

Class-xii  
Subject-English  
Date-21.08.21  
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### The Enemy - Line by line explanation-

Dr. Sadao Hoki's house was built on a spot of the Japanese coast where as a little boy he had often played.

The house of Dr Sadao Hoki was constructed on the beach in Japan. When he was a child, he used to often play on the beach.

Beach means the sandy land along the edge of a sea. Some beaches are very wide while others are not. Almost every beach has rocks.

The low, square stone house was set upon rocks well above a narrow beach that was outlined with bent pines.

The house was of low height and square in shape. It was constructed on rocks of the beach. The beach had many pine trees. The beach was narrow.

As a boy Sadao had climbed the pines, supporting himself on his bare feet, as he had seen men do in the South Seas when they climbed for coconuts.

### Word Meaning

Bare feet      Not wearing anything in feet

South Seas is referred to Pacific Ocean.

When Sadao was a boy, he used to climb pine trees. He used to climb without wearing anything in his feet. In the islands of South Seas he had seen men climbing coconut trees. He had learnt the trick of climbing by watching these men.

His father had taken him often to the islands of those seas, and never had he failed to say to the little brave boy at his side, "Those islands yonder, they are the stepping stones to the future for Japan."

### Word Meaning

Yonder There, In the direction shown.

Stepping stones      Something that helps in success.

His father used to often take Sadao to these island. He always used to say to the brave boy (Sadao) that those islands situated there, are beginning of successful future for Japan.

“Where shall we step from them?” Sadao had asked seriously.

“Who knows?” his father had answered.

“Who can limit our future? It depends on what we make it.”

Sadao asked his father, where they would go from there. His father told him that nobody knows about future. Future does not have any limit. We make our own future. Hence future depends on our efforts.

Sadao had taken this into his mind as he did everything his father said, his father who never joked or played with him but who spent infinite pains upon him who was his only son.

### Word Meaning

Taken into his mind      Understood and remembered

Spent infinite pains      Spent lot of time

Sadao had understood and remembered it. He always remembered and did what his father had said. His father never played with him or cracked jokes. But he spent lot of time with Sadao. His father had only one kid – Sadao.

Sadao knew that his education was his father’s chief concern. For this reason he had been sent at twenty-two to America to learn all that could be learned of surgery and medicine.

### Word Meaning

Chief      Main, Major

Concern      Worry

His father had a major concern about education of Sadao. So he had sent Sadao to America to thoroughly study surgery and medicine. Sadao had gone to America at the age of 22.

He had come back at thirty, and before his father died he had seen Sadao become famous not only as a surgeon but as a scientist.

Sadao came back to Japan at the age of 30. Sadao became famous as a surgeon and as a scientist. This had happened while his father was alive.

Because he was perfecting a discovery which would render wounds entirely clean, he had not been sent abroad with the troops.

#### Word Meaning

Render            Make, Result into

Abroad Foreign country

Troops Soldiers, Military

Sadao was trying to complete his research on a method that will make any wound fully clean. Because of this reason, during World War II, Sadao was not sent to other countries with soldiers.

Also, he knew, there was some slight danger that the old General might need an operation for a condition for which he was now being treated medically, and for this possibility Sadao was being kept in Japan.

Sadao also knew that the old General of Japan might need to be operated anytime. Though it was a minor possibility. Sadao was kept in Japan for such possibility. Presently the general was given medicines for his treatment.

The General was chief of Army in Japan.

Clouds were rising from the ocean now. The unexpected warmth of the past few days had at night drawn heavy fog from the cold waves.

Now clouds were rising from sea. Past some days were warm during night time, which was not expected. Because of this, there was dense fog from cold waves of sea. Meaning that the fog was in the sea.

Sadao watched mists hide outlines of a little island near the shore and then come creeping up the beach below the house, wreathing around the pines.

#### Word Meaning

Outlines            Outer edges

Shore    Edge of sea

Creeping            Moving slowly

Wreathe            Encircle

Because of mist, Sadao could not clearly see edges of the small island. This island was near the shore. The mist would slowly come up to the beach and below his house. It will encircle all the pine trees at the beach.

In a few minutes fog would be wrapped about the house too. Then he would go into the room where Hana, his wife, would be waiting for him with the two children.

#### Word Meaning

Wrapped Covered

In few moments the fog will cover his house also. Then he will go to his room. His wife, Hana and his two kids would be waiting for him.

But at this moment the door opened and she looked out, a dark-blue woolen haori over her kimono. She came to him affectionately and put her arm through his as he stood, smiled and said nothing.

#### Word Meaning

Haori Jacket of Japanese style

Kimono Japanese dress

Affectionately Lovingly, With love

At that moment door of his house was opened. His wife came out. She was wearing a blue coloured haori over her kimono. She came near to Sadao. She held his arms, smiled but did not say anything.

He had met Hana in America, but he had waited to fall in love with her until he was sure she was Japanese. His father would never have received her unless she had been pure in her race.

Sadao met Hana in America. They did not fall in love immediately. Sadao wanted to be sure that she was from Japan. His father would not have accepted Hana if she were not a Japanese.

Pure in race means that parents and ancestors of Hana were from Japan.

He wondered often whom he would have married if he had not met Hana, and by what luck he had found her in the most casual way, by chance literally, at an American professor's house.

#### Word Meaning

Wondered Thought

By most casual way    Coincidentally

Many times Sadao thought he would not have married anybody other than Hana. Luckily he had met Hana at the house of his American professor. It was purely a matter of chance and coincidence.

The professor and his wife had been kind people anxious to do something for their few foreign students and the students, though bored, had accepted this kindness.

The professor and his wife were kind people. They were always eager to help students from foreign countries. The students did not like their nature but had to accept their help.

Sadao had often told Hana how nearly he had not gone to Professor Harley's house that night – the rooms were so small, the food so bad, the professor's wife so voluble.

Word    Meaning

Nearly not gone            Did not want to go but went

Voluble            Talkative.

Many times Sadao had told Hana that he did not want to go to the house of professor that night. Name of the professor was Harley. Rooms in their house were very small. Food they served was not tasty. And wife of professor used to talk a lot.

But he had gone and there he had found Hana, a new student, and had felt he would love her if it were at all possible.

But Sadao had gone to house of professor that night. He met Hana there. Hana was a new student. He liked Hana and he wanted to fall in love with her.

Now he felt her hand on his arm and was aware of the pleasure it gave him, even though they had been married years enough to have the two children. For they had not married heedlessly in America.

Now Hana put her hand around arm of Sadao. He was very happy to feel her arm around his arm. Although they were married many years ago and had two children, they liked each other. Because they did not marry in America without thinking.

