NCERT Solutions for Class 11 English chapter 6 The Story

Q.1: What do you understand of the three voices in response to the question 'What does a novel do'?

Ans : In response to the question of 'What does a novel do', the first person gives a quick reply without giving a deep thought about it and looks at a novel as leisure, not as literature. The second response is aggressive and considers it inferior because it tells a story even though he enjoys it. The third response is mixed with regret and sadness because he knows the narration is made through a low level.

Q.2: What would you say are 'the finer growths' that the story supports in a novel?

Ans : 'The Finer Growth" of the novel is the minute details that are added in the story to give a new dimension to it. The author introduces a subplot or a character to make it different from the rest and add a twist.

Q.3: How does Forster trace the human interest in the story to primitive times?

Ans : Forster believed story-telling was an old thing and is dated back to the Neolithic or maybe even Paleolithic Age. He is of the opinion that one judge from the skull of the Neanderthal that it heard stories. He believes that it was just an idle time and way to relax for the early humans who came back after hunting. Only the suspense of the story held them after which they were so disinterested that they may have even killed a human being.

Q.4: Discuss the importance of time in the narration of a story.

Ans : Time is the most important thing in the story. The narration revolves around time, no story can be written without including time. Novels need a temporal balance in order to narrate chronologically what happened first and then the next.

Q.5: How does Forster use the analogy of Scheherazade to establish his point?

Ans : Forster takes the example of Scheherazade who married a king who executed all his wives after the first night. So Scheherazade told him a story every night and left at a point of suspense and hence the king didn't have her executed because he wanted to know what happened next. Forster says that this element of suspense is the only attraction of a story that keeps the reader or listener hooked to it.

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