

# The Proposal

Word meanings.

scarecrow :- a figure of a dummy or man to frighten a field. always birds in

impudence :- showing no respect for others  
confounded cheek :- gall or talkative

proposal :- an offer of marriage  
propose to you :-

stuffed sausage :- cooked minced meat

hysterics :- frenzy, wildly emotional

fetch :- to go at once & bring back  
burden :- load, worry

abused :- insulted  
shooting :- Here, animals & birds (sport)

first rate :- excellent of good quality

heaps better than Guest :- a lot better

pedigree :- pure breeding

neck-and-neck  $\rightarrow$  level with somebody in a race

whipper-in - hunter

teasing him - making fun to provoke  
black beetles - cockroaches, insects

tracking - follow movement of animals

intriguer! - plotter

Jesuit! - used as an abuse (hypocritical)

$\rightarrow$  a member of society of Jesus, a Roman Catholic order of priests

temples  $\rightarrow$  part of face (forehead)

[NOTE :- DO ENGLISH PROJECT  
AS YOU HAVE DONE IN  
CLASS - XI ]

Q: Write a note on characterisation  
the character of Chubukov.

Ans 'The Proposal' is a short dramatic  
work consisting of only one act.  
A one-act play can be a tragedy  
or a comedy or a tragi-comedy  
or a farce like full length dramas.  
It generally concentrates on a single  
episode or situation and characters  
are limited in number.

Chekhov's characters are not fully  
developed personalities. There is no room  
to explore their emotions or motives  
or passions. Let us consider the  
character of Chubukov.

Chubukov is a shrewd businessman  
and owns land. He is a father who  
must push for the best interest  
regarding daughter and property.  
Though he does not welcome Lomov  
cordially, his address is full of  
tender words. He is happy with  
Lomov's proposal as it will offer  
him a permanent relieve. He shows  
emotion, when Lomov walks out of the  
house, he says

"..... what have I done! I ought to shoot  
myself! I ought to be hanged!"

However his encouragement helps Lomov and Natalya  
to get married in spite of their unpreparedness. He  
remains a firm connector between two unstable  
characters.