

Dear sir, please tell me general guidelines that I must follow in the paper of this subject as I live in a rural area and do not have any contact with a mentor. My only guidelines are these informal letters and Youtube, the latter baffles more than the direction it provides. Also, if you can tell about the paper presentation and the sequence of attempting questions.

Question 2: Comprehension (20 Marks)

Comprehension Passage

My father returned to work within days of coming home. He worked for a time in a shipyard where one of the last great Belfast liners, the *Canberra*, was under construction, and later moved to an electronics firm in the eastern part of the city. These were the days when computers were extremely large and built by sheet metal workers.

Soon after he joined the firm, (one of his colleagues was dismissed for taking time off to get married.) In response, the workforce went on strike to have him reinstated. The dispute, known as the “Honeymoon Strike,” was reported in the Belfast newspapers. My mother later told me that the strike affected our family so severely that for years they struggled financially. I do not know how the strike ended, but whether or not the colleague regained his job, he soon found another, better one. I remember visiting him and his wife in their new bungalow in the northern suburbs of Belfast. I believe they left the city soon after the Troubles began.

(At that time, my father was thirty-seven, the age I am now. My father and I are close, yet we know little about each other. We talk about events rather than emotions and keep certain hopes, fears, and doubts to ourselves. I have never asked my father whether he ever reflected on how his life might have changed, had he made different choices. He found himself, like many others, living in what was effectively a civil war. As an adult, I often try to imagine what it must be like to face such circumstances—arriving at the site of a bomb explosion near a brother’s workplace and believing, from the colour of the hair, that the body lying in the road is his brother’s, only to discover that it is the remains of a woman.

Questions:

- From your reading of the passage, what do you infer about the nature of the “Troubles” mentioned by the writer?
- What, according to the writer, were the working conditions in the electronics firm where his father worked?
- Why was his father’s colleague dismissed?
- How does the writer show that, as father and son, they do not know much about each other?
- Explain the underlined words/phrases in the passage:

made the Belfast papers, had a spell, dubbed, was sacked, hit hard.

2003:

Comprehension:

Qno:01: From your reading of the passage, What do you infer about the nature of the "Troubles" mentioned by the writer?

Answer:

From my understanding, the nature of the "Troubles" mentioned in the paragraph is about difficulties of the war that the author's family had to face. Such as thinking of their brother being killed by the bomb blast, just by looking at the colour of hair of the body; later to be found out that the deceased is a female.

Qno: 02: What, according to the writer, were the working conditions in the electronic firm where his father worked?

Answer:

The working conditions in the electronic firm were strict, and employees were not allowed to take leave even for their marriages.

Qno: 03: Why was his father's colleague dismissed?

Answer:

The ~~author's~~ colleague of author's father was dismissed because he took time off for getting married.

Qno: 04: How does the writer show that, as father and son, they do not know much about each other?

Answer:

The writer writes that he and his father do not ~~talk~~ talk about emotions, and keep their fears, worries, and hopes to themselves only. He expresses this by saying that he never asked his father if his father ever contemplated on the choices he made in life. In this way the writer shows that he and his

father do not know much about each other.

Q no: 05: Explain the underlined words/phrases in the passage: