



Grade X

Lesson 1.A Letter to God

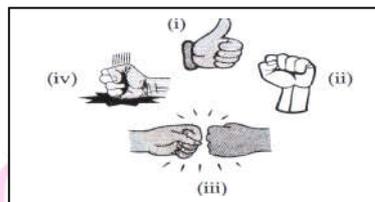
Objective Type Questions

I. Multiple choice questions

- Why does Lencho compare the rain drops to coins?
 - The weather had become pleasant
 - He had a feeling of immense satisfaction
 - The rain would ensure a good harvest**
 - His hard work had been rewarded
- Why did the postman laugh heartily on seeing Lencho's letter?
 - He did not know what to do with it
 - The letter was without an address
 - He had never known that address**
 - He lacked that kind of faith in God
- Lencho was not surprised on receiving money from God. This reveals his:
 - Apprehension
 - Anxiety
 - Conviction**
 - Courage
- Where was the house situated?
 - in a valley
 - in the plains
 - on the crest of a hill
 - by the seaside
 - I and II
 - II and III
 - I and III**
 - III and IV
- They are new coins. The big drops are ten cent pieces and the little ones are fives. What are these coins made of?
 - Gold
 - Silver
 - Nickel
 - Raindrops**
- But in the hearts of all who lived in that solitary house in the middle of the valley, there was a single hope. What hope is being discussed?
 - Help from the neighbours
 - Help from the post office employees
 - Help from the postmaster and his colleagues
 - Help from God**

3. Pick the option that lists the option corresponding to - 'with a blow of fist'.

- a. Option (i) b. Option (ii)
 c. Option (iii) d. **Option (iv)**



4. Lencho's letter included.

- a. details of his problems b. description of the post office
 c. belief of being looted d. **List of further demands**

5. Pick the most suitable quote for this extract .

- a. "It is easier to fool people than to convince them that they have been fooled"
 - Mark Twin
 b. "Real knowledge is to know the extent of one's ignorance". - Confucius.
 c. You see a person's true colours when you are no longer beneficial to their life -
 Anonymous
 d. **"True generosity means accepting ingratitude" - Coco Channel.**

III. Extract - Based questions

1. Read the extracts given below and answer the questions that follow:

The house the only one in the entire valley sat in the crest of a low hill. From this height one could see the river and the field of ripe corn dotted with the flowers that always promised a good harvest. The only thing the earth needed was a downpour or at least a shower throughout the morning Lencho- who know his fields intimately-had done nothing else but see the sky towards the north-east.

1. Based on the details of the house's location, how can it best be described?

- a. Majestic b. Imposing c. **Solitary** d. Unique

2. The field of corn dotted with flowers means that :

- a. not a single flower was bigger than a dot
 b. **the flowers were scattered across**
 c. the flowers were shaped like dots
 d. The flowers had shrunk in size

3. Based on the given extract, what is Lencho NOT likely to think while looking at his field?

- a. Option (i)
- b. Option (ii)
- c. Option (iii)
- d. **Option (iv)**

(i) Such a blessing God! Thank you		(iii) All set for the grand harvest. I'm going to be rich
(ii) Just a downpour, God. And everything will be perfect		(iv) I wish we have enough food to eat after this harvest

4. Which quote supports the idea in the given extract?

- a. **"Farming is a profession of hope".**
- b. "I should rather be on my farm than be emperor of the world"
- c. "Farming looks mighty when your plough is a pencil and you're thousand miles from the corn field."
- d. Those too lazy to plough in the right season will have no food at the harvest.

IV. Extract - Based questions

1. Read the extracts given below and answer the questions that follow:

The house the only one in the entire valley sat in the crest of a low hill. From this height one could see the river and the field of ripe corn dotted with the flowers that always promised a good harvest. The only thing the earth needed was a downpour or at least a shower. Throughout the morning Lencho- who know his fields intimately-had done nothing else but see the sky towards the north-east,

"Now we are going to get some water woman. The women who was preparing supper, replied, "Yes, God willing ".

a. Where was the house situated?

