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CLASS 12TH ENGLISH NOTES

Unit 11: A Letter to God (by Gregorio López Fuentes)

Complete English to Urdu Translation, Comprehensive Story Summary, Complete Exercise Solutions, Vocabulary & Grammar Solutions

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Pre-Reading Questions

Q1: Based on the title "A Letter to God," what do you think the main character might be asking for and why?

Answer: Based on the title, the main character is likely asking God for help or relief in a desperate situation—such as asking for financial aid, rain, or food—because he has experienced a catastrophic loss and has no human source of help remaining.

Q2: If you were to write a letter to God, what is the one thing you would ask for or say?

Answer: I would ask God for wisdom, inner peace, and the strength to overcome life's challenges with patience and compassion toward others.

Complete Chapter English to Urdu Translation

PARAGRAPH 1: THE HOUSE AND THE FIELD

The house - the only one in the entire valley - sat on the crest of a low hill. From this height one could see the river and, next to the corral, the field of ripe corn dotted with the kidney bean flowers that always promised a good harvest. The only thing the earth needed was a rainfall, or at least a shower. Throughout the morning Lencho - who knew his fields intimately - had done nothing else but scan the sky toward the northeast. "Now we're really going to get some water, woman." The woman, who was preparing supper, replied: "Yes, God willing."

وہ مکان — جو پوری وادی میں واحد مکان تھا — ایک نیچی پہاڑی کی چوٹی پر واقع تھا۔ اس اونچائی سے کوئی بھی ندی اور مویشیوں کے باڑے کے ساتھ لگے ہوئے پکے ہوئے مکئی کے کھیت کو دیکھ سکتا تھا جس میں لوترا کے پھول کھلے ہوئے تھے جو ہمیشہ ایک اچھی فصل کا وعدہ کرتے تھے۔ زمین کو صرف ایک چیز کی ضرورت تھی اور وہ تھی بارش، یا کم از کم ایک ہلکی پھوار۔ پوری صبح لینچو — جو اپنے کھیتوں کو بڑی باریکی سے جانتا تھا — نے شمال مشرق کی طرف آسمان کو تکتے کے علاوہ کچھ نہیں کیا تھا۔ "عورت! اب واقعی ہمیں کچھ پانی ملنے والا ہے۔" عورت نے، جو رات کا کھانا تیار کر رہی تھی، جواب دیا: "ہاں، اگر خدا نے چاہا۔"

PARAGRAPH 2: RAIN BEGINS AND TURNS INTO HAILSTORM

The oldest boys were working in the field, while the smaller ones were playing near the house, until the woman called to them all: "Come for dinner..." It was during the meal that, just as Lencho had predicted, big drips of rain began to fall. In the northeast huge mountains of clouds could be seen approaching. The air was fresh and sweet. The man went out to look for something in the corral for no other reason than to allow himself the pleasure of feeling the rain on his body, and when he returned, he exclaimed: "Those aren't raindrops falling from the sky, they're new coins. The big drops are ten-centavo pieces and the little ones are fives..."

بڑے لڑکے کھیت میں کام کر رہے تھے، جبکہ چھوٹے لڑکے مکان کے قریب کھیل رہے تھے، یہاں تک کہ عورت نے ان سب کو آواز دی: "کھانے کے لیے آ جاؤ..." کھانے کے دوران ہی، جیسا کہ لینچو نے پیش گوئی کی تھی، بارش کے بڑے بڑے قطرے گرنا شروع ہو گئے۔ شمال مشرق میں بادلوں کے بڑے بڑے پہاڑ قریب آتے دکھائی دے رہے تھے۔ ہوا تازہ اور خوشگوار تھی۔ وہ شخص (نینچو) مویشیوں کے باڑے میں کسی اور وجہ سے نہیں بلکہ صرف اپنے جسم پر بارش کو محسوس کرنے کی خوشی حاصل کرنے کے لیے باہر

نکلا، اور جب وہ واپس لوٹا تو خوشی سے چلا اٹھا: "یہ آسمان سے گرنے والے بارش کے قطرے نہیں ہیں، یہ نئے سکے ہیں۔ بڑے قطرے دس سینٹاؤں کے سکے ہیں اور چھوٹے پانچ کے..."

