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Unit-I

(4) THE GIFT OF THE MAGI

O'Henry

H.S. EXAM. QUESTIONS

A. Very short type questions :

Mark : 1

1. How much money had Della managed to save for Jim's present? [H.S.'16]

2. What was the full name of Jim? [H.S.'16]

3. What is the full name of Jim in the story, 'The Gift of the Magi'? [H.S.'16, 17]

4. How much used Jim to earn earlier? [H.S.'16, 17]

5. Who did Della go to get money for Jim's present? [H.S.'18]

6. What was Jim's gift for Della? [H.S.'18]

B. Short Type Questions : Marks :2/3

1. What were the prized possessions of the James Dillingham Youngs? [H.S.'16]

2. What does Della expect Jim to say when he returns and sees her? [H.S.'16]

3. Who were the Magi? [H.S.'17]

4. What did Jim do to get a gift for Della? [H.S.'17]

5. Why was Della worried that Jim would be displeased? [H.S.'18]

6. What did Della do after reaching home? [H.S.'18]

C. Essay Type Questions : Marks :4/5

1. Why did Jim say their presents were "too nice to use just at present"? [H.S.'16]

2. Show how the twist in the tale makes the story of Jim and Della a moral lesson. [H.S.'17]

3. Describe what Della does from the moment she decides to earn money for Jim's gift till the moment she earns it. [H.S.'18]

4. Explain with reference to the context of the following :

(a) So Della did it. Which instigates the reflection that life is made up of sobs, sniffles, and smiles, with sniffles predominating. [H.S.'16]

(b) Della finished her cry and attended to her cheeks with the powder rag. She stood by the window and looked out dully at a grey cat walking a grey fence in a grey backyard. [H.S.'17]

(c) "Dell", said he, "let's put our Christmas presents away and keep 'em a while. They're too nice to use just at present." [H.S.'18]

Additional Important Questions

A. Very Short Type Questions : Marks :1

- Who wrote "The Gift of the Magi"?
- When was William Sydney Porter born?
- Where was William Sydney Porter born?
- Name the Book where O'Henry's adventure stories appeared during his time in prison.
- What is Jim's full name?
- How much money had Della managed to save for Jim's present?

7. Who was Della?

8. For what occasion did Della save money to buy a gift?

9. What was the weekly income of Dillingham Youngs?

10. What was the possession that Jim took pride?

11. What was the possession that Della took pride?

12. Who did she go to, to get money for Jim's present?

13. What was Della's gift for Jim?

14. What was Jim's gift for Della?

15. What amount did Della receive after she had sold her hair?

16. What was Della's treasured possession?

17. How old was Jim as mentioned in the story?

B. Short Type Questions : Marks :2/3

1. How did Della save money?

2. How was the living condition of Dillingham Youngs?

3. Della, being slender, had mastered the art." What was the art?

4. What were the two possessions of the James Dillingham Youngs in which they both took a mighty pride?

5. Bring out the relation between Della and the Queen of Sheba.

6. Bring out the relation between Jim and King Solomon.

7. Who were the Magi?

8. Why was Della worried?

9. What did Jim do to get a gift for Della?

10. What did Della do after reaching home?

11. What was Jim's reaction when he returned home?

12. How were Jim and Della considered as the 'magi'?

C. Essay Type Questions : Marks :4/5

1. Show how the 'twist in the tale' makes the story of Jim and Della a moral lesson.

2. Examine the significance and appropriateness of the title of the story.

3. Based on the events, attempt a justification of the story as an example of comic irony.

4. Explain with reference to the context.

(a) Pennies saved one and two at a time by bulldozing the grocer and the vegetable man and the butcher until one's cheeks burned with the silent imputation of parsimony that such a close dealing implied.

(b) A furnished flat at \$8 per week. It did not

exactly beggar description, but it certainly had that word on the lookout for the mendicancy squad.

- (c) Many a happy hour she had spent planning for something nice for him. Something fine and rare and sterling- something just a little

bit near to being worthy of the honor of being owned by Jim.

- (d) They're too nice to use just at present.
(e) ... of all who give and receive gifts, such as they are wisest. Everywhere they are wisest. They are the magi.