The house was situated in a valley on the crest of a low hill.

b. Which two things could one see from this height?

From the height one could see the river and the field of ripe corn dotted with flowers.

c. Why did he see towards the north east?

Lencho saw towards the north-east sky, in the hope of a downpour.

d. Which word in the passage means the same of "heavy full of rain"?

The word 'downpour' in the passage means the same as 'heavy fall of rain'



2. 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 the field of ripe corn dotted with flowers that always promised good harvest.

The only thing the earth needed was a downpour or at least a shower.

Throughout the morning Lencho - who knew his fields intimately-had done nothing else but see the sky towards the northeast.

"Now we're really going to get some water, woman."

The woman, who was preparing supper, replied "Yes, God willing".

The older 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 Lencho had predicted big drops of rain began to fall. In the north east huge mountains of clouds could be seen approaching. The air was fresh and sweet. The man went out for no other reason than to have the pleasure of feeling the rain on his body and when he returned, he exclaimed. " These aren't raindrops falling from the sky, they are new coins. The big drops are ten-cent pieces and the little ones are fives".

a. What qualities of Lencho's character are brought out in the passage?

Lencho's deep knowledge of his fields and his faith in himself are the qualities brought out in the passage.

b. What was peculiar about the house in which Lencho lived?

The peculiarity about Lencho's house was that it was the only house in the entire valley

c. What did Lencho wish throughout the morning?

Throughout the morning Lencho's only wish was for a downpour or at least a shower.

d. What does the word intimate in the passage mean?

The word 'intimate' means 'closely' or 'wholly'.

3. With a satisfied expression he regarded the field of ripe corn with its flowers, draped in a curtain of rain. But suddenly a strong wind began to blow and along with the rain very large hailstones 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, "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.



a. Why did Lencho look satisfied?

Lencho looked satisfied because his field of corn was ripe with its flowers and he expected a good harvest and it had started raining.

b. What happened all at once?

All at once a strong wind began to blow and along with the rain very large hailstones began to fall.

c. What did Lencho hope for?

He hoped that the wind and the hailstorm would pass quickly

d. What happened as a result of the hailstorm?

As a result of the hailstorm the corn crop was destroyed as the field was completely covered with ice from the hailstorm.

e. Find out a word in the passage which means the same as 'to look like'.

The word 'resemble means' to look like.

4. 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 as ox of a man, working like an animal in the fields but still he knew how to write. The following Sunday, at day break, he began to write a letter which he himself would carry to town and place in the mail.

a. What did Lencho think all through the night?

All through the night Lencho thought about his one and only hope, the help of God.

b. Why did he pin his hopes on God alone?

He pinned his hopes on God along because he had been told that God sees everything even what is deep in one's conscience and then helps people in distress.

c. Why has he been called 'an ox of a man'?

Lencho has been called 'an ox of a man' because he used to work like an animal in the field.

d. Which word in the passage means the same as 'an inner sense of right and wrong' ?

The word 'conscience' means the same as 'an inner sense of right and wrong'

e. Find the word, from the passage, which means 'good-tempered'.

The word 'amiable' means 'good-tempered'.



5. 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 his office

Lencho showed not the slightest surprise on seeing the money such was his confidence but he became angry when he counted the money .

a. Who delivered the letter and to whom?

The postman delivered the letter to Lencho.

b. What did the postmaster do in the meantime?

The postmaster meanwhile experienced the contentment of a man who has performed a deed.

c. Which 'good deed ' is referred to here?

The 'good deed ' referred to here is providing Lencho with the money he desperately needed.

d. Why was Lencho not surprised on seeing the money?

Lencho's faith in God was so strong that he was not surprised on seeing the money.

e. Find the noun form of the word 'content' from the passage

The noun form of the word 'content is 'contentment'.

6. 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 his office.

Lencho showed not the slightest surprise on seeing the money 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 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 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."



a. What does Lencho mean by 'the rest' ?

