

St. Andrews Scots Sr. Sec. School

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Session: 2025- 2026

NOTES

Class - IX

Subject - English

Topic - Villa For Sale (Drama)

RTC.

1. **Gaston I told you before we crossed the road that I didn't want it. As soon as you see a sign 'Villa for Sale', you have to go inside and be shown over it..**

Jeanne: But we are buying a villa, aren't we?

Gaston We are not.

Jeanne What do you mean: 'We are not'? Then we're not looking for a villa?

- (a) What do you mean by 'we are not'?**

Ans. "We are not" means that Gaston and Jeanne are not buying any villa.

- (b) Do you really think that they are not buying the villa?**

Ans. Jeanne wants to buy it but Gaston doesn't seem to be At all interested.

- (c) Did Gaston stick to his decision till the end?**

Ans. Yes, because he had already sold it before buying it, making a profit of one hundred thousand francs.

- (d) What do you understand by the phrase 'be shown over it'?**

Ans. The phrase 'be shown over it' means that she wanted to go inside the villa and see it.

2. **Copies are not always good. We could only imitate you and imitations are no better than parodies. We are so different. Think of it...**

- (a) What does the speaker mean by 'we' and 'you'?**

Ans. 'We' refers to Europeans, particularly the French, while 'you' refers to Americans.

- (b) What context are they talking in?**

Ans. Mrs. Al Smith is ridiculing the French while Gaston is denying her claims.

- (c) What do you mean by 'parodies'?**

Ans. Parodies are an imitation of the style of a particular writer, artist or genre with deliberate exaggeration for comic effect. Here, it means copying the lifestyle.

Q Answer the following questions in brief:

Q1. Why does Jeanne want to buy the Villa?

Ans. Jeanne wants to buy the villa primarily to provide a comfortable home for her parents and also to offer a place for her sister and her children to stay. She envisions the villa as a place where her family can stay for part of the year, demonstrating her love and desire to make her parents happy and proud.

Q2. Why is Gaston not interested in buying the villa in the beginning?

Ans. Gaston was not interested in buying the villa because his wife, Jeanne, wanted to buy it for her parents, not for themselves. He disliked the idea of his in-laws, along with her sister's children, occupying the villa for most of the year, and he found the price of 200,000 francs to be too expensive.

Q3. Who is better in business: Juliette or Gaston?

Ans. Gaston is a better businessman than Juliette because of his quick thinking, strategic negotiation, and opportunistic nature, evident in his ability to secure a 100,000 franc profit from Juliette's villa deal without having to spend any money. Juliette, in contrast, is portrayed as less business-savvy, taking a month to find a buyer and being outsmarted by Gaston.

Q4. What mistake was made by Mrs. Al Smith on seeing Gaston at Juliette's villa? What is the result of this mistake?

Ans. Mrs. Al Smith mistook Gaston as Juliette's husband when she saw him at the villa. As a result, Gaston, being an opportunist, took advantage of the situation. He sold the villa that did not even belong to him at a much higher price, thereby making a huge profit.

Q5. 9. Why does Gaston agree to buy the villa?

OR

Describe how the villa was sold.

Ans. Gaston was initially reluctant to buy the villa. He was waiting for his wife when Mrs. Al Smith arrived and mistook him to be the owner of the villa. Gaston tricked her into buying the villa for three hundred thousand francs. It was for this reason that he seemed to have changed his view, He then bought the villa from Juliette for two hundred thousand francs and hence, made a huge profit.

Answer the following questions in detail:

Q1. Write the character Sketch of Gaston.

6. Gaston has proved his cunningness in business matters, but as far as moral ethics are concerned, there is a definite lack of it in him. Gaston is a shrewd and cunning opportunist who

Possesses much business sense. This is evident from the way he manages to sell Juliette's villa at a much higher price than she demanded, even before having bought it himself. He thus earns a profit of a hundred thousand francs, without having to invest anything at all. Thus, he proves his cunningness in business matters. Though Gaston has shrewd business sense, he lacks business and moral ethics. To sell something which belongs to somebody else is certainly unethical. Besides, there are more important values in life which Gaston lacks and should actually have possessed to come out as a lovable character in the play.

Gaston is a male chauvinist (a man who believes that men are more important and intelligent than women) who does not have any respect for his wife or her family and often criticises her openly. He suspects that Jeanne wants to buy the villa for her own parents. He has spent all her dowry, has made plenty of money for himself and is still reluctant to spend it for his wife's happiness. This shows that he is quite mean and money-minded.

Q2. Write the character Sketch of Juliette.

Ans. Juliette in "Villa for Sale" is a fickle-minded and opportunistic woman who is desperate to sell her villa due to financial difficulties, but also emotionally attached to it, leading to inconsistent pricing and actions. She is initially presented as a seemingly polite and business-minded person, yet her true nature emerges through her quick shifts in mood, her willingness to exploit potential buyers' interest, and her ultimately naive business dealings.