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NCERT Solutions for 10th Class English Literature: Chapter 5- Patol Babu, Film Star



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NCERT Solutions for 10th Class English Literature: Chapter 5-Patol Babu, Film Star

Class 10: English Literature Chapter 5 solutions. Complete Class 10 English Literature Chapter 5 Notes.

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NCERT 10th English Literature Chapter 5, class 10 English Literature Chapter 5 solutions

Question 1.

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With your partner answer the following questions: What are your strengths?

Strengths	Why do you feel so ?
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What is your dream career?

I want to become a.....

- Is there any correlation between your strengths and aspirations ?
- Do you think you can achieve your dreams ? Give reasons.

Answer:

Self Attempt.

Question 2.

Answer the following questions briefly :

(a) What was the news that Nishikanto Ghosh gave Patol Babu?

Answer:

Patol Babu was just to go out when Nishikanto Babu called on him. He told Patol Babu that his youngest brother-in-law was in film production department and he was looking for an actor for a scene in a film they were shooting. A character should be of fiftyish, short and bald. So he gave him Patol Babu's address. They would pay him, of course.

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(b) How did Patol Babu react ? Why?

Answer:

Patol Babu hadn't expected such news at the beginning of the day that an offer to act in a film could come to an ordinary man who was 52 years old. That was beyond his imagination.

(c) Why had Patol Babu lost his first job in Calcutta?

Answer:

Patol Babu worked as clerk with Hudson and Kimberley in Calcutta and was lucky to have a flat in Nepal Bhattacharji Lane. He lost his factory job because of retrenchment in the office.

(d) How does Patol Babu reconcile to the dialogue given to him?

Answer:

The youngster Jyoti produced a red dot pen and gave it to Sosanko who scribbled something on a page and handed it to Patol Babu. Patol Babu saw a single word "Oh!" scrolled on it. He was surprised that this was the only dialogue he had to speak. He remembered his mentor's advice that however the dialogue and the role is short, it should be done with dignity.

(e) Who was Mr. Pakrashi ? How do his words help Patol Babu in enacting his role?

Answer:

Mr. Pakrashi was Patol Babu's mentor. He used to say, "Each word spoken in the play is like a fruit in a tree. Not everyone in the audience has assessed to it. But you, the actor, must know how to pluck it, get at its essence, and serve it up to the audience for their edification." The memory of these words of his Guru made Patol Babu bow his head in obeisance.

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(f) How do we know that Patol Babu was a meticulous man?

Answer:

Patol Babu had to say only one word “Oh!” Patol Babu began giving the exclamation a different inflection each time he uttered it. After doing it for a number of times he made an astonishing discovery. The same exclamation when spoken in different ways, carried different shades of meaning. He suddenly felt that he could write a whole thesis on that one exclamation. A true actor could make a mark with this one single syllable.

(g) Why did Mr. Mullick turn down Patol Babu’s request for a rehearsal?

Answer:

Mr. Mullick turned down Patol Babu’s request for a rehearsal and shook his head impatiently. He said there was a large patch of cloud approaching the sun and this scene must be shot in the sunlight.

(h) What were the special touches that Patol Babu gave to his role to make it more authentic?

Answer:

Patol Babu told Mr. Mullick that if he had a newspaper open in his hand and if the collision took place while he had his eyes on the paper then perhaps the scene would be more effective.

NCERT 10th English Literature Chapter 5, class 10 English Literature
Chapter 5 solutions

Question 3.

Discuss the following questions in detail and write the answers in your notebooks:

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(a) 'I hope the part calls for some dialogue?' Who says this? Why does he / she ask this question?

Answer:

These words are spoken by Patol Babu. He asked this question because the part that he had to play was of a pedestrian. An absent-minded, short-tempered person, though the part was not a big one but that was not the main thing, what was important was that he would be playing a part in a film. Patol Babu was very keen on acting in films. At one time he had a real passion for the stage, in fact he could not think of anything else except working in the theatre. He was always in demand, his name was also on the handbills, people liked his acting and now he was getting a chance to work in a film. He thought he was perfect for the part but he was curious to know about his dialogues, so he asked this question. He thought this was the first step on the ladder, the first step that would make him successful. He thought his lifelong desire would come true.

