**HANDOUT**

SUBJECT-ENGLISH, CLASS-8TH

LESSON -7- THE OPEN WINDOW (SUPPLEMENTARY READER)

**Module-1/2**

**About the Author**

Hector Hugh Munro was born in Britain on 18th Dec. 1870 and died on 14th Nov. 1915.

He is better known with his pen name Saki and HH.Munro.

He is considered as a master of the short story, and often compared to O. Henry and Dorothy Poker.

**Introduction to the Story-**

The Open Window is Saki’s most important short story. Saki’s wit is at the height of its power in this story of a spontaneous practical joke played upon a visiting stranger Mr. Framton Nuttel. The story has a tripartite structure with the first part beginning with the conversation between Vera and Framton Nuttel, the second with the entrance of the Mrs. Sappleton and the third with the return of the hunting party. Saki employs a flashback to divide these three parts with a story- within -a story inspired by Vera’s imagination.

**OVERVIEW OF THE PART OF STORY COVERED IN MODULE-1**

1. Framton Nuttel has bad nerves.

2. He retires to the country for cure, and calls on a family friend.

3. The lady being busy upstairs, her young niece refers to family mishap with focus on the open window.

**SUMMARY OF THE STORY**

Framton Nuttel has just moved to a new town. While visiting one of his sister’s acquaintances, Mrs. Sappleton, he spends some time with the woman’s niece; Vera. Vera recounts a story about how her aunt lost her husband and two brothers in a tragic hunting accident. She told Framton that her aunt never accepted their deaths and believes that someday the hunting party will return. In anticipation, Mrs. Sappleton leaves the window in the front room open so that they may re-enter the house. When Mrs. Sappleton enters the room and discusses the hunting party, Framton is deeply disturbed by her delusion. However, his concern turns to pure horror when he sees three male figures dressed in hunting gear approaching the house. Believing he has seen ghosts, Framton bolts from the house. Spinning another tale, Vera explains to the newly arrived hunting party and her aunt that Framton fled when he saw the hunting dog because of his severe fear of dogs.

**WORD MEANING**

Self- possessed- calm and confident

Endeavoured- tried

Flatter- Make someone happy

Nerve cure- treatment of nervousness

Rural – Pertaining to non- urban areas

Retreat- a quiet or safe place

Moping- feeling very unhappy

Pursued - continued

Masculine habitation- suggest that the room belonged to a man

Moor- grassland

Bog- wet, spongy ground (one may sink into it)

Falteringly- a ‘Faltering’ voice is shaky, hesitant: haltingly

Spaniel – a dog with large ears which hang down

Creepy feeling- an unpleasant feeling of fear