

Fastrack® Revision

Main Points

- ▶ **Sophie**
 - A school girl from financially backward family
 - Wild dreams—actress, fashion designer, boutique
 - Crazy about Irish footballer Danny Casey
- ▶ **Jansie**
 - A school girl from financially backward family
 - A friend of Sophie
 - Practical and down to earth
 - Knew—earmarked to work in the biscuit factory
- ▶ **Sophie's Family**
 - Father—doesn't like Sophie's fancies
 - Geoff—elder brother—out of school for three years apprentice-mechanic doesn't believe in Sophie's stories
 - Derek—younger brother—mocks at Sophie's dreams
- ▶ **Sophie's wild story of Danny Casey**
 - Met him in arcade
 - Going to buy a shop there
 - Green gentle eyes—not very tall
 - Could not be autographed—no paper—no pen
 - Invited her for a secret meeting by the canal
- ▶ **The Fateful Saturday**
 - Sophie waited
 - Imagined Casey coming
 - Heart grew sad—Carries the burden
 - Casey didn't turn up
 - Dreams and disappointments creation of her mind

Summary at a Glance

- ▶ Sophie is the central figure in the story. She lives in her dream world all the while. She belongs to a below average class family. She dreams of setting up a boutique after completing her school, where celebrities would visit. Her

friend Jansie tells her not to dream so big as they are destined to work in a biscuit factory. But Sophie tries to live her dream by cooking up the story of her meeting with Danny Casey—an Irish Soccer player, outside Royce's—a designer store. She even talks about her next meeting with him, when he would give her his autograph. Everyone in the family including her father and brother make fun of her wild stories. But Sophie tries to prove her dream a reality by waiting for him. Though she knows well that he will never turn up. She is hardly ever deterred from making her journey in and out of her dreams. She has to taste the bitter disappointment in the long run. The theme around which the entire story centre is based on the proverb, "If dreams were horses, beggars would ride."

- ▶ Dreams and fantasies are a natural phenomenon of life. In the absence of which life will become meaningless. Adolescence is the stage of life when one takes to hero-worship hoping to make it big in life like their role models. Although they are aware of their limitations but refuse to accept.
- ▶ Another theme runs through the story and that is the strength of human relationship and family bonds. Sophie's family tries to help her come out of the false world. She lives in her brother Geoff, with whom she shares all her secrets and her classmate Jansie make efforts to bring her out of her dream world comfortably without rejecting her dreams.

Theme

- ▶ A.R. Barton explores the theme of adolescent fantasising and her worship, which is quite natural for youngsters especially when they are at the crossroads to make a choice for their career. They idolize people of high repute and dream of following their foot steps. Sometimes their lofty dreams take them far away from the ground realities of life, but when the fact dawns on them, they find it difficult to cope with it.



Practice Exercise



Extract Based Questions

Directions: Read the extracts given below and answer the questions that follow:

1. "Or an actress. Now there's real money in that. Yes, and I could may be have the boutique on the side. Actresses don't work full time, do they? Anyway, that or a fashion designer. You know—something a bit sophisticated". And she turned in through the open

street door leaving Jansie standing in the rain. "If I ever come into money I'll buy a boutique". "Huh, if you ever come into money ... if you ever come into money you'll buy us a blessed decent house to live in, thank you very much."

Sophie's father was scooping Shepherd's pie into his mouth as hard as he could go, his plump face still grimy and sweat—marked from the day.

"She thinks money grows on trees, don't she Dad?
Said little Derek, hanging on the back of his father's
chair.

Their mother sighed. (CBSE 2023)

(a) Sophie wants to become an actress:

- (i) to become famous
- (ii) to earn money
- (iii) to support her father
- (iv) to compete with Jansie

(b) Jansie wanted Sophie to spend her money on:

- (i) her marriage
- (ii) her career
- (iii) to open a boutique
- (iv) buying a house

(c) Sophie is day-dreaming about

(d) The phrase 'money grows on trees' indicates that
Sophie

(e) Sophie's mother's sigh is one of:

- (i) regret (ii) delight
- (iii) relief (iv) helplessness

(f) From the extract Jansie comes across as a
..... person.

