



STUDY MATERIAL (2024-25)
CLASS XI **GENERAL ENGLISH**



Lesson 1 : GENDER BIAS

SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS

- Q1. What course was the author pursuing at the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore?
Ans. The author was pursuing Master's in Computer Science at the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore.
- Q2. Where did the author want to complete a doctorate in Computer Science?
Ans. The author wanted to go abroad to complete a doctorate in Computer Science.
- Q3. Which advertisement did the author see on the notice board?
Ans. She saw a standard job requirement notice from the famous automobile company, Telco.
- Q4. What was there in the advertisement that made the author very upset?
Ans. A line in the advertisement that lady candidates need not apply made the author very upset.
- Q5. Why did Sudha write a postcard to Telco?
Ans. Sudha wrote a post card to Telco to complain against gender discrimination in the company.
- Q6. What telegram did the author receive from Telco?
Ans. She received a telegram to appear for an interview at Telco's Pune office.
- Q7. Why did the author's hostel mates want her to go to Pune for the interview?
Ans. The author's hostel mates wanted her to use the opportunity to go to Pune free of cost and buy the famous Pune saris for cheap.
- Q8. How many people were there on the interview panel? What did the author realize?
Ans. There were six people on the interview panel. She realized that it was a serious business.
- Q9. What did Sudha tell the panel before the interview?
Ans. Sudha told the panel that she thought that it was only a technical interview.
- Q10. What type of questions was the author asked by the interview panel?
Ans. The author was asked technical questions by the interview panel.
- Q11. When did Sudha first see JRD Tata?
Ans. Sudha first saw JRD Tata when she was showing some reports to SumantMoolgaokar in his Bombay office.
- Q12. What did SumantMoolgaokar tell JRD about Sudha?
Ans. SumantMoolgaokar told JRD that Sudha was the first engineer to work on Telco's shop floor.
- Q13. How many girls are now studying in engineering colleges?
Ans. Fifty percent students studying these days in engineering colleges are girls.
- Q14. What would the author want from life, if time stops?
Ans. Sudha would want JRD to be alive so that he could see how the company he started had grown.

LONG ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS

- Q1. Draw a character sketch of Sudha Murthy (or) Describe Sudha's life as a student at the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore.
Ans. Sudha was a young, bold and bright girl. Life was full of fun and joy. She was doing her master's course in Computer Science at the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore. She was the only girl in her post graduate department. She wanted to go abroad to complete her doctorate in Computer Science. She had not thought of taking up a job in India. But when she saw the line "Lady Candidates need not apply" in the job requirement notice from Telco, she thought of complaining against the injustice and gender bias to the topmost person in Telco. She wrote a post card to JRD Tata. She faced the interview panel confidently and became the first woman engineer to work on Telco's shop floor.
- Q2. What were Sudha's plans after completing her master's course in Computer Science?
Ans. Sudha was a young, bold and bright girl. She was doing her master's course in Computer Science at the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore. She was the only girl in her post graduate department. She wanted to go abroad to complete her doctorate in Computer Science. She had been offered scholarship by many universities in the USA. She had not thought of taking up a job in India.
- Q3. Why did Sudha become angry after reading the job advertisement from the automobile company Telco?
Ans. There was a small line at the bottom of the job advertisement from the famous company, Telco. It said, "Lady candidates need not apply." Sudha was shocked to read this. She was surprised how a company such as Telco was discriminating on the basis of gender. She grew so angry that she decided to write to the topmost person in Telco's management. She wanted to inform him about the injustice being perpetrated by the company. And she wrote a letter to Mr. JRD Tata, expressing her displeasure at the discrimination against women. She took it as a challenge to apply for the job which was not considered applicable for women by the Telco Company.
- Q4. What was the reason given by the elderly man for not employing women in Telco?
Ans. Sudha appeared for the interview at Telco's Pune office. There were six people on the interview panel. She realized that it was a serious business. The panel asked her technical questions and she answered all of them. The elderly gentleman talked to Sudha very affectionately. He told her why they had said, 'Lady candidates need not apply?' 'He told her that they had never employed any ladies on the shop floor of the company. "This is not a co-ed college; this is a factory," he said to prove his point. Sudha faced the interview panel confidently and became the first woman engineer to work on Telco's shop floor.
- Q5. When did Sudha come to know who JRD Tata was? When did she happen to meet him?
Ans. It was only after joining Telco that Sudha came to know that Mr JRD Tata was the uncrowned king of Indian industry. However, she did not get a chance to meet him till she was transferred to Mumbai. One day, she was showing some reports to

SumantMoolgaokar in his Bombay office when, suddenly JRD too came there. That was the first time she met “appro JRD”. ‘Appro’ means “our” in Gujrati. This was the affectionate term by which people at Bombay House called him. SumantMoolgaokar told JRD that Sudha was the first engineer to work on Telco’s shop floor. She was feeling very nervous, remembering her postcard episode.

LESSON 2: THE PORTRAIT OF A LADY

SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS

Q1. Whose portrait hung above the mantelpiece in the drawing room?

Ans. The portrait of the author's grandfather hung above the mantelpiece in the drawing room. He wore a big turban and loose-fitting clothes. He looked at least a hundred years old.

Q2. What, according to the author, was absurd and undignified on Grandmother's part?

Ans. When grandmother told about the games she used to play as a child that was absurd and undignified on her part.

Q3. Why did she say her prayer in a monotonous sing song?

Ans. The author lived with his grandmother in the village. She used to wake him up and got him ready for school. She said her prayer in a monotonous sing song manner so that the author might listen and learn it by heart.

Q4. What did they have for breakfast?

Ans. They had a thick stale chapatti with a butter and sugar spread on it.

Q5. Why did Grandmother always go to school with the author?

Ans. The author's grandmother always went to school with him. The school was attached to the temple. While the author attended his class, she would read the holy books inside the temple. When they both had finished, they would walk back together.

Q6. The children in the village school were taught the alphabet. Did Grandmother know the alphabet?

Ans. Grandmother knew the alphabet and helped the author in his studies.

Q7. How did they feed the village dogs while returning home?

Ans. When the author's grandmother went to leave the author to school, she would take some chapattis with her. On the way back, the village dogs would meet them. They would feed the village dogs with stale chapattis.

Q8. " That was the turning - point in our friendship ". What happened to the friendship?

Ans. When the author's parents were settled in the city, the author with his grandmother also went to live there. In the city, his grandmother no longer came to school with him. The friendship between the author and his grandmother was broken. That was the turning point in their friendship.

Q9. How did the author go to school in the city?

Ans. In the city the author went to school in a motor bus.

Q10. Why was Grandmother unhappy about the school education?

Ans. When the author came back from school, his grandmother would ask him what the teacher had taught him. He would tell her English words and little things of western science. This made her unhappy.

Q11. Why did she feel disturbed when the author announced that they were being given music lessons at school?

Ans. She felt disturbed because she thought that music was monopoly of harlots and beggars.

Q12. When was the common link of friendship between the author and his grandmother broken?

Ans. The common link of friendship between the author and his grandmother was broken when the author was given a room of his own.

Q13. What did grandmother do from sunrise to sunset?

Ans. She sat by her spinning-wheel. She rarely left it to talk to anyone. Only in the afternoon, she took rest for a while to feed the sparrows.

Q14. What took the place of the village dogs in Grandmother's life in the city?

Ans. Sparrows took the place of the village dogs in Grandmother's life in the city.

Q15. What could have been the cause of Grandmother's falling ill?

Ans. She had been thumping the drum for several hours, so she fell ill.

Q16. How did the sparrows show (on the last day) that they had not come for the bread?

Ans. When the grandmother's corpse was lying in the verandah, thousands of sparrows sat scattered on the floor. There was no chirruping. The author's mother broke some bread into pieces and threw to them. The sparrows took no notice of the pieces of bread and flew away quietly.

LONG ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS

Q1. Grandmother 'had always been short and fat and slightly bent'. Is this true, in the light of what is said in the first paragraph? What information in the first paragraph would you cite in support of your answer?

Ans. No, it is not true, as the first paragraph of the chapter tells us that she was once young and pretty. Besides, this passages also reveals that Grandmother often told the author about the games she used to play in her childhood. This shows that the author's grandmother had not always been 'short and fat and slightly bent'. It is also mentioned in the passage that People would say that she had once been young and pretty and even had a husband. But the author doesn't want to believe it as he finds her terribly old. The author says that he had known her for twenty years and she had always looked too old to grow older. That is why the author considers her stories about the games she used to play as a child quite funny and undignified on her part.

Q2. How would Grandmother prepare the author for school?

Ans. Grandmother used to wake up the author in the morning. She bathed and dressed him while she said her morning prayer. She said her morning prayer in a sing song manner. She wanted the author to hear it and get to know it by heart. Then she would fetch

his wooden slate, a tiny earthen ink-pot and a reed pen. She would then give him a breakfast of a thick, stale chapatti with a little butter and sugar spread on it. She would carry several stale chapattis with her for the village dogs. They went to school together.

Q3. Grandmother is portrayed as a very religious woman. What details in the story create that impression?

Ans. The author's grandmother has been portrayed as a deeply religious lady. She spent most of her time saying prayers and telling beads of her rosary. Her lips always moved in inaudible prayer. She was fond of reading holy books. Grandmother would read the scriptures in the village temple. She said her morning prayer in a sing song manner. She wanted the author to hear it and get to know it by heart. When the author was sent to an English school, she was unhappy because children were not given any religious education there. It was because of her religious nature that her heart was full of compassion for birds and animals. She remained calm and showed no emotion when the author left for abroad for five years. When her last time came she sensed rightly that she her end was near. She said that did not want to waste her little time talking to anyone. She kept saying prayers and telling the beads till she drew her last breath.

Q4. Grandmother has been portrayed as a kind woman. What details in the story illustrate this?

Ans. The most prominent examples are her practice of feeding stray dogs in the village with leftover chapattis, act of feeding sparrows in the courtyard with bread crumbs, her affectionate care towards her grandson, particularly when preparing him for school each morning. All these details create the impression that she was a kind lady.

Q5. What was grandmother's daily routine in the city?

Ans. From sunrise to sunset, grandmother would sit by her spinning – wheel, spinning and reciting her prayer. She rarely left it to talk to anyone. Only in the afternoon, she took rest for a while to feed the sparrows with breadcrumbs. She took great delight in feeding them. She would feed them very lovingly. Hundreds of sparrows collected round her. Some sat on her legs, shoulders and head. She smiled but never shooed them away. The sparrows too seemed to enjoy her company. It used to be the happiest half-hour of the day for grandmother.

Q6. Give a brief pen- portrait of the grandmother.

Ans. Grandmother was an old woman. She was short, fat and slightly bent. Her face was full of wrinkles. She put on spotless white clothes. There was a great friendship between her and the author. She woke him up every morning and got him ready for the school. She would help him in his studies. Grandmother was a religious woman. She would say her prayer regularly in the morning. She would go to the temple and recite holy books. Grandmother was a noble and kind woman. She loved to feed birds and animals. She used to feed dogs in the village and sparrows in the city. She did not lose temper. Thus she was a grand old lady.

Q7. Write a brief note on Grandmother's relationship with the sparrows.

