

The Luncheon

A3. Answer the following questions

1. How did the lady manage to get an invitation for a luncheon from the writer?

Ans. In one of her letters to the writer the lady said that she was passing through Paris and wished to chat with the author. She had free time only on the following Thursday. So she requested the writer if he would give her a little luncheon at Foyot's to which he agreed.

2. It is evident that the writer was disappointed by the appearance of the lady. How do we learn this?

Ans. The writer expected the lady to be young and attractive. That was why he readily agreed to give her a luncheon. However, the lady turned out to be an imposing and talkative woman of forty.

3. The writer says "Panic seized me". When and why this happened?

Ans. The writer began to panic when the lady kept on ordering expensive items from the menu. He was afraid that all the money he had would not be enough to pay the bill.

4. 'Oh, no, I'm not hungry, you see, I don't eat luncheon. I have a cup of coffee in the morning and then dinner, but I never eat more than one thing for luncheon I was speaking for you.' Who said this? What is ironical in this statement?

Ans. It was said by the lady. The irony here is that the lady said this after eating heavily at the writer's expense after a full course lunch she criticized the writer who had eaten only a meal of mutton chop for overeating.

5. 'Today she weighs twenty one stone.' Why is the writer happy that the lady is overweight?

Ans. The writer seems to be happy that the lady has grown overweight. He had to use all his month's savings just to pay her lunch bill many years ago when they had met at a restaurant in Paris.