St. Andrews Scots Sr. Sec. School

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Session: 2026- 2027

NOTES

Class - VIII **Subject - English** **Topic - The Luncheon**

A. Answer the following questions briefly -

1. The narrator thought that a modest luncheon at Foyot's should not cost more than fifteen francs. He had eighty francs and could manage well enough the rest of the month. If he cut out coffee for the next two weeks he believed he could afford a lunch at Foyot's.

2. For luncheon, the lady ordered salmon, caviar, asparagus, ice cream and coffee. She also had a peach.

3. The narrator was panic-stricken while asparagus was being cooked because it was very expensive and he didn't know whether he had enough money to pay for it.

4. The lady's excuse for ordering coffee and ice cream was that one should always get up from a meal feeling one could eat a little more.

5. If the bill turned out to be more than the amount the narrator was carrying, he decided he would put his hand in his pocket and say that it had been picked.

6. The narrator had his revenge at last because the lady weighed twenty-one stone today.

B.RTC-

1.
(a) The lady spoke these words.

(b) They were meeting after twenty years.

(c) 'How time does fly' means time passes surprisingly quickly.

2.
(a) The lady said these words to the narrator because she thought it was unwise to eat meat and she did not believe in overloading the stomach.

(b) This sentence is humorous because the lady had herself eaten caviar and salmon but the narrator had only a mutton chop.

C.Answer the following questions in detail -

1. According to the narrator, the lady was imposing rather than attractive. She gave the narrator the impression of having more teeth, white and large. She was talkative also.

2. The lady contributes more to the humour in the story. Initially, she says that she never eats anything for luncheon. Later, however, she asks for salmon, caviar, asparagus, ice cream and coffee. She keeps saying that she never eats more than one thing and at the same time orders for one more expensive food item.

3. There are a number of instances of irony in the story. Although the narrator had little money, he still invited the lady to Foyot's, a very expensive restaurant. Also, though the lady said that she never ate more than one thing, she kept ordering for more items which were expensive. It is also ironic that whenever an expensive dish was served, the narrator kept thinking how he would pay the hefty bill.

4. The narrator is a very humorous writer. Though the lady had read a book of the narrator 20 years back, he agreed to invite her for luncheon at an expensive restaurant of Paris. He was calculative and earned barely enough money. He could not muster the courage to refuse the lady who kept ordering expensive dishes like caviar, salmon and asparagus, which he could not afford. He seems shy and low in confidence. He knew that he had only eighty francs to last the rest of the month and even then agreed to order expensive dishes for the lady. He remained a silent spectator and ended up paying a huge bill.