Ans. In the city, Grandmother used to feed the sparrows daily with breadcrumbs. She would feed them very lovingly. Hundreds of sparrows collected round her. But she never shooed them away. The sparrows too seemed to enjoy her company. When Grandmother died, the sparrows were full of grief. The author's mother threw some crumbs to them. But they did not touch them even. They flew away quietly when Grandmother's dead body was carried off for cremation.

LESSON 3: LIBERTY AND DISCIPLINE

SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS

Q1. How does the author define liberty?

Ans: Liberty means the freedom to make a choice. When you get in a car you can choose where you want to go, that is liberty.

Q2. What is discipline?

Ans: Discipline means to do something under rules and regulations. While driving you keep to the left of the road that is discipline.

Q3. Why should one keep to the left?

Ans: For one's own safety, for the consideration of others and fear of punishment.

Q4. How does pure discipline differ from enforced discipline?

Ans: Pure discipline is self discipline that comes from within by consent or understanding. Enforced discipline is enforced by physical violence and fear.

Q5. What types of liberty do the British believe in?

Ans: The British believe in the freedom to think what they like, say what they like, work at what they like and go where they like.

Q6. Why does one have a natural inclination to avoid discipline?

Ans: One has a natural inclination to avoid discipline because discipline is considered to be a restraint on liberty.

Q7. Why is discipline unavoidable for a modern man?

Ans: Modern man's life is complex. We all are interdependent. Discipline keeps us at the right track.

Q8. How did the author acknowledge the salute of a private soldier?

Ans: The author acknowledged his salute in a very casual way with an airy wave of his hand.

Q9. How did the Colonel punish the author for not returning a salute properly?

Ans: The Colonel told Sergeant Major to plant his staff in the ground and let the author practice how to return a salute till he knew how to return it.

Q10. What did the Colonel tell the author about discipline?

Ans: The Colonel told author that discipline begins with the officers.

Q11. How can the leader build up the leadership of his team?

Ans: Leader can build up team with discipline.

Q12. What, according to the author, was not a new technique invented in the last war?

Ans. According to the author, to take men into your confidence was not a new technique in the last war.

Q13. How can you say that discipline is not derogatory?

Ans: Discipline is not derogatory because it is only Discipline that enables man to enjoy liberty.

Q14. What type of discipline is deliberately designed to submerge the individual?

Ans. Totalitarian discipline is deliberately designed to submerge the individual.

Q15. How does the author commend the role of British railway signalmen in the last war?

Ans. The author commends their role by saying that they know the importance of their work.

Q16. How can a nation overcome an economic or military crisis?

Ans: A nation can overcome economic or military crisis with Discipline.

Q17. What, according to the author, is meant by democracy?

Ans: According to the author democracy means that responsibility is decentralized.

LONG ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS

Q1: How does History teach us the need of a disciplined living? Explain.

Ans: History teaches us that in the absence of discipline the order fades away in a nation, its economics life decays, its standard of living falls and security for the weak and the poor vanishes. Then to enforce discipline some military power or a dictator steps in. He imposes some sort of discipline to control the situation. As a result the liberty of the people is curbed and crushed.

Q2: What is the relationship between liberty and discipline?

Ans: Liberty and discipline exist together. They are two sides of the same coin. When you get in a car you can choose where you want to go, that is liberty. But while driving, you will keep to the left of the road that is discipline. Discipline is a restraint on liberty. Many of us have an inclination to avoid it. But we cannot get worth having without paying something for it. Liberty and discipline go hand in hand to strengthen a nation and its people.

Q3: What does indiscipline lead to?

Ans: Discipline is unavoidable for the modern man. It is only discipline that enables men to live in a community and yet retain individual liberty. Indiscipline leads to economic and social ruin of a nation. Without discipline the security of the poor and the weak vanished. Indiscipline is an enemy of a man and a nation. It leads to chaos and civil war. Indiscipline eats up the roots of our moral, social and national life.

Q4: How can an officer inculcate a sense of discipline in his subordinates?

Ans: An officer can inculcate a sense of discipline in his subordinates by becoming an example. It is rightly said that discipline begins with officers. Being a role model, an officer must impose discipline on himself first. He must accept higher degree of responsibility. If he does it, he doesn't need to enforce it on his subordinates. His order will be obeyed readily.

Q5: What are the advantages of discipline?

Ans: Discipline enables men to live in a community. It is the back bone of society. It is the discipline that ensures the security for the poor and the weak. It keeps the people systematic and focused. Author quotes the example of British railway signal men who during the war never left their post. They knew its importance to others and to their country. One can have discipline without liberty but one cannot have liberty without discipline.

LESSON 4: A PRESIDENT SPEAKS

SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS

Q1: - Who have come and invaded India in 3000 years of History?

Ans: - They were the Turks, the Moguls, the Portuguese, the British, the French and the Dutch who have come and invaded India.

Q2: - When according to Kalam, did India get its first vision of freedom?

Ans: - India got its first vision of freedom in the revolt of 1857.

Q3:- What is Kalam's second vision for India?

Ans:-Kalam's second vision for India is development.

Q4: - Why does Kalam want India to be a strong military and economic power?

Ans: -Kalam wants India to be a strong military and economic power as he believes that only strength respects strength.

Q5: - What is India's position regarding milk production and remote sensing satellites in the world?

Ans: - India is number one in terms of milk production and selling remote sensing satellites.

Q6: - What is India's position in respect of the production of wheat and rice?

Ans: - India stands second in respect of the production of wheat and rice.

Q7: - How do we behave while in Singapore?

Ans. While we are in Singapore, we don't litter on the roads or eat in the stores. We behave there in a very civilized manner. We become very responsible and law-abiding. We are at our international best in foreign lands.

Q8: - How do we behave while in Dubai?

Ans:-We would follow all the social customs. We would not eat in public in Ramadan and do not go out without covering head in Jeddah.

Q9:- What did ex-municipal commissioner of Bombay (Mumbai) tell Kalam?

Ans:- He told Kalam that rich people's dogs are walked on the streets to leave their droppings all over the place and the same people criticize the authorities for dirty pavements.

Q10:- What has every dog owner in America and Japan to do?

Ans: - The dog owner has to clean up the droppings of the dog.

Q11:- What do we expect from railways and airlines?

Ans:- We expect them to provide clean bathrooms and best of food.

Q12: - What is our attitude towards burning social issues?

Ans:- We make loud protests but continue to do the reverse. We find excuses. We blame the system.

LONG ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS

1Q: - What is Kalam's vision for India?

Ans: -Kalam's vision for India is 'freedom' and 'development'. He wants India to be strong economically. He wants India to be a military power. He believes that only strength respects strength. So India must stand up to the world. Thus, his vision for India is independence in real sense.

2Q: - What does Kalam say about our behaviour in a foreign country?

Ans: -Kalam says that we behave well in foreign countries. We obey laws. We respect social traditions. We do not litter on roads and do not eat in stores. We behave like responsible citizens. We do our duties and do not find excuses. We follow all the rules and regulations. But here in India we do the reverse.

3Q:-What does Kalam say about our behaviour in our own country?

Ans:- In our country we behave irresponsibly. We litter on the roads. We disobey the laws. We do not do our duty sincerely. On the contrary we blame authorities. We find excuses. We do not realize that we are a part of the system and we cannot reform the system until we start it with ourselves.

4Q:-Write in brief the idea conveyed in the lesson.

Ans:-This lesson tells about the vision of Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam for India. Kalam's vision for India is 'freedom' and 'development'. India must stand up to the world. President Kalam conveys the message of sincerity, responsibility and sensibility towards our nation. He tells us to be sincere and honest in all walks of life. The main idea is to motivate the Indians to be law abiding and civilized citizens. We should begin with ourselves what we expect from others.

5Q:-Write a note on 'Social Responsibility'.

Ans. 'Social Responsibility' reminds us of our responsibility and duty as a single unit of the system, called society. Our individual responsibility towards the society in which we live can never be avoided without repercussions. To bring harmony and to build healthy society, law and order must be maintained. Hence, it becomes our moral duty to contribute positively. We should be law-abiding and disciplined. We must realize the importance of peaceful society. If it gets hampered there will be chaos in society. We shouldn't blame the government or the system for all the fallouts. Rather we should perform our duties towards the system because we are also a part of the system. We should promote our domestic trade instead of preferring foreign goods. In this way we should always keep promoting national strength and solidarity.

LESSON 5: THE EARTH IS NOT OURS

SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS

Q1: What is the meaning of Globalisation?

Ans. It means close interaction between different countries, improved communication and exchange of technologies.

Q2: What are the dangers of Globalisation?

Ans. Dangers are crime, narcotics, terrorism, disease, weapons etc.

Q3: What are the benefits of Globalisation?

Ans. Faster growth, higher living standards, new opportunities for Individuals and nations, better understanding between different countries.

Q4: What is the overarching challenge of our times?

Ans. To make globalisation mean more than bigger markets and learn to govern better.

Q5: What fundamental freedoms does the author talk about?

Ans. Freedom from poverty, freedom from fear of wars and freedom of future generations to survive on the Earth.

Q6: Why can't we say that human beings are not yet free and equal?

Ans. They are not free and equal due to unfair distribution of power and wealth. Billions of people still suffer from hunger and fear of wars.

Q7: What does the author say about the internal wars?

Ans. In the last decade, internal wars have killed more than 5 million people and have rendered many more homeless.

Q8: Where do most conflicts happen and why?

Ans. Most conflicts happen in poor countries that are badly governed and have unfair distribution of power and wealth.

Q9: What is the best way to prevent conflicts?

Ans. The best way is to promote a political arrangement where all groups are fairly represented and given equal human rights.

Q10: What is the third fundamental freedom?

Ans. It is the freedom of future generations to sustain their lives on The Earth.

Q11: How is the third fundamental freedom threatened?

Ans. It is threatened by deforestation, unsustainable practices of polluting the environment and over-consumption of non-renewable resources.

Q12: What is the old African wisdom that the author refers to?

Ans. According to the old African wisdom, the Earth is a treasure that we hold in trust for our future generations.

LONG ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS

Q1: What does the author tell us about Globalisation?

Ans. Globalisation is close interaction between different countries of the world. It has many benefits like faster growth, higher living standards. It has given new opportunities to individuals and nations as well. It has many drawbacks. It has led to an increase in crime, drugs, terrorism, diseases and smuggling of weapons. According to Kofi Annan, globalisation should mean more than bigger markets. It should solve three main global issues to make this world a better place to live.

Q2: Why does the author say that new opportunities are not equally distributed?

Ans. The new opportunities are not equally distributed because of a huge gap between two classes. On one hand, we have rich people who worry that stock market may crash or they are trying to master new computer. On the other hand, more than half of our fellow men deal with basic worries like where their children's next meal is coming from. A billion of them survive on less than one dollar a day. They don't have safe drinking water and adequate sanitation. This inequality is responsible for unequal distribution of new opportunities offered by globalisation.

Q3: How does the author explain each of the fundamental freedoms?

