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Reading with Insight

1. Comment on the influence of English — the language and the way of life — on Indian life as reflected in the story. What is the narrator's attitude to English?

Answer.

The narrator thinks that the English language and the English way of life have not made any valid impact on Indian life. The story tells how the villagers are eager to meet Ranga, who has returned from Bangalore after learning English. Villagers believe Ranga's physical appearance has changed as a result of his English studies. They gather in large numbers in front of his house, but when they see that he is the same old person, they are disappointed and leave. This proves the influence of the English language on villages. The narrator dislikes English and its sporadic use in Kannada, his native language. It is disgraceful, according to the narrator. Ranga, on the other hand, was influenced by the English language and culture. He preferred to marry a mature woman rather than a modern bride. The narrator did not approve of this thought.

2. Astrologers' perceptions are based more on hearsay and conjecture than what they learn from the study of the stars. Comment with reference to the story.

Answer.

In this narrative, the astrologer assists the narrator in convincing a young man that Ratna is the best choice for him. In the story, the astrologer is portrayed negatively. After the duo dupe Ranga, they sit down and discuss the entire situation. The narrator commends the astrologer for reciting everything he had taught him without raising any doubt. He also ridicules his shastra. Though the astrologer is hurt by the statement, the complete situation portrays how his perspectives are based on rumour and conjecture rather than the study of the stars.

3. Indian society has moved a long way from the way the marriage is arranged in the story. Discuss.

Answer.

The entire process of choosing a bride for Ranga in the narrative 'Ranga's Marriage' is based on the system that was followed long ago in our country. The situation has changed completely now. Marriages at a young age are uncommon. People have realized that if a marriage is to last, a certain level of maturity is required, and this maturity can only be obtained through education. When boys and girls decide to marry, it is always a deliberate decision. Marriages now take place in India only after both the girl and the boy consent. The narrator took the initiative for Ranga and Ratna's wedding in the story 'Ranga's Marriage.' However, in terms of the marriage scene in India, we are witnessing a lot of change these days.

4. What kind of a person do you think the narrator is?

Answer.

A narrator is an aged person who has a loving and generous character. Ranga's decision to remain a bachelor if he does not find a girl he considers suitable for him astounds him. As a result, the narrator decides to find a girl for Ranga, demonstrating his concern for him. He is a good judge of human character and enjoys a good laugh. He is also a gentleman who is always looking out for the best interests of others. The narrator of the story expresses his disapproval of the English custom of love marriage.