Cànán 1

Language 1

Tha na h-abairtean/faclan gu h-iosal uile a’ nochdadh san sgeulachd. Lorg a’ chiall as fhaisge do gach facal air an taobh chlì bhon liosta air an taobh dheas.

The words/phrases below all appear in the story. Find the closest meaning for each word/phrase on the left in the right-hand column.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gaeilge</th>
<th>English</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>am broinn na màileide</td>
<td>winter stars</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mar fhion</td>
<td>snowy helmet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rionnagan geamhraidh</td>
<td>loneliness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>clogaid sneachda</td>
<td>like wine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bogha-frois</td>
<td>she laughed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>aonaranachd</td>
<td>like an autumn leaf</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sioda</td>
<td>stranger</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rinn i gàire</td>
<td>silk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>coigreach</td>
<td>inside the bag</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mar dhuilleag foghair</td>
<td>rainbow</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Cànán 2

Language 2

Cleachd cóig de na faclan/abairtean ann an seantansan ûra. Chaidh eisimpleir a dhèanamh dhut.

Use five of the above words/phrases in new sentences. An example has been done for you.

am broinn na màileide
Bha aodach de gach seòrsa am broinn na màileide.
Questions

Leugh an sgeulachd a-richtist agus sgrìobh freagairtean airson na ceistean a leanas:
Read the story again and write the answers to each of the following questions:

(a) From the beginning of the story, the writer wants to show us how different the old lady and the salesman are. How does he manage to do this and how successful is he?

(b) What do you notice about the beginning of paragraphs two, three and four? Why do you think the writer uses this particular style of writing, as he does on several occasions in the story?

(c) Describe the old lady’s room. In what ways are her possessions different from the exotic items the salesman has in his case?

(d) Is the man happy to be in this country? How do you know?

(e) Why does the salesman say, “Chan eil làithean do dhansaidh seachad fhathast” when the old lady buys the silk underwear? Why does she buy it?

(f) Why did the old lady lock the door again when the man left?

(g) How does the writer convey the feeling of loneliness and weakness in the second last paragraph?

(h) What is the old lady’s final act? Why is this important to the structure of the story?

A’ sgrìobhadh mu litreachas

Writing about literature

Sgrìobh leirmheas air an sgeulachd.
Smith’s stories are very well known in Gaelic. Write an appreciation of the story, detailing the following:

1) Setting – old lady’s house in the middle of the city – significance?
2) Characters – how different are they? In what ways are they similar to each other? Think of language, age, culture, loneliness, sympathy.
3) Themes – loneliness/communication or lack of it
4) Structure of the story – a circle? Think of the old lady looking out at the street again at the end of the story and how the two characters only come together for a short space of time and are alone again at the end.
5) The methods the writer uses to make the story appeal to the reader – colours, images, particular words, the shape of the story.

The questions you answered above should help you to put your appreciation together.