

MOTHER'S DAY

Q1. Contrast and compare the characters of Mrs. Pearson and Mrs. Fitzgerald?

Answer. There is a sharp contrast between Mrs. Pearson and Mrs. Fitzgerald. Mrs. Pearson is a caring mother and a submissive wife who is always ready to serve her family. She had dedicated all her time and energy serving the family and she likes it too. On the other hand, Mrs. Fitzgerald is an assertive and dominating woman. She is exact opposite to Mrs. Pearson. She is older, heavier and has strong sinister personality.

Mrs. Pearson always wears a worried face as she is not happy with the way she is treated by other members of the family. The husband and two children are busy in parties and clubs whereas she is left alone in the house. She is made to take orders and fulfill their demand throughout the day. It seems that she has lost her individuality and respect that she deserves in the family. She is also a timid lady who is unable to take any tough action against her family. On the other hand, Mrs. Fitzgerald believes in equal treatment of woman in a family. She is well experienced and smart enough to handle the family.

Q2. How did Mrs. Fitzgerald manage to correct the family members of Mrs. Pearson?

Answer. Mrs. Fitzgerald is a magician with dominating and sinister personality. Being a magician, she can read her mind that she is not happy with the conduct/behavior of family members. She plans to change their personalities and then handle the family as Mrs. Pearson. Once changed, Mrs. Pearson becomes direct, quick and harsh in her.

Doris is the first of the family members who tastes the bitterness of her tongue. When she asks about tea and her yellow dress, the mother plainly refuses to follow the order. She also expresses her low opinion for her friend Charlie Spence saying that he is a half-witted man with buck teeth. When she asks if she was feeling off coloured, she shouts her down for speaking nonsense. Now comes Cyril who gets angry not to find tea ready for him. She has not brought out his things as well. She does not even spare her husband George Pearson who is shocked to see her sipping stout beer. He says that he does not like it but the woman plainly ignores his advice. She tells him not to be smart as he is called omphy-pompy Pearson in club. She even threatens to slap her for speaking ill with her friend Mrs. Fitzgerald.

Q3. How is Mrs. Pearson and Mrs. Fitzgerald contrasted?

Answer. Mrs. Pearson and Fitzgerald are as different as chalk from cheese. Mrs. Pearson is in her early forties. She is a pleasant woman who is happy with her small family for four. She speaks in light tone like a submissive member of the family. But at the same time, he is a little worried with the way family members treat her. On the other hand, Mrs. Fitzgerald has a sinister personality with harsh tone.

Q4. What problem did Mrs. Pearson face while dealing with the members of her family?

Answer. Mrs. Pearson was a caring mother and a submissive wife. She devoted all her time and energy serving the family. But the other members had no feeling for her. They treated her like dirt and wanted her to fulfill all their demands. They were busy in parties and clubs while she was left all alone longing for their company.

Q5. How did Mrs. Fitzgerald plan to deal with the family?

Answer. Mrs. Fitzgerald, the magician, decided to teach the family members a tough lesson for their ill-treatment with Mrs. Pearson. She planned to change personalities that will make Mrs. Pearson bolder and more assertive. Then she could handle the family members as Mrs. Pearson.

Q6. What were the two reasons that annoyed Doris?

or

What did Mrs. Pearson think about Charlie Spence?

Answer. Doris, the daughter of Mrs. Pearson, believed that she had come home after a day long hard work but the mother did not even bother to get him tea. Secondly, she planned to attend a party with her friend Charlie Spence, but the mother had low opinion for him. She said that the boy was half witted and buck teeth. Moreover, the mother had not ironed her sild dress for the party.

Q7. 'I'll hit you with something, girl, if you don't stop, asking silly questions.' Says Mrs. Pearson to Doris. What was the 'silly' question?

Answer. Doris does not believe her ears when mother says that she is planning to go off for the weekend. She enquires where and with whom she would go. Thereupon, she tells her that it was none of her business. Dorris asks her if she had fallen or hit her head with something. Mrs. Pearson rebukes the girl for this nonsense.

Q8. What was the horrible sight that met the eyes of Doris when she entered the house? What happened next?

Answer. Doris was surprised and frightened to see her mother puffing a cigar and playing cards. She could never expect such behavior from a submissive and passive woman. When she asked her what she was doing, she got a harsh unexpected reply, 'whitewashing the ceiling.' She also felt that the mother looking same from outside but she has completely change from inside. She was bolder, direct and quick in her reaction.

Q9. Why is Cyril Pearson annoyed with the mother?

Answer. Cyril Pearson was angry with the mother when he learnt that she had not made tea ready for him. Moreover, she had neither taken out the things that Cyril would take with him nor mended them. He could not believe that the mother could talk back to him in that rude manner.

Q10. 'This is a nice way to talk what would happened if we all talked like that?' Says Cyril. In what context does he say so?

Answer. Cyril was annoyed with the other as she had not made tea for him although he did not want to take one. Secondly, she had not mended his things that he needed for party that night. Thereupon, she tells him that she does not like mending and thus won't do it. Cyril expressed surprise at such behavior and asks what would happen if all talked like that. The mother replies that they all do the same things. They all make a union and throw orders upon her. She says that She has also joined the movement now.

Q11. What changes in the behavior of Mrs. Pearson startle Doris and Cyril?

Answer. Doris and Cyril do not believe their eyes when they see the mother puffing cigarette with one hand and stound in the other. thought she is looking the same but her behavior is altogether changed. Cyril asks if she has gone mad. Doris thinks that she has hit her head with something. Thereupon, they get a befitting reply when she takes them on task for talking nonsense.

Q12. What was the horrible sight met the eyes of Mrs. George Pearson when he gets home?

Answer. George Pearson's eyes are bulging out when he sees his wife Pearson taking a sip of stout beer. When he says that it does not suits her; she replies that it was for 'a nice change'. George was astonished and a little frightened to see such change in her behavior.

Q13. "Sometime it does good to have their feeling hurt." Who says this and in what context?

Answer. When George Pearson gets him, Mrs. Pearson informs him that she did not bother to make tea as she did not feel like having one. He gets angry not to find tea ready for him, though he did not like to take it as well. Thereupon, she asks him to do it in the club. They would laugh at him and make a joke out of it.

Q14. Why does Mrs. Pearson threaten her husband George Pearson to slap?

Answer. Mrs. Pearson remarked that George Pearson was called pompy-omply Pearson in the club. The other members took him as subject of joke. George feels humiliated and angry for being disgraced before the neighbour. He loses his temper and asks her if she has gone a little barmy. Thereupon, the wife shouts him down and even threatens to slap him.