Lesson 5

The Piece of String (Guy de Maupassant)

Q.1: Why did Manana accuse Hubert of picking up the lost pocketbook?



Ans: Manana accused Hubert of picking up the lost pocketbook because he had seen him pick up something from the ground. Manana mistook the cord for the pocketbook.

Q.2: What did the people think of Hubert when they heard about the return of the pocketbook by some other person?

Ans: The people still believed Hubert had picked up the pocketbook, and they said that those were the lying excuses.

Q.3: Why did George give the pocketbook to his employer?

Ans: George gave the pocketbook to his employer because he did not know how to read.

Q.4: What made Hubert shameful?

Ans: To be called a liar made Mr. Hubert shameful. According to him nothing was more shameful than to be called a liar.

Q.5: Why did the people make fun of Hubert's innocence?

Ans: The people did not believe Hubert's story of the piece of string. They said that those were lying excuses, and they started to tell the story of the string to amuse themselves.

Q.6: Why did Hubert keep claiming his innocence before his death?

Ans: Hubert kept claiming his innocence before his death because he had not picked up the lost pocketbook. He felt that shame and disgrace to his self-esteem and character, and he wanted to restore his honor.

Q.7: What was engraved on the grave of Mr. Hubert?

Ans: The following words were engraved on his tombstone: "Here lies a man who told nothing but truth. Here lies the man who would not prove his innocence but the flood proved it!"

Q. 8: Why didn't the mayor believe the innocence of Hubert?

Ans: The mayor did not believe the innocence of Hubert because he considered Mr. Manana to be a man of worthy credence. The mayor did not expect Mr. Manana to lie.