

ENGLISH MARKINGSCHEME

MOCK PPII MARCH/APRIL, 2019

1. The significance of the prologue to the play

'He's Far Too Much'

The prologue appears as a song of the old man. The writer in the song portrays a persona who has struggled with life and has finally given up hope in the life. He looks back and forth merely embraces hopelessness about life and sees nothing to encourage him on and to live for. This pessimistic look at life is what the author opt to begin his story with. To him life is like a shadow and it flies so fast. Even the young who are still vibrant and full of life find themselves withering away after a short span of time. His days have gone and age has caught up with him, yet he looks back at the life he has led with a lot of forlornness and does not see anything good to tell people about.

The play begins with a song in a poetic style.

In the first stanza, the persona addressed those who died before him. This style is called apostrophe – an address to the non-human (the dead) as if they are living human beings. In this address, the persona paints a picture of suffering and hopelessness in this life; a life in which those who live keep on lamenting.

In the second stanza, he traces his life to childhood and sees nothing to be proud about. Here we see the style of flashback. He addresses time directly (apostrophe), personifying the time. Looking at the past, there is nothing to lay his hands on and time to him has been short.

In the third stanza. The persona addressed the many conflicts in the world today where people finish each other- satirizing these conflict in the process.

In stanza 4, he laments about the burdens in life which he has had to carry and has reached the point of giving up. Having lived long, he has learned in the process that he cannot carry everybody's burden successfully. This realization brings to mind the issue of overdependence quite prevalent in the world today. He hoped to look good to everybody. He had wished to drop this burden but he could not. He tries to be more thoughtful and visionary with a resolve to overcome the challenges in life.

In stanza 5, 6 and 7 the persona blames himself, the dependents the society and the problem and begins a search questioning all.

In stanza 8, he comes to the realization that blaming himself and others won't solve the problem. Yesterday is gone, today is spent by tomorrow bears good fruits and bestowing them to his children. Those that bear less burden, focused and working hard are the children of tomorrow. When the persona realized that carrying people's burdens overwhelmed him. He dropped them and his tomorrow became rosier and more blessed. A note of hope is truck in the last stanza giving hope to a verse full of hopelessness. This same fate waits all at the end. Those with lighter burdens and those with heavy ones must all die.

Analysis of the song

The old man summarizes life in general and admonishes people not to be over dependent and to make a choice their well-being. This is the main message in the book – the core of the matter. He gives hope for a better tomorrow for those that will take his advice seriously either an individuals or whole societies by saying '.... yesterday has passed, and today is far spend by thee is hope for tomorrow will bear fruits and bestowed them upon her children....' this note of hope is found amidst lots of despair. This hope is pegged on only one factor'.... this new burden which I put upon myself – which I willingly put upon myself....' Repeated for emphasis, will lighten.

ANSWERS: THE PLAY 'HE'S FAR TOO MUCH'

1. Mari came to Tumach's abode at the cave on his invitation where she once lived with him. On arrival, she asked whether she was to sit and was told by Tumach to sit on a sofa. Tumach talks of having bought that sofa from Paris. Man protests there is no sofa. After he extract, Tumach still insists there is a sofa and a derisive laughter from Heezfar's voice follows:
2. Mari – a) realistic – sees no sofa and says so.
 - b) sarcastic – asks Tumach not to make her break her back sitting on thin air.

Tumach – a) imaginative – imagines the existence of non-absent sofa.

- b) Unrealistic – invites Mari to sit on imaginary sofa

3. Fantasy

This is one of the major themes in the book

- Tumach fantasizes on imaginary sofa bough in Paris

- He invites his girlfriend to come and see the difference when in fact there is nothing to see whatsoever.
- Invites his guest to sit on non-existent sofa

Elsewhere,

- The derision persists and both Tumach and Heezfar imagine things to be existing in their cave dwelling that are non-existent.
- They imagine themselves asking for permission from their bosses to hold lavish birthday parties that are non-existent.

4. Satire

Mari satirizes Tumach when she enquires of the sofa she is invited to sit on and resists sitting on thin air claiming this would break her back.

Elsewhere there is symbolism where a tree is used to symbolize good life.

5. Mariam Mtarambura from Mpasambi