Ans. Kofi Annan explains fundamental freedoms under three headings- freedom from want, freedom from fear, freedom of future generations to sustain their life on the Earth. He explains that more than half of the population lives under dire poverty without safe drinking water and adequate sanitation worrying about the next meal for their children. Fear of internal wars has claimed more than 5 million lives in the last decade and has rendered many homeless. Third is the fear of deforestation, pollution and over consumption of non-renewable resources. All this has posed a great danger to the Earth. It should be protected for future generations as it is not our property. It is a treasure which we hold in trust for our descendants.

Q4: Explain the significance of the title of the lesson "The Earth is not Ours".

Ans. The title of the lesson refers to an old African saying. It says that the Earth is not anyone's property. We are only trustees of the Earth. We have no right to pollute it. We should discourage deforestation, extinction of bio-diversity, over consumption of non-renewable resources. We should remember that the Earth belongs to our future generations. So, it should be wisely preserved for them.

Q5: Write a paragraph on "Man and his Environment".

Ans. Healthy, clean environment is very essential for mankind. It is healthy environment that makes Earth a suitable place for us to live on it. But in his greed, Man is mindlessly exploiting all its non-renewable resources. Man is destroying forests, fisheries, and all other living species. Man should remember that extinction of resources will end human race. Man should not forget that the Earth is a treasure that he should preserve for his descendants.

LESSON 6: LET'S NOT FORGET THE MARTYRS

SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS

Q1: -Name the five recipients of the ParamVir Chakra mentioned in the lesson "Let's Not Forget The Martyrs".

Ans:- Major SomNath Sharma, Dhan Singh Thapa, Abdul Hamid, Nirmaljit Singh Sekhon and Captain VikramBatra.

Q2:- When and where did Major SomNath Sharma die?

Ans: -Major SomNath Sharma was a brave soldier who died on 3rd November, 1947 in Badgam village of Kashmir during Indo-Pak war of 1947-48.

Q3. How did Major SomNath face the mortar firing from the enemy?

Ans. Major SomNath Sharma took upon himself the task of filling the magazines with his right hand in plaster and issuing them to his men, operating light machine guns during the Indo-Pak War of 1947-48. Meanwhile, a mortar shell exploded on the ammunition near him. He urged his men to continue fighting bravely.

Q4:- In which war did Lieutenant Colonel Dhan Singh Thapa distinguish himself as a great soldier?

Ans: -Lieutenant -Colonel DhanSinghThapa distinguished himself as a great soldier during Chinese attack in Ladakh.

Q5:- Havildar Abdul Hamid is known as a killer of tanks. Why?

Ans: - Because Havildar Abdul Hamid knocked out some enemy tanks during the Indo- Pak war of 1965.

Q6:- What was Abdul Hamid's role during the Sino-Indian war of 1962?

Ans. During the Sino-Indian war of 1962, Abdul Hamid's battalion was part of 7th Infantry Brigade commanded by Brigadier John Dalvi. It participated in the battle of Namka Chu against the Chinese.

Q7:- Why was flying officer NirmalJitSinghSekhon awarded the ParamVir Chakra?

Ans:-He was awarded the ParamVir chakra for showing great bravery in the defence of Srinagar during the Indo-Pak War of 1971.

8. In which war did Captain VikramBatra display exemplary bravery to win the ParamVir Chakra ?

Ans. Captain VikramBatra displayed exemplary bravery during 1999 Kargil War in Kashmir between India and Pakistan. He showed exemplary bravery in this war. He attained martyrdom when he tried to rescue an injured officer. He was awarded ParamVir Chakra for his valour and sacrifice.

9. How did VikramBatra come to join the Indian Army?

Ans. VikramBatra was selected to join the Indian Military Academy in Dehradun in 1996 in Jessore Company of Manekshaw Battalion. In 1996, he was commissioned in the Indian Army as a Lieutenant of the 13 Jammu and Kashmir Rifles at Sopore in Jammu and Kashmir. He rose to the rank of Captain.

10. What was the effect of the Capture of Point 5140 during the Kargil war?

Ans. Captain VikramBatra captured Point 5140 in the Kargil War between India and Pakistan. The capture of Point 5140 set in motion a string of successes, such as Point 5100, Point 4700, Junction Peak and Three Pimples.

LONG ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS

Q1:- Describe the circumstances of the martyrdom of Major SomNath Sharma.

Ans:- Major SomNath Sharma was the first recipient of the ParamVir Chakra. In 1947 soldiers of Pakistan in guise of tribals attacked Badgam. Major Sharma's company was there at that time. His right hand was plastered due to injuries while playing hockey. Seven hundred enemy soldiers surrounded his company and fired heavily with guns. Indian soldiers were less in numbers. But Major Sharma fought bravely. He and his soldiers killed 200 enemy soldiers. He died when a shell exploded on the ammunition near him. Thus, he showed great courage and fought for the dignity of his country. The Indian Government awarded him with highest gallantry award ParamVir Chakra posthumously.

Q 2:-Describe the role of Lt. Col. Dhan Singh Thapa during the Chinese attack.

Ans:- Lt. Col. DhanSinghThapa was an Indian Army Major. In October, 1962 China attacked India.

The Chinese forces attacked the Chushal airport in Ladakh. Major Thapa and his men repulsed their attack two times. But when Chinese army attacked third time, Major Thapa fought bravely and killed many Chinese soldiers. He was captured by the enemy and made a war prisoner. He was released later.

Q3. Explain the bravery displayed by Havildar Abdul Hamid in the Indo-Pak war in 1965.

Ans. Abdul Hamid was posted in the Khem Karan– Bhikhiwind Sector in Punjab. On 10 September 1965, Pakistan forces attacked near village Cheema on the Bhikhiwind road in the Khem Karan Sector with a regiment of Patton tanks. Intense artillery shelling preceded the attack. Realising the grave situation, Abdul Hamid moved out with his gun mounted on a jeep and started firing on the enemy tanks. He destroyed two enemy tanks. By this time the enemy tanks in the area spotted him. He was mortally wounded by an enemy high explosive shell. Abdul Hamid kept on firing on yet another enemy tank till he died.

Q4. How did Flying Officer NirmalJit Singh Sekhon defend the Srinagar air base in 1971?

Ans. Flying Officer Nirmaljit Singh Sekhon PVC (17 July 1943-14 December 1971) was posthumously awarded the PVC, India's highest military decoration, in recognition of his lone defence of Srinagar Air Base against a Pakistani air raid during the Indo-Pak war of 1971. On 14 December 1971, Srinagar airfield was attacked by six Pakistan Air Force F-86 jets. Under heavy fire, he took off in his plane and was able to set ablaze two enemy planes. After a lengthy dog- fight at tree-top level, Sekhon's aircraft was hit, and he was killed. His flying skill was even praised by the pilot who shot him down.

Q5. Explain the part played by Captain VikramBatra in the Kargil war in June 1999.

Ans. Captain VikramBatra, was given the task of recapturing Point 5140. He decided to lead from the rear to shock the enemy. He and his men reached near the top, the enemy started firing at them. Captain Batra, along with five of his men, climbed up regardless of the heavy firing and after reaching the top, hurled two grenades at the machine gun post. He alone killed three enemy soldiers in close combat. He was seriously injured during this, but insisted on regrouping his men to continue with the mission. Inspired by his courage, the soldiers charged the enemy position and recaptured Point 5140. The capture of Point 5140 set in motion a string of successes such as Point 5100, Point 4700, Junction Peak, Three pimples, Point 4750 and Point 4875.

LESSON 7: WATER-A TRUE ELIXIR

SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS

Q1. Why is only one percent of the water available on our planet fit for drinking?

Ans. Only three percent of water is fresh water, in which two percent is frozen in glaciers and polar ice caps.97 percent of the water is salty ocean water. So only one percent of the water is available for drinking.

Q2. Why should we preserve the quality of water available to us?

Ans.Because only one percent of water is available for drinking.

Q3. Why did civilizations generally grow on the banks of big rivers?

Ans.Because people had access to fresh water easily.

Q4. What type of water supply and sewerage system prevailed during the Indus Valley Civilization period?

Ans. The Indus Valley Civilization period had one of the most sophisticated urban water supply and sewage system in the world.

Q5. What role do forests play in the conservation of water?

Ans. In the forest water seeps gently into the ground as vegetation breaks the flow of water. This ground water feeds well, lakes and rivers.

Q6. Why is water conservation the need of the day?

Ans. Because the level of underground water is falling sharply day by day

Q7. What did the Punjab Agriculture Minister admit on the floor of the House?

Ans. He admitted that groundwater was continuously declining in 85% areas of the state.

Q8. What is the result of the excessive decline in water table in the state?

Ans. Due to excessive decline in water, nitrate presence in water has gone up by ten times and farmers have to dig deeper into the ground to pump out water.

Q9. What technology can be used to save water?

Ans. Technologies like planting and transplanting time of crops, sprinklers, drip irrigation and furrow can be used to save water.

Q10. How do the rural communities and the poor urban classes suffer due to the shortage of water?

Ans. In villages, people have to go for miles to collect water from streams and ponds.The poor urban classes have to drink polluted water.

LONG ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS

Q1. How is water a source of beauty and joy? Explain.

Ans. Water is a source of beauty and joy when it flows in streams down the rocks. It is a feast for the eyes to watch the beautiful rivers flowing down hills. The water present on the Earth is a joy to watch for the human eyes. Just as the eye makes a human face beautiful, similarly the water makes the earth beautiful. As a great writer wrote: "Water in a landscape maybe compared the eyes in a human face he further suggests that it reflects the mood of the hour being bright and happy when the sun shines, turning to dark and gloomy when the sky is overcast. C.V.Raman calls it the true elixir of life

Q2. Write a note on the necessity of conserving water.

Ans. Water conservation has become the need of the day because rising population, growing industrialization and expanding agriculture have pushed up the demand for water. Besides this, we are also wasting and polluting water. We are cutting down our forests. It disturbed the water cycle also. As a result the water level is sinking year after year. And if this continuous, a day will come when life would become impossible on the earth. So we will have to conserve every drop of water.

Q3. How and why is the ground water level falling in Punjab with every passing year? Explain.

Ans. Groundwater levels in Punjab are falling due to a number of factors. Our consumption of water has increased year after year. The state's main crops, wheat and paddy, require a lot of water for irrigation. Farmers often use groundwater instead of canal water. The number of tube wells in the state has increased. The availability of water from canals has decreased. Paddy cultivation is a major contributor to the state's groundwater depletion. The state's groundwater is being extracted faster than it can be recharged. We have reduced ground water recharging sources. We have filled up lakes to make airports, playgrounds and housing societies. We dig deeper and deeper every year for bore wells

Q4. How does the cropping pattern affect the water table?

Ans. Cropping patterns can affect the water table in several ways. When farmers cultivate more water-intensive crops, they may over-exploit groundwater for irrigation, which can lead to a decline in the water table. Crops consume groundwater, which increases discharge as the water table depth decreases. To combat groundwater decline, experts often advise diversifying crop rotations, incorporating more profitable crops that require less water, and including fallow periods in the rotation cycle

Q5. Write a short paragraph on: 'Water, A True Elixir'.