By 'the rest' Lencho means the remaining thirty pesos which he had yet to receive from God.

b. What was in Lencho's mind when he was writing the letter? Write two points

Lencho desperately wanted the rest of the thirty pesos and he was sure that the post office employees were a bunch of crooks

c. Why did the postmaster open the mailbox immediately?

The postmaster was extremely eager to know Lencho's reaction on receiving money from God. So, he opened the mailbox immediately

d. Find out the word from the passage which means dishonest people

The word 'crooked' means dishonest people

7. Lencho showed not the slightest a surprise on seeing the money: such was his confidence-but he became angry when he counted the money. God couldn't 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 .

a. Why did Lancho become angry when he counted the money?

Lencho became angry when he counted the money because it was less than what he had requested for.

b. Who sent him the money and why?

The postmaster sent him the money because he wanted to cement and further strengthen Lencho's faith in God.

c. What request did he make to God when he wrote another letter after receiving the money?

He requested God not to send him the remaining money through the mail as he believed that the post office employees were a 'bunch of crooks'.

d. Use the following phrase in a sentence of your own 'Wrinkling of one's brow' .

By wrinkling his brow he tried concentrate more on the task at hand.



V. Extract - Based questions

1. Why was Lencho angry on counting the money sent to him?

Lencho became angry on counting the money when he saw only seventy pesos instead of hundred pesos. So he got angry on the post office employees. He was expecting hundred pesos from God.

2. Why did Lencho write a letter to God?

Lencho had faith in God alone. So, he wrote a letter to God. He thought that this is the only hope for him. He was so sure that he would get the required money from God.

3. What did Lencho hope for?

When a strong wind began to blow along with rain, very large hailstones began to fall. Lencho hoped the wind and hail would pass quickly.

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

The field of ripe corn with its flowers that promised a good harvest needed only a downpour. Thus, when the raindrops fell from the sky Lencho said they are new coins.

5. How did the rain change? What happened to Lencho's field?

Suddenly when a strong wind began to blow, along with the rain came very large hailstones. For an hour the hail fell on the house, the garden, the hillside, the cornfield and on the whole valley. Lencho's field was as if covered with salt. The corn was destroyed and the flowers gone from the plants.

6. What are Lencho's feelings when the hail stopped?

Lencho's soul was filled with sadness when the hail stopped. The night was a sorrowful one as he and his family would have to go hungry that year.

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

Lencho had immense faith in God. He had been told that God's eyes see everything even what is deep in one's conscience. The following Sunday at daybreak, Lencho wrote a letter to God asking for help. He carried this letter to the town and mailed it himself.

8. Who read the letter?

The postmaster a fat, amiable fellow, read the letter.

9. What did the post master do then?

The postmaster came up with an idea. He decided to answer the letter. But when he opened it, he realized he need hundred pesos.

I. Match the following

1. Which quote supports the idea in the given extract?

	Column - I		Column - II
1.	Heavy rain	i.	Light rain that falls in very fine drops
2.	Thunderstorm	ii.	Very heavy rain, tropical rain
3.	Drizzle	iii.	It's coming down quite strong and you get very wet quickly
4.	Torrential rain	iv.	Really heavy rain that comes very suddenly
5.	Downpour	v.	Is a violent, short - lived weather disturbance associated with lighting thunder and strong gusty winds.

a. 1 - iii 2 - iv 3 - v 4 - i 5 - iii

b. 1 - v, 2 - ii, 3 - iii, 4 - iv, 5 - ii

c. 1 - v, 2 - iii, 3 - iv, 4 - iii 5 - i

d. 1 - iii, 2 - v, 3 - i, 4 - ii, 5 - iv

Short Answer Type Questions

1. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:

It was during the meal that, just as Lencho had predicted, big drops of rain began to fall. In the north - east huge mountains of clouds could be seen approaching. The air was fresh and sweet. The man went out for no other reason than to have the pleasure of feeling the rain on his body, and when he returned, he exclaimed, 'These aren't raindrops falling from the sky, they are new coins. The big drops are ten cent pieces and the little ones are fives'.

a. What had Lencho predicted?

