

## THE DIAMOND MAKER

1. Where did the narrator meet the mysterious man?

Once after a hard day's work, the narrator had a headache and wanted to get away from the noise of the city, so he went down to the Embankment near the Waterloo Bridge in Westminster. This is where he met the mysterious man.

2. Why is the narrator shocked when the man talks about throwing away name, wealth and position and doing a small business?

The stranger seemed hopelessly poor. He was ragged and dirty, unshaven and unkempt; he looked as though he had been left in a dust-bin for a week. And then he started talking of the worries of a large business. This shocked the narrator who did not expect such a poor man to talk like this.

3. How does the man prove that he was not lying about himself?

The man unbuttoned his tattered coat and pulled out a little canvas bag, untied it, opened it and took out a brown pebble that he claimed was a synthetic diamond. He then went on to explain the process of its creation.

4. Why was the narrator not keen on buying diamonds from him?

It was difficult to believe that a poor tramp like him carried something on him that was worth several hundred thousand pounds. While the man's story sounded too convincing and detailed to be false, the narrator did not have enough knowledge about the subject and could not completely believe him. The narrator himself was not a very rich man and paying hundreds of pounds for a suspect object was not possible for him.

5. Why did the man want to keep his diamond-making business a secret?

It was against government policies and it could be very dangerous. Moreover, if somebody came to know of his plans, they could steal his idea and profit from it.

6. Why was the man unable to sell his diamonds?

For a poor man to convince someone that the diamonds were genuine was very tough.

The fact that he had created them himself and without the permission of government would have made anyone suspicious.

7. What happened to the man in the end?

Answer on your own.