Ans. Water is the foundation of food and life. It is the basis of all life. We can live without food for a number of days but we can't do without water for a day even. It is essential to life as air. In the forest water seeps gently into the ground as vegetation breaks the flow of water. This ground water feeds well, lakes and rivers. Many poets are inspired by falling of water down the hills. But with the advancement we are wasting and polluting water. We are cutting down our forests. It disturbed the water cycle also. As a result the water level is sinking year after year. And if this continuous, a day will come when life would become impossible on the earth. So we will have to conserve every drop of water.

LESSON 8: NO TIME FOR FEAR

SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS

Q1. Who were Malcolm and Barb?

Ans. Malcolm and Barb, described in this story, were two young Canadians. Malcolm was a young boy of 19 and Barb was his girlfriend. She was 18 years old. Barb and Malcolm loved each other very much.

Q2. Where did they go on their date?

Ans. Malcolm and Barb went on their date to Balu Pass, 2050 metres up in British Columbia's Glacier National Park. Both of them had deep love for mountains.

Q3. Why were they forced to spend the night in a cabin?

Ans. They had gone on a hike to Balu Pass. The climb to up the Pass was smooth. But when they reached the top, they were caught in a freak snow flurry. So they were compelled to spend the night in an alpine cabin.

Q4. Who attacked Barb?

Ans. When Malcolm and Barb were coming back after their trip to the Balu pass, suddenly grizzly came over a ridge and attacked Barb. It was a she-bear. The grizzly stood on Barb's leg and started biting hard near the back of her neck.

Q5. How did Malcolm try to save Barb from the grizzly?

Ans. When Malcolm saw the grizzly standing on Barb's leg and gnawing at her neck, he realized that there was no time for fear. So without losing a moment, he rushed at the grizzly. To save Barb from the grizzly, Malcolm thrust his hunting knife into its neck.

Q6. Why did the grizzly leave Malcolm?

Ans. When Malcolm attacked the grizzly and plunged his knife into her neck to save Barb, the grizzly at once turned to Malcolm. It grabbed Malcolm with both her paws, Malcolm stopped struggling. The grizzly took him for dead. So she left Malcolm and went away.

Q7. What did Barb do when she saw Malcolm after the grizzly had gone?

Ans. When the grizzly had gone, Barb came to Malcolm. She was deeply shocked to find Malcolm seriously wounded. His face had been split. His one knee-cap was torn off. His front teeth were broken and his one eye was badly wounded. Barb threw her coat on Malcolm and ran back towards the lodge to call for help.

Q8. Who was Gordy Peyto? What did he say to Malcolm?

Ans. Gordy Peyto was a warden. He was also a good friend of Malcolm. Gordy Peyto tried to cheer Malcolm, saying that he always felt exhausted while looking for him.

Q9. Who was Ned Clough? How did he help Malcolm?

Ans. Ned Clough was a first-aid attendant. When Malcolm was badly wounded by the grizzly, Ned Clough came there with the rescuers. He wrapped Malcolm's face. Then, Ned Strapped Malcolm in a stretcher and also sent a wireless message and arranged for a helicopter to take him to a hospital.

Q10. What, according to the doctor, was like putting a jigsaw puzzle together?

Ans. According to the doctor, restoring Malcolm's face was like putting a jigsaw puzzle together. Malcolm was seriously injured by the grizzly. There were several cuts on his face. His one eye was torn off. This was the reason that the doctor said that restoring Malcolm's face was like putting a jigsaw puzzle together.

Q11. What made Malcolm almost sick?

Ans. When Malcolm looked at himself in the mirror, he saw that he had become very ugly. His face was disfigured and horribly ugly. He had no hair left on his head. Thick scars criss-crossed one side of his face. His skin was puffy and ugly shiny-red. All this made him almost sick.

Q12. Why did he ignore Barb's letters?

Ans. After his encounter with the grizzly, Malcolm was reduced to a freak. He had no hair left on his head. His face was a criss-cross of scars. His skin was puffy. It was ugly shiny- red. This was the reason why he ignored Barb's letters. He thought that she couldn't love an ugly person like him.

Q13. Barb wrote to Malcolm, It's a leap year. What is the significance of this term?

Ans. It refers to an old custom. In a leap year, if a woman proposed to a man, he would be considered to accept it unless he was already engaged. Barb sent her marriage proposal to Malcolm in January 1972, a leap year. She wanted to draw his attention to the leap year because she since wished him to accept her proposal.

Q14. When did they get married?

Ans. They got married on 21 July 1973.

Q15. Why did Barb marry Malcolm?

Ans. Barb truly loved Malcolm very much. Her love for him was not physical but spiritual. She did not love him for his looks. She could not reject or dislike her Malcolm for his disfigured face. She loved Malcolm before the accident and would always love him. 'Scars don't change a man,' she said.

LONG ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS

Q1. How did the grizzly injure Malcolm?

Ans. The grizzly threw Malcolm off with one swat of her paw. Malcolm went blank for a moment. Then the grizzly attacked Barb. She stood on Barb's leg and started biting hard at the back of Barb's neck. When Malcolm saw this, he realized that there was no time for fear. So without losing a moment, he rushed at the grizzly and plunged his hunting knife into her neck. The grizzly at once twisted her head so powerfully that Malcolm's right wrist was broken. Then the grizzly caught Malcolm in her paws and squeezing him tightly. The grizzly gave Malcolm such a blow that his scalp along with the hair was gone. Malcolm's face had been split. His front teeth broken and one of his eyes was torn off.

Q2. Describe in brief, Malcolm's treatment in the hospital after the attack of the grizzly?

Ans. When the grizzly left Malcolm and went away, Barb came to him and saw him lying in a serious condition. She ran back to the lodge for help. Soon the rescuers reached there. Ned Clough, a first-aid attendant, wrapped Malcolm's face and the chewed gashes on his legs in gauze. Then the rescuers strapped him in a stretcher. Then they sent a wireless message and arranged for a helicopter. Malcolm was taken to Queen Victoria Hospital in Revelstoke. An emergency operation lasting seven hours was performed on him. More than 1000 stitches were put on his body. Then he was taken to a hospital in his hometown, Edmonton. Here 41 skin-graft operations were done on him. The doctors assured him that he would look fine after the grafts were finished and the bandages removed.

Q3. Why did Barb continue writing letters to Malcolm?

Ans. After his encounter with the grizzly, Malcolm was reduced to a freak. He had no hair on his head. His face was a criss-cross of scars. His skin had become ugly shiny-red. When Malcolm discovered that he had become very ugly, he started ignoring Barb's letters. He thought that Barb could not love an ugly person like him. But Barb didn't give up writing to Malcolm. She wrote to Malcolm faithfully-five to seven letters a week- even though he never responded. Barb did so because she loved Malcolm before as well as after the accident. Scars don't change the person, she said. She also sent her marriage proposal to Malcolm through a letter in January 1972. In that letter, she pointed out that it was a leap year meaning that Malcolm must accept her proposal of marriage if he was not already engaged.

Q4. Describe, in brief, Barb and Malcolm's meeting in the hospital?

Ans. Malcolm had stopped responding to Barb's letters. He thought that nobody could love a man with such an ugly face. He refused to meet even his parents and close friends. But on one fine morning, Malcolm was filled with surprise when he saw Barb walking into his hospital room. She had reached there after a long journey of 1250 kilometres. She came in there to cheer up Malcolm. The two sat together and talked for a longtime. Malcolm was stubbornly aloof. But Barb's presence forced him to think of the good past days he had spent in her company. However, he could not decide whether Barb still loved him or not.

Q5. What awards were given to Malcolm for his bravery?

Ans. Malcolm had put his own life in danger to save Barb from the grizzly. Malcolm was awarded many medals for his rare courage, bravery and sense of sacrifice. The Royal Humane society, London, awarded him the Stanhope Gold Medal for performing the bravest deed in entire Commonwealth. He received the Gold Medal for bravery from the Royal Canadian Humane Association. Malcolm was honoured with the Carnegie Medal for the heroism that he had shown in his encounter with the grizzly and in saving the life of his beloved, Barb. He received this medal from the Carnegie Hero Fund Commission.

Q6. Write a paragraph on: "True Love Knows No Barriers",

Ans. True love is the highest feeling. The path of love is not smooth. The lovers have to face many hardships. It is always with the inner beauty of a person. It never changes. It does not care for any boundaries. True love never changes with the passage of time. Time can destroy physical beauty. But it cannot destroy true love. In the story Barb marries Malcolm because she loves him the same as she loved him before the accident. It's truly said that true love knows no barriers.

Q7. Write a note on Malcolm's encounter with the grizzly.

Ans. Malcolm and Barb were coming back after their trip to the Balu Pass. Suddenly, a fierce grizzly came over a ridge and attacked Malcolm. It was a she-bear. With one swat of her paw, she threw off Malcolm. He went blank for a moment. When he raised his head, he saw Barb lying face down. The grizzly was gnawing at her neck. Malcolm at once realised that there was no time for fear. He took out his hunting knife and plunged it into the grizzly's neck. The grizzly at once turned and caught Malcolm in her paws. He was badly mauled. His right wrist was broken. One of his eyes was also torn off. The skin on one side of his face was ripped loose. His hair and part of the skull were gone. Now, Malcolm stopped struggling. The grizzly took him for dead. She left him and went away.

SECTION-B

1. LINES WRITTEN IN EARLY SPRING (WILLIAM WORDSWORTH)

TEXTUAL QUESTIONS & STANZA FOR COMPREHENSION

Q1. The poet describes a bitter-sweet moment. Why is the moment 'bitter-sweet'?

Ans. The poet describes the moments bitter-sweet because pleasant and sad thoughts occupy the poet's mind at the same time.

Q2. Write a few lines about the simplicity of the language used in the poem?

Ans. The poet has used rather simple language to express his views regarding nature. His language is crystal clear and simple to understand.

Q3. What abilities, according to the poet, does nature have?

Ans. According to the poet Nature is a storehouse of beauty, glamour, sweetness and charm. The sights and sounds of nature are pleasing to human soul. Nature is always full variety of life.

Q4. What does the poet lament about?

Ans. The poet laments about the sorrowful state of nature that has resulted owing to man's greed.

Q5. How does the poet glorify nature?

Ans. The poet glorifies nature by praising its virtues. It has cures for all human worries and troubles.

Q6. Give an example of personification of nature in the poem?

Ans. Personification is a common figure of speech by which animals, abstract ideas, or inanimate things are referred to as if they were human. The poet personifies nature in this poem. He says: 'To her fair works did Nature link.....'

Read the stanza and answer the questions below:

To her fair works did Nature link The human soul through me ran;
And much it grieved my heart to think What man has made of man.

Q1. What are the fair works of Nature referred to in this stanza?

Ans. All flora and fauna and beauty of natural objects are the fair works of nature.

Q2. Name the poem and the poet?

Ans. These lines have been taken from the poem 'Lines Written in Early Spring' written by 'William Wordsworth'

Q3. Why is the poet grieved?

Ans. The poet is grieved because man has mishandled nature and thus created a chaos around.

Q4. List two pairs of rhyming words used by the poet in this passage?

Ans. Rhyming words are: link-think, ran-man. Rhyme Scheme is abab.

Q5. What does the poet mean by 'What man has made of man'?

Ans. It means that man's alienation from nature is the main reason of his troubles and worries. Man has been responsible for the troubles of mankind.