PARAGRAPH 3: COMPLETE DESTRUCTION OF CROPS

With a satisfied expression he regarded the field of ripe corn with its kidney bean flowers, draped in a curtain of rain. But suddenly a strong wind began to fall. These truly did resemble new silver coins. The boys, exposing themselves to the rain, ran out to collect the frozen pearls. "It's really getting bad now," exclaimed the man, mortified. "I hope it passes quickly." It did not pass quickly. For an hour the hail rained on the house, the garden, the hillside, the cornfield, on the whole valley. The field was white, as if covered with salt. Not a leaf remained on the trees. The corn was totally destroyed. The flowers were gone from the kidney bean plants. Lencho's soul was filled with sadness.

مطمئن تاثرات کے ساتھ اس نے پکے ہوئے مکئی کے کھیت کو لولو trace کے پھولوں سمیت دیکھا، جو بارش کے پردے میں لپٹا ہوا تھا۔ لیکن اچانک تیز ہوا چلنے لگی۔ یہ واقعی نئے چاندی کے سکوں کی طرح لگ رہے تھے۔ لڑکے، بارش میں بھگتے ہوئے، جھے ہوئے موتی (اولے) جمع کرنے کے لیے باہر بھاگے۔ "اب صورتحال واقعی خراب ہو رہی ہے،" اس شخص نے پریشان ہو کر کہا۔ "مجھے امید ہے کہ یہ جلدی گزر جائے گا۔" یہ جلدی نہ گزرا۔ ایک گھنٹے تک مکان، باغ، پہاڑی، مکئی کے کھیت اور پوری وادی پر اولے برستے رہے۔ کھیت اس طرح سفید ہو گیا جیسے نمک سے ڈھکا ہوا ہو۔ درختوں پر ایک بھی پتہ نہ رہا۔ مکئی مکمل طور پر تباہ ہو چکی تھی۔ لولو trace کے پودوں سے پھول جھڑ چکے تھے۔ لہجہ کی روح غم سے بھر گئی۔

PARAGRAPH 4: A SORROWFUL NIGHT AND SINGLE HOPE

When the storm had passed, he stood in the middle of the field and said to his sons: "A plague of locusts would have left more than this... the hail has left nothing: this year we will have no corn or beans..." That night was a sorrowful one: "All our work, for nothing!" "There's no one who can help us!" But in the minds of all who lived in that solitary house in the middle of the valley, there was a single hope: help from God. "Don't be so upset, even though this seems like a total loss. Remember, no one dies of hunger!" "That's what they say: no one dies of hunger...."

جب طوفان ختم گیا تو وہ کھیت کے درمیان کھڑا ہوا اور اپنے بیٹوں سے کہا: "مڈی دل کا حملہ بھی اس سے زیادہ چھوڑ جاتا... اولوں نے کچھ نہیں چھوڑا: اس سال ہمارے پاس نہ مکئی ہوگی اور نہ ہی لولو trace..." وہ رات ایک غمگین رات تھی: "ہماری تمام محنت ضائع ہو گئی!" "کوئی نہیں ہے جو ہماری مدد کر سکے!" لیکن اس تنہا مکان میں رہنے والے تمام لوگوں کے ذہنوں میں ایک ہی امید تھی: خدا کی طرف سے مدد۔ "اتنے پریشان نہ ہو، اگرچہ یہ مکمل نقصان لگتا ہے۔ یاد رکھو، کوئی بھی بھوک سے نہیں مرتا!" "لوگ یہی کہتے ہیں: کوئی بھی بھوک سے نہیں مرتا..."

PARAGRAPH 5: WRITING THE LETTER TO GOD

All through the night, Lencho thought only of his one hope: the help of God, whose eyes, as he had been instructed, see everything, even what is deep in one's conscience. Lencho was an ox of a man, working like an animal in the fields, but still he knew how to write. The following Sunday, at daybreak, after having convinced himself that there is a protecting spirit he began to write a letter which he himself would carry to town and place in the mail. It was nothing less than a letter to God. "God," he wrote, "if you don't help me, my family and I will go hungry this year. I need a hundred pesos in order to re-sow the field and to live until the crop comes, because the hailstorm..." He wrote "To God" on the envelope, put the letter inside and still troubled went to town. At the post office he placed a stamp on the letter and dropped it into the mailbox.

