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Samagra Shiksha
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CLASS - X

ENGLISH

Footprints without Feet

CHAPTER - 4

THE HACK DRIVER

Part – 4

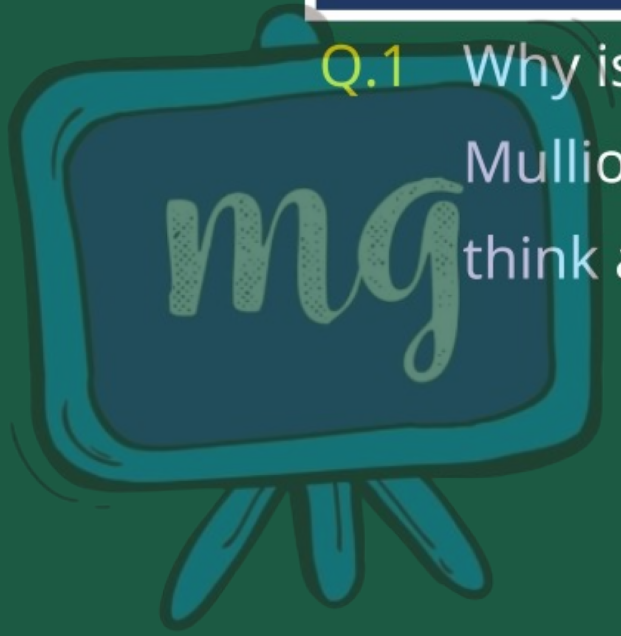
Comprehension

Nipa Das

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READ AND FIND OUT



Q.1 Why is the lawyer sent to New Mullion? What does he first think about the place?

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READ AND FIND OUT

Q.1 Why is the lawyer sent to New Mullion? What does he first think about the place?

Ans : The lawyer is sent to New Mullion to serve summons on Oliver Lutkins. He first thinks about the place to be a sweet and simple countryside village. But he finds it dirty and unclean.

Q.2 Who befriends him? Where does he take him?



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Q.2 Who befriends him? Where does he take him?

Ans : A delivery man (Oliver Lutkins himself) befriends him. He takes him to the Fritz's, Gustaff's barber shop, Gray's barber shop, poolroom and Wade's Hill. He finally takes him to Lutkins' house and his mother's.

Q.3 What does he say about Lutkins?



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Q.3 What does he say about Lutkins?

Ans : He says that Lutkins never pays anybody a cent. He is not really bad. But it is hard to make him part with his money.

He is fond of playing poker and is also good at deceiving people.

Q.4 What more does Bill say about Lutkins and his family?



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Q.4 What more does Bill say about Lutkins and his family?

Ans : Bill says that Lutkins has a mother. They have a farm three miles north. But his mother is a real terror. She is about nine feet tall and four feet thick. She is as quick as a cat.

Q.5 Does the narrator serve the summons that day ?



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Q.5 Does the narrator serve the summons that day ?

Ans : The narrator does not serve the summons that day. He comes again to New Mullion. He serves it on Lutkins when he is recognised by another official the next day who is with him.

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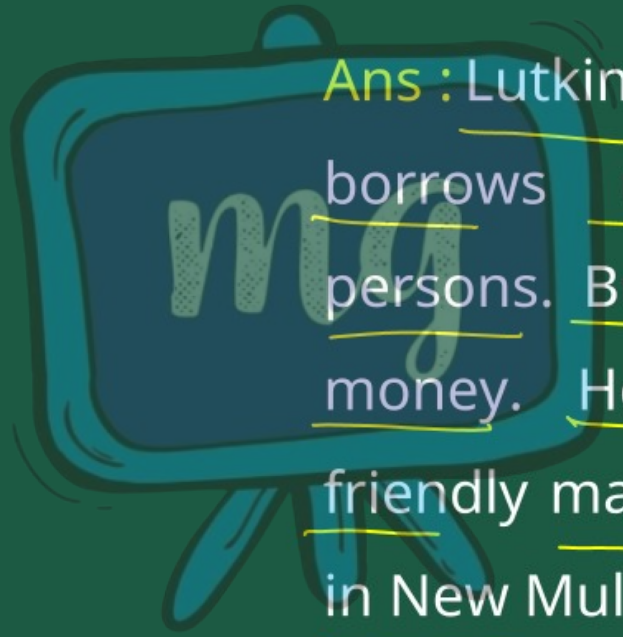
Q.6 Who is Lutkins?