CENTRAL IDEA OF THE POEM

Q. Write the central idea of the poem 'Lines Written in Early Spring'.

The poem conveys the idea that man's alienation from nature is the main cause of his agony and distress. Man's madness for material things is playing havoc with his peace of mind. He should stop exploiting nature and develop a friendly relationship with it in order to regain his lost happiness. Only nature can help him come out of his self-created chaos.

2. MOTHER'S DAY (SHIV K. KUMAR)

ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS

Q1. What is the significance of 'Chinese house of dreams'?

Ans. 'The Chinese house of dreams' means a world of imagination. The poet wants to convey that Indian people do not show their gratitude to their mothers in imaginary and fake words.

Q2. In what way is 'my mother' more demanding?

Ans. My Mother here means an Indian mother. In India we worship our mother like goddess every day. She wants her children to touch her feet and seek her blessings before starting their new day.

Q3. What, according to the poet, amounts to desecrating a mother?

Ans. Offering one's mother a bouquet of flowers and some verses just once a year amounts to desecrating her.

Q 4. How often does the poet invoke his deity?

Ans: The poet's deity is his mother and he invokes his deity sometimes twice a day

Q5: Write a short note on "how we Indians celebrate mother's day"

Ans: In India, mothers are held in high esteem. They are adored like a goddess. It is in keeping with this tradition that India has been symbolized as mother India. We Indians believe that mother is a blessing for life. She brought us into this world, So we owe our whole life to her. Then how can we dedicate just one day of the year. Infact each day of the year is mother's day for us. And we celebrate it by paying obeisance to our mother at sunrise daily. We touch her feet and with her blessing start our new day. However, the modern "Mothers' Day" has been adopted in India also. It is celebrated on the second Sunday of May every year.

Read the following lines and answer the questions that follow:

My mother is more demanding an obeisance at each sunrise,
like a devotee throwing a handful of yellow rice to the birds.

Holding a candelabrum before an idol, Just once a year Is desecrating it.

Q1. What does 'my mother' demand?

Ans: Here 'My mother' refers to Indian Mother. Indian Mother wants her son to touch her feet with respect at sunrise every day.

Q2. List the two things, mentioned by the poet we are supposed to do at sunrise.

Ans: At each sunrise we are supposed to touch our mother's feet. Secondly, we should throw a handful of yellow rice to the birds.

Q3. Name the figure of speech in –

a) 'like a devotee throwing a handful of yellow rice to the birds-

Ans. Simile

b) I invoke my deity —

Ans. Metaphor

c) Bouquet shaped like a Chinese house of dreams-

Ans. Simile

d) Hear ancestral voices in a wind's howl-

Ans. Metaphor

Q4. Write a short note on the idea contained in the lines "Holding a..... is desecrating

Ans: The idea contained in this line is that dedicating just one day once a year to our mother is nothing but treating her with disrespect.

CENTRAL IDEA OF THE POEM

Q. Write the central idea of the poem 'Mothers' Day'

The poem conveys the idea that mother has immense significance in our lives. Dedicating just one day in whole year to recognise her importance in our lives is injustice to her. We owe our life to her and we always need her blessings. Hence, we should not indulge in any pompous celebration to please her. Rather, we should honour and respect our mothers by serving them every day. So, dedicating a single day to her once a year is an insult.

3. UPAGUPTA (RABINDRANATH TAGORE)

SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS

Q1. Which lines in the poem prove that it was a dark night when Upagupta lay asleep?

Ans: The following lines prove that it was a dark when Upagupta lay asleep-

Lamps were all out, doors were all shut, and

Stars were all hidden by the murky sky of August

Q2. How does the poet describe the dancing girl?

Ans. According to the poet, the dancing girl was young and beautiful. She was all decorated with shining jewels. She was drunk with the wine of her youth.

Q3. How can a face be austere yet beautiful?

Ans. Beauty is a natural gift. It doesn't lie in the physical ornamentation. It comes out of soul and lends charm to the face.

Q4. Why was the woman hurriedly removed from the town?

Ans. The woman was struck with a fatal disease. There were sores all over her body. It was an infectious disease that could pass easily from person to person. So, to save others from this disease, she was hurriedly removed from the town.

Q5. How did the ascetic help the woman?

Ans. The ascetic sat down by her side. He took her head on his knees. He put water on her lips and applied balm on her body.

Read the following lines and answer the questions that follow:

The young ascetic answered "Woman, go on your way"

Q1. What was her way and what was his way?

Ans. "Her" way led to prostitution and "his" way lead to ascetism that has nothing to do with physical pleasures.

Q2. Name the figure of speech used in the lines _____

a) 'spotted with sores of small -pox.'

Ans. a) Alliteration

b) ' Suddenly the black night showed its teeth in a flash of lightning.'

Ans. b) Personification

c) '.....a light from a woman's lamp fell on his forgiving eyes.'

Ans. c). Alliteration

Read the following lines and answer the questions that follow-

The ascetic sat by her side, took her head

on his knees, And moistened her lips with water, and

smeared her body with sandal balm. "Who are you, merciful one?" asked the woman.

"The time, at last, has come to visit you, and I am here," replied the young ascetic.

Q1. List the things the ascetic did to lessen the woman's suffering.

Ans. The ascetic sat by her side, took her head on his knees, moistened her lips with water and smeared her body with sandal balm.

Q2. What is the significance of the line "The timeam here."

Ans. In her youth the woman had invited the ascetic to visit her. But he had refused saying that he would visit her when the right time came for it. Now when she was in sore need, everybody had deserted her. That is why the ascetic said "The time, at last, has come to visit you."

CENTRAL IDEA OF THE POEM

Q. Write the central idea of the poem 'Upagupta'.

Ans. This poem brings out the strong character of a great Buddhist monk named Upagupta. He was an ascetic in the real sense. He was forgiving by nature. He had wonderful self-control. He was full of the milk of human kindness. He felt no hesitation in nursing the woman who was struck with a horrible disease. This poem is, in fact, a great tribute to Upagupta.

4. THE LITTLE BLACK BOY (WILLIAM BLAKE)

SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS

Q1. Why does the black child think that the English child is an angel?

Ans. The English child is white as an angel. That is why the black child thinks that the English child is an angel.

Q2. What does the rising sun give us?

Ans. The rising sun gives us heat and light.

Q3. What are the black bodies compared to?

Ans. The black bodies are compared to clouds or shady groves that hide the light of the sun.

Q4. What happens when our souls learn to bear the heat?

Ans. When our souls have learnt to bear the heat of love, the clouds of our black bodies will vanish. In other words, we shall not be with our black bodies. Then we shall hear God's voice.

Q5. When will the black cloud vanish?

Ans. When our souls have learnt to bear the warmth of love, the clouds of our black bodies will vanish.

Q6. What will God's voice tell the black boy and his mother to do?

Ans. God's voice will say to them: 'Come out from the grove of your black bodies. You are my love and my care. You shall come with me to my golden tent and play joyfully round it like little lambs.'

Q7. What does the black boy want to do for the white boy?

Ans. He wants to win the white boy's heart with love and be his friend.

Q8. Do you think that the poem is about a child's acceptance of suffering and injustice? Give reasons for your answer.

Ans. The child does not accept suffering and injustice. He simply wants to end it through love. He wants to win the English boy's heart with love and be his friend.

Q9. Name the figure of speech used in the lines _____

a) 'White as an angel is the English child'

Ans. A). Simile

b) 'And these black bodies and this sun-burnt face Is but a cloud...'

Ans. B). Metaphor

c) 'And round my golden tent like lambs rejoice.'

Ans. C). Simile

Q10. Match the words given in column A with their comparisons given in column B :

| A | B |
|----------------|-------------------|
| Angel | black body |
| east | innocent child |
| sun-burnt face | the English Child |
| cloud | God's home |
| lamb | shady grove |

Ans. Angel=the English child; east=God's home; sun-burnt face=black body; cloud=shady grove; lamb=innocent child.

CENTRAL IDEA OF THE POEM

Q. Write the central idea of the poem 'The Little Black Boy'.

Ans. This poem gives the idea that identity is only temporary. Blackness or whiteness are just "clouds" that people are wearing during earthly life. Racial or colour differences disappear in heaven, where the two boys will finally become free and equal. God gives warmth of his love to all creatures without any discrimination.

5. CONFESSIONS OF A BORN SPECTATOR (OGDEN NASH)

SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS

1. What is the poet glad about?

Ans. The poet is glad that he is neither an athlete nor a player. Nor is any of them like him.

2. The poet admires the athletes. Give reasons for this admiration.

Ans. The poet admires the athletes for their heroic deeds. He admires them for their fighting spirit and strong determination.

3. Why does he call his spirit bashful?

Ans. The poet calls his spirit bashful because he feels shy for taking part in any game.

4. Write a few lines on the struggle between the poet's ego and prudence.

Ans. The poet loves to watch heroic deeds of athletes but his prudence tells him that if the game turns rough, he can be injured and disabled. He is glad that in the struggle between his ego and prudence, his prudence wins over ego.

5. List the things that the poet is ready to do for the athletes.

Ans. The poet is ready to drink to the health of the athletes. He can dine with them. He can do anything for them. However, he cannot compete with them.

Look at the following lines taken from the poem:

My limp and bashful spirit feeds

On other people's heroic deeds.

Q1. What does the poet mean to convey in these lines? Select the proper options:

(a) He is not sure of his own capabilities to perform such deeds.

(b) He does not like to perform heroic deeds.

(c) He is scared of getting hurt while performing such deeds

Ans. (a)

Now look at this line:

Buy tickets worth their weight in radium.

Q2. Select the correct meaning of this line from the given statements:

(a) The poet gives radium to buy tickets. (b) The poet would pay anything for buying tickets to watch the games.

(c) The poet does not buy tickets.

Ans. (b)

Read the following lines and answer the questions that follow:

I'm glad that when my struggle

Twixt prudence and ego, prudence wins.

Q1. The poet's ego urges him to show some heroism on the playfield. How often does he show it?

Ans. He never shows any heroism on the playfield. He wants to remain a spectator always.

Q2. Do you think he wants to show this heroism?

Ans. No, he does not want to show this heroism.

Q3. Write a short note on the poet's 'struggle'.

Ans. The poet watches the heroic deeds of the athletes. Sometimes he wishes to be in place of some player. His ego urges him to perform similar acts. Then struggle between his ego and prudence begins. His prudence finally wins.

Q4. What is he glad about?

Ans. He is glad about the victory of prudence over ego.

Q5. These two lines contain the theme of the poem. Explain.

Ans. Man's ego urges him to do what he likes. His prudence asks him to do what is right.

CENTRAL IDEA OF THE POEM

Q. Write the central idea of the poem 'Confessions of a Born Spectator'.

Ans. In the poem 'Confessions of a Born Spectator', the poet calls himself a born spectator. He makes fun of athletes. But the fun is light hearted. He loves to watch the players in different contest. But he never thinks of taking to sports himself. He does not want to have his bones broken and his body injured. He is content with being a spectator-"that you're not I am not you".

6. A THING OF BEAUTY IS A JOY FOR EVER (JOHN KEATS)

SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS

Q1. Why does the poet think that a thing of beauty is a source of eternal joy?

