

The Last Leaf

Thinking about The Text

Q.1 What was the cause of Johnsy's illness? How could the illness be treated?

Ans. Johnsy fell seriously ill & was bedridden because of Pneumonia. Her illness could be treated by bringing back hope in her life.

Q.2. Do you think the feeling of depression Johnsy has, is common among teenagers?

Ans. Yes, teenagers somehow, fantasize the basic reality of life. They want to see the life through coloured glasses but as soon as reality strikes it, they lose the hope.

Q.3. What was Behrman's dream? Did it come true?

Ans. Behrman's dream was to create a masterpiece in painting that could move heart & soul.

Q.4. How is 'the last leaf' the artists' masterpiece? what makes you say so?

Ans. "The Last Leaf" is surely the artist's masterpiece as it looked so realistic that Johnsy and Sue thought it to be nature's

creation. It is a masterpiece because it had the potential to save someone's life by inducting faith, hope and zeal in a person who had lost the desire to live.

Language Work

Explain the meaning of the following idiomatic expressions and frame sentences of your own:

1. **Make up one's mind:** Prepared in every sense . You should make up your mind to crack the I.A.S exams.
2. **Out of work:** None of your business. This is not your cup of tea so it should be out of your work.
3. **By Leaps & Bounds:** Without limits .By leaps & bounds I am with you.
4. **Pour out worries:** To express feelings after keeping them secret or hidden. She poured out her worries to me.

5. **Shed Leaves: Autumn.** They shed leaves which symbolise loss of hope.
6. **Look after:** To take care of somebody she looked after him like his own son.
7. **Take after:** To look or behave like an older member of your family especially mother or to follow somebody quickly.
8. **Tiptoe into** (to walk carefully and stealthily into a room) she tiptoed into her sister's room
9. **Draw the curtain** (to reveal or hide something) Draw the curtains back/forward.
10. **Raise the Curtain** (to reveal something) The fresh inquiry has raised the curtains from their fishy deals.