- (i) practical (ii) dominating
- (iii) Immature (iv) starstruck

Answers

- (a) (ii) to earn money
 - (b) (iii) to open a boutique
 - (c) becoming an actress or a fashion designer and
owning a boutique, while believing that actresses
don't work full time.
 - (d) has unrealistic ideas about money and doesn't
understand the value of hard work. She thinks
that it's very easy to earn money and she can
become whatever she wants without much
effort.
 - (e) (iv) helplessness
 - (f) (i) practical
2. "They wouldn't make you manager straight off soap."
"I'll be like Mary Quant," Sophie said. "I'll be a
natural. They will see it from the start, I'll have the
most amazing shop this city's ever seen."

(a) Who is the speaker in the first line?

- (i) Jansie
- (ii) Geoff
- (iii) Sophie
- (iv) None of the above

(b) When does this conversation take place?

(c) What does this conversation tell us about
Sophie?

- (i) She is a good planner
- (ii) She is confident about her goals
- (iii) She is a day-dreamer
- (iv) She is a practical girl

(d) Who will be like Mary Quant?

(e) A word from the extract which means 'wonderful'
is

(f) Name the lesson from which this extract has
been taken.

Answers

- (a) (i) Jansie
 - (b) This conversation takes place while coming
home from school.
 - (c) (iii) She is a day-dreamer
 - (d) Sophie will be like Mary Quant.
 - (e) amazing
 - (f) This extract has been taken from the lesson
'Going Places'.
3. He was kneeling on the floor in the next room
tinkering with a part of his motorcycle over some
newspaper spread on the carpet. He was three years
out of school, an apprentice mechanic, travelling to
his work each day to the far side of the city. He was
almost grown up now, and she suspected areas of
his life about which she knew nothing, about which
he never spoke. He said little at all, ever, voluntarily.
Words had to be prized out of him like stones out of
the ground.
- (a) Whom does 'he' stand for in the first line?
 - (b) What work is Geoff into?
 - (i) Workshop
 - (ii) Apprentice mechanic
 - (iii) Motorcycle shop
 - (iv) None of the above
 - (c) Where was Geoff's workplace?
 - (i) In the next lane from his house
 - (ii) 4 kms away
 - (iii) In the far side of the city
 - (iv) Near Sophie's school
 - (d) 'Voluntarily' means
 - (e) Who is the author?
 - (f) Give an antonym of 'spread'.

Answers

- (a) In the first line 'he' stands for Geoff.
 - (b) (ii) Apprentice mechanic
 - (c) (iii) In the far side of the city
 - (d) proceeding willingly or from one's own choice
 - (e) A.R. Barton is the author.
 - (f) An antonym of spread is compress or abridge.
4. And she was impatient. She was conscious of a
vast world out there waiting for her and she knew
instinctively that she would feel as at home there
as in the city, which had always been her home. It
expectantly awaited her arrival.

- (a) Why was 'she' impatient?
- (b) 'She would feel as at home there'. What does 'there' refer to?
- (i) Jansie's place (ii) In her boutique
(iii) The romantic world (iv) Her school
- (c) Find one word for 'an action that is done without thinking'.
- (i) Waiting (ii) Expectantly
(iii) Instinctively (iv) Impatient
- (d) Who is 'she' in the given extract?
- (e) An antonym of 'impatient' is
- (f) Who is Geoff?

Answers

- (a) She was impatient to know Geoff's secret world.
- (b) (iii) The romantic world
- (c) (iii) Instinctively
- (d) Sophie is 'she' in the given extract.
- (e) patient or calm.
- (f) Geoff is Sophie's elder brother.
5. United won two-nil and Casey drove in the second goal, a blend of innocence and Irish genius, going round the two big defenders on the edge of the penalty area, with her father screaming for him to pass, and beating the hesitant goal keeper from a dozen yards. Sophie glowed with pride.
- (a) How is Casey described in the extract above?
- (b) To which country does Casey belong?
- (i) United States of America
(ii) England
(iii) Ireland
(iv) None of the above
- (c) Why did Sophie glow with pride?
- (i) Her father supported her
(ii) Casey beat the goal keeper
(iii) Geoff told the father about Casey's meeting with Sophie
(iv) None of the above
- (d) A word similar in meaning to 'blend' is
- (e) Give an antonym of 'hesitant'.
- (f) Which day of the week was it?