Lencho had predicted that big drops of rain began to fall as the huge clouds could be seen approaching.

b. When did his prediction come out to be true?

His predictions came out to be true when he went out and saw that hailstones were falling from the sky like silver coins.

c. Why did he go out?

He went out because he wanted to have the pleasure of feeling the rain on his body.



d. How did he react when he returned from there?

When he returned from there, he exclaimed that those raindrops were like new coins - big drops were ten cent and small ones were five.

e. 'Which word in the passage means the same as 'speak out loudly in surprise'?

'exclaimed'.

2. Where was Lencho's house situated?

Lencho was a farmer. His house was the only one in the valley. It was situated on the top of a low hill overlooking the valley. From this height, he could see the river. He could also see his fields of ripe corn dotted with flowers. The flowers always promised a good harvest.

3. What did Lencho and the earth need immediately?

The only thing the earth needed was rain. Lencho, being a farmer wished for a heavy rain. At least, a shower was necessary. His fields needed water immediately otherwise the crop would be completely ruined. So he would constantly look at the sky towards the north-east.

4. How did the rain come as predicted by Lencho and how did he receive it?

Lencho's wife was preparing supper. The older boys were working in the field. It was during the meal, in the north-east huge mountains of clouds could be seen approaching. Then, as Lencho had predicted, big drops of rain began to fall. Lencho went out to have the pleasure of feeling the rain on his body. To, him the rain drops were like the new coins.

5. Why were the rain drops like new coins for Lencho?

Lencho had been impatiently waiting for the rain. The earth needed a downpour immediately. At least, a shower was necessary to save the crops. Fortunately for Lencho, in the north-east huge mountains of clouds could be seen approaching, big drops of rain began to fall. Every drop was precious for the fields and the crops. The bigger drops were worth ten cent pieces and the little ones were fives.

6. Why did Lencho's happiness change into deep concern?

As Lencho had predicted the rain did come. At the meal time it came in the form of big drops. Naturally, the rain gladdened his heart. He could see better prospects of a good crop. However, his happiness was short - lived. Suddenly a strong wind began to blow. The rain turned into big hailstones for an hour completely destroyed everything - leaves, trees and the standing crops. Naturally such a heavy loss put Lencho into a deep concern.



7. Describe the loss caused by the heavy fall of hailstones in general and to Lencho in particular.

For an hour, the hailstones rained on the house, the garden the hillside and the cornfield. Actually the whole valley was covered with them. Leaves and flowers were destroyed Lencho's fields were covered with a white layer. The hail had left practically nothing. There was no chance of any corn that year for Lencho.

8. Why did Lencho write a letter to God?

Lencho's crops were completely destroyed by hailstorm. He wrote a letter to God to seek help because he was the only source of hope for him. He asked God to send hundred pesos. So that he could sow his field again and support his family.

9. Why did Lencho think of writing a letter to God? What did he write in the letter?

The hailstones completely destroyed Lencho's cornfields. They would have no corn that year. Having lost all hopes, Lencho thought of writing a letter to God. He requested God to send him a hundred pesos to sow his fields again. He wrote that he needed money to live until the new crops came. If God didn't help, his family would face starvation.

10. What was the address written and how was the letter sent to God?

Lencho had an unshaken faith in God and His mercy. Therefore, he decided to write a letter to God for help. He wrote 'To God' on the envelope and put the letter inside. He went to the post office and placed a stamp on the letter. Finally, he dropped it into the mailbox.

11. How did the postmaster react when a postman showed him the letter to God?

When a postman received Lencho's letter, he laughed heartily and took that letter to the postmaster. The postmaster looked at the letter to God and laughed heartily too. However, he soon grew serious. He was impressed with the sender's faith in God who tried to correspond Him. "What a faith"! he could utter only such words

12. Why did the postmaster decide to answer Lencho's letter?

After laughing at the very idea of a letter to God, the postmaster became serious soon. He was impressed with the unshaken faith of the sender in God. He wished he had the faith of the man who wrote that letter to God. So, in order not to shake the writer's faith in God, the postmaster decided to answer the letter.