Ans. Because loveliness of a beautiful thing never dies. Its appeal never fades away.

Q2. What, according to the poet, keeps us attached to this earth?

Ans. The beautiful things like natural sights, plants, birds etc. keep us attached to this earth.

Q3. How does eternal beauty help us to cheer up our spirits or clear our despondence?

Ans. Eternal beauty cheers up our spirits and removes the sadness. When we look at a beautiful thing, we forget our worries.

Q4. Where do the musk roses bloom?

Ans. The musk roses bloom in the middle of the forest.

Q5. Name some objects of beauty mentioned in the poem.

Ans. The objects of nature like the sun, the moon, the shady trees, the daffodils, the flowery bushes are beautiful.

Q6. Apart from nature, which other objects are mentioned in the poem as sources of beauty?

Ans. The works of literature, such as plays and tales are also things of beauty.

Q7. How is beauty the source of nectar (immortal drink)?

Ans. The idea of beauty never dies. It is immortal. Its impact never fades.

Read the following lines and answer the questions given below:

Some shape of beauty moves away the pall

From our dark spirits. Such the sun, the moon,

Trees old and young, sprouting a shady boon

For simple sheep; and such are daffodils.

Q1. What moves away the pall from our dark spirits?

Ans. Some shape of beauty moves away the pall from our dark spirits.

Q2. Name the heavenly bodies mentioned in the above lines.

Ans. The sun, the moon are the heavenly bodies mentioned in the above lines.

Q3. Why does the poet think that the trees, sheep and daffodils can cheer up our gloomy spirit?

Ans. A thing of beauty is a joy forever. And these are beautiful things. Thus, these can cheer up our gloomy spirits.

Q4. Do you think only daffodils can cheer our spirit up or other flowers can also do the same? Give reasons for your answer.

Ans. All flowers are beautiful like Daffodils. So, they can also cheer up our souls.

Q5. List the two rhyming words in the passage.

Ans. Keep-sleep, Moon –Boon, Drink- Brink

CENTRAL IDEA OF THE POEM

Q. Write the central idea of the poem 'A Thing of Beauty Is a Joy Forever'.

Ans. 'A Thing of Beauty Is A Joy For Ever' is a beautiful poem written by John Keats. This poem gives us a beautiful message about life. He says that a thing of beauty is a joy forever. Because loveliness of a beautiful thing never dies. Its appeal never fades away. A thing of beauty moves away the pall from our dark spirits.

SECTION C

1. AN ASTROLOGER'S DAY

SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS

Q 1. What was the astrologer's professional equipment?

Ans. The astrologer's professional equipment consisted of a dozen cowrie shells, a square piece of cloth with magical chart on it, a notebook and a bundle of palmyra writing.

Q 2. How did he give his face the look of an astrologer?

Ans. The astrologer gave himself the look of a perfect astrologer. His face looked bright with sacred ash and vermilion. His eyes sparkled with sharp abnormal gleam. He wore a saffron coloured turban around his head.

Q 3. Where did he sit every day?

Ans. He sat under a tamarind tree on a public road. It was a crowded and busy place. A variety of trades and occupations was carried on all along its way.

Q 4. Who were the professionals on the road where the astrologer carried on his business?

Ans. The other professionals on the road were: medicine seller, junk dealer, magicians, an auctioneer of cheap cloth and vendor of fried ground nuts.

Q5. What were the different names given by the vendor of fried groundnuts to his groundnuts?

Ans. He called them 'Bombay Ice Cream', 'Delhi Almond' and 'Raja's Delicacy'.

Q6. What was the source of light used by the astrologer during the evening hours?

Ans. The astrologer carried on his business by the light above the heap of vendor's groundnut.

Q7. How does Narayan describe the astrologer's knowledge of astronomy?

Ans. The astrologer was as much ignorant of astronomy as were his innocent customers.

Q8. How would the astrologer have done if he had continued to live in his old village.

Ans. He would have carried on the work of his forefathers.

Q 9. How could the astrologer 'guess' his clients' problems?

Ans. The astrologer did not know anything of astrology. He had a working analysis of mankind's troubles. Long practice had sharpened his understanding. He would let the customers speak first for at least ten minutes. It gave him enough stuff for his answer.

Q 10. What was the challenge thrown by the client to astrologer?

Ans. The client challenged the astrologer to answer his question. Otherwise, he won't let him go and rob him off all his money.

Q11. How could the astrologer rightly guess the past of the client?

Ans. Because he discovered that he was the same man he thought he had murdered.

Q 12. What did the astrologer tell his wife?

Ans. He told his wife that a great load was gone from him that day. He had thought he had the blood of a man on his hands all these years. But that man was alive.

LONG ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS

Q 1. Give in brief, a character-sketch of the Astrologer.

Ans. The astrologer was from a farmer's family. One day he drank and started fighting. He stabbed a man in fury. After this incident, he ran to the town and started a new life as an astrologer. He had no knowledge of astrology. But with guess work, he managed to run his business well. He dressed properly as an astrologer. He impressed his clients with pleasantries. One day the same man, whom the astrologer had stabbed in his village, visited him. He stretched his hand in front of the astrologer to get a clue of his attacker. He did not recognize the astrologer. So the astrologer handled him tactfully and saved himself. At night, he told his wife that he was relieved from the burden of a murder.

Q2. Explain briefly the 'sting-in-the-tail' contained in the story.

Ans. 'A sting in the tail' is an idiom that means an unpleasant feature or event that comes at the end of the story and spoils it. At the end of the story, its main character is filled with relief. He has been relieved of a great burden. Yes, there is an unexpected event in the story when the astrologer was encountered with Guru Nayak. Guru Nayak was the same man whom the astrologer had stabbed a few years ago. It had become quite dark when a man came to the astrologer. As the man lit a cheroot, the astrologer saw his face by the match light. He tried to get rid of him. But the man didn't let him go. Finding himself helpless, the astrologer agreed to answer his questions. He told the man how he was once stabbed and left for dead. He warned the man that there was

again a great danger to his life and so he should never travel away from his home. He also told him that the man, who had stabbed him, had been crushed to death under a lorry. The man gave the astrologer a handful of coins and went away satisfied.

Q3. How did the astrologer finally have his day? Explain.

Ans. It had become quite dark when a man came to the astrologer. He was Guru Nayak whom the astrologer had stabbed a few years ago. The astrologer took him for a common customer. But when the man lit a cheroot, the astrologer saw his face by the match light. He at once knew who that man was. He tried to get rid of him saying that he was getting late. But the man did not let him go. He said that the astrologer would have to answer his questions. Finding himself helpless, the astrologer agreed to answer the man's questions. Now the astrologer told him how he was once stabbed and left for dead. The astrologer addressed the man by me and said that he knew everything about him. He added that there was once again danger to his life and so he must go back to his village at once. He also said that the man who had stabbed him had been crushed to death under a lorry. The man felt satisfied, gave the astrologer a handful of coins and went away in the night. Thus, the astrologer finally had his day.

Q 4. Summarise relationship between the astrologer and his client.

Ans. The astrologer did not know anything of the stars or astrology. He knew as little of it as his clients. It was only a matter of practice and guesswork for him. He would always say things which pleased his clients. First, he would let a client speak for at least ten minutes. It gave him enough stuff for the answer. He would gaze at the palm of his customers and say, 'In many ways you are not getting the fullest result of your efforts.' It is a thing that each one feels to be true. When he said this, nine out of the ten clients agreed with him. Or he would say 'Is there a woman in your family, maybe a distant one on the man's stars. He would say, 'It is not your fault, but that of your stars.' Such answers would at once endear the astrologer to his clients.

Q5. Write a few lines on: *An Astrologer by the Roadside*.

Ans. We often see some astrologers sitting on the roadside near the public places. The roadside astrologers are not the astrologers in the true sense, but quacks. They, as we know, do not know anything about the stars or astrology. They know as little of its customers. An astrologer by the roadside does his job through guesswork and through understanding of human psychology. He is very tactful also. He always says such things which please his customers. First, he lets his customers speak for some time. It gives enough stuff for the answers. Then he gazes at the palm of his customers and says: In many ways you are not getting the fullest results of your efforts. And sometimes he holds some woman in the customer's family responsible for his troubles. Sometimes he puts the blame on the man's stars. Such answers at once endear him to his customers. And thus, an astrologer by the roadside carries on his job very successfully, though he knows as little of it as his customers.

2. THE TIGER IN THE TUNNEL

SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS

Q1. What were the sounds that broke the silence of the night?

Ans. The shrill cry of a cicada and the hollow hammering of a woodpecker broke the silence of the night.

Q2. What duties had Baldeo to perform?

Ans. His duty was to see that the lamp was burning, and that the overland mail passed through safely.

Q3. Why had Baldeo to work as a Khalasi?

Ans. Baldeo had small rice fields which could not fulfill the needs of his family. So he had to work as a Khalasi.

Q4. What were the factors that contributed to the eeriness of the place?

Ans. The dense forest, darkness and strange noises of wild animals and cicada contributed to the eeriness of the place.

Q5. What was Baldeo's axe like?

Ans. Baldeo's axe looked very fragile but it was quite deadly when used.

Q6. How did Baldeo know that a tiger was nearby and later that it had sprung into the cutting?

Ans. The frightened cry of a barking deer, followed by a crashing sound in the undergrowth, made Baldeo hurry.

Q7. Why did not Baldeo run away from the tiger?

Ans. Baldeo did not run away from the tiger because there was no shelter for him. At that time, he was standing in the cutting at the entrance of the tunnel and the tiger was coming rapidly towards him from the opposite side.

Q8. Describe the fight between Baldeo and the tiger.

Ans. A tiger attacked Baldeo. In order to save himself from the tiger's paw Baldeo hit the tiger with his axe. The tiger roared loudly with pain. He sprang upon Baldeo and tore him to pieces. Baldeo had hit the tiger with his axe so badly that the tiger couldn't get out of the way when the train arrived there. Thus he too was killed eventually.

Q9. How did the tiger die?

Ans. The tiger was passing through the tunnel when the train arrived. It was hit by the train and cut into pieces.

Q10. How did his father's death affect Tembu?

Ans. Tembu was shattered by his father's death. After a few days, he took a brave decision to join the same job to support his family.

LONG ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS

Q1. Write a brief character-sketch of Baldeo.

Ans. Baldeo was a brave watchman. He worked at a small railway station near a jungle. He was a tribal man. He belonged to a poor family. They had a small piece of land which was not enough for the family. Thus, he worked as a watchman at the railway station. He always kept his father's axe with him to fight wild animals. When the tiger attacked him, he fought bravely with his axe. Although he died in this fight yet his bravery gave strength to his son Tembu to join the same job. Baldeo is an admirable character of the story.

Q2. Describe Baldeo's encounter with the tiger.

