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11. Why is Sergius compared to an operatic tenor?

Bluntschli compares Sergius with an operatic tenor. The hero of an opera usually sings the tenor part and is always handsome in appearance. Bluntschli remembers the moment when Sergius attacked the gunmen with his flashing eyes and floating hair. He looked exactly like such an actor playing in an opera.

12. Why is Sergius compared to "Don Quixote at his windmills"?

Don Quixote is a Spanish romance by Cervantes. The hero here becomes blinded by romantic fury and attacks the sails of a windmill, thinking them as the sword of an enemy. Similarly, Sergius attacked the machineguns with blind romantic zeal, but he forgot the fact that guns are more powerful than sword.

13. Why does Raina call Bluntschli a 'chocolate cream soldier' in Act I?

In Act I Raina calls Bluntschli chocolate cream soldier. The two important reasons for this are associated with the situation. When Bluntschli tells Raina that he always carries chocolate in the battlefield, Raina becomes amazed and also amused. Again, Raina is also stunned by his soft cowardly nature as she so long believed that soldiers were most heroic. But when Bluntschli reveals himself to be very shy and fearful, Raina feels that he is just like a chocolate, hard outside but soft inside.

14. When did Bluntschli become like a hypnotized rabbit and why?

At the end of Act I Raina offered Bluntschli her hospitality. But Bluntschli had already become so exhausted and worn out that he could not respond to her demands. At that time, he was compared to a hypnotized rabbit. It is said that when a rabbit faces danger it becomes motionless and hypnotized. Bluntschli became the same out of sleeplessness and hunger.

15. Who was Ernani? How is he related to the action of the play?

Ernani was the title of an opera by the Italian composer Verdi.

In the opera *Ernani*, the hero Ernani fled from the army of Emperor Charles V and he took refuge in the house of Gomez De Silva who was the rival of Ernani. Both Ernani and Gomez were the suitors of Elvira. But Gomez protected Ernani because his guest was sacred to him. In this play Bluntschli was the enemy of Raina because he fought for Serbia. But still she gave him shelter and protection because he was her guest.

16. What does the setting of Act II suggest?

English (DSC)- SEM-II-DSC1BT- *Arms and the Man*



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The setting of Act II of *Arms and the Man* is made in the garden of Petkoff's house and the dramatist has used certain objects to suggest that this act is a contrast of Act I. The fine spring morning is contrasted with the winter night in Raina's bedroom. The garden itself suggests freedom against the confinement of Act I. Again, there is food in the garden "coffee pots, cups, rolls"; but in Act I food was scarce and hunger and sleep were the dominating force. Thus, Shaw presents scenic contrast between the two acts to suggest war and peace respectively.

17. What is the "secret of success" according to Nicola?

Nicola is very much professional about his rank as a servant. He advises Louka to behave like a servant. Louka is very much defiant to her mistress. Nicola thinks that the power of master class can never be challenged by poor because they are heavily united against the poor. So, what a servant can do is to serve the family faithfully without any mark of disobedience. Again, Nicola tells Louka to remain blind and indifferent to the faults of her master and mistress because then the master will be pleased and will more and more depend on her. And it is only by this way that she can gain most out of them.

18. How does Shaw describe Petkoff at his first appearance?

Petkoff is described by Shaw as a cheerful, excitable, unimportant and unsophisticated man about 50. He is very much sensitive to his local popularity and very much pleased with the new rank after the war. He is like many other Bulgarian people who were stimulated by national idealism and patriotism evoked by Serbian attack. But now he is very pleased to have come home. Shaw through this character suggests that the average Bulgarians are very ordinary men. It is the fever of war and romance of patriotism that make them violent and ruthless.

19. "but no friendly relations"-who said this? Comment on the statement.

Petkoff said this to his wife Catherine.

This statement has deeper understanding. While Petkoff simply consoled his wife with the idea that the Bulgarians did not stoop by the treaty with the Serbians, Shaw means to say that the possibility of war is reduced not by political treaty, but by friendly relations. War is of course a reality which we cannot deny. This is a romantic and idealistic thought that a world can exist without war. But there is a step that can decrease the cruelty and romance of war, and this is by extending help and friendship to other nations so that a spiritual bond may be established. This is the only way to combat the romance of war.

20. "Raina is here" --- comment on the comic ironic situation in this statement.

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This is a speech of Raina at her first entry in Act II. When Sergius, in company of Petkoff and Catherine enquires of Raina, she dramatically comes out immediately from the house and presents herself before them. Apparently, her charming beauty and her gorgeous dress charm all including the melancholy Sergius, there is a comic ironic idea behind this. Raina's dramatic entrance is not natural and coincidental, but a studied elegance by which she heightens her romantic effect. As Catherine puts it "She listens for it". But the ironic side is that her behaviour is conditioned in the male dominated society to which she belongs. Her father and lover both admire this sudden dramatic appearance and she just acts according to their satisfaction. Bluntschli will be the first man to disillusion her.

21. "It was the cradle and grave of my military reputation"-why does Sergius say that?

Sergius is a hero for whom war is an honour. He feels it his patriotic duty to fight for his with country. His sword. In the battlefield he risked his life by attacking the army of machine gun with his sword. He won the battle in a heroic manner. But instead of honour and reward he suffered mockeries and giggles of his comrades due to his romantic but suicidal cavalry the charge. He realises now that modern war is too calculative and professional for men like him. So, this war is a cradle from where he started his romantic heroism and this is also the grave and end of his romantic dream.

22. "Ah, he was a soldier, every inch a soldier" --- who says this and who is spoken of here? Comment on the ironic tone of the speaker.

Sergius says this about Bluntschli.

In reply of Petkoff's comment that soldiering has to be a trade like any other trade, Sergius answers that he has no intention to shine as a tradesman. In that context he refers to a soldier cum tradesman who advised him to resign from soldiering. This very soldier is no other than Bluntschli. But when Sergius refers to him, his tone is ironical and full of mockery. Sergius thinks that modern soldiers are coward. They have no honour or glory. They simply fight for money. But he is different from them. He knows that war is a dignified action and there is no commercial benefit from it. So, in his view such soldiers like Bluntschli are no more than a bagman, and they are a shame to true bravery. Sergius also bitterly adds that if he knew how deal in horses like Bluntschli instead of fighting on horseback he would be promoted. He implies that modern warfare more needs businessmen than true soldiers like him.



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23. "Which of the six is a real man?"-what are the six different selves of Sergius mentioned here?

The six different selves of Sergius are a hero, a buffoon, a humbug, a blackguard, a coward and a jealous respectively.

This line is one of the most dramatic speeches of Sergius. Sergius is a Byronic hero whose lofty ideal is reflected in his view of war. But under this idealism remains a hypocrite who does not hesitate to show manly love even to a maid servant like Louka. He can easily flirt with her and try to kiss her. But when Louka protests this false manner of Sergius, he dramatically categorizes six different personalities within him acting in a different manner on occasions. He considers himself a hero who fought bravely in the battlefield. But he is also a bit of buffoon because he risked his life in a battle which was thoroughly professional. He is a humbug because he flirts with Louka without considering her social position. He is also a blackguard because he forces to make love to her even though he is engaged to Raina. He is coward because he feels curious to know his rival in love. He is also jealous like all cowards as he feels that the rival of his love may be superior to him in gaining Raina's love.