پوری رات، لنچو نے صرف اپنی ایک امید کے بارے میں سوچا: خدا کی مدد، جس کی آنکھیں، جیسا کہ اسے بتایا گیا تھا، سب کچھ دیکھتی ہیں، یہاں تک کہ وہ بھی جو کسی کے ضمیر کی گہرائیوں میں ہوتا ہے۔ لنچو ایک بیل کی طرح محنتی انسان تھا، جو کھیتوں میں جانوروں کی طرح کام کرتا تھا، لیکن پھر بھی وہ لکھنا جانتا تھا۔ اگلی اتوار کو، صبح سویرے، اپنے آپ کو یہ یقین دلانے کے بعد کہ ایک حفاظت کرنے والی روح موجود ہے، اس نے ایک خط لکھنا شروع کیا جسے وہ خود شہر لے جائے گا اور ڈاک میں ڈالے گا۔ یہ خدا کے نام خط سے کم کچھ نہ تھا۔ اس نے لکھا، "خدا، اگر آپ نے میری مدد نہ کی، تو میں اور میرا خاندان اس سال بھوکے رہیں گے۔ مجھے اپنے کھیت کی دوبارہ ہوائی کرنے اور نئی فصل آنے تک گزر بسر کرنے کے لیے ایک سو سینٹاواو (پیسوس) کی ضرورت ہے، کیونکہ اولوں کے طوفان نے..." اس نے لفافے پر "خدا کے نام" لکھا، خط اندر ڈالا اور پریشان حال شہر کی طرف چل دیا۔ ڈاکخانے پہنچ کر اس نے خط پر ڈاک ٹکٹ لگایا اور اسے لیٹر بکس میں ڈال دیا۔

PARAGRAPH 6: THE POSTMASTER'S REACTION AND PLAN

One of the employees, who was a postman and also helped at the post office, went to his boss, laughing heartily and showed him the letter to God. Never in his career as a postman had he known that address. The postmaster - a fat amiable fellow - also broke out laughing, but almost immediately he turned serious and, tapping the letter on his desk, commented: "What faith! I wish I had the faith of the man who wrote this letter. To believe the way he believes. To hope with the confidence that he knows how to hope with. Starting up a correspondence with God!" So, in order not to discourage the farmer's faith, revealed by a letter that could not be delivered, the postmaster came up with an idea: answer the letter. But when he opened it, it was evident that to answer it he needed something more than good will, ink and paper. But he stuck to his resolution: he asked for money from his employee, he himself gave part of his salary, and several friends of his were obliged to give something "for an act of charity". It was impossible for him to gather together the hundred pesos requested by Lencho, so he was able to send the farmer only a little more than half. He put the bills in an envelope addressed to Lencho and with them a letter containing only a signature: GOD.

ملازمین میں سے ایک، جو ایک ڈاکیت تھا اور ڈاکخانے میں دیگر کام بھی کرتا تھا، کھکھلا کر ہنستے ہوئے اپنے پاس کے پاس گیا اور اسے خدا کے نام خط دکھایا۔ ڈاک کے طور پر اپنے پورے کیریئر میں اس نے کبھی ایسا پتہ نہیں دیکھا تھا۔ پوسٹ ماسٹر — جو ایک موٹا اور خوش اخلاق آدمی تھا — بھی کھکھلا کر ہنس پڑا، لیکن تقریباً فوراً ہی وہ سنجیدہ ہو گیا اور خط کو اپنی میز پر تھپتھپاتے ہوئے کہا: "کیا ایمان ہے! کاش میرے پاس اس شخص جیسا ایمان ہوتا جس نے یہ خط لکھا ہے۔ اس طرح یقین کرنا جیسے وہ کرتا ہے۔ اس اعتماد کے ساتھ امید رکھنا جس کے ساتھ وہ امید رکھتا ہے۔ خدا کے ساتھ خط و کتابت شروع کرنا!" چنانچہ، کسان کے اس ایمان کو ٹھیس نہ پہنچانے کے لیے، جو ایک ایسے خط کے ذریعے ظاہر ہوا تھا جسے پہنچایا نہیں جاسکتا تھا، پوسٹ ماسٹر کے ذہن میں ایک خیال آیا: خط کا جواب دیا جائے۔ لیکن جب اس نے اسے کھولا تو یہ واضح تھا کہ اس کا جواب دینے کے لیے اسے حسن نیت، روشنائی اور کاغذ سے بڑھ کر کسی چیز کی ضرورت تھی۔ لیکن وہ اپنے فیصلے پر قائم رہا: اس نے اپنے ملازمین سے پیسے مانگے، اس نے خود اپنی تنخواہ کا ایک حصہ دیا، اور اس کے متعدد دوست "صدقے کے کام" کے لیے کچھ نہ کچھ دینے پر مجبور ہوئے۔ اس کے لیے لچو کی مانگی گئی سو سینٹا و کی رقم جمع کرنا ناممکن تھا، اس لیے وہ کسان کو آدھے سے کچھ زیادہ ہی بھیج سکا۔ اس نے نوٹوں کو لچو کے نام کے لفافے میں ڈالا اور ان کے ساتھ ایک خط لکھا جس پر صرف ایک دستخط تھا: GOD (خدا)۔

