

CLASS -7
ENGLISH
HONEYCOMB
LESSON -1

THREE QUESTIONS

By Leo Tolstoy

ABOUT AUTHOR

Leo Tolstoy was one of the world's pre-eminent writers becoming famous through his epic novels *War and Peace* and *Anna Karenina*. *War and Peace* has been ranked as one of the greatest novels of all time, for its rich characterization and sweeping view of Russian society. Tolstoy also became a leading critic of injustice, formal religion and the inequality of Tsarist Russia.

LEO TOLSTOY



THEME OF THE STORY

‘THREE QUESTIONS’

The theme of the story is that everything happens for a reason, nothing happens purely by luck or chance. The story teaches us that the most important thing and the right time will come when it is supposed to arrive, and will happen. There is no wrong time as everything has been set out and laid out.

IMPORTANT CHARACTERS OF THE STORY

1. KING

2. HERMIT

3. WOUNDED MAN

A KING HAD THREE QUESTIONS AND HE WAS SEEKING ANSWERS TO THEM.

It once occurred to a certain king that he would never fail in anything if he always knew the answer to **three questions**.

These three things were:

1. What is the right time to begin something?
2. Which people he should listen to?
3. What is the most important thing for him to do?

Many wise men came with their answers.
Unfortunately, their answers did not satisfy the
king. So the king decided to consult a wise hermit.



The king changed his clothes left his horse and guard behind to meet the hermit. He dressed himself as a common man.



The king saw the hermit digging the ground and out of compassion, he did it for him. He kept on asking the three questions but the hermit kept silent. Until hours passed and it was already sunset.



The hermit saw a bearded man running and his hands on his stomach. He was wounded and dying; the hermit told the king about it and they helped the bearded man.



The next day, the king woke up and the bearded man saw him and apologizes to him. He admits that he was an enemy of the king. The bearded man said that he heard about the king going to the hermit so he tried to kill him when he was in his way back home but he failed.



The king asked the hermit once again the three questions, he answered:

1. Now is the time to do every action because now is the only time that we have the power to act.
2. The right person is the one who are you with.
3. The most important thing to do is to do good for the person you are with.

KEY WORDS

Council- group of people chosen to give advice

Councillors – members of the council

Hermit – a person who lives alone and leads a simple life

Woods – a small forest

Beds – small patches of ground for plants

Fainted – lost consciousness

Re-dressed – dressed again

Seized – took by force

Faithful – loyal



THE END