



THE VILLAGE
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL
"We Nurture Dreams"

The Browning Version Questions

- 1- Why did Crocker- Harris not disclose the results like the other teachers?
- 2- Who was Millie? What did she tell Taplow ?
- 3- Why doesn't Taplow agree with Frank in calling Crocker a "Sadist"?
- 4- What is Taplow's attitude towards Mr. Crocker Harris ?
- 5- How does Taplow react to Millie's arrival ?
- 6- What idea do you form of Taplow after reading the play 'The Browning Version'.
- 7- Why did Taplow say that Mr Crocker- Harris was hardly human ?
- 8- What Does Remove In English Schools Mean ?
- 9- Why is Taplow worried about his 'remove'? What did Mr Crocker-Harris reply to him ?
- 10- Comment on the attitude shown by Taplow towards Mr Crocker-Harris.
- 11- What do you gather about Mr Frank from the play ?
- 12- How does Millie Crocker- Harris send Taplow away ?



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The Browning Version Solutions

1- Why did Crocker- Harris not disclose the results like the other teachers?

Ans. It was a rule that results would be announced by the headmaster alone. The other teachers didn't care for this rule. But Gocker-Harris was a man of principles. He never disclosed the results like the other teachers.

2- Who was Millie? What did she tell Taplow ?

Ans. Millie was Mr., Crocker's wife. She told Taplow that her husband was at the Bursar's. It could take him a lot of time. Thus she told him indirectly that he could go and play.

3- Why doesn't Taplow agree with Frank in calling Crocker a "Sadist"?

Ans. Frank calls Crocker a sadist because he gets after his students. But Taplow says after he understands the meaning of the word 'sadist' that Crocker was much more than that. He was a feelingless person who was like a shrivelled-up nut. He hated to be liked and behaved in a strange manner with his students.

4- What is Taplow's attitude towards Mr. Crocker Harris ?

Ans. Taplow is respectful towards Mr. Crocker Harris and likes him even though he is afraid of him, and dare not cut the extra work even on the last day of the term

5- How does Taplow react to Millie's arrival ?

Ans. Taplow is nervous. He is unable to control his emotions and whispers to Frank if he thinks she has heard their conversation. Taplow feels that if she tells Mr. Crocker Harris, he would lose his form

6- What idea do you form of Taplow after reading the play 'The Browning Version'.

Answer: Taplow is a young boy of seventeen, studying in the lower fifth grade. He is an obedient and hard-working student. He has great liking for science. He was summoned for extra work by Mr Crocker-Harris for missing school for a day. Though he wishes to play golf on the last day before school closes, he obediently turns up to wait for his teacher. He is devoted to Mr Crocker-Harris. When Taplow comes across Mr Frank, the

science teacher, Mr Frank, gets Taplow to discuss Mr Crocker- Harris and also encourages him to leave.

Taplow replies that he cannot "cut" as Mr Harris would probably follow him home. When Mr Frank insinuates that his teacher might award him with a fine result for doing extra work,

Taplow refutes it calling Mr Harris a man of principles. He reiterates that Mr CrockerHarris had told him that he had given him exactly what he deserved. Taplow is a sincere student who respected his teachers

7- Why did Taplow say that Mr Crocker- Harris was hardly human ?

Ans. Taplow could not believe that Mr Crocker-Harris was a normal human being for a number of reasons. Mr Crocker-Harris was extremely strict while teaching. He followed the headmaster's rules of announcing results on the last day of term. He never told the students their results beforehand. He frightened the students in every possible way. He was a man who hated even those who liked him.

8- What Does Remove In English Schools Mean ?

Remove: By remove Taplow meant to say examination result. He meant to say that if he will get better "remove" then he will be in next term.

9- Why is Taplow worried about his 'remove'? What did Mr Crocker-Harris reply to him ?

Ans. Taplow is in the lower fifth class. He can't specialise until he goes into the next class. He is worried about the 'remove' i.e. his result, because much depends on how he performed in the examination. At the same time, he is very anxious to know his result. So, he had gone to Mr Crocker-Harris and asked him if he had passed him. However, the teacher gave a very mysterious answer and told him that he had given him exactly what he deserved, not less and certainly not more.

10- Comment on the attitude shown by Taplow towards Mr Crocker-Harris.

Ans. Mr Crocker-Harris is a middle-aged schoolmaster. He is a teacher in the traditional mould. He is a strict man who is more feared than respected. He follows rules and regulations with all sincerity. Taplow is in the lower fifth standard. His attitude towards Mr Crocker-Harris is mixed. He recognises his sense of discipline, sense of devotion and stoic nature. But he has a personal feeling of ill-will against Mr Crocker-Harris. He is given extra work on the last day of the term as punishment because he missed a day the previous week when he was ill.

Mr Crocker-Harris is a hard taskmaster. That's why he gave extra work to Taplow. He doesn't bother that it is the last day of the term. Taplow feels that Mr Crocker-Harris is devoid of feelings, is strict and can never be flattered. In spite of everything, Taplow rather likes him. Mr

Crocker-Harris doesn't tell the results like the other masters before they are formally announced. Hence, Mr Crocker-Harris is different from other teachers. Taplow doesn't consider Mr Crocker-Harris a sadist. He doesn't get pleasure out of giving pain to others. In his view, a sadist shows some feelings but Mr Crocker-Harris has none.

11- What do you gather about Mr Frank from the play ?

Ans. Mr Frank is a young science teacher. He does not like the subject he teaches. He also admits that he tells results to the students before they are officially announced. He envies Mr Crocker-Harris for the effect he has on the students.

12- How does Millie Crocker- Harris send Taplow away ?

Ans. On seeing Taplow, Millie Crocker-Harris points out that her husband was at the Bursar's and would take some time to get back. She suggests him to go away for a quarter of an hour. However, Taplow does not do so due to fear of the teacher. Millie Crocker-Harris assures him that she would take the blame. She given him prescription and requests him to bring some medicines from the chemist. Taplow accepts the proposal and leaves.