PARAGRAPH 7: LENCHO'S SURPRISE AND SECOND LETTER

The following Sunday Lencho came a bit earlier than usual to ask if there was a letter for him. It was the postman himself who handed the letter to him while the postmaster - experiencing the contentment of a man who has performed a good deed - looked on from the doorway of his office. Lencho showed not the slightest surprise on seeing the bills such was his confidence - but he became angry when he counted the money. God could not have made a mistake, nor could he have denied Lencho what he had requested! Immediately, Lencho went up to the window to ask for paper and ink. On the public writing table, he started to write with much wrinkling of his brow, caused by the effort he had to make to express his ideas. When he finished, he went to the window to buy a stamp which he licked and then affixed to the envelope with a blow of his fist. The moment that the letter fell into the mailbox the postmaster went to open it. It said: "God: Of the money that I asked for only seventy pesos reached me. Send me the rest, since I need it very much. But don't send it to me through the mail, because the post office employees are a bunch of crooks. Lencho."

اگلی اتوار کو لچو معمول سے کچھ پہلے یہ پوچھنے آیا کہ کیا اس کے لیے کوئی خط ہے۔ ڈاک کے نام خط دکھایا جبکہ پوسٹ ماسٹر — ایک ایسے شخص کا اطمینان محسوس کرتے ہوئے جس نے کوئی نیک کام کیا ہو — اپنے دفتر کے دروازے سے دیکھ رہا تھا۔ لچو نے نوٹوں کو دیکھ کر ذرا سی بھی حیرت ظاہر نہ کی — اس کا اعتماد ایسا ہی تھا — لیکن جب اس نے پیسے گنے تو وہ غصے میں آ گیا۔ خدا غلطی نہیں کر سکتا تھا، اور نہ ہی وہ لچو کی درخواست کو رد کر سکتا تھا! فوراً، لچو کاغذ اور روشنائی مانگنے کے لیے کھڑکی کے پاس گیا۔ عوامی تحریری میز پر، اس نے اپنی پیشانی پر بل لاتے ہوئے لکھنا شروع کیا، جو اپنے خیالات کا اظہار کرنے کے لیے اس کی کوشش کی وجہ سے تھا۔ جب اس نے ختم کیا، تو وہ ڈاک ٹکٹ خریدنے کھڑکی پر گیا جسے اس نے چانا اور پھر اپنی مٹھی کے گھونے سے لفافے پر چپکا دیا۔ جس لمحے وہ خط لیٹر بکس میں گرا، پوسٹ ماسٹر اسے کھولنے گیا Linux۔ اس میں لکھا تھا: "خدا: میں نے جو رقم مانگی تھی اس میں سے صرف ستر سینٹا و ہی مجھ تک پہنچے۔ باقی رقم بھیجیں، کیونکہ مجھے اس کی بہت ضرورت ہے۔ لیکن یہ مجھے ڈاک کے ذریعے نہ بھیجیں، کیونکہ ڈاکخانے کے ملازمین لیٹروں کا ٹولہ (ٹھگ) ہیں۔ لچو۔"