(b) 'Were these people pulling his legs? Was the whole thing a gigantic hoax? A meek, harmless man like him, and they had to drag him into the middle of the city to make a laughing stock out of him. How could anyone be so cruel?' Why does Patol Babu have these thoughts?

Answer:

Naresh Dutt asked Sosanko to give Patol Babu his dialogues. Sosanko turned to Patol Babu and said, "Come along 'grandpa.'" He told Jyoti to give him his dialogues. Jyoti produced a red dot pen and Sosanko scribbled something on it and handed it to Patol Babu. Patol Babu saw that a single word had been scrolled on it – 'Oh! Patol Babu felt a sudden throbbing in his head. He felt very strange,' he had expected some longer dialogues. Sigh came out of the depths of his heart. Just one word — No, not even a word, a sound — 'Oh! He felt stifling.' Sosanko said, 'What's the matter

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grandpa?’ You don’t seem to be pleased, several questions were arising in Patol Babu’s mind. Were these people pulling his leg? Was the whole thing a gigantic hoax? Why did they want to drag this simple man into the middle and make a laughing stock of him. How could these people be so cruel? Patol Babu could hardly speak. He slowly said, Just ‘Oh. Is that all I have to say? I find it rather strange.’ Sosanko raised his eyebrows and said, “You think that nothing, at least you are getting a speaking part in a Baren Mullick film, do you realise what that means? You are the luckiest of the actors.”

(c) Patol Babu is an amateur actor for whom walk-on part in a movie turns into an ultimate challenge. Discuss.

Answer:

Patol Babu at one time had real passion for stage. It verged on obsession. In Jatras, in amateur theatricals, in plays put up by the club in his neighbourhood, he was always in demand, his name had even appeared in handbills on many occasions. There was a time when people bought tickets especially to see him. One day he was offered a part to play in a film directed by Baren Mullick. Patol Babu thought his lifelong dream coming true. When he reached the site of the shooting he was given his dialogue. To Patol Babu’s surprise it was not a proper dialogue but only an expression ‘Oh’. Patol Babu felt discouraged, he found it rather strange. He thought that those people were trying to make fun of him as he was a simple man.

On asking he was informed that this was a regular speaking part. A speaking part in a Baren Mullick film – didn’t he realise what that meant? Why he was the luckiest of the actors? There were at least a hundred who had appeared in this film who had had nothing to say, even the hero had no lines to speak that day. Patol Babu was the only one who had.

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Patol Babu thought about his mentor's advice that however small a part may be you should never consider it beneath your dignity to accept it, a play/film is a combined effort.

Patol Babu now thought that this little word 'Oh' if spoken in different ways carried different meaning. Why had he then felt so disheartened when this single word contained a gold mine of meanings? A true actor could make a mark with this single word.

(d) Do you agree with the statement that Patol Babu is a practical man who comes to terms with whatever life has to offer 1 Give reasons for your answer.

Answer:

Patol Babu is a practical man. He was offered a role in Baren Mullick's film of an absent- minded pedestrian. The dialogue he was given was only a single syllable 'Oh'. Patol Babu thought it rather strange for once he had been a famous stage actor, he thought as if those people were making fun of him but he was told that at least he was lucky to have a dialogue. There were others who appeared in that scene but had nothing to say, even the hero. Patol Babu still felt discouraged. He thought it was all just a waste of time but his mentors words awakened him, he remembered his mentors advice. He had once told him (Patol Babu) that as an artist his aim should be to make the most of his opportunity and he should bring out the true meaning of his lines. Patol Babu suddenly felt that he could write a whole thesis on that one syllable because the same exclamation if spoken in different ways carried different meanings. He now wanted to present his part in the best possible way. For him money did not matter though he needed money very badly. Surely he was a practical man who came to terms with whatever life had to offer.

(e) Why does Patol Babu walk away before he can be paid for his role ? What does this reveal about his character?

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Answer:

Patol Babu was surprised to get his dialogue for it was only a single syllable 'Oh'. He felt very discouraged. He thought he would be made fun of. Things were much better on the stage. A faint memory was stirred up in his mind.

