



CLASS - V ENGLISH NOTES NOVEMBER

8. THE FARMER AND THE MONEY-LENDER

I. ERC:

1. 'My friend,...riches come from Ram—— ask him.'

(a) Who is the speaker?

The money-lender is the speaker.

(b) Who is Ram according to the speaker?

According to the speaker, Ram is God who is the giver of riches

(c) Who does the speaker refer to as 'My friend'?

The speaker refers to the farmer as 'My friend'.

(d) What does the speaker want the other person to ask 'Ram'?

The speaker wants the farmer to ask 'Ram' the secret of becoming rich.

2. 'Perhaps I can...for I am Ram!'

(a) Who is the speaker?

The speaker is Ram himself.

(b) Who is the speaker speaking to?

The speaker is speaking to the farmer.

(c) What does the person think he can do?

The speaker thinks that he can help the farmer.

(d) What do you think is the real identity of Ram?

Ram is God himself.

3. 'Never!' ...'that would be the old business all over again!'

(a) Who says this and to whom?

The farmer says this to the money-lender.

(b) What does the person mean by saying 'Never'?

By saying 'Never', the farmer expresses his disagreement over the money-lender's proposal.

(c) What does the speaker mean by ‘old business’?

‘Old business’ refers to the time when the money-lender would take everything from the farmer, leaving him extremely poor.

(d) What happens immediately after this?

The farmer reluctantly accepts the money-lender’s proposal.

II. Short Answers:

1. What do you think the farmer meant by saying, ‘You can’t squeeze water from a stone’?

The farmer meant that just as one can’t squeeze water from a stone, he too had nothing more left to give to the money-lender.

2. Who do you think was the poor man that the farmer met?

Answers may vary. Accept all relevant answers. Sample answer—I think that the poor man whom the farmer met was God himself in the disguise of a poor man. On seeing the misery and the sincerity of the farmer, he gave him a magical conch shell.

3. The poor man had warned the farmer to be careful of the money lender.

Would you say that the farmer had to pay a heavy price for not heeding the poor man’s words?

Answers may vary. Accept all relevant answers. Sample answer—Yes, the farmer had to pay a heavy price for not heeding the poor man’s advice. In order to get rid of the money-lender, he had to eventually pay the price of losing an eye. Had he been more careful, he would not have had to lose his eye.