



CLASS – 8

READING SKILL – 3

CH-1 THE BEST CHRISTMAS PRESENT IN THE WORLD

Read the seen passage and answer the following questions -

“Captain Jim Macpherson,” I replied. “And a Happy Christmas to you too. I’m a school teacher from **Dorset**, in the **west of England**.” “Ah, Dorset,” he smiled. “I know this place. I know it very well.” We shared my rum ration and his excellent sausage. And we talked, Connie, how we talked. He spoke almost perfect English. But it turned out that he had never set foot in Dorset, never even been to England. He had learned all he knew of England from school, and from reading books in English. His favourite writer was **Thomas Hardy**, his favourite book *Far from the Madding Crowd*. So out there in no man’s land we talked of Bathsheba and Gabriel Oak and Sergeant Troy and Dorset. He had a wife and one son, born just six months ago. As I looked about me there were huddles of khaki and grey everywhere, all over **no man’s land**, smoking, laughing, talking, drinking, eating. **Hans Wolf** and I shared what was left of your wonderful Christmas cake, Connie. He thought the marzipan was the best he had ever tasted. I agreed. We agreed about everything, and he was my enemy. There never was a Christmas party like it, **Connie**. Then someone, I don’t know who, brought out a football. Greatcoats were dumped in piles to make goalposts, and the next thing we knew it was Tommy against Fritz out in the middle of no man’s land.

- i. What was the name of German soldier?
- ii. What did they share?
- iii. From where did he learn English?
- iv. What was the name of his favourite book ?
- v. Who was his favourite writer ?
- vi. With whom the German Soldier was sharing his life story?
- vii. What festival time it was ?
- viii. Write the three forms of given adjective words –
 - a) Excellent
 - b) Favourite
 - c) wonderful
- ix. Add -ing to make new words and make sentences with the new words –
 - a) Laugh
 - b) smoke
 - c) talk