

GOING PLACES



Anthony Richard Henry Barton
(17 December 1913 – 4 April 1943)

1.1 ABOUT THE AUTHOR

1. Anthony Richard Henry Barton was an English **Royal Air Force** officer who played an important part in the **Battle of Britain** and in the **defense of Malta** during the siege by the Axis powers in the Second World War.

2. Barton was from **Oakleigh Park** in

north London. From 1927 to 1940, he served in the **Royal Navy** and Fleet Air Arm.

3. In 1942, he was posted to Malta where he was awarded a bar to his DFC.

4. He died on 4 April 1943 in **Llandow, Wales**^[2] while making an emergency landing.

1.2.WORD-MEANINGS

| | | | |
|----|------------------------------------|---|--|
| 1. | Common place not unusual; ordinary | सामान्य | general, common, generic |
| 2 | Extravagant | excessive or elaborate | असाधारण extraordinary, exceptional, remarkable |
| 3 | Despise | hate, dislike | घृणा pish, nauseate, abhor |
| 4 | Unwarranted | not justified or authorized | अनुचित unfair, inappropriate, improper |
| 5 | Intrusion | the action of intruding; intervention | अतिक्रमण Encroachment, violation |
| 6 | Seminal | influential | प्रभावशाली effective, powerful, efficacious |
| 7 | Lionized | give a lot of public attention and approval | बहुत महत्व देना prise, celebrate |
| 8 | Repel | drive or force back | पीछे हटाना push back, repulse |
| 9 | Petitioners | a person who asks for something | निवेदक applicant, supplicant, petitioner |

| | | | | |
|----|---------------|--|----------------|---------------------------------------|
| 10 | Amusement | the provision or enjoyment of entertainment | मनोरंजन | entertainment, recreation, holiday |
| 11 | Condemnatory | expressing strong disapproval | निंदात्मक | blasphemous, disapprobation, scornful |
| 12 | Wrecked | destroyed or severely damaged | बर्बाद | demolish, crash |
| 13 | Assault | make a physical attack on | आक्रमण | raid, inroad, Irruption |
| 14 | Vile | extremely unpleasant | नीचतापूर्ण | mean spirited, hangdog, dastardly |
| 15 | Perpetrated | committed | करना | to do, performed |
| 16 | Ordeal | a very unpleasant and prolonged experience | परख | test, examination, probation |
| 17 | Serviceable | fulfilling its function adequately; usable | फ़ायदेमंद | expedient, serviceable, plummy |
| 18 | Vivid | producing powerful feelings or strong, clear images in the mind. | उज्ज्वल | radiant, orient, splendent |
| 19 | Unprecedented | never done or known before | अद्वितीय | unique, peerless, masterly |
| 20 | Medieval | relating to the Middle Ages | मध्यकालीन | middle age, Gothic, early |
| 21 | Aesthetics | a branch of philosophy that deals with nature and appreciation of beauty | सौंदर्यशास्त्र | attractiveness, beauty |

| | | | | |
|----|---------------|--|---------------|----------------------------------|
| 22 | Staggeringly | to an astonishing or shocking degree | लड़खड़ाते हुए | waveringly, falteringly, reeling |
| 23 | Philosophical | relating study of the fundamental nature of knowledge, reality, and existence. | दार्शनिक | philosophic |
| 24 | Pursue | follow | पीछा करना | ensue, chase, chevy |
| 25 | Ethical | relating to moral principles | नैतिक | moral |
| 26 | Eliminate | remove | हटाना | delete, dislodge, repel |
| 27 | Interstices | space, gap | अन्तराल | interval |
| 28 | Elevator | a lift | लिफ्ट | escalator, hoist |
| 29 | Hypotheses | theory | परिकल्पना | speculation |
| 30 | Narration | the action or process of narrating a story | वर्णन | description, representation |

1.3. CHARACTERS IN “GOING PLACES”

A. MAJOR CHARACTERS

1. SOPHIE:

Sophie is the story's teenage protagonist. Despite her dismal working-class life, she spends much of her time fantasizing about a glamorous and wealthy future. She dreams of being a shop-owner and actress, or

maybe a fashion designer. But she has no money and is expected to one day work at the local biscuit factory to help her family.

2. JANSIE-

Jansie is a friend of Sophie's. They are both working class, and their families appear to be friends with one another. Josie is considerably more realistic and pessimistic than Sophie. She knows that the two of them are “earmarked

for the biscuit factory” a truth which makes her feel “melancholy”. She is also noted as a gossip who is unable to keep secrets.

3. GEOFF-

Geoff is Sophie’s older brother, the oldest child in the family. He is a mechanic who has a motorcycle, and (to Sophie, at least) this appears to give him freedom and a glamorous life. Sophie imagines that Geoff knows interesting people and travels to unknown parts of the city, and she hopes that he will bring her with him, helping her to escape her own life.