The words of his mentor Gogon Pakrashi rang in his ears, "Each word of the dialogue is like a fruit on a tree. As an artist one should make the best of his opportunity. However small a part maybe, never consider it below your dignity." This small single syllable if spoken in different ways would carry different meanings. A true actor could make the best of it. Now he completely got over his apathy. All he felt was a keen anticipation and excitement.

He performed his part well. He had put all his labour in this one act. It was the satisfaction of doing it with perfection. Money did not matter though he needed it. So he went off without being paid. This showed that he was not only talented but a diligent, passionate actor.

(f) Do you think making a movie is an easy job ? Discuss with reference to the story.

Answer:

Although movies are intefesting but making a movie is not an easy job. It requires finances as well as proper actors for particular roles. The setting, background music, dialogue delivery must correlate with each other. The rgovie should have an effective ending so that it leaves an impact and message to the audience.

NCERT 10th English Literature Chapter 5, class 10 English Literature Chapter 5 solutions

Question 4.

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Here are some lines from the lesson. What do they tell us about Patol Babu's character? You may take help from the words given in the table below or find some of your own from the dictionary. The first one has been done for you.

passionate actor	diligent	unassuming	talented
genial	mercenary	short-tempered	introvert
meticulous	modest	humble	arrogant

(a) That an offer to act in a film could come to a 52-year-old nonentity like him was beyond his wildest dreams unassuming; modest

(b) Indeed, there was a time when people bought tickets especially to see him

(c) 'I was with Hudson and Kimberley for nine years and wasn't late for a single day.'

(d) It didn't matter if the part was small, but, if he had to make the most of it, he had to learn his lines beforehand. How small he would feel if he muffed in the presence of so many people

(e) Patol Babu cleared his throat and started enunciating the syllable in various ways. Along with that he worked out how he would react physically when the collision took place—how his features would be twisted in pain, how he would fling out his arms, how his body would crouch to express pain and surprise—all these he performed in various ways in front of a large glass window

(f) It is true that he needed money very badly, but what was twenty rupees when measured against the intense satisfaction of a small job done with perfection and dedication?

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Answer:

(b) passionate actor, talented

(c) meticulous, humble

(d) diligent, meticulous

(e) talented

(f) genial, diligent

NCERT 10th English Literature Chapter 5, class 10 English Literature Chapter 5 solutions

Question 5.

Here are some lines from the lesson. Match the meanings of the underlined words with their meanings listed below.

(a) Then he had a job in a Bengali firm which he gave up in disgust when his boss began to treat him in too high-handed a fashion.

(i) stimulate the imagination

(b) A faint memory was stirred up in Patol Babu's mind.

(ii) to surrender or relinquish

(c) At first he opened a variety store which he had to wind up after five years.

(iii) staged

(d) In Jatras, in amateur theatricals, in plays put up by the club in his neighbourhood, Patol Batju was always in demand

(iv) to gain control over one's actions

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(e) Patol Babu was about to step forward when (v) shut down
he was pulled up short by a voice shouting
Silence!

(f) Patol Babu pulled himself together. (vi) stopped

Answer:

(a) to surrender or relinquish

(b) stimulate the imagination

(c) shut down

(d) staged

(e) stopped

(f) to gain control over one's actions

Question 6.

After Patol Babu returns home he recounts his experience in front of the camera to his wife. In pairs write out the exchange in the form of a dialogue and enact it before the class. You may start like this

Patol Babu's wife: So what happened at the shooting today? Did you get to do your role?

Patol Babu: Oh, Yes, I had the time of my life

Answer:

Patol Babu's wife: What dialogue did you get?

Patol Babu: I was surprised that I had only to say 'Oh!'

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Patol Babu's wife: That is very strange.

Patol Babu: Yes it was surprising, just one word — no, not even a word, a sound — 'Oh'.

Patol Babu's wife: Then how did you act?

Patol Babu: I began giving the exclamation 'Oh' a different inflection each time I practised. Suddenly I felt I could write a whole thesis on the single word. I could make a mark with it. And to my surprise when my turn came I was able to act perfectly.