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Q.6 Who is Lutkins?

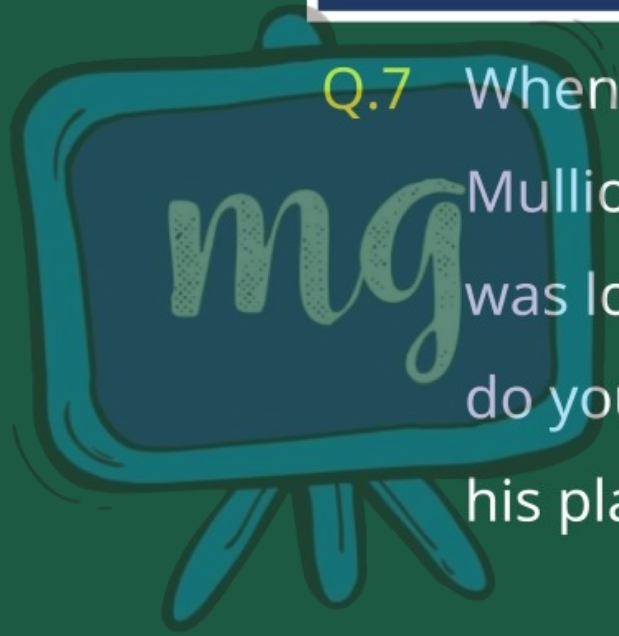


Ans : Lutkins is a cheater. He borrows money from different persons. But he never returns that money. He has a cheerful and friendly manner. He is a hack driver in New Mullion.

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THINK ABOUT IT



Q.7 When the lawyer reached New Mullion, did 'Bill' know that he was looking for Lutkins? When do you think Bill came up with his plan for fooling the lawyer?

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THINK ABOUT IT

Q.7 When the lawyer reached New Mullion, did 'Bill' know that he was looking for Lutkins? When do you think Bill came up with his plan for fooling the lawyer?

Ans : Bill (Lutkins himself) at once knew that the lawyer was looking for him.

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The lawyer's first sentence to him is : 'I want to find a man named Oliver Lutkins'.

Hearing him and knowing about his ways Bill (Lutkins himself) comes up with his plan, the plan to fool the lawyer.

Q.8 Lutkins openly takes the lawyer all over the village. How is it that no one lets out the secret?



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Q.8 Lutkins openly takes the lawyer all over the village. How is it that no one lets out the secret?

Ans : Lutkins acts very cleverly. Wherever he takes the lawyer to find 'Lutkins', he gives out hints. These are to keep everything in secret. For example.

Fritz looks at the lawyer hiding behind Bill and 'hesitates'. Then he tells a lie.

Yes, he manipulates the tour cleverly.

When he goes to Gustaff's barber shop, he first enters the shop. But the lawyer remains outside.

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In fact, he talks very confidently to the lawyer. His honesty and helpful nature impress him very much.

When he meets his mother, he introduces himself as Bill, the hack driver, so as to give a hint to his mother, not to recognise him. This shows his smartness and the lawyer's innocence.

Q.9 Why do you think Lutkins' neighbours were anxious to meet the lawyer?



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Q.9 Why do you think Lutkins' neighbours were anxious to meet the lawyer?

Ans : The neighbours were anxious to meet the lawyer because he was a lawyer. A lawyer is supposed to be intelligent and clever. But Lutkins deceived such a man.

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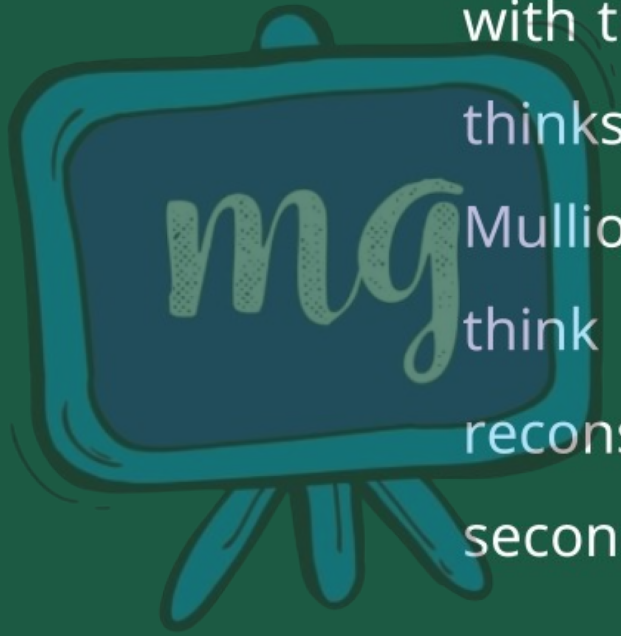
Everyone in the village laughed at the lawyer's innocence. But the neighbours were the only one who had not seen him.