4. SOPHIE’S FATHER-

Sophie’s father, who is not named, is the story’s antagonist. He works in some kind of manual labor, returning home each night dirty and sweaty and shoveling food into his mouth. He treats Sophie with disdain, chastising her for telling “wild stories” and dismissing her ambitions and desires.

5. DANNY CASEY -

Danny Casey is a famous football star who is greatly admired, most importantly by Sophie’s older brother Geoff. He is described as a young, bright, beloved “prodigy.” Sophie tells her family a story that she has met Danny Casey and he asks her on a date, which is meant to impress them and make them admire her.

6. SOPHIE’S MOTHER-

Sophie’s mother appears to be a

homemaker who is resigned to a dreary life, and is not particularly interested in or close to her children or husband. Very little information is provided about her aside from the “delicate” looking bow on her apron, and the overwhelming amount of housework she appears to be in charge of.

B. MINOR CHARACTERS

1. DEREK-

Sophie’s younger brother. He plays a minor role in the story, reiterating his parents’ belief that Sophie’s ambitions are silly and that one must be practical about money.

1.4. STORYLINE

1. Sophie’s day dream
 - A. Own a boutique
 - B. Be a manager
 - C. Become an actress or fashion designer
2. Jansie
 - A. Sophie’s friend
 - B. More realistic
 - C. Does not live in dreams
3. Sophie’s parents
 - A. Dather: works hard, disdains sophie’s dream
 - B. Mother: hard at work, busy in household and chores

4. Geoff: sophie's brother
 - A. An apprentice mechanic
 - B. Introvert
 - C. Shares a bond with sophie
5. Sophie fantasises about danny casey
 - A. Danny is a soccer player
 - B. Sophie dreams about meeting him
 - C. She has a crush on danny
6. Sophie's dream shatters
 - A. Danny does not meet him
 - B. Sophie becomes sad
 - C. Realises the truth of life

1.5. SUMMARY IN ENGLISH

Sophie and Jansie are two teenagers who are coming back from school. They both work in a biscuit factory. Sophie is lost in her imagination of owning a boutique shop and becoming famous like Mary Quaint, a fashion designer. Jansie tells her not to dream big as it requires lots of money which they don't have. To this she replies that she will become an actress, earn a lot and then own a boutique. Jansie being a realistic person does not support her thoughts. On reaching home Sophie feels choked in that small house which is full of the stove's steam and looks

untidy because of the dirty dishes. Her father is eating and her mother is busy in the kitchen. She goes to meet her elder brother Geoff, who is a trainee mechanic and is busy repairing some motorcycle parts. Geoff talks very less about his personal life which made her imagine his personal life which she considers very interesting and wants to be part of it. She shares a secret with him that she met Danny Casey the famous footballer in a boutique. Her brother and her father do not believe her. But she tries to make them believe this. She also tells her brother about her date with Casey. Her brother does not believe her but gives her a chance to believe her story. On Saturday Sophie and her family go to watch a football match as all of them are great fans of football. Their favorite team wins due to a goal made by Casey. All of them feel so overjoyed. When Sophie returns home with her little brother Derek, Jansie questions her about the reality behind her meeting with Danny Casey. Sophie gets angry with her brother because of letting her secret out but tries to handle the situation and succeeds. She then visits a secret place near a canal to meet her hero Casey who doesn't show up. She knows that it was just her imagination but she was so lost in his love that she doesn't want to come out of this. In the end she returns back to her home with sadness in her heart. But when she comes across Royce's boutique, she again finds herself lost in her hero's dreams.

1.6. SUMMARY IN HINDI

ये ए आर बार्टन द्वारा लिखी कहानी है। सोफी और जानसी दो किशोर बालिकाएं हैं जो स्कूल से वापस आ रही हैं। दोनों एक बिस्किट फैक्ट्री में काम करते हैं। सोफी एक बुटीक की दुकान के मालिक होने और एक फैशन डिजाइनर मैरी क्वांट की तरह प्रसिद्ध होने की अपनी कल्पना में खो गई है। जानसी उससे कहती है कि बड़े सपने मत देखो क्योंकि इसके लिए बहुत सारे पैसे की जरूरत होती है जो उनके पास नहीं है। इस पर वह जवाब देती है कि वह एक अभिनेत्री बनेंगी, खूब कमाएंगी और फिर एक बुटीक की मालिक होंगी। जानसी एक यथार्थवादी व्यक्ति होने के कारण उसके विचारों का समर्थन नहीं करती है। घर पहुँचने पर सोफी उस छोटे से घर में घुटन महसूस करती है जो चूल्हे की भाप से भरा हुआ है और गंदे बर्तनों की वजह से गन्दा दिखता है। उसके पिता खा रहे हैं और उसकी माँ रसोई में व्यस्त है। वह अपने बड़े भाई ज्योफ से मिलने जाती है, जो एक प्रशिक्षु मैकेनिक है और मोटरसाइकिल के कुछ हिस्से की मरम्मत में व्यस्त है। ज्योफ अपने निजी जीवन के बारे में बहुत कम बात करते हैं जिससे वह उसके निजी जीवन की कल्पना करती है जिसे वह बहुत दिलचस्प मानती है और उसका हिस्सा बनना चाहती है। वह उसके साथ एक रहस्य साझा करती है कि वह एक बुटीक में प्रसिद्ध फुटबॉलर डैनी केसी से मिली थी। उसके भाई और उसके पिता को उस पर विश्वास नहीं है। लेकिन वह उन्हें यह विश्वास दिलाने की कोशिश करती है। वह अपने भाई को केसी