13. How did the postmaster answer Lencho's letter by sending in the money?

The postmaster didn't want to shake the writer's faith in God and so decided to help him. It needed something more than the goodwill. So he collected money from his employees and



himself contributed a part of the salary. He could collect only seventy pesos. He put the money into the envelope and put a single word 'God' as signature and posted it to Lencho.

14. Why did Lencho go a bit earlier than usual to the post office the following Sunday?

Lencho had firm faith in God and His mercy. He did expect a reply from him. So, on the following Sunday he went to the post office a bit earlier than usual. The postman handed over the letter to Lencho. The postmaster was only contented to perform a good deed.

15. Why did Lencho show no surprise on seeing the money?

Lencho had a firm faith in God. He didn't show any surprise when he received the sum of seventy pesos. He believed in the mercy of God and expected a definite help from Him. So, he showed no surprise when he received the money.

16. Why was Lencho angry after he counted the money?

Lencho had demanded a sum of hundred pesos as an immediate help from God. He did hope in God's mercy and help. However, his happiness was short lived when he counted the money. The sum was short by 30 pesos. Lencho believed that God did send him a hundred pesos but the dishonest post office employees embezzled the money.

17. Why did Lencho ask help from God? Did he receive it?

Lencho had written a letter to God requesting him to send a sum of one hundred pesos. This money was necessary to sow his fields again and to live until the new crop came. The help did come in the form of 70 pesos. Actually it was not God but the kind-hearted postmaster who had collected the money and sent to Lencho by post signing God.

18. What did Lencho write in his second letter to God? Why did he ask him not to send the rest of money by post mail?

Lencho wrote to God that he received only 70 pesos out of the 100 that he had asked for. He asked God to send him the rest of the money as he needed it very much. He even asked God not to send the money through the post mail. He said that the post office employees were dishonest and 'a bunch of crooks.'

19. Lencho has a great faith in God. Does he have the same kind of faith in man? Taking examples from the story describe his attitude towards God and man.

Lencho's crop was totally destroyed. He had great faith in God. He wrote a letter to God asking for a hundred pesos as help. The postmaster and the employees collected seventy pesos and sent the money to him. Lencho thought that the employees had stolen 30 pesos. He wrote another letter to God asking for 30 pesos more but not through the post office. He called the



employees 'a bunch of crooks'. This highlights Lencho's attitude to God and man. He had full faith in God but doesn't have any faith in man.

20. What is the ironical about the ending of the story?

The end of the story is rather ironical. The postmaster was greatly impressed by Lencho's faith in God. He collected a sum of seventy pesos from his employees and contributed a part of his salary. However, his great act of charity was not recognised and appreciated by the man who received the help. On the contrary, the helpers were ironically called 'a bunch of crooks'.

Long Answer Type Questions

1. In the lesson, "A letter to God", what moral values does the postmaster display in his behaviour?

In the lesson "A Letter to God", the postmaster has been portrayed as a kind, amiable and fun-loving person. When he received Lencho's letter addresses to God, he was surprised to see such an innocent faith in God.

He opened the letter and read it. Then he came to know that Lencho required money instead of ink, paper and goodwill. So, he decided not to shake the writer's faith in God.

In fact, the postmaster was greatly impressed by Lencho's faith as he himself wanted to maintain such faith in God. So he collected money from his employees, friends and gave part of his salary. Thus, we find many good qualities in the post master's character.

2. Who does Lencho have complete faith in ?How do you know? Give reasoned answer.

Lencho had a complete faith in God. Lencho was a simple and innocent person. When the hailstones destroyed his cornfields thoroughly, his soul was filled with sadness. 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, the Almighty. So, Lencho was not disappointed. He believed that God does not let anyone die of hunger.

