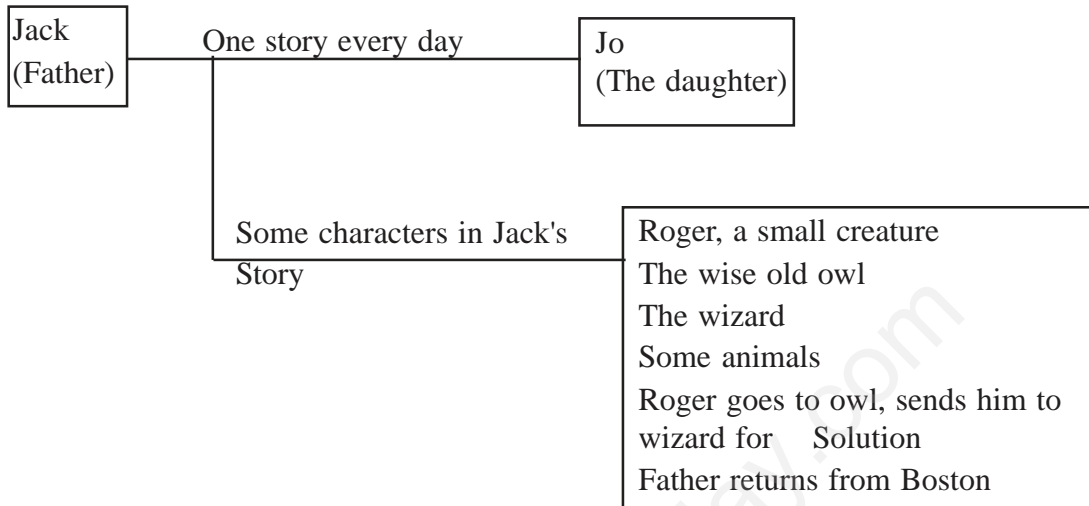




Lesson 5 -

SHOULD WIZARD HIT MOMMY

- John Updike

1. Story with the same characters Everyday.

The story on the particular day (Saturday)

Main points

1. This time, Jack tells her the story of a baby Skunk who smelt very bad. No animal would play with Roger Skunk. He felt very bad and isolated
2. The Skunk went to the wise owl and the owl sent him to the wizard
3. The wizard changed his smell the sweet smell of roses. Skunk come back and played with other animals. Now, other animals liked him and he felt happy.
4. Roger's mother found his smell awful and took him back to wizard. She hit the wizard on his head and got her son's smell changed.
5. The end of the story is unacceptable to Jo. She is not happy with it. She wants the wizard to hit on the mother skunk's head.
6. She raised moral questions which baffled her father-she sticks to her points and does not accepts her father's perspectives

Moral Issues Raised

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| (1) Adult's perspective | broad minded and practical |
| (2) Child's perspective | Emotional, unrealistic according to limited intelligence and exposure. |
| (3) Discrimination and Rejection | Here reason is bad smell |



Questions & Answers

Q-1 What makes Jack feel caught in an ugly middle position?

Q-2 How did Joe want the wizard to behave when Mommy Skunk approached him?

Q-3 What part of the story did Jack himself enjoy the most and why?

Q-4 What made Jo feel that the story was over.

Ans-1 Jack could not decide what was right whether parents have the right to decide the future of their children or the children should be allowed to decide on their own.

Jack was frustrated as he was not successful in putting his daughter to sleep and felt obligated to help his wife too. Probably life has caught up with him and he finds himself in the middle of things - with no option to walk out of marriage nor does he feel any affinity towards his wife.

Ans-2

(i) Sympathetic towards Roger Skunk---She wanted wizard to hit mommy.

Ans-3

(i) Roger Skunk hit the wizard, the latter also got annoyed with the smell, changed him into rose- smell - Jack liked it - wizard had done a noble thing.

Ans-4 She wanted happy ending expected the climax when he smelt roses, other animals accepted him.