के साथ अपनी डेट के बारे में भी बताती है। उसका भाई उस पर विश्वास नहीं करता लेकिन उसे उसकी कहानी पर विश्वास करने का मौका देता है। शनिवार को सोफी और उसका परिवार फुटबॉल मैच देखने जाते हैं क्योंकि वे सभी फुटबॉल के बड़े प्रशंसक हैं। केसी द्वारा किए गए गोल के कारण उनकी पसंदीदा टीम जीत जाती है। वे सभी बहुत खुश महसूस कर रहे हैं। जब सोफी अपने छोटे भाई डेरेक के साथ घर लौटती है, तो जानसी उससे डैनी केसी के साथ उसकी मुलाकात के पीछे की वास्तविकता के बारे में सवाल करती है। सोफी अपने भाई के रहस्य को उजागर करने के कारण उससे नाराज़ हो जाती है लेकिन स्थिति को संभालने की कोशिश करती है और सफल हो जाती है। वह फिर अपने नायक केसी से मिलने के लिए एक नहर के पास एक गुप्त स्थान पर जाती है जहाँ वह दिखाई नहीं देता है। वह जानती है कि यह उसकी कल्पना मात्र थी लेकिन वह उसके प्यार में इस कदर खोई हुई थी कि वह इससे बाहर नहीं आना चाहती। अंत में वह मन ही मन उदास होकर अपने घर लौट जाती है। लेकिन जब वह रॉयस के बुटीक में आती है, तो वह फिर से अपने नायक के सपनों में खो जाती है।

1.7. IMPORTANT EXPRESSIONS AND MEANINGS

- (i) Incongruity - inconsistency,
Sophie wondered at the
incongruity of the delicate bow.

- (ii) Prodigy - extremely talented,three of them are the young Irish prodigy, Casey.
- (iii) Chuffed - rude, I'd have thought he'd be chuffed as anything.
- (iv) Solitary elm - lonely tree (a kind of), there was a wooden bench beneath a solitary elm where lovers came.
- (v) Arcade -a covered passage, Sophie met him (Casey) in the arcade.
- (vi) Amber glow -shining through a kind of yellow resin, the table lamp casts an amber glow across her brother's bedroom wall.
- (vii) Wharf - a landing place beside a sea path lighted only by the glare of the lamps from the wharf across the water.
- (viii) Pangs of doubt -pains of uncertainty.

1.8.OBJECTIVE TYPE QUESTIONS

1. Danny had a freckled nose and the color of his eyes was
 - (i) gray
 - (ii) green
 - (iii) blue
 - (iv) brown

Answer (ii) green

2. Outside the pub, Sophie saw something. It was
 - (i) her dad's bicycle
 - (ii) her brother's car
 - (iii) her mother's motorcycle
 - (iv) Derek's tricycle

Answer (i) her dad's bicycle

3. While Sophie waited for Danny, she realized that
 - (i) Danny would come
 - (ii) Danny would not come
 - (iii) she was hungry
 - (iv) she was thirsty

Answer (ii) Danny would not come

4. According to Sophie, the place she had chosen to meet Danny was
 - (i) a hidden alley
 - (ii) a perfect place
 - (iii) behind the walls
 - (iv) near the trees

Answer (ii) a perfect place

5. Sophie told Jansie that her father if he got to know about her meeting with Danny would
 - (i) agree to their marriage
 - (ii) murder her

- (iii) ask her to call him over for dinner
- (iv) ask to be introduced to him

Answer (ii) murder her

1.9. SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS

1. Where was it most likely that the two girls would find work after school?

Answer: After school the two girls Sophie and Jansie were most likely to find work in the biscuit factory.

2. What were the options that Sophie was dreaming of ? Why does Jansie discourage her from having such dreams ?

Answer: The options Sophie was dreaming of were to have a boutique, to be a manager till she has enough money to open a boutique, to have the most wonderful shop in the city or to be an actress. She seems to be a daydreamer.

