

Question 1:

What did Lencho hope for?

Answer 1:

Lencho hoped for a good rain as it was much needed for a good harvest.

Question 2:

Why did Lencho say the raindrops were like 'new coins'?

Answer 2:

Lencho compared the raindrops with new coins because they were promising him a good harvest resulting in more prosperity. That is why, he said "The big drops are ten cent pieces and the little ones are fives."

Question 3:

How did the rain change? What happened to Lencho's fields?

Answer 3:

The rain changed into hailstones. As a strong wind began to blow and huge hailstones began to fall along with the rain. The hailstorm did not pass quickly and field was white, like it was covered with salt. All the crops in Lencho's field got destroyed because of that bad weather conditions.

Question 4:

What were Lencho's feelings when the hail stopped?

Answer 4:

Lencho's soul was filled with sadness as he saw the condition of his field. He was filled with grief and sorrow after the hail stopped because everything was ruined and there was nothing that he could feed his family with. He could see a bleak future for the family.

Oral Comprehension Check - II

Question 1:

Who or what did Lencho have faith in? What did he do?

Answer 1:

Lencho had strong faith in God. He believed that God can see everything, even what is deep in one's conscience and help everyone in one's problems.

He wrote a letter to God requesting him for help. He demanded a hundred pesos to sow his field again and live until crops come, or else his family would go hungry.

Question 2:

Who read the letter?

Answer 2:

Postman saw the letter and went to his boss. Never in his career, Postman had seen a letter addressed to God. So, Postmaster read the letter.

Question 3:

What did the postmaster do then?

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Answer 3:

The postmaster read the letter and broke out laughing, but soon he became serious and was moved by the Lencho's faith in God and wished. He also had that much faith in God and came up with the idea of answering the letter. He didn't want to shake Lencho's faith. So, he decided to collect money from all possible sources and send it to Lencho on behalf of God.

Oral Comprehension Check - III

Question 1:

Was Lencho surprised to find a letter for him with money in it?

Answer 1:

Lencho was not surprised at all to find a letter with money from God. He had full confidence and was sure that God will help him.

Question 2:

What made him angry?

Answer 2:

Lencho became angry when he counted the money. There were only seventy pesos in the envelope whereas Lencho had demanded a hundred pesos. The difference in the amount made him angry. He thought that the men in the post office had stolen his that money.

Thinking about the Text

Question:

1. Who does Lencho have complete faith in? Which sentences in the story tell you this?
2. Why does the postmaster send money to Lencho? Why does he sign the letter 'God'?
3. Did Lencho try to find out who had sent the money to him? Why/Why not?
4. Who does Lencho think has taken the rest of the money? What is the irony in the situation? (Remember that the irony of a situation is an unexpected aspect of it. An ironic situation is strange or amusing because it is the opposite of what is expected.)
5. Are there people like Lencho in the real world? What kind of a person would you say he is? You may select appropriate words from the box to answer the question.

greedy	naive	stupid	ungrateful
selfish	comical	unquestioning	

6. There are two kinds of conflict in the story: between humans and nature, and between humans themselves. How are these conflicts illustrated?

Answer:

1. Lencho has complete faith in God as he is believed that God knows everything and helps us in our problems. There are few sentences which show this.
 - But in the hearts of all who lived in that solitary house in the middle of the valley, there was a single hope help from 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.
- "God", he wrote, "if you don't help me, my family and I will go hungry this year". He wrote "To God" on the envelope, put the letter inside and still troubled, went to town.
- God could not have made a mistake, nor could he have denied Lencho what he had requested.

2. At first the postmaster found it funny to read a letter that was addressed to God. But eventually he was completely moved by it. He wanted to keep Lencho's faith in God alive and firm. He decided to send money to Lencho in name of God. He gathered money with the help of his post office employees and friends, and gave his part of salary on behalf of God and signed the letter 'God' so that Lencho's faith does not get shaken.

3. Lencho did not try to find out who had sent the money to him because he had complete faith in God and never suspected his presence. He could not believe that it could be anybody else other than God who would send him the money.

His faith in God was so strong that he believed that God had sent money to him for his help in his problem.

4. Lencho thinks that the post office employees have taken the rest of the money as he had demanded a hundred pesos from God and in the letter there was only seventy pesos and God could never make such a mistake. So, he assumed that they have stolen the money.

The irony in this situation is that Lencho suspects those people who helped him in his problem and tried to keep his faith alive in God.

5. It is almost impossible to find a person like Lencho as he is an unquestioning and naive kind of person. He is not stupid if he doesn't know who has sent him money or a letter will reach God without any address. It is Lencho's faith in God. In real world, people are selfish and greedy and Lencho is totally lovable and different.

6. **Conflict between Humans and Nature:** The conflict between humans and nature is illustrated by the demolition of Lencho's crop field by the hailstorm as Lencho expected a good rain to have good harvest as that was the only hope he had for earning. He was an ox of animal. He worked so hard to feed his family, but nature turned violent and destroyed everything.

Conflict between Humans and Humans: The story illustrated another conflict, between humans themselves as Lencho blamed the employees of post office for taking away some amount of money. The postmaster, his friends and staff decided to give Lencho money as an act of charity that he demanded from God although they didn't know Lencho. He called them "a bunch of crook". This shows that man does not have faith in other man, thereby giving rise to this conflict.