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CLASS – 10

ENGLISH

Footprints without Feet

CH-3 : The Midnight Visitor

Part – 3

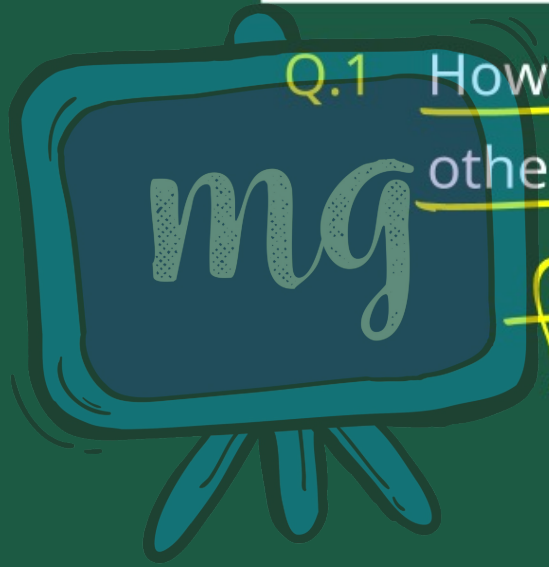
Comprehension

ARPITA SHARMA

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COMPREHENSION



Q.1 How is Ausable different from other secret agents?

fat, Very fat

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Answer: Ausable was not a smart secret agent as Fowler had expected. He was very fat. He spoke French and German with a slight American accent. He used ordinary telephones to make calls.

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Q.2 Who is Fowler and what is his first authentic thrill of the day?



Max – gun

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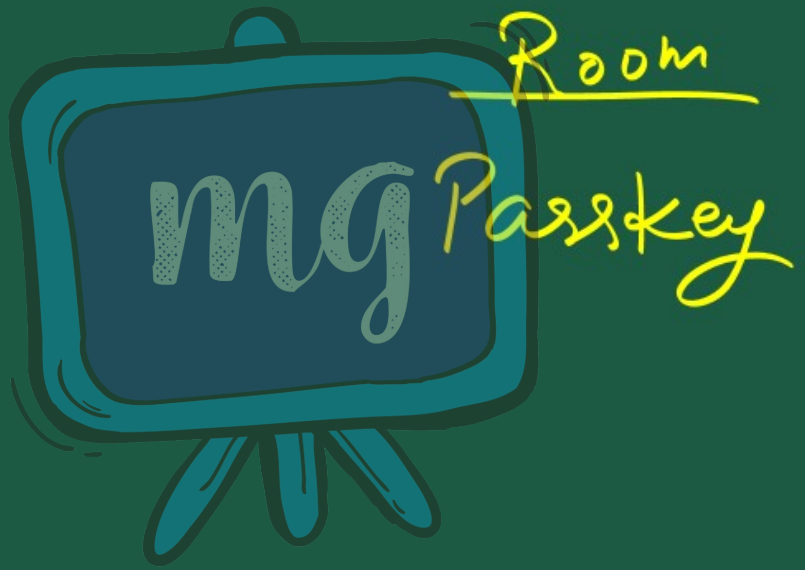
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Answer : Fowler is a writer. He wants to meet Ausable to cover him up for writing for his publication. Fowler's first authentic thrill of the day came when he saw a man in Ausable's room pointing a pistol at Ausable and himself. (Fowler)

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Q.3 How has Max got in?



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Answer: Max has used a passkey to enter Ausable's room.



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Q.4 How does Ausable say he got in?



Balcony

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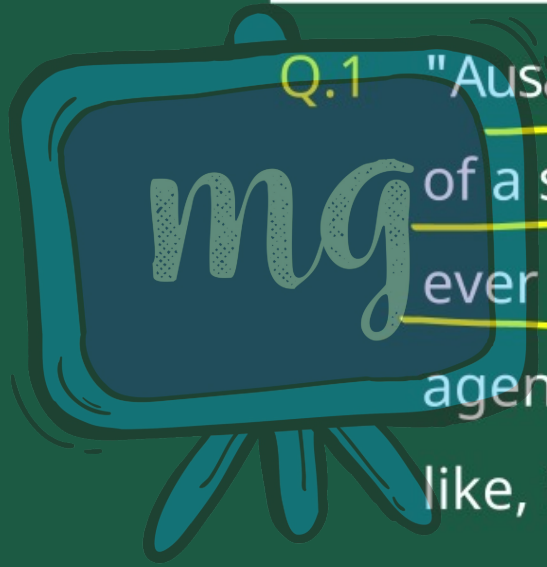
Answer : Ausable says that Max got in his room through an ordinary window. It was in the balcony.



