

**Unit – 7**

**Citizens of the world**

**Section – 3**

**TWO SCAVENGERS IN A TRUCK, TWO BEAUTIFUL PEOPLE IN A MERCEDES.**

**2. Answer the following questions:**

a) The poem is set at a traffic light in downtown San Francisco.

b) The word ‘elegant’ suggests access to luxury, class and privilege.

c) The first garbage man has grey iron hair and a hunched back He looks like a gargoyle Quasimodo. He evokes the feeling of pity and sympathy.

d) Glaring colours make the poem more visual. Red traffic light, bright yellow garbage truck, red plastic blazers, blond hair, coloured stockings, iron grey hair are all self explanatory. The colours highlight the difference between the two classes of people described in the poem. Colours like yellow, red and grey are used for the scavengers. A lighter colour like blond is used for the ‘elegant couple’.

e)’Small gulf” shows the difference in social status and class privileges. Even though they stand near each other on the road, their worlds never really meet.

f) the men ‘look down’ at the privileged class people because they feel that they work harder than them and lead a far tougher lives. The irony is that they were actually lower down in social ladder themselves.

g) Yes, it is possible to bridge the gap if equal opportunities and resources are provided to the less privileged. If the rich can help the poor and provide opportunities for them, the gap may be bridged.

h) a gargoyle is large, ugly figure of a person or animal that is made of stone and through which water is carried away from the roof of a building. Quasimodo is a title character from victor Hugo’s novel ‘The hunchback of Notre Dame’; he is a tragic figure; kind and loving despite his scary appearance. So here the comparison signifies that the older scavenger looks ugly but is kind and gentle.

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| Literary device | Example | Meaning |
| 1. Simile | Like some gargoyle Quasimodo | He looks ugly but is kind |
| 1. Metaphor | Scavengers | Scavengers look through waste material to find something of use. Here they are garbage collectors looking at rich couple. |
| c..Personification | Red light for holding all four close together | The red light is like a mother holding all the four children together without showing any partiality. |
| d..Alliteration | Casually  Coifed. | Hair style looks simple but has been done with great care. |
| e. Repetition | An elegant  Open  Mercedes with an elegant couple in it. | The word elegant highlights the impression of luxury and privilege. |