



Department of Education, Sabaragamuwa Province – Week School

Department of Education,  
Sabaragamuwa Province

Week : 4<sup>th</sup> Week, September, 2021

Subject : Appreciation of English Literary Texts

Grade : 10

Prepared by : Kalpana Madumadhavi

Kg/Dehi Rajasinghe Central College

## **The Bear (Anton Chekhov translated by Julius West)**

### **Part 2**

**Go through these points and check your summary of the play.**

- ✚ The conversation between Popova and Luka reveals that he is trying to convince her that she should enjoy life while her beauty lasts. He further highlights the futility of mourning for her dead husband for such a long time.
- ✚ Despite her late husband's unfaithfulness to her she, vows to prove her love by mourning for him till her death.
- ✚ She is irritated by Luka announcing the arrival of Smirnov to whom her dead husband owes 1200 roubles. He asks for cash to pay the interest on a mortgage. Popova's peace is disturbed.
- ✚ She is willing to pay Smirnov only after her steward comes back the day after tomorrow. But Smirnov reiterates that he needs the money desperately.
- ✚ The argument builds up to a climax as Smirnov highlights the infidelity of women and Popova reveals the same about men.
- ✚ Popova insults Smirnov calling him a 'bear'. Smirnov is asked to go out. He refuses. Popova calls Luka to show Smirnov out.
- ✚ The insulting continues.
- ✚ Smirnov suggests Popova should pay for insulting him by engaging in a duel with him.
- ✚ Popova brings her late husband's pistols but asks Smirnov to teach her how to fire.
- ✚ In teaching her, he is captivated by the beauty of her eyes and is touched by her boldness.
- ✚ The climax heightens as Popova suggests going out for the duel. Smirnov is not interested in the duel anymore as he cannot resist falling in love with her.

✚ The anticlimax is when the servants see them kissing each other passionately.

1. What is the most significant occasion that you found in the story?
2. State the significant features of the characters; Popova, Smirnov and Luka.
3. Find out the literary techniques used by the playwright in this play.
4. Write down the quotes that convey following themes of the play.
  - Money
  - Infidelity
  - Inconsistency of human behaviour
  - Chauvinism
  - Emancipation of women