

# The Ring

## Short Type Questions & Answers:

**1. The grandmother was the narrator's paternal/maternal grandmother?**

**Ans:** Maternal grandmother.

**2. Where was the farm of his grandmother located?**

**Ans:** The farm was located in the Kickham country in Tipperary.

**3. What does the author refer to by "the teeth of the Galtees"?**

**Ans:** By the "teeth of the Galices, the narrator refers to the heights of the Galtee mountain range, in Munster, Ireland, whose sharpness is compared with the terrain where the narrator's grandmother's house was located.

**4. Where did the author spend his summer holidays each year?**

**Ans:** Each year, the greater part of his summer holidays was spent in his grandmother's farm.

**5. What is the name of the author's uncle?**

**Ans:** Uncle Con

**6. Who held the main authority of the farm, the grandmother or Uncle Con?**

**Ans:** Grandmother.

**7. What did the first child of Uncle Con become in the later life?**

**Ans:** She became a nun in a convent on the Seychelles islands.

**8. Who was Uncle Con's wife?**

**Ans:** Aunt Annie.

**9. What was the name of the narrator's grandfather?**

**Ans:** Martin Dermody.

**10. How many children she had when grandmother lost her husband?**

**Ans:** She had six young children-five girls and one boy

**11. What did the narrator pick up once at a race-meeting?**

**Ans:** The narrator picked up a jockey's crop.

**12. What did the jockey's crop remind the narrator?**

**Ans:** It reminded him about his grandmother.

**13. What did the grandmother lose in the hay?**

**Ans:** She lost her wedding ring

**14. What is Castle Connell greenheart?**

**Ans:** It is a fishing rod made of Greenheart wood.

**15. What is limekiln?**

**Ans:** Limekiln is a furnace or oven where lime processing is done through calcination.

**16. What do you mean by a ring's keeper?**

**Ans:** A keeper is an outer ring covering the actual ring which together made the ring set.

**17. What is the name of the narrator's village?**

**Ans:** Kerry.

**18. What is the motto of the grandmother for working hours?**

**Ans:** 'Six to six'.

**19. On which day the ring was lost?**

**Ans:** It was on Monday evening.

**20. What, according to the grandmother, was the reason for the loss of her ring?**

**Ans:** According to her, her hands were getting thin, so she had lost the ring with its keeper

**21. What reason did the narrator offer for his spending time in his grandmother's farm?**

**Ans:** The narrator spent a greater part of his summer holidays in his grandmother's farm. He says that it had been a great change for him to leave their home in a bitter sea-coast village and visit his grandmother's farm.

**22. What, according to the narrator, was pity to see?**

**Ans:** According to the narrator, it was pity to see hundred yards of fine grass go to waste by the verge of road in Tipperary.

**23. How did the grandmother manage to control the situation after her husband's death?**

**Ans:** After her husband's death, the grandmother began to look after the farm. At that time, she was left with six children-five girls and one boy. But she was brave enough to face the hard world and managed everything well.

**24. What were the things that reminded the narrator of his grandmother?**

**Ans:** Once, the narrator picked up a jockey's crop at a race meeting. When he balanced it on his palm, it reminded him of his grandmother. Again, the narrator had once caught a huge salmon fish weighed up to twenty-two pound by a sixteen feet greenheart rod. That rod too reminded him of his grandmother.

**25. What comparison does the narrator make before crop and rod and his grandmother?**

**Ans:** Like crop and rod, the narrator's grandmother had an element of flexibility, but like these two things, there was no trace of fragility in her.

**26. What was the incident when the narrator made his grandmother laugh warmly?**

**Ans:** It was when the narrator told his grandmother about a man who had stopped him on the road and asked him if he were a grandson of Martin Dermody. When he replied that he was, the man gave him a shilling and enquired whether he was called Martin after his grandfather. The narrator then replied that he was called "Con' after his Uncle Con.

**Long Type Questions & Answers**

**1. How does the narrator show that his grandmother had a strong hold over everything in the house?**

**Ans:** The narrator says that even though his uncle got married, the grandmother was still the real head of the farm. After her husband died, she took full control of everything. She had six small children to look after—five daughters and one son. She was brave and managed all the work very well.

