19 September 2020

S. No 15 B.A.Part-3 English (Hons) Topic: Character of Pickering, Dr Umesh Prasad Singh, Assistant Prof of English, D. B. College Contact No 7250460920, Email-ID drumeshsingh131@gmail.com

Character of Col. Pickering

Col Pickering is a true gentleman of military type. He has been a military officer in India. Like Prof Higgins he has a keen interest in linguistics and in Indian Language. He is a writer of Spoken Sanskrit. He is proud of his ability of pronouncing twenty-four vowel sounds.

He is a man of high moral. When Prof. Higgins teaches Eliza, he takes care of her protection. Prof. Higgins is a hard taskmaster. But unlike Higgins, Pickering is courteous to Eliza. He used to call her Miss Doolittle. He encourages Eliza for hard labour.

He is not money minded. In the ambassador's party, he never thinks of losing the bet; rather, he is delighted by the success of Eliza. He is a social man. He wants to mix up with all types of people. He has no snob, no class feeling.

Pickering is a sensible man. When Eliza escapes from the lab of Prof. Higgins; he realizes that he has been a little inconsiderate to Eliza. When she passes off as a duchess she must have been given thanks for her success. He wants to get Eliza back. He finds her in the house of Mrs. Higgins. Eliza, too, respects her for his kindness.

He has been a source of all protections to Eliza. Even after her marriage he remains a source of inspiration for her. He gives Eliza a wedding present of five hundred pounds. He gives her money again and again. There is a sentimental attachment between Col. Pickering and Eliza.

Shaw has presented the character of Pickering as a kindhearted noble man, who has been always helpful to Eliza. He has a little snob of his pronunciation but it disappears when he meets Prof Higgins. He feels before him beaten.