

## NCERT Solutions for Class 11 English chapter 3 The Rocking-horse Winner

**Q.1:** What was the reason for young Paul's restlessness at the beginning of the story? How did it find expression?

**Ans :** The reason behind young Paul's restlessness is the revelation of the fact that they are not lucky to him. He's worried that they don't have enough funds to buy a car and therefore have to borrow every time. He is of the opinion that this is because of his father and because of the same reason even the mother is unhappy. He senses the lack of luxuries of life and takes being unlucky the reason for the ill fate.

**Q.2:** Why do you think Paul's mother was not satisfied with the yearly birthday gift of 1,000 pounds for five years?

**Ans :** The reason behind Paul being unsatisfied with the yearly birthday gift of 1000 pounds is that his mother was also unhappy. She deserved a lot more than what she actually was presented with. Her expectations high resulted in the lack of happiness and sense of accomplishment when presented with the said gifts. That is why she thinks that the house needs more money.

**Q.3:** What was the reason for the anxiety of Paul's mother as he grew older?

**Ans :** Paul was a child who suffered from Autistic syndrome and thus the thinking of his mother that the house needs more money startles his mind. In the anticipation of earning more money, he starts betting on racehorses. But their luck plays a game here and he loses multiple times. Paul's mother was anxious because of the fact that Paul lost more and more and yet he was betting again hoping to win the next time. The reason behind his repetitive betting was the urge to prove his luck to his mother. That's why Paul's mother was anxious and left the party to see him.

**Q.4:** Paul's final bet made the family rich but cost him his life. Explain.

**Ans :** The statement that - Paul's final bet made the family rich but cost him his life is true in the sense that Paul made repetitive bets in order to prove his luck despite losing in one after the other. He was an autistic child who probably was schizophrenic as he hears the house speak. It is evident from the story that he finally wins the last bet that he made on Derby earning 80,000 pounds but in the continuous process of betting, he deteriorated his health so much that he died a few days after the winning. Thus, the family was now rich but they had lost their son in the process.

**Q.5:** Luck is necessary for success in life'.

**Ans :** The world is full of people with different mindsets. Some believe that it is luck that guides their life, for some, it's the hard work that paves the road to success. However, it is generally said to keep performing your own deeds without anticipation of anything in return. Thus, the statement that luck is necessary for success in life, has multiple dimensions. If you believe that all you receive is a result of your own hard work then luck is of no importance. But if you are a

firm believer that along with the deeds that you perform, luck plays a major role then it's true that luck is necessary for success in life.

Aakash Institute