Lesson 7

The Use of Force (William Carlos Williams)

Q.1. What was the condition of the parents on the arrival of the doctor?



Ans. When the doctor arrived, the parents were eyeing the doctor up and down distrustfully and they were nervous.

Q.2: What was the behavior of the child towards the doctor?

Ans. There was no expression on the child's face. She was fairly eating the doctor up with her cold steady eyes. She misbehaved and attacked him.

Q.3: She had had a fever for three days, hadn't she?

Ans. Yes, she had had a fever for three days.

Q.4: Did the girl change her expression when the doctor said, "Does your throat hurt you?"

Ans. No, the girl did not change her expression nor did she move her eyes from the doctor's face.

Q.5: Why did the doctor call the sick girl by her first name?

Ans. The doctor called the sick girl by her first name because he wanted to get friendly with her so that she might get ready to have a throat examination.

Q.6: Did the sick girl promptly respond to the instructions of the doctor?

Ans. No, she did not respond to the instructions of the doctor. She knocked his glasses flying and they fell on the kitchen floor.

Q.7: Why did the parents rebuke her?

Ans. The parents rebuked because she was not following the doctor's instruction and was getting rude to him. She even knocked his glasses flying when he tried to get closer. She also reduced the wooden spatula into splinters.

Q.8: What was the threat of the doctor to the child if she did not show her throat?

Ans. The doctor threatened her that they would open her throat for her if she did not open it herself.

Q.9: Why did she break the wooden blade?

Ans. She broke the wooden blade to keep the doctor from knowing the secret of the sore throat.

Q.10: What was the condition of the tonsils of the sick girl?

Ans. Both her tonsils were covered with membrane.

Q.11: Why did the parents keep the sick child in the kitchen?

Ans. The parents kept the sick child in the kitchen because it was warm there as the weather was damp.

Q.12: How did the doctor succeed in examining her throat?

Ans. The doctor succeeded in examining her throat by the use of force.

Q.13: How did the child look by appearance?

Ans. The girl looked as strong as a heifer in appearance. She had magnificent blonde hair, in profusion.

Q. 14: Under what circumstances can the use of force be justified?

Ans: The use of force can be justified when it comes to saving someone's life. In the story, the doctor used force to save the girl's life.