
Class 9 – English (NCERT)

Chapter: The Little Girl

Detailed Solution / Answer Key (80 Marks)

Section – A : Reading Comprehension (20 Marks)

Answer 1: Passage Based Questions

1. Who was Kezia?

Kezia was a young, sensitive, and timid little girl who lived with her parents and grandmother. She was the central character of the story *The Little Girl*. Kezia represents many children who fear their parents due to lack of communication and emotional understanding. She was innocent by nature and deeply emotional, which made her misunderstand her father's strict behavior as lack of love.

2. Why was Kezia afraid of her father?

Kezia was afraid of her father because he was very strict, harsh in his tone, and distant in his behavior. He spoke loudly, rarely smiled, and never showed affection openly. His authoritative personality created fear in Kezia's mind. She could not understand that his strictness was a result of his workload and responsibilities, not absence of love.

3. How did Kezia behave in front of her father?

In front of her father, Kezia behaved nervously and timidly. She stammered while speaking, avoided eye contact, and trembled with fear. Her body language reflected her anxiety. This behavior shows the emotional gap between father and daughter.

4. Who lived with Kezia in her house?

Kezia lived with her father, mother, and grandmother. Her grandmother was the only person with whom Kezia felt safe and comfortable. She provided emotional support and acted as a bridge between Kezia and her parents.

5. What incident changed Kezia's feelings toward her father?

The incident that changed Kezia's feelings was the night when her mother was hospitalized and her grandmother was away. That night, Kezia had to sleep with her father. When she had a nightmare, her father comforted her lovingly. This revealed his caring nature.

6. Where was Kezia's mother on that night?

Kezia's mother was admitted to the hospital on that night. This situation forced Kezia and her father to spend time together, leading to emotional bonding.

7. How did Kezia's father usually behave?

Kezia's father usually behaved in a strict, formal, and distant manner. He was always busy with work and expected discipline. His tone was loud and commanding, which frightened Kezia.

8. What quality of Kezia's father is revealed at the end?

At the end of the story, Kezia's father is revealed to be loving, caring, and protective. His strict exterior hides a soft heart. He worked hard for his family and expressed love through actions rather than words.

9. Why did Kezia misunderstand her father earlier?

Kezia misunderstood her father because of lack of communication and emotional expression. Being a child, she judged him only by his harsh tone and punishments, not realizing his silent love and responsibilities.

10. What is the central idea of the passage?

The central idea of the passage is that misunderstandings between parents and children arise due to lack of communication. Love may exist even when it is not openly expressed.

Answer 2: Extract Based Questions

1. Who is 'she' in the extract?

'She' refers to Kezia, the little girl who was terrified of her father and his strict nature.

2. Why was she frightened?

She was frightened because she was emotionally intimidated by her father's loud voice and authoritative presence. She associated him with punishment and fear.

3. What does this line show about her emotional state?

This line shows that Kezia was deeply frightened, emotionally weak, and lacked confidence. Her fear was so intense that she could not even cry.

4. Which relationship is highlighted in this extract?

The extract highlights the father-daughter relationship, particularly the emotional distance and fear present in it.

5. What theme of the chapter does this line reflect?

The line reflects the theme of fear, misunderstanding, and emotional gap between parents and children.

Section – B : Grammar and Writing Skills (20 Marks)

Answer 3: Grammar

1. *Kezia feared her father.* – **Simple Past Tense**
 2. Passive voice: *Kezia was punished by her father.*
 3. *Kezia **stammered** while speaking to her father.*
 4. Correct option: **(c) a businessman**
 5. Indirect speech: Kezia's father told her to come there.
 6. Adjective: **strict**
 7. Preposition: **of**
 8. Antonym of strict: **(b) gentle**
 9. Type of sentence: **Exclamatory sentence**
 10. Sentence: Fear can stop children from expressing their true feelings.
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Answer 4A: Diary Entry

Dear Diary,

Tonight changed my life. I was always scared of Father, but today I saw a different side of him. When I had a nightmare, he held me close and comforted me gently. I felt safe for the first time in his arms. I now understand that Father works hard and is tired, which is why he seems strict. He loves me but does not show it openly. I feel ashamed that I misunderstood him for so long. From today, I will try to be brave and understand him better.

Kezia

Answer 4B: Paragraph Writing

Understanding between parents and children is essential for a healthy family relationship. When parents communicate openly and children feel safe to express themselves, fear and misunderstandings disappear. Emotional bonding helps children grow confident and secure. Parents should balance discipline with love so that children feel guided, not frightened. The story *The Little Girl* teaches that love exists even when it is not openly expressed, but communication makes relationships stronger.

Section – C : Literature (20 Marks)

Answer 5: Short Answer Questions

1. Why was Kezia afraid of her father?

Kezia was afraid of her father because of his loud voice, strict discipline, and lack of emotional expression. She associated him with punishment and fear.

2. What mistake did Kezia make with her father's papers?

Kezia tore important papers to make a surprise gift for her father. Unfortunately, these papers contained a speech he had prepared, which angered him.

3. How did Kezia's father punish her?

Kezia's father punished her by hitting her with a ruler. This incident deeply traumatized her and strengthened her fear.

4. What role did Kezia's grandmother play in her life?

Kezia's grandmother acted as a source of comfort, emotional support, and guidance. She encouraged Kezia to understand her parents better.

5. Why did Kezia stammer while talking to her father?

Kezia stammered because she was nervous and scared. Her fear made her lose confidence and fluency.

6. How did Kezia's attitude toward her father change at the end?

At the end, Kezia realized that her father loved her deeply. Her fear changed into affection and understanding.

Answer 6: Long Answer Questions

1. Kezia's relationship with her father at the beginning

At the beginning of the story, Kezia's relationship with her father was marked by fear and distance. She could not communicate freely with him and misunderstood his strict behavior

as lack of love. This emotional gap highlights the importance of understanding in parent-child relationships.

2. How did the night alone with her father change Kezia's feelings?

That night revealed her father's caring side. His gentle behavior and protection during her nightmare made Kezia feel loved and safe. This moment changed her perception completely.

3. Character sketch of Kezia

Kezia is a sensitive, innocent, and emotional child. She is loving by nature but lacks confidence due to fear. Her character undergoes emotional growth by the end of the story.

Section – D : Value-Based & Analytical Answers (20 Marks)

Answer 7: Value-Based Question

The story highlights values such as love, empathy, understanding, and communication. It teaches that strictness without emotional connection can create fear. Parents must express love openly to build trust and confidence in children.

Answer 8: Analytical Question

Kezia's father represents traditional parenting, while modern parents emphasize communication. While discipline is necessary, excessive strictness can create emotional distance. A balance of love and discipline is essential.

Final Conclusion

The Little Girl is a touching story that explores the emotional bond between a father and daughter. It teaches that love may exist even when it is not expressed openly. The story emphasizes the importance of understanding, empathy, and communication in family relationships.

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