Answers

- (a) Casey is described in the extract as a blend of innocence and genius.
- (b) (iii) Ireland
- (c) (ii) Casey beat the goal keeper
- (d) mixture or combination
- (e) An antonym of 'hesitant' is confident or certain.
- (f) It was Saturday.
6. Sophie glared at the ground. Damn that Geoff, this was a Geoff thing not a Jansie thing. It was meant to be something special just between them.

- (a) Why does Sophie glare at the ground?
- (i) Her secret with Casey is open to Jansie
(ii) She falls into day-dreaming about Casey
(iii) She is thinking about Geoff
(iv) None of the above
- (b) What was that Sophie didn't want Jansie to know?
- (c) What does Sophie mean when she says, "This was a Geoff thing not a Jansie thing?"
- (i) Jansie was not a good friend
(ii) Jansie was not good at keeping secrets
(iii) Sophie doesn't wish anybody to know about her meeting with Danny Casey
(iv) None of the above
- (d) 'Glare' means
- (e) Whom did Geoff tell about Sophie's meeting with Casey?
- (f) Who is with Sophie at this time?

Answers

- (a) (i) Her secret with Casey is open to Jansie
- (b) Sophie didn't want Jansie to know about her meeting with Casey.
- (c) (ii) Jansie was not good at keeping secrets
- (d) to look at somebody in a very angry way
- (e) Geoff told Frank about Sophie's meeting with Casey.
- (f) Jansie is with Sophie at this time.
7. There was a wooden bench beneath a solitary elm where lovers sometimes came. She sat down to wait. It was the perfect place, she had always thought so, for a meeting of this kind. For those who wished not to be observed. She knew he would approve.
- (a) Where was a wooden bench?
- (i) In the park
(ii) In the arcade
(iii) Under a large tree
(iv) None of the above
- (b) For whom did she sit to wait?
- (i) Geoff (ii) Jansie
(iii) Derek (iv) Danny Casey
- (c) Why was it a perfect place?
- (d) What does 'elm' mean?
- (e) 'He' in the last sentence is
- (f) Give an antonym of 'approve'.

Answers

- (a) (iii) Under a large tree
- (b) (iv) Danny Casey
- (c) It was a perfect place because it had much privacy.
- (d) Elm means a tall tree with broad leaves.
- (e) Danny Casey
- (f) An antonym of 'approve' is contradict or disagree.

8. Here I sit, she said to herself, wishing Danny would come, wishing he would come and sensing the time passing. I feel the pangs of doubt stirring inside me. I watch for him but still there is no sign of him. I remember Geoff saying he would never come, and how none of them believed me when I told them.

- (a) Who is 'I' referred to in the first line?
 (i) Geoff (ii) Danny Casey
 (iii) Sophie (iv) None of these
- (b) What are the pangs of doubt she feels?
 (i) Her father may be annoyed
 (ii) Geoff will taunt him
 (iii) Casey may not appear
 (iv) None of the above
- (c) What does she recall about her brother Geoff?
 (d) There is no sign of
 (e) Where is 'I' sitting?
 (f) Who is talking to whom?

Answers

- (a) (iii) Sophie
 (b) (iii) Casey may not appear
 (c) Geoff warned him Danny would never come.
 (d) Danny
 (e) 'I' is sitting on a wooden bench beneath a solitary elm.
 (f) Sophie is talking to herself.



Short Answer Type Questions

Q 1. Where was it most likely that the two girls would find work after school and why?

Ans. Sophie and Jansie—the two girls have just finished their schooling. They are not equipped with any professional skill as yet. And they come from a lower middle-class, with a weak financial background. So, the biscuit factory is the most likely place that the two girls can find work.

Q 2. What are the options that Sophie is dreaming of? Why does Jansie discourage her from having such dreams?

Or

Why is Jansie so critical of Sophie? (CBSE 2020)

Ans. Sophie is a day-dreamer through and through. She belongs to a lower middle-class family and dreams of stepping out of the confines of her family status. She dreams of working somewhere as a manager. If she is able to earn money, she wishes to buy a boutique. She even dreams of becoming an actress or a fashion designer. But Jansie discourages her from having such lofty dreams because she being a practical girl, knows that such dreams are wild and cannot be materialised. Rather they will land her into depression.

