

# **St. Andrews Scots Sr. Sec. School**

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

**Session: 2025- 2026**

## **NOTES**

**Class - IX**

**Subject - English**

**Topic – Keeping it from Harold**

### **Q. Short Q-Ans –**

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

Ans. Harold's father was a professional boxer while Harold was an intellectual genius. At that time, boxing was not considered a respectable profession and his parents thought that it may be difficult for Harold to accept that his father was such a person. Hence, they felt that it was necessary to keep his father's profession a secret from Harold.

#### **2. Describe Mr Bramble as he has been described in the story.**

Ans. Mr Bramble was a professional boxer popularly known as 'Young Porky'. He was very talented and had one many boxing matches. However, he was gentle mild and submissive at home. Though he looked like a tough boxer with his square jaw and irregularly shaped nose he was a very sensitive man. He was easily persuaded and influenced. He was so selfless and sacrificing that he even decided to give up his profession for his son's sake.

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

Ans. Jerry Fisher was Bill's trainer. He tried in all possible ways to convince Bill to fight. Jerry told Bill that he would lose a lot of money, the spectators would be disappointed and the media would not be kind to him. However, if he fought and won the match, he would win a large sum of money besides gaining popularity.

#### **4. Why was Harold upset that his father had not told him about his true identity? Give 2 reasons.**

Ans. Harold was upset because he regretted that he had been deprived of the pleasure of calling himself Young porky's son. His schoolmates teased him by calling him 'Goggles' due to the spectacles that he wore. Had they known who his father really was, they would have never dared to make fun of him. He also felt bad about being denied the opportunity of showing off that he was the son of a famous boxer.

#### **5. Do you agree with Harold's parents decision of hiding from him the fact that his father was a boxer? Why or why not?**

Ans. I agree with Harold's parents decision of hiding from him the real nature of his father's profession. They felt that society at that time considered a professional boxer to be as a cheap entertainer. They wanted Harold to be saved from the agony of being called the son of a boxer.

However, they did not realise that times had changed and boxers were heroes of the younger generation.

**6. Why did Mr Bramble decide at the last minute not to fight with American Murphy at the national sporting Club?**

Ans. Mr Bramble decided at the last minute to not fight with American Murphy at the national sporting club because he received many letters from Percy stating that the national coverage of the match would ensure that Harold will learn about his father's 'shameless' profession. He got influenced by what Percy had written and decided to quit boxing to become an instructor.

**7. "Don't judge a book by its cover." Discuss with reference to Mr Bramble's personality.**

Ans. It is true to say that we should not judge a book by its cover. Mr Bramble's profession is in contrast with his personality. Although he has a big and strong body, he has a genial smile and his one of the mildest and most obliging men. He could be easily persuaded and was not a violent man in his private life.

**Q. Long Q-Ans –**

**1. Did Harald react the way his parents expected him to on finding out about his fathers true profession? Give reasons for your answer.**

Ans. No, Harold did not react the way his parents expected him to react on finding out about his father's true profession.

Bill, Jane and Percy had thought that Harold would feel ashamed if he got to know the truth. Harold was considered to be a gentleman someone who was in total contrast with Bill and Jerry. Thus, they felt that Harold would be disgraced by his father's true profession and would hate him. However, when Harold found out the truth, he was angry at his father, not because he was ashamed of his profession, but because his father had never told him that he was the popular boxer 'Young Porky'. He revealed that he liked boxing and wanted his father to fight because he could get rid of bullies and win the bet.

**2. Describe Harald in your own words.**

Ans. Harold was an extraordinarily intelligent boy with deep interest in academics. To his parents he was a genius and a model of good behaviour. In fact, his parents were in awe of him and wondered how such a child had been born to them. Later on we find that he has an interest in boxing and has in depth knowledge about it as well.

**3. Why was Harold called a 'prodigy'?**

Ans. Harold, a 10 year old boy, is rightly termed as a prodigy. He was an extraordinary child at a very young age. He won many prizes in school competitions and also had an interest in singing. He sang in the Choir. He was a multifaceted child who excelled in academics in the same way as his father excelled in boxing.

**4. Write the character sketch of Bill Bramble.**

Ans. Bill Bramble was a professional boxer with a public name 'Young Porky' and he was very proud of this, until the birth of his genius child. He had won almost all his contest in his weight

category. He was so skilled that he could defeat his opponent with his single move. He is a sensitive father and always cared for his child's education so, he kept the secret about his profession as it might affect his child's education. He was also the mildest and the most obliging man.

**5. Write the character sketch of Jerry Fisher?**

Ans. Jerry Fisher was a boxing coach or trainer at White Hart, where Bill was training for the match. He was a hard trainer. He was so proud of Bill and sure for his victory. He was completely fed up with the decision of bill not to play the match. He tried to convince bill to change his mind. He reminded him about the great amount of money that they would get by participating in the fight but to his revenge, he wanted to speak the truth of his father's profession to Harold.