshop | Q 12. (A) (10) | Page 189

Add appropriate question tags.

She had a habit of saying a silent prayer, _____?

SOLUTION

She had a habit of saying a silent prayer, Didn't she?

English Workshop | Q 12. (B) (1) | Page 189

Supply short answer (Pronoun + Auxiliary Verb).

Don't you like me?

SOLUTION

Yes, I do.

English Workshop | Q 12. (B) (2) | Page 189

Supply short answer (Pronoun + Auxiliary Verb).

Have you cut off your hair?

SOLUTION

Yes, I have.

English Workshop | Q 12. (A) (3) | Page 189

Supply short answer (Pronoun + Auxiliary Verb).

Shall I put the chops on?

SOLUTION

Yes, you will.

English Workshop | Q 12. (B) (4) | Page 190

Supply short answer (Pronoun + Auxiliary Verb).

Isn't it a dandy?

SOLUTION

Yes, it is.

English Workshop | Q 12. (B) (5) | Page 190

Supply short answer (Pronoun + Auxiliary Verb).

Does it make difference?

SOLUTION

Yes, it doesn't.

English Workshop | Q 12. (B) (6) | Page 190

Supply short answer (Pronoun + Auxiliary Verb).

Will you buy my hair?

SOLUTION

I want.

English Workshop | Q 12. (B) (7) | Page 190

Supply short answer (Pronoun + Auxiliary Verb).

Can you afford it?

SOLUTION

I can't.

English Workshop | Q 12. (B) (8) | Page 190

Supply short answer (Pronoun + Auxiliary Verb).

Are you fooling me?

SOLUTION

I am not.

English Workshop | Q 13.1 | Page 190

Pick out the infinitives/ gerunds/ participles from the following sentence and state what one is.

I want to see how it looks.

SOLUTION

to see - infinitive.

English Workshop | Q 13.2 | Page 190

Pick out the infinitives/ gerunds/ participles from the following sentence and state what one is.

I don't like frightening stories.

SOLUTION

frightening - participle.

English Workshop | Q 13.3 | Page 190

Pick out the infinitives/ gerunds/ participles from the following sentence and state what one is.

We decided to settle in Pune

SOLUTION

to settle - infinitive.

English Workshop | Q 13.4 | Page 190

Pick out the infinitives/ gerunds/ participles from the following sentence and state what one is.

Playing a sitar is Arjun's hobby.

SOLUTION

playing - gerund.

English Workshop | Q 13.5 | Page 190

Pick out the infinitives/ gerunds/ participles from the following sentence and state what one is.

It was a horrifying experience for all of us.

SOLUTION

horrifying – participle.