Q 3. Why did Sophie wriggle when Geoff told her father that she had met Danny Casey?

Ans. When Sophie's brother Geoff told her Dad about the incident of her meeting with Casey. She wriggled because she knew it was all falsehood and her father would not believe a word of it. Dad was a thorough practical man. To avoid his disdain she feared, she would have to add more details to make her concocted story convincing.

Q 4. Does Geoff believe what Sophie says about her meeting with Danny Casey?

Ans. No, Geoff doesn't believe Sophie's story of meeting the Irish prodigy—football player. But he shares a strong feeling of bonding with his sister as she shares all her secrets with him and confides with him everything. He dismisses it as the most unlikely thing. He even tries to make Sophie see the reality and tells her that Danny will never keep his promise of meeting her again to give her the autograph.

Q 5. Does Sophie's father believe her story?

Ans. There is no place for dreams and fantasies for a realistic person like Sophie's father. He doesn't believe in Sophie's story and turns it down as another of her wild concoctions. When Geoff tells him about her meeting, he simply waves it off by saying that he knew a man who had known Tom Finney. He even feels that such cock and bull stories would land Sophie in thick soup someday.

Q 6. Which country did Danny Casey play for? How did he fascinate his fans?

Ans. Danny Casey was a soccer player from Ireland. This young player's dexterity, speed and fitness gave his fans a matchless joy. They were so carried away by his genius that they wished he were an Englishman.

Q 7. Why didn't Sophie want Jansie to know about her story with Danny?

Ans. Sophie knew that Jansie was a gossip-monger. Telling anything to her meant telling the whole town. Moreover she fabricated her story of her encounter with Danny only for her family. As she feared her father's wrath if her story spread in the town. She did not want to draw crowd's to her house with hundreds of queries about this meeting with a celebrity.

Q 8. Did Sophie really meet Danny Casey?

Or

Do you think Sophie had actually met Danny Casey at the Royce's? Give reasons in support of your answer.

Ans. No, Sophie never met the Irish prodigy, Casey at the Royce's. Her story of meeting Danny Casey is merely a part of her fantasy. Being a day-dreamer she simply imagines her meeting with the football star and fabricates the vivid details of this meeting which lend her false story a tinge of reality.

Q 9. Which was the only occasion when Sophie got to see Danny Casey in person?

Ans. When on Saturday, the family went to watch the match, Sophie got to see Danny Casey in person. That was the only occasion. Sitting among the spectators, Sophie saw Danny Casey from the distance. But her imaginative mind cooked up the story of her real meeting with him and she almost met him in person in her imagination.

Q 10. What idea do you get of Sophie's father after reading the chapter 'Going Places'?

Ans. Sophie's father was a simple poor man. Though his life was full of hardships, he never allowed himself to fall a victim to self-pity. He being a realistic and a practical man, never believed in his daughter's wild stories. He made the best of what life offered him and extracted as much fun out of it as he could by watching football matches and celebrating victories in the pub.

Q 11. Why did Sophie dream of having a boutique after leaving school?

Ans. Sophie was passing through adolescent age and at this stage of life everyone is fascinated by glamorous world. The glamour of fashion is beyond the reach of a middle class girl like Sophie. She being a day-dreamer, dreams of buying a boutique because that is the only place where the celebrities are most likely to visit. To earn money and to be a part of the glamorous world, she dreams of having a boutique after schooling.

Q 12. How does Sophie plan to get the kind of money she wanted for her boutique?

Ans. Since Sophie nurtures a dream of buying a boutique, she thinks of working as a manager in some good establishment and will save money for buying her dream boutique. She also toys with the idea of becoming an actress or a fashion designer. She totally fails to understand that these are mere dreams which can never be realised.

Q 13. Was Sophie's family happy when she told them of her plan to buy a boutique?

Or

How did Sophie's family react when she announced that if she ever had money she would buy a boutique?

Ans. When Sophie shared her dream plan of buying a boutique with her family, everyone just ignored her. Her father commented by saying that if she ever had money, she would better buy them a decent house. Her brother, Derek mocked her by saying that money did not grow on trees. Her mother heaved a deep sigh as if to say that it could never become a reality. In this way none of her family members supported her in her dream plan.