Ans. One night, Baldeo, as usual, went to the signal post to see if lamp was burnt. There he heard the thump and soon he saw a tiger moving towards him. Light was dim at that time. Baldeo grasped his axe firmly that he always carried with him. Soon the tiger reached there and attacked Baldeo with his right paw. Baldeo hit the tiger's shoulder with axe. The tiger roared loudly with pain. Baldeo again threw his axe at the tiger with full power. This time, the axe caught the tiger on the shoulder, almost severing his legs. Unluckily, the axe got stuck in the bone of the tiger. Now Baldeo had no weapon. The tiger sprang upon him and tore him to pieces in a few minutes. Then the tiger sat down. He roared with pain now and then. He could not notice that the train was coming. When he realized it, he tried to run on his wounded leg. But it was too late. And the tiger too was cut in half by the engine.

Q3. Write a note on the message contained in the story.

Ans. The story gives the message that man has innate life force within him. Even if there is a big tragedy, we tend to fix the things and move on. Whatever may come, a living has to be made for the family. In this chapter, Baldeo is killed by a tiger. But after a few days, his son does not allow grief to weaken him. He decides to carry on the struggle of his life for the sake of his mother and sister.

Q4. Describe, in brief, the scene and the setting of the place where Baldeo worked.

Ans. Baldeo was a watchman at a small railway station which was about three miles away from his village. The station was in the form of a small hut. It had a thick forest at its back. Next to this station, there was a deep cutting that led to the tunnel. The cutting had sheer rock walls towering high above the rails. Baldeo did the job of giving signal whether the tunnel was clear or not. At night it was his duty to see that the lamp at the signal post was burning or not and that the overland mail passed through safely. There prevailed the deathly stillness of the surrounding jungle. The cutting and the entrance of the tunnel looked horrible in the darkness of the night. Wild animals were believed to visit that place frequently. Such things contributed to the eeriness of that place.

3. SPARROWS

SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS

Q1.- What was Rahim Khan's occupation?

Ans:- Rahim Khan was a farmer.

Q2.- "... he walked with a haughty and unfriendly air..." What does this suggest about his reputation in the village?

Ans:- This suggests that Rahim Khan had a bad reputation in the village. He had no friend in the village.

Q3.- What does the phrase "cautious whispers" suggest about the attitude of the villagers towards Rahim Khan: respect/fear/a mixture of the both?

Ans:- The phrase "cautious whispers" suggests that the villagers were always in fear of Rahim Khan.

Q4.- "The other day he very nearly killed my mare..." said the zaildar. Was Rahim Khan entirely to blame?

Ans:- No, Rahim Khan was not entirely to blame because Zaildar Ramnath's mischievous sons had deliberately driven the mare into Rahim Khan's fields.

Q5.- What news did Rahim Khan get on returning to his hut? Had his wife left him or was she visiting her brother? (What do you think?)

Ans:- An old woman told Rahim Khan that his wife had gone to visit her brother and she would come back. But actually, she had left him to live with her brother.

Q6.- What was Rahim Khan's reaction when he heard her wife had gone away- relief/unhappiness/anger/ discomfort?

Ans:- When Rahim Khan heard that his wife had gone away he felt discomfort and unhappiness also.

Q7.- What were Rahim Khan's ambitions as a young man? Were they fulfilled?

Ans:- As a young man, Rahim Khan had two ambitions. His first ambition was to join a touring circus. Secondly, he wanted to marry a Hindu girl named Radha. These ambitions were not fulfilled. His parents killed both these ambitions.

Q8.- Why was Rahim Khan not able to join the circus?

Ans:- Rahim Khan was not able to join the circus because his father regarded this work as too lowly and immoral.

Q9.- How did Rahim Khan's romance with Radha end?

Ans:- In his youth Rahim Khan fell in love with Radha. He wanted to marry her. His father was against his marriage with a Hindu girl, a kafir. He suggested Radha's father to get her married in their own caste. The romance ended when Radha was married to another man.

Q10.- "Iron entered his kindly soul." Explain.

Ans:- This means that Rahim Khan was once a kind man. But he turned into a hard-hearted man. His parents and society were responsible for turning him into a beast.

Q11.- Whom did Rahim Khan hold responsible for frustration of his dreams? How did he avenge himself?

Ans:- He held his parents, his family and the society responsible for the frustration of his dreams. He became cruel to his wife and children. He became unfriendly with everyone.

Q12.- Something made Rahim Khan desist from wrecking the sparrows' nest. What do you think it was? What influence did the nest have on him?

Ans:- The mother sparrow's love for her young ones moved Rahim Khan's heart. The nest of sparrows completely transformed Rahim Khan. He became a kind man again.

Q13.- Can you say how Rahim Khan felt when the group of children ran away from him?

Ans:- Rahim Khan felt unhappy when the group of children ran away from him.

Q14.- How did Rahim Khan get drenched? What was his only worry even during the last moments of his life?

Ans:- The roof just above the sparrows' nest was leaking. While repairing the roof of his cottage in the rain he got drenched. During his last moments, his only worry was who would feed the sparrows after his death.

Q15.- What does Rahim Khan's behaviour towards the sparrows show about his own nature?

Ans:- It shows that Rahim Khan was not bad at heart. Only the society had made him hard hearted.

Q16.- "Friends keep vigil over the body of a dear one." Who kept vigil over the body of Rahim Khan?

Ans:- The sparrows kept vigil over the dead body of Rahim Khan.

LONG ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS

Q 1 Write a character- Sketch of Rahim Khan

Ans:- Rahim Khan is the main character of the story 'Sparrows' written by K.A. Abbas. Rahim Khan was a farmer. As a young man he had two ambitions in life. Rahim Khan's first ambition was to join a touring circus. Secondly, he wanted to marry a Hindu girl named Radha. These ambitions were not fulfilled. His parents killed both these ambitions. After that he turned into a hard-hearted man. He beat his wife and ill-treated his children. He became unfriendly with everyone. His kindness returned to him due to the sparrows. When he was on his death bed, he was worried about the sparrows only. We feel pity for him.

Q2. Rahim Khan was known to be cruel and heartless. Briefly trace the incidents which changed his nature.

Ans. Rahim Khan ill-treated his wife and his sons. Due to his cruel behaviour, his wife and his sons left him one by one. Now in their absence, Rahim Khan started feeling lonely. He realized how much this woman, whom he hated, had become a part of his life. One day, Rahim Khan saw a sparrows' nest near the roof of his hut. There were two baby sparrows in the nest. He had a mind to destroy the nest and finish off the sparrows. But the mother- sparrow attacked him when he tried to touch the baby sparrows. The mother-sparrow's love for its young ones moved Rahim Khan's heart. A strange feeling of pity arose in him. He made friends with the sparrows. He would feed them and play with them. He would call the baby sparrows by the names of his sons, Nuru and Bundu. He developed deep love for them. The sparrow transformed Rahim Khan completely. They rekindled the goodness of his heart.

Q 3 What is the message conveyed in the story?

Ans:- This story conveys the message that a man is not bad from birth. But circumstances make him bad. Rahim Khan was a kind hearted man. Rahim Khan's first ambition was to join a touring circus. Secondly, he wanted to marry a Hindu girl named Radha. These ambitions were not fulfilled. His parents killed both these ambitions. He held his parents, his family and the society responsible for the frustration of his dreams. He became cruel to his wife and children. He became unfriendly with everyone. The nest of sparrows completely transformed Rahim Khan. He became a kind man again. When he was on his death bed, his only worry was who would feed the sparrows after his death. It shows that Rahim Khan was not bad at heart. Only the society had made him hard hearted.

4. THE MODEL MILLIONAIRE

SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS

Q1. What qualities made Hughie Erskine popular with men and women?

Ans. Hughie Erskine was extremely good-looking. He had curly brown hair and a clear-cut profile. He had grey eyes. He was charming and friendly too. His charismatic personality made him popular among all men and women.

Q2. Hughie was unable to settle down in a profession because he was unwilling to work (Yes/No). If 'no' what was the reason?

Ans. No, Hughie was not unwilling to work. He tried his hand at a number of professions. But he was not successful anywhere. In fact, he was creative and found mundane jobs very boring. Ultimately, he remained unemployed.

Q3. What condition did the Colonel lay down for letting Hughie be engaged to Laura?

Ans. Laura was the daughter of a retired colonel and Hughie was in love with her. The Colonel laid down the condition that if Hughie wanted to marry his daughter Laura, he must have £10,000/- of his own.

Q4. Why did Alan Trevor like Hughie so much as to let him visit his studio whenever he wanted?

Ans. At first Alan Trevor was attracted to Hughie for his personal charm. Later he saw his kind side too. Alan began to adore him for his bright, cheerful and generous nature. So, he allowed him the permanent entry to his studio.

Q5. Why did Hughie think that Trevor's model was an amazing one?

Ans. Trevor's model was an old man with a wrinkled face, torn cloak, thick boots, rough stick and a worn out hat for alms. All this made him a perfect model. Hughie called him an amazing model.

Q6. Did Trevor think highly of his model? How do you know?

Ans. Yes, Trevor thought highly of his model. He said that such a beggar could not be met every day. He felt that the model was a great discovery. Trevor called him a living Velasquez.

Q7. "He (Hughie) got a charming scolding for his extravagance? Who scolded Hughie? What was Hughie's extravagance? Why was Hughie scolded? Why is the scolding described as charming?

Ans. Hughie's beloved Laura scolded him for giving away his last sovereign to a beggar. It is charming because it was given by his beloved Laura in a caring way.

Q8. Why did Trevor think that Hughie had made a deep impression on his "old model"?

Ans. Trevor's old model displayed his keen interest in Hughie's love affair. He also found the condition laid down by Laura's father for marriage. So, Trevor thought that Hughie had made a deep impression on his old model.

Q9. Did his model behave differently from what Trevor had thought of him? If differently, how?

Ans. Yes, he behaved differently. Trevor jokingly told Hughie that his model would invest Hughie's sovereign for him and pay Hughie the interest every six months. But unexpectedly he sent Hughie a cheque for £10,000/- to enable him to marry his beloved Laura.

Q10. How was Baron Hausberg both a millionaire model and a model millionaire?

Ans. Baron Hausberg was a millionaire. He opted to be painted as a beggar. He posed as a model beggar and became a millionaire model. Later, he sent a cheque of £10,000/- to Hughie to enable him to marry his beloved Laura. He tried to repay Hughie's little kindness with a huge reward. This act made him a model for others. Therefore, he was a model millionaire. That is why he was both a millionaire model and a model millionaire.

LONG ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS

Q1. Give in your own words a pen-portrait of Baron Hausberg.

Ans. Baron Hausberg was one of the richest men of Europe. He could buy all London without over drawing his account. He used to dine off gold plates. Unlike most of the rich men, he was not a miser. A romantic idea struck in his mind. He wished to be painted as a beggar. He went to Alan Trevor's studio for this purpose. After some time, Alan's friend Hughie reached there. He was moved by the miserable plight of the beggar. Just then Trevor went out of the studio to see a frame maker. In his absence, Hughie gave a sovereign to the beggar. This meant no hansom for a fortnight. After Hughie's exit, Baron asked about Hughie. Alan told about his poverty and love-affair with Laura. After learning about Hughie's love affair, Baron Hausberg sent Hughie a cheque of £10,000/-. This enabled Hughie to marry his beloved Laura. Thus, Hausberg was not only a millionaire model but also a model millionaire.

Q2. Write the character sketch of Hughie Erskine.