Patol Babu's wife: How much did they pay you?

Patol Babu: Money at that moment did not matter, what mattered to me was that I could get to fulfil a lifelong dream to act in a film.

NCERT 10th English Literature Chapter 5, class 10 English Literature
Chapter 5 solutions

Question 7.

Patol Babu impresses everyone at the shoot with his acting talent in spite of having a one word dialogue. In groups of four enact the word 'Oh' in different ways to show the following emotions :

- happiness sorrow
- excitement fear
- sarcasm pain
- disappointment surprise

Each group will then enact one of these emotions to the rest of the class using the word 'Oh'. The other groups will try to guess which emotion is being expressed.

Answer:

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Self-Attempt

Writing Task

Question 8.

Patol Babu writes a letter to Nishikanto Ghosh to thank him for being instrumental in his getting a role in a film. He also shares his experience at the film shoot including the excitement and deep satisfaction that he derived from the same. Write the letter in about 200 words.

Answer:

21, ABC Street

Kolkata

Dear Nishikanto Babu,

It was really kind of you to think about me and the passion I had for acting. In the beginning I was quite taken aback after so many years of my stage acting. Thanks a lot for introducing me to your brother-in-law. I met him and he directed me where to go.

I arrived home and gave this happy news to my wife. I was really very excited to act. I met Naresh Dutt and he asked one of his fellow workers to give me the dialogue. I was surprised to see that it was not a proper dialogue but only a word 'Oh'. I found it rather strange. I thought that I would be a laughing stock in the middle of these people. I was told that there were more than a hundred persons who appeared in this film but they had nothing to say. Even the hero had no lines to speak that day. I was the only one who had.

Then I thought that this 'Oh' could be given a different inflection each time it was uttered. The same exclamation when spoken in different ways carried <https://www.indcareer.com/schools/ncert-solutions-for-10th-class-english-literature-chapter-5-patol-babu-film-star/>

different shades of meaning. A small grey moustache was also put on my face. I gave the idea that if I had a newspaper in my hand then it would be more effective. I gave my shot and it was perfect. For me money didn't matter but my desire to act in a film was fulfilled. This was all possible because of you. You were instrumental in getting this role for me. Thanks for that.

Your friend,

Patol Babu

Listening Task

Question 9.

Listen to the passage on character actors and complete the exercise as directed.

(a) Supporting roles are those roles that do not affect the plot or the subject of the film (True/False)

Answer:

True

(b) People become character actors chiefly because (Tick the right choices)

- (i) they like doing supporting roles
- (ii) there are limited leading roles
- (iii) it is easier to act in a supporting role
- (iv) they can't find any other work

Answer:

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(i) they like doing supporting roles

(c) 'star quality' refers to things like (Tick the right choice)

(i) good looks and acting talent

(ii) good looks and the right weight

(iii) good looks and the right height

(iv) good looks, height and right weight

Answer:

(i) good looks and acting talent

(d) After the age of forty the actors most likely to get less work are (Tick the right choice)

(i) character actors

(ii) the male lead

(iii) the female actors

(iv) the female lead

Answer:

(i) character actors

(e) The chief advantages of being a character actor is that (Tick the right choice)

(i) they are never blamed if a film fails

(ii) they can act for as long as they like

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(iii) they do not have to take care of their looks

(iv) they do not need to be skilled at horsemanship or swimming

Answer:

(ii) they can act for as long as they like



Chapterwise NCERT Solutions for Class 10 English Literature :

- Chapter 1 Two Gentlemen of Verona
- Chapter 2 Mrs. Packletide's Tiger
- Chapter 3 The Letter
- Chapter 4 A Shady Plot
- Chapter 5 Patol Babu, Film Star
- Chapter 6 Virtually True
- Chapter 7 The Frog and the Nightingale
- Chapter 8 Mirror
- Chapter 9 Not Marble, nor the Gilded Monuments
- Chapter 10 Ozymandias
- Chapter 11 The Rime of the Ancient Mariner
- Chapter 12 Snake
- Chapter 13 The Dear Departed
- Chapter 14 Julius Caesar

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