Q 14. "Words had to be prized out of him like stones out of the ground", Sophie commented. What did she mean?

Ans. Sophie made this remark for her brother Geoff who was a person of few words. Sophie was sick of her brother's reserved and silent nature. He hardly ever

spoke voluntarily. Words had to be drawn out of his mouth as precious gems stones are dug out from the ground with great effort.

Q 15. What did Sophie find most fascinating in her brother Geoff?

Ans. Geoff, Sophie's brother was the only person in the family of five, with whom she could share her secrets. Geoff was a patient listener to her stories. Other members made fun of her. She was also captivated by Geoff's lost and inquisitive eyes. He however hardly spoke, but in his silence his eyes seemed to be roving in some distant recesses of his mind and Sophie wanted to traverse with him in his secret world.

Q 16. Sophie did not approve of her own world. What kind of a world did she dream of?

Ans. Sophie lived in a house with an extremely humble set-up—the small room steamy from the stove, dirty washing piled up in the corner, etc. Sophie felt suffocated in such a world of hers. She dreamt of a much wider world which was much more sophisticated, romantic and glamorous than her own. She dreamt of owning the best of shops in the city where celebrities from glamorous world would visit. She also visualised herself as an actress or a fashion designer.

Q 17. What did Sophie tell Geoff about her meeting with Danny Casey? Why?

Ans. Sophie told Geoff—her brother about the details of her meeting with Danny Casey. She told him that she had met Casey incidentally outside the Royce's when she was just looking at some clothes in the window. She asked him for the autograph, but couldn't get it as neither of them had a pen or paper with them. He looked not as tall as one would think. He had green gentle eyes, she told. She shared this incident with Geoff because she knew it would thrill him as well as the family.

Q 18. What is referred to as 'the weekly pilgrimage for the family'? Why?

Ans. The family's weekly visit to watch united is referred to as weekly pilgrimage for the family. It is referred to as a pilgrimage to highlight the hero worship of the family. They religiously came to watch the football match as they were deeply interested in the game and being absolutely fascinated by Danny Casey, they loved to see him in action. So, they went to see him with religious regularity.

Q 19. What does Sophie mean when she says, "This was Geoff thing not a Jansie thing"?

Ans. Sophie had fabricated the incident of her meeting with Danny Casey just to impress her brother Geoff because Geoff was a great fan of Casey. The news, she felt would thrill and excite her brother. Moreover, she was certain that he would keep her secret. She did not wish Jansie to know about it at all because this friend of Sophie was a gossip-monger and would spread the news in the entire township.

Q 20 "Resignation was no sudden thing". What is the implication of this remark in the context of Sophie's character?

Ans. Sophie knew that she was trying to live her dream which was far away from reality. She still hoped that something might transpire and may be Danny Casey come to meet her as she dreamt. when this did not happen, she felt sad but still she did not want to give up. She even did not want others to doubt her as they always did. She was still not ready to resign herself to the harsh reality.

Q 21. What place did Sophie choose to have a date with Danny Casey and why?

Ans. Sophie choose a place for dating Danny Casey where she had played in when she was a child. There was a wooden bench beneath a solitary elm where lovers sometimes come. She choose that particular place because it was the perfect place as it was deserted one and they would be least observed by people. Moreover, the place had a romance about itself that would make it the most appropriate place for such a meeting.

Q 22. Coming back home from the canal Sophie once again starts picturing Casey outside Royce's. What does the incident reveal about her nature?

Ans. Sophie while coming back home from the canal pictures Casey outside Royce's. This reveals the intensity of her imagination. Her fantasising is so life-like that she visualises all the nuances of her hero's voice and expression clearly. She transports herself to the world to make-believe without even bothering about what others have to say about it.

Q 23. Sophie flits from one dream to another. What trait of her character is brought out by this action?

(CBSE 2019)

Ans. Sophie flits from one dream to another. This shows that she enjoys living in her world of dreams which provides her the refuge that she needed from her middle-class reality. Sophie does not want to come out of her dreams.

Q 24. Why did Sophie long for her brother's affection?

