

**DAV PUBLIC SCHOOL, MTPS  
BANKURA**

CLASS 10

SUBJECT- ENGLISH

**ASSIGNMENT 1  
A LETTER TO GOD**

**1. Short answer questions(2 Marks each)**

- a. What were Lencho's feelings when he found the letter with money in it? What did he do after opening the letter?
- b. Whom did Lencho write a letter? What did he ask for?
- c. How far would you agree that one's positivity can bring in a spark of brightness even in adverse circumstances?
- d. What impression do you form about the postmaster reading the story " A Letter to God"?
- e. What was the effect of the rain on the crops?
- f. Why was Lencho angry? What did he do?
- g. Why were Lencho and his family in distress? Whom did he ask for help?
- h. What were raindrops compared to and why?
- i. Did the letter reach God? Why did the postmaster send a reply to Lencho?
- j. Lencho describes the post office employees as a "bunch of crooks".
  - i) Were they bunch of crooks?
  - ii) How would you describe them?

**2. Long answer questions(8 Marks each)**

- a. Give the character sketch of Lencho.
- b. "I wish I had the faith of the man". Describe Lencho's character in the light of the above statement.
- c. The postmaster represents such people who still believe in helping others. Mention those values of the postmaster which you would like to emulate in yourself.

They say faith can move mountains. But what should we put our faith in?

This is the question this story delicately poses.

There once lived a farmer named LENCHO.

He lived in a valley with his family.

That year, he had cultivated corn. The flowers that dotted the field, promised a good harvest.

Lencho waited for good rain or at least a shower to get a good harvest.

Rain came and all including LENCHO enjoyed the light shower.

**“These aren’t raindrops falling from the sky, they are new coins.”**



## LENCHO'S CORN FIELD



**But suddenly a strong wind began to blow and along with the rain very large hailstones began to fall. These truly did resemble new silver coins.**

**It was really getting bad. Lencho hoped that it passed quickly.**

**It did not pass quickly. For an hour the hail rained on the house, the garden, the hillside, the cornfield, on the whole valley.**

**The field was white, as if covered with salt. Not a leaf remained on the trees. The corn was totally destroyed. The flowers were gone from the plants.**

**Lencho's soul was filled with sadness. When the storm had passed, he stood in the middle of the field**



## LENCHO'S FIELD AFTER THE HAIL STORM



**There was a single hope: help from God.**

**Lencho was an ox of a man, working like an animal in the fields, but still he knew how to write.**

**The following Sunday, at daybreak, he began to write a letter which he himself would carry to town and place in the mail. It was nothing less than a letter to God.**

**"God," he wrote, "if you don't help me, my family and I will go hungry this year. I need a hundred pesos in order to sow my field again and to live until the crop comes, because the hailstorm...."**

**He wrote 'To God' on the envelope, put the letter inside and, still troubled, went to town.**

AT the postoffice fellow — also broke out laughing, but almost immediately he turned serious and, tapping the letter on his desk, commented, "What faith! I wish I had who wrote this letter. **Starting up a correspondence with God!**"

So, in order not to shake the writer's faith in God, the postmaster came up with an idea: answer the letter.

But when he opened it, it was evident that to answer it he needed something more than goodwill, ink and paper.

But he stuck to his resolution: he asked for money from his employees part of his salary,

and several friends of his were obliged to give something 'for an act of charity'.



**IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE FOR HIM TO GATHER TOGETHER THE HUNDRED PESOS, SO HE WAS ABLE TO SEND THE FARMER ONLY A LITTLE MORE THAN HALF. HE PUT THE MONEY IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO LENCHO AND WITH IT A LETTER CONTAINING ONLY A SINGLE WORD AS A SIGNATURE: GOD.**

God



**The following Sunday Lencho came a bit earlier than usual to ask if there was a letter for him.**

**The postman handed the letter to him. The postmaster was filled with contentment of a man who has performed a good deed, looked on from his office.**

**Lencho showed not the slightest surprise on seeing the money; such was his confidence — but he became angry when he counted the money.**

**God could not have made a mistake, nor could he have denied Lencho what he had requested. Immediately, Lencho went up to the window to ask for paper and ink.**

**He wrote another letter to God and the moment the letter fell into the mailbox the postmaster went to open it.**

**It said: "God: Of the money that I asked for, only seventy pesos reached me. Send me the rest, since I need it very much. But don't send it to me through the mail because the post office employees are a bunch of crooks. Lencho."**

## Character sketch of **Lencho**

Lencho was a very hardworking farmer. He work like an ox in his fields. He had firm faith in god. He believed that god is watching everything and would definitely help him in his problem. He had grown corn in his field and was waiting for rain anxiously. He was very happy to see the rain but it later turned to worry as the rain became a storm and destroyed his fields. He had deep faith in God and after the destruction of the field, he was hopeful that everything will be all right.

Although Lencho was a very strong man and worked hard in the field, his faith in God made him write a letter to God. He asked for hundred pesos from God and was confident of receiving the amount. When he received only seventy pesos he again wrote to God asking for the remaining money and accusing the postal department for stealing money. This shows that Lencho was a religious man.

There are two themes in the story "A Letter to God" – Blind-faith and Two Sides of the Same Story.

## **Blind-faith**

The story reflects the blind-faith of the peasant. The crops are destroyed by the storm but the peasant takes it as a divine action. He writes a letter to God (height of blind-faith) and finding the money he believes that it has been given by God himself. Even when he finds 70 Passos, he is not pleased as he thinks that God must have given 100 Passos but the post-man might have stolen 30 Passos.

The story reflects the mentality of illiterates and poor people of villages and also the sympathetic nature of people like Postman.



# Two Sides of a Story

The other theme which is mainly reflected in this short story is the two different sides of the same story.

Lencho, the farmer is an uneducated person and full of blind-faith. He is unaware of the reality. Hence rather than thanking the employees of Post Office, he calls them greedy and bunch of crooks. This is the irony in the story.

On the other hand, the post-master who was moved by the innocence of the farmer never expected such response of the farmer.