Although for some time Lencho thought if God did not help him, his family would go hungry that year. The hope to survive with the help of God was deep in his conscience. So, as a naïve soul, he wrote a letter to God to send him one hundred pesos that would be enough to sow his fields and feed his family. This act shows his deep faith in God.



3. Isn't it strange to write a letter to God? Why then does Lencho write it?

What does he experience?

Of course, it is strange to write a letter to God. Normally humans cannot write a letter to God.

When hailstorm destroyed Lencho's crops completely, he became very sad. He thought that his family would go hungry that year, because they did not have any crop. He had a great faith in God. He conceived that life is not all gloom and despondency. Even faith can move mountains. So he thought that God would not let them be hungry. It was only God who shall help them survive. So, Lencho wrote letter to God.

Lencho requested God to send him at least one hundred pesos so that he could sow his field and feed his family.

Lencho was sure to get the help of God. So, he heaved a sigh of relief.

4. Describe Lencho as a farmer. How did the rain gladden his heart but the heavy hailstones that followed left him a worried man?

Lencho was a farmer who lived in a house that was on the top of a small hill. From that height he could see the river and his fields. Lencho was an 'ox' of a man. He was strong and worked like an animal in his fields. The only thing the earth and the fields needed was a heavy rain. At least, a shower was very necessary. Lencho's older boys were working in the field. He could see huge mountains of clouds in the north-east. It gladdened his heart. As predicted by him big drops of rain began to fall. The rain drops were like 'new coins'.

Unfortunately, Lencho's happiness was short lived. Suddenly a strong wind began to blow. Along with the rain very large hailstones began to fall. Within an hour the house, the garden, the hillside and the fields were covered with a white sheet of hailstones. The leaves, trees and the flowers were destroyed. The hail had left nothing. The corn was totally destroyed. That year they would have no corn. They would survive on the mercy of God. All such dismal prospects worried Lencho.

5. What circumstances made Lencho write a letter to God? What does this act show about him?

The rain came but with disastrous hailstones that ruined everything. The leaves, plants and flowers were ruined. The corn was totally destroyed. The hail had left nothing. That year Lencho and his family would have no corn. They would be on the verge of starvation. All such dismal prospects worried Lencho. There was only one hope - help from God.



Lencho and his wife were highly religious and had an unshaken faith in God. They believed in God's mercy and also believed that 'no one dies of hunger'. So Lencho decided to write a letter to God. He wrote that he needed an immediate help. He wrote that without God's help his family would face starvation. He needed a hundred pesos in order to sow his fields and live until the fresh crop

came. He wrote the letter and wrote 'To God' on the envelope and dropped it into the mailbox.

6. Writing a letter to God for help, really shows not only the unshaken faith in God of the writer Lencho but also shows not only the unshaken faith in God of the writer Lencho but also shows his utter simplicity and innocence. Comment.

Lencho was a simple and hard working farmer who worked like an ox in his fields. When the heavy fall of hailstones destroyed his corn totally, he and his family were rather on the verge of starvation. He was left with one hope, help from God. He believed that God is all merciful and hears the call of those who are of clear conscience. He requested him to send a hundred pesos immediately to help him to sow his fields. He and his family also needed some money to live on until the fresh crop came.

Writing a letter to God and addressing it 'To God' shows the writer's unshaken faith in God. He was a simple man not distrusting that such a letter could reach God. His innocence and firm belief in God's mercy even deeply impressed and influenced the post master who decided to answer his letter. He didn't want to shake the writer's faith in God. He collected and sent 70 pesos as help signing the letter with one word 'God.' Lencho had so much faith in God and His mercy that he didn't show any surprise when he received the money sent to him. He wrote another letter requesting him to send the rest of the money immediately but not through the post mail as the post office employees were 'bunch of crooks.'

7. Why did the postmaster and his employees decide to help Lencho? Was their effort appreciated by the receiver of that help?