(CBSE 2023)

Ans. Sophie wished she could be admitted more deeply into her brother's affection as she wanted to know about certain areas of his life and wanted to be the part of her brother's world. She wished that someday her brother might take her with him to his interesting and fascinating world.



Long Answer Type Questions ➡

Q 1. "Sophie's dreams and disappointments are all in her mind." Discuss.

Ans. Like all adolescents, Sophie too loves to fantasise and dream about a world which is far removed from reality. Day-dreaming is natural for youngsters. They

laugh, they cry and they live all aspects of life in their imaginary world.

Sophie also builds a fantastic world of her dreams. In reality she comes from a lower middle-class family, where she feels choked and suffocated. So she breaks herself from the harsh reality and floats in her dreams. Sometimes she imagines buying a boutique—which will never change into reality. Then her meeting with Danny Casey is also a figment of her imagination. She feels that she has actually met him and waits for him at her favourite haunt for a date, which is also a part of her fantasy. She keeps struggling between her dreams and reality. Her disappointment at Casey's not turning up is very painful to her. Her resignation to reality remains a part of her thinking, for soon after she starts dreaming again of Casey and visualising him the way she saw him play. Thus, Sophie travels in her mental world from happiness to disappointment and between her dreams and reality.

Q 2. Sophie and Jansie were classmates and close friends. What were the differences between them that show up in the story?

Or

Sophie and Jansie are close friends yet poles apart. Discuss.

Or

How different is Jansie from Sophie? (CBSE 2015)

Ans. Sophie and Jansie are very close friends yet the two are in sharp contrast in their approach towards life. One was sensible and realistic while the other was an escapist and floats in the world of dreams. Grounded in her reality, Jansie does not nurture big dreams and wants to achieve what is within the limits of her financial conditions. She accepts what destiny offered her with a sense of resignation and even advises her friend to accept the reality. Sophie on the other hand aspires to achieve what others think to be impossible. The romantic young girl's fickle mindedness is laid bare when she one time plans to be an actress while on other time wants to be a fashion designer. Yes, Jansie was quite noseey by nature due to which Sophie refrains from confiding what she confided in her brother. Sophie is a loving sister who yearns to travel into her brother's world about which she knows nothing. Scared of her father, she hesitates to talk to him as frankly as she talks to her brother Geoff. Her adolescent fantasising and her hero worship makes her imagine an encounter with the football star, Danny Casey.

Q 3. What socio-economic background did Sophie belong to? What are the indicators of her family's financial status?

Ans. Sophie come from a family background with a very humble set-up. Her father worked hard to earn a living for the family. His labour reflected on his face which was grimy and stank of sweat. Her father scooping Shepherd's pie into his mouth as hard as he could go—speaks of their poor financial condition. Her mother

was bent, her back gone crooked with the burden of the household work. Her brother Geoff worked as an apprentice mechanic. The family lived in a small house which displayed their humble living with dirty washing piled in a corner and the room smelling of stove. Her friend Jansie time and again referred to the fact that they were earmarked for the biscuit factory where they would earn very meagre salary. When Sophie shared her dream of buying a boutique, her father reminded her their poverty-stricken family needed to have a decent house. All these indicators show that Sophie's family had a poor financial status.

Q 4. Justify the title of the story 'Going Places' by A.R. Barton.

Ans. The story 'Going Places' deals with an exotic journey into the world of fantasies where one can switch over from one place to another. So the story is suitably titled 'Going Places'. One can easily travel from Paris to London and back home in dreams. We may even dream of walking with a celebrity or on the surface of the moon.

Since, Sophie doesn't feel comfortable in her suffocating house, she builds her dream world where she imagines herself to be the owner of a boutique. And sometimes she finds herself a manager in some good store and at other times she visualises herself as an actress or a fashion designer. So her dream world enables her to traverse into various places and aspects of her choice, which however, she may never be able to materialise in her real life. Yes, it is in her fantasy that she visits the Royce's and meets her hero Danny Casey, the sensational football star. She even goes to the extent of fixing a date with him and actually travels to the place and waits for him to show up. This is all in her imagination. Sophie is seen to be flying from one place to another on the wings of her imagination. So the title 'Going Places' is quite apt for the story as well as the characters.

Q 5. The story 'Going Places' draws a beautiful contrast between 'fact' and 'fiction'. Comment.

