

Character sketch-Dr. Raman

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The Doctor's Word

Introduction



R.K. Narayan

Conversation

- A- Do you know Dr. Raman?
- B- O' yes, he is a **competent** doctor.



Conversation

- A- I have heard that the **people do not consult him in the early stages of ailment.**
- B- Yes, you are right they **go to him when the patient is on his last legs.**



Conversation

- Why don't they consult him in the initial stages?
- Because
 - (i) His consultation **fees is very high.**
 - (ii) **People consider him ominous.**



Conversation

- A- Why do people believe him?
- B- Many reasons;
 - (i) He does **not tell lies.**
 - (ii) After examining the patient he gives a **fair judgment.**



Conversation

- A- What is the meaning of his judgment?
- B- His judgment means a final verdict on the **patient's life, whether he would live or not.**



Conversation

- A- What do you say about Dr. Raman's ability?
- B- If he sees a slightest sign of recovery **he can snatch the patient from the hands of the devil.**



Points to be discussed

- Name
- Age
- Profession
- Nature
- Reputation in the society

NAME

- **Dr. Raman is the main character in the lesson 'The Doctor's Word' by R. K. Narayan.**

Profession

- Medical Specialist/ a doctor
- Well known and experienced doctor
- Dedicated
- But does not believe in giving false hopes to the patients.

NATURE

- Very truthful
- Hard worker
- Very dedicated; Leaves no stone unturned to save the patient's life.

Conversation between Dr. Raman and Gopal's wife

- Dr.- How long has he been in bed?
- Gopal's wife- A month and a half.
- Dr.- Who is attending him?
- Gopal's wife- A doctor in the next street.

Conversation between Dr. Raman and Gopal's wife

- Dr.- Why couldn't you send me a word earlier?
- Gopal's wife- We thought you would be busy and did not want to trouble you unnecessarily.

Conversation between Dr. Raman and Gopal



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Conversation between Dr. Raman and Gopal

- Gopal- Am I going? Don't hide it from me.
- Dr.- To himself (I have never faced a situation like this.)
(Gopal motioned a finger to draw Dr. Raman nearer and whispered)
- Gopal- I must know how long I am going to last. I must sign the will. Let me sign before it is too late-----

Conversation between Dr. Raman and Gopal

Dr.- To himself (yes presently---- if my words can save his life, he shall not die.)

- Don't worry about the will now. You are going to live.
- Gopal- Do you say so? If it comes from your lips, it must be true.

NATURE

- Very responsible
- Believes in relations
- Friend of friends:- Though he is very influential and well reputed he does not forget his childhood friend, Gopal. As soon as he gets message he rushes home, dedicates full time and strength to save him from the jaws of death.

NATURE

- Can break his principles to save his friend's life.
- Till now he has been giving the priority to tell the actual condition of the patient.
- But when he has to make a choice between his principles and relations, the relations dominate.

The turning point

- His words save Gopal.
- Realizes the magic of a doctor's word.

Short Answered Questions

- Why did people trust Dr. Raman so much?
- Why didn't they send for him in the first instances?
- Why did they go to Dr. Raman as a last resort?
- Did Gopal believe Dr. Raman's word?
- Did Dr. Raman believe his own words said to Gopal? Give reasons for your answers.

Short Answered Questions

- What was Dr. Raman's true opinion about it?
- Why did he conceal it?
- What saved Gopal?

THANK YOU