

9th Standard English

The Beggar Summary

Advocate Sergei is detained

Advocate Sergei was detained by a beggar one day. The beggar was crying to have pity on him. He said that he had nothing to eat. He had been a school teacher for eight years. But he lost the place.

The beggar is described

The beggar was in rags. He had dull and drunken eyes. He had the red spot on either cheek. He wore one high and one low shoe.

Sergei recognises the beggar

Sergei recognised the beggar. He told him that he had met him in Sadovya street. Then he had called himself a student. Sergei warned him that he would send for the police. The beggar admitted and told the truth.

Sergei puts him to work

The beggar asked Sergei for work. Sergei asked the beggar to chop wood for him when he asked for work. The beggar agreed to do that work, though unwillingly. The beggar was taken by Sergei's servant Olga to the shed. He had to chop woods there. Sergei could see Olga and the beggar in the shed.

The beggar readies for work

Olga gave the beggar an axe. But seeing the expression on his face, she scolded him. The beggar put a billet of wood between his feet, Then he struck it feebly

with his axe. The billet fell down. Meanwhile, Sergei went away. He had set a drunken and spoiled man at work in the cold. He began to feel sorry for it.

The beggar is given various kinds of work

Sergei found work for the beggar. The beggar would cut the wood on the first of every month. He would also shovel snow. He would . beat dust out of the rugs and mattresses. He would put the wood-shed in order. Sergei ' moved into another house. The beggar packed and carried the furniture.

Lushkoff, the beggar, offered other employment

Lushkoff, the beggar, was now offered other employment. Sergei asked him to go to his friend. There he would be given some copying work as he could write. Sergei was happy as he had put a man on the right path.

Sergei and Lushkoff meet after two years

Two years went by. One evening Sergei was standing at a ticket window of a theatre. He was paying for his seat. He saw a little man beside him. That man wore a curly fur and a worn sealskin cap. Sergei recognised him. He asked him how he was.

Lushkoff tells about himself

Lushkoff told Sergei that he was a notary then. He was paid thirty-five roubles a month. Sergei was very pleased to hear him. Lushkoff thanked Sergei for what he had done for him. He told Sergei that if he had not helped him, he would have still been telling lies. He thanked Sergei and Olga, the cook. He told Sergei that Olga had actually saved him.

Lushkoff tells more about Olga, the cook

Lushkoff told Sergei that Olga would rebuke him. Then she would sit opposite to him and weep. She would call him various names. She would grow sad also. Then she would chop the wood for him. He amazed Sergei by saying that he didn't chop a single stick of wood for him. Due to Olga's actions, there came a change in his heart. He was set right by Olga and he won't forget her. He told Sergei that it was time for the bell. And he departed to the gallery.