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Q.10 After his first day's experience with the hack driver the lawyer thinks of returning to New Mullion to practise law. Do you think he would have reconsidered this idea after his second visit?



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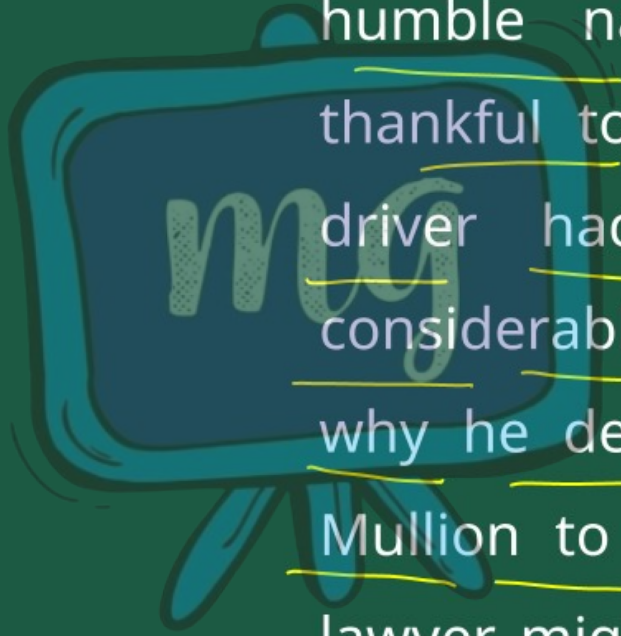
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Q.10 After his first day's experience with the hack driver the lawyer thinks of returning to New Mullion to practise law. Do you think he would have reconsidered this idea after his second visit?

Ans : In his first visit he thought of the villagers as simple-hearted.

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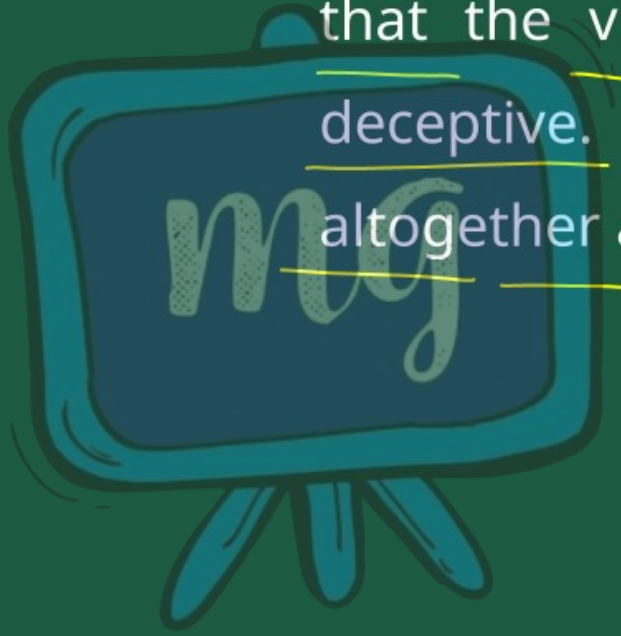


He was touched by the hack driver's humble nature. He feels highly thankful towards him as the hack driver had been so kind and considerable towards him. That's why he decided to return to New Mullion to practise law there. The lawyer might have reconsidered his idea of returning to New Mullion

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after his second visit, as he realised that the villagers were crafty and deceptive. They deceived him altogether and made fun of him.



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Q.11 Do you think the lawyer was gullible? How could he have avoided being taken for a ride?



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Q.11 Do you think the lawyer was gullible? How could he have avoided being taken for a ride?

Ans : Yes, the lawyer was surely gullible. He was the person who trusts everyone very easily. If he had had a worldly experience, he would not have been befooled by Lutkins himself.

The lawyers could have avoided Bill's tricks if he would not have trusted him blindly.

