NCERT Solutions for Class 11 English chapter 1 My Watch

Q.1: What was the importance of the watch to the author?

Ans : The watch is of great value to the author. The watch was like a buddy and shadow to the author who showed him the right time and accompanied him everywhere. For eighteen months authors watch worked properly before it stopped. The author believed his watch is an indispensable part of his life and always showed the right time when it was in the working position. And the duty of his watch was indestructible

Q.2: What were the attempts made by the author to get his watch repaired?

Ans : The authors watch worked perfectly for 18 months before its condition ruined. The author felt broken and very next day he went to get it repaired. He went to the chief jeweler shop for the repairmen of his valuable watch. The author asked the owner of the shop to leave the watch but still, he tried to repair it and ended up worsening the watch. Now the watch started working way to fast and showed time ahead of it. After a few months, the author again went to get it repaired, another watchmaker asked for 3 days to repair swollen barrel. The author moved to another watchmaker and he informed was damaged and need to be repaired. The author made various attempts to get his watch repaired, by talking to different people.

Q.3: Why did the author finally give up on his watch?

Ans : The author used to watch for eighteen months before it finally broke down. He took to seven different watchmakers for restoring the watch back to working condition. But even after taking the watch to different people still, it could not be restored back to its working condition. The original price of the watch was two hundred dollars, but with repairs, it priced him quite expensive. The author understood what his uncle William meant what he meant with a good horse is a good horse until once it runs away.

Q.4: What was Uncle Williams' comment on the 'tinkerers' of the world?

Ans : The authors watch stopped working after eighteen months and to put it back to working condition author gave it to different watchmakers that cost him quite a lot. At this point, he remembers the advice of his Uncle James who said a horse is a good horse until he has run away once. The author connects watch connection with it saying the watch was good until had run away once. The unsuccessful tinkers in the world are not able to specialize in anything else. Thus he believed tinkers were not experts and were not aware of anything.

Q.5: Explain these lines -

a) 'I seemed to detect in myself a sort of sneaking fellow-feeling for the mummy in the museum, and a desire to swap news with him.'
b) 'Within a week it sickened to a raging fever and its pulse went up to a hundred and fifty in the shade.'
c) 'She makes too much steam—you want to hang the monkey wrench on the safety valve!'

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Ans : a) After working efficiently for eighteen months, the author's watch broke down. The author tried to get his watch repaired seven times by different people. When the author had given the watch to be repaired for the second time, the author got his watch back after one week. Instead of getting adjusted, the watch slowed down which resulted in the author missing his appointments and the author felt like he was going into yesterday, going even more backwards into time, feeling lonely. The author kept going back into the past and staying there because of the wrong time shown by his watch.

b) Here the author means to say that when the watch broke down after eighteen months. The chief jeweler repaired it and made it quite slow. And when he gave it to another watchmaker it made watch fairly fast. The author used symbolism when he says that the watch 'sickened to raging fever and its pulse went up to a hundred and fifty in the shade'.
c) The watch stopped after working for eighteen months. He got it repaired from seven different watchmakers. The last person to whom he gave his watch was a steam engineer, after observing the watch he said watch is making steam and that he wants to 'hang the monkey wrench on the safety valve'.

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