Chapter Theme & Summaries (خلاصہ)

Urdu Summary (اردو خلاصہ)

گرے گوریو لوپیز فیونسٹس کی کہانی "اے لیٹر ٹو گاڈ" (خدا کے نام ایک خط) ایک غریب لیکن انتہائی باایمان کسان لنچو کی کہانی ہے۔ لنچو کی فصل (مٹی اور لو trace) اولوں کے ایک شدید طوفان کی وجہ سے مکمل طور پر تباہ ہو جاتی ہے۔ شدید مایوسی کے عالم میں، لنچو کو صرف خدا کی ذات سے مدد کی امید ہوتی ہے۔ اس کا خدا پر اتنا اندھا اور مضبوط ایمان ہوتا ہے کہ وہ خدا کو ایک خط لکھتا ہے جس میں اپنی فصل کی دوبارہ بوائی اور خاندان کی کفالت کے لیے 100 سینٹاؤ (پیوس) کی درخواست کرتا ہے۔

جب ڈاک بکس پوسٹ ماسٹر یہ خط دیکھتے ہیں تو پہلے ہنستے ہیں، لیکن جلد ہی پوسٹ ماسٹر لنچو کے بے مثال ایمان سے متاثر ہو جاتا ہے۔ کسان کا ایمان برقرار رکھنے کے لیے، پوسٹ ماسٹر اپنی تنخواہ کا کچھ حصہ دیتا ہے اور اپنے ملازمین و دوستوں سے صدقے کے طور پر کل 70 سینٹاؤ جمع کر کے لنچو کو بھیج دیتا ہے۔ تاہم، جب لنچو کو رقم ملتی ہے تو وہ شکریہ ادا کرنے کے بجائے غصے میں آ جاتا ہے کیونکہ رقم مانگی گئی رقم سے 30 سینٹاؤ کم ہوتی ہے۔ وہ فوراً خدا کو دوسرا خط لکھتا ہے جس میں باقی رقم مانگتا ہے اور خدا سے درخواست کرتا ہے کہ رقم ڈاک کے ذریعے نہ بھیجے کیونکہ ڈاکخانے کے ملازمین "ٹھگلوں کا ٹولہ" ہیں۔ یہ کہانی انسانی ایمان، ہمدردی اور زبردست طنز و مزاح کو پیش کرتی ہے۔

English Summary

"A Letter to God" by Gregorio López Fuentes tells the story of Lencho, a hardworking Mexican farmer whose entire corn and bean crops are destroyed by a sudden, violent hailstorm. Facing starvation, Lencho turns to his ultimate hope: God. Possessing an unshakeable, naive faith, Lencho writes a letter addressed "To God," requesting 100 pesos to re-sow his fields and survive the year.

When the postmaster receives the unusual letter, he is deeply moved by Lencho's rare faith. Determined not to shatter the farmer's belief, he collects money from his staff, contributes part of his own salary, and gathers 70 pesos. He mails the money in an envelope signed simply "GOD." However, when Lencho receives only 70 pesos, he firmly believes God could not make a mistake or underpay him. Ironical to the end, Lencho writes a second letter asking God to send the remaining 30 pesos directly, cautioning Him not to send it via mail because the post office employees are a "bunch of crooks."

About the Author

Gregorio López Fuentes (1897–1966) was a prominent Mexican novelist, poet, and journalist. He was one of the leading chroniclers of the Mexican Revolution and rural peasant life. His works are known for their simplicity, realism, emotional depth, and empathetic portrayal of marginalized indigenous communities. Through his celebrated short stories and novels, he explored universal themes of human faith, social justice, resilience, and the ironic nature of human relationships.

Vocabulary Glossary

Word	English Meaning	Urdu Meaning (اردو معنی)
amiable	Friendly and pleasant	خوش اخلاق / ملنسار
conscience	Sense of right and wrong that guides actions	ضمیر / باطن کی آواز
correspondence	Communication by exchanging letters	خط و کتابت / مراسلت
crest	The top or highest point of a hill/wave	چوٹی / اونچائی
intimately	In a close, detailed, or personal way	باریکی سے / انتہائی قریب سے
moment	A very short period of time	لحہ / پل
obliged	Thankful or required to do something	مجبور / احسان مند
wrinkling	Forming small lines or folds on skin/cloth	پیشانی پر بل لانا / سکن پڑنا

Reading and Critical Thinking Exercises

A. Comprehension Questions & Answers

1. What was the "only thing the earth needed" in the beginning of the story, and why was it so crucial?

Answer: The earth needed a rainfall or at least a shower. It was crucial because Lencho's ripe corn fields with kidney bean flowers required moisture to produce a good harvest that would feed his family for the entire year.