The narrator shows that his grandmother was strong and brave by giving two examples. One time, he picked up a jockey's whip at a horse race. When he held it in his hand, it reminded him of his grandmother. Another time, he caught a very big salmon fish weighing twenty-two pounds with a long fishing rod. That rod also made him think of his grandmother.

Like the whip and the rod, the grandmother was flexible, but she was never weak. There was no softness or breakable quality in her.

**2. Give a pen picture of the activities in the hayshed.**

**Ans:** The grandmother lost her wedding ring while she was working in the hayshed. The narrator describes what was happening there. At that time, the narrator was sitting with bare legs hanging from the back of a loaded hay cart. He was watching the shiny lines the cart made in the fresh grass. His uncle was at the front, guiding the horse. They were bringing hay into the hayshed. They had already filled one and a half sections of it. The grandmother was on top of the hay, lifting the lighter bundles with a fork.

The servant was handling the heavier bundles, and a neighbor was tossing the hay up to them.

**3. Narrate how the search operation of the wedding ring was taken place.**

**Ans:** On a Monday evening, the narrator's grandmother lost her wedding ring while working in the hay shed. She was on top of the hay, forking the lighter bundles, while the servant handled the heavier ones. A neighbour was throwing the hay up to them.

When she realized her ring was missing, she immediately stopped working and started searching for it. She looked carefully through every small piece of hay. She didn't let anyone else search and kept looking the next day too. She worked hard all day but stopped sharply at six, because her rule was to work from "six to six."

By Wednesday, she still hadn't found the ring, even though she had made a big gap in the hay. When the narrator and his uncle asked her in the evening, she looked very pale. On Thursday morning, she looked even more tired and didn't want to leave the haystack, not even for meals. Her family kept bringing her tea during the day. Friday was also unsuccessful, and everyone in the house became worried.

Finally, on Saturday afternoon around three o'clock, she found the ring. She continued searching until six, then came in for tea. But after an hour, she became restless and started searching again. As it got dark, she lit a

lantern and went back. Uncle Con put her coat on because it was cold. Aunt Annie, Uncle Con, and the narrator sat by the fire, waiting.

Around midnight, they heard her footsteps on the cobbles. She put the lantern on the dresser and happily announced that she had found her ring at last.

**4. Narrate, how the grandmother reacted after her finding of the ring. What does the reaction show?**

**Ans:** The narrator tells clearly what happened after the ring was found. On Saturday night, at twelve o'clock, grandmother found the ring. At that time, Uncle Con, Aunt Annie, and the narrator were sitting around a big fire waiting for her. They heard her footsteps on the stones. She put the lantern on the dresser and said that she had found the ring.

Grandmother sat by the fire. Her face was very cold, and her eyes did not move. The wedding ring was in its case, and she kept turning it round and round with her right hand.

Suddenly, she hid her hands under her apron. It seemed she was ashamed that her fingers had betrayed her. Then, without warning, she touched her fists to her face, said her husband's name, and started to cry a lot.

Grandmother's reaction showed how much she loved and missed her late husband, Martin.

**5. How does the character of the grandmother show sternness and emotion can coexist? Discuss with the help of your study of the character of the grandmother.**

**Ans:** In the story "**The Ring**", the writer shows the grandmother in a balanced way. At first, she seems very strict, but later we see that she also has a soft and emotional side.

The narrator says that even after his uncle got married, the grandmother controlled the farm. After her husband died, she managed the farm and took care of six children—five girls and one boy—all by herself. She was strong and brave.

The narrator gives two examples to show that the grandmother was strong and bold. Once, the narrator held a jockey's crop at a race, and it reminded him of his grandmother. Another time, he caught a very big fish with a strong fishing rod, and that rod also reminded him of her. Like the crop and rod, the grandmother was strong but flexible, never weak.

Her emotional side is seen when she lost her wedding ring in the hay. She worked very hard to find it and didn't let anyone help her. Normally, she worked from six in the morning to six at night, but for the ring, she broke her own rule.

After finding the ring, she sat by the fire. Her face was cold and serious, and she twirled the ring in her fingers. But suddenly, she hid her hands and cried, remembering her late husband, Martin. This showed how much she loved and missed him.

