

My Big BrotherWORD MEANINGS

1. Admonish - warn or scold someone firmly.
2. Indignant - showing anger and surprise.
3. Fritter - waste.
4. Aphoristic - the use of few words to convey much information or meaning.
5. Pounced - spring forward suddenly to attack or seize someone or something.
6. Smug - having or showing excessive pride in oneself or one's achievements.
7. Embrace - hold (someone) closely in one's arms especially as a sign of affection.
8. Tread - walk in a specified way.
9. Cram - study intensively over a short period of time just before an examination.
10. Internalize - make part of one's nature by learning or unconscious assimilation.

NEW WORDS

1. Pierce
2. Proclaimed
3. Meddle
4. Insolence
5. Dangling

Questions & Answers

1. The elder brother was not good at academics. How does the narrator convey this?

Ans. The narrator's brother was not good at academics. His elder brother was five years elder to him but in school he was only three years ahead of him. The narrator justifies it by saying that maybe his brother started strong foundation and hence he studied each class for more than a year.

2. What was the difference in the nature of the two brothers?

Ans. The narrator's ^{brother} sat in front of the books and never went out to play. On the other hand the narrator had lots of fun, threw pebbles in the air, flew paper butterflies, climbed up and down the staircase etc.

3. Describe the timetable drawn up by the narrator. How were the intent and reality completely different?

3. The timetable drawn by the narrator was quite strict and had no scope for games and sports. However, his plan to follow the timetable was not successful as he felt that the playground beckoned him with all the fun and frolic which made him forget his books.

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and run back to the ground.

4. What was the impact of the elder brother's lectures on the narrator?
4. Whenever his brother gave his sermons, the narrator would feel guilty that he was committing some serious mistake by playing and having fun. He would also feel like going back home and not bother about studies at all and lead a happy life without having to go to school again.
5. How did the elder brother's sermons change when he failed for the first time?
5. The narrator's elder brother was depressed when he heard that he had failed while his younger brother had passed. For some time he did not give his sermons. But soon he started bullying his younger brother by scaring him how hard each class was going to be than before.
6. What was the elder brother's reaction to failing for the second time?
6. When the narrator's elder brother failed a second time, he stopped bothering narrator much. He also stopped pulling his ears and generally kept to himself.

A Most Important PersonWORD MEANING

1. Composure - the state of being calm and in control of oneself.
2. Solemn - formal and dignified
3. Prejudices - preconceived opinion that is based on reason or actual experience
4. Gracious - courteous
5. Hurl - throw (someone or something) with great force.
6. Gratified - satisfied
7. Initiative - the ability to decide and act on one's own
8. Daunted - frightened
9. Briskly - in an active, quick or energetic way
10. Endure - tolerate

NEW WORDS

1. Splendour
2. Alley
3. Blimming
4. Toiled
5. Titular

1. She was thinking, rather wishing, for an event that might hurl her out of the world... What is Miss Lucy wishing for and why?

1. Miss Lucy was hoping for an event that would end her life, because everybody close to her had moved on and she was lonely.

2. Unlike Miss Lucy, Chester is not shy at all. Give evidence from the story to support this statement.

2. Unlike Miss Lucy, Chester is not shy at all. He easily makes conversations with Miss Lucy when she rescues him, accompanies her to her house, easily accepts invitations to tea, offers to bring his sister to meet her the next day and actually does. On the other hand Miss Lucy keeps to herself and thinks twice about visiting friends.

3. In what ways is the friendship between Miss Lucy and Chester unusual and remarkable?

3. The friendship between Miss Lucy and Chester is unusual and remarkable because of the differences in their age as well as background. But despite these differences, they help one another get on with their lives like friends do.

4. How could Miss Lucy have avoided paying the fine for parking?
 4. Miss Lucy could have used her influence as the titular head of the local society or even spoken to the judge who was a family friend to avoid paying the fine. She could have also made a call to Mr. Henderson, the family lawyer to get her out of the situation.

1. Anni
2. Hail
- 3.

5. In the end, why does Miss Lucy believe that Christmas is the most important time?

5. In the end, Miss Lucy believes that Christmas is the most important time because it brings old and new friends together.

6. We use 'the' before an adjective in the superlative degree, but this chapter is called 'A Most Important Person'. Why do you think so? How is Chester 'a most important person' for Lucy?

6. Chester becomes a special friend of Miss Lucy and makes her realize that she need not feel lonely. He changes her outlook towards life. He is not the most important person in her life but he is one of the most important.