

# ENGLISH



## THE OPEN WINDOW

### ~Summary~

-by Saki

"**The Open Window**" is a short story written by **Saki** (a.k.a. H. H. Munro). It deals with a curious encounter between Mr Nuttel and Vera.

**Framton Nuttel**, a man with a **nervous** disorder, travels to the **country** to improve his **health**; he also carries the **letters** of introduction from his sister. As Mr Nuttel visits and awaits **Mrs Sappleton**, Vera, her fifteen-year-old **niece**, receives and entertains him. **Vera** informs Mr Nuttel that Mrs Sappleton keeps the **French window** open because she believes that her husband and brothers, who **died** in a bog three years ago, would **return** one day. When Mrs Sappleton arrives, she promptly excuses herself for the open window and informs him that she expects the men to return from shooting anytime soon. Mr Nuttel, believing that Mrs Sappleton is mentally **unstable**, becomes **uncomfortable** and tries to change the topic by talking about his illness. Later, much to his **surprise**, he sees the "dead" men and their dog **approaching** the window. Believing that they are **ghosts**, he flees.

As the men enter, the husband enquires Mrs Sappleton about the strange man who had then bolted. Mrs Sappleton, on the other hand, is **confused** as to why Mr Nuttel had fled. **Vera** then tells her family that the sight of their little **spaniel** must have scared their guest away. She recounted an incident when Mr Nuttel was supposedly chased by a pack of **stray dogs** in India. He then had to spend the **night** in a freshly dug grave in a **cemetery** with 'those creatures snarling and foaming above him'.

Finally, the author concludes by stating that '**romance at short notice was Vera's speciality**', revealing how both the incidents narrated by Vera were invented and baseless. The story's ending discloses the **irony** of Mr Nuttel's situation: he had come to **cure** his nerves but ended up making them **worse**.

### ~Conclusion~

The Open Window illustrates that we should not believe other people's words blindly, who often try to manipulate or convince us to believe them. Besides, the lesson also teaches students that we should not deceive or manipulate others minds by creating fake stories or rumours unnecessarily. Here we brought you the CBSE Class 8 English It So Happened Prose Summary of The Open Window that must have helped 8th Standard students to have a thorough understanding of the chapter.