



Q2. Here is an excerpt from the autobiography of a short story writer. Read it carefully and answer the questions that follow.

My father loved all instruments that would instruct and fascinate. His place to keep things was the drawer in the 'library table' where lying on top of his folder map was a telescope with brass extensions, to find the moon and the Big Dipper after supper in our front yard, and to keep appointments with eclipses. In the back of the drawer you could find a magnifying glass, a kaleidoscope and a gyroscope kept in black buckram box, which he would set dancing for us on a string pulled tight. He had also supplied himself with an assortment of puzzles composed of metal rings and intersecting links and keys chained together, impossible for the rest of us, however, patiently shown, to take apart, he had an almost childlike love of the ingenious. In time, a barometer was added to our dining room wall, but we didn't really need it. My father had the country boy's accurate knowledge of the weather and its skies. He went out and stood on our front steps first thing in the morning and took a good look at it and a sniff. He was a pretty good weather prophet. He told us children what to do if we were lost in a strange country. 'Look for where the sky is brightest along the horizon,' he said. 'That reflects the nearest river. Strike out for a river and you will find habitation'. Eventualities were much on his mind. In his care for us children he cautioned us to take measures against such things as being struck by lightning. He drew us all away from the windows during the severe electrical storms that are common where we live. My mother stood apart, scoffing at caution as a character failing. So I developed a strong meteorological sensibility. In years ahead when I wrote stories, atmosphere took its influential role from the start. Commotion in the weather and the inner feelings aroused by such a hovering disturbance emerged connected in dramatic form.

Questions

- why did the writer's father spend time studying the skies ? (3)
- why the writer thinks that there was no need of a barometer? (3)
- what does the bright horizon meant for the writer's father ? (3)
- How did her father influence the writer in her later years ? (3)
- explain the underlined words and phrases in the passage. (8)

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a. Why did the writer's father spend time studying the skies?

The writer's father spend time studying the skies because he had childlike love from this. That's why he spend most of his time to searching and studying the astronomical objects.

b. Why the writer thinks that there was no need of a barometer?

The writer thinks that there was no need of a barometer because her father have accurate knowledge of the weather and the skies. His knowledge was really good about this.

c. What does the bright horizon meant for the writer's father?

According to her father the bright horizon meant the reflection of the nearest river. He always said to his children if they were lost follow the bright horizon then they will find habitation.

d. How did her father influence the writer in

In her last years when she wrote stories, atmosphere took influential role from the start. She starts from the astronomical knowledge that she gain from her father's, that gives the dramatic expression in her story.