THE RATTRAP

UNDERSTANDING AND TEXT BASED

Q1. From where did the peddler get the idea of the world being a rattrap?

Q2. Why was he amused by this idea?

Q3. Did the peddler expect kind hospitality that he received from the crofter?

Q4. Why was the crofter so talkative and friendly with the peddler?

Q5. Why did he show the thirty kronor to the peddler?

Q6. Did the peddler respect the confidence reposed in him by the crofter?

Q7. What made the peddler think that he had indeed fallen into a rattrap?

Q8. What made the peddler accept the Edla Willmansson’s invitation?

Q9. What doubts did the Edla have about the peddler?

Q10. When did the ironmaster realize his mistake?

Q11. Who did the peddler defend himself against not having revealed his true identity?

Q12. Why was Edla happy to see the gift left by the peddler?

Q13. Why did the peddler sign himself as Captain von Stahle?

Q14. What are the instances in the story that show that the character of the ironmaster is different from that of his daughter in many ways?

Q15. How does the metaphor of the rattrap serve to highlight the human predicament?

VALUE BASED

Q16. Honesty is considered the best policy for earning one’s bread and butter. Stealing is a sin and a punishable act. Vagabonds tend to forget this essential goodness. Elucidate the dictum in not more than 120 words in the light of the following lines:

“He made them himself at odd moments, from the material he got by begging in the stores or at the big farms. But even so, the business was not especially profitable, so he had to resort to both begging and petty thievery to keep body and soul together.”

Q17. Voltaire has rightly remarked that ‘Love truth, but pardon error’. It is by forgiving that one is forgiven. Sympathy is a divine virtue. It is indispensible for a philanthropist. Elucidate the dictum in not more than 120 words. You can take ideas from the following expressions.

“Since you have been so nice to me all day long, as if I was a captain, I want to be nice to you, in return, as if I was a real captain- for I do not want you to be embarrassed at this Christmas season by a thief; but you can give back the money to the old man on the roadside……”