Ans. The story 'Going Places' transports the readers to the world of imagination along with Sophie. Sophie's world is fictional and a pure creation of her mind. Factual world stands in sharp contrast with this fictional world. The story brings out this contrast through the character of Sophie. In her dreams she is a part of a glamorous world but in reality she is confined to a small room, where a lower middle-class family struggles for survival.

Sophie creates fantastic world for herself when she tells her friend Jansie that when ever she has enough money, she will buy a boutique. Her friend however warns her about the catastrophic results of such dreams which were grounded on pure imagination. But Sophie refuses to accept the reality in which her poor father, works hard for a living and her mother bears the back-breaking burden of household chores. Her real world is confined to a small suffocating room, stinking with stove smell and littered with dirty linen.

Thus, the story brings out the fact that facts and fiction are the two poles which stand apart.

Q 6. After long hours of waiting by the side of the canal. Sophie comes back home. She is still not disappointed. She expresses her feelings in her personal diary. On behalf of Sophie write the diary entry.

Ans. Date and Day: _____

Time : _____

Dear Diary,

Today, as decided and planned earlier, I went to the fixed spot. I walked by the canal, along a sheltered path. It was a place where I had often played in when I was a child. There was a wooden bench beneath a solitary elm where lovers sometimes came. It was a perfect place. I sat there to wait. I had visualised meeting Casey at the Royce's and he himself had fixed up this date to give me his autograph. This is what I had told Geoff. There was a vain hope in some corner of my heart that he may happen to come there by chance and my story may prove true.

Although deep in my heart I knew he was not going to come, but I didn't want to submit to my failure. I could see my family doubting me that left me disappoint, but I didn't want to live with the burden of sadness. I started moving homewards planning, how I will face the family.

But I saw dad's bicycle I was glad at the thought of not-necessarily giving lengthy explanation. I couldn't keep myself away from my dreams and fantasies and soon drifted into them meeting Casey outside the Royce's talking to him and asking for his autograph.

When I can be happy in my dreamland, why should I make myself taste the harsh reality. My fantasies give me happiness and my reality frustrates me why should I deprive myself of this happiness.

Q 7. In one's approach to life one should be practical and not live in a world of dreams. How is Jansie's attitude different from that of Sophie? (CBSE 2018)

Ans. Sophie and Jansie were not only classmates but also friends. They both belonged to lower middle-class families. But this is the only similarity they share. There is a striking contrast between their characters. Sophie is a day-dreamer and Jansie is practical in her approach. Sophie lives in a world of dreams and does not want to come out of this fairyland. She is an incurable escapist and dreams of having a boutique, becoming an actress or a fashion designer. Jansie, on the other hand, is very grounded. Jansie has her feet firmly planted on the ground and knows they are both 'earmarked for the biscuit factory'. She knows big things require big money and experience which they lack desperately. She advises Sophie to be sensible and not entertain wild dreams. Their temperaments differ greatly. Sophie shares her dreams only with one person, her brother Geoff. Jansie on the other hand is nosey. She is always interested in learning new things about others and can spread stories in the whole neighbourhood.



Chapter Test

Extract Based Question

Q 1. She climbed the crumbling steps to the street. Outside the pub she passed her father's bicycle propped against the wall, and was glad. He would not be there when she got home.

"Excuse me, but aren't you Danny Casey?" Coming through the arcade she pictured him again outside Royce's.

(a) Who climbed the crumbling steps to the street?

- (i) Sophie's mother (ii) Jansie
- (iii) Sophie (iv) Geoff

(b) What did she notice while she was crossing the pub?

- (i) Geoff's motorcycle
- (ii) Casey's luxury car
- (iii) Her father's bicycle
- (iv) None of the above

(c) Why was Sophie glad?

(d) What did Sophie imagine about Danny Casey?

(e) Who is the author of the lesson?

(f) A word similar in meaning to 'arcade' is

Short Answer Type Questions

Q 2. Did Sophie ever see Danny Casey in reality?

Q 3. What kind of world did Sophie envision for her?

Q 4. What did Sophie's father think about her story?

Long Answer Type Questions

Q 5. Sophie and Jansie have different attitudes towards life. Discuss.

Q 6. Throw light on the title 'Going Places'.