

ISWARAN THE STORYTELLER

HOT QUESTION

Question: How does the story “Iswaran the Storyteller” explore the power of storytelling and imagination?

Answer: The story beautifully explores how storytelling can captivate, influence, and even manipulate reality. Iswaran’s tales are filled with exaggerated drama, suspense, and sudden twists that mesmerize his master Mahendra. His vivid imagination turns ordinary events into extraordinary adventures, showing the creative power of the human mind. The story also highlights how stories can blur the line between fact and fiction. Even Mahendra, a rational man, finds himself emotionally affected and frightened by Iswaran’s ghost story. It proves that storytelling is not just entertainment—it shapes perceptions and beliefs. Through Iswaran’s character, the story underlines the magnetic influence of narration, voice, timing, and imagination. It also questions the boundaries between reality and imagination, showing how a powerful storyteller can make fiction feel like truth.

Short Answer Questions

1. What does Iswaran’s storytelling style reveal about his character?

Answer: Iswaran’s storytelling style, full of suspense, drama, and exaggerated details, reveals his vivid imagination and love for theatrics. His ability to hold his listener’s attention reflects his intelligence and confidence. It also shows his flair for drama, as he inserts emotions and twists to make his stories gripping. His style suggests he is not just a cook but also a performer who finds joy in entertaining others with words.

2. How does Mahendra’s reaction to Iswaran’s stories change over time?

Answer: Initially, Mahendra listens to Iswaran’s stories with amusement, treating them as harmless entertainment. However, over time, especially after the ghost story, his rational mindset begins to waver. He feels fear and starts imagining the ghost Iswaran described. This shift shows how even a practical man can be influenced by compelling narration. It highlights the psychological impact stories can have when told with conviction and vivid imagery.

3. What does the story suggest about the line between imagination and belief?

Answer: The story suggests that the line between imagination and belief is thin and easily blurred. Iswaran’s vivid ghost story is so convincing that Mahendra, a logical and rational man, ends up believing it. The narrative shows that when imagination is powerful and skillfully communicated, it can influence people’s emotions and even alter their perception of reality. It reflects how the human mind can be both rational and vulnerable.

4. What is the significance of the ghost story in the narrative?

Answer: The ghost story is a turning point in the narrative as it shifts the tone from humorous to eerie. It tests the psychological impact of storytelling. Iswaran’s tale plants a seed of fear in Mahendra’s mind, affecting his behavior. The story’s significance lies in showing how a fictional account, when narrated convincingly, can trigger real fear. It demonstrates the emotional power of stories and their ability to control perception.

5. In what way is the story a commentary on human psychology?

Answer: The story subtly comments on how the human mind can be influenced by emotion, imagination, and repetition. Even a rational man like Mahendra begins to fear ghosts due to Iswaran’s convincing narration. It shows how storytelling can shape thoughts and feelings, revealing that belief isn’t always driven by logic. The

tale also explores how fear and suggestion work, especially when they are repeatedly reinforced with vivid imagery.

6.What explanation did Iswaran give about the ghost he saw?

Answer: Iswaran claimed to have seen a ghost of a woman with a foetus in her arms on a full moon night, wandering near the bushes behind their dwelling. He described the ghost as a horrible figure and warned Mahendra to be cautious if he heard any strange sounds at night.

7. How did Mahendra react after hearing the ghost story?

Answer: Although Mahendra initially laughed off the ghost story, it unsettled him. After that night, he began feeling uneasy and even imagined seeing a shadowy figure outside his window. The story disturbed him so much that he eventually decided to leave the place.

8.Why did Mahendra decide to leave his job?

Answer: Mahendra decided to leave his job because he was deeply disturbed by the ghost story narrated by Iswaran. The fear started affecting his peace of mind and sleep. The psychological impact of the imagined ghost sighting became too much for him to handle, prompting his decision to quit.