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Understanding The Text:

1. The author has used gentle humour to point out human foibles. Pick out instances of this to show how this serves to make the piece interesting.

Answer:

The author has used gentle humour in various instances, which adds to the story's eccentricity. For example, the author cleverly framed the make-up artists and pancakes. Subbu's point of view was fantastic. It is amazing how he applies his principles and solves problems. Similarly, the author has incorporated gentle humour into the frustration of the office boy, the praising of Gandhi, the episode of an illegal adviser causing the end of an actress's career, hatred against communism, and the mystery surrounding Stephen Spender.

2. Why was Kothamangalam Subbu considered No. 2 in Gemini Studios?

Answer:

Using flattery, Kothamangalam Subbu was able to secure the position closest to The Boss. He wasn't brilliant, but he was a cheerful person who was fiercely loyal to The Boss. When The Boss was in a jam, he offered solutions. As a result, the other employees ranked him second in Gemini Studios.

3. How does the author describe the incongruity of an English poet addressing the audience at Gemini Studios?

Answer:

The English poet was speaking in English to the Tamil audience at Gemini Studios, with a typical provincial accent. He was speaking to a dazed and silent audience about the joys and tribulations of being an English poet. This was the inconsistency because his audience had no idea about what he was saying.

4. What do you understand about the author's literary inclinations from the account?

Answer:

The author was often interested in prose, as evidenced by his book choices, his admiration for Stephen Spender, and the account's recurring theme of prose writings.

Talking About The Text:

Discuss in small groups taking off from points in the text.

1. Film-production today has come a long way from the early days of the Gemini Studios.

2. Poetry and films.

3. Humour and criticism.

Answer:

Do it yourself.