

St. Andrews Scots Sr. Sec. School

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Session: 2026-2027 - Notes

Class -IX

Subject - English.

Topic: The Pot Maker

Answer the following questions :

Q1. Why does Arenla not want Sentila to learn pot-making?

Answer: Arenla believes that pot making is a hard and tedious process, which is very exhausting. On top of that, it brings only small returns. The effort of pot makers hardly matches the money they earn. Therefore, she wants Sentila to learn weaving instead, hoping it will provide her daughter with a more comfortable and secure future.

Q 2. How does Sentila show determination in learning pottery?

Answer: From the very beginning, Sentila was determined to learn pottery so she secretly watches the village pot makers shaping beautiful pots. She practices secretly despite her mother's refusal, and continues trying even after repeated failure, showing strong determination and dedication.

3. What role does tradition play in the story?

Answer: Tradition shapes the community's identity, passing skills from one generation to another, and Sentila's journey shows how personal passion can preserve and continue cultural heritage. The story represents that pottery is not just about making vessels, it reflects tradition, cultural beliefs and artistic expression of a community. Thus, we can say that tradition has a significant role in pottery.

4. What happens when Sentila is left alone in the pottery shed?

Answer: When left alone, Sentila instinctively creates perfectly shaped pots, revealing her natural talent and proving that pot-making is truly her calling. It reflects her true love and passion for pottery and precisely mentions her speed and creativity while shaping that beautiful batch.

5. Why did Sentila want to become a pot maker?

Answer: Sentila dreamed of becoming a pot maker like her mother and grandmother because she was deeply fascinated by the craft. Watching the clay take shape filled her with joy and inspired her to learn the traditional skill.

6. Why did Sentila keep her interest in pottery a secret?

Answer: Sentila overheard her mother complaining about pot making and refusing to teach her. Fearing disapproval and conflict at home, she chose to hide her fascination. Instead of giving up, she secretly visited expert potters to learn the craft on her own. This shows her determination and quiet courage. Despite obstacles, she remained committed to her dream, carefully balancing respect for her mother with her strong desire to pursue pottery.

Answer the following questions in detail:

1. 1. Why was Sentila unable to learn from her mother initially?

Answer. Although Sentila was eager to learn, she felt tense and frustrated while working with her mother. The pressure and fear of making mistakes affected her performance. Her lack of confidence prevented her from shaping the clay properly despite repeated attempts. This situation shows how emotions can influence learning. Despite her interest, she struggled to express her skills, highlighting the need for patience, encouragement, and a supportive environment to build confidence.

2. 2. How did Onula help Sentila?

Answer: Onula noticed Sentila's tension and calmly guided her through the process. She patiently demonstrated each step, showing her how to handle the clay with care. Onula encouraged her to stay relaxed and focused, building her confidence. She also advised Sentila to carefully observe her mother's technique, especially while shaping the mouth of the pot. This guidance helped Sentila learn more effectively and gradually improve her skills.