

Reading Comprehension: Peter And His Pride

Kelly and Peter were married for a long time. They had a good loving relationship. Kelly had a good house, good clothes to wear, good food to eat, and a steady job too. She had nothing to complain about.

However, deep down in her heart, there was some anguish buried. She never complained about it, but the sadness could be seen in her eyes.

She could see that Peter had changed a lot. He was no longer the man she married. From being an empathetic and honest man, Peter had become very greedy and haughty. He was no longer grounded and thought of himself to be above others just because he was earning a lot of money. She tried talking to Peter about his changed behavior, but he never paid heed.

He no longer respected the people working at his factory. He talked rudely to them and did not care about their personal issues. Due to the changed behavior of Peter, many of his old and trustworthy employees left him and his factory. However, this did not change his attitude.

He stopped visiting and inviting his relatives on festivals and was flying high on the cloud of success. From up there, he thought that all these things were worthless.



He had taken a loan from a bank to establish his factory. Due to his careless attitude, he forgot to repay the loan. He did not even bother to check the constant reminders and emails from the bank. Finally, one day the bank authorities seized his factory.

He had no office to go to now. He was financially broke. When the word spread in the market about Peter's factory, everybody was shocked to know about it. Peter was depressed as he had lost his factory, his respect, his fame, and his prosperity. He realized that in the process of gaining more and more wealth, he lost his friends, relatives, and the bond between him and Kelly.

One quiet evening, as he was sitting on his porch, all alone and sad, he suddenly heard the gate of his house squeaking. He looked up to see who it was. They were all his old and trustworthy employees. They had the same love in their eyes for Peter as before. They encouraged Peter and promised that each one of them will try and put in more time and effort to get the business booming again.

Later that night, Peter and Kelly's family members surprised them. They told Peter that they were there for them. Peter's father offered some financial help to help him kickstart the business.

There were tears in Peter's eyes. These tears were of self-realization and gratitude towards his employees, family, and friends. He looked at Kelly with sorrow in his eyes. Kelly beamed with pride and joy that day, as she knew she had her old Peter back.

Based on your understanding of the story given above, do the following activities:

[A] Answer the following questions in detail.

1. Why was Kelly unhappy in spite of all the things she had?

2. Why did Peter's trustworthy employees leave him?

3. Why did Peter lose his factory?

4. Describe the changes that came in Peter

5. How did Peter's employees and family members promise to help Peter?

[B] Match the words used in the text with their meanings:

Word	Meaning
Anguish	Take hold of forcibly
Empathetic	Arrogantly superior and disdainful
Haughty	Severe mental or physical pain or suffering
Seize	A covered structure in front of the entrance to a building
Porch	Showing an ability to understand and share the feelings of another