

Comprehensive Questions to their answers
2 Marks N.M.G.

Q.1. ~~What~~ does the authoress mean by the expression 'road was cut'? How was the road cut?

Ans. - By the expression 'the road was cut' the authoress Virginia Woolf means to say that the novel writing started earlier especially by women novelists.

Early women novelists like Fanny Burney, Marianne, Romantic novelist like Jane Austen and Victorian novelist like George Eliot took up their pens to write novels. Which way the road was cut.

2. What is the writer's opinion about the profession of writing?

Ans. - The writing, says Woolf, is a reputable, harmless and a restless profession which does not disturb one's family peace.

3. What does the authoress mean by other obstacles other than material obstacle?

Ans. - When Virginia Woolf came to write she faced conventional notion of ideal womanhood at home and also in outside society. At home, the women are meant to be domestic, servile, self-sacrificing and dependent upon men. In the outside society they should not speak freely about their own intellectual and sexual needs.

4. What, according to Woolf, is the most important for success of women as writers?

Ans. - According to Woolf, the cheapness of the writing paper is the most important for success of women as writers.

5. What was the angel but the author's mentions several times in the essay?

A: The angel mentioned in the essay profession from woman was Woolf's innately inborn beliefs and prejudices. Ironically it signifies the shackles of orthodoxy, servility, domestic dependence of women on men in the Victorian age.

6. In spite of sympathetic, emotional, compassion - all, unselfish and charming, why did the author want to kill the Angel in the house?

A: Although the angel had many a good qualities Woolf wanted to kill it because it was preventing the author from expressing her true thoughts spontaneously about the novel she was revising.

7. When can we know what woman is? We can know what woman is when she will express her true thoughts in all the arts and when she will take part in all professions opened to human skill.

8. The author was in a trance, and then suddenly the trance was over. Why? How?

A: The author contemplated about man's unconscious and subconscious mind. But suddenly the trance was over because her imagination got a blow from her hard reality of her being a woman. This reality prevented her from expressing her true emotions regarding morality, passions, sex due to the presence of conventional - ality of men.

9. What is conventionalality? How does it show itself in the present instance?

A: - conventionality means traditional, preconceived attitudes and wrong concepts of men towards women people on any subjects. In the present instance it is reflected in the double standard of men regarding sex, morality, passion. They do not allow women's dom to express their thoughts in any way.

2. Implications Questions and their answers in Virginia Woolf's Professions for Women.

Q.1. What is the piece of information? Why is it important?
Ans. The piece of information is the true nature of woman discovered by women themselves.

N.M.G. It is important because without it women will not be able to realise their true selves and give proper direction to their struggle for freedom in economic, intellectual, social and other spheres.

Q.2. What are the phantoms looming in the authoress' way? Why are these phantoms to be slain?

What does ^{or} the authoress mean to say by the expression 'phantoms to be slain'?

(i) How can these phantoms (obstacles) be overcome?

Ans. (i) Superstitions, wrong conceptions in anything, prejudices and prejudices, and conventionalities of males are the phantoms looming in Woolf's way. These phantoms are to be slain because it do not allow women to express their true thoughts, experiences and to enter into any and all the professions.

(ii) These phantoms (obstacles) can be overcome through a continuous struggles of women against all the male-made conceptions, prejudices and conventionalities. They had to do all these with argument and in winning economic, social and intellectual freedom.

Professions for Woman.

12 Is economic independence to the authoress enough for women? What more do they want?
A: According to Virginia Stephen (Cross) ~~even though~~ economic independence is essential for the progress of women, but it is not enough for them.

They also need social, intellectual, cultural and moral freedom to know themselves and for ~~one~~ self-realization. They should have the freedom of telling truth about human relations, morality and sex as the men have.

B. What ^{professional} experiences of the authoress suggested these? Why ~~was it a real~~ ^{were these real} experiences?

Ans - The authoress had two genuine professional experiences. The first was the conventional idea about women's professions. The second was ~~her~~ ^{her} experience about sex, passions and human relations and morality running in the Victorian society.

She calls her professional experiences ~~are~~ real or genuine because she had to fight very ~~hard~~ hard to destroy the conventional idea and release the women from the conventionality of Victorian age.