2. How did Lencho react when he received the letter? Why was his reaction surprising?

Answer: Lencho showed not the slightest surprise upon seeing the money because his faith in God was so complete. However, his reaction became surprising when he grew extremely angry upon counting the money and realizing it was 30 pesos short, blaming the postal workers.

3. What did Lencho's second letter reveal about his faith and his perception of the post office employees?

Answer: Lencho's second letter revealed that his faith in God remained completely unshaken, as he believed God made no mistake. On the other hand, it revealed his complete distrust in human beings, as he perceived the helpful post office employees as a "bunch of crooks."

4. In the beginning of the story, why was Lencho so certain that it would rain? What does this tell you about his character and his relationship with nature?

Answer: Lencho was certain it would rain because he knew his land intimately and had spent the entire morning observing the sky in the northeast. This shows that he was a dedicated farmer deeply connected to nature and attentive to its environmental patterns.

5. Describe the event that transformed Lencho's hopeful anticipation into despair. What was the specific cause of this transformation?

Answer: Lencho's hopeful excitement during the pleasant rain turned into despair when strong winds blew in, bringing a destructive hailstorm. For an hour, heavy hail rained down, leaving the fields completely white and wiping out the entire crop.

6. When the postman and postmaster read Lencho's letter, what was their initial reaction?

Why did the postmaster decide to help him?

Answer: Their initial reaction was uncontrollable laughter because of the unusual address "To God." However, the postmaster quickly grew serious, impressed by Lencho's profound faith, and decided to help collect money so the farmer's faith would not be shaken.

7. Why was Lencho not surprised or filled with gratitude when he received the money?

Instead, what emotion did he feel and why?

Answer: Lencho was not surprised because he firmly believed God was bound to answer his plea. Instead of gratitude, he felt intense anger because the delivered sum was only 70 pesos instead of the 100 pesos he requested.

8. The story is built on a powerful irony. Explain the contradiction between what Lencho believes happened to the money and what actually happened.

Answer: The core irony lies in the fact that Lencho believes the post office employees stole 30 pesos from his letter sent by God, whereas in reality, those very employees selflessly donated their own money out of charity to help him.

9. What does the "house - the only one in the entire valley - sitting on the crest of a low hill" symbolize about Lencho and his family's place in the world?

Answer: It symbolizes their physical isolation, vulnerability, and total self-reliance. Living alone in the valley, they have no nearby neighbors to rely on in times of disaster, making God their sole source of support.

10. Based on the ending, what do you think is the author's main message about faith? Is it a story that criticizes blind faith, or celebrates its power despite human flaws?

Answer: The author presents a nuanced view: while he celebrates the purity and power of faith that inspires acts of human charity, he simultaneously highlights how blind faith can cause cynicism toward human kindness and lead to tragic misunderstandings.

B. Multiple Choice Questions (MCQs)

#	Question Text	Options	Correct Answer
1	The house sat on the <u>crest</u> of a low hill.	a) base b) top c) side d) shadow	b) top
2	The field was <u>dotted</u> with kidney bean flowers.	a) erased b) sprinkled c) coloured d) replaced	b) sprinkled
3	He was <u>mortified</u> by the turn of events.	a) excited b) embarrassed c) humiliated d) amused	b) embarrassed
4	He experienced the <u>contentment</u> of a good deed.	a) sadness b) satisfaction c) confusion d) regret	b) satisfaction
5	He needed to <u>re-sow</u> the field.	a) plant again b) water c) harvest d) sell	a) plant again
6	He made a <u>resolution</u> to answer the letter.	a) joke b) promise c) decision d) mistake	c) decision
7	Lencho had an <u>unyielding</u> faith in God. What is the best synonym?	a) Flexible b) Adamant c) Temporary d) Questioning	b) Adamant
8	Lencho's field needed a <u>downpour</u> . Which word could replace it?	a) Drizzle b) Deluge c) Breeze d) Drought	b) Deluge
9	The postmaster made a <u>conscientious</u> effort. What does it mean?	a) Careless b) Meticulous c) Secret d) Quick	b) Meticulous
10	He assumed the employees were a bunch of <u>crooks</u> . Synonym?	a) Heroes b) Benefactors c) Swindlers d) Officials	c) Swindlers