Lencho was a simple - hearted farmer who had tremendous faith in God. The heavy hailstones destroyed his corn. There was only one hope - help from God. So Lencho wrote a letter to God describing his and his family's miserable condition. He requested for a hundred pesos to help in sowing the crop and living till the next crop came. The postmaster himself, a generous man, first laughed at the idea of Lencho's having a correspondence with God. However, he soon became serious. He was highly impressed by Lencho's unshaken faith in God.



He didn't want to break his faith in God. So he decided to answer the letter and help Lencho. He needed something more than goodwill. He asked his employees to collect money for this cause. He also contributed a part of his salary. All in all they collected 70 pesos. The postmaster put the money in an envelope and mailed it to Lencho. He wrote a single word as a signature, God. Ironically, this noble act of charity by the postmaster and employees was not appreciated by Lencho. On the contrary he called them 'a bunch of crooks' who embezzled the remaining 30 pesos. He never knew who were the real helpers. He only wrote God not to send the remaining 30 pesos through the mail as the post office employees were a 'bunch of crooks'.

8. Who does Lencho think has taken the rest of the money? Describe the ironical ending of the story.

Lencho's faith in God was complete and looked towards God for help. And he was unshaken. When he lost all hopes, be sure that God would come to the help of him. So, when he saw the money, he was a simple man of clear conscience like not at all surprised as he had been waiting for it. But when he counted the money, he became angry. He was sure that someone had stolen thirty pesos out of the hundred sent by God. Who could be they, except the employees at the post office? Therefore, he wrote a second letter to God to send him the rest of money immediately. He asked Him not to send the money through the mail as the post office employees were a 'bunch of crooks'.

The situation at the end becomes quite ironical. It is ironical that men who collected pesos to help Lencho were called 'a bunch of crooks', by him. He couldn't know till the end who had really sent that money.

9. Draw a character sketch of Lencho, the farmer in about 120-150 words

Lencho was a simple man as farmer usually are everywhere. He was a man limited means and earned his living him in farming activities. His older sons help the same but also managed the kitchen and other household works. Lencho was highly religious. So was his wife. He had an unshaken faith in God. He believed the God always helps the people with a clear conscience. Therefore, when he lost all hopes and he and his family were on the verge of starvation, he looked towards God for help. His deep faith in God even impressed the postmaster who decided to help him. He was strong and sturdy like on ox. Not only that, he worked day and night in the fields. Being a farmer, he had a deep knowledge about the weather, the winds and the rains of his region.



He was simple hearted. He was rustic in habit and thoughts. He was a little educated to write a letter. He shows his innocence by trying to have a correspondence with God directly. He wrote "To God" on the top of the envelope and posted the letter into the mail-box

While he had an unshaken faith in God, he mistrusted easily the motives of men. He could never to know and nor did he ever try to know who had sent those seventy pesos to help him. It is quite ironical that he abused his helpers by calling them 'a bunch of crooks '.

10. Give a character sketch of the Postmaster in your own words. Don't you think that he should have deserved a better recognition and appreciation of his act of charity?

It takes all kinds of people to make this world. The postmaster has all that is good in human thinking and behaviour He has thorough understanding of a sharp, sympathetic and sensitive mind. He knows how the mind of a God fearing rustic like Lencho works. He is sensitive and sympathetic to human feelings. He doesn't want to break the deep faith of the writer in God The fat and friendly postmaster has a large heart too. First, he laughed at the man who wanted to have a direct correspondence with God. But he soon become serious. After reading the letter, he was deeply moved and impressed by Lencho's faith in God. He knew that merely goodwill was not sufficient . The former needed financial help. So he collected a sum of 70 pesos from his employees. He also contributed a part of his salary. He did so as to keep Lencho's faith in God. He wrote a single word as signature God.

It is ironical that a simpleton like Lencho could never know his real benefactor nor did he ever try to know how and from whom he received these seventy pesos. Naturally the postmaster's work of charity deserved a better recognition and appreciation from the receiver. Ironically, the postmaster and his employees who had sent seventy pesos were called "a bunch of crooks" by Lencho.



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