

A Conversation with the Narrator of W. S. Maugham's "Mr. Know All"

Prepared by Naomi Ganin-Epstein

<http://visualisingideas.edublogs.org/>



Naomi's Photos



The Narrator

online



TODAY

Good afternoon, young person. I heard that you are going to study the story "Mr. Know All", is that right?

✓✓ 15:30



15:30

Listen, I'm in that story. It's about something that happened to me.

✓✓ 15:31



15:31

What, don't you believe me?

✓✓ 15:32

Well, isn't it a story about something that happened in the past?

15:33

Yes, it happened right after World War 1 ended. Do you know when it ended?

✓✓ 15:33

No...

15:33

Look it up. I'll wait. 🕒

✓✓ 15:34

Hurry up, I want to tell you about the ship! 🚢

✓✓ 15:35

World War 1 ended in (?). Wait, how old are you?

15:37

Don't ask a British gentleman how old he is!! Listen, I was on a ship from San Francisco to Yokohama...

✓✓ 15:37

Are you British? 🍵🍶

15:38

A British gentleman!!

✓✓ 15:39

🤔 But San Francisco is in 🇺🇸

15:40

I'm not American! 😡 Tell me, where is Yokohama?

✓✓ 15:41

It is in (?) .

15:42

So you know it was a long journey, 🚢 . AND - I was 😡 !

✓✓ 15:46

I had to share a cabin with a man named Mr. KELADA!

✓✓ 15:47



15:48



The Narrator

online



TODAY

Mr. Kelada!!! Not Mr. Smith or Mr. Brown!

✓✓ 15:48

🤔 You didn't like his NAME?!

15:50

I knew at once that he would be different from me.

✓✓ 15:50

😞 So? People are not the same...

15:52

With a name like that, I was sure he would be uneducated & believe in stupid things.

✓✓ 15:52

? Like what ?

15:54



Not opening the window at night because night air is bad for you.

✓✓ 15:55



15:58

Where was he from?

15:58

I believe he was from a BIG country in the British Empire. The name of the country begins with the letter "I".

✓✓ 15:59

It is in Asia.

✓✓ 15:59



The Narrator

online



TODAY

Do you mean (?) ?

16:04

Very good, young person! How do you say it - 👍 👍?

✓✓ 16:04



16:04

16:04

If that country was part of the British Empire, was Mr. Kelada British?

16:05

He had a British passport but he wasn't a "real" British person like me.

✓✓ 16:06

WHY NOT?! 😡😡

16:07

Because he didn't look like me or speak like me...

✓✓ 16:07

You are a RACIST!

You are a RACIST!

16:08

I certainly was when this story began... I don't think I am today.

✓✓ 16:08

I'll talk to you another day. I'm getting tired...

✓✓ 16:09

WAIT! I don't know your name!

16:09



The Narrator

online



TODAY

Call me "The Narrator". I won't tell you my name.

✓✓ 16:10

You won't find my name in the story. Bye for now!

✓✓ 16:10