

THE SEVENTH MAN:
TARGETED PASSAGE QUESTIONS

PAGE 334 (lines 1-22):

- 1) Who is telling the story? What is the significance of the group of people around him?**
- 2) What details have you learned that tell what might have happened to him?**
- 3) Why do you think the man is "almost whispering"?**
- 4) List three details of the author's characterization of the seventh man.**

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PAGE 334 (lines 1-22):

1) Who is telling the story? What is the significance of the group of people around him?

7th man; therapy group for tragedy

2) What details have you learned that tell what might have happened to him?

- gigantic wave**
- took years to recover from the experience**
- deep scar by right eye**

3) Why do you think the man is "almost whispering"?

- when people reflect, especially on traumatic events and especially in front of strangers, they usually do so introspectively-- not in a loud, boisterous voice

4) List three details of the author's characterization of the seventh man.

- mid-fifties**
- thin, tall, with a moustache**
- scar next to right eye**
- patches of white hair**
- confused expression**
- blue shirt / grey coat**
- mannerism- "hand to collar"**

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PAGE 336 (lines 56-71):

- 1) What details suggest that the typhoon will be extremely dangerous?**

- 2) How does the narrator's family prepare for the storm?**

- 3) Why would kids find typhoons a "wonderful source of excitement" (line 65)?**

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PAGE 336 (lines 56-71):

1) What details suggest that the typhoon will be extremely dangerous?

- **radio said it was going to be the worst in 10 yrs**
- **schools shut down**
- **shops lowered shutters**

2) How does the narrator's family prepare for the storm?

- **nailed shut storm doors**
- **cooked emergency food**
- **filled bottles with water**
- **packed knapsacks**

3) Why would kids find typhoons a "wonderful source of excitement" (line 65)?

- **small kids find it exciting when something happens that is out of the ordinary-- especially something "adventurous"**

PAGE 339 (lines 140-163):

- 1) What started to scare the narrator on the beach?**

- 2) What are two possible reasons as to why K did not respond to the narrator's shout?**

- 3) What two sounds does the narrator hear that are unnerving?**

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PAGE 340 (lines 170-200):

- 1) What made the narrator run the opposite direction of K, instead of going to help him?**
- 2) What happened to K? How is equating the wave to a "huge snake" an appropriate comparison?**
- 3) Why didn't the narrator go down to the beach once the wave had hit?**

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PAGE 342 (lines 207-217):

- 1) Why do you think the narrator did not run from the second wave?**
- 2) How do you picture the second wave, based on the man's description?**
- 3) What does "I readied myself for the moment the darkness would take me" (line 213) mean?**

PAGE 345 (lines 346-373):

- 1) What does the narrator realize about K's "intense look of hatred"? How does he come to this realization?**
- 2) Where does the narrator decide to go? Why might he want to go there? What does he find when he arrives?**

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PAGE 347 (lines 399-414):

- 1) What does "Forty long years collapsed like a dilapidated house" (line 403) mean?**
- 2) Why did the man collapse in the water?**
- 3) Has the man really recovered from K's death? Cite evidence.**
- 4) Why do you think the author chooses to identify the narrator simply as "the seventh man," rather than name him?**

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