Ans. Hughie Erskine is the main character of the story. He was handsome and charming. He was wonderfully good-looking, with his crisp, brown hair, clear cut profile, and his grey eyes. He was as popular with men as he was with women but he was unemployed. Hughie was like a butterfly and hated mundane jobs. He tried to pursue many jobs but left all as he did not like those jobs. He loved Laura Merton but he was unable to marry her because Laura's father had a condition for engagement. He insisted that Hughie should own £10,000/- to marry Laura. Once Hughie helped Baron Hausberg unknowingly. He gave a sovereign considering him a beggar while modelling as a beggar in Alan Trevor's studio. This meant no hansom for a fortnight. Hughie's generosity impressed Baron Hausberg who was one of the richest men in Europe. He gave Hughie the required money to marry Laura. In this way, Hughie's charm and kindness proved to be a boon.

Q3. How and why did Hughie oblige the old beggar?

Ans. One day Hughie went to see his friend Alan Trevor who was a painter. He saw Trevor painting a wonderful picture of a beggar man. The beggar himself was standing in a corner of the studio. He was a wizened old man. His face was wrinkled. He had a brown cloak over his shoulder. It was all in rags. His thick boots had many patches. He had rough stick in one hand. He was leaning over this stick. With his other hand, he was holding out his old hat for alms. The old beggar looked the very picture of misery. Hugh was deeply moved by the miserable looks of the old beggar. He could not help pitying him. He felt in his pockets but could find only one pound in them. Then he walked up to the beggar and slipped the pound into his hand.

5: THE PANCH PARMESHWAR

SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS

Q1. What do you know about the friendship of Jumman Sheikh and Algu Chowdhari?

Ans. Jumman Sheikh was a Muslim and Algu Chaudhary was a Hindu. But they were very close friends. Both enjoyed a limitless friendship. They cultivated their lands jointly and trusted each other genuinely.

Q2. What was the problem of Jumman Sheikh's old aunt?

Ans. Jumman Sheikh's aunt decided not to live with the family because they ill-treated her.

Q3. Why did Jumman laugh at the threat of the old aunt to take the matter to the village panchayat?

Ans. Jumman laughed at the threat of the old aunt because he thought he knew everyone in the Panchayat. Thus, he was self-assured that he would win the case.

Q4. How did the villagers react when Jumman's old aunt contacted them about the meeting of the panchayat?

Ans. The villagers tried to console her. Even Algu refused to speak against his friend.

Q5. How did Algu Chowdhari react when the old aunt went to him to request him to come to the panchayat meeting?

Ans. Algu told her that he would attend the panchayat meeting but wouldn't open his mouth because he did not want to spoil his relationship with Jumman.

Q6. How did Jumman's old aunt present her case?

Ans. She said that Jumman got her property transferred in his own name. Once he became the owner of the property, he and his wife started ill-treating her.

Q7.. Whom did Jumman's old aunt nominate as the head panch?

Ans. Jumman's aunt nominated Algu Chowdhari as the head panch.

Q8. How did Jumman Sheikh become the enemy of his friend Algu Chowdhari?

Ans. Jumman Sheikh became the enemy of his friend Algu Chowdhari because at the panchayat meeting, Algu Chowdhari gave his decision against Jumman.

Q9.. What was the matter of dispute between Algu Chowdhari and Samjhu Sahu?

Ans. Samjhu Sahu bought an ox from Algu. But after sometime the ox died and Samjhu refused to pay for the ox.

Q10. How did Algu Chowdhari & Jumman Sheikh become friends again?

Ans. Jumman was the head panch in Algu and Samjhu's case. His decision was just and in Algu's favour. Everyone praised the fair decision. Thus, they became friends again.

LONG ANSWER TYPE ANSWERS

Q1. Write in brief the theme of the story.

Ans. The theme of the story is very meaningful and valuable. It shows that the panch must be impartial. No one expects favoritism from him. His words are considered as the voice of God. Whenever he gives any judgment, God speaks through him. He should see only the truth. He is supposed to be beyond any human relations. The panch should not keep in mind friendship and enmity while giving his decision. In this story, both Algu and Jumman play the role of a panch once. They stand by the truth and give a fair decision. They forget their friendship and enmity while giving their decision as a panch.

Q2. Bring out the relevance of the story in the panchayat raj system of Indian democratic set up.

Ans. Munshi Premchand's story 'The Panch Parmeshwar' is relevant to the Panchayati Raj system in India because it illustrates the role of the Panchayat. The story depicts the role of the Panchayat and the impartial nature of the Panch. It highlights the importance of justice. The story's theme is the importance of putting justice above one's own interest. It shows the acceptance of legal ideas. The story foreshadows the acceptance and requirement of legal ideas at the village level.

Q3. Write a brief character - sketch of Jumman Sheikh.

Ans. Jumman is the main character of the story. The writer presents a deep and noble message through this character. He was a close friend of Algu. Jumman was cunning by nature. He deceived his own aunt skillfully. Jumman got her property transferred in his name and started ill-treating her. His aunt went to panchayat and nominated Algu as her head panch. Algu acted justly and gave his decision against his friend. Jumman got angry with him and became his enemy. He is a genuine and fair judge. He gives a fair decision in Algu and Samjhu's case. However, in the end, they became friends again.

Q4. Write a brief character sketch of Algu Chowdhari.

Ans. Algu Chowdhari is one of the main characters in the story. The writer presents a deep and noble message through this character. He is a fast friend of Jumman. He is very humble at heart. He always helps everyone especially his friend Jumman. He is unbiased by nature. In Jumman's aunt's case, he gave a fair judgment without any favouritism. But Jumman did not like his decision and became his enemy. Later in Algu's case, Jumman also gave a fair decision in Algu's favour without any discrimination. Everyone praised his impartial judgement. They became friends again. In the end we can say that he is a kind hearted, unbiased, justice loving and simple man.

Q5. Bring out the significance of the title of the story.

Ans. The title of the story is very suitable and significant. It tells us about the qualities of a panch. It portrays why a panch is called 'The Panch Parmeshwar' in India. It means that panch is considered next to God. He is impartial and beyond any kind of favouritism. God speaks through them and only the truth prevails in his voice. He should see only the truth. The panch should not keep in mind friendship and enmity while giving the decision. In this story both Algu and Jumman play the role of a panch once. They both stand with the truth. They forget their friendship and enmity while giving their decision. Thus, the title of the story is appropriate.

5: THE PEASANT'S BREAD

SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS

Q1. What was the peasant's routine before breakfast?

Ans. The peasant ploughed the field before breakfast.

Q2. Who had stolen the peasant's bread? Why?

Ans. The imp had stolen the bread because he wanted to make the peasant swear (kubol).

Q3. What was the peasant's reaction when he found his breakfast stolen by the imp?

Ans. The peasant accepted the loss of his breakfast. He even blessed the thief and prayed to God for his welfare.

Q4. Why was the imp upset to find the peasant calm?

Ans. The imp was upset because he had not made the peasant to do wrong.

Q5. What was the threat given to the imp by his master, the devil?

Ans. The devil threatened the imp by saying that if failed in his task again he would throw the imp into the holy water.

Q6. What advice did the imp give to the peasant in the first year?

Ans. The first year he advised the peasant to sow corn in a low lying damp place.

Q7. What was the result of the imp's advice?

Ans. The poor peasant's crop grew thick, tall and heavy with grain as a result of imp's advice.

Q8. What was the imp's advice the second year?

Ans. In the second year the imp advised the peasant to sow on the hill.

Q9. What happened during the second year?

Ans. Due to heavy rain the crops of many farmers were washed away. But the poor peasant, once again had a good crop. He became rich.

Q10. What did the imp teach the peasant to do with the excess grain he had?

Ans. The imp taught the peasant to crush the grain and make vodka from the excess grain he had.

Q11. What happened when the guests in the peasant's house drank the first glass of vodka?

Ans. After drinking the first glass of vodka, they behaved like foxes. They flattered each other and speeches full of lies.

Q12. What happened as they drank the second glass?

Ans. As they drank the second glass they became wilder and rougher. They began to shout at one another.

Q13. What happened when the guests had their third glass?

Ans. After drinking the third glass the guests started behaving like animals.

Q14. What exactly had the imp done?

Ans. The imp had exactly made the peasant corrupt. He knew that all men have a savage side inside them. When the peasant became rich, he looked for means of pleasure. He started drinking wine for pleasure and was spoiled.

Q15. How was the imp rewarded by his master?

Ans. The master rewarded the imp by giving him a position of high honour.

LONG ANSWER TYPE ANSWERS

Q1. Describe the scene of the party going on at the peasant's house.

Ans. The peasant had invited his wealthy friends to his house. He was giving them a drink party. His wife was offering the drinks to guests. As she was taking it round, she fell against the table. A glassful of drink spreads on the floor. The peasant speaks angrily to his wife. He calls her a foolish woman. He rebukes her as a careless creature. He begins to carry the drink to guests himself. Just then a poor peasant comes there. He has not been invited there. He greets everyone and sits down there. He is tired after his day's work. He feels that he would like a drop of vodka. He keeps sitting there but the host does not offer him any. The peasant says that he can't find drink for everyone who comes there.

Q2. What made the devil happy?

Ans. The imp showed the peasant how to make Vodka from the grain. The peasant made Vodka. He began to drink and to give it to his friends. When the imp told the devil about it, he said that he would come and see for himself. He came to the peasant's house. He saw that the peasant had invited his friends and serving them drinks. While serving the drinks to the guests, his wife splashed a glassful of Vodka on the floor. The peasant spoke to her angrily. He rebuked her and called her a careless creature. He also refused to give a drink to the poor peasant. This pleased the devil. Afterwards when he saw the peasant's guests behaving like animals, he felt pleased all the more. The devil praised the imp and forgave him for his past mistakes. He also gave the imp a position of high honour.

Q3. Describe the effect of vodka on the peasant's guests.

Ans. The peasant had invited his wealthy friends and was giving them a drink party. After they had taken one glass each, they began to say nice things about each other. They made speeches full of lies. The drink made them so much like foxes and they began to cheat each other. The guests drank another glass each. Their talk became wilder and rougher. Instead of making soft speeches they began to grow angry and shouted at each other. Soon, they started fighting and hitting one another at the nose. After the third glass they began to behave just like animals. They made strange noises, and shouted. They did not listen to one another. Then the guests began to go. Some went alone. Others in twos and in threes. All were walking unsteadily along the street.

Q4. What is the message contained in the story? Explain.

Ans. This story is written by Leo Tolstoy. This story conveys the message of the evil of excessive wealth. A poor peasant was very simple and honest. But when the devil made him rich he looked for means of pleasure, he takes to evil practices. At a party he and his friends make a lot of noise and behave cunningly. He combines the worst of three animals. He has the cunningness of a fox, the fierceness of a wolf and the stupidity of a pig.

Q5. Is wealth bad in itself? How can it destroy people? Give your views.

Ans. No, wealth is not bad in itself. We cannot live without money. It fulfils our daily needs. Therefore wealth is the mainstay of life. However, too much wealth is a curse of life. It destroys people if they do not use it wisely. It is the root cause of many evils. The excess of wealth can also make a person proud and cruel. Therefore, one should have just enough to fulfill one's needs to live a decent life.

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