

# St. Andrews Scots Sr. Sec. School

9th Avenue, I.P. Extension, Patparganj, Delhi – 110092

Session: 2024-2025 - Notes

**Class:X**

**Subject:English**

**Topic: Ch-1 A Letter to God**

Q1. Why were Lencho and his family in distress? Whom did he ask for help?

Ans. Lencho's crops were completely destroyed by the hailstones. He feared that he and his family would go hungry. He had no one to help him, but he had full faith in God whose eyes, as he believed, see everything. He wrote a letter to God asking for hundred pesos to sow the crop and live until the next harvest.

Q2. Lencho calls the raindrops 'new coins'. Why does he call them so?

Ans. Lencho hoped to get good harvest from his cornfields, as the earth was being blessed with the much-needed shower. When the raindrops began dropping down, he exclaimed that they were new coins falling down from the skies. He suggested that the big drops were ten cent each, and the smaller ones five cents each. The comparison has been made, to suggest to the reader, the significance of rain in the life of a farmer.

Q3. What impression do you form about the postmaster after reading the story, 'A Letter to God'?

Ans. After reading the story, we learn that the postmaster was a kind, generous, helpful, amiable and God-fearing man. He was generous, as he helped Lencho with seventy pesos. He even signed it as 'God' in order to maintain his faith in God. Though he did laugh at Lencho's letter, but he did not make fun of his faith, which proves that he was a man with a golden heart.

Q4. "I wish I had the faith of the man." Describe Lencho's character in the light of the above statement.

Ans. Lencho was a hardworking farmer. He had good knowledge of farming and knew his crop needed a downpour to give him good yield. Lencho had great faith in God. Unfortunately, nature played a cruel game on the poor farmer. The hailstones that fell along with the rains, destroyed his entire crop. Lencho was sad, but he never blamed God or nature for what had happened. Even during this desperate moment, his faith in the almighty was pure, strong and deep-rooted. He knew that it was only the all-knowing God, who could help him. He was a simple and innocent farmer who could not reason out things logically, or deal with the situation he found himself and his family in. Lencho was a caring head of the family. He got sad and worried that his family would have to go hungry. Therefore, he wrote a letter to God, seeking financial aid, to help him tide over the crisis. His request was for a small sum of 100 pesos, and not for a fortune, which clarifies the fact that he was not a greedy or selfish man. The devotion of Lencho, made the postmaster wish that he too possessed the same faith in the almighty, as did the farmer.



Q5. There are two kinds of conflicts in the story: between humans and nature, and between humans themselves. How are these conflicts illustrated?

Ans. The first conflict between humans and nature is aptly depicted by the destruction of Lencho's crops by the hailstorm. As the crops fail, Lencho started feeling sad and gloomy. This appropriately projects the conflict between humans and nature.

The second conflict depicted in the story is between humans themselves. Being a noble soul, the postmaster, along with the help of the other post office employees, sent Lencho all the money that they had managed to collect. Despite not being related to Lencho, or knowing him personally, they had acted kindly and selflessly. Unfortunately, Lencho who lived a very solitary life, seemed to have little or no faith in human beings and their ways. He blamed the postal employees and assumed that they had taken away some amount of money, that God had sent him. This is a typical example of conflict between humans themselves.

