

Ans- Elda was a kind hearted girl and she realized from the very beginning that the peddler had either committed theft or jailbreak. She had assumed that the peddler was very poor and homeless. She was kind to him even after knowing the truth about him because she believed that he had hidden his identity due to circumstances and he needs to be treated kindly.

Q11) What is irony in the story “Rattrap”?

Ans- One instance of irony in the story is when the peddler is treated with great respect and offered generosity by Elda even after knowing the truth that he had been hiding his identity.

Q12) What made the peddler accept Elda’s invitation?

Ans- The peddler accepted Elda’s invitation because he was touched by her kind and compassionate behavior. She treated him with respect and requested him to join her family on Christmas Eve. She assured him that he can leave at anytime after spending Christmas with them.

➤ **Important Question and Answers (Long Answer Questions)**

Q1) The story “Rattrap” highlights the importance of community over isolation. Explain

Ans- The story “Rattrap” revolves around the lonely characters. The peddler lived a lonely life and was illtreated by others because of his miserable condition and occupation. When he knocked the crafter’s door he didn’t expect hospitality, but the crafter welcomed him and was overjoyed to have a company of someone as he too was lonely. The crafter fed the peddler, offered him tobacco, played cards with him and also gave him space to sleep that night. He was so happy to have someone’s company that he shared his secrets with the peddler who was a stranger for him. The ironmaster and his daughter too are lonely. When the ironmaster mistook the peddler for his old friend, he immediately invited him to his house for Christmas. The ironmaster’s daughter too requested the peddler to spend the Christmas with them. Therefore, we can see that the story highlights the need of company. All the characters of the story isolated and they need community to share their experience, emotions, knowledge etc. Community helps people in developing sense of identity and sense of belongings.

Q2) ‘Act of kindness can change a person’s view’ Explain with reference to the theme of the story “Rattrap”.

Ans- The theme of the story is that the act of kindness contains the power to transform lives. In the story the peddler believes that the universe is a big rattrap and all the finest things which it offers are baits to trap the humans who are attracted towards it. The peddler thinks so because he was very poor lonely. He was never been treated with kindness by anyone as he was homeless and used to wander through the streets in ragged clothes. He hated the people who led better life than him. He steals the crafter’s money who welcomed him and treated him as a friend, because of his view for the world.

The ironmaster’s daughter, Elda treated the peddler with kindness and compassion even though she knew the truth about him. She believed that no one is born to commit theft or other crime,