

Reading

A) 1) What surprised the speaker when he was on his way home?

A- The dog and a woman's handbag in his care rattled him when he was on his way home.

2) What did the speaker find in cubbyhole? What did he think on seeing the items?

A- On seeing the woman's handbag in the cubbyhole, the narrator suspected whether ^{he was in} ~~he was~~ the dog's ~~car~~ care or the dog in his care.

3) No, there was nothing for it but to drive out and make a clean breast of it.

a) Where had the speaker decided to drive to?

A- He decided to drive to the farmhouse.

b) ^{How} ~~who~~ was he going to 'make a clean breast of it'?

A- He would narrate how he lost his care and mistakenly drove the woman's care.

c) How was he feeling when he made this decision?

A- He felt nervous when he made this decision.

4) Who was Arthur? Who was Sheila?

A- Arthur was the farmer whose name was written on the collar of the dog and Sheila was the dog itself.

5) "No, you haven't, darling, you put them in Mr. What's-it's care."

a) Who said this to whom?

A- Arthur told this to his wife.

b) Who was Mr. What's-it? Why was he called so?

A- ~~Darling~~ The narrator was Mr. What's-it. He was called so as the farmer didn't know his name.

c) What had 'darling' put in his care?

A- Darling - the farmer's wife had put her bag and the dog in Mr. What's-it care.

B) Give reasons, why -

1) the speaker disliked shopping in town.

A- The speaker disliked shopping in town due to space crunch to park cars and all cars of one colour leading to confusion.

2) the speaker thought 'Arthur' was a silly name for a dog.

A- He thought so, as it was a masculine name.

3) the speaker said 'it took quite a bit of courage to turn round and go back?'

A- The speaker said so as he thought that the farmer might think he had robbed the farmer's car.

4) the speaker's wife was upset with him.

A- The speaker's wife was upset with him as he couldn't reach home on time and his wife had to do shopping for home.

Q1) Why is the story called A Slight Misunderstanding?

Is what happens in fact a slight misunderstanding?

A- The appropriate title 'A slight misunderstanding' is a befitting title to the story narrating incident highlighting that a little care would have saved everyone's time. The farmer's wife while having a word with Mabel makes the first faux pas when she keeps her dog and the handbag in the narrator's car. The woman is a little scatterbrained who mistook the narrator's car as her own which hastened the acceleration of the story. The narrator was so beset with all the black cars, he started searching for his own car while driving already driving it. Everything becomes clear when the farmer points out the car number and the narrator is relieved.

Q2) Do you think the speaker's carelessness and inattention are responsible for the events of the story? Or is it the woman's fault? Give reasons for your

answer.

A- The narrator should have been a little more careful in handling these responsible affairs. He should have parked his car at a strategic location and must have checked his car before having a word for the go. ~~The~~ The woman is also equally held up for the same misunderstanding. She failed to recognize her car and kept her bag and the dog in the narrator's car which subsequently snowballed into a full fledged misunderstanding.

USING WORDS

Underline the word in each set that cannot be used to describe the noun.

- 1) slight, serious, heavy, possible, misunderstanding
- 2) whole, complete, total, perfect, stranger
- 3) loud, nervous, thin, good, laugh
- 4) genuine, common, extreme, costly, mistake
- 5) sure, true, close, special, friend