

St. Andrews Scots Sr. Sec. School

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Session: 2024-2025- Notes

Class: IX

Subject: English

Topic: Keeping it from Harold

Answer the following questions :

Q1. Why was it necessary to keep Harold's father's profession a secret from him?

Ans. It was necessary to keep Harold's father's profession a secret from him because the child was studious and therefore a class above his parents. He was regarded to be of a superior order being brainy, making it necessary for his parents to keep his father's real profession a secret from him.

Q2. Who was Jerry Fisher? What did he say to try and convince Bill to change his mind?

Ans. Jerry Fischer was the trainer of Mr Bramble. He tried to persuade Bramble to change his mind and reminded him of the prize money he would earn from the fight. He also told him about the press coverage he would receive, the trouble he had taken to train for the fight and how by winning the fight he would qualify to fight another famed boxer, Sid Simpson.

Q3. Do you agree with Harold's parents hiding the fact that his father was a boxer? Why/ Why not?

Ans. His parents' decision of hiding the true profession was right because it made Harold strive on his own to earn the respect of his classmates. He was liked for his cleverness and not for his parentage before his classmates. It made Harold work harder at his lessons and win prizes because he could not excel before his peers by talking about his parents' achievements.

Q4. Why did Mr Bramble decide at the last minute not to fight with American Murphy at the National Sporting Club?

Ans. Mr Bramble decided not to fight with American Murphy as the fight would be reported in the National Mail, a paper which Harold read, he would become aware of his father's true identity, a fact that they had hidden from him, imagining that the revelation would shame him utterly.

Q5. Bill Bramble and his better-half were lovers of truth but they had to sacrifice it for Harold. Give answer with reference to the lesson.

Ans. Harold Bramble, the son of Bill Bramble was a prodigy child. His perfection made Bill Bramble and his better-half hide the truth of his child. It was their perception that Harold would die of dishonour if he knew about the truth. It should not come in his knowledge that Bill was a 'professional boxer and famously known among Londoners as "Young Porky'. Harold was made to believe that his father was a commercial traveller.



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Q6. Write a pen-portrait of Harold Bramble taking into account his intelligence and decency but hatred for truth being hid from him.

Ans. Harold Bramble was an obedient ten-year old son of the Brambles. He was very studious and hardworking and liked to be respected by his peers. He was not much concerned about his social status. He was an ardent fan of the top boxers of his time. He was a source of amazement to Mrs Bramble. Harold Bramble was totally different from the children of his age. He was an epitome of intelligence, good behavior and decency. These qualities of Harold Bramble became a drawback for the Brambles family. They were of the opinion that Brambles' profession would bring discredit and embarrassment to Harold. This is why they did not reveal his true identity. Before the world, he was 'Young Porky' but in the eyes of Harold Bramble, he was a commercial traveller. After knowing the truth of his father, Harold was embarrassed. He hated truth being kept away from him. After knowing the truth that his own father was 'Young Porky', he was quite enthusiastic and thrilled. Had he known the reality of his father, his friends would not have dared to call him 'Googles'. The true identity of his father would have been the greatest honour and pride for him.

