

The Mask q/a

The MASK

QA

1. Who received the shock? What was it? What was the speaker suggesting?

Ans 1. The shock was received by Rajen Babu.

He received a threatening letter with words cut out from newspapers. The letter read, "Be prepared to pay for your sins!".

The speaker was suggesting that Rajen Babu should not be told that his son was in town so as not to upset him further.

Q2 Why do you think Tinkori Babu actually came to Darjeeling? In what way did the purpose of his visit change?

2. Ans Tinkori Babu came to Darjeeling to perhaps take a holiday or maybe for a change of scene. But when he found out that Rajen Babu was the same person who tripped him and upset him as a boy, he decided to change the purpose of his visit and use the opportunity to take revenge.

Q3 Who said these words? What happened to frighten him so?

3. These words were said by Rajen Babu.

He had woken up in the middle of the night to the sight of a masked face bending over him.

Q4. Why was everyone so surprised to find out who the culprit was? Giving examples say how the culprit managed to prevent anyone from suspecting him.

4. Ans Everyone was surprised to find out who the culprit was because from the very beginning, he only showed care and concern for Rajen Babu. He also very cleverly provided several reasons for other people to have committed the crime while appearing genuinely interested in ensuring that the case was solved. For example, he called Ghoshal a crook and showed him in a bad light, thus giving reasons for Feluda to suspect him. He also came up with reasons to support Feluda's theory about why Ghoshal could be the culprit thus imprinting it in people's minds that Ghoshal was a man not to be trusted. He also stressed on the need to hide the fact that Prabeer Majumdar was in town, from Rajen Babu. This would delay the possibility of father and son meeting and also perhaps prevent Feluda from investigating him. When Rajen Babu was lying in bed, he fanned him thus showing the others that he was deeply concerned about his well-being. After he was satisfied with what he had done, he made a quick escape to prevent anyone from questioning him. Before leaving, he also offered to get the police involved. By doing this, he ensured that no one would suspect him.

5 Would you agree that Feluda is a good detective? Give reasons in support of your answer.

## The Mask q/a

ANS 5. Yes, Feluda is a good detective. As soon as he visited Rajen Babu, he made a list of people that were in touch with him to find out if anyone had any motive to frighten Rajen Babu. He even investigated Ghoshal and found out that he was getting some new antique pieces. This tells us that he was quick to act and was methodical in his approach. On his own, he found out that Prabeer Majumdar had visited Darjeeling and found out that there were problems between him and his father which gave him a reason to commit the crime. Thus we see that he didn't wait for people to give him information but went and found it on his own. When the doctor, who was also a suspect, came to visit Rajen Babu, Feluda observed him carefully and noticed the mud stain on his clothes. This shows us that he observed all things carefully. He also observed the mask closely and was able to smell cheroot which led him to the culprit. He probably realizes that the culprit must have been in the house, given the time of the appearance of the masked human. Therefore, we see that he looks for clues that can connect the event to the people in the house. This tells us that he pays attention to minute details and is thorough in his investigations.