Polya:

Important questions (2 Marks)

1. Who was Ivan? Why was he unhappy?

Ivan was Polya's husband. He was a responsible government official. He was unhappy because his wife was an illiterate person.

2. Polya became pale. Why do you think she became pale?

Polya found a mysterious letter from her husband jacket. The letter was scented and written in good handwriting. Polya doubted that it might be a love letter, so she became pale.

3. What was it about the letter and her husband's behaviour that made Polya suspicious?

The letter which Polya found from her husband was neatly written and smelled of perfume. Lately Ivan was taking more care of moustache and his clothes. These two things made Polya suspicious.

4. When did Polya realize the importance of knowing reading and writing?

OR

When did Polya feel sorry that she had not learnt reading and writing?

When Polya could not read the letter she found from her husband's jacket she realized the importance of knowing reading and writing. For the first time she felt sorry that she had not learnt reading and writing.

5. What reasons did Polya give about her decision to learn reading and writing?

Polya told her husband that she was fed up with being an ignorant and illiterate woman and that she wanted to learn reading and writing.

6. Who wrote the letter? What was it about?

Maria Blokhina wrote the letter to Ivan. It was about the need for Polya to learn to read and write.

7. How did Polya feel after the reading the letter?

After reading the letter Polya felt secretly insulted because she had wrongly suspected her husband.

Comprehension Passages (1 Mark questions):

Passage 1:

"I am getting old. My fingers are getting stiff. Why should I try to write now?"

Now answer the following questions.

1. Who is the speaker speaking to?
2. Whose fingers are getting stiff? Why?
3. Do you think there is a need for the speaker to learn to write?

Answers:

1. The speaker is Polya, speaking to her husband Ivan.
2. Polya's fingers are getting stiff due to old age.
3. Polya felt there was no need for her to learn to write.

Passage 2:

"Ivan Nikolaevich was overjoyed to hear it. "That's just fine," he said, "I will teach you myself how to read and write."

Now answer the following questions.

1. Why was Ivan overjoyed?
2. Who did he want to teach?

Answers:

1. I van was overjoyed to hear Polya's decision to learn to read and write.
2. He wanted to teach Polya.

Passage 3:

"I am sending you the book I promised. I think that your wife should be able to learn how to read in two or three months.

Now answer the following questions.

1. Who is "I" referred here?
2. Why is the speaker sending the book?
3. Which book is referred here?

Answers:

1. In the above lines "I" refers to Maria Blokhina.
2. The speaker is sending the book to Ivan to make his wife learn reading and writing.
3. The special "Teach Yourself-Book" is referred here.

Passage 4:

Polya read this letter through twice, Then, pressing her lips together sadlyand feeling somehow secretly insulted, she burst into tears.

Now answer the following questions.

1. Which letter did Polya read?
2. Why did she feel secretly insulted?
3. Why did she burst into tears?

Answers:

1.The mysterious letter which she got from her husband's jacket.

OR

The letter, written by Maria Blokhina.

3. Polya had wrongly suspected her husband.

4.She burst into tears because she felt secretly insulted.