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THINKING ABOUT THE TEXT



Q.1 "Ausable did not fit any description of a secret agent Fowler had ever read". What do secret agents in books and films look like, in your opinion?

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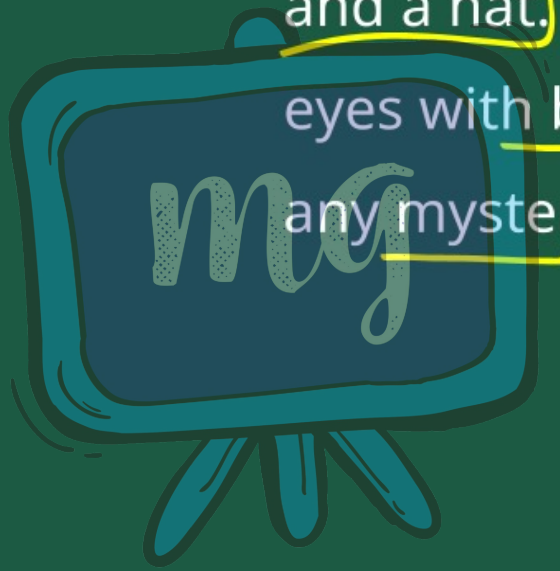
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Answer : Secret agents in books and films look like perfect men with perfect physique. They are well built with a tall figure. They would smoke a pipe (like sherlock Holmes) or a cigar. Movies based on James Bond show hi-tech gadgets which help them to catch the criminal.

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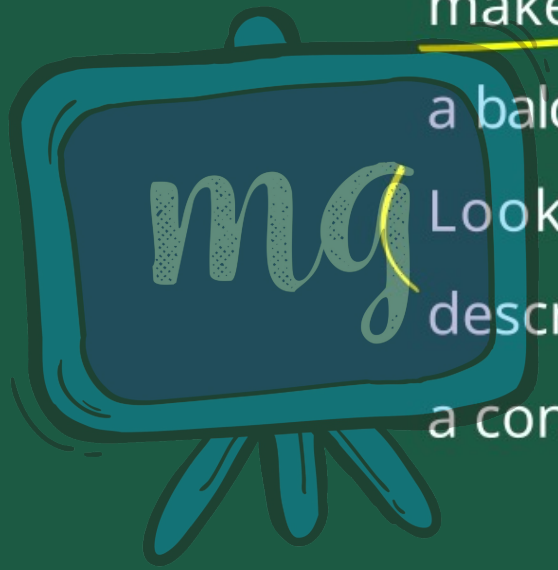
Generally they wear a long over coat and a hat. They have keen and sharp eyes with brilliant brain that can solve any mystery or problem.



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Q.2 How does Ausable manage to make Max believe that there is a balcony attached to his room? Look back at his detailed description of it. What makes it a convincing story?



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Answer : Ausable creates a description of how his room was a part of a bigger apartment and how the living room had a direct connection with a balcony. He also told that somebody broke into his room through that balcony and this made it a convincing story. His action that was full of irritation and very normal played a part in convincing Max.

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Q.3 Looking back at the story, when do you think Ausable thought up his plan for getting rid of Max? Do you think he had worked out his plan in detail right from the beginning? Or did he make up a plan taking advantage of events as they happened?

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Answer : I think it was not pre planned by Ausable. He was very smart, clever and quick witted and was able to make this plan then and there only. He did not take any time to let Max know about the presence of a balcony. The timing of the knock on the door was perfect because he had already asked the waiter to bring him a bottle

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bottle of drink and two glasses after he returned. Therefore he was expecting this knock on the door and accordingly, he told Max that it was the police whom he had asked to check in to make sure everything was alright.