#	Contextual Phrase / Question	Correct Option
1	The word <i>exclaimed</i> suggests the man spoke in a:	b) loud and sudden way, expressing emotion.
2	Describing hailstones as "frozen pearls" and "new silver coins" is an example of:	b) a metaphor
3	What is the best synonym for <i>amiable</i> ?	b) friendly and pleasant
4	The word <i>unshakable</i> means:	b) not able to be weakened or doubted
5	What does <i>desolate</i> mean?	a) empty of people and offering no comfort; devastated
6	What does <i>conscience</i> mean in context?	a) a person's moral sense of right and wrong
7	What is the meaning of <i>contentment</i> ?	a) a state of happiness and satisfaction
8	Lencho's letter was a <i>petition</i> to God. A petition is a:	a) formal request, often written.

Oral Communication Skills Group Discussion Guide

Discussion Topic: "Interplay of Unwavering Faith and Human Compassion in 'A Letter to God'"

Key Group Discussion Points:

- **Initiation through Faith:** Lencho's innocent and absolute belief acts as the catalyst for the story's main actions. Without his letter, the postmaster's compassion would not have been ignited.
- **Response through Compassion:** The postmaster and employees show selfless human kindness. They donate their own earnings anonymously purely to keep Lencho's faith alive.

- **Complex Conclusion on Human Nature:** The story highlights a tragic paradox: while faith can inspire profound acts of generosity in human beings, blind and rigid expectations can prevent individuals from recognizing and appreciating the very human compassion surrounding them.

Writing Skills Exercises

a) Analysis of Interacting Ideas & Irony

In "A Letter to God," Lencho's unwavering faith sets the narrative in motion when his crops are destroyed. His belief in divine intervention prompts him to write a letter to God requesting 100 pesos. This acts on the postmaster's moral conscience; moved by the farmer's innocence, the postmaster mobilizes his staff out of pure compassion to gather 70 pesos. The story's central irony emerges because Lencho's rigid faith leaves no room for human kindness. Instead of recognizing the post office staff as benefactors, Lencho views them as thieves who stole 30 pesos, creating a poignant contrast between divine expectation and human charity.

b) Mind Map & Objective Summary

Mind Map Overview:

- **Hailstorm Disaster:** Crop destruction in the solitary valley.
- **Letter to God:** Lencho requests 100 pesos due to unshakable belief.
- **Human Charity:** Postmaster and staff secretly collect 70 pesos.
- **Ironical Outcome:** Lencho receives money, suspects theft, and writes a second letter calling staff "crooks."

Objective Summary:

After a devastating hailstorm destroys Lencho's corn and bean fields, the isolated farmer relies entirely on his faith in God for survival. Consequently, he writes a letter requesting 100 pesos to

re-sow his fields. When the postmaster reads the letter, he is deeply moved by Lencho's belief and decides to collect money from his employees as an act of charity. Although they manage to gather only 70 pesos, they send it anonymously signed as "GOD." However, upon counting the money, Lencho becomes furious, convinced that God could not make a mistake. Believing the postal staff stole the remaining amount, he writes a second letter asking God to send the rest directly rather than through the post office, calling the workers a "bunch of crooks."

c) Postmaster's Perspective Paragraph (4-5 Sentences)

I stood in stunned silence as I read Lencho's second letter, feeling a heavy wave of disappointment wash over my heart. We had given up portions of our own hard-earned salaries purely out of compassion to protect this man's innocent faith. To be accused of being a "crook" by the very person we sacrificed to help is deeply painful and ironic. Yet, despite his misplaced bitterness, I cannot help but admire how untouched his belief in God remains. My charity was misunderstood, but my resolve to respect pure human faith remains unshaken.