3. Why did Sophie wriggle when Geoff told her father that she had met Danny Casey ?

Answer: Sophie had shared the secret of her meeting Danny Casey with her brother Geoff. When suddenly Geoff told his father that Sophie had met the renowned player Danny Casey, she wriggled or twisted her body to and fro. She did so because of the possible contempt of her father. She was also afraid that her father would never believe it.

4. Does Geoff believe what Sophie says about her meeting with Danny Casey ?

Answer: Firstly Geoff did not believe what Sophie had said about her meeting with Danny Casey. He says that it can never be true. He also says that he does not believe it. Then Geoff questions what Danny Casey looks like.

5. Does her father believe her story ?

Answer: When Geoff told his father that Sophie had met Danny Casey, he looked at her with an expression of scorn or contempt. It had no effect on him when Geoff said that it is true that Sophie had met Danny in the arcade.

1.10. LONG ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS

1. Sophie's dreams and disappointments are all in her mind.

Answer: For discussion in pairs in class. However a specimen reply is given :

Sophie belongs to a poor, mediocre family. But she aspires to have a boutique though she has neither means nor resources for it. Then she wants to be a manager till she saves enough money to buy a boutique. Jansie, who is more practical, tells Sophie to be sensible because it will take a very long time to save for that purpose. Then she thinks that she would be an actress because there is

real money in it. Besides that, she can then open a boutique.

Sophie is a sort of day-dreamer. She wants to achieve in her dreams what life has denied her. Her social life is confined to her school only. So she craves to see the vast world about which she is totally unaware. She dreams of meeting people like Danny Casey, a talented Irish sportsman. But nobody believes her when she says that she met him. She imagines meeting Danny when she waits in the park. But he did not turn up. Thus we can say that Sophie's dreams and disappointments are all in her mind.

2. Is it natural for teenagers to have unrealistic dreams ? What would you say are the benefits and disadvantages of such fantasizing ?

Answer: For discussion in pairs in class. However a specimen answer is given below :

Most teenagers indulge in dreams or day-dreams. Some indulge in fantasizing also. It is because they find the realities of life quite tough and bitter. So what they cannot get in their real lives, they want to achieve in their dreams. Some teenagers dream of having good jobs, some dream of being good human beings, some dream of being good leaders or good managers. If they work hard to achieve their aims in life, then these can be called realistic dreams.

But some teenagers may have unrealistic dreams, which are normally

difficult to fulfill under the circumstances they give in. Though it is natural for teenagers to have unrealistic dreams, I think they should avoid these and not waste their precious time. This is the turning point in their lives when they can make or mar their lives. They should work hard, without wasting their time, to achieve what they want to achieve. Unrealistic dreams or fantasizing about fanciful life without working hard will lead the teenager nowhere in life.

3. It is not unusual for a lower middle class girl to dream big. How unrealistic were Sophie's dreams?

Or

It is normal for adolescents to fantasize and indulge in hero worship. How far is it true Of Sophie?

Answer: Sophie was an adolescent girl who always lived in a make-believe world of her own. She always had the unrealistic expectation that she will have a successful career as a boutique owner, store manager, actress or even local biscuit factory after passing out from school. Similarly, she unrealistically imagined that a famous footballer like Danny Casey would date her. She even went to the extent of waiting beside the canal for him.

After he did not turn up, she realized that this was a fashion designer. This was totally unrealistic, as she was from a working class family and would have to work in these only her dream and

Danny would never date her. Even then, she is lost in her dream world, becoming sad that Danny did not come. This shows how unrealistic her dreams were.

4. Does Sophie meet Danny Casey? What details of her meeting with Danny Casey did she narrate to her brother?

Or

Did Sophia really meet Danny Casey?

Answer: No, Sophie has never really met Danny Casey. She has just seen Danny Casey on the field when she went to watch the team United play a football match. There, she was one of the spectators and could see Casey playing, but only from a distance. However, Sophie lives in a world of imagination. Casey was a young sports hero and Sophie idolized him. Her fictitious meeting with Casey was just another of her wild fantasies.

Sophie told her brother Geoff that she met Casey near Royce's window. As she was looking at the clothes, Casey came and stood beside her. She wanted to take his autograph for her

younger brother Derek, but neither of them had a pen or paper. Casey then suggested that they could meet again next week, and then he would also give his autograph.

5. What were Sophie's plans for her future? Why would you call her dreams unrealistic?

Answer: Sophie planned to open a boutique after she passed out of school. When Jansie told her that it would require a lot of money, she said that she would become a manager and save money for her boutique. She later also added that she would either become an actress or a fashion designer.

For a girl from a lower middle class family, such dreams are certainly far from reality. Sophie's friend Jansie, who is quite practical, dissuades Sophie from indulging in such childish fantasies. Sophie lives in her own world, a world of imagination. She wants to materialize all those things which were simply not possible on practical grounds. Never for once